



# THE MERKEL MAIL



VOL. 30—NO. 45

MERKEL, TEXAS, FRIDAY, DECEMBER 20, 1918

16 PAGES

## *Their Christmas Gift by George L. Louis*



“OUR blessings on those boys, O mother dear,  
That through them we can give with loving cheer  
The Christmas gift from Christ of Bethlehem,  
'Tis this: 'O peace on earth, good will to men.'  
Our boys, so brave and true, they understand,  
They fight for peace for ev'ry opprest land;  
Yes, staunch and firm, they conquer unjust foe  
To give the gift that Christ died to bestow.”

## 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

## LOCAL NEWS

Miss Geneva Brown returned Wednesday from Belton College, Belton, where she has been in school the past session.

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

Misses Louise Warren, Nell and Lucy Tracy and Julia Martin returned home Friday to spend the holidays.

Kandy for Christmas shoppers made at Metropolitan.

Miss Margie Butman returned last Saturday from Abilene, where she attended high school.

W. O. Boney is still making farm loans, better hurry.

Mr. and Mrs. Tom Toombs and baby returned a few days ago from Ladonia, where they have been since August.

Plenty of oats and cowfeed at Bob Martin's

C.M. Largent was taken to the sanitarium a few days ago for treatment. He is reported doing nicely.

Highest prices paid for good fresh eggs, Metropolitan Bakery and Cafe.

Miss Sallie Toombs is attending the institute at Baird.

E. L. Rogers has plenty of corn chops, oats, barley chops and corn. Figure with him for your feed bill.

The Merkel teachers attending institute in Abilene are: Misses Burns, Dry, Yates, Campbell, Houston, Wells, Smith, Phillips, Howard and Graham. Mr. Parker also spent a big part of the week there.

Home-made kandy fresh at the Metropolitan.

Fred A. Baker, who has been working at Sapulpa, Ok., returned Monday.

Dave Ashby came in last Friday night with the "Flu" and was taken to the home of his brother, J. M. He is now much improved.

A. C. Rose finally had to surrender to the "Flu" and go to bed this week. He is now about straightened out.

Just received car of flour. Bob Martin.

Mrs. Holliday and children have returned after spending four months in California.

light coffee for \$1.00 —G. M. Sharp.

Mr. and Mrs. Dave Barrow of Hamlin spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. Asa Sheppard.

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

### Oil Restrictions Lifted.

Washington, Dec. 15.—The Fuel Administration today announced that in line with the general policy of lifting all restrictions as rapidly as conditions would warrant, it has asked the oil industry to suspend its voluntary plan to stabilize prices and obtain uninterrupted flow of crude oil, which was recently extended for a period of 3 months, and at the same time had taken similar action as to any voluntary understandings or agreements with respect to prices of crude oil or its refined products.

### 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 23rd 20.

## THE NEW YEAR

☐ The time has come when all commercial interests halt in their fight for trade and take a retrospective view of the year's business.

☐ In taking your inventory, are you taking into account your banking service? Is it such that you can list it as an asset?

☐ If you are not already one of our customers, we should consider it a privilege to be permitted to see you regarding carrying your account with this bank in the future.

## FARMERS & MERCHANTS NATIONAL BANK

Merkel :: Texas

J. T. WARREN  
PRESIDENT

THOS. JOHNSON  
CASHIER



# CHRISTMAS CHEER

Most every one likes to be cheerful, and as most of us have not lost a "dear boy over the seas" is a sufficient reason for EXCEEDING JOY---CHEERFULNESS

The War is Over, Drouth is Smashed, and here is hoping that our Oil Field is the Biggest in Texas

Gloves, Handkerchiefs, Hosiery, Cuff Buttons, Ties, Ladies Shirt Waists, Mens THESE WILL MAKE GOOD GIFTS Silk Shirts, Hats, Caps, Sweaters, Suspenders, Ladies, Misses and Childrens Coats, Fancy Bed Comfortable, Blankets, Table Damask

See our \$5.90 Ladies' Boots

## SHOES

Men's Brown Shoes at \$5.00

Mens fine dress Shoes.....\$5.00 to \$8.50  
Brown, Tan and Black

Ladies Dress-Up Shoes.....\$3.50 to \$7.50  
Service Field Shoes.....\$3.50 to \$6.00

Ladies Cow Lot Shoes.....\$1.95 and \$2.95  
Are heavy and stout

## EXTRA SPECIAL

Just for Friday, Saturday, Monday and Tuesday

on any \$22.50 to \$40.00 Suit, Over Coat or ladies Coat, Suit and Dress

GIVE \$2.50 OFF For 4 Days Only

We thank you in advance for the good business given us, and sincerely pledge you that we are ever on the alert to give you honest service

WE WISH YOU A HAPPY X-MAS

WYNN DRY GOODS COMPANY

# Christmas Greetings

☐ Your patronage the past year has been appreciated, and we take this occasion to wish for you a delightful Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous New Year.

☐ We are glad to have you make our place of business your headquarters. We seek to do the highest class of work at all times.

☐ When in need of repairs, tires, battery work, gas, water, acetylene welding, and in fact anything necessary in a modern garage.

☐ Call on us.

## The Merkel Garage

# Christmas Greetings to You

☐ Another year is passing, freighted with joy and sorrow. Here's hoping that your joys exceed your sorrows; that your accomplishments out weigh your disappointments; that you have grown bigger and better through the experience of the months that are gone.

☐ We take this occasion to thank you for your patronage and the kindness and consideration you have always shown us.

## Building Materials

☐ The drouth has not hindered our expansion. We are determined to have the biggest and best lumber yard in all this country. We have added a full line of Paints, Nails and general Builders Hardware to our already extensive lines. We have faith in the country. We expect to do business, and can not believe but that shortly building operations will begin in earnest.

☐ Lumber, Doors, Cement, Paint, Shingles, Lime, Posts, Glass, Sash, Brick, Nails, Builders Hardware.

☐ We have ample material on hand at all times and facilities to furnish complete plans and build a modern residence, or other structure, turning same over in a turn-key job.

## Merkel Lumber Company

# I THANK YOU

☐ It would hardly be in keeping with the spirit of the time to pass by without thanking my many friends and customers for their patronage the past year. I feel very grateful for the help you have given and the kindness you have shown.

☐ It is my dearest wish that you will have an enjoyable Christmas and that the New Year will bring to you a full share of prosperity.

☐ Here is hoping that I may serve you even more acceptably in the New Year than I have in the past.

## Mrs. C. L. Cash, Cleaning & Mending

# A DATE WITH SANTA CLAUS



DEAR Santa Claus, I'm waiting here  
For you to come with your reindeer,  
And bring the toys you've got for me  
Right down into this chimney.  
Can't keep my head up very straight,  
So hope you won't be awfully late.  
Might go to sleep in this big chair.  
So Santa, if you really care  
To meet me, as I hope you do,  
You'll make your reindeer come right thru.  
'Cause if this date you're going to keep,  
Do hurry 'fore I go to sleep.

## St. Winnifred and the Tree

One story of the origin of the green tree as the Christmas tree among the people of northern Europe is given in a legend of St. Winnifred. It is one of the many thousands of those simple and beautiful beliefs that have attached themselves to the midwinter festival and which generally pass now under the name of "Christmas myths." It is related that St. Winnifred, a great Christian missionary, began cutting down a "sacred" oak which had been the object of worship by the northern pagans whom he was seeking to lead aright. While he was hewing down the huge tree it was blasted by a sudden whirlwind. Close beside it was a young fir tree, which was not harmed either by the whirlwind or by the fall of the giant oak. Then St. Winnifred is reported to have spoken as follows to the pagans:

"This little tree, a young child of the forest, shall be your holy tree tonight. It is the wood of peace, for your homes are built of it. It is the sign of an endless life, for its leaves are always green. See how it points toward heaven! Let this be called the tree of the Christ Child. Gather about it; not in the wild woods, but in your homes; there it will shelter no deeds of blood, but loving gifts and acts of kindness."

The fir tree, the common evergreen of the northern regions, became the holy tree of the converted pagans, and in its honor or in memory of the thoughts it stood for they decorated it with lights and gifts at Christmas.

NOTHING HAPPENED.



She sat beneath the mistletoe  
Without the slightest fear;  
She felt no wild, glad tremor, though  
She knew he lingered near;  
She sat there calm and unafraid,  
And sleepily he yawned, for they'd  
Been married for a year.

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

Highest prices paid for good fresh eggs. Metropolitan Bakery and Cafe.

THROUGHOUT this Christmastide and Coming Year may we constantly give that greatest gift of love—Service—to the cause of right and justice, to our fellow man and to our Country. Thus giving we shall merit that joy which comes only to those of whom Christ said: "Well done."



Oh, Teddy Bear, I'm glad you came,  
I like wild animals—what's tame.  
I'm not afraid to squeeze you tight,  
Cause you won't snarl or snap or bite.  
I'll take you with me ev'ry day,  
Togeizzer we will romp and play.  
At night time, too my dearie Ted,  
You'll snuggle by me in my bed.  
If I am cross, you will not care,  
You'll always be my Teddy Bear.

Be in position to back up that New Year's resolution for 1919 by having bought all of the War Savings Stamps you pledge for Colds Cause Grip and Influenza

LAXATIVE BROMO QUININE Tablets remove the cause. There is only one "Bromo Quinine." E. W. GROVE'S signature on box. 30c.

GOODMAN NEWS

I will write a few dots from this part of the Oil Region. For the benefit of those who may fail to find Goodman on the map, will say it is three miles west of the new oil derrick on the Sears ranch, in Jones county, better known at Shiloh.

The young folks had an enjoyable singing at Sam Grayson's, Sunday night. Special music was rendered by Melvin Hail and Hurley Cogburn.

Our school is progressing nicely under the leadership of Prof. J. R. Swafford, and Miss Mattie Jones.

Health of the community is very good. Only a few isolated cases of influenza are reported. Our people have been very careful to safeguard the homes of others, by not carrying it from house to house, which we all appreciate as it was beneficial in helping to stamp out this disease.

Supt. R.W. Conder reports the Sunday School at the Baptist church growing in interest. He said; Come on to Sunday school all of ye.

Crop prospects are getting better as the rainy season has come again and the wheat and oats are spreading out and furnishing pasture for the live-stock, which makes us all glad and joyful again.

The erection of an oil derrick in our midst has created quite a talk among our neighbors.

Uncle Lee Carter and B. C. Hodge say that they have found it to be awfully unhandy to be poor all their lives, but what is bothering them most now is how to get by, Matt. 19: 23.

Uncle Finus Hail is all smiles since the rig went up. He went over as visitor and inspector. His health is also improving as the work goes on. He says there surely is oil or something else, under this land as there is nothing on top.

Hugh Grayson has improved his residence by way of a new coat of paint and other fixtures. He says he is getting ready for a bumper crop, and the oil boom. But we don't know for sure.

Mr. Shelby Howell has returned from Ft Worth, and he says there is no place like home and the homefolks and home girls.

Our Red Cross team is doing good work this week. I hope every home in our district will show a window flag in 1919.

OCCASSIONAL.

## A LAST LETTER

The following is the last letter received by Rev. and Mrs. Burkett of Abilene from their son, Homer, who died shortly after reaching France. It shows the spirit of the boys who took the long journey, with misgivings about their return to their native land. This young man was a brother of Mrs. Lytton Howard. The letter follows:

N. Y. Harbor, Sept. 15.—Dear Folks at Home: We reached here from Quantico last night and came aboard on boat the "Henderson," and will sail in a few hours. There are some sky-scrapers here all right. We are right in front of the Statue of Liberty now. The harbor is just full of boats of all sizes and descriptions.

I'm afraid those jokes about Mike and Pat getting sea-sick won't seem so funny in a few days, but I'll do my best to hold my own.

