



## 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

are used by the French and English, finally adopting the latter. The training was very severe, but helped us out greatly when the tug of war came.

Our battalion went into the trenches on October 19 in the Loraine sector. We were the first American troops to take over any part of the front. The first shot fired by American soldiers was from this battalion. The first American killed and the first taken prisoner were from my regiment, but from a different battalion. This was a quiet sector, where they broke the boys in. A raid was made the third night of our occupancy when about five Americans were killed and eight captured. We were never able to tell what injury we inflicted upon the enemy. We held this ground for about ten days, when we were returned to our old training camp, where we remained until January, 1918, and then we were sent to the Toul sector. We stayed here about thirty days, only losing one man and that by shell fire. Here is where I gained my first experience on patrol in No-Mans land. There were nineteen of us. We got a little too close to the German lines and our presence was detected. A star shell was sent up, but we ducked and avoided being seen. However, they turned a machine gun in our direction and for awhile we were a scared bunch. When the firing stopped we beat a hasty retreat. Altogether I made over twenty patrols, but managed to avoid drawing the enemy fire after this. We had a number of hair-raising experiences, but no

**The Strong Withstand the Winter Cold Better Than the Weak**

You must have Health, Strength and Endurance to fight Colds, Grip and Influenza.

When your blood is not in a healthy condition and does not circulate properly, your system is unable to withstand the Winter cold.

**GROVE'S TASTELESS CHILL TONIC**  
Fortifies the System Against Colds, Grip and Influenza by Purifying and Enriching the Blood.

It contains the well-known tonic properties of Quinine and Iron in a form acceptable to the most delicate stomach, and is pleasant to take. You can soon feel its Strengthening, Invigorating Effect. 60c

real close calls.

From the Toul sector we went to a rest camp where we remained about three weeks. After this we went into another sector, where we remained a few days, then back to rest camp, then into another sector, etc., until we were called to check the German advance at Chateau Thierry. While on one of these sectors we were under continuous shell fire for seventy-two days. When relieved for a short rest and sent to the rear, we were taking things easy in a small village, when suddenly at night a German airplane raid was made on us, killing and wounding several of our boys. We spent several more days here, but always took the precaution of sleeping out in the wheat fields adjacent to the town in order to keep from being bombarded. We spent the Fourth of July in the trenches. After this we were ordered to what we thought was a rest camp. Hardly had we got down to taking things easy when we were ordered to the front at Chateau Thierry. We were loaded on trucks and it took us three days and nights to reach our destination. We went into camp in a big forest, about six miles behind the front line. As we were lying in the trenches waiting to go over the top, we were subjected to an artillery barrage and also to machine gun fire. While waiting for the order to go over the top, every minute seemed like a day. There is no moment in warfare when one is put to such a tension. He knows he is going over in a few minutes; he does not know that he will be alive long; he knows he is about to face the most strenuous moment of active warfare. It is great relief to receive the order to move forward. When the order came a shout rang out throughout the line and every man jumped over the top and rushed forward as if in a big football game. Our own guns opened a counter barrage. Not a man of us halted. Their shells were falling all about, machine guns were active and airplanes were dropping bombs. In

No. 7481

Organized 1904



U.S. Postal Savings Depository

**CAPITAL AND SURPLUS  
OVER \$50,000.00**

An Old Reliable National Bank

Member Bank in Federal Reserve System

Every Attention Given to Details of business left to our care

**OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS**

J. T. Warren, President  
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**SOME EXPERIENCES OF  
CORPORAL HORTON**

The following is an interview from Cpl. O. A. Horton, who is just back home, having been severely wounded in the fight around Chateau Thierry:

I enlisted first in the service in November, 1911. My military training took place at Fort Logan, Col. From there I was sent to Fort Ward, Wash., where I was connected with the coast artillery. My experience for the three years service was entirely ordinary, as peace prevailed in America. After being discharged in November, 1914, I came home, where I remained a few months, and then re-listed at Fort Logan. From there I was sent to the Mexican border at El Paso, in 1915, where I remained until the chase for Villa began. We crossed the border the 15th day of March, 1916. We were in Mexico 10 months and 20 days. We had plenty of hard marching experiences. We enjoyed the extreme of weather during a 24 hour period. One hour we would want to unload every particle of baggage and even clothing; the next we would be almost freezing to death. In all my experiences this was the severest. We hoped for military activity in that country, but as time wore on and there was nothing doing, we were the proudest bunch you ever saw when the command was given to return to the states. Our line of march was over the most mountainous and desert portion of Mexico. There was practically no population in that section. Upon our return we took up our old quarters on the border until we got orders to embark for foreign activity on June 1, 1917.

