

TOTAL RAIN FALL FOR YEAR 25.84 IN.

Through the courtesy of Merkel's excellent Mayor, Mr. J. J. Stallings, we publish below the rain fall here for each month during the past year, as he has kept same. It will be interesting and surprising to many who even reside here.

Table with 2 columns: Month, Inches. Rows include January (2:49), February (.44), March (2:25), April (3:01), May (5:51), June (3:62), July (2:48), August (1:58), September (1:03), October (2:43), November (.85), December (.15), Total (25:84).

This shows December to be the driest month during the year and May the wettest.

Mayor Stallings has been a citizen of this town and surroundings for just about thirty years now. He has been here when it was dry and when it was wet. He has seen the hard times and the good ones as is the experience of the pioneer of any community, and any man who "sticks." We shall be glad to report his records of the rainfall each month during the year just beginning..

MERKEL SCHOOL OVER CROWDED

Superintendent states one or More New Teachers may be Added

75 NEW PUPILS ENROLLED

Necessitated Raise of Teachers Salaries and Other Expenses places Board in hard Position to Finance School

The Merkel Schools re-opened on Monday, December 29th with the enrollment of seventy-five new pupils. This swells our enrollment to well over six hundred, the largest Merkel has had in years. The rooms are very crowded this week, but the board hopes to relieve the situation by next week. It may become necessary to employ one or more new teachers if funds can be had to bear this added expense. The increased enrollment, the raise in teachers salaries necessitated by the increase in the cost of living expenses, and the meager income the Merkel schools have always had puts the board "up against it" to finance the school.

Much of the increased enrollment Supt. Burgess attributes to the compulsory attendance law which became effective on December 29th. This law requires that all children over eight years of age and not over fourteen must attend school for five months beginning on December 29th, and provides heavy penalties for any parent or guardian who keeps his child out of school any day except for "personal sickness, sickness or death in the family, quarantine, or storm that makes their going dangerous."

The teachers report that the vast majority of the students have returned interested in their work, and determined to do the work that is necessary for their promotion. The prospect for good work the remainder of the term seems good.

talk it over with the Farmers and Bank. They better acquaint

PATRONIZE HOME INDUSTRY

(By R. Kenneth Evans)

The writer recently attended a meeting of the Chamber of Commerce of a Panhandle City and was impressed with a statement made by one of the pioneers of that city which is appropriate to mention here. This pioneer contended, in an argument towards advancement and development of resources, that before an effort was made to encourage the immigrant to locate in a community that the local community should first be organized. He likened it unto a large manufacturing institution all working to the end of making the products turned out by that institution of the highest standard and every individual from the office boy to the president doing his bit of work in a thorough manner towards the success of that institution.

There is no stronger organization in the entire United States than a well organized city with every individual pulling for the interests of that city. The merchant working in conjunction with the farmer, the farmer working in conjunction with the other business interests and there is no more important phase of this organization than the patronage of home industry and home concerns.

Too many people living in a community patronize the mail order houses because they know no better. They are not necessarily ignorant but they do not properly weigh the matter. The Mail order houses use all the psychological methods they can to attract the farmer of the rural communities. His flattering values, low prices, guarantees on merchandise, which are not worth the paper they are written on sometimes appeal to the man who does not stop to think.

A merchant in Plainview, Texas, this fall adopted a peculiar method of showing up the mail order houses. To begin with he secured the large and extensive catalogues of two of these principle mail order houses. He went to the same manufacturers and jobbers that furnished these houses their products, and even at buying in such small lots from these manufacturers, and not getting the advantage of the extensive purchases made by the mail order houses, he was enabled to show them up and their leach proclivities in a substantial manner.

For instance this merchant would give the cost price of an article advertised by one of these mail order houses and then quote the mail order price and his price. He would figure his price on a legitimate profit basis and yet could undersell the mail order house. He advertised to the customers of the Plainview country to make out their orders for the mail order houses and bring them to his store and he would fill them with the identical merchandise they were buying, the same brand and manufactured by the same factory, at a less cost than the mail order house and eliminate the long wait for freight shipments and also affording the purchaser the opportunity of examining the merchandise before taking it.

Many were skeptical of this offer but at first a few ventured in and tried this plan. They were convinced and a great accomplishment was brought about in the encouragement of the patronage of home industry for those who had never weighed the matter before began to realize that they were being robbed by the mail order houses. This is merely an example of the fact that the mail order business is one of the things which tears down and destroys the building of a commercial center.

There are many other reasons why every dollar possible should be spent at home. To begin with the individual with business ability would never send a dollar away from home if he could get the desired articles at home. But aside from this fact the writer wishes to show some reasons why every loyal citizen of Merkel should buy from Merkel merchants.

For example take the cotton grower. There are many cotton growers who send money out of Merkel and Taylor county to the mail order houses. In many instances perhaps they do it unthoughtedly and in many instances they do it without thinking that they are tearing down their own commercial center. Does the mail order man offer any market for the cotton. Indeed not. It is the Merkel merchant who gets out on the street and offers the farmer the highest market price for his cotton and pays him in cash. The cotton producer probably did not stop to consider that if it were not for the patronage the Merkel merchant receives there would be no incentive for his maintaining his business institution here hence there would be no market and the producer would be forced to send his commodity to some other point, pay transportation charges and then not get the value of his product on top of this. The Merkel merchant will sell better merchandise to the cotton grower than the mail order house and get more money. Try it and see. (Continued on sixth page)

HARKRIDER BREAKS THE POLITICAL ICE

In the proper announcement column of the Mail our readers will find the name D T Harkrider, of Abilene, as a candidate for the office of Tax Collector of Taylor county, subject to the action of the Democratic Primary next July.

It is hardly necessary for us to go into detail concerning the character and ability of Mr. Harkrider, as he is one of the old timers here; has been deputy in this office for a long time, no man questions his honesty and every one knows that he is highly qualified to fill the position with honor to himself and satisfaction to his constituents.

We kindly ask the voters of the county to give his claims fair consideration before casting their Ballot for Tax Collector of this county.

Pate-Mosley Wedding

On December 24th, Mr Dale Mosley and Miss Jewel Pate, slipped away from their friends and were quietly married in Abilene. They are both home people and are loved and respected by all who know them. They will have rooms at the home of Mr and Mrs Seth Hamilton.

Put your funds in a National Bank.

