



THE MERKEL MAIL



31—NO. 42

MERKEL, TEXAS, FRIDAY, DECEMBER 5, 1919

8 PAGES

FINANCIAL CONDITIONS

By Kenneth Evans.
Nothing speaks more eloquently of Merkel's growth and prosperity than the real financial and retail conditions of the city.

Retail and financial business of Merkel have never been neglected; have never permitted itself to become charged with negative elements therefore have and are not losing permanent prosperity which has been intended for them. Faith has always superceded despondency during the indigo days.

Merkel has always realized that cities and towns are only service stations for the farms and their trade territory. She has progressed and growed not ahead, but with her trade territory.

And today is vivid with reality. Vivid with life; yesterday is but a memory. Like an altar candle in a dim choir it burns, and dies, but flares at its dying into a bright light, which shines on dim shapes about it, which illumines them with a golden flame and reveals to pensive eyes the panorama it reveals a picture which lingers of the mountain which has been passed Merkel has met her "mountain". The business men and farmers have met "their mountain"; but they have passed over it, safely.

And today the bank deposits of Merkel are bigger than ever; the rural population and the town people are nearer out of debt than ever before; more would be out of the clutches of debt if the insurance loan companies would allow them to clean up their mortgages, but nothing doing until they mature.

Quoting a popular banker of the town: "I was born in this county and have been here practically all of the time since and I have never seen money so plentiful, but even then our people are practicing the economy they have lived. During the hard days of the war while the prices were soaring, an there were insistent calls by the government to help finance the big struggle for democracy our people met every call faithfully and with good heart although in the very midst of a drouth, and went over the top in every drive except the last one."

But these thrifty citizens of that end of Taylor County just stretched, and gave, and saved; that is the reason for the success of citizenship of Merkel trade territory today.

It is stated that after the crops are in; after the bills have been paid; after notes and mortgages have been taken care of, there will be a net deposit in the banks of Merkel of over three million dollars.

The bankers of the town state that the merchants are all out of debt and in good financial condition otherwise; that there is not a safer class to do business with; and the same is true with the cotton farmer of the community.

More than 20,000 bales of cotton will be marketed in Merkel; some 15,000 have already been sold.

Banks are the index to the prosperity of a town and when one considers that the probable population, men, women and children of Merkel is something like four thousand souls, and that a local bank deposit, all home money) means a tidy little average of \$500 for every man, woman and child in the community, and that much, practically all of this amount is "net", and widely scattered among the big majority of the families of the city and trade territory, one can comprehend the financial condition of Merkel and community.

There are few towns or cities in the United States that can make this showing. Understand that this does not refer to real estate property too; that is separate; and is not so widely distributed; but here you have some three million dollars apportioned to the greatest number of families.

Merkel is not laying claim to any form of meteoric development, nor does she expect from any visible evidences to enter that class of cities known as "boom". However there is the ever present consciousness among the industrial and other town building interests, that Merkel a far more stable future than that which has characterized these so called "boom" towns.

TRENT BANK UNDER NEW MANAGEMENT

The First State Bank of Trent has been reorganized with Eli Kegans, president; W. E. Hamner, vice president; Homer Easterwood, cashier. It is capitalized with \$30,000 and has deposits of over one-third of a million dollars. It is under very favorable circumstances that the new management takes charge. The report of the bank in this issue is highly encouraging for the bank and for the Trent community.

Mr. Easterwood is an old Merkel boy, full of ambition and the stuff that is bound to "get there." We congratulate him, as well as his associates, upon his new business venture. The outgoing cashier, L. E. Adrian, has been quite successful as a business man and banker. His plans for the future are not announced. We trust, however, that he will not entirely sever his business connections in these parts, as he is a man worth while in the community.

MERKEL POULTRY SHOW

A poultry show will be held in Merkel next Saturday. It is hoped that every poultry fancier will be on hand with a select stock. The last poultry show was pulled off in the midst of a drouth, and even then was a marked success. Why not make this one the best on record. There will doubtless be plenty of people on hand who are in the market for good stuff. The poultry men are busy perfecting arrangements. Let every one who can make entry, plan now and get your birds in shape.

The only service limit at the F. & M. National Bank is that the transaction must be safe.

Star-Telegram and Merkel Mail 1 Year \$7.00
Abilene Reporter and Merkel Mail 1 Year \$4.00
We can save you money on your subscriptions. Take advantage of our clubbing rates when you want any paper or magazine.

CLASSIFIED ADS

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

ALFALFA HAY—Old "Bossie" will give more milk if she gets a little alfalfa. Have car bought. T. J. R. Swafford, Phone 291. 12c

FOR SALE—A first class piano practically new at a bargain. Phone or write Cleveland Baker, Merkel, Texas 26t2c.

FOR SALE—Burdon RED Turkeys. Hens \$4.00 and Toms \$5.00. See Mrs. J. A. Stanford. 28t2c.

HOGS FOR SALE
Fulton's Hogs at Hellums Yard will be sold at 18 cents 28t2p

LOST—Knitting bag containing baby clothes, between Merkel and Butman. Finder please leave at Blair Hotel or Merkel Mail. Mrs. E. H. Ray. 5t1p

WOOD—Have prices good till the 7th and will make up car at cost plus \$1.00 per cord delivery. T. J. R. Swafford Phone 291 5t1c

WOOD—For grubbing. A M Giles. Phone 9032 R 11 5t1c

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

FOR SALE—4 bay brood mares 4 bay mares 3 1/2 years old, 4 bay horses 2 1/2 years old. 2 miles east of Compere school house. Arthur Cranston, 17tfc.

WANTED TO BUY MAIZE—I am now in the market for your maize. See W. T. Beasley. 17t3c

WANTS TO RENT—150 acres, with good house and water. Am able to furnish myself, have big family. Can furnish best of references. See J. L. Rosson, Trent, Texas. 28t2p

WANTED—Will pay highest market price for cotton seed. Davis Beasley. 28t1f.

FOR SALE—4 room house in good shape, well and windmill. See Mr. Ellis or R. G. Grogan, Truby, Texas. 5t4c.

ROOMS WANTED—Two or more light housekeeping rooms. Phone 228. 5t1p

WANTED—A man to cut cord wood at \$2.00 per cord Sam Butman, Sr., 5t1f

COTTON RECEIPTS

The cotton receipts have exceeded 15,000 bales. Very little has come in this week, as there has practically been no weather suitable for picking. In fact, the pickers are leaving by the hundred for their homes. There is lots of cotton that has not yet been touched. Over 5000 bales are yet to be marketed here.

IMPROVING HOTEL BUILDING

The Woodrum Hotel is being overhauled. Quite a sum will be expended in the improvements. The entire front will be changed and made into Colonial effect with modern porch. Several rooms will be added to the already spacious building. The Woodrum Sisters have been quite successful in the operation.

