

THE MERKEL MAIL

VOL. 32—NO. 27

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8 PAGES

BOND OF \$6,000 IS MADE BY BLEDSOE

"It does my heart good to be back in the old home town once again," former Judge Bledsoe declared Monday morning. "I have always loved Abilene and my heart's interest is here. The best people in the world reside in this city and since my boyhood I have always believed that this city was the best on earth. I notice with much pleasure and wonderment the great development the old home town has taken during the past seven years. I notice particularly the large number of new business buildings which have been erected and there is an air of freshness to the town which is indeed a pleasure to me to see."

"My heart is cheered over meeting so many of my old-time friends. Many of my old friends have met me this morning and it has been a joy to me to see them again."

Judge Bledsoe spent the morning in the office of Dr. L. W. Hollis in the Citizens' Bank Building where many of his acquaintances called on him. In a conversation with a reporter for this paper, he declared that he can scarcely express his joy over his return to his former home here.

Many and varied have been the experiences of the former County Judge since his disappearance from this city seven years ago. During the war Mr. Bledsoe was a member of the secret service of the United States and was assigned to Mexico for the greater part of that time. He declared that the German Government had a firm hold on the Mexican Government during the war and that the people of the United States scarcely realized what freedom the Germans were allowed in that country. Mr. Bledsoe gave it as his opinion that if the word had been said the Germans in Mexico could have taken the reins of the Government at any time.

"Of course, there are many things that took place during the time I was a secret service agent in Mexico that I cannot reveal," he said, "but the strength of the German Government in that country during the war was greater than many people realize." Asked as to whether he believed Provisional President de la Huerta would be able to hold the reins of the government permanently and place the country in a stable condition, Mr. Bledsoe declared that it was his opinion that such would be the case. "Of course you know," he said, "Obregon is the real power behind de la Huerta and undoubtedly if Villa joins hands with the Huerta government, as it appears he is going to do, we may look for peace in Mexico permanently. Villa as is known to the people of the United States, wields a strong hand in Mexico and the permanent peace of Mexico depends upon his attitude toward the present government."

Mr. Bledsoe declared that the little country of Guatemala was the most friendly of the South American country to the United States during the world war. He declared that that little country was one of vast opportunities the chief drawback to it being the climate, which is very malarial in many parts, although if one lives out of the lowlands, the climate is very salubrious.

During the two years he has been in the United States after returning from Mexico and South America, Mr. Bledsoe has travelled extensively. He has been traveling salesman for a flour company and has visited practically all of the larger cities of the nation. He called particular attention to the large

number of good roads which he has seen while in this country. After spending a few days here he will go to Louisiana to join his wife and children whom he has not been with in a year.

Mr. Bledsoe declares that he was glad to hear that this section was in such prosperous condition and said that he had heard with much pleasure of the excellent shape that the grain crop is in. He expressed again and again what a joy it was to him to come back to the "old home town" and see his friends once again.

Bonds of \$500 in each of 12 cases was furnished by Judge Bledsoe Sunday.—Abilene Reporter.

MR. AND MRS. BRAGG RETURN MARKET

Mr. and Mrs. T. G. Bragg, who with Mrs. Willie Swann, their Milliner, returned first of the week from the Eastern markets, where they purchased a large and complete stock of merchandise, including millinery goods for the Woodroof-Bragg Company. Mr. Bragg who has been having trouble with his eyes for some time stopped off in Dallas where he is having same treated by a specialist, is expected home within a few days. His friends here trust that he may receive permanent relief from his sufferings.

SPECIAL SERVICES AT THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Sunday morning, August 22, Dr. Johnson's class will have charge of the morning service at the Presbyterian church.

No definite program has as yet been planned, but no pains will be spared to make the service of that hour one of interest and inspiration. Mr. Yates Brown will have charge of the special music in this service, and a special lay sermon is being arranged for.

Let us urge the membership of the church to be present at this morning service. The service of the New Era Class on last Sunday morning was cancelled on account of the rain. It is to be hoped that nothing will interfere with the service of the coming Sunday. So let all who will come and give us their assistance.

AT THE BAPTIST CHURCH

Sunday School 10 a. m. with places for all. Attendance small last Sunday on account of all day rain. Come and help make it large next time.

Preaching by the pastor 11 a. m. and 8 p. m.

B. Y. P. U. at 5 p. m.

Teachers meeting Monday 8 p. m.

Wednesday 8 p. m. Prayer-meeting and choir practice.

NOTICE all evening services begin at 8:00 and not 8:30 as formerly.

Come and find a welcome. Ira L. Parrack, Pastor.

METHODIST CHURCH NOTICE

There will be the regular services at the Methodist Church next Sunday. Sunday School at 10 a. m. Preaching at 11 and at 8 p. m. Epworth League meets at 6 p. m. Prayermeeting at 8:30 Wednesday evening. W. M. Murrell, Pastor.

CROP FOR SALE

Have Crop 30 acres in cotton, 30 in feed for sale. Good three room house, grass, wood and water go with deal. A bargain. See C. D. Taylor, Merkel Route one. 1tpd

DR. SEWELL WILL SPEAK FOR NEFF

Local Pat Neff forces announce that Dr. Jesse P. Sewell of Abilene, will deliver an address at the Tabernacle in Merkel, tonight, (Friday), in the interest of Hon. Pat Neff for Governor of Texas.

Dr. Sewell, is one of the splendid speakers of the state of Texas and those who hear him will find him to be eloquent and amply able to discuss the issues before the voters in a reasonable and convincing manner.

Everybody is invited especially the ladies and all who are supporters of Mr. Neff.

BIG BAILEY RALLY AT ABILENE FRIDAY

Friends and supporters of Joseph Weldon Bailey Candidate for Governor of Texas, announces that there will be a big Taylor County Bailey Rally at Abilene, tonight, Friday, August 20, and to which everybody, and especially his friends and supporters are cordially invited to be present.

It is expected that some of the states big orators and prominent citizens will be present and address those present. Besides there will be special music by the Abilene Concert Band.

TO THE TAXPAYERS AND VOTERS OF JONES COUNTY

I believe the good people of Jones County appreciate faithful and efficient service by their officers.

I am very anxious to serve you another term as your Tax Assessor.

Since I have been your Assessor it has been my purpose to give you fair and impartial service and I have become familiar with the duties of the office in detail and am better prepared to serve you than at any other time.

It is an admitted fact that the Tax Records are in much better shape than when I took charge of the office.

I believe it is the duty of each voter to weigh the merits and qualifications of each candidate with justice and equality and, then by your vote and influence use your best effort to select the man you conscientiously believe can serve you best.

I have held the office at a time when living expenses have been high and the office has not paid as much as in former years so if you can support me for one other term it will be appreciated for that reason also.

Thanking you for the splendid vote you gave me on July 24th and hoping you will give me a majority vote on August 28th I am yours to serve.

Very respectfully,

L. A. Saddler.

Candidate for Re-election to the office of Tax Assessor.

STORK HAS BUSY WEEK

One of the prominent local Physicians reports the following new arrivals for the week just passed.

On August 7th a son was born to Mrs. Geo. Patterson. On the 9th a son to Mr. and Mrs. R. E. Windham; on the 9th a son to Mr. and Mrs. Homer a daughter of Trent, on the 10th a daughter was born to Mr. and Mrs. Roscoe Bland; while on the same date a daughter was also born to Mr. and Mrs. T. D. Hannah; and on the 14th a son was born to Mr. and Mrs. John McClung, of the Golan community.

H. E. Britain and sister visited friends and relatives at Gatesville, this week.

TOM BLEDSOE IS BACK IN ABILENE

Tom Bledsoe who disappeared from Abilene about seven years ago while county judge, came back home last night on the Sunshine Special. He was accompanied by his attorney and friend, Judge J. F. Cunningham who had gone east to meet him.

After seven years wandering during which time he was in Canada, Mexico and Central America, Judge Bledsoe came back to face charges of forgery in connection with the alleged forging of county warrants.

On Friday Judge J. F. Cunningham received a telegram from Ex-County Judge Tom A. Bledsoe from Shreveport, La., asking Mr. Cunningham to meet him in Fort Worth for a conference. Judge Cunningham cancelled his speaking date for Joe Bailey at Snyder and went to Fort Worth and met his old friend. Judge Cunningham accompanied by Tom Bledsoe reached Abilene Saturday night on the Sunshine Special at 10:20. They were met at the train by Sheriff Jno. Bond, Deputy W. C. Ayers and Dr. L. W. Hollis. Immediately upon alighting from the train Judge Bledsoe surrendered to the sheriff. Mr. Bledsoe will make his bond either today or Monday, after which he will remain a day or two in Abilene and then go to his wife and children in Louisiana, whom he has not seen for nearly a year.

In Good Health
Judge Bledsoe looks in better health than his friends expected to see him in view of statements in his letter heretofore published in the Reporter regarding his bad health. Riding from the T & P Depot to the home of Dr. Hollis Judge Bledsoe remarked as the car passed the fire station it looks the same as ever; and there's where the old blacksmith shop used to stand, (referring to the old Gebauer shop site). I tell you it's great to be back in Abilene once more.

