

## THE RED CROSS DAY A GREAT ONE

This Great Merkel Country went over the top with the Red Cross Drive in one leap. It was a glorious achievement. The record could hardly have been better. The people are prone to compliment themselves from the fact that they live in a country where almost to a man they stand shoulder to shoulder in this great cause. In all this country only two or three slackers could be found. They are marked men. As time goes on, doubtless they will repent the error of their way. It not, some time, a righteous and indignant public will rise up and the hour of the humiliation of these slackers will be one that will be remembered until their dying day. We are not advocating drastic measures. We hope drastic measures will not be necessary. Through these columns we warn those who flagrantly flaunt their pro-German tendencies in the faces of their fellows; we warn them because when justice is meted out it might be misunderstood by other communities; we warn them because of the bitter hour that by and by will be theirs; we warn them to flee from the wrath to come. Foolish indeed it is to stand up in this land of the free, under the protection of our beloved government, and not be in sympathy with the War Savings plan, the Liberty Loan and the Red Cross. And when the worst comes to the worst, beloved citizens, remember to deal with as little harshness as possible for your own honor's sake. For you we plead, not for a slacker.

The past week makes our enjoyment of life greater. Our eyes witnessed true sacrifice on the part of all the people. They gave and gave. And when the drive was over, they remembered the local Red Cross, and last Saturday when the auction was put on over \$400 was placed to the credit of the Merkel Red Cross. And then they didn't get through. They still have a good deal of stuff to auction off, and very likely it will soon be placed on the block. The people are eager always to help the Red Cross.

A program was rendered that lasted all afternoon. Mrs. L. B. Howard's glee club sang several patriotic songs, that were much appreciated. H. F. Groene was auctioneer, and he proved to be a good one. After the auction had proceeded for some time, R. M. Parker auctioned off the moon. He got several dollars for it. We don't think he broke the blue sky law. This feature only goes to show that to help the Red Cross a townsite could be established on Marrs and lots sold at so much each. He then auctioned off a beautiful old maid. Bidding was brisk and the price would have gone high, but the old bachelors were few and they were scared, and the wives of most of the married men were present. However she brought a nice price, we won't say as much as she was worth. Her name (was?) Miss Agnes Powell, and she was bid in by Ed Teaff. Enough said. Parker Sharp, dressed as an old maid was then auctioned. This was possibly the funniest part of the program. We are not going to say what he brought, except that he brought plenty. Little Missie Dye and Clara Louise Miller were then auctioned, bringing a nice little sum, and were bid in by Wallace Bragg, who, it is alleged, has an eye to the future. Little Elizabeth Browning, whose father is in France, and who is at present, with her mother, at the home of her grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. J. T. Browning, was then auc-

tioned, bringing over \$100. The little child, in its innocence, lisped that her father was "In France, fighting the Germans." The very pathos of the fact aroused strong men to action, and before she knew the why, she had done her bit in the great contest.

All the mingled feeling of joy and sorrow, of unloosened patriotism and the wonderful wealth of hope mingled mightily in the afternoon and human hearts were refreshed in their acknowledged kinship. An example of sacrifice was made, such as we have rarely heard. A young lady wishing to do her bit in the great cause placed a diamond ring and diamond stud on the block. The heart of the auctioneer was touched. He said he felt that to sell these pieces of jewelry, with their sacred associations, would be sacrilegious and he did not have the heart to do it. He wandered back in his imagination to a few short years ago, when a young man, handsome and hopeful, was betrothed to a fair young lady whose heart beat with tenderest emotion. In the cruel, unfathomed depths of time's momentous mysteries, the young man was stricken down and called to his long reward. These jewels were the only balsms of sweet remembrance to those happy days that were gone. And now to make the supreme sacrifice in the noble desire that they would do good, reveals the impise of nobleness such as is rarely met. The great audience responded with the price of the jewels and authorized their return to the donor to be kept forever as the treasure, emblems of love's young dream. This was a supreme sacrifice. If any one thinks otherwise, let him resort to the citadel of his imagination, place himself in the shoes of this young lady and face the most sacred emblem of sacrifice almost that it is possible to make, and we are sure he will say, "I could not have done it."

Everything sold brought a high price. We would like to give a list, but the secretaries were entirely unable to tell just what the amount was that each article brought. The articles auctioned included a calf, pigs, rabbits, chickens, turkeys, eggs, some grown vegetables, and many other things produced in this section. Many due bill were also auctioned, but as the time had passed so rapidly the auction could not be completed, and fully \$100 worth of articles remain in the hands of the committee, probably to be auctioned in a short time.

**Flag Raising.**  
The old soldiers of the Civil War were called to the platform for the flag raising program. Only three were present. Grand old veterans they are, noble in heart and deed. Age rests emblazoned upon their brows, and only a few short years will witness their retirement from the stage of action. We grieve to see them go, but the valor of their deeds remain and the sons of these noble sires are today proving their worth in the last great fight between liberty and oppression.

It was six o'clock before the flag raising took place. T. A. Johnson was called upon for the preliminary remarks. He recited eloquently the sacrifice necessary on the part of the people to secure the Honor Flag. He told of their privations and their splendid character. Naturally a good speaker, he beat himself on this occasion, he pleaded the lack of time for preparation. The next time the committee is only going to give him fifteen minutes notice. When it comes Rev. C. A. Bickley, as a home boy, whom the citizens had picked out as a man who would make his mark, and now he had returned to his old home flushed with the conquest of victory, the pride of his fellows and the uncompromising foe to evil.



**EVERYONE MUST HELP.**  
Wars cannot be fought without money, and upon the Treasury centers every financial demand upon the Nation.  
The rich of this country cannot alone meet the needs of the Nation; the men of the country cannot do it alone; the women of the country cannot do it alone; but all of us, the people of the United States, disregarding partisanship, forgetting selfish interests, thinking only of the supremacy of right and determining to vindicate the majesty of American ideals and secure the safety of America and civilization, can do the great and splendid work which God has called upon us to do.  
W. G. McADOO,  
Secretary of the Treasury.

### CLASSIFIED ADS

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

- 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.
- TYPEWRITER RIBBONS & CARBON PAPER—At Merkel Mail office.
- WANTED—Piano box. Notify Miss Bess Touchstone. t1c.
- FOR SALE—Typewriter ribbons at the Merkel Mail office.
- FOR RENT—Large, cool office room for \$5.00 a month, over Woodroof-Bragg store. See the Merkel Mail. ttc.
- FOR SALE—Petigreed Duroc Pigs, \$7.50 and 10.00 each. J. T. Warren. 30t2c.
- FOR SALE—1-month old registered Poland Chian male pig. Apply Merkel Mail.
- WANTED—Your plain sewing prices reasonable. Mrs. J. E. Rider. 30t1.
- WANTED—A good farm hand. S. F. Haynes. 30t1c.
- Rev. Bickley's address was a delight to all within the hearing of his voice. He is a fluent speaker, and never wanting in his command of English. He praised the boy scouts who hoisted the flags. He referred to the stars and stripes floating so proudly on top. He then spoke tenderly of the service flag, made by the loving hands of the Red Cross women, and each star was embroidered with the threads of love. He gazed at the beautiful emblem, representing 123 of our boys who are gone to defend their homes and their country. And then in the paths of love he pointed to the three golden stars that represent the boys who have given their lives in the great cause. And then the Liberty Loan flag, which served to show how the people at home were standing behind the boys with their means. It was a great and solemn occasion. At the close of address, with the three flags flying at the top of a sixty-foot flag staff, the Glee Club sang, "The Star Spangled Banner."
- The success of the drive and the auction is due mainly to the untiring activity of the chairman, R. L. Bland, his efficient assistant, W. A. McSpadden, and the best committee that could be picked out of the entire citizenship. Mr. McSpadden was chairman of the special committee for the auction, and with the co-operation of the Red Cross ladies, and every one else who was glad to lend a helping hand, everything moved off smoothly. And we'll bet that not a slacker appeared to view the magnificent spectacle. For, piano, floats and all the other contributions, the committee is profoundly thankful.
- Articles Auctioned**  
Hen, Mrs. O. E. Story, purchased by J. R. Dye.  
Beets, L. A. Watts, by Ed Teaff.  
Beets, Ed. Teaff, by Clyde Sears.  
Bantam rooster, Rex Roberts, by Jim Black.  
Pickles, Mrs. W. A. Thornton, by Emmitt Counts.  
Pickles, Emmitt Counts, by T. G. Bragg.  
Cornish eggs, Mrs. J. W. Teaff, by Ira Armstrong.  
Four White Wyandotte Cockrels, Henry Rose, First to John Sears, second to L. E. Sanders, third and fourth to J. A. Patterson Jr.  
White Wyandotte Cockrel, L. E. Sanders, by A. C. Rose.  
Box baby chickens, Mrs. C. E. Stamps, Hon. H. Rob. Keeble of Abilene.  
Hand made pillow slips, Mrs. C. E. Stamps, by Mrs. J. T. Browning.  
Bucket Irish potatoes, "Dad" Westenhover, C. M. Largent.  
Turkey gobbler, Mrs. J. A. Meeks, by J. C. Mason.  
War Saving Stamp, Farmers (Continued on next page.)

### EXPLOSION AT MIDLAND

Midland, Texas, May 28.—A mysterious explosion in a pool hall, believed to have been incendiary, at midnight last night completely wrecked four brick buildings, partly wrecked two others and broke all plateglass and windows in two blocks and many in adjacent blocks.

Tom Carro, employe of the pool hall, was found dead in the wreckage.

Fire followed the explosion, burning the wrecked building and gutting the Unique Theatre building. The buildings destroyed were the Coyle-Cordill Motor Company, the W. H. Spaulding garage, the hall and a vacant building owned by H. R. Rosling. A meat market and the theatre building were partly wrecked.

There is no clue to the source of the explosion.

The damage is estimated at \$40,000 to \$50,000.

### Railroad Rates Increased.

In order to meet wage increases just announced, Director General McAdoo has ordered railroad freight rates in the United States raised 25 per cent and passenger fares increased to 3 cents a mile from the present basis of 2 1/2 cents. It is estimated that the program will bring between \$800,000,000 and \$900,000,000 more revenues to the railroads within the next year. The freight rates will become effective June 25, and the passenger increase will go into effect June 10.

Special excursion, mileage and tourist rates, with a few exceptions, are discontinued, privileges such as stop-over and free side trips are abolished and excess baggage charges are increased.

Rubin C. Hall, who is in the navy, has been in the U.S. Navy hospital at Brooklyn for some weeks. Last reports states he is improving rapidly.

### 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. Hinton  
J. L. Mingus  
G. R. Pain  
Miss Fannie Tippet
- 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.

## A GREAT GERMAN DRIVE IN PROGRESS

The Germans are well along with another great drive. There has been no letup by them as yet in south from the Aisne and both the French and the British have been forced to give further ground. Confidence is expressed in Paris, however, that the allied reserves, now rapidly coming up, will stop advance.

General Foch now has the situation well in hand and French troops are beginning to gain on the German advance forces in a contest of speed. No important line of communication is yet threatened by the advance of the German crown prince.

Those on the scene declare it is not too much to say that another forty-eight hours will see the German drive definitely stopped. High praise is given the French reserves for the perfect order in which they are coming into the fighting line.

Not the least encouraging news yesterday was the brilliant success of the Americans in the Montdidier sector which all the newspapers feature.

It was the first important action carried out alone by the Americans. All reports agree that they behaved like veterans. This is pronounced the best augury for the early future when American help will weigh heavily in the balance.

### SCOUT BENEFIT

A show will be given at the Cozy next Thursday night in the interest of the Boy Scouts. A 4-reel show will be given, together with a scout program.

The funds received will be used to buy knap sacks for the boys. There are now about 30 boys, and others will join soon. Come out and help the boys. The admission will be 10 and 20 cents.

### Business Firm Moves

The Merkel Drug Company has moved their place of business to the Wheeler Building, formerly occupied by the racket store of J. M. Dry. They are fixing things up nicely in their new quarters and soon will be as cozy as it is possible to be. They invite their friends to visit them in their new quarters.

The members of this enterprising firm have an eye to business. They propose to leave no stone unturned to modernize their business and accommodate their customers.

### TAKE YOUR HOME PAPER

A story is told of a Georgia "cracker" who sat on his porch one day with his back to the road. His wife sat knitting, facing the road.

"Thar goes Bud Smith's funeral by," said the wife. "Pears to be the biggest funeral that has happened in these parts in years. Must be a couple er hundred people in it."

"S'that so?" drawled her husband. "What a pity I ain't a-facin' that-away."

That Georgia "cracker" didn't have much ambition to know what was going on about him. Nobody would like to be like that "cracker."

And yet there are a few people who haven't enough interest in what goes on during the week to take the Merkel Mail Regularly.

### COAL ORDERING WEEK

King Coal can help beat the beast. Fill your bins now. Coal ordering week—June 3-8—United States Fuel Administration.



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
<b>CASH &amp; EXCHANGE.....</b>	<b>47,938.45</b>
Total.....	\$336,272.60

LIABILITIES	
Capital Stock .....	\$ 35,000.00
Surplus and Profits.....	34,732.54
<b>DEPOSITS .....</b>	<b>237,022.48</b>
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**

**THE RED CROSS DAY**  
**A GREAT ONE**

(Continued from page 1.)  
 State Bank, by Miss Eva Williams.

War Saving Stamp, F. & M. National Bank, by  
 Two jars fruit, Mrs. R. J. Miller, by J. C. Mason.

Duroc pig, J. T. Warren, by Dewey Brown.

Due bill for \$2.50, A. B. Barrow & Co., by Walter Jackson.

Calif, Tom Largent, by John Sears.

Calf, John Sears, by J. H. Cook.

Moon, bought by John Collins, bringing about \$20.

Old maid, Miss Agnes Powell, by Ed. Teaff.

Old Maid, Parker Sharp, by T. J. Toombs.

Setting eggs, R. A. Ellis, by Charlie Largent, Jr.

Beans, Little Missie Dye and Clara Louise Miller, by Wallace Bragg.

Little Elizabeth, Downing, by several parties raising over \$100.

