

SACRIFICIAL GIVING IN W. S. S.

Our eyes have beheld wonderful outpourings of personal sacrifice in this great western country since the war began. The Liberty Loan, the Red Cross and W. S. S. came in punctual procession and none of them have been turned away empty handed. Heretofore we have gone over the top with a rush, and how it was done, no one knows, no one can explain. The W. S. S. campaign failed to go over the top, but it ran up magnificently. Merkel's allotment was over \$60,000; she raised over \$18,000. This was in the face of a year of drouth, in the face of loss, and when the hot winds were making another promising crop look sick.

The campaign ended at the Presbyterian church, with an address by Judge Cunningham of Abilene. Introductory remarks were made by T. A. Johnson. He explained that it seemed that some people seemed to hold to the notion that the W. S. S. was a gift, when it should not be so considered. It is an investment and a safe one.

Judge Cunningham spoke interestingly to the audience. He said: "We were told for a time that this war was not a war on the German people, but on the Kaiser. We have at last awakened to the fact that we are fighting the German empire. Visit the schools in Germany and you don't find the German children playing innocent games, but find them marching, to be trained as soldiers. They have the idea that might makes right, idea that might makes right, that the Kaiser reigns by divine right.

"Suffering and frightfulness was their policy. They shot the Belgium people dead when they were committing unspeakable outrages against the womanhood, and a hand was raised against them. They nailed little children to the doors. They shot them when a hand was raised against their cutting off the hands of little children.

"You are lending your money to the government at a good rate of interest. The government must have our money and our help. It wants our help to the fullest extent. The women are doing really more than the men. They are meeting daily at the Red Cross rooms. They are making bandages to properly care for our boys when they are wounded in battle. They neglect their work at home to perform this duty.

The Judge paid a glowing tribute to motherhood. His speech was thoroughly enjoyed.

SCOUTS ON HIKE

Last Thursday the Boy Scouts eighteen strong, went on a hike up Mulberry. They marched for about four miles, with all their equipment. They report a great time. Scout-master Sheppard accompanied them. The boys went swimming. From camp they made a night hike. They saw a lion and a bear, which made their hair stand on end. Finally they discovered that the animals were nothing more dangerous than Claude Comegys and H. F. Groene. We are puzzled to know why it was deemed advisable for these parties to dress in animal skins. We think the same effect would have been produced without any camouflage. The boys didn't sleep very much, but sure had a good time. They spend the Fourth on another hike.

Remember the Fourth's picnic at Butman.
Remember the Fourth's pic-



SOME BIG FIGHTING PLANNED

Severe battles are brewing on the several fighting fronts. All indications point to an early resumption of heavy fighting on the western line. In Italy the mountain zone is again the scene of infantry operations. Tension is increasing along the British front in France in the crescendo of the German artillery fire mounds higher and higher. From Ypres to Rheims, the big guns are busier than they have been for some days and the Germans probably are preparing to reply strongly against the allied nibbling tactics which cost them important points last week.

Austrians Lose Heavily

Rome, July 2.—Italian forces this morning launched an attack against the Austrian positions in the region of the Grappa, on the mountain front, and captured important positions, the war office announces. The Italians took 569 prisoners, including nineteen officers and captured many machine guns.

The Austrians yesterday delivered fresh attacks against Italian positions on the Asiago plateau, says today's war office report.

The enemy efforts were smashed by the Italian fire, which caused severe enemy losses.

The dispatch also said Italian reconnoitering patrols had crossed the Piave in several places, and that French patrolling detachments had captured some prisoners by surprise attacks.

Ex-Czar Bayoneted

Stockholm, June 30.—Confirmation of the death of the former Russian Czar by the German embassy at Moscow was received in a dispatch from that city Saturday.

WORKING AT CEMETERY

Last Thursday afternoon the citizens of Merkel shouldered their hoes, rakes and other implements and went out and cleaned off the cemetery. They did good work. In the hurrah and care and fuss of everyday life, we sometimes grow neglectful of our relations to our honored dead.

Through the thoughtfulness of H. F. Groene, T. L. Grimes and some others a large crowd was gathered up. They completed the worst of the work, and another evening in the near future will put the cemetery in fine shape.

FOR WOMEN VOTERS

How ballots are prepared: Women present their registration certificate, receive their ballots, slips of paper with names printed thereon, and go to a booth where, in secrecy, they mark out with a black lead pencil the names of all the persons they do not wish to vote. Leaving the ones they are for unmarked. Election judges will not permit aid to be given in preparing a ballot unless the voter cannot read or is physically incapable of preparing the ballot. WARNING—If a ballot is mutilated, torn, marked, or erasures made on it do not deposit it with the election judge. Ask for another and mark it correctly. Then hand it to the election judge. He will place a number on the election ballot, which should be folded so he can not see how the person voted. He will then deposit it in the ballot box. Now remember, a blue pencil mark or a hole in the ballot is sufficient to cause the counters to throw out the ballot.

To The Voters Of Jones County.

Anson, Texas, May 21.—Through an oversight, for which no one except myself is blameable. I failed to present my application to the Democratic County Executive Committee for a place on the primary ticket with in the time prescribed by law. I was laboring under the impression that the time expired next Saturday night at twelve o'clock instead of last Saturday night. So strongly have my many friends urged me to remain in the contest for cotton weicher of precinct 1, Jones County that I have decided to yield to their solicitation, and ask all of my friends who were supporting me to take the trouble to write my name on the ticket. This any voter is permitted to do by the law. I assure you I will appreciate you overlooking my mistake and going to so much trouble for me.

It was purely a mistake, an act of negligence on my part and I want the voters to know, not with standing the fact that my name will not be on the ticket, I shall volunteer to the committee to paying part of the expense of holding the primary election.

Please remember I am still in the race for cotton weicher.
ABE COLE.
(Political adv)

German-Alliance Dissolved.

On July 2 the Senate adopted a resolution by Senator King of Utah annulling the charter of the National German-American Alliance. This was a good move and should have been done long ago. No state was free from its evil influence. Its slimy influence has been felt in Texas.

Remember the picnic at Butman. Thousands will be there. The candidates will be there. A great time is anticipated. Go early and stay late.

CLASSIFIED ADS

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

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.

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. 2113c

FOR SALE—Typewriter ribbons at the Merkel Mail office.

Big Cotton Crop Predicted.
The estimated production of the cotton crop is placed at 15,325,000 bales. The condition of the crop on June 25 was \$5.8. The acreage is 37,073,00. The Texas acreage being 11,900,000 and the condition of the Texas crop 84 per cent. The estimated crop would be the third largest ever grown.

Organize Texas Infantry Units.

Austin, Texas, July 2.—A proclamation for the organization at once of three regiments of infantry totaling 4,000 officers and men, was issued today by Governor Hobby.

The infantry organization will be in charge of the same men who organized the cavalry.

Inspection of the Texas cavalry brigades will begin at once. Adjutant General Harley is advised by the military bureau at Washington.

Remember the Fourth's picnic at Butman.

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.

SEWING—Let me do your sewing. Phone 156. Mrs. J. W. Hill. 512c.

FOUND—Handbag containing baby clothes. At Merkel Mail Office, on description of same and payment of this adv.

WANTED—All of your burlap sacks. Top prices paid. Let me repair your Sewing Machine for you. J. T. Darsey. 5t2p

Bank Directors Meet.

At the regular monthly meeting of the Board of Directors of The Farmers & Merchants National Bank held on July, 1st, the 27th regular semi-annual dividend of 10% was declared, payable to the stockholders at once.

At this meeting the resignation of Will S. Merritt, Asst. Cashier, was accepted. Mr. Merritt having enlisted in the U. S. Navy.

Booth Warren and DeVerle Johnson were promoted to Assistant Cashierships. Booth Warren will take Mr. Merritt's place at the Tellers Window and DeVerle Johnson will be Assistant to his father at the Loan Window and Liberty Bond and War Saving Stamp Department.

As we go to press Wednesday afternoon at 4 o'clock 186 women have already registered.

Remember the Fourth's picnic at Butman.

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
	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

New Regulations Provided for Importation of Mexican Labor

To assist in meeting the present shortage in unskilled labor restrictions have been temporarily removed on the importation of Mexican labor to be used in certain occupations. This step supplements the order by which the Department of Labor has arranged to bring Porto Rican laborers into this country for work on Government contracts. It is estimated that 75,000 islanders can be brought in while transportation is available.

New regulations on the subject of Mexican labor contain rigid provisions to prevent any attempt at exploitation on the part of prospective employers. Wage rates current for similar labor in the localities in which the admitted labor is to be employed are assured, as well as good housing and sanitation conditions.

Applications for permission to import Mexican labor under the new provisions may be filed with United States immigration or employment service officials, giving the number of laborers desired, class of work, wages and place of employment.

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

NOTICE TO NEW REGISTRANTS

The questionnaires to the new registrants, so it is announced, will be mailed out in a few days. W. P. Mahaffey, chairman

of the Legal Advisory Board, has been informed that all members and associate members of the board in Taylor County, Texas, who served heretofore, will be expected to assist the new registrants. All registrants in the Merkel country will receive assistance at Merkel and announcements will be made later of the days that assistance will be given.

The civilian branches of the Army and Navy are in need of thousands of highly trained workers, and before the end of 1918 these branches must be increased by at least 20,000, according to the Civil Service Commission.

The Ordnance Department of the Army needs large numbers of mechanical engineers, draftsmen, chemists, and metallurgists. Thousands of inspectors are wanted to pass on the quality of ordnance, ammunition, and other supplies. For office work statisticians, accountants, assistants in business administration, and specially trained clerks are needed.

The Quartermaster Corps wants several thousand examiners and inspectors, and passenger and freight clerks are needed. The Signal Corps is short of draftsmen.

The Navy has an unlimited number of places for draftsmen, and a long list of positions for technical workers. Practically all branches of services need stenographers, typists, bookkeepers, and clerks.

"NEVER-TEL"
Better than advertised
Darken Your Gray Hair
With Never-Tel—the world's cleanest, safest, most sanitary hair restorative. Not a dye, not sticky, and positively will not stain the most delicate skin. No extras to buy, no fuss, no red-dish tints to annoy. Put up in delicately **Perfumed Tablets**
Easily dissolved in a little water as used. At all druggists 50c, or sent direct in plain wrapper.
NEVER-TEL LABORATORIES CO.
West 281 Kansas City, Mo.



