



ALL EYES ON SEARS WELL--INDICATIONS BETTER--VISITORS THIS WEEK

A number of visitors were in town this week in the interest of oil operations. Among the number may be mentioned State Senator E. W. Ericson, Andrew Ofstad, President of the Farmers & Merchants Bank, Eric Nelson, merchant, and H. E. Johnson, merchant, all of Alcester, S. D. All are stockholders in Texas-Houghton Oil Company; and also stockholders in Security Banking & Investment Company, W. H. Hunter, Sioux City, Iowa, one of the representatives of the Security Banking & Investment Company was also here. H. L. Houghton, president of the company, accompanied them from Fort Worth.

Very fine progress being made at the Sears well. Drill is on rock which is being drilled into. Mr. Houghton says that there is so much oil showing, which seems to come from below, that they are likely to run into a pool at any time.

Drillers of the Bland well have sent for an eight inch bit, which they think will cut through the lug in the well in a very short time. The prospects there are very fine, with good showing of oil and gas.

Drilling is said to be in progress on the Butman well.

Everything is gradually being whipped into shape at the Trent well. Active drilling will likely start there in a short time.

Merkel, Texas, Nov. 11, 1919. Mr. H. L. Houghton, Pres.,

Security Banking & Investment Company, Fort Worth, Tex. Dear Sir:—After our visit to the Sears well, we wish to make this statement of our opinion in regard to same and conditions in general as we found them:

On arrival at the well we found a splendidly equipped station, and as the drillers had finished extracting a steel pipe which had become fastened to the bottom of the well, had redrilled, and while we were at the well and in our presence several bailers of depth of 2700 feet, which showed strong showings of petroleum. We also inspected the shaft and followed up the well of this pit and saw the results it had been flowing a waste matter.

In talking with the drillers, all of whom own around the well, they experienced oil men, say that several formations and indications are the finest they have experienced. They seem so confident that the Sears well will be a big well that they have all their earnings and savings in the acreage and of them is willing to sell, a big profit.

Inspection of the Sears well and all the hold-the-companies, we feel have made a very good impression. We found that the acreage is steadily advancing around the Sears well since the beginning in the Sears at from \$250 per acre.

We wish to thank you and representative, Mr. Hunter, for courteous treatment and to say that we thoroughly enjoyed our

Very respectfully
A. V. Ofstad
H. E. Johnson.
E. W. Ericson.
Eric Nelson.

ne is meet and the harvest for a general survey in this locality. Hence to the big oil field to be opened here, realize that newspapers

are the best medium for discussing so important a proposition.

When the first big well was brought in at Ranger, National attention was attracted to north and central Texas. While Texas had produced oil in large quantities in a number of fields, 10,000 to 20,000 barrel wells had not been in the list of occurrences. Since that remarkable development Burkburnet, Duke field, Desdemonia and Ranger have attracted the attention of the financial celebrities of this entire nation, and to some extent European countries. Oil men soon visited our district and after making a research of geological information possessed by the Government and State, it was found that the formation in Taylor and Jones Counties was exactly right for producing oil in paying quantities. Interest was so great and the sentiment so favorable towards the producing district that it was a task to interest companies with money in view of the fact that the War was on, labor and material very scarce and both high. However, geological facts soon warranted investigation of this district, and the activity was secured in the financiers of the Sears and later the Bland well.

So now we have many drilling in this locality; the Sears making the best showing of them all, and the Bland closely following with a nice showing of gas and some oil. However, the Bland well is not quite deep enough to get the showing, but it will be a very short time. It is the concerted efforts on the part of our local citizenship working in close communion with the men who are willing to spend their money, exploiting this territory that makes possible the development of it for oil and gas. The drilling of an oil well is a mechanical, laborious and financial task, and we observe that most companies who drill must be supported in their undertakings both morally and financially. As Kipling says,

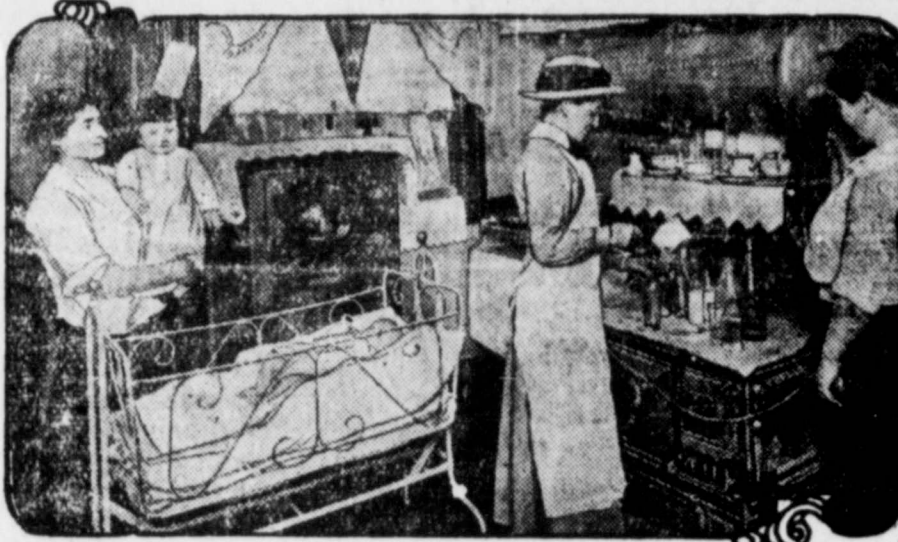
"Now this is the law of the jungles
As broad and as true as the sky,
And the wolf that shall keep it shall prosper
But the wolf that shall break shall die
As the creeper that girdeth the tree-trunk
The law runneth forward and back,
For the strength of the Pack is in the wolf
And the strength of the wolf in the Pack."

While we do not take a bias attitude towards the men who are spending their time and money for the development of our country, but greet them with open arms as has been plainly manifested by our Commercial Club and business committees, the oil business is generally looked upon as a very risky enterprise, but close observation and study of the situation makes it no more risky than any other business conducted under the leadership of good business men with experience. Bradstreet and Dunn report that more than 90 per cent of the men who enter the mercantile business failed, and it is probably true that no more than 10 per cent of the men who enter professional life make a financial success; nor is the per cent any larger with the farmer. The difference is in the perspective, which is largely focused from experience or adaptability. The farmer does not go out of the farming business, because he put in 5 crops and 4 of them were failures. The cattle

man has a good year about once in five. If the doctor has been unsuccessful with his patient and has not been able to cope with the malady, he is not criticised. In the ordinary pursuits of business, if the man sells an automobile or sells corn in the field and the buyer should get the worst of the bargain, he is not looked upon as a crook, nor should the legitimate honest oil man, who has passed the stage of experience, as we have discovered the oil in a number of wells in this locality and it is now a question of hitting the right spot, which will be done, and we look forward with great hopes and anticipation to the completion of the wells in this vicinity and trust that the pioneers of the field will reap some of the reward of the harvest that is sure to come.

AROUND THE WORLD WITH THE AMERICAN RED CROSS.

Public Health Nursing.



In the midst of its multifarious war duties the American Red Cross did not neglect its obligations to the civilian population at home. Throughout the conflict it maintained its Bureau of Public Health Nursing, instruction in first aid, home nursing and sanitation, and disaster relief. Particularly in their work for the babies was effort by public health nurses important. The accompanying photograph shows a Red Cross public health nurse instructing a mother in the proper preparation of the baby's diet.

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criticised, and with these our prosecuting officers should be more prone to deal, but for the legitimate and honest oil man, who spends his money energy and experience trying to discover oil, we do not have any criticism. The law of average wins for him if he is a good business man and knows the science of developing territory for oil and gas. However, this territory has passed the stage of experience, as we have discovered the oil in a number of wells in this locality and it is now a question of hitting the right spot, which will be done, and we look forward with great hopes and anticipation to the completion of the wells in this vicinity and trust that the pioneers of the field will reap some of the reward of the harvest that is sure to come.

CLASSIFIED ADS

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

JUST ARRIVED
A car of good smooth mares and fillies, worth the money. Will be sold at Hellums Yard Saturday. Better take a look at them.
Rupert T. Ezell

CARBON PAPER—At Merkel Mail office.

FOR SALE—4-room house in good shape, well and windmill. See R. A. Ellis or R. G. Grogan, Truley, Texas 74c.

FORDS FOR SALE
I have plenty of them. Brand New 1920 Model, with and without starters. I receive from 3 to 5 car loads a week and can deliver you one any time you come. See Pickens Burton 1415 Patterson Ave, Dallas, Texas. 74c

FOR SALE—Rye seed, \$1.50 per bu. See O. A. Smith, Trent, Texas. 142p

FOR SALE—Heavy single driving harness with collar, nearly new, at about half price. Dr. Miller. 141c

WANTS TO PICK COTTON—Family wants cotton to pick and crop for 1920. Would farm on halves if you pay for gathering your half. Have farmed in the Merkel country. Describe land and make offer. W. A. Jackson, Indianola, Okla. 1tp

WANTED TO RENT—One good 4 or 5 room cottage for 4 months. Will pay rent in advance. E. H. Ray. 152p

We appreciate rural orders, and will give them prompt attention. Lowry & Gamble Drug-gists.