Diamonds, by name withheld, audience contributing to the amount of about \$60.

Belgian shares, Mrs. H. T. Merritt, by Leo Toombs.

Buff Orpington fryer, A. J. Hartley, by R. L. Bland.

Duroc Jersey pig, Lee D. Williams, by Newton Cobb.

Two pair Rhodes Island Red chickens, Mrs. C. L. Tucker, by Wallace Bragg.

Rooster and guinea, name lost off, by Turkey gobbler, Mrs. E. L. Wills, by Newton Cobb.

Rhode Island Red Hen, G. F. Holland, by Newton Cobb.

Gave rooster, name lost off, by Ira Armstrong.

Bucket lard, Mrs. Reese Hall, by Walter Jackson.

Buff Orpington eggs, A. J. Hartley, by Walter Jackson.

Barred Plymouth eggs, Mrs. Joe Higgins, by J. A. Patterson.

\$5.00 due bill, Sanders Drug, by Wallace Bragg.

Two Cartoons, S. S. Sherrell, one by H. F. Groene and other by M. L. Estes, both of which were donated to the Red Cross to be put up in the rooms.

Setting eggs, Mrs. H. C. Floyd, by

500 pounds ice coupons, Merkel Ice Company, by W. T. Sherrell and donated to Red Cross.

\$3.00 hardware due bill, G. F. West Company, by Walter Jackson.

Two brooms, Bob Martin Grocery Company, by Hollis Brown.

\$2.50 dry goods coupon, The Anchor Mercantile Company, by Walter Jackson.

Dozen eggs,

Red Cross Entertainment.

The Stith Red Cross will give a play Saturday night, starting at 9 o'clock. A good program has been arranged. Everybody is invited to attend. The price of admission is 10 and 15 cents. It will take two or three hours to render the program.

The Stith Red Cross has been quite active of late. The women are making every sacrifice possible to keep the work going.

**Our Uncle Samuel**

Is Going to Know Where We Stand

On June 28th we will be called upon to meet at designated places and say then and there how much we will invest in War Saving and Thrift Stamps by next December 31st.

He is Going to Get  
 Our Number

He expects every man and woman to do their duty. Let's get ready for this great campaign of saving and perform the duty cheerfully.

**THIS BANK**

keeps War Savings and Thrift Stamps on hand for sale at all times.

**LIBERTY BONDS**

for sale from our own vaults. Liberty Bonds and War Savings Stamps are the best investments in the whole world. Let's be thrifty, helpful and patriotic.

**FARMERS & MERCHANTS**  
**NATIONAL BANK**

Thos. Johnson, Cashier



Governor Wm. P. Hebbly.

**LOCAL NEWS**

Rev. I. S. Adkisson of Decaturville, Tenn. arrived Sunday night to visit his son, Dr. J. E. Adkisson, and family. He came by way of Beaumont, where he visited Dr. J. A. Adkisson. He has been here many times before and has quite a number of friends in Merkel. He says they have had plenty of rain in Tennessee and crops are looking good.

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

The Red Cross wishes to thank the Gulf Refining Company for a donation of \$25, sent from Houston headquarters, through their local agent Ellis Beene. This is for Second Red Cross War Fund. This is splendid. No other oil corporation doing business here, showed the same local consideration.

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

Mr. and Mrs. A. C. Rose and children and Mrs. Alice Rose returned Saturday from an extended visit to Mineral Wells, Fort Worth and other points. They report an excellent time. Mrs. Austin Fitts of Abilene made the trip with them.

Ernest Rogers, a newly-made farmer of Hawley, was in Merkel Wednesday. He planted cotton last week and says that it is so fine that he would not be surprised if he did not go to picking next week. We want his receipt.

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

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.

**LOCAL NEWS**

Rev. B. T. Tatum of Terrel is visiting his daughter, Mrs. T. E. Ragan, and son, Rev. O. B. Tatum. He formerly lived in this section, where he did pastoral duties.

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

Dewey Brown, who has been employed at the post office for some months, has accepted a position with Sanders Drug Store and will go there June 1. Bourdon Smith will take his place at the post office.

Loring Hamblett returned Sunday night from Water Valley, Miss., where he has been since last fall, and has accepted a position with the Anchor Mercantile Company. He stopped in Fort Worth on his way home to visit his brother, Roger.

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

Mrs. Manual Tiga Gonzales, who lived on Sam Winter's farm, died last Friday. She was 50 year old, and was born in Saltillo, Mex.

George Ferrier has received notice to report to Camp Lee, Va., for the livestock department. He plans to leave Saturday.

Harry Barnett, who has been with Sanders Drug Store for several weeks, has returned to the employ of G. F. West Co.

Claude Comegys spent several days this week at the home of Geo. Ferrier, assisting in shearing sheep.

Lloyd Dry has accepted a position with the Sanders Drug Store.

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, Soc.

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.**



## YOUR DOLLAR MAY DECIDE

Don't ever get it in your head that YOUR dollar isn't needed. There may be a disposition to consider that each fellow's bond purchase is lost in the big general shuffle, that he cannot see the immediate and practical strength of his individual effort. This idea is all wrong. Each dollar does its specific duty and does it now, when every energy is needed to stem this tide that is bending civilization double.

Every dollar now, is worth two presently toward stopping the war.

Wouldn't it be a satisfaction to you, as a red-blooded American, to know that you had bought the shell that had blown up a submarine—or your rifle in the sniper's hands, had picked off a Prussian officer? Cannot you imagine the gratification you would feel that it was your shell that had blown a German trench into kingdom come?

Your bond will feed your son, or some other patriotic American's son, for one whole year, over there in shell-torn France and Belgium.

Close and strict co-operation is now the watchword among the Allied armies in Europe, and it must likewise be the slogan that governs us at home in furnishing the sinews that makes progress at the front possible.

Here are some of the vitally necessary things your money will buy:

**FIFTEEN HUNDRED DOLLARS WORTH OF LIBERTY BONDS WILL:**

- Buy a motor ambulance
- Buy a five passenger motor car for a machine-gun battery.

**TWELVE HUNDRED DOLLARS WORTH OF LIBERTY BONDS WILL:**

- Provide horses to draw a gun in an ammunition train.

**ONE ONE THOUSAND DOLLAR BOND WILL:**

- Buy an X-ray apparatus/outfit
- Buy six cases of operating instruments for a base hospital.

**EIGHT ONE HUNDRED DOLLAR BONDS WILL:**

- Furnish four mules to draw an ambulance.

**ONE FIVE HUNDRED DOLLAR BOND WILL:**

- Supply bicycles for the headquarters company of an infantry regiment.

**FOUR ONE HUNDRED DOLLAR BONDS WILL:**

- Buy an X-ray outfit.

**THREE ONE HUNDRED DOLLAR BONDS WILL:**

- Clothe a soldier and feed him for one year in France
- Buy a motorcycle for a machine-gun company.

**TWO ONE HUNDRED DOLLAR BONDS WILL:**

- Buy a cavalry horse
- Buy an ammunition mule
- Buy a horse for the captain of a machine-gun company
- Buy a mule to draw a water cart.

**ONE ONE HUNDRED DOLLAR BOND AND ONE FIFTY DOLLAR BOND WILL:**

- Clothe and equip an infantry soldier for service overseas.
- Feed a soldier for a year.

**ONE ONE HUNDRED DOLLAR BOND WILL:**

- Clothe a soldier
- Feed a soldier for eight months
- Provide five rifles
- Provide 30 rifle grenades
- Provide 45 hand grenades
- Provide 25 pounds of ether
- Buy 145 hot water bags
- Buy 2000 surgical needles.

**ONE FIFTY DOLLAR BOND WILL:**

- Provide trench knives for a rifle company
- Buy 23 hand grenades
- Buy 14 rifle grenades
- Buy 37 cases for surgical instruments.
- Buy 10 cases of surgical instruments for officers' belts.

# Shoes - Shoes - Shoes!

## \$8,000.00 Shoes to Close at Cost

Our shoe stock is too large and we need the room and you need shoes, and for

### 15 DAYS COMMENCING SATURDAY MAY 25TH

## WE WILL SELL SHOES FIRST COST FOR

We have shoes bought cheap and we are going to sell to you at what they

**COST US**

**SEE OUR BARGAIN COUNTER OF  
LOW CUT SHOES**

## See Us For Groceries

**A good fresh stock CHEAP  
LOTS OF DRY GOODS, TOO**

# The Star Store

## HOW TO SECURE A LIBERTY BOND

You may be one of many people, anxious to do your share towards helping Uncle Sam beat the Hun, but are in doubt just how to proceed, and the details concerning Liberty Bonds may be a little vague to you.

For the benefit of all, a few facts may clear things up.

The Bonds, guaranteed by the United States Government, and consequently the safest investment in the world, are of the following values:—\$50.00, \$100.00, \$500.00, \$1,000.00, \$5,000 and \$10,000.00.

The interest at the rate of 4% per annum is payable on September 15, 1918, on March 15, 1919, and thereafter on each September 15th and March 15th.

The Bonds are redeemable in gold on September 15, 1928.

Sign the application form which you can obtain from any banker or Liberty Loan salesman.

You can pay for your bond in full at the time of your application.

If you would rather pay by installments you can pay the banker or salesman 5% of the amount of the Bond you intend to purchase, that is \$5.00 on every \$100.00, and pay the balance as follows:—

- 20% on May 28, 1918.
- 35% on July 18, 1918.
- 40% on August 15, 1918.

The Bonds bear interest from May 9th, 1918, so if you buy on the installment plan you will be asked to add to your August payment the small amount of interest you are not entitled to, owing to the fact that the Government has not had the use of the full amount of your subscription until you made the final payment. The amount involved is so small that it is not worth considering.

The money you pay for the Bonds and the interest you receive on them is free from taxation, except Inheritance Tax, and the surtaxes on large incomes. A man must be very wealthy before his interest of 4% is reduced by even one-half of one per cent, so to the average citizen the Bonds are tax free.

Arrangements have been made to deliver Bonds at a few days notice as soon as they are paid for in full.

There are two kinds of Bonds—Coupon and Registered. Coupon Bonds bear Coupons which you tear off and exchange for interest money at your bank or Post Office. Registered Bonds have no Coupons, but the interest is mailed to you twice yearly. Up to the \$10,000.00 value Bonds you can take your choice as to which you will buy.

Bonds of \$50,000.00 and \$100,000.00 are issued but must be registered.

Your application must be in by May 4, 1918. The Government specially asks you however to place your order before this date.

Many banks are willing to arrange for a small payment down, and monthly payments for the balance. This of course, is for the benefit of those who do not at the moment, have the ready funds to pay for their bonds in full.

The main thing, of course, is to get busy immediately on some basis, for the emergency is urgent, and it must not be said that we are not ready to follow with our money, the boys that are ready to fight our battles "over there."



Mrs. Walter Jackson, Editor

### Birthday Party.

Harry Merritt gave a birthday party at his home last Monday evening to a few of his friends. Croquet, dominoes and flinch were played until a late hour. The spacious lawn at this home was highly attractive to the young folks and they report a mighty good time. Harry is fifteen years of age and celebrated the occasion by wearing long pants. He is a man now. Those present were Misses Alva Wheeler, Girlie Howard, Lula May Boaz, Ruth Newberry and Mamie Ellis and Messrs. John Wheeler, Kenneth Sharp and the host. Ice cream and cake were served.

### RAISED FINE LETTUCE.

Last week, W. P. Duckett brought in a couple of heads of lettuce that were the finest I have seen since the war. He secured a special lot of seed and is going to keep seed from the plants he is growing. It is worked on the theory that acclimated seed will produce better plants and next year he thinks he will show improvements over these plants. He expects to have seed for sale. One of the heads brought would more than equal a dozen ordinary heads. He also brought a specimen of Bermuda onion that was as large as a fine as any grown. Another vegetable he is specializing on is what he terms his "War pea." They are a form of English peas that do not require hulling and are of a special flavor. They grow prolific in this section.

### To Cure a Cold in One Day.

Take LAXATIVE BROMO Quinine. It stops the Cough and Headache and works off the Cold. Druggists refund money if it fails to cure. E. W. GROVE'S signature on each box. 30c.

### RUSSIAN THISTLE

A Party brought in a healthy Russian thistle Thursday. He called our attention to same, urging us to warn the people against permitting the plants to grow in this section. In the State of Colorado, much acreage has been absolutely ruined by this plant. It multiplies so rapidly and is hard to kill out. While young and tender stock will feed on it, but later the thistles are so bad that they can not eat the grass that grows around it. There is not enough of the plant in the country to be of much damage, and now is the time to kill every sprig of it. Sample of same is on display in Merkel Mail office.

### Great Wheat Stocks Isolated.

It's the shortage in ships that is putting the Allies and the United States on wheat rations. Great stocks of wheat are isolated in India, and Australia. At great sacrifice in ship space and use the Allies are forced to secure some wheat from Argentina.

On January 1, Australia had stored 100,000,000 bushels of wheat that was ready for export—but there were no ships. Then came the new crop with an exportable surplus of 80,000,000 bushels. Now Australia has approximately 180,000,000 bushels waiting for ships.

India, at the same time, had 70,000,000 bushels of wheat stored for export. During April 50,000,000 bushels more out of the new crop will be added to the pile.

Argentina closed the last shipping season with 11,000,000 bushels of wheat left in the stock available for export. The new crop will add 135,000,000 to the left over.

It is not a problem that the wheat does not exist in the world—it is entirely a problem of shipping, which has thrown on America the obligation of dividing our stock with the Allies.

### CHURCH NEWS

#### A Great Revival

The revival service at the Methodist church continues and a great deal of interest is being manifested. Rev. Bickley is a powerful preacher and is earnestly calling upon sinners to forsake their ways and turn to their Lord. Large crowds attend every service.

Rev. Bickley and his wife and family are visiting his parents while here. Mrs. Bickley is also a very active church worker. She depicted and addressed a woman's meeting at the Presbyterian church last Sunday afternoon, at the same time Rev. Bickley was preaching to men at the Methodist church.

