

THE MERKEL MAIL

VOL. 35—NO. 20

MERKEL, TEXAS, FRIDAY, JULY 13, 1923

16 PAGES

DELMA COMPTON WRITES FROM CALF.

Los Angeles California
June 29 1923

Dear Mama and Papa:

How are you by now? I am all right. We arrived in Los Angeles this morning about 8 o'clock. We found Paul without a bit of trouble. He is staying here (we are at the place where he works.)

What little of Los Angeles I have seen I like fine. We have had a wonderful trip. I'll try to give you an idea of how we came, I mean route.

We left Walters Okla on Saturday morning going by way of Lawton on through to Okla. City. We arrived at Oklahoma city at 2 p. m. The North Canadian river was up over the bridge and we waited about 2 hours before we could cross. We then went to Lincoln Park in the northern part of the city, and camped for the night. Earl had some insurance business there, so we stayed over until Monday morning. We went swimming in "Lincoln Pool" Saturday night and Sunday evening. It is a very fine place to swim. Oklahoma City is about the size of Fort Worth.

Monday morning we left the city and went through the 101 Ranch. We saw some Buffalo and the prettiest ranch fixtures you ever saw. They have the ranch well improved. It is owned by the Miller Bros. We camped for the night in Ponca City Oklahoma. The next morning we crossed the Oklahoma line into Kansas. We bought our first casing in Wellington Kansas. We went through Pratt. It is a very clean looking little town. We camped in Dodge City, a division on the Sante Fe. Wednesday we went through Fort Aubrey, the place where Kit Carson spent the last days of his life. We arrived in La Junta at dusk. It was raining and we couldn't camp so we went to a hotel. We left La Junta next morning and arrived in Colorado Springs about 2:30. Then we dressed and went to the movies. We camped out at the lake and the next morning we hired a car and drove up Pikes Peak. We first went down Ute Pass to the Seven Falls. They are sure pretty. We climbed steps up to the top fall about 500 feet high. We then drove through the Garden of the Gods. In there we saw some wonderful rock formations. We saw rocks that looked just like animals. You could draw on your imagination most any kind of an animal. We then went up the Peak. We left the city at 12 o'clock and got on top at 3. About 20 miles around the peak is called "Timber Line" What I mean by timber line is that vegetation won't grow above that elevation. When we got to the top it was cold as blazes. Snow was all over the ground. We went in a little cafe and ate a bowl of real hot soup to keep from freezing. I can't begin to describe the beautiful scenery. I wouldn't take a million dollars for the trip up there but I don't want to go again because I have seen it once and once is a plenty. On Saturday we left Colorado Springs and stayed all night in Mednine Bow Wyoming. It sure was cold that night. I asked a fellow if it got very cold there and he said no, only 25 below zero. That's too darn cold for me. So we drove on all day Sunday. The rest of the trip I won't describe. It was worse than what I have already written. We drove in the desert most all the time since we left Colorado. I'll tell you all about it when I see you. Earl just now come from the Post office

ICE CREAM SUPPER ON FRIDAY NIGHT

The Merkel Epworth League will serve real home made ice cream and cake to every one who will come to the Methodist church lawn on Friday evening, beginning at 8 o'clock. The charge for a big bowl of cream and a big slice of good cake will be only 10 cents. There will be tables and chairs arranged attractively on the lawn, and music will be furnished throughout the evening. Come enjoy an evening of fun as well as help the Leaguers. Publicity Com.

REVIVAL GOING ON AT THE TABERNACLE

Evangelist T. C. Wilson, of Louisville, Ky., on Wednesday evening of this week began a series of what he terms as Union Gospel Meeting, and to which extends a cordial invitation to all Christians and the public in general to attend.

Mr. Wilson informs us that he is of the old Cumberland Presbyterian church, and at this time is working in the interest of uniting all Christian people.

He is no doubt an interesting speaker and all who hear him will receive the benefit of his thought as he expounds same. He announces services at 10:30 in the mornings and 8:00 p. m.

TRANSFERS MUST BE MADE BY AUG. 1

All transfers from other school districts of Taylor County or from adjoining school districts of Jones County to the Merkel Independent School District must be made by August 1st. If your children were enrolled in any other school district of Taylor or Jones Counties when the scholastic census was taken last spring, and you wish to send to the Merkel School during the coming year, you should see the County Superintendent at Abilene at once and have your children transferred to Merkel. This should be done whether you intend to move into the Merkel School District this fall or in the district in which your children were enrolled in the census. In order to transfer: your child must have been enrolled in the scholastic census last spring.

If you do not live within the Merkel District and transfer you will be given four months free tuition after which the regular charge for tuition will be made. This is \$3 per month for primary grades, \$4 per month for intermediate grades, (4th, 5th, 6th, and 7th) and \$5 per month for high school grades. This means per scholastic month of four weeks.

For the convenience of those who cannot go to Abilene to see the County Superintendent, Mr. M. A. Williams, there will be transfer blanks at the office of the Merkel Mail. You can get them there, fill them out, and Mr. Durham will send them in for you. Respectfully, R. A. Burgess, Supt. Merkel schools.

and brought the letter from you. I'm glad every one is well. Well write me all the news as I want to hear from you. Just send my mail in Pauls name. Lovingly, your son,
Delma.

CHARLIE TAYLOR FOR BAPTIST REVIV'L

The local Baptist church is glad to announce the coming of Charlie Taylor for a two weeks meeting beginning, July 22nd.

Charlie Taylor is already widely known in this community because of the two great meetings he has held in Abilene. He is in demand in the larger places the year around, but takes off some time each year for a rest or vacation. This year he is spending that time in Abilene supplying for Dr. Jenkins who is in Europe for the summer and only after urgent appeal would he come to us for the meeting. Merkel is to be congratulated on securing this man for a meeting. Not once in a life time would a town of this size get aman of his ability to come for a meeting. He will be with us almost two weeks and will come expecting every body to help make the meeting a success.

We are not going to be selfish about this good fortune so we invite all the people of the town and surrounding communities to come and work and worship with us. We feel that his coming will be a blessing to every church and every home in Merkel if the people will only let it be.

This noble young preacher of the gospel has held meetings in all the larger cities of the United States from New York to Los Angeles and also in the larger places of his native land.

He came to this country as a mere lad with his father who was a preacher before him. He found a welcome and a hearing and for years he has had more invitations to hold meetings in the cities than he could accept. We will begin the meeting in the church but feel sure that when the meeting gets under way we will be compelled to move out side where every one can hear.

We feel sure that all Merkel and the people around about will want to hear this man who while yet a young man has won thousands upon thousands to the Lord. His power has not given way either.

We hope that every one will help us take advantage of this great opportunity that has come our way. Let all praying people join with us in praying for the success of the meeting. We also hope that every one will help to secure the largest possible attendance of the unsaved of the community. In Abilene one of the out standing features of the Taylor meetings was the salvation of older and mature men that most of their friends had given up hope of ever seeing them saved. Let us pray that this may be the good time when some of our men that have been long in the world without Christ may find Him in salvation.

During the meeting Charlie Taylor will speak only once a day, as his custom is in all of his meetings, but the pastor will lead a devotional service every morning. Ira L. Parrack.



HIGH SCHOOL RECEIVES NEW CREDIT

The standing of the Merkel High School continues to climb. Last week the State Department of Education at Austin, Texas granted the Merkel High School two additional units of affiliation. These were in Ancient History and one additional in Spanish. This now makes a total of twenty (20) units that Merkel has, fifteen (15) units being required to enter college, which means that a graduate of the Merkel High School can enter any college or university of the state without taking entrance examination, provided he submits any 15 of the units in which we have credit.

Those subjects for which we now have credit are as follows: Ancient History, 1; Modern History 1; English History 1/2; American History 1/2; Civics 1/2; Advanced Arithmetic 1/2; Algebra 2; Plane Geometry 1; Solid Geometry 1/2; Plane Trigonometry 1/2; English 3; Spanish 3; Latin 3; General Science 1; Physics 1; Physical Geography 1/2; Physiology 1/2; total, 20.

The above credits are granted after inspection of the Merkel School by the State Department of Education and after examination of specimen work of pupils of the Merkel High School submitted to the Department. These credits will be held only upon condition that we follow the recommendations of the State Inspector. This year the inspector asked that four additional teachers be added to the grades to relieve the terribly crowded conditions there, to add supplementary libraries for the intermediate grades, and the replacement of the old time double desks with single desks. These conditions must be met, or all classification and affiliation will be lost. The School Board will meet the demands, though it will mean some added expense.

If all interested patrons will rally to the support of the Board in their efforts to improve the Merkel School, further progress may be expected. We can afford to do nothing less than keep our school up to the standard now reached.

Very Respectfully, Roger A. Burgess, Supt. of Schools.

CHURCH OF CHRIST REVIVAL A SUCCESS

The gospel meeting at the Tabernacle in this city, under the direction of the Church of Christ for the past week, with Evangelist Thos. E. Milholland of Vernon, Texas doing the preaching and Prof. Lee Eason local singer, leading the congregation in song service, closed Monday night, with five baptisms. It was a great meeting and Evangelist Milholland is a power in the pulpit and much lasting good has been accomplished both in and out of the church. The Evangelist is an eloquent and forceful speaker, a sound, logical reasoner, and at times his audience sat spell bound during his sermons which usually lasted an hour, but at times the spell was broken by a smile which swept thru the crowd at some dry humor of the speaker and of some of the experiences he told. Speaking in plain language at all times the Evangelist delivered sermons that will be remembered by his auditors for months to come.

Evangelist Milholland was

BAPTIST LADIES TO SHOWER KITCHEN

On Tuesday, July 17, at 4 p. m. the ladies of the local church will give a shower for the kitchen of the church. All the ladies of the church are urged to attend this meeting.

The following program has been arranged:

1. Opening song.
2. Scripture reading, Mrs. Warren.
3. Prayer.
4. Special song, Mrs. Scott and Mrs. Largent.
5. Talk on Womans Work, by Mrs. Cummings.
6. Piano solo, Miss Lillian Craig.
7. Reading, Miss Lucy Tracy.
8. Closing song.
9. Display of gifts for the kitchen.

Let all the ladies of the church come and enjoy this good program and see the gifts for the kitchen. Mrs. Ira L. Parrack, reporter.

KILLED ON WAY TO VISIT BROTHER HERE

Longview, Texas, July 10.—Rev. O. T. Bickley, 71 years of age, of Savannah, Ga., superannuated minister of the Southern Methodist church was killed near here when an automobile in which he was riding overturned. He had just arrived here to visit his brother J. E. Bickley, whom he had not seen for forty years, and was riding with his brother and family, three members of which were injured.

The Rev. Bickley mentioned above as having been killed was a brother of Mr. J. S. Bickley of Merkel, and was on his way from his home in Georgia for a visit to his brothers at Longview, where the sad accident occurred and was to have been in Merkel by Friday of this week to visit his brother here, whom he had not seen for forty years.

The Mail with Mr. Bickley's many friends here regret to learn of the sad accident, and extend to Mr. Bickley deepest sympathy.

CELEBRATES 4TH ANNIVERSARY

This is "Anniversary Week" at the Gem Theatre, and Manager Lee Acuff announces some special features and an extra program, which will no doubt be interesting to his patrons and the public. Read his announcement in this paper.

AT THE METHODIST CHURCH

Rev. Hays returned first of the week from Stith where he has been in a meeting for some time, and announces that he will preach in his pulpit at both the morning and evening hours. He urges all Methodists be present for both the Sunday school and Church services.

CHURCH OF CHRIST

Regular services next Sunday. Bible study at 10 o'clock. Ladies Bible Study at the church Tuesday afternoon at 4 o'clock. Don't forget your place in the Bible lesson and all church work, and be on time.

called to Gunter, Texas, Tuesday on the account of the death of his father in law, which occurred Monday evening, but will return in time to open a ten days campaign against sin for the Church of Christ at Sweetwater Saturday night.