This is a pretty good boat and I think will make the trip all right.

Hope you won't worry about me for there's no need of it at all. I'm well and happy and getting along just fine.

Good-bye, good luck, God bless you.

Pvt. Homer W. Burkett, Co. L. 13th. Regiment, U. S. M. O., A. E. F. N. Y.

**Nature's Remedy**  
AN ANTACID  
Better than Pills GET A  
For Liver Ills. 25c Box

T. L. GRIMES, Merkel, Texas





assortment of choice selections just received.  
cordially invite you to visit our store and will  
great pleasure in showing you through our stock



## Jewelry Sets

Manicure Sets      Wrist Watches  
Ivory Goods      Stationery  
Perfumery      Kodaks  
Fountain Pens

## MERKEL DRUG COMPANY

## CLEAN CLOTHES

Am back on the job. Bring in your clothes and  
let me fix them up trim for Christmas.

MRS. C. L. CASH

## The Very Best and Most Timely CHRISTMAS GIFT

☐ You are racking your brain for something nice  
to give a member of your family, or a friend.

☐ You have read the papers daily for the latest  
news, yet in such shape that you could not get the  
full news.

☐ I am selling for immediate delivery a history of  
the war; reputable authors; good binding; timely;  
interesting; 600 pages; 100 illustrations; all for \$2.00

☐ Order today and the book will be delivered without delay

**E. D. COATS, Merkel**

PHONE NO. 7

### 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  
guarantee position. Catalogue FREE.

Face-Maker flour is the best.  
M. Sharp.

### RED CROSS AMRICO TOOTH PASTE

An antiseptic refreshing paste, that  
cleans the teeth without injuring the  
enamel. The antiseptic properties aid  
in keeping the teeth and gums in a  
healthy condition. This and more than  
one hundred other Red Cross Remedies  
and Toilet Preparations sold and guar-  
anteed only by

Grimes Drug Store

## THE WAR IS NOT OVER

### THE COUNTRY NEEDS ITS PATRIOTS NOW MORE THAN EVER BEFORE

Because several essential matters have yet to be attended to. For one thing we have not yet made peace with Germany, and there is no telling what amount of police work may have to be done. Germany has no proper government, and revolution and opposition may be met with at any time. An army of over two million men and about a million men belonging to our sea forces have to be paid, fed, transported and then returned home. Enormous government contracts for supplies cannot be repudiated, but the goods must be paid for in full. Our great ship-building activities designed to make us at least the second greatest carrying power in the world must be carried out at a cost of many millions of dollars, to the ultimate advantage of every business man in this country. Our allies, if they need money, must have it.

To draw back now and to refuse to spend money would be to place ourselves in the position of a business man who having sunk an enormous amount of capital and effort in a business, quits just at that moment when the business is on its feet and is about to pay dividends.

### HOW THE GOVERNMENT WORKS.

It is really not a question of whether or not we desire to spend more money—we MUST do it. A word of explanation as to the manner in which the United States Government collects and spends money will make this matter perfectly clear. When the war started, the Government contracted for goods to the value of many hundreds of millions of dollars without having the money to pay for the goods. The Government then borrowed from the banks on Short Term Certificates of Indebtedness the necessary money to keep matters going and then repaid the banks out of the First Liberty Loan. This method of finance has been maintained ever since; the Government always being in debt. It is a fact that nearly all of the Fourth Liberty Loan money has already been spent and very soon the Government will be spending the money which you must supply in the shape of subscriptions to the Fifth Liberty Loan.

### GOOD TIMES COMING.

We hope, and with good reason, that after the close of the war, we shall find ourselves with an enormous international bank account, with the people of Europe owing us possibly five hundred million dollars yearly in interest alone on our Loans to them, that we shall find ourselves with a magnificent merchant fleet which will carry our goods promptly and cheaply to every part of the world, and that the demand for our manufactured products will be so great that we shall have an era of prosperity unknown in the history of the nation. It takes capital to conduct business and now is the time for every sensible business man to put by money for use during that period of activity and prosperity that we look forward to in the near future.

### PATRIOTISM AND GOOD SENSE.

There is no better way of taking care of this money than by investing in Liberty Bonds. Every dollar so placed is a splendid investment and the placing of it constitutes an act of the truest patriotism.

### THE MOST IMPORTANT POINT OF ALL

Is the fact that all of our sacrifices, including those of our noble dead in France will have been in vain unless we finish the task which we have undertaken. We have poured out our blood and treasure in order that we may ensure to ourselves and the world freedom, democracy and happiness. Having won the right to institute these principles on a world wide basis, shall we now draw back at the very moment when our object is within our grasp? It is unthinkable.

### READ WHAT THESE MEN SAY.

These men representative of what is best in the business life of the community.

Hon. W. P. Hobby,

Governor State of Texas.

"I am apprehensive that the citizens of this State might overlook their present and future obligations to the Government incident to victory. It is hoped that holders of Liberty Bonds will not place them immediately on the market, but that they will continue the conduct of their business affairs on a war basis holding themselves in readiness to further finance the Government and to refrain from doing any act which might impair the value of outstanding Government securities."

Jas Callan,

President of the Cattle Raisers Association of Texas.  
Menard, Texas.

"The country is not restored to normal conditions by the signing of the Armistice, nor is the drought-stricken area restored to normal by reason of recent rains. The people should be implored to preserve their patriotism, economy and industrial endeavors to the end of supporting our Government and themselves."

Hon. W. P. Hunt,

Governor of Arizona.

"The people of this State and elsewhere will speedily come to a realization that the sacrifices the allies have made will be unavailing unless the reconstruction is in accordance with true democratic principles. Those principles necessitate a direct responsibility by every individual in the Government, a responsibility which can only be met by continued retrenchment including the holding of all war securities, foregoing luxuries until every soldier has returned to his home and above all it is necessary to maintain production wherever possible and to convert war industries into normal peace activities. The sacrifices that have been made must not be followed by domestic chaos."

Hon. R. L. Williams,

Governor State of Oklahoma.

"Citizens must not make the mistake of thinking the war is over. Remaining tasks of the war—demobilizing of armies and returning to normal industries of millions of soldiers and laborers in war factories—demand patriotic co-operation from every citizen. Additional Loans are to be floated. It is unpatriotic now to throw bonds on the market needlessly. The next few months of effort will be the real test of patriotism. Real patriots will obey the requests of their Government leaders just as cheerfully as they obeyed them a year ago."

Senator Morris Sheppard,

Washington.

"Absolutely essential that it be everywhere understood that sacrifices and restrictions are needed to keep the Government properly financed and our soldiers clothed and fed. Any attempt at this time to throw off all restrictions and resume normal conditions might have serious effect on our entire economic and business foundations and fatally impair our ability to make certain the glorious fruits of our great struggle for human liberty."

Hon. R. G. Pleasant,

Governor of Louisiana.

"It is incumbent upon us as alert citizens and lovers of liberty and national stability to uphold the Government financially and in every other way just as we did during the active period of the war. There should be no heavy dumping of Liberty Bonds upon the market nor plunging in any manner along business lines. Let us be careful and frugal, that we may

### Mrs. Deavenport Dead.

The friends and acquaintances of Mrs. Annie Jewel Deavenport were saddened to learn of her death, which took place at her home in Duncan, Ok., December 12; at the age of 27 years, 1 month and 20 days. Mrs. Deavenport was the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Dowdy of Trent. Her husband, Brown Deavenport, is very low and could not attend the funeral, which took place in Merkel last Saturday afternoon, the services being held at the Christian church, and interment taking place immediately afterwards in Rose Hill cemetery. Elder Jessie P. Sewell of Abilene, conducted the services.

Mrs. Deavenport had been married about nine years and was the mother of three children, one boy and two girls. Besides her parents, husband and children, she is survived by four brothers and one sister.

She was a member of the Christian church here, having joined in early girlhood.

She has many friends in this section who esteem her highly for her many virtues. A real friend, a dutiful wife, a true hearted mother, she was, and the hour of her going is dark indeed to those whose very lives were mingled with her's. Our sympathy goes out to the bereaved ones.

Her children are very low, also, but hopes are entertained for their recovery.

If a recent letter Mrs. D. W. Isley of Litchfield, Ill., says, "I have used Chamberlain's Tablets for disorders of the stomach and as a laxative, and have found them a quick and sure relief." If you are troubled with indigestion or constipation these tablets will do you good."

### Word of Appreciation

We, the faculty and students of the Merkel High School wish to express our sincere thanks for, and appreciation of, the careful, painstaking work of Mrs. Thomas Bearden and Miss Dovie Teaff in the making of our beautiful Service Flag.

We ask that a copy of these resolutions, adopted by the faculty and students, be sent to Mrs. Bearden and Miss Teaff and a copy to the Merkel Mail.

Respectfully submitted,

Miss Annie L. Smith

Miss Ona Faye Bland

Miss Iva Bragg,

Miss Lula Mae Boaz.

Miss Ruth Brown.

Mr Guy Darsey.

### Stomach Trouble

"Before I used Chamberlain's Tablets I doctored a great deal for stomach trouble and felt nervous and tired all the time. These tablets helped me from the first, and inside of a week's time I had improved in every way," writes Mrs. L. A. Drinkard, Jefferson City, Mo.

### Reynolds Baby Dead.

The infant of Mr. and Mrs. B. B. Reynolds of the White Church community, only three days old, a few days ago. Interment took place at White church cemetery Tuesday.

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

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.

### A TEXAS WONDER.

The Texas Wonder cures Kidney and Bladder troubles, dissolves gravel, cures diabetes, weak and lame backs, rheumatism, and all irregularities of the kidneys and bladder in both men and women, regulates bladder troubles in children. If not sold by your druggist, will be sent by mail on receipt of \$1. One small bottle is two months' treatment and seldom fails to perfect. Send for free literature. E. J. Grimes.

### ARMENIA

Had I the tears of all the years  
Since tears began to flow  
I could not shed them fast  
enough  
To rightly speak her woe.

O little harried garden land  
O Eden of man's birth,  
O tortured stricken country,  
Her grief thrills all the earth.

She stretches out her bleeding  
hands

Let her not cry in vain!

O give and give and give once  
more

To ease Armenia's pain—Amy  
Shedman Bridgman.

### RED CROSS

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

Grimes Drug Store

Mr. and Mrs. H. C. Breeden  
and grand daughter, Gladys, left  
the past week for Dallas county,  
where they will make their home  
in future.

### For Croup

"Chamberlain's Cough Remedy is splendid for croup," writes Mr. Edward Hassett, Frankfort, N. Y. "My children have been quickly relieved of attacks of this dreadful complaint by its use." This remedy contains no opium or other narcotic, and may be given to a child as confidently as to an adult.

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

### Catarrh Cannot Be Cured

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

Further more, the best Christmas  
gift you can give this year  
is a package of those little green  
War Savings Stamps.

### Grove's Tasteless chill Tonic

restores vitality and energy by purifying and en-  
riching the blood. You can soon feel its strength-  
ening, invigorating effect. Price 66c.

