



THE MERKEL MAIL



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MERKEL, TEXAS, FRIDAY, MAY 2, 1919

8 PAGES

FINE RAIN FALL IN TIME TO SAVE GRAIN

Just as the grain crop was hanging in the balance of minutes, just when the terrific sandstorms had swept about it in fury, just when hopes were being dashed to dust, the rain came and there is rejoicing throughout the west. It was a tense time, but Providence responded with a bountiful rain and the crop is saved. There are various deductions made as to the percentage of damage, but those who claim to know wheat, who have come from wheat growing sections, are almost unanimous in their belief that the damage will not amount to over ten per cent. The yield promises to be greater than the West ever offered before. It will prove a great blessing to the country. It will put money here several months before the cotton can be marketed. And what is very fine a good price is assured.

The rainfall Saturday afternoon and night amounted to 1 1/4 inches at Merkel, amounting to more in some places, but good rain everywhere.

PROHIBITIONIST BEWARE

Men ought to use all the sense they have; prohibitionist, not less so.

We have won the battle in all but the finals. However, let us take no chances. If our country is dry, that is good; if the State is dry, that is better; if the Nation is dry, that is best of all.

Let us put prohibition into the Constitution of the State on May 24th. To do it will bring about "safety first" to the cause if for any reason of by any tricks the Amendment to the Constitution of the Nation fails to be enforced. The rum traffic today is making the hardest fight of their lives to defeat national prohibition.

For my part, I shall fight for the adoption of the State Amendment as I would be if it were in jeopardy. We can afford to take no risks. — S. P. Brooks.

Sears School Closed

The Sears School, taught by Miss Mamie Ellis, closed last Friday afternoon. Then on Saturday morning the teacher, children and parents met at the school building to start on an all day picnic on Clear Fork river. They were soon loaded into wagons and cars to be conveyed to the river, where a great time was anticipated, but on approaching the place the rain began falling so fast, they decided to take a back track to the nearest shelter, which was two miles away. Upon reaching the Horn School building they spread their lunch and enjoyed the hours as only a school crowd can. After remaining there until the last crumb of the once delicious lunch was no more, the crowd started for their homes, though a steady rain was falling. They arrived home safely and in high spirits despite the soaking they received, and their only wish was that the day had been longer and for another day just like that one to speedily return. All had the time of their lives.

NOTICE TO PARENTS AND GUARDIANS

Any one having under his or her control a child or children over seven and under eighteen years of age on September 1, 1919 must look after the enrollment of same at once. Apply to Guy Darsey or R. M. Parker, either will attend to the matter for you. Do not put this matter off if you want your child in Free School next term.

Yours very respectfully,
R. M. Parker, Supt. Schools.

A NEAR TRAGEDY

The Victory Liberty Loan Campaign is on. Merkel's quota is \$35,000. Has Merkel done her best? Are the citizens of Merkel who are able to buy bonds doing their duty? Are our citizens showing sufficient thankfulness for the great victory that has been ours.

Following is the result so far:

List of Subscribers to the Fifth Liberty Loan Through The Farmers State Bank

Name withheld	\$500
R. O. Anderson	500
Farmers State Bank	2500
A. B. Highsmith	50
Wallace Bragg	50
F. Y. Gaither	100
Total	3700

List of Subscribers to the Fifth Liberty Loan Through The F. & M. National Bank

E. S. Sandusky	\$100
J. T. Howard	100
DeVerle Johnson	100
Taylor Davis	100
Booth Warren	100
Thos Johnson	500
J. H. Craig	50
H. C. Williams	50
Mrs. Sallie C. Boyce	2500
Magnolia Petroleum Co.	750
Gulf Refining Co.	250
Total	4600
Grand total	8300

It will take some tall hustling to go over the top. What about it, citizens?

A Fine Sample of Oats

We have a sample of fine oats on display at the Mail office. The oats were cut on the farm of Homer Patterson, north of town. They measured fully four feet high, some of the heads being 12 to 16 inches in length. Mr. Patterson claims that he has a field that is nearly as good as the sample and that it is possible for the yield to reach fabulous proportions.

Creditable Barley

E. C. Connor brought in a sample of barley raised in Merkel this season that would make any one think of anything else except drouth. The stalks were well developed, about four feet high and heading nicely. Surely this year will place an abundance of feed in the country.

Union Ridge School Closed.

The Union Ridge School, which was taught by Misses Dota Garrouette and Florence Hall, closed a most successful term the past by the Mrs. N. Y. H. B. G. week. A patriotic exercise was rendered by the children, which was much enjoyed by all present.

The children of Salt Branch School gave their teacher, Miss Wilma Garrett, a most happy surprise on her birthday last Thursday, in the form of a flower shower. Her table was completely covered with flowers of all kinds. Miss Garrett very much appreciated the remembrance of her birthday.

E. N. Brown had as his guest Sunday night and Monday, Jno. Montgomery, of Glen Rose. Mr. Montgomery was here in the interest of securing the leases on Mr. Brown's ranch, in Somervelle County.

Remember the 10th and save your discount by paying your Electric accounts.

Bring your eggs to W. P. Duckett and get 30¢ a dozen. W. P. Duckett.

THE FEDERAL LAND BANK

Wants you to make your application for a loan now and have it ready by the time your note is due this fall. All delay in getting a loan is your fault. The Land Bank was set up for your benefit and not to make money. It is your friend then why not use it? See W. W. Wheeler. 184c

GOOD NEWS IN OIL INTERESTS--DRILLING CONTRACT LET--RIG HAS ARRIVED

The Security Banking & Investment Company of Fort Worth and who recently took over the North and Middle Blocks let contract to G. E. Flanigan, highly recommended by oil well supply companies and other big operators in the field, to drill the Sears well to a depth of 3000 feet. Contract was also closed with the same party to drill the well on the Middle Block to the same depth. Mr. Flanigan took charge of the Sears Well May 1. He will arrive Saturday and take active supervision of the work. The well is down well beyond 600 feet and the log is showing highly satisfactory. Mr. Flanigan is drilling at a stipulated price per foot and no acreage is involved in the contract.

The company is having a geological underground map drawn about the proposed location on the Middle Block. As soon as this is finished, which will be in a remarkably short time, the timbers will be placed on the site and the derrick built. The company hopes to have active drilling going on within a few days.

Mr. Sarbor, who is to drill the Trent Block is momentarily expected. He is supposed to have his rig on the way.

Reports are to the effect that the South Block has been closed, but definite information failed to reach us by time of going to press.

THE TANK CAME

The baby tank came at last, all camouflaged and in battle trim. It cut generous didoes, stood on end, went uphill and down, demolished large-sized trees and caused profound respect wherever it assayed to go. All were amazed at its antics and speaking of it as a baby tank, stated that they just wondered what a full grown one would look like and perform.

The tank is in form of a Catepilla tractor, perfectly armored, with revolving turret from which protruded dangerous looking implements that spell death in an instant's time. No wonder the Germans feared the monster. Even a machine gun nest took to their heels upon its approach. The one here weighed six tons. They are made large enough to carry several men and weight from thirty to forty tons.

At the close of the spectacle several subscriptions were taken for the Victory Loan. Several hundred people witnessed the performance of the tank.

FROM FRANCE

Dear Brother:

It has been brought to my attention in correspondence with a friend of recent date, who by the way happens to be a Theatrical Manager, that in his section of the country it has become a difficult problem to secure talented material for the Stage, and in his distress has appealed to me, thinking perhaps that I might be able to assist him in locating some promising young actor who would be glad to have a chance to star in some of his famous productions.

This man is a very close friend of mine, both of us having fought side by side in most of the great battles of The World War, and having been wounded by the same shell, I have decided to do everything within my power to fulfill the desires of this old war hero.

West Texas is quite a young country and has not suffered the invasions of Theatrical Scouts that some of the more settled countries have been subject to, and it is my opinion that we will be able to locate just what we are looking for out in the regions of West Texas somewhere between Abilene and Sweetwater.

I have information at hand stating, that not very long ago a young actor made his debut upon the stage of one of the local Theatres at Merkel, Texas. This young man, it seems was a success from the start, and only needs the opportunity to demonstrate his ability before a Metropolitan audience to assure his success as a "Dyed In The Wool Star."

The person giving me the information regarding this young phenom of the stage was unable to furnish me with his name, and I am taking advantage of this opportunity to ask you to use all available resources at your command in order to secure the name of this actor, who will no doubt be the sensation of the Country on his first appearance. In doing this you will not only be conferring a favor upon myself, but to the entire theatrical world, and you can rest assured that you will be amply repaid for your troubles, as money is not the object in this case it is simply the task of supplying the Elite class with the grade of acting that is best and I am confident that the young man I have in mind is capable of filling the bill in its entirety.