SPECIAL COMMITTEE TO PASS ON LOANS

One of the newest features of the Texas Farm Bureau Cotton Association is the Cotton Committee to be appointed in each county to arrange loans and mortgages between the member growers and the local bankers, according to an announcement made by John T. Orr, President of the Association.

The creation of this County Committee will be one of the biggest forward moves of the association in the interest of its members and the local banker, declared Mr. Orr. "Three or five men, preferably five, so that three will form a quorum, will comprise this committee. And because of the importance of the work they will do, we want the strongest men in each county. We want the men who have open minds and have the courage to call a spade 'a spade' to say NO, when it is necessary and not quibble."

This committee will work in the interest of both the grower member and the local bank. When it becomes necessary for a member to borrow money he will first go before the committee and tell the amount needed and the reason therefor. It will be a frank discussion between him and the committee and entirely confidential, and the committee's duty to advise with the member grower; to advise against extravagant loans or those which will be too great a hardship for the grower to repay; at the same time being sure that the loans are sufficient to cover emergencies and not handicap the working

(Continued on back page)

LIVE STOCK GROWERS MEET HERE

The members of the Taylor County Purebred Livestock Association of Taylor county and others who are interested in livestock are requested to meet in Merkel, Texas in a meeting the second Saturday, 14, of July at the Tabernacle at 3 p. m. New officers for the Association will be elected to take hold and run the business of the association for the next 12 months.

The Association in the past has been helpful to the breeder of Dairy cattle and the breeder of swine. The Association got the officers of the Fair to change the classification of the Dairy cattle and Swine from the way they were classified to the way they are classified this year. There are 13 classes in Dairy cattle this year instead of six, and there are ten classes of swine instead of four. The small breeder of Dairy cattle will have the same chance to win as the largest breeder has this year.

Three members of the association gave away ten calves and about the same number of pigs to the boys and girls of Taylor county, who will show the calves and pigs at the Fair this year.

The Taylor county Livestock association is only a new organization, having been organized about a year, and it is for the interested people of Taylor county who are interestel in purebred lives stock. The association will be glad to help you in getting purebred livestock on the farm at any time.

Come to the meeting, every one is welcome. G. H. Tucker, President, Carey Deavers Vice President.

The Merkel Mail

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**ALL ADVERTISEMENTS MUST
BE IN THIS OFFICE BY SIX
O'CLOCK P. M. WEDNESDAY
FOR INSERTION IN THAT
WEEK'S ISSUE OF THE MAIL**

Foreign Advertising Representative
THE AMERICAN PRESS ASSOCIATION

July six, with as fine crop prospects throughout this section as has ever been known. And with a little more rain at the proper time, this country bids fair to harvest one of the largest if not the largest crop ever raised in the west, which will bring about an unprecedented era of prosperity. And in which the farmer and business man alike will rejoice, for truly they have and are at present undergoing a siege of close times and dull business.

As this paper understands the proposed amendment to constitution, which is to be voted upon at a special election in this month, we are for the adoption of same. As we understand it, there can be no raise in taxes only by and with the consent of the people themselves. But to vote the amendment will make it possible for the establishing throughout the state of a system of state highways under the control of the state highway commission. And as we understand it, to vote this amendment will be the means of getting the designated state highways built and opened up throughout the whole state, whereas now just a county now and then may vote bonds and build good roads while others may delay same.

The little store in the Alley will save you money, try it. You can get the highest market price for your chickens and eggs. W. P. Duckett. 5t2.

Messrs. J. L. and W. U. Beene returned last week from a trip to Cross Plains, where they visited another brother. Their brother C. B. Beene accompanied them on their return for an extended visit with them.

Mr. and Mrs. W. M. Elliott spent Sunday with friends and relatives in Abilene.

**20TH ANNIVERSARY STORY
OF THE FORD MOTOR CO.**

Detroit, Mich., July 5—The Ford Motor Company is twenty years old today. And this birthday anniversary finds it enjoying the greatest prosperity in its history and engaged in carrying out an expansion program of enormous magnitude, necessary to bring manufacture up to meet the ever increasing demand for Ford Products.

In the score of years which have passed since its incorporation on June 16, 1903, the growth of the company has been amazingly rapid and now its activities extend to nearly every country on the globe and the Ford Car is in use in practically every land on earth.

The capital originally subscribed in the company was \$100,000 of which only \$28,000 in cash was actually paid into the treasury. Among the twelve stockholders with the company in its infancy Henry Ford held 25 per cent of the stock.

In 1907 Mr. Ford acquired additional stock sufficient to bring his holdings in the company up to 58 per cent.

In 1913, Mr. Ford set a new standard for the industrial world when he announced his now famous \$5 a day minimum wage and the \$10,000,000 profit-sharing plan, a move that gained him international fame.

When in 1919 Edsel B. Ford assumed the presidency, his father turned over to him all the responsibility of that office and he has taken an important part in all developments of the company since that time. Upon becoming President, Edsel Ford purchased the remaining 42 per cent held by outside stockholders and on July 9, 1919, the Company was recognized under the laws of Delaware for an authorized capitalization of \$100,000,000.

Last October the price of Ford cars was again reduced bringing the various types to the lowest level in the history of the company. And only recently the inauguration of the Ford Weekly Purchase Plan has opened the way to automobile ownership for additional millions of people who can now buy Fords on weekly payments as low as \$5.

The first car manufactured by the Ford Motor Company was on the road in June and sold the early part of July, 1903. In the initial year, 1903-04, the company produced 1,708 cars and each year has been a steady expansion until in 1922 production totaled 1,351,333 and this year

**Do You Know the Story of The
Farm Bureau Cotton Association?**

That is a question that you, as a cotton grower and farmer may well afford to ask yourself. You say—"Why"

Because—no single movement promises more help toward the present relief and permanent betterment of farming conditions than co-operative marketing—the prime object of this big movement.

Because—it is an organization of cotton GROWERS, operated by cotton GROWERS, for the benefit of cotton GROWERS.

Because—it offers you a service that you need—the orderly and profitable marketing of the product you raise. The prime object of the Cotton Association is to take the cotton which you grow, properly grade it and sell it when and where a price may be obtained which guarantees to you THE COST OF RAISING PLUS A PROFIT.

Because—it affords you a means of selling your cotton throughout the year instead of having to "dump it at the beginning of the season in order to get "ready money" to take care of your obligations. (Up to 60 per cent of the market value of the cotton is advanced upon delivery of the cotton to the Association, the balance paid in installments at regular intervals as cotton is sold.

Because it offers you this service, and much more, at a cost which is nominal, and which is comparatively nothing in comparison to the cost of doing business under the "dumping" system, the individual holding system or individual consignment system.

Because it assures you a larger net profit on the cotton you raise, therefore assures you better living conditions for yourself and family and better community advantages.

Because this is the greatest and most successful organization of cotton farmers that the world has ever seen and it is a working organization from the ground up, that is broad-minded enough to work for every farmer and the betterment of farming on a National, State and County basis.

You as a farmer should know more about it because it is working for you. Why not support the things that are helping you?

There is just beginning in Taylor County a movement to increase the membership of the Texas Farm Bureau Cotton Association. If you are not already a member, you should be, and some one of the present members or one of the workers of the Association can show you why you should be.

Some one of the workers will be in your community within the next few days. When he comes, receive him cordially, remembering he is there to offer you benefits and not to ask a favor of you, and hear him open-mindedly. If you will do this we are confident you will act wisely and sign the contract.

If the solicitor, through oversight or overwork should miss you, won't you interest yourself enough to hunt him up, get the desired information and make your decision promptly. Remember, it is YOU that will profit. We are anxious to co-operate with you.

Taylor Co. Farm Bureau

OFFICERS.

W. B. Wade, President
O. B. Tatum, Vice-Pres.
Lucian Webb, Treas.
Clyde Daniels, Secty-Mgr.

DIRECTORS

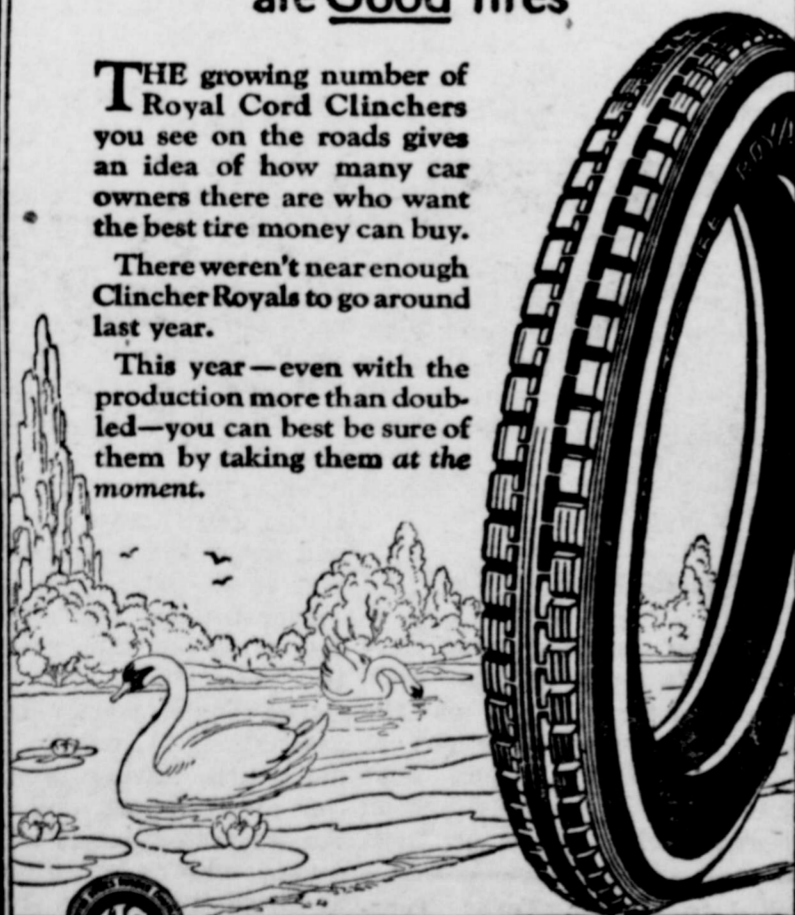
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**Everywhere - Royal Cords
United States Tires
are Good Tires**

THE growing number of Royal Cord Clinchers you see on the roads gives an idea of how many car owners there are who want the best tire money can buy.

There weren't near enough Clincher Royals to go around last year.

This year—even with the production more than doubled—you can best be sure of them by taking them at the moment.



Where to buy U.S. Tires

Merkel Garage
Merkel, Texas

Herring & Son
Noodle, Texas

Bradley Mercantile Co.
Stith, Tex., R.F.D. Merkel.

A. W. Hampton
Truby, Tex., R.F.D. Hawley.

will pass the 1,500,000 mark, a figure which it is estimated will equal if not exceed the combined output of all other automobile companies in the United States.

Since its start, the company has produced more than 7,750,000 Fords and sent them to all parts of the world and more than 6,000,000 are now in use in the United States alone.

The Ford Railroad, the Detroit Toledo & Ironton, connects with practically every trans-continental line, which affords unusual shipping facilities.

At River Rouge, with a plant area of 1,200 acres, the company besides having the largest foundry in the world, operates its own blast furnaces, machine shops, body plant, saw mill, coke ovens, cement plant, paper mill, power plant, locomotive repair shops and the Fordson Tractor Plant.

The parent plant of the company in Highland Park occupies nearly 300 acres of which 123

are under roof. Here are the general offices, the Detroit sales branch, the boys' industrial school and the world's largest individual automobile plant.

There are thirty-four branches of the Ford Motor Company in the United States of which twenty-eight are assembling plants. These have all been improved and enlarged within the last year and today are producing cars and trucks at the rate of 6,700 every eight-hour working day.

There are more than 9,000 Ford dealers in the country and over 15,000 authorized Ford service stations, making a total of more than 24,000 points of contact with the motoring public.