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

Mrs. E. L. Wills has received a letter from her son, Leonard, who is a wireless operator on the Atlantic. He states that his ship had the honor of sinking the first submarine that had been discovered on the Atlantic coast. When they reached the shore, the ships all gave them a salute in honor of the sinking of the submarine.

He says he is in good health and enjoying his work.

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

Alma Barbee returned a few days ago from Matador and Guthrie, where she has been since New Year's Day.

Why be bothered with punctures and slow leaks when Korker will preserve and protect your tires. See E. B. Barnes.

Mrs. Julia Cotton left Sunday for Mineral Wells, where she will remain several weeks. She will return the first of August.

Nature's Remedy
ANTIBIOTIC TABLETS
Better than Pills | GET A
For Liver Ills. | 25c Box

T. L. GRIMES, Merkel, Texas

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 6:30 IN AFTERNOONS. MERKEL ICE COMPANY

LOCAL NEWS

Miss Clara Moore has just returned from a two weeks visit with her sisters in Fort Worth. Earnest, is also visiting with them for a few weeks. Miss Clara reports her sisters getting along splendidly every way.

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

Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Rogers of Hawley are the proud parents of a fine girl. Both mother and child are getting along nicely.

No Worms in a Healthy Child
All children troubled with worms have an unhealthy color, which indicates poor blood, and as a rule, there is more or less stomach disturbance. GROVE'S TASTELESS CHILL TONIC given regularly for two or three weeks will enrich the blood, improve the digestion, and act as a General Strengthening Tonic to the whole system. Nature will then throw off or dispel the worms, and the child will be in perfect health. Pleasant to take. 60c per bottle.

Misses Dovie Teaff and Ova Hurst are visiting the former's sister, Mrs. General J. Jones in the Canyon.

RED CROSS AMERICO TOOTH PASTE
An antiseptic refreshing paste, that gives a delightful after-taste. Cleanses the teeth without injuring the enamel. The antiseptic properties aid in keeping the teeth and gums in a healthy condition. This and more than one hundred other Red Cross Remedies and Toilet Preparations sold and guaranteed only by
Grimes Drug Store

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 ORDERS TAKEN AFTER 6:30 P.M. OR ON SUNDAY. OPEN SUNDAY FROM 8:00 TO 9:00 A.M. MERKEL ICE CO. ICE

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

NATIONAL GUARD

Didn't know much, but knew something.
Learned while the other men played;
Didn't delay for commissions
Went while the other men stayed.
Took no degrees up at Plattsburg,
Needed too soon for the game
Ready at hand to be asked for,
Orders said, "Come!"—And they came.

Didn't get bars on their shoulders,
Or three months to see if they could;
Didn't get classed with the reg'lars
Or told they were equally good.
Just got a job and got busy,
Awkward they were, but intent
Filing no claim for exemption
Orders said: "Go!"—And they went.

Didn't get farewell processions
Didn't get newspaper praise,
Didn't escape the injunction
To mend in extenso, their ways.
Work-bench and counter and roll-top,
Dug in and minding their chance,
Orders said: "First line of trenches!"
They're holding them—some-where in France.

Roland F. Andrews.



Congressman Thomas L. Blanton's First Term Work Endorsed

BRIEF EXCERPTS FROM A FEW OF NUMEROUS PRESS NOTICES.

Abilene Reporter. Nov. 2, 1917.
The court-house auditorium was not large enough to accommodate the crowd that desired to hear Congressman Thomas L. Blanton speak Thursday night. Long before the hour every seat in the auditorium and gallery was taken and many were standing in the aisles and doors.

Congressman Blanton is famous for "doing things" and upon this occasion he sustained his reputation. On entering he was heartily applauded.

Mayor E. N. Kirby introduced the speaker, saying that it was a pleasure to introduce Congressman Blanton because he had been impressed from watching his record at Washington, showing he was a man willing to stand by the people and to support our great President. "I do not believe there is a man in Congress who has been more faithful to the people, and as the years go by I believe that Congressman Blanton's name will be written high in the history of our country. My prayer is: God give the universe representatives like Thomas L. Blanton."

At the close of the speaking Col. Maurice R. Locke offered a resolution heartily endorsing President Wilson's administration, and the work done by Judge Blanton in Congress, which was unanimously adopted.

Taylor County Times. Nov. 8, 1917.

"We are going to teach the Kaiser what Old Glory means, what the Stars and Stripes stand for, and before we are through, we are going to make him see the stars and feel the stripes," declared Congressman Thomas L. Blanton, in addressing the tremendous audience that had crowded into the court-house Thursday night to hear him discuss the Administration War Policies.

Col. Locke's resolution to endorse Judge Blanton's record in Congress was adopted without a dissenting vote.

Odessa Herald. Nov. 2, 1917.

Congressman Blanton is home from strenuous legislative experience in

Washington, during which he has certainly put the 16th Congressional District on the map, and convinced his fellow lawmakers that he is a man to be reckoned with. He has been a loyal supporter of President Wilson.

Winters Enterprise. August 10, 1917.

Congressman Blanton was elected without our vote. Now after he has spent several months in the halls of Congress, we are glad to say that we appreciate fully the fact that he is making good there. No one who has known Tom Blanton as a private citizen or a public officer ever doubted that he would do his best in Congress, and the people of the 16th District have much cause to be proud of the work he is doing, and the good he is accomplishing.

Eden Echo. Oct. 5, 1917.

We believe that Mr. Blanton should be given a second term, not "whether or no," but because he has merited it. It was said that he could do nothing the first term, but his name has been connected with more important features of Congress than many others who are his seniors, and we believe that he is the peer of any Congressman from Texas, and we expect to keep him.

Graford Herald. Oct. 1917.

Congressman Blanton has been a consistent supporter of the Administration in all its measures for the defense of the country, and the patriotic people of the district are proud of the record he has made during the short time he has been in Congress. He has been a close student of the issues involved in the present war.

Abilene Reporter. May 17, 1918.

Blanton is rendering his nation a true service and his support of President Wilson is perfect.

Mineral Wells Index.

The Index notes that as was expected of him by his friends, Congressman Blanton is making himself heard in the council of the nation. Judge Blanton was one of the number selected by the leaders for debate on President Wilson's war measures, and stood squarely with the other Texas Representatives who remained loyal. Judge Blanton also had the distinction of offering the national prohibition measure in the House, a companion measure to that offered in the Senate by Senator Morris Sheppard.

Rule Review.

Thomas L. Blanton, after only a few weeks' stay in Washington, has received more recognition and been heard from oftener than his predecessor did in a reign of 14 years.

Capitan Mountaineer.

We observe with pleasure the fine record being made by Congressman Blanton of Texas, who is fully meeting the expectations of his friends. In the three months he has been in Congress he has made more reputation as an active, useful Representative than his predecessor did in 14 years' service.

Abilene Reporter.

Dr. L. W. Holfts, a Member of the State Board of Health, returned from Washington, D. C. Wednesday. He said: "I found Congressman Thomas

L. Blanton on the job every hour of the day. He is making a wonderful record and is not only well known in Washington, but highly popular. He can get an audience with any man in Washington from President Wilson down right now, and any request that is made to him receives immediate attention. He is already one of the leading members of Congress. Blanton and Senator Morris Sheppard are the closest friends, and work very much alike."

Abilene Reporter.

We have received the following:

"LYLE LAKE, Oct. 30, 1917.
"This District will be proud of Congressman Blanton when they know the standing he has achieved in Congress in the short time he has served us there."

"I had the pleasure of meeting him in the Hall of Representatives, and talked with several Congressmen and others, and learned that he had won the highest esteem and confidence of the members. He moved among them as 'one to the manner born,' alert and intensely wide-awake to every important measure introduced. A visit to his offices proved he was a man to be consulted on all important business. In spite of his arduous duties he found time to hunt up and look after the comforts of his old acquaintances from his district who were attending the old Confederates' greatest reunion, and seemed delighted to be able to serve them. All who met him there were full of encomiums for him."
"W. C. KINSOLVING."

Letter from Hon. J. G. Murphy, Editor San Angelo Standard. January 29, 1918.

"To say the very least about a former political enemy, I must say in all good faith and honesty that you are making a damn good Congressman. I am your friend."
"J. G. MURPHY."

From Ed. S. Hughes, President of:

Farmers & Merchants National Bank, Abilene; Ed. S. Hughes Company; Seaboard & Gulf Steamship Co.; Roscoe, Snyder & Pacific Ry. Co.; Pecan Valley T. Company.
"New York, May 9, 1918.
"Hon. Thomas L. Blanton, Washington, D. C.

"MY DEAR JUDGE: I am exceedingly pleased to learn of your determination to stand for re-election. I wish to assure you of my hearty and unqualified support, although on account of my long friendship and esteem for Judge Smith I was not in a position to support you in the previous campaign."

"On my many visits to Washington during the past year, I have had an opportunity to form a very definite opinion regarding the effectiveness of representation. I am convinced that any district does itself a great wrong and injustice in too frequent changes. There is no place where seniority and continuity of service are as important in prestige and in ability to render efficient service. Hence your past services are a very definite asset to your constituents that should be conserved."

"I can say in all frankness that I have found you alert and responsive, and with your energy, experience and acquaintance, I am sure no man in our district could serve us as satisfactorily and capably as yourself, and I am sure that none can work harder or achieve more in their first term than you did in yours."
"I further believe that with the acquaintance and experience you have

had that your field of opportunity and achievement will be very substantially broadened in the immediate future."

"My observation is that your sincerity and tenacity of purpose, combined with your loyalty to your duty and to your constituents, have gained for you the respect and confidence of the Administration and your associate Representatives. This, I am sure, is a very great source of gratification to yourself, as it is to your friends."
"Assuring you of my earnest appreciation of your services, and with best wishes for continued success."
"Very truly yours,
"Ed. S. HUGHES."

From President National American Woman Suffrage Association. New York, Jan. 15, 1918.

Hon. Thomas L. Blanton, Washington, D. C.

MY DEAR MR. BLANTON: On behalf of our Association I wish to express to you our appreciation of your support of the Woman Suffrage Amendment, and our thanks for the effective speech in which you voiced your conviction, and our heartfelt gratitude for the help which you have so generously given to our Congressional Committee. You and yours will always be proud of the support you have given to this cause.

Sincerely,
CARRIE CHAPMAN CATT, President.

From President Texas Equal Suffrage Association. GALVESTON, TEXAS, Jan. 11, 1918.

Hon. Thomas L. Blanton, Washington, D. C.