It was learned from Judge Bledsoe that when the United States declared war with Germany, that he was in Guatemala and that he at once went to the American Council and told him he was a citizen of the United States and tendered his services to his country. The Consul immediately arranged for him to the southern part of Mexico as a secret service man. Judge Bledsoe remained there several months gathered all the information necessary and started to return to make his report to the American Consul in Guatemala. He was arrested three times before he reached Guatemala. The last time they started with him back to the interior and he made it known that he was a Mason, after which a brother Mason arranged for his getaway and he was concealed in an oxcart covered with hay and carried fifty miles to the border thus concealed, after which he made his report and it went to the Federal Government. Judge Bledsoe then took sick and lay at death's door but was assisted by the consul.

Was in Minnesota

After the Armistice Judge Bledsoe, weighing only 110 pounds, left Guatemala for Mayo Brothers in Minnesota. His recovery was rapid and he remained in the northern climate for nearly two years, until his return to Abilene last night to surrender. He now weighs 136 pounds and looks hale and hearty and seems to have permanently recovered, and looks almost as young as when he left here over seven years ago. When Judge Bledsoe recovered from his illness he began traveling for a big flour mill, selling flour and has worked in this capacity

until the present time. His cases will come up for trial in the October term of court.

While sitting on the front porch at the home of Dr. Hollis Saturday night, Judge Bledsoe said, "The first thing I'm going to do tomorrow is visit the grave of my mother." (It will be remembered that Mrs. Bettie B. Bledsoe, mother of Judge Bledsoe, died early in this year and was buried in Abilene.) Judge Bledsoe was not in Abilene at any time during his mother's illness or after her death until last night.

He spent last night in the home of Dr. Hollis.—Abilene Reporter.

WILL SPEAK HERE FOR JOE BAILEY

Friends and supporters of Senator Bailey request us to announce that Judge Walter Morris, formerly of Abilene, but now of Fort Worth, will speak in Merkel next Saturday, August 21, at 2:30 p. m.

Judge Morris is said to be an able and eloquent speaker, and will interest those who hear him.

MR. DENNIS GOES TO MARKET

J. T. Dennis left last week for the markets, where he will buy his fall and winter stock of Dry Goods. He was accompanied by Mrs. H. D. Simpson, who will open in the Dennis store a large and complete stock of fall and winter Millinery goods. Mrs. Simpson is an experienced milliner, and is spending some time in St. Louis making selections of her stock. She will also have an assistant, another lady who is experienced in millinery work.

CAPTURES BIG RATLER

A large rattlesnake was captured last week by the crew drilling the Buttman well south of this city, which had 23 rattles and measured four and a half feet in length.

For several days the big reptile was on display in a screened box in the show window of the Men's Furnishing Store on the corner of the Beasley block.

Mr. Siegel, proprietor of the Economy Store, who on last Saturday opened for business on the corner second door from the Economy Store, his store for Men and Boys, known as the Corner Store, reports a rushing business. It is really one of the beauty business places of our city, and would do credit to a city much larger than our city. Infact it is just right up to the minute.

Unless some unforeseen pest or calamity happens to the crops in this country, the yield of cotton and feed stuff promise to break all records in amount. Infact it is no uncommon thing to hear men say it will take several months next year to finish gathering the crops made in 1920.

Oscar Buford and J. T. Milligan, have purchased the City Barber Shop on Front street. They are splendid barbers, excellent citizens, and say they expect to make this shop second to none in the city.

W. E. Adams residing a few miles north of Merkel, made this office a pleasant call one day this week. He reports crops as good as could be expected at this time.

Fresh car of Kimbell's Best Flour; Meal and Feed Stuffs at W. W. WOOD Cash Grocery. 1t

MUCH RAIN FALLS OVER THIS SECTION

According to Mayor J. J. Stallings, who for many years has kept the annual rain fall in Merkel there has fallen here since last Sunday morning a total of 5:68 inches. And for this month upto this date, there has fallen eight and twenty-four one hundred inches of rain, and for the year he has recorded a total of twenty-two and a half inches.

While there has been the above fall recorded in Merkel, we might add that a great deal of the country within a few miles of this city has at different times received as much as five or six inches more than has been received here.

BROWN—THOMAS

Mr. Dewey Brown and Miss Charlie Belle Thomas, both prominent and popular young people of Merkel, were happily united in marriage at Abilene Tuesday of this week.

The Groom is a son of Mr. and Mrs. G. B. Brown, is one of this city's most excellent young men, who numbers his friends by his acquaintances, while the bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. S. Thomas, is one of the city's most charming and excellent young ladies, with numerous friends and admirers.

Immediately after the ceremony the young people departed for points in Oklahoma for a honeymoon trip, and upon their return will go to Tuscola, where young Brown will have the management of a gin at that place this fall.

We join a host of friends in extending congratulations and good wishes.

We understand the happy couple was accompanied by Mason Pee, another one of Merkel's finest young men, who it is said will take unto himself a lovely bride now residing in Oklahoma. Should this be the case the Mail hastens to join a host of friends in extending congratulations.

MARRIES CALIFORNIA GIRL

C. A. Miller, one of this city's popular and excellent barbers, now with the H. M. Rose Barber Shops, quietly stole away from his friends and on Wednesday of last week was married at Big Spring, to Miss Rose Westover, a charming and accomplished young lady of California.

Shortly after the ceremony the happy couple arrived in this city to make it their home. We join their friends here and elsewhere, in extending congratulations and best wishes for a long happy prosperous married career.

FARMERS INSTITUTE

We are requested to announce that the meeting scheduled to meet in Merkel Saturday August 21, will take place at 2:30 p. m. at the Chamber of Commerce Hall, opposite the Post Office. A representative from the State Department of Agriculture will be present and assist in organizing a local organization here.

Quite a number of Merkel citizens who some time ago purchased stock in what is known as the Alamo Refining Company, were called to Eastland Monday of this week to a stockholders meeting, where an effort was made to straighten out the affairs of the company which had become entangled by the disappearance some weeks ago of the President and general manager of the Company together with a large part of the funds of the company.



in a nut shell

A Guaranty Fund Bank

The sign of the Guaranty Fund is a symbol of safety for depositors.

This time-tried and tested system of banking is an effective guarantee of Dependable Banking Protection.

Safeguard your money and your future by a connection with a bank that operates under the

GUARANTY FUND BANKING
LAW OF THE
STATE OF TEXAS

THE FARMERS STATE BANK

T. J. TOOMBS President
JOHN SEARS Vice President
R. L. BLAND Vice President
R. O. ANDERSON Cashier
F. Y. GAITHER Asst. Cashier

LESSONS OF OPTIMISM

Those who live in the rainy belts of Texas, Oklahoma and Arkansas can get a lesson of faith from the people of West Texas. If the rains come and crops are bountiful, they smile and rejoice in the prosperity that has come to them. If the rain fails to come and the crops will not grow, they live in the thorough belief that a merciful God will send the rain in time to save them. They are people of hope and faith.

Last year West Texas had ~~fair~~ and crops in abundance came forth from the earth. Conditions look promising now for another yield. A good crop now will mean the country can go one, two or three years without great suffering, if that is necessary. A crop every two years will keep the country prosperous the inhabitants insist, and one every year would mean untold wealth. If you get blue and feel

that the world is against you, take off a few days, go out to West Texas and become optimistic and hopeful and full of faith. Forget your troubles.—
Farm & Ranch.

CHICKENS & EGGS

Will Pay the Highest Market Price, in cash for all your Chickens and Eggs.

Fryars Especially Wanted.

Remember the Top Price in Cash

METROPOLITAN CAFE

Try a sack of Marechal Neal Flour. None better. Bob Martin Grocery Company. tf

BUY PROPERTY NOW

Farm and city property values can hardly decline.

There is promise of big crops this year.

If you intend buying, let us show you now.

Doubtless we can save you money.

Fire Insurance

Remember we write fire insurance on town and country property.

Merkel Realty Co.

W. O. BONEY

WALTER JACKSON



ALWAYS YOUR FRIEND—OUR BANK

We rejoice and are thankful with you for the fine rains and wish again to say:—

"When you become a customer of this bank you have the privilege of financial advice and protection from all its officers.

You receive a service that mere money cannot buy. This bank depends upon the success of its customers for its development."

THRIFT and a BANK ACCOUNT go hand in hand.

It is thrifty to invest in War Savings Stamps, too.



EGG-LAYING CONTEST AT STATE FAIR POULTRY SHOW

One of the novelties afforded by the State Fair of Texas season for 1920 will be the Egg-Laying Contest conducted on the grounds by the Poultry Department. It promises to be the center of interest for that section of the big exposition.