### 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. Nov9

#### 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

### SHAVING AND BATH

### PARLORS

The Up-to-Date

SHAVE



# PRE-INVENTORY

**Began  
Saturday  
November  
30**

## SPECIALS IN LADIES WEAR

Ladies extra long knit toques, sold at \$1.95, now for ..... \$1.50  
10 dozen ladies heavy fleeced union suits, worth \$2.50, for ..... 98¢  
20 dozen ladies and misses fleeced union suits, worth \$1.50, on sale now at ..... 75¢  
10 dozen children's EZ union suits ..... 95¢  
Ladies ankle length fleeced drawers on sale at ..... 45¢  
20 dozen ladies black hose, worth 25 cent, now at ..... 15¢  
50 pieces of red seal gingham, sold at 35¢, on sale now at ..... 29¢  
1 Lot good dress gingham on sale, per yard ..... 19¢  
1 Lot ladies corsets, values up to \$2.50, special price ..... 50¢  
Ladies \$2.50 cotton sweaters ..... 1.95  
Ladies and misses \$3.95 mercerized sweaters ..... 2.95  
Ladies 65¢ cloth gloves at ..... 49¢  
Ladies 50¢ tan hose at ..... 29¢

## LADIES SUITS, COATS, DRESSES SKIRTS AND WAISTS

Ladies \$22.50 velvet coats, colors green, navy and burgundy, now on sale at ..... \$17.95  
Ladies \$35.00 black plush coats, special ..... 29.50  
Ladies \$27.50 black plush coats ..... 24.95  
Ladies and Misses \$16.50 coats of plaids and mixtures, ..... 12.95

We have a big reduction on all misses and children's coats.

Ladies \$22.50 suits, colors navy and brown ..... 17.95  
Ladies \$16.50 suits, colors navy and brown ..... 13.95  
Big reduction on all ladies silk skirts and dresses.

## Ladies Silk Waist Specials

Ladies georgette waists, \$6.00 values, at ..... \$5.25  
Ladies crepe-de-chine waists, \$3.95 values, at ..... 3.45  
Ladies wash silk waists, sold for \$2.95, special ..... 2.65  
Ladies organdy and voile waists, sold for \$2.50 and \$3.00, now at a special price ..... 1.95

## TABLE LINENS AND TOWELS

\$1.50 82-inch Damask at per yard ..... \$1.25  
.75 70-inch Damask at per yard ..... 49¢  
.75 Fancy towels at ..... 69¢  
.65 Fancy towels at ..... 49¢  
.50 Bath towels at ..... 42¢  
.35 Huck towels at ..... 29¢  
1.50 Finished table napkins ..... 1.25

## STAPLES

36-inch bleached domestic, free of starch, at per yard ..... 21¢  
40-inch sea island domestic, worth 30 cents now at ..... 21¢  
9/4 bleached pepperell sheeting, worth 75 cents, on sale at ..... 59¢  
9/4 brown pepperall sheeting, worth 65¢ on sale at ..... 54¢

## Holiday Prices on Comforts and Blankets

All wool and cotton blankets at a  
Big Reduction

## This big sale is now in full swing.

brains over little remembrances to friends and loved ones. Here is where your every need while prices are marked down. Let's make this a real price every day. We are even selling goods that have just been received at a to do more business. We are willing to divide our profits with our customers successful business career, and now we offer you seasonable goods at the mo

## You are Always Welcome in Our Store

Our store has enjoyed a large and ever increasing patronage for many years. We have built up our reputation on square and fair dealing. We have always tried to carry the very best quality, and in every instance we have endeavored to hold the prices down in keeping with safe business policy. Our buyers are people of broad experience and in more fields than one have gained a reputation for the use of taste. We confidently believe that our many friends and customers will appreciate the bargains we are offering and will come early to do their Christmas shopping.



## LADIES, MISSES AND CHILDRENS - SHOES -

Every one acquainted with the shoe trade will understand the amazing bargains we offer in our splendid line of ladies dress shoes. We show a line of new styles and latest models of the very best materials. They will meet the criticism of the most select buyers. We must reduce this stock and have marched up to the bargain counter and made the astounding sacrifice.

Ladies \$11.00 Grey Kid Boots cut to ..... \$9.95  
Ladies \$9.50 Grey Kid Boots cut to ..... 7.95  
Ladies 8.00 Grey Kid Boots low heel cut to ..... 6.95  
Ladies 8.50 Brown Kid Boots cloth tops ..... 6.95  
Ladies 8.00 Brown Calf Boots low heels cut to ..... 6.95  
Ladies 7.50 Brown Kid Boots low heels cut to ..... 5.95  
Ladies 8.50 Black Kid Boots Louis heel ..... 7.95  
Ladies 8.00 Black Kid Boots Louis heel ..... 6.95  
Ladies 7.50 Black Kid Boots low heel ..... 6.95  
Ladies 6.50 Black Kid Boots low heel ..... 5.45  
One lot ladies shoes worth \$3.50 to \$4.50, in small sizes only, on bargain table, at your choice for ..... \$1.95

ALL MISSES AND CHILDRENS SHOES GREATLY REDUCED  
DURING THIS BIG SALE

## MISSES AND CHILDRENS' SHOES

And in quoting the prices above, we have not overlooked the young folks and children. Positively the knife has done its work in their department. We do not reserve a pair of shoes in the house. In spite of increasing prices we are making a cut on all. The health of the children demand good shoes—we have then and sell them for less. The quality of our shoes are unquestioned. We handle high grade and standardized lines. And we can fit in all the varying styles and do it at reduced prices. You will have to buy—Come let us show you through. Courtesy is our motto; we take pains to please each and every customer.

## Men's Best Grade

Buck Brand Overalls & Jumpers  
Sale Price \$1.90

## Old Santa C



To one and all, and is sending big We are determined to do our part turning out dolls by the hundreds and child. Drop a letter to old Santa in want him to bring.

## SEE OUR CHRIS

A feature that always appeals to the our booth. There is every little choice expert hands can make.

## SUITABLE GIFTS FOR WOMEN

Silk Hosiery Dainty Lingerie Boudier Caps  
House Shoes Knit Toques Camisoles  
Neckwear Ribbons Purses  
Towels Linens Etc.

## All Millinery

# WOODROOF-BRAGG MERKEL



# VICTORY SALE

is the time when you are racking your  
unt for most. Attend our Pre-Inventory and Victory Sale and supply  
l Xmas of good cheer and thanksgiving. Merchandise is increasing in  
y can be replaced wholesale. We are not going out of business, we mean  
two years of drouth you have enabled us to move right along with our  
es. We name many items that will be suitable gifts---and serviceable

## Reason for This Record-Breaking Sale

e have tried to time our sale to the convenience and needs of our people.  
weather is here, which makes the buying of comfortable clothing a necessi-  
christmas is rapidly approaching and you can hardly find it in your heart to  
e beautiful spirit of the occasion pass without remembering a friend or  
one, and then again as the last hours of the old year fades away, we will busy ourselves tak-  
voice, and it is our dearest desire to cut our stock to the lowest possible figure. We had rather  
our entire stock on the bargain counter than to wade through numerous remnants and pieces.

Ends  
**Tuesday**  
**December**  
**24**

## as Extends



nents every day from Toy Land.  
age the children. Old Santa is  
e e bidding for one for every  
oi mail box, telling us what you

## TMAS BOOTH

oung folks, and older ones, too, is  
und dainty Christmas present that

### SUITABLE GIFTS FOR MEN

ndkerchiefs	House Shoes	Bath Robes
Gloves	Shirts	Shoes
Hats	Ties	Suits
Hosiery	Caps	Etc.

## Half Price!

# DRY GOODS CO.

TEXAS

## Men and Boys Shoes

### All Men's Shoes Reduced

One lot mens English Walking Shoes, famous Whitehouse  
brand, worth \$7.50, Pre-Inventory Sale price only...**\$4.95**  
20 pair mens Beals & Bratt shoes, gunmetal button shoes,  
worth \$7.50, only...**\$4.25**

### All Boys Shoes Reduced

Come and see

## Fair and Square Dealing

Only one price will prevail during this sale. We have no  
favorites. We are dividing our profits to all alike.  
Those who come first will have their choice from a select  
stock. We want you so make your bill with us.

## Hose Hose Hose

Big assortment of hose for men, women and  
children. Remember this is the home of the  
famous Iron Clad line. A reduction in price  
is given on all.

One lot ladies hose worth 25c.....	19c
One lot ladies hose worth 20c.....	15c
One lot misses and boys hose worth 30c.....	21c

## SPECIALS IN MENS WEAR

One lot men's heavy cotton sweaters, worth \$3.00, on sale ...	\$1.45
One lot men's leather work gloves, worth 75¢ on sale .....	49¢
One lot men's gauntlet canvas gloves, worth 25¢ sale price ....	15¢
One lot boys dress shirts, worth 75¢ on sale .....	49¢
Men's heavy ribbed undershirts, worth \$1.00 at .....	85¢
Men's heavy ribbed drawers, worth \$1.00, at .....	85¢
One lot men's wool vests, worth \$1.50, sale price .....	50¢
One lot children's leggins, worth 75¢, sale price .....	35¢
One lot boys two piece, fleeced lined and ribbed underwear, worth 50¢ per garments, now on sale at .....	39¢
One lot of men's \$2.25 bleached unionsuits, special at .....	1.95

## MEN'S CLOTHING

We challenge competition to produce a better made line of  
men's suits than we carry in stock. Our lines are known nation  
wide—Hart Schaffner Marx and Styleplus. They are standard and  
call for the very last word in style and materials. Only a short  
time ago we received a big shipment. Our suits are not carried  
over. They are new. Every suit in the house carries a reduction, and  
that in spite of a big wholesale increase since our shipment arriv-  
ed. We reserve nothing. We will be proud to please, for in pleasing  
we are sure you will be inclined to call again. We are jealous of our  
reputation and are willing to stake it on the quality and prices of  
our choice lines.

\$35.00 Hart Schaffner Marx on sale at .....	\$27.95
\$30.00 Styleplus Suits now at .....	25.95
\$25.00 Styleplus Suits on sale at .....	21.95

### OVER COATS

\$30.00 Hart Schaffner Marx Over coats .....	\$25.95
\$27.50 Hart Schaffner Marx Over coats .....	23.95
\$25.00 Styleplus and Hart Schaffner Marx Over coats .....	21.95
One lot mens suits worth \$15.00, while they last at .....	9.95

### MENS AND BOYS CAPS

One lot mens and boys caps worth .75¢, on sale at .....	49¢
One lot mens caps worth .50¢, sale price .....	29¢

## Boys Clothing

Hercules clothes are all  
wool, the best that money  
can buy.

These are also on sale at  
ridiculously low prices

Come in and fit your boy  
in a Hercules Suit



ALL WOOL  
BOYS  
HERCULES  
SUITS  
DAUBE ROSENTHAL & CO

# Practical Christmas Gifts



Only a few of our splendid Phonographs left. Until Christmas, these musical instruments go at a

## Reduced Price

You can make no Christmas gift that will be more appreciated. You can add no more elegant influence to the home than the loftiest thought of the deepest thinkers given through the Phonograph.