The Lincoln Motor Company, organized in 1917 to produce motor cars of exceptionally high quality, was acquired by the Ford Motor Company at a receiver's sale February 4, 1922, for \$8,000,000 and only recently Henry Ford paid to the creditors of the company an additional

\$4,000,000 to make up their losses though under no obligation to do so. The Lincoln Motor Company was re-organized under the laws of Michigan on March 29, 1922, for an authorized capitalization of \$15,000,000. It is now known as a division of the Ford Motor Company and has an annual capacity of 10,500 motor cars.

Not only is the Ford Motor Company the greatest automobile manufacturing institution in the world today, but it stands alone, a stupendous industrial marvel, into every activity of which there permeates the personality and genius of its founder and guiding spirit, Henry Ford.

Battery work done at Merkel Motor Company.

Pasco Ballard of Electria who has been a guest in the home of his relatives, Mr. and Mrs. Lee Acuff, left for his home Monday morning.

**DELPHIAN CLUB TO MEET
WEDNESDAY, 18TH**

The Merkel Delphian Chapter will meet Wednesday, July 18th at 4 o'clock in the Basement of the Presbyterian Church. Mrs. W. L. Diltz will be leader.

Mr. and Mrs. J. V. Dinwiddie and daughter, Mary Edith of Winters, Texas and Mr. and Mrs. Beryl Dinwiddie of Corsicana, Texas, were guests of Mr. Dinwiddie's sister, Mrs. T. R. Lassiter Sunday and Monday.

Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Middleton of Bell county, were here for past two weeks the guests of their son, B. P. Middleton and daughter, Mrs. Polly Bailey. The former Mr. Middleton reports crops good in his country with the exception of corn, which he states was cut short by a short drouth and hot winds some weeks ago.



KEEN KUTTER KORD

Built for the man who appreciates Long Service and Freedom from Tire Trouble

30x3 1/2 Flat Tread, Full Over-Size, Extra Cord and Extra Rubber.

West Co.
"25 Years of Better Service"

Miss Christena Cozart, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Cozart of Okla. City, accompanied by Miss Doris Young of Okla. City is visiting the former's grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Frederickson.

Buy Ford Parts at Ford Headquarters and save money. Merkel Motor Co. tf

SIMMONS BUILDING A NEW DORMITORY

Abilene, July 9:—Plans are going rapidly forward for the new dormitory for men at Simmons College to replace Cowden Hall, erected in 1907 and destroyed by fire in the spring of 1922. Work on actual construction will begin this fall.

The new building will be the last word in modern dormitories, and something new in the western part of the country in this line. Costing approximately \$150,000 and accommodating 125 men, it is to be built on the plan employed by English universities and many of the eastern colleges in their residence halls for men. The rooms will be grouped about five different entries; there will be three rooms for every two men, and a bath to every two suites of rooms.

Each suite of rooms is to consist of two single bedrooms and a study. The building will be three stories high and fire-proof.

A feature of the campaign to raise funds for rebuilding the dormitory is the fact that the alumni and ex-students of the College at the recent commencement gathering took over the work of raising money, as a special work of their organization, and have launched a campaign on the basis of college loyalty. A field secretary was employed who began work July 1, and pledges and checks are already coming in from the ex-students. According to officials of the college this cooperation on the part of the alumni has helped make possible the replacing of Cowden Hall.

Rev. John Riddle was in the city Saturday from Trent and announced that the Baptist would open a ten days meeting at that place that night.

CLASSIFIED ADS

FOR SALE

FOR SALE—1000 acres, large per cent rich mesquite valley land, 4 miles east of Merkel, at \$27.50 per acre. Will sub-divide tract to suit buyers when all sold. Terms if desired. Various other farms, ranches and Abilene city property for sale or trade. Jesse Scott Realty Co., 124 1/2 Pine street, Abilene, Texas, Phone 79. 6t4p

FOR SALE—Cook Stove, good condition, on account of having bought larger stove. G. H. Tucker. 6t2

FOR SALE—Good fresh Sorghum, just cut. Will deliver or sell in the field. Selma Russell. tf

FOR SALE—Winship farm and ranch on Clear Fork of Brazos river in Jones County, Texas. Apply at ranch. 1tp.

Plenty of Good Used Fords at Merkel Motor Co. tf

WANTED

WANTED—Horses to pasture at ten cents per day. S. H. L. Swafford. It

WANTED—Frying chickens from 1 1-2 to 2 1-2 pounds, Merkel Produce Co. tf

Mr. and Mrs. W. B. Brown, accompanied by Master Jas. H. West, Jr. left Tuesday morning for a short trip to Corpus Christi. They were joined at Tuscola by Dewey Brown, wife and daughter, Billie Joyce, and Miss Gladys Milliken.

The little baby boy of Mr. and Mrs. Ted Lassiter was brought home Friday evening from the sanitarium at Abilene, and is doing nicely at this writing.

Subscribe for the Merkel Mail

Mr. A. R. Booth and family left last week for an extended visit with friends and relatives in San Antonio.

Expecting car Colorado Coal next few days. Place your order now. T. J. R. Swafford. Phone 44 south side. It

Mr. and Mrs. Jim Holland of Shep, spent Saturday and Sunday here with relatives.

W. W. Campbell and family left yesterday for Louisiana, where they will attend the bedside of the former's father who is in very poor health.

Mr. Tom Garrouette passed through Merkel Wednesday enroute to Rotan and will return Saturday for a visit with his sisters, the Misses Garrouette.

17 bars P. & G. the White Naptha Soap, one package "Chipso" Soap, equal to 2 bars of soap and 10 quart heavy galvanized bucket, all for \$1.00, at W. W. Campbell's Grocery. 13t2.

Rev. Fred S. Rogers came in Monday from Buffalo Gap, where he attended the Presbyterian Encampment. He reports a splendid encampment, well attended and with glowing prospects for another year.

J. W. (Tom) Johnson, after 15 years of absence from Merkel, has returned to the old home town to settle down and make this his future home. He bought the Wood place and is improving it for a permanent home.

NO. 1398

Official Statement of the Financial Condition of Home State Bank, Trent, Texas at close of business on the 30th day of June 1923, published in the Merkel Mail, a newspaper printed and published at Merkel, state of Texas, on the 13th day of July, 1923.

RESOURCES

Loans and dis., personal or collateral	\$103,407.83
Loans, real estate	6,885.70
Overdrafts	474.85
Bonds and Stocks	2,700.00
Real Estate (banking house)	4,571.47
Furniture and fixtures	1,743.78
Due from other banks and bankers and cash on hand	14,467.93
Interest in Dep. Gty. Fund	789.00
Assessment Dep. Gty. Fund	
Other Resources, Revenue Stamps	9.50
Total	\$132,581.13

LIABILITIES

Capital stock paid in	\$25,000.00
Undivided profits, net	9,645.16
Individual Deposits Sub. to Check	88,483.70
Time Certificates of Deposit	
Cashier's Checks	122.33
Bills Payable and Rediscounts	10,000.00
Total	\$132,581.13

State of Texas, County of Taylor: We, T. J. Williamson, as vice-president, and L. E. Adrian as cashier of said bank, each of us, do solemnly swear that the above statement is true to the best of our knowledge and belief. T. J. Williamson, Vice-President L. E. Adrian, Cashier. Subscribed and sworn to before me this 10th day of July, A. D., 1923. W. O. Honey Notary Public Taylor County, Texas. Correct—Attest: H. W. Beckham, E. D. Teuton, T. L. Stevens } Directors

NO. 366

Official Statement of the Financial Condition of The Farmers State Bank at Merkel, State of Texas, at the close of business on the 30th day of June, 1923, published in the Merkel Mail, a newspaper printed and published at Merkel, State of Texas, on the 13th day of July, 1923.

RESOURCES

Loans and Dis., personal or collateral	\$92,543.45
Loans, real estate	8,400.00
Overdrafts	527.73
Bonds and Stocks	1,961.25
Real Estate (banking house)	8,900.00
Other Real Estate	9,164.85
Furniture and fixtures	5,200.00
Due from other Banks and Bankers, and cash on hand	30,447.96
Interest in Depositors' Gty. Fund	6,277.35
Asst. Depositors' Gty. Fund	23,145.44
Other Resources	20,000.25
Total	\$439,654.22

LIABILITIES

Capital Stock paid in	\$50,000.00
Surplus Fund	25,000.00
Undivided Profits, net	4,158.05
Due to Banks and Bankers, subject to check, net	
Individual Deposits sub. to check	293,918.91
Time Certificates of Deposit	9,584.75
Cashier's checks	592.51
Bills Payable and R-discounts	50,000.00
Other Liabilities, Maturity guarantees	6,000.00
Total	\$439,654.22

State of Texas, County of Taylor: We, John Sears as president, and R. O. Anderson, as cashier of said bank each of us, do solemnly swear that the above statement is true to the best of our knowledge and belief. John Sears, president. R. O. Anderson, cashier. Subscribed and sworn to before me this 11th day of July A. D. 1923. W. O. Honey Notary Public, Taylor County, Texas Correct—Attest: M. Armstrong, H. L. Propst, H. H. Toombs } Directors

Anniversary Week

Specially Selected PROGRAM

Of the Latest & Best Pictures

Hoot Gibson

-IN-

"Ridin' Wild"

On Next Saturday

A FREE PASS

-FOR-

Each Boy or Girl

under 12 years, at both matinee and night show who will bring an adult and 30c.

June 11 makes 4 yrs. as an Exhibitor

Lee Acuff

Miss Hallie Green of Noodle is visiting Miss Lola Peterson this week.

Little Miss Fanny Daugherty of Abilene returned to her home Saturday morning after a very pleasant visit in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Ben Pilcher. She was accompanied on her return by Jessie Pilcher who visited there for a few days.

We are thankful to our good friend and splendid farmer friend, M. E. Parker for a subscription to the Mail, which he sends to a relative down east.

W. F. Golladay bought the O. R. Bird one hundred acre farm north of town this week for a consideration of \$3,000 and gave in exchange part payment his residence here in town. The transaction was made through E. D. Coats.

Mr. Sam Butman Sr. was in the city one day this week from his fineranch and farms and had with him a sample of the wheat which he has just finished threshing. Mr. Butman reports having threshed about 15 bushels per acre. He stated that he expected to offer this wheat which is specially selected and very fine, for sale to those who desired to plant the grain this fall.

Uncle Tom Tombs who owns many valuable farms in this vicinity, made this office a pleasant and appreciated visit on last Saturday. He reports some damage to crops, in some instances on his farms, but has hopes that the damage of these pests will be small, and out side of this, Mr. Tombs feels that the crop prospects are indeed fine at this time.

Hardware Specials

We have a few SPECIAL PRICES

on Hardware to clean up and not have any carry-overs

Compete for some of the prizes in the "Merkel Community Fair" to be held just before the Abilene Fair.

If it's Hardware We Have It.

Liberty Hardware Company

Only Exclusive Hardware Store in Merkel

"Our Family Medicine"

"I WILL WRITE you in regard to Black-Draught liver medicine, as I have been using it more than 18 years," says a letter from Mr. S. F. Mintz, of R. F. D. 2, Leland, N. C. "I keep it in my home all the time, for it is mostly our family medicine. When we begin to feel feverish or sluggish, with trouble from the liver or stomach, we take a dose of Thedford's Black-Draught and the trouble is soon over. I mostly buy a dollar package at a time, and it has saved me many a bill." Thedford's Black-Draught is a

purely vegetable remedy, acting on the liver, stomach and bowels. It is made from selected herbs and roots, and contains no calomel or other mineral drugs. It has been found of great value, in indigestion, stomach trouble, sick headache, constipation, and lazy liver, helping to relieve the symptoms caused by these troubles, and to put the digestive system into proper working order. Get a package of Black-Draught liver medicine from your druggist or dealer, today. Be sure to get the genuine—Thedford's.

Thedford's
BLACK-DRAUGHT
A Purely Vegetable Liver Medicine

The Community Fair at Merkel

This Bank heartily cooperates in a Fair, displaying our products, and will gladly lend any assistance possible to help advertise Merkel's trade territory; believing that we are second to none, and that as fine agricultural products are grown here as any part of Texas.