The plans for this event include the entry of fifteen pens of six females each. These will be brought

COME ON
SISTER
A COUPLE
MORE



into the department the opening day of the Fair, October 9, and placed in pens particularly assigned. They will then be placed under lock and key, the pens to be examined by the judges only, and decisions made on the final day of the State Fair season, October 24. The contest is expected to bring into competition some of the finest laying breeds known to American fanciers.

In addition to this event, the regular program for the poultry and pet stock department of the Fair promises much. The premiums are very liberal, and entries are already coming in at a rapid rate. S. T. Morgan is director in charge, and Walte. Burton is superintendent.

FAIR AMUSEMENTS PROMISING

During the next few weeks Secretary W. H. Stratton, of the State Fair of Texas, is going to have some important announcements to make in regard to amusements. The finest novelties and features the amusement world affords are now open to State Fair engagements, and the most select of the 1920 offerings will be secured by Mr. Stratton.

SEE THE GOODS BOUGHT FOR YOU

NEW GOODS ARRIVING DAILY

COME! IT WILL BE OUR GREAT PLEASURE TO SHOW YOU

ONE PRICE -- FOR CASH

THE BROWN DRY GOODS CO.

PUREBREDS COMPETE FOR \$65,000 PURSES

Livestock Division at State Fair of Texas Breaks All Records For Amount of Prizes

With the State of Texas looking forward to one of the most prosperous cattle years of its history, the State Fair of Texas is not over-optimistic in predicting that the season of 1920 is going to be the greatest year in its history so far as the Livestock division is concerned. A total of \$65,000 in premiums, breaking all past records for this department, is the prize dangling before the eyes of the owners of show herds of America. In addition to this, tens of thousands of farmers and stock raisers will attend the Fair eager to pick up purebreds to improve their own cattle strains. This is a great



opportunity for the show cattle owners, and they are coming—stronger than ever before.

The Hereford and Shorthorn breeds lead the field in the allotments for beef cattle, with \$15,000 each. Aberdeen-Angus come next, with \$5,000. Then the dairy breeds "cut in" for their share, which is \$7,500 this season. Swine easily make way with \$5,000, while horses, mules and jacks will draw \$7,000. The sheep and goat section, with the dozens of incidental classifications, absorb the remainder.

All premiums are generous to a degree this season, and exhibitors are exceedingly enthusiastic. The fact that the State Fair is building two new livestock barns, both of modern fireproof construction, which will give plenty of accommodation, is bringing the animals that never made the Southwestern swing before.

NEW AND USED

WE HAVE

ONE NEW FORD CAR
ONE USED FORD CAR
ONE USED DODGE CAR

THREE NEW BUICKS, ONE ROADSTER
AND 2, 5 PASSENGER TURING CARS

All at a Bargain

MERKEL GARAGE

MORE MILAGE TIRE CO.

Vulcanizing

Battery and Electric Repairing

Oxy-Acetylene Welding

WHY NOT BE FAIR?

"Increases in public utility and railroad rates have been necessary to maintain service. The increases granted, however, have in most cases been inadequate to cover increased cost of operation and as a result many companies are in desperate circumstances.

"The main fight against increased rates yielding a fair return is always carried on by some radical publication or politician.

"A bitter fight has been on in New York to prevent increased car fares and other utility rates.

"To show the inconsistency of the papers waging this campaign it is interesting to note the increase in subscription rates of New York Publications from 1914 to 1920. Eleven of the leading national magazines published

there have raised news stand rates from 40 to 233 percent or an average of over 84½ percent each. The most radical against the utilities has increased its price from 15¢ to 35¢ or 133 percent.

"The 10 leading newspapers of the city have increased subscription rates from 30 to 260 percent. The one leading the fight against any increase in utility rates raised its annual subscription price from \$3 to \$8 or 167 percent.

"Supposing these publications had had to go before a public utility commission to secure such increases in rates and the commission had refused to grant any increase during 6 years as had been the case in many instances with utilities; how many of these papers and magazines would have been in existence today?"

Mrs. J. M. Ashby is in receipt of the sad news announcing the death last week of her brother Mr. Leonard Renfro, who died at Fayetteville, Tennessee, and who leaves a young wife and one child.

Purity and healing power are the chief characteristics of Liquid Borzone. It mends torn cut burned or scalded flesh with wonderful promptness. Price, 30¢, 60¢ and \$1.20. Sold by Sanders Drug Store. Aug.

We are glad to learn that Mrs. Arthur Bland who for many weeks has been suffering from a severe attack of typhoid fever is improving nicely at present J. E. Replegle, was the experienced and capable nurse in charge.

When you feel lazy, out of sorts and yawn a good deal in the day time, you need Herbine to stimulate your liver, tone up your stomach and purify your bowels. Price, 60¢. Sold by Sanders Drug Store. Aug.

E. N. Brown and son Yates returned first of the week from attending the Baptist Encampment at Christoval.

Dr. Geo. Howard of Dallas, is here for a visit to his father, J. T. Howard of the Farmers and Merchants National Bank.

For good meals and good behavior Mrs. Rogers will also be glad to do your laundry work. If

Many men are always ready to "start something," but all should hesitate and think a good deal before starting a new political party. How many people have you known to hold office who didn't reach the pie counter through the aid of the Democratic or Republican parties?

Roses Barber Shops. BEST BARBERS IN TOWN. We have added to our Bath Equipment and can now take better care of our customers in that line. Roses Shop. Your trade appreciated. If

10c GEM THEATRE 20c

UNDER NEW MANAGEMENT

We are working for your interest and will appreciate your patronage.
H. T. Hodge, Prop.

Program for Week, Beginning Friday August 20

Friday

AL JENNINGS
in "The Laws Defence"
A story of his life
"TRAILED BY THREE"
Exciting story of adventure
A comedy & International News Weekly

Monday

TEXAS GUINAN, Queen of the West in
"Her Sacrifice"
EMMETT DALTON
in "Woman Wins"
And a Comedy

Wednesday

"IN THE RIVER"
A Canadian Northwestern Drama
"THE CHAMPEEN"
A roaring 2 reel comedy and a
two reel Western
10-20 CENTS

Saturday

NEAL HART
in "Barenuckle Gallager"
A Thrilling western Drama
"THE DODGER"
A 2 reel Billie West Comedy
and other reels
Extra Matinee Only "Trailed By Three"

Tuesday

A Goldwyn Special
"THE CUP OF FURY"
A great picture in 7 reels
Extra Billy Franey Comedy

Thursday

"DR. JEKYL AND MR. HYDE
In 5 reels. You've read the book now
see the picture.
Extra A Christie Comedy
10-20 CENTS

STATE FAIR TO HAVE BIG MEXICAN EXHIBIT

Neighboring Republic Already at
Work on Plans For This Event

The State of Texas and the United States has received a distinct compliment through the fact that the new Mexican government has consented to send to the State Fair of Texas for the season of 1920 the Mexican



One of Mexico City's Famous Bands
Will Accompany the Exhibit

National Exhibit, the great fair in itself that the neighboring republic to the south sends—and only on rare occasions—to visit foreign soil.

The Mexican exhibit will be one of the rarest and most entertaining features ever offered by the State Fair. It will include showings from every state in the Mexican union, portraying the industrial and agricultural production of Mexico, and the unbounded raw resources of that nation. This exhibit will occupy the entire outer space of the State Fair Coliseum building.

As a part of the guard of honor that will accompany the exhibit, Mexico will send one of her world-famous bands. There are three of these bands in Mexico City, all noted musical organizations.

Senor Luis Lupian, special representative of General Jacinto B. Trevino, secretary of the department of Industry and Commerce, visited Mr. Stratton and the State Fair recently, and spent two days in going over plans for the event. He returned to Mexico, and his visit and its results met with the entire approval of his superior, as General Trevino's department has already notified each Mexican state of plans made, and giving them their assignments.

Forty years of constant use is the best proof of the effectiveness of White's Cream Vermifuge for expelling worms in children or adults. Price 35¢. Sold by Sanders Drug Store. Aug.

The Farmers & Merchants National Bank is a member of the Federal Reserve System, supervised and controlled by Uncle Sam. We invite your business.

Better see about that Coal Box and then phone 48 and Call for Clifford Rose tell him how many tons it will take to run you through the winter. Best time to BUY IS NOW. tf

Your Prescriptions will be filled accurately and by registered druggists at the Merkel Drug Company. tf

Lone Star Planting Seed

For 1921

Sold by G. H. McDonald and
R. O. Anderson, Merkel, Texas.

Watch this space for statistics on Lone Star Cotton by the department of Agriculture, Washington.

PULLMAN BREAKFAST NOOKS

One of the latest home conveniences is this cozy built-in breakfast nook.

The table and seats are built in a corner of the kitchen or between the kitchen and dining room.

This is one of the novel features in many of our model home plans or we will gladly assist you in planning one to be built in your home.

To help you make your house more of a real HOME is both a pleasure and a duty with us.

BURTON-LINGO CO.