BIG PICTURE FOR FRIDAY JAN. 2ND

D. W. Griffith's Supreme Triumph "Hearts of the World"

AT THE GEM THEATRE TODAY

Great World War Production Connected with a Beautiful and Thrilling Love story - Great Show

It is glorious to be an American. One never appreciates and realizes this fact for all its worth until he has seen David W. Griffith's "Hearts of the World" which is an epic and a picture page of history that will undoubtedly be stored away in the archives of the government for reference and study by future generations. No man or woman with an ounce of patriotism in their soul but will be carried away with enthusiasm and joy when they see the story of the world's great fight for justice and liberty illuminated on the screen with its beautiful love theme laid on the historic spot of bleeding France. Under the auspices of the British government Mr. Griffith has reproduced scenes of battle and action that will probably never be afforded another dramatist and that are inspiring in their awful truth and realism. With grim war as a background this Shakespeare of the screen has revealed a love story that is so sweet and pretty one almost forgets the terrible circumstances under which it is related. "Hearts of the World" is D. W. Griffith's supreme achievement. It surpasses anything he has ever presented to an amazed public and only goes to show there is no limit to the creative possibilities of his genius. "Hearts of the World" is coming to this city soon and if there is any one for fifty miles around who waits to see it they will only have themselves to blame and will never forgive themselves because this production is proffered to the public under circumstances that place it within the range of everybody's purse.

17,300 BALES UP TO THURSDAY NIGHT

Merkel Leading west Texas City in Number Bales Cotton Received

NOW COMMERCIAL CENTER

Five Big Gins Running full speed. Three to Five thousand Bales yet Expected

According to the records of Cotton Weigher J M Garrett, there has been received up to date in this city 17,300 bales of this years cotton And there are many who estimate that there will yet be received from three to five thousand more bales before the present crop has been gathered.

There are several reasons why Merkel is far in the lead of any other town in this section of the country in the matter of number of bales of cotton received this year. First, she is located right in the heart of the best allround farming section of this great state. Next, she has the livest bunch of buyers and business men to be found anywhere.

As the result of the great crop now being harvested here, strangers from a distance have been flocking here and there is not a farm in the country rented which has not had from two to a dozen applications, nor is there a residence to be found for rent in the city Should the season be favorable during 1920 and there be an other great crop raised, there will have to be erected throughout both the town and country many new homes to care for the rush of new people who are sure to seek admittance here.

CHURCH NEWS

Methodist Church Notice Sunday School at 10 o'clock. We want to make the first Sunday in the New Year a record breaker. Please make an effort to come. Dr Miller, Presiding Elder will preach at 11 and also the evening hour. Song service at 7 p. m.. Come and help us sing. W M Murrell pastor.

Presbyterian Church

Let us begin the New Year with a lasting resolution to contribute all our energies to the service of God, in attendance in active participation in all that is done for the Kingdom.

We welcome all to our services Sunday School at 10 am. Preaching at 11 a.m. and 7 p. m.

C C Dooley, pastor

At The Baptist Church

Sunday School at 10 a.m. with classes for all.

A full attendance is urged as we are to continue as a A-1 Sunday School for 1920.

Preaching at 11 a. m. and 7 p. m. by the pastor.

Morning subject, "The New Years Opportunity."

Evening Subject, "Three types of Church Members."

Teachers meeting Monday at Prayer meeting Wednesday at 7:30 p m.

Ladies meeting in the various circles Tuesday at 3 p m.

Lets all begin the new year right by meeting in the Lord's House on this the first Sunday of the New Year.

Ira L. Parrack, pastor.

Come in and talk it over with the Officers of the Farmers and Merchants National Bank. They will be glad to get better acquainted with you.

Rev. E E Dawson of Coleman, was a visitor in Merkel Tuesday shaking hand with his many friends who were ha

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
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>\$1,269,608.03</b>
LIABILITIES	
Capital Stock .....	\$ 35,000.00
Surplus & Profits, earned..	42,816.99
Deposits .....	1,191,791.04
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>\$1,269,608.03</b>

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"

**LOCAL NEWS**

Joe and Eva Wheeler of Maryneal are visiting their uncle and aunt, Mr. and Mrs J H Witcher.

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

Mrs W H Young of Strawn spent the holidays with her parents, Mr and Mrs W P Duckett.

Fresh car Peace Maker flour G. M. Sharps.

Glenn H Jones of Dallas spent a few days the past week with W P Duckett and family

Scott and Black have some real bargains on their list of farms and city property. Phone 84

Miss Lucille Duckett of Dallas visited her grandparents, Mr and Mrs W P Duckett, during the holidays.

See our Eastman Kodak window. Lowry & Gamble.

Mr. and Mrs. S H. L. Swafford have recently moved to Big Springs, where they will make their home for the future.

The Arcade gives service.

E M Sherman has returned to the Merkel country, where he joined his family. He has been in Oklahoma for some time.

See our Eastman Kodak window. Lowry & Gamble.

Hubert Dowell of Ralls, Texas was a guest of his Aunt Mrs. T. R. Lassiter during the Holidays.

Fresh car Peace Maker flour G. M. Sharps.

Mr. and Mrs. A. C. McGee of Ft. Worth spent Christmas with the latter's parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Stalling, and returned the 26th.

Let us sell you a farm or a home. Phone 84 Scott and Black.

**To the Dyspeptic**

Would you not like to feel that your stomach trouble are over, that you can eat any kind of food that you crave? Consider then the fact that Chamberlain's Tablet have cured others—why not you. There are many who have been restored to health by taking these tablets and can now eat any kind of food that they crave.

The Arcade gives service.

Eat at the Arcade.

Miss Wilma Garrett and brother, Doyle, returned Monday from a visit to their brother and wife, Mr and Mrs R. A. Garrett, of Austin, and other relatives at Marlin, Mart, and Fort Worth.

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

**For Sale**  
 On account of failing health I offer for sale a paying business in Merkel, consisting of Drugs a fresh stock of Patent medicines, confections. For further particulars see A C Boney at the Drug Store

**THE OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS**

OF

**The Farmers & Merchants National Bank**

Greet you on this, the first day of which will be your most prosperous year.

**HEALTH, PEACE and PROSPERITY**

We want to thank all of our customers for their fine loyalty to this bank and take this opportunity to assure you was never better able to take care of business demands of its customers.

It has been and shall continue to be, that the only limit that is placed on its services is that every transaction be safe

If this bank has been taking care of your business needs---

**Do Not Worry**

It will continue to do so and in order to be better able to care for the needs of the community it will increase its Capital Stock from 25,000 to 50,000 dollars in January, and will always maintain a good liberal Surplus.

**Some Good Resolutions**

Open an account with us to-day. Resolve that you will keep closely in touch with The Farmers & Merchants National Bank; that you will make it your headquarters at home; that you will consult it freely about any business matters; that you will leave your valuable papers in its safe as a protection against fire; that you will avail yourself of the privilege to use its desk room and stationery to write your letters; that you are convinced that it desires to serve you.