Rev. Switzer of Baird is leading the singing. He is fine. No time is set for the close of the meetin. If interest keeps up, doubtless the meeting will continue for some time.

#### Preaching at Baptist Church

Rev. B. T. Tatum will preach at the Baptist church Sunday morning. Everybody is invited to attend. There will be no services at night.

Rev. Tatum formerly lived in this section and has many close friends here.

#### B. Y. P. U. Program April 2.

The B. Y. P. U. meets every Sunday afternoon at the Baptist church at 5 o'clock. All the young people are invited to attend.

Subject, Hymns We Often Sing and How They Came to Be Written.

The Place of Singing in the Churches, Willie Swann.

Some Personal Recollections, Holland Teaff.

"I Gave My Life For Thee" and "He Leadeth Me; Oh, Blessed Thought", Ola Sharp.

Special Music, Ona Fae Bland "Take Me As I am" and "Must I Go an Empty Handed?", Annie Mae Swann.

"Jesus, Lover of My Soul" "Blest Be the Tie that Binds, Doyle Garrett.

### Christian Endeavor Program

Topic, Christian Duty and Privilege, Mark 12:28—34.

Leader, Iva Bragg. Edifying, 1 Cor. 8:1—13, Julia Martin.

Supporting, 1 Cor. 16:1—3, Bourdon Smith.

Attending, Heb. 10:19—25, Preston Guthrie.

Hospitality, Heb. 13:1—3, Pearl Thornton.

Moral Cleansing, Isa. 1:10—2, Tom Allday.

Moral Uplift, Hosea 14:—19, Ona Fay Bland.

Goodnight in Summer

And keep us warm, I fear,

For we are covered very thin

Because the summer's here.

Now mother can not tuck us in

But anyway we get a hug

The same as when it's cold

And cooling water in a mug

"And mother's hand to hold.

We like the spring, and the fall,

We like the summer, too;

We like most any time at all—

Now, really, wouldn't you?

Misses Jewel Pate and Madge

Hale of Trent spent Wednesday

in Merkel.

### Piles Cured in 6 to 14 Days

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



### HUNGER

For three years America has fought starvation in Belgium

Will you Eat less - wheat meat - fats and sugar that we may still send food in ship loads?

UNITED STATES FOOD ADMINISTRATION



## WILL YOU BE ONE?

Thousands of thoughtless people neglect colds every winter. A cough follows; they get rundown—then stubborn sickness sets in. Sickness can be prevented easier than it can be cured and if you will give your system the benefit of a few bottles of

# SCOTT'S EMULSION

you will find your whole system strengthened. It will fortify your lungs and throat and enrich your blood against rheumatism. It is powerful concentrated nourishment without alcohol or opiates. Don't neglect taking Scott's—commence today.



The imported Norwegian cod liver oil always used in Scott's Emulsion is now refined in our own American laboratories which guarantees it free from impurities. Scott & Bowne, Bloomfield, N. J. 17-17

# 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.

### A GREAT MAN IN A GRAVE TIME

Nothing short of divine intervention could have placed so great and good a man as Woodrow Wilson at the head of our republic at this world-disturbing period of history. Calmly he has faced the greatest crises any individual was ever called upon to face. For a long time he tried to be non-partisan. He tried not to believe the German-propagandist reports that came sifting through from time to time. He tried to listen to that country's representatives, but alas, the crises could not be deferred. He refused to be bulldozed, and when the crucial hour came, he rose up in Congress and asked that war be declared. That was a momentous hour. Some people thought the time had not quite arrived; others thought that already too many golden months had passed. He did that which he thought to be right, and not a patriot of all this land will criticize him for his act. All along he has proven the earmarks of greatness, but never before as on last Saturday when he spoke in New York in the interest of the Red Cross Drive. He said in part:

"Our first duty is to win the war, and our second is to win it greatly and worthily. Some gentlemen have recently said that we should get 5,000,000 men ready. I have asked Congress to name no limit.

"Now so far as I am concerned, I intend to stand by Russia as well as France. The helpless and friendless are the very ones that need friends and succor, and if any man in Germany thinks we are going to sacrifice anybody for our own sake, I tell them now they are mistaken. For the glory of this war, so far as we are concerned, is that it is, perhaps, for the first time in history, an unselfish war. I could not be proud to fight for a selfish purpose, but I can be proud to fight for mankind. If they wish peace let them come forward through accredited representatives and lay their terms on the table. We have laid ours and they know what they are. I am convinced that not a hundred years of peace could have knitted this nation together as this single year of war has knitted it together, and better than that, if possible, it is knitting the world together."

To think we are fighting for an unselfish cause, a cause that must carry liberty to even Germany herself as it has come to us and blessed our own lives. And to think that Russia, in spite of her weakness in this perilous hour, in spite of her internal strife, in spite of the fact

that she has gone to pieces at a time when her armies were most needed, in spite of all this, the war clouds will disappear until Russia arises to bless the United States for saving her from the grasp of so vile a foe. No, Russian is not to be forgotten, nor France, nor Belgium, nor England. And to think that the United States came in at a time to turn the tide. The most the allies could have gained would have been a part of Germany. Though we wade through rivers of blood, our mighty ice must be humbled, she must make restitution, she must assist in restoring what she has broken down. She can not restore life, but forever the iron hand of militarism will rest secure in fetters that will hold. Let America rise up and say with President Wilson, "We will stand by you until the wrongs of Germany are righted, until Russia and France and all the other nations are given shelter under the spreading canopy of everlasting liberty."

### 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.

## Bilious? Take NR Tonight

Nature's Remedy is Better and Safer Than Calomel. Cleans Out System Without Gripping. Stops Sick Headache. Guaranteed.

Bilious attacks, constipation, sick headaches, etc., are in the great majority of cases due to digestive trouble and no reasonable person can expect to obtain real or lasting benefit until the cause is corrected. Nature's Remedy (NR Tablets) is a vegetable compound that acts on the stomach, liver, bowels and kidneys, the purpose being to bring about healthy and harmonious action of all the organs of digestion and elimination. It acts promptly and thoroughly, yet so mildly and gently that there is never the slightest gripping or discomfort. But that is not all. Nature's Remedy (NR Tablets) have a beneficial effect upon the entire body. By improving the process of digestion and assimilation, the nourishment is derived from food, the blood quality is enriched, vitality is increased and the whole system strengthened. Once you get your body in this splendid condition, you need not take medicine every day—just take an NR Tablet occasionally when indigestion, biliousness and constipation threaten, and you can always feel your best. Remember keeping well is easier and cheaper than getting well. Get a 25c box of Nature's Remedy (NR Tablets) and try it. It is sold, guaranteed and recommended by your druggist.

T. L. GRIMES, Merkel, Texas

**Nature's Remedy**  
NR TABLETS—NR  
Better than Pills. GET A  
For Liver Ills. 25c Box

## IRISH PLOT UNCOVERED

Washington, May 21.—Evidence of plotting between German and Irish agents in this country for an uprising in Ireland has been uncovered by United States government agents and is partly responsible for the recent arrest of Irish leaders by the British government.

The evidence which may be made public soon, is understood to show definitely that Irish leaders, mainly Sinn Fein sympathizers in the United States have been in touch with German representatives who agreed to furnish money to finance a rebellion in Ireland and possibly to send arms and ammunition to Ireland by submarines or blockade runners. There was even some discussion of the chances of sending German soldiers to take part in warfare on Irish soil.

The uprising was set for about this time, when the Germans had planned to reach the channel ports after their great drive in France, and it was believed England would be thrown into confusion by the German victories.

Ireland was to be freed entirely from British influence if possible on the Irish trouble to divert Great Britain's attention from the fighting in France and at the channel ports at the very time when it would be most necessary for the country to keep calm to prevent a German invasion.

Information concerning these plots has been gathered by several investigating agencies of the United States government and turned over to the state department, which forwarded it to representatives of the British government. In many cases the information provided leads by which British secret agents found evidence of plotting in Ireland.

## GREEN'S AUGUST FLOWER

has been a household remedy all over the civilized world for more than half a century for constipation, intestinal troubles, torpid liver and the generally depressed feeling that accompanies such disorders. It is a most valuable remedy for indigestion or nervous dyspepsia and liver trouble, bringing on headache, coming up of food, palpitation of heart, and many other symptoms. A few doses of August Flower will relieve you. It is a gentle laxative. Sold by Grimes Drug Store. 30 and 90 cent bottles.

## Guide for Voters in Primary

Here are some dates for you Democratic Politicians and voters that you might not be sure of.

The following calendar gives a schedule of official political happenings for the next few months in Texas:

June 3—Last day on which applications for places on Democratic primary ticket will be received from state candidates.

June 10—State executive committee meets to draw for places.

June 15—Last day to file for the county offices.

June 17—County executive committee meets to draw for places and fix assessments of candidates.

June 27—Registration of women voters at tax collector's office begins.

July 12—Registration of women ends.

July 27—Democratic primary.

Aug. 3—County executive committee meets to canvas returns.

Aug. 3—County convention meets.

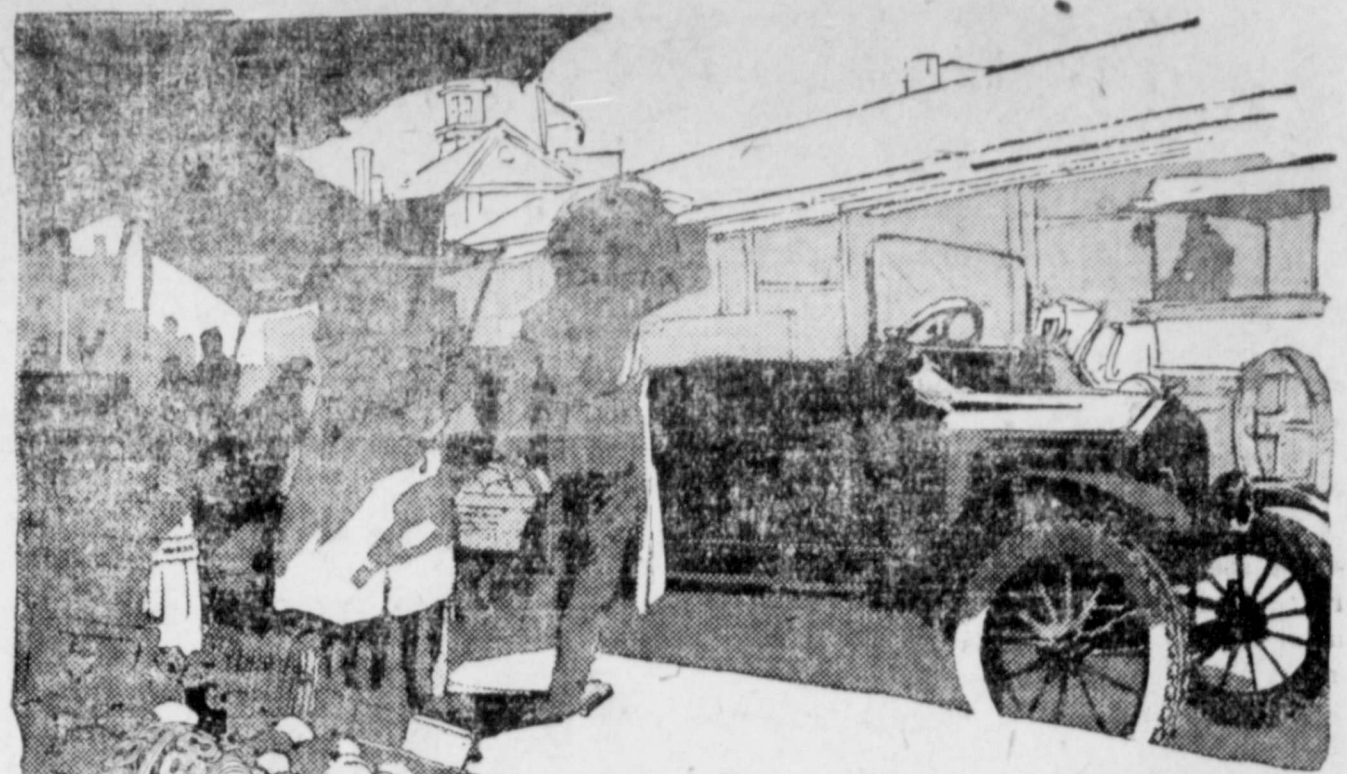
Aug. 19—State committee meets to canvas returns of the primary.

Aug. 24—"Runoff" primary for state and district officers who did not receive a majority vote in the July primary.

Nov. 5—General election.

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. 60 cents.



## War-Time Responsibility—Yours and Ours

National necessity has put a new responsibility on every motorist.

Utmost service is demanded—the highest usefulness of yourself and your car.

Service and economy are your only considerations.

Our responsibility goes hand in hand with yours.

As the largest rubber manufacturer in the world, it is our duty to supply you with tires of unfailing reliability and extreme mileage.

United States Tires are more

than making good in this time of stress.

They are setting new mileage records—establishing new standards of continuous service—effecting greater economy by reducing tire cost per mile.

There is a United States Tire for every car—passenger or commercial—and every condition of motoring.

The nearest United States Sales and Service Depot dealer will cheerfully aid you in fitting the right tire to your needs.

United States Tires are Good Tires

## PLANT BLOWN UP.

Pittsburg, May 18.—Two hundred men were killed and an equal number injured, in an explosion at the plant of the Aetna Chemical Company at Oakdale, 16 miles from here.

The plant was demolished. The first explosion made a noise scarcely louder than a pistol crack. It came from the soda house. The workers knew, however, and rushed for the exits.

But most of them were too late. The chemicals used for the manufacture of t. n. t. of the most deadly explosives, had ignited, and a second explosion followed a few seconds later.

This time the massive plant was lifted from the ground and hurled skyward. Crash followed crash. Those who had escaped saw the huge building twist in midair and the bodies of their fellow workers hurled forth with a wreckage of machinery.

The debris took fire and workers who had survived the first shock were pinioned beneath heaps of burning material and lumber. A cloud of dust stealed over the place and the poisonous fumes of the burning chemicals tortured the injured.