NO. 7481
Report of the Condition of
THE FARMERS & MERCHANTS NATIONAL BANK
AT MERKEL
In the State of Texas, at the Close of Business on Nov. 17, 1919

RESOURCES	
Loans and Discounts, including rediscounts	\$ 494,886.47
Overdrafts, secured.....None; Unsecured.....None	
Deposited to secure circulation (U. S. Bonds par value)	6,250.00
Pledged to secure postal savings deposits (par value)	3,500.00
Owned and unpledged	10,189.60
War Saving Cert. and Thrift Stamps actually owned	93.47
Securities other than U. S. bonds (not inc. stocks) owned unpledged	3,576.37
Stock of Federal Reserve bank (50 per cent of Subscription)	1,500.00
Furniture and Fixtures	3,400.00
Real estate owned other than banking house	5,000.00
Lawful reserve with Federal Reserve Bank	105,247.28
Cash in vault and net amounts due from national banks	464,040.42
Net amounts due from banks, bankers and trust companies	
Checks on other banks in the same city or town as reporting bank (other than Item 16)	9,918.89
Total of Items 13, 14, 15, 16, and 17	\$473,954.31
Checks on banks located outside of city or town of reporting bank and other cash items	22,937.74
Redemption fund with U. S. Treasurer and due from U. S. Treasurer	312.50
Interest earned but not collected—approximate—on Notes and Bills Receivable not past due	176.44
Total	\$1,131,024.18
LIABILITIES	
Capital stock paid in	\$25,000.00
Surplus Fund	25,000.00
Undivided profits	\$21,161.30
Less current expenses, interest, and taxes paid	5,350.00
Interest and discount collected or credited, in advance of maturity and not earned (approximate)	5,341.94
Circulating notes outstanding	6,250.00
Net amounts due to banks, bankers, and trust companies (other than included in Items 29 or 30)	75,792.73
Cashiers checks on own bank outstanding	12,471.85
Total of Items 30, 31, 32 and 33	\$88,264.58
Demand Deposits subject to Reserve:	
Certificates of deposits due in less than 90 days	942,123.33
Total demand deposits subject to Reserve, Items 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, and 39	\$944,273.33
Certificates of deposit (other than for money borrowed)	19,950.00
Postal savings deposits	1,133.03
Total of time dep. sub. to Res., Items 40, 41, 42 and 43	\$21,083.03
Total contingent liabilities	\$1,131,024.18

STATE OF TEXAS, COUNTY OF TAYLOR, SS:
I, Thos. Johnson, Cashier of the above-named bank, do solemnly swear that the above statement is true to the best of my knowledge and belief.
THOS. JOHNSON, Cashier.
Subscribed and sworn to before me this 25th day of Nov., 1919.
J. T. HOWARD, Notary Public.
Correct—Attest:—G. F. WEST, J. T. WARREN, L. R. THOMPSON, Directors

of the hotel. Their enterprise is worthy of emulation. They seek to furnish a service second to none and it is their idea to improve the building in keeping with the latest designs. Not only is the improvement of interest to them, but to the entire town and traveling public. It takes a good deal of pluck to undertake building at this time, but they have the pluck.

Sixty-Sixth Congress is in Session

Washington, Dec 1.—The Sixty-sixth congress met today in its first regular session which was expected to continue until just before the presidential election next fall. There was a large attendance, both in the senate and house, when the gavels of Vice President Marshall and Speaker Gillett fell promptly at noon.

NO NEW OIL DEVELOPMENT

No new oil development has taken place this week. Work is being pushed on all the wells as rapidly as possible during the inclement weather. Very little can be done. The drillers are as optimistic as ever, however, and expect a big find at any time.

Elisha Wamack's little boy fell off of a mule Tuesday and suffered a compound fracture of the right arm. The boy is about five years of age. The family resides near Noodle.

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

Rev J N Campbell, on his way from Hamilton to Las Vegas, N. M., where he goes to assume the pastorate of the Baptist church, stopped over Tuesday, accompanied by his wife and son, to visit his mother, Mrs. E. A. Campbell, and sisters, Mrs. B. J. Phenix and Miss Ruby.

Buy your baby shoes at Jobe's Store at half price. 28t2c

G. E. Ellington had the misfortune of accidentally getting shot in the leg, last Tuesday in handling a 38-caliber pistol.

Charlie Gregory who has been right sick for some time is now on the road to recovery.

Mrs. D. S. Scott is suffering from blood poison in her hand.

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

Official Statement of the Financial Condition of The Farmers State Bank

at Merkel, State of Texas, at the close of business on the 17th day of Nov., 1919, published in the Merkel Mail, a newspaper printed and published at Merkel, State of Texas, on the 5th day of Dec., 1919.

RESOURCES	
Loans and Dis., personal or collateral	\$306,036.34
Loans, real estate	7,508.00
Overdrafts	408.51
Bonds and Stocks	6,136.35
Real Estate (banking house)	7,800.00
Other Real Estate	900.00
Furniture and Fixtures	4,415.00
Due from other Banks and Bankers, subject to check, net	497,357.52
Cash Items	39,420.15
Currency	68,533.00
Specie	1,036.47
Int. and Ass. Dep. Guaranty Fund	3,446.73
Acceptances and Bills of Ex.—Cotton	366,122.30
Other Resources	
Total	\$1,309,608.03
LIABILITIES	
Capital Stock paid in	\$66,000.00
Surplus Fund	90,000.00
Undivided Profits, net	12,616.90
Due to Banks and Bankers, subject to check, net	
Individual Deposits sub. to check	1,175,229.79
Time Certificates of Deposit	19,139.04
Cashier's checks	3,372.21
Bills Payable and Rediscounts	
Total	\$1,309,608.03

State of Texas, County of Taylor:
We, J. S. Swann, as president, and R. O. Anderson, as cashier of said bank, each of us, do solemnly swear that the above statement is true to the best of our knowledge and belief.
J. S. Swann, president.
R. O. Anderson, cashier.
Subscribed and sworn to before me this 25th day of Nov. A. D. 1919.
W. O. Honey, Notary Public, Taylor County, Texas.
Correct—Attest:
John Seare, M. Armstrong, Ross Swann, Directors

MERKEL BAPTISTS WELL OVER TOP

Sunday was a great day with the membership of the Merkel Baptist church. The day had been set apart by the Baptist of the south as the day to begin their offering in the 75 Million Dollar Campaign. Merkel Baptists had been asked for \$18,000.00 which seemed like a big quota for the local church with a membership of less than 250. However plans were made to attempt to reach the goal set for them. Every service since the coming of Pastor Parrack there has been some phase of the campaign discussed by some member of the committee on the drive. The committee had carefully gone over the whole situation and realized that noble offerings must be made if the local church was to reach the goal set for them. Great preparations were made to begin the drive by taking public subscriptions at the church Sunday morning. Thanks to the efficiency of the committees and the help of the press, both religious and secular, the service was well advertised and the people came through the mud in great numbers.

After the Pastor had brought a brief simple message on "Rules for giving to the Lord" the opportunity was given for these present to say what they would give. In just 30 minutes those present had subscribed more than the amount asked for. When the result of the offering was announced the audience broke out in applause and praise to the Lord.

The committees went out into the town in the afternoon and at the evening service the amount subscribed had reached \$21,500.00. When it is remembered that some of the substantial members of the church who live out a distance or who were out of town or away from home Sunday have not yet subscribed, the bigness of the success of the campaign in the local Baptist church looms up mightily.

Nearly every one present made an offering. The gifts ranged all the way from \$1000.00 down to \$5.00. It seemed that every one gave liberally. Perhaps the most sacrificial gifts were two \$50.00 gifts. One from an old couple picking cotton to tide them through the winter. An other from a hard working man with a good big family to support.

The success of this campaign has put heart into the workers in the local church and they are joyfully looking forward to a campaign for a new church building that seems to be looming large on the horizon.

Pastor Parrack seems to be about the happiest man in town and says he would not trade places with any man in the land. He says he has never seen such denominational loyalty and such unselfish giving in all his ministry. The whole town of Merkel may well be proud of this band of people who have demonstrated that Merkel is on the map to stay.

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

I can buy your wheat E. W. Permitter. 5t1c

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

Palm Olive soap at 10 cents a bar. Bob Martin's Grocery Store.

Crown Hardware Company has plenty of John Deere double disc plows on hand.

