



THE MERKEL MAIL



VOL. 30—NO. 34

MERKEL, TEXAS, FRIDAY, OCTOBER 4, 1918

8 PAGES

NO COTTON PRICE FIXING NOW

Austin, Texas, Sept. 25.—Hon. F. Chapman, Chief Clerk of the Agriculture Department, who is representing the cotton growers of Texas at a meeting of the Cotton States Official Marketing Board, Washington, D. C., which was called to protest against the Government putting any stipulated price on cotton, wired under date of Sept. 24th giving the result of the said conference, as follows:

Department of Agriculture, Austin, Texas: "Say to the press that we have just had conference with cotton committee of President Wilson, and they do not contemplate fixing price, but will devote attention to proper distribution of low grade cotton. Do not believe our people have any cause to be unduly alarmed nor should they rush their cotton on to the market."

Mr. D. C. Dove, of the Bureau of Markets, of the Texas Department of Agriculture, in giving this wire to the press, made the following statement:

"The news contained in this wire, that the Government does not intend to put a price on cotton, should be very consoling to the cotton growers of Texas, because the agitation of this question in Washington, and a statement issued more or less officially from there has caused the cotton market to decline more than \$25.00 per bale.

If the farmers and their friends will come back to the original recommendation made by the organized farmers of Texas, that no cotton be sold for less than 35 cents per pound, and refuse to rush their cotton on to the market, the price will now advance back to and perhaps above the highest points of the whole season.

It is believed that had it not been for this agitation of price fixing, cotton would have sold as high as 40 cents a pound before October 1st."

British Headquarters in France, Oct. 2.—The long, bitter battle is still raging, but it has turned so definitely in favor of the British that it is scarcely, even now, premature to hail it as a great victory.

To the north of the sector where the chief tactical gain was scored, in the region north of St. Quentin, there was continuous and desperate fighting.

Again and again the reserves of enemy storming troops were flung into the counter attack and the battle swayed with incredible fury. Amid all this surging, however, our troops were gradually shouldering forward.

British forces, breaking thru the German line on the Beaurevoir-Wiancourt front and capturing both these villages together with Sequehart, created a salient which aided materially in the capture of St. Quentin by the French.

The British Second Army, cooperating with the Belgians in the Flanders campaign, continued today to press forward. In the process of encircling Armentieres, it took the hamlet of Le Biset, close to Armentieres on the north.

The Belgians today continued to work forward through a sea of mud and have taken Hoogledede and Handzeeme, northeast of Roulers. They are also closing in on Roulers.

We are going to place our exclusive listings in book form and send agents to the moneyed centers "where there is something doing." If you really want to sell list with us quick. The Merkel Realty Company, at the Merkel Mail office.

AT THE BASE HOSPITAL, FT. SAM HOUSTON



Clean white beds, the very best of attention from the surgeons and nurses, and plenty of cheer-up consideration from the Army Y. M. C. A. secretaries make confinement at the base hospital as attractive as illness or injury can be made. Mothers and other relatives and friends with their beloved soldiers in the hospital can find comfort in the fact that their boys are not being neglected. The "Y" man supplements the regular ministrations of the military and the Red Cross with frequent and regular visits, bringing books, writing the patient's letters, and complying with his every wish as nearly as it is possible for him to do so. The Y. M. C. A. secretary in the picture is making his regular afternoon visit at the base hospital, distributing books to the soldiers.

When the soldiers reach the convalescent period, the "Y" furnishes movies, entertainment, and music for the convalescing soldiers.

A PATRIOTIC UNION SERVICE

A patriotic union service will be held by all the Merkel congregations at the Methodist church at the 11 o'clock service Sunday morning. Dr. Millard A. Jenkins, pastor of the First Baptist church of Abilene will do the preaching. No one is better qualified for this particular occasion than is Dr. Jenkins. He has traveled the lands that are now in the lime light, he is a scholar of pronounced ability, an orator of broad reputation and a gentleman of the highest order.

It is hoped that a crowded house will be present. A cordial invitation is extended to every one.

LIBERTY LOAN TRAIN

TO AGENTS: This train is being operated in an effort to thoroughly advertise the Fourth Liberty Loan campaign and also to give the people of your Community an opportunity of seeing the various war trophies and forms of war material. Every effort should be made by you to advertise this occasion. It is hoped that the farmers particularly will be attracted to the exhibition.

There will be a number of Liberty Loan speakers with the train and a sufficient number of soldiers and sailors to make the necessary demonstration of the exhibits.

I am sure that realizing the importance of a successful handling of the Fourth Liberty Loan you will cooperate most heartily in working up interest among the people of your region.

The train will be in Merkel from 10:10 A.M. until 11:15 A.M. on Thursday, October 17th.

Geo. D. Hunter.

DO NOT

Buy any new electrical appliances if your old ones can be repaired. Conserve the material and you will help our government. Bring your old appliances to our office and we will repair them free of labor charges. The government indorses the uses of electrical appliances for the fact it is a big saving in fuel. MERKEL POWER CO.

J. S. Bond left Tuesday for Fort Worth with a car of cattle.

CLASSIFIED ADS

1 cent a word for each insertion. No ad. taken for less than 15c.

WANTED—To go partners with party in emigrant car to move to Sevier County, Arkansas. Call at Merkel Mail office. 4t1p.

WANT TO BUY—A good second hand saddle cheap, not over \$35. Have it in town Saturday. —Sam Butman. 4t1e.

FOR SALE—Good wagon and harness for \$60.00. I. D. Walton, Merkel, Texas. Rt. 4. 4t1p.

SEWING WANTED—For sewing of all kinds, see Mrs. J. C. Carpenter, in the balcony at the Anchor Mercantile Co. 27t4p.

FOR SALE—Typewriter ribbons at the Merkel Mail office.

TEXAS WILL STAND BY HER OWN FLESH AND BLOOD

By Governor W. P. Hobby.

Approximately 200,000 men have gone from Texas into the various Branches of the United States Army and Navy.

These men must be fed and clothed and supplied with the necessary equipment for carrying forward to a successful culmination the task to which they have dedicated themselves, their lives and fortunes.

The work of maintaining an army of 200,000 men is a stupendous task, and the cost is in proportion.

As an individual, as private, non-commissioned or commissioned officer, the American soldier costs approximately annually per capita \$2,000. Of this amount \$430 goes for sustenance; \$280 for personal equipment; \$650 service; \$480 goes for pay (general average); \$80 housing, cantonment, etc.; \$120, transportation here and abroad.

Of this computation of \$2,000 it will cost Texas \$400,000,000 annually to maintain her army of 200,000 men, not including guns and ammunition. Nothing less is expected of Texas.

In his report to the House Appropriations Committee, General Marsh said there are now about 3,200,000 men under arms. Sixteen per cent of this number came from the Lone Star State. To the everlasting glory of a big state that does big things, it can be said that Texas did her duty by her country in giving her man power to this big cause of which our country went to war. And her task of meeting the gigantic cost of feeding, cloth-

ing and maintaining this huge representation of the greatest commonwealth in the greatest country in the world, will be accomplished with the same spirit of readiness with which she raised and sent into training and across the seas her army of 200,000 men and with which she meets all big situations.

The message sent back to this country by the boys who are in the thick of the fight it this: "We can do your fighting to a victorious finish, if the folk back home are willing to 'stand the gaff.'"

Texas is going to "stand the gaff." She has never admitted defeat. Conditions in the western section of the State have been deplorable by reason of an unprecedented drought. The answer to an appeal for relief of the drought sufferers was spontaneous throughout the State. And just as Texas arose to a situation that demanded the immediate financial assistance to citizens within the confines of the State, so will she lend the necessary backing for those boys who have uncomplainingly, cheerfully, and with a smile on their lips, shouldered the responsibility of this war, which is your war and my war, as well as theirs.

I appeal to the patriotism and to the honor of Texans. Do your part by these boys who are fighting for you, "Stand the gaff" and back them up to your last dollar, in order that they may soon return to us, having fought a good fight, to a victorious end.

Expect car of oats, bran and corn chops in by Saturday. G. M. Sharp.

FOR TRADE—Three jacks and a stallion for residence property in Merkel. Want something unincumbered. J. H. Grayson, Trent, Texas. Rt. 2. 26t2p.

FOR TRADE—Fine 6-passenger auto. Worth \$2165 to trade on farm worth the money. See The Merkel Mail.

FOR SALE—An 8 room house cheap. See J. C. Mason. 4t1p.

TYPEWRITER RIBBONS & CARBON PAPER—At Merkel Mail office.

We want to list your vacant lots, your houses, in fact whatever you have to sell. The Merkel Realty Company.

PEACE WITH BULGARIA CERTAIN

London, Sept. 30.—Speaking at the Guild Hall today, Andrew Bonar Law, Chancellor of the Exchequer, said a Bulgarian convention had been signed and that hostilities ended today at noon.

Bulgaria by the terms fixed gives up completely the control of the railways, the Chancellor stated.

Control of the Bulgarian railways, the Chancellor pointed out gives control of Bulgaria.

"This convention means," said the Chancellor, "that communication between Germany and the East in that direction has been cut off and that the German dream of a German Middle Eastern Empire has gone forever.

The actual suspension of hostilities immediately followed the signing of the armistice, but it is noted that this suspension applies only to Macedonian hostilities against Bulgaria and that it in no way affects Macedonian hostilities which the Allied armies will continue against Austria-Hungary, Turkey and the German contingents sent to that locality.

The armistice between Bulgaria and the Allies was signed last night, a Saloniki dispatch states.

Gen. Franchet D'Esperey, the Allied commander-in-chief in Macedonia, signed for the Allies and the Bulgarian delegates for their Government. Instructions have been given by the Government to General D'Esperey to proceed immediately to the execution of the conditions of the armistice.

THE NEW ECONOMY

Money is daily becoming less valuable, hence we must practice economy with things. The proper cleansing of woolen garments means the same to them as proper lubrication means to an automobile, or proper cleansing to a watch. Yet millions of garments are discarded every year simply because the art of cleansing and caring for them is so little understood. I know how to clean your clothes properly, and it is economy for you to bring them in and let me do your work.—adv.

MRS. C. L. CASH.

Liberty Loan Drive At Nubia.

The following citizens compose the liberty loan committee at Nubia:

M. P. Lattimer, chairman; Roland Toombs, Sam Butman, Sr., E. H. Cordill and Lee Burps.

Those wishing to subscribe will please see one of the above parties. A meeting will be called at Nubia church house in a few days.

WAR RELIC TRAIN.

The war relic train will stop in Merkel on October 17, from 10:10 a.m. to 11:15 a.m. Officials say that the exhibit is superior to that which was here for the last loan. Every one is urged to be present.

WE BUY OLD FALSE TEETH

We will pay up to \$21.50 per set (broken or not). Send now. Cash sent by return mail. Package held 10 to 15 days subject to sender's approval of our offer. Highest prices paid for Old Gold Jewelry, Gold Crowns, Bridges, Platinum and Silver.

United States Smelting Works, Inc. 1084 Goldsmith Bldg., Opp. Post Office, Milwaukee, Wis. Aug 23t20.

If we haven't what you want we'll get it. The Merkel Realty Company.

OIL MEN PERFECTING ARRANGEMENTS

In an interview with Mr. Garrison just before going to press, he authorizes us to say that several members of the company are now east perfecting arrangements whereby they hope to soon start drilling operations. Their geologist, Mr. Kennard, was here the past week checking their leases and left to make maps of the territory. He expects to have this work completed within a few days. The members of the company away expect to return next week and hope to report everything ready to begin drilling.

There is really little to give out at the present. In connection with a proposition of this magnitude all the details can not be perfected in a day. Under the contract the company yet has about fifty days to begin work. They hope, however, to be well down into the bowels of the earth by that time.

IMPORTANT PRESS NOTICE

The Honor Flag System instituted during the last Liberty Loan Campaign is still in force, and the Honor Flag with four bars will be awarded to every County or Community oversubscribing its quota.

Another matter to which we draw attention is the fact that ten ships built by the United States Shipping Board will be named after the incorporated towns to the Loan. In this connection, the percentage of population purchasing Bonds will also count and it is the two factors taken together which will determine which towns or cities are to receive the honor.

Ten military tanks will be named after the Counties producing the greatest over-subscription, together with the greatest percentage of subscriptions by population.

The last scholastic cause will be used as the basis upon which to figure.

The honor of sending tanks in to battle with the name of their County on the side should appeal to every citizen.

School Building Contract Let.

The Mount Pleasant School Board let contract to P. L. McClary to erect the Mount Pleasant school building. The old building has been demolished and work has already begun on the new building. It will be built according to State specifications and will be strictly modern. This is the fourth school building in this vicinity to be erected by this enterprising contractor. He is in hope the building can be completed by the middle of the month.

