

GOV. HOBBY SPEAKS IN MERKEL

In spite of the demand of the farm and the very busy life the people of this section are leading, the tabernacle was comfortably filled at the Hobby meeting Tuesday afternoon. A reception was given to Governor and Mrs. Hobby at the Woodrum Hotel previous to the lecture. There were twenty-five dinner guests and many came in shortly afterwards. A delightful dinner was served by the Woodrum sisters, such a dinner as they are noted for serving, and one that appeased even the appetite of a politician.

The following were dinner guests of Hon J. C. Mason in honor of Governor and Mrs. Hobby:

Governor and Mrs. Hobby, Fritz Smith, Judge Pool, J. L. Hunter, Ralph Loope, Upshur Vincent, Clarence E. Gilmore, Mr. and Mrs. H. C. Williams, Mr. and Mrs. L. B. Howard, Mr. and Mrs. Walter Jackson, Misses Mossie Sears, Ona Hamblett, Mamie Rister, Agnes Powell, Messers. Sam Swann, Tom Largent, D.G. Barrow, Rev. C. S. Cameron, T. L. Grimes, Frank Hart, and Dee Grimes.

The meeting started promptly at 2:00 o'clock, with J. C. Mason the master of ceremonies. W. J. Bryan of Abilene was first introduced, and he in turn introduced Clarence E. Gilmore, candidate for Railroad Commissioner. Mr. Gilmore said in part:

"Our every effort should be exerted to win this great war. Outside of the Governor's race, little interest is being shown in politics. We have gone over the top with the Liberty Loan and with the Red Cross, and it is now time for us to pay some attention to our political offices. The railroad commissioner is a very important office. If elected, I will make it my business to see that you people get a square deal."

Thos A. Johnson introduced Governor Hobby, saying in part: "Four years ago the Democrats of Texas elected a Governor. There is nothing unusual about that. Two years later on that verdict was confirmed again. But soon circumstances began to develop themselves and the people began to be aroused. The legislature was called in special session. Charges were preferred against Governor Ferguson and the senate of this State, after hearing the evidence, convicted him and impeached him and barred him forever from holding office in this State. It seems to me that Governor Ferguson thinks he ought to be Governor Texas whenever he wants to be, and I think he should be Governor whenever we want him to be."

"We owe a duty to our representatives in the legislature. I believe them on the whole to be honest men. They went there and they heard this evidence. They believed Mr. Ferguson committed high crimes in Texas. The laws and the constitution backed them up. We have another Governor of Texas. In the short space of time he has been there more constructive legislation has been perfected than during any other administration in the history of Texas."

Mr. Johnson read a telegram from Greenville stating that Governor Hobby would carry about a dozen counties in that section by overwhelming majorities.

Presidential Proclamation calls for War Savings Pledges

By proclamation the President of the United States has authoritatively summoned all adult males and females to solemnly pledge to the Government the greatest amount they can save and invest in United States Government War Savings Stamps. They have been summoned to make their pledges between now and June 28, National War Savings Day.

The proclamation provides that all adult males and females are to meet

at appointed places in their school districts June 28, National War Savings Day, and, even though they have already made their pledges as they should have done, they are at these meetings to re-affirm their War Savings Stamp pledges to the President on the official Government pledge card which will be furnished them for that purpose.

Pledges for War Savings Stamps made before June 28, National War Savings Day, should be turned over

to the County Chairman of the National War Savings Committee or to one of the local representatives of the National War Savings Committee, according to the instructions of the Treasury Department.

In addition to notification by publication, every adult male and female will be authoritatively summoned through the mails to attend the June 28 meetings. Responsibility for attendance upon these meetings rests wholly upon the individual.

TO THE PEOPLE OF THE UNITED STATES—GREETING:

This war is one of nations—not of armies, and all of our one hundred million people must be economically and industrially adjusted to war conditions if this nation is to play its full part in the conflict. The problem before us is not primarily a financial problem, but rather a problem of increased production of war essentials and the saving of the materials and the labor necessary for the support and equipment of our army and navy. Thoughtless expenditure of money for nonessentials uses up the labor of men, the products of farms, mines and factories and overburdens transportation, all of which must be used to the utmost and at their best for war purposes.

The great results which we seek can be obtained only by the participation of every member of the Nation, young and old, in a National concerted thrift movement. I therefore urge that our people everywhere pledge themselves as suggested by the Secretary of the Treasury to the practice of thrift; to serve the Government to their utmost in increasing production in all fields necessary to the winning of the war; to conserve food and fuel and useful materials of every kind; to devote their labor only to the most necessary tasks, and to buy only those things which are essential to individual health and efficiency, and that the people, as an evidence of their loyalty, invest all they can in Liberty Bonds and War Savings Stamps.

The securities issued by the Treasury Department are so many of them within the reach of everyone that the door of opportunity in this matter is wide open to all of us. To practice thrift in peace times is a virtue and brings great benefit to the individual at all times; with the desperate need of the civilized world today for materials and labor with which to end the war, the practice of individual thrift is a patriotic duty and a necessity.

I appeal to all who now own either Liberty Bonds or War Savings Stamps to continue to practice economy and thrift and to appeal to all who do not own Government securities to do likewise and purchase them to the extent of their means. The man who buys Government securities transfers the purchasing power of his money to the United States Government until after this war, and to that same degree does not buy in competition with the Government.

I earnestly appeal to every man, woman and child to pledge themselves on or before the 28th of June to save constantly and to buy as regularly as possible the securities of the Government, and to do this as far as possible through membership in War Savings Societies. The 28th of June ends this special period of enlistment in the great volunteer army of production and saving here at home. May there be none unenlisted on that day.



Woodrow Wilson



GREAT SEAL OF UNITED STATES

member who voted for those acts deserves your support if he again offers as a candidate for the legislature."

"And in that connection I want to say that an effort is now being made to elect men to the legislature who will vote to repeal those laws if they shall ever be elected. An effort is being made to elect men who are ostensibly pledged to the seating of my opponent in the Governor's chair, should he receive a majority of the votes, but who are also pledged under cover to vote against those measures and to vote to repeal them."

"It is for the fathers and mothers of Texas to say if they want those laws repealed. It is for you who have sons in Texas training camps to say if you want liquor sold to your boys, if you want lewd women allowed near your boys. You are going to register your view on that

question when you vote in the July primary—and I am not afraid of the results. I know what the women and the men of Texas think of those laws. I know they want those laws to remain on the statute books; but I say to you that a vote for Ferguson for governor, or a vote for a Ferguson man for legislature, or a vote for a Ferguson man for the Supreme Court—any and all of this is a vote against the laws passed for the protection of the boys in Texas training camps and for the good of Texas by the last session of the legislature."

Gov. Hobby then reviewed the legislation of the special session: The 10-Mile Zone law, the anti-vice law, the loyalty law, the law requiring the teaching of English in the public schools, the law requiring that loyalty be taught and that the

Continued on page four.

CLASSIFIED ADS

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

FOR SALE—Redtop cane seed, re-cleaned \$2.25 per bushel, f.o.b. order now, Cobb Grain Co., Kress, Texas. 14t2c.

FOUND—A "More Lite" auto dimmer and rim on Salt Branch road about one mile from Merkel. Owner call at Merkel Mail and get same by paying for this adv.

FOR SERVICE—Thoroughbred Poland China male. H. D. Simpson, Rural Route, Trent, Tex.

TYPEWRITER RIBBONS & CARBON PAPER—At Merkel Mail office.

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

WANTED—Woman to keep house for man and children. Apply at Merkel Mail office. 7tf.

LOST—One carton of Prince Albert smoking tobacco between Abilene and Trent. Reward offered. Leave with Merkel Mail or J. E. Robinson, Trent Texas. 1tp

Save by keeping your clothes clean. First class service guaranteed. Mrs. C. L. Cash.

GOOD PASTURE
Good johnson and mesquite grass pasture, plenty good water, good fences and lots. Horses \$3 per month and cattle \$1.50. Special rates for large number. Half mile east of town, known as the Hall place. See L. P. Jones at Merkel. 21tf.

INTEREST ON ITALIAN FRONT

No important changes have taken place on the French front this week. The allied lines hold at every place, in spite of the intense fighting that has been carried on.

The greatest interest of the week centered on the Italian front, where the Italians have been able to maintain their positions. Much of the fighting has been of a sanguinary nature. Though hard pressed at many points, the Italians have gallantly held their own and in some places have made gains.

— Buy W. S. S. —

PROBABLE CHANGE IN THE DRAFT AGE

A change in the draft age is imminent. It is proposed to place the ages at 18 to 45. Secretary Baker has approved the plan. Military leaders are agreed that America will have to raise an army of 5,000,000 and place them in the field in order that victory may be won.

— Buy W. S. S. —

CAMP BOWIE PERMANENT

Camp Bowie will become one of the permanent infantry replacement camps as soon as the Panther division leaves. Anywhere from 27,000 to 50,000 men and officers will be trained at this camp at a time.

— Buy W. S. S. —

TEAGUE BANKER GUILTY

The Court of Criminal Appeals affirmed the trial court in the case of T. R. Watson, Teague banker, convicted of the murder of John S. Patterson, former State Banking Commissioner. Watson was given 99 years in the pen.

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. Hilton
J. L. Mingus
G. R. Pain
Miss Fannie Tippett
For County Attorney:
W. E. Martin.
W. H. Sewell.
For Sheriff:
J. T. Dodson.
John Bond.
For County Treasurer:
Austin Fitts.
For Tax Collector.
G. B. Tittle.

For County Tax Assessor:
John H. Vance.
For County School Supt.
J. S. Smith.
C. E. Sims
For Commissioner, Precinct 2:
T. R. Lassiter.
Sam Butman, Jr.
J. L. Banner.
E. D. Coats.
For Public Weigher at Merkel:
J. M. Garrett.
H. M. Mayfield.
James Patterson, Jr.
W. R. Britton
Justice Peace, Precinct No 5.
W. W. Wheeler.
Jones County Candidates
County Clerk.
T. L. Lollar
For Sheriff:
T. P. (Tom) Hudson
For Tax Collector:
W. C. Cutrell.

Statement of Condition
The Farmers State Bank
 Merkel, Texas
 At Close of Business May 10, 1918

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

LIABILITIES
 Capital Stock\$ 35,000.00
 Surplus and Profits..... 34,732.54
 DEPOSITS **237,022.48**
 Rediscounts 29,517.58
 Total\$336,272.60

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

BUY WAR SAVING STAMPS
DONATE TO THE SECOND RED CROSS
WAR FUND

RED CROSS AUCTION

Last Saturday afternoon the remnant of articles for the Red Cross was auctioned off on the streets in Merkel, netting that organization an additional sum of about \$75.00. We failed to get a list of the donors. Several due bills on merchants were sold, their respective names having already appeared in these columns.

A generous feature of the auction was evidenced by Luke Huddleston in bidding \$7.50 for five cotton choppers for three hours. A number of business men went out Tuesday afternoon and paid the bill.

H. F. Groene was auctioneer. — Buy W. S. S. —

HOW'S THIS
 We offer One Hundred Dollars Reward for any case of Catarrah that cannot be cured by Hall's Catarrah Medicine.