J. T. WARREN, President  
 L. R. THOMPSON, Active Vice President  
 G. F. WEST, Vice President  
 BOOTH WARREN, Assistant Cashier

**DIRECTORS**

J. T. Warren     Henry Jones  
 L. R. Thompson

**Gem Theatre**

The House of Good Pictures

FRIDAY—

D. W. Griffith's Supreme Achievement

**"HEARTS OF THE WORLD"**

Conceded by all Critics to be the greatest picture ever produced.

When Griffith produced "Birth Of a Nation" every one was amazed, then came "Intolerance" then "Hearts Of the World", which is proclaimed the Greatest of all. It is a war picture with one of the sweetest love stories ever told. The picture has been cut to nine reels, cutting all the most gruesome war scenes out, while some battle scenes still remain. Every true American should see it.

Admission Children 25 cents Adults 50 cents.

SATURDAY—

Marie Walcamp in "Tempest Turns The Tables." Hoot Gibson in "A Double Hold-up", a comedy and Hearst News.

MONDAY—

"Arizona Catclaw" A special 6-reel Western picture, one of the best also a Mutual Comedy.

TUESDAY—

H. B. Warner, Special "For a Woman's Honor", a gripping story of a Man's sacrifice for the Woman he loved, also a comedy.

WEDNESDAY—

"Bound and Gagged" also Neal Hart in a Thrilling Western drama and Spaulth Vod-a-Vil.

THURSDAY—

Harry Carey in "Bare Fists", a very exciting Western play, a Universal Special in 6 acts, also a comedy.

The Best Weeks Program Ever Shown in Merkel.

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## Duofolds Duofolds Duofolds

We have just received a big shipment of Duofolds in very beautiful designs.

We have also just received a big shipment of the famous Border Queen Kitchen Cabinets; also some beautiful Phoenix Rockers.

We have at this time one of the largest stocks of Furniture in West Texas.

The House that Appreciates your Business

# Barrow Furniture Co.

### A Family Reunion

The holidays brought about a very happy occasion when Mr and Mrs. H M Rainbolt had a home coming of their children. Every member of the family was present, it being the first time they have all been at home together in eight years. Those from out of town were: Mr and Mrs Eugene A Hargrove and son, Horace of Athens, Mr and Mrs C A Fryar and daughters, Louise and Alberta, Sam and Homer Rainbolt of Dallas, Robert, of Fort Sill, Okla and Miss Bernice, of Eastland, and H. M. Jr. and Hazel Lee, who are at home. This was a very happy occasion that will long be remembered by the parents and every child of the family.

### DOUBTS DISAPPEARS

No One in Merkel Who has a Bad Back Should Ignore This Double Proof

Does your back ever ache? Have you suspected your kidneys?

Backache is sometimes kidney ache.

With it may come dizzy spells. Sleepless nights, tired, dull days, Distressing urinary disorders.

Doan's Kidney Pills have been endorsed by thousands.

Are recommended here at home.

You have read Merkel proof. Read now the Merkel sequel.

Renewed testimony; tested by time.

H. W. Derstine, retired Postmaster, Kent St., gave the following statement May 27, 1905: "I have used Doan's Kidney Pills and always recommend them as I know they are splendid. Doan's relieved me of backaches which had troubled me off and on for several years."

Nearly Fourteen Years Later, on May 5, 1919, Mr. Derstine added: "I recommend Doan's Kidney Pills as highly as ever for they are a fine remedy. Doan's always help me if my kidneys get a little out of order."

Price 60c, at all dealers. Don't simply ask for a kidney remedy—get Doan's Kidney Pills—the same that Mr. Derstine hater-Milburn Co., Mfrs., Buffalo, N. Y.

### 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.

## Helps Sick Women

Cardui, the woman's tonic, helped Mrs. William Eversole, of Hazel Patch, Ky. Read what she writes: "I had a general breaking-down of my health. I was in bed for weeks, unable to get up. I had such a weakness and dizziness, ... and the pains were very severe. A friend told me I had tried everything else, why not Cardui? ... I did, and soon saw it was helping me ... After 12 bottles, I am strong and well."

### TAKE

# CARDUI

## The Woman's Tonic

Do you feel weak, dizzy, worn-out? Is your lack of good health caused from any of the complaints so common to women? Then why not give Cardui a trial? It should surely do for you what it has done for so many thousands of other women who suffered—it would help you back to

ne lady friend taken Cardui. tell you how it r. Try Cardui

Druggist

### Personal Questions Will Be Asked

"Are you the head of the family?"  
"Are you black or white?"  
"Can you speak English?"

These, and other decidedly personal questions, will be asked of you when the census enumerator comes around shortly after the first of the year.

Personal differences between man and wife as to temporary chieftainship will be of no concern to the enumerators, nor is politics of any moment. Husbands are listed as heads of family.

Age is another question every one will be asked. And feminine modesty must be set aside when census time comes, for Uncle Sam imposes a jail sentence for refusal to answer census questions.

Here is the list of questions every person must answer.

On what street do you live?  
What is the number of your house?

What is your surname, your given name and middle initial?

Are you the head of the family the wife, the son, daughter, sister, brother, mother, father, boarder, servant, grandmother, grandfather, grandson, granddaughter, niece, nephew, uncle or aunt?

Do you own the home or rent it, and if owned, is it mortgaged? The amount of mortgage will not be asked.

What is your sex?  
What is your color? ...  
What is your age?

Are you single, married, widowed or divorced?

In what year did you immigrate to the United States?

Are you naturalized or an alien?

If naturalized, in what year?  
Have you attend school since Sept. 1, 1919?

Are you able to read?  
Can you write?

In what state or foreign country were you born?

What is your mother tongue?  
Where was your mother born

and what was her mother tongue  
Can you speak English?  
What is your trade, profession or particular kind of work done?  
In what industry do you work?  
Are you employed, on salary, wage worker, or on own account?  
—Exchange.

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

### How's This?

We offer One Hundred Dollars Reward for any case of Catarrh that cannot be cured by Hall's Catarrh Medicine.

Hall's Catarrh Medicine has been taken by catarrh sufferers for the past thirty-five years, and has become known as the most reliable remedy for Catarrh. Hall's Catarrh Medicine acts thru the Blood on the Mucous surfaces, expelling the Poison from the Blood and healing the diseased portions.

After you have taken Hall's Catarrh Medicine for a short time you will see a great improvement in your general health. Start taking Hall's Catarrh Medicine at once and get rid of catarrh. Send for testimonials, free.  
F. J. CHENEY & CO., Toledo, Ohio.  
Sold by all Druggists, 75c.