I am in the best of health and working hard and getting anxious to get back home.

Your Big Bud.

Am in the market for all your second hand furniture. J. T. Darsey.

Maize, Feterita, Sorghum and all kind of seed at Bob Martin's

PROTEST RAISED IN TELEPHONE RATES

A large number of representative business men gathered in the Board of Trade rooms to protest against a raise in telephone rates. Notices were received Wednesday through the mail that telephone rates in Merkel were to be increased from \$1.25 to \$1.75 for residences and from \$2.50 to \$2.75 for business telephones.

The meeting was called to order by T. G. Bragg. It was shown that the local expenses had been increased very little. It looked like the company was trying to increase the rates before the government turns the system back to the owners.

The protestants signified their willingness to agree to the rates, provided a strictly modern system was installed. The following committee was appointed to draw up resolutions to the company: Walter Jackson, R. O. Anderson and W. O. Boney.

Unless the company speedily complies with the wishes of the citizens, it is planned to organize a local company and install a modern system, provided those who have telephones will agree to take the new system. A committee has been appointed, composed of G. E. Comegys, A. C. Rose and G. M. Sharp, to investigate the cost of independent systems and to inquire as to advisability of organizing a stock company.

No criticism was offered against the local operators or management. Every one believes that they are doing the best they can with the equipment at hand.

Give and Take in Ball Games

Last week the Merkel High School Baseball Team went to Trent and crossed bats with the Trent High School Team, the result being 5 to 1 in favor of Trent. It was a fine game and played in quick time.

Wednesday the Trent team came to Merkel and crossed bats, the result being 5 to 3 in favor of Merkel. The game was exceedingly fast, only 1 hour and 20 minutes.

The teams are well matched and make a very interesting game.

The local team will play Sweetwater Saturday at 4 p.m., admission 15 and 25 cents.

To Organize Knights and Ladies of Security

Charles E. Brown, district manager, in the interest of Knights and Ladies of Security, is in Merkel perfecting the organization of a lodge. A meeting will be held at 9 o'clock, Friday evening, at the W.O.W. hall in an effort to perfect the organization. After fully explaining the matter, and doubtless going into organization, a social time will be had. Refreshments will be served. Any one desiring to become acquainted with the organization is invited to attend.

A report from Comanche County is to the effect that the Fritz well, drilled by Tulsa Producers' & Refining Company, is showing oil. This will prove the field to a considerable distance south of the Duke well.

Mr. and Mrs. R. W. Grisham and daughter, Lillian Perry and Mr. and Mrs. R. T. Greer, all of Hillsboro, are visiting Mrs. Grisham's father, J. T. Howard, and family. Mrs. Greer is a niece of Mr. Howard.

Let the heathen rage; they have no War Savings Societies to join.

Kaffir seed at G. M. Sharps.



Special Subscription RATES

We can let you have the

Merkel Mail } AND { Star Telegram DAILY

To December 1, 1919 for

\$4.00

Both publications without the Sunday Telegram to Dec. 1

\$3.50

Rates on All Other Papers

CLASSIFIED ADS

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

WANTED—Single hand to do ranch work. Good pay. Tom Largent

FOR SALE—Tomato and cabbage plants. See W.P. Duckett.

FOR SALE—Nice young mare. Phone 291. T. J. L. Swafford. 2tp

FOR SALE—Tomato plants. Phone 234. 25tc

FOR RENT—Five room house on North Front Street, modern conveniences. See H. C. Williams. 2tc

Peace Maker flour is the best. G. M. Sharps.

T. W. S. S. of the War Savings Society means We shall Succeed.

Chase and Sanborn high grade coffee at Bob Martin's Grocery.

FOR SALE—Hail insurance on growing crops of wheat and oats. Old line insurance. Offers complete protection. W. W. Wheeler. 2tc

FOR SALE—One large rebuilt Cypress tank for sale cheap. M. L. Estes, Merkel 2tp

Let me do your screen work and patch that leaky roof See John McClary Phone 9012F21 21t8

WANTED—A Man with a family to do farm work. S. H. L. Swafford 1tc

Plenty of fresh groceries at G. M. Sharps.

Strength united is stronged. Belonging to a War Savings Society will help you to save.

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

To Farmers of Taylor County

There will be held at the Court House at Abilene at 2 o'clock on May 3rd, a meeting of the Taylor County Farmers Institute, at which time addresses on the cotton situation will be made by Hon. W. B. Yearly, one of the foremost men in the state on this question, to which he has given a life time of study. He is not only well informed, but an entertaining speaker as well. Mr. A. W. Kennard, a Western man also with the State Department of Agriculture will be with us. All farmers whether members of the institute or not, are cordially invited to attend.

We would be glad to have everyone interested in the cotton question to attend.

Fred Cockrell, president, J. S. Smith, secretary.

About Rheumatism

People are learning that it is only a waste of time and money to take medicine internally for chronic and muscular rheumatism, and about ninety-nine out of a hundred cases are one or there varieties. All that is really necessary to afford relief is to apply Chamberlain's Liniment. Try it. It costs but 35 cents per bottle. Large size 60 cents.

Plenty of shorts and bran at Bob Martin's Grocery Company.

The world's a school and War Savings Societies form one of the best courses on the curriculum.

Marchal Neil flour is the best. Try a sack Bob Martin's Grocery Company.

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 CHILI 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.

Shows Confidence In Merkel

Sioux City, Iowa, parties show confidence in the Merkel country, and in local financial institutions. A deal has just been consummated whereby Rev. H. L. Houghton and Dr. Van Tassel of Sioux City have bought a large block of stock at a good premium in The Farmers State Bank of this city, thus showing confidence in our city and this thriving institution.

These parties have also purchased other property in Merkel, and so confident are they over the prospects for oil that they are planning the expenditure of vast sums here. They are in the class of city builders and are a cordial welcome to the Great Merkel Country.

ADLER-I-KA AGAIN

"I had a bad case of constipation, gas on the stomach, and other bowel trouble. Twelve hours, after I took Adler-i-ka I felt better and after continuing I consider myself CURED." (Signed) E. H. Beeman, Calispell, Wash.

Adler-i-ka expels all gas and sourness, stopping stomach distress instantly. Removes all foul matter which poisons system. Of ten cures constipation. Prevents appendicitis. We have sold Adler-i-ka many years. It is a mixture of buckthorn, cascara, glycerine and nine other simple drugs Sanders Drug Store. Adv-5

No chain is stronger than its weakest link but if you are one of the links in a War Savings Society you have the strength of the whole chain.

There is more Catarrh in this section of the country than all other diseases put together, and for years it was supposed to be incurable. Doctors prescribed local remedies, and by constantly failing to cure with local treatment, pronounced it incurable. Catarrh is a local disease, greatly influenced by constitutional conditions and therefore requires constitutional treatment. Hall's Catarrh Medicine, manufactured by F. J. Cheney & Co., Toledo, Ohio, is a constitutional remedy, is taken internally and acts thru the Blood on the Mucous Surfaces of the System. One Hundred Dollars reward is offered for any case that Hall's Catarrh Medicine fails to cure. Send for circulars and testimonials. F. J. CHENEY & CO., Toledo, Ohio. Sold by Druggists, 75c. Hall's Family Pills for constipation.



Why You Should Have Your Bank Account With

THE Farmers & Merchants NATIONAL BANK

MERKEL, TEXAS

BECAUSE—Its shareholders have large holdings in the community and their interests are mutual.

BECAUSE—The strength of this Bank lies not alone in its resources, but in the character and financial responsibility of the men who conduct its affairs.

BECAUSE—Its business is governed with that conservatism, combined with enterprise and up-to-date methods which make for soundness and satisfactory banking service.

BECAUSE—It enjoys the patronage and confidence of many leading firms, corporations and individuals in this community which should be satisfactory evidence that your business also will be handled properly.

"SINCE 1904"

J. T. WARREN
PRESIDENT

THOS. JOHNSON
CASHIER

LOCAL NEWS

Collen Hand of Belton, S. C. is visiting his sister, Mrs. J. M. Garrett and family.

Car oats Expected on any train. G. M. Sharp.

J. H. Moore of Van Horn visited at the home of Mrs. R. B. Rains, a few days ago.

Try a can of our Seal bran of Chase and Sanborn coffee. Bob Martin's Grocery

Thrift is the fashion. War Savings Societies are all the style.

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

Mr and Mrs. Ed Mayes, of Fort Worth and Mrs. R. B. Norman, of Abilene, are visiting at the home of Mr and Mrs. M. M. Mayberry.

Second hand furniture bought and sold. J. T. Darsey.

We have plenty of John Deere cultivators and planters in one and two rows. Crown Hardware Company.