PHONE 74

L. D. Levy Local Mgr.

TIRES, TUBES, BATTERIES

We have a complete stock of Tires, Tubes and Batteries—all kinds and sizes. Guaranteed milage to 8,000 miles.

Batteries guaranteed 18 months and two years

MORE MILAGE TIRE CO.

J. HENDRICKS, Proprietor

GEM CONFECTIONERY

Wishes to call the attention of the public to the fact that it has added to its business a full line of Magazines, and invite their inspection of same.

We are also head quarters for Cold Drinks, Ice Cream, Fresh Fruits, Candy & Cigars.

SPECIAL FARM BARGAINS

We have several nice farms for sale with the rent for the crops of this year included in the purchase price. Also some bargains in valuable and desirable City property in both Merkel and Trent.

If you have any property to sell we would like to have you list with us. We are in touch with buyers every day, and promise a square deal to all concerned.

EAST & WEST TEXAS LAND COMPANY

R. E. Lee Manager

Trent, Texas

NEW AND USED

WE HAVE
ONE NEW FORD CAR
ONE USED FORD CAR
ONE USED DODGE CAR

THREE NEW BUICKS, ONE ROADSTER
AND 2, 5 PASSENGER TURING CARS

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"The 10 leading newspapers of the city have increased subscription rates from 30 to 260 percent. The one leading the fight against any increase in utility rates raised its annual subscription price from \$3 to \$8 or 167 per cent.

"Supposing these publications had had to go before a public utility commission to secure such increases in rates and the commission had refused to grant any increase during 6 years as had been the case in many instances with utilities; how many of these papers and magazines would have been in existence today?"

Mrs. J. M. Ashby is in receipt of the sad news announcing the death last week of her brother Mr. Leonard Renfro, who died at Fayetteville, Tennessee, and who leaves a young wife and one child.

Purity and healing power are the chief characteristics of Liquid Borozone. It mends torn cut burned or scalded flesh with wonderful promptness. Price, 30¢, 60¢ and \$1.20. Sold by Sanders Drug Store. Aug.

We are glad to learn that Mrs. Arthur Bland who for many weeks has been suffering from a severe attack of typhoid fever is improving nicely at present J. E. Replogle, was the experienced and capable nurse in charge.

When you feel lazy, out of sorts and yawn a good deal in the day time, you need Herbine to stimulate your liver, tone up your stomach and purify your bowels. Price, 60¢. Sold by Sanders Drug Store. Aug.

E. N. Brown and son Yates returned first of the week from attending the Baptist Encampment at Christoval.

Dr. Geo. Howard of Dallas, is here for a visit to his father, J. T. Howard of the Farmers and Merchants National Bank.

For good meals and good Beer, call at Mrs. ogins Will also be glad to do your laundry work. tf

Many men are always ready to "start something," but all should hesitate and think a good deal before starting a new political party. How many people have you know, to hold office who didn't reach the pie counter through the aid of the Democratic or Republican parties?

Roses Barber Shops. BEST BARBERS IN TOWN. We have added to our Bath Equipment and can now take better care of our customers in that line. Roses Shop. Your trade appreciated. tf

PULLMAN BREAKFAST NOOKS

One of the latest home conveniences is this cozy built-in breakfast nook.

The table and seats are built in a corner of the kitchen or between the kitchen and dining room.

This is one of the novel features in many of our model home plans or we will gladly assist you in planning one to be built in your home.

To help you make your house more of a real HOME is both a pleasure and a duty with us.

BURTON-LINGO CO.

PHONE 74

L. D. Levy Local Mgr.

10c GEM THEATRE 20c

UNDER NEW MANAGEMENT

We are working for your interest and will appreciate your patronage.
H. T. Hodge, Prop.

Program for Week, Beginning Friday August 20

Friday

AL JENNINGS
in "The Laws Defence"
A story of his life
"TRAILED BY THREE"
Exciting story of adventure
A comedy & International News Weekly

Monday

TEXAS GUINAN, Queen of the West in
"Her Sacrifice"
EMMETT DALTON
in "Woman Wins"
And a Comedy

Wednesday

"IN THE RIVER"
A Canadian Northwestern Drama
"THE CHAMPEEN"
A roaring 2 reel comedy and a
two reel Western
10-20 CENTS

Saturday

NEAL HART
in "Bareknuckle Gallagher"
A Thrilling western Drama
"THE DODGER"
A 2 reel Billie West Comedy
and other reels
Extra Matinee Only "Trailed By Three"

Tuesday

A Goldwyn Special
"THE CUP OF FURY"
A great picture in 7 reels
Extra Billy Franey Comedy

Thursday

"DR. JEKYL AND MR. HYDE"
In 5 reels. You've read the book now
see the picture.
Extra A Christie Comedy
10-20 CENTS

STATE FAIR TO HAVE BIG MEXICAN EXHIBIT

Neighboring Republic Already At Work on Plans For This Event

The State of Texas and the United States has received a distinct compliment through the fact that the new Mexican government has consented to send to the State Fair of Texas for the season of 1920 the Mexican



One of Mexico City's Famous Bands Will Accompany the Exhibit

National Exhibit, the great fair in itself that the neighboring republic to the south sends—and only on rare occasions—to visit foreign soil.

The Mexican exhibit will be one of the rarest and most entertaining features ever offered by the State Fair. It will include showings from every state in the Mexican union, portraying the industrial and agricultural production of Mexico, and the unbounded raw resources of that nation. This exhibit will occupy the entire outer space of the State Fair Coliseum building.

As a part of the guard of honor that will accompany the exhibit, Mexico will send one of her world-famous bands. There are three of these bands in Mexico City, all noted musical organizations.

Senor Luis Lupian, special representative of General Jacinto B. Trevino, secretary of the department of Industry and Commerce, visited Mr. Stratton and the State Fair recently, and spent two days in going over plans for the event. He returned to Mexico, and his visit and its results met with the entire approval of his superior, as General Trevino's department has already notified each Mexican state of plans made, and giving them their assignments.

Forty years of constant use is the best proof of the effectiveness of White's Cream Vermifuge for expelling worms in child ren or adults. Price 35¢. Sold by Sanders Drug Store. Aug

The Farmers & Merchants National Bank is a member of the Federal Reserve System, supervised and controlled by Uncle Sam. We invite your business.

Better see about that Coal Box and then phone 48 and Call for Clifford Rose tell him how many tons it will take to run you through the winter. Best time to BUY IS NOW. tf

Your Prescriptions will be filled accurately and by registered druggists at the Merkel Drug Company. tf

Lone Star Planting Seed

For 1921

Sold by G. H. McDonald and R. O. Anderson, Merkel, Texas.

Watch this space for statistics on Lone Star Cotton by the department of Agriculture, Washington.

TIRES, TUBES. BATTERIES

We have a complete stock of Tires, Tubes and Batteries—all kinds and sizes. Guaranteed milage to 8,000 miles.

Batteries guaranteed 18 months and two years

MORE MILAGE TIRE CO.

J. HENDRICKS, Proprietor

GEM CONFECTIONERY

Wishes to call the attention of the public to the fact that it has added to its business a full line of Magazines, and invite their inspection of same.

We are also head quarters for Cold Drinks, Ice Cream, Fresh Fruits, Candy & Cigars.

SPECIAL FARM BARGAINS

We have several nice farms for sale with the rent for the crops of this year included in the purchase price. Also some bargains in valuable and desirable City property in both Merkel and Trent.

If you have any property to sell we would like to have you list with us. We are in touch with buyers every day, and promise a square deal to all concerned.

EAST & WEST TEXAS LAND COMPANY

R. E. Lee Manager

Trent, Texas

The Merkel Mail

Published Every Friday Morning by
THE MERKEL MAIL PRINTING COMPANY, INC.
THOMAS DURHAM, Editor and Manager
SUBSCRIPTION \$1.50 PER YEAR
TELEPHONE No. 61

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

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

Foreign Advertising Representative
THE AMERICAN PRESS ASSOCIATION

Great Crops are in progress of maturing in the Merkel country. There is a great season in the ground, which insures the entire maturity of all crops in this section.

Out in Los Angeles a husband filed charges against a man who eloped with his wife and money, but withdrew his complaint as soon as he got his money back. In the final analysis, man is not hard to please.

The August bridegrooms look just about as giddily ecstatic as the June crop did, but the June-sters have reached the point where they are omitting a couple of shaves a week.

School will begin on September 6, just two weeks, and it is said that there is not a residence in Merkel for rent at this time. It would be a good investment for someone to build a few tenant houses in Merkel.

An exchange bewail the fact that so few women have good feet. Never having served as a chiropodist, we know little of the conditions of the feminine foot, but we do know that more women buy shoes to fit other people's eyes than they do to fit their feet.

Health About Gone

Many thousands of women suffering from womanly trouble, have been benefited by the use of Cardui, the woman's tonic, according to letters we receive, similar to this one from Mrs. Z. V. Spell, of Hayne, N. C. "I could not stand on my feet, and just suffered terribly," she says. "As my suffering was so great, and he had tried other remedies, Dr. — had us get Cardui. . . I began improving, and it cured me. I know, and my doctor knows, what Cardui did for me, for my nerves and health were about gone."