Hall's Catarrah Medicine has been taken by catarrah sufferers for the past thirty-five years, and has become known as the most reliable remedy for Catarrah. Hall's Catarrah Medicine acts thru the blood on the mucous surfaces, expelling the poison from the blood and healing the diseased portions.

After you have taken Hall's Catarrah Medicine for a short time you will see a great improvement in your general health. Start taking Hall's Catarrah Medicine at once and get rid of catarrah. Send for testimonials, free. F. J. Cheney & Co., Toledo, Ohio. Sold by all druggists, 75 cents.

— Buy W. S. S. —

Little Martin Baby Dead

The little year and a half old baby of Mr. and Mrs. Ed Martin, near Shiloh, died Wednesday morning and was buried in Rose Hill cemetery. Even the little rose petals of life are snatched from love's tender embrace in the early morning of their existence, the cords are broken and the little fellow is gone, implanted in a land where no sorrow is known, and to the bereaved we extend our heartfelt sympathy.

STOPS DELIVERY SERVICE

The grocery merchants of Merkel will stop entirely the delivery of groceries on July 1. This has been suggested as a war measure, making the operation of business more economical and cutting out help of this nature which can be used in productive fields. Many other towns have already adopted this policy and the people have accepted the measure in good grace.

— Buy W. S. S. —
A TEXAS WONDER.

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

— Buy W. S. S. —
 Big shipment block salt. Bob. Martin.

— Buy W. S. S. —
 Mrs. Drake Dead

Mrs. Anna Drake of Winters, who was visiting her daughter, Mrs. Reagan, who resides near Noodle, died last Saturday. She was sent to her home at Winters for interment. She was about 65 years of age.

— Buy W. S. S. —

Cleaning and pressing done promptly. Mrs. C. L. Cash.

— Buy W. S. S. —

Catarrah Cannot Be Cured

with LOCAL APPLICATIONS, as they cannot reach the seat of the disease. Catarrah is a local disease, greatly influenced by constitutional conditions, and in order to cure it you must take an internal remedy. Hall's Catarrah Medicine is taken internally and acts thru the blood on the mucous surfaces of the system. Hall's Catarrah Medicine was prescribed by one of the best physicians in this country for years. It is composed of some of the best tonics known, combined with some of the best blood purifiers. The perfect combination of the ingredients in Hall's Catarrah Medicine is what produces such wonderful results in catarrah conditions. Send for testimonials, free. F. J. CHENEY & CO., Props., Toledo, O. All Druggists, 75c. Hall's Family Pills for constipation.

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

LOCAL NEWS

Joe Hartley has completed his course in training at the Great Lakes training station and has been transferred to the Radio School at Harvard University at Cambridge, where he will remain about five months.

Plenty of cow feed and cotton seed meal at Bob Martins Grocery Company.

The Merkel Mail was in error last week in reporting that Owen Ellis had accepted a position with The Grace Hotel in Abilene. He is with the J. W. Crowder Drug Company of Dallas.

Fresh peaches and ice cold fresh butter at E. L. Rogers.

The Merkel Mail received an announcement of the birth of a fine baby girl at the home of Mr. and Mrs. De Wilson, on June 3, 1918.

Call on us for fruit jars, tops and rubbers. Crown Hardware Company.

R. M. Parker left a few days ago for his home at Bonham, where he joins his family. He will be away until the fall school term.

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

Forrest Gaither visited his wife and relatives at Carter, Okla., Saturday and Sunday. Mrs. Gaithehr will be away for some time yet.

Plenty of cow feed and cotton seed meal at Bob Martins Grocery Company.

Wm. O'Briant and DeVerle Johnson (said?) they made a business trip to Blair last Sunday. We did not enquire as to the nature of the business.

If you want your cleaning done right, send your clothes to Mrs. C. L. Cash.

Full & Well Made

GOODS ARE THE KIND WE WANT TO SELL YOU

They cost you less because the wear is much longer and more satisfactory in every way

COME SEE

Real Bargains in Oxfords, Pumps and Carried-over Shoes

UNDERWEAR

Prices nearly as Low as Last Year

Boys Unions.....50c to 65c Ladies Unions.....50c to \$1.00
 Mens Unions.....60c to \$1.15 Ladies Vests.....15c to 25c

Be Glad to Show You

The Brown D. G. Company

LOCAL NEWS

Dr. and Mrs. Gambill and baby left Saturday for College Station where he has entered the army service as dentist. The doctor is very competent in his profession and we wish him rapid promotions. May good luck follow this young and popular couple.

Car cow feed and cotton seed meal just arrived. See us Crown Hardware Company.

Mrs. J.S. Swann and son, Sam, left in their car for a visit to her daughter, Mrs. Jones, at Tulia, early Wednesday morning. They will return in a day or two.

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

Mrs. N. J. Clampit of Gilmer returned home after an extended visit to her sister, Mrs. J. A. Pike, and family.

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

W. T. Sherrell and family moved to the country the past week and will remain during the crop season.

Go to Rogers where the dollar buys most.

Mrs. Edith Mayberry Norman of Abilene visited her parents, Mr. and Mrs. S. B. Mayberry this week.

Will pay 17 cents for hens this week, W. P. Duckett.

Mrs. Asa Sheppard and son, Stirling, are visiting relatives in Abilene for a while.

Call on us for fruit jars, tops and rubbers. Crown Hardware Company.

Jno Morgan accepted a position with A. B. Barrow & Co., at Hamlin and is now on the job.

Car cow feed and cotton seed meal just arrived. See us Crown Hardware Company.

The Merkel Mail

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THE MERKEL MAIL PRINTING COMPANY, INC.
WALTER JACKSON, Editor and Manager

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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.



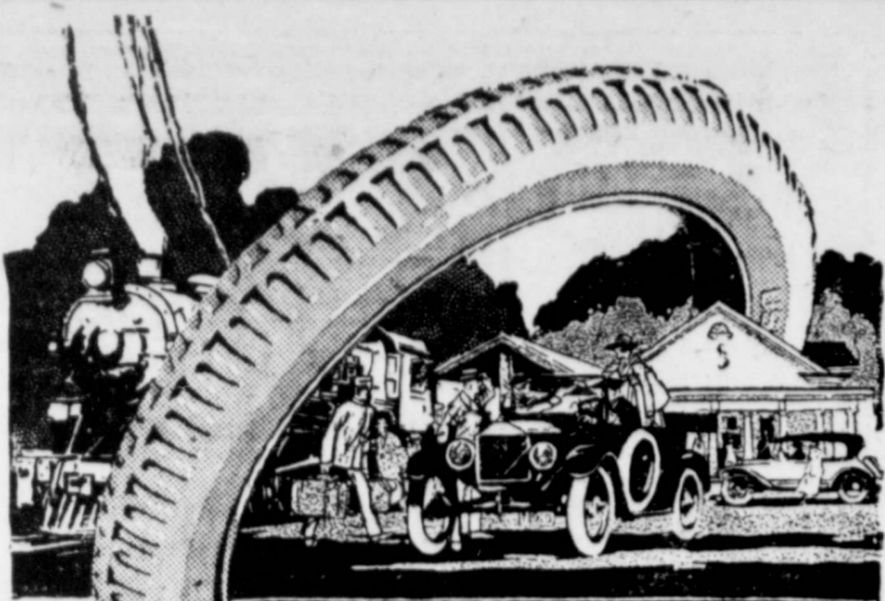
This paper has enlisted with the government in the cause of America for the period of the war.....

At the earnest request of the County Council of Defense, the merchants of Abilene finally agreed to let half of the male help off every afternoon at 4 o'clock. This is only a partial compliance with a needed want. Abilene could have helped the farmers greatly in their time of need. We'll bet the bosses are safely hedged beneath electric fans these hot afternoons. They are patriotic enough when it comes to talking. We'll bet they will soon have speakers out for the W. S. S. campaign, telling everybody in the rural district how to be patriotic. Actions speak louder than words and are far more eloquent. Merkel has not lost any trade. She has been closing every afternoon at 4 o'clock. The business men have saved hundreds of acres. The people of the country seem to appreciate the help, and the business men feel amply repaid for their efforts.

Merkel gets the Ozark Trails. The import of the proposition is not yet understood. The news has gone out in a measure common place, but as the years go on, this mighty highway will eventually become noted throughout the country. It is possible for it to become the most traveled highway in all the land. It is not at all unlikely that eventually the United States will make it a military highway. It will not be many years until its worth to Merkel will be more than a railroad. Thousands of tourists will pass along it every year, spending their money as they go. It is the gateway to New Mexico, Arizona, California and Colorado. It will be thoroughly improved from end to end and marked so that it can be followed easily. Merkel is to be congratulated upon securing so important a highway, reaching from St. Louis to Abilene and following the T & P to El Paso.

Ladies, there is some question as to the legality of your right to vote without registering. It will cost you nothing to register, in fact parties owning cars have volunteered to take you to Abilene for this purpose. Remember that the people of the towns are going to vote, and if the women of the country don't vote also, then the towns will have full sway in the election of all officers and you will have no one to blame. A committee doubtless will meet in a few days and arrange a registering day for Merkel, when every woman who will register may come here and be carried to Abilene for that purpose. Don't neglect this important matter.

It is beginning to look as if Thos L. Blanton was going to have plenty of opposition for



'Usco' Tread

We Set Tire Standards

Why is it that United States Tires are setting new records for mileage and serviceability?

Why is it that the sales of these tires are constantly mounting by leaps and bounds?

The answer is found in the factories where United States Tires are made.

Standards of construction for these tires are higher than ever before known in the tire industry.

Makers of tire fabrics tell us that the standards we have given them for United States Tire fabrics are higher than any previously known.

Likewise through every process of construction from crude rubber to finished tires—we have set new and higher standards everywhere.

These standards work out on your car in the practical economy demanded by war-times.

United States Tires will raise any car to higher efficiency.

There is a type to suit every condition of service.

The nearest United States Sales and Service Depot dealer will cheerfully aid in selecting right tires for your requirements.

United States Tires are Good Tires

We KNOW United States Tires are good tires. That's why we sell them

WARREN BROTHERS

Congress. We make the prediction that Thos L. will go right back. He has made a good servant of the people, the war is on, changes would be dangerous and Blanton is at his post of duty. We hardly think the opposition should worry him much.

Buy W. S. S. —
ICE ICE ICE

IN ORDER TO GIVE YOU GOOD ICE SERVICE—IF YOU WILL PHONE YOUR ORDERS TO OFFICE BETWEEN 8 AND 10 O'CLOCK A. M. THIS WILL INSURE YOU ICE FOR NOON. IF YOU WAIT UNTIL 11:30 WE CAN NOT INSURE YOU NOON ICE. NO DELIVERIES AFTER 6. IN THE AFTERNOON MERKEL ICE COMPANY

Buy W. S. S. —

Plenty Oats at the Crown Hardware Company.

Notice to Debtors

All parties indebted to me will please call and pay W.O. Boney. Am now in Uncle Sam's service and must close up my office quickly, and besides I need the money. Dr. Wm. Gambill. 21t3c

Buy W. S. S. —
Wm Brown had a business (?) engagement in Clyde last Sunday.