Our show window carries a nice assortment of

## Cedar Chests

## Matting Boxes

## Chairs and Rugs

all of which are classed as useful gifts and they are

## Reduced in Price



**Only a limited supply of childrens chairs. Come early and make choice**

# A. B. Barrow Furniture Company

## Holiday Eats

FISH OYSTERS

Good Coffee — Good Pastry

Good Chilli

Select Bakery Products

A Merry Xmas to All

**Metropolitan Bakery**  
and Cafe



## CHRISTMAS

Oranges

Apples

Cakes

Choice Canned Goods

Make your Christmas

Grocery and Feed

bill with us

**Bob Martin**  
Grocery Co.



## CHRISTMAS SHOPPERS

We have a full line of Oranges, Apples, Candy, Nuts, Cranberries, etc., for Xmas. Besides we carry at all times a full stock of Groceries and Feed, and will appreciate a call when you need anything in the above lines

See us for Heaters, Cook Stoves, and in fact, anything in the Hardware and Grocery lines

# Crown Hardware Co.

# Victory X-Mas Sale

This is of course a Victory Xmas and should be the most glorious one ever for all the world. We offer you in this sale our entire stock of holiday goods, hosiery, underwear, work shirts, overalls, threads and dry goods, notions, together with our queensware, Glassware, enamelware, express wagons, tablets and pencils. We quote you prices on the following items:

\$2.50 Mens union suits	\$1.69	60c Ladies hose, white and black	49c
2.00 Mens 2-piece underwear	1.69	\$1.25 Ladies hose, black	1.00
2.00 Mens overalls	1.89	25c Childrens hose	20c
2.25 mens overalls	2.00	35c Childrens hose	29c
1.00 mens work shirts	92c	Crochet cotton in white and colors	25c
1.35 mens flannel shirts	1.55	3 for	25c
75c Boys and misses unions	55c	Talcum and face powders	15c to 25c
65c Ladies vests	49c	\$2.00 cups and saucers, real china set	\$1.65
\$1.50 Ladies union suits	1.00	\$2.25 cups and saucers, real china set	\$1.75
25c mens half hose	19c	Good as anybodys express wagon for	\$1.00 to \$2.75
60c mens half hose	49c	School tablets 6 for	25c
25c Ladies hose, black	20c		
50c Ladies hose, black	35c		

These are just a few of the many values offered in this "Victory Christmas Sale," which begins now and lasts throughout December. If you fail to buy from us we both lose money. Yours for business,

## THE RACKET STORE

WE KEEP NOTHING, BUT SELL EVERYTHING

J. M. DRY, PROP.

### BUY YOUR

## Christmas Fruits, Nuts Apples, Oranges and Candies

Also Fresh Cigars

Best Prices on Patent Medicines

**A. C. BONEY**

## PLUMBING AND WINDMILL WORK

I will appreciate your Patronage and Guarantee my Work

B. T. (Tye) SUBLETT At Crown Hardware Co.

## Specialty in Farm Loans

Inspector on the ground—Quick Service

Real Estate and Fire Insurance

W. O. BONEY West of Farmers State Bank

## Government Says Buy Coal Now

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

WARREN BROS. All C. & S. C.O.D.

### The Christmas Spirit

IN THE grim business of war, and under the spur of conservation pleas wrongly understood, there is danger this year that something of the Christmas spirit will be lost. Never before has it been more important that it should not be. The Christmas spirit as well as civilization and liberty must be saved. The world is in the midst of a war that is wrenching men's hearts; a nation that has made peace its emblem is throwing itself and every resource into the conflict; on all sides sons have parted from mothers and fathers; news of casualties is being received. Under such circumstances it might be natural for the weak to yield to depression. This must not be. There is a brave and cheery side to the picture, which must be kept constantly in our hearts and minds.

Preserving and accelerating the Christmas spirit of other years will help do this; omission of the usual acts of kindness and generosity will add needlessly to the depression that all are trying to drive from them. Hearts were never in greater need of cheering than this year. Nor was there ever greater need for an outlet of the spirit of kindness and generosity in man. We are engaged in the unpleasant business of bringing to her senses by force a brutal government. That is the task of the hour. But it should not be permitted to blind our eyes to the things wholly of the spirit, to dull sensibilities into disregard of obligations less pressingly important, but equally essential to the preservation of the finest type of American manhood and womanhood. That is why charities in war times should be more generously supported than in days of peace; why this Christmas should be made, if possible, cheerier and happier than any Christmas that has gone before.

There are some people who cannot afford to observe this Christmas as they have observed it in years preceding. There are others who can better afford to be generous than ever. All should give in proportion. There is no reason why they should not, and every reason why they should. Not to do so will be unpatriotic and selfish.

The Quinine That Does Not Affect The Head Because of its tonic and laxative effect, LAXATIVE L. J. MO QUININE (Tablets) can be taken by any one without causing nervousness or ringing in the ears. E. W. GRIVIS, S. signature on box. 20c

### The First Christmas

And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night.

And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them; and they were sore afraid.

And the angel said unto them, fear not; for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people.

For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.

And this shall be a sign unto you. Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger.

And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of heavenly host praising God, and saying,

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.

And it came to pass, as the angels were gone away from them into heaven, the shepherds said one to another: Let us now go even unto Bethlehem, and see this thing which is come to pass, which the Lord hath made known unto us.

And they came with haste, and found Mary, and Joseph, and the babe lying in a manger.

And when they had seen it, they made known abroad the saying which was told them concerning the child.

And all they that heard it wondered at those things which were told them by the shepherds.

But Mary kept all these things, and pondered them in her heart.

And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things that they had heard and seen, as it was told unto them.

—St. Luke ii:8-20.

### A Good Business Man.

A commercial traveler had taken a large order in Scotland for a consignment of hardware and endeavored to press upon the canny Scottish manager who had given him the order a Christmas gift of a box of Havana cigars.

"Naw," he replied. "Don't try to bribe a man. I cudna tak them and I am a member of the kirk."

"But will you not accept them as a Christmas present?"

"I cudna," said the Scot.

"Well, then," said the traveler, "suppose I sell you the cigars for a merely nominal sum—say, sixpence?"

"Weel, in that case," replied the Scot, "since you press me, and, not liking to refuse an offer weel meant, I think I'll be taking two boxes."

### A Christmas Wish.

Though the weather's very cold Here's a warm wish very old, May your Christmas day be merry Very-Very-Very.

### A Necessity.

"Good will among men is a prime necessity of reasonable living."—Arnold Bennett.

### FLEAS ON POULTRY

The dry weather prevailing in a large section of Texas has caused a serious growth of the flea attacking the farm poultry flock. This sucking insect, if permitted to breed, causes considerable reduction in egg yield and stunts the growth of all fowls, particularly the growing stock.

Fleas breed rapidly under the floors of bantam cribs and poultry houses, where the poultry can gain access to avoid the heat of the sun. They breed in filth and rubbish and in the droppings of the hen house.

The correct method of control is to soak the flea breeding places with salt water, which kills the eggs as they are dropped by the adult fleas on the hen. Direct sunlight is another method of eradication. Fowls should be prevented from taking refuge under houses by stringing two-inch



Before buying your Christmas presents, be sure and look over our choice selection of suitable presents. Our stock is new, the designs the very latest, the quality the best.

Ladies Wrist Watches  
Diamnod LaValliers  
Cameo LaValliers  
Bracelets  
Solid Gold Rings  
Tie Clasps  
Cuff Buttons  
Stick Pins  
Lodge Emblems  
Watch Charms  
Watch Fobs  
Watch Chains  
Ladies Watches  
Gents Watches  
Fountain Pens  
Waist Pins  
Cameo Brooches

Be sure and pay us a visit, whether you buy or not. We are anxious to please, and will take pains to show you our stock.

**T. L. GRIMES**

mesh poultry wire over the open lids.

There is no virtue in treating the fowls to kill the adult flea as it is found sticking to the face, comb and wattles. By treating the breeding places the flea will finally be exterminated, without the necessity of laboriously treating each fowl in the flock.

For That Dull Feeling After Eating.

I have used Chamberlain's Tablets for some time, and can testify that they have done me

more good than any tablets I have ever used. My trouble was a heavy dull feeling after eating—David Freeman, Kempton, Nova Scotia. These tablets strengthen the stomach and improve the digestion. They also regulate the liver and bowels. They are far superior to pills but cost no more

### No Worms in a Healthy Child

All children troubled with worms have an unhealthy color, which indicates poor blood, and as a rule, there is more or less stomach disturbance. GROVE'S TASTELESS CHILL TONIC given regularly for two or three weeks will enrich the blood, improve the digestion, and act as a General Strengthening Tonic to the whole system. Nature will then throw off or dispel the worms, and the Child will be in perfect health. Pleasant to take. 60c per bottle.

## FRUIT CAKE

We are specializing on Fruit Cake in quantities of from

**1 TO 5 POUNDS**

Order now and we will put it away and ready for delivery by December 24th.

We make it in quantities of choice materials and can sell it to you cheaper than you can make it.

When your soldier boy returns remember we make

Christmas, Wedding and Party Cakes to order

**METROPOLITAN BAKERY AND CAFE**

# WITH OUR CHRISTMAS GREETINGS



We feel that it is in keeping with the spirit of the occasion to gratefully

## THANK YOU

for the patronage extended us the past year, and here is hoping that our pleasant relations will continue into the hopeful new year.

# E. L. Rogers

Groceries and Feed Fruits and Candies



## The Farmer Receives More Than Five Thousand Dollars a Minute From Swift & Company

This amount is paid to the farmer for live stock, by Swift & Company alone, during the trading hours of every business day.

All this money is paid to the farmer through the open market in competition with large and small packers, shippers, speculators and dealers.

The farmer, feeder, or shipper receives every cent of this money (\$300,000 an hour, nearly \$2,000,000 a day, \$11,500,000 a week) in cash, on the spot, as soon as the stock he has just sold is weighed up.

Some of the money paid to the farmer during a single day comes back to the company in a month from sale of products; much does not come back for sixty or ninety days or more. But the next day Swift & Company, to meet the demands made by its customers, must pay out another \$2,000,000 or so, and at the present high price levels keeps over \$250,000,000 continuously tied up in goods on the way to market and in bills owed to the company.

This gives an idea of the volume of the Swift & Company business and the requirements of financing it. Only by doing a large business can this company turn live stock into meat and by-products at the lowest possible cost, prevent waste, operate refrigerator cars, distribute to retailers in all parts of the country — and be recompensed with a profit of only a fraction of a cent a pound—a profit too small to have any noticeable effect on the price of meat or live stock.

Swift & Company, U. S. A.



## MUST INCREASE FOOD EXPORTS

America Called on by End of War to Supply Added Millions.

### ECONOMY STILL NEEDED.

Over Three Times Pre-War Shipments Required—Situation in Wheat and Fats Proves Government's Policy Sound.

With the guns in Europe silenced, we have now to consider a new world food situation. But there can be no hope that the volume of our exports can be lightened to the slightest degree with the cessation of hostilities. Millions of people liberated from the Prussian yoke are now depending upon us for the food which will keep them from starvation.

With food the United States made it possible for the forces of democracy to hold out to victory. To insure democracy in the world, we must continue to live simply in order that we may supply these liberated nations of Europe with food. Hunger among a people inevitably breeds anarchy. American food must complete the work of making the world safe for democracy.

Last year we sent 11,820,000 tons of food to Europe. For the present year, with only the European Allies to feed, we had originally pledged ourselves to a program that would have increased our exports to 17,500,000 tons. Now, to feed the liberated nations, we will have to export a total of not less than 20,000,000 tons—practically the limit of loading capacity at our ports. Reviewing the world food situation, we find that some foods will be obtainable in quantities sufficient to meet all world needs under a regime of economical consumption. On the other hand, there will be marked world shortages in some important commodities.

#### Return to Normal Bread Loaf.

With the enlarged wheat crops which American farmers have grown, and the supplies of Australia, the Argentine and other markets now accessible to shipping, there are bread grains enough to enable the nations to return to their normal wheat loaf, provided we continue to mill flour at a high percentage of extraction and maintain economy in eating and the avoidance of waste.

In fats there will be a heavy shortage—about 3,000,000,000 pounds—in pork products, dairy products and vegetable oils. While there will be a shortage of about three million tons in rich protein feeds for dairy animals, there will be sufficient supplies of other feedstuffs to allow economical consumption.

In the matter of beef, the world's supplies are limited to the capacity of the available refrigerating ships. The supplies of beef in Australia, the Argentine and the United States are sufficient to load these ships. There will be a shortage in the importing countries, but we cannot hope to expand exports materially for the next months in view of the bottle neck in transportation.

We will have a sufficient supply of sugar to allow normal consumption in this country if the other nations retain their present short rations or increase them only slightly. For the countries of Europe, however, to increase their present rations to a material extent will necessitate our sharing a part of our own supplies with them.