TAKE

CARDUI

The Woman's Tonic

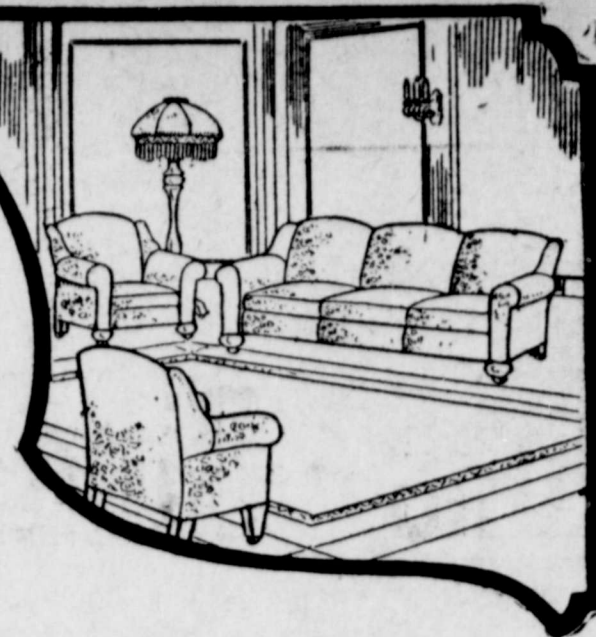
She writes further: "I am in splendid health . . . can do my work. I feel I owe it to Cardui, for I was in dreadful condition." If you are nervous, run-down and weak, or suffer from headache, backache, etc., every month, try Cardui. Thousands of women praise this medicine for the good it has done them, and many physicians who have used Cardui successfully with their women patients, for years, endorse this medicine. Think what it means to be in splendid health, like Mrs. Spell. Give Cardui a trial.

All Druggists

J 72



WE'RE NOT SHOP KEEPERS WE'RE HOME MAKERS

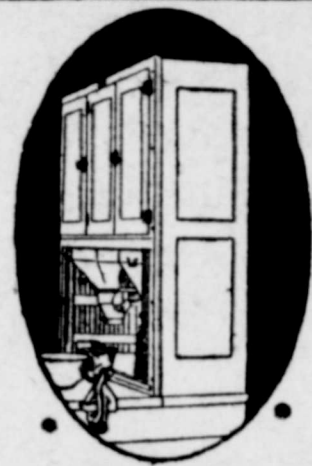


You don't have to go elsewhere to find what you want. We are proud of the fact that we have one of the largest and best Furniture Stores in West Texas and are in a position to supply your every want, from the very cheapest to the very best. We have just as large an assortment to select from as you will find in any of the larger cities, and best of all we can sell it at a much cheaper price, as the following telegram will show:

Barrow Furniture Co.
Merkel, Texas

Will take the blue living room suit, please save it for me.

HOOSIER



From every angle the Hoosier proves its superiority, not only as the best kitchen cabinet, but as the best labor saving device that could possibly be installed in your kitchen. Come in and let us prove the full truth of this assertion.

We still have a few Hoosiers at the old price, we can save you from eight to ten dollars, on the cabinet. You had better buy now while you can get the best cabinet made for less money than you will have to pay for one not near so good.

SPECIAL PRICES

For the next week we will make a special price on all Reed and Wicker goods. If you want a bargain don't fail to see them this week.

Barrow Furniture Company

"Don't argue with your wife," advises Luke McLuke. What we desire to know is, how in the world can a man argue if he never gets a chance to say anything? We put it up to Luke for reply.

The chief sensation that follows the purchase of the first car is the urgent need of a two-hour day, an 18-hour night, and a free pass at the restaurants and other filling stations.

Prospects are possibly the best ever witnessed at this time of year for the largest yield of all crops ever experienced in this section of the country.

There is no important difference between a pessimist and an egotist. A pessimist may predict disaster, and still rejoice if it fails to materialize; an egotist will predict it and be miserable if events write him down a fool. The war proved there are some of that kind in the country too.

More than 21,000 bales of the fleecy staple was weighed at the Merkel Cotton Yard of the 1919-20 crop. It is the prediction of many that the 1920-21 crop will likely run around the 30,000 mark. There should be no pessimistic grumblers in this country this fall.

FOR SALE—My Residence in South Merkel, two lots well improved, also some household and kitchen furniture and good milk cow. W. S. Telford, Box 394, Merkel, Texas. 20t3p

Harry Merritt, son of Mr. and Mrs. H. T. Merritt, left Tuesday for Fort Worth, where he will attend school this next school term. Harry is a fine young man, and we join his many friends here in wishing for him that splendid degree of success which we feel sure will crown his efforts.

FARM WANTED
Wanted to hear from owner of farm or good land for sale. Must be priced right. Write L. Jones, Box 551, Olney, Ill. 1tp

COZY THEATRE

SPECIAL MATINEE SATURDAY 2 to 5:30

Friday, August 20 Admission 10-20c
Charles Ray Larry Semon
in in
"Greased Lightning" "Dull Care"
Lyons-Moran in "Kidding the Landlord"

Saturday August 21 Admission 10-20c
Madlaine Traverse Charlie Chaplin
in in
"Tattlers" "A Dog's Life"
Mutt & Jeff in "Hulatown"

Monday August 23 Admission 10-20c
William Duncan
in
"The Silent Avenger No. 8 and 9
Also Good Comedy, Western, and Fox News

Wednesday, August 25 Admission 10-20c
Theda Bara Sunshine Comedians
in in
"The Lure of Ambition" "Lightweight Lovers"
Topics of the Day

Tuesday, August 24 One Night Only
Mary Miles Minter in "Anne of Green Gables"
A Real Art Special, from the four "Anne" books, by L. M. Montgomery
Admission 10-20-30c

Thursday August 26 Admission 10-20c
Chas. Ray George Ovey
in in
"String Beans" "Hits & Misses"
The Gumps in "High Cost Living"

COMING—
Mary Pickford
IN
"THE HOODLUM"

ADVANCE

On account of recent advance in the cost of electrical material effective September 1st we will advance the price of electric house wiring 50¢ per room. All orders received to September 1st will be at the old price \$3.00 per room.

MERKEL POWER Co.

The merchants of Merkel are beginning to receive their new fall and winter stocks of merchandise. They are a live, wide awake, honest bunch of business men, who desire to serve their patrons honorably and efficiently with the quality and kind of goods they need and desire. They should receive the hearty cooperation and patronage of the people of the town and surrounding country. There should be no sending away to the mail order houses by the people of this section this year. Keep Merkel money in Merkel, and help make the home town grow. The larger the town becomes the better market will be afforded the farmers and a better place in which to buy your goods.

Plenty Good Flour, Meal, Brand, Cotton Seed Meal and Maize Chops, and it must move. See A. L. Jobe. 20t2

LOOK OUT FOR THE CARS

DO YOU know of anyone who is old enough to read, who has not seen that sign at a railroad crossing?

If everyone has seen it at some time or other, then why doesn't the railroad let the sign rot away? Why does the railroad company continue to keep those signs at every crossing?

Maybe you think, Mr. Merchant, "Most everybody knows my store, I don't have to advertise."

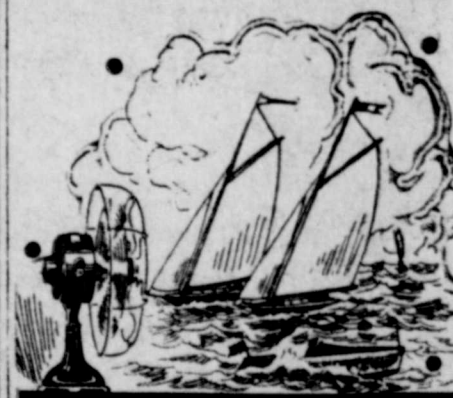
Your store and your goods need more advertising than the railroads need to warn people to "Look Out for the Cars."

Nothing is ever completed in the advertising world.

The Department Stores are a very good example—they are continually advertising—and they are continually doing a good business.

If it pays to run a few ads 'round about Christmas time, it certainly will pay you to run advertisements about all the time.

It's just business, that's all, to ADVERTISE in THIS PAPER



SHORE BREEZES

—At Your Command

Let the Electric Fan bring the seashore to your home.

Gentle zephyrs, fair sailing breezes or northerly "busters"—At Your Command.

'Phone 202, we'll send you a "Shore breeze" maker.

MERKEL POWER CO.



Wagons - Binders - Windmills - Groceries

If you are contemplating buying a new wagon this year come and get our prices on the Mitchell wagon and look it over, and we believe you will be pleased with the wagon when you see it. Most of the people in the country know the Mitchell wagon and know it to be a standard. We have only a few more wagons in stock, which will be sold at present prices. So come and let us sell you one before the present lot is gone.