Special trains ran into Pittsburg all afternoon carrying the dead and wounded. Some were picked up more than a half mile from the scene. Minor explosions followed during the rescue work and made work almost impossible.

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 F. 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 Dollars reward is offered for any case that Hall's Catarrh Medicine fails to cure. Send for circulars and testimonials. F. J. CHENEY & CO., Toledo, Ohio. Sold by Druggists, 75c. Hall's Family Pills for constipation.

## 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.

# MOVED

Into the building formerly occupied by the J. M. Dry Racket Store. We consider this a more convenient location for the majority. We would be pleased to have you pay us a visit in our new store. We shall endeavor to fill your wants in the future as we have in the past ---that is to say, in a manner acceptable to you.

## MERKEL DRUG COMP'NY

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

## 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.



# AJAX Shoulders of Strength

## Where the Road Strain Comes

Special Shoulders of Strength inbuilt in Ajax Tires support the tread and brace its entire width. Add strength where road strain is greatest. Distribute grinding wear over the entire tread surface.

### AJAX ROAD KING

"More Tread on the Road"

Built to uphold Ajax road reputation. Competing with other tires AJAX ROAD KING proves its superiority on city streets or farm highways. Truly, a monarch in quality—a democrat in service. Of AJAX total output 97% is singled out through "Owners' Choice" to replace other tires that came with their cars.

Equip with Ajax Tires. Use Ajax Inner Tubes. Come in and let us prove that Ajax means real economy.

MERKEL GARAGE

Merkel, Texas.

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

## AJAX TIRES

GUARANTEED IN WRITING 5000 MILES

## 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

## Specialty in Farm Loans

Inspector on the ground—Quick Service

Real Estate and Fire Insurance

**W. O. BONEY** West of Farmers State Bank

### 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. Hedges.  
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  
Holjis Brown, Trent.  
Royce Dowdy, Trent.  
Robt. B. Parker.  
Frank E. Smith  
Luther Grimes.  
W. L. Diltz, Jr.  
William B. Tarpley.  
N. B. 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. Pruitt, Trent  
John T. Mattingley, Noodle.  
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 McNees.  
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.  
Henry Eason, Noodle  
Leldon Goode, Noodle  
Guy Bradley, Stith.  
Guy Sibley, Trent.  
Wm. Wills.  
Sam H. Rosson, Trent.  
Claude Rosson, Trent.  
Alfred Wesley Costephens.  
Ulyses McNees.  
W. Clarence Cameron  
Vessie E. Browning.  
Clyde Garrett.  
Bailey Frazier.  
John Coomer.  
Bailey Frazier.  
Leo Shepard.  
Frank Millican.  
Dem Rask.  
Q Rusk.  
Tucker  
Horton.  
John Tucker.  
Wilba Whitaker  
Rufus McLean.  
Dillard Snow.  
Vernon Simpson.  
Dr. Robert I. Grimes.  
Floyd Dean  
Guy Brady.  
Cecil McRee, Trent  
Clayton Hall, Trent.

### 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.

### MEETS HUSBAND SHE BELIEVED DEAD

Cokeville, Wyo., May 11.—Mrs. M. Woelz stepped into a store in this remote Wyoming village and was confronted by her husband who she had been notified while she was in China, had been killed by revolutionists in Russia. Woelz was a Lieutenant in the Russian Army.

"I thought you were dead!" exclaimed the woman as she threw herself into the outstretched arms of the man who had followed her half around the world. Then she fainted.

Mrs. Woelz's girlhood home was in this section. Several years ago she met and married in New York a Russian student, son of the head of the business house of Woelz & Son. of St. Petersburg. At the beginning of the war Woelz was summoned to the Czar's colors. Eighteen months ago the husband, because of the unsettled condition of Russia affairs, arranged for his wife and their little son, to come to America. They made the trip via Siberia and China. While in China Mrs. Woelz was notified that her husband had been killed by revolutionists. She came to America and, depending upon her own resource, got employment at a stage station near here. She had come to buy supplies when she met Woelz

## LIVER DIDN'T ACT DIGESTION WAS BAD

Says 65 year Old Kentucky Lady, Who Tells How She Was Relieved After a Few Doses of Black-Draught.

Meadorsville, Ky.—Mrs. Cynthia Higginbotham, of this town, says: "At my age, which is 65, the liver does not act so well as when young. A few years ago, my stomach was all out of fix. I was constipated, my liver didn't act. My digestion was bad, and it took so little to upset me. My appetite was gone. I was very weak. . . I decided I would give Black-Draught a thorough trial as I knew it was highly recommended for this trouble. I began taking it. I felt better after a few doses. My appetite improved and I became stronger. My bowels acted naturally and the least trouble was soon righted with a few

doses of Black-Draught." Seventy years of successful use has made Thedford's Black-Draught a standard, household remedy. Every member, of every family, at times, need the help that Black-Draught can give in cleansing the system and relieving the troubles that come from constipation, indigestion, lazy liver, etc. You cannot keep well unless your stomach, liver and bowels are in good working order. Keep them that way. Try Black-Draught. It acts promptly, gently and in a natural way. If you feel sluggish, take a dose tonight. You will feel fresh tomorrow. Price 25c. a package—One cent a dose All druggists. J. 69

### RUSSIA SENDS PROTEST

London, May 20.—The Russian Commissioner for Foreign Affairs, it was announced today sent the following wireless message April 12 to the German Foreign Office:

"In the Turkish advance in the Caucasus the peaceful population, including women and children, is being cut down ruthlessly by thousands. The treaty we were forced to sign at Brest-Litovsk provided that the populations at Ardahan, Kars and Batum should have full freedom and the right to control their destinies in their own way. The events in these regions now show that the policy of extermination, which has been followed for the last ten years, is still being pursued.

"Responsibility for atrocities among the Armenia people in the regions at present occupied by Turkey devolves upon the German Government, whose direct assistance makes it possible for Turkey to exercise its will in these regions.

"The People's Commissioner for Foreign Affairs vigorously protest against the betrayal of the right of the populations of Ardahan Kars and Batum to dispose of themselves. The Commissioner insists upon necessity of speedy and decisive intervention on the part of Germany in the Caucasus to prevent the continuation of the massacre and the extermination of the peaceful population which is taking place at Ardahan."

### YOU ARE THE JURY

Here the testimony of Merkel people and decide the case.

Doan's Kidney Pills are on trial—are being tried every day for weak kidneys—for exhausting kidney backaches. What is the verdict? Read Merkel testimony—personal experience of Merkel witnesses. There can be only one verdict—a chorus of approval.

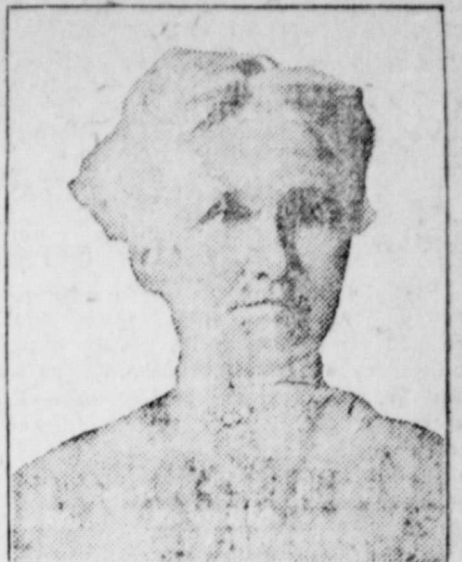
T. J. King, Kent St., Merkel says: "I didn't know that my kidneys were causing my backache until a neighbor told me to use Doan's Kidney Pills, saying that my kidneys were the cause of my complaint. My back ached nearly all the time and even when lying down, it bothered me. I used Doan's Kidney Pills and the discomfort left. Two boxes of Doan's cured me."

Price 60, cents at all dealers. Don't simply ask for a kidney remedy—get Doan's Kidney Pills—the same that cured Mr. King. Foster-Milburn Co., Mfgs., Buffalo, N. Y. Avd

Aid For The Returning Soldiers

While the entire world is listening intently to the roar of the cannon in the greatest battle on record, there is danger that a most important event about to come to pass on the Pacific Coast may go almost unnoticed. In May the California Land Settlement Board invited qualified persons to send in their applications for farm units on the tract which is being subdivided by the state. Cali-

## A FIGHTING AMERICAN



Mrs. Ora B. LeBow.

A letter was received recently by the officers of the Federal Reserve Bank at Dallas that made a deep impression on all who read it. We quote it in full:

"Your circular, 'The Victory of the Ages,' has just reached me today, and I assure you I endorse it with all my heart. I am a widow of a soldier, also a mother of one—and I have but one son. He enlisted in the U. S. N. last May. I gave my son to America and I am proud of him. He was my all. I am sixty-four years old. I did not have enough money last October to buy even a \$50.00 Liberty Bond, but I want one. My son was on the sea at that time and could not send me any money until he reached his destination, but I have saved five and ten cents till I can now get one.

"What would you advise—wait till the next Loan is placed before the people? I believe that will be April the 6th. Kindly advise me.

"I am with you for victory or death. Oh, how I wish I was a boy just like mine, so I could do more to help win the war."

On receipt of the letter Mrs. LeBow was requested to write again, and, in her own way, tell just why everyone should buy Liberty Bonds. Her reply to this request is also quoted:

"Why should all people be glad to subscribe to these Liberty Bonds?"

"Because it takes money as well as men to win this war. We have the men, let's have the money. This is our part—the part for us who stay at home in ease and comfort. It is also the very least part that we can take, to loan to Uncle Sam our money, when he pays us back with interest. Our sons have said so gladly, 'Here am I, send me, Uncle Sam,'—some are now this minute in the trenches facing shot and shell, and shall we who have no hardships to endure, be less patriotic than they, who give their lives if need be, for our homes and country? Let us give as cheerfully of our money as they have of their lives and hopes for the future. For they are young men, they have laid their all on their country's altar. Let us not hesitate to pledge our last dollar, and more, if Uncle Sam calls again. I do not think that the American people will be found wanting, and may the God who rules over the destinies of nations make us strong to lift high the Star Spangled Banner, and never let the old flag fall, at home or abroad, and, like Patrick Henry said, 'Give me liberty or give me death.' Then, and only then, will we win this dreadful war."

Is there one among us who can not or will not catch the spirit of this dear old Spartan mother? She responds in spirit and in reality, to the call of country and humanity. She gives her all, husband, son, and carefully hoarded scanty savings, so that the world "may be made a safe place to live in."

What a demonstration of patriotism, sacrifice, and whole-hearted co-operation is presented in the view-point of this aged mother!

With the same spirit having possession of all our hearts and minds, it can easily be seen why the Third Liberty Loan will be subscribed with a rush, and Uncle Sam will have the benefit of our efforts toward maintaining our nation's share of the world's fight for a lasting peace, a peace not dictated by German force and brutality.

## SATURDAY

WHEATLESS

USE OR BREAK CRACKERS FIRST OR BREAKFAST BREADS CONTAINING WHEAT





# George Washington Was Not Mentioned

Youthful French Orator Seemed to Think Lafayette Was Really the Father of This Country.

By DR. ESTHER LOVEJOY.

What is the attitude of the French people toward the Americans? The French are a very polite people, and, no matter what their inmost thoughts may be, they are not likely to express an opinion to an American other than complimentary. But the children of all the world are guileless. They can be depended upon to express in public the private opinions of their parents. The children of France are crazy about Americans in uniform, so we guess what their parents feel for us.

On one occasion I was passing a public school with another Red Cross woman physician in uniform and a French visiting nurse. The school had just been dismissed, and a group of young boys came trooping out. Instantly we were surrounded, and after a second's parley a young Mirabeau of about twelve years, the spokesman of the group, stepped forward, bowed formally and delivered an address on Lafayette and America, which was punctuated by the applause of his admiring compatriots. The American Eaglet could not possibly have screamed louder in the United States on the Fourth of July than it did on that back street of a munition town in France.

### Washington Not Mentioned.

There seems to be some difference of opinion on the relative importance of certain historic characters connected with the American Revolution.

Lafayette is inseparably associated in the mind of young France with the United States and all it stands for. George Washington wasn't mentioned.

According to the juvenile French version, Lafayette saved America. This was the most glorious achievement in the history of the world. Single handed and alone Lafayette sowed the seeds of liberty in the United States that has spread from the Atlantic to the Pacific and freed the souls of a hundred million people. When the American colonies were in a death struggle with the Hanoverian monster on the throne of England the Hohenzollerns and Hessians and Hindenburgs and all the H's representing Hell on Earth in that day and generation Lafayette crossed the ocean on a slow sailing ship—so slow, so slow for so swift a soul—and saved America. And now, after 140 years, the hosts of America, a million strong, are returning that historic debt for the purpose of repaying the debt of gratitude.

To say that the audience followed the speaker would be understating the case. They all seemed familiar with the speech, and their applause frequently anticipated its climax. Good feeling was rampant. We shook hands with all the youngsters within reach, and as we turned the corner we looked back, and they gave us a final "Vive l'Amérique!"

### ALLIED FOOD SHIPMENTS REACH LARGE TOTAL

A general idea of the quantity of food sent to European allies by the United States from July 1, 1914, to January 1, 1918, is given by figures just announced by the U. S. Food Administration. In that period the United States has furnished complete yearly rations for 57,100,000 people. In addition there was enough extra protein to supply this portion of the diet for 22,194,570 additional men.

The total export of wheat and wheat flour to the three principal allies is equivalent to about 384,000,000 bushels. Pork exports for the 3 1/2 years amounted to almost 2,000,000,000 pounds. Exports of fresh beef totaled 443,484,409 pounds. The amount of food exported to Russia is negligible compared with that sent to the western allies.

\*\*\*\*\*  
**ONLY AMERICA CAN HELP.**  
 \* "On your side are boundless supplies of men, food, and material; on this side a boundless demand for their help."  
 \* "Our men are war-weary and their nerves have been strained by more than three years of hard, relentless toil."  
 \* "Our position is critical, particularly until the next harvest, but the United States can save us."  
 \* "You Americans have the men, the skill, and the material to save the allied cause."  
 SIR JOSEPH MACLAY,  
 British Shipping Controller.  
 \*\*\*\*\*

Mr. and Mrs. C. M. Largent and sons, Charlie and Roy, leave Friday for Kansas City, Mo., on a visit to their daughter, Mrs. Luther Swafford.