Buy W. S. S. —
Big shipment block salt. Bob. Martin.

Buy W. S. S. —
Miss Ezra Grimes of Miles is visiting Dr. and Mrs. M. Armstrong and T.L. and Dee Grimes

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

Buy W. S. S. —
Miss Jewel Lobban, of Wyoming, and J. Greenfield of Dallas, are visiting at the home of their mother, Mrs. Hamblett.

Buy W. S. S. —
Mrs. Simpson of Hico is visiting her daughter, Mrs. D. G. Barrow.

FOURTH JULY PICNIC

There will be picnic at Butman's, in the Canyon, on July 4. Preparations are being made for a mighty good time and a large crowd is expected. A general invitation is extended to every one in all this country to turn out. The candidates of the county and state are also urged to be present and meet the people. All rights on the grounds are extended to the Red Cross, and doubtless quite a sum will be realized. It has been some time since this country had a real good picnic, so it is urged to make this a patriotic occasion long to be remembered.

We will make an effort to give further particulars next week.

Buy W. S. S. —
TRENT NEWS ITEMS

There is very little doing in Trent in a social way just now. Cotton chopping is the order of the day.

The town people are doing a good part, but even with their help there is a scarcity of help.

The worms are damaging the cotton, but this is a very optimistic little town and they are hoping the cotton will come out.

Miss Elizabeth Stamps left Sunday night for Sweetwater, where she will spend the summer.

Mrs. Ed. Burks who has been quite sick is reported to be improved.

Cecil McPee is on the sick list this week.

Miss Eula Johnson who attends the C. I. A. at Denton will spend the summer at home in Trent.

There will be a singing at Trent Sunday afternoon. Every body invited to attend and be sure to bring some one with you.

Buy W. S. S. —

Candidate Gilmore in Merkel.

Clarence E. Gilmore, candidate for Railroad Commissioner was a visitor in Merkel with the Governor's party Tuesday. He is a very interesting and pleasing gentleman and made quite a number of friends here during his short visit. He is well recommended as eminently qualified and deserving of the place he seeks.

—Pledge The President—
Go to Rogers for fresh groceries.

—Pledge The President—
On the 13th, Mrs. E. A. Hudson, daughter and son, Miss Anna and Marshall, and Mr. and Mrs. Stringer and son, and Mr. and Mrs. Frederick and son, Mr. Luther McCrumen, all prominent citizens of El Paso, formerly of Paris, Tex. passed through Merkel in their cars on their way to Paris to spend a vacation, stopped in Merkel and spent several hours with their neighbor and friend J. C. Mason at the Commercial Hotel. He accompanied them in his car as far as Mineral Wells.

—Pledge The President—
To Speak On W. S. S.

W. J. Cunningham of Abilene will speak at the Presbyterian church, Friday night, June 28th, on the W. S. S. Mr. Cunningham is a fluent speaker, as every one knows, and a full attendance is urged. This is a very important governmental matter, and a subject all the people should be fully enlightened on.

—Pledge The President—
CASHIER ELECTED

The directors of the Farmers State Bank elected F. Y. Gaiter as cashier of that institution to take the place of Sam Swann, who resigned to enter the army. Mr. Gaiter has been with the Anchor Mercantile Company for the past year or two, is able and efficient in every respect, and both he and the bank are to be congratulated upon the combination. Mr. Gaiter formerly had banking experience.

—Pledge The President—

Mr. Swann, who has been connected with this institution for a number of years, is to leave for the training camp in a few days. He is one of Merkel's most efficient and ambitious young business men, and it is to be regretted that he is to leave, but the inevitable call of war demands it and he goes gladly in his country's defense.

Health About Gone

Many thousands of women suffering from womanly trouble, have been benefited by the use of Cardui, the woman's tonic, according to letters we receive, similar to this one from Mrs. Z. V. Spell, of Hayne, N. C. "I could not stand on my feet, and just suffered terribly," she says. "As my suffering was so great, and he had tried other remedies, Dr. — had us get Cardui. . . I began improving, and it cured me. I know, and my doctor knows, what Cardui did for me, for my nerves and health were about gone."

TAKE

CARDUI

The Woman's Tonic

She writes further: "I am in splendid health . . . can do my work. I feel I owe it to Cardui, for I was in dreadful condition." If you are nervous, run-down and weak, or suffer from headache, backache, etc., every month, try Cardui. Thousands of women praise this medicine for the good it has done them, and many physicians who have used Cardui successfully with their women patients, for years, endorse this medicine. Think what it means to be in splendid health, like Mrs. Spell. Give Cardui a trial.

All Druggists

J 72

IF THE LORD SHOULD COME

"If the Lord should come in the morning

As I went about my work—
The little things and the quiet things

That a servant cannot shirk,
Though nobody ever sees them,
And only the dear Lord cares
That they always are done in
the light of the sun—
Would He take me unawares?

"If my Lord should come at the noonday—

The time of the dust and the heat,

When the glare is white and the air is still
And the hoof-beats sound in the street;

If my dear Lord came at noonday,

And smiled in my tired eyes,
Would it not be sweet his look to meet?

Would He take me by surprise

"If my Lord came hither at the evening,

In the fragrant dew and dusk,
When the world drops off its mantle

Of daylight, like a husk,
And flowers, in wonderful beauty,

And we fold our hands in rest
Would His touch, on my hand,
His low command,
Bring me unhopd-for zest?

"Why do I ask and question?
He is ever coming to me,
Morning and noon and evening,

If I have but eyes to see,
And the daily load grows lighter
The daily cares grows sweet,
For the Master is near, the Master is here,

I have only to sit at His feet."

Exchange.

Buy W. S. S. —

Card of Thanks

We wish to express our heart felt thanks and appreciation of the kindness shown us in our recent bereavement. May God's blessings rest upon each one who in any way assisted us. Children of G. W. Browning.

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.

Buy W. S. S. —

Miss Pauline Johnson left Monday night for Wichita Falls to visit her brother, Frank. She will be away a couple of weeks.

Buy W. S. S. —

A PROCLAMATION

In accordance with the Proclamation issued by the President of the United States and that promulgated by the Governor of the State of Texas, designating June 28th, 1918, A. D., as National War Savings Day and summoning all wage earners and tax payers, male and female, of the Union to meet together at 2 o'clock on the afternoon of said day at the schoolhouses of their several school districts, then and there to pledge the greatest amount of their savings to be invested the remainder of the year in War Savings Stamps; therefore,

I, N. D. Cobb, Mayor of the City of Merkel, do hereby proclaim and designate the said 28th day of June, 1918, A. D., as National War Savings Day in the City of Merkel, and do solemnly call upon adult wage earners and tax payers of the said city of Merkel to be present at said meeting and then and there to make their pledges as required by the Presidential proclamation, which calls upon the people of the State of Texas to save and invest \$91,000,000 in War Savings Stamps, their savings to be accomplished by the curtailment of unnecessary expenditures of money so that goods and services, needed in such vast quantities for the winning of the war, may be conserved. The material needs necessary to the successful prosecution of the war can be met only by the people of this Nation denying themselves customary but needless expenditures.

Therein fail not. The United States Treasury Department has issued instructions that the officers of such meetings shall list all persons in their districts who fail to attend said meeting and that said list of absentees shall be forwarded to the State Director of the National War Savings Committee and thence to the Secretary of the National Treasury. In the performance of his duty June 28th, 1918., let no citizen of Merkel fail.

Witness my hand this 10 day of June, A. D. 1918.

N. D. Cobb, Mayor of the City of Merkel, Texas.

Buy W. S. S. —

Merkel Drug Co.

For Your Drug Wants.

We carry a complete line of
Drugs and Sundries.

Let us serve you

COAL CONSUMERS MUST BUY WINTER SUPPLY NOW

Consumers must buy their winter supply of coal during the Spring and Summer for storage if production is to be maintained at a maximum and the country enabled to avoid a serious coal shortage this winter.

U. S. FUEL ADMINISTRATION

GOV. HOBBY SPEAKS IN MERKEL

Continued from page one
American flag float at each school, the law permitting the State treasurer to invest the money of the State in United States treasury war certificates.

"In accord with that law the State of Texas now has invested with the United States government the sum of eight million dollars. That surplus money of the State is being used in the war against the Kaiser," said the governor, "just as you and I buy thrift stamps and bonds and turn our money over to Uncle Sam to use in this war."

"At the same time Texas is drawing 4 1/2 per cent interest on that money or nearly \$1000 a day—I ask you if that is not better than having that money in the Temple State Bank?" (Loud and continued applause and cries "Hurrah for Hobby.")

Going further with the history of the legislature of the special session the governor mentioned the laws for the protection of the ballot: The literacy law which forces the voter to be able to mark his own ballot without the help of any one; the majority primary law which makes it impossible for a governor of this State ever again to be elected by a minority of the voters of the State; the citizenship law which forbids any person voting in the primary unless he is a fullfledged citizen of the nation; and the women suffrage law which permits women to vote in the primaries for the first time in the history of Texas.

Recounting the connection of the German-American Alliance with the campaign of Ferguson for Governor and the interest that organization took in that event, and the control exercised over the Ferguson administration by the German brewers of the State, Gov. Hobby asked, "Do you think those laws would have been passed with the German-American Alliance sitting in the governor's chair and dictating what laws should be approved and what laws vetoed by your chief executive?"

"Yet they say that I am playing politics when I recommend those laws. They say that I am doing it for effect on the people of Texas. And in answer to that I say to you that if the passing of laws for the good of my state and the signing of laws which 90 per cent of the people of Texas want, is playing politics, then I want you to understand that I am going to play politics to the end of time. And if that is going to cause my defeat, I would rather be defeated a hundred time for serving the people of Texas than to be elected once for servig the political ambitions of any man."

Regarding the university of Texas, Gov Hobby said: "The University of Texas is a great big institution. It is a human institution run by men like you and I. I do not doubt that wrongs exist there and that abuse exist there. I have yet to find a human institution that is perfect. But I promise you that so long as I am governor all the power of that office shall be used to correct those abuses and to right those wrongs and not to destroy that splendid school which Texas needs today more than at any other time in our history."

"The man who seeks to up-build any one institution—any single part of our school system at the expense of any other part, that man is an enemy to the whole structure upon which our educational system is founded. There is only one rule for us to observe in the matter of our schools. That rule is for us to discover what is needed for the rural schools, what is needed for the high schools, what is needed for the normal schools, what is needed for the College of Industrial Arts, and what is needed for the A. & M. College, and the University of Texas. When we have found out what

is needed for each—and every one of our schools those needs must be supplied in fullest measure and we must not count the cost.

"So long as I am governor of Texas I pledge you that shall be my rule with reference to the schools. I pledge you strictest economy in every other department of State government; but I promise you only the best schools in all the country no matter what those schools may cost. That is no place for economy. In furtherance of that aim, I shall continue to give my influence to the million dollar appropriation for the rural schools and I shall go further. I shall recommend the appropriation of another million dollars so that every school district in the State which so desires may have a school term of six, seven, eight or nine months—and the State will pay the difference that is not raised by the voting of the tax of 50 cents allowed by the constitution."