The promoters of this enterprise have our hearty support.

THE FARMERS STATE BANK

John Sears, President
R. O. Anderson, Cashier

CENTERLINE DEFEATS STITH

In one of the best played amateur games ever played in this section, Centerline defeated Stith at Centerline Saturday by a score of 1 to 0. The deciding score came in the last half of the ninth inning when Jeffries, pitcher for the Centerline nine, hit a high fly down the right field foul line which dropped into a fifteen foot slough. The ball was lost in the weeds, and Jeffries scored before it was found. The decision of the umpire was questionable, for he first called the ball a foul, then reversed the decision.

The game was featured by fast fielding. One error was made by Stith, none by Centerline. Five double plays were completed by Stith and one by the home team. Both pitchers were effective and but for the fluke home run the game would have gone into extra innings. The two teams will meet again Saturday, July 21 at Stith, and another fast contest is expected.

Intermediate B. Y. P. Program

Subject—What the Bible teaches about the meaning of Baptism.

1. Introduction, Lela Brown.
 2. Jesus commands Baptism, Lila Mae Bird.
 3. Jesus himself was Baptised, Mabel Tipton.
 4. Baptism is a picture of the death of Christ, Alvie Elliott.
 5. Baptism is a picture of the resurrection of Jesus, Maude Highsmith.
 6. What our Baptism means by Roy Giles.
 7. Why all believers in Jesus ought to be baptised, Eunice Bird.
- Memory verse, Inia Mae Martin.

Intermediate B. Y. P. U.

Subject: What the Bible teaches about the meaning of Baptism.

1. My Bible, Lila Mae Bird.
2. Article of Faith on Baptism and the Lord's Supper, by Roy Giles.
3. Jesus commanded Baptism by Helen Booth.
4. Jesus himself was Baptised by Charlie Largent.
5. Baptism is a picture of the death of Jesus, Joe Ben Ashby.
6. Baptism is a picture of the resurrection of Jesus, Lela Brown.
7. What our Baptism means, Ina Mae Martin.
8. Why all believers in Jesus ought to be Baptised, Wylie Elliott.

Mrs. O. R. Douglas has returned home from a week's visit with her sister, Mrs. F. B. Williams of Big Spring.

DR. AND MRS. GAMBILL ENTERTAIN

One of the most pleasant social events of last week was the barbecue, ice cream and croquet party held on the 4th at the hospitable home of Dr. and Mrs. W. M. Gambill in south Merkel. The barbecue was "cued" to a west Texas taste, and the ice cream was manufactured to the taste of all present, and the accessories which go with such delicious eats were there in abundance.

While there was no decision rendered in the croquet games, as who was the champion, it was, however, given out that Col. J. A. Buford was the champion "Pie Eater" on that occasion.

Among those present on this occasion were, Mr. and Mrs. E. Barnes and family of Blair, Mr. and Mrs. Oliver Boden and family, Col. J. A. Buford and wife, and grandson, J. C., Uncle Jake Banner and son John from Rotan, Mr. and Mrs. Walter Boden, Mr. and Mrs. Tom Coats and son, Mr. and Mrs. J. Ben Campbell, Mr. Buchanan of Breckenridge, Mr. and Mrs. John Sears, Mr. and Mrs. Johnson, Mrs. J. T. Toombs, Miss Johnnie Warren, W. J. Shannon, J. A. Collins, Grady Collins, G. W. Johnson, Uncle Bud Farmer, Mr. and Mrs. Dr. Gambill.

NOTICE CONTRACTORS

Notice is hereby given that bids will be accepted on the wrecking of the old Comper School Building and the construction of a new three room school building on the present site of same, said new building to contain all lumber that is usable salvaged from the old building, contractors who are interested are requested to look the proposition over and submit bids to the county superintendent of Jones county, all bids to be opened at 10:00 A. M. Saturday, July 28, 1923. The right to reject any or all bids is hereby retained.

For further information see the trustees on the ground or write the county superintendent Anson, Texas. 13t3

CARD OF THANKS

Again we wish to express our thanks to our friends and neighbors for their kindness and sympathy during the illness and death of our darling little Bulah Mae Cauthren, and for the beautiful flowers. May the Heavenly Father bless each of you. John Cathren and Mr. and Mrs. J. O. Joplin.

Mrs. Max Mellinger and children have returned from their visit to relatives at Lockhart and Kennedy, Texas.

Condensed Statement

Farmers & Merchants National Bank

Merkel, Texas

Close of Business June 30, 1923

RESOURCES

Loans, Time and Demand	\$296,614.07
U. S. Securities	9,750.00
Other Bonds and Warrants	34,660.60
Stock in Fed. Reserve Bank	1,960.00
Stock in Fed. Int. Bkg. Co.	900.00
Furniture and Fixtures	4,600.00
Other Real Estate	4,100.00
Five per cent Red. Fund	312.50
CASH & SIGHT EX.	123,490.35
Overdrafts	195.02
Total	\$476,472.54

LIABILITIES

Capital Stock	\$ 50,000.00
Surplus Fund	15,000.00
Undivided Profits	6,265.74
Circulation Acct.	5,960.00
BILLS PAYABLE	NONE
REDISCOUNTS	NONE
BORROWED MONEY	NONE
DEPOSITS	399,256.80
Total	\$476,472.54



THE FARMERS & MERCHANTS National Bank

J. T. Warren, President L. R. Thompson, Cashier

FIRST SHERIFF OF COUNTY DIES

John C. Montgomery died at his home on East South Third and El Paso Streets Tuesday morning at 10:45 o'clock.

Mr. Montgomery was seriously ill about a month ago when he was taken to his home from town. He was in a critical condition for two days, but his condition improved considerably, however, he had been in ill health for some time.

He moved to Nolan County in 1879 before the organization of the county. When the county was organized in 1881 he became the first sheriff. At that time the Texas & Pacific railroad was building through Sweetwater and this section of the country. Those were the days of the lawless element of drinking, gambling, shooting and carousing people; keeping up with the construction of the railroad and quite naturally it required a man of nerve and courage to make a sheriff.

In the early days he established a ranch on Bitter Creek in Nolan County 12 miles from Sweetwater. After establishing his sons and assisting them to get ranches started nearby or adjoining, he still retained property ample to sustain him in his declining years.

Besides being sheriff, he was for several years County Commissioner. He always took a great interest in the affairs of the city politics and community interest.

He bought a residence in Sweetwater about a year ago and has lived here since that time. He was a member of the Church of Christ here.

Besides his wife, Mr. Montgomery is survived by four sons J. C. Jr. Ben., two daughters, Mrs. John Fritz and Mrs. Carl Sanders.

Funeral arrangements were made for Wednesday afternoon at the Church of Christ.—Sweetwater Reporter.

Subscribe for the Merkel Mail

UNION RIDGE ITEMS

The party given by Mr. Carey Saturday night was enjoyed by some of the young people of this community.

Mr. Tom Douglas is visiting relatives here.

Miss Wanda Braune was the week end guest of Miss Jewel Skidmore.

Mr. Lige Harris and family visited Mr. Stamps and family Sunday.

Miss Lola Shelton visited Miss Mary Sue Newberry Sunday.

Mr. Robert Davis visited Mr. Edward Blackwell Sunday.

Mrs. Willie Douglass returned home Saturday night from Big Spring, where she has been visiting relatives.

Miss Jewel Skidmore visited Miss Mabel Parked Sunday.

Mr. Hubert artin also visited Reuben Parked Sunday.

Misses Lillie, Birdie Davis and Mr. Bobbie Gazzaway visited Lois and Walter Barnett Sunday.

Miss Lola Peterson, accompanied by Miss Halli Green, returned home Sunday afternoon.—L. G. Of Texas.

Chas. H. Jones left Saturday night for De Kalb, where he was called on account of the death of a brother in law, Mr. Robert Lindsey.

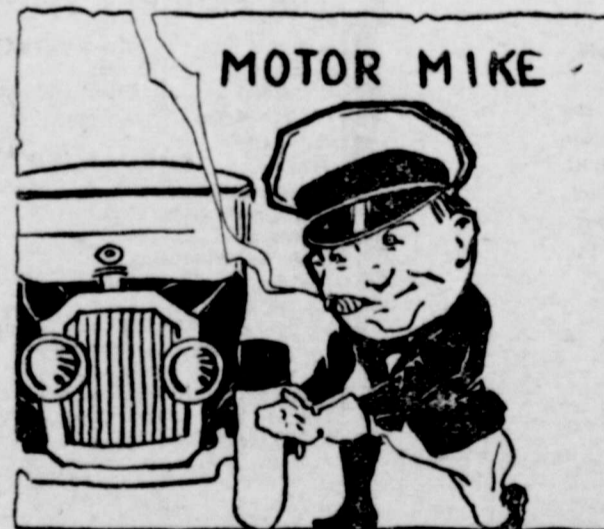
Junior B. Y. P. U. Program

Subject: Helping the Churches that have no homes. Leader, Clara Louise Miller. Playlet—(Characters) Leader, Mildred Bird.

Jack, J. E. Boaz
John, Clara Louise Miller.
Mary, Florence Ligon.
Lucy, Alma Elliott.
Nell, Mary K. Cummings.
President, Christene Rister.

Poem, Hidden Flowers, by Margaret Miller.

Leaders Ten minutes.
Drill on memory work.
Daily Bible Readers.



You run into some careless boob
And smash a brand new fender,
Remember they can fix you up
And speak a word that's tender.

That reminds us, do you need a bumper, shock absorber or any parts? See us for parts or repair service.

"You tell 'em Oil, you're a smooth proposition"

McFarland Garage

WHITE CHURCH

Our community has been blessed with another good shower of rain this week which makes crop conditions look very promising indeed.

Mr. W. M. Snow and wife, accompanied by Mr. C. N. Snow and wife of Tye returned Wednesday of last week from a ten day trip to Riviera, Klegberg county. The trip was made in Mr. Snow's car and they report a wonderful time.

Mrs. Warren Moore and two small children from Leo, Cooke county have been visiting Mrs. Frank Demere. Also Mrs. Jack Pannell and children from north of Merkel visited Mrs. Demere one day last week.

Mr. George Shuff and family returned Thursday from Lubbock where they visited Mr. Emmette Strickland. They saw some pretty crops but nothing that would beat the canyon's prospects.

Mr. Weldon Burrus and wife from Cuthbert, Mitchell county, spent Saturday night and Sunday visiting here. It has been a number of years since they have been here, which use to be their home, but of course they found the "Latch String hanging out."

Mrs. W. M. and Mrs. Dillard Snow and babies spent the day Saturday with Mrs. John Hughes at Merkel.

Miss Mary Hughes is spending the week with Ruby and Pearl Wilson.

Mr. Tom Maddox and family spent Sunday visiting his sister Mrs. Snyder in the Mt Pleasant community.

Sunday School is still improving and the plans are now to begin a singing school at the church house in few days. White Church folks will in time become more interested in the education of their younger people. Just wait and see. That reminds us, it isn't long until school time again. A few days ago our teachers had not been employed for this term. Since

our school is already below the standard of what it should be, and since it belongs to all of us, lets all make ourselves interested in it and insist on our trustees getting "the best there is."

Quite a number of our citizens were in Merkel trading Saturday. Since this is such a common occurrence, lets inquire, why don't the business men of Merkel visit our community as they have others? —Optimist.

Intermediate Epworth League

1. Subject: "The inner and the outer sides of life."

2. Leader, Lewis Tucker.

3. Song.

4. Scripture lesson either given from memory or the story by the leader in his own words.

5. Prayer.

6. Song.

7. Letters 1 and 2: The first letter, Stella King

The next letter, Emma Toombs.