MY DEAR MR. BLANTON: Our Texas women in Washington have wired me of your wonderfully eloquent championship of our cause, and I wish to thank you very specially for it, as well as for your vote and influence that carried the day for us. We are of course very happy over the results and particularly over the Texas showing as contrasted with the last vote on Suffrage.

Very cordially yours,
MINNIE FISHER CUNNINGHAM, President.

Resolution Passed by the Imperia Water-Users Association. BURENAVISTA, April 1, 1918.

"Whereas Congressman Blanton visited and investigated Red Bluff reservoir site last November at his own expense and inconvenience, and last January he perfected the Chamberlain Bill to meet the requirements of the Secretary of Interior and introduced same as H. R. 9406, and got both the House and Senate Committees to meet and give a hearing to the Red Bluff Project, and he has continuously worked for the passage of H. R. 9406,
"Be It Resolved, that we express our thanks and appreciation to Congressman Thomas L. Blanton."
S. A. MINEAR, Secretary.

Comanche Vanguard. May 24, 1918.

Congressman Blanton is doing some of the finest work that has been done in recent years in scrutinizing impartially and judiciously the claims that come before his Committee, and he has already saved the country millions of dollars. And this paper is for Blanton for re-election.

Pit. Adv. 8

FRED HARRELL WRITES

Dear Mother—I will scratch you a letter this afternoon as you might like to know of my whereabouts. We landed here on Long Island, New York, yesterday afternoon about six o'clock. The regiment was divided into three separate trains, one for each battalion and each train was composed of about sixteen cars. The different battalions came by a different route. We had quite an exciting trip. I saw more yesterday than I ever saw before, all put together. We were loaded on a boat on the New Jersey side, and sailed around the biggest end of New York City. Had a close look of the tallest buildings, Saw the Statue of Liberty, and passed under the famous Brooklyn Bridge, and several others just as big. We also came a part of the way down the Hudson River, which is a very notable piece of scenery. We were on the road five days to N. Y. We stopped off once or twice a day to exercise and parade. The first stop our battalion made was in Tyler Texas. We marched up to the square where the setting up exercise was given. The band of course was on the job. I got a look at Tyler C. C. These stops were made in about forty-five minutes or an hour. The next place was in Arkansas. Went diagonally across. We saw razor backed hogs, negroes and every thing else that sounds like Arkansas. The next stop was Memphis, Tenn., and then to Louisville, Ky. Went through Kentucky by way of Louisville and Paducah on the Illinois Central. Stopped in Indiana, then Ohio by way of Cleveland and to Buffalo, N. Y., from there to Utica N. Y. We rode on the Northern New York Central, double track and some times five tracks. Our train didn't run fast on account of being loaded so heavily and were not scheduled so fast, but the Twentieth Century Limited runs so fast you can't hardly see it by looking twice.

We stopped at Rochester N.Y. and took a bath at the Y. M. C. A. The Red Cross ladies met us at nearly all the big places with ice cream, cakes, cigars, chewing gum. People up in here give us a better send off than down there. It doesn't look like a soldier train would be much of an attraction, but people go wild in some of these big places and little ones too. Once in a while we run through a dead town. I'll bet I waved at ten million people coming up here. They can pick a soldier train out for half a mile.

We are out here about twenty miles from New York on Long Island, but its town all the way nearly. We are here in tents. Don't know when we will leave. Some outfits just stay a day or two and others a week or more. The Curtiss Airplane Factory is right here close to us and there are a bunch of machines buzzing around all the time. There is more to see in New York, than you could see in a year. We are going to get passes to go to Coney Island, and Brooklyn, but not to New York City. Some of them may go any way if they can get by with it. I have seen enough to write a good sized magazine, but guess I had better quit for this time.

Royal Arch Masons Installed.

The newly elected officers of the Merkel Chapter of Royal Arch Masons were installed at the regular monthly meeting on last Saturday night. Uncle Charlie Roberts of Abilene was present, acting as High Priest at the installation services.

Following are the officers: G. E. Comegys, Most Excellent High Priest; Wesley Edwards, Most Excellent King; W. O. Boney, Most Excellent Scribe; Chas. Mershon, Treasurer; B.F. Cox, Captain of the Host; E. C. Shannon, Principal Sojourner; H. M. Mayfield, Royal Arch Captain; F. J. Smith, J. T. Brown, and Walter Jackson, masters of the third, second and first vales respectively; Jas Patterson, Guard.

Grove's Tasteless chill Tonic restores vitality and energy by purifying and enriching the blood. You can soon feel its strengthening, invigorating effect. Price 50c.

Helps Sick Women

Cardui, the woman's tonic, helped Mrs. William Eversole, of Hazel Patch, Ky. Read what she writes: "I had a general breaking-down of my health. I was in bed for weeks, unable to get up. I had such a weakness and dizziness, . . . and the pains were very severe. A friend told me I had tried everything else, why not Cardui? . . . I did, and soon saw it was helping me. . . . After 12 bottles, I am strong and well."

TAKE

CARDUI

The Woman's Tonic

Do you feel weak, dizzy, worn-out? Is your lack of good health caused from any of the complaints so common to women? Then why not give Cardui a trial? It should surely do for you what it has done for so many thousands of other women who suffered—it should help you back to health.

Ask some lady friend who has taken Cardui. She will tell you how it helped her. Try Cardui.

All Druggists

L. 67

WHITE CHURCH NEWS

The people in this community are almost up with their work. Rev. Johnson of Trent preached to a large attendance at our church Sunday.
Sunday School is doing nicely. Mrs. Jim Norris and daughter Eveline, Mrs. Fred Byrd and grand daughter, Helen Byrd, from Wichita Falls are visiting relatives here. Mrs. Byrd and Helen are enroute to Hurly N. M. to join Mr. Byrd, who is at

work there.

Johnie Frazier, who has had a long spell of illness is improving slowly.

Mr. and Mrs. Ray Brown of Wichita Falls are back in the Canyon.

Mrs. Riggan gave the young people a singing last Sunday night.

Miss Gladys Dimere is on the sick list this week. We wish for her a speedy recovery.

Mr. and Mrs. C. L. Brown received a card from their grandson, Leonard, that he had arrived safely in France. We wish him good luck.

Oh! My how hot it is nowadays. It almost cooks road Lizards in this settlement.

The big meeting begins at the White Church on Friday night before the second Sunday in August. Every body invited to come and bring some one.

A TEXAS WONDER.

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

A Card Of Thanks.

We wish to thank the many friends who came and chopped our cotton the other day. Our hearty thanks is for them all.
E. L. Frazier and family.

Mr. Pierce has been confined to his bed for several days.

BACK TO FORMER LOVE.

Will A. Holford has bought the Garland News and will come back just as soon as he can dispose of his interests in the Taylor County Times at Abilene. Will did not make a failure in Abilene and that is not what is bringing him back home. The people of Garland, when they found Starr Armstrong was going to enter the service of his country, petitioned Holford to come back and he is answering that call. We will be glad to get Holford back again and trust Starr will accomplish as he deserves.—Richardson Echo.

It is refreshing to a man to know that his services have been appreciated. It is not always that he can go back and fall into the outstretched arms of his fellows. But then labors well done are meritorious. The glorious West will very reluctantly give him up.

How's This?

We offer One Hundred Dollars Reward for any case of Catarrh that cannot be cured by Hall's Catarrh Medicine. Hall's Catarrh Medicine has been taken by catarrh sufferers for the past thirty-five years, and has become known as the most reliable remedy for Catarrh. Hall's Catarrh 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 Catarrh Medicine for a short time you will see a great improvement in your general health. Start taking Hall's Catarrh Medicine at once and get rid of catarrh. Send for testimonials, free.
F. J. CHENEY & CO., Toledo, Ohio.
Sold by all Druggists, 75c.

CARD OF THANKS

We wish to express our heartfelt thanks to our neighbors and friends for their loyal kindness shown during the departure of our dear husband and father. May Gods blessings rest upon you all.
Mrs. W. W. Johnson and children.

Granulated Sore Eyes Cured.

"For twenty years I suffered from a bad case of granulated sore eyes says Martin Boyd of Henrietta, Ky. "In February, 1903, a gentleman asked me to try Chamberlain's Salve. I then bought one box and used about two-thirds of it and my eyes have not given me any trouble since." This salve is for sale by all dealers.

RED CROSS

STONE ROOT and BUCHU 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

C. W. Whitaker writes of his safe arrival overseas with the American army.

Mrs. Burn's Letter

Here is a letter that is certain to prove of interest to people in this vicinity, as cases of this sort occur in almost every neighborhood, and people should know what to do in like circumstances:

Savannah, Mo., Oct. 12, 1916.
"I used a bottle of Chamberlain's Colic and Diarrhoea Remedy about nine years ago and it cured me of flux (dysentery) I had another attack of the same complaint some three or four years ago and a few doses of this remedy cured me. I have recommended Chamberlain's Colic and Diarrhoea Remedy to dozens of people since I first used it."

DRAUGHON'S PRACTICAL Business College
DRAUGHON'S PRACTICAL Business College in West Texas. Thousands of firms nearer our Employment Department than any other. Money-back contract guarantees position. Catalogue FREE

The Merkel Mail

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

SUBSCRIPTION \$1.00 PER YEAR

TELEPHONE No. 61

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

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

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

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



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

The politicians are all busy. Daily they are calling on the "dear people." So warm has the campaign become that they are calling on the women. A month or two ago they questioned the advisability of doing this. They have changed now. They now realize that the women are going to be a factor in this race. She is coming into her own politically. This right ought to have been given her years ago. She can wear the honor in queenly grace and soon will prove it. Some few women still think it is not right to vote, but they are sadly in the minority.

Last week we mailed out a day ahead. Some of our friends are accusing us of forgetting the day and thinking that Wednesday was Thursday. We want to say we just got the thing full and there was nothing else to do but mail it out. This reminds us of a newly appointed postmaster on the frontier. Days and days had gone by and no mail had been sent out of his office. Finally the fact was reported and an inspector was sent out. Calling in he said, "Why, Jim why are you sending out no mail." Pointing to the wall, he said, "Well I haven't got the sack full yet." Fellows we got the sack full, and that is why we mailed out a day ahead.

Are the women registering in Merkel? Are they? Our prediction was and is that 300 women would register in Merkel. We remember that our Tax Collector, G. B. Tittle, very confidentially whispered to us that we would register about 75 here. Others were of the same opinion. Some of the candidates went as high as 100. One very optimistic fellow said they would reach 200. As we go to press they are getting dangerously near the 200 mark. Surely they will reach 300. It costs nothing to register. Why not register, even if you do not vote. Perhaps nearer the date of election you will take a notion to vote. They are also talking politics. It is our understanding that the women in all parts of the country are also registering. It is up to them to have a say-so. If they don't register then every officer in the county will be elected by the town votes. It is essential that all the women vote. The date for registration is out on the 14th of this month. Don't delay this matter, but register now and urge your neighbor to do so.