We sailed from Hoboken, N. J., and landed at St. Nazier, near Erest, France. We were in camp about two weeks, and then were loaded on train and shipped to Goudercourt, about 200 miles distant. We trained at this latter place until October 19, 1917. Our training consisted of learning the methods of trench war-

# The Brown Dry Goods Co. Back From Market

The buyer found the market steady. Some few items have been reduced in price but the great majority of goods have not declined, and whatever declines yet to come will be very small.

## We are Selling Goods

in many instances cheaper than we can buy them at the mills today

**COME SEE**

**New Patterns in Silks**

**Beautiful new Ginghams**

**New Patterns in Sox and Ties**

**White Goods and Notions**

**Good sensible and stylish Oxfords and Shoes**

All of the above we are expecting to arrive this week

# The Brown D. G. Co.

addition to all this hell of fire, had to stumble over pit holes and through entanglements of barbed wire. I was in the second wave when we went over. After going about a mile and a half, the first wave dropped back and my wave went first. We went over at four o'clock I went into the front wave about five o'clock I was wounded about 6:30. I never was unconscious. The wound was caused by shell explosion, killing four right by my side. One of the boys never received a scratch. I was wounded in twelve places; lost one leg and came near losing the other. One piece of steel entered my head, one my body, half of my left foot was taken of, the bone was broken half way between my knee and ankle, and received two wounds in my right foot, one slight wound in the face, one wound just above the knee on the right leg the piece of shell being removed twelve days afterwards, three in my right hip, one in right chest, one in second finger of right hand and one on third finger of left hand. I did not realize at the time that my wounds were so severe. The only reason I can give for not bleeding to death is on account of the shells reaching such heat as to sear the flesh and prevent bleeding. Some friends drug me back to a shell hole out of range of machine gun fire. Finally I got to where I could raise up a little where I could view the surroundings. For about 200 yards the ground was strewn with dead and wounded. In one or two places I noticed them two deep. I could see them and hear them moaning and groaning in the most excruciating pain, and begging for help, and yet there was no one to render assistance. So many had fallen earlier that the stretcher bearers had not gotten up this far. Soon the small gun firing died away. Then came the agonizing moments. There we were helpless, with a shell exploding here and there, and we were unable to move. More than one poor wounded fellow was blown to atoms right in sight of











ing the sad truth. They also looked up the Post Mortem record at this building and gave us all the official information they had.

Then down-hearted and sad and shocked we stood there. Two of the military police were near by and were so nice in assisting us with information. We gave them some of the custards and things we brought for Jack.

We then determined to look up some of Jack's friends in camp, but were unsuccessful.

Sunday February 9th we rode over to camp and succeeded in locating Jack's friend, Corporal Shannon. He was one of the last boys to see Jack. He said he went over to Jack, who was in his barracks on Monday Jan. 27 and he was real sick. He went to the infirmary with him and the doctor gave him some pills. He laid around the barracks until he was taken into the hospital on Tuesday morning. Corp. Shannon did not see Jack again until after he was dead. He tried to see many times, but was refused admission. He told us he even tried to sneak in, but was found out before he succeeded in reaching Jack. He too feels his loss keenly and said they all miss him. Upon hearing that Jack had passed away Corporal Shannon tried every possible means to locate us and tell us what had happened. Not remembering our name, and not knowing our address it was rather difficult. However with lots of inquiring he succeeded in getting our phone number but could not reach us that way as no one was here to get the message.

He told us that the boys of Jack's company, I believe, or his soldier friends took up a collection with which they bought a flag for his coffin, and I think some flowers too. We were pleased to hear this and know that at least that much was done for him.