Just received a car of buggies, Crown Hardware Company.

See our line of Waterman fountain Pens Lowry & Gamble.

WANTED—To rent a piano for teaching purposes. Phone 174 or 257.

SEED OATS
Texas Red, free from johnson-grass, will stand the winter. See J. T. Warren or Geo. Boyce, Merkel, Texas 713c

FOR SALE—160 acres fine fruit and truck land near Gillham, Ark. at \$12 per acre. Has fine spring, good dairy or hog ranch. See I. D. Walton at Wagon Yard, or write G. W. Sullivan Dequeen, Ark, Route 3.

FOR SALE—A 1917 model Ford at a reasonable price. See P. L. McClary. 71p

FOR SALE—Overland car, Model 83, in good condition. Would consider some trade worth the money. Apply at the Barrow-Furniture Co. 712p

LAND FOR SALE
Nine miles S. E. of Merkel: 242 acres, 165 in cultivation, containing 3 room and 4 room house, dug well. One-third cash and balance in five equal payments at 8 per cent. See Walter Hammond or Merkel Realty Company. 7t2

FOR SALE—Piano player and records in good condition. See T. L. Grimes, or phone 155. M41p

FOR SALE—Oliver typewriter, in good shape for \$25 dollars. Apply at The Merkel Mail Office.

LOST—Couple of standards off of truck. Finder please return to Merkel Mail. Reward for trouble.

Try a sack of that good old Marechal Neil or White Billows flour. Bob Martin Grocery Co.

American Beauty flour and meal are the best and are for sale by Crown Hardware Company.

THE GREAT MERKEL COUNTRY--WHAT SHE HAS AND WHAT SHE OFFERS

(By R. Kenneth Evans)

Thirty years ago the course of empire was slowly wending its way westward. Those sturdy pioneers who forsaking birthplace and family ties came west to build an inland empire. In those early days the wily red man battled with all his cunning against the encroachment of the sturdy pioneer, who was usurping his hunting grounds and developing his country. The hand of the red man but given way however that the hand of the white man might realize the opportunities that come from the development of the vast field of unfathomed resources that exists in this country.

Today Merkel is reaping the benefit of the development started by these sturdy pioneers who deserve much of the credit for the building of a strong foundation upon which this field of richness has been maturing. The city is facing a period of growth and development unprecedented in its history. A \$5,000,000 cotton crop will be marketed in this little city this year, which thirty years ago was a part of that vast unbroken prairie over which the Long Horn roamed at will. The cotton production in the Merkel country this year, sold at the current market price nets the farmers of this section five times the value of their lands according to conservative real estate figures.

To the reader in the more staid and settled agricultural sections the above statement may be received with little credence for it is hard to realize that land will produce in a single season five times its value and especially is it true in such agricultural countries as Iowa where land that will produce 28 bushels of wheat to the acre will sell on the market for \$300 per acre and land that will produce three-fourths of a bale of cotton to the acre will sell for \$50 per acre. Of course it is the general opinion that land values are too low in this west Texas country and there is a reason for this low value.

Several years ago when the country was first opened for settlement immigration was encouraged from the more congested areas of the United States by unscrupulous real estate men whose main idea was to get the money from these immigrants without any consideration as to honesty or proper representation. They represented the value of this land too high, considering the amount of development that had been accomplished and the result was that many of those, who located here in an early day left this section dissatisfied. But those who have stayed and fought against the periods of adversity which have been prevalent at times and worked with diligence are to day independent.

Another fact which is significant and which is worthy of explanation is the fact that the crop this year in West Texas and especially the Merkel country is sufficient to liquidate every dollar of indebtedness of those living in this section and still leave in the local banks deposits in excess of \$2,000,000 or practically a per capita wealth of \$1,000 for every man, woman and child. To put the explanation in a little more effective manner it is generally known that for three years West Texas suffered through the will of the elements. That is to say lack of moisture and dry hot winds caused practically two years of crop failures. Now the production this year is sufficient to offset five such years and still leave the farmers a more substantial profit than is generally

received by the farmers of Iowa, Nebraska or other agricultural states. If the reader will but give this statement the proper consideration, which can be substantiated by facts, he will readily see that even though every other year in West Texas were poor years the success accorded in the good years would more than balance accounts with the farmer holding a good and substantial balance on the black side of the ledger.

Again to the immigrant. The writer, who has spent several months in exhaustive surveys of general conditions in West Texas wishes to suggest that every man looking for a new location ask himself where he can find a country that will enable him to enjoy all the modern conveniences of living with good marketing centers, trading centers, good roads and enable him to raise a sufficient crop the first year to return his initial investment paid for lands in this section. This is what Merkel and the Great Merkel Country offers. And although this campaign is inaugurated for the purpose of exploiting Merkel it is but in justice to the balance of the West Texas country to state that this is not an oasis in this country, but the conditions that prevail here are prevalent over the entire West Texas area with a possibility that Merkel excels in many ways.

To begin with Merkel is a city of a population of approximately 2,500. It is located in one of the richest agricultural centers of West Texas in one of the best counties in the State, Taylor County. It is within close range of the county seat, Abilene, one of the most modern of Western cities. It has a line of mercantile establishments that would be a credit to a city several times its size and offers every possible inducement for success along every line. The city has a school system adequate to furnish an education to the children of every individual living in this section and seventeen miles from Abilene where is located two of the best independent colleges in Texas. Every opportunity is offered the rural students with a good system of rural schools, close together, affording the students an opportunity to attend school without long trips to interfere with the minor duties on the farm.

Merkel is located on the trunk line of the Texas & Pacific Railroad which gives it direct connection with the principle marketing centers of the south. Railroad connections can be made through Abilene on the West to the North, New Mexico, Colorado and the west.

As a home city Merkel offers all the advantages one could possibly desire. All modern public utilities are provided with adequate places of amusement. The city is a church supporting one and three-fourths of the population practice some form of religion. There are no slums or slum districts of any description and the high moral standard of conditions is brought about by the natural desire of the citizenship to have such conditions. Many beautiful and substantial homes are to be found here with prospects for the building of many more. City real estate values have increased from 100 to 200 per cent during the last year while farm real estate values have increased from 50 to 100 per cent. Business is good. There is plenty of money in the banks for the extension of development. continued on 8th page.

SERVICE



Ask Our Customers

THE FARMERS STATE BANK

Cotton Picking Champion.
And now comes Shorty Smith and deposes and says that he is the champion cotton picker of this section, with a record of 812 pounds, making in one day over \$20. Well, Shorty, we believe they will have to hand it to you. If there is a better record, let us have the information. It will take more than 812 pounds to put Shorty in the shade.

This Means You

When you get up with a bad taste in your mouth, a dull tired feeling, no relish for food and are constipated, you may know that you need a dose of Chamberlain's Tablets. They not only cause an agreeable movement of the bowels, but cleanse and invigorate the stomach and improve the digestion.

Mrs. T.G Bragg has been right sick the past week, but is now able to be up and about again.

Just received a car of buggies, Crown Hardware Company.

Cotton seed meal at G. M. Sharps.

Give us a trial. Lowry & Gamble Druggists.

Rev. W. M. Murrell, pastor of the Merkel Methodist church, left Tuesday evening for Lubbock to attend the annual conference of his church. Before leaving, he stated that the local church was able to make the best report in its history. Rev. Murrell is popular with his congregation and also with the town in general. Every one expects his return here another year and will be greatly disappointed if he goes to another field.

Don't forget to bring your eggs chickens, butter, hides, sacks and rags to W. P. Duckett, who pays cash and will sell you apples, potatoes and cold drinks as cheap as any one.

W. P. Duckett.

Constipation

Most laxatives and cathartics afford only temporary relief and should be used only for that purpose. When you want permanent relief take Chamberlain's Tablets and be careful to observe the directions with each package. These tablets not only move the bowels, but improve the appetite and strengthen the digestion.

Honey at G. M. Sharps

NEW STEAM PRESS IN OPERATION

I have installed a new steam press, and can now give much better and quicker service. It has always been our motto to give satisfaction and service, but on account of the rush, was unable to do our best, but can now take care of all kinds of work. Give me a trial.

MRS. C. L. CASH.

Phone 180

J. T. Warren, President
L. R. Thompson, Vice Pres. Book
G. F. West, Vice President D. W.



We rejoice with our friends in the FINE PROSPERITY of the PRESENT SEASON.

The Farmers and Merchants National Bank

is no less proud of the assistance it rendered during the two years of drouth than it is of the fine Loyalty of those who do business with us.