Mrs. Mac Angus and daughter, Maurine, left Wednesday on a visit to California where they will remain some time with Mrs. S. A. Freeman.

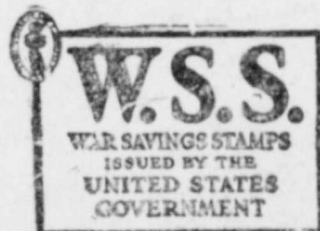


**\$91,000,000 Saved By December 31st.**  
**W.S.S.**  
**\$200 from every Person in Texas**

FOR SALE—Typewriter ribbons at the Merkel Mail office.

## Serve Your Country By Saving Money

- 1—War Savings Stamps are a promise to pay you the amount you invest, at the end of five years, with 4 per cent interest compounded every three months.
- 2—You can turn them into cash any time without looking for a buyer; just go into any postoffice and get them cashed.
- 3—You can invest in U. S. Thrift Stamps as little as 25 cents at a time and as much more as you please.



### Invest Your Money in Your Government

Begin today to put your quarters, and halves, and dollars into these safest and simplest of all government securities.

\*\*\*\*\*  
 THIS SPACE CONTRIBUTED BY

Mrs. Buri Scott and son, Buri, Jr., leaves Saturday for an extended visit to her parents at Arlington.

ADVERTISE—If its lost the Mail may find it. Several lost articles have been returned to the owner lately. Use the classified columns when you have anything to sell. Sales are being made daily through these columns. State your wants through these columns, and the people will know about them.

Go to Rogers for fresh groceries.

Buy Liberty Bonds  
 The least YOU can do—  
 Lives  
 Some are giving their



## When a Feller Needs a Friend



Contributed by Briggs.

### TRENT

Homer and T. E. Edwards, on their way home from Tullia to Mt. Pleasant, Ark., stopped over with their uncle, C. T. Beckham. T. E. is first lieutenant in the regular army.

Mr. and Mrs. Ervin visited in Ft. Worth the past week.

Miss Ruby Gordon of Simmons spent the week end with Mrs. Ed. Bowers.

Cecil McRee enlisted in the navy and was sent to Newport, R. I.

C. D. Duke and Miss Geta Beckham, took the seniors and Prof Odor to Abilene Sunday. They visited the Colony, Lytle Lake, and Simmons; also attended the lecture at the Chautauqua. Mr. S. Scott and L. E. Adrain, with their families and Mrs. Joe Brown also went with them.

Mr. and Mrs. L. E. Adrain

gave a farewell social to Misses Maude and Gladys Massey on Monday night.

Uncle Billy Johnson is very low.

Mrs. L. R. Titsworth and children are here visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Jim Smith.

Mr. and Mrs. Jas. Bright, who have been in points east for the past six weeks, are at home again.

Clayton Hall, who has been in Medical Mound, N. M., has answered his call to service and has been sent to Dinem, N. M.

Mr. and Mrs. M. S. Scott entertained the Seniors Wednesday night.

Little Florence Massey, who was operated on for puss on the lungs, is now gaining rapidly.

Miss Floy Brown of Trent is spending a few days this week with Miss Maggie Wheeler.

**KEEP IT COMING**  
 We must not only feed our Soldiers at the front but the millions of women & children behind our lines.  
 Gen. John J. Pershing  
 WASTE NOTHING

**WEDNESDAY**  
 ALL MEALS WHEATLESS  
 USE NO BREAD CRACKERS, PASTES OR RELIANT TOASTS CONTAINING WHEAT



## Will You Fight It Here, or BUY LIBERTY BONDS?

### A SPLENDID RECORD

In the Red Cross Drive, the great Merkel country raised \$1286.55, the allotment being \$1060, going over the top by \$226.55. Following is the record:

	Allot	Sub
Merkel	\$810	\$961.90
Nubia	150	165.65
Tye	50	106.00
Blair	50	53.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>1060</b>	<b>1286.55</b>

There were 370 individual subscriptions to this great cause of which 298 were all cash and 72 time payments. Those making time payments may hand the amounts to Miss Charlie Bell Thomas, secretary of the Merkel Commercial Club, who will issue proper receipts. The quota for the country was \$6810, and the total subscriptions amounted to \$8374.19. The city of Abilene's quota was \$4817, and the amount raised was \$5704.92.

### ECLIPSE OF SUN JUNE 8.

Citizens of Merkel will on June 8 at about 6:30 in the evening have the opportunity to witness a natural phenomenon which the present generation may never see again. The phenomenon will be an almost total eclipse of the sun. 93 per cent of the sun's rays being shut off from view by the moon coming in between the sun and the earth for a short while until nearly sunset.

Citizens living on the Pacific coast will witness the phenomenon on before those living in and around Merkel. The last eclipse of the sun occurred in the summer of 1908, and was visible in parts of the United States about noon.

### DISLOYALTY AT HOME.

The Federal Grand Jury at Abilene handed in 15 criminal indictments, among which we recite the following:

Miss Rosa May Hayworth, charged by indictment with having falsely claimed to be a representative of the Red Cross and received monies as an agent of the Red Cross, plead guilty and was sentenced to thirty days in the Taylor county jail, in addition to the time already served, she having been in jail since her arrest, five months and six days. Judge Stinson, in asking for the mercy of the court, stated that the prisoner had only received a total of \$1.75 falsely, which occurred in Garza county.

Jno. W. Brannon 32 years of age, plead guilty to an indictment charging numerous statements to have been made by him concerning the government and President Wilson and value of Liberty Bonds. The indictment to which Brannon plead guilty charges that he said, Liberty Bonds were not worth over seventy-five cents on the dollar, and that Wilson, referring to President Wilson, would carry the war on past the election and then make himself a king. Numerous other illegal statements are cited in the indictment and in a lengthy statement to the court defendant admitted some of the statements and did not remember others. Judge Ervin passed until Thursday morning sentence upon Brannon.

F. Carl of Viet, charged by indictment with having said "nobody would eat corn bread but the poor people," and that he would vote for a black negro before he would Wilson, and that the United States ought not to have gone to war; told the court that he did not understand present conditions, and that he was exceedingly sorry to have made any such remarks.

Car of hay at G. M. Sharps Store

Bring your fresh eggs and butter to E. L. Rogers. Best prices paid.

**FOOD WILL WIN THE WAR**



# The Merkel Mail

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

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TELEPHONE No. 61

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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.



This paper has enlisted with the government in the cause of America for the period of the war

The German army is again on a rampage. They are getting feverish. They didn't think that Uncle Sam had the nerve to send a big army over there. They are waking up. They are desperate. They know if there is any possible chance to win that now is the accepted time. The die is cast. The order is given. If the allied lines held before, they ought to hold now. The man strength must be exhausted before the final decision is made any way, so, while it is terrible, it seems the best, to have it over with quickly, and before this drive is ended, we predict that vast areas will be carpeted by the uniformed Hun in death's cold grasp.

If the Germans have gone to eating each other, as is reported in a recent dispatch, they ought to have enough canned German out of the recent drive to feed the army another year. But the ill repute of their flavor is enough to even nauseate a German. If they can relish the menu, let them be at it now, for when the Sammies arrive they will have to keep working night and day to keep up with the canning process. And when, after this war is over, Germany ever goes to shipping canned meats to America, labeled with "Made in Germany," we are going on a strict vegetable ration, and that without seasoning.

Give a boy an auto, a girl and a dark night, and it will take precious little gasoline to run them straight to hell.

What sort of a man or woman is there who can sleep serenely, knowing that a young son or daughter is prowling about town, with whom they know not? We are told that some people sure have a great deal of confidence in young Americans. However, we can not believe that the moral atmosphere is as refined as it ought to be.

Cotton chopping is the order of the day. Many people in Merkel who have autos are taking loads of boys to the cotton fields every day and splendid reports come back of their work. The business men as a whole have been talking of going out and hoeing cotton, but we haven't heard of their going yet. They ought to have a holiday and all go out for one day at least.

I guess the ladies will have to take the lead in this as in all other matters of interest or importance. Come let's go then the men will follow on behind.

Mrs. Jackson. Huh! Didn't a number of our women set a date to chop cotten in the interest of the Red Cross, and isn't it a fact that the sun was just a little too hot?

Mr. Jackson.

## A MODERN HOTEL.

The Woodrum Sisters have completed the inside of their hotel and everything is cozy and trim. The woodwork throughout has been repainted and revarnished. The rooms have been repapered, newly furnished and carpeted. There are eight bed rooms upstairs, all done in white with furnishings to match, and every one is as dainty as can be. New linoleum has been placed on the hall, office and dining room floors. The reception room is done in oat meal colored paper; all other rooms in very light paper, giving a cheerful atmosphere. All the rooms are cool and comfortable.

The dining room is especially attractive, newly furnished and splendidly arranged, lending a most inviting appearance.

Every room has been made beautiful, even to the kitchen, which is spotless, with every thing kept in place and ready for use. Plans are now being made to repaint the exterior, the painter only waiting until he can feel reasonably assured that a sand-storm does not harm his work. When this part is completed the hotel will be one of the most attractive parts of town, with rapidly growing shade and a spreading lawn.

The Misses Woodrum are old hands in the hotel business. They have a reputation far beyond the bounds of Merkel. They are deserving of the highest commendation. Good hotels are a credit to a town or city, and Merkel is richly blessed in this respect. Not only does the traveling public appreciate good hotels, but the citizenship also, should appreciate them.

New Registration Coming on June 5th, 1918.

### The Merkel Mail:

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. 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,

### What Is Telephone.

Noise is a result of the air trembling, and is called air waves. Air waves will not go for a great distance, so they have to be changed into electric waves, which travel along the air quicker than sound travels from the tongue to the ear. When we speak into the telephone, an iron disc changes the air into electric waves, which travel along a wire to the disc at the other end. This latter disc turns them again to air waves, which gives off exactly the same sound as in the beginning.

Hon. J. C. Mason left Monday for Cisco on business. It is alleged that from there he went on a pleasure trip to Mineral Wells. It is noted that he left alone in a car big enough for two, and his friends are expectantly awaiting his return, stating that nothing will surprise them.

## AMONG OUR EXCHANGES

The Snyder Red Cross folks have made a record in the production of the larger and more expensive articles sent to the soldiers—Signal.

It is the business of all the women of West Texas to make records. A more loyal womanhood could hardly be found on terra firma. God bless the women who are doing their bit for the finest boys ever shouldered a rifle against the hated Hun.

Despite the fact that our stores stay open on Saturday nights until 10 o'clock and that last Saturday night was stormy and threatening, a pretty good audience greeted Hon. Eugene DeBogry in our district court room, when he came to present his indictment of Jas. E. Ferguson. In fact the room had in it about all the people it could seat and the applause frequent and enthusiastic.

Circumstantially, and yet without a direct declamation to that effect, Capt. DeBogry almost literally proved Ferguson's pro-German alliance, made plain the man's antipathy to President Wilson's war propaganda, and a perfect storm of applause greeted his declaration that "the defeat of Ferguson is a patriotic duty of almost equal importance to a response to our government's demand upon us for men and money."

The speaker emphasized the unanimous endorsement of Ferguson by the German citizenship of Rhineland, Texas, and of the pro-German element wherever found.

The Captain's address was unimpassioned, but strong. The array of that the effects thereof will endure and hearers was staggering, and we feel that his coming to Midland has been helpful to the cause of Gov. Hobby, that the effects there will endure and rebound to the strengthening of a victory that we feel is certain and right.—Midland Reporter.

Even the Taylor County Times fails to find anything in Gov. Hobby's opening speech that calls for adverse criticism.—Snyder Signal.

We'll then, there surely must not have been anything in it that could be criticised.

The fellow who cusses the Red Cross is a friend of the Kaiser—Roscoe Times.

There is no place in America for such a fellow. They are mighty scarce in the Great Merkel country. We heard of a fellow somewhere in this section who said he could not give to the Red Cross, as it "Would not be giving in the name of Christ." We are not intolerant when it comes to religious belief, but when such bamboozled tom-foolery as this is raised, well, gentlemen, it is pretty near time to apply the tar and feathers.

Mrs. F. Y. Gaither leaves Friday for a visit to her parents in Oklahoma.

Mrs. J. B. Sloan of Big Springs visited at the home of Misses Garoutte a few days this week. She left on the Sunshine Special Wednesday night for her home.

Go to the Rogers grocery and see how the spot cash saves you money.

**Victory is a Question of Stamina**  
Send—the Wheat  
Meat—Fats—Sugar  
The Fuel for Fighters  
UNITED STATES FOOD ADMINISTRATION

## SLACKERS AND PACIFISTS

Here is a little story which was repeated many times in American history as white men pushed across the continent from east to west.

The settlement received warning—perhaps from the sole survivor of the next settlement, that Indians were on the war-path. Its members hurried into the stockade and made such preparations as they could for its defense. They had all too many reasons for supposing that, if the Indians got in, every man, woman and child would be slain, very likely with those gruesome elaborations the Indians affected. In the siege every hand was needed. Women loaded the muskets; children brought water and food.

But say there had been one able-bodied male who refused to take part in the proceedings. Suppose, when besought thereto, he said: I have conscientious scruples. Our Master taught: 'Love your enemies; do good to them. If your enemy hunger, feed him; if he thirst, give him drink. Of course I expect to eat my share of the scanty stock of food. I expect you to protect me from the Indians. But if I load your rifles, or fetch you ammunition, or bring up food and water, I am assisting in killing, and it is written, 'Thou shalt not kill.' Probably when the Indians were driven off several weary men would have found time to kick him over the fence, and to the end of his days he would have complained that he had been persecuted for his conscientious scruples.

That was brought to our minds the other day by a bundle of press clippings showing that the mayor of a town had refused to subscribe to Liberty Bonds or to speak for the bonds, or in any way to encourage the sale of bonds—quoting Scripture copiously in support of his refusal. Here and there you still find such a chap. Mostly, according to our observation, they were openly pro-German before our declaration of war made that attitude dangerous.