We have asked Corporal Shannon if he hears anything of Jack, which may be of interest to you, and us, to let us know. He is going to see the other soldiers acquainted with Jack and if there is any message at all we'll gladly let you know.

We all would do anything for Jack, and now that he is no more if there is any thing you would like to know, or any little thing you would like done, please do not hesitate to let us know. We realize how hard it is for you dear people. Having had a sudden death in our family, when my husband passed away, we can sympathize with you all. Only those who have experienced such a loss can realize what it means.

We were planning a wonderful motor trip, West and Jack was going with us perhaps this spring or summer.

We took a few snapshots of Jack a few weeks ago, and are having them printed. As soon as we receive them we will send them to you.

As we have no more information at present, that is we do not think of any more, just now, will close, extending again our deepest sympathy in your bereavement. We are most sincerely your,

Mrs. Carrie Hession and family

#### Periodic Bilious Attacks

Persons subject to periodic bilious attacks will observe that their appetite fails them just before an attack. That is, they do not really crave food but eat because it is meal time. If they will eat a light meal and no meat, then take two of Chamberlain's Tablets the attack may be avoided.

#### Card of Thanks

With hearts rended by sorrow and sorely afflicted by bereavement, it is refreshing to know that the sympathy of our friends are with us and help sustain us in this dark hour. We greatly appreciate the kind offers of assistance and the help given. We particularly wish to thank the doctor for his kindness and patience, and others who have so nobly stood by and ministered to our dear wife and daughter.

May the richest blessings of heaven be upon you, one and all. Sgt. Earl Richardson, Mr and Mrs. J. A. Collins and family.

# MILLINERY

Our first Spring showing of new hats met with wonderful approval. Many new hats are coming in now---hats particularly fitted for early spring wear, and you will confer a favor on us and also have a greater variety from which to choose if you come early.



Let us Have the Pleasure of Showing You

## NEW SPRING Ready-to-Wear

We are also receiving almost daily express shipments of new spring Coat Suits, Capes, Coats, Dresses Skirts and Blouses

in all the new styles and colors. We guarantee to save you money on your spring purchases. Yours to please

## Woodroof-Bragg Dry Goods Co.

MERKEL TEXAS

#### HAYDEN TURNER WRITES

Siloam Springs Ave, Feb 13 Dear Mr. Jackson—I just notice from date on label of my paper that my time to Merkel Mail is about up, so I hasten to send in my renewal. I inclose here-with one Dollar for, which you will please allow "The Mail" to find its way to the mountains of Ark, for its a welcome visitor and is eagerly and interestingly read by each member of the family.

Father and Mother (Mr and Mrs G F Turner of near Merkel) are spending the winter with us, they arrived here Dec. 9th last. We are all well and getting along nicely. Have had very mild winter, with very little snow, only 6 or 8 inches so far, but a great deal of rain. Conditions here are about normal and the out-look at present for fruit crop is very good. We have plenty of time to get our peach crop killed yet. The writer is still rambling over the hills of North West Ark, and North East Okla., M A "Tin Henry," in the interest of Fountain City Wholesale Grocery, Co. of this place. I have had a very pleasant and profitable year during 1918, and hope for better things in 1919. With the kindest wishes to the Merkel Mail, and its many readers, and truly hoping that West Texas will be blessed with a bumper crop this year I am,

Respectfully yours,  
HAYDEN TURNER

#### 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.

When the bowels become irregular you are uncomfortable and the longer this condition exists the worse you feel. You can get rid of this misery quickly by using Herbine. Take a dose on going to bed and see how fine you feel next day. Price 60¢ Sold by Sanders Drug Company

## New Location

I have moved to new quarters in the front of the old Anchor building and am better prepared than ever to take care of your

Cleaning, Pressing and Mending

A cordial welcome will be given you

Mrs. C. L. Cash

Phone 180

### SAVE the LEATHER

LIQUIDS and PASTES: For Black, White, Tan and Ox-Blood (dark brown) Shoes

KEEP YOUR SHOES NEAT



SHOE POLISHES

F. F. DALLEY CORPORATIONS LTD. BUFFALO, N. Y.

#### Ruth Tucker Dead

Little Ruth Tucker, aged five years, daughter of Mr and Mrs. C L Tucker, died at 6:30 o'clock Wednesday afternoon. She suffered from influenza and has been sick about a week. The funeral services were held at the Methodist church Thursday afternoon, interment taking place immediately afterwards in Rose Hill cemetery, Rev W M Murrell officiating.