Nothing is more VALUABLE than a good BANKING CONNECTION

This we offer in addition to an UNEXCELLED SERVICE. Become identified with us TODAY

Thos. Johnson, Cashier

LOCAL NEWS

Mrs. Willie Addington and son, Gordon Scarborough, of Dallas, were visitors in Merkel this week. Mrs. Addington has resumed her work with the Reynolds Presbyterian Orphanage at Albany.

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

There was plenty of ice Wednesday morning. It is said that some fine hogs bid adieu to existence, and are now safely packed in salt barrels.

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

The officers of The F. & M. National Bank want you to feel free to consult with them about all matters. We want to make money, but we can't make money unless you make money too.



A TEXAS WONDER

The Texas Wonder cures kidney and bladder troubles, dissolves gravel, cures diabetes, weak and lame backs, rheumatism and all irregularities of the kidneys and bladder in both men and women. Regulates bladder troubles in children. If not sold by your druggist, will be sent by mail on receipt of \$1.25. 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.

LOCAL NEWS

Will Merritt, who has been connected with a bank in Abilene for several months, has accepted a position with the Farmers' Bank and will begin his work there Monday. Will is very efficient in his chosen profession and his services are much demanded. We congratulate both on their choice of business connection.

American Beauty and flour and meal are the best are for sale by Crown Hardware Company.

Marvin Boney of El Centro, Cal., wired his parents, Mr. Mrs. A. C. Boney, Tuesday his wife was very low. She was born to them on the 5th is reported getting along r

The only service limit of F. & M. National Bank in the transaction must be sa

No Worms in a Healthy Child
All children troubled with worms have healthy color, which indicates poor blood. If there is more or less stomach distress, GROVE'S TASTELESS CHILL TONIC given for two or three weeks will enrich the blood, improve the digestion, and act as a General Tonic to the whole system. Nature throws off or dispels the worms, and the child is in perfect health. Pleasant to take. 60c.

EGGS—EGGS—EGGS
Condimental Poultry M is sold under a private guarantee more eggs in 15 days or money back.

Condimental is a mineral that takes the place of food your hens get in the spring. That is why you more eggs in the spring and mer and that is the reason never have sore head and among your chickens spring.

Condimental keeps your hens in good healthy color throughout the fall and the results are more than 15 days or money back. Condimental cures sore heads, roupes. Six months supply 50 hens for 60 cents. W. P. Duckett, Merkel, T

Goods are High

-- and are --

GOING HIGHER

Our kicking won't bring them down

**So be Wise!
Buy and Smile!!**

**NEW SUITS, COATS, SHOES, SILKS
HOSIERY COMING IN EVERY FEW DAYS**

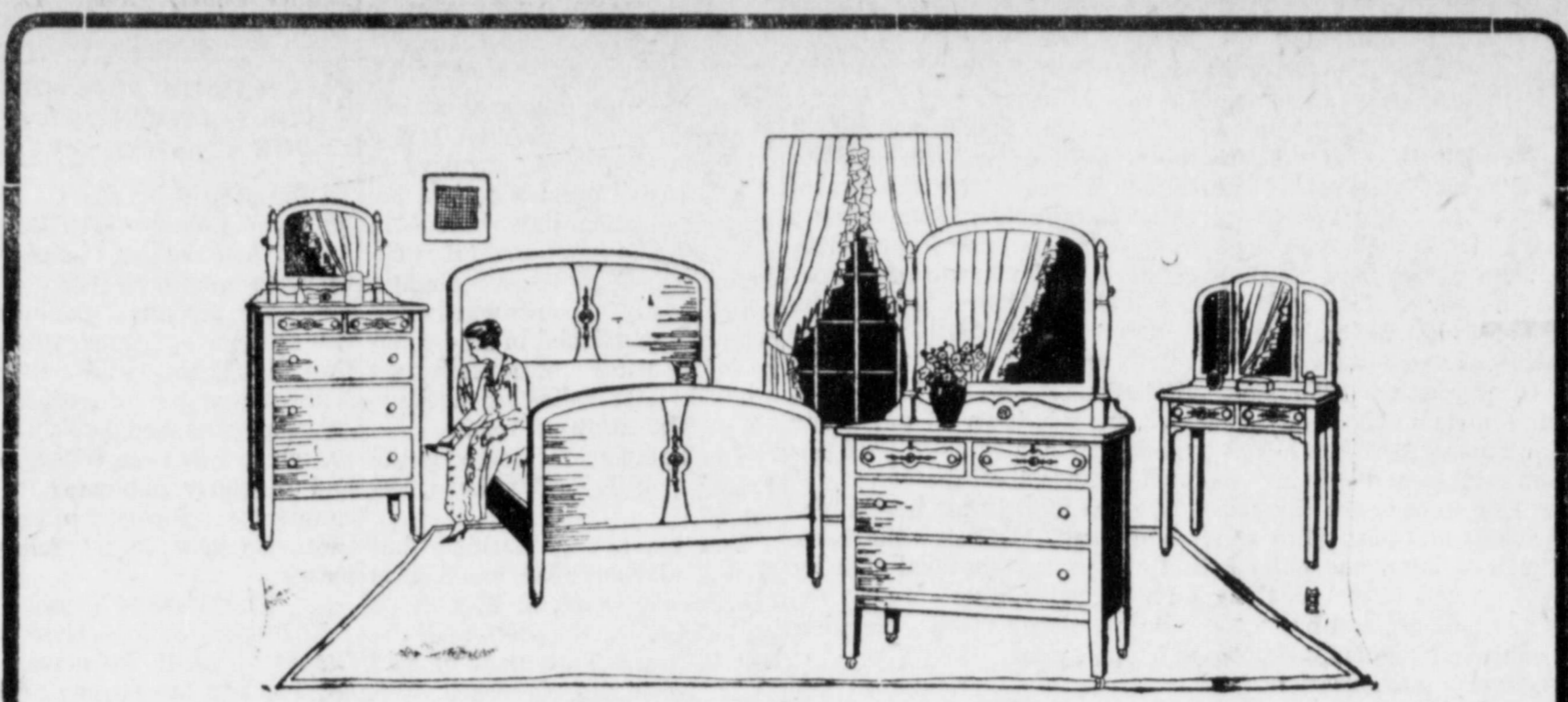
The Brown D. G. Co.

SCHOOL FOOT-BALL
 School foot-ball
 themselves one Mon-
 noon on the High School
 all grounds. The victim was
 second team of Abilene Chris-
 man College. Merkel came out of
 the game with 31 to the college
 boys 12. The game was a clean
 example of good sportmanship
 throughout. The Merkel boys as
 well as their opponents played
 hard, but fair. All the Merkel men
 play exceptionally well, but
 Doyle Garrett, Willie Stevens,
 and Jerome Hutcherson seemed
 to be the stars. The first touch-
 down was made in three downs
 in just two minutes play. The
 local boys then ran over the vis-
 itors for two more touchdowns
 in the first quarter. Our boys
 made these so quick that the vis-
 itors were "simply hoodooed"
 for the remainder of the game.
 Forward passing was a feature
 of the game. Once Bill Stevens
 intercepted one of their forward
 passes and out dodged all oppo-
 nents and ran thirty-five yards
 for a touchdown.

It is this kind of clean athlet-
 ics that will bring athletics to
 the place it should have in the
 minds of all Merkel people. It is
 to be deplored that a few gam-
 ers who think they are standing
 by the team must come and put
 up money on the team, as alleg-
 ed was done. This in time, if per-
 sisted in, will ruin all healthy
 sports. This is gambling, and of
 course is strictly against the law.
 You are doing the team an in-
 justice and all athletic sports a
 mortal hurt when this is indulg-
 ed in. Athletics in the minds of
 most people is participated in for
 the benefit accruing to the partic-
 ipants and the clean sportlike
 entertainment furnished the
 spectators. When abused for any
 other purpose than these and the
 creation of a good school spirit,
 it becomes a base business, not a
 sport.

The boys try the college boys
 again at Abilene, Friday after-
 noon. Some more good playing is
 anticipated then. Back your local
 team for all it is worth with your
 moral and financial support. No
 other kind of support is desired
 by the players and the school, so
 we understand.

—Reporter.



We now have one of the best assortments of Bedroom Suits ever shown in Mer-
 kel. We would be glad to have you come in and see the new styles and finishes
 whether you are in the market for a suit or not. We will take pleasure in
 showing you through.

BEDS : SPRINGS : MATTRESSES

We can solve your bedding wants, at prices you can't find anywhere else. While
 our present stock lasts we will make the following prices:

- BEDS—A large 2-in. post iron bed and slats.....\$11.00
- SPRINGS—A 96-coil guaranteed spring.....\$ 5.50
- MATTRESSES—A 40-lb. all cotton mattress, art tick.....\$10.00
- A 50-lb. all cotton mattress.....\$12.50

This is just a few of the real values we have. Our house is full of dependable
 goods and we will guarantee to save you money on anything in our line.

Barrow Furniture Co.