They are grafters—expecting sustenance and protection from the community, but refusing to help defend it. As for their Scripture, any novice in casuistry knows that no great ingenuity in distortion is necessary in order to find a Biblical text in support of almost any proposition.—Saturday Evening Post.

**The Spirit of '18**  
The World Cry  
Food!  
Cultivate the Soil.

Mrs. A. Touchstone and Miss Bess will leave Tuesday for Chillicothe, to visit her son, Virgil. After a short stay, they will go on to Dallas, where they will make their home for the present. They are old timers in Merkel and have a host of friends here who hate to see them leave. The best wishes of their friends go with them.

### Memorial Day.

In response to the President's call for a day of fasting and prayer, business was suspended from 10 to 11 o'clock Thursday. Special services were held at the Methodist church to solemnize the occasion. There was a good attendance.

Owen Ellis resigned his position with the Anchor Mercantile Company and left for Ft. Worth Tuesday morning. Owen has been with the company several years and is a very competent young man. We hate to record his loss to the city, but wish for him success in his new line of endeavor.

## MAYBE AN OIL FIELD

Gradually from those who claim to know there sifts in ever and anon tales that bear testimony to the bringing in of a great oil field in this Merkel country some time. Quietly oil people are at work. We have not looked over their contract closely, but are advised that it has a legitimate drilling contract. From all appearances the only thing in the way of a full test is a few, and reports say a very few, who do not feel inclined to put their holdings into the proposition. When oil matters were first broached in this section, many people hurriedly leased to oil interests that never promised a thing. Their only satisfaction was a little hush money amounting to 25 cents an acre. Had this gone on a little further, no drilling proposition could have been arranged. The only hope for these people who have leased their land at the pitiable sum is that some other men with greater foresight held back for a drilling contract. Surely, now, no man will block the game. No man can afford to drill a well himself. It is a question if all this Merkel country could afford to do their own drilling. If they attempted it and the first well was a dry hole no further operations would be undertaken. There are interests now at work who propose to drill three or four wells, provided they are not blocked by some who holds out. What would it profit a man to hold out? He can't drill, and no company is going to drill unless they can get a solid body of land. Unless drilling is undertaken no man can realize a fortune. Now for the fear of losing the price of a lease should oil be found, some few men are holding off and losing not only a lease prospect, but royalty, increased land value and untold prosperity, should oil be found. The inordinate selfishness of some men is hard to believe. Thankful are we that they are scarce in this great Merkel country. Let us all help every legitimate oil prospect, but if we find any indication that the leases are being made for speculation, then bring on the rail and let somebody get a good ride. Our people want a legitimate proposition, and will not look kindly upon speculation moves.

### Fine Vegetables

L. A. Watts, Route 2, Merkel, brought in a potato last Saturday that was as big as they ever grow in the State of Oregon. It was the biggest potato we have seen grown in this country. He also brought in a bunch of beets that would do credit to any truck section. When the West gets water, there is hardly anything it will not produce. He also brought in some fine beets that were auctioned for the Red Cross.

Owing to an oversight, for which we can not account, the \$50 Liberty Loan subscription of W. E. Adams did not appear in the published list. We are always glad to make corrections of this kind, and if any other names were left off, please let us know.

Will Merritt returned from Fort Worth and Cleburn last Tuesday night. He reports a delightful visit. Most of his time was spent with his brother, Ben. We are not permitted to say who he visited in Cleburne.

Mrs. A. L. Jobe spent several days in Fort Worth the past week, visiting her daughter, Mrs. O. M. Sharp, and son, Britton, who is stationed at the Camp there. She returned Monday evening.

Mrs. L. N. Simmons of Spur is visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. A. L. Jobe. She has been here about a week. Her four children came in a few days ago.

G. W. Johnson visited his daughter, Mrs. B. F. Smith at Slanton last Sunday. His little granddaughter, Faye, accompanied him home to spend two or three weeks.

## TRENT

This is "Senior Week" in Trent. The Seniors of the High School are having a great time. Everybody is taking a back seat and giving the front seat to the Seniors.

The Baccalaureat sermon was preached Sunday Morning at the High School auditorium, by Rev. J. C. Burket of Abilene, after which the Seniors made a flying trip to Abilene.

Everybody is invited to be with us for our closing exercise something doing Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights. Come and you won't regret it.

Mrs. J. R. Gafford, who has been visiting her daughter, Mrs. Tom Mardison of Vernon, returned home Saturday.

C. D. Massey left Saturday for his new home at Pilot Point. The family will follow soon. We regret to see them go, but our loss is Pilot Points gain.

Miss Mae Cozart, who has been visiting at Trent for the last few weeks, has returned to her home at Rotan.

Miss Irene Dornell is on the sick list this week.

Miss Geta Beckham and Mrs. Joe Brown were in Abilene last Sunday.

Dr. and Mrs. Watkins visited in Merkel Sunday.

Miss Vada Collins entertained the young people Saturday night. All had an enjoyable time.

After several days with the home folks, Gordon Harvell and Wayne Abernathy returned to Camp Bowie, where they are in training.

### Stenographers Badly Needed

So great is the demand for accountants and stenographers that some of the larger industrial concerns in Texas have established business colleges in their establishments for the training of their own employees for office positions, it is stated by Major Spurgeon Bell, M. B. A., professor of Business Administration at the University of Texas, who is now on leave. One of the largest of these institutions in that of the Kirby Lumber Company, at Silsbee, Texas, where there is a full staff of teachers employed in training accountants and stenographers who are to be given positions with that company when they have completed their courses. The course in shorthand and typewriting, which was added to the curriculum of School of Business Administration at the beginning of winter term, last January, will be continued through the Summer School. A course in accounting will also be offered to Summer students. It is expected a large number of students will take the course in stenography in the summer school and equip themselves to fill positions of this kind.

The Red Cross subscription of Mrs. W. D. Butler, published last week, should have been \$2.50 instead of \$2.00, as it appeared.

Roy Moore, who has been employed at Bob Martin's Grocery Store, left a few days ago for the Divide, where he will work on the farm.

Tom Allday returned Saturday from a two month's visit at the home of his sister, Mrs. Ira Shaffer at Dalhart.

D. G. Barrow spent several days this week in Hamlin.

**BLOOD or BREAD**  
Others are giving their blood  
You will shorten the war—  
save life if you eat only what  
you need and waste nothing



**BILLY SUNDAY ON KAISER BILL**

In an address on the war, Billy Sunday recently made a few pointed remarks: "Thousands of the flower of our manhood will die on account of one weazen-eyed, bull-necked, withered-handed, black-hearted skunk."

"That hot dog bunch across the water and old Hindenburg are up against a regular bunch now, and we are going to pour patriotism into every corner of this land and bring out the traitors."

"And of those who don't stand up for the stars and the stripes can go back to where they were kenneled."

"We'll never forgive or forget or make up with such a bunch of cut-throats. Don't let anybody say we are not fighting the German people. That's all bunk."

"Do you think we'll let them get away with the plea that they were misled by that weazel-headed, lank-jawed, putrid-brained, murder-hearted poltroon?"

"No, sir. They've had their chance and now it is too late."

"Does that dirty bunch over there think we are not going to retaliate when this war is over? Well, I should hope not."

"If they think they can dig thousands of graves for the flower of our land and spit terepedoes into women and children and then when it is all over come to us and smile and say, 'Let's trade together again,' we'll say, go to — with your trade."

"They thought we could not get ships to take our men over there, but we'll show that dirty gang how to get to Berlin before they can say jack rabbit."

"This whole war is a frame-up. They've had spies planted in this country and all parts of the world for forty years. They are the kind we've got to drag out and skin alive—line up before a firing squad."

"I get so mad when I think of what idiots we have been in letting 'em do it. A pacifist is a traitor."

"England and France have stood up and fought our battle like God-fearing men for three years and a half. Now Woodrow and Uncle Sam are in it, and we'll lick 'em to a frazzle and then grind the frazzles into the mud where they belong."

"Nero was a Sunday School teacher compared with the Kaiser. God's hand is in this war. If you can't see God's hand in it, my good friends, you're blind, or you're a nut."

"God took part in the battle of the Marne. Yes, and He stood behind those brave Frenchmen and helped them jab their bayonets in the paunches of the cut-throat gang. God has different ways of doing things."

"We didn't win this war by declaring war. It's going to be a whale of a job, but we're a whale of a bunch and we're going to give old Kaiser Bill and his dirty cut-throats a whale of a whaling."

"Why, the government has the power to take away every stitch of clothes you wear and then shoot you if you complain, and here it is asking you to lend it a few dollars at 4 per cent interest."

"Now think of that. They don't have to borrow it, you know. They can take it all by taxation and not give you a sou, so we are going to give Uncle Sammy all we've got."

"And Kaiser Bill's place has always been hell, and if I had been God Almighty he sure would have gone there long ago."

**Cause of Headache**

By knowing the cause, a disease may often be avoided. This is particularly true of headache — 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.

**U. S. Must Cut Use Of Wheat by One-Half**

**America Consumed 42,000,000 Bushels Monthly. From Now Until Harvest Must Use Only 21,000,000.**

**RATION PER PERSON IS 1 1/2 POUNDS OF WHEAT PRODUCTS WEEKLY**

**Military Necessity Calls for Greater Sacrifice Here—Allied War Bread Must Be Maintained—Our Soldiers and Sailors to Have Full Allowance.**

If we are to furnish the Allies with the necessary proportion of wheat to maintain their war bread from now until the next harvest, and this is a military necessity, we must reduce our monthly consumption to 21,000,000 bushels a month, as against our normal consumption of about 42,000,000 bushels, or 50 per cent. of our normal consumption. This is the situation as set forth by the U. S. Food Administration at Washington. Reserving a margin for distribution to the army and for special cases, leaves for general consumption approximately 1 1/2 pounds of wheat products weekly per person. The Food Administration's statement continues: Many of our consumers are dependent upon bakers' bread. Such bread must be durable and therefore, requires a larger proportion of wheat products than cereal breads baked in the household. Our army and navy require a full allowance. The well-to-do in our population can make greater sacrifices in the consumption of wheat products than can the poor. In addition, our population in the agricultural districts, where the other cereals are abundant, are more skilled in the preparation of breads from these other cereals than the crowded city and industrial populations.

With improved transportation conditions we now have available a surplus of potatoes. We also have in the spring months a surplus of milk, and we have ample corn and oats for human consumption. The drain on rye and barley, as substitutes, has already greatly exhausted the supply of these grains.

To effect the needed saving of wheat, we are wholly dependent upon the voluntary assistance of the American people and we ask that the following rules shall be observed:

1. Householders to use not to exceed a total of 1 1/2 pounds per week of wheat products per person. This means not more than 1 1/4 pounds of Victory bread containing the required percentage of substitutes and one-half pound of cooking flour, macaroni, crackers, pastry, pies, cakes, wheat breakfast cereals, all combined.

2. Public eating places and clubs to observe two wheatless days per week, Monday and Wednesday, as at present. In addition thereto, not to serve to any one guest at any one meal an aggregate of breadstuffs, macaroni, crackers, pastry, pies, cakes, wheat breakfast cereals, containing a total of more than two ounces of wheat flour. No wheat products to be served unless specially ordered. Public eating establishments not to buy more than six pounds of wheat products for each ninety meals served, thus conforming with the limitations requested of the householders.

3. Retailers to sell not more than one-eighth of a barrel of flour to any town customer at any one time and not more than one-quarter of a barrel to any country customer at any one time, and in no case to sell wheat products without the sale of an equal weight of other cereals.

4. We ask the bakers and grocers to reduce the volume of Victory bread sold, by delivery of the three-quarter pound loaf where one pound was sold before, and corresponding proportions in other weights. We also ask bakers not to increase the amount of their wheat flour purchases beyond 70 per

**WHITE CHURCH NEWS**

Everybody is busy in their crops now, which is looking fine. Sunday School was fine last Sunday, large attendance.

Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Brown gave the young people a singing Sunday night, which was much enjoyed by all.

Misses Irene Hutchins and Alma Burfind spent Saturday night with Miss Doll Frazier. They report a nice time.

Miss Jessie Brown is on the sick list this week.

Mr. John Frazier, who has been ill for some time is reported worse this week.

Mr. Goal Riggan is also sick this week.

C. H. Hutchins reports a good crop, and has a smile on his face because of same.

Misses Irene Hutchins, Alina Burfind, Doll Frazier, Messrs. Jim Burfind, Beryl Brown, motored to Maryneal last Sunday to visit their friends, Misses Mattie and Vera Cary. All report a most delightful time.

J. R. Brown is recovering

from an attack of la-grippe. Mrs. Tom Campbell spent last week with her mother, Mrs. Lou Shipp, she has returned to her home in Putman.

Mrs. J. M. Brown has returned from a visit to Fort Worth and other points.

Mr. and Mrs. Dolf Coats and children spent last Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Frazier.

We are needing rain, as the wind has been blowing hard for the past few days.

**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.

Japanese sit on the floor or eat and carry the food to their mouth by means of chopsticks, which differ little from a lead pencil, only they are larger.

W. B. Warren and W. F. Evans of Anson were visitors in Merkel Wednesday.

**PAY WAR COST**

On Monday, President Wilson appeared before Congress and asked that all political issues be laid aside and that that body remain in session until it has enacted new war tax laws to finance the growing cost of the war to prepare the country for the burden it must bear. The President intimated that new revenue would be drawn from war profits, incomes and luxuries. He urged that there be no hesitation in taxing the country and that Congress approach the great task without selfishness or fear of political consequences.

The President's speech was well received, and the heads of committees in both houses will co-operate to the utmost to speedily work the intricate task of financing the war.

Plenty of fresh groceries at G. M. Sharps.

**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.

**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 Ban.  
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**

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Eyes Tested and Glasses  
General Practice

**W. W. WHEELER**

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Insurance Agent  
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Office over City Barber Shop—Front St.