#### Twenty Million Tons of Food.

Of the world total, North America will furnish more than 60 per cent. The United States, including the West Indies, will be called upon to furnish 20,000,000 tons of food of all kinds as compared with our pre-war exports of about 6,000,000 tons.

While we will be able to change our program in many respects, even a casual survey of the world supplies in comparison to world demands shows conclusively that Europe will know famine unless the American people bring their home consumption down to the barest minimum that will maintain health and strength.

There are conditions of famine in Europe that will be beyond our power to remedy. There are 40,000,000 people in North Russia whom there is small chance of reaching with food this winter. Their transportation is demoralized in complete anarchy, and shortly many of their ports will be frozen, even if internal transport could be realized.

#### To Preserve Civilization.

At this moment Germany has not alone sucked the food and animals from all those masses of people she has dominated and left starving, but she has left behind her a total wreckage of social institutions, and this mass of people is now confronted with absolute anarchy.

If we value our own safety and the social organization of the world, if we value the preservation of civilization itself, we cannot permit growth of this cancer in the world's vitals.

Famine is the mother of anarchy. From the inability of governments to secure food for their people grows revolution and chaos. From an ability to supply their people grows stability of government and the defeat of anarchy. Did we put it on no higher plane than our interests in the protection of our institutions, we must bestir ourselves in solution of this problem.



## Gift Hints

## A NICE SELECTION OF XMAS PRESENTS

12 Pairs of Shoes that must be sold in the  
NEXT 6 DAYS

Buy your Xmas Groceries of us and save money. We have them for Less

### FEED FEED FEED

See us for Corn, Corn Chops, Barley Chops and Oats. Let us figure your feed bill, we

Can Save You Money

## The Star Store

Dry Goods and Groceries

### A Christmas Wish

Wherever there is sickness  
May Santa Claus bring health;  
Wherever there is poverty  
May Santa Claus bring wealth.  
Wherever one is weeping  
May tear to smiles give way,  
Wherever sadness hovers  
May joy come Christmas day.

To every heart that's aching  
May peace and comfort come,  
And may an outlook rosy  
Supplant each outlook gloom.  
May friends now separated  
Soon reunited be,  
And every one find gladness  
Upon his Christmas tree.

Keep Christmas.  
"There is a better thing than the observance of Christmas and that is keeping Christmas." — Henry Van Dyke.

Let It Stop at That.  
A white Christmas is well enough, but it need not embroder its benefactions by adding frostbitten toes.

UNDER THE MISTLETOE.



E. L. Rogers has plenty of corn chops, oats, barley chops and corn. Figure with him for your feed bill.

#### Few Escape

There are few indeed who escape having at least one cold during the winter months, and they are fortunate who have but one and get through with it quickly and without any serious consequences. Take Chamberlain's Cough Remedy and observe the directions with each bottle, and you are likely to be one of the fortunate ones. The worth and merit of this remedy has been fully proven. There are many families who have always used it for years when troubled with a cough or cold, and with the very best results.

FOR SALE—Typewriter ribbons at the Merkel Mail office.

Mr. and Mrs. G. H. Bullock, who have been visiting Mrs. Bullock's parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Garrett for about three weeks, left recently for Clovis, N. M., where Mr. Bullock has employment with the Santa Fe.

#### A Tonic Laxative

that will remove the bile from the Liver and cleanse the System THOROUGHLY without griping or disturbing the stomach is truly a Perfect Laxative.

#### LAX-FOS WITH PEPSIN

is the name of a Reliable and Perfect Laxative which soon relieves Sick Headache, Dizziness, Indigestion, Stomach Trouble, Gas and Piles caused by a Torpid Liver and Constipation. Always use a Reliable Laxative in the treatment of Colds, Coughs and Influenza.

LAX-FOS WITH PEPSIN is a Liquid Digestive Tonic Laxative excellent in its effect on the System, both as a tonic and as a laxative. It is just as good for Children as for Adults. Pleasant to take. Children like it. 50c. Made and recommended to the public by Parke, Davis & Co., St. Louis, Mo., manufacturers of Groves' Tasteless Chilli Tonic.

## New Tailor Shop

☐ Beg to inform the public that I am again in the business of Tailoring, Cleaning, Pressing, Altering and Mending.

☐ Order that new suit now. See my latest samples and designs.

☐ Bring in those old duds and let me make them look new.

## City Tailor Shop

Jess Fergusson, Prop.

# Yuletide Greetings

It would not be fitting to close the year without expressing our fondest gratitude to our many friends and patrons who have contributed to our welfare.

We are thankful for your patience in times when our service was disturbed, and it has been our foremost effort to serve you acceptably at all times.

We are striving to perfect our service to

the utmost, that no city in all this state can boast of better service.

You are helping do this.

Here's hoping for you a full realization of your fondest anticipation for a delightful Christmas, and may it in ever increasing splendor return to caress you again and again.

For the New Year we wish you health and prosperity.

## ELECTRICAL GIFTS FOR CHRISTMAS

What can be more appreciated for a nice clean, good, serviceable Christmas gift than something in the Electrical line?

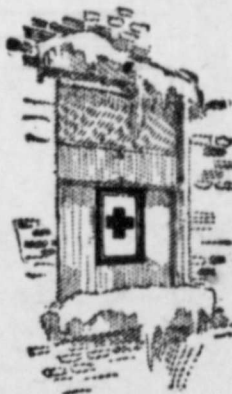
Electrical household utilities are the women's best friends.

Among the many electrical selections may be mentioned:

Sewing Machine Motor  
Percolator  
Range  
Curling Iron  
Pump Set  
Disc Stove  
Heater  
Drink Mixer  
Washing Machine  
Vacuum Cleaner  
Iron  
Toaster  
Samovar  
Warming Pan  
Table Lamp  
Floor Lamp



### The seriousness of one—the happiness in the obligation of the other



Put your flag in your window—let your neighbors know you haven't forgotten Belgium—and France—and our boys who remain overseas.

But both are badges of honor—one standing for exceptional valor on the battlefield—the other, for membership in the greatest of all humanitarian organizations, your American Red Cross.

The work of the soldier is practically finished.

The work of the Red Cross has really just begun.

Your membership and the moral support such membership gives are essential in carrying on Red Cross activities.

Let us all realize that in our happiness of another Christmas of Peace and Plenty—let us not forget the sufferings and privations of our war-torn friends across the sea—let us make our Christmas festival a Red Cross Christmas with full membership in every American home.

**Join the Red Cross**  
—all you need is a heart and a dollar

THIS SPACE CONTRIBUTED BY



**Wear your Button**

Will you be wearing your membership button when the boys come home?

**Join**

## PLAN IS BETTER THAN EVER WAS

The war is over, and the drought, too, we hope.

This is a great hour in which we live—a history-making hour.

The world will not be as it was. A marvelous change is taking place.

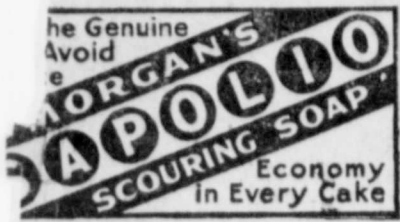
Henceforth electricity will be a greater factor in the world's progress. Not only will electric current turn the wheels of industry, but the home will be cheered and warmed by this marvelous power.

Be sure that your resolutions for the new year include electrical facilities.

# Merkel Power Company

Tetter and Salt Rheum.  
These ailments is almost  
allayed by Chamber-  
laine. Many severe cases  
cured by it. For sale  
dealers.

want to list your vacant  
your houses, in fact what-  
you have to sell. The Mer-  
tealty Company.  
nty of oats and cowfeed at  
artin's



## Nicholas In Camp

was the night before Christmas  
and all through the camp  
at a sound could be heard but the  
sentry's tramp, tramp.  
The boys were all sleeping quite  
snug in their bunks  
with occasional snoring in good  
solid chunks.  
They were a-dreaming of homes far  
away  
and mothers preparing for the  
world's holiday;  
thens of sweethearts and what they  
might send



To brighten the  
day and hap-  
piness lend—  
When all of a  
sudden there  
rose such a  
clatter,  
All sprang up to  
see what the  
world was the  
matter:  
They rushed to-  
ward the  
trenches ex-  
pecting the  
Boches,  
Aching to give  
them some rather rough punches—  
When what to their wondering eyes  
should appear  
But a convoy deep loaded with  
Christmastide cheer—  
Parcels and boxes and everything  
good—  
While high on the pile old St. Nich-  
olas stood,  
A-bowing, and smiling, and beck-  
ning to all  
And easily looking as though he  
might fall.  
His face was familiar to all within  
sight,  
He was given no challenge, so great  
was delight.  
With a wink of his eye and a twist  
of his head  
He gave all to know they had noth-  
ing to dread,  
For pausing a moment, he went  
straight to  
work,  
And selecting a  
package he  
gave it a jerk  
And sent it a-  
flying while  
calling a  
name,  
As the boy it  
was sent to  
was answering  
the same;  
Then to one and  
another a par-  
cel he gave,  
Till each hut was still as a newly  
made grave  
As the boys, filled with joy at the  
gifts they received,  
Hugged them and kissed them, as  
though they believed  
Those gifts were "most human. And  
Santa looked on  
Tight gripping his wheel and foot-  
ing his horn,  
Still bowing and smiling; then  
turned to the right  
And said "Merry Christmas," and  
"to all a good night."



Some say that ever 'gainst  
that season comes  
Wherein our Saviour's birth  
was celebrated  
The bird of dawn singeth  
all night long,  
So hallow'd and so gracious  
is the time.  
—Shak—

## Health About Gone

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

### TAKE

## CARDUI The Woman's Tonic

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

All Druggists

J 72

### TO DEAR OLD SANTA

The following letters have  
been received, and will receive  
prompt attention.—Old Santa,  
Merkel, Texas, Dec. 14, 1918.

Dear Santa Claus:—  
I am writing to let you know  
what I would like for you to  
bring me xmas.

Boy Scout suit, knife, candy,  
fruits and some nuts.

Don't forget my little brother.  
He wants a Humpty Dumpty  
set, nuts, candy and fruit.

Now Santa please do not for-  
get the little poor children.

Your truly,  
Van Hines McSpadden.

Merkel, Texas, Dec. 18, 1918.

Dear Old Santa:—  
I am sure you are very busy,  
have a hard time trying to give  
every boy and girl what they  
ask for, so I will take this means  
of letting you know what I want.

I will appreciate a big doll, ap-  
ples, candy and nuts. I will hang  
up my stocking so you can easily  
find it, so fill it full.

Thanking you in advance, I am  
Lovingly,  
Ava Dee Jackson.

### SPECIAL PRICES.

Until January 1, I will give  
special prices on all goods in my  
house. This is done to move the  
goods as rapidly as possible to  
avoid invoicing. Figure your  
Christmas grocery bill with me  
now and save money. Don't for-  
get that I carry fruits of the  
very best quality. A. L. Jobe, adv

Prof R. M. Parker received a  
message Wednesday night an-  
nouncing the death of his sister,  
Mrs. W. F. Wilson, at Ennis.  
Burial took place there Thursday  
morning.

Three pounds of Breakfast De-  
light coffee at G. M. Sharp's.

Worms in a Healthy Child  
en troubled with  
—have an un-  
—more or less at

## Classified Ads

WANTED—A man with small  
family to work with cattle. See  
C. M. Largent.

FOR SALE—Hamburger stand.  
See N. Hancock. 12t2c.

FOR SALE—Work mules and  
mares. Hand and disc plows,  
harrows, ect. My land all rented.  
—M. Armstrong. 1t.

WANTED—All your cream and  
butter. C. E. Connor at A. L.  
Jobe's store. 27t2p.

WANT TO RENT—100 or 125  
acres on halves. Am able to fur-  
nish myself. G. W. Bishop, Mer-  
kel, Tex. 27t2p.