The little girl was called to her reward in her young girlhood, just at the time when she was a bright and shining light in the family. The promise of life stretched out before her, but its joys and its sorrows are denied her. Let us remember that she is in a better world and be consoled for the aching void caused by her going. Our heartfelt sympathy goes out to the bereaved family and friends

#### Piles Cured in 6 to 14 Days

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

If you are going to want a loan on that farm you had better see W. O. Boney at once.

TYPEWRITER RIBBONS & CARBON PAPER—At Merkel Mail office.

Shorts and Bran, G M Sharp.

The Quinine That Does Not Affect the Head Because of its tonic and laxative effect. LAXATIVE BROMO QUININE (Tablets) can be taken by anyone without causing nervousness or ringing in the head. E. W. GROVE'S signature on box. 50c.

#### Dollars and Cents.

Counting it only in dollars and cents, how much did that last cold cost you? A man may not always stop work when he has a cold but perhaps it would be better if he did. It takes about ten days to get completely rid of a cold under the usual treatment. That time can be much shortened by taking Chamberlain's Cough Remedy and proper care of yourself, in fact, a bottle of this remedy in the house is a mighty good investment during the winter and spring months.



Mrs. Walter Jackson, Editor

#### VALENTINE PARTY

The most unique thing of the season was the Valentine party given at the High School auditorium in honor of the Senior class.

The Seniors were happily surprised last Monday morning when the Faculty announced that each Senior might invite a friend. These were soon chosen, so at the appointed time we met there to match our hearts.

Soon after everyone gathered around the booth to hear the toasts given by the Senior, cups were filled and the toast that appealed to us all was the one given by Katie Lou Gunter. "Here's to the Seniors of this time, who will always remember this Valentine.

As we sipped the wine we all wondered if ever there was another Senior class as happy as we? and our hearts whispered no.

Those present were Supt. F A Cary, Mr. Lowrie, Mr and Mrs. Eleck Williamson, Carlton McLeod, Noble Forrester, Arthur Brown, Jack Boone, C Smith, R McLeod, of Ft Sill, Okla., D Donnell, T G Hamner, Tom Rosson, Louis and Bert McRee and Mr. Kiggan of Ft Sam Houston. Misses Katie Lou Gunter, Alva Lee Estep, Amanda Payne, May and O D Robinson, Ida and Anna Belle Smith, Ethel McLeod Jewell and Agnes Blackmon, Dorris Hamner, Lela Duke, Irene Donnell, Gertrude Dowdy and Tennie Pope

Senior class of Trent High School.

#### "TENNESSE'S PARDNER"

Don't Fail to see The New Arrival.

Comedy drama in four acts to be put on by Merkel Dramatic Club in near future. Watch the paper for further information.

The Dramatic Club met Tuesday at the home of Mr. and Mrs. W A McSpadden. All business attended to and two members was admitted into the Club. The club is doing good work and the director Mr. Ralph Henson expects to have a play ready in the near future. The next meeting of the club will be held at the home of Mr and Mrs W A McSpadden on Tuesday evening March 4th. All who are interested in Dramatic work are invited

Born to Mr. and Mrs. Stanley King a fine 9-pound boy Wednesday night. Mr. King is still in camp at Fort Sam Houston, not having received his discharge. Mother and baby are doing nicely. We don't know how the father is as we haven't heard from him.

We can make immediate delivery on Ford Cars. See us at once if you expect to buy a car. Merkel Motor Co. Phone 84

## Hayes' Healing Honey

STOPS THE TICKLE  
HEALS THE THROAT  
CURES THE COUGH

Its Soothing Healing Effect soon gives relief. Price 35c. Sold by all Druggists. If your Druggist should not have it in stock, he will order it from his nearest Wholesale Druggist.