Mr. and Mrs. M. W. Mershon of Gordon spent Saturday and Sunday with his brother, C. T. and family.

When you are in Merkel call on Rogers, the groceryman, and see if you can not save money.

Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Sharp are in receipt of a card from their son, Parker, stating that he had landed at Newport News, Va. He expects to be home soon.

Fresh candy, cake and bread at the Metropolitan Bakery and Cafe.

Laundry agent at Pate's Barber Shop.

Bree ler's Notice.

Bay draft stallion at my barn two miles east of Comper. Price \$15.00 for season, \$3.00 cash. A. B. Cranston, Merkel, Route 1. 184p

Every Week

Every week we are filling in new goods to fix up the gaps in our stock.

We Want You to Know

That we are ever on the alert to keep our stock up of standard lines of goods for you.

Something New Every Week

The Brown D. G. Co.

LOCAL NEWS

Miss Florence Strawn and mother of Cross Roads spent the week end with Mrs. West Edwards.

Marchal Neil flour is the best. Try a sack Bob Martin's Grocery Company.

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.

Mrs. H. L. Houghton, of Sioux City is spending a few weeks with Mrs. Geo Houghton of this city.

Dwarf and standard maize seed at G. M. Sharps.

Early to bed and early to rise; War Savings Societies—if you're wise.

Fresh candy, cake and bread at the Metropolitan Bakery and Cafe.

Success comes through saving. A War Savings Society can help you succeed only if you are a member.

Every sack of Marchal Neil flour guaranteed, or your money back. Bob Martin Grocery Company.

Piles Cured in 6 to 14 Days
Druggists refund money if PAZO OINTMENT fails to cure Itching, Bling, Bleeding or Protruding Piles. Instantly relieves Itching Piles, and you can get restful sleep after the first application. Price 90c.

Don't let the grass grow under your feet; War Savings Societies cannot be beat.

Cow feed at G. M. Sharp's.

Surgeons agree that in case of cuts, burns, bruises and wounds the first treatment is most important. When an efficient antiseptic is applied promptly, there is no danger of infection and the wound begins to heal at once. For use on man or beast, borozone is the ideal antiseptic and healing agent. Buy it now and be ready for an emergency. Sold by Sanders Drug Store.



Mrs. Walter Jackson, Editor

A Surprise Party

The Senior Baptist Young People's society gathered Tuesday evening at the W. W. Brown home from where they proceeded to make a very happy surprise call upon Mr. and Mrs. T. L. Holloway, at their home on N. 9th Street.

The home was already lovely with beautiful roses and it was in this pretty setting that the happy company played games until a late hour when they were served with delicious home made cake and coffee which the visitors had brought with them.

The members enjoying the pleasant evening were: Mr. and Mrs. T. L. Holloway, Mr. and Mrs. Walter Mashburn, Mr. and Mrs. I. H. Mashburn, Mr. and Mrs. W. Roberts, Mr. and Mrs. P. F. Dille, Mr. and Mrs. P. A. Ambeschl, Mr. and Mrs. N. L. Parmer, Mr. and Mrs. C. N. Elgan, Mr. and Mrs. Dockrel Brown, Mr. and Mrs. Bert Brown, Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Cavyry, Colton Cal Paper

Banquet for the Seniors of the Trent High School

On the 19 of April the Seniors were given a banquet at the pretty home of Mr. and Mrs. M. G. Scott, by the Sophomore and Junior classes.

Those present were: Misses Maggie Peterson, Jewell and Agnes Blackmon, Ethel McLeod, Anna Belle Smith, Katie Lou Gunter, Manda Boone, Edythe Estep, Faye Ross, Hattie Swain, Lima Belle West, Ethel Riley and Tennie Pope, Messrs Ellis Smith, Andy Shouse, Malcolm Beasley, Carleton McLeod, T. G. Homner, Noble Forrester, Tom Rosson, Jack Boone, and Mr. Cary.

Those missing from this occasion were: Miss Ida Smith, who had her marriage to Mr. Williams on April 11th, and Tom Rosson, who was called away. They will never know the joy of sadness that swept over the entire class when we found that they would be with us no more, but our fondest wishes go out to them.

Class Reporter

Celebrated 10th Anniversary

Mr. and Mrs. Tom Largent celebrated their tenth wedding anniversary, Friday, by inviting a number of their friends to spend the day at their pretty home, three miles north of town. Mrs. Largent came in after the guests at eleven, A. M. and after the delightful drive out there, beautiful Victrola music was enjoyed until luncheon was served. A more appealing luncheon could not have been gotten up, for the menu consisted of: Fried chicken, deviled eggs, new potatoes, asparagus on toast, cream gravy, hot roles, macaroni and cheese, current jelly, Heinz's relish, iced tea, banana ice cream, and Angel Food cake. The table was beautifully decorated with roses. After this bounteous repast, the guests retired to the living room, where conversation and music were the past-time. Some of the crowd returned to the dining room, and put the table in order for a game of "500".

At about six o'clock the guests departed for their respective homes, each expressing themselves as having spent a most enjoyable day, and wishing Mr. and Mrs. Largent many happy returns of the day.

The host and hostess were the recipients of many beautiful and useful gifts of cut glass and aluminum.

Entertained With 42 Party

Mr. and Mrs. H. K. Sheppard entertained with a Forty-Two Party Monday evening at their home on Oak Street. Cake and cream were served. A delightful evening is reported.

Invited guests were Mr. and Mrs. L. B. Howard, Mrs. Ergeal Meador, Tom Brown, Mr. and Mrs. A. C. Rose, Miss Agnes Powell, Miss Mary Reed, Miss Maud Martin, Dee Grimes, Dr. and Mrs. Adkisson, Mr. and Mrs. Willie Joe

BIG REDUCTION

ON ALL LADIES COAT SUITS AND COATS AT Woodroof-Bragg Dry Goods Company

It being strictly against the policy of our store to carry over anything in Ready-to-Wear we will make the following big reduction on all Ladies Coats and Coat Suits

\$35.00 Suits, box and belt effects and dolman caps	\$29.50
\$27.50 Suits, box and belt effects and spring coats	\$23.50
\$25.00 Suits, box and belt effects and spring coats	\$19.95
\$22.50 Suits in big style range at	\$19.95



New Showing of Ladies and Misses - HATS -

Each week adds new shapes and trimmings to our Exclusive Millinery Department. A special showing of hats for the little tot.

New Straw Hats for Boys

A big showing of styles and shapes in price range from 50c to \$1.50

The Woodroof-Bragg Co.

HE ASKS YOU TO STAND BY HIM



FRANK M. SMITH Federal Director War Loans and Savings

On Monday, April 21, we shall have an opportunity of showing to what extent we have caught the spirit of the new and enlightened patriotism that the World War gave birth to.

Selfishness is dead. The sacrifice of money, future, even life itself, has become almost a common-place. Today, one would be ashamed to talk or act selfishly.

The people of the Eleventh Federal District have always lived up to the highest traditions of our race and now they will add to their record the crowning act of a great over-subscription to the Victory Liberty Loan, which of all loans is the true test of patriotism.

The people of this section are well informed. They know that the payment of our just debts is the only course consistent with our dignity. They know that what they are lending money for today is not actually war material but American boys' lives—if it were not for our vast preparation, Americans would be fighting and dying in the trenches today.

I have an abiding faith in my friends and neighbors, and I look for a magnificent response to the claims of the Victory Liberty Loan. I ask only that each individual response be prompt as well as generous.

GERMAN HELMETS FOR EVERYBODY



Everyone will have a chance to get a German helmet for a keepsake of the great war. Watch for the coupon bearing an order for a helmet. These coupons will be dropped from airplanes which will fly over towns in the Eleventh Federal Reserve District during the Victory Liberty Loan campaign. If you see a scrap of paper fluttering in the treetops shinny up the tree after it. It may be an order for a helmet. It's your chance in a lifetime to get one. These bright, shiny new helmets were never worn. They were a reserve supply to be worn by the boche when they marched into Paris. The boche didn't get there, but the helmets did—by freight. They were shipped in by the victorious allied troops after they marched into Germany.

Largent, Mr. and Mrs. S. J. Grafton and the host and hostess.

The invited guests were: Mesdames Donald DeWolf of Chicago; Richmond Scott of San Antonio, Earl Lassiter, Rufus Grisham of Hillsboro, Ergeal Meadow, Homer Easterwood, Willie Joe Largent, C. M. Largent and Miss Maude Martin.

Entertained With 42 Party.

Mr. and Mrs. L. B. Howard entertained a number of their friends with a forty-two party at their home the past week.

Refreshments were served and all report a most delightful time

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 then be in perfect health. Pleasant to take. 50c per bottle.