Statement of Condition
The Farmers State Bank
 Merkel, Texas

At Close of Business Nov. 17, 1919

RESOURCES	
Loans	\$344,362.35
Banking House	7,900.00
Other Real Estate	900.00
Furniture and Fixtures ..	4,415.00
Stocks & U.S. Liberty Bonds	6,193.35
Interest Guaranty Fund...	3,445.73
Bills of Ex. —	
Cotton	\$365,122.36
Cash & Ex... 537,269.24	902,391.60
Total	\$1,269,608.03
LIABILITIES	
Capital Stock	\$ 35,000.00
Surplus & Profits, earned..	42,816.99
Deposits	1,191,791.04
Total	\$1,269,608.03

The above statement is correct.
 R. O. ANDERSON, Cashier.

OFFICERS

J. S. Swann President
 John Sears Vice President
 R. O. Anderson Cashier
 F. Y. Gaither ... Asst. Cashier
 Sam Swann Asst. Cashier

No depositor in a State Bank in Texas has ever lost a dollar

Our consistent growth is proof of the service we give

We solicit your account and assure you Safety and Service.

"Ask our Customers"

NOODI

The school at Noodle will give a box supper Friday night, December 12, in the interest of the school. Every one is cordially invited to be present. Music will feature the meeting.

Mississippi Choctaw Indian Claims.

Sam Y. L. Blackstone, 405 Lipscomb St. Brownwood, Tex., was in Merkel this week looking up descendants of the Mississippi Choctaw Indian treaty, made in 1830 between the above named Indians and the United States government. At that time about, 60,000 white people of the South signed the treaty. There is in the treasury at Washington nearly \$100,000,000 due the descendants of the original signers. Any one who can trace his ancestry back to that year and find that they resided south of the Ohio and East of the Mississippi rivers perhaps might be a descendant. Proper blanks may be secured from the above address. Those having the matter in charge estimate that according to records established, about \$2400 will go to each proven descendant. We are trying mighty hard to prove our claims. We advise those who may have claim to write immediately, as we understand the matter is to be closed without delay.

Fresh car Peace Maker flour
 G. M. Sharps.

COTTON SEED

The great importance of planting good seed and improving the same is urgently recommended by our Agriculture Department of the State. The importance of which can not be over estimated. So in order to meet the recommendation and requests of the farmers of this country, we are installing our Franklin Culler, for the purpose of culling and improving the seed of the country. We will cull for the public, also have culled seed for the market.

MASON and RAGAN

Double

Bank deposits at Handley have more than doubled the past year, according to a statement compiled by Ben T. Merritt, cashier of the one bank in the town. The deposits last year at this time were \$60,000 and at present they run \$137,000.

Ben Merritt is well known here and his many friends rejoice in his success.

BIG SALARY FOR YOU

The Government or business concerns will start you at \$1,100 to 1,500 as bookkeeper or stenographer, this we guarantee when we train you. Thousands of positions to be filled by new method, indorsed by business men, we train you in half usual time. 300,000, Draughton-trained students have made good. Clip and send this in for special rates Draughton's College, Abilene, Texas. 5t1p

Mr and Mrs K. D. Rhodes of Longworth, Texas spent the day Sunday with Miss Mary Campbell.

I can buy your wheat E. W. Perminter. 5t1c

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.

CONDENSED STATEMENT

Farmers & Merchant NATIONAL BANK
 MERKEL, TEXAS

At Close of Business November 17, 1919

RESOURCES

Total Loans—	
Time, Demand and Cotton	\$498,462.84
United States Securities	20,033.07
Interest earned, not collected	176.44
Stock in Federal Reserve Bank	1,580.00
Other Real Estate	5,000.00
Furniture and Fixtures	3,400.00
Five Per Cent Redemption Fund	312.50
Cash on hand and in Banks	602,558.19
Total	\$1,131,443.04

LIABILITIES

Capital Stock	\$ 25,000.00
Surplus and Profits	46,153.24
Circulation	6,250.00
DEPOSITS	1,054,039.80
Total	\$1,131,443.04

We hereby certify that the above Statement is correct

L. R. Thompson, Active V.P. Thos. Johnson, Cashier

LOCAL NEWS

W. O. Dial and family have moved back to the canyon, after an absence of nearly two years.

Best flour at lowest price, A. J. obe. 28t2c

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

E W Turner and family of Egan moved back to the Butman community this week. They have been away a year and a half.

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.

Mrs. J. B. Steele and son, returned to her home at Waurika, Okla, after spending Thanksgiving with her parents, Mr. and Mrs W. P. Browning.



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.

Have Worked Hard For Over a Month

to buy the goods you need and can say to you that we have succeeded well, under the shortage of many lines all over America.

We Are Well Stocked

on mens and womens suits

Men! We ask you to come see our suits and overcoats
 \$35.00 to \$45.00

Ladies! Our suits and coats are good wool stuff
 \$32.50 to \$60.00

Hosiery and Underwear

of good makes and grades
 Most of our lines are Standard makes

NEW SHOES AT REASONABLE PRICES

ONE PRICE---FOR CASH is our Sledge Hammer

The Brown D. G. Co.

LOCAL NEWS

Dub Diltz has resigned his position as bookkeeper at the Merkel Dry Goods Company and has accepted a position with The Farmers State Bank. Mr Diltz is one of the coming young business men of Merkel.

I can buy your wheat E. W. Perminter. 5t1c

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

Ennis Grimes of Breckenridge spent several days this week with homefolks.

Corn, shorts, chops and bran at A. L. Jobes 28t2c

Misses Alice Burns and A Yates spent Thanksgiving their respective homes, returning Monday morning.

Fresh car Peace Maker flour G. M. Sharps.

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

Supt. R. A. Burgess spent the week end in Austin attending the Texas Teachers Association. He reports an attendance far exceeding any enrollments on record. He returned Monday morning.

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

Harold, Aleene and Jess children of John Childress, have been quite ill the past week Harold having been serious for a day or two.

No Worms in a Healthy Child

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

AND ICE

as visited by a nice
and plenty of ice this
was just the kind of
to pull heavily upon the
ated fuel supply of this
he cold wave also broke
cotton gathering plans.
on pickers are leaving in
on account of the cold.
vet thousands of bales
ad

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

Nora Hooser, who will
Noodle, is visiting Miss
her this week.

fe, daughter of
art, a Fur and save half
obe's Store. 28t2c

T. Beckham of Trent has
returned from a business
trip to the State of Arkansas.

Shorts and bran at Bob Martin
Grocery Company.

The only service limit at The
F. & M. National Bank is that
the transaction must be safe.