A solemnity is settling over this great land. Our boys are being transported to foreign battle lines. Our hearts are now in the trenches as never before, and our sympathies are with them one and all. Daily the cas-

ualty list is growing and nervously we scan the list each day, hoping against hope that we will be spared too great a sacrifice of our splendid young men, men who are battling for our freedom and liberty. In noble sacrifice they are giving their lives, yea more. Oh, we are warned by the price of blood to hold sacred our liberty, that splendid and unpriced treasure that has to be fought for in every few generations.

We got called down on the expression of "an appetite so cadaverous" in our ode to the death of giant rum in last week's issue. One of our correspondents confesses to be "jarred." We doubtless should have said: "For untold ages this giant rum has opened his slimy jaws and with a cadaverous appetite has swallowed the sons of men, until time-wrought in man kind an awakened conscience, and reason in deep voiced and bellowing accents strode the strands of Texas and laid the monster low. Our tears fall not at his going, but over the misery he has wrought, over the stain he has left, over the glutted field of sin and wrong, over the want and woe and pestilence that has stood in the wake of his unholy tread. Cadaverous appetite, yes and sweetened from the bellowing depths of hell, flavored by the crimson tide of dying men whose anguished souls sought refuge far from its accursed presence. Cadaverous, yes cadaverous, will all the vile pollution of ages in one mighty stench, worse than pestilence or war. Begone, thy day is done, Oh Rum! and may political wrong and unholy power perish with thy going, thou monster of the unfathomed depths.

"And the fields of crimson are yet to blossom with love and grace, and the beautiful and the fair are to thrive under the canopy of this new day, when no longer the sons of men are embraced within the vile clutches of this damnable traffic."

The glorious Fourth is here. How we love the day! How we love the liberty it represents; And to think that again we have to fight for that same liberty and send our sons to die for it as did our forefathers in the long ago. But it is so precious to us that we must keep, whatever may be the cost. Let us on this glorious day again promise to do our level best to be as loyal and as patriotic to this great cause of freedom as is possible to be, even if our own heart's blood is required in the sacrifice.

ONE WOMAN MARRIED TO FIVE SERGEANTS

It is the experience of Royall R. Watkins and his associates in connection with the War Risk Insurance Bureau, no matter how many beneficent provisions the Government may make for the comfort of the relatives of soldiers there will always be someone to try to take an unfair advantage of the situation. A number of fraud cases have been brought before Mr. Watkins within the last few days, and now being investigated.

The fraudulent claims take various forms, but all are presented by persons, who try to get something for nothing. The methods of checking up on all claims make it very hard to get money where it is not deserved, Mr. Watkins said. A close tab is kept on each case in all its bearings.

The case of a woman who married five Sergeants in order to get their allotment and insurance money was recently discovered at a camp in Illinois. The woman had sent three of her Sergeants to France, another was ready to sail, and was preparing to fix up the insurance papers of the fifth when she was discovered. Each of the men had allotted her half their pay the Government had furnished the other half, and each had taken out insurance to the amount of \$10,000, payable only to her.

Women who marry soldiers for their insurance money are rather numerous, according to Mr. Watkins, and present what is often a difficult task for the adjuster.

MOTHERS OF AMERICA

Stricken with grief and your hearts torn with sorrow, By seeing your sons lying dead on the field— After bravely fighting for a brighter tomorrow, 'Gainst onrushing foes, the fire-sides to shield. Feel proud of this hour that for America thy die, Emblazoned their names are inscribed in the sky.

Wives Of America

Though heart-rendering pain seems 'round you to gather And filled with despair, is the love in your breast, For that loving husband, your children's kind father, Who died for his country and is now laid to rest. Turn your face toward heaven pray God be your guide, And be proud of that husband who defending you, died.

Sweethearts of America

War's ruthless horrors your lover has taken, Blasted your hopes of a future so bright. Let duty to country your conscience awaken— Comfort and cheer him with love's holy light. Remember he fights and the tortures endure, To make home, for his sweetheart, safe and secure.

Daughters Of America.

Living your childhood through war's awful trials, Just when you most needed sunshine and mirth. Hardships for gentleness, fed on denials, Your mothers despairing of justice on earth. America through sufferings for you will endure, Guarding your future and keeping you pure. —Exchange.

WALTER BUFORD DEAD

Last Tuesday a week ago, Walter J. Buford, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Buford, succumbed to an attack of typhoid fever at Temple, where he had been in the sanitarium for a few days. He took sick about three weeks previous at Hillsboro, where he had been about one year. He leaves his widow and a six months old baby.

Walter formerly lived in Merkel, where he has been most of the time for the past twelve years. He has many friends here who hate to learn of his early death. He was a member of the Christian church and has taken quite an interest in church work the past year. He was thirty-five years of age and has been married about two years.

His parents were present at the time of his death. To the bereaved is extended our full sympathy.

DR PENN DEAD

After years of suffering, death finally came to the relief of Dr Pleasant Garrett Penn at 6 o'clock Tuesday afternoon. He was sixty-six years of age, having been born in Alabama in 1852. The family had resided in Merkel for about eleven years. For nearly two years the doctor had been confined to his bed and could only speak with difficulty.

Burial takes place this, Wednesday evening, at 6 o'clock, Rev. R. C. Pender, officiating. The funeral takes place at the home. The Masons will have charge of the funeral.

For years the doctor has been a faithful and consistent member of the Baptist church, and the most pleasant hours of his long suffering were when a band of Christian neighbors would gather in his room for a service. His hope remained firm all during his long season of suffering.

He is survived by his widow and daughter, Miss Susie. To the bereaved are extended our utmost sympathy in this, their sad hour. The splendid husband's life has been a benediction to his neighbors. Interment takes place in Rose Hill cemetery.

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



Mrs. Walter Jackson, Editor

Outings in Honor of Sam Swann And John West

On last Monday evening the young people gathered at the beautiful home of Mr. and Mrs. Tom Largent for a few hours. Each lady carried lunch, which was spread on the lawn and very much enjoyed by the following parties: Misses Eva Williams, Ona Hamblett, Ruby Jones, Zoe West, Mary Reed, Maude Martin, Jess Sutphen, Agness Powell, Irene Swann, Mr. and Mrs. Willie Joe Largent, Messers E. Q. Warren, Sam Swann, John West, Ralph Bigham, Parker Sharp, Dee Grimes, and the host and hostess. Music added much to the pleasure of the evening.

On Tuesday evening a crowd went to the river with the intention of fishing, but on arriving at the chosen spot they discovered the water too muddy for the fish to see the bait, so they just set to work and prepared a supper to suit the occasion and enjoyed it much, thinking it was a fish fry.

The following parties composed the fishing party: Misses Irene Swann, Jess Sutphen, Zoe West, Maude Martin, Agness Powell, Mary Reed, Messers Sam Swann, John West, Ralph Bigham, Roscoe Sharp.

B. Y. P. U. Social.

The B. Y. P. U. will have a social at the hospitable home of Mr. and Mrs. J. T. Warren Friday night. A fine time is anticipated and all the members of the Union and prospective members are urged to attend. Be sure and be there by 8 o'clock.

UNCLE BILLY JOHNSON DEAD

W. W. Johnson, (commonly known as Uncle Billie) was born in South Carolina, Oct. 22, 1842. He served four years in the Civil War with only minor wounds. September 20, 1866 he married Miss Sallie Brown. To this union was born nine children, seven of whom are living.

From South Carolina they moved to Texas in 1875, settling in Brazos County, coming to Taylor County about 23 years ago and settling near Trent at which place he died, June 28, 1918. He was afflicted so that he was practically helpless for about three years. His patience in affliction was marvelous.

Uncle Billie professed faith in Christ while young and joined the Methodist Church. He was truly a good man. He seems to have put the critics to silence. To know him was to love him. We miss him. The funeral services were attended by a host of friends. To the lonely and sorrowing companion and children we offer sympathy and the consolation of the Christian Religion.

We will meet him in the Resurrection morning where partings are no more.

His pastor, F. T. Johnson.

Counting Your Money



will occupy your entire time when you become a regular advertiser in THIS PAPER. Unless you have an antipathy for labor of this kind, call us up and we'll be glad to come and talk over our proposition.

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

THAT GOOD GULF GASOLINE

Tires, Tubes, Oils and Accessories
Tube Vulcanizing
Free Battery Service Free Air

GEORGE WOODRUM

How Do Your Sacrifices Compare With These?

THE American boy who goes to war gives up the position which means so much to his future, or the little business which has just begun to show promise of success.

He severs home ties; gives up home comforts; leaves behind parents, friends, wife or sweetheart.

He faces the probability of being obliged to take up life anew when he returns; of losing all the advantages which years of hard work have won for him.

He faces the possibility of coming back incapacitated for earning a living, and of being dependent upon his friends or upon charity.

He faces the possibility of never coming home at all.

Facing these things, he goes to France to fight for us who remain safely at home—and when the moment comes for him to go over the top—he GOES!

What will he think, how will he feel, if we complain because we are asked to make a few sacrifices for him—sacrifices so insignificant when compared with his?

Show him that to invest in Liberty Bonds is not a SACRIFICE but a PRIVILEGE—an appreciation of his sacrifice!

And When You Buy—Buy!

This Space Paid For and Contributed By

NOTIFYING RELATIVES OF CASUALTIES

Relatives of soldiers named in casualty lists forwarded from France ordinarily are notified within 24 hours after receipt of the list, according to a statement authorized by the War Department. A "statistical division," with a staff of officers and a corps of stenographers, gives all its time to the maintenance of files of soldiers' names and addresses. This division notifies relatives.

A copy of the roster of each contingent sailing to join the Expeditionary Forces is filed in card index fashion, each card bearing the name of one soldier, his organization, and the name and address of parents or other relative or friend designated by him to be notified in emergency. When a casualty list is received from Gen Pershing each name cabled from the American Expeditionary Force is listed with the emergency address on file in the card index. As rapidly as the new list with emergency addresses is built up the telegraph clerks get duplicates. These clerks already are supplied with blank telegrams which require only the relative's address, name of sender, nature of casualty and the date, and filling in the blank spaces they get the telegrams off as quickly as possible. In addition to maintaining the telegraph blanks for the sake of speed the statistical division is supplied with sets of form letters to be filled in and mailed when further details are available.