## LOCAL NEWS

Dewey Brown, in army service  
at Christian College at Abilene,  
was turned loose Saturday and  
is home again.

Sun dried peaches and apples  
at G. M. Sharps.

L. T. Shepard, who has been  
teaching in the Abilene High  
School, is in receipt of a letter  
from Miss Annie Webb Blanton  
offering him the position of Cer-  
tificate Clerk of Texas, to take  
effect January 1. Mr. Shepard  
will leave with his family at once  
for Austin. We congratulate him  
upon his appointment.

Brer Rabbitt syrup at G. M.  
Sharp's

J. M. Boney, of Oronago Mo.,  
came in Wednesday night and  
will spend the holidays with his  
parents, Mr. and Mrs. A. C. Bon-  
ey and also his brother, W. O.  
and family.

Mr. Boney is Telegraph Fore-  
man at Oronago.

Home-made kandy fresh at  
the Metropolitan.

Booth Warren, Ed Teaff,  
Ralph Bigham and Ross Ferrier  
left Tuesday for Dryden, on the  
Rio Grande, where they will  
join Sam Swann and Geo. Fer-  
rier, who are already there on a  
hunting expedition. The latter  
went on ahead to get the big  
game rounded up. We are betting  
on them bringing back a rabbit  
foot apiece, and maybe a Mexi-  
can thrown in.

Mr. and Mrs. W. R. Walker,  
who are visiting friends here,  
received a telegram from their  
son, John R., better known as  
Jake, stating that he would ar-  
rive here today, Thursday, from  
the barracks in Virginia, where  
he has been in the army service.

Cream meal—G. M. Sharp.

Kandy for Christmas shoppers  
made at Metropolitan.

J. C. Dennis expects to spend  
the holidays on a fishing trip.

Plenty of oats and corn—G. M.  
Sharp.

J. C. Mason has returned, from  
where we could not learn. We  
know that he left here with a  
mighty pretty girl and are in-  
quiring diligently if her name is  
the same. It is mighty hard for  
us to keep up with J. C.

Miss Minnie Ferguson return-  
ed home from Ricardo, N. M., on  
Monday night to spend the holi-  
days at home. She says she was  
recently snowbound with a 15-  
inch snow, which is going some.

Walter Jackson and daughter,  
Ava Dee, will spend the holidays  
with his parents, Rev. and Mrs.  
M. C. Jackson, and other relatives  
in Dallas and Arlington.

### Brittain Jobses Writes

Mr. and Mrs. Jobe received a let-  
ter from their son, Brittain, who  
is in France, in which he states  
he is well and doing fine, but  
very anxious to hear from home.  
He says he has plenty of good  
grub, plenty of blankets and  
good warm clothes.

He also stated that it was  
wine making time there, and it  
was amving to see them mak-  
ing their back yards, but  
a very

### PROGRAM

Fifth Sunday Meeting Sweetwa-  
ter Association at Merkel.  
Friday, December 27

10:00 a. m.—A Scripture  
Study—Millard A. Jenkins, Abi-  
lene.

11:00 a. m.—Sermon—Missio-  
nary J. M. Haygood, Sweetwater.  
2:30 P. m.—Scripture Study  
—W. C. Garrett, Colorado.

3:00 p. m.—Denominational-  
ism and the New Era—Round  
Table led by J. C. Burkett, Abi-  
lene.

7:30 p. m.—Song Season—Prof  
Anderson of Simmons College.  
7:30 p. m. Baptist and Other  
Christians—Round Table led by  
T. Y. Adams, Sweetwater.

Saturday, December 28  
10:00 am.—The Whole Educa-  
tional Outlook in Texas—Round  
Table by President Sandefer.

11:00 a. m.—Sermon—E. T.  
Miller, Abilene.

2:30 p. m.—Woman's Auxil-  
iary of the Association.

2:30 p. m.—Board Meeting.

7:00 p. m.—Season of Song—  
Mrs. Howard, Misses Campbell  
and Sharp.

7:30 p. m.—Sermon—Frank  
McNair, Abilene.

Sunday's program will be an-  
nounced on Saturday afternoon.

### Epworth League Program.

Subject, Peace on Earth.  
Leader, Annie Mae Costephen.  
Scripture, Luke 11:8—14.  
Prayer of Thankfulness, Pres.  
Song, Joy to the World.  
Song, Hark! The Angels Sing.  
The Greatest Song of All, Mrs.  
Hutcheson.

Peace on Earth, George Smith.  
Song, It came upon the Mid-  
night Air.

A Christmas Story, Wallace  
Bragg.

A Cheerful Christmas for the  
Needy, Rev. Murrell.

Song, O Little Town of Bethle-  
hem.

### At The Baptist Church.

Every service in its place and  
at its time next Sunday.

A special Christmas message  
Sunday morning. Special music  
at night.

On account of the weather the  
special program to be given at  
Stith Sunday afternoon will not  
be given, but the B. Y. P. U. will  
hold its regular meeting at 3:30.

Announcements concerning  
our Christmas program will be  
made Sunday morning.

Everybody invited.

E. E. Dawson, pastor.

### THE RED CROSS DRIVE

Many obstructions were en-  
countered in the Red Cross  
Christmas Roll call. Many of the  
workers were ill and unable to  
work. A great many families  
were sick and solicitors could  
not enter the houses. It was  
very noticeable that some fami-  
lies would take out only one mem-  
bership for the whole family.  
Where the family is able, it is  
asked that all take memberships  
above the age of fifteen years.

It is also very noticeable that  
the Merkle people are still patri-  
otic to the Red Cross and its  
cause. It is very evident that  
there is not a country in the  
world more loyal than the peo-  
ple of Merkel and the Merkle  
Country.

As so many of the workers  
were unable to make their terri-  
tory, and if you were not seen by  
a Red Cross worker, do not feel  
that you are not wanted as a  
member. It was purely a matter  
of not getting to you. It is as-  
ked that you voluntarily call and  
have your name on the great  
Humane Roll Call.

The rural school districts are  
coming fine and are giving their  
one hundred per cent.

This drive closes December 23  
and when through, Miss Mossie  
Sears, secretary of the local Red  
Cross, will have all names alpha-  
betically arranged; also the names  
of those who are not members  
and any one who desires may  
see this book. The names have  
been kept very accurately, and  
the list is too lengthy to print  
through the press columns, but  
you are welcome to look them  
over.

W. A. McSpadden, Chairman.

# Cotton Seed FOR PLANTING

JANUARY 1919, I WILL HAVE A CAR OF  
PURE MEBA TRIUMPH COTTON SEED  
HERE FOR SA, THE SAME SEED WHICH I  
HAVE BEEN SLING FOR THE PAST THREE  
YEARS.

I BUY FROM ONE PARTY WHO I HAVE IN-  
VESTIGATED AND FIND HIM RELIABLE. THE  
SEED ARE OF HIGH LINT PER CENT. THE  
SEED I OFFER NS FROM 38 TO 42 PER CENT

BE CAREFUL WHAT SEED YOU BUY.  
MINE ARE GUANTEED AND HAVE BEEN  
TRIED. ASK AN ARMER WHO HAS BOUGHT  
THESE SEED. TY ALWAYS COME BACK  
FOR MORE.

THE PRICE \$2.75 PER BUSHEL.

## R. O. ANDERSON

## GOO CHEER A MERRY CHRISTMAS A HAPP'NEW YEAR

The time appropriate  
for us to press to you  
our thank for your pat-  
ronage t past year.  
We hope you a New  
Year full prosperity.

## SANDERS RUG STORE

The Home Pure Drugs

## NOICE

Having some oblations to meet Jan-  
uary 1, I must insist those who owe me  
coming in and payg all they can and  
making arranges with me, or Miss  
Johnnie Warren, 1 balance between  
now and January 1.

A Merry Chitmas to All

## M. Armstrong

The Devil will be on hiscacion next week, therefore,  
there will be no issue of the Merkdail put out, but the office will  
remain open every day except Chmas Day.

### RAINING—RAINE—RAINING

After publishing elsewhere this issue the year's rain-  
fall, it began pouring down in Mer. It has passed an inch as we  
go to press and no sign of stopping night.

We have seen some funny tins, and heard of some queer  
things, but the funies thing we have seen in some time was this  
afternoon, when a visitor came to town in the form of a little  
old man in a little green and yellow wagon, drawn by four little  
old billy goats, who answered to "god ha" as well as a horse  
could. The little old wagon had a little wagon sheet on it, from  
which was suspended the U. S. flag here he is from and when  
we did not learn.

# Yuletide Greetings

It would not be fitting to close the year without expressing our fondest gratitude to our many friends and patrons who have contributed to our welfare.

We are thankful for your patience in times when our service was disturbed, and it has been our foremost effort to serve you acceptably at all times.

We are striving to perfect our service to

the utmost, that no city in all this state can boast of better service.

You are helping do this.

Here's hoping for you a full realization of your fondest anticipation for a delightful Christmas, and may it in ever increasing splendor return to caress you again and again.

For the New Year we wish you health and prosperity.

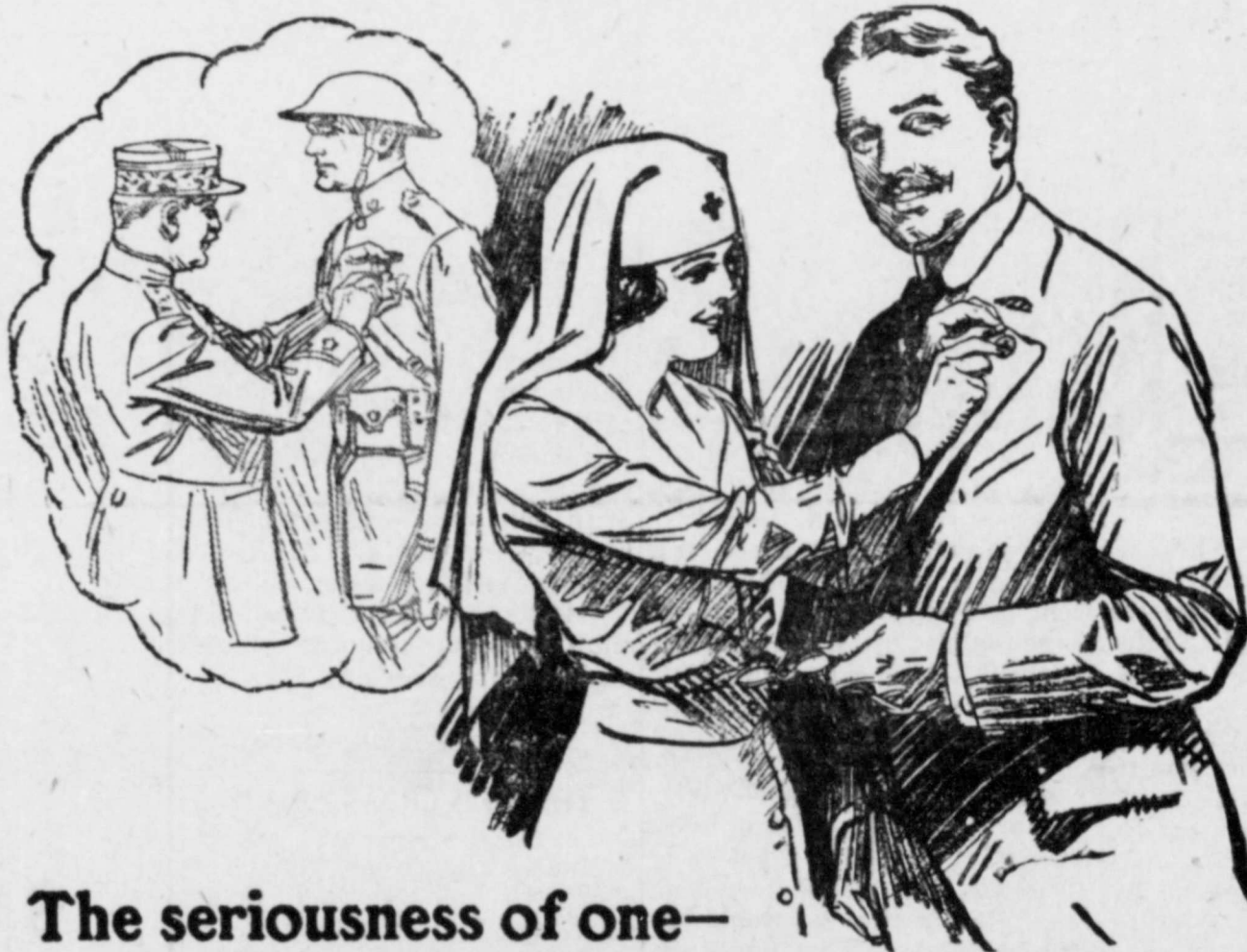
## ELECTRICAL GIFTS FOR CHRISTMAS

What can be more appreciated for a nice clean, good, serviceable Christmas gift than something in the Electrical line?