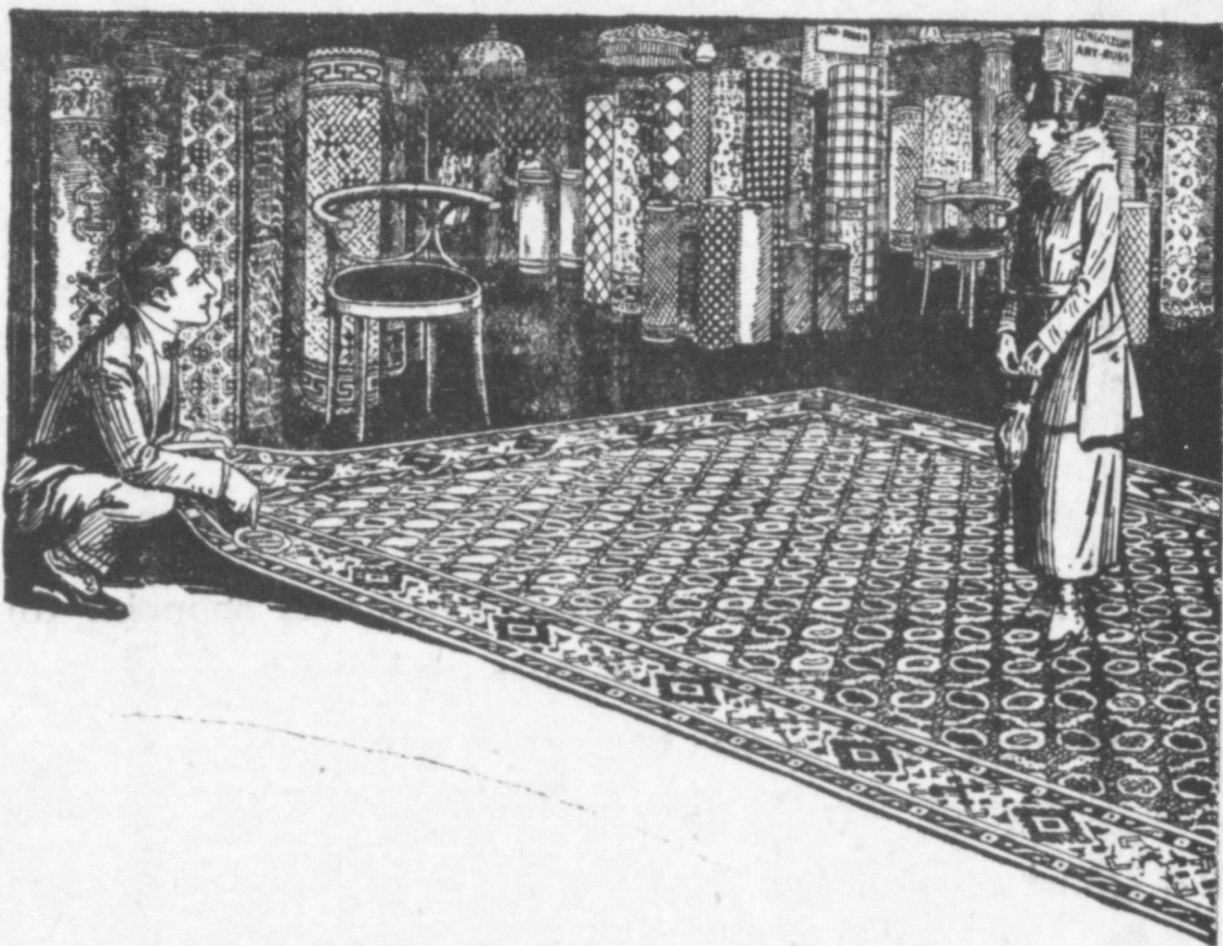
J W Isenburg who left the
Stith neighborhood about two
years ago for Lamar county is
back arranging to move on the
Woods place

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.

Catarrh Cannot Be Cured
with LOCAL APPLICATIONS, as they
cannot reach the seat of the disease.
Catarrh is a local disease, greatly in-
fluenced by constitutional conditions, and
in order to cure it you must take an
internal remedy. Hall's Catarrh Medi-
cine is taken internally and acts thru
the blood on the mucous surfaces of the
eye. Hall's Catarrh Medicine was
used by one of the best physicians
in country for years. It is com-
posed of some of the best tonics known,
and with some of the best blood
purifiers. The perfect combination of
ingredients in Hall's Catarrh Medi-
cine what produces such wonderful
results in catarrhal conditions. Send for
samples, free.
CHENEY & CO., Props., Toledo, O.
Druggists, Inc.
Hall's Family Pills for constipation.

Coal = Coal = Coal

The cold weather and no fuel makes us wonder what to do to keep warm. We know of no better way than to stop the cracks in the floor with some good floor covering. We have quite a variety of Congoleum Rugs in sizes to fit most any room. Also Congoleum and Linoleum in the roll. All kinds of the better kind of rugs, such as Tapestries, Velvets and Axminsters. We have no coal to sell, but can help you keep the cold out of your house.



CHRISTMAS SHOPPING Now is the time to do your Christmas shopping. Don't wait till the last few days, when there is such a rush, come now while you have plenty of time, and can find what you want. Already we have quite a number of handsome Xmas Gifts set back for Christmas. We advise you to come early and make your selections.

Barrow Furniture Co.

Purchased New Confectionery

G H. Crossley has purchased Everybody' confectionery and is in charge. He and Mrs. Crossley and little son are now residents of Merkel, coming from Abilene where Mr. Crossley was previously in business. He purchased the business from Jack Walker, who recently fitted it up in a very attractive manner. Jack sold himself out of a job, but seems to be busy just the same.

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.

Palm Olive soap at 10 cents a bar. Bob Martin's Grocery Store.

C. L. Tucker left Monday night for Waco to attend the sessions of the Masonic Grand Lodge of Texas.

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

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.

Fred and Bert Latham left a few days ago for Houston. Mrs Fred Latham will join them about January 1.

Xmas handkerchiefs at A. L. Jobs. 28t2c

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



The Christmas Bargain Store

Do Your Xmas Shopping Early



Just Received

Big lot Blankets, Sweaters and caps.

Mens Clothing

Our mens clothing department now represents a good showing of materials in serge and worsted etc, ranging in prices from \$25. \$30, \$35. \$40. \$45. \$50. and \$55.00

For the Babies

Do not fail to see our line of babies wear before selecting gifts for the little fellow. Carriage robes, robes, scarves, caps, booties, nightgales, gloves, sweaters, sweater suits, etc.

MILLINERY REDUCTION

All millinery to close out at only One half price.

EXTRA SPECIAL ON SILK HOSIERY

One lot Ladies Silk Hosiery in colors pink and blue. Values up to \$3.50. Special \$1.49

SPECIAL IN DRESS GOODS— One lot fancy wool suitings values to \$1.25. Special per yard 89c

One lot short lengths in silks in fancy and solid colors, values up to \$3.00. Special per yard only \$1.69

Extra Special on Ready to Wear 20% discount on all ladies suits, coats, skirts, waists and dresses, Childrens coats, dresses etc.

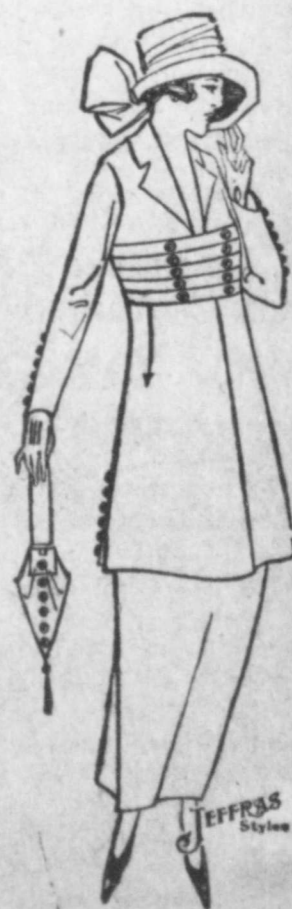
Shoe Reduction

One lot Ladies Gray Cloth boots at \$7.50 to \$10.00 values. Special \$4.98

One lot Ladies and Misses black patent leather and kid Shoes at values up to \$8.00 Special \$3.49

Dolls

Big Showing of Dolls For—the children in a range of prices from 15c, 25c, 35c, 50c, 75c, \$1. \$1.50, \$2. \$3.50, \$4.50, \$5. \$6.50 \$7.50 and \$10.



Merkel Dry Goods Company

MERKEL'S BIG CASH STORE



HOLIDAY GIFTS



Christmas Gift Stocks Are Ready

EVERY SECTION OF THIS STORE SHOWING HOLIDAY LINES

Do your shopping early. Those who do their Christmas shopping this week will have the privilege of choosing from complete lines---when they are largest. Begin your gift-buying tomorrow and you will be mighty well repaid.

"What shall I give" is the question often asked before Christmas.

Below we offer a few suggestions that are to be found at our store.