Miss Lynn Thompson, Junior in the University of Nebraska spent the holidays with her parents, Mr and Mrs L R Thompson

Missess Agnes Lassiter and Gladys Fathern of Abeline were guests of Miss May Lassiter during the holidays.

T A Johnson spent several days in Dallas, and Fort Worth the past week.

# YOU OWE YOUR CHILDREN

## BUILD NOW

Own  
A Home  
for your  
CHILDREN'S  
SAKE

You owe your children the happiness and advantage of a home

Many parents will strive and struggle to give their children a good education yet deny them the advantages of a real Home.

Here is where their character is formed which is the basis of their future.

It will help them to cultivate better friends and better habits

You will find a home to meet your requirements in the large selections of actual photographs at our office.

# Burton=Lingo Co.

L. D. LEVY, Mgr.

Merkel, Texas

# BIG SAVING TO YOU

In Dry Goods, Clothing, and in fact, everything in our store is offered to the buying public during our great

## Dissolution Sale

To take advantage of this money-saving offer you must act at once. The sale closes January 3rd. So far it has been beyond our expectations which we thank each and every one, and also extend to you the

Season's Happy Greetings

# The Economy Store

### The Merkel Mail

Published Every Friday Morning by  
THE MERKEL MAIL PRINTING COMPANY, INC.  
THOMAS DURHAM, Editor and Manager

SUBSCRIPTION \$1.00 PER YEAR

TELEPHONE No. 61

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

Merkel is the best town of its size in Texas. It is entitled to the best weekly paper. We would like to make the Mail just such a paper. Give us your patronage and support, and watch us make an effort to reach the goal.

The farmers of this country above all others, are making good use of the splendid weather which has prevailed for several days, and are gathering cotton and feed in a hurry. Hundreds of bales are being gathered daily.

The merchants of Merkel are up to date, they carry large and complete stocks they stood by the people of their community when they needed their assistance. They are now entitled to the unstinted patronage and support of the people of the town and community.

We are informed that the schools of this city are now crowded to their full capacity. There is every reason to believe that through growth and development of the town and surrounding community which is sure to come before another school year arrives, that the enrollment will be much larger. Will there be steps taken to keep our school in the forefront, and if possible to improve it. We should at least prepare to adequately care for our growing scholastics.

Real Estate continues to change hands in Merkel and the surrounding country. There is a reason. Merkel is the best town of its size on the T. & P. Railway, located in the very heart of the finest and best farming belt in the state. Its citizenship is made up of the best people on

earth. Then why shouldn't the outsideworld clamor for entrance at our gates.

That some people have much faith that oil in paying quantities lays beneath the soil in the Merkel community, is to be judged by the fact that there is being spent for development thousands of dollars now, and rumor has it that there is certain to be much new development started along after the first of the year.

#### Candidate Announcement Rates.

For the benefit of those aspiring to office this year who may wish to make their announcement in the Merkel Mail we will state that the price for announcement will be as follows:

District Offices ..... \$15.00  
County Offices ..... \$12.50  
Precinct Offices ..... \$8.00

The announcement fee is expected to accompany each request for announcement. Each candidate will be accorded a reasonable write up setting forth his candidacy to be written by the editor. Any other campaign matter will be accepted at the usual advertising rates.

#### Meat Market Changes Hands.

A deal was recently consummated whereby the Patterson Brothers, Messrs J. A., A. B. and W. L. purchased from W. H. Laney the latter's Meat Market business, which he has conducted for a period of about ten years. We understand Mr. Laney sold out on account of his health and will leave shortly for an extended trip in the interest of his health. We join his many friends in the hopes that he will soon regain his former good health.

The Patterson Brothers are splendid and substantial citizens and we feel sure they will be successful in their new undertaking.

#### Cash Tailor Shop Moved.

The Cash Tailor Shop has moved next door to the old stand and is now located in the building of the B & M Oil Office just across the street from the Merkel Mail.

The Arcade gives service.

#### COMPULSORY ATTENDANCE

In compliance with the compulsory school law of Texas, the board of trustees of the Merkel Independent School District has fixed Monday, December 29th 1919, for the compulsory attendance period to begin.

The law requires that from this date all children residing in this district or transferred thereto, who were eight years old or over on the first day of September 1919 and were under fifteen years of age on that date are compelled with certain legal exemptions, to attend school for 100 days or five school months.

It is unlawful for any person or firm to employ any child of this age during school hours during the compulsory attendance period.

This notice is merely made so that all may understand the law. No violations of the law are anticipated. This is the law. The board didn't make the law. All it can do is to expect full compliance.

Roger A. Burgess, Supt

#### Laundry Moved

My Laundry office will be after Monday, next door South of Geo. Woodrum Garage. I will appreciate your patronage. W. F. Hamlet.

Clifford Rose has returned from an extended trip to Fort Worth, Dallas and Stevensville, where he visited relatives and attending to coal business.

Mrs. John Morgan of Austin visited her mother here during Christmas. Mrs. Fred Latham will accompany her home.

J. T. Darsey one of this city's splendid furniture dealers, returned Wednesday from an extended visit to a sick relative at McGregor.

You are invited to become sharers in the fine service offered by the Farmers and Merchants National Bank.

Cow Feed at G. M. Sharps.

## Are Your Eyes Over-Worked?

Have you never paused to consider? Have you not at times had cause to doubt the perfect safety of your eyes? Do they ever feel sore after a spell of close work, aching or smarting, or maby feeling as if some sand was behind the lids? Do you not in reading find that the print suddenly "goes misty" and confused but becomes clear again after closing the eyes for a moment? Is it necessary for you to hold the book or newspaper further from the eyes than formally, or do you need a stronger light? Do you find that reading or sewing for an extra hour or so per day causes headache? Does shiny paper or keen light hurt your eyes?

### ANSWER CANDIDLY

for your future good vision is a stake. If you have noticed one or more of these peculiarities in connection with your own eyes, you should have them properly tested. The sooner you do this the better your chance of good vision in future years, and you cannot afford to let this slip, no man or woman of today can afford to rest content with anything short of the best possible vision. Conditions of labor are so exacting and the demand for efficiency so insistent, that a handicap like bad vision bids fair to overwhelm those whom it affects.

### These Defects Can be Corrected

Thousands of people are today being kept out of their rightful sphere by bad vision. Their natural ability is spoiled by bad vision and often they do not realize it. Defective sight is insidious because it never leaves you it is always limiting your understanding, and injures your work unless it is corrected.