The Governor said he favored a law allowing the credit of the State to assist the tenants in buying and owning their farms.

"The people of Texas must approve or disapprove of the Governor receiving packages of money from unknown sources. It was shown in the trial that Ex-Governor Ferguson after it became known that he received 156,000 as a loan, he would not say whether notes or collateral was given. He said the sources of that money was written in blood. So long as I am Governor of this State I will disclose the source of every dollar that comes into my hands. Ex-Governor Ferguson has said that if I would say that he got that money from the Kaiser, he would donate \$1000 to the Red Cross. Now if he is patriotic in his intentions, I will give the Red Cross \$1000 if he will tell where he got that money, so that the people will know whether any of it came from the Kaiser.

In speaking in reference to the A & M College, he said funds were not sufficient to establish this institution. He said further: "They have charged me with cutting out the West Texas institutions and approving the appropriation for a negro school in East Texas. I never approved an appropriation for a negro school. I did approve the appropriation for a negro asylum in East Texas, to relieve the jails of caring for these unfortunates. It is a pity that some of my opponents do not know the difference between a negro school and negro asylum. (Great applause.)

I might say that I would promise you a business administration, but my opponent promised you that, and to him it was the most profitable business deal of anything he ever got into.

"Permit me to express my thanks and gratitude for your patient hearing this afternoon."

Presents Bouquet
Following the address, Mrs. Lytton Howard, in a few appropriate words said: "Governor Hobby, I want to present you this bouquet of flowers on behalf of the women of Merkel as a small token of their esteem for you, and extend to you our thanks for your kindness and statemanship for being the first Governor of the great State of Texas, who has the courage and manhood to declare that women are American citizens and equal to men by giving them the right accorded to men. We promise you our loyal and wholehearted support, and we hope to elect you Governor of Texas by one of the largest votes of any Governor has ever received. We ask you to accept this bouquet as a small sentiment of our appreciation." (prolonged cheers).

In a most befitting response the Governor said in part: "I would rather have the commendation of the good mothers and women of Texas than to be Governor of 48 states."

— Buy W. S. S. —

The Quinine That Does Not Affect the Head
Because of its tonic and laxative effect, IAXATIVE 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, 30c.

BOB SHULER CHALLENGES FERGUSON

The following challenge has been sent Jas. E. Ferguson by Rev. R. P. Shuler, of Paris, Texas. This challenge has also been handed the press of the state: Hon. Jas. E. Ferguson, Temple, Texas.

My Dear Sir:—
I desire to challenge you to meet me in joint discussion in three towns in Texas, with population of 10,000 or over, the towns or cities to be chosen by yourself.

I have in my possession the complete official record of the activities of the German-American Alliance in America as shown by the testimony before the subcommittee of the committee on the judiciary, United States Senate, sixty-fifth congress.

I am prepared to prove by this official record that the German-American Alliance opposed the nomination of President Wilson at or about the time when you were opposing the nomination of the same man.

I am prepared to prove that the German-American Alliance as an organization supported Mr. Hughes for President against President Wilson.

I am prepared to prove that the German-American Alliance was "interested" in your election as governor of Texas, according to the sworn testimony of the vice president of this organization.

I am prepared to prove that large sums of money were expended by the German-American Alliance, part of the money passing through the hands of the Brewer's Association, the chief concern of the organization being to further German-American propaganda through the ballot box in the election of public officials acceptable to Germany.

I am prepared to prove that the German-American Alliance was insistent in their effort to take over the schools and universities of the land, insisting on the removal of professors and officers of universities that were not acceptable to the German organization.

I am prepared to prove that much more than \$165,000 was expended by the German-American Alliance in an effort to dominate education in the United States and I am prepared to challenge you to show that a part or the whole of the \$165,000 the source of which you refuse to divulge, did not come into your hands shortly before your efforts to remove certain professors and officers from the University of Texas, whose patriotic love for America and whose hatred for German principles are well known in the state.

I am prepared to prove that the one man in the University of Texas, at the time of your attempt interference with that institution, who was talked of by your friends as your choice for the president of that institution has since been removed by the regents of the university because of his pro-German sentiments and anti-administration activities. I am prepared to prove much more than the above and all from the official record and I am prepared to connect your political history with the activities of the German-American Alliance until the very thought of your ever being governor of Texas again will be abhorrent to any and every patriotic Texas.

I make you this proposition:—If you will agree to meet me in joint discussion on these issues and should disprove them I will agree to not acknowledge before the whole state of Texas my wrong, but such as I would hate to do it, I will agree to vote for you, support you and throw all the influence I have behind your candidacy.

Yours ever,
R. P. Shuler.

— Buy W. S. S. —

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.

AJAX TIRES

GUARANTEED IN WRITING 5000 MILES

AJAX Shoulders of Strength

A SPECIAL PATENTED **AJAX** FEATURE

These stalwart supports built into Ajax Tires brace the entire width of the tread—give added strength where road strain is greatest—more comfort—more mileage. No other tire has or can have Shoulders of Strength—it is a special patented Ajax feature.

97% Owners' Choice

This big percentage of Ajax output goes to motorists themselves—who choose Ajax to take the place of other tires that came with their cars.

AJAX ROAD KING


"More Tread on the Road"

Designed—built—guaranteed to uphold Ajax reputation for service. On the road, in competition with other tires, **AJAX ROAD KING** gives proof of superiority. Truly, a monarch in quality, a democrat in service. Note triangle barbs—added safety factor.

Come in and see the Road King Tire today. Our Ajax Tire Supply Depot is headquarters for Ajax Tires, Ajax Inner Tubes—and real service.

MERKEL GARAGE
Merkel, Texas.

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



RESOLUTION BY TAYLOR COUNTY COUNCIL OF DEFENSE

At the regular meeting of the Taylor County Council of Defense held in Abilene June 14th, the following resolution was offered and unanimously carried, with the request that same be published:

It is the sense of this body that the welfare of the county depends on the successful growing and raising of as large a crop as possible during the year 1918; that the farmers of Taylor county are in dire need of help and labor with which to produce this crop; that the recent rains have caused them to fall behind with planting and cultivating of their crops; and it has come to our knowledge that the farmers are unable to obtain labor to properly handle the situation. Therefore, an urgent call to each and every community and town in Taylor county is now made to assist them.

It is the request of this body that every business house in Taylor county close its place of business at 4 o'clock each evening for the next ten days, in order that its employees may help in this needed work.

We further desire it to be known that the county council has an employment bureau at the Chamber of Commerce in Abilene, where every man can obtain honorable employment at farm work, the price for such labor being 25 cents an hour. Farmers will also be given assistance in securing help.

— Buy W. S. S. —
Stomach Troubles.

Many remarkable cures of stomach troubles have been effected by Chamberlain's Tablets. One man who had spent over two thousand dollars for medicine and treatment was cured by a few boxes of these tablets. Price, 25 cents. For sale by all dealers. Adv.

— Buy W. S. S. —
Fresh peaches, berries and vegetables at Rogers.

— Buy W. S. S. —
.... To Prevent Belching

Make a regular habit of eating slowly, masticate your food thoroughly, and you may have no further trouble. If you should take one of Chamberlain's Tablets immediately after supper.

— Buy W. S. S. —
DRAUGHON'S

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

KEEP YOUR SHOES NEAT

2 in 1

White Shoe Dressing

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

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

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.

Specialty in Farm Loans

Inspector on the ground—Quick Service

Real Estate and Fire Insurance

W. O. BONEY West of Farmers State Bank

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.

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

Piles Cured in 6 to 14 Days
Your druggist will refund money if FAZO GINEMENT 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.

HONOR ROLL

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

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

Ulric Forrester.
Andrew Archer.
Roy Adams.
Britt Baker.
Fauss Banner.
Edgar Breeze.
W. B. Brown.
Arthur Derrington.
Frank J. Ferrier.
De Gorcus.
Wm. R. Green.
James F. Holloway.
B. Jobe.
Pete Meek.
F. O'Brien.
Herbert Ricker.
Paul Stamford.
Bill Sheppard.
Paul Turner.
George White.
L. B. Wells.
Riley White.
L. Powers.
Emzi Burroughs.
Thos Bearden.
Jas. Brown.
Emmitt Grimes.
L. M. Hutchins.
Chester A. Duncan, Trent.
John T. Morris, Trent.
Joe L. Evans, Trent.
W. W. McElmurray, Trent.
Hubert J. Swan, Trent.
John Moore, Merkel.
Lieut B. B. Brown
Chester Hall.
Stuart Grimes.
Jas. Clyde White.
Lloyd Shepard.
L. A. Dudley.
Robert Vernon Boring.
Sherley King.
O. A. Horton.
Ira Huss.
Archie Rose.
Fred Harrell.
Chas. C. Jones.
Glen Thompson
Roscoe Sharp.
John Ware.
John D. Dudley.
John Edward Hunter.
E. M. Harris.
George Smith.
Geo. N. Reynolds.
J. H. Rister, Tye.
Wayne Abernathy, Trent.
H. W. Beckham, Trent
Dee H. Donnell, Trent
Hollis Brown, Trent.
Royce Dowdy, Trent.
Robt. B. Parker.
Frank E. Smith
Luther Grimes.
W. L. Diltz, Jr.
William B. Tarpley.
N. D. Teaff, Tye.
Arthur E. Windland, Tye.
James O. Dulin.
Kirby L. Vidrine.
Leonard Morrison.
Joseph A. McMurray.
Rufus H. O'Neal.
Willie E. Pool.
Ennis Grimes.
Charley Fitzgerald.
Berry Forrester.
Joseph A. Pruitt, Trent
John T. Mattingley, Noodle.
Reuben C. Hall
Henry D. (Doc) Hall
K. O. Stevens.
Tom Smith Martin.
Leland L. Martin.
T. J. Bird.
R. E. Harris.
Robert Rainbolt.
Lee Raymond Campbell
Euleus McNeas.
John P. Gibson.
Leonard Willis
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.
Eimer 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.

SHOES SHOES

At this time of the year we find our stock of Slippers, Oxfords and Pumps entirely too large. Rather than carry over this stock we are offering to the public our profits. Our buyer, looking ahead several months, saw the big advance in leather goods that was sure to come, and plunged.

For the next two weeks we are going to sell this new, up-to-date stock of shoes, invoicing \$15,000, at greatly reduced prices, far below the present wholesale price.