Statement of Ownership, Management, Circulation, Etc. October 1, 1918.

Of Merkel Mail, published weekly at Merkel, Texas, required by the act of August 12, 1919

Editor and manager, Walter Jackson, Merkel, Texas.

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Sworn to and subscribed to before me this 1st day of October 1918.

(Seal) W. O. Boney, Notary Public Taylor County. (My commission expires on June 1st, 1919.)

CAR OF OATS FOR SALE Have car bulk oats on siding a Blair for sale quick.—John H. Hughes, t1c.

George and Harry Woodrum are both sick with influenza.

THE FARMERS STATE BANK

☐ You insure your Home and your Life; why not your Money?

☐ This Bank is a Guaranty Fund Bank and offers you the protection afforded by the State Guaranty Fund of Texas.

We Pay The Premium

Capital and Surplus Fund
\$65,000.00

FELIX JONES CARRIED TO DALLAS FOR TRIAL

Claims He Was In Abilene On Day Miss Brown Was Killed

Preparations for his defense were begun yesterday by Felix Jones, brought here to stand trial on a charge of murder of Miss Florence Brown in July of 1913. His wife visited him in the afternoon. An attorney was called.

To reporters Jones indicated that his defense will be an alibi. He says he was not in Dallas at the time of the murder and did not know the Brown girl.

"Citizens of Abilene know I was there when this murder was committed," he said. "I listened while an account of it was read there but a few hours after the killing. I never knew this young woman and am as innocent of her death as a baby."

In speaking of his whereabouts, Jones said that he had been in Dallas about a week before the murder. He explained that he frequently went there on business.

His trial in Criminal District Court is due to be set tomorrow. Mike T. Lively, District Attorney, who will prosecute the case said that he would ask for an early trial. He will be assisted by his first assistant, Willis Pierson, nominee for District Attorney.

The Brown murder mystery is five years old. The killing occurred on the morning of July 22, 1913, just a few minutes after arriving at a Field street real estate office, where she was

a stenographer. Since then several grand juries have gone over the case. However, it was not until June of 1917 that an indictment was returned. The evidence is said to be circumstantial. Most of it was developed by the late William McDonald, United States Marshal.

LABORERS WANTED

Abilene, Texas, Oct. 2—An indefinite number of unskilled laborers for the government nitrate plant at Mussel Shoals, Alabama, will be shipped from Abilene Saturday morning, Oct. 5. Wages are good; Time and half given for overtime and on holidays and Sundays. Board and lodging may be obtained at \$5.25 per week. This is highly essential construction work of the government.

Transportation and meals enroute from Abilene are absolutely free. Applicants sign up for no stipulated time. All persons wishing to go with this shipment must report in person to the United States Employment Service, Abilene, not later than 11 o'clock Friday night, Oct. 4. Persons residing at a distance from Abilene should pay fare to Abilene, taking a receipt from conductor or ticket agent presenting same to the air nitrates representative at Abilene on arrival for an immediate refund.

The government is paying high salaries for competent stenographers and typists. Take a course now at the Merkel Business College.

Catarrhal Deafness Cannot Be Cured

by local applications, as they cannot reach the diseased portion of the ear. There is only one way to cure catarrhal deafness, and that is by a constitutional remedy. Catarrhal Deafness is caused by an inflamed condition of the mucous lining of the Eustachian Tube. When this tube is inflamed you have a rumbling sound or imperfect hearing and when it is entirely closed, Deafness is the result. Unless the inflammation can be reduced and this tube restored to its normal condition, hearing will be destroyed forever. Many cases of deafness are caused by catarrh, which is an inflamed condition of the mucous surfaces. Hall's Catarrh Medicine acts thru the blood on the mucous surfaces of the system.

We will give One Hundred Dollars for any case of Catarrhal Deafness that cannot be cured by Hall's Catarrh Medicine. Circulars free. All Druggists, 75c. F. J. CHENEY & CO., Toledo, O.

Tan-No-More

THE SKIN BEAUTIFIER

The most scientific and most wonderful facial preparation of the modern age. It imparts to the skin a velvety softness and delicacy which is delightful in appearance and pleasing in effect. Used during the day it is a protection from the Sun and Wind. In the evening its use assures a faultless complexion. Tints: White and Flesh. All dealers, 35c, 50c and \$1.00, or sent post paid on receipt of price. Sample for the asking.

BAKER-WHEELER MANUFACTURING COMPANY
DALLAS, TEXAS

Fourth Liberty Loan



☐ This campaign is now on. Every person should invest in these bonds to the limit of his ability. ☐ This Bank and its officials and clerical force is at your service in this matter and will give the same careful attention to subscriptions that it has in the past.

War Saving Stamps

for sale over the counter
at all times

☐ Your general Banking business invited and the limit of our service is only circumscribed by the rules of prudent banking.

FARMERS & MERCHANTS NATIONAL BANK

LOCAL NEWS

Dr. and Mrs. Stephen Smith and baby of Crosbyton were visitors at the home of Mr. and Mrs. C. L. Deutschman.

Don't forget the man that buys most everything. Go to see him when you have anything to sell. The first letter of his name is W. P. Duckett.

See that productive farm just a few miles northeast of Merkel. The Merkel Realty Company.

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

Mr. and Mrs. Burns of Albany spent Sunday afternoon and night visiting their daughter, Miss Alice, and also Mr. and Mrs. J. N. Teaff and family.

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

Mrs. W. C. Cameron of Montgomery, Texas returned home after an extended visit with Rev. and Mrs. C. S. Cameron.

Plenty of fresh groceries at G. M. Sharps.

Why not take a business education and be of some help in winning the war. The Merkel Business College can give you the very best training in shorthand and typewriting to be had. A new class is just starting.

GLYCERINE MIXTURE FOR APPENDICITIS

Merkel people can prevent appendicitis with simple buchoorn bark, glycerine, ect., as mixed in Adler-i-ka. One spoonful flushes the entire bowel tracts so completely it relieves any case sour stomach, gas or constipation and prevents appendicitis. The instant, pleasant action of Adler-i-ka surprises both doctors and patients. Leaves stomach clean and strong. Sanders Drug Store.

adv. 2.

Buy Liberty Bonds

IT'S THE QUICK WAY FOR PEACE
and for you to keep a smile

We Have Many Things

that you can buy at big saving, as goods of a year ago make and price are better than ones produced now.

OUR PRICES ARE RIGHT

Styles are Very Practical

And Quality A1 for the Price

Yours to Serve

The Brown D. G. Company

TURKEY'S FORCE TRAPPED
London, Sept. 23.—Reports from Palestine front this afternoon indicate that none of the Turkish forces of at least 40,000 men trapped by the British through the seizure of the last of the passages of the Jordan, can possibly get away.

Virtually the entire Turkish force is or will be accounted for in killed, wounded and captured. Hundreds of stragglers are being found wandering about in the mountainous country aimlessly, without a leader or a purpose.

The Turks had seven divisions south of Nazareth and west of the Jordan, but the exact total cannot be determined owing to the weakness of some of the Turkish division, the totals of the different units varying.

The total of 25,000 prisoners reported, however is believed to be far less than the final count will show, as at last reports prisoners were still being brought in.

The clear-up effected by General Allenby, which is pointed to here as the quickest and most complete of the entire war, is counted as having definitely deprived the Turks of Palestine. In addition, besides the personnel of their armies, the defeat has cost them an immense amount of war material.

So far as is known the Turks on this front only had four airplanes and these four have been captured.

RED CROSS HEADACHE and NEURALGIA REMEDY

Relieves neuralgia and chronic headaches. Free from opiates, quickly absorbed and producing immediate relief. Particularly recommended for headaches resulting from excesses. This and more than one hundred other Red Cross Remedies and Toilet Preparations sold and guaranteed only by

Grimes Drug Store

When New Year's Day rolls around in 1923 are you going to be well-off in self-respect and money? If you buy War Saving Stamps now the future will have no regrets for you. Every time you purchase a War Saving Stamp you are laying aside for the future.

U.S. AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT PLANS BIG TEXAS EXHIBIT

WIDE SCOPE OF WORK TO BE SHOWN AT THE 1918 COTTON PALACE EXPOSITION

Waco, Texas.—The scope of the work of the Department of Agriculture is so wide and the quantity of its exhibit material is so great that its display at the Cotton Palace Exposition this fall will vary in different sections of the country, but in every case they have been selected to clinch some reason why American agricultural production must be increased and to show some of the numerous ways in which it can be done. These exhibits will not be for the farmer alone. They are for him first, but food production has become the business and concern of everybody in America, and nearly everybody has come to know it. More than that, for the attention of even the novice who cannot tell a solo from a silo.

The Weather Bureau will show how it is able to forecast storms, frosts and floods to protect agriculture, commerce and navigation, and will display its daily weather map showing conditions in the immediate locality of the exhibition. The Bureau of Animal Industry will show how to improve and increase the country's supply of meat, milk and poultry, how it guards the health of the public and our soldiers and sailors through its meat inspection system, and how to drive out the destructive animal diseases that annually take a toll of many millions of dollars. That other great coordinated branch of the Department of Agriculture, the Bureau of Plant Industry, will treat its field in the same manner, with special attention to methods of bettering and stimulating plant production and eradicating plant diseases.

Broad features of the Forest Service work are to be presented in popular and striking form. Models urge the burning of local fuel wood to release coal for cities and war purposes and relieve transportation, contrast proper methods of logging with the wasteful ways, and to show the proper handling of tree windbreaks for increasing crop and animal production. Other Forest Service displays show how forest fires are prevented or discovered and fought; how valuable timber can be saved for war uses; and the need of retaining forests to retard soil erosion on slopes.

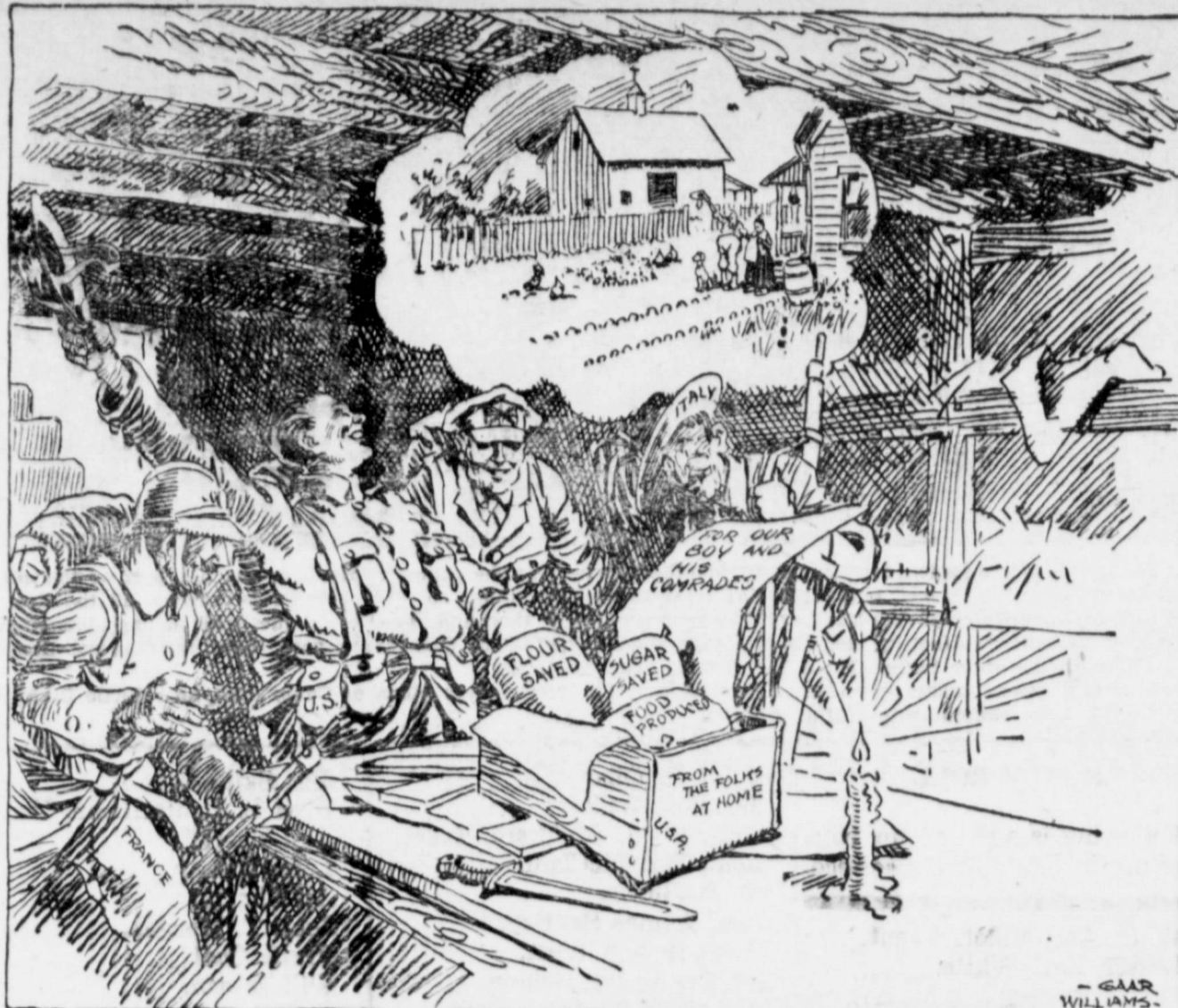
Distinctive exhibits of the Bureau of Chemistry illustrate the enforcement of the Food and Drug Act, production and preservation of food products, use of tanning materials, production of colors and other chemical industries. Difference between true and imitation commercial articles are shown, and light is thrown on adulterated or misbranded medicinal preparations, including headache "remedies," "beauty" preparations, asthma, consumption, and other alleged "cures."