R. E. Lee of Van Zant County
 purchased 110 acres of land one
 mile west of Trent and a resi-
 dence in Trent this week. His
 son-in-law, Mr. Scott, also purchas-
 ed a residence in Trent. These
 deals were made through the
 Merkel Realty Company.

See our jewelry and cut glass
 before buying. Lowry & Gamble
 Druggists

Wanted To Rent.

A first class farm, consisting
 of 150 acres or more. My refer-
 ences are as follows:

J. H. Frizzell, Merkel, R1,
 on W. E. Petty's farm.

November 1, 1919.

To Whom It May Concern:

This is to certify that we have
 known Mr. J. H. Frizzell for sev-
 eral years and have always found
 him straight in his dealings and
 he was considered one of the very
 best farmers in this county. Mr.
 Frizzell is not only considered a
 first class farmer, but a first
 class farm manager also.

First National Bank, Sulphur
 Springs, Texas.

October 22, 1919.

This is to advise that I have
 known Mr. J. H. Frizzell for sev-
 eral years. I consider him one of
 the best farmers we ever had in
 this section. He is energetic, in-
 dustrious and the hardest work-
 ing man I nearly ever saw. He
 is not only a splendid farmer but
 is a fine manager. He always
 makes good crops and is invari-
 ably the first man to market the
 first bale in early fall.

W. H. Bond, Postmaster,
 Sulphur Springs, Tex. 15t2p



The Quinine That Does Not Affect The Head
 Because of its tonic and laxative effect, LAXA-
 TIVE BROMO QUININE (Tablets) can be taken
 by anyone without causing nervousness or ringing
 in the head. E. W. GROVE'S signature on box. 30c.

WANTED

Every man, woman and child
 in this town who is not absolute-
 ly sure that they do not need
 glasses to call at Lowry & Gam-
 bles Drug Store, Wednesday and
 Thursday, Nov. 19 and 20, for a
 thorough examination, as a mat-
 ter of fact that is the only way
 you can positively know whether
 you do or do not need glasses.
 Dr. McGuire graduate Optome-
 trist will be in Merkel two days
 this trip on Wednesday and
 Thursday, Nov 19 and 20 with
 Dr. Smith at Lowry & Gamble
 Drug Store. Prices moderate.

E. L. Palmer of Edgewood who
 recently purchased the farm of
 Tom Toombs, Jr., has moved to
 Merkel. His family will follow at
 once. They will move out on the
 farm within a few weeks.

NEW GARAGE OPENED UP

I have opened up a garage on
 Kent Street, Merkel, Texas.
 Bring me your car and I will
 make it run right.

J. W. Simpson.
 7t4p

The officers of The F. & M.
 National Bank want you to feel
 free to consult with them about
 all matters. We want to make
 money, but we cant make money
 unless you make money too.

Fresh prescription drugs and
 drug sundries at Lowry & Gam-
 bles.

Fresh car Peace Maker flour
 G. M. Sharps.

Many a lad is "sitting on the
 world" when the world slips from
 under him. Hang on to your seats
 with War Savings Stamps. They

Grove's Tasteless chill Tonic
 restores vitality and energy by purifying and en-
 riching the blood. You can soon feel its Strength-
 ening, Invigorating Effect. Price 60c.

GET MORE EGGS
 Feed Martin's Egg Producer
 Your money back "in egg or in
 cash". It starts baby chicks
 right and keeps 'em healthy. Ask
 Sanders Drug Store. 9My6m



THE BOOSTER'S BADGE

- ☛ Ever notice how much more interest a man
 has in a community where he owns real
 estate?
- ☛ When he owns part of his town he naturally
 feels a keener interest in the welfare and
 development. Yes sir—the Home-Owner is
 a Booster every time.
- ☛ That is one reason we want more Homes in
 Merkel.
- ☛ Our part in upbuilding our city is to help you
 plan and build a Home. When you see our
 Model Home Display you will understand
 how well equipped we are to serve you.

"Service That Serves"

BURTON-LINGO CO.

Building Service and Materials

Phone No. 74

L. D. LEVY, Local Mgr

WRIGLEY'S

5c a package
 before the war

5c a package
 during the war

5c a package
 NOW

THE FLAVOR LASTS
 SO DOES THE PRICE!



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.

Practically every business house in Merkel closed last Tuesday, first anniversary of the signing of the armistice. We predict that this will eventually become the greatest day in history.

The Merkel Mail has the largest subscription list it has had in the three years of the present management. We appreciate this interest on the part of our readers. We have offered no stimulus other than the merits of the paper itself. We have not depreciated the paper by giving premiums of any kind. We have held the subscription price to a dollar, when it ought to be \$1.50. We offer our subscribers clubbing rates, which are greatly to their advantage. A word to the newcomers by our old subscribers will be highly appreciated.

TRENT BANK CHANGES HANDS

One of the largest and most interesting deals in financial affairs of this section was consummated at Trent on Wednesday when the controlling stock, if not all the stock, of the First State Bank of that city was bought under contract to be handed over to the new owners on December the first of this year.

It is the plans of the new purchasers to have the bank under its new management be a local institution, owned and conducted entirely by local capital and largely by men of the Trent community.

The Mail is advised by the new purchasers, that a representative amount of the stock for which they have already contracted to take over will be held open for a short time to other local investors of the Trent community, thereby giving each man who is desirous of obtaining a closer relationship with the banking interests of that community, an opportunity to do so.

Cotton comes Pouring In

In spite of threatening weather, cotton still comes pouring in. The fields are still white with the fleecy staple. Over 11,000 bales have been received at the Merkel yard. This represents a value of about \$2,500,000, with an estimate of the crop half gath-ered.

A. L. Bryant and family of Grand Saline moved to Merkel a few days since. Mr. Bryant is a painter and paper hanger, sign writer and decorator. We are sure he will find all he can do in this section of the country.

WAR SAVINGS STAMPS CAMPAIGN

The intensive campaign for the sale of War Savings Stamps and Certificates under the direction of the Federal Government began Monday. It is intended to put on a special week of selling. In addition to the 25c thrift stamps, the \$5. War Savings Stamps the government is offering certificates in \$50; \$100; \$500; and \$1000 denominations that near the same rate of interest. Of course heavy demands are being made on the people for contributions, but this is a campaign of savings and safe investments. The stamps are for sale at the banks and post office and every man, woman and child is urged to go and buy as their means will permit and buy systematically and regularly. There is an active organization for Taylor County both of men and women with E. M. Overshiner, County Chairman in charge. The following are the Merkel sales directors:

Prof. R. A. Burgess and Miss Mossie Sears.

The quota for Taylor County is \$392,000, only a small part of which has been sold. This county which is proud of her war record should make a reconstruction record of which it will be equally proud, and every citizen is urged to co-operate to make the campaign a success.

Auxiliary Society Organized

The Ladies of the Presbyterian church met at the home of Mrs. Dooley Nov 10th for the purpose of organizing an Auxiliary Society of the church and elected the following officers:

Mrs. Robt Lowry, Pres.; Mrs. M. Smith, Vice pres.; Mrs. Levy Secretary and Treas.; Mrs. Dooley and Mrs. Elliott visiting committee. Their next meeting will be at the home of Mrs. Robert Lowry, Monday afternoon at 3 o'clock, Nov 16th.

After business was transacted the guest were served with refreshments.

M. C. Graham of Hunt county purchased the farm of W. A. Tittle, a few miles west of Merkel this week. There are 320 acres in the farm. Mr. Graham expects to move on the place the first of the year. The deal was made by the Merkel Realty Company.

Ava Dee Jackson has been real sick the past week, but is much improved now.

A. C. Rose is in the Eastern market for 10 days or two weeks buying extensively for spring and for immediate delivery. He left Sunday night.

Rev. and Mrs. J. N. Campbell of Hamilton, Texas spent several days this week with their mother, Mrs. E. A. Campbell.

Graham flour at G. M. Sharps

THE ARTHUR MIDDLETON RECITAL

There must be no question as to the success of the Lyceum course which will be held in Merkel this week.

Those who have guaranteed the price of this attraction state that if it meets with the approval of the people and they stamp their approval upon it by patronizing it to the extent of a capacity house other attractions equally as good will be booked.

It is up to Merkel to bring the attractions here. If Merkel is a good enough town to make our permanent homes, it is good enough to have the best.

We can afford the best in entertainment. We need the best. Let's show our approval of it by a liberal patronage.

Buy a ticket when the girls wait upon you.

Corn at G. M. Sharps.

Misses Sallie and Willie Toombs, Mrs. Meador and Wm. Brown motored to Longworth Tuesday. Miss Sallie will teach there this term and her school will likely start at once.

Headaches from eye strain, Prof. Donders a high authority says that eye-strain causes more headaches than all other causes combined. Many people especially those studying here in school are suffering from headaches or a heavy feeling in the brow and don't realize that the cause is a defect or weakness in the eyes. If the children's eyes are weak have them examined before they start to school. Don't neglect to have your eyes looked after and get proper glasses in time, as a constant strain on your eyes is liable to cause some of the muscles or nerves of your eyes to become paralyzed, or cease to act, then no one can fit you with proper glasses, that will give satisfaction.