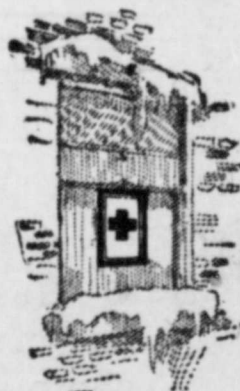
Electrical household utilities are the women's best friends.

Among the many electrical selections may be mentioned:

Sewing Machine Motor  
Percolator  
Range  
Curling Iron  
Pump Set  
Disc Stove  
Heater  
Drink Mixer  
Washing Machine  
Vacuum Cleaner  
Iron  
Toaster  
Samovar  
Warming Pan  
Table Lamp  
Floor Lamp



### The seriousness of one—the happiness in the obligation of the other



Put your flag in your window—let your neighbors know you haven't forgotten Belgium and France—and our boys who remain overseas.

But both are badges of honor—one standing for exceptional valor on the battlefield—the other, for membership in the greatest of all humanitarian organizations, your American Red Cross.

The work of the soldier is practically finished.

The work of the Red Cross has really just begun.

Your membership and the moral support such membership gives are essential in carrying on Red Cross activities.

Let us all realize that in our happiness of another Christmas of Peace and Plenty—let us not forget the sufferings and privations of our war-torn friends across the sea—let us make our Christmas festival a Red Cross Christmas with full membership in every American home.

**Join the Red Cross**  
—all you need is a heart and a dollar

THIS SPACE CONTRIBUTED BY



**Wear your Button**

Will you be wearing your membership button when the boys come home?

**Join**

## PLAN IS BETTER THAN EVER WAS

The war is over, and the drought, too, we hope.

This is a great hour in which we live—a history-making hour.

The world will not be as it was. A marvelous change is taking place.

Henceforth electricity will be a greater factor in the world's progress. Not only will electric current turn the wheels of industry, but the home will be cheered and warmed by this marvelous power.

Be sure that your resolutions for the new year include electrical facilities.

# Merkel Power Company

# THE MERKEL OIL SITUATION

W. L. THAYER

PETROLEUM GEOLOGIST  
FORT WORTH, TEXAS

Fort Worth, Texas, August 29, 1918.

Mr. Ira Garrison, Merkel, Texas.  
Dear Sir:

The area under consideration, in general way, has all appearance of being a well defined structure and in my past experience in field work, with one exception, have found a larger structure that looks more promising than this and in connection, natural gas is found in the creek beds of sufficient amount to burn with considerable pressure, which tends to strengthen the theory of structure from a production standpoint.

Respectfully Submitted

W. L. THAYER, Petroleum Geologist.

## GEOLOGICAL REPORT ON CERTAIN AREAS IN THE VICINITY OF TRENT, TAYLOR COUNTY, TEXAS.

### GARRISON DOME

#### Location

The Garrison Dome is located on the south side of the Texas and Pacific Railroad, a distance of one and one-half miles east of the town of Trent, a station on the T. & P. Ry., and the area under consideration is embraced in parts of sections 40, 41, 47, 48, 49, 53, 54, 59 and 60, block No. 19, T. & P. Ry. company lands.

#### Topography

The surface of Taylor county does not have any very marked irregularities in topographic features. The region is in the drainage basin of the Brazos river, the chief tributaries are Clear Fork, Red Creek, Live Oak and Buck Creek, and their tributaries. The elevations from 1400 feet above sea level to 2100 feet. The course and character of the stream is dependent very largely upon the geological formations.

The high elevations are due in most part to the Limestone of the Commanchean series, of the late Cretaceous.

#### Structure

The structure is a well defined elliptical dome, which adjoins and parallels a Major fold that cuts in width and length considerable area. In fact comprises one of the largest structures known in this part of the country. The strike of axis is North and 25 east. The major dips average 90 feet to a mile. The minor dips are well defined at either end of the dome merging into horizontal strata beyond.

#### Contr

The axis of dome traverses the edge of a wide valley carved out by erosion, this valley is flanked by low undulating hills on the west, in which the top formations well exposed, showing both strike and dip conspicuously.

#### Geology

The formation in the hills Lower Cretaceous of the Commanchean series, the same as in Mexico; the broad valleys begin of the Permian; the lower Cretaceous (Glenn Rose Formation) rests unconformably upon the Permian which is exposed in the broad valley east of Trent, and in fact a greater part of the county. The Permian in turn is superimposed upon the Pennsylvanian, (Upper Carboniferous). The absence of the Jura Trias is accounted for by the fact that this part of the continent has been subjected to several periods of elevations and subsidences.

During the deposition of the Jura Trias, the area was elevated above sea-level, it subsequently subsided below sea-level permitting the deposition and distribution of the lower Cretaceous. No fracturing, fissuring, faulting or overturning of strata of any consequence is found, and no intrusions appear within the radius of 25 miles of the area described.

#### Stratigraphy

The formation is regular and persistently interstratified, and is composed of Fossiliferous Limestone (in Cretaceous) Sandstone Conglomerates, laminated and bedded shales plentifully. The strata are all of marine sedimentary origin as evidenced by the fossil remains found.

#### Paleontology

The fossil remains found in the Permian are very rare owing to the fact of being a transitional period and contain transitional forms. In it we have a passing away of the Palaeozoic types, and the coming in of the Mesozoic types, and a co-existence of the two side by side.

The main feature of the Permian life, therefore, was a lingering of the Orthoceratites, scarce shouldered Brachiopods, such as *Productus* and *Spirifer* type and perhaps *Goniatites*, but complete extinction of *Trilobites* and *Eurypterides*, in which a small number of the above fossils were found. The Cretaceous consists of *Alveolites*, *Visicularis*, *Exogyra Texana*, *Ostrea Larvea*, *Synhelix*, *Arpeana*, *Echinoids* and fragments of the *Marsupites*.

#### Facilities

The facilities for carrying on operations are good. A fine road leads to the property from Merkel and Trent. Water for domestic, mining and drilling purposes can be secured at depths varying from 10 to eighty-five feet. Fuel will have to be hauled to premises. Oil can be obtained in good lots at Thurber, Palo Pinto county, at \$2.85 per ton, freight \$2.00 per ton, hauling \$2.50 per ton total laid down \$7.35 per ton. Fuel oil can be delivered on premises at current market price. Drillers wages average \$10.00 per day. Tool dressers \$9.00 per day. Supplies or camp can be obtained at Merkel.

#### Conclusion

In the writer's opinion no element or factor is lacking upon which to predict the probable existence of petroleum in paying quantities; at depth, say not to exceed 3500 feet. Although it may be encountered at the following depths: 1740, 2540 and that may be productive.

The formation is firm and will stand. Nothing but cable tools should be employed and at least a 20-inch hole should be spudded in. It should be lowered to hole with bailer to prevent possible when joined shale encountered.

For economy and efficiency, run double, tower and charge.

## TWO GEOLOGICAL SURVEYS MADE IN THE IMMEDIATE MERKEL FIELD—DERRICK BUILT—OTHER OIL ACTIVITIES HERE.

Following the active development of the Ranger oil field, business began to pick up in this section. Scouting parties representing oil interests, secured many leases here and there before the people waked up to the real situation. Then through the efforts of R. L. Bland, Tom Largent, B. Scott and others, the present parties were interested. They came the past spring and looked over the field. Their geologists were brought and active leasing started. They now have four blocks, with a fifth one in prospect, comprising about 40,000 acres of land.

A short time ago a contract was let for a well on the ranch of John Sears. The derrick had been completed and the drill outfit is expected daily. Mr. Underwood, the contractor, left for Tulsa several days ago, a letter from him states that he is already on his way back, coming in his car and would now be here except for bad roads. It is understood that he had the entire outfit shipped before leaving Tulsa.

Two geological surveys were made of this section, one of which has been published before,

but to combine all the data, we publish same again herewith.

### Other Oil Propositions.

On the Morrison tract, a short distance north of Tye and only eight miles from Merkel, active drilling is under way. The well is already about 1200 feet deep, and much interest is manifested in it. The selling of leases and royalties about this well have been very active the past month, and it is said there is very little left on the market.

### The Moore Well

About two miles directly west of the Morrison well, about 1000 acres have been leased and drilling is to start in less than 90 days.

### Best Wildcat Field.

From all accounts, considering the opinion of men who have played the oil game for years, this is the best wildcat field in existence. All eyes are watching the outcome of developments now under way. It will likely take some time yet to arrive at a point where an opinion, other than a geological one, can be arrived at with safety, but local interest is great and it is with impatience that developments are awaited.

JNO. D. KENNARD

ENGINEER AND GEOLOGIST  
LAWTON, OKLA.

Taylor, Jones and Nolan Co's Oil Association, Merkel Texas  
Dear Sirs:—

I beg leave to report to you at the request of Mr. I have gone over and examined carefully four blocks of which has been leased by your Association for oil and gas in Taylor, Jones and Nolan Counties, Texas. The Blocks are as follows, to-wit:

"North Block" in Jones and Taylor Counties, extending from Merkel nine (9) miles.

"Middle Block" in Taylor County, mostly located in Block 19, T. & P. R. R. Co. survey, which lays between Merkel and Blair extending West.

"South Block" in Taylor County, located in Blocks 18 and 19, T. & P. R. R. Co. surveys, and Block Nine (9) S. P. R. R. Co. and the Grimes County School Land Surveys, Blocks 145 and 146, which lays from Blair 4 miles South and 6 miles East and West.

"Trent Block" in the N. W. Corner of Taylor Co. and the Corner of Nolan County, in Blocks 19 and 20 T. & P. R. R. Co. survey, extending from 1 mile East and 5 miles West of Trent 4 miles South and 2 miles North of Trent, Texas.

I will state that on the 27th of July (also 28th and 29th) 1918 in company with Mr. Boggs, I carefully examined and surveyed the entire surrounding country to observe the nonconformities of the surface of the Geological Structures.

I found that the More Mountains Range is a great Geo-Anticline extending nearly East and West for 150 miles, or more. These mountains do not show any Igneous Rock except at "Blow Out Mountain." I made an examination of the mountain and at the top of it I find a small amount of quartz and some iron which denotes that it is of volcanic origin and that it may be 4000 feet to the granite.

I find evidences which tend to show that the uplift of these mountains caused a Major Anticline to be formed from 12 to 20 miles North of this Mountain Range, also I find a great Minor Anticline extending about North 16 miles from Blow Out Mt. to the Major Anticline which parallels the More Mountains. The town of Merkel is situated upon this minor anticline about midway between Blow Out Mt. and the Major Anticline.