8. Song

9. Letters 3 and: Taken from the next letter by Orpah Paterson.

10. Aunties Exploration by Intha Bird.

11. Song.

12. The last letter home, by Hallie Pike.

13. Sentence prayers, closing with the League benediction.

Texas Banker Uses Ferrasol

One of the most widely known financiers in Texas is Mr. T. T. Cole, President of the Texas Mortgage Co., of Dallas, who writes: "I am pleased to say that I have used Ferrasol for indigestion and acid stomach and I believe it is the best remedy I have ever tried for such troubles. I know of no better remedy for indigestion, constipation and kidney trouble where due to acidity. Yours truly, (signed) T. J. Cole. For Sale by Merkel Drug Co. at 50c per box. 29t

REVIVAL AT NOODLE

Rev. Bird, pastor of the Methodist church at Noodle, announces that on next Saturday night, July 14, he will begin a ten days revival meeting at that place, with Rev. M. C. Hays, pastor of the Methodist church at Merkel, doing the preaching.

Mrs. Bob McDonald left first of the week for a visit with relatives in Dallas.

P. & G. Soap, 5 cents. W. W. Campbell. 5t2.

E. D. Coats and family left first of the week for their trip to Dallas county.

Get your cold drinks at the little store in the Alley. 5t2.

Full line Cow feed, Chicken feed too. T. J. R. Swafford. Phone 44 South side. It.

THREE LIVE EPWORTH LEAGUES

Officers of the three Epworth Leagues of the Merkel Circuit met at the Methodist Church Saturday evening. After an interesting program including an address by Bro Hays, the Leaguers enjoyed iced watermelons in the good old fashioned way.

There are now three live Epworth Leagues on the circuit, White Church, Union Ridge, and Nubia. The first two have been recently organized, while Nubia has long been doing faithful and excellent work.

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Vacation time is over, and we hope to see every body in their place next Sunday morning at Sunday School and church service. The time is drawing near for our Union Revival meeting.

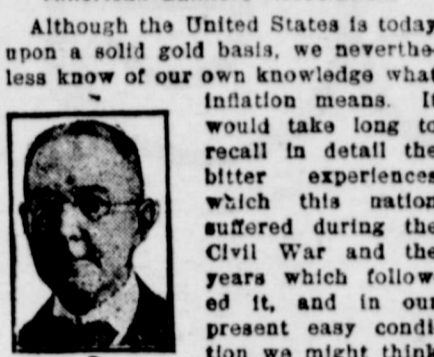
The union prayer services will be held each Wednesday night. There is no greater preparation for Christian service than these services, don't forget next Wednesday night to come. Sunday, July 15 all the regular services of the day.

Misses Lois and Hazel Leslie daughters, of Mr. and Mrs. E. E. Leslie, returned first of the week from a trip to Grapevine, Farmers Branch and Carrollton Texas, where they visited relatives.

Subscribe for the Merkel Mail Flour \$3.00 per hundred lbs. at W. W. Campbell's. 5t2

KEEP AMERICA'S WAMPUM SOUND!

By SAMUEL H. BEACH, President, Savings Bank Division, American Bankers Association.



Although the United States is today upon a solid gold basis, we nevertheless know of our own knowledge what inflation means.

It would take long to recall in detail the bitter experiences which this nation suffered during the Civil War and the years which followed it, and in our present easy condition we might think such conditions could never again arise.

The common people of France rose in their might, tore down the Bastille, and made reprisal for centuries of kingly crime and oppression.

Unsound Money Tyranny At the very worst point of their currency inflation they found themselves under the absolute domination of Robespierre.

It was simply legalized robbery. When the penalty was increased to twenty years imprisonment the inevitable climax came.

Robespierre's End This unheard of outrage was more than the people could stand.

The fallacy of unsound money is sure to confront us again. Never is there enough of everything for all the people.

My whole purpose is to drive home the fact that danger lies ahead and to urge every one to let no opportunity go by to use voice and influence to ward keeping the wampum of these United States, as it is today, the soundest currency in the world.

SOME BANK SALARIES

Investigations made by the Missouri Bankers Association have revealed that 368 banks in the state in towns of under 2,000 population are paying their cashiers and chief executives an average of only \$110 a month.

It indicates that, even allowing for the economy of living in small communities, the cashiers and managing officers of those 1,192 banks, who receive an average of \$140 per month, either must have personal means to begin with, or must maintain the standards necessary to their positions as the leaders of their communities and the builders of the commonwealth by means of 'side lines,' such as selling insurance, collecting commissions on farm loans, and trading in real estate."

WHITE LEGHORNS

I have some A-grade M. Johnson White Leghorn Cockrells for sale at \$1.00 and some special mating at \$1.50. J. S. Touchstone, Hawley, Route 2. 7t6pd

BAPTIST ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sunday school with places for all at 10 a. m.

All classes meet at the church except the Young Business Men's Class, that meets at the Gem Theatre at 9:45, so as to get through in time to allow all present to attend preaching service.

Preaching by the pastor at 11 a. m.

Subject—"Getting Ready for a Revival."

All Young Peoples meetings at the church at 7:15.

Special evening service will be in charge of the Choir and the Senior B. Y. P. U. This will be a very enjoyable as well as a helpful service. The Choir will have special numbers and the best talent of our young people will bring helpful talks on papers on timely and worth while topics.

Ladies Meeting Tuesday at 4 p. m.

Prayer meeting Wednesday at 8:30 p. m.

Choir practice immediately following Prayermeeting.

It is hoped that special prayer services will be held by the women from Tuesday afternoon through the week, with a view of being ready for the meeting. It is also hoped that the whole church may join in a series of prayermeetings from Wednesday evening through the rest of the week.

Lets make Sunday a good day in our work for the Master. Ira L. Parrack, pastor.

The Summer 'PEP' Producer. Are you all Set? TO "keep the air alive" around you G-E FANS Produce Summer "PEP" See our pay as you use Plan. West Texas Utilities Company

Eld. W. G. Cypert returned Monday from Rotan where for the past two weeks he has been engaged in holding a revival meeting; there being some fourteen for Baptism. He expects to leave soon for Burnett, where he will also hold a revival. Mrs. J. A. Milliken, popular sales lady for Max Mellinger Dry Goods, left first of the week for Caps, where she will spend a few days vacation with relatives. The HOME of the Everlasting Trease. Well pressed is well pressed. Cash Tailor Shop. Phone 180.

Illustration of a watch repairer. America leads the world in the Standardization of watch parts. Thos. C. Wilson, Jeweler Merkel, Texas

PERFECT HEALTH. Tutt's Pills keep the system in perfect order. A VIGOROUS BODY. Tutt's Pills

PROFESSIONAL. DR. R. I. GRIMES. Physician and Surgeon. Hours 10 to 12 a.m. 2 to 5 p.m. Phones 105-163 Res. 165

E. S. CUMMINGS. Attorney-At-Law. Office—Up-stairs in The Boney Building

V. B. SUBLETT. Watch and Jewelry repairing. All Work First-class. Located at Merkel Drug Co.

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

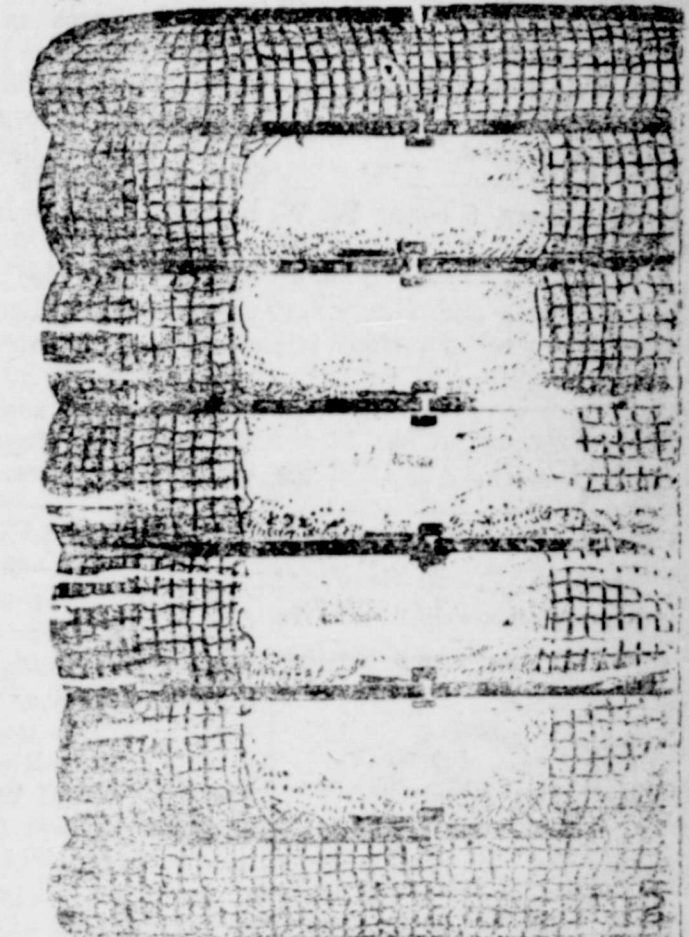
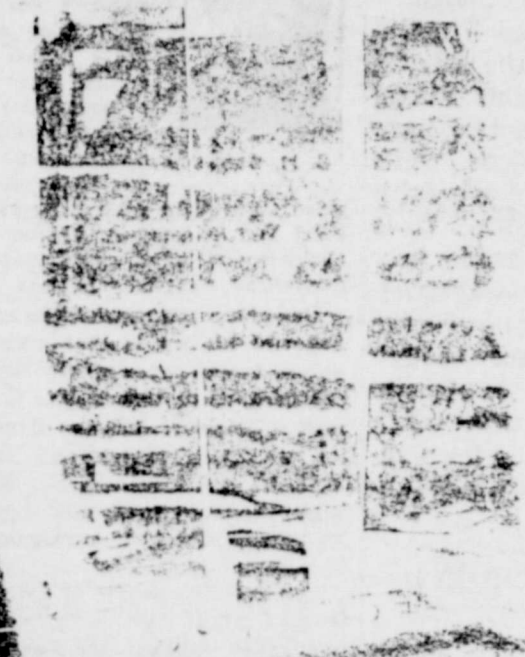
G. W. JOHNSON. Insurance—Notary Public. Over Woodroof—Bragg's Store. Merkel — Texas

W. W. WHEELER. Real Estate, Fire, Accident and Tornado Insurance Agent. Notary Public. Office over Crown Hardware Co. Merkel — Texas

It's Cool ON THE GREAT LAKES AND IN THE MOUNTAINS OF VIRGINIA AND CAROLINA. Sunshine Special IS THE QUICKEST AND BEST WAY THERE. GEO. D. HUNTER, G. P. A. DALLAS

New Goods New Shoes. Besides keeping a large and complete stock of everything to be found in any real, first class dry goods store, we can be depended upon to be among the first to announce the arrival of new and seasonable goods as the seasons come and go; hence we hasten to announce to the people of Merkel and surrounding country, the arrival each day almost, of many pretty, new and up-to-date things in early fall dry goods. Did You Say Shoes? Well yes, we have just unpacked one of the largest and best assortments of ladies, men's and children's shoes ever before in Merkel at this season of the year. Max Mellinger "The Store on the Corner"

Co-operate



WE'LL BACK THE FARMER

The following Merkel Business Concerns stand squarely behind all those things which serve to ease the problems of rural life and promote the general welfare of the farmers.

We regard all farms in this community as business enterprises of vital importance to every individual.

We want each farmer in this section, whether a customer of any of the following businesses or not, to know that we accept this problem as our own and offer him our help to satisfactorily meet these conditions.

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Farmers & Merchants National Bank | Woodroof-Bragg D. G. Co. |
| Farmers State Bank | J. T. Dennis, Grocer |
| Barrow Furniture Co. | The Brown Dry Goods Co. |
| Crown Hardware Co. | W. W. Campbell, Grocer |
| Liberty Hardware Co. | Hamilton & Case, Groceries |
| Bob Martin Grocery Co. | Sanders Drug Store |
| Merkel Drug Co. | Max Mellinger |
| Merkel Motor Co. | J. T. Darsey Co., Furniture |
| Sam Swann, Ginner | F. P. Hamm, Ginner |
| Fred Guitar, Ginner | |



Used Ford Bargains

Come in and see the many real values in used Fords. We have a big stock for you to select from.