Samples of the soils that occur in the United States, including some local to the neighborhood of the particular exhibition, together with information relating to their best use in farming, are among the Bureau of Soils displays. The States Relations Service shows its work, in cooperation with the state agricultural colleges, in spreading farming information through county agents, home demonstration agents and boys' and girls' clubs, and illustrates food conservation by canning and drying.

DALLAS STATE FAIR WILL NOT BE HELD

Waco, Texas.—The Dallas State Fair has been definitely called off for the duration of the war. An announcement made at Waco however, states that the annual Texas Cotton Palace exposition will be continued as usual. Plans for the Waco attraction are said to be on a more elaborate scale than ever before attempted which insures it the greatest exposition in the Southwest this year.

A BOX FROM HOME



Food savings of millions of Americans during our first year of war enabled this government to send enormous food shipments abroad for our fighting forces and the Allied nations. Our savings in cereals—out of a short crop—amounted to 154,900,000 bushels; all of which was shipped to Europe. We increased our meat and fat shipments 844,600,000 pounds. This was America's "box from home" to our army abroad and the civilians and military forces of the Allied nations.

A. M. GILES WRITES

Phenix Arizo., Sept. 22.
Merkel Mail:

I left Merkel on the 14th of September. Arrived here the 16. If one should go to sleep there and wake up on Central St. in Phenix, just north of the business district, early some morning he might wonder if he had not gone to Paradise, Via Rose Hill; but if he remained until ten o'clock he would know it was not Paradise, and before night he might wonder if he was not close to the other place it is so awful hot.

This certainly is a beautiful country, Salt River Valley as it is called is 14 miles wide at Phenix, and 40 or 50 wide at some places and I have been told it is about 100 miles long, it is almost surrounded by mountains, and watered by Cannals from the Salt river.

Roosevelt Dam is 70 miles north E. of here, 40 miles down the river they have what is called a diversion Dam, that allows the water to pass out as it is needed into larger canals, then to smaller canals, then to large ditches then to smaller ditches that waters practically the whole Valley.

Most all the land is cut up in 10 acre blocks, most blocks arranged so one side will be on public road, and a ditch of water 3 feet deep and 4 feet wide running swiftly by the side of the road. Large trees such as cotton wood, Ash, Peppers, Palms and many others than I do not know the names off. Where there happens to be a ditch on each side of the road one can ride for miles in the shade.

I suppose they can raise any thing here, I saw some oranges growing. Vegetables do well. Some have roasting ears now. Cotton is the main crop, which makes from one half to a bale per acre. Maize about 2 tons per acre.

Farm work is about \$2.50 per day and board, where you can find a place at all to board, this is a little hard to do.

Cotton picking has just opened up, and some are paying 4¢ a pound, but the larger cotton companies are trying to hold it down to 3 cents without board.

I went out in a jitney for a few miles and I saw Maize 10 feet high, and cotton just about as high, and so thick you could not see 20 feet in front of you, however all the cotton is not so high, it ranges from 5 to 9 feet. I saw one patch of maize headed out that was not more than 2 feet high.

I have talked with men who have been picking this cotton, they say you can pick about half as much as you can of short cot-

ton.

Land rents from \$25 to \$40 per acre cash in advance.

I may go from here to El-centro Cal., and if this does not go to the waste basket I may write again.

Best wishes to the Mail and its readers.

A. M. Giles.

THE SERVICE FLAG.

Dear little flag in the window, there,
Hung with a tear and dear woman's prayer,
Child of Old Glory, born with a star—
Oh, what a wonderful flag you are.

Blue is your star in its field of white,
Dipped in the red that was born of right,
Born of the blood our forbears shed
To raise your mother, the Flag, o'erhead.

And now you've come in this frenzied day,
To speak from a window-to speak and say:
"I am the voice of a soldier-son,
Gone, to be gone till the victory's won."

"I am the flag of Service, sir,
The flag of his mother, I speak for her
Who stands by my window and waits and fears,
But hides from the others her unwept tears."

"I am the flag of the wives who wait
For the safe return of a martial mate,
A mate gone forth where the war-god thrives
To save from sacrifice other men's wives."

"I am the flag of the sweetheart true;
The often unthought of-the sisters, too,
I am the flag of the mother's son
And won't come down till the victory's won."

Dear little flag in the window there,
Hung with a tear and a dear woman's prayer,
Child of Old Glory, born with a star—
Oh, what a wonderful flag you ARE.
—Wm. Herschell.

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.

SHARE OUR SUGAR WITH THE ALLIES

British Get Two Pounds a Month.
French Pound and Half,
Italians One Pound.

GERMAN SUPPLY PLENTIFUL

All Nations Permit Use of Sweetening for Home Preserving Purposes.

America's new sugar ration of two pounds a month per person is equitable when compared with the sugar ration enforced by rigid governmental order in England, France and Italy, nations with which we are sharing sugar.

Each Allied nation—in the matter of sugar consumption—is sharing on nearest possible equal terms the hardships imposed by greatly altered conditions in the world sugar situation.

Formerly classed as a luxury, sugar is now a war time essential. The fair and just division of this essential is in the hands of the various Allied food controllers.

The United States Food Administration has asked this nation to observe a voluntary sugar ration of two pounds per person a month.

In the other countries at war with Germany sugar is one of the scarce articles on every menu—whether in the households of both rich and poor, or in the hotels.

England today has a sugar ration of two pounds per month per person. In France the ration is a pound and a half and in Italy it is one pound a month. And the prices in allied countries are from two to three times as high as in America.

If you go to a hotel in England or France these days and order tea or coffee they serve absolutely no sugar with it. If you want sugar you must bring it with you.

In England it is allowable to use one-seventh of an ounce of sugar in the preparation of each luncheon. In France many persons carry little saccharine tablets about with them for use in hotels and in England rich and poor must take their sugar with them if they wish to have sweetened tea while visiting friends.

Before the war started France had 625,000 acres devoted to sugar production. By 1917 the French sugar acreage had decreased to 180,000 acres. Today the French man or woman with a sugar card has no assurance whatever that he or she will be able to actually buy sugar. To buy it, one must first find it.

Italy Has "State Sugar."
Especially drastic regulations govern the use of sugar in Italy. Its manufacture, distribution and sale are closely controlled, and in part actually taken over by the state.

Saccharine is permitted to be sold and used as a substitute for sugar and the government manufactures a mixture of saccharine and sugar called "State Sugar," which is largely used.

German Sugar Ration Adequate.
Germany, before the war, produced a great surplus of sugar and exported large quantities. Today the Germans have virtually gone out of the export business, but have plenty of cheap sugar for home use.

Wholesale prices prevalent in the Allied nations, according to information received by the United States Food Administration are as follows: England, 10 cents a pound; France, 12 cents; Italy, 26 cents.

While these high prices are being paid abroad the American wholesale price is being held at 7½ cents.

\$50 Reward

☐ We will pay the above reward to anyone supplying us, the City or County Officials with information that will lead to the arrest and conviction of guilty party or parties, who cut our Gin Belts to pieces on the night of September 13th.

☐ We hope the citizenship in and around Merkel will understand that we do not intend to cast any reflection on them as regards their loyalty in supporting the law, but will understand that we are simply willing to pay anyone for their trouble who will bear this outrage in mind and report any possible clew, as we confidently believe the perpetrator can be located, and dare say will be.

☐ We regret to announce in connection with this offer of reward, that we will not operate our gin, as since we have been endeavoring to get started, we have been hindered by one circumstance or another, until it is getting so far advanced into the season, that we will not operate; and, too, we have just received notice from Fuel Administrator that they desire us to close.

☐ We hope you will appreciate our honest efforts to get started, and remember us with your patronage another season.
20t4

PLANTERS GIN CO.

PROFESSIONAL

—D-E-N-T-I-S-T—
Dr. F. N. Reynolds

Office Hours 8—12 AM; 1—5 PM
Over Woodroof-Bragg's Store.

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.
Merkel —:— Texas

G. W. JOHNSON

Insurance—Notary Public
Over Woodroof—Bragg's Store.
Merkel —:— Texas

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

PATE BARBER SHOP
Skillful Operators—The Very
Best Service.
PATE & SON
Anchor Building, Next to P. O.
Merkel, Texas.

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

Specialty in Farm Loans

Inspector on the ground—Quick Service

Real Estate and Fire Insurance

W. O. BONEY West of Farmers State Bank

PLUMBING AND WINDMILL WORK

Will answer calls day or night, anywhere and
Guarantee my Work

GEN. J. JONES :: At Crown Hardware Company

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

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 allies have even lost their respect for the Hindenberg line and seem to trample upon and beyond it at will. In a short time we will forget the line and will be talking about Rhine.

We haven't heard a married man yet but who says he is ready and willing to go to the front, but it is singular to note that when he fills out his questionnaire he is accompanied not only by his wife, but by all the children and usually all the children of relatives. Of course it is just a matter of convenience that he brings them along.

Some of our wisest and best business men have at times become dispondent over the drouth situation and predicted that everybody would leave the country. On the contrary our school attendance has exceeded that of last year, the merchants are doing a nice business and everything is moving along somehow. We can't understand it, but it seems that people can get along somehow, no matter what happens the hand of providence is present.

It is said there was a circus in the country the past week. We didn't go although we had a pass. We are raising no fuss with those who took a different view. They have an abundant right to their opinion. We didn't think the time and conditions warranted the patronage of a show coming just about the time a sum of money was received for the drouth stricken west, at a time when every effort is being made to secure governmental assistance. We are not against the circus. We believe they are educational in nature but we do have some regard for the conditions and the occasions.

Things have changed considerably since the Sammies arrived at the front. We beheld the allied armies in desperate straits, and reports current that they could not hold out but few months longer. The Sammies arrived with a grin, knowing not the meaning of fear, and bravely triumphantly, they raised old glory in a grand forward march to the very front lines. Ever since the day they lined up in force the story of the battle has been on the side of the allies. Triumph after triumph has attended the new inspiration. Victory now perches on the standard of every allied power. On the French and Belgium fronts the allied powers vie with each other as who will do the most heroic deeds; the powerful hand of Italy is striking with terror on the southern front; the Turkish army in Palestine has been annihilated. Bulgaria has sued for

peace; gradually from a sea of chaos Russia is righting herself, and all because Uncle Sam cast his law of might on the side of right.

Bulgaria has said "Calf Rope." She is down and out. We doubt if little sympathy is deserved for her. She is a traitor by nature. She came into the fight when it seems that Germany would predominate and now when it seems the allies are going to win she is on the side of the allies. At any rate some consideration will have to be given for removing her forces at this time and enabling the allies to deal a more direct blow upon Turkey. The Turkish army in Palestine has been cut to pieces and the allies are gaining territory in a hurry. From every front the allies are winning, and the slogan, "On to Berlin," may yet soon be a reality. We can't think of the war ending under a year, and yet from all indications a collapse is imminent at any time.

The only merit some people can claim is that they are from a certain place. Usually we find they do not do credit to the place they are from. It is about like some people who claim great ancestry and whose very lives are a reflection upon that ancestor. After all it is real ability and loveliness of character that really counts.

Whenever we hear a business man make the statement that he will run his business to suit himself, regardless of the desires of his customers or any one else, we are reminded of that peculiar individual in Illinois who had a big stock of goods on hand at the close of the civil war and who said he would not buy any more goods until he sold what he had. He died a short time ago and still had a stock on hand. It consisted of hoop skirts and all the styles in vogue before the war. That was a great business man! However, nobody could dictate to him. He made his own money and could do as he pleased, and he did it.