Come to Rogers for your groceries and fresh vegetables.

Are You Equipped to Win Success?

Here is your opportunity to insure against embarrassing errors in spelling, pronunciation and poor choice of words. Know the meaning of puzzling war terms. Increase your efficiency, which results in power and success.

WEBSTER'S NEW INTERNATIONAL

DICTIONARY is an all-knowing teacher, a universal question answerer, made to meet your needs. It is in daily use by hundreds of thousands of successful men and women the world over.

400,000 Words, 2700 Pages, 6000 Illustrations, 12,000 Biographical Entries, 50,000 Geographical Subjects.

GRAND PRIZE, (Highest Award) Panama-Pacific Exposition.

REGULAR AND INDIA-PAPER EDITIONS. WRITE for Specimen Pages, FREE Pocket Maps of your home town.

G. & C. MERRIAM CO., Springfield, Mass., U. S. A.

CHURCH NEWS

At The Presbyterian Church.

Remember that there is always services at the Presbyterian church Sunday morning and evening, and you are always given a cordial welcome to be present. Sunday School at 10 a. m.; preaching at 11 a. m. and 8:45 p. m. S. R. Sandifer, pastor.

At The Church of Christ

Last Sunday was a fine day with us. Full attendance at Sunday School with some new members for some of the classes.

Mrs. Rice's class reports a bible reading of one hundred seventeen chapters. There is only ten members in this class and the number considered I think, that makes a fine showing for reading in addition to their regular lesson work. This class is the intermediate class, or class No. 3, hereafter I shall speak of it as class No. 3, when I shall have occasion to refer to it.

Bro. W. G. Cypert will be with us next Sunday at 11 o'clock and at 8:45. If we have an afternoon service it will be announced at the morning hour.

Let everybody come who can and help us enjoy these sermons. Last time it was a treat to be there and I'm sure it will be the next time. Come. O. J. Adcock.

Methodist Church Notice

We had a good day all around last Sunday despite the mud we had a good attendance at Sunday School. Rev. Houghton preached to the delight of the congregation at the evening hour taxing our seating capacity to the limit. There were many good things said and the people seemed to enjoy the service. One man gave us a check for \$50, to apply on new song books, which was highly appreciated. Our piano committee met Monday evening and bought a new piano. Come to church Sunday and we will tell you just how it was done. Our Epworth League is waking up. Something near 50 were present Sunday evening with a good program. In the near future you will hear from these

young people. All services at the regular hours next Sunday. Come and worship with us.

W. M. Murrell, pastor.

At The Baptist Church

High water mark was reached in the Sunday School, but there are other heights yet to attain. A record collection in the Sunday School of \$76 plus is indicative of the upward trend.

New faces in the congregation each Sunday is an enheartening thing for every worker. The visitor always gets a welcome. Visitors can attend in the assurance that they will be let loose at the end of the hour.

Next Sunday has been specially designated by the Government as Employment Sunday. It will be so observed in this church. The message will be in keeping with the day and its significance. The pastor's Sunday night theme will be, "Everybody Pays Fare."

Fraternal invitation is given all the people of all shades of faith to worship with us. Baptists are invited and urged to line up with us. "Come thou with us and we will do thee good."

E. E. Dawson, pastor.

The Epworth League of Merkel visits Ovalo Friday, May 2, to attend District Conference. They hope to go fifty strong. An effort will be made to have the largest representation of any League visiting the Conference.

INVEST NOW

The oil situation is rapidly developing. The time has come when Merkel must take a step forward. It is our advice to all those who are renting property to seriously consider the purchase of a home while it can be had at bargain figures. Let us show you what we have on our list. We sell more homes in Merkel than all others combined. We have the best bargains. Those who want to sell list with us. Buy now—Merkel Realty Co.

Remember the 10th and save your discount by paying your Electric accounts.

Sergeant Emmett W. Northcut, brother of L. E. Northcut, a former resident of Merkel, arrived home from overseas on April 11. He reports having gone over the top four times and received a wound by a six inch shell and was gassed also. After remaining in the hospital over two months he was transferred to the 85th Division and shortly afterwards boarded a ship for home. This, he says was the best day of all.

Remember the 10th and save your discount by paying your Electric accounts.

Maize, Feterita, Sorghum and all kind of seed at Bob Martin's

R. W. Brown, son of Mr. and Mrs. E. N. Brown, left Tuesday for Eastland, where he went to look over a proposition to take charge of the shoe department of Campbell & Fagg, general merchants.

I have a few copies of "Our Victory Atlas" to be given to customers who have soldier boys Call before they are gone. A. L. Jobe.

Cultivate habits of Thrift which you can do best as a member of a War Savings Society.

Buy your groceries and grain from G. M. Sharp

Mrs. J. E. Kelley of Muskogee, Ok., has been visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Lamar, for several days. Her little daughter had been visiting here some time. They returned Monday morning.

Now is the time for oil stoves. Call and see our line. Crown Hardware Company.

Mrs. Bob Martin was in Abilene Wednesday, visiting her brother, W. C. Calvert, who is in the sanitarium at that place. He is showing improvement.

Plenty of shorts and bran at G. M. Sharp's



"As we journey through Life, let us live by the way."

☐ Celebrate Peace! Have your home wired for Electric Service this Spring—and really begin to live!

Electrify Your Home

☐ Let the magic of electricity radiate cheer and brightness and enhance the real joy of living.

☐ Have plenty of Convenience Outlets. They will greatly lessen the work of homemaking and give you a home which saves you miles of steps, hours of effort, loads of responsibility and real dollars of expense. Have them in the bedroom for the warming pad, bed lamp, curling iron, etc.; in the dining room for the toaster, percolator, etc.; in the kitchen for the iron, washer—and throughout the house for the electric cleaner—

☐ Have us help you select your fixtures and plan your outlets. We are lighting specialists and our advice and suggestions are gratis. Just phone 202 and our man will call at once.

☐ Now is the time to have your home wired or to order new fixtures before the Spring wiring rush.

MERKEL POWER CO.

PROFESSIONAL

DR. GAMBILL
—D-e-n-t-i-s-t—

Office Hours 8—12 a.m.; 1—5 p.m.
Over Farmers State Bank
Office Phone 306

DR. J. E. ADKISSON
Physician and Surgeon

Hours From 6 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.
Office over City Barber Shop
Phones: Of. 163, Res. 187. Nov 9

DR. MILLER

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

DR. N. J. SMITH

Physician and Surgeon

Hours 10 to 12 a. m. 2 to 5 p. m.
Phones Office 151 Res. 237.

G. W. JOHNSON

Insurance—Notary Public

Over Woodroof—Bragg's Store.
Merkel —:— Texas

W. W. WHEELER

Real Estate, Fire, Accident and
Tornado Insurance Agent.
Notary Public.
Office over City Barber Shop.
Merkel —:— Texas

W. P. MAHAFFEY

Attorney at Law

Merkel and Abilene, Texas
Merkel Office in rear Farmers
State Bank. 22Sept17

SHAVING AND BATH PARLORS

The most Up-to-Date
SHOP IN MERKEL
CITY BARBER SHOP
CHAS WEST Proprietor

CITY TAILOR SHOP

Ladies and Gents Work.
All Work Guaranteed

Will call for and deliver work.
Phone 189 Kent St.

DRAUGHON'S

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



Lest we forget

A MOCK CHAPEL AT TRENT

Tuesday April 22nd, the Seniors called chapel. Being unexpected everyone was anxious to see the curtain rise. Before the curtain was drawn however several favorite old songs were sung by the Seniors. It was known only to the Seniors that they would appear in caps and gowns.

Each Senior did his part so nicely that there was not much distinction to be seen between them and the individual they represented Arthur Brown representing Mr. Cary. There is no other that can twist their handkerchief around their fingers and make as wry faces as much like Mr. Cary as Arthur can.

Katie Lou Gunter ran her fingers over the keys of the piano in her graceful way just as Alva Lee Estep does.

Ethel McLeod only smiled in her quiet way looking more than any other like Miss Amanda Payne. Jewell Blackmon repeated an old maid's prayer that would touch the heart of any one. It was the prayer of Miss Pope, overheard by Jewell "only".

Anna Belle Smith lifted her voice and sang in her pretty way with the piano accompaniment just as Irene Donnell always does.

Noble Forrester and Jack Boone took the part of two brick layers only gossiping.

Senior Class Reporter.

A TEXAS WONDER

The Texas Wonder cures kidney and bladder troubles, dissolves gravel, cures diabetes, weak and lame back, 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 \$1.25. One small bottle is two month's treatment, and seldom fails to perfect a cure. Send for testimonials from this and other states. Dr. E. W. Hall, 2926 Olive, Street, St. Louis Mo. Sold by druggists.