### BY MEANS OF SUITABLE CLASSES

Short sight, long sight, and old sight affect the eyes of an enormous number of people, confusing their vision and muddling their work. Astigmatism is another common trouble which is probably the cause of more than half the headaches with which civilized mankind is affected.

### DON'T REMAIN IN DOUBT

As to the needs of your eyes waste no time in wondering, but come straight to Dr. McGuire who will be at Dr. Smith's office two days, WEDNESDAY and THURSDAY Jan. 14 & 15 and let our experience guide you.

If glasses are unnecessary we will tell you so, and you will be under no obligation, but if they should prove to be needed this course will save your good vision from harm. Prices Moderate.

## Merkel---2 Days Only This Trip

Wednesday, January 14      Thursday, January 15

At Dr. Smith's Office

To All Our Friends  
and Patrons  
we  
extend  
Our Best Wishes  
for a  
Happy and Prosperous  
New Year  
Sanders Drug Store

## THE MERKEL MAIL CHANGES HANDS

It is difficult for us to express in words our feelings in regard to giving up our connections with the Merkel Mail. We feel that it has been a very vital part of our lives for the past three years. We can never forget the vast number of friends we have. We are grateful to those who have made our success possible.

It is not our purpose to leave Merkel, though our plans for the future are not fully matured. For the present our entire time will be devoted to the real estate business.

Our work has been hard, but pleasant. We have tried to be faithful to the publicity trust placed in us.

Our successor, Mr. Thos. Durham formerly of DeLeon comes highly recommended as a Christian gentleman and a business man. We trust that he will be favored with the same kindly consideration that has been shown us.

At every turn of the road we have tried to stand for the things that are right, and we have never hesitated to speak out against the things that demoralize society. We are going out of the publishing business with a kindly feeling to every living soul, with malice and prejudice against no one. We have never indulged in personalities, but have stuck to principles all the way through.

Remember that we go with the highest appreciation towards those who have had business dealings with us, to our wide circle of friends, and ever in our hearts there will be a warm place for you.

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Jackson. With this issue of the Merkel Mail we assume full management and editorship of the paper, having purchased same from Mr. and Mrs. Walter Jackson. In doing so we realize that we have taken on quite a responsibility, as it will tax us heavily to give the people of this thriving and growing city the splendid paper which we feel that they are entitled to, and we also feel that to keep up the standard set by Mr. and Mrs. Jackson, we will have to get up and hustle, for under their management the paper has grown and prospered. However, with the continued co-operation and support given them, we feel that in a measure at least, we shall succeed. We will devote our entire time and attention to the printing and publishing of the paper, and shall spare neither pains nor time in exerting every effort towards making the Mail second to no weekly newspaper in all this section.

We visited a number of towns before deciding to locate in Merkel, some of them even larger, but after looking them over and weighing the future possibilities of this city we decided to locate in Merkel. We are coming here with a view of making Merkel our future home, and shall move our family in about the tenth of the month, thereby becoming a full fledged citizen.

Owing to the fact that there has been a continued rise in the price of everything used in a printing office for the last twelve months, and more especially the last thirty days the advance has been in some instances more than 100 per cent, we are aware of the fact that it is going to be harder than ever for the small newspapers to remain in business and prosper, hence, we are bound to announce to the business men and citizens that, we will be compelled to raise the price of advertising and job printing some what. However, we do not feel that we shall receive any condemnation as the result of that, for there is not a business man in the city, but who during the past two or three years has been compelled to raise the price of his wares or goods to his customers. Why? because they cost him more money. The only difference with him and the newspaper is, that he did not announce he was going to raise his prices. He just

told us they cost so and so when we went to buy.

We propose to conduct the paper in the interest of our home city and her people, then will come our county, state and nation. In politics we do not take much interest, but personally we are Democratic, and allow the other fellow the same privilege we take, of believing politically and religiously as he pleases. We shall at all times be found to stand for the best morals of the city.

We want every man, woman and child in Merkel and the Merkel country to feel that the Merkel Mail is their home paper, and that we solicit their united support and good will, for without which, we would be sure to fail. We invite you, one and all, to come in and see us and learn to know us better, for by such we feel that it will be easier for us to make the paper just the live, newsy paper such as you would like to have your home paper.

In taking over the business Mrs Jackson has very kindly agreed to remain with the paper for some time, and with her valuable assistance we feel that our readers may rest assured that the paper will be fully up to its former standard until we shall become acquainted sufficient to run down all the news worthy of note. Thos. Durham

### Turner Children Dead

Death is a dreaded foe. It is grievously painful to give up a single one of our loved ones, who have been a part of our lives, but the misfortune that befell Mr and Mrs Ed Turner in the loss of two of their little children the past week, calls forth a great deal of fortitude on their part to bear up under this terrible sorrow of bereavement. So great is our sympathy for them that we can not forego the shedding of a tear for them. Only children, but how the parent heart string is intertwined in perfect love for them, and how their departure pulls at the very vitals of those who have nursed these tender lives into being, only to witness the beautiful roses of spring-time devoured and withered by that dread enemy of all mankind, but they will bloom anew in heaven.

Little Frank Adams died first and a day or two later little Francis Mildred followed, so together they rest in that land of eternal love, beckoning on to those left behind. Burial took place in Rose Hill cemetery, the funeral being conducted by Rev. W M Murrell.

### Joe Bill Owens Dead

Right at the time of year when the Christmas bells were ringing, when joy is predominant, when giving is the order of the day, the community was saddened by the almost sudden death of little Joe Bill Owen, son of Mr. and Mrs. Joe Owen. He took sick Christmas day and died early the following morning.

The funeral was conducted by Rev Parrack at the home, burial taking place in Rose Hill Cemetery.

We greatly sympathize with the bereaved parents in the loss of their darling little baby, taken away before life with varying vicissitudes had played a part.

### Card of Thanks

We take this means to thank the friends for their many kindnesses and sympathy extended to us during illness and death of our dear wife and mother May God's richest blessings rest upon each and every one of you.

J. M Black and children.

### Card of Thanks

We take this means to thank the many friends and neighbors for their kindness and sympathy during our recent bereavements. May God's richest blessing rest and abide with each one of you.

Mr and Mrs Ed Turner

### Card of Thanks

We wish to thank our friends and neighbors for the kindness and sympathy extended during the illness and death of our loved one.

Mrs H. C. Williams and children.

Best eats at the Arcade.

## HUDSON - ESSEX - PACKARD IN STOCK READY FOR DELIVERY

We are agents for the above cars in Taylor County and can make immediate delivery.

WIRE, PHONE or WRITE

## S. S. S. MOTOR COMPANY

Abilene, Texas.