**G. W. JOHNSON**

Insurance, Notary Public  
Office over Woodroof Bros.  
Store  
Merkel — Texas

**W. P. MAHAFFEY**

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

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SHOP IN MERKEL  
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CHAS WEST Proprietor

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The Old Standard general strengthening tonic, GROVE'S TASTELESS CHILL TONIC, drives out Malaria, enriches the blood, and builds up the system. A true tonic. For adults and children. 60c

**Tan-No-More**

THE SKIN BEAUTIFIER

The most scientific and most wonderful facial preparation of the modern age. It imparts 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, 25c, 50c and \$1.00, or sent post paid on receipt of price. Sample for the asking.

BAKER-WHEELER MANUFACTURING COMPANY  
DALLAS, TEXAS

**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.

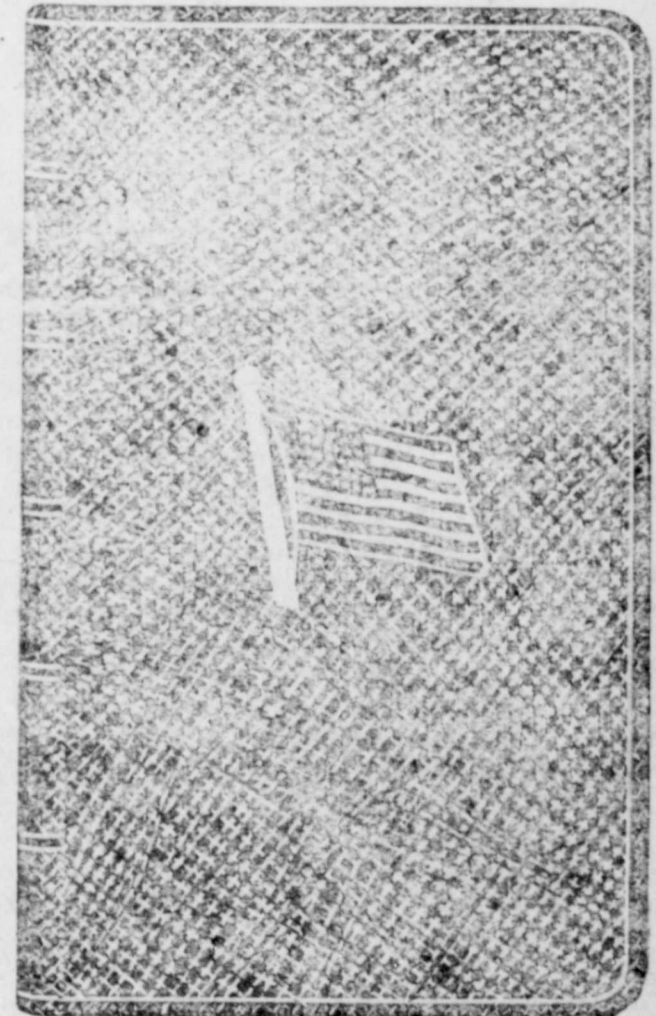
Write us for free map and further particulars. Special inducements to live, active salesmen.

**The Double Standard Oil and Gas Company**

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**Nelson Sailors and Soldiers Testaments**  
Are the Best



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Printed on specially strong Bible paper. Only 3 x 4 1/2 inches and just 1/2 an inch thick. Type is plain and clear—self-pronouncing. The Four Great American Hymns are printed and bound with this Sailors and Soldiers Testament.

**HELP TO BRING THE BOYS BACK CLEAN**

For every year's subscription to a soldier boy we will give free the above testament.

ONLY \$1.00 A YEAR

Any one not a soldier may obtain one of the testaments and a year's subscription for

\$1-50

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

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Cleaning and Pressing  
Altering a Specialty

**L. J. Renfro**

At City Barber Shop  
Merkel, Texas



# The Merkel Mail

Published Every Friday Morning by  
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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.



This paper has enlisted with the government in the cause of America for the period of the war.....

The German army is again on a rampage. They are getting feverish. They didn't think that Uncle Sam had the nerve to send a big army over there. They are waking up. They are desperate. They know if there is any possible chance to win that now is the accepted time. The die is cast. The order is given. If the allied lines held before, they ought to hold now. The man strength must be exhausted before the final decision is made any way, so, while it is terrible, it seems the best, to have it over with quickly, and before this drive is ended, we predict that vast areas will be carpeted by the uniformed Hun in death's cold grasp.

If the Germans have gone to eating each other, as is reported in a recent dispatch, they ought to have enough canned German out of the recent drive to feed the army another year. But the ill repute of their flavor is enough to even nauseate a German. If they can relish the menu, let them be at it now, for when the Sammies arrive they will have to keep working night and day to keep up with the canning process. And when, after this war is over, Germany ever goes to shipping canned meats to America, labeled with "Made in Germany," we are going on a strict vegetable ration, and that without seasoning.

Give a boy an auto, a girl and a dark night, and it will take precious little gasoline to run them straight to hell.

What sort of a man or woman is there who can sleep serenely, knowing that a young son or daughter is prowling about town, with whom they know not? We are told that some people sure have a great deal of confidence in young Americans. However, we can not believe that the moral atmosphere is as refined as it ought to be.

Cotton chopping is the order of the day. Many people in Merkel who have autos are taking loads of boys to the cotton fields every day and splendid reports come back of their work. The business men as a whole have been talking of going out and hoeing cotton, but we haven't heard of their going yet. They ought to have a holiday and all go out for one day at least.

I guess the ladies will have to take the lead in this as in all other matters of interest or importance. Come let's go then the men will follow on behind.

Mrs. Jackson.

Huh! Didn't a number of our women set a date to chop cotten in the interest of the Red Cross, and isn't it a fact that the sun was just a little too hot?

Mr. Jackson.

## A MODERN HOTEL.

The Woodrum Sisters have completed the inside of their hotel and everything is cozy and trim. The woodwork throughout has been repainted and varnished. The rooms have been repapered, newly furnished and carpeted. There are eight bed rooms upstairs, all done in white with furnishings to match, and every one is as dainty as can be. New linoleum has been placed on the hall, office and dining room floors. The reception room is done in oat meal colored paper; all other rooms in very light paper, giving a cheerful atmosphere. All the rooms are cool and comfortable.

The dining room is especially attractive, newly furnished and splendidly arranged, lending a most inviting appearance.

Every room has been made beautiful, even to the kitchen, which is spotless, with every thing kept in place and ready for use.

Plans are now being made to repaint the exterior, the painter only waiting until he can feel reasonably assured that a sandstorm does not harm his work. When this part is completed the hotel will be one of the most attractive parts of town, with rapidly growing shade and a spreading lawn.

The Misses Woodrum are old hands in the hotel business. They have a reputation far beyond the bounds of Merkel. They are deserving of the highest commendation. Good hotels are a credit to a town or city, and Merkel is richly blessed in this respect. Not only does the traveling public appreciate good hotels, but the citizenship also, should appreciate them.

New Registration Coming on June 5th, 1918.

The Merkel Mail:

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.

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,

What Is Telephone.

Noise is a result of the air trembling, and is called air waves. Air waves will not go for a great distance, so they have to be changed into electric waves, which travel along the air quicker than sound travels from the tongue to the ear. When we speak into the telephone, an iron disc changes the air into electric waves, which travel along a wire to the disc at the other end. This latter disc turns them again to air waves, which gives off exactly the same sound as in the beginning.

Hon. J. C. Mason left Monday for Cisco on business. It is alleged that from there he went on a pleasure trip to Mineral Wells. It is noted that he left alone in a car big enough for two, and his friends are expectantly awaiting his return, stating that nothing will surprise them.

## AMONG OUR EXCHANGES

The Snyder Red Cross folks have made a record in the production of the larger and more expensive articles sent to the soldiers—Signal.

It is the business of all the women of West Texas to make records. A more loyal womanhood could hardly be found on terra firma. God bless the women who are doing their bit for the finest boys ever shouldered a rifle against the hated Hun.

Despite the fact that our stores stay open on Saturday nights until 10 o'clock and that last Saturday night was stormy and threatening, a pretty good audience greeted Hon. Eugene DeBogory in our district court room, when he came to present his indictment of Jas. E. Ferguson. In fact the room had in it about all the people it could seat and the interest was very fine and the applause frequent and enthusiastic.

Circumstantially, and yet without a direct declaration to that effect, Capt DeBogory almost literally proved Ferguson's pro-German alliance, made plain the man's antipathy to President Wilson's war propaganda, and a perfect storm of applause greeted his declaration that "the defeat of Ferguson is a patriotic duty of almost equal importance to a response to our government's demand upon us for men and money."

The speaker emphasized the unanimous endorsement of Ferguson by the German citizenship of Rhineland, Texas, and of the pro-German element wherever found.

The Captain's address was unimpassioned, but strong. The array of that effects thereof will endure and hearers was staggering, and we feel that his coming to Midland has been helpful to the cause of Gov. Hobby, that the effects there will endure and rebound to the strengthening of a victory that we feel is certain and right.—Midland Reporter.

Even the Taylor County Times fails to find anything in Gov. Hobby's opening speech that is good for adverse criticism.—Snyder Signal.

We'll then, there surely must not have been anything in it that could be criticised.

The fellow who cusses the Red Cross is a friend of the Kaiser—Roscoe Times.

There is no place in America for such a fellow. They are mighty scarce in the Great Merkel country. We heard of a fellow somewhere in this section who said he could not give to the Red Cross, as it "Would not be giving in the name of Christ." We are not intolerant when it comes to religious belief, but when such bamboozled tom-foolery as this is raised, well, gentlemen, it is pretty near time to apply the tar and feathers.

Mrs. F. Y. Gaither leaves Friday for a visit to her parents in Oklahoma.

Mrs. J. B. Sloan of Big Springs visited at the home of Misses Garoutte a few days this week. She left on the Sunshine Special Wednesday night for her home.

Go to the Rogers grocery and see how the spot cash saves you money.

**Victory is a Question of Stamina**  
Send—the Wheat  
Meat—Fats—Sugar  
The fuel for Fighters  
UNITED STATES FOOD ADMINISTRATION

## SLACKERS AND PACIFISTS

Here is a little story which was repeated many times in American history as white men pushed across the continent from east to west.

The settlement received warning—perhaps from the sole survivor of the next settlement, that Indians were on the war-path. Its members hurried into the stockade and made such preparations as they could for its defense. They had all too many reasons for supposing that, if the Indians got in, every man, woman and child would be slain, very likely with those gruesome elaborations the Indians affected. In the siege every hand was needed. Women loaded the muskets; children brought water and food.

But say there had been one able-bodied male who refused to take part in the proceedings. Suppose, when besought thereto, he said: I have conscientious scruples. Our Master taught: 'Love your enemies; do good to them. If your enemy hunger, feed him; if he thirst, give him drink. Of course I expect to eat my share of the scanty stock of food. I expect you to protect me from the Indians. But if I load your rifles, or fetch you ammunition, or bring up food and water, I am assisting in killing, and it is written, 'Thou shalt not kill.' Probably when the Indians were driven off several weary men would have found time to kick him over the fence, and to the end of his days he would have complained that he had been persecuted for his conscientious scruples.

That was brought to our minds the other day by a bundle of press clippings showing that the mayor of a town had refused to subscribe to Liberty Bonds or to speak for the bonds, or in any way to encourage the sale of bonds—quoting Scripture copiously in support of his refusal. Here and there you still find such a chap. Mostly, according to our observation, they were openly pro-German before our declaration of war made that attitude dangerous.

They are grafters—expecting sustenance and protection from the community, but refusing to help defend it. As for their Scripture, any novice in casuistry knows that no great ingenuity in distortion is necessary in order to find a Biblical text in support of almost any proposition.—Saturday Evening Post.

The Spirit of '18  
The World Cry Food!  
Cultivate the Soil.

Mrs. A. Touchstone and Miss Bess will leave Tuesday for Chillicothe, to visit her son, Virgil. After a short stay, they will go on to Dallas, where they will make their home for the present. They are old timers in Merkel and have a host of friends here who hate to see them leave. The best wishes of their friends go with them.

Memorial Day.

In response to the President's call for a day of fasting and prayer, business was suspended from 10 to 11 o'clock Thursday. Special services were held at the Methodist church to solemnize the occasion. There was a good attendance.

Owen Ellis resigned his position with the Anchor Mercantile Company and left for Ft. Worth Tuesday morning. Owen has been with the company several years and is a very competent young man. We hate to record his loss to the city, but wish for him success in his new line of endeavor.

## MAYBE AN OIL FIELD

Gradually from those who claim to know there sifts in ever and anon tales that bear testimony to the bringing in of a great oil field in this Merkel country some time. Quietly oil people are at work. We have not looked over their contract closely, but are advised that it has a legitimate drilling contract. From all appearances the only thing in the way of a full test is a few, and reports say a very few, who do not feel inclined to put their holdings into the proposition. When oil matters were first broached in this section, many people hurriedly leased to oil interests that never promised a thing. Their only satisfaction was a little hush money amounting to 25 cents an acre. Had this gone on a little further, no drilling proposition could have been arranged. The only hope for these people who have leased their land at the pitiable sum is that some other men with greater foresight held back for a drilling contract. Surely, now, no man will block the game. No man can afford to drill a well himself. It is a question if all this Merkel country could afford to do their own drilling. If they attempted it and the first well was a dry hole no further operations would be undertaken. There are interests now at work who propose to drill three or four wells, provided they are not blocked by some who holds out. What would it profit a man to hold out? He can't drill, and no company is going to drill unless they can get a solid body of land. Unless drilling is undertaken no man can realize a fortune. Now for the fear of losing the price of a lease should oil be found, some few men are holding off and losing not only a lease prospect, but royalty, increased land value and untold prosperity, should oil be found. The inordinate selfishness of some men is hard to believe. Thankful are we that they are scarce in this great Merkel country. Let us all help every legitimate oil prospect, but if we find any indication that the leases are being made for speculation, then bring on the rail and let somebody get a good ride. Our people want a legitimate proposition, and will not look kindly upon speculation moves.

Fine Vegetables

L. A. Watts, Route 2, Merkel, brought in a potato last Saturday that was as big as they ever grow in the State of Oregon. It was the biggest potato we have seen grown in this country. He also brought in a bunch of beets that would do credit to any truck section. When the West gets water, there is hardly anything it will not produce. He also brought in some fine beets that were auctioned for the Red Cross.