MEN APPRECIATE

Silk Shirts, priced at.....	\$3.00 to \$7.50
Crepe de Chine shirts at.....	10.00
Jersey silk shirts at.....	15.00
Silk Ties.....	35c to \$2.50
Silk Handkerchiefs.....	7.75
Silk socks.....	50c to 1.50
Suspenders.....	50c and 65c
Belts.....	50 to \$1.25
Wool Sweaters.....	\$5.00 to 15.00
Underwear.....	95c to 3.00

A WOMAN LIKES

Georgette Crepe waists.....	\$3.50 to \$15.00
Silk Teddies.....	3.00 to 6.50
Silk Camisoles.....	75c to \$3.50
Wool Jersey Skirts.....	7.50 to 12.50
Silk Sweaters.....	8.50
Silk Handkerchief.....	35c to 50c
Silk and Lisle Hose.....	35c to 3.00
Crex Art Squares, 9x12.....	12.90
Wool Blankets.....	12.50
Ivory Manicuring sets.....	2.50 to 7.50

We are in receipt of new line of Ladies Coats in the very newest materials and latest styles and are making special prices on these as they are a late shipment.

We have many things to offer that space will not permit us to mention. We have not overlooked the kiddies in our buying. Have a large selection of boys suits, sweaters, shoes, hose and hats. For girls we have dresses, shoes, hose, coats. Also have large selection of dolls.

LOTS OF LIVELY OVERCOATS

You'll see here some of the smart new models in overcoats. Many have belts, some are double breasted, but all of them are well tailored and worth your consideration. Prices are greatly reduced this week, ranging from **\$10 to \$45**

May it be a suit or overcoat, the biggest surprise to the man who comes in our store is the extreme reasonableness of our prices. A tremendous stock, too, something unusual for these days and times. Our clothes are strictly all wool and hand tailored.

We are offering for the week one hundred extra heavy Lester all-wool suits, regularly priced \$45, special **\$30.00**

We are especially prepared for the young men with a large variety of the latest belted and waist seam models in the newest materials. Also the double breasted, high waisted and conservation styles. Our prices range from **\$15.00 to \$45.00**

One Way to Make the Boy Happy

is to let us fit him up in one of these handsome overcoats and suits, tailored just like Dad's.

We are offering for the week only boys' all-wool blue serge suits, extra heavy weight, regular \$15 value **\$10.90** Also boys all wool suits in assorted materials with 2 pair pants and caps to match, worth \$20 special this wk. **\$14.90**



THE ECONOMY

"SELLS IT FOR LESS"

Two Doors above the Postoffice

Beasley Building, Merkel, Texa



Box Features
Godwyn Productions

COZY THEATRE

Paramount Program

Metro Pictures
Vitagraph Specials

Special Program Saturday December 6th
(Matinee 2:30 to 5:30)

Wallace Reid in the "LOVE BURGLAR"

AND

FATTY ARBUCKEL in "LOVE"

ADMISSION 10-20c

Monday, Dec. 8

A Big Special

Watch for Special Announcement

Tuesday, Dec. 9

A Paramount Program

with

Chas. Mason

IN

"Come On In"

And a MACK SENNETT COMEDY

10-20c

Wednesday, Dec. 10

A Vitagraph Program with

Earl Williams

IN

"THE WRECK"

And a Big "V" Comedy

Admission 10-20c

Thursday, Dec. 11

A Metro Special with

Anita Stewart

IN

"THE BONDED WIFE"

Also a Fox Comedy

Admission 10-20c

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.

Christmas will soon be here.
Do your shopping early.

There has been quite a diptheria scare the past week. A number of cases are reported. The school building was fumigated, it is understood. In this connection we might suggest that the health officers be more alert. When a disease breaks out in a family the teachers ought to have the authority to send other members of the family home. The exposure risk ought to be eliminated.

Mr. and Mrs. J E Costephens, Annie May and Miss Jackson spent Thanksgiving in Roscoe visiting relatives.

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

J. H. Rollins and Morris Anderson spent some time in Merkel this week on business.

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

Get a John Deere pony double disc plow. Plenty in stock. Crown Hardware Company.

Grove's Tasteless chill Tonic
restores vitality and energy by purifying and enriching the blood. You can soon feel its strengthening, invigorating effect. Price 6c.

New Realty Firm
J C. Scott and Jim Black have organized the Scott & Black Realty Company. At present they will have offices in the building occupied by the Merkel Motor Co. They expect to deal in land, oil leases and royalties, etc. Mr. Black has been in the land and leasing business here for some months and is well known over this country. Mr. Scott recently moved here from Abilene. He is a brother to L. B. Scott, manager of the Merkel Motor Co.

Both members of the firm are young and full of business.

Weatherby Baby Dead
Little Virgie Weatherby, six months old baby of Mr and Mrs W. S. Weatherby, residing near Merkel, died November 28 and was buried in Rose Hill cemetery the 29th. We were unable to obtain further details.

In this moment of sorrow for the parents we wish to add our mite of sympathy.



MERKEL'S LEADING
JEWELERS

GUARANTEE TO SAVE YOU
MONEY ON

Elgin, Waltham, Illinois, Howard
and other high grade watches.

WE CARRY A COMPLETE LINE OF HIGH GRADE STANDARD MENS WATCHES, LADIES WRIST WATCHES, SOLID GOLD LAVALIERS, SOLID GOLD RINGS, DIAMONDS, AND CAMEO BROACHES AND FINE WATCH CHAINS

ELGIN WATCHES 20 yr guaranteed, case only \$19.50
ILLINOIS WATCHES 17-J Movement at only \$25.00
ELGIN & SWISS Ladies Wrist Watches Guaranteed up from \$15.00
OTHER LADIES Wrist Watches \$10.00
SOLID GOLD Lavalliers up from \$5.00
SOLID GOLD Ladies and Gents Rings at \$5.00

All our Jewelry is Guaranteed to be the Best Money Can Buy—
Come in and look over our assortments.

Crescent Jewelry Company

Jackson & Roscoe, Props.

In Everybody's Confectionery, next door to F. & M. N. Bank.

SCOTT & BLACK REALTY CO.

We have opened an office in Merkel and are prepared to show you some choice farms and homes. If you want to buy or sell see us. We have a nice lot of farms and houses on our list and fair treatment is our policy. Come in and see us or phone us for an appointment.

For a quick sale we have to offer a good farm -120 acres 75 in cultivation, 1 mile from a good school, 3 1-2 miles west of Sears well, not leased or rented at \$55. per acre. We will give \$5.00 per acre for lease of same.

535 acres, 375 in cultivation, has 3 sets of improvements on it. Close to Buffalo Gap. A good School on land, plenty of wood and water, good black sandy land, well improved. This is a dandy. \$60.00 per acre. Can give terms.

Good big 4 room house with large fire place, frame building, good part of town, 3 lots, good barn, cow sheds, chicken yard, garden, water piped all over place. A bargain \$3000.00

5 room house, bath, hall 2 lots windmill, corner lots, east front, in South west Merkel at \$2000.00

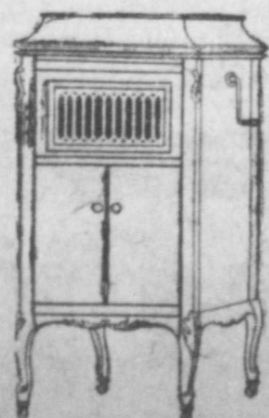
COME TO SEE US. WE HAVE IT.

Office at present Merkel Motor Co.

Phone 84.

J C. Scott, Res. Phone 54.

Jim Black, Res Phone 114.



Pathe Phonographs

and Indestructible Records

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

Lowry & Gamble

Mrs Bruce Phenix and little son, Bruce, Jr., of Worland, Wy., are visiting her mother and sister, Mrs. E. A. Campbell and Miss Ruby

Expected daily car of bran, shorts, corn, cotton seed meal and cowfeed.