While relatives are generally in receipt of information within 24 hours after the cables are received, delays are sometimes due to clerical errors caused by the fact that names must pass through many hands in France and in America, incorrect emergency addresses turned in by soldiers, removal of families to addresses other than those listed, and the occasional necessity for cabling back to Gen Pershing to verify a name or to obtain an address.

Aside from these four causes of delay the only reason for the failure of relatives to receive word at once is military consideration. Gen Pershing may, at his discretion, withhold a casualty list until he is positive it will have no military value to the enemy.

We Shall Win The War When The Nation Goes Dry

(Captain Richmond P. Hobson.) We have waited eight months for Wartime Prohibition by executive proclamation under the authority of the Food Control Act. It is high time that we now turn to Congress.

I regard this question as so important that every day of delay is a day of postponement of victory and a day of prolongation of the war; we cannot win the war "wet." I was asked the other day when the war would end. I answered: "It will end when we win, and not until then." When asked, "When will that be?" I answered, "We shall begin to win when America and the Allies go dry, and not until then."

Now is the hour. Under the psychological crises created by the great war with the nations, in the presence of the realities of life and death, it is now possible to bring forth a sober world. The call is for America to take the initiative; going dry herself, she will be in a position to call upon the Allies to do the same. Their governments would no doubt be glad of such an opportunity; our side becoming dry would develop the added strength necessary to win the war, and out of the great cataclysm would come a sober world inaugurating a new, happy era in the life history of the human species.

Incomplete returns from 25 States show that nearly 3,400,000 women have registered for war work under the Woman's Committee of the Council of National Defense.

Remember the 10th and pay your Electric bills.

TEXAS EDITOR MARRIES

DeLeon, Texas, June 29.—Geo. M. Hill and Miss Jewell Scott were married at the home of the bride's mother, Mrs. H. B. Scott, Thursday evening, Rev. W. H. Doss, pastor of the Methodist church, officiating.

Mr. Hill lives at Gorman and is the editor of the Gorman Progress. Miss Scott has held the position of assistant postmaster at De Leon for a number of years. They will reside at Gorman.—Exchange.

Mr. Hill formerly belonged to the mechanical force of the Merkel Mail, and has a number of friends and acquaintances in these parts.

Boney Discharged

Marvin Boney charged with the theft of several automobile tires, was discharged by Justice Peace yesterday at the preliminary hearing of the case. He was brought back from Abilene, Texas, to answer to the charge. There was no evidence to connect him with the theft of the tires, his only connection with the matter being, it was testified, that he introduced the salesman of the alleged stolen tires, whom he did not know, to John L. and Dora Bohn, who will be given a preliminary hearing Friday afternoon at 2 o'clock on the charge of receiving stolen property. George O. Hilzinger represented Boney, and Ben C. Hill represents the Bohns. Alex Jepson, a chauffeur, will be given a hearing at the same time.—Tucson Arizona.

Soldiers Want Cheerful Letters

When writing a letter to the boys in uniform, give them encouragement by a cheerful letter. They need messages of love and hope, not doleful forebodings, nor constant reminders of the awfulness of the "great disaster to humanity." Their burdens are heavy enough without you telling all the little home troubles. Now be thoughtful and write good news and keep the bad at home.

This is the pleading message sent out by the boys themselves that are over there.

"Don't help the kaiser by hanging weights on the spirits of your boys who are fighting," writes Joseph Teter of the Marine Corps now in France.

The Response to Kindness

An Englishman in charge of fifty mules sent to the front untrained and more or less wild, writes home:

I have never allowed a switch to be used, or a mule to be hardly treated by beating, nor have I allowed them to be put in stocks when being shod. Kindness has paid in a wonderful way. Our mules let us do what we like with them. There are still one or two timid ones, but we have no difficulty in harnessing, shoeing, or handling, and they are the most willing and sensible of beasts, except when they are up against a load which they cannot move, and in that case they jib. They have no diseases of any kind. Indeed I was congratulated the other day in having the best conditioned mules in the division not a poor one amongst them.—Dumb Animals.

There is no discrimination of any kind between soldiers who are not citizens of the United States and the native born or naturalized citizens in the American Army, excepting that the former can not hold commissions. In all other respects they are all on the same footing.

I-C-E

We will not make any Ice deliveries in the afternoon, July 4th, but the ice house will be open all day. MERKEL ICE COMPANY

Miss Mamie Rister is on her vacation and will visit in Dallas and Rogers.

The Strong Withstand the Heat of Summer Better Than the Weak

Old people who are feeble and younger people who are weak, will be strengthened and enabled to go through the depressing heat of summer by taking GROVE'S TASTELESS CHILL TONIC. It purifies and enriches the blood and builds up the whole system. You can soon feel its Strengthening, Invigorating Effect. 60c.

PAY YOUR BILLS

Every man is marked. His real worth rests on his honor. When credit is extended it becomes a debt of honor. One of the greatest desires of his life should be to satisfy his just debts. Business men help those who hold their honor as a thing most sacred.

In keeping with the war and the rules of economy that prevail, one should do his utmost to reduce and hold his indebtedness to a minimum.

Merkel Business League

CHURCH NEWS

Sunday School Report.

	Attendance	Col
Baptist	162	\$4.00
Methodist	150	4.75

Presbyterian Preacher Arrives

Rev. S. R. Standifer of Grand Saline arrived on the field this week and will be in his pulpit as the pastor of the Presbyterian church Sunday morning. Every member of the church is urgently requested to be present and give the pastor a hearty welcome.

Sunday School is at 10 a.m.; preaching at 11:00.

Over At The Baptist Church.

Sunday morning we are to have a Home-Coming service and earnestly hope that every member of the church will be on hand to enjoy the service, and to give us the enjoyment of his or her good fellowship.

Sunday morning theme will be: "Building for Our Lord."

Things are going fine and lots of encouragement is coming to the workers. We are increasing at the rate of about eight per cent each Sunday. Help us to make the increase continue.

The prayer-meeting next week will be in the nature of a Covenant Meeting. Many matters of interest will occur in the service.

Call on the pastor when he can be of any help to you or anybody you know. His telephone is 165.

E. E. Dawson pastor.

The Methodist Church

Last Sunday was a great day with us. Our large and growing Sunday School is a pleasure to all who attend. Almost all the classes are growing in enthusiasm and in numbers. We are working for a goal, 250 present every Sunday.

We had a splendid sermon Sunday morning by the Rev. O. B. Annis of Seminole. His many friends here heard him gladly. He is a strong young man.

Our League services were splendid. The Juniors are a busy bee hive, it is a delight to work with these little fellows. Mrs. Sanders, their Supt. is a tireless worker and she is doing fine work with these children.

The Sr. Leaguers are a splendid band of young folks and they are making their work a success. There is still a larger work ahead for them, and they will be heard from.

Our Sunday evening service was held promptly at 7 o'clock. Our Presiding Elder Rev. O. F. Sensabaugh, preached a very fine sermon to a large audience. Our people are delighted with the change of the hour.

Next Sunday will be patriotic day in our Sunday School and preaching hour in the morning. A program is in preparation for the same, and you will be delighted, so be sure to be present on next Sunday.

I am requested to announce that Mrs. Nannie Curtis of Dallas will speak to the women of the town and entire community, also requests all the men to be present as well. She will speak at the Methodist church at the hour of 9:45 on Saturday morning. Mrs. Curtis is a woman of nation wide reputation as a speaker—in fact she is an orator of the first water. She gives nine months of the year to temperance reform. She makes her living on the platform the other three months of the year, she receives \$1,000 per month in Chautauqua work. She is a very strong personality and it will be a treat to hear her. Don't miss her lecture. C. S. Cameron.

The Missionary Society of the Methodist Church met in a business session Monday afternoon at 5 o'clock.

The members who have sons or brothers in the service were asked to give their names so they could be sent to the District Secretary as a Service Flag will be made for the North West Texas Conference.

There will be a quilting at the Sunday School rooms Wednesday afternoon, July 10th, and the ladies are requested to come and help.

The Society voted to give the fourth Monday in each month to the Red Cross.

Next Monday, July 8th, will be Bible study and the following questions will be asked from the Book of Numbers:

Where were the Israelites first numbered?

Which tribe was given to the service of the tabernacle?

For whom were the Levites a substitute, and how was the difference in number adjusted?

What was the ordinary age at which the Levites began service?

Who were the "Nazarites"?

What was the first ceremony in setting apart the Levites?

Could the passover be kept at any other than the regular time?

For what purpose were silver trumpets used?

For what purpose were seventy elders appointed?

What curse was sent on Miriam?

From what place and how many spies were sent into Canaan?

What two reports were brought back by the spies?

How many of those were numbered at Sinai did God say would enter the promised land?

What became of the ten evil spies?

Why did the Israelites not enter Canaan at once?

Upon whom, under the Mosaic law, was capital punishment first inflicted?

Epworth League Program

Subject, All For Christ. Leader, Claude Riney. Roll Call. Answered by Scripture quotation.

Song, All For Christ.

Talk by Leader.

Questions.

Song.

Using Our Words, Evelyn Hamm.

Prayer.

Using Our All, Annie Bickley

Piano Solo, Lola Armstrong.

The Best Talent, Preston Guthrie.

Song, Onward Epworth Leaguers.

Announcements, League Benediction.

Reception Services.

The services at 7 o'clock Sunday evening at the Presbyterian church will be in the nature of a reception to their new pastor.

There will be no preaching at the Baptist church, and the congregation is urged to attend the Presbyterian services and extend to the new pastor a hearty welcome to the religious life of our city. Remember the hour, 7 o'clock. Special music is being prepared.

Trent Meeting In Progress

The Methodist meeting at Trent is getting a very good start.

Rev. A. W. Waddill of Snyder is doing the preaching and doing it well.

Everybody is invited to cooperate. The meeting will continue through next week.

French Society Plans to Mark Graves Of U. S. Soldiers

Commemorating the American soldiers and sailors who have fallen in battle, "La Cocarde du Souvenir," a patriotic society, plans to decorate the graves of all Americans who are buried in France. Markers known as the "war cross of the dead" will be placed over each grave.

A committee of the society headed by Senator Poirrier called on American Ambassador Sharp to make the preliminary arrangements. The Ambassador thanked the committee and informed them he would discuss the plan with Gen Pershing.