Two heads are better than one and a dozen even better than one Do your saving in a War Savings Society.

Sallow complexion is due to a torpid liver. Hebine purifies and strengthens the liver and bowels and restores the rosy bloom of health to the cheek. Sanders Drug Store.

ROGER HAYNES WRITES

Trouville, France, March 17--Dear Mother and Dad:—Just seven months ago today, and at this hour, I was standing on the deck watching the statue of Liberty slowly fading from view, and I was proud I was coming to France. I didn't know whether this thought came into every boy's mind that crossed the Atlantic, but it did mine. I wondered if I would ever see that Statue again, and then I turned my eyes back on the mighty ocean with its heaving bosom and foaming billows, looking like a living monster, and above it on the western sky, hung ten thousand golden clouds, kissed by the sunlight of heaven. And as I looked upon this scene, this thought came to my mind, as "God maketh the clouds his chariots" could it be possible the armies of heaven are shielding us from the dreadful submarines which infests these waters. Many of the boys that looked upon this scene will never return. For they have paid the price, and when I say some will never return I have in mind one of the best friends I ever had who was killed by my side in a drive on November 1.

August 16th we went aboard the American and pulled into New York harbor and on the following afternoon sailed for France, landing at Brest on the morning of August 27, went ashore the same day, spent one night in a rest camp, August 28th, were loaded in box cars and after two days travel arrived at Roviers, a nice little town of about 2000 inhabitants. Had very hard drilling here until we started for the front on October 1st. I'll not mention the towns we passed through, but on October 10th we took over a section on the front lines, relieving the 90th Division. Three nights previous we had been hiking, and resting during the day, for "Fritz" had watched the roads very close all day. We were tired when we reached a small woods about one mile from the front and we were going to occupy it. We stopped there for a rest. It was at this place I heard the first shell from the Boche. It passed quite a distance overhead, but seemed to be coming direct at me. I'm sure all the boys thought the same, for we hit the dirt together. After we had spent a few days on the line we learned to judge pretty well where they would land.

For Weak Women

In use for over 40 years! Thousands of voluntary letters from women, telling of the good Cardui has done them. This is the best proof of the value of Cardui. It proves that Cardui is a good medicine for women.

There are no harmful or habit-forming drugs in Cardui. It is composed only of mild, medicinal ingredients, with no bad after-effects.

TAKE

CARDUI

The Woman's Tonic

You can rely on Cardui. Surely it will do for you what it has done for so many thousands of other women! It should help.

"I was taken sick, seemed to be . . .," writes Mrs. Mary E. Veste, of Madison Heights, Va. "I got down so weak, could hardly walk . . . just staggered around."

. . . I read of Cardui, and after taking one bottle, or before taking quite all, I felt much better. I took 3 or 4 bottles at that time, and was able to do my work. I take it in the spring when run-down. I had no appetite, and I commenced eating. It is the best tonic I ever saw." Try Cardui.

All Druggists

I. 70

Everything was quiet here for a while, with the exception of a few shells, some of which were gas. Several of our boys were gassed.

The Boche occupied hill no 323 on our front, and on October 31 we received orders to take this hill on the following morning. We did, and after we had gained our objective we lost no time in digging in. We did not do it any too soon for the Germans put over a heavy barrage. It was during this barrage that my best friend was killed. I will always remember him and how cool he was during the fights. When we were sent back to support three days later I was sitting in our dugout with some of my friends and I can never forget how we missed him. My mind drifted back to the States, down to Texas. I knew that soon the mother would receive a message that her boy was killed in action, and it would almost break her heart, any that many other mothers would receive messages that their sons had given their lives on the battle field. Then I thought of shell torn, bloodsoaked soil of bleeding France, in whose bosom lie the bones of millions of earth's brightest and bravest sons. Calm and quiet may they sleep amid the wild flowers and the free songs of the uncaged birds, and all that speak of free-

dom and peace be gathered around them. These heroes need no monument. Their names will be mingled with the world's history, and their epitaphs written on the hearts of men.

On November 7th we moved to a different section of the front. I was sent with 14 other men about two hundred yards in advance of our front lines to establish an outpost. We found a German dugout (bomb proof). I wondered if it really was bomb proof. I suppose the Germans doubted it, for on Sunday morning they planted a big shell right on top of it, but it only tore a small hole about 20 feet across and five feet deep in the stones that were piled on top. We still had ten feet of concrete and about fifteen feet of rock over us, so we felt pretty safe from artillery fire. The Boche were throwing over their last barrage in the war, and maybe their last forever, but I think they were receiving two shells for one. "The Americans were putting them over," "The shells seemed to meet right over our dugout. This was on Sunday morning November 11th, and at 11 o'clock the firing ceased, although we had not been in touch with our company for nearly four days and didn't know the armistice was to be signed that day. We felt that it was all over, and in a short time we received orders to join our company and hiked back to Thiencourt where we remained almost a month. Since then we occupied various towns of France. I don't know when we will be sent home. I was talking to a friend the other day, that I thought was in position to know, and asked him when he thought we would go home. His answer was when the elephants begin to roost in the trees we will go home, "but," he said, "if I ever get back to the States and the Statue of Liberty wishes to see me again it will have to do about face."

With worlds of love, I remain your effectinate son.
Pvt. Roger F. Haynes
Co. F. 34th Inf. 7th Div. F. P. S.—The 36th defeated them in a football game seven to six, near Paris this week. Pershing, King Albert and Queen Elizabeth were there and made short talks.

HELP THE KIDNEYS

Merkel Readers Are Learning The Way
It's the little kidney ills
The lame, weak or aching back
The unnoticed urinary disorders.

That may lead to dropsy and Bright's disease.

When the kidneys are weak. Help them with Doan's Kidney Pills.

A remedy especially for weak kidneys. Doan's have been used in kidney troubles for 50 years.

Endorsed by 50,000 people—endorsed by citizens of this locality.

W. J. Hauk, retired farmer, of Anson, Tex., says: Doan's Kidney Pills always relieve me when I use them. When my kidneys are disordered or need attention I get a box of Doan's Kidney Pills and they never fail to benefit me. Another in my family has found just as beneficial results from their use.

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

Government Says Buy Coal Now

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

WARREN BROS. All Orders C.O.D

Specialty in Farm Loans

Inspector on the ground—Quick Service

Real Estate and Fire Insurance

W. O. BONEY West of Farmers State Bank



Breeders' Notice!

☐ Will breed my registered black Percheron horse and big black Jack at my place four and one-half miles west of Trent.

☐ TERMS—will be \$10 when colt stands and sucks. Not responsible for accidents.

L. W. Ross, Trent, Texas



Nifty Clothing In Latest Cuts

The Anderson Line is the Best and the Cheapest. Look over my samples before you buy. Have expert man to take your measure.

MRS. C. L. CASH, Phone 180
Cleaning and Pressing



EFFECTS OF GOOD ROADS ON COMMUNITY LIFE

It is a mistake to consider farming merely from the point of view of work done; of gross income, labor cost, and profit and loss. There is more to living than that; pleasure also has its place. Farmers and farmers' wives and children like the pleasures of friendship and social intercourse such as city dwellers. One of the main causes of the flight to city, and especially of the young people from the farm going into other professions than farming, is the deadly lonesomeness and drudgery, and lack of mental outlet incident to farm life. Ordinarily, farm life should be more healthful because it does not have to reckon with the diseases that spring from bad housing, alcoholism and make-shift rationing, common to city families having a corresponding annual income. The United States census has not classified the insanities in institutions by the annual income which they produced prior to their admission, so it is a little hard to make a comparison that would serve to show how far the hard work and the few pleasures of farm life are a contributing factor to insanity in comparison with other walks of

life. However, it may be stated that out of 29,428 men and 7,061 women in the insane institutions of the United States 7,335 men and 227 women come from the farm. This is about as farming occupies about one-eighth of the men and furnishes about one-fourth of the insane men, without the city factors of alcohol and general paralysis entering into the calculation, it will be seen that any change that will improve the conditions of rural community life, making far larger profits and better living standards and more happiness and comfort, should at least be reflected in a change in insanity records. With better roads there is also more tourist travel and families insensibly become more interested in having neat, pretty homes, and take to paint for

their houses and flowers for their yards. Thus the community life not only is better, but it looks better.

Texas is already too far advanced in community development to do without good roads.

Do your Best

Everyone should do all he can to provide for his family and in order to do this he must keep his physical system in the best condition possible. No one can reasonably hope to do much when he is half sick a good share of the time. If you are constipated, bilious or troubled with indigestion get a package of Chamberlain's Tablets and follow the plain printed directions and you will soon be feeling alright and able to do a day's work.