## CLASSIFIED ADS

1 cent a word for each insertion. No ad. taken for less than 16c.

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

FOR SALE—4 room house in good shape, well and windmill. See Mr Ellis or R. G. Grogan, Truby, Texas. 54c.

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

FOR SALE—Columbian Graph-nola, good as new, with 30 records. Will take half price W. W. Campbell, Merkel. 12t3p.

FOR SALE—One piano. See Wm O'Briant

FOR TRADE—A good three horse disc, for 14 inch Sulkey Plow. See C E Stamps. 121P

FOR SALE—Good large jersey milk cow, will freshen not later than Feb 1. Price \$95.00. A D Scott, Rt 4, Merkel Texas 1t1p

FOR SALE—Pair of fine 4-year old mules and new wagon and harness. Will sell together or separate. See T R Wilson, Merkel 1t1p

FOR SALE—About 4000 pounds of thrashed maize that is good for chicken or hog feed. See W. T Beasley. 1t1p

### For Tax Assessor Of Jones Co.

While it is my desire to make the race for tax assessor of Jones county, if there is, however, any young man in the county who gave his service in the recent World war, who intends to make this race, I will gladly surrender my ambitions in this respect, if he will so notify me not later than Jan. 17 1920.

Very truly,  
W G. Thomas, Anson, Tezas

Dr Johnson, Dentist has offices with Dr M Armstrong.

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

### 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 12t4c Best eats at the Arcade.

FOR RENT—Exchange wagon yard and stable Possession given Jan 1st, 1920. See A. C. Boney tf

FOR SERVICE—Full blood jersey bull, \$2.00. Tell your neighbors. J H Craig. 1t3p.

WANTED—To rent on halves 100 acres of land. Prefer most of it in cotton. Apply at Merkel Mail. 2t3p.

FOR SALE—Have some full-blooded White Leghorn Cockerels for sale at \$1.00 each. Phone 90401 F13 1t2p

FOUND—A Watch. Call at The Barrow Furniture Co and get watch by paying for this ad. t1c

### LOST

On the streets of Merkel, Tuesday, December 30, a blank envelope containing vendorlein notes and also a release for the notes to S. F. Anderson. Finder please return to Merkel Mail Office.

DR. S W. JOHNSON.  
Surgeon Dentist  
Office over Farmers State Bank  
Office Phone 306

E. D. COATS  
Real Estate, Oil Stock, And  
Notary Public  
Represent Pochahuntas Lease and  
Royalty Co. of Dallas  
Office Front St. over Geo West.  
Building

# Fords-Dodges - Buicks -

Car load of Fords here inside of 5 days. They were shipped out of Detroit on Dec. 16th.

Also can make quick delivery on Dodges and Buicks, within 48 hours notice.

Have on hand 2 Buick and 2 Dodge cars at a bargain, slightly used.

For Quick Service  
see us

ROPST & FERRIER

## DO NOT WANT LICENSING BILLS

Farmers, Stockmen and Merchants Oppose Packer Legislation at Washington.

Representing a diversity of interests and including farmers, feeders, retail butchers and produce dealers, fully a thousand individuals have made their way to Washington to enter their protests against the packer licensing plan now in hearing before the senate agriculture committee.

Far from solving in any measure the high cost of living, the proposed legislation if passed would be a dangerous experiment for everyone, is the consensus of opinion held by these witnesses.

"We've had government control of railroads and telephones and telegraphs until we're plumb worn out, and we don't want any more," W. P. Carpenter, stock feeder of Tarkio, Mo., told the committee. "I'm in favor of the man who can produce the cheapest going ahead as far as he can. That's the way to cut down the cost of living."

That the packers dominated the stock markets was an idea scouted by testifying stock feeders, who said they found the stock yards places of keen competition.

Taking away the packers' refrigerator cars was as reasonable as taking away their butcher knives, was the conviction expressed by J. P. Lynch, another feeder from Tarkio.

The concern of stockmen and butchers who fear that hampering the packers will only result in disrupting the meat industry without benefit to anyone, was not the sole interest displayed at the hearing. Business men throughout the country are strongly against the licensing feature which would establish a precedent for bringing government control and politics into the conduct of all manner of business.

Many business organizations have expressed themselves formally, through resolutions, as against the principle of bringing business under government interference of the kind proposed in the Kenyon and Kendrick bills.

In speaking for the chamber of commerce of Moultrie, Ga., C. T. Caldwell said: "We've got Swift & Co. down there, and they've helped more than anything else to get our farmers to diversify. The live stock business needs their national distribution."

## THE PACKERS AND REFRIGERATOR CARS

Whether refrigerator cars should be owned by the railroads or by the packers—a point to be determined by legislation now pending in Washington—may seem to be a question rather remote from the interests of the average person. But, inasmuch as these "ice boxes on wheels," as one of the packers terms them, are the conveyances which bring our beefsteak to town, we may assume that we have a certain concern about them. If they have anything to do with the price of the beefsteak our concern is a deep one.

It is maintained by some that these cars give the packers who now own them an unfair advantage over competitors. This is stoutly denied by the packers, who offer as proof the fact that they pay the same freight rates as any shipper; and they assert that the only advantage they enjoy is in being able to get enough cars for their needs by furnishing them themselves instead of depending upon the railroads to do so. In this they are backed up by a report of the Interstate Commerce Commission, made after an investigation of all privately owned cars, to the effect that there were no unfair practices and that a radical change would adversely affect both shippers and the public.

While not opposing, in principle, railroad ownership of refrigerator cars, the packers maintain that there are not enough of these cars to go around and that the legislation in question makes no provision for insuring that the railroads shall furnish them in sufficient number. On the other hand, to pool their cars and take chances of getting what happened to be available, would seriously handicap the distribution of their perishable meat products. The stream of shipments from the packing plants would be blocked, which in turn would block the buying of live stock, and the industry, which is founded on a basis of rapid distribution, would be badly muddled.

In these contentions pro and con, there are three parties whose interests are at stake—the packers, their competitors and the public. Only one of these parties could gain a possible advantage if the packers' cars were taken away from them, viz, the packers' competitors. The cars are now admittedly handled on an economic and efficient basis, and no change is justified unless unfairness is definitely and absolutely proved—which would be in absolute contradiction to the report that the Interstate Commerce Commission has already rendered on the subject. The public would pay the bill for inefficiency in the packing industry, and it has no desire to pay this bill to help a few of the packers' competitors.

# CoffeeCoffeeCoffee

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

**WRIGLEY'S**

The largest electric sign in the world advertises

**WRIGLEY'S**

on Times Square, New York City: it is 250 feet long, 70 feet high. Made up of 17,286 electric lamps.