Markers now decorate the graves of French, British and Belgian soldiers. The new marker will consist of a metal laurel leaf about six inches in diameter surrounding an American flag. They are to be supplied to units in the army, the name of the soldier, the unit and the date of the man's death to be placed on a metal strip, which is hung from the marker. Already 700,000 of the wreaths have been distributed among the Entente allied troops.—St. Louis Dispatch

Remember the Fourth's picnic at Butman.

Morbus-Sundaycus
Morbus-Sundaycus is a very contagious disease. When a member of the family is stricken with this dreadful malady, especially if it be the head of the family, it is soon communicated to others in the house and spreads around the community in alarming proportions.

The symptoms are easily detected. There is a feeling of lassitude on Sunday morning, a disposition to read the Sunday newspaper instead of the Bible. It affects the disposition to such an extent that nothing but the Katzenjammer Kids, or the adventures of Happy Hooligan, or the funny page, can excite mirth. Towards Sunday School time the patient will have temper and temperature so high that an invitation to attend the Sunday school will throw the victim into convulsions of excuses that would bring tears to the eyes of a graven image. It increases in violence and reaches its climax and crisis about church time, and from this on till 12:30 subsides until the lassitude gives place to a voracious appetite which can only be appeased by a big Sunday dinner.

Morbus-Sundaycus produces the faultfinder, and like the dyspeptic, no food pleases, but only distresses him. He becomes a preacher-killer, a grumbler, a pessimist, and, unless the progress of the disease is arrested, a doubter, and this contagion spreads like a miasma over the souls of those around him.

Only one treatment has been known to avail in curing the disease, and that is to stiffen up the backbone and just go to church in spite of everything. Immediate benefit is received from such treatment, and in a few weeks the malady disappears.

Wherefore, go to church next Sunday!

Piles Cured in 6 to 14 Days
Druggists refund money if PAZO OINTMENT fails to cure Itching, Blind, Bleeding or Protruding Piles. Instantly relieves Itching Piles, and you can get restful sleep after the first application. Price 60c.

A Big Sugar Beet.
Mrs. W. L. Barbee sent a white sugar beet to the office the past week that weighed three pounds. Such a beet ought to make a couple of messes for a good sized family. This is only another instance of what cultivation and moisture can do in this country.

Lame Shoulder.
his ailment is usually caused by rheumatism of the muscles. All that is needed is absolute rest and a few applications of Chamberlain's Liniment. Try it.

Bob Russell left Monday morning for Dallas where he will take treatment at the sanitarium. While being able to be about, he has not been improving of late. His friends hope that he will be greatly improved on this trip.

The Joy of Living
To enjoy life we must have good health. No one can reasonably hope to get much real pleasure out of life when his bowels are clogged a good share of the time and the poisons that should be expelled are absorbed into the system producing headaches and indigestion. A few doses of Chamberlain's Tablets will move the bowels, strengthen the digestion and give you a chance to realize the real joy of living. Try it.

Winslow Beckham, who is with the navy at Newport, came in home last Friday. He is well and says he likes the service fine. He says all the boys are impatient to go across. He will remain until the 19th.

After Measles Whooping Cough or Scarlet Fever

the extreme weakness often results in impaired hearing, weakened eyesight, bronchitis and other troubles, but if **Scott's Emulsion** is given promptly, it carries strength to the organs and creates rich blood to build up the depleted forces.

Children thrive on Scott's Emulsion. It is Free from Alcohol.



SCOTT & BOWNE, BLOOMFIELD, N. J.

Merkel Drug Co.

For Your Drug Wants.

We carry a complete line of Drugs and Sundries.

Let us serve you

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

Specialty in Farm Loans

Inspector on the ground—Quick Service

Real Estate and Fire Insurance

W. O. BONEY West of Farmers State Bank

KOR-KER

American Standard Tire Treatment

Instantly stops Punctures and slow Leaks and reduces blowouts to minimum. Guaranteed for one year.

E. B. BARNES

Dr. McMaster Leaves
After enjoying a very lucrative practice here for about seven years, Dr. McMaster has disposed of his dental office and hereafter will make his home at Port Lavaca. It is a distinct loss to Merkel to give up the doctor and his good wife and her mother, Mrs. Pickerill. Dr. F. N. Reynolds of Miami, Tex. purchased the office, together with the home of Dr. McMaster. The doctor and his family have always stood for the very highest standards along religious and civic lines, and are such citizens that Merkel can ill afford to lose. Professionally the doctor is a very able man, enjoying a good practice.

The doctor left Thursday for Port Lavaca to look after his extensive farming interests in that section. He will return in a few days and wind up his business affairs, make collections and move his family to their new location. The best wishes of their many friends will accompany them to their new field of endeavor.

Dr. Reynolds will arrive at once and take charge of the office here. He comes highly recommended.

T. & P. TIME TABLE

Eastbound
No. 2 Sunshine Spec. 8:20 a. m.
No. 4 Through Train 10:15 a. m.
No. 6 9:55 p. m.

Westbound
No. 1 Sunshine Spec. 9:55 p. m.
No. 3 Through Train 5:18 p. m.
No. 25 5:24 a. m.

What is Best for Indigestion?
Mr. A. Robinson of Drumquin, Ontario, has been troubled for years with indigestion, and recommends Chamberlain's Tablets as "the best medicine I ever used." If troubled with indigestion or constipation give them a trial. They are certain to prove beneficial. They are easy to take and pleasant in effect. Price, 25 cents. For sale by all dealers.

PROFESSIONAL

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

DR. GAMBILL
Dentist.
Office hours 8 to 12 a. m. and 1 to 6 p. m.
Office over Farmers State Bank
Phones: Office, 306, Res. 108.

DR. J. E. ADKISSON
Physician and Surgeon
Hours From 6 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.
Office over City Barber Shop
Phones: Of. 163, Res. 187. Nov 9

DR. MILLER
Over Woodroof-Bragg Company
Physician and Surgeon
Eyes Tested and Glasses
General Practice

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

G. W. JOHNSON
Insurance, Notary Public
Office over Woodroof Bros. Store
Merkel —:— Texas

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

SHAVING AND BATH PARLORS
The most Up-to-Date
SHOP IN MERKEL
CITY BARBER SHOP
CHAS WEST Proprietor

Grove's Tasteless chill Tonic
destroys the malarial germs which are transmitted to the blood by the Malaria Mosquito. Price 60c.

---- GET ----

Your Legal Blanks

NOTES, DEEDS, AFFIDAVITS, ETC., HERE

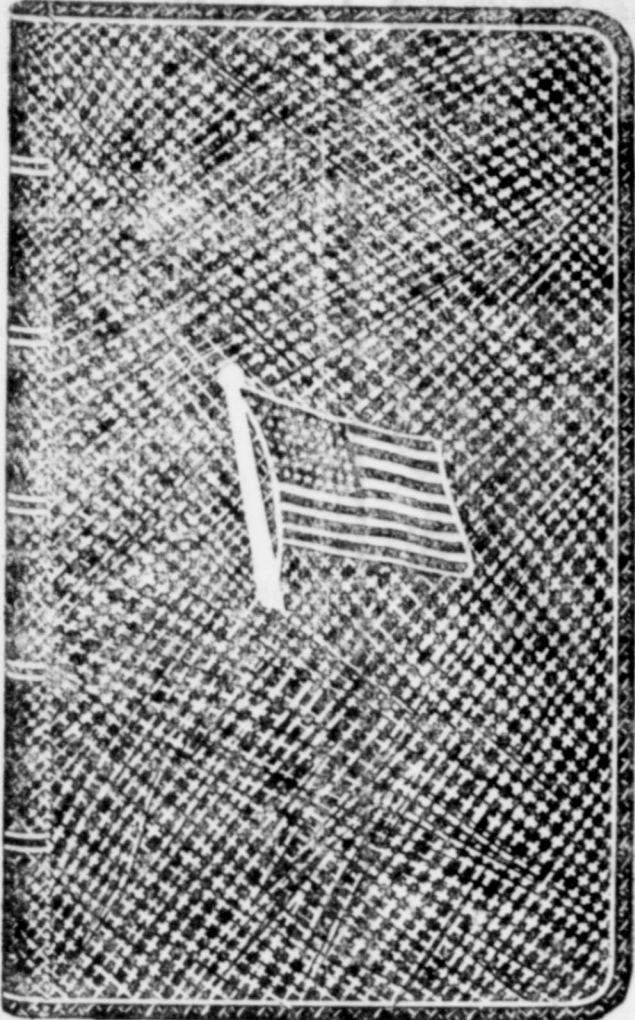
PRINTERS OF HIGH-CLASS STATIONERY

Fresh Supply of Typewriter Ribbons and Carbon Paper

Visiting Cards, Business and Political Cards

The Merkel Mail Printing Company

**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

American Standard Version

Attractive - Compact - Readable - Durable

Emphasized with the words of Christ printed in bold face type. Strongly and neatly bound in Khaki colored Morocco grained Waterproof Keratol—flexible limp cover, embossed back bands, round corners, Khaki edges, gold title, beautifully embossed American Flag in colors on the outside front cover.

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

HELP TO BRING THE BOYS BACK CLEAN

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

ONLY \$1.00 A YEAR

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

\$1-50

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 Gorsus.
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, Merkle.
Lieut B. B. Brown.
Chester Hall.
Stuart Grimes.
Jas. Clyde White.
Lloyd Shepard.
L. A. Dudley.
Robert Vernon Boring.
Sherley King.
O. A. Horton.
Ira Huss.
Archie Rose.
Fred Harrell.

Chas. C. Jones.
Glen Thompson.
Roscoe Sharp.
John Ware.
John D. Dudley.
John Edward Hunter.
E. M. Harris.
George Smith.
Geo. N. Reynolds.
J. H. Rister, Tye.
Wayne Abernathy, Trent.
H. W. Beckham, Trent.
Dee H. Donnell, Trent.
Hollis Brown, Trent.
Royce Dowdy, Trent.
Robt. B. Parker.
Frank E. Smith.
Luther Grimes.
W. L. Diltz, Jr.
William B. Tarpley.
N. D. Teaff, Tye.
Arthur E. Windland, Tye.
James O. Dulin.
Kirby L. Vidrine.
Leonard Morrison.
Joseph A. McMurray.
Rufus H. O'Neal.
Willie E. Pool.
Ennis Grimes.
Charley Fitzgerald.
Berry Forrester.
Joseph A. Pruit, Trent.
John T. Mattingley, Noodle.
Reuben C. Hall.
Henry D. (Doc) Hall.
R. O. Stevens.
Tom Smith Martin.
Leland L. Martin.
T. J. Bird.
R. E. Harris.
Robert Rainbolt.
Lee Raymond Campbell.
Eulless McNeas.
John P. Gibson.
Leonard Wills.
Winslow J. Beckham, Trent.
John Rex McClain.
O. R. Burns.
Joe Thomas Hartley.
John Robert West.
Robert Grady Collins.
Jim F. Winters.
Arthur McMurray.
Charlie Clifton Smith, Trent.
Fred Pribble, Trent.
Ernest Massey, Trent.