We are paying dearly for charity. Taylor county received \$1000 of the drouth-relief fund. She feels grateful for the spirit that promoted the giving. But, when we come right down to business, this little sum is the dearest charity a country ever accepted. It would have been far better had our own citizens raised the charity fund and returned the \$1000 for other counties. The publicity that has been given Taylor county has caused investors, homeseekers and promoters to pass it up. Even some of the loan companies would have done the wise thing to have refused the \$1000. It is so small. We do not charge that this loan of \$1000 is the cause of all the trouble. We do charge that when Taylor county accepts help from any source, she is bound to pay \$10 in the long run for every dollar she receives. It might be well for our citizens to keep this in mind now. At most, we are going to get precious little help. Even where the government proposes to help, there is so much red tape to go through that the help will be so delayed as to lose much of its worth. We are trying to get our road bonds in shape to be of help to the people, but federal action is exceedingly slow. We don't want charity. We want a chance to earn an honest livelihood.



It's a Food Administration. "Sides savin' fats on wheat, we got ter save sugar. De best way ter save sugar is ter use syrups on honey. A nice HFI pitcher full er 'lasses conveyed by a fleet or buckwheat cakes is one er de best ways to "get crosst" wid de sugar project, - en it saves wheat flour too.

THE MAN AT THE COUNTER



He is one of the busiest men in the world—the "Y" man at the counter. He is as much a part of the military scheme of things as "chow" and taps. At least the soldier thinks so. The counter is crowded all the time, and the man at the counter proves his versatility by answering a thousand varieties of questions, selling stamps, giving advice, distributing stationery, helping the boys send money home, passing out good cheer, handing out literature, and doing all the other things that a "Y" man is expected to do. This is a typical counter scene in a Y. M. C. A. hut. The picture was taken at Camp Pike, near Little Rock, Ark., one of the large cantonments of the country.

HONOR ROLL

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

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

Ulric Forrester.
Andrew Archer.
Roy Adams.
Britt Baker.
Fauss Banner.
Edgar Breeze.
W. B. Brown.
Arthur Derrington.
Frank J. Ferrer.
De Gorcus.

Wm. R. Green.
James F. Holloway.
B. Jobe.
Pete Meek.
F. O'Brien.
Herbert Ricker.
Paul Stamford.
Bill Sheppard.
Paul Turner.
George White.
L. B. Wells.
Riley White.
L. Powers.

Emzi Burroughs.
Thos Bearden.
Jas. Brown.
Emmitt Grimes.
L. M. Hutchins.
Chester A. Duncan, Trent.
John T. Morris, Trent.
Joe L. Evans, Trent.
W. W. McMurray, Trent.
Hubert J. Swan, Trent.
John Moore, Merkel.
Lieut B. B. Brown
Chester Hall.
Stuart Grimes.
Jas. Clyde White.
Lloyd Shepard.
L. A. Dudley.
Robert Vernon Boring.
Sherley King.
O. A. Horton.
Ira Huss.
Archie Rose.
Fred Harrell.
Chas. C. Jones.
Glen Thompson
Roscoe Sharp.
John Ware.
John D. Dudley.
John Edward Hunter.
E. M. Harris.
George Smith.
Geo. N. Reynolds.
J. H. Rister, Tye.
Wayne Abernathy, Trent.
H. W. Beckham, Trent
Dee H. Donnell, Trent
Hollis Brown, Trent.
Royce Dowdy, Trent.
Robt. B. Parker.
Frank E. Smith
Luther Grimes.
W. L. Diltz, Jr.
William B. Tarpley.
Arthur E. Windland, Tye.
James O. Dulin.
Kirby L. Vidrine.
Leonard Morrison.
Joseph A. McMurray.
Rufus H. O'Neal.
Willie E. Pool.
Ennis Grimes.
Charley Fitzgerald.
Berry Forrester.
Joseph A. Pruitt, Trent
John T. Mattingley, Noodle.
Reuben C. Hall
Henry D. (Doc) Hall
R. O. Stevens.
Tom Smith Martin.
Leland L. Martin.
T. J. Bird.
R. E. Harris
Robert Rainbolt.
Lee Raymond Campbell
Euleus McNees.

John P. Gibson.
Leonard Wills
Winslow J. Beckham, Trent.
John Rex McClain.
O. R. Burns.
Joe Thomas Hartley.
John Robert West.
Robert Grady Collins
Jim F. Winters.
Arthur McMurray.
Charlie Clifton Smith, Trent.
Fred Pribble, Trent.
Ernest Massey, Trent.
Lee Massey, Trent.
Hosea Winn, Trent.
Skyler Dunn, Trent.
Elmer Dunn, Trent.
Will E. Smith, Trent.
Leldon Goode, Noodle
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
Guy Bradley, Stith.
Guy Sibley, Trent.
Wm. Wills.
Sam H. Rosson, Trent.
Claude Rosson, Trent.
Alfred Wesley Costephens.
Ulyses McNees.
W. Clarence Cameron
Vessie E. Browning.
Clyde Garrett.
Bailey Frazier.
John Coomer.
Bailey Frazier.
Leo Shepard.
Frank Millican.
Dem Rusk.
Q Rusk.

Tucker
Horton.
John Tucker.
Wilba Whitaker
Rufus McLean.
Dillard Snow.
Vernon Simpson.
Dr. Robert I. Grimes.
Floyd Dean
Guy Brady.
Cecil McRee, Trent
Clayton Hall, Trent.
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.
Orville Foster.
Clyde Foster.
Jodie Bright, Trent
Barney A. Garrett.
P. M. Hutchins.
Roger F. Haynes.
O. S. Burns.
Roger V. Wells.
Jas. Parker Sharp.
Will Brown.
Judson McRee.
Frank Hart.
Albert Vessell, Trent
Jim Skillern, Trent.
Denzil Cox.
Lee Tipton.
Jim Burfind
Homer Tye.
Roy R. Coats.
Denzie Cox.
Lee Tipton.
Jas. Dent Gibson.
Roy R. Coats.
Sydney B. Coats.
Chas. F. Thornton.
Albert Vessell.

Jim Skillern.
Fred B. Deutschman, Noodle
Will Merritt.
Louis Swann.
Arl Sharp.
John T. Morgan.
Frank Cook.
Will Brown.
Joel Counts.
Homer Laney.
Mason Pee.
Sam J. Gafford.
Joe Owen.
Wm. Cox.
Owen Ellis.
Rodger Hamblett.
Stanley King.
J. O. McMurray.
Joe Gunn.
Bowie H. Floyd.
Martin Gold Riggans.
Nall Perkins.
Ralph Bigham.
DeWitt T. Johnson
Russell T. Johnson.
B. Martin.

AT THE FOUNTAIN

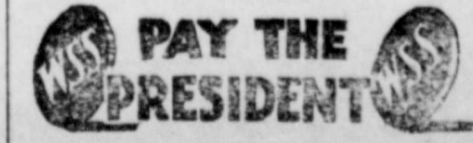


Here is a familiar scene in any Y. M. C. A. building at our army camps. Ice-cooled water "bubblers" quench the thirst of thousands of soldiers, and during a "run" on the fountain the "water line" often extends across the building. The Army Y. M. C. A. is the enlisted man's club, where he may read, write letters, buy stamps and post cards, have bundles wrapped free of charge, get money orders, play games, and meet his comrades for a social hour.

The bubbling cold water fountain is one of the most popular advantages offered the soldiers by the Army "Y" in the Southern department, which is composed of Texas, Arkansas, Oklahoma, Louisiana, New Mexico and Arizona.

RED CROSS VANISHING CREAM (WITH PEROXIDE)

A greaseless cream of snowy whiteness. Delightfully perfumed. A day cream for oily skins. Softens the hard lines of the face. Protects it from sunburns, winds, tans and cold weather. Affords an excellent foundation for applying Amvico Beauty Face Powder. This and more than one hundred other Red Cross Remedies and Toilet preparations sold and guaranteed only by Grimes Drug Store



Plenty of fresh groceries at G. M. Sharps.

CHURCH NEWS

Sunday School Report.

| | Attendance | Col |
|-----------|------------|--------|
| Baptist | 175 | \$3.50 |
| Methodist | 150 | 2.81 |

Over At The Baptist Church. Come on in, Cephas; the going is good! Last Sunday was high water mark—four were baptized! The biggest crowd attended Sunday school that has in several weeks.

Next Sunday at eleven o'clock the Lord's Supper will be observed. It is hoped that every member of the church be present. At that hour the pastor will speak on "The Baptist Reason." Fellow-member, make it a point to be present, won't you?

Everybody has cordial invitation to attend any one or all of our services.

Observe change of time in the evening service from 6 o'clock to 8 o'clock. This hour will remain fixed for the month of October, and with the change of time at the end of this month change to 7 o'clock.

E. E. Dawson, pastor.

Methodist Church News.

We had a splendid day last Sunday. Our Sunday school attendance was in advance of former days, but not at all what it should have been. I feel sure that if our people would stop and consider their duty and act, our attendance would be at least 200 next Sunday. Last Sunday was promotion day in our school.

Remember now! We have just one month to wind up our church year, will you do your part? I'm sure you will. Then let's make Oct. a rally month, if we ever expect to make a full sacrifice, let's do it this month.

Our 4th quarterly conference will be held the 23 of Oct., in the church at 8:30 p. m. A full attendance is expected and full reports from each and every department of the Church.

The last quarterly conference of the Tye circuit will be held at the Merkel church on Oct. 23, at 2:30 p. m.

C. S. Cameron.

B. Y. P. U. Program: Oct. 6.

- Topic, Conversion of A. C. Dixon, Miss Lula Sharp.
- The Story of Matthew T. Yates, Miss Dixie Howard.
- The Conversion of Charles H. Spurgeon, Dr. Pue.
- Special Music.
- The Testimony of Fanny Crosby, Mrs. Thos. Beardon.
- Francis Willard's Story, Miss Wilma Garrett.
- F. B. Myer's Testimony, Miss Emma Houston.
- Song.

At The Presbyterian Church.

Services are held every Sunday morning at 11 o'clock and every Sunday evening at 8. The Sunday School at 10 a. m. Prayer meeting at 8:30 Wednesday. Everybody expected.

S. R. Standifer, pastor.

Epworth League Program.

- Topic, Weak Points in Our League to be Strengthened.
- Scripture, Act. 6: 1-8.
- Leader, Miss Lorena Dry.
- Talk by Leader.
- Song.
- 1. Anna Mae Costephen.
- 2. Vivian Hutcheson.
- 3. President of Chapter.
- Song.

In her Wheatless Kitchen she is doing her part to help win the war

Are you doing yours?

UNITED STATES FOOD ADMINISTRATION

BIG REDUCTION SALE

We have decided to offer a Big Reduction Sale on everything in our line in the way of cotton staple goods, Dress Goods, men and ladies Suits, boys Clothing, men, women and childrens Shoes and Hosiery. We booked large orders ahead in order to be protected in price and rather than cancel the goods have had them come, and find we have too many goods although we own them way below the present level. We have decided to give our patronage the benefit of our purchases rather than wholesale them to other merchants. A look over our prices will convince you that we mean business and are going to reduce stock

Extra Special in Shoes

100 pairs ladies shoes, button and lace, ranging in price from \$3.50 to \$8.50, reduction price only\$2.98
 100 pairs ladies and childrens shoes ranging in price from \$3 to \$3.50 and \$4 reduction price only\$1.98
 50 pairs mens work shoes with chrome elk bottoms, regular price \$2.75, reduction price only\$1.98
 100 pairs, mens shoes ranging in price from \$3.50 to \$5, reduction price\$2.98
 Many other bargains in shoes much below the market price today.

Special in Hosiery

100 dozen ladies black hose, regular price 20c, reduction price per pair.....15c
 100 dozen childrens ribbed hosiery regular price 20c, per pair only.....15c

A GLIMPSE AT OUR STAPLE DEPARTMENT

will convince you that we are selling you many articles today less than the mill price, but we are compelled to reduce stock as drouth conditions will not justify us in carrying the goods over another year.