John Deere Row Binders

We carry the John Deere Row Binder in stock, and if in the market for a binder would be pleased for you to call at our store and let us show you the binder which we have on our floor. Also would be glad for you to talk with anyone who has run the above make binder.

We carry several different brands of wood and coal cook stoves. Also the Perfection oil stove. When in the market for a cook stove, whether that be coal and wood or oil, come and see us, we'll make the price right.

Eclipse and Star Mills

We carry the Star, Leader and the old reliable Eclipse windmills in stock. We wish to close out what mills we have in the wood Star and Leader and carry in the future the Eclipse in the wood and the steel Star. So if in the market for a mill it will pay you to figure with us.

We have a full line of well piping of the different sizes. Also pipe fittings.

Our Hardware in all lines is the largest stock we have ever had. Your trade is appreciated.

GROCERY DEPARTMENT

We carry at all times a full line of Groceries and we think you will find it to your interest to buy your groceries here. Expecting car of American Beauty flour, bran and shorts. Come see us. Free delivery in city.

Crown Hardware Company

CLASSIFIED ADS

WANTED—Your sewing, plain and fancy. Mrs. Morgan. L. E. Sanders residence. 6t4

LOST—A small Brown Horse Mule, with halter on when left home. About 5 years old. Will pay Reward for recovery. Notify J. E. Morrison, Tye, Route two. 13t2p

SCHOOL TEACHERS WANTED—Would like to communicate in person or by mail, with teachers holding first, Second grade certificates. Address E. W. Turner, Merkel, Texas, Route five. 13t2p

WANTED—To buy two-room house. If you have one see me at the Gem Confectionary. tf

WANTED—To sell a good four room house and three lots on Cherry street for \$1,000. If interested see me quick at the Gem Confectionary. tf

OAK WOOD—Have invoice to car Oak Wood. Cheapest Wood you can buy. Phone Orders to 291. T. J. R. Swafford. 20t2

FOR SALE—Two houses, close in. Also good farm well located. S. M. Haynes. tf

Why is it that many men find no pleasure in the political game, but rather turn away in disgust? You ask. You ought to be able to read the answer in the present campaign for governor. If you are a lover of fairness you find little cause to rejoice over the campaign methods. How many items have been lugged in that have no real bearing on fitness to serve or policies of government, their only purpose being to create a prejudice or

bias in the minds of the people? Suppose two or three men should apply for a position in some private business institution and in order to aid or hinder an applicant's chances such foolishness should be brought to the mind of the employer? And yet, the people of Texas, in selecting a governor, are only employing a man to work. The more one thinks on the methods of the politicians the less likely is he to enthuse over an election or do uncanny

stunts to aid some candidate in making his election sure.

Some people may be found on the front seat at the meeting house every Sunday, wearing a sanctious smile, sing and pray loud, and yet during the week make all schemes to, if possible "skin" a brother in a trade. But some people are "justifiable" in any kind of conduct when it comes to making a dollar.

Some people are always finding fault with this or that until they secure the rains of power, and then the other fellow generally has a real right to a kick.

Some people seem to think that one of the main things a newspaper is published for is to ridicule and sensure the things they are opposed to.

FOR SALE—Some good second hand lumber. Call at Merkel Motor Company. 1tp

Miss Mildred Sanders of Putnam spent Sunday in Merkel with home folks.

AN EVERLASTING REMINDER

IF YOU WANT YOUR KINSFOLK AND FRIENDS TO ALWAYS REMEMBER YOU AS YOU ARE TODAY

LET US MAKE THAT PHOTO NOW

Our photos guaranteed to last always.

THE BEST TIME FOR SITTINGS MADE BY APPOINTMENT.

"Photographs of the Better Kind"

THE COZY STUDIO

PHONE 314 JNO. C. REINHARD, MGR.

TRADE REGISTERED MARK

LITTELL'S

LITTELL'S LIQUID SULPHUR COMPOUND

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

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

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

Small size 50 cents bottle. Large size \$1.00

JAMES F. BALLARD, Prop. St. Louis, Mo.



Wagons - Binders - Windmills - Groceries

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PHONE 314

JNO. C. REINHARD, MGR.

WHY EDITORS MAKE MISTAKES

The editor of a newspaper is not infallible and makes mistakes the same as any other human being but no one knows better than does the editor himself. The nature of an editor's work makes his mistakes more conspicuous.

We have noticed a number of squibs in our exchanges regarding mistakes. These items lead us to believe that other dufters besides editors are subject to this malady. The editor's mistakes stand out more conspicuously than most professional men's because every issue of his paper is an open letter to the public.

A fellow may happen along and inform his neighbor that there is a new set of twins at Hick's place and if it later develops that the twins were a boy, no one pays any attention to the originator of the false rumor. But if it appears in the paper as originally reported the father will, in all probability, be down and exchange bullet courtesies with the editor.

Again when the village belle chances to get tied up with some worthless cuss, whose only qualifications are that he can chew tobacco and relate suggestive stories, the whole town may with impunity review the past history of the two and it cuts very little ice. But if the editor happens to spell the Groom's name with an "o" instead of an "a" and overlook to record the fact that the bride is a member in good standing of the Ladies Aid Society they both would be insulted and mercilessly flay the editor and his Gimlet.

Everybody makes mistakes. The only ones who don't make them are slumbering in the cemeteries—and it is not likely some of them are there because the doctors also make mistakes.

A man often makes a mistake by marrying when he should have taken a postgraduate course in how to support himself. And the woman is often in error when she wantonly throws herself

Matched Suites and Odd Pieces



For The Bed Room

The growth of our business during the past few months is the result of our constant efforts to increase the buying power of your dollars. This week's showing of Matched Suites and Odd Pieces for the bed room is an impressive one with offerings that are irregular, both in styles and prices. We want every one to see the new goods.

Dressers Reduced



Our method of reducing stocks is to reduce prices. Our stock of dressers on hand is too large and we will run the stock down to normal in the next few days by selling them very much under value.

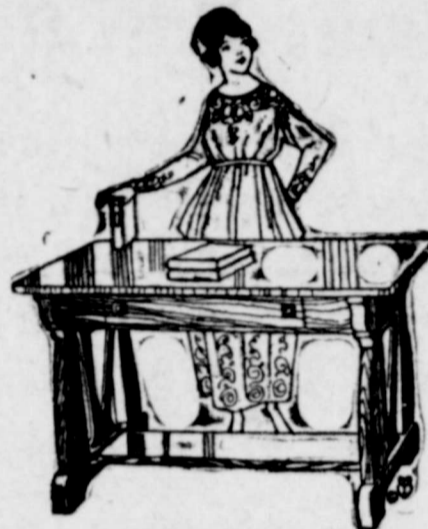
We can furnish almost any style in medium priced cases.

Library Tables Moderately Priced

Our display of Library Tables is not as varied as we would have it be, but have some very good values in high grade tables.

Any one of them will be a pride and

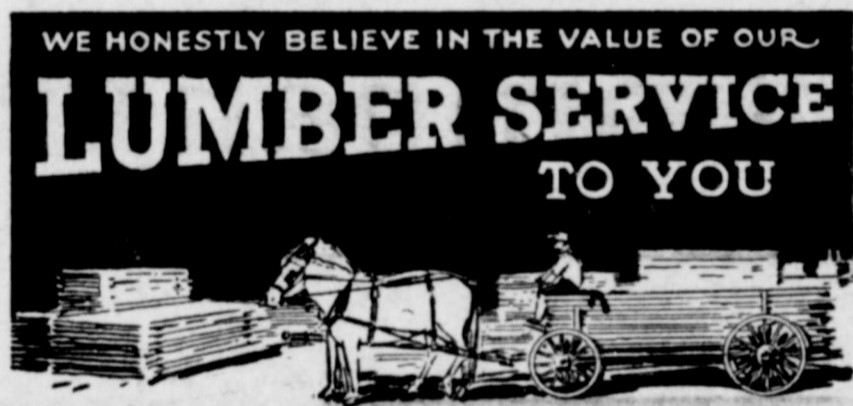
a joy to any house, and the construction is almost indestructible.



J. T. DARSEY & COMPANY

Carey's Blue Ribbon Paint

Nails, Screen Wire



Naturally we want your business. We will do any reasonable thing within our power to secure it.

Our buying facilities, our ability in building material lines, are the equal of any in the field.

The big value to you in our service is the desire on our part to merit your trade.

It will mean your satisfaction, will save you many a dollar in the end.



One car of Life-Time Red Cedar Post. Car Red Fence — Car Cypress Shingles

Lime, Brick and Cement

Window Glass

away on some fool who can sing coon songs like Caruso but could not make a noise like a loaf of bread to save his life.

A boy makes a mistake when he thinks he knows more than the entire staff of teachers, including the principal of the schools. The world is plumb full of mistakes and mistake makers.

If a newspaper man should take the pains to record them all he'd make the mistake of his life and die on the bed of his press with his shirt sleeves rolled up and his boots on.—Newville, (Pa.) Times-Star.