The fountains play, the trade mark changes, reading alternately **WRIGLEY'S SPEARMINT, DOUBLEMINT, and JUICY FRUIT**, and the Spearmen "do a turn."

This sign is seen nightly by about 500,000 people from all over the world.

Sealed Tight Kept Right A7

## PARONIZE HOME INDUSTRY

(Continued from first page)

Now what holds good for the cotton grower will also hold good for every line of business in the Merkel country. For instance the Merkel merchants maintain extensive stocks of goods and real estate holdings. They pay at the rate of 65 cents per \$100 valuation in taxes. This money is used for the maintenance of government and schools. Were it not for this taxes the city would not provide the many conveniences that are absolutely necessary for livelihood in these modern times hence the farmer gets two fold value from his money when spent at home.

Again the local merchant deposits his money in the local bank. When the farmer needs money for the handling of his crop he goes to the bank and gets it at a nominal rate of interest. In fact he is again getting the advantage of the use of his money for which he has already received value in merchandise.

All of these things the mail order man works against. He does not pay one cent of revenue into the city. He does not assist in the maintenance of the school system and he would laugh at the ruralite who would ask him for a loan of some money with which to make another crop in order to buy more merchandise. Not so with the Merkel merchant. He will extend credit when credit is needed, while the mail order man saps the country of its revenue. Hence the writer feels no hesitancy in being responsible for the statement that the individual who sends money out of town for merchandise he could buy in town is a traitor to his city and country, from a commercial standpoint.

On the other hand the merchant has his part to play in this development. He must carry a line of merchandise which will accommodate the needs of the people. He must sell it at a profit which will enable them to buy it and must give satisfaction. The investigation made by the writer of the Merkel stores gives grounds for the statement that these institutions are adequate for the needs of those living in this community and would as a whole be a credit to a city several times the size of Merkel and merit the patronage of those living here whom they are constantly accommodating. Hence there is grounds for the statement that every individual interested in the maximum development of the resources of the Merkel country should always make it a point to spend every dollar he can in Merkel. It is these things taken as a whole, which makes a live commercial and marketing center.

## PROFESSIONAL

DR. GAMBILL

—D-e-n-t-i-s-t—

Office Hours 8—12 a. m.; 1—5 p. m.  
Over Woodroof-Bragg  
Office Phone 116

DR. MILLER

Over Woodroof-Bragg C  
Physician and Surg  
Eyes Tested and Gla  
General Practicr

DR. N. J. SMITH

Physician and Surge

Hours 10 to 12 a. m. 2 to 5 p. m.  
Phone Office 93 Res. 237.

G. W. JOHNSON

Insurance—Notary Pu

Over Woodroof—Bragg's

Merkel —:— Texa

W. W. WHEELER

Real Estate, Fire, Accid

Tornado Insurance Ag

Notary Public.

Office over City Barber Shop.

Merkel —:— Texas

W. P. MAHAFFEY

Attorney at Law

Merkel and Abilene, Texas

Merkel Office in rear Farmer

State Bank. 22Sept1

CITY TAILOR SHOP

Ladies and Gents Work.

All Work Guaranteed

Will call for and deliver work

Phone 189 Kent S

DOCTOR R I GRIMES

Announces his return from

Military service and the open

ing of Offices for practice

of medicine and surgery

Merkel Realty Building

Merkel Texas

Phones. Res. 165. Bus. 163-1

You can rest assured that the

best bargains may be obtained

from those who advertise the

• 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, 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 simple IRON and QUININE suspended in Syrup. So pleasant even children like it. Blood needs Quinine to Purify it and IRON to Enrich it. These reliable tonic properties never fail to drive out impurities from the blood.

The Strength-Creating Power of GROVE'S TASTELESS CHILL TONIC has made the favorite tonic in thousands of homes. More than thirty-five years ago, it would ride a long distance to get GROVE'S TASTELESS CHILL TONIC, the member of their family had Malaria, 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.



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 its germ-destroying properties 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 zema, Tetter, Barber's Itch, Eczema, Herpes, Rash, Oak Ivy Poisoning, also for relief the annoyance caused by lice and mosquito bites. In the treatment of ECZEMA—the most painful and obstinate of all skin diseases—it is on the most successful remedy known.

Small size 50 cents bottle. Large size 1.00  
JAMES F. BALLARD, Prop. ST. LOUIS

# AKLAND

The Sensible Six

**\$1225.00**

DELIVERED

Warren & Beasley

## McDONALD MOTOR CO.

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

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

## FARLAND GARAGE Frank C. McFarland, Mgr.

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

Best 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

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 New

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

## BURTON-LINGO COMPANY

(By R. Kenneth Evans)

Autumn's the time for harvest—but when the harvest is over, when the cotton crop is marketed; the grain gathered and Mother Nature draws about her beauties the first sleepy veils of the winter haze—then—around the hearthside one really thinks of the home life; what improvements are needed to make it worth more while for the wife and babies; the home one loves so much; maybe some sheds for the animals that brings in the profit; or for the machinery around the farm that last year stood out in the cold and dreary and wet and expensive weather—and when you do this let it remember the Burton-Lingo Company—that lumber yard that has been in this town probably longer—yes—many years longer—than many who read this industrial article.

L. D. Levy, the new manager of the Burton Lingo Company, while yet a young man in appearance is a man of much business experience and knows the lumber game. He came to Merkel five months ago from Dallas where he was with the Citizens National Bank there; previously he had several years training in the lumber yards.

The Burton-Lingo Company have their headquarters at Fort Worth, and have always taken an active interest in the development of Merkel and surrounding trade territory; when the farmers and the other users of lumber in days of the by-gone—when the resources of the country were just being tapped, and adversities came—this company stood behind those who needed help; carried their accounts; those friends are the best boosters for this company today.

The Burton-Lingo Company has a good stock already in the yards and more rolling in every few days; one of the features of the business is the "High standard paints"—Lowe Brothers, and Lowe brothers stands for all that is good in paint circles. Of course you know that.

Manager Levy says that he is looking for big business after the next month and is preparing for it; and while we all have to admit that lumber, like everything else, is higher than before the war period, during these days of reconstruction, they are not in proportion to, for instance, cotton and grains which have increased from one hundred to two hundred per cent while lumber only shows and advance of some fifty per cent. In fact lumber today is about the cheapest thing on the market; certainly when made as an investment for the home or for building a home, or for sheds to protect the new automobile that one is purchasing, or sheds for the stock or houses for the farm implements.