EXTRA SPECIALS—Good grade Calico, in light colors only, suitable for boys shirts, blouses, womens house dresses, etc. About fifty bolts to go at the extremely low price of per yd.....10c
 Good grade bleached domestic 36 in. wide, at per yard while it lasts, only.....16 2-3c
 These goods are now worth 23½c at the mills today
 Best grade 10-4 bleached sheeting at per yard only55c
 Best grade 9-4 bleached sheeting at per yard50c
 Best grade 8 oz. standard feather ACA ticking at per yard only.....40c
 Good grade brown domestic at per yard only.....17½c
 Best grade 28 in. brown cotton flannels at per yard only.....25c

SPECIAL IN OUR GROCERY DEPARTMENT

| | |
|--|------------------------------|
| 1 doz. cans No. 2 standard corn.....\$1.50 | Gallon Peaches.....65c |
| 1 doz. cans No. 2 standard Tomatoes.....1.50 | Gallon Apricots.....75c |
| 1 doz. cans No. 3 Empons Kraut.....1.50 | Gallon Pears.....75c |
| 1 doz. cans No. 3 Hominy.....1.50 | Gallon Logan Berries.....75c |

Dress Goods

Big Reduction in all Woolen and Silk Dress Goods
 Extra Special in 50 pieces mixed woolen goods, all shades and colors, special price per yard.....89c
 These goods are almost unobtainable today and we could ship them out to other merchants for more money today.

10 per cent reduction on all ladies and childrens Rerdy-to-Wear. Don't overlook this snap if you are going to need anything in ladies Coats, Coat Suits, Skirts, Waists, etc.

Mens Clothing Department

Extra Special—About 25 mens suits ranging in price from \$15 to \$25. All go at the extremely low price of\$13.95

Anchor Mercantile Company

ERNEST OLD WRITES

The following letter was received by Mr. and Mrs. B. N. Billingsley:

We certainly had a fine trip from Camp Travis to the Port of Embarkment. We were on the road five days, and we were treated royally all along the route, and I saw so many interesting things, and some of the prettiest country I ever had the opportunity to see. The latter was up thru Northern Kentucky, Indiana, and Ohio. If you could see it I am sure you would not stay in Texas very long. At any rate I thought it beautiful, and Mrs. B. I know you could have written a poem that would have made you famous, if you had been on the train the last day of our trip, when we touched on the Hudson River at Cornwall, and followed its course for about thirty or forty miles; part of the distance the Catskill Mts. were on one side and the River on the other. I wish I could paint a picture of a great rocky peak that we passed very near that morning. I still have the picture in my mind's eye, you know, but am afraid I could not do a very good job transferring it to the canvas or "paper." I stayed near N. Y. City for nearly three weeks, and had the opportunity of visiting the city twice, and walking down Broadway. You know it a wonder the "cops" did not get me. Did intend to go to Coney Island but left too soon. Many of the fellows went out there, but I did not go on—pass but twice and both times I went to the city.

The trip across the "big pond" is one not to be forgotten, and I got rather tired before we came in sight of land, of seeing nothing but water, as far as the eyes could see, day after day, but there was one remarkable thing about the voyage—I did not get sea-sick, that is seriously, I will admit that I did feel rather "wabby" two or three times, and I know from the way I felt, that it must not be very agreeable to be real sick. Had lots of fun and every one was in a good humor, and American-like, took

nothing very serious. Nothing so very exciting occurred during the trip, but I have one interesting thing in mind that I will promise to tell you the first opportunity.


I do not wish to return to the U. S. of course, until the job is finished over here, but a fellow gets restless sometimes, and would give a lot to be in some good American city for a couple of hours and get a good "feed", a coca cola, and see a real show. We are allowed passes, and have some entertainment here at the camp; for instance, base-ball, and we have a minstrel composed of members of the Regiment which gives us a pretty good show every Friday evening.

I know you all are interested and glad as to the present prospect of the war, as I think it is looking favorable for us, in fact, more so than in months, tho I donot know of course what the papers are publishing over there. We get our American papers here, and we sure are glad to receive them too.

I guess you are wondering how much French I have learned to speak, and I am afraid you will think me rather dull when I tell you I can almost count the French words I can speak correctly on my fingers. Do not mix with the people enough to learn much as that is the only way, unless one has a teacher. Guess I will have to find me one. "C" We are not very near any town of any size, and I do not find many things that are interesting at the little place, after going there a few times, and another thing it is very hard to get around, as there isn't a jitney on every corner like it is in the States. I was at a little town about 4 miles from camp not long ago, and when I got ready to come back, there wasn't any train or any conveyance, so the only thing to do was to "hoo" it, and was almost midnight when I reached "home" Was the first time in my life I had plenty of money and could not buy a ride for any price. We certainly had a time counting our Francs after we came over,

as we were paid in French money soon after arriving, but now we are getting used to them, tho it is hard for some of the fellows to realize they are money, and when they go to buy any thing they go to comparing values to see how much they are spending.
 Have not seen Paris, but hope to before I return.
 Sgt. Ernest Old, Supply Co. 354th F.A. A. P. O. 778. A.E.F.

Saving Sugar Saves Shipping



AMERICAN families would have less sugar than the people of war torn France, if we depended entirely on our home-grown sugar stocks.
 Approximately 75 per cent. of our sugar is shipped to our shores. We produce about 1,000,000 tons of sugar a year. Our imports from abroad amount to over 3,000,000 tons a year in normal times.
 The United States Food Administration asks each family to limit its use of sugar to two pounds per month per person for household use. The military situation demands that every available ship be placed at the disposal of the Army or Navy. When we save sugar, we save shipping.

I will buy anything I can use or find a market for. So bring along what you have to sell. W. P. Duckett.

APPEAL TO PATRIOTISM

In the name of the quarter of a million men who have left this District to fight for us I appeal to the citizenship of the Eleventh Federal District to subscribe and over subscribe the Fourth Liberty Loan, and I call upon them to do it quickly.

Let us put away as unworthy of ourselves and of this occasion the usual thoughts of our little, and really unimportant, lives.

Men are fighting, braving and suffering even death itself for you and me.

As ordinary average decent human beings we should feel that we must support these men and provide them with the minimum amount the Government asks of us. As men of pride in our race, birth and nationality, we must do more and make our response both prompt and generous.

To count our money while our sons are fighting for our lives, our homes and our future, is out of place and unworthy.

Conditions in this District of ours are not ideal and the burden of the Loan has been most carefully adjusted. Not a single man, not a single community has been asked to do more than is possible or reasonable.

Upon the wealthy men of this community rests a responsibility greater than that ever placed upon their shoulders before. They must lend to their country the accumulated wealth of past years and we know that they will do it.

Our boys went to our defense fearlessly, courageously and with a smile on their faces. We must all lend as they have given.

J. W. Hoopes, Federal Reserve Bank.

DRAUGHON'S

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

Advertised Letters.

These can be redeemed upon payment of one cent.

- Beaird, J. M.
- Foster, Geo.
- Douglass, M. L.
- Smith, Mrs. Ella
- Windham, Mrs. Bessie.
- Beaird, J. M.
- Foster, Geo.
- Douglass, M. L.
- Smith, Mrs. Ella
- Windham, Mrs. B.
- Martinez, C.

These letters will be sent to the dead letter office on October 16

H. C. Williams, Postmaster, Merkel, Texas.

Jack West has been in bed several days suffering with influenza.



Can Now Eat and Sleep in Comfort

If troubled with indigestion or sleeplessness you should read what Miss Agnes Turner, Chicago, Ill., has to say: "Overwork, irregular meals and carelessness regarding the ordinary rules of health, gradually undermined it until last fall I became a wreck of my former self. I suffered from continual headache, was unable to digest my food, which seemed to lay as a dead weight on my stomach. I was very constipated and my complexion became dark, yellow and muddy as I felt. Sleeplessness was added to my misery, and I would awake as tired as when I went to sleep. I heard of Chamberlain's Tablets and found such relief after taking them that I kept up the treatment for nearly two months. They cleansed my stomach, invigorated my system, and since that time I can eat and sleep in comfort. I am today entirely well."

NERVES "ON EDGE"?

Merkel People Will Find Encouragement in the Statement of a Merkel Resident

Are you weak, nervous, depressed?
 Feel dull, shaky, tired?
 Are your kidneys working right?
 Nervousness often hints at kidney weakness—
 Kidneys that fail to filter the blood.
 Poisons gather and harm the nerves.
 Kidney weakness causes many ills—
 Backache, dizziness, headaches, lack of flesh.
 Don't neglect, kidney trouble. There is danger in delay.
 Use Doan's Kidney Pills.
 Follow the example of this Merkel resident.

Mrs. M. A. Warren, El Paso St., says: "I, and others in my family have used Doan's Kidney Pills with benefit. I had a great deal of trouble with my back and could hardly turn without a sharp catch across my kidneys. I felt worn out and languid nearly all the time and became very nervous. Another in the family had found Doan's Kidney Pills fine, so I started to use them. They helped me and I continued their use until I was cured."

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

LEND AS THEY HAVE GIVEN

It is unfortunate that the heart can be stirred in times like these by only the direst calamity.

If appeals to reason could reach the deepest emotions our Government would have all the money it needs.

The torpedoing of one of our troop ships would bring it, in a grim, determined hurry, but at the same time it would be perilous for our future. The wrath of our country would be aroused to the fury of hell, and we might commit some overt act that would count against us at the peace table. To avoid such a possible tragedy, and consequent result, it is the duty of every citizen to furnish our Government with all the funds it needs without the asking, so as to eliminate the enormous expense of these bond drives and release for other war activities the splendid services of the host of men thus engaged.

I want to say a word to the hundred dollar man without dependents, in an endeavor to bring him to a realization of his responsibility in this great war which we will win; and what I say to him can be applied, in the same ratio, to every man earning one hundred and twenty-five dollars, and upwards, per month. It costs our Government close around eighty dollars per month to maintain each brave man that it fighting for the liberty of the world. Based upon the cost of the most menial labor the soldier is, at least, a hundred dollar man. He, therefore, is not only offering his life, but he is actually giving our Government with no expectancy of return or hope of reward, twenty dollars every month, in order that you may have an opportunity of earning your one hundred dollars per month in perfect safety. Are you giving twenty dollars per month to our Government to help win the war? No? Well, will you not lend our Government twenty dollars every month for the duration of the war at 4 1/4 per cent interest? Is it not the least you can do, and honestly, is it not your duty to do the most you can?

After this war is won, probably before, there is going to be another draft. A draft before the Board of Public Opinion, and all men are going to be classified. There will be a class for the Miser and a class for the Slacker, and—may God pity them, for their fellowman will not.

—T. Q. Martin.

The Quinine That Does Not Affect the Head
 Because of its tonic and laxative effect, LAXATIVE BROMO QUININE (tablets) can be taken by anyone without causing nervousness or ringing in the head. E. W. GROVE'S signature on box. 20c.



TO THOSE WHO HAVE BOYS "OVER THERE"

You have given them richly of your love, your prayers, your constant thought. You have sent letters and packages by every mail.

You somehow feel that these will protect your boys "Somewhere in France," that somehow or other these constant expressions of yearning human affection will act as talismans, protective charms.

But these are not enough. Love cannot quench the gunfire; your prayers cannot halt the fumes of poison gas; your letters over their hearts cannot stop the bayonet thrusts.

When the hell of battle bursts they must have more,—guns must answer guns, gas masks must answer poison gas, bayonets must answer bayonets. And guns and gas masks and bayonets cost money.

These are the things you must send over to save the lives of your own sons.

They need your love and your prayers. But Liberty Bonds are an even mightier protection than family ties.

Invest in all you can today.



WHAT DO YOU THINK I OUGHT TO DO?

Thousands of times this question has been asked by people really anxious to find out how much money they ought to invest in Liberty Bonds.

Ask the question of a dozen friends and you will receive a dozen varying answers.

Here is an honest attempt to give a clear-cut answer to the question.

General Pershing's soldiers are allowed enough to wear, enough to eat, and a few dollars weekly to spend on tobacco and little necessities—the balance of their earning power is devoted as a gift to the Government.

Here Is Your Standard

In the matter of saving for the Liberty Loan your standard has been set. These men who are making it for need be the supreme sacrifice for you, for our country and for humanity, have established a clean-cut standard. They have a right to believe that you will allow yourself enough money to purchase the bare necessities of life, and conduct business essential to the war, devoting the balance of your earning power to your Country in the form of subscriptions to Liberty Loans.

A man who gives up salary or income in order to fight for you and yours has the right to expect that you will at least

Lend As He Has Given

The man who endures without complaint the heartache of parting from those he loves, has the right to expect that you will at least sacrifice and save, even to the point of discomfort, in order to supply him with fighting necessities.

It calls for some courage. It means working at some productive essential industry harder than ever before, and the giving up of every luxury. But will you not do these things and do them cheerfully, in order to place at the disposal of our fighting men the very substantial sum you will save by adopting such a course? You will gain mentally, morally, financially.

What MUST I Do?