Prices \$50.00 to \$275.00

Easy Terms

MERKEL MOTOR COMPANY

Authorized Lincoln, Fordson and Ford Dealers
MERKEL, TEXAS

DOES HOUSEWORK AT SEVENTY-FOUR

Mrs. Autrey Says Stella Vitae Keeps Her Young and in Vigorous Health

"I reckon I am a Stella Vitae crank, but this splendid medicine is what keeps me young and at 74 to do all my housework," said Mrs. M. C. Autrey, a well known and highly respected resident of Hooks, Texas, the other day.

"I was badly run down and suffered constantly from pains in my back which hurt so I thought they would kill me. I was just miserable from one day to another and felt like my end was drawing near.

"One day an old lady stopped to see me and told me about Stella Vitae and I sent and got three bottles. They helped me so much, I sent for three more and became sound and well."

Stella Vitae may be obtained from any druggist and the purchase price will be refunded if it fails to bring relief.

Try the Ford Shop for work. We are equipped to do it right. Merkel Motor Co.

Mr. B. C. Gaither returned first of the week from a ten days visit with his daughter at Tuscola.

LAUNDRY SERVICE

Do you dread wash day?—Then comes the ironing, do you enjoy that? Did you know you could have your entire family washing and ironing done at a less figure than you can afford to do it yourself, or by a washwoman? We are in that business, work fifty four people who thoroughly know their line of duty. A trial will be convincing to you that you have been awakened to something appreciative. Cleaning and Pressing. No gas odor—One day service for prices that you can afford to pay. Let me at least relieve you of some of your hard work. Ask those who are using the service. My Flat rate, rough dry rate, or Semi finish rate will appeal to you. Ligon, the Laundryman. Phone 218 brings my car.

PILES CURED

I treat Piles without knife or detention from work. Office at City Drug Store, Abilene, Tex. Dr. E. E. Cockrell, Rectal Specialist. 29t4pd

Buy Folgers Coffee at Bob Martin's Grocery Company. tf

N. A. Dowell and Judge N. D. Cobb left this week for a trip to Rockwall county, where they will attend the old Settlers Barbecue and picnic, and incidentally meet old friends and relatives.

Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Hutchins of this city had with them as guests July 4th, the following relatives: Geo. Hutchins and family and Mr. Templeton, of Loraine, Mrs. Archer and daughters of Coleman, Mrs. Williams, son and daughter, of Stamford and Mrs. Rider and two children of Merkel. It was a kind of reunion of the family and was enjoyed very much by all present, including this splendid old couple.

Our Batteries are guaranteed twelve months and we allow a fair price for old ones. Merkel Motor Co. tf

Home made Lard at John S. Hughes Cash Grocery. It

Rev. Ira L. Parrack returned this week from Hall, San Saba County, where he has been engaged in a meeting for some ten days. He reports a very fine meeting; having 18 additions to the church, with ten for Baptism. Brother Parrack will be in his pulpit here at both the morning and evening hours.

Mr. and Mrs. Sam Rainbolt of Dallas, were here on July 4th for a visit with the formers parents, Mr. and Mrs. H. M. Rainbolt.

Mr. Bob Russell and family, who have been here for he past month on a visit left Wednesday for their home in Imperial California.

Seal Flour, none better. Every sack guaranteed at Bob Martin Grocery Company. tf

Expecting car Colorado Goal next few days. Place your order now. T. J. R. Swafford. Phone 44 South side. It.

Miss Hazel Lee Rainbolt, is improving we are told. She was carried to Abilene for an operation last week. We are told that she will be at home in a few days.

T. E. Sears and family of Whiteright Texas arrived first of the week for a few days visit with the former's brother, Mr. John Sears and family.

Miss Hazel Bell returned first of the week from a visit with relatives and friends at Coahoma and Big Spring.

Night Watchman, John A. Woodard left first of the week for Galveston, where he went to attend the City Marshals and Sherriffs convention. Mr. W. F. Chaney is ably serving as night watchman in his absence.

Miss Dixie Howard, efficient bookkeeper at the Merkel Dry Goods Company, left first of the week for two weeks vacation to Hillsboro and Dallas, where she will visit friends and relatives.

Miss Nona Calvert of Sweetwater is visiting in the home of her relatives, Mr. and Mrs. Bob Martin this week.

Mrs. J. E. Hendrix and two little grandsons, Bennie and Harold returned Saturday from a visit with relatives at Lamesa.

Mr. and Mrs. T. W. Branch are entertaining a new son at their home a mile east of town.

Henry Rose was here from Sweetwater Tuesday looking after business matters.

C. T. Derrick shipped two cars of cattle to Fort Worth Saturday.

Good Ford car for \$65.00 at Merkel Motor Co. tf

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Graves were here Sunday from Abilene.

Miss Winnie Mitchell, of Lancaster, Texas is here the guest of Miss Rennie Burns.

Mr. A. C. Rose, local dry goods merchant who owned a nice track of fine land just adjacent to the city, and planted it in wheat last fall, reports the grain threshing out about 15 bushels per acre.

Mrs. W. P. Browning who has been quite sick, is some better, it is reported.

Mr. J. L. Baker, one of this community's most substantial farmers, who owns a fine farm out on the edge of the city, has recently threshed his wheat and oats, and which threshed out per acre, about 50 bushels for the later and about 12 for the former.

Mr. and Mrs. O. A. Lucas were visiting relatives in Abilene Sunday.

NO. 7481

Report of the Condition of

THE FARMERS & MERCHANTS NATIONAL BANK AT MERKEL

In the State of Texas, at the Close of Business on June 30, 1923

RESOURCES

Loans and Discounts, including rediscounts	\$236,614.07
Overdrafts, secured	\$56.82
Unsecured	\$139.20
Deposited to secure circulation (U. S. Bonds par value)	\$6,250.00
All other United States Government Securities	\$11,850.00
Other bonds, stocks, securities, etc.	18,100.00
Furniture and Fixtures	29,150.60
Real estate owned other than banking house	4,100.00
Lawful reserve with Federal Reserve Bank	23,837.23
Cash in vault and amount due from national banks	98,977.24
Amount due from State banks, bankers and trust companies in the United States (other than included in Items 8, 9, and 10)	125.00
Checks on other banks in the same city or town as reporting bank	521.59
Total of Items 9, 10, 11, 12, and 13	\$99,623.83
Miscellaneous cash items	29.29
Redemption fund with U. S. Treasurer and due from U. S. Treasurer	312.50
Total	\$476,472.54

LIABILITIES

Capital stock paid in	\$50,000.00
Surplus Fund	15,000.00
Undivided profits	\$21,044.67
Reserved for Dividends \$3,000	\$18,044.67
Less current expenses, interest and taxes paid	11,778.93
Circulating notes outstanding	5,950.00
Amount due to State banks, bankers, and trust companies in the U. S. and foreign countries (other than items 21 22)	724.65
Cashiers checks on own bank outstanding	408.86
Total of items 21, 22, 23, 24, and 25	1,133.51
Demand Deposits subject to Reserve:	
Individual deposits subject to check	326,777.76
Certificates of deposits due in less than 30 days	600.00
Dividends unpaid	3,000.00
Total of demand deposit (other than bank deposits)	
Reserve, Items 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, and 31 \$330,377.76	
Certificates of deposit	26,460.70
Other time Deposits	41,284.83
Total of time deposits subject to reserve, Items 32, 33, 34, and 35	\$67,745.53
Total	\$476,472.54

STATE OF TEXAS, COUNTY OF TAYLOR, SS:

I, L. R. Thompson, Cashier of the above-named bank, do solemnly swear that the above statement is true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

L. R. THOMPSON, Cashier

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 5th day of July, 1923.

J. T. HOWARD, Notary Public.

Correct—Attest:—G. F. WEST,
J. T. WARREN
SAM BUTMAN Sr., Directors

We are Friends Of the Farmers

We are for every movement which helps to raise the standard of living of our citizenship and helps to give to them more of the necessities and comforts of life.

Because it tends to render to the cotton grower the actual profits of his labor, without placing a burden upon the consumer of the products of cotton, we believe the cooperative marketing of cotton is beneficial to the cotton farmers of Texas.

We endorse the Farm Bureau Cotton Association and its co-operative marketing plan, and extend to the cotton growers of Taylor county our hearty cooperation in any possible way in making their movement a success.

Woodrum Filling Station

"That Good Gulf Gasoline"—Godrich Tires and Tubes Filling Station Service that SATISFIES

Percy Jones and family accompanied by Mr. W. B. Farmer expect to leave about Sunday for a visit with relatives at Tennyson, Texas.

Mr. and Mrs. A. E. Higgins are spending the week with relatives in Shackelford county.

All kinds of tube vulcanizing at Merkel Motor Co. tf

Arthur Harris, a former Merkel boy, and two little sons who have been the guests of his parents. Mr. and Mrs. Joe Harris left for their home at Dallas, Monday.

Mrs. Nannie George left Monday for Shep where she will be a guest in the home of her brother, Jim Holland for several weeks.

Mr. and Mrs. L. B. Scott spent Sunday in Abilene the guests of the formers parents.

We trade for old tires. Get our prices. Merkel Motor Co. tf

Mr. C. E. Conner, splendid salesman for the John S. Hughes Grocery Company, with his wife left this week for a vacation trip to Glen Rose and other points in East Texas.

C. Leslie McNeese, of Bisbee, Arizona, arrived in Merkel first of the week to join his wife and for children on a visit to his parents, Mr. and Mrs. C. L. McNeese. The writer was indeed glad to meet the younger Mr. McNeese again, having met him some twelve years ago, when we both resided in the same town in the Panhandle at that time.

Mark Malone was in the city Monday, and has our thanks for another year's subscription to the Mail. He reports his brother, who is in the north and east with his Rodeo and Wild West Show as having good luck and lots of fun with those easterners.

Ben T. Merritt passed thru Hale Center Tuesday morning on his return trip from Colorado. His wife and little son remained in Denver for a month or two longer. Ben was accompanied to his home in Handley by his little brother Jack, who will perhaps spend the summer in Handley, Clyde, and Merkel.—Hale Center American

Deskin Gaither of El Paso, was here this week for a visit with Messrs. B. C. and F. Y. Gaither.

Simmons College

Jefferson D. Sandefer, LL. D., President
Abilene, Texas

The Thirty-second Annual Session begins Sept. 13

The aim of the College is to train the Head, the Heart, the Hand. Courses are offered leading to a recognized Bachelor of Arts degree. Household Arts are required of women graduates. The most beautiful building in the southwest is devoted exclusively to the Fine Arts. A well equipped gymnasium with swimming pool for physical training. Simmons participates in Intercollegiate Press, Athletic, Debating and Oratorical activities.

Write for catalogue and information to

T. N. Carswell, A. B., Registrar

Will Your Varnished Floors Stand the "Romp Test?"



SOME varnishes crack, scratch and go all to pieces under roller skates and kiddie cars. A few are made to stand unbelievably rough treatment—and they really do it.

Among the latter is Lowe Brothers Durable Floor Varnish. It dries hard, yet is so elastic that it will not scratch or mar white. You can scuff along it—the wood may dent but the varnish won't crack.

Water, boiling hot or freezing cold, will not affect it in any way.

Is easy to apply. Gives floors a beautiful rich, deep gloss—not a cheap, shiny finish. Can be rubbed to a flat finish if desired. Has great lastingness.

Durable Floor Varnish is excellent also for fishing poles, golf clubs, and tennis racquets.

Come in and see the sample panel and ask for literature.

BURTON-LINGO CO.

Lowe Brothers
Paints and Varnishes

"INTERNATIONAL BANKER" A MYTH

Otto H. Kahn Refutes Idea That Foreign Finance Activities Dull Allegiance to America.

BANKING REFLECTS BUSINESS

"International Farmer" and Other Business Men Who Sell to Foreign Markets Create Demand for International Financial Service.