Lee Massey, Trent.
Hosea Winn, Trent.
Skyler Dunn, Trent.
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.
Henry Eason, Noodle.
Leldon Goode, Noodle.
Guy Bradley, Stith.
Guy Sibley, Trent.
Wm. Wills.
Sam H. Rosson, Trent.
Claude Rosson, Trent.
Alfred Wesley Costephens.
Ulyses McNeas.
W. Clarence Cameron.
Vessie E. Browning.
Clyde Garfett.
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.
Vernon Sublett.
Yates Brown.
Dean Robinson, Trent.
Jodie Bright, Trent.

IF WOMEN ONLY KNEW

What a Heap of Happiness it Would Bring to Merkel Homes.

Hard to do housework with an aching back.

Brings you hours of misery at leisure or at work.

If women only knew the cause that

Backache pains often come from weak kidneys.

"Would save much needless woe.

Doan's Kidney Pills are for weak kidneys.

Many residents of this vicinity endorse them.

Mrs. W. C. Cutrell, Anson, Texas, says: "My doctor told me I had too much uric acid in my system, due to weak kidneys.

Most of the time I felt dull and drowsy and was very nervous.

My back bothered me and I was hardly ever free from a dull ache across my kidneys which broke my rest at night.

Different medicines didn't seem to do any good until I finally got Doan's Kidney Pills.

Doan's reduced the uric acid in my system and gradually the other ailments left.

I used four boxes and have had no return of the complaint."

Price 60c, at all dealers. Don't simply ask for a kidney remedy—get Doan's Kidney Pills—the same that Mrs. Cutrell had.

Foster-Milburn Co., Mfgs., Buffalo, N. Y.

Fine Sudan Grass

Mr. Holland, of Rhode Island Red fame, brought a sample of Sudan grass to the office that measured 8 feet. It was of remarkably quick growth, and it seems could be cultivated extensively in his section to much profit.

Tan-No-More

THE SKIN BEAUTIFIER

The most scientific and most wonderful facial preparation of the modern age. It imparts to the skin a velvety softness and delicacy which is delightful in appearance and pleasing in effect. Used during the day it is a protection from the Sun and Wind. In the evening its use assures a faultless complexion.

Write and Please. All dealers, 25c, 50c and \$1.00, or sent post paid on receipt of price. Sample for the asking.

BAKER-WHEELER MANUFACTURING COMPANY DALLAS, TEXAS

THE MOTHER AND HER SON

Cena S. Cornman.
In Word and Works

Before me lies a group of photographs each the picture of a smiling baby face whose eyes look into mine with the fearless confidence of infancy, betokening the purity and innocence, which God has granted to every child as its birthright. Scan the features closely as you will there is naught which betrays the sex of the originals, the faces of baby boys and baby girls are alike lovely with the charm of infant sweetness and purity. As you gaze you murmur "The sins of the world have not yet touched them" and you feel that the minds and hearts of them all are free from the taint of sin regardless of sex. What is true of these little ones, is true of others born into the world, they all start life under the same auspices, for boys and girls alike are at birth but plastic clay which may by the mother's own hands be modelled into beautiful images of the Creator.

Oh that all who have the privilege of moulding the characters of sons and daughters would accept the fact that the purity of heart of their boys may be preserved, as well as of their girls; then what a stride would be taken toward the betterment of the world even in a single generation!

The theory that man must be of commoner clay than woman, has been popularly accepted for so long a time that when mothers see a tendency in their sons to do what their daughters are forbidden they try only in a half hearted way to restrain them, and if not successful sigh, "oh well! boys will be boys," and make no further attempt. Is it any wonder then, that the boys sink below the moral plane on which their sisters stand? The world of sin and wickedness filled with evil on every hand, is drawing them down with never loosening hold and no obstacle but a mother's love and counsel can stop the descent, and what if that be lacking? What if engrossed with fashion, society or self, or even with the cares which burdened Martha of old the other be unmindful of her duty, then what? We will leave the reader to answer.

There are two facts which are accepted by all who have had the training of children. These are, that the most lasting impressions are those which the child receives before it is ten years old, and that what young people are at eighteen, they will be in a measure all their lives. This being true it is evident that the mother has other duties than merely ministering to the physical wants of her children. To see that they are properly fed and clothed is important enough for their health and consequent usefulness in life depend largely on this, but the real work connected with those duties may be delegated to others or if means to do this are wanting, the children will, if taught properly, be a great help to mother at an early age, and the hours spent by the little ones in helping the mother may be her season for planting the seeds of every lovely trait which will later bear fruit in a beautiful character.

If a woman assumes the holy responsibilities of motherhood, then let nothing turn her aside from the fulfillment of her duty for through her succeeding generations may be either blessed or cursed. There can be no better time than childhood for the mother to make her influence felt and to secure the full confidence of her little boys as well as girls. The sympathy which comes from close companionship will beget a perfect faith in mother and her teachings, which is so sadly needed by her sons as a safeguard against the manifold temptations which will beset them when away from her presence. Let no mother count any trouble too hard if she may trouble too great, any labor too hard if she may thereby keep her boys by her side till they are so deeply grounded in the beautiful truths of life that follies and vices will have no charm for them. What matter if the mother's precepts be ever so inspir-



JOE ADKINS

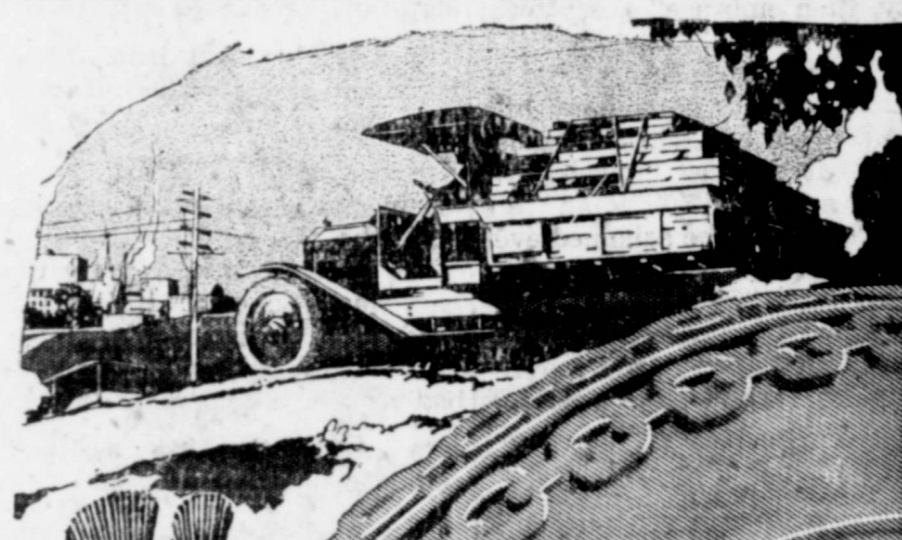
**Candidate for Congress
17th Congressional District**

In announcing as a candidate for Congress in this 17th District, I promise the people, if elected to stand by the President in his work to win the war, and support all measures that will strengthen our forces abroad and increase our productiveness at home.

When this war is over and victory is ours, and the world has been made safe for democracy I believe that our boys who return, should be given assurance of our appreciation for their valor; therefore I will work and vote for such laws as will reclaim our arid lands, and will favor giving to our returning soldiers, lands reclaimed by our government upon which to build homes.

All labor is honorable and those who toil in the shops, factories, railroads and farms are justly entitled to have their rights and grievances adjusted, without depriving them of any of their rights. Therefore, I will favor and support a measure for a National Board of Arbitration to the end that differences between labor and capital may be justly arbitrated and settled.

I am in favor of such legislation as will restrict and limit foreign emigration and the alien ownership of property.



Speed—Speed—Speed!

Uncle Sam pushed the clock ahead one hour to give more light.

Take advantage of it. You owe it to yourself and your country to make every minute count.

Use your car—passenger or commercial—to the limit.

Samuel P. Colt, president of the United States Rubber Company, helped awaken the country to the economic value of the automobile last fall. He said—

"Everything on wheels must be used and mobilized.

"The automobile is second to the railroads as an adjunct and supplementary to them in collecting and distributing merchandise.

"Owners should use their cars, both passenger and commercial, more and more."

Make the most of your car by using the tires that will extend its usefulness to the utmost.

Use good tires—United States Tires.

They last longest and carry you farthest at least cost.

There is a United States Tire for every car or truck—to guarantee uninterrupted service and greatest economy.

Our nearest Sales and Service Depot dealer will tell you which ones will serve you best.

United States Tires are Good Tires

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

WARREN BROTHERS

ing if her sons are at an early age permitted to seek companions, wherever they may. The example of their comrades will efface the memory of the mother's words. To remedy this the children must be taught to find their greatest pleasure in the home.

The mother who declares her boys are a nuisance about the house because they are noisy, and makes home a place to be shunned on account of the restrictions placed on them, who her furniture and carpets more than the society of her boys, who considers her social duties of more importance than the duties she owes her sons, can hardly expect them to be models of purity and innocence. Boys are full of animal spirit which need a proper outlet, and the wise mother is the one who recognizing this, seeks to provide pleasant pastimes and amusements, where under her watchful eye they are safe from evil associates and may by her example be inspired to a noble manhood.

Not for one moment in the formative period of her son's life should the mother relax her vigilance in seeking out how best to hold him by her side, and to create in his mind noble ideals and a high standard whereby to judge his actions. If he has been taught from infancy to love God and keep His commandments, and has become imbued with a desire for all things good and pure and honorable he will not at maturity find any pleasure in the society of the vulgar, the profane or the seeker after sensual pleasure. On the other hand if the mother has shown no interest in this direction, he will ere he realizes the dread consequences of his folly be one of those who "first endure, then pity, then embrace" every form of vice.