Owing to an oversight, for which we can not account, the \$50 Liberty Loan subscription of W. E. Adams did not appear in the published list. We are always glad to make corrections of this kind, and if any other names were left off, please let us know.

Will Merritt returned from Fort Worth and Cleburn last Tuesday night. He reports a delightful visit. Most of his time was spent with his brother, Ben. We are not permitted to say who he visited in Cleburne.

Mrs. A. L. Jobe spent several days in Fort Worth the past week, visiting her daughter, Mrs. O. M. Sharp, and son, Britton, who is stationed at the Camp there. She returned Monday evening.

Mrs. L. N. Simmons of Spur is visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. A. L. Jobe. She has been here about a week. Her four children came in a few days ago.

G. W. Johnson visited his daughter, Mrs. B. F. Smith at Slanton last Sunday. His little granddaughter, Faye, accompanied him home to spend two or three weeks.

## TRENT

This is "Senior Week" in Trent. The Seniors of the High School are having a great time. Everybody is taking a back seat and giving the front seat to the Seniors.

The Baccalaureat sermon was preached Sunday Morning at the High School auditorium, by Rev. J. C. Burket of Abilene, after which the Seniors made a flying trip to Abilene.

Everybody is invited to be with us for our closing exercise. Something doing Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights. Come and you wont regret it.

Mrs. J. R. Gafford, who has been visiting her daughter, Mrs. Tom Mardison of Vernon, returned home Saturday.

C. D. Massey left Saturday for his new home at Pilot Point. The family will follow soon. We regret to see them go, but our loss is Pilot Points gain.

Miss Mae Cozart, who has been visiting at Trent for the last few weeks, has returned to her home at Rotan.

Miss Irene Dornell is on the sick list this week.

Miss Geta Beckham and Mrs. Joe Brown were in Abilene last Sunday.

Dr. and Mrs. Watkins visited in Merkel Sunday.

Miss Vada Collins entertained the young people Saturday night. All had an enjoyable time.

After several days with the home folks, Gordon Harvell and Wayne Abernathy returned to Camp Bowie, where they are in training.

Stenographers Badly Needed

So great is the demand for accountants and stenographers that some of the larger industrial concerns in Texas have established business colleges in their establishments for the training of their own employees for office positions, it is stated by Major Spurgeon Bell, M. B. A., professor of Business Administration at the University of Texas, who is now on leave. One of the largest of these institutions in that of the Kirby Lumber Company, at Silsbee, Texas, where there is a full staff of teachers employed in training accountants and stenographers who are to be given positions with that company when they have completed their courses. The course in shorthand and typewriting, which was added to the curriculum of School of Business Administration at the beginning of winter term, last January, will be continued through the Summer School. A course in accounting will also be offered to Summer students. It is expected a large number of students will take the course in stenography in the summer school and equip themselves to fill positions of this kind.

The Red Cross subscription of Mrs. W. D. Butler, published last week, should have been \$2.50 instead of \$2.00, as it appeared.

Roy Moore, who has been employed at Bob Martin's Grocery Store, left a few days ago for the Divide, where he will work on the farm.

Tom Allday returned Saturday from a two month's visit at the home of his sister, Mrs. Ira Shaffer at Dalhart.

D. G. Barrow spent several days this week in Hamlin.

**BLOOD or BREAD**  
Others are giving their blood  
You will shorten the war—  
save life if you eat only what  
you need and waste nothing  
UNITED STATES FOOD ADMINISTRATION



**BILLY SUNDAY ON KAISER BILL**

In an address on the war, Billy Sunday recently made a few pointed remarks:

"Thousands of the flower of our manhood will die on account of one weazen-eyed, bull-necked, withered-handed, black-hearted skunk.

"That hot dog bunch across the water and old Hindenburg are up against a regular bunch now, and we are going to pour patriotism into every corner of this land and bring out the traitors.

"And of those who don't stand up for the stars and the stripes can go back to where they were kenneled.

"We'll never forgive or forget or make up with such a bunch of cut-throats. Don't let anybody say we are not fighting the German people. That's all bunk.

"Do you think we'll let them get away with the plea that they were misled by that weazel-headed, lank-jawed, putrid-brained, murder-hearted politician?"

"No, sir. They've had their chance and now it is too late.

"Does that dirty bunch over there think we are not going to retaliate when this war is over? Well, I should hope not.

"If they think they can dig thousands of graves for the flower of our land and spit torpedoes into women and children and then when it is all over come to us and smile and say, 'Let's trade together again,' we'll say, go to — with your trade.

"They thought we could not get ships to take our men over there, but we'll show that dirty gang how to get to Berlin before they can say jack rabbit.

"This whole war is a frame-up. They've had spies planted in this country and all parts of the world for forty years. They are the kind we've got to drag out and skin alive—line up before a firing squad.

"I get so mad when I think of what idiots we have been in letting 'em do it. A pacifist is a traitor.

"England and France have stood up and fought our battle like God-fearing men for three years and a half. Now Woodrow and Uncle Sam are in it, and we'll lick 'em to a frazzle and then grind the frazzles into the mud where they belong.

"Nero was a Sunday School teacher compared with the Kaiser. God's hand is in this war. If you can't see God's hand in it, my good friends, your're blind, or you'r a nut.

"God took part in the battle of the Marne. Yes, and He stood behind those brave Frenchmen and helped them fab their bayonets in the paunches of the cut-throat gang. God has different ways of doing things.

"We didn't win this war by declaring war. It's going to be a whale of a job, but we're going to give old Kaiser Bill and his dirty cut-throats a whale of a whaling.

"Why, the government has the power to take away every stitch of clothes you wear and then shoot you if you complain, and here it is asking you to lend it a few dollars at 4 per cent interest.

"Now think of that. They don't have to borrow it, you know. They can take it all by taxation and not give you a sou, so we are going to give Uncle Sammy all we've got.

"And Kaiser Bill's place has always been hell, and if I had been God Almighty he sure would have gone there long ago.

**Cause of Headache**

By knowing the cause, a disease may often be avoided. This is particularly true of headache — 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.

**U. S. Must Cut Use Of Wheat by One-Half**

**America Consumed 42,000,000 Bushels Monthly. From Now Until Harvest Must Use Only 21,000,000.**

**RATION PER PERSON IS 1 1/2 POUNDS OF WHEAT PRODUCTS WEEKLY**

**Military Necessity Calls for Greater Sacrifice Here—Allied War Bread Must Be Maintained—Our Soldiers and Sailors to Have Full Allowance.**

If we are to furnish the Allies with the necessary proportion of wheat to maintain their war bread from now until the next harvest, and this is a military necessity, we must reduce our monthly consumption to 21,000,000 bushels a month, or 50 per cent. of our normal consumption. This is the situation as set forth by the U. S. Food Administration at Washington. Reserving a margin for distribution to the army and for special cases, leaves for general consumption approximately 1 1/2 pounds of wheat products weekly per person. The Food Administration's statement continues: Many of our consumers are dependent upon bakers' bread. Such bread must be durable and therefore, requires a larger proportion of wheat products than cereal breads baked in the household. Our army and navy require a full allowance. The well-to-do in our population can make greater sacrifices in the consumption of wheat products than can the poor. In addition, our population in the agricultural districts, where the other cereals are abundant, are more skilled in the preparation of breads from these other cereals than the crowded city and industrial populations.

With improved transportation conditions we now have available a surplus of potatoes. We also have in the spring months a surplus of milk, and we have ample corn and oats for human consumption. The drain on rye and barley, as substitutes, has already greatly exhausted the supply of these grains.

To effect the needed saving of wheat, we are wholly dependent upon the voluntary assistance of the American people and we ask that the following rules shall be observed:

1. Householders to use not to exceed a total of 1 1/2 pounds per week of wheat products per person. This means not more than 1 3/4 pounds of victory bread containing the required percentage of substitutes and one-half pound of cooking flour, macaroni, crackers, pastry, pies, cakes, wheat breakfast cereals, all combined.
2. Public eating places and clubs to observe two wheatless days per week, Monday and Wednesday, as at present. In addition thereto, not to serve to any one guest at any one meal an aggregate of breadstuffs, macaroni, crackers, pastry, pies, cakes, wheat breakfast cereals, containing a total of more than two ounces of wheat flour. No wheat products to be served unless specially ordered. Public eating establishments not to buy more than six pounds of wheat products for each ninety meals served, thus conforming with the limitations requested of the householders.
3. Retailers to sell not more than one-eighth of a barrel of flour to any town customer at any one time and not more than one-quarter of a barrel to any country customer at any one time, and in no case to sell wheat products without the sale of an equal weight of other cereals.
4. We ask the bakers and grocers to reduce the volume of victory bread sold, by delivery of the three-quarter pound loaf where one pound was sold before, and corresponding proportions in other weights. We also ask bakers not to increase the amount of their wheat flour purchases beyond 70 per cent. of the average monthly amount purchased in the four months prior to March 1.
5. Manufacturers using wheat products for non-food purposes should cease such use entirely.
6. There is no limit upon the use of other cereals, flours, and meals, corn, barley, buckwheat, potato flour, et cetera.

Many thousand families throughout the land are now using no wheat products whatever, except a very small amount for cooking purposes, and are doing so in perfect health and satisfaction. There is no reason why all of the American people who are able to cook in their own households cannot subsist perfectly well with the use of less wheat products than one and one-half pounds a week, and we specially ask the well-to-do households in the country to follow this additional programme in order that we may provide the necessary marginal supplies for those parts of the community less able to adapt themselves to so large a proportion of substitutes.

In order that we shall be able to make the wheat exports that are absolutely demanded of us to maintain the civil population and soldiers of the allies and our own army, we propose to supplement the voluntary co-operation of the public by a further limitation of distribution, and we shall place at once restrictions on distribution which will be adjusted from time to time to secure as nearly equitable distribution as possible. With the arrival of harvest we should be able to relax such restrictions. Until then we ask for the necessary patience, sacrifice and co-operation of the distributing trades.

**WHITE CHURCH NEWS**

Everybody is busy in their crops now, which is looking fine Sunday School was fine last Sunday, large attendance.

Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Brown gave the young people a singing Sunday night, which was much enjoyed by all.

Misses Irene Hutchins and Alma Burfind spent Saturday night with Miss Doll Frazier. They report a nice time.

Miss Jessie Brown is on the sick list this week.

Mr. John Frazier, who has been ill for some time is reported worse this week.

Mr. Goal Riggan is also sick this week.

C. H. Hutchins reports a good crop, and has a smile on his face because of same.

Misses Irene Hutchins, Alma Burfind, Doll Frazier, Messrs. Jim Burfind, Beryl Brown, motored to Maryneal last Sunday to visit their friends, Misses Mattie and Vera Cary. All report a most delightful time.

J. R. Brown is recovering

from an attack of la-grippe.

Mrs. Tom Campbell spent last week with her mother, Mrs. Lou Shipp, she has returned to her home in Putman.

Mrs. J. M. Brown has returned from a visit to Fort Worth and other points.

Mr. and Mrs. Dolf Coats and children spent last Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Frazier.

We are needing rain, as the wind has been blowing hard for the past few days.

**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.

Japanese sit on the floor o eat and carry the food to their mouth by means of chopsticks, which differ little from — a lead pencil, only they are larger.

W. B. Warren and W. F. Evans of Anson were visitors in Merkel Wednesday.

**PAY WAR COST**

On Monday, President Wilson appeared before Congress and asked that all political issues be laid aside and that that body remain in session until it has enacted new war tax laws to finance the growing cost of the war to prepare the country for the burden it must bear. The President intimated that new revenue would be drawn from war profits, incomes and luxuries. He urged that there be no hesitation in taxing the country and that Congress approach the great task without selfishness or fear of political consequences.

The President's speech was well received, and the heads of committees in both houses will co-operate to the utmost to speedily work the intricate task of financing the war.

Plenty of fresh groceries at G. M. Sharps.

**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.

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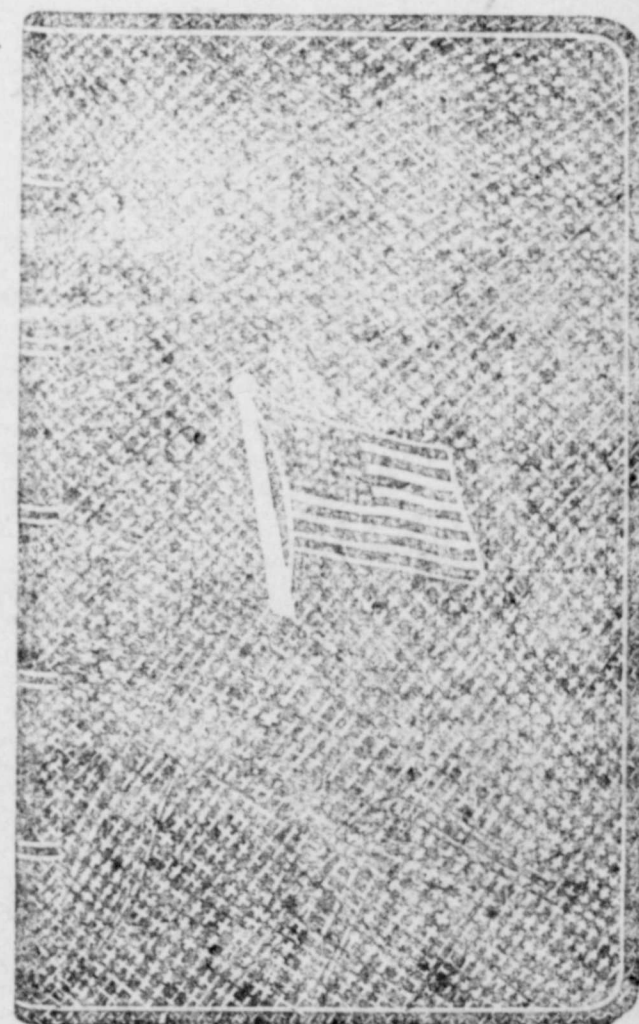
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