JACK FOR SERVICE

My jacks are making the season at my barn, at \$12.50 when colt is dropped. Will be careful to avoid accidents, but will not be responsible should any occur.

J. W. TEAFF



SIMPLE FACTS

ABOUT THE NOTES OF THE VICTORY LIBERTY LOAN.

There are two kinds of notes being issued. Both mature in three or four years, as the Government chooses later.

The first kind bear 4 3/4% interest yearly, payable every six months. These are free from State and local taxes, except estate and inheritance taxes, and are also free from the normal Federal Income taxes.

The second kind bear 3 3/4% interest and are free from taxation as the others are, but in addition are free from super-taxes and every other form of taxation, except the usual estate and inheritance taxes.

Notes of either kind can be changed for those of the other issue at the wish of the buyer.

The notes of both series will be dated and bear interest from May 20, 1919, and will mature on May 20, 1923. Interest will be payable on December 15, 1919, and after that on June 15 and December 15, and at maturity. The dates upon which payments will be required on the notes are as follows:

- Ten per cent with application on or before May 10.
- Ten per cent on July 15.
- Twenty per cent on August 12.
- Twenty per cent on September 9.
- Twenty per cent on October 7.
- Twenty per cent on November 11, with accrued interest on deferred installments.

Payment in full can be made on May 20, the ten per cent required with application having been duly paid on or before May 10. Payment can also be completed ON ANY INSTALLMENT DATE with accrued interest.

This accrued interest is the money you refund the Government on account of the fact that it pays you interest on the full amount of your Bond from May 20, whereas it does not have the full use of your money until you have paid the last installment. This amounts to very little of course.

These notes will be issued in denominations of \$50, \$100, \$500, \$1000, \$5000, \$10,000, \$50,000 and \$100,000.

ARE YOUR TAXES HEAVY? THEY MAY BE HEAVIER YET

Probably every reader of this paper finds his taxes a bit higher than he likes to pay. Thousands of them have been struggling for the last few weeks to make out reports on income taxes to the government, and have found that six per cent takes a pretty heavy slice out of what was left over on New Year's day. Many of you had to borrow money to pay the taxes.

But this tax is nothing to what all of us will have to pay if the Victory Loan fails to go over. Uncle Sam's war bills must be paid. He prefers to borrow the money from us and pay us back later on.

But if he can't borrow it, he must take it—in the form of taxes.

It's like the difference between renting a house for ten years or buying it on the installment plan. In one case, you wind up with a thick bundle of rent receipts. In the other, you have a deed to your home.

Isn't it better to lend your money to the Government at a fair rate of interest than to pay it out in taxes, which never come back?

That's worth considering when the time comes to invest in Victory Bonds.

WRIGLEY'S

A Flavor for every taste



ALL sealed air-tight and impurity-proof, in the wax-wrapped, safety packages.

Be sure to get

WRIGLEY'S

because it is supreme in quality.



The Flavor Lasts

DO YOU KNOW

War Savings Stamps pay 4 per cent compound quarterly? That War Savings Stamps cost \$4.15 in April and one cent more each succeeding month of the year reaching their highest price, \$4.23 in December?

That War Savings Stamps of either issue, if necessary, may be redeemed for value to date as indicated on the War Savings Stamp certificate, at postoffice up on ten days' written notice?

That Thrift Stamps cost 25c and that sixteen of them are exchangeable for an interest-bearing War Savings Stamp?

For a Weak Stomach.

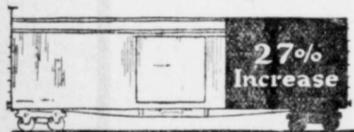
As a general rule you need to do is to adopt a diet suited to your bowels regular. When you feel that you have eaten too much and when constipated, take one of Chamberlain's Tablets.

BIG COYOTE CAPTURE

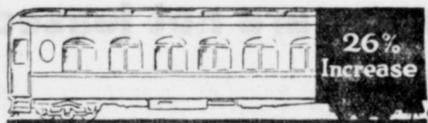
While out in his father's pasture Monday evening, Homer Laney, accompanied by Kenneth Dickey, dug into a hole and found twenty baby coyotes, which they brought to town. After being viewed by a number of citizens they were killed and scalped and the scalps given to Commissioner Lassiter to be turned in for the \$1 bounty that is given on each. This was a particularly rich haul in that it saved the county from the ravages of a pack when they grew up.

Dizziness, vertigo, (blind staggers) sallow complexion, flatulence are symptoms of a torpid liver. No one can feel well while the liver is inactive. Herbine is a powerful liver stimulant. A dose or two will cause all bilious symptoms to disappear. Try it. Sanders Drug Store

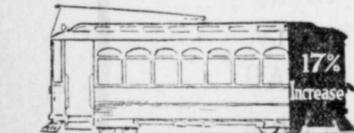
Adequate Telephone Rates Are Needed, Too



Railroad Freight Rates have increased 27%



Railroad Passenger Rates have increased 26%



Street Railway Rates have increased 17%



Telephone Rates have increased only 4%

PUBLIC utility organizations have been forced to meet the same increases in the cost of commodities that have affected all industry, and that the public in general is meeting to-day when it purchases the necessities of life.

These high costs are reflected in railroad freight rates by an increase of 27% in five years.

They are shown in railroad passenger rates by an increase of 26% in the same period.

They are indicated in street railway rates, in American cities of more than 400,000 population, by an increase of 17% in the same time.

But telephone rates throughout the United States have shown so slight an increase in the period 1913-1918 that it can reasonably be said they have not reflected the increased telephone costs at all!

Yet telephone companies have faced the same unprecedented increases in the costs of labor and commodities that have made increased selling prices necessary in all business organizations.

This Company is operating its telephone property under the direction of the Postmaster-General for the United States Government and adequate telephone rates are needed to secure the necessary revenue to cover the increased cost of rendering the service.



The Southwestern Telegraph and Telephone Company

Farm Loans AND Farm Insurance

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

W. O. BONEY

The Merkel Mail

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

SUBSCRIPTION \$1.00 PER YEAR

TELEPHONE No. 61

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

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

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

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



The good rains that have fallen have tickled the vanity of the weeds and everywhere they are raising their heads as if they were lords of creation. The people of Merkel did splendid service in the "Clean-Up" campaign. It seems that further effort must be made to spare the city from a wilderness of weeds and an avalanche of mesquitos. Let us be up and doing with a heart strong enough to show no mercy on the beautiful weed patch. We could wait and let frost get them, but it would be mighty nice for muscular development and pleasing to the eye to get them out of the way.

The City Council intends to see that the automobile law about speeding and turning to the right and around blocks, etc., must be respected. We are authorized by Mayor Stallings to say that the officers had been a little lenient, but from now on the law must be obeyed. Every law ought to be obeyed. If it is a good one everybody is helped thereby, and if it is a bad one public opinion will see that it is repealed.

We are going to offer a suggestion. We believe the majority of the people will agree with us. We know if the people want it the Council will enforce it. We believe there is no more, or little more reason for autos and trucks going around blocks than other vehicles. We believe all vehicles should conform to the same law.

We would further suggest that a turning block be placed at the intersection of street and alley at the postoffice, between the Farmers State Bank and Kent Street and the intersection of street and alley by Woodroof-Bragg's Dry Goods store. This would permit turning without going a block or so to do it. We believe the people favor this change.

As to speed, in the immediate down-town section eight miles an hour is fast enough. The law allows twelve miles and some people kick on that. If all vehicles go at moderate speed, all keep to the right and all turn properly around the block, it will almost be impossible for an accident to happen.

In the whole field of medicine there is not a healing remedy that will repair damage to the flesh more quickly than Ballard's Snow Liniment. In cuts, wounds, sprains, burns, scalds and rheumatism, its healing and penetrating power is extraordinary. Sanders Drug Store.

GOOD FARM BARGAINS

☞ Don't be afraid to leave your exclusive listings with us. If you want to sell and your price is reasonable, we can turn your

Land, Lease or Royalty

ROYALTY	LEASES	LAND
☞ One-fourth royalty on small acreage near Warren school house—cheap.	☞ We have several attractive leases for sale at reasonable prices.	☞ See us for land bargains. Have some nice acreage well located.

CITY PROPERTY

☞ Several nice, convenient residences. See us.

We have bargains in first-class farms

Some of our lands have drilling contracts; some are not leased

☞ Our sales the past few weeks have run into the thousands of dollars. We are selling Farms, City Property, Leases and Royalties. Why not sell while you can. All we ask is that you make the price right and give us time for development.

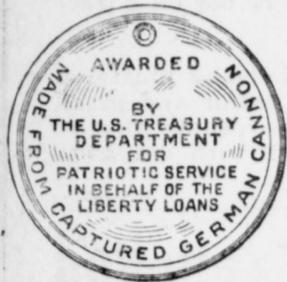
Our sales are still piling up. Don't fail to see us.