PRICES FOR LADIES SLIPPERS

\$5.00 Pumps	\$4.15
4.50 Pumps	3.65
4.00 Straps	3.15
3.50 Pumps	2.85
3.50 Oxfords	3.00
3.00 Straps	2.35
3.00 Oxfords	2.35
1 lot of black kid straps and bronze pumps worth \$5.00, 25 pair at per pair	\$2.50
1 lot of good slippers worth \$3.50 to \$4.00, while they last	\$1.70

PRICES FOR MEN'S LOW CUTS

Havana brown english last \$8.50, now	\$7.65
Havana brown english last 7.50, now	6.95
Havana brown english and straight last, worth \$6.00, now	\$5.25
Genuine kangaroo english, 6.50, now	\$5.85
Genuine kangaroo straight last 7.50, now	6.95
Tan vici, straight last 6.00, now	5.25
Palm Beach, english last, 5.00, now	4.35
Palm Beach, english last, 4.00, now	3.35
White Duck, rubber sole, english last, worth 4.50, now for	\$3.50

Just received big shipment of those good C. S. Marshall shoes in black and tan vici and mahogany calf, both straight and english lasts, moderately priced **\$7.50, \$8.00 and \$8.50**
We still have several pairs of shoes and low cuts, worth 4.50 and 5.00, present sale price **\$3.00**
Most complete line of work shoes found anywhere at **\$3.00 to \$6.00**
We have a complete line of high top shoes in gunmetal and dull calf, priced at **\$3.50 to \$5.00**
Also big lot of genuine kangaroo buton shoes worth wholesale \$6.70, at **\$6.00**

Specials in our Grocery Department

Two 2-pound cans tomatoes	25c	One half-gallon can corn syrup	30c
One 3-pound can sweet potatoes	15c	Two 3-pound cans kraut	25c

Big lot corn, oats, chops, bran, shorts and hay

The Anchor Mercantile Company

Henery Eason, Noodle
Leldon Goode, Noodle
Guy Bradley, Stith.
Guy Sibley, Trent.
Wm. Willis.
Sam H. Rosson, Trent.
Claude Rosson, Trent.
Alfred Wesley Costephens.
Ulyses McNeas.
W. Clarence Cameron
Vessie E. Browning.
Clyde Garrett.
Bailey Frazier.
John Coomer.
Bailey Frazier.
Leo Shepard.
Frank Millican.
Dem Rusk.
Q Rusk.
Tucker
Horton.
John Tucker.
Wilba Whitaker
Rufus McLean.
Dillard Snow.
Vernon Simpson.
Dr. Robert I. Grimes.
Floyd Dean
Guy Bradly.
Cecil McRee, Trent
Clayton Hall, Trent.
Samuel D. Swann.
Lee Harrell.
W. P. Banner.
M. G. Russell.
J. M. Tucker.
David M. Floyd.
Dee Ash.
Lake J. Renfro.
H. B. Strode.
Dr. Wm. M. Gambill.
— Buy W. S. S. —
SINKING DREADNOUGHT
Venice, June 13.—Commander Rizzo tells a telegraph story of the encounter in which he sank an Austrian battleship and another Austrian battleship was either badly damaged or destroyed by a motor boat in charge of

Commander Millazo. It is possible that 2,000 sailors were lost.
I was on patrol scout duty as usual off the Dalmation coast near Pass Selve, between the islands of Asinello and Premiuda, he said. "I had just finished my patrol, and, as it would soon be daylight, had turned for my base, when about ten miles away I saw a great enveloping cloud of smoke. I thought at first it was some boat which had discovered me and was giving me chas. I determined that the safest course was to turn back and get it before it got me. After turning back I said to my two crews of ten men to each boat: "Fellows, the Italian scout boats have been waiting for two years and the whole Italian navy has been trying to destroy Austrian ships for three years. Are you willing to risk all on a chance of obtaining glory and the country's gratitude?"
To a man they answered 'yes' We were speeding back with our motors muffled when to my amazement I discovered two battleships surrounded by a number of destroyers, which later I counted as ten. I assigned the second battleship to the other motor boat while I took the first
I slipped inside the line of destroyers between the third and fourth of these craft. I was not noticed in the light fog. The water was smooth and my torpedoes got off nicely. My first with a 500 pound charge struck the first dreadnought between the two funnels, while the second struck her just off the second funnel. As the torpedoes exploded I saw the mighty ship tremble, two great fountains of water rose high in the air and

black smoke welled up from the rents in her side.
Then I ran for it, escaping between the second and third destroyers in the line. I was discovered by the fourth destroyer, which gave chase at a distance 150 yards and fired on me. I was too close however, to be hit. Then I dropped a depth

charge bomb such as is generally used against submarines. Fortunately for us it exploded under the destroyer I saw her leap into the air, then turn sharply then giving up the chase and permitting us to escape. The other destroyers were busy trying to save the lives of the sailors on the dreadnought.

The Double Standard Oil and Gas Company

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

Stock is Now Selling At 10c a Share

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

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

The Double Standard Oil and Gas Company

Boston Building, Denver, Colo. Phone Main 3937

OREN EDWARDS IS NOW AT PARISH ISLAND

He didn't have to go, did Oren Edwards, but he went, just the same. He is nearly 33 years of age, nearly two years over the draft age, but his patriotism prompted, the Americanism in him urged him on, and he was thrilled with the heroic deeds of his brothers, who are "over there," fighting that the world may be made safe for Democracy. And so he went. Some three weeks ago he left, but remarked: "Don't say anything about it until I have been accepted. I am going to volunteer and if I am accepted, then you can say what you please. I am going in for no particular place. Just going to offer to make 'em a hand, and wherever they put me will be all right."

Now, Isn't that the spirit? It is the spirit that is right now scaring the everlasting liver out of those boches on the Western front of France—it is the true American spirit.

No young man, perhaps, in all the Midland Country had more to keep him at home, from a material point of view, than Oren Edwards, and he might have claimed exemption for a number of reasons. He has splen did ranch interests and is independently wealthy, and the future for him was rose-hued, cloudless.

But these things weighed not against his patriotism, and so— he's gone.

"Rah for him! And God bless the spirit that prompted him, and may it be fostered in an hundred million breasts until at last the world is safe indeed.— Midland Reporter.

Oren is the son of Mrs. West Edwards. He has been thinking of enlisting for some time. He had some hesitancy in speaking of his mother about the matter, but when he did, she said, "Go, son, if you think you ought, and do your best and when the war is over you will return home to mother. It takes a supreme patriotic effort for a mother to give her son such advice, but when our noble mothers are willing to make such sacrifice, there can be no doubt about winning the war.

— Buy W. S. S. —
Boschee's German Syrup.

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

— Buy W. S. S. —
Miss Dyess Dead.

On Sunday morning, June 9, the death angel came to the home of Mrs. W. S. Barnes of the Shiloh community and took her loving aunt, Miss Nancy Dyess, better known as Aunt Nancy. She lived the life of an old maid and was 84 years of age. She was a nurse among the sick until feeble health would no longer permit. She is the sister of J. S. Dyess of this place.

Miss Dyess was a member of the Primitive Baptist church, was a true Christian and died, as she lived, trusting in the Lord.

To the bereaved ones we extend our sympathy.

— Buy W. S. S. —
The Doctor Away From Home When Most Needed

People are often very much disappointed to find that their family physician is away from home when they most need his services. Diseases like pain in the stomach, and bowels, colic, diarrhoea require prompt treatments, and have in many instances proven fatal before the medicine could be procured or a physician summoned. The right way is to keep at hand a bottle of Chamberlain's Colic and Diarrhoea Remedy. No physician can prescribe a better medicine for these diseases. By having it in the house you escape much pain and suffering and all risk. Buy it now; it may save life.



Mrs. Walter Jackson, Editor

Simmons-Kirkland Wedding

Miss Alma Simmons of Lubbock, who has been visiting her grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. A. L. Jobe, accompanied by her mother, went to Abilene Sunday morning and was quietly married to Mr. G. D. Kirkland.

Miss Alma is the charming daughter of Mr. and Mrs. L. N. Simmons, who formerly lived in Merkel, where she has many friends and relatives.

Mr. Kirkland is manager of the Western Union Telegraph Company at Eastland and is a young man of noble character. Rev. Crow of Abilene officiated at the ceremony.

The young couple left immediately for their future home in Eastland, and with them go the very best wishes of their many friends.

A picnic was enjoyed the past week out on the river about eighteen miles north of town by the following parties: Misses Beatrice Nidever, Charlie Bell Thomas, Messrs Loring Hamblett, Dewey Brown, Joel Counts, Vernon Sublett, and Mr. and Mrs. Stanley King. Dinner and supper were spread on the ground and much enjoyed by all. A most delightful time was spent.

— Buy W. S. S. —

Chairman Library Committee

Mrs. Lytton Howard has been appointed chairman of the American Library Association of the Sixteenth Congressional District. It is the business of this organization to supply the books and other reading matter for the soldiers. She is to be congratulated upon this distinction.

— Buy W. S. S. —

Plenty oats at the Crown Hardware Company.

COTTON CHOPPING ORDER OF THE DAY

The business men are still chopping cotton. It is getting mighty hot, but they are holding out, many of them at the sacrifice of their gardens. They are especially anxious to leave no stone unturned, as far as they are concerned, to enable the farmer to make a good crop. Not only patriotism has been displayed in Merkel, but a fine brand of heroism as well. They have not decided just how long they will continue to chop, but possibly they will be needed another week.

(If I were a farmer I would insist that they stop at once, for you can readily see what they have done. Nearly every field of cotton they have worked in has been completely destroyed by a "careless" worm, and we can not account for this calamity, other than to believe it was the way in which it was hoed—Edtress.)

J. P. Sharp says he is not as young as he once was, but he can hold his row down all right and keep up with younger ones.

Burl Scott claimed exemption on account of being sick, and so did Judge Mahaffey. We are expecting their early recovery when chopping time is over.

Mrs. R. O. Anderson has gone the limit. It is said of her that for many mornings she got up early, got her car out, gathered if full of girls and took them out many miles and they all did a days work. The girls can prove it by a beautiful little tan complexion that they could not wash off. Now that is what we term heroism.

J. T. Browning did likewise. His car was at the service of the young folks and he would gather many boys and girls up and take them to the cotton patch. They did some mighty good work.

Misses Irene, Willie, Annie Mae and Edna Swann are bragging about hoeing cotton not bothering them, and they say they worked all day for many

days, too. They even made Mrs. J. S. Swann believe it, and she went out one day to get away from home duties and "to take a rest." Mr. Swann says he couldn't see the point.

Miss Louise Warren made quite a faithful hand in the cotton patch. If any premiums had been offered, it is said that she would have been a close contestant.

Reports are out to the effect that James West hoed cotton. We can't deny it, even if James has got a reputation for having an aversion to real work.

Seth Hamileon even answered guilty to the accusation of hoeing, and he says he stayed with it, too.

Judge Cobb is not censured at all by not going out. It was figured out that he couldn't hoe much cotton any way, and there was a possibility of Merkel being minus a mayor, and of course she could hope for no such luck as that. And then somebody had to hold the town down and few men in Merkel could do this more effectively than the Judge.

Judge Wheeler has been putting up one excuse after another. He makes out like he is needed to help work his wife's garden. We are going to interview Mrs. Wheeler about the matter.

Will Hutcheson has a growing reputation as a cotton chopper. He don't say much about it, but coming from other sources it has more weight any way, and he is assured of a job as long as he wishes.

G. W. Johnson has been exempted from chopping cotton on the ground that he is constitutionally opposed to the exertion. He wants to know why in the blazes it is the custom to kill the weeds when if the fool choppers will just wait the frost will get them any way.