The "North Block" is situated on the minor and major anticline and the lands extend about 9 miles North of Merkel. And have selected for the first test well to be made about 1/4 mile S. of John Sears Ranch House in Jones County, Texas. This location is on the Major Anticline.

The "Middle Block" is situated on the Minor Anticline which lays between Merkel and Blair and extends West.

The "South Block" is situated on the Minor Anticline and up to the Apexes of said Anticline which is known as Castle Peak and Blow Out Mt's, and the lands lay 4 miles South from Blair and extend 6 miles East and West.

The "Trent Block" is situated on the Minor and the North slope of the Geo-Anticline and the lands extend from one mile East to 5 miles West of Trent and 4 miles South and 2 miles North.

I find in many places upon the Geological planes where they have been exposed by erosion undisputable evidence of oil and gas seepage and in general everything necessary to prove that the lands heretofore described are excellent oil lands, and I am sure that the location of all 4 test wells, which I have selected will prove to be producers, as they are very favorable for the first tests to be made in this district for oil and gas. The elevation above sea level is 1900 feet.

### Topography

This district is drained by Mulberry Creek on the South and East and by Noodle and Sweetwater creeks on the west and north which drain north into the west prongs of the Brazos river and the More mountains lay to the south.

### Geology

The surface of the district is made up of the Permian and Red Bed formations, with the geological planes being lime on top of the mountains or the geo-anticline, sandstone 2nd and a lime 3rd underlain with red bed or deep sea deposit, which may be 400 feet thick overlaying the Pennsylvanian formation.

### Structure

The prevailing dip is about 20 to 30 feet to the north per mile. This was caused by the More Mountain uplift which produced a folding to the North, forming the Major Anticline, in general, and the Minor Anticline was forced to form from the mountains South and connect to the Major Anticline. This structure also slopes to the East and West from its Axis along which the town of Merkel, Texas is situated and the town of Trent is on the Western slope and the town of Blair is on the S. E. slope.

These slopes are about 20 feet to the mile. The Geological plane East of Merkel has been removed by erosion, and can be traced only by thin strata which occur in the red bed, noticeable along the East bank of Mulberry creek on the South and East and the Noodle and Sweetwater Creeks on the North and West, reaching into the West prong of Brazos River which completes a perfect structure for the accumulation of oil and gas.

### Summary

The Pennsylvanian formation, which is the probable source of Oil underlies the Permian perhaps not deeper than 400 to 600 feet in this district. There are no logs of any wells near except one south of Abilene, Texas, that I might make estimates from and I can only ascertain from it that it had a showing of oil at 1900 feet deep.

### Conclusion

So from all observations and the information relative to the above well, and the evidences of the seepage of oil and gas which is shown upon the surface of the ground and in the Geological plane of the district it is my conclusion and conviction that you will get oil or gas upon these structures of commercial value first about 850 to 1000 feet next 1350 to 1500 feet, next at 2000 to 2200 feet, next 2600 to 2800 and I am sure that you will get 500 to 1000 barrels production at 3200 to 3500 feet, the same that they get in the Ranger Oil field.

It is my judgment that you will get shallow oil nearer than you may drill, about 850 feet. The deep sands, so if you drill of all the shallower sands, so if you drill per sands, you should

IF IT IS

Leases

ROYALTIES

-- OR --

Farm and Ranch  
LANDS

We have them---real bargains. Farms capable of production equaling the black land belt.

MERKEL REALTY CO.

W. O. Boney J. T. Browning  
Walter Jackson

## ENT OF PORTUGAL SLAIN

By Assassin at Lisbon  
Slayer is Killed by Mob

Dec. 15.—Dr. Sidonio  
ent of Portugal, was  
led by an assassin  
ore midnight Satur-  
he was in a railway

ng Withstand the Winter  
Better Than the Weak  
Have Health, Strength and En-  
light Colds, Grip and Influenza.  
ur blood is not in a healthy  
does not circulate properly,  
is unable to withstand the

**FASTEST CHILL TONIC**  
System Against Colds, Grip  
a by Purifying and Enriching

ck the well-known tonic prop-  
ine and iron in a form  
to the most delicate stomach.  
ant to take. You can soon feel  
thener, Invigorating Effect. 60c.

HE COMING OF PEACE, THE FALLING OF ABUN-  
ant rains, and the great Promise of the Future for Texas  
ake this the best and most appropriate time to plant fruit  
ree, berries, pecans, and ornamentals we have had in many  
years.

We can supply varieties of nearly all fruits adapted to this  
region.

Leona and Smith Peaches—Haupt Berries  
Budded Pecans—Hardy Climate-Proof  
Native Texas Flowering Shrubs

On these and many other kinds and varieties we will stake  
our reputation.

PLANS MADE FOR PLANTING HOME  
GROUNDS OR PARKS.

Write for any information in our line, Catalogue free.

THE AUSTIN NURSERY F. T. RAMSEY & SON  
Austin, Texas Established 1875

## A Newspaper Subscription

### Bargain

READ THE

### Abilene Morning Reporter

the paper which reaches you first and regularly  
with the Associated Press dispatches with the  
worlds latest news and

### The Merkel Mail

**\$4.00**

—To take advantage of this reduction in price  
you should place your subscription with this  
office at once as it cannot and will not be contin-  
ued long. At this price you are buying a Daily  
paper including the Sunday issue together with  
your local paper for less than you can buy any  
other Daily paper, and you are buying the two  
for the regular price of one.

## OUR COMBINATION

### Subscription Rates

### SAVE YOU MONEY

Pay \$1.00 for The Merkel Mail for One Year  
and get any paper named below for

Dallas Semi-Weekly News one year	75c
Farm and Ranch two years	75c
Hollands Magazine two years	75c
Abilene Morning News-Reporter 1 year	\$3.00
Star-Telegram (daily except Sunday) until Dec. 1, 1919	\$4.50
Star-Telegram (daily with Sunday) until Dec. 1, 1919	\$6.00
Western Evangel	New Sub. \$1.00—Old Sub. \$1.25

You save by dealing with us—and then  
we are responsible for errors

and mag-

## RAINFALL IN MERKEL FOR THE PAST YEAR

On top of the driest year in Merkel's history, the rainfall this year was inadequate to meet the needs of growing crops. If we could have only had a season to have started with, the result would have been quite different. For ordinary years, our rainfall was sufficient. It will be noted in the following table that there was scarcely no rainfall for the first four months. Even with the rain that fell in May and June, our prospects were fine, but right at the time crops were needing rain, July showed little more than one-third of an inch. Conditions now are quite different from what they were last year at this time. We have had good rains this fall, and if we can just get the rain next spring that we got this spring, this great Merkel Country will be rolling high by harvest time. Wheat is up fine and spreading as nicely as could be expected. It is already affording grazing, and it is now predicted that there will be enough livestock in the country to keep it down as it ought to be kept. However, it was sowed late and will not likely grow too rapidly. Following is the amount of rainfall for each month up to December 18th:

January, snow,	.63 inches.
February, rain,	.16 inches.
March, rain,	.56 inches.
April, rain,	.66 inches.
May, rain,	3.12 inches.
June, rain,	2.67 inches.
July, rain,	.39 inches.
August, rain,	1.92 inches.
September, rain,	.64 inches.
October, rain,	3.90 inches.
November, snow and rain,	1.25 inches.
December to the 18th, rain,	.22 inches.
Total	16.12 inches.

We are indebted to J. J. Stallings for the above record. He has carefully compiled this record after the most painstaking care.

## The Red Cross Ready for Peace

THE following message has been telegraphed by the War Council of the American Red Cross to each one of the 3,857 chapters:

"On February 10th, last year, nearly six weeks before the United States declared war, National Red Cross Headquarters advised its chapters to prepare for war. That which has followed in the record of the Red Cross in helping to win this war and to relieve the suffering growing out of it, constitutes something of which every American citizen has a right to be proud. Every American Red Cross worker must feel a sense of gratitude in having had a share in it all.

"The moment is now come to prepare for peace. Until peace is really here and our soldiers home there can be no relaxation in any Red Cross effort incident to active hostilities.

"But even with peace, let no one suppose that the work of the Red Cross is finished. Millions of American boys are still under arms. Thousands of them are sick and wounded. Owing to the shortage in shipping, it may take a year or more to bring our boys home from France. But whatever the time, our protecting arms must be about them and their families over the whole period which must elapse before the normal life of peace can be resumed.

"Our soldiers and sailors are enlisted until the Commander-in-Chief tells them there is no more work for them to do in the war. Let every Red Cross member and worker—and this means both men and women—show our returning soldiers and sailors that to care for their health, welfare and happiness we are enlisted for no less period than they are.

"The cessation of war will reveal a picture of misery such as the world has never seen before, especially in the many countries which cannot help themselves. The American people will expect the Red Cross to continue to act as their agent in repairing broken spirits and broken bodies. Peace, terms and peace conditions will determine how we may best minister to the vast stricken areas which have been harrowed by war, and for this great act of mercy the heart and spirit of the American people must continue to be mobilized through the American Red Cross.

"On behalf of the War Council, we accordingly ask each member of our splendid body of workers throughout the land to bear in mind the solemn obligation which rests upon each one to 'carry on.' We cannot abate one instant in our efforts or in our spirits. There will be abundance of work to do, and specific advices will be given, but even at the moment of peace let no Red Cross worker falter.

"Our spirits must now call us to show that not the roar of cannon or the blood of our own alone directs our activities, but that a great people will continue to respond greatly and freely to its obligations and opportunity to serve."

## CANTEENS SERVING U. S. TROOPS IN ITALY

The American Red Cross canteens, which serve at railroad stations, important points on highroads, and in towns and villages throughout the Italian zone of war, are now serving American troops. These canteens have been operating during the past six months for the benefit of the Italian army and its allies, greeting the soldiers in their passage from one point to another with coffee and American crackers and jam. But it is only recently that the khaki-clad fighters from across the sea have been added to the number of those served at the Red Cross rest stations.

ons have been  
Red Cross

## BOYS AWAIT BULLETIN FOR NEWS FROM HOME

American soldiers in camps and hospitals in Great Britain are now able to keep in touch with affairs at home through the medium of a daily bulletin service which has been established by the American Red Cross.

Army officers say the service fills a long-felt want, providing the men with sporting and home news they cannot find in the English newspapers.

The arrival of the bulletin is now one of the big daily events. In this connection a Red Cross worker in England sends the following message to National Headquarters in Washington:

"After talking with the boys about the daily news service I have been told to notify you that if the bulletin about you will be court-mar-

# Cotton Seed FOR PLANTING

On or about nuary 1st, 1919, I will have a car load of the very best Genuine Machine Culled, 1st year Mebane Triumph Cotton Seed

These seed come in good 3-bushel sacks and I am looking orders for them now at \$2.75 per bushel.

These seed are from fine cotton raised by an experienced grower of Mebane Cotton and were ginned in August and September before any all rains had fallen on the cotton.

I have spent a great deal of time making investigation as to purity and genuineness of seed and believe I have the very best to be had. Call at read statements from farmers and gin men regarding the seed I have. Place your order now.

**THOS. JOHNSON**

## A Merry Christmas

Beg to inform the public that I am again in the busins of Tailoring, Cleaning, Pressing, Altering and Mending.

Order that new at now. See my latest samples and designs.

Bring in those oldduds and let me make them look new.

## City Tailor Shop

Jess Fergusso, Prop.

## Farm Loans

AND

## Farm Insurance

Our farm land loan facilities are the very best. On good land we can handle your loan quickly.

We have just made arrangements to take on a line of insurance covering farm buildings. We can write you a policy and deliver it immediately. Protect your property against fire.