We need listings now

Merkel Realty Co.

W. O. BONEY

WALTER JACKSON



COMING!

Medals made from captured German cannon will be given to every worker in the Victory Liberty Loan campaign.

WANT A GERMAN HELMET?

Bona Fide Victory Loan workers will have a chance to win one of these trophies to be distributed among patriotic Americans who kept the home fires burning.

HERE COME THE TANKS

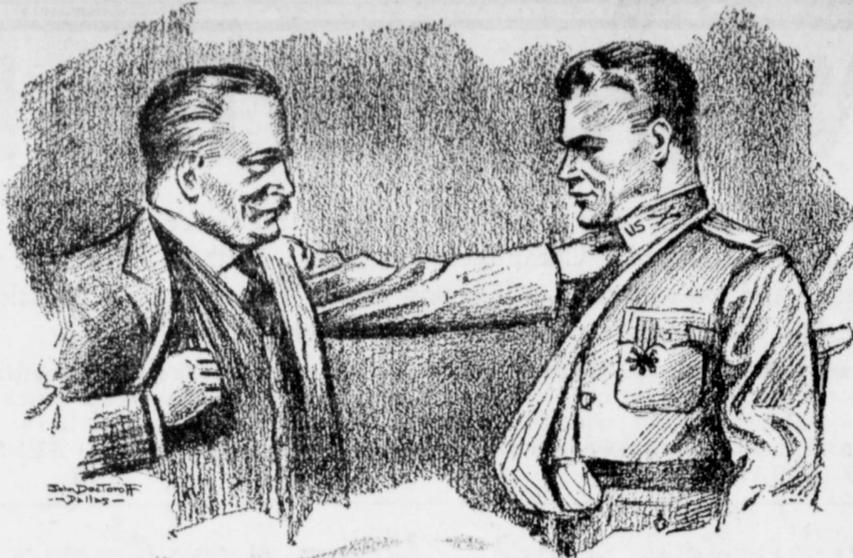
Tanks played an important part in the big battles of the war. Twenty of these armored vessels will visit this District, manned by boys who actually handled the tanks in France.

SEE GREAT WAR FILM

Among the pictures which will aid in floating the Victory Liberty Loan is the remarkable film, "The Price of Peace," in the taking of which one of the photographers was killed.

WATCH THE SKIES

Probably every one of you has seen an aeroplane in flight. But how many of you have seen it make a landing? How many of you have seen its pilot at close range and have talked with him about it?



"Will I Look After You"

and the thousands of other fellows who are wounded?

I'll say I will!"

(An Actual Conversation)

We have invested in the

Victory Liberty Loan

and ask you to do the same

The destruction of property in Merkel keeps on. It is high time to call a halt. There is no sense in small boys chunking stones through glass windows to see them break.

When the baby takes too much food the stomach turns; the result is indigestion, sourness and vomiting.

We had occasion last week to refer to our juvenile, love-sick, painted girls and doodish boys hanging about certain corners.

that would disgrace the whole neighborhood. There are some people who claim that the conduct of a person is of no concern to any one else.

Grove's Tasteless Chill Tonic restores vitality and energy by purifying and enriching the blood.

FOR SALE—Hail insurance on growing crops of wheat and oats. Old line insurance offers complete protection.

Suggestion for a Camping Trip. Buy a bottle of Chamberlain's Colic and Diarrhoea Remedy before leaving home.

Birds of a feather flock together. Are you flocking with the Thrifty or the Spendthrifts.

The Quinine That Does Not Affect The Head because of its tonic and laxative effect.

Get your shoes shined at The Pate Barber Shop. Best of facilities offered for ladies and gentlemen.

I. D. Walton, who has been visiting in Arkansas several months returned home Monday night.

Cane seed at G. M. Sharps.

Miss Vera Kelly of Sulphur Springs spent Saturday and Sunday with Miss Susie Penn.

Fresh bulk peanut oil at G M Sharp's

D. S. Whitlow of Temple visited his wife's parents, Mr. and Mrs. A. C. Boney, this week

Austin Fitts of Abilene visited friends in Merkel Tuesday. It is alleged he made the trip in the "Baby Tank."

CARRY ON! ON!! ON!!!

Uncle Sam is releasing from his service the men who went "over there" to free the world from autocracy.

There is one army, however, which must not be demobilized. That is the army of War Savings Stamp buyers.

The army of fighters has achieved its purpose. The army of savers must remain in "action."

"Carry on" to a lasting peace under the banner of W. S. S.

"THE PRICE OF PEACE"

BIG \$5,000,000 WAR FILM COST BILLIONS OF DOLLARS AND THOUSANDS OF LIVES TO PRODUCE

DESPERATE REALITIES OF FRONT LINE TRENCHES

ACTUAL GAS ATTACKS; ARMY RAILROADING UNDER FIRE; BATTLE BETWEEN AIRPLANES

"The Price of Peace," the greatest war film ever made will be shown here during the Victory Loan Campaign absolutely free of charge.

This picture would be worth \$5,000,000 to any movie company that could secure the rights to run it. But it can't be done. The film belongs to the United States Government.

SEE THE BOYS

See what actually happened to our soldier from the time he enlisted until he marched across the Rhine into Germany. Our boys landing in France; the desperate realities of the front line trenches, gas attacks, army railroading under fire.

A BIG THRILL

One of the big thrills of the picture is the scene where our boys go over the top into the wheatfields at 4:35 o'clock in the morning. The dim, misty light of dawn suddenly flares up with the angry red fires of war.

FREE OF CHARGE

You will see free of charge a picture that has never been publicly shown. The film has been held back by the War Department until now, because it contains secrets of the war, and the Treasury Department has exclusive use of it for the Victory Liberty Loan campaign.

SOLDIERS PLAN FOR FIGHT BACK HOME

Disturbed by Reports of High Cost of Living—Y. M. C. A. Offers Help.

Fluctuations of the political barometer "back home" are watched with interest by the American troops in France and Germany, according to reports coming from Paris.

To offset the growing apprehension the Y. M. C. A. has introduced a new business system in its program with the army. Secretaries have been instructed to take up with the men the question of work after the war.

The Y. M. C. A. will give men every opportunity to study books that contain professional and technical information so when they do reach home they will have obtained a rudimentary knowledge at least of the enterprise on which they desire to embark.

SWEET CHOCOLATE CARRIED UNDER FIRE

Chocolate Furnished by Y. M. C. A. Arrives Just When It Is Needed.

With the American Armies in France,—Praising the men of Company D, One Hundred and Ninth Machine Gun Battalion, Twenty-eighth Division, Howard R. Keister, a Y. M. C. A. man of Dunnellon, Fla., tells how, when without food, they sent the sweet chocolate which he secured for them to an isolated platoon, which was under severe fire, across the Vesle river at Elsmes.

It was during the heavy fighting eastward from Chateau Thierry that the men of the One Hundred and Ninth Machine Gun Battalion got ahead of their supplies, and the sweet chocolate which the Y. M. C. A. managed to get to them was specially welcome.

The battalion reached the Vesle river on its advance. There the German line held. Men were thrown across the river by various units to keep in contact with the enemy. There was terrific fighting all along the line. A platoon of Company D was hurried over to help in holding the narrow strip that had been taken at great cost by the American soldiers.

"BATTLE BALL," NEW GAME, MAKES HIT

Two Hundred and Fifty Men on a Side—Invented by Army "Y" Man.

Military officials at the head of the Camp Travis athletic council, Camp Travis, Tex., are much interested in a new game of mass athletics which is the invention of Luf Ringsmuth, an Army Y. M. C. A. secretary. The game combines much of the science of rugby football, soccer ball, volley ball and basket ball, and games have been played at Camp Travis with as many as 300 men on a side.

Using five ordinary footballs and an ordinary football field, with goal posts at the ends, the game brings into play a "skirmish" line and a "defense" line of players. The balls are placed on a line at the center of the field, and at a given signal the "skirmishers" race up to be the first to kick the ball. It is then kept in play by kicking, throwing as in forward pass in football or passing in basket ball—the aim of each side being to get all five balls through the opponent's goal posts or over the goal line.

Maj. J. S. Leonard, head of the military athletic council of the camp, has become an enthusiastic booster for the game, and it is likely that the game will be carried to other places as the men leave Camp Travis. Organized teamwork in this, as in other games, which the Y. M. C. A. steadily encourages, wins out, and this has been proved by the progress made by the Thirty-fifth infantry team, which has won the championship of Camp Travis. "Team" is hardly the word, for with 250 men on a side, the "battle" of "battle ball" becomes very realistic when the game is on.