Henry West has been a little puny for quite a while, but since he took to the cotton patch, it is reported that Mrs. West has a hard time cooking enough, and he actually believes he is going to have to let his belt out at

least one notch. H. T. Merritt says he can raise sand, grow a garden and propagate fine Belgian hares, but he just simply can not master the art of chopping cotton.

We went out on Lee Williams' farm to chop cotton Wednesday evening, and he said he was very much surprised to see us. We can't understand why he was surprised, unless it was because we permitted H. F. Groene to accompany us. Surely it wasn't because we looked like we didn't come from the country. Mr. Williams sure has a fine crop, and we are convinced that he is some farmer. We think we will go out again some time when he is at leisure and ask him now he does it.

— Buy W. S. S. —

FIRE AT RANGER

Ranger, Texas, June 15.—Three men were burned to death at 2 o'clock Saturday morning when oil near the Brewer-well three miles south of here caught fire.

The dead are: Ike Hand, Jim Sherman, Pleas Madewell.

Ike Hand, for years an employe of the Texas & Pacific Railway Company, was pumping oil from three big earth tanks to a storage reservoir when the fire started. Hand could not make his escape. An attempt was made to rescue the body early Saturday morning, but it was not taken from the fire until 9 o'clock this morning. The head was completely burned from the body, which was badly charred.

The fire was brought under control at 9:10 Saturday morning.

Jim Sherman, 25 of Detroit, Mich., who was employed by the Prairie Oil and Gas Company as a gauger, lived only three hours after being burned. His body will be shipped to the home of his parents in Michigan. He had been in Ranger one month.

The fire in the storage tanks within eighty feet of the Brewer well was extinguished Saturday at 12:38 p. m. Fire fighters

RED CROSS FAMILY REMEDIES

Many able Chemists and Doctors were called into service in perfecting this line of Red Cross Remedies. This is an age of Specialists, and while one may have distinguished achievements to his credit in one particular line, another is excelling in something else. That very thing makes it possible for us to have a Red Cross Remedy for each ailment, and enables us to give the consumer more than we promise or charge for. Each formula is compounded with as much care and precision as if our entire success depended upon that one Remedy. That's why NEUROTONE repairs shattered nerves, and Red Cross STONE ROOT and BUCHU puts your kidneys in a normal and healthy condition. Red Cross Remedies are real Remedies. The formula is printed on each carton in plain English, so you know what they are composed of and what you are taking. More than one hundred Red Cross Remedies and Toilet Preparations are sold and guaranteed only by

Grimes Drug Store

kept the blaze from reaching the mouth of the well. The flow of the oil from the well was cut off and turned in the opposite direction from the fire. It is estimated that 20,000 gallons of oil were burned. There is no danger of a renewal of the fire, according to officials of the Company.

The funeral of Ike Hand and Pleas Madewell will be held Sunday afternoon at Ranger. Burial will be at the Ranger Cemetery.

Madewell said that an explosion occurred and he ran from the well. He was found about 200 yards from the mouth of the well with his clothing burned from his body. Madewell is survived by his mother, a widow living in Ranger and four sisters.

Hand was 60 years old and was a pioneer of Ranger. He owned a ranch a half mile north of the Brewer well. Hand had been in the railroad service for twenty-five years. He is survived by a wife, four daughters and a son.

— Buy W. S. S. —

Lame Back Relieved

For a lame back apply Chamberlain's Liniment twice a day and massage the muscles of the back over the seat of pain thoroughly at each application.

— Buy W. S. 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.

Little Winters Baby Dead

The little two year old baby of Mr. and Mrs. Hodge Winters succumbed to the ravages of a disease and died Wednesday night. For a long time the parents and friends of the little fellow watched by the bedside and administered with loving hands to every tangible hope of recovery. The little fellow is gone, and with it mother's love and father's cherished hope. But by and by there will be a reuniting of this little family circle and the tears of today will be dried in the joy of everlasting happiness. To the bereaved is extended our sympathy in this their trying hour.

— Buy W. S. S. —

Cowfeed and cotton seed meal at G. M. Sharps.

— Buy W. S. S. —

A GOOD FARMER

Reports are current that D. S. Price, who lives on L. Aft Watts' farm, is some farmer. He came from where people believe that it takes some work to farm. He believes in stirring the land a little and not scratching about like a worn out setting hen. He has 80 acres in cotton and 20 in feed, with only his wife and small son to help him. His crop is clean, he already has cotton blooms and his maize heading nicely. We have a sample of the maize, which, before it withered, looked mighty fine. We need more of such farmers. Mr. Price is going to make something, it seems, even if he has little or no more rain.

---- GET ----

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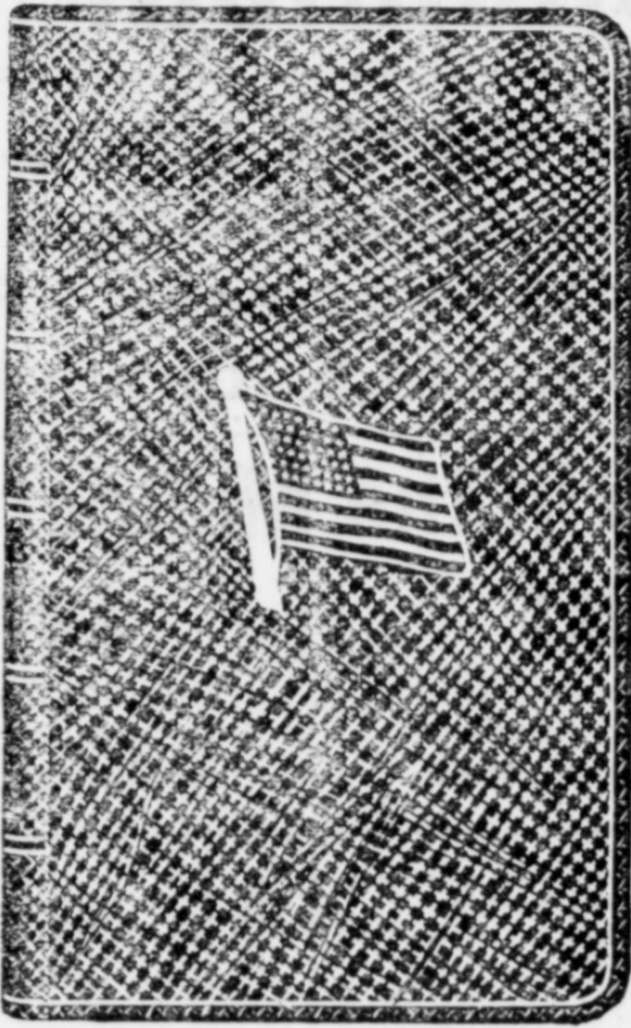
The Merkel Mail Printing Company

JUNIOR RED CROSS

Anderson, Jack.
Ash, Jack.
Ashby, Joe Ben
Adcock, Moretta.
Armstrong, William.
Allen, Mary.
Ash, Floy.
Ashby, Mary Ellen
Adcock, Elmer.
Angus, Maurine.
Ash, Eros.
Brown, Eela.
Browning, Hollis.
Brown, Madden.
Brown, Lester.
Barrow Quota.
Brown, Annie Marie.
Brown, Newell.
Burns, Jewel.
Browning, Brooks.
Brown, Viola.
Brown, Inice.
Beene, Juanita.
Bridgeman, Margarette.
Barrow, Juanita.
Boaz, Fannie Bell.
Bradley, J. M.
Bond, Lera.
Burns, R. L.
Brown, Sallie.
Bratcher Allen.
Bradshaw, Amy.
Boaz, J. E. Jr.
Bond, Gaston.
Bridgeman, Sidney.
Braune, Wanda, Tye, Rt. 1.
Cook, Grace.
Curb, Byron.
Campbell, Ouida.
Compton Robert.
Cook Geraldine.
Calloway Cleo.
Cox, Elba.
Craig, Lillian.
Counts, Lerner.
Childress, Alleen.
Coats, John. D.
Curb, Evelyn.
Cox, B. F.
Cade, Finus.
Cobb, Billie.
Childress, Harold.
Cox, Mary.
Childress, Willie.
Dye, Claude.
Daniels, Myrtle.
Dennis, Charlton.
Dennis Lola
Daniels, Jewel.
Derrington, Claude.
Elliott, Roy.
Ely, Eldon.
Ely, Ira Lee.
Frazier, Lorena.
Garrett, Iris
Giles, Lewis.
Gross, Scott.
Gross, Erma May.
Giles, Roy.
Garrett, Roy.
Giles, Fred.
Guitar, Fred.
Guitar, Lucille.
Hand, Nira.
Haynes, Buster.
Hutcheson, Mary.
Hand Dallas.
Hamm Mildred.
Holloway Velma.
Holloway, Mildred
Hogg, Lucille.
Hutcheson, Floyd.
Highsmith, Maude.
Hargrove, Horace.
Jackson, Vena May.
Jackson, Ona Lee
Jackson, Ava Dee.
Johnson, Marlon.
Jones, Ruth.
Jordon, Oma
Jordon, Thelma.
Kelly, Clarence.
King, Stella.
Lamar, Cleo.
Lamar, Minnie Maude.
Lamar, Nellie, Lou.
Laney Rosa.
Lasater Bernice.
McConnell George.
McConnell Homer.
McDonald Bell
McDonald, Foy Lynn
McRay, Loyce.
McNeas, Mable.
McSpadden, Lynn
McSpadden, Van Hines.
Mann John.
Mathews, Odger.
Mayfield, Robert.
Mershon, Otto.
Moore, Delphin.
Meeks, Ernest.
Meeks, Flora.
O'Briant, James.
Owens, Durwood.
Owens, Lucille.
Patterson, Clesby.
Patterson, Coma
Patterson Opal.
Patterson Orpah
Pilcher Jessie
Poll Dalbert
Proctor, Hattie
Proctor, Mary.
Proctor, Tobert.