One of the big features of the Burton-Lingo Company yards, and one feature which the Merkel yard, desires that more people shall learn about and take advantage of, is the "Ye Planary". Perhaps you do not know about this; you would be wise to connect with it. This is a set, or rather various sets of plans—showing photographs and blue prints and giving specifications of anything one would want from an expensive bungalow to a chicken house. A contractor can take these "Ye Planary" specifications and tell just exactly what you want will cost; you save the trouble of connecting with expensive architect; you get the services of the best architects of the United States; connect up with this "Ye Planary" system.

The Burton-Lingo Company stands for belief in Merkel and community; therefore are interested in the betterment of this section.

—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  
in their conservative banking methods

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

GARDEN COURT

Face Powder as pictured  
and described in the Novem-  
ber 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 through connection with us. If you are thinking of  
building come in and talk it over with us.

BURTON-LINGO COMPANY : : L. D. Levy, Manager

# Our Thanks and Appreciation

☛ As the great and prosperous year 1919 is just closed and the New Year 1920 is now dawning, we hasten to extend our sincere thanks and appreciation for the very liberal patronage extended us during the year just ended, and extend to one and all greetings and best wishes for much happiness and prosperity throughout the new year just beginning.

☛ Our business during the few months we have been in Merkel has far exceeded our expectations, and we kindly solicit a share of your business throughout the New Year.

☛ In return we shall endeavor to give you Real Service in the Drug Business.

☛ Again, we thank you.

## LOWRY & GAMBLE, Druggists

### Merkels Postmaster Dies

Sunday evening at 9:15 as the stillness of night settled over our city, like the restless rippling stream pours, so the spirit of H C Williams slipped away from tender hands and loving hearts, to peace and joy in the City of God. He was born in St. Charles, Mo., 66 years ago, he moved to Nevada, Mo., where at the age of thirteen he joined the M E Church South and lived within its pales 53 years a happy consistent servant of God. 28 years ago he came to Texas and for nearly 27 years has lived in Merkel. He was an honest, upright, progressive public spirited, man and naturally became one of the towns foremost citizens, and for a number of years had been postmaster, which position he held at the time of his going away. For 39 years he was Superintendent of the Sunday School, a work that was near and dear to him, and Eternity alone will tell the beneficent influence of his life on that of others. He was also a steward in the church for a number of years, and held that position at the time of his death. He was a faithful man to every trust, a citizen above reproach, a Christian in whom there was no guile. Surely David's statement was true in him (Mark the perfect man and behold the upright for the end of that man is peace). He died in great triumph, with the full assurance of an Eternal life abiding within. In the home he reigned as King but his sceptre was that of love. He leaves to sorrow at his going a wife and three children, Otho Wallace of Ft. Worth, Ella May of Marshall, Mo., and Miss Eva. A loving husband, devoted father, fellow servant of God, a brother beloved, we shall not forget that kindly face until we clasp that friendly hand again on the other side.

W M Murrell.

The funeral was held at the Methodist church Sunday afternoon, conducted by Rev W. M. Murrell, under the auspices of the Masons. Burial took place immediately afterwards in Rose Hill cemetery. A large crowd attended the services, in honor of a leading citizen, whose life and example has meant so much to Merkel.

The pallbearers who were chosen from the Masonic lodge, were: J. E. Replogle, J. H. McDonald, Austin Fitts, J. C. Comerys, C. L. Tucker and C. T. Mer-shon.

Music arranged by Mrs L. B. Howard and sung by a double quartet was very sweet and comforting and the songs used were Lead Kindly Light, Some-Time We'll Understand, and The City our-Square. Mrs Howard also alone, R. L. Stevenson's

bereaved family we ex-

tend our heartfelt sympathy. Not only have they lost an esteemed father and husband, but Merkel has lost a citizen that can not be replaced, a man whose life lives in the lives of his family and friends and neighbors..

### Mrs Eliza Black Dead

The community was shocked last Monday morning to learn of the death of Mrs Eliza A Black who, with her husband, was here spending the week on a visit to her son, Jim, and family. Her home was at Red Rock, Texas. Burial took place Monday afternoon in Rose Hill cemetery. The funeral services were conducted by Elder W G Cypert.

Mrs. Black was born February 17, 1852, in Little River County Ark. She came to Texas in 1866 and was married to J M Black in 1871. She became a Christian in 1878 and united with the church of Christ, of which she has been a faithful member ever since. She is survived by her husband and eight children, five boys and three girls.

We greatly sympathize with the bereaved family in the loss of this beloved and noble woman. While she had not been a part of the citizenship of this community yet the influence of her life bore evidence in the lives of her son and other members of the family who have visited here often.

The Farmers & Merchant National Bank have applied for permission to increase their capital from \$25000. to \$50000.

### Thanks the People

For over ten years it has been our privilege to serve the people with a market in Merkel. Through the good years and the bad ones we have remained in business. Now we wish that the good will that has been ours will pass on to our worthy successors. We thank you, each and every one, for your patronage and help and for the measure of success that has come to us. We are pained to sever our business connections with our friends. We have no plans for the future as yet.

W H Laney and sons

### 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

Care for your child's eyes. Good school work demands good vision and if you have any doubt about your child's eyes call on Dr McGuire, at Dr Smith's office on Wednesday or Thursday, Jan 14 or 15. 1t2c.

See our Eastman Kodak window. Lowry & Gamble.

The Arcade gives service.

**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.  
Eat at the Arcade.

### Raises Its Price

The Odessa Herald announces in its last issue that on and after January one, its subscription price will be \$2.00 per year. Almost every paper throughout the land has advanced their advertising and subscription rates. It has been necessary in every instance where this has been done, on account of the rapid and continued advance in news print and infact every commodity used in the printing business has advanced in some cases several hundred per cent.

George Groene happened to a very painful accident this week, when his motorcycle struck a stump, throwing him under the machine. He suffered a broken arm and other bruises.

See our Eastman Kodak window. Lowry & Gamble.

**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.

Cotton seed meal at G M Sharps

Mrs Jones and children are spending the holidays with her parents, Mr and Mrs J S Swann.

Dr McGuire, the graduate optician will be in Merkel again Wednesday and Thursday, Jan 14 and 15. Read his ad on another page in this paper. Prices moderate if you need glasses.

See Scott and Black for Real Estate. Phone 84

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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.

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## DOES IT LOOK GOOD TO YOU ?

Make it look good and enjoy the comforts of life that are at your door—

### ELECTRICITY

Have your house wired. There are many appliances that you can use to save the women of the household.

Save that woman, as she was hard to get, and you may not be so successful next time.

SEASON'S GREETINGS

# MERKEL POWER CO.