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

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

A man's
best pal
is his smoke



"Knew we'd get together"

—Ches. Field

HERE'S where the particular smoker meets the particular smoke—Chesterfield.

Particular is right! Not only do we use the four choicest varieties of Turkish tobacco—Xanthi, Cavalla, Smyrna and Samsoun—but to these we add the rich, sun-ripened leaves of specially choice Domestic tobacco.

Fine as these tobaccos are, it's the exclusive process by which they are blended that gives to Chesterfields that satisfying body, that mellow richness which makes a smoke mean something.

Chesterfields certainly do satisfy as no other cigarette has satisfied you before—and to top it off, they are packed in a glassine paper package that preserves for you all of that delicious flavor.

Liggett & Myers Tobacco Co.

Chesterfield

CIGARETTES

They Satisfy

—and the blend
can't be copied

20 for 20 cents



New Jewelry House

The Crescent Jewelry Company has opened for business in Everybody's Confectionery. They have a complete line of high grade, standard watches and jewelry. The business is owned and operated by Jackson & Roscoe, live wires in the business, hailing from Waco. They spent several days this week in the market completing their stock of holiday jewelry.

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.

Purchased Barber Shop.

Oscar Buford has purchased the interest of Henry Rose in The City Barber Shop. Mr Buford is one of the most active and aggressive young business men of the City and we congratulate him upon this thriving business establishment.

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

Mr and Mrs J E Costephens and Miss Annie Mae spent the week end with their daughter, Mrs. G. H. Johnson, and family at Loraine.

Dont 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.

Mrs Roy Beard, nee Miss Ida Meeks, of Loraine spent several days last week with her parents Mr and Mrs J. M. Meeks.

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.

Coffee Coffee Coffee

If you will use the Star Store Blend just one time you will use no other. It has nothing but the best coffee. We grind or sell in the full grain

Only 50c Per Pound

others charge you 75c for coffee not so good

**See us for Your Groceries
We have them for Less**

No Wood or Coal

but lots of warm underwear, outing and canton flannel. Better buy now, as the goods are hard to get delivered.

Men's unionall, overalls, caps, hats, sox and the best shirts and underwear. See us.

See us for your Xmas ties. We have 1000 to select from.

THE STAR STORE

The Place for Bargains

PROFESS.

DR. GAMBILL

—D-e-n-t-i-s-t—

Office Hours 8—12 a.m.; 1—4 p.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.

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.

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.

A REAL Xmas Suggestion

☞ Why not a Home to bring happiness and good cheer to every member of the family the whole year 'round ?

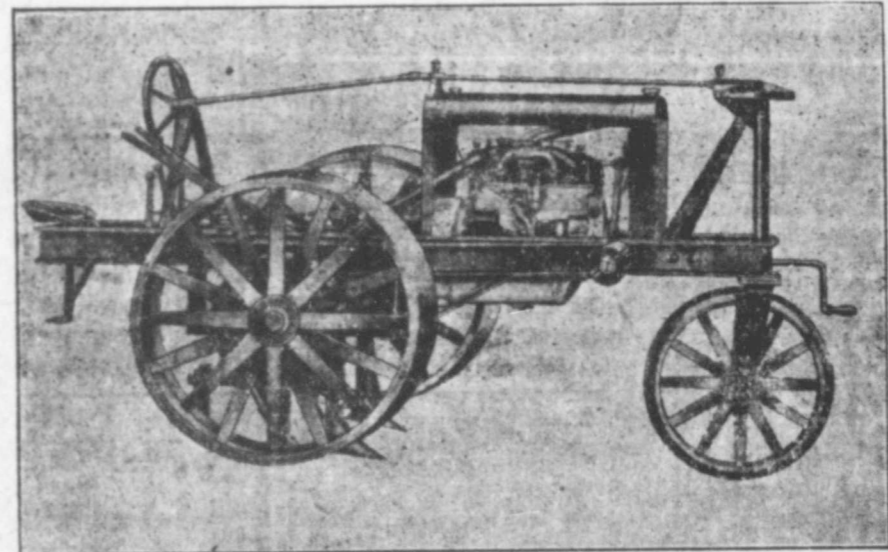
☞ Come in and select the home you want from our display of "Ye Planry" designs and we'll put a photo of it on your Xmas tree.

BURTON-LINGO CO.

Home Makers

Phone No. 74

L. D. LEVY, Local Mgr



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

GARDEN COURT

Face Powder as pictured and described in the November Ladies Home Journal and Cosmopolitan, can be had at the

SANDERS DRUG STORE

It is the finest face powder known of—Come and see it.

COZY THEATRE and STUDIO

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

OAKLAND

The Sensible Six

\$ 1 2 2 5 . 0 0

DELIVERED

Warren & Beasley

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

LOWRY & GAMBLE DRUGGISTS

(By R. Kenneth Evans)

During these days after the harvest has been gathered, and the thoughts turn to Christmas, one begins to think what the remembrances are to be for the loved ones; its always easy to get the little and many gifts for the kiddies, but its the wives and the mothers, sisters and sweethearts,—that's the serious worry just along about this time.

Now during these special Industrial articles, it is well to bring your attention, or rather direct your mind to one of the leading Santa Clause Headquarters' stores of Merkel.

This is the Lowry and Gamble Drug Store; this year they have a nice line of gifts suitable for the ladies. A swell line of Rich's Cut Glass, Ivory goods of every description, goods that any lady would enjoy receiving; Eastman Kodaks, and who would not enjoy receiving a nice Eastman Kodak Christmas morning?

And then Jewelry is always a most acceptable gift; and if thoughts and desires run along this line take a look at this stock.

Have you music in your home? If not, of course you have always thought you would have. This firm has anticipated the desires of the people of this community, and now have on display that perfection musical machine—the Pathe Phonograph. This is the phonograph which never needs a single steel needle; it has the permanent needle. Probably you have not heard this Pathe phonograph—you had better do so; you will want one after you hear it.

The Lowry and Gamble Drug Store is what is known all over the United States as the Nyal Store; a chain of stores that handle the Nyal remedies of Detroit, Michigan, and these remedies are standard over the country

The members of the firm are R. J. Lowry and S. D. Gamble; they started in business just a few weeks ago, succeeding G. P. Holland.

This is Mr. Gamble's home town but he has been away for some ten years; for the past two years before coming back to Merkel he was with E. T. Renfro at Fort Worth.

Mr. Lowry before coming to Merkel was with the Pecos Drug Company.

Both of these gentlemen know the drug business and kindred lines, and every prescription placed in their care will be taken care of and filled by registered pharmacists.

Of course there is the soda fountain and the cigar business in connection with the store.

Both members of the firm and the employees; Warren Smith and Louis Arrington are believers and boosters for Merkel; are always found in the procession for a better and bigger Merkel.

It is a pleasure to do business with this store, because all of its members are pleasant and courteous and always strive to please; they have the glad hand and the glad smile for their customers, new and old; and makes one have that feeling that you were glad you went in and want to go back again

Now during the days of the holidays, bear in mind that this business prepared for you wants; a nice line of Ivory and Jewelry, cut glass, Eastman Kodaks and the Pathe phonograph awaits your pleasure.

THE MERKEL BAKERY

At the New Stand

Is well prepared to give the public their wants in

Bakery Goods

Watch our show cases for
Xmas Candies, Nuts, Fruits, Etc., Etc.

Fresh Home-Made Candies

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—anything
in our line—may be we**

would both make money if you would talk it over with
— U S —

Merkel Lumber Company

Owned and operated by Wm. P. Carey Co., not Inc.
N. D. COBB, Manager

FARMERS & 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

CHURCH NEWS

Methodist Church Notice
 Sunday School Promptly at 10, o'clock. Preaching at 11. The Subject for the morning hour, "Rediging The Wells." We have called in our mid week prayer meeting until the fuel conditions gets better. Song service at 7 and preaching at 7:30 Sunday evening

W.M. Murrell Pastor.