The yearly income of all the people in this country is estimated at fifty billion dollars.

It has been made clear that twenty-four billion dollars must be raised for war purposes during the next twelve months.

It follows that nearly half of our national income must be set aside for the payment of taxes, and subscriptions, to Government loans.

Nothing short of the heroic measures of economy and saving called for by the Government will avail—measures such as our soldiers have adopted in their complete surrender of self to the cause of winning the war.

The man of moderate income will have to give or lend to the Government in the form of taxes or subscriptions to Government Loans, about one-third of his income during the next twelve months. Of course, the larger the income, the greater the percentage that must be lent or given. One-third of their income is the share of the average family. Many will be called upon to do far more.

In mathematical calculations then is to be found the answer to the question "What MUST I Do?", but in the example of our fighting men is to be found our standard, our inspiration and our guide, and the answer to the question "What Do You Think I Ought To Do?"

Let us store in our hearts the words of our President: "The shadows that now lie dark upon our path will soon be eiled, and we shall walk with the light all about us if we be true to ourselves."

Your standard has been set. Be true to that standard of faith with your country, your soldiers, and with yourself.

BUY LIBERTY BONDS TO YOUR UTMOST.

STOMACH TROUBLE

Mr. Marion Holcomb, of Nancy, Ky., says: "For quite a long while I suffered with stomach trouble. I would have pains and a heavy feeling after my meals, a most disagreeable taste in my mouth. If I ate anything with butter, oil or grease, I would spit it up. I began to have regular sick headache. I had used pills and tablets, but after a course of these, I would be constipated. It just seemed to tear my stomach all up. I found they were no good at all for my trouble. I heard

THEDFORD'S

BLACK-DRAUGHT

recommended very highly, so began to use it. It cured me. I keep it in the house all the time. It is the best liver medicine made. I do not have sick headache or stomach trouble any more." Black-Draught acts on the jaded liver and helps it to do its important work of throwing out waste materials and poisons from the system. This medicine should be in every household for use in time of need. Get a package today. If you feel sluggish, take a dose tonight. You will feel fresh tomorrow. Price 25c a package. All druggists.

ONE CENT A DOSE

U 73

H. D. Simpson and family of Trent left Thursday for San Benito where he will reside in future. He has been down in that country some time and thinks a good deal of it. We regret to see our people leaving this way, but wish them well. They'll all be back before long any way.

Why do you want to pay out several hundred dollars for a business course when you can take shorthand and typewriting at home by an experienced teacher and at a nominal cost? See The Merkel Business College.

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

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.



Every room for the children

Little hands are often soiled and sticky—careless of spotless walls. Walls of Velour Finish can be washed—but you can't wash wall paper. We guarantee satisfaction to users of

DEVOE Velour Finish

We know that it is more economical than wall-paper. Also is sanitary. Soap and water will easily remove all traces of grease and dirt from walls, ceilings and woodwork painted with Velour Finish. It is easy to apply and it is economical and artistic.

We recommend it above all others as a durable finish for new and old walls. The free booklet—"Harmony in the Home"—shows many attractive color schemes.

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COMPLETE LINES—ASK US

MERKEL, TEXAS

PAINT DEVOE PAINT

LET ME LIST YOUR

REAL ESTATE, LEASES AND ROYALTIES

Will give you the best of service

T. E. RAGAN Merkel, Texas

V. P. BYROM WRITES

Camp Lee, Va., Sept 13 1918
 My Dear Homefolks—I got here all right. We arrived here yesterday evening about 4 o'clock. We were four days on the road. I sure did get tired too believe me.

I found everything just fine. This is not an unhealthy county at all so far as I can see, and I have not heard anything about our vaccination proposition at all.

We got new bunks, and I sure was proud of that too. I have a good job drawing my \$4.40 per day. This is a better place to work than at the oil refinery.

I have been moving timber today, and doing little jobs such as moving scraps of lumber out of the way. I sure have got a good boss. He is not hard on us at all. He was just a workman until all this bunch came in from Texas, then they made him labor foreman, and give him a little bunch of men. Any one can do the work he does, but he draws more money than we do, but I don't know what he draws.

We will get time and a half for over time. We work 10 hours a day at 40 cent an hour, and they give us one hour extra. I am going to work about two hours over time of an evening from next week on. I registered for the draft age at Abilene, and my card will be forwarded to me from there.

I am certainly pleased with my work all right. We have been awfully crowded, but they got it all straightened out tonight, and we've got it all right. I think I shall stay here for a while until about Spring or until I am drafted.

I sure have seen little of this old U. S. A. of our since I left. I went through three tunnels in the mountains on my way here.

The first crops that we struck were in Ark.. There is nothing in Texas much. They sure do think that us Texas fellows are some wild and woolly, up here.

I am in the up stairs part of a big bunk building. Camp Lee is a new place, buildings all being built all the time.

There are about 70,000 soldiers here I think. We are around them all the time nearly. This trip sure will be worth something to me alright.

I feel like I am at home, because there are Texas fellows all around me. They say they are going to get the shower baths fixed up before long. That will be fine.

We have our Post Office right here. Commissary, and Y. M. C. A. buildings a few blocks over in the soldiers training camps. We can buy our stuff there, and we can catch a street car into Petersburg any time, altho' I think we have to have a pass to get out on account of us not having worked out our pass out here yet.

I have not asked any of the officials about working on Sunday, but the report is that they are not working on Sunday now.

I hope that it has come a good rain out home by now.

Everyone is falling into their bunks, so I must go to mine.

Your own son and brother,
 Val. P. Byrom, Camp Lee, Petersburg, Va., Construction Co. No. 10736.

Grove's Tasteless chill Tonic
 restores vitality and energy by purifying and enriching the blood. You can soon feel its strengthening, invigorating effect. Price 60c.

Touch typewriting and Pitman shorthand taught at the Merkel Business College in the shortest time possible.

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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.

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MAKE YOUR DECISION NOW

WE WORK ON EXCLUSIVE LISTINGS ONLY. SALES ARE BEING MADE BY US DAILY

You Have Been Wanting to Sell

Why halt between two opinions? Shrewd business men buy and sell on the moment. If you want to sell, list your property with a firm that has made more deals in the past two weeks than all other parties in and around Merkel and more than any other individual firm in Taylor county.

If you want to buy, why not go to a firm that has the inside on bargain listings and who can deal with you squarely in the open. You know that now is the time to buy. The protracted drouth has kept prices on real estate down. There is land not one whit better than we have listed that is selling for \$200 an acre and up in counties not many hundred miles east of here. The very land that can now be bought at a bargain will bring twice the money after the first good crop.

And then—OIL—just remember that, please.

Suppose you had a little acre in or adjacent to the oil property, wouldn't you go to bed at night with a sweeter dream, knowing that the possibilities of profit, success, riches were in your hands? Investigate some of our "Pots" in which the reputable citizens have taken shares. You can invest \$50, \$100, \$500, or any amount you wish, with us and we will place it in land worth the money for farm purposes, and then if oil is found you are on velvet. What other proposition will guarantee the return of your investment like this? We have land from \$25 an acre up to \$50. The minute the drill starts it will be worth \$100 an acre and up. Any party wishing to invest will please call or write. We wouldn't misrepresent any feature for the sake of the commission. We had rather have good will than the pittance of a commission. We are in business to stay, and openly and above board refer any one to any business man or other party in Merkel or surrounding country.

We only show a few of our bargains here. Remember that oil prospects touch every one of the list given below, or come within a very few miles of leased territory. Why not get a few of your friends together and buy one of the farms listed below, or some other of our propositions, so that when the day dawns for an oil gusher to break forth, the only thing you will need is a doctor to hold down your financial pulse while you take stock to see what you are really worth.

Procrastination will silently steal away the opportunity that is yours. Now is the accepted time. Be wise and conquer now the obstacles that will later stand between you and the coveted success that may be yours. Only a small investment may bring you fabulous returns.

No. 311

160-ACRE FARM—This land lies 15 miles north of Merkel. 100 acres are in cultivation; all good land, except a little rough land which is in pasture. Two good wells, plenty of wood, good 5-room house with hall and porch. Church and school within 1½ miles, and 11 miles of Sylvester and Trent, on Sweetwater creek. This land can be turned at \$26.50 per acre for quick sale.

Price is \$2250, with little over half cash, and balance on reasonable terms.

No. 312

UNEQUALED BARGAIN—320 acres, 180 in cultivation; 6-room house, 3-room house and out buildings. \$1100 loan on place for 5 years. Three-quarters of a mile to good school and Methodist and Baptist churches; 16 miles north of Merkel, and about 11 miles of Sylvester on Sweetwater creek. There is some rough land, but this is an exceptional bargain, as the owner will take \$17.50 per acre for quick sale. This place must be turned within 60 days. This land is not many miles from the leased district, and just as soon as a derrick goes in, it will be worth double the price asked.

160 ACRES NEAR TRENT—Improved farm 1¼ miles west of Trent. This is a good buy. In a well settled community. Farm owners, adjacent to the very best school and churches in the country. Price is very reasonable. Lenient terms given. Same party also owns a couple of splendid residences in Merkel at reasonable prices. Royalty alone in 60 days may be worth twice the price of the farm.

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A FINE FARM—190 acres, 15 miles north of Merkel, almost midway between Sylvester and Trent; 135 acres in cultivation, practically every acre the very best of farming land; 4-room house and 3-room house, good well, creek water, 3 separate fields, 3 pastures. \$35 per acre. There are many desirable advantages to this farm. Exceptionally easy terms. Must be sold at once.

TWO FARMS—340 acres and 240 acres, owned by same party. Will sell either or both. Of the 340 acres, 120 are in cultivation, balance in pasture, of which about 100 acres are rough. Property fronts on rural route, has two sets of improvements. The price of this land is only \$17.50 an acre. Some trade will be considered. One third must be paid down and the balance will have terms at your own making. This property is 17 miles northwest of Merkel and 11 miles of Sylvester. Good schools and good churches near. The 240 acres can all be cultivated, except about 5 acres. 100 acres of this plot is in cultivation. The price of this plot is \$20 per acre, and a cash payment of \$2000 will be accepted, the balance to be paid at your own terms. Both these places make an exceptionally good buy. Possession can be given at any time.

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NICE SMALL PLACE—Must go at once. Fifty acres, 3-room boxed house and weatherboarded, near Blair. Within two miles of railroad station and only a few miles from Merkel.

147½ ACRES NORTHEAST OF MERKEL—This farm is four miles northeast of Merkel. 100 acres are in a high state of cultivation, lying in a valley, and is one of the most productive farms in all this country. The place fronts on public road, where a nice elevated gravel

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A HOME—324 acres in the best part of French Pasture, 136 acres in cultivation, balance in pasture. The soil is a dark sandy loam, located on Route 4, 5 miles out of Merkel. All improvements are new. Cash payment required is \$3500, balance on easy terms at 6 per cent interest. Improvements include modern bungalow, smokehouse, blacksmith shop building, barn with cement floors, etc.

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ROYALTIES—We have a specially attractive royalty proposition in the north block on 160 acres. Owner retains half.

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HOUSE AND LOT—Modern 5-room house. Frontage about 133 feet on corner. Windmill, hydrants, shed. No better bargain in Merkel.

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MERKEL REALTY CO.

W. O. BONEY

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MERKEL TEXAS

OCTOBER BARGAINS

We offer honest merchandise at honest prices all the year 'round. October is the month in which most people make their fall bill. Because we appreciate your patronage we offer you the following exceptional Oct. bargains

| | |
|---|-----|
| American Prints..... | 9c |
| Good heavy cotton flannel..... | 25c |
| Good dress gingham..... | 20c |
| One lot ladies hose..... | 15c |
| One lot boys and girls ribbed hose..... | 15c |
| One lot child's knit hoods..... | 15c |

October Millinery Specials

For Saturday and all next week we will make a special feature of trimmed hats and tams at \$3.95. These hats will represent excellent values, including hats for matron and miss. The earlier you come the better will be your selection.

Big lot of Bargains on Remnant Table

| | |
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| Ladies fleeced union suits, \$1 val..... | 75c |
| Ladies fleeced pants, 75c value..... | 50c |
| Ladies fleeced vests, \$1 value..... | 75c |
| Childs EZ union suits..... | \$1.00 |
| Misses fleeced union suits, \$1 value..... | 75c |
| One lot knit toques..... | 50c |
| One lot boys fleeced under shirts, worth 50c at..... | 25c |
| One lot boys ribbed drawers..... | 25c |
| One lot boys laundered shirts, worth \$1.00, at..... | 50c |

The Woodroof-Bragg Dry Goods Company

LOCAL NEWS

Miss Geta Beckham of Trent was a visitor in Merkel Thursday.