Pue, Marie.
Rister, Louis
Rister, Vrick
Rogers, Mary.
Russel, Annie Lou.
Russell, Nina Belle
Rainbolt, Hazel
Rose, Cleburne
Richie, Godie
Richie, Faye
Roberts, Helen.
Roberts, Max.
Rice, Edwin.
Robins, Roy E.
Sharp, Clarence
Sharp, Dallas
Sherrell, Arnold
Sherrell, Marvin
Smith, Buford.
Smith, Mary Ellen
Smith, Victor
Stamps, Elizabeth
Stamps, Leiland
Stevens, Jessie May
Swafford, D. N.
Swafford, Dot.
Swafford, Himalo
Swafford, Max
Swafford, Mildred
—Pledge The President—
Mrs. Homer L. Easterwood
of Abilene visited homefolks
several days this week.
— Buy W. S. S. —
Mrs. Otho Williams and her
children are visiting Mr. and
Mrs. H. C. Williams.
— Buy W. S. S. —
Mrs. Simmons and three chil-
dren of Lubbock are visiting her
parents, Mr. and Mrs. A. L. Jobe.
— Buy W. S. S. —
Mr. and Mrs. Homer Jobe
and two children of Plainview
visited his parents, Mr. and Mrs.
A. L. Jobe the forepart of the
week.
— Buy W. S. S. —
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.
— Buy W. S. S. —
Mr. and Mrs. A. Q. Harper of
Chambers County are visiting
his sister, Mrs. Alice Rose.
— Buy W. S. S. —
Mrs. Jno Morgan left Wednes-
day to join her husband in their
new home at Hamlin.
— Buy W. S. S. —
CASH TO ALL
COUPONS ARE CASH ON
DELIVERY. THE ICE
MAN HAS TO PAY FOR
YOUR COUPON BOOK
THE END OF THE DAY
YOU PURCHASE. YOU
WILL DO US A GREAT
FAVOR IF YOU WILL
HAVE THE MONEY
READY FOR HIM WHEN
HE DELIVERS YOUR
ICE OR COUPON BOOK
IN OUR ICE BUSINESS
WE DON'T KNOW MR.
"CHARGE-IT". NO ORD-
ERS TAKEN AFTER 6
P. M. OR ON SUNDAY
MERKEL ICE CO.
ICE
— Buy W. S. S. —
Mr. and Mrs. W. P. Browning
and daughter, Mrs. Jno Briggs,
returned a few days ago from
an extended trip to Mineral
Wells and points in Oklahoma.
They report a fine time. They
enjoyed a reunion of the family
at Waureka, Ok.,
— Buy W. S. S. —
Sore Nipples
Any mother who has had ex-
perience with this distressing
ailment will be pleased to know
that a cure may be effected by
applying Chamberlain's Salve
as soon as the child quits nurs-
ing. Wipe it off with a soft
cloth before allowing the babe
to nurse. Many trained nurses
use this salve with best results.
For sale by all dealers.
— Buy W. S. S. —
Mrs. Sanders of Dallas and
her sister, Miss Anna King of
Abilene, were in Merkel the past
week visiting Misses Josie and
Annie Smith, Rev. and Mrs. Mc-
Donald and Mr. and Mrs. Walter
Jackson.
— Buy W. S. S. —
A Queer Freak of Nature
While grabbing potatoes one
day last week, J. R. Toombs
found a potato with a gold ring
around it in a way as to cause
a great deal of interest. The
potato grew up through the
ring as if to represent a head
on a nice sized body. Upon ex-
amination it was found that the
ring was a gold one. Mr. Toombs
has the potato now in his pos-
session and has showed it to a
number of people on the street,
who are much interested in the
sight.

**GIVE THE BOYS A TESTAMENT
THEY WILL BRING BACK**
**Nelson Sailors and
Soldiers Testaments**
Are the Best



EXACT SIZE OF BOOK—FITS THE POCKET

WATERPROOF BINDING—MADE FOR SERVICE

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Attractive - Compact - Readable - Durable
Emphasized with the words of Christ printed in bold face
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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

G. W. BROWNING DEAD

That troubles never come
singly has been proven over
and over again, but in the family
of G. W. Browning it is brought
out in redoubled force. Monday
morning, while at the sani-
tarium in Abilene, where he un-
derwent an operation for appen-
dicitis several days previous, he
died almost suddenly. The even-
ing before he felt fine and
had planned to come home Mon-
day morning, but early that day
he was stricken with what the
doctors say was a blood clot and
only lived a few minutes.
Only a few months ago, Mrs.
Browning was laid to rest; not
very long ago his son was oper-
ated on and is still in a very seri-
ous condition.
The funeral took place Tues-
day morning, Rev. O. B. Tatum
officiating.
He was a consistent member
children: Mrs. R. L. Porter,
J. G. and J. B. Browning, Mrs.
Louise Stonecipher, Fred, Lewis
and Lena Del, all being present
at the funeral.
He was a consistent membe-
r of the church, a man of good re-
port, loved and respected by all
who knew him. He stood for the
better things of life and his go-
ing is an irreparable loss to the
community in which he lived.
To the overflowing cup of sor-
row of this splendid family is
extended our deepest sympathy,
and may the blessing of God
rest upon and preserve them in
this hour of their great tribula-
tion.
— Buy W. S. S. —
Misses Orr of Putman are
are visiting F. A. Sanders and
Dr. J. E. Adkisson and families.
— Buy W. S. S. —
Henry Rose and family left
Thursday for a visit to relatives
at Stephenville for a week or
ten days.

TO CITIZENS OF MERKEL

In line with the proclamation
of President Woodrow Wilson,
we are expected to pledge the
maximum amount that we can
invest in War Savings stamps
from this date to December 31,
1918 and for this purpose the
School Board of this District
will receive these pledges at
the City Hall in Merkel, Texas,
from 9 o'clock A. M. to 6 o'clock
P. M. on Friday the 28th day of
June, 1918.
On Friday night, June 28th,
a public meeting will be held at
the Presbyterian Church in
Merkel, Texas for the purpose
of closing up this campaign, and
every citizen is expected and
urged to be present and hear
J. W. Cunningham speak.
These pledges need not be
paid in cash, but it is advisable
to get as many fully paid as is
possible.
All persons are expected to be
present and make these pledges
and in case they do not pledge
to give, satisfactory reasons
for not doing so. It is expected
that the names of all persons
not pledging will be reported to
the government officials to-
gether with their reason for not
making the pledge, if any rea-
son is assigned. Also we are
asked to report the names of all
parties not in attendance or who
do not pledge. It is therefore
imperative that we are all pre-
sent on that day as it will save
time and the necessity of taking
the matter up again. We have
been called upon by the govern-
ment to perform this duty and
your co-operation is desired and
expected.
Board of Trustees, Merkel In-
dependent School District, J. S.
Swann, President; J. M. Dry,
Secretary.

**FOR SALE—Typewriter rib-
bons at the Merkel Mail office.**



ANNIE WEBB BLANTON

**Democratic Candidate for State
Superintendent of Public
Instruction**

I am a native of Houston, a de-
scendant of one of the soldiers who
fought for the Texas Republic. Since
the age of seventeen, I have been
self-supporting. I am a graduate of
the University of Texas and have
done post-graduate work in both the
University of Texas and the Univer-
sity of Chicago. My preparation in-
cluded four years' work in Educa-
tion. I have had the advantage of ex-
tensive travel both in America and Eu-
rope. I have served in both the coun-
try and city schools, and have taught
the work of every grade of the public
schools. In addition, I have had sev-
enteen years' experience in the North
Texas State Normal College. I am
the only woman who has served as
President of the State Teachers' As-
sociation; I am one of the Vice-pres-
idents of the National Education As-
sociation, and I have done much work
of a civic and social character. I am
a member of the Daughters of the
Confederacy, of the Daughters of the
Republic of Texas, of the Parent-
Teachers' Association, and of the
Federated Clubs.

If elected, I pledge myself to work
impartially for the welfare of all of
the schools of the State. As a con-
sequence of war conditions, with the
resultant high cost of living and of
certain other disadvantages of the
teachers' work, Texas is facing an
alarming shortage of teachers. To
the problem of the exodus of teach-
ers from the school, I can bring the
sympathetic understanding of the
teacher's point of view. I shall give
special study of the term, to the im-
provement of conditions for both
pupil and teacher, and to the adapta-
tion of the course of study both to
the length of the term and to the life
of the community. I shall work for
the establishment of consolidated
schools, for the erection of teacher
ages, for the advancement of the
county library movement, and for the
use of the schools as social centers.
I pledge myself to work for equal op-
portunity and equal remuneration for
men and women teachers, where
equal service is rendered.

— Buy W. S. S. —
Chronic Constipation.

Perhaps you have never thought
of it, but this disorder is
due to a lack of moisture in the
residual matter of the food. If
you will drink an abundance of
water, eat raw fruits and take
lots of outdoor exercise, you
may be able eventually to over-
come it entirely. In the mean-
time use the most mild and gen-
tle laxatives. Strong and harsh
cathartics take too much water
out of the system and make a
bad matter worse. Chamber-
lain's Tablets are easy and plea-
sant to take, and most agree-
able in effect. Give them a trial.

— Buy W. S. S. —

RED CROSS HONOR ROLL

The following ladies are on
the honor roll for efficiency:
Mrs. A. W. Black.
Mrs. W. A. McSpadden.
Mrs. J. M. Meeks
Mrs. Jocie Leach.
Mrs. Laura Bond
Mrs. Ida Armstrong.
Mrs. Eula Bland.
Mrs. Lytton Howard.
Mrs. Mattie Moore.
Mrs. Hester Groene.
Miss Loyce Dry.
Miss Hazel Harkrider.
Miss Lillie Pratt Sears.
Miss Evelyn Hamm.
Miss Ruth Howard.
Miss Sadie Collins.
Miss Charlie Bell Thomas.
Miss Stella King.
Miss Margarie Bland.
These names were overlooked
on last weeks report:
Mrs. Witcher
Miss Rosie Laney.
To be on the honor roll one
must work at the Red Cross
rooms at least three days in the
week.
— Buy W. S. S. —
Mrs. O. F. Leerstang and
children have returned from
Memphis, where they have
been for a little over six months.
Mr. Leerstang is employed at
Memphis and will remain there
for the present.



SUMMER COLDS

rapidly reduce human strength
and illness is easily contracted,
but Scott's Emulsion will
promptly relieve the cold and
upbuild your strength to
prevent sickness.
SCOTT & BOWNE
BLOOMFIELD, N. J.

CHURCH NEWS

New Pastor To Preach Sunday.
Rev. Dawson, the newly elec-
ted pastor of the Baptist church
will preach morning and even-
ing Sunday. A special invitation
is extended to all to come out
and hear him. He is especially
anxious to have the mem-
bership attend Sunday School, as
he has in mind a double-up cam-
paign. His Sunday morning ser-
mon will be especially applicable
to those who attend the teach-
ing service of the church.

You Methodist help to push
our already large Sunday School
The report last Sunday was
fine—let's make it better. Now
let those absent from church on
last Sunday be present this
Sunday, your presence is ap-
preciated. Lets all push our
Master's work, steadily, con-
stantly, persistently.
Rev. C.S. Cameron.

Christian Endeavor Program
Topic, How to Have a Good
Time.
Leader, Claude Riney.
Be an Optimist, Prov. 17:22,
Wallace Bragg.
Live Without Fear, Ps. 91:1
—16, Louise Warren.
Good Times with God, Ps. 92:
1—5, Russel Pike.
Good Times in Service Ps. 40:
1—8, Evelyn Barbee.
Good Times with Friends,
Prov. 18:24 Maurine Cobb.
Good Times in Benefactions,
Matt. 6:1—4, Will Mefritt.

The Ladies Aid Society of the
Baptist Church will meet at the
church at 5 o'clock Monday
afternoon. A full attendance is
urged.

Over At The Baptist Church.
There is going to be some-
thing doing over at the Baptist
Church. Better be in your place
next Sunday and get started
with the procession. A Get-
Acquainted With The Mem-
bership service will be had next
Sunday morning, and the pas-
tor will preach on "The Boy and
the Big Hun."
Sunday night services, as al-
so the Wednesday night pray-
meetings, will be at 8:45. That
means the service will start a-
bout sundown. Let's keep on
time.
Wednesday night of next
week the prayer meeting theme
will be, Can We Consistently
Pray for the German People
Now? It is a vital theme and
worth your while to be on hand
and help in the discussion.
A cordial welcome is to every-
body to attend every one of our
services.
Rev. E. E. Dawson, pastor.