At The Baptist Church
 Bible School at 10 a.m. with a place for every member or friend of the church If you know all about the Bible and its message we need you for a teacher. If you want to know more about the Bible come and study with us

Preaching 11 a.m and 7 p.m
 Morning subject "Merkel's Opportunity." Evening subject, "What shall I do with Jesus."

B. Y. P. U Jr. 3 p m
 B Y P U Sr. 5 p m
 Teachers Meeting Monday 7:30 p m

Ladies meet in their various circles Tuesday 3 p m
 Prayer Meeting Wednesday at 7:30 p m

The Baptist General Convention of Texas will meet in Houston Thursday Dec 11, and those who will go from Merkel should be duly elected by the church Sunday.

The local committee will endeavor to complete their work of subscription enlistment in the 75-Million campaign Sunday.

Presbyterian Auxiliary Met
 The Presbyterian Auxiliary had a very pleasant and profitable meeting last Monday afternoon with Mrs. Compton. A large number of the members were present.

The Society pledged \$20 for the New Era Movement This means only ninety cents for each member. It is for a good cause It is desired that each lady be present next meeting with her pledge, so this can be sent in at once.

After the business meeting a few minutes were spent socially, during which refreshments were served. The society will only meet every other Monday afternoon the next meeting, but be sure and come to Mrs. Dooley's on Monday afternoon of next week at three o'clock

The Presbyterian ladies had their regular meeting this week. Several questions being discussed.

The next meeting will be Dec. 15th with Mrs. Derstine.

B. Y. P. U Program Dec 7

Subject, Some expected a messianic Kingdom, Mr. Jackson. It promised Hope to the Despairing, Gyrle Howard Reading, Leda Deer Special Music. The Promise was of a world

Jesus Coming, Mrs. Jackson Conclusion, Nell Swann.

Presbyterian Church
 The pastor will be glad to welcome all his people and the general public to all our services on Sunday He will fill his pulpit so you will have a good excuse to

come to both Sunday school and church He pleads for the cooperation of every member. Never



With still better and greater values in our Ready-to-Wear and Millinery departments we direct your attention to the extra discounts for Saturday and Mondays buying. Another shipment of Ladies and Misses Coats at less 25 per cent. An extra 10 per cent discount on Saturday and Monday. You buy choice of dresses and suits at 10 per cent Off

Separate Skirts and Georgette Blouses
 on sale for two days only

All Trimmed Hats on Sale, values to \$7.50, Sat. and Mon.\$3.95

Do Your Xmas Shopping Early---Be one of the fortunate ones, shop early this Xmas, it will pay you in many ways.

Visit our Xmas booth---arranged for your convenience

Woodroof-Bragg Dry Goods Co.
 THE PLACE MOST PEOPLE TRADE

did the churches more backing of the than now. If we are not al to God and his cause than are to selfish desires, then are evidently in a religiously cadent condition We must be about our Father's business; wake and sensitive to both good and bad around us. They are insidious dangers creeping upon the people of Merkel and the churches do not stem the tide we will some day have a world of trouble undoing the evils gradually raising their lurking heads in our midst God expects his people to come out from among them and be separate You cannot keep yourself unspotted from the world countenance a public dance such as we are having perpetrated upon us occasionally. It is becoming odious to the righteous element of the town. Let us be more loyal to God than the devil's crowd are to him. Shy the skating rink, the public dance, or private either, and instead of attending the stag roundup on Sunday morning at the Depot go to Sunday School and the church.

C. C Dooley.

Best flour at lowest price, A.L. Jobe. 28t2c



When you can get the original, get it, the Edison Mazda is the Daddy of all Electric Lamps.

We handle nothing but the Original Edison Mazda the most efficient Lamp that is made. All sizes in stock. "Buy them in the Box" Merkel Power Company

THE FIRST STATE BANK

TRENT, TEXAS

Capital \$30,000.00

A State Guaranty Fund Bank

invites, on the basis of mutual advantage, the accounts of those who are interested in the welfare and advancement of Trent and all the Trent country.

There will be nothing cold and formal about our methods of transacting business. On the contrary, you will find in our officers and employees, from the president down, a spirit of cordiality and a real desire to serve,

NEW ACCOUNTS SOLICITED

Write us, or call in person, regarding any service we may be to you.

CONDITION AT CLOSE OF BUSINESS

November 17, 1919

RESOURCES

Loans and Discounts.....\$144,228.68
 U. S. Bonds and Stocks... 20,650.00
 Banking House, Fur. Fix. 8,375.00
 Guaranty Fund..... 1,283.10
 Cash and Exchange..... 214,996.72

LIABILITIES

Capital Paid in.....\$30,000.00
 Undivided Profits..... 12,990.84
 Bills Payable..... None
 Other Borrowed Money... None
 Deposits..... 346,542.61

\$389,533.45

\$389,533.45

THE FIRST STATE BANK

ELI KEGANS
 President

W. E. HAMNER
 Vice Pres.

HOMER EASTERWOOD
 Cashier

DIRECTORS

ELI KEGANS J. S. SWANN W. E. HAMNER
 R. O. ANDERSON HOMER EASTERWOOD

Gem Theatre

Where the Pictures are Always Good

Program for week beginning Friday Dec. 5

FRIDAY--

Marie Walcamp in "Tempest Cody's Man Hunt." One of the famous Spur and Saddle Western Stories, also Neal Hart in a Thrilling Western drama, a Comedy and Hearsts News' late current events.

SATURDAY--

J. Stewart Blackton presents "Sylvia Bremer", in "The Moonshine Trail," a story of the Kentucky Mountains and the Moonshiners, a Human heart drama in 6 acts, also a Mack Sennett Keystone Comedy.

MONDAY--

Virginia Hammond in "Miss Crusoe", a Comedy drama full of excitement, also a Mutual Strand Comedy.

TUESDAY--

A Big Special Feature in 6 acts, Don't Be grouchy "Better Times," is coming, its great its wonderful Don't Miss it, Extra a Harold Lloyd Comedy.

WEDNESDAY--

Al Jennings in "Another Incident of his Notorious Life," also "Bound and Gagged". Second Episode. Take a trip around the world with our Hero, and Spauhts Vad-a Vil.

THURSDAY--

A Universal Special in 6 acts, Also a Big V Comedy.

H. T. Hodge, Manager

WRIGLEY'S

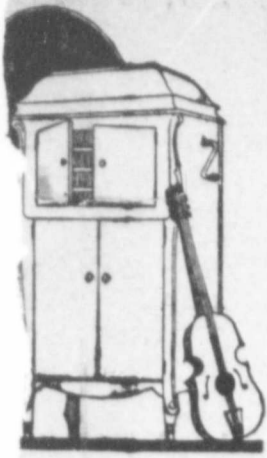
5c a package before the war

5c a package during the war

5c a package NOW

THE FLAVOR LASTS SO DOES THE PRICE!





The Gift Appropriate

Only 13 Days until Christmas

Christmas time always is a time of merry-making. Music is the key spirit of Christmas itself. Nothing could be more appreciated or appropriate than a nice Phonograph, Piano or Player Piano.

WE HAVE THEM FOR IMMEDIATE DELIVERY

Our entire line of Tel-o-tone Phonographs moderately priced—\$100—\$135—\$160—\$195 and \$250. A size for every house and a price you don't mind paying after hearing and seeing this famous machine.

One of the very highest grade Upright Pianos made, ranging in price from \$425 to \$650 with a liberal discount for cash.

Player Pianos and Rolls

Entire household glad, not only Christmas but for years to come, by placing in your home one of these handsome instruments.