The idea that bankers engaged in financing foreign trade and in handling foreign bond flotations are a particular cult of "international bankers" actuated by motives differing from those of other bankers was refuted recently by Otto H. Kahn of New York, in an address before the Rochester Chamber of Commerce.

"There is no such thing as an 'international banker' in America, as the meaning of the term is generally understood," Mr. Kahn said. "He exists in the imagination of people all too numerous, but he does not exist in the flesh. You might just as well speak of the 'international farmer' because the farmer sells a certain percentage of his crops to Europe, or of the 'international manufacturer.'"

"The banker maintains, and can maintain, international contact, and conduct international business, only to the extent that American industry, commerce and agriculture are international. True, the banker must take within his purview continuously the conditions of affairs and the current of things throughout the world, but so must the exporter and importer, and so must the farmer take into account the prices and tendencies of the world market in Liverpool.

Banking Mostly Home Business

"The American banker's market is the home market. His success is conditioned upon the capacity and willingness of the American investor to absorb the securities which he offers. His very existence depends upon the confidence and co-operation of the public and of his fellow-bankers—and any banker whose activities would justify create the impression that he was actuated by cosmopolitan rather than by American interests would very soon lose that confidence and following.

"The business which he does for his own account in, with, or for Europe, is inconsiderable as compared to the business he does in America. His principal functions in relation to Europe are to provide the requisite banking facilities for export and import and for travelers. That part of his functions which consists in financing loans of foreign governments or industries has hitherto been, with sporadic exceptions, of relatively inconsiderable proportions as compared to the vastness of the volume of his transactions in financing American industry, commerce and enterprise.

Necessity for Foreign Credits

"In saying this, I do not mean to imply that there is anything that calls for apology in the floating of foreign loans in America and in the loaning of American funds to Europe, provided such loans are considered sound as to security and are made for legitimate, constructive purposes. Indeed, such loans ought to, and I believe will, be made in increasing measure, when conditions in Europe will have become such as to warrant it.

"It is manifest that the promotion of our export trade, including, of course, the export of farm products, requires us, under the circumstances as they now are and are likely to remain for some time, to aid the purchasing power of other nations by extending to them financial facilities to a reasonable extent.

Subscribe for the Merkel Mail.

Mid-Summer Clearance

-O F-

New Cool Merchandise

At The Bragg D. G. Co's Store

If saving money is important to you, here is a selling event in which every item is of unusual interest. The countless things needed for summer mean a considerable drain on every one's finances, and saving on seasonable apparel and accessories is no small advantage.



LOMBARD TISSUE

THE BRAGG D.G. COMPANY

"The Place Most People Trade"

Included in the Mid-Summer offerings are Voiles, Swisses and Tissues at 19c, 39c, 49c, 59c per yard. These will be grouped and priced for your convenience, on tables. We will also offer for sale all Silks, Crepes, Paisleys etc, in short lengths at about Half Price.

Included in the Mid-Summer offerings in our Men's Department you will find Hats and Caps priced for quick selling:

- All \$4.50 men's Sailor Hats priced\$3.35
- All \$3.50 men's Sailor Hats priced\$2.95
- All \$2.50 men's Sailor Hats priced\$1.95
- One lot men's Panama Hats including values up to 5.00 your choice for98c

All Summer Goods in Short Lengths on the Remnant Table at a Big Saving.

(Continued from front page) SPECIAL COMMITTEE TO PASS ON LOANS

of the crop. When these matters are arranged, the committee will arrange with the local banker for the loan and O. K. or back up the collateral of the member seeking the loan or mortgage. In this way the penalty assessed for the mortgaging of cotton under the terms of the Texas Farm Bureau Cotton Association contract will be waived.

But, the biggest feature of this plan is that the Association aims to get the dates of the maturity extended over a period of several months instead of all coming due in October, the beginning of the cotton marketing season. If payments are arranged, we will say for example, to fall due in October, December, February, and April, the farmer who ships cooperatively will have an opportunity to sell his cotton over a period of time instead of sacrificing it at the time prices are usually lowest—at the autumnal dip. This is just another step in the plan of orderly marketing of the cotton and orderly paying of obligation throughout the year by the farmers.

Mr. Orr explained that the Farm Bureau Cotton Association does not want to become a loan agency, but that it wants the local banker to be the biggest man in this line of business, and at the same time the association wants to render every possible service to the grower, in order that he may be able to live up to his contract and reap its benefits. It is just another effort on the part of the association to bring the banker and the farmer into closer relationship and secure cooperation through the marketing season as well as through the growing season for the farmer.

The association has found that in many instances the failure of the grower to live up to his contract absolutely and ship his cotton co-operatively has been due to the fact that he has not fully understood that the association could and would help him out of a difficult situation like the arrangement of a loan or mortgage, and we are determined that every possible aid may be extended to the grower in order to help him to reap the full benefit of the work of his association.

Every member is being impressed with the importance of consulting the local committee whenever in doubt about any feature of his contact with the association or whenever in need of assistance in any way.

We want every member to realize more that this is his organization, owned and operated by him and his other farmer neighbors for the sole purpose of rendering him service in marketing his cotton and that the officers and clerks at headquarters are there to

serve him. The campaign for new members in Taylor County is progressing nicely, according to Clyde Daniel, Field Director in charge of the campaign, who spent the day in Merkel Monday. Although the forces were handicapped to a certain extent by the holiday on the 4th, we now have more than one hundred new members lined up so far. The field men are working with members of the Farm Bureau in twelve districts in the county this week and have started out with the determination of bringing in One Hundred and Fifty new members.

Most encouraging reports are being received from campaigns being held throughout the state. Brown County reported two hundred and fifty new members up to Saturday night. Plans are now being perfected for the membership drive in Jones County. Local committees are at work on the plans and it is expected that Jones County will furnish its full quota of new members in the campaign and that Taylor and Jones Counties will be two of the strongest counties in the state.

Durability comes first, we have it. SERVICE comes next, we give it. SATISFACTION is what we all want, we guarantee it. Cash Tailor Shop. Phone 180 tf.

Dr. Gilbert Uses Ferrasol

I am using Ferrasol for indigestion and acid stomach and it is the best remedy I have ever taken. I also recommend it in my practice for pyorrhea and acid conditions of the mouth, and am getting excellent results. I know others will appreciate Ferrasol as much as I do if you will bring it to their attention. Dr. J. M. Gilbert, 1413 1/2 Elm street, Dallas, Texas. 50c per box at Merkel Drug Co. 29tf

TWO OLD YEAR BABY DIES

The remains of the two year old baby, Bulah Mae Cauthren, was laid to rest Sunday afternoon in Rose Hill cemetery, this city at 5 o'clock, Evangelist Thos. E. Milholland, speaking words of comfort to the bereaved at the tabernacle, where the funeral rites were held.

It will be remembered that its mother was buried here in Rose Hill cemetery a week ago last Sunday.

Full line Cow feed, Chicken feed too. T. J. R. Swafford. Phone 44 South side. It.

Buy Ford Parts at Ford Headquarters and save money. Merkel Motor Co. tf

Mr. J. L. Beene has as his guest this week his brother, Mr. C. B. Beene of Cross Plains Texas.

THE BEST THE FARMS PRODUCE

By WALTER W. HEAD
First Vice-President, American Bankers Association



Walter W. Head

Every banker and business man in the country is interested in the farm from another viewpoint than merely a place to raise farm products and livestock. Above all the farm is one of the places where we can best bring up our boys and girls. Thousands of men and boys each year are flocking to the city. Clerks in the city are barely eking out an existence and they cannot expect to receive much more in the way of compensation.

But back on the farms are men working for a reasonable return, and in addition they have their houses, the wonderful sunshine above in the daytime, the wonderful fresh air and all the things that the soil produces. The boy who is raised on the farm will have an entirely different aspect of life and approach the various problems with which he has to deal in later years in a different way from the boy who is raised in the city.

In this period of unrest we are certainly vitally interested in rearing both on the farms and in the cities boys and girls with the proper outlook for the future, imbued with the belief that the activity in which they are engaged is, after all, something that will provide them both with the necessary things of life and with happiness. For in happiness there is contentment, and in contentment in America there is safety for our institutions.

Every single banker should feel that the problems his farmer customers have to contend with are not only the farmer's problems but his problems as well. He should feel not only that the farmer must be prosperous so that he can deposit more in his bank, giving the banker more to loan and thereby increasing his profits, but that also there is something which cannot be measured in dollars and cents. It is the thought of rendering such service to their customers—regardless of whether they are farmers, or men working in the shops, or big business men of the cities—that will bring not only prosperity but contentment as well. The banker should take as his motto: "Who serves best profits most."

Co-operative Marketing

Agriculture produces enough to feed the people the year around but some of this production should be stored to eliminate the over supply at the times of harvest or during periods of high production. It can then be thrown upon the market in accordance with consumptive demands.

Co-operative marketing is still in its infancy. In a few localities where farmers have been properly organized and provided themselves with adequate facilities to store their products they have been able to considerably stabilize prices, to the advantage of both producer and consumer.

Farmers are looking for a scientific merchandising basis upon which to market their products. It is extremely important that they organize rightly on the commodity basis and secure efficient capable management and adequate financing. This cannot be done in a day, a week, or a month, nor in five or even ten years. It must be by gradual growth and development. The problem is so important it demands the best thought of not only farmers but educators, bankers and other business men. Banker Farmer.

W. C. Calvert, Nolan County's farm demonstrator, was in the city Tuesday from Sweetwaer.

STAR

PARASITE REMOVER

A wonderful new discovery which is a boon to all poultry keepers

Blue bugs, mites, stick-tight fleas, chiggers, body lice and all other blood-sucking or skin eating parasites,

Positively will Not Stay on Your Fowls if you use "Star Parasite Remover"

in their drinking water or milk as we direct. Star Parasite Remover is a blood purifier and builder and never fails to increase vitality and egg production. A \$1 bottle will treat 100 hens, approximately 120 days. The cost is slight—the beneficial results certain. You take no risk as the General Distributors of Star Parasite Remover have authorized us to cheerfully refund the purchase price if it does not do as claimed by them.

For Sale and Guaranteed by
John S. Hughes Cash Grocery

Be ahead of trouble

Insurance today is worth a hundred regrets tomorrow.

Our office is open six days every week--and six nights if necessary--to discuss, advise, counsel, investigate and go over your insurance.

Even hours may make a difference to you. Fires come in a minute. A loss may occur in less than a minute.

Insure today -- now -- telephone us. We are ready.

W. O. BONEY

MERKEL, TEXAS

THE MERKEL MAIL

VOL. 35. NO. 20.

MERKEL, TEXAS, FRIDAY, JULY 13, 1923.

PETE AND PINTO

The Cow-Kids of O-Joy Ranch

By M. M. BRANNER



M. M. BRANNER 7-11

EARLY ROUND-UPS IN TEXAS

When the Range Was Open and Men Stayed Long Hours in the Saddle
By AUSTIN CALLAN.

A few months ago a cowman flew an airplane from San Angelo to his ranch in the Pecos country. He operated his own machine, according to press reports, and made a safe landing after an uneventful journey. To say that the airplane has become a fixed feature in the ranch life of the West, would be to call down the ridicule of all those who know the facts. Nevertheless, it would be no more remarkable than to junk the rattling Lizzie, which is now a household necessity with every livestock raiser.

As late as thirty years ago there was a vast open range in the Trans-Pecos country. The wire-fence which enclosed many millions of acres of land in what is now known as West-Central Texas, had received only scant recognition on the plains and in that region through which the Davis mountains extend. The cattle business was then one that offered an opportunity to red-blooded men who would stay in the saddle for eighteen hours at a time and sleep on the ground when they were given a chance to rest. The range was open and free to all, but it was a case of the fittest surviving, and the fittest were those who endured all kinds of hardships and braved many real dangers.

The Round-Up an Event.