A dear brother was invited by a companion to accompany him to a place of questionable amusement but excused himself, giving as a reason that if he were to go he should be ashamed ever afterwards to look his mother in the face. "Oh pshaw!" was his friend's comment, "she must be different than my mother then, for I know mine does not care where I go, or what I do." Sad indeed is the condition of boy or man if his mother has been so remiss in her duty that he feels that she takes no interest in him; ten chances to one the road to ruin is short and as in some cases I know of, the mothers look upon the disgraceful careers of their sons as visitations of Providence when the truth is that they are themselves one of the chief factors in producing this result, often not so much by what they did as by what they did not do.

The mother has it in her power to inspire her son with a lofty conception of womanhood but to do this she must herself have a high standard of life and too must live up to her ideals. People about her may not always appreciate her character nor her motives, they may call her an idealist, a sentimentalist or even a crank, but her sons will say as did a boy in my hearing the other day, "no one can be better than mother," and we may say of the boy who has reason to believe in his mother's goodness as did Tennyson say:

Happy he with such a mother:
Faith in womankind
Beats with his blood, and trust
in all things high
Comes easy to him; and though
he trip and fall
He shall not blind his soul
with clay.

Dear mothers, cannot this in truth be also said of you? Remember it lies with you to make your sons what you will. As infants they were pure and innocent. Strive earnestly to keep them so, they are worth the effort. You cannot do much to reform the world of men, your influence would be but a ripple on the sea of life, unfelt by the throng, but to your own boy, and maybe others with whom he may come in close contact in the after years, it can be as a mighty wave which will carry him and them safely on its crest through the stormy waters of their earthly voyage to our home in the Great Beyond.

LOCAL NEWS

Barney Garrett, who has recently returned from the University of Texas, has gone to report to the Secret Service Department at Fort Sam Houston.

He was a senior Law student and would have received his degree next year, and also gave up a good position to accept one with Uncle Sam. Although twice rejected by the local board, he was not satisfied to remain out of service, so offered his services to the Secret Service Department, and was accepted, and received his commission as Sergeant Saturday evening.

I-C-E

We will not make any Ice deliveries in the afternoon, July 4th, but the ice house will be open all day.
MERKEL ICE COMPANY

A. L. Jobe received a telegram on June 28 announcing preparation for an operation on his son Britton, who is in the service at Camp Bowie. The operation was successful, it is reported and Britton is doing nicely.

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

Rev. E. E. Dawson and Walter Jackson went out to Warren school house last Friday upon invitation in the interest of the W. S. S. campaign. The subscription amounted to nearly \$1000.

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

J. T. Browning went out to Mount Pleasant last Friday and made a talk in the interest of the W. S. S. campaign. The subscriptions amounted to \$1150.

Use Korker and stop punctures and slow leaks. E. B. Barnes.

H. Peterson of Route 2 called in and placed a subscription with the Merkel Mail. He says crops have suffered greatly the past week. Some of the feed is dead. Cotton has not suffered greatly, but rain is needed real badly.

Remember the 10th and pay your Electric bills.

Mrs. C. E. Cameron and children of Sweetwater are visiting Rev and Mrs C. S. Cameron this week.

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

Sam Swann left last Friday for Camp Travis, where he entered the service.

Plenty of fresh groceries at G. M. Sharps.

John West has returned to camp after a visit with home-folks.

Go to Rogers where the dollar buys most.

Shirley King of the aero department of the army at Austin came in Tuesday for a few days visit to homefolks.

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

Vannie Hamblett returned from Water Valley, Miss., where she has been attending school since last August.

Tom Largent and R. L. Bland have been to Molokoff, Ennis, Hillsboro and other points, hunting up absent landlords and trying to convince them that they ought to be loyal by leasing their land for oil development purposes. They report a partial success.

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

The children of John Childress came in Tuesday to visit their father. They are living with their grandmother at Westbrook. They will be here a few days. They were accompanied by their cousin, Lowell Heizer.

Jim Black returned from a trip to South Texas last Saturday night. He says Merkel sure looks good to him. He says the crops look better here.



Line Up and Sign Up on June 28th

Enlist as a war saver in the great "army that stays at home"—the second line of defense behind our boys in the first line trenches.

The government has officially set Friday, June 28th, as

National War Savings Day

Be ready to step forward on that day and prove your patriotism. You are summoned on Friday, June 28th, to "sign the pledge"—to agree to invest in a definite amount of War Savings Stamps each month during 1918.

W. S. S. Cost \$4.17 in June

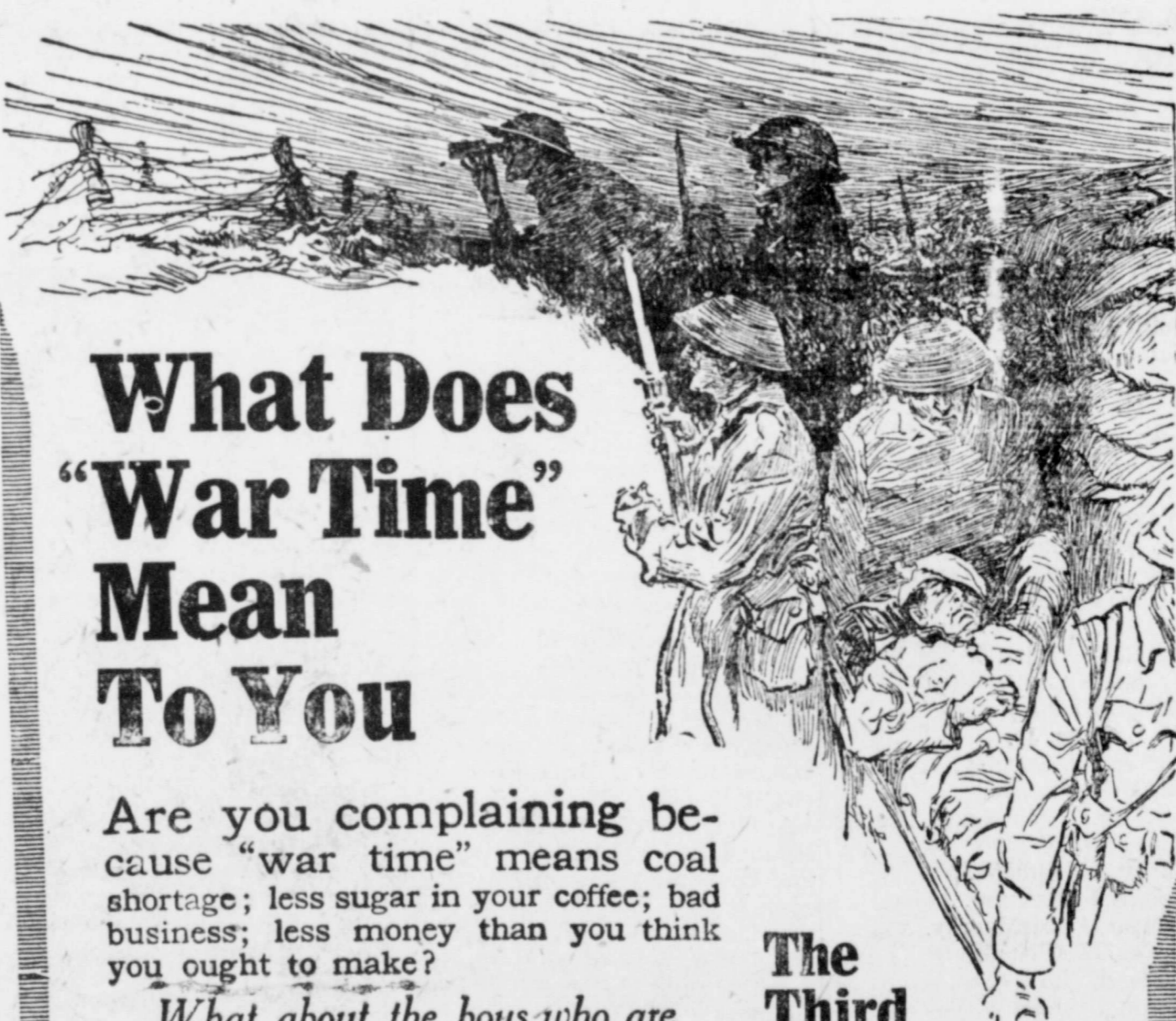
Worth \$5.00 Jan. 1st, 1923

Be Ready to Go the Limit—Line Up and Sign Up on June 28th



NATIONAL WAR SAVINGS COMMITTEE

This Space Contributed for the Winning of the War by



What Does "War Time" Mean To You

Are you complaining because "war time" means coal shortage; less sugar in your coffee; bad business; less money than you think you ought to make?

What about the boys who are fighting for you in France?

For you—a little economy and deprivation. For them the trenches; the pitiless storms of rain and sleet; the ceaseless deafening bombardment of the guns; hunger, cold and fever; wounds and death.

That you may dwell in peace, plenty, and security, they sacrifice everything, give everything, brave everything, and face a nameless grave with a smile and a song.

What are you doing, or giving, or sacrificing for them?

The Third Liberty Loan

is your opportunity to prove the patriotism that is in your heart and on your lips.

Your opportunity to show yourself worthy of the heroism, the devotion, the self-renunciation of your soldiers and sailors.

Your opportunity to share, in some small degree, the sufferings of those who stand ready to make the supreme sacrifice for you.

All you can do is little enough. You simply lend your money. Do it, and be glad that you can do so much and sorry you can do no more.

LOCAL NEWS

G. J. Jones left Thursday on a combined business and pleasure trip to North Carolina and other points.

I-C-E

We will not make any Ice deliveries in the afternoon, July 4th, but the ice house will be open all day.
MERKEL ICE COMPANY

Jim Black, Dug Ash and probably Lytton Howard are planning for a fishing (or whaling) trip.

Mr. and Mrs. Rotan Cypert are visiting relatives in Merkel.

Remember the 10th and pay your Electric bills.

A. C. Rose and H. L. Propst are in Tulia on a business trip.

Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Britain are visiting friends in Merkel. We hope they will soon find it advisable to again make their home here.

T. P. Pierce has been very sick for the past two weeks and has been in bed most of the time. The past day or two he has been able to knock around some. He has been in ill health for a good while. Mrs. Pierce recently underwent an operation at Abilene and is now in good health.

Mr. and Mrs. G. H. Bullock leave Wednesday night for their home in Seligman, Ariz. They have been at the home of Mrs. Bullock's parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Garrett, since the burial of their baby a week ago.

Mr. and Mrs. McLaughlin of Hamlin relatives of Mrs. Penn attended the funeral services of her husband Wednesday.

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.

You May Talk to One Man

But an advertisement in this paper talks to the whole community.

Catch the Idea?

THIS SPACE PAID FOR AND CONTRIBUTED BY