Expecting car of feed, consisting of corn, oats, bran and chops at The Crown Hardware Company.

Mrs. Hugh Owen of Sweetwater visited Mrs. Joe Owen this week.

Remember the 10th and pay your Electric bills.

Oran Edwards, son of Mrs. West Edwards, is seriously ill at a marine camp in Virginia.

Miss Jessie Mae Cox is on the sick list this week.

Mrs. G. F. West is reported sick with influenza.

That 190-acre farm near Trent is an exceptional bargain at \$35 per acre. See The Merkel Realty Company.

There is always something new and fresh at Rogers. Come

Mr. and Mrs. Sherrell's son, stationed at a camp in New Jersey, is very low and much uneasiness is felt as to his recovery.

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

J. C. Moore and wife left Saturday morning for Maryneal to visit their son and daughter.

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List your property with the Merkel Realty Company, if you want it sold.

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Mrs. Henry Coit is at home with her parents, while her husband is in the service of our country.

Expecting car of feed, consisting of corn, oats, bran and chops at The Crown Hardware Company.

Spot cash saves you money at Rogers.

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. Worms will then throw off or die, the child will be in perfect health. Price 25c. One per bottle.

OUR SAVED FOOD FED THE ALLIES

Food Administrator Writes President America Conserved 141,000,000 Bushels Wheat.

CREDIT DUE TO WOMEN.

Meat and Fat Shipments Increased by 844,600,000 Pounds.

Conservation measures applied by the American people enabled the United States to ship to the Allied peoples and to our own forces overseas 141,000,000 bushels of wheat and 844,600,000 pounds of meat during the past year, valued in all at \$1,400,000,000. This was accomplished in the face of a serious food shortage in this country, bespeaking the wholeheartedness and patriotism with which the American people have met the food crisis abroad. Food Administrator Hoover, in a letter to President Wilson, explains how the situation was met. The voluntary conservation program fostered by the Food Administration enabled the piling up of the millions of bushels of wheat during 1917-18 and the shipment of meat during 1917-18.

The total value of all food shipments to Allied destinations amounted to \$1,400,000,000, all this food being brought through or in collaboration with the Food Administration. These figures are all based on official reports and represent food exports for the harvest year that closed June 30, 1918.

The shipments of meats and fats (including meat products, dairy products, vegetable oils, etc.) to Allied destinations were as follows:
Fiscal year 1916-17..... 2,166,500,000 lbs.
Fiscal year 1917-18..... 3,011,100,000 lbs.
Increase..... 844,600,000 lbs.

Cotton Receipts.
The cotton receipts here up to time we go to press amounted to 1220 bales. Fully half the crop has been marketed.

Why not look at that 160-acre farm 15 miles north of Merkel. It is a big bargain at \$26.50 per acre. See The Merkel Realty Company.

Bronchial Trouble.
Mrs. A. E. Sidenberder, Rockfield, Ind., states: "For an attack of bronchial trouble which usually assails me in the spring I find Chamberlain's Cough Remedy the only thing that gives me relief. After using it for a few days all signs of bronchial trouble disappeared."

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Mrs. William Bell, Logansport, Ind., writes: "I deem it my duty to express my gratitude for the good Chamberlain's Colic and Diarrhoea Remedy did me when I had a severe attack of diarrhoea three years ago. It was the only medicine that relieved me."

Plenty of oats at Bob Martin's.

Our slaughterable animals at the beginning of the last fiscal year were not appreciably larger than the year before and particularly in hogs; they were probably less. The increase in shipments is due to conservation and the extra weight of animals added by our farmers.

The full effect of these efforts began to bear their best results in the last half of the fiscal year, when the exports to the Allies were 2,133,100,000 pounds, as against 1,298,500,000 pounds in the same period of the year before. This compares with an average of 801,000,000 pounds of total exports for the same half years in the three-year pre-war period.

In cereals and cereal products reduced to terms of cereal bushels, our shipments to Allied destinations have been:
Fiscal year 1916-17..... 259,900,000 bushels
Fiscal year 1917-18..... 340,800,000 bushels
Increase..... 80,900,000 bushels

Of these cereals our shipments of the prime breadstuffs in the fiscal year 1917-18 to Allied destinations were: Wheat 131,000,000 bushels and of rye 13,900,000 bushels, a total of 144,900,000 bushels.

The exports to Allied destinations during the fiscal year 1916-17 were: Wheat 135,100,000 bushels and rye 2,300,000 bushels, a total of 137,400,000 bushels. In addition some 10,000,000 bushels of 1917 wheat are now in port for Allied destinations or en route thereto. The total shipments to Allied countries from our last harvest of wheat will be therefore, about 141,000,000 bushels, or a total of 154,900,000 bushels of prime breadstuffs. In addition to this we have shipped some 10,000,000 bushels to neutrals dependent upon us, and we have received some imports from other quarters.

"This accomplishment of our people in this matter stands out even more clearly if we bear in mind that we had available in the fiscal year 1916-17 from net carry-over and as surplus over our normal consumption about 200,000,000 bushels of wheat which we were able to export that year without trenching on our home loaf." Mr. Hoover said. "This last year, however, owing to the large failure of the 1917 wheat crop, we had available for net carry-over and production and buy-outs only just about our normal consumption. Therefore our wheat shipments to Allied destinations represent approximately savings from our own wheat bread."

"These figures, however, do not fully convey the volume of the effort and sacrifice made during the past year by the whole American people. Despite the magnificent effort of our agricultural population in planting a much increased acreage in 1917, not only was there a very large failure in wheat, but also the corn failed to mature properly, and our corn is our dominant crop."

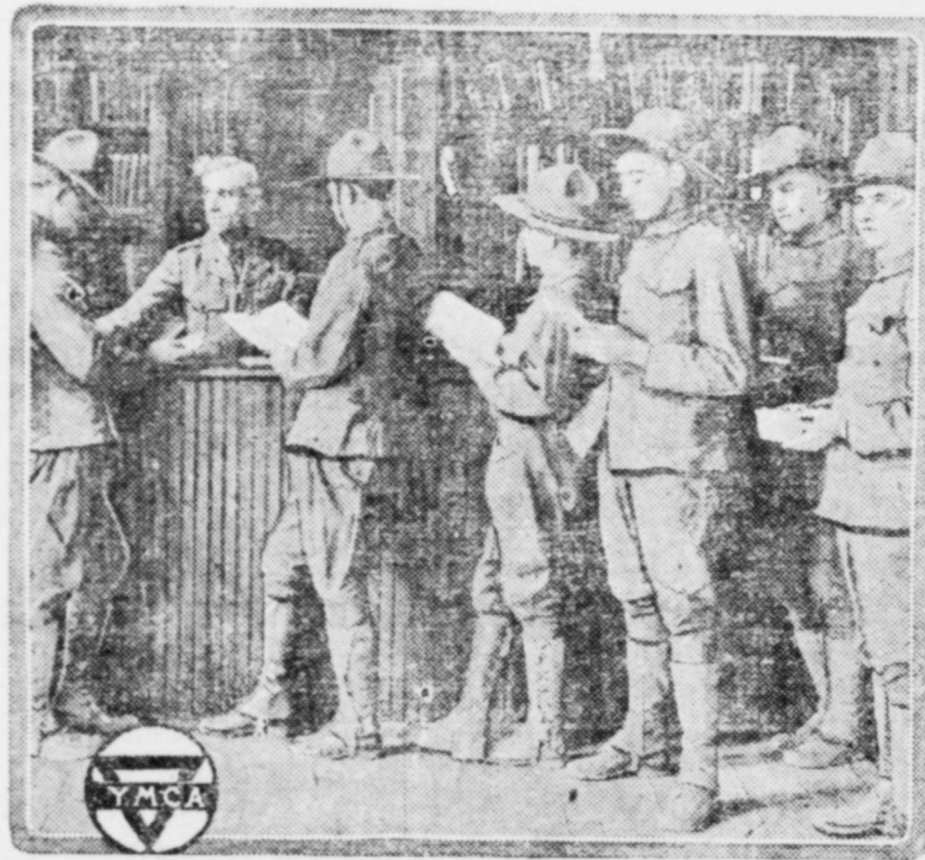
"I am sure," Mr. Hoover wrote in concluding his report, "that all the millions of our people, agricultural as well as urban, who have contributed to these results should feel a very definite satisfaction that in a year of universal food shortages in the northern hemisphere all of those people joined together against Germany have come through into sight of the coming harvest not only with wealth and strength fully maintained, but with only temporary periods of hardship."

"It is difficult to distinguish between various sections of our people—the homes, public eating places, food trades, urban or agricultural populations—in assessing credit for these results, but no one will deny the dominant part of the American women."

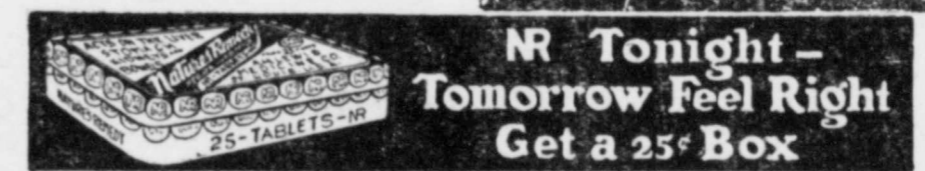
A hoarder is a man who is more interested in getting his bite than in giving his bit.

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

FURNISHING BOOKS TO SOLDIERS



The American Library Association and the Army Y. M. C. A. co-operate in their plan to encourage good reading among soldiers. This is a corner of a Y. M. C. A. building in the Southern Department utilized as a library for the soldiers. "Foxy Grandpa" behind the counter is popular with the men, and each of the five hundred books in the little library are passed out on an average of twice each month. "Foxy Grandpa" has another responsibility. He presents a new khaki-covered new Testament to every soldier who asks for it, and a surprisingly large number of the men request the little book. In fact, most of the soldiers have made it a part of their equipment. They are furnished free by the Army Y. M. C. A.



T. L. GRIMES, Merkel, Texas



Mrs. Walter Jackson, Editor

Entertained with a Dinner

Mrs. J. N. Shelton entertained with a birthday dinner at her home on last Sunday in honor of two of her grandchildren, Loyce and Lola Shelton. A most delicious dinner was spread much to the enjoyment of the following: Misses Loyce and Lola Shelton, Autry Porter, Nina McIninche, Grace Byrom; Messrs. Velmer Shelton, Roy Elliott, Farrice Pee, Paris Byrom; Mr. and Mrs. McNeese, Mr. Pee. Mr. and Mrs. Elliot and the host and hostess. All reported a delightful time.

A Beautiful Woman.

Do you know that a beautiful woman always has a good digestion? If your digestion is faulty, eat lightly of meats, and take an occasional dose of Chamberlain's Tablets to strengthen your digestion. Price 25c.

Rogers has everything you could want, fresh or canned. Come get our prices.

More Than Enough is Too

To maintain health, a mature man or woman needs enough food to repair the waste and supply energy and body heat. The habitual consumption of more food than is necessary for these purposes is the prime cause of stomach troubles, rheumatism and disorders of the kidneys. If troubled with indigestion, revise your diet, let reason and not appetite control and take a few doses of Chamberlain's Tablets and you will soon be all right again. For sale by all dealers.

For Chapped Skin

Chapped skin whether on the hands of face may be cured in one night by applying Chamberlain's Salve. It is also unequalled for sore nipples, burns and scalds. For sale by all dealers.

Little Harold Boney happened

to a very serious accident last Thursday evening, while playing he and another little boy dislodged a telephone pole, one end of which was on a fence, and in trying to get it off it fell on Harold's leg and broke both bones just above the ankle. He is reported doing a well as could be hoped for.

Plenty of oats at Bob Martin's

LEWIS SWANN WRITES

Following is a letter received from Lewis Swann by members of his family:

I have been very busy all the week. Went on a hike Tuesday morning. Will, Arl and I went out in the woods and ate dinner together. I had to help pull a three inch gun all morning, and I sure did feel like eating when the mess sounded. After dinner the gun squad shifted and I was glad that we did not have to bring the gun back. It is only about 3 miles to our drill field where we make our hikes, but it is up and down all the way. Some times we have to pull right straight up with the gun and then straight down. It takes 36 men to pull this gun and sometimes more. One can pull it on level ground for a little ways.

When we got back to camp we got our clean white suits and went up to the wash house and washed the clothes that we had drilled or did some other work on and took a much needed bath. We drill or do some other work most all day now. Bill and I are going to a night radio school. I think we will make good and if we do we will be sent to Harvard, for a full course of radio work. We have been doing extra drilling this week for a dress parade down town tomorrow for the fourth liberty loan bond. I expect to have a hard day of it because we have to hold our guns so-so, stand straight. Guess I will be all in—my hammock by eight tomorrow night.