W. O. Johnson of Mulberry Canyons went on a still hunt for cotton pickers this week. He was successful. Says he has picked 21 bales and has as much more to pick. He thought the job was too big to tackle alone, so he went for help.

Fresh car Peace Maker flour G. M. Sharps.

P. L. McClary purchased the building recently bought by Mr. Barden on the North Side and has moved into same. The deal was made by the Merkel Realty Company.

Dr. Grimes has received his discharge from the army and returned to Merkel. His plans for the future are not yet matured.

E. N. Brown, manager of the Brown Dry Goods Co., made a trip to Dallas this week.

Rev. L. B. Cornell, missionary of the Sweetwater Baptist association, preached morning and evening at the Baptist Church last Sunday.

CITATION ON PUBLICATION FOR PROBATE OF WILL THE STATE OF TEXAS

To the Sheriff or any Constable of Taylor County—GREETING.

You Are Hereby Comanded, to cause to be published, one a week, for ten days, exclusive of the first day of publication, before the return day hereof, in some newspaper of general circulation published in said county, which has been continuously and regularly published in said county for a period of not less than one year; the following notice:

The State of Texas

To all persons interested in the Estate of T. R. Bankhead, Deceased.

You are hereby notified that Mrs. J. M. Bankhead, has filed in the County Court of Taylor, an application for the probate of the last Will and Testament of said T. R. Bankhead, Deceased, filed with said application, and for Letters Testamentary is the last will and testament of T. R. Bankhead, deceased, which will be heard at the next term of said Court, commencing on the 3rd Monday in December A. D. 1919, the same being the 15th day of December A. D. 1919, at the Court House thereof, in Abilene, at which time all persons interested in said Estate may appear and contest said application, should they desire to do so.

HEREIN Fail Not, but have you before said Court on the said first day of the next term thereof this Writ, with your return thereon, showing how you have executed the same.

Given under my hand and the Seal of said Court, at office in Abilene, this the 30th day of

Oct. 1919.

Fannie Tippett, Clerk, County Court, Taylor County, Texas.

CITATION ON PUBLICATION FOR PROBATE OF WILL THE STATE OF TEXAS

To the Sheriff or any Constable of Taylor County—GREETING:

You Are Hereby Comanded, to cause to be published, once a week, for ten days, exclusive of the first day of publication, before the return day hereof, in some newspaper of general circulation published in said county, which has been continuously and regularly published in said county for a period of not less than one year; the following notice:

The State of Texas

To all persons interested in the Estate of W. B. Robertson, Deceased; You are hereby notified that Mrs. N. L. Robertson has filed in the County Court of Taylor County, an application for the probate of the last Will and Testament of said W. B. Robertson, Deceased, filed with said applications, and for Letters Testamentary is the last will and testament of W. B. Robertson, deceased, which will be heard at the next term of said Court, commencing on the third Monday in December, A. D. 1919, the same being the fifteenth day of December, A. D. 1919, at the Court House thereof, in Abilene at which time all persons interested in said Estate may appear and contest said application, should they desire to do so.

HEREIN Fail Not, but have you before said Court on the said first day of the next term there-

of thereon, executed to. Given under Seal of said Court lene, this the 28th 1919.

Fannie Tippett, County Court, Taylor County, Texas.

In damp, chilly weather there is always a large demand for Ballard's Snow Liniment because many people who know by experience its great relieving power to apply it at the first twinge. Sold by Sanders Drug Store.

Regulate the bowels when they fail to move properly. Herbine is an admirable bowel regulator. It helps the liver and stomach and restores a fine feeling of strength and buoyancy. Sold by Sanders Drug Store.

Mr. and Mrs. O. B. Price of Colorado, Texas, visited Miss Ruby Campbell during the week.

Only a Cold

Are you ill? is often answered "Oh! it's only a cold," as if a cold was a matter of little consequence, but people are beginning to learn that a common cold is a matter not to be trifled with, that some of the most serious diseases start with a cold. As soon as the first indication of a cold appears take Chamberlain's Cough Remedy. Remember that the sooner you get rid of your cold the less the danger, and this remedy will help you to throw it off.

Place your subscription with the Merkel Mail and Abilene Morning Reporter, \$4.00 a year.



A man's best pal is his smoke

"Let's give 'em our smoke"

—Ches. Field

A real smoke—Chesterfield. The choicest of expensive aromatic Turkish tobaccos, the finest of sun-ripened Domestic leaf, blended by an original and exclusive method that can't be imitated.

In the blending of these costly tobaccos, our experts have brought out a new flavor and a mellow richness surpassing that of any cigarette you ever smoked.

Chesterfields sure do satisfy; not in flavor alone, but in value, in quality, even in their superior moisture-proof wrapping that keeps them firm and fresh always.

You want "satisfy"—that's sure. You get it only in Chesterfields.

Ligarettes and Tobacco Co.

Chesterfield

CIGARETTES

They Satisfy

—and the blend can't be copied

20 for 20 Cents



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

TRADE REGISTERED MARK

LITTELL'S

LITTELL'S LIQUID SULPHUR COMPOUND

It is a powerful and scientific combination of sulphur and other healing agents for the relief and cure of diseases of the skin. It is especially effective in the ITCHING VARIETIES; giving instant relief from the itching and smarting sensations and by its germ-destroying properties it exterminates the microbe which is the cause of the eruption, thus curing the disease completely.

Littell's Liquid Sulphur Compound is used in all cases of Eczema, Tetter, Barber's Itch, Psoriasis, Herpes, Rash, Oak and Ivy Poisoning, also for relieving the annoyance caused by chiggers and mosquito bites.

In the treatment of ECZEMA—the most painful and obstinate of all skin diseases—it is one of the most successful remedies known.

Small size 50 cents bottle. Large size \$1.00

JAMES F. BALLARD, Prop. ST. LOUIS, MO.

BANKS & MERCHANTS NATIONAL BANK

Established in 1904

Put it in a National Bank

(The Only Guaranty Fund Bank in Merkel)
ALWAYS ABLE & WILLING to HELP the FARMER

The Farmers State Bank

Capital Stock \$35,000.00

Surplus and Earnings over \$40,000.00

Managed by men you know and have confidence
in their conservative banking methods

J. S. Swann, President R. O. Anderson, Cashier
Jno. Sears, Vice Pres. F. Y. Gaither, Asst. Cash
Sam Swann, Asst. Cashier

It's just what your Druggist Ordered if it is from

LOWRY & GAMBLE

Prescription Druggists

"THE NYAL STORE"

CUT GLASS JEWELRY
IVORY GOODS CIGARS
EASTMAN KODAKS

We are just adding to our line Pathe Phonographs

SANDERS DRUG STORE

Is the Authorized Agents for Eastman

KODAKS

You will find a complete line of Kodaks, Films
Chemicals, Developing Paper, Etc.

Patronize The

COZY THEATRE and STUDIO

H. F. GROENE

DO IT ELECTRICALLY

If you are not, talk it over with us.
Our Commercial Department is full of
modern Labor-Saving Devices. Let
us figure on your next job of wiring.

Merkel Power Co.

W. A. McSpadden, Local Mgr.

Do You Know About—

Our "Ye Planery" System ?

☛ The services of the best architects of the
world are at your services thru connection
with us. ☛ If you are thinking of building,
come in and talk it over with us.

BURTON - LINGO COMPANY

L. D. LEVY, Manager

THE MERKEL LUMBER COMPANY

(By Kenneth Evans)

Way back in the early days of the town of Merkel when there was little business but a belief in the future by the empire builders of this great domain, the Merkel Lumber Company came into existence. The Merkel Lumber Co. is one of a string of seventy-five lumber yards in Texas and Oklahoma; the Texas main office is at Norman, Okla. This line of yards belong to the William P. Cary Co. with main offices at Chicago.

For a quarter of a century the the Merkel Lumber Company has done business at the same stand—corner of Elm and Kent Streets; during the early days of the city; through the days of depression this firm has always stood out as optimists, believing in the future of this great section, knowing that time would bring the country into its own—and the wisdom of their farsighted policy is now being realized as the great virgin soil of this particular region is turning to greater and greater and more prolific production.

N. D. Cobb is the present manager of the Merkel Lumber Company—and he is an old-timer, having "grewed up" with this country for the past 18 years; during this time Mr. Cobb has been much identified with things that stand for progress and development; having given of his time and energies to public matters; during his days he has been mayor of Merkel, justice of the peace and practiced law, which he does

yet from time to time.

While the stock at the yard has not been up to capacity for some time, due to unsettled war conditions, and other obstacles, the rosy future of Merkel and vicinity has forced the company to make every effort to prepare for an increased steady growth, and cars of lumber are rolling this way. Right now 17 cars are on the tracks coming towards Merkel.