When you feel dull ached and sleepy and want to stretch frequently, you are ripe for an attack of malaria. Take Herbine at once. It cures malaria and chills and puts the system in order. Price, 60¢. Sold by Sanders Drug Store. Aug.

A TEXAS WONDER

For kidney and bladder troubles, gravel, diabetes, weak and lame back, rheumatism and all irregularities of the kidneys and bladder. Regulates bladder troubles in children. If not sold by your druggist, by mail \$1.25. Small bottle is two month's treatment, and often perfects a cure. Send for testimonials from this and other states. Dr E W. Hall, 2926 Olive, Street, St Louis Mo., Sold by druggists.

"It is harder on blind men now than ever. Fashion has decreed that women's skirts will be two inches shorter than they were last year," says the Cleburne Daily Enterprise. "Most every one knows how short they were last year. Besides the shortness of the skirts, the ultra-fashionable will have the new slit down the—what shall we call it—the thing that holds the body to the foot. It appears to one who has lived a long time and has seen the changing fashions as they have been handed down the various years that fashion has decreed during this particular period that women shall exhibit more of their beautiful curves than ever. And still they expect men, animals as they are by nature, to be good."—Fort Worth Record.

If the baby suffers from wind colic, diarrhoea or summer complaints, give it McGee's Baby Elixir. It is a pure, harmless and effective remedy. Price, 35 and 60¢. Sold by Sanders Drug Store. Aug

J. H. Grayson who recently purchased a nice home in Merkel, has moved to same with his family this week from their farm in the Shiloh community. They are splendid people and Merkel welcomes them as citizens.

BUY COAL NOW

AND SAVE MONEY

For immediate delivery we have some good Coal such as: New Mexico--Dawson Fancy Egg Domino Grate and Swastika Fuel. All Deliveries are strictly CASH ON DELIVERY

H. M. ROSE & SON

Phone 48

PROFESSIONAL

DR. GAMBILL

—D-e-n-t-i-s-t—

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

DR. MILLER

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

DR. M. ARMSTRONG

General Practice

Private Drug Department

Merkel, Texas

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 Crown Hardware Co. Merkel — Texas

W. P. MAHAFFEY

Attorney at Law

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

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All Work Guaranteed

Will call for and deliver work. Phone 189 Front Street

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Surgeon Dentist

Office over Farmers State Bank Office Phone 306

DR. CHAS. F. WILLIAMS

Chronic Diseases a Specialty.

General Practice

Office Phone 280, 105 Res. 270

E. D. COATS

Real Estate, Oil Stock, And Notary Public

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DR. MCGUIRE

Graduate Optician

Ballinger Texas

At Dr. Smith's Office

THURSDAY AUGUST 12

Merkel, Texas

Painting and Paper Hanging

Let Thomas Bros. do your Painting and Paperhanging. Prices Reasonable Try Us 25t4p

WANTS YOUR WORK

John McDonald Contractor & Builder. Plans Drawn and Estimates made on short notice. Merkel, Texas

T. J. R. SWAFFORD

Coal

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Phone 291

BOOKKEEPING

FREE New Secretarial Course prepared by business men, guarantees position and saves three months' time; given NOW for price of shorthand alone, making bookkeeping FREE. Other special rates now. Ask for Copy 5. BRANSON'S BUSINESS COLLEGE, ABILENE, TEX.

1,000 BOYS AND GIRLS TO VISIT STATE FAIR

Educational Encampment Also to See
Distribution of Scholarships

One thousand boys and girls, coming from all the counties in Texas where the Boys' and Girls' Clubs are active, will be guests of the State of Texas during the season of 1920 at the Educational Encampment.

This season the work will be furthered a great deal more by the distribution of State Fair scholarships. These special prizes will be distributed during the State Fair season, as follows:

To Boys: Three A. & M. College scholarships to members of the Boys'



Boys and Girls From Farms Will Be
Guests of State Fair

Agricultural Clubs, as follows: One for the best record in the production of corn in 1920, given by the Southland Life Insurance Co., Dallas; one for the best production of grain sorghum in 1920, given by J. F. Strickland, President Texas Electric Railways, Dallas; one for the best production of peanuts in 1920, given by the Times Herald Printing Co., Dallas.

To Girls: Three Home Demonstration Scholarships to one of the State Colleges for Girls for members of Girls' Clubs, as follows: One for the first and second year work for 1920, given by L. H. Lewis Company of Dallas; one for third year work for 1920 given by Sears-Roebuck & Co., of Texas; one for fourth year work for 1920, given by Titcher-Goettinger Co. of Dallas.

While at the Fair as guests of the management, the youngsters of the Educational Encampment will be given a royal time. The entire period will by no means be devoted to research work. Amusement in plenty will be furnished.

ADVANCED FALL STYLES

☞ We are receiving daily big shipments of new fall and winter goods.

☞ Our millinery buyer has just returned from St. Louis, where she purchased the largest and most complete stock of millinery ever shown in Merkel.

☞ Our general buyer, Mr. Rose, is in New York City where he is taking advantage of the many "Bargain Purchases" that are being offered in that great world market during the month of August.

☞ This season, as in all preceding seasons, we are striving to get the new goods in town first.

☞ If you are a man or woman and wear clothes these well known brands will appeal to you—Jeffery Coats and Suits and Gold Medal Hats for women; Society Brand and Griffon clothes, Stetson, Apple and Worth Hats, Florsheim and Marshall shoes for men; Black Cat Hosiery for everybody.

Big Reduction on all Low Cut Shoes

Merkel Dry Goods Company

HONOR THE PIONEERS

It is well that we honor those men, women, boys and girls who are finding better ways of farming, better ways of raising livestock and are breeding better seed and animals. At the same time we should not forget those who have spent their life in making possible these developments. There are yet among us men and women who braved the dangers and hardships of a frontier life in order that we may be enjoying the advantages and wealth of the present. Some of these have not great wealth and do not care for great wealth in their old age. What they want more than anything else is that their lives have not been in vain; that we are actually building on the foundation they have laid; and that we appreciate just what they have done.

It has been many years since West Texas was a no-man's land. The plow was unknown. Buffalo, antelope, prairie chickens and other game were plentiful, but what we consider modern conveniences of the Indian and the wild beast. Notwithstanding these dangers, the men and women braved them and made an empire. West Texas today is a land of great aspirations, great deeds and wonderful possibilities. Without the brave men and women of half century ago, however, it would still be the home of wild animals and not be dotted with big producing farms and thriving cities. Don't overlook an opportunity to make one of these patriots feel better.—Farm & Ranch.

We expect to call on Senator Harding when we visit Ohio, as a fellow printer should, and we'll visit his office and talk shop with him and swap yarns and things, but we'll wait till cider time. We couldn't stand for him to pull anything as weak as his speech of acceptance on us.

See Swafford for Coal or feed.
Kent Street. Everything weighed.
6t4

Wagons! Wagons! Wagons!

Just received two cars of Wagons, Farm Trucks and Regulars, with Cotton Frame or only Gears. If you want a wagon now or will want one this fall we want to show you these wagons. We purchased them early and can save you money on them. They are both well known wagons with reputations---The Yule, made by the Bain Wagon Co., and The Avery, made by B. F. Avery & Sons Plow Co. We will be more than glad to show them to you if you anticipate buying in the near future.

Our stock is growing in Shelf Hardware. Our fall shipments arriving daily.

Look over our line of Cut Glass, Silverware, Cuttlery, Guns, Alumnumware, Stoves, Builders Material and Tools, Pipe in all sizes, Plumbers Supplies, etc.

If you are not our customer already we invite a share of your patronage and assure you we will give you the best service possible on special orders you may give us.

Thanking each and all who have helped to make our good business in the past, we are respectfully yours

Liberty Hardware Company

**WOMEN WAR WORKERS
IN "THE CUP OF FURY"**

In Goldwyn's "The Cup of Fury," an Eminent Authors production taken from Rupert Hugh novel of the same name and which will show at the Gem Theatre, Tuesday. Helen Chadwick is typical of the American woman who turned her thought and energy to the struggle in which her husband brother or father was actually engaged on the field.

The important part which the girls and women of this country played in the winning of the war furnishes one of the most astounding chapters of modern history. Some of them carried their work into the trenches and others formed part of the bulwark behind the men in khaki, but ninety-nine out of a hundred were in the fight in some form or other, and their courage and loyalty erased forever the appellation of "weaker sex" and established a record that will compel the admiration of the generations to come.

Mamis (Helen Chadwick) is one of these true Americans taken aboard by her career, she retains that fearless spirit and home pride which is the heritage of those born under the stars and stripes, and returns to this country shortly after its entry into the war.

W. R. Creighton and wife of Big Spring, were guests this week at the home of Mr. and Mrs. C. P. Horton, on Oak street.

Miss Jessie Smith of San Angelo is visiting the family of F. A. Sanders.

Mrs. R. A. Saddler of Anson, spent the week end with her sister, Mrs. E. L. Horton.