B. Y. P. U. Program
Missionary Meeting Social
Problems and Their Challenges.
Scripture Reading, James 2:
1—9.
Song, Prayer, Song.
Introduction, Miss Edna Swan
What is a Social Problem, Roy
Holmes.
What are Some of These Pro-
blems, Virgil Mayfield.
Solo, Geneva Brown.
The Challenge to Our Democ-
racy, Effie Mayberry.
The Challenge to Christianity
—Claude Riney.
How May These Problems Be
Solved, Miss Olive Teaff.
Piano Solo, Mrs. Howard.
What Can Our Union Do?—
Rev. E. E. Dawson.
Song, Prayer, Business.
— Buy W. S. S. —
Mrs. J. A. Buford is at the
bedside of her son, Walter, who
is down with typhoid fever in
Williamson county. He has been
very low, and is not much im-
proved at last reports.
— Buy W. S. S. —
Vernon Sublett left Wednes-
day for the training camp.

HOLDERS OF COTTON NEED NOT BE ALARMED

The entire South seems to be upset over the drastic break in the cotton market. Letters and telegrams are pouring into Washington at a rapid rate to Market Bureau, and the Cotton States Marketing Board. Some charge that a conspiracy has been formed to deprive the South of its much needed and long waited for fair price for its staple crop; some charge that the spinners have formed a combine to force cheaper cotton without regard to the effect that such action might have on the cotton producers, who must pay exorbitant prices for every item that goes into the production; some make a general charge against everything and everybody that has anything to do with cotton or the cotton market; while some ask and demand that the Government make an immediate and thorough investigation into the whole situation in order to ascertain where the trouble lies.

These complaints, are not alone from farmers; in fact, the most of them come from merchants, bankers and cotton buyers. That there are grounds for these complaints no sensible person will deny.

The export situation has been very bad for some time; in fact, the greater part of this season, due to the fact that our boats and those of our Allies are being used to transport men and munitions and food and feed to the battle grounds in Europe. This situation has been very rapidly growing worse of late. The interests desiring cheaper cotton took advantage of this condition and put on an extensive propaganda against cotton prices, the effect of which has been seen and greatly felt. What they failed to accomplish in breaking down prices by using the export situation and small spinners' takings, they sought to accomplish by filling the press of the country full of Government price fixing talk.

The trouble with the market has been lack of support from mills. Spinners are doing a very good business, with high prices for yarns, which have shared very little in the decline of cotton. There is no half way uniform market price, and quotations given to prospective buyers very widely, the same manufacturers making different prices from day to day with little relation to changes as possible. Every day of waiting has meant an extra profit to them for the last few weeks. Operators are watching the attitude of spinners keenly, as they expect a turn in the market as soon as the mills show an increased desire for cotton.

From this it will be seen that spinners have been buying as little actual cotton as possible, and that every day of waiting has meant extra profits to them. For the last few weeks the extra profits have been made because business has been good and there has been no decline in the price of cotton yarn or cotton goods. It is also stated that the operators expect a turn in the market as soon as mills show an increased desire for cotton. It is up to the holders of spot cotton in the South to see that there is an increased desire for cotton on the part of the spinners, and this can be brought about by the holders absolutely refusing to part with a bale until satisfactory prices are again restored. If the mills are buying as little actual cotton as possible, then spot holders in the South must not sell any cotton whatever. They can hold it and they will not be doing themselves nor the South justice if they do not do so.

For months Theo. H. Price, H. F. Bachman & Co., and others of New York and other sections of the East and North, have been complaining about the price of cotton, and trying to convince the public that the cost of producing cotton is less than one-third of the price which the far-

Extra Specials

FOR The Economical Shopper

MONEY SAVED is MONEY MADE---Numbers have made money by taking advantage of the specials we offered the past two weeks. For this week we offer EXTRA SPECIALS throughout the store

Extra Specials in the Millinery Department

ANY TRIMMED HAT

Leghorns, Milans and Panamas, each one different; values \$5.00 to \$8.50, choice for Saturday only **\$4.98 and \$3.98**

ANY TRIMMED HAT

Georgette Crepe Pattern Hats, all the newest styles and colors; values to \$12.50, your choice for Saturday..... **HALF PRICE**

HOSIERY SPECIAL FOR SATURDAY

10 doz. children and misses lace hose, sold at 25 and 35c, special for Saturday only..... **11c**

A few dozen child's and misses pink and blue hose, to close at **15c**

6 doz. ladies lace hose, colors black and tan, sold at 25 and 35c, special for Saturday only **14c**

A few dozen child's socks small sizes only, Saturday special to close at..... **12c**

100 ladies and misses dresses and wash skirts, values to \$10, at **98c** — 500 pr. good shoes at **HALF PRICE**

A table full of Bargain Shoes :: Thrift Stamps for sale

Woodroof-Bragg Co.

mers have been receiving, when in fact, no crop of cotton has ever been sold in this country for what it cost to produce it if the farmers had been allowed decent wages in making estimates of the cost of production, and no one knows this better than the above named gentlemen. It has been the policy of these New York gentlemen to class farmers with Hottentots, allow them Hottentot wages in figuring the cost of cotton production.

Whether there is a conspiracy to put down the price of cotton or not, in the light of the facts surrounding the case the people are going to believe that there is such a conspiracy.

If there existed a necessity for cheaper cotton, or if cheaper cotton would in any way assist the Government in winning the war, the cotton farmers would have gladly consented to a reduction in price, but when they know that cheaper cotton only means greater profits to spinners and other middle men, they cannot be blamed for protesting. The Southern people are just as patriotic and just as anxious to win the war as any people in the United States, and they do not want their ability to aid destroyed by conspirators. They want to buy their pro rata of Liberty Bonds and to subscribe their share to the Red Cross, but they cannot do so if selfish interests are allowed to destroy a large part of the value of their products. Spinners may be induced to buy cotton sparingly or stay out of the market altogether for a time, but the South is able to hold every bale of cotton produced this season and the crop will be marketed only as the spinners must have it. It is the duty of every patriotic Southern man whether he be farmer, merchant or banker, to stand by the cotton crop and

You Just Try NR For That Indigestion

Get your organs of digestion, assimilation and elimination working in harmony and watch your trouble disappear. NR does it or money back.

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The stomach only partly digests the food we eat. The process is finished in the intestines where the food is mixed with bile from the liver. It must be plain to any sensible person who realizes this, that the stomach, liver and bowels must work in harmony if digestive troubles are to be avoided or overcome. This fact also explains why sufferers from indigestion, also suffer more or less from headaches, biliousness and constipation.

If you are one of the many unfortunate persons who cannot eat without suffering afterward, if you are constipated, have bilious spells, headaches, coated tongue, bad breath, variable appetite, are nervous, losing energy and feel your health slipping away, take this advice and get a box of Nature's Remedy (NR Tablets) right today and start taking it. Give it a trial for a week or two and just see how much better you feel. See how quickly your sluggish bowels will become as regular as clock work, how your coated tongue clears up and your good, old-time appetite returns. See how splendidly your food will digest and how your energy, "pop" and "ginger" revive.

Just try it. You take no risk whatever for Nature's Remedy (NR Tablets) is only 25c a box, enough to last twenty-five days, and it must help and benefit you to your entire satisfaction, or money returned.

Five million boxes are used every year,—one million NR Tablets are taken by ailing people every day—that's the best proof of its merits. Nature's Remedy is the best and safest thing you can take for biliousness, constipation, indigestion and similar complaints. It is sold, guaranteed and recommended by your druggist.

T. L. GRIMES, Merkel, Texas

NR Tonight—Tomorrow Feel Right Get a 25c Box

see that it is not sacrificed in order that a few already overfed spinners and middlemen may still further increase their profits and fortunes. Messrs. Theo. H. Price and H. F. Bachman & Co. should be made to understand that their propaganda is about as disastrous to the South as if they were agents of the Kaiser. E. A. Calvin, Representative, Cotton States Official Marketing Board.

Buy W. S. S. Red, White and Blue Society The Red, White and Blue War Savings Society recently organized with ten members, with, Floy Hutcheson as President and Bel McDonald, Secretary. The Society meets every Saturday afternoon at 4 o'clock at the W. O. W. Hall. These young people own \$60 worth of War Savings Stamps and \$17.50 in Thrift Stamps. The following members were present last Saturday afternoon and rendered a most enjoyable program: Ona Fae Rose, Opal Patterson, Iris Garrett, Ray Garrett, Hugh Mayfield, James Patterson, Floyd Hutcheson, Evert Williams, Sanderled Rawlins. Every member is requested to be present next Saturday. The following program will be rendered. Reading, Opal Patterson. Four Minute Speech, William

Woodroof. Special Music, Ona Fae Rose. Song, Iris and Ray Garrett. Reading, Hugh Mayfield. Song, Bel McDonald.

Plenty of cow feed, oats corn, bran and mixed feed now on hand at the Crown Hardware Company.

Buy W. S. S. HEARD IN MERKEL

How Bad Backs Have Been Made Strong Kidneys Corrected

All over Merkel you hear it. Dona's Kidney Pills are keeping up the good work. Merkel people are telling about it—telling of bad backs made sound again. You can believe the testimony of your own townspeople. They tell it for the benefit of you who are suffering. If your back aches, if you feel lame, sore and miserable, if the kidneys act too frequently, or passages are painful, scanty and off color, use Doan's Kidney Pills, the remedy that has helped so many of your friends and neighbors. Follow this Merkel citizen's advice and give Doan's a chance to do the same for you.

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

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

Buy W. S. S. Plenty of fresh groceries at G. M. Sharps.

JAKE WALTERS DROWNED

All Merkel was shocked when word came from Aransas Pass several days ago announcing that Jake Walters had drowned. Full particulars could not be obtained here, except that he was in swimming with forty or fifty other boys, and it was not known that a tragedy had taken place until the boys got out and dressed, finding an extra suit of clothes. The lake was drugged before the body was found.

Burial took place at Aransas Pass, where the family lives.

Jake was a very popular young man and has a host of friends here who greatly deplore his early taking away. He was employed for a time at the Elite Confectionery, leaving Merkel last fall. He was a good sturdy worker, an affable young man, whose heart beat with laudable ambition. We greatly sympathize with family and friends in his tragic death.

Buy W. S. S.

RED CROSS STONE ROOT AND EUCHU COMPOUND Of unexcelled value for the treatment of kidney diseases. Pains in the back and burning sensations are symptoms of kidney troubles, which are quickly overcome by use of this remedy. This and more than one hundred other Red Cross Remedies sold and guaranteed only by

Grimes Drug Store Buy W. S. S.

Willis Story of Waxahachie is visiting his brother and sister, O. E. Story and Mrs. A. B. Dyess. He reports fine crops in that part of the State, plenty of good roasting ears and cotton in full bloom. But lookout for Taylor County yet. The one who laughs last has a right to laugh loudest.

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 flawless complexion. Tint: White and Flesh. All dealers, 35c, 50c and \$1.00, or sent post paid on receipt of price. Sample for the asking.

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