Right here it is well to remember just all this pioneer company handles in stock—of course lumber; lime, cement, sashes, doors, brick, sand and gravel, nails (and did you know they were hard to get nowadays?) locks and all kinds of builders hardware, screen wire, building paper and Cornell board, corrugated iron, red palings and cedar posts; remember a feature of their business is the DeVoe paints and varnishes—the word DeVoe as all know stands for "Standard" in the paint world.

Talking about the lumber situation in particular, Mr. Cobb, the manager says: "That the higher priced lumber will go higher, but that the staple lumber will remain at about the figure it now stands; owing to the increase in everything else lumber has naturally advanced but even then not so much as most anything else; for instance cotton is now bringing more than 100 per cent advance; lumber is about 50 to 60 per cent only; farm machinery has advanced more than lumber; and farm machinery and equipment is too valuable to let lay out in the weather and farmers should take heed of this and advise and spend some of their cotton cash profit as an investment in making improvements on their farms and sheds for their machinery."

Anyway when you want to figure on a bill of lumber or anything in the Merkel Lumber Company line, talk it over with Mr. Cobb, he has the experience to give the right kind of advice and the stock to back up just what you will want; and remember that the owners of the Merkel Lumber Company are one of this community, always identified with the town advancement—and that not only do they own their lumber yards, but are one of the heavy taxpayers of Merkel.

There is Immense Satisfaction in the Proud Ownership
of a

HUDSON OR AN ESSEX CAR

When you get ready to purchase that new car ask us for a demonstration. That's all we ask. You will be convinced that a Hudson or an Essex is the car you will want.

The Hudson-Essex Motor Co.

J. D. BEASLEY — B. WARREN

McDONALD MOTOR CO.

G. H. McDonald—W. E. Lowe
Just opposite old Express office

Agents for DODGE AND STUDEBAKER CARS, Case Tractors
International Trucks. Full line Automobile Accessories

McFARLAND GARAGE Frank C. McFarland, Mgr.

Expert Mechanics paying special attention to
DODGE AND STUDEBAKES
Portage Tubes and Casings

Honest merchandise with all the sting of H.C.L. taken out

Men and Ladies Ready-to-Wear

If it's real honest-to-goodness goods you want, come in,
you'll be surprised at our values.

ECONOMY STORE

E. SIEGEL & COMPANY

THE MERKEL BAKERY

Will be Opened Soon
in the Beasley Building

Having a capacity of 1200 loaves daily.

When the sugar situation is relieved we will resume
our Pastries and Candy making

N. Hancock, Proprietor

IF IT'S FURNITURE

Our stock is an exposition of the best at reasonable prices—Furniture you will be proud of in the home.

Paints Picture Framing Wall Paper
Hoosier Kitchen Cabinets — Macey Book Cases

The Barrow Furniture Company
of Merkel, Texas

A. T. SHEPPARD, Local General Mgr.

MERKEL MOTOR COMPN'Y

L. B. SCOTT, Manager

Authorized Ford Agents

For Ford Cars and Ford Parts

Better Let us Book You for that Ford Now

Fordson Truck — Fordson Tractor
Firestone Tires and Tubes

The Store with a Conscience

The Big General Store of Merkel

☛ The store that has been here and been ☛
☛ the friend of all thru prosperity or ad- ☛
☛ versity for twenty-one years. ☛

Come in when you need anything in our line

THE STAR STORE

G. E. COMEGYS, Proprietor

IF YOU ARE CONTEMPLATING

the purchase of

Lumber
Builders' Hardware

Brick

Sand

Gravel

Nails

The faith behind a formula

The faith

Paint half your house DEVOE; paint
the other half whatever you like.

If DEVOE doesn't take fewer gallons
and cost less money, we will make no
charge for DEVOE.

If DEVOE doesn't wear a year or two
years or three years longer—longer and
better—we'll give you enough to paint
it again.

MERKEL LUMBER CO.

MERKEL, TEXAS

The formula

GUARANTEE:

The paint in this package
is full measure, and is
composed of:

50% Pure White Lead,
(Schwartz of Lead)

50% Pure White Zinc,
(White of Zinc)

With the proper amount of:

Pure Linseed Oil,
Pure Turpentine Dryer
and nothing else.



ANYTHING

in our line

may be we would

both make money if you

would talk it over

with us

Merkel Lumber Co.

Owned and operated by
Wm. P. Carey Co., not Incorp.

N. D. COBB, Manager



Mrs. Walter Jackson, Editor

Wilson-Crane Wedding

Last Saturday evening at the Methodist parsonage, Thos. R. Wilson was married to Miss Flossie Crane, Rev. Murrell officiating.

The young people came highly recommended, of high character and worthy citizens. We wish for them a long, prosperous and happy life.

Read our Adv. in this issue and open an account with the F. & M National Bank to-day and have the benefit of the service it offers.

Dr. N. J. Smith is now fitting up the offices formerly occupied by Dr. Adkisson. He may be found at Lowry & Gamble Drug Store at present.

Shorts and bran at Bob Martin Grocery Company.

American Beauty and Seal flour and meal are the best and are for sale by Crown Hardware Company.

We are here to stay and will appreciate a trial Lowry & Gamble.

Habitual Constipation Cured in 14 to 21 Days

"LAX-FOS WITH PEP-SIN" 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.

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

Place your subscription with the Merkel Mail and Abilene Morning Reporter, \$4.00 a year.

Just Returned from Market

where we picked up \$5,000.00 of real bargains.

It will pay you to see our large stock of merchandise bought for cash and to be sold for cash, at less than we will be able to place them in our house in thirty days from now.

SEE OUR BLANKETS & COMFORTS

We have the best line of blankets we have ever carried, ranging in price from \$3.50 to \$9.00 and not a blanket that can be rebought for the price we are selling them for.

60 Comforts for \$3.50 and they would be a bargain at \$4.50
50 Comforts at \$5.00
Worth \$7.00

A full stock of all dry goods, outings, canton flannel and all kinds of dress goods serges of the best, all for less.

Be sure and see us for your fall bills

Shoes for All for Less

Our stock is being kept full by express shipments. See us when in need of shoes.

A New Stock of Caps

Work Shirts, Hosiery for ladies, men and children, of the best quality for less. See us.

THE STAR STORE

DR. G. —D-e-n-t-i-s
Office Hours 8—12 a.m.,
Over Woodroof-Bragg Co.
Office Phone 116

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.
Phone Office 93 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

CITY TAILOR SHOP
Ladies and Gents Work.
All Work Guaranteed
Will call for and deliver work.
Phone 189 Kent St.

PATE BARBER SHOP
Hot and Cold Baths
Agent for Sweetwater
Laundry.

TYPEWRITER CHEAP
We have a good No 5 Oliver
typewriter for sale for \$25. If
you want a good, substantial
machine, now is your opportunity.
Merkel Mail.



Some Like a Cold Bath Others Like a Hot One

But to enjoy ANY kind of a bath the ROOM must be comfortably warm.

There are many mornings and evenings during the Fall when a little heat is welcome. At such times

The Electric Radiator is Appreciated

Any cool corner can quickly be made warm and comfortable by an Electric Radiator. There is a total absence of flame and smoke, smell and danger which often go with the flame type of heater.

We have several types of Electric Radiators—one of which will surely suit you both in price and heat-giving qualities.

You will save coal if you get one early

MERKEL POWER CO.

Rev. L. B. Owen of Iowa Park visited his son, Joe, and family this week.

American Beauty flour and meal are the best and are for sale by Crown Hardware Company.

Surgeons agree that in case of Cuts, Burns, Bruises and wounds the First Treatment is most important. When an efficient antiseptic and Healing Agent. Buy is now and be ready for an emergency.

Irregular bowel movements lead to chronic constipation and a constipated habit fills the system, vitalizes the blood and puts the digestive organs in fine vigorous condition. Sold by Sanders Drug Store.

Try a sack of that good old Marechal Neil or White Billows flour. Bob Martin Grocery Co.

You Do More Work.
You are more ambitious and you get more enjoyment out of everything when your blood is in good condition. Impurities in the blood have a very depressing effect on the system, causing weakness, laziness, nervousness and sickness.
GROVE'S TASTELESS CHILL TONIC restores Energy and Vitality by Purifying and Enriching the Blood. When you feel its strengthening, invigorating effect, see how it brings color to the cheeks and how it improves the appetite, you will then appreciate its true tonic value.
GROVE'S TASTELESS CHILL TONIC is not a patent medicine, it is simply IRON and QUININE suspended in Syrup. So pleasant even children like it. The blood needs Quinine to Purify it and IRON to Enrich it. These reliable tonic properties never fail to drive out impurities in the blood.
The Strength-Creating Power of GROVE'S TASTELESS CHILL TONIC has made it the favorite tonic in thousands of homes. More than thirty-five years ago, folks would ride a long distance to get GROVE'S TASTELESS CHILL TONIC when a member of their family had Malaria or needed a body-building, strength-giving tonic. The formula is just the same today, and you can get it from any drug store. 60c per bottle.