John Childress one of the best farmers and splendid citizens residing a few miles northeast, was here this week and reports fine crops out his way.

Mrs. E. Siegel and baby left last week for a visit to friends and relatives at Lockhart, Fort Worth and Dallas.

P. G. Bradley and sister, Miss Ora, returned Monday from a visit to relatives in Missouri, Arkansas and Dallas, Texas.

County Treasurer Austin Fitts and wife of Abilene were guests at the home of Mr. and Mrs. H. L. Propst, in this city last Sunday.

"Shorty" Hollaway came in first of the week from Childress, where he had been for several weeks.

Mrs. Jinks Winter returned first of the week from St. Louis and the eastern Markets where she selected the large and complete stock of fall Millinery goods for the Merkel Dry Goods Company which company Mrs. Winter has been with for several seasons.

WHY I WANT YOUR VOTE

Because I need the good salary which the office of Tax Assessor of Jones county pays.

Because I am qualified to discharge the duties of this office.

Because I believe myself worthy of your public favor.

W. G. THOMAS.

Mrs. N. A. Sterling and daughter Velma, who have been visiting relatives in Warren community, have returned to their home in El Paso.

**JOE BAILEY
A POLITICAL ORPHAN
COOKE COUNTY DISOWNS HIM**

At the Democratic Convention of Cooke County held in Gainesville, Saturday July 31st, after endorsing Pat Neff for Governor, and condemning the attacks made by Bailey upon the Democratic party, the following resolution was adopted:

"It is our Judgement that J. W. Bailey is not a resident of Texas or eligible to the office of Governor, and we believe HE IS NOT A RESIDENT OF THIS TOWN OR COUNTY AND HAS NO RIGHT TO TAKE PART IN OUR PRIMARIES OR ELECTIONS."

While Bailey failed to carry Cooke County for Governor, due credit should be given him for the strong support he received in the two wet German boxes of Muenster and Lindsay of Cooke County:

MUENSTER	LINDSAY
Bailey 106	Bailey 68
Thomason 8	Thomason 1

In the general election in 1916 Hughes, Republican, carried these boxes by an overwhelming majority over Wilson, Democrat for President.

Since Cooke County disowns him and is ashamed to claim him as her child, WHOSE CHILD IS HE?

THE COX AND ROOSEVELT DEMOCRATIC LEAGUE OF TEXAS
(Political Advertisement) By ROYALL R. WATKINS.

**EARLY SHOWING
OF
FALL MILLINERY**



Our first showing of new Hats are now on display.

Let us have the pleasure of showing them to you.

VISIT OUR
Ready-to-Wear Department
for the right things in Suits, Coats and Dresses and Lower Prices.
Make our store Your store
Woodroof-Bragg Dry Goods Company
The Place Most People Trade

**CORRECTS STATEMENT
ABOUT HIS COTTON
PICKING PRICE**

Mr. J. D. Beasley, of Beasley Brothers, asks us to announce that the statement that Beasley Brothers had contracted, for or wanted 100 cotton pickers at \$2 per hundred, was erroneous, and untrue. He states that they have arranged for some hands at \$1.50 per hundred which price seems to have been paid by many in south Texas, and agreed upon by many farmers over the state.

Mrs. J. J. Toombes and mother Mrs. Campbell returned Monday from a visit to relatives in Oklahoma.

O. R. Bird returned last week from a trip to Waco, where he and family visited friends and relatives.

Dr. Geo. Howard of Dallas, after spending some time with his father J. P. Howard and family, left last week for his home.

Try a sack of Kimbell's Best Flour and be convinced that we sell the best. W. W. Wood Cash Grocery.

DEMPSEY-SMITH

The marriage of Miss Anna Belle Smith of Trent to Charles Burke Dempsey of Boston, Massachusetts on August 9th at 4 p. m. was quite an event of the month's calendar.

Rev. H. Knifer of Abilene officiating, using the beautiful ring service. The bride carried a pretty bouquet of white asters. Miss Louise Andrews of Abilene was bridesmaid and Mr. B. H. Murphy of Abilene was groomsmen. The bride never looked more beautiful than on her wedding day.

Immediately after the ceremony, dinner was served and on the following evening Mr. and Mrs. Dempsey departed for Dallas, thence to St. Louis, Chicago, Cleveland, Niagra Falls, New York and other points in the east and north. After a few months they will make their home in San Antonio.

Mr. Dempsey is a wonderful business man. He is now with the Champion Register Company of Cleveland, Ohio, and we wish to extend to them both our hearty congratulations for an enjoyable honeymoon and a happy life ever afterwards.

"EXTRA -- READ ABOUT"

**Pall-Bearer Pat Neff
and "The Patterson Case"**

"People of Texas are familiar with the death of former Commissioner of Insurance and Banking Jno. S. Patterson, as a result of bullet wounds received while making an inspection of a bank in Central Texas.

"Mr. Neff had been a close friend of Mr. Patterson, notwithstanding his denial to the contrary, and assisted the Pattersons during the last hours of Mr. Patterson. Later Mr. Neff, notwithstanding his former acquaintance and friendship of the Patterson assumed the defense of those responsible for Mr. Patterson's death.

"You will find here a signed letter from Mrs. Jno. Patterson outlining the facts in the case as concerned Mr. Neff.

"Mr. Neff's defense is that he took the case as any lawyer might take any case and contends no violation of the ethics of his profession. While technically there may be no violation of professional ethics, the question has been and can be logically raised as to whether there was a violation of a higher code of ethics which includes gratitude and friendship.

"Mr. E. R. Pedigo, Austin, Texas.—Dear Mr. Pedigo: I have tried so hard to put aside and dwell as little as possible on the injustice that has been done my husband, knowing that he has gone where the unworthiness of men cannot harm him. However, I appreciate your action in the matter and will state as nearly as possible the facts in the case.

"My husband always considered Pat Neff one of his warmest friends. They began the practice of law about the same time at the Waco bar, and while Mr. Patterson lived at Moody, his practice took him to Waco several times each week. Naturally, he formed warm friends among the young lawyers, always speaking of Pat Neff as among the closest. The years went by; my husband never failed to give him support whenever he sought an office. They called each other by their given names and acted in the customary way for men who are friends. Not a month before my husband's death he remarked to me that Pat Neff would likely be in the next Governor's race and that he expected to support him.

"When we brought Mr. Patterson to Waco, Pat Neff was the first to meet us. Soon the sanitarium was thronged with Waco friends and hosts of relatives from Moody. The doctors were anxious to keep the room free of people on account of my darling's labored breathing. Most everyone came out of the room I, myself, sitting in the doorway. But this "mere acquaintance," as he called himself, who "only came because Cullen Thomas had phoned him and asked him to make inquiry as to Mr. Patterson's condition," stayed by his bedside and shed bitter tears, although Cullen Thomas had already come, been in the room and gone out on the porch, realizing how precious the oxygen was to my dying husband.

"The morning passed, but this "mere acquaintance" remained in the sacred chamber where we only want those who love us. When the end came, he asked to be allowed to take me to the hotel, although my sisters, brothers and numerous relatives were there to do so. My sister and I went with him and he was the last to say good-night.

"So many people say he was manifesting all this interest in order to try and get in the case. He and his God only as to that; all I know is that my husband counted him among his best friends, and his actions in my husband's death chamber made me think he had a strong love for him, and quite naturally named him as one of the pall-bearers.

"A few days after the burial, Pat Neff phoned and asked to see Mr. J. C. Reynolds, president of First National Bank at that place, my brother, and me on business. I was in bed, but thinking it a friendly mission made an engagement to see him. We were dumfounded when he told us that the demon who had murdered my husband wanted him to defend him.

"Mr. Reynolds, my sister and brother told him plainly he could not afford to do such a thing; he urged his warm friendship and his intimate knowledge of his life as a reason for his taking the case, saying he would see to it that no mean, insinuating thing would be said against him. I told him there was nothing that could be truthfully said against my husband; that if he went into the case he would hurt himself and not my husband. He left, saying he would phone next morning. He phoned Mr. Reynolds and asked him if we took the skin off of him after he left. Mr. Reynolds said they are of the same opinion that I am; we do not see how you can do it, but if you really want to do so, we have nothing more to say. Meaning that if his standard of honor was no higher than that we did not consider him worth our notice.

"Thanking you again for your interest in the matter, with best wishes for you and yours,

"Respectfully, "EDNA C. PATTERSON."

Many thousand copies of the above circular were distributed by Mr. Thomason's organization prior to the election of July 24 Mr. Thomason and Mr. Looney join with Mr. Bailey in saying that Neff's "Land Plank" is both unconstitutional and socialist. (Political advertisement)

Merkel Drug Company

Drugs
Sundries
Cigars
Drinks
Lowney's Candy
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Cut Glass

Columbia Graphophones

AND

Pathe Phonographs

Our Prescription Department is complete and your prescriptions will be filled by Registered Pharmacist

A Full Line of Needles

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