A Newspaper Subscription Bargain

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

Both publications to December 1, 1919, for only

\$3.00

LOVE LETTERS FROM FRANCE

I have seen boys who came back from Chateau-Thierry and Belleau Wood. Boys with nerves shattered by the incessant bursting of shells and the interminable booming of the big guns. Boys who left an arm or a leg in France. They laughed at their wounds and joked at their awkwardness with the new crutches. They had been seeking the great adventure.

But there's another angle that we sometimes don't get.

It has been my privilege to read the letters written by an American soldier in France to his wife. Underneath the khaki of the soldier there breathes the protective tenderness of the man for his mate; his anxiety for her happiness and comfort.

"I wonder if you have enough to eat, or if you are cold," writes the soldier husband, crouched in the mud and damp of the trenches. "Has our little daughter clothes enough to keep her warm while she is going back and forth from school? All of these things I think of so much."

And again: "Tell our little one I cut a picture out of a book; it was a little girl praying for her papa to come back safe from the war."

An interval. Then came a letter from a hospital in Switzerland, after his release from a German prison camp. Lying there with a leg shattered by a German machine gun bullet, "an explosive bullet that tore my right leg to pieces," he writes: "Sunday night was such a beautiful moonlight night. When I looked out my window how my thoughts did go back to you, because we used to say those were our nights. Well, never mind, our nights will come again."

His nights and hers. Nights flooded with moonlight and love and happiness and peace. Never mind, they will come again after all those dreary days of battle and prison. But it can't be before midsummer, because the injured leg is slow in healing.

War isn't all romance and adventure. It isn't all glamour and glory and dash. It's horrible. It's rotten. It is hell. It may be romance for the young and adventure for the soldier of fortune, but it is just plain, stern duty for the man who tears himself from the clasp of wife and child and offers himself to his country, because, God help him, he cannot do otherwise and be a man.

They did it for you. They offered their lives to make peace possible and they helped you finance the big deal. And without a doubt they will help finance the victory.

You subscribed to four Liberty Loans through patriotism. You thought of the Lusitania, and your country had gone to war. You helped prepare, equip and maintain the army sent overseas. And when you read about Chateau-Thierry, Belleau Wood, St. Mihiel, the Argonne Forest, Sedan, you went out and bought more bonds.

And now, the Victory Loan—and peace. But your patriotism is yet to be put to the real test. Over 70,000 American boys gave up their lives for your safety. More than 200,000 soldiers gave a leg or an arm or their eyesight for your protection. The crippled must be cared for and taught new trades, and other expenses of the war must be met.

Choke down that lump in your throat and go out and buy some more bonds to get right with your own conscience—to bring home the soldier-husband and to answer his little girl's prayer.

 Guynemer, France's ace of aces, who made the supreme sacrifice, used to say: "No man has given anything until he has given everything. There is no limit to the duty of a man when his country needs him."
 None of us dare quit now.
 Read Guynemer again!

The Negro and The Mule

For many years the South depended on the negro and the mule for farm work, and called this cheap labor. Conditions have changed. Cheap labor has gone. Methods have to be revised. The negro and the mule are too slow and too expensive. It is now Motor Power against Muscle. A boy on a tractor does more in a day than three negroes and six mules in the old way.

The same is true with short hauls. Wagons drawn by mules are largely demobilized—being mustered out every day. The Motor Truck carries over the road a two, four or six-mule load quicker, easier and much cheaper than any mule team that ever walked. There is no argument needed here. The people already KNOW, and the truck and tractor makers are working day and night TRYING TO KEEP UP with the ALL-THE-TIME GROWING DEMAND.

Does the Business Pay? Here are Some Examples

\$1000 invested in Chalmers Motor Car Co. returned in 8 years	.....\$86,658
\$1000 invested in Chandler Motor Co. has returned in 3 years	.....\$35,000
\$1000 invested in Hupp Motor Car Co. has returned in 7 years	.....\$191,200
\$1000 invested in Federal Motor Truck Co. has returned in 7 years	.....\$78,782
\$1000 invested in the Stutz Company has returned in 4 years	.....\$45,000
\$1000 invested in Paige-Detroit Motor Co. returned in 6 years	.....\$24,042
\$1000 invested in Reo Motor Car Co. returned in 11 years	.....\$70,752
\$1000 invested in Ford Motor Co., Canada, returned in 11 years	.....\$434,878
\$1000 invested in H. H. Franklin Mfg. Co. has returned in 9 years	.....\$15,813
\$1000 invested in Overland Company has returned in 5 years	.....\$330,000
\$1000 invested in Chevrolet Company has returned in 7 years	.....\$280,000

☐ Averaging these eleven companies, as to years, and amounts returned, we have an average of six years and an average annual return of \$24,122 on each \$1000. You ask how this can be done. The answer is twofold: First, the demand is so great that profits are large. Second, Trucks, Tractors and Automobiles, bring QUICK CASH at factory doors and capital can be turned from 12 TO 18 TIMES A YEAR.

Where else could you invest from \$100 to \$5000 and gain profits equal to the average profit now being paid by American Motor Car Companies?

IT IS EASIER TO MAKE MONEY THAN TO SAVE OR INVEST IT

☐ In these days of unusual prosperity a great majority of people are enlarging their investments. All eyes are open to new opportunities. The biggest opportunity now open for a permanent and profitable investment is in the manufacture of motor-power, labor-saving machinery. The demand is great. The profits are sure.

☐ This Company has only a small number of shares remaining, which our Board set aside to be sold at par, \$10 a share. Those who buy later will pay more.

☐ We don't ask you to invest until you are satisfied, but we do invite you to mail this coupon and get the facts about one of the best opportunities for an investment to be found in this country today.

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I am, to some extent, interested in your proposition, and would like to have you give me further information.

This does not obligate me in any way to buy

Name

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Texas Truck & Tractor Company

Executive Offices: Praetorian Building, Dallas, Texas

One swallow does not make a summer nor one member a War-Savings Society but don't let that keep you out.

Hayes' Healing Honey

Stops The Tickle

Heals The Throat
Cures The Cough
Price 35c.

A FREE BOX OF
GROVE'S O-PEN-TRATE SALVE
(Opens the Pores and Penetrates)

For Chest Colds, Head Colds and Croup, is enclosed with every bottle of HAYES' HEALING HONEY. You get the Cough Syrup and the Salve for one price, 35c.

Made, Recommended and Guaranteed to the Public by

Paris Medicine Company
Manufacturers of
Grove's Tasteless Chill Tonic

For Men Only—Does not apply to War Savings Societies. They are for everybody.

HOME, SWEET HOME"

These magic words, even when merely spoken, stir the profoundest emotions in the human breast. Although originally English they have been translated into every known language. The beautiful air to which they are sung belongs to no language—music knows no nationality—it comes from the soul.

Home is the place within whose sheltering walls fathers and mothers and little children dwell in happy intimacy. It makes no difference how humble this place may be, so long as it has a roof that keeps out the rain and walls to keep out the cold winds, a little, glowing fireplace—it is heaven to those who live there.

In this free land of ours there are millions of homes—homes ranging from the hut of the miner to the palace of the multi-millionaire. America does not know what the word "want" means. While it is true that poverty exists in America, this poverty can almost be called heavenly in comparison with the condition today existing among the 4,000,000 men, women and children of Asia Minor—human beings absolutely without homes, without clothing, without food—yes, and without hope! America fails to give them the relief which she is so able to give and which she surely would give could the American people only be made to realize the heart-rending con-

dition of this multitude whose only offense has been that they were our allies and helped to make the world a fit place to live in.

Yes, they have helped make the world a fit place to live in for us and fit for a good many other nations, but in rendering this help they have made a sacrifice ever made by any people in the history of the world. How any red-blooded American can remain indifferent to these facts is beyond comprehension. The only explanation is that the majority of Americans are too busy to read the facts.

If you are one of those who has so far, either through pressure of your daily affairs or from some other cause, failed to respond to this despairing human cry from 4,000,000 tortured people send in your contribution right now, and make it large enough to take care of at least one of these stricken beings. Make it large enough to help restore at least one family of these homeless people of Asia Minor to a condition where the words "Home, Sweet Home" will again have a meaning.

Habitual Constipation Cured in 14 to 21 Days

"LAX-FOS WITH PEPSIN" is a specially-prepared Syrup Tonic-Laxative for Habitual Constipation. It relieves promptly but should be taken regularly for 14 to 21 days to induce regular action. It Stimulates and Regulates. Very Pleasant to Take. 60c per bottle.

A vast majority of all Americans will belong to War Savings Societies before the year is over. Don't get left out in the cold.

It's a long lane which has no turning but you won't notice the length so much if you belong to a War Savings Society.

LIST YOUR

Leases, Royalties

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