KILL THE BLUE BUGS
And all Blood Sucking Insects by feeding Martin's Wonderful Blue Bug Killer to your chickens. Your money back if not absolutely satisfied. Ask Sanders Drug Store. 9My6m

Born to Mr. and Mrs. Frank P. Hamm a fine, big boy. Mother and child are doing nicely.

American Beauty and Seal flour and meal are the best and are for sale by Crown Hardware Company.

Shorts and bran at Bob Martin Grocery Company.

J.T. Humphreys and family, who have been at Goliad the past year, have moved back to Tye, Route 1. Mr. Humphreys says this country looks good to him and he is glad to be back.

Bring all your cotton checks to The Farmers & Merchants National Bank for cash or deposit.

MARTIN'S STOCK DIP
A better dip for less money. Martin's Sure Cure Roup Remedy, Martin's Lice Powder and all Martin's Remedies are absolutely guaranteed by Sanders Drug Store.

White Swann syrup at G. M. Sharp's Grocery Store

Gem Theatre

Where the Pictures are Always Good

Program for Week Beginning Friday, November 14th

FRIDAY—Marie Walcamp in "Spurs and Saddles," the first of a series of Western Dramas, one every Friday. Also Hoot Gibson and the Universal Western Players in "The Tell-Tale Wire," a good comedy, and News Weekly.

SATURDAY—Dustin Farnum, the popular Screen Actor in "A Man's Fight," A special feature of the very best. Also a Mack Sennett Keystone Comedy.

MONDAY—"His Father's Wife." An old man married a young girl who fell in love with his son. A strange situation. Also a Mutual Strand Comedy.

TUESDAY—William Dermond in "The Green Bandana." A thrilling Western Drama, and a Harold Lloyd Pathe Comedy.

WEDNESDAY—A World Feature and a good Comedy.

THURSDAY—Fritzi Brunette in "A Woman Under Cover," a Universal Special Feature in 6 acts. The story is a gripping one of every-day life. Also Spauents Vod-a-Vil, 4 acts high-class Vaudeville.

We appreciate your liberal patronage

H. T. HODGE, Manager

Price Line of Ladies Coats Suits, Dresses, Crepe Waists Georgette Waists, Sweaters

COAT SUITS

Ladies all-wool coat suits, latest models, while they last going at \$19.50 and

\$24.50

GINGHAMS

Best grade gingham, specially priced, regular 35c values now for

23c

DRESSES

Just received shipment of tricot dresses in newest models and designs, while they last

\$24.90

Every purchase you make at our store is guaranteed to give satisfaction or your money will be refunded
Fair Dealing and One Price to All is our motto

THE ECONOMY

"SELLS IT FOR LESS"

TWO DOORS ABOVE THE POSTOFFICE

BEASLEY BUILDING, MERKEL, TEXAS

LIST YOUR Leases, Royalties Farm Lands

WITH US

We pay particular attention to
Exclusive Listings

MERKEL REALTY COMPANY

W. O. BONEY WALTER JACKSON



THE WELLS ENTERTAINERS

Appearing in the Lyceum Course Nov. 21st High School
Auditorium 8 o'clock

gram embraces baritone and soprano solos, vocal duets, storytelling and readings, dramatic sketches, humorous and musical sketches. Of this program given a few weeks ago a prominent news paper speaks as follows: "Our first number was very satisfactory Without an exception the people were more than satisfied with the entertainment furnished by the Wells Company."

Jean Macdonald, reader and impersonator, comes on December 15, George Aydelott, famous lecturer, on January 20th, and the last number, the Sterling Entertainers, come on February 3. All of these will appear at the High School Auditorium on the above evenings at eight o'clock.

Patronize this course by buying a SEASON ticket, and thus insure this kind of wholesome entertainment for the Merkel people in the future It is a class of

entertainment that a school or church, and the best people do endorse. Come. Don't miss a number. Remember the first number is Friday, Nov. 21, 8 o'clock.

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, etc.
Hall's Family Pills for constipation.

Our Tellers are always supplied with plenty of change and currency and will supply it in amounts to pay individual cotton pickers. Bring in your pay roll and let us make change for you. The F. & M. National Bank.

Relieve Your Rheumatism For 25c.

NR does it by improving
digestion, assimilation
and elimination--
the logical way.

NR Today—Relief or No Pay

There are three vital processes of human existence—the digestion of food, the extraction of nourishment from it and the elimination of the waste.

Let anything interfere with these processes—let them be interrupted or improperly carried on, and sickness of some kind follows.

Poor digestion and assimilation means failure to derive full nourishment from food and that in turn often means impoverished blood, weakness, anemia, etc. Poor elimination means an accumulation of waste matter which poisons the body, lowers vitality, decreases the power of resistance to disease and leads to the development of many serious ills.

Rheumatism,—due to some interference with the process of elimination, failure to get rid of certain body poisons,—cannot be expected to yield to any medicine that fails to correct the condition responsible for it. Could any reasonable person expect to rid himself of rheumatic pain as long as

rheumatic poison is allowed to remain in the body.

Think of this. It explains the success of Nature's Remedy (NR Tablets) in so many cases where other medicines have failed. Thousands are using NR Tablets every day and getting relief. Why pay five or ten times as much for uncertain things? A 25c box of Nature's Remedy (NR Tablets), containing enough to last twenty-five days,—must help you, must give you prompt relief and satisfactory benefit or cost you nothing.

And Nature's Remedy is not only for the relief of rheumatism. It improves digestion, tones the liver, regulates kidney and bowel action, improves the blood and cleanses the whole system. You'll feel like a new person when you've taken NR Tablets a week. You've tried the expensive medicines and doctors, now make the real test. You'll get results this time. Nature's Remedy (NR Tablets) is sold, guaranteed and recommended by your druggist.

SANDERS DRUG STORE

Nature's Remedy
NR TABLETS-NR

Better Than Pills
For Liver Ills
Get a 25c Box

JUST LOOK

Just look! \$5.00 for any old cotton bed that we can make better than when first bought. Just bring your old bed around and while you are doing your shopping we will have it ready for you to take back with you. We also make new beds and save you plenty of money on

them. All work guaranteed. Call 112 and let us tell you about it. Quick Service Mattress Factory. G. M. Hurley, Prop. City.

DRAUGHON'S

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

Specialty in Farm Loans

Inspector on the ground—Quick Service

Real Estate and Fire Insurance

W. O. BONEY West of Farmers State Bank

FIRST NUMBER LYCEUM NEXT WEEK

Don't forget that the first number of the Lyceum course that is to be given for the benefit of the High School will be on Friday night, November 21 at eight o'clock at the High School Auditorium. You will be asked before then to buy a SEASON ticket for \$1.50, which will entitle you to attend all four numbers for much less than if you paid each time as you came.

The first number is to be given by the Wells Company, who give a musical and dramatic program. They come to us highly recommended by all the places in Texas and elsewhere that they have

performed. On the night of Nov. 20th they give a program at Abilene Christian College, from whence they come to Merkel. This, as well as the three other companies, is sent out by the Redpath-Horner Lyceum Bureau the greatest educational lyceum bureau in the country. This bureau has been furnishing lyceum programs at Abilene, Sweetwater, Amarillo, Plainview and other west Texas towns for many years, and they have all contracted for its return this year. The reputation of the bureau guarantees the high quality of any program given by them. The Wells Company has appeared upon the platform for a period now approaching ten years. This pro-

CHURCH NEWS

At The Baptist Church
Regular services will be held at the Baptist church. The new pastor, Rev. Ira L. Parrack, will be on the ground and will preach morning and evening. Sunday school begins at 10 o'clock. Every member is urged to be present. Visitors are given a cordial invitation to come out.

League Program
There will be no services at the Methodist Church Sunday. The League will have the regular evening hour 7 o'clock. Following is the program:

Song, Prayer, Song.
Address, Elmer Lambreth.
Special Music, Earl Thornton and Annie Mae Costephens.
Reading, Mary Eula Sears.
Duet, Charlie Bell Thomas and Lorena Dry
Co-operation of Older people with the League, Mr. Connor.
Talk, Mr. Thompson.

B. Y. P. U. Program Nov 16.
Subject, Ann Hasseltine Judson.

Leader, Ruby Campbell.
The Heroine of Ava, Leader.
Finding the Savior, Ola Derr.
Meeting Mr. Judson and Long Good-bye, Holland Teaff.
Arrival at Rangoon and the Rangoon Home, Pearl Tompkins
Piano Duet.
The Work Progresses, Althea Boden.
Visit to America, 1822, Lula Belle Sharp.
The Home in Ava and The Heroine of Ava, Willie Swann.
Freedom, Yates Brown.

And if you want to see your wife smile, buy Peace Maker flour. G. M. Sharp.

Prescriptions carefully compounded by registered Druggists at Lowry & Gambles.