B. Howard Music House

First door North of the F. & M. Bank

THE FARMER'S 45 CENTS

of Agricul

and the so- being us- amblers and the market mers into sell- for any price re- this scheme by the present

declines, quit sell- when the gamble- e down, quit sell- l a bale on a de- , but hold for 45 ce it plain that you old for the farm- ping or collective od rule, provided ollective power to fixed price Do not be ouping your cotton all at the exchange ably without any the part of buy- previous under-

classification. n is properly Recent com- cotton is be- two grades , this means 0. per bale. e price and

grades makes a double-header loss.

5,000,000 Bales short. The world is at least 5,000,000 bales short They must have your cotton, not only to supply future but present necessities, strike or no strike And regardless of car shortage and despite these draw backs you are entitled to cost of production and a reasonable profit The New York Commercial recently said: "If the farmer should receive the same price for his labor that is paid the American soldier, that is \$30.00 per month, his cotton should bring 70c to 80c per pound, and if he were to get what the average wage paid other labor, he would get \$1 per pound." Two Congressmen and one Senator say that to even up the farmers should get 75c per pound for their cotton. Therefore, we are more than justified in urging you to hold for 45 cents. And in this we are backed up by Hon Chas B Metcalfe of San Angelo, W B. Yearly, Cotton Specialist the West Texas Chamber of Commerce, and other prominent citizens and other organizations, urging you to hold and market slowly.

Manufacturers profits exposed. You are also entitled to a better price, based upon manufactured goods, as shown by Presi-

dent Wannamaker of the American Cotton Association in the Cotton and Cotton Oil News of December 1st, page 8, wherein he says: "A profit of \$100 per bale or 20 cents per pound on cloth sold this week on a basis that would give the manufacturer a profit of 30 cents per pound or \$150.00 per bale. Wide print cloth sold on a basis that would provide a profit in excess of 35 cents per pound or \$175.00 per bale. We find in our investigation a few cases in which good of a special construction, which for this reason were quite scarce, are returning a profit of 74 cts per pound of \$370.00 per bale. The cotton used in the manufacture of these special goods is strict middling one-inch cotton." On the 3 grades of manufactured products quoted herein, the manufacturers are receiving an average profit of 46-1-3 cents per pound, above all cost of manufacturing, and yet the farmers have not received an average price of 45 cents per pound. The manufacturer gets the above 46-1-3 cents clear profit while the farmer has not yet received cost of production, with no profit.

More than \$10,000,000 saved. The present campaign, estimated two weeks ago to be worth \$10,000,000 to West Texas alone put the lid on and let us make it

a \$100,000,000.

Fred W. Davis, Commissioner of Agriculture.

Splendid Cough Medicine

"As I feel that every family should know what a splendid medicine Chamberlain's Cough Remedy is, I am only too pleased to relate my experience and only wish that I had known of its merits years ago." writes Mrs. Clay Fry, Ferguson Station, Mo. "I give it to my children when they show the slightest symptoms of being croupy, and when I have a cough or cold on the lungs a very few doses will relieve me, and by taking it for a few days I soon get rid of the cold."

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



LIST YOUR

Leases, Royalties

Farm Lands

WITH US

We pay particular attention Exclusive Listings

MERKEL REALTY COMPANY

W. O. BONEY WALTER JACKSON

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

Grove's Tasteless chill Tonic

restores vitality and energy by purifying and enriching the blood. You can soon feel its Strengthening, Invigorating Effect. Price 60c.

Yuletide Greetings

Electrical Gifts for Christmas

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

Electrical household utilities are the women's best friends.

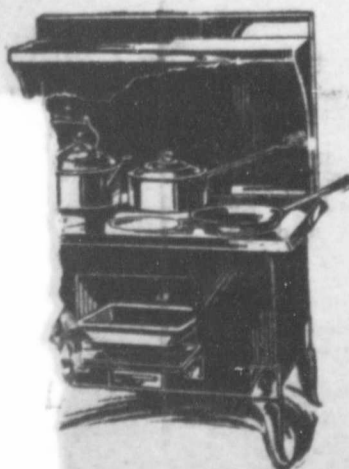
Among the many electrical selections may be mentioned:

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

Be sure that your resolutions for the new year include **Electrical Facilities**

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

Power Company



Just 10 More
shopping days
before
Christmas

Let us Help
you select
Useful Gifts

Satteen Com-
forts

Make useful gifts.
\$8.50 values at ... **\$6.95**
Cheaper comforts on
sale at ... **\$3.95**

Gift
Counterpanes
Priced
\$3.00 to \$7.50

Bobby's Christmas Eve Dream



Shop Early
and you won't
be
Disappointed

Here you will
find gifts for
the entire
family

Wool-Finish Blank-
ets Acceptable
Gifts

\$8.50 values at ... **\$6.95**
Cheaper cotton blankets
on sale at ... **\$3.95**

Table Linens

Priced yd. 85c to **\$3.95**
Napkins to match
\$3.00 to \$9.00

Finished table cloths, a
useful gift, at ... **\$2.75**

All Childhood Dreams come true when you trade here, and age
and beauty are pleased, for months ago we planned for Christmas with a Volume of time'y Gifts that satisfy and give service, too



Xmas shopping should be a pleasure. It will
be a pleasure if you shop here. A booth built
for your convenience and filled with every imag-
inable gift and obliging sales people will make
your shopping easy.

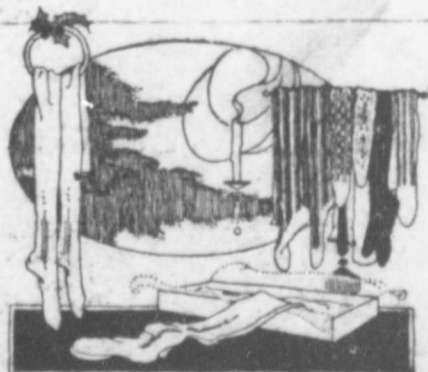
Shop Early and you won't
be disappointed



Gifts for Ladies and Girls

Wash silk and Jersey teds \$2.95 to \$10.00
Hand-made teds \$1.95 to \$2.95
Silk and hand-made gowns \$3.95 to \$7.50
Wash satin and Jersey camisoles \$1.50 to \$3.95
Hand-made caps \$1.50 to \$3.35
6 Handkerchiefs in gift box \$1.00
Crepe de Chine handkerchiefs 35c and 50c
Towel sets, all colors \$1.50 to \$3.00

Silk hose \$1.50
to \$3.55
Kid gloves 2.00
to 3.50
Leather purses
\$1.00 to .. 3.95
Velv. bags 3.50
House shoes
1.65 to .. 2.50



Gifts for Children

Beautiful Dolls 35c to \$3.50
Baby Sweaters \$1.50 to \$2.50
Baby Blankets 85c to \$3.95
Baby Booties and Caps 35c to \$1.50
Knit Toques 35c to \$1.50

Here you will find just the things to please little
folks. Items too numerous to mention.

Xmas Coat Specials

Handsome Coats priced for Christmas Gifts
..... \$16.50 to \$65.00

STOLES

Beautiful Stoles with fancy lincoings, priced
..... \$6.95 to \$20.00

Georgette Crape Blouses priced special for Xmas
selling \$4.95 to \$12.95

Gifts for Men and Boys

Traveling Bags, Suit Cases and Trunks, Suits and
Overcoats, silk and dress Shirts, Hats and Caps,
Shoes, house shoes, hose, gloves, ties, collar pins,
Cuff links, silk
and linen hand-
kerchiefs, hose
supporters, under-
wear, bath
robes and sus-
penders.

Bring this list
with you

Boys Hercules
Suits just re-
ceived and re-
sonably priced



Woodroof-Bragg Dry Goods Company

THE PLACE MOST PEOPLE TRADE