One of the most prominent events of the old days was the round-up. Everybody's cattle ran together over the unclaimed hills and prairies. Through the winter months there was never much doing, aside from maintaining line riders through certain sections to keep stock from drifting clear out of the country, when a snowstorm or other severe weather would swoop down from the north. But the spring round-up was something that everybody was interested in. Wide sections would be combed for cattle; everything was driven to some central point and there the work was carried out by a thorough organization. Some leading cowman was named as round-up boss; the boys all worked under him and his word was accepted as law by a kind of ethics of the range. He had no trouble, as a rule, getting the hands to respect his wishes in the matter of selecting a time and place for the round-up and outlining the method for the cutting of cattle from the herd.

In the country west of the Pecos river

the "spring round-up" would often take place long after spring had passed. Rains usually visit that section in July and the work would not start until the grass commenced to come. Sometimes this would be as late as August and the later it was the harder the task of bulldozing and branding the calves.

Famous Ropers.

Some of the men who followed the business in that day were great ropers. Their fame was known over a wide sweep of country where they had been seen many times twirling the lariat. One of the best of this type was Brown

on the range, after the branding was done. But that was not always the case. At the big general round-up outfits would come for many miles and carry stock away to a different section, or to their own ranches if they had yet fenced up any lands, while occasionally a bunch that had been sold was carried away and delivered to the buyer. Maybe the yearlings would be sold and the rest of the herd turned loose again, where they were permitted to roam at will until the following year.

It was all hard work and took real men to stay with it. The thriftless, lazy

which the brands had been changed—were found, vigilant efforts were made to run down the thieves, to help the officers get them into the courthouse and to aid in sending them to the penitentiary. And it wasn't easy to do this, nor was it safe.

With all the hardships and all the dangers, however, there was something fascinating about the business, and the old round-up never failed to compensate the cowboys with much fun and merriment. Practical pranks of all kinds were played, especially on the tenderfoot; jokes were told around the campfires and the old ballads—those dear to the puncher—were sung. It was no uncommon thing to be awakened in the wee small hours of the night by some one dragging a saddle across your pallet and yelling, "woah!" or by that one thing which was worse, a would-be Caruso screaming at the top of his voice:

"O, bury me not on the lone prairie,
Where the wild coyotes can howl o'er me."

The Davis Mountains Country.

It was late in the summer of 1892 that the last real big round-up was ever held in the Davis Mountains country. The range was dry at the time and all the water of any consequence in that section was at Rattlesnake Water Hole on a vast prairie that lies between Marfa and Chelente mountain. The drive commenced at an early hour in the morning, long before the sun peeped over the Alpine hills. Outfits from a radius of fifty miles around were in the saddle and drawing in the direction of the meeting place agreed upon. Great herds could be seen trailing down the valleys bellowing as they went, and along about dinner time the round-up was formed. There were thousands of cattle of every age and kind, the native stock predominating. Some of the steers were five and six years old and they had horns that were longer than a man's arms. There were also a number of antelope in this round-up.

Chuck wagons were "planted" around at different points on the surrounding ridges and the little clouds of smoke that were going up here and there from campfires looked mighty good to the hundreds of men who were present. Several calves were killed and at a number

of the chuck wagons that delicate dish, which has an indelicate name, loved by all cowboys, was served. Jim Wilson, a master at the art of making these famous stews, presided at one of the camps, while such well-known cattle kings as J. D. Jackson, an ex-president of the Cattle Raisers' association; John Means, rich Valentine ranchman, and Captain J. B. Gillette, famous Texas ranger, were present.

The sun was hanging low in the west that particular evening when the boys were through cutting the herd.

To the uninitiated it might be well to say here that in those old days the pride of every ranchman was his best cutting horse. A swift animal was chosen and trained for this purpose and so well were they trained, that all a fellow had to do was to turn the nose of his mount towards the steer in the herd that he wanted, and there was no chance on earth for that steer to keep from being brought out.

It was a great life—a life that broadened the vision and sent red blood coursing through the veins. But the wire fence and the automobile have taken most of the romance out of it. Men will never again shoe their mount, put a little grub and a few "soogins" on a pack horse, fasten a coffee pot by a pair of raw-hide hobbles to his neck and hit the trail across the hills to throw in with the wagon boss and attend the old round-up. That day and that custom have passed!

There are round-ups, to be sure, but they are individual affairs. Each ranchman has his holdings so subdivided and his cattle classified in the different pastures in such a manner, that he can take two or three men with him and go out and drive up his big steers, his yearlings, or whatever kind of stock he wishes to handle, in a few hours' time. When branding he puts the cows and calves into pens at the ranch and does the work there, it not being necessary to "chouse" all classes about in order to handle any one class, as was the case with the big general round-up of the old days.

And another noticeable change and one of the greatest diversions from the old custom, is that the present day cattleman uses an automobile much oftener than he uses a cowboy.



"One of the Most Prominent Events of the Old Days Was the Round-Up."

Paschal, who in 1892 made a record for roping all day in a big round-up near Toyahvale without scoring a single miss. This was in the middle of summer and the calves were being branded at the herd on the open range. Brown would ride about the herd, locate for sure the calf that belonged to a certain cow, and then he would throw his rope and call the brand on the cow. Two men would grab the calf, throw him down, release the rope and hold him until another fellow would jerk a hot iron out of a fire near by and place the brand that had been called out on the animal. This was all done quicker than it can be told.

Occasionally the cattle would be left

fellow soon tired of the arduous tasks—the long rides and the midnight guards—and drifted into something that would assure him plenty of rest and a good night's sleep. But along with the toil there was a certain amount of excitement and the call of the big outdoors that has always appealed to strong characters of the world. There were cattle rustlers in those days and they had to be dealt with. The legitimate ranchers were of a type that could not be bluffed, and they went armed at all times and were ready to fight at the drop of the hat for their rights. This made the business hazardous. When "burnt" cattle—those on

TEXAS GROWS RAPIDLY

But the Rural Communities Have Not Kept Up With the Larger Cities



"The tide of population must be turned. It means disaster for the big cities to gain at the expense of the rural communities." Some one said this recently, while discussing "Our National Problems." But it has been asserted many times before. Profound thinkers are continually warning us of the vital need of going back to the farm, and serious efforts have often been made to start a popular movement of that kind.

Nevertheless, a swing around Texas will convince any one that the big cities are gaining faster in every way than the rural communities. In fact, Fort Worth, Dallas, Houston, San Antonio, and El Paso have never shown such progress before as they are at this very time. The 1923 building permits granted for each one of these towns is a record-breaker and mounts high into the millions.

Optimism the Keynote.

The position is not being taken here, however, that we are facing disaster. If it were possible for this writer to blaze a sentence across the horizon for the whole citizenship of Texas to read, it would be one of optimism. We are on a paved highway to safety and prosperity. But in dealing with the question of growth and development, facts must be given as they are found.

The cities, particularly the five leading ones named, appear to be drawing strength out of the smaller towns and the country. We do not find in any part of the state, except where oil fields have been developed, the building of homes and schools and churches, such as we find in the big centers.

Of course some progress is being

made everywhere. As you ride across Texas from east to west, or from north to south, you will see new homes and new barns, showing up beyond the well cultivated fields, and there will be no village or hamlet that cannot claim at least one more gasoline filling station in course of construction. Many of the towns, too, are doing a lot of paving, and you will find here and there and everywhere certain improvements in the business districts. Old shacks are being torn down to make room for modern brick structures, and additions are under way on gins and compresses and oil mills.

Still, it is the big city that constantly spreads out over more territory and lifts the sky line to a higher level. While recently driving around Fort Worth, Dallas, San Antonio, El Paso and Houston, we found that in each place there were a number of skyscrapers under construction and hundreds of homes being added, which must mean a rapid increase in population.

Unfortunately you can cross the rich farm belts of the state, where there is soil as productive as any in America, without seeing such healthy evidences of growth and improvement. It is a regrettable truth that for some reason or another, the rural development of home comforts, of opportunities for enjoying life, of educational advantages, and all that goes to fill the heart's desire, lags behind the development of these things in the city. As a consequence the young folk become discouraged and the tide sweeps the wrong way.

Wholesomeness of Country Life.

There is nothing more wholesome than the influence of quiet, simple, clean country life. It fills civilization with the freshness of summer winds out of a green valley. Human society is strengthened and the state is made stronger by it. It would be a great day in Texas if something worth while should happen to better our rural conditions. We would like to see a larger number of attractive homes dotting the great black and sandy land farms that hold within them the possibilities of wealth and happiness. We would like to see bigger school houses in the small towns and better churches and more attractive places of amusement for the young. The generation of the present demands that it be given an opportunity to expand, to rise, to enjoy life and be successful. And if this cannot be found beyond the confines of the city, then it will be sought within it.

A pessimistic view is not to be taken, however, because of the fact that the Texas cities are growing faster than the rural communities. While undoubtedly

a part of this growth is the result of a tendency to leave the farm, with its hard work, for the more lucrative and supposedly less laborious positions in the cities, yet the major portion of it is not.

Texas is drawing very heavily at this time from the north and east. Two reasons are responsible for this: One is our mild climate, the other is the great possibilities that a new country always offers as it is being developed. We might take the oil production alone and write a marvelous story of the magic wealth that it has brought forth and the outside blood that has come into the state as the result of opening up the many oil fields. And such gains, statistics show, are mostly made by the cities.

Fort Worth has added many thousands of souls to her population because of the geographical position that makes it the oil metropolis. Dallas, with its wide-awake Chamber of Commerce, has gone out after manufacturing industries and reaped a rich harvest. Houston and its ship channel have combined to pull the strings in the hope of making that city the greatest port in the South. San Antonio relies mainly on her fine climate, her close proximity to Mexico and her livestock interests. And these special efforts that have given to each a large slice of the gains in Texas' population made from other states, are perhaps the chief reasons for the apparent lagging behind of the rural communities.

It might not be too optimistic, after taking into consideration all the facts, to say that the country is forging ahead very satisfactorily. There are grounds for believing that it is not the snail-like pace of the farmer, but the remarkable strides of the latter, that causes such a difference between the development of country and city.

At any rate, Texas is growing! No one ever saw the time when such a building program was being carried forward. Progress is in the air, a go-ahead spirit predominates, the return of prosperity is visible, no matter which way you look. Aside from that period when all the resources of the nation were being employed to speed up preparations for war, there has never been a year when so many contracts were being made for construction materials.

The Disastrous Slump.

This state suffered terribly from the slump in the price of agricultural and livestock products in 1920. Many men who had long been prosperous found themselves absolutely ruined by a staggering deflation that came almost overnight. Big steers dropped from \$100.00 a head to \$50.00; wool was selling one

morning at 60 cents per pound, and in the evening every bid was withdrawn. Cotton, too, met its Waterloo, as did everything else raised on the farm. Texas was all but "broke"; no gloomier outlook had ever been witnessed by the people. Those who had enjoyed a credit almost unlimited, faced the proposition of a daily scramble for expense money, and in most instances a pecuniary sacrifice had to be made to get it.

But a sensational "come-back" is now in sight. You cannot look the state over and fail to see this. With our leading cities running a hurdle-race to see which will be the first to pass the two hundred thousand population mark; with gigantic building programs under way; with plans being formulated for extensive cotton factory campaigns; with solid blocks of new homes in many places—these are concrete evidences that not only is our trouble about over, but that we have swung out into a new era in Texas that promises to bring about greater development than was ever known before.

If the larger cities are showing up better than the towns and rural communities, in this re-creation of prosperity, it is because they are working harder. There are opportunities throughout the whole state to move forward with the procession, to develop and grow while conditions are favorable for it. Business men, thinkers, prophets of all kinds agree on this, and no wide-awake community will fail to heed the call for action.

Texas is going to be the rallying ground of the nation's red-blooded builders for an indefinite period of time, and the town that goes after its quota of population and good things will get it. The foundation is here for an industrial structure towering above any that has been reared in America. Our oil and coal fields seem to be almost unlimited; our agricultural lands are fitted for the growth of practically every kind of crop known; we have valleys richer than the San Joaquin in California