SEED OATS

Texas Red, free from Johnson-grass, will stand the winter. See J. T. Warren or Geo Boyce, Merkel, Texas 7t3c

A **SPECIAL SALE** OF **COMFORTS AND BLANKETS**



These brisk November days are reminding many house-keepers of the need of warmer bed coverings. Six months ago we bought several cases of comforts and blankets, and notwithstanding the fact that they are worth double the price paid for them we are placing them on sale at the following low prices.

\$4.95 Comforts, filled with carded cotton, floral silkoline lining, 68x78 at **\$3.95**
\$5.50 Cotton blankets, size 70x80 at **\$4.95**
\$4.50 Cotton blankets, size 64x76 at **3.95**

We sell the best grade outing flannels at **28c**

Extra special in misses fine ribbed full bleached union suits at **75c**

Our store is full of new merchandise at Lowest Possible Prices

Woodroof-Bragg Dry Goods Co.

THE PLACE MOST PEOPLE TRADE

Continued from...
ment work and even...
periods of adversity...
always sufficient capital...
for the proper carrying on...
business

Merkel is also situated in the most logical place for oil development. Geological reports made by geologists who are recognized as competent show this country to be favorable for oil development. However there is no undue excitement. That is to say values have not been inflated and the development is being done in a sane and substantial manner. At least six locations have been made directly in Merkel country and about twenty-five locations in the county with an equal number in adjoining counties. Merkel is on the logical trend of the Ranger and Eastland fields and is destined to be a future oil city if development is brought about as anticipated.

It is to show all these conditions in their entirety, that the Merkel Mail has inaugurated this campaign. Each week for the next fifteen weeks an article will be published thoroughly exploiting some one phase of industrial conditions showing them in their entirety and showing not only those living in this section, but the possible immigrants that there is no wider diversified field of opportunities to be found anywhere in the west, offering chances for success along all lines, than is maintained in the Merkel Country. Watch for these industrial issues of The Mail. Help put the city and country on the proper pinnacle, rightfully deserved from a standpoint of resources and opportunities.

Read our Adv. in this issue and open an account with the F. & M National Bank to-day and have the benefit of the service it offers.

Shorts and bran at G. M. Sharps.

ANNOUNCEMENT

— OF —

Dr. McGuire

Graduate Optometrist

Coming to Merkel Two Days

Wed., Nov. 12 and Thursday 13

at Lowry & Gamble Drug Store

Dr. McGuire has made a specialty of refraction for 18 years and comes with a long list of testimonials from good, influential people, who have used his glasses with best results. He uses the latest improved methods in making examinations, both subjective and objective tests, the latter being the Retinoscope or Electric Shadow Tests, the same as they use in the larger cities. By using these tests, searching scientifically for each and every defect and then having the lens ground to the requirement of each eye and the frame or mounting made and adjusted to fit your face, then you will have perfect vision. All this you will get by having Dr. McGuire, the prescription Optometrist, do your optical work. Don't experiment with the unskilled spectacle peddler, or the fake traveling optician who professes to be eye specialist, charging enormous prices for cheap, inferior glasses and run the risk of ruining the only pair of eyes you will ever possess. The day of gueswork in optics is past and the world demands the skilled Optometrist.

No one can make you new eyes All that can be done is to repair your old ones. We fit all of the very latest styles, both in spectacles and eye glasses. Lens of all styles and shapes. Kryptok's and Ultex one piece Bifocal's, both for and near vision in one. I warrant all my work to give perfect satisfaction and have made special prices to advertise my Optical work here. With Dr. Smith at Lowry & Gamble Drug Store, on Wednesday and Thursday Nov. 19 and 20.

Bring your prescription to Lowry & Gamble.

Cowfeed at G. M. Sharps

Shorts and chops at G.M. Sharp's.

A. B. Rowley of Tulia was in Merkel on business the past week

We have Eastman Kodaks Lowry & Gamble Druggists.

Just received a car of buggies, Crown Hardware Company.

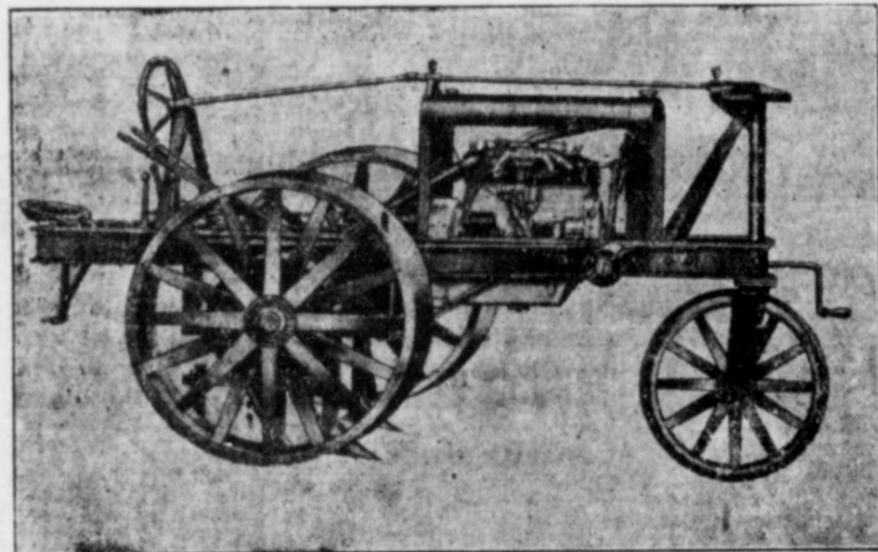
Fresh box chocolates at Lowry & Gambles.

POSITION GUARANTEED

Write for free copy of New money-back scholarship, guaranteeing in writing a \$75 to \$100 a month office position. Hundreds of positions paying \$1,200 up. \$20 discount to those enrolling now. Write Draughon's Business College, "The Big School", Abilene, Texas, for special offer No.1 7t2p

A Good Cough Medicine for Children

Mrs. J. W. Phillips, Redon, Ga. phoned to J. M. Floyd, the merchant there, for a bottle of Chamberlain's Cough Remedy and said she had bought a bottle of it at his store recently and that it was doing her children so much good that she wanted to keep up the treatment. You will find nothing better for coughs and colds in children or for yourself. It keeps the cough loose, expectoration easy and soon frees the system from the cold.



The Armstrong Improved (2-row model) Farm Tractor

Turns Square, Pulls, Plows, Plants, Cultivates, Belt Work, Light Weight, Simple, Powerful, Durable and Economical.

A one-man tractor with the ability to do all farm work. Ample clearance for cultivation (29 1-2 inches), and the wheels so placed that they do not interfere with the growing plants. Due to its compactness and short turning space, you can cultivate closer to end of turn row than with teams or any other tractor built. The frame of the tractor is the main frame of the implement operated in it. Throttle, control levers, steering wheel, clutch and brake pedals are convenient to driver's seat. It is built on three-point suspension throughout, which insures flexibility and adaptability to the cultivating of the most uneven lay of land.

Ninety per cent of the weight is placed on the main drive wheels when in operation, putting practically all the weight into the pull. Being light in weight and equipped with high duty roller bearings throughout, guarantees economy and ease of operation. It is built in three units, either of which is accessible for inspection or adjustment without disturbing the others. The motor, clutch, transmission and differential are assembled in one unit.

One speed forward and reverse with a variation of one to four miles per hour. All gears are made 100 per cent over size, steel cut, hardened, enclosed and run in a bath of oil.

This tractor is a tried and proven success, having been thoroughly tested out in every respect in actual service on the farm and found possessing the advantages of other farm tractors with the added benefit of being a really practical and serviceable lister, planter and cultivator for all row crops; in fact, an all 'round farm implement.

The Armstrong Farm Tractor Company was formed for the purpose of manufacturing this tractor and its implement attachments, and in order to further its purposes it is offering at present, a limited amount of stock at the par value of \$10.00 per share, fully paid and non-assessable, all share and share alike.

It is the Company's desire to hasten the production of these tractors, therefore, it is our intention in the beginning to let contracts for the making of certain parts in order that we may begin production at the earliest possible date.

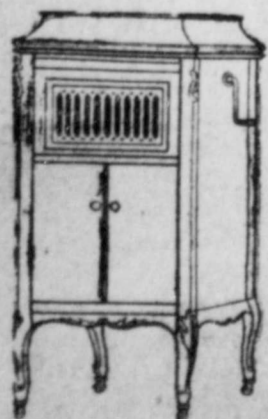
We already have a big demand for these tractors, therefore should you be interested in the purchase of a tractor or a portion of the stock, communicate with us.

For further particulars see Ira Armstrong or W. A. Armstrong, Merkel, Texas.

ARMSTRONG FARM TRACTOR COMPANY

Executive Offices, 1209 1/2 Main Street, Suite 8

DALLAS, TEXAS



Pathe Phonographs and Indestructible Records

We have just received shipment of Pathe Phonographs and records. None better. See our line before buying.

Lowry & Gamble