The camp is under a yellow flag now on the account of influenza. Don't know when we can get liberty again. As we can't get out of the park. The officers have made up some ball game contests of different kinds and we have a great time any way. The funniest thing I ever saw was the contest we had on the plaza the other night—"A pie eating contest." Two boys had their hands tied behind them and eating an iced coconut pie. They had to bend over the table and eat it like a pig. When they got through they had icing from their chin to the top of their heads and from ear to ear. (guess we did not laugh.)

Some of the people there think Bill and I are not together all the time, but we are. They write to one of us and say if you see Lewis or if you see Bill tonight tell him something for me. The longest we have been separated since we have come to the barracks is about nine hours. We eat, sleep, work and drill together. Arl sleeps with us but he is not with us much during the day. Will be glad to hear from any of the Merkel folks.

LEWIS SWANN.

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MAKE YOUR DECISION NOW

WE WORK ON EXCLUSIVE LISTINGS ONLY. SALES ARE BEING MADE BY US DAILY

You Have Been Wanting to Sell

Why halt between two opinions? Shrewd business men buy and sell on the moment. If you want to sell, list your property with a firm that has made more deals in the past two weeks than all other parties in and around Merkel and more than any other individual firm in Taylor county.

If you want to buy, why not go to a firm that has the inside on bargain listings and who can deal with you squarely in the open. You know that now is the time to buy. The protracted drouth has kept prices on real estate down. There is land not one whit better than we have listed that is selling for \$200 an acre and up in counties not many hundred miles east of here. The very land that can now be bought at a bargain will bring twice the money after the first good crop.

And then—OIL—just remember that, please.

Suppose you had a little acre in or adjacent to the oil property, wouldn't you go to bed at night with a sweeter dream, knowing that the possibilities of profit, success, riches were in your hands? Investigate some of our "Pots" in which the reputable citizens have taken shares. You can invest \$50, \$100, \$500, or any amount you wish, with us and we will place it in land worth the money for farm purposes, and then if oil is found you are on velvet. What other proposition will guarantee the return of your investment like this? We have land from \$25 an acre up to \$50. The minute the drill starts it will be worth \$100 an acre and up. Any party wishing to invest will please call or write. We wouldn't misrepresent any feature for the sake of the commission. We had rather have good will than the pittance of a commission. We are in business to stay, and openly and above board refer any one to any business man or other party in Merkel or surrounding country.

We only show a few of our bargains here. Remember that oil prospects touch every one of the list given below, or come within a very few miles of leased territory. Why not get a few of your friends together and buy one of the farms listed below, or some other of our propositions, so that when the day dawns for an oil gusher to break forth, the only thing you will need is a doctor to hold down your financial pulse while you take stock to see what you are really worth.

Procrastination will silently steal away the opportunity that is yours. Now is the accepted time. Be wise and conquer now the obstacles that will later stand between you and the coveted success that may be yours. Only a small investment may bring you fabulous returns.

No. 311

160-ACRE FARM—This land lies 15 miles north of Merkel. 100 acres are in cultivation; all good land, except a little rough land which is in pasture. Two good wells, plenty of wood, good 5-room house with hall and porch. Church and school within 1½ miles, and 11 miles of Sylvester and Trent, on Sweetwater creek. This land can be turned at \$26.50 per acre for quick sale.

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| Fiscal year 1916-17..... | 259,900,000 bushels |
| Fiscal year 1917-18..... | 340,800,000 bushels |

Increase..... 80,900,000 bushels

Of these cereals our shipments of the prime breadstuffs in the fiscal year 1917-18 to Allied destinations were: Wheat 131,000,000 bushels and of rye 13,900,000 bushels, a total of 144,900,000 bushels.

The exports to Allied destinations during the fiscal year 1916-17 were: Wheat 135,100,000 bushels and rye 2,300,000 bushels, a total of 137,400,000 bushels. In addition some 10,000,000 bushels of 1917 wheat are now in port for Allied destinations or en route thereto. The total shipments to Allied countries from our last harvest of wheat will be therefore, about 141,000,000 bushels, or a total of 154,900,000 bushels of prime breadstuffs. In addition to this we have shipped some 10,000,000 bushels to neutrals dependent upon us, and we have received some imports from other quarters.

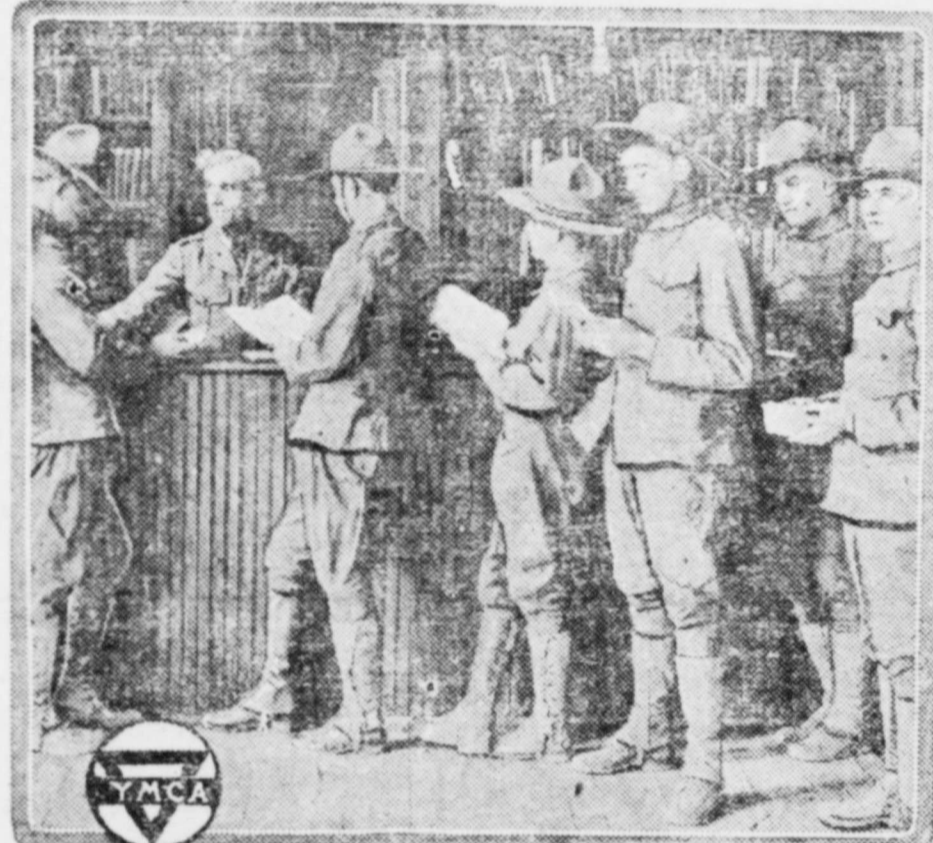
"This accomplishment of our people in this matter stands out even more clearly if we bear in mind that we had available in the fiscal year 1916-17 from net carry-over and as surplus over our normal consumption about 200,000,000 bushels of wheat which we were able to export that year without trenching on our home loaf," Mr. Hoover said. "This last year, however, owing to the large failure of the 1917 wheat crop, we had available from net carry-over and production and imports only just about our normal consumption. Therefore our wheat shipments to Allied destinations represent approximately savings from our own wheat bread."

"These figures, however, do not fully convey the volume of the effort and sacrifice made during the past year by the whole American people. Despite the magnificent effort of our agricultural population in planting a much increased acreage in 1917, not only was there a very large failure in wheat, but also the corn failed to mature properly, and our corn is our dominant crop. "I am sure," Mr. Hoover wrote in concluding his report, "that all the millions of our people, agricultural as well as urban, who have contributed to these results should feel a very definite satisfaction that in a year of universal food shortages in the northern hemisphere all of those people joined together against Germany have come through into sight of the coming harvest not only with wealth and strength fully maintained, but with only temporary periods of hardship. "It is difficult to distinguish between various sections of our people—the homes, public eating places, food traders, urban or agricultural populations—in assessing credit for these results, but no one will deny the dominant part of the American women."

A hoarder is a man who is more interested in getting his bite than in giving his bit.

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

FURNISHING BOOKS TO SOLDIERS



The American Library Association and the Army Y. M. C. A. co-operate in their plan to encourage good reading among soldiers. This is a corner of a Y. M. C. A. building in the Southern Department utilized as a library for the soldiers. "Foxy Grandpa" behind the counter is popular with the men, and each of the five hundred books in the little library are passed out on an average of twice each month. "Foxy Grandpa" has another responsibility. He presents a new khaki-covered new Testament to every soldier who asks for it, and a surprisingly large number of the men request the little book. In fact, most of the soldiers have made it a part of their equipment. They are furnished free by the Army Y. M. C. A.

NR Tonight - Tomorrow Feel Right
Get a 25¢ Box

T. L. GRIMES, Merkel, Texas



Mrs. Walter Jackson, Editor

Entertained with a Dinner

Mrs. J. N. Shelton entertained with a birthday dinner at her home on last Sunday in honor of two of her grandchildren, Loyce and Lola Shelton. A most delicious dinner was spread much to the enjoyment of the following: Misses Loyce and Lola Shelton, Autry Porter, Nina McIninche, Grace Byrom; Messrs. Velmer Shelton, Roy Elliott, Farrisce Pee, Paris Byrom; Mr. and Mrs. McNees, Mr. Pee, Mr. and Mrs. Elliot and the host and hostess. All reported a delightful time.

A Beautiful Woman.

Do you know that a beautiful woman always has a good digestion? If your digestion is faulty, eat lightly of meats, and take an occasional dose of Chamberlain's Tablets to strengthen your digestion. Price 25c.

Rogers has everything you could want, fresh or canned. Come get our prices.

More Than Enough is Too

maintain health, a mature man or woman needs enough food to repair the waste and supply energy and body heat. The habitual consumption of more food than is necessary for these purposes is the prime cause of stomach troubles, rheumatism and disorders of the kidneys. If troubled with indigestion, revise your diet, let reason and not appetite control and take a few doses of Chamberlain's Tablets and you will soon be all right again. For sale by all dealers.

For Chapped Skin

Chapped skin whether on the hands of face may be cured in one night by applying Chamberlain's Salve. It is also unequalled for sore nipples, burns and scalds. For sale by all dealers.

Little Harold Boney happened

to a very serious accident last Thursday evening, while playing he and another little boy dislodged a telephone pole, one end of which was on a fence, and in trying to get it off it fell on Harold's leg and broke both bones just above the ankle. He is reported doing as well as could be hoped for.

Plenty of oats at Bob Martin's

LEWIS SWANN WRITES

Following is a letter received from Lewis Swann by members of his family:

I have been very busy all the week. Went on a hike Tuesday morning. Will, Arl and I went out in the woods and ate dinner together. I had to help pull a three inch gun all morning, and I sure did feel like eating when the mess sounded. After dinner the gun squad shifted and I was glad that we did not have to bring the gun back. It is only about 3 miles to our drill field where we make our hikes, but it is up and down all the way. Some times we have to pull right straight up with the gun and then straight down. It takes 36 men to pull this gun and sometimes more. One can pull it on leve ground for a little ways.

When we got back to camp we got our clean white suits and went up to the wash house and washed the clothes that we had drilled or did some other work on and took a much needed bath. We drill or do some other work most all day now. Bill and I are going to a night radio school. I think we will make good and if we do we will be sent to Harvard, for a full course of radio work. We have been doing extra drilling this week for a dress parade down town tomorrow for the fourth liberty loan bond. I expect to have a hard day of it because we have to hold our guns so-so, stand straight. Guess I will be all in—my hammock by eight tomorrow night.

The camp is under a yellow flag now on the account of influenza. Don't know when we can get liberty again. As we can't get out of the park. The officers have made up some ball game contests of different kinds and we have a great time any way. The funniest thing I ever saw was the contest we had on the plaza the other night—"A pie eating contest." Two boys had their hands tied behind them and eating an iced coconut pie. They had to bend over the table and eat it like a pig. When they got through they had icing from their chin to the top of their heads and from ear to ear. (guess we did not laugh.)

Some of the people there think Bill and I are not together all the time, but we are. They write to one of us and say if you see Lewis or if you see Bill to-night tell him something for me. The longest we have been separated since we have come to the barracks is about nine hours. We eat, sleep, work and drill together. Arl sleeps with us but he is not with us much during the day. Will be glad to hear from any of the Merkel folks.

LEWIS SWANN.

Plenty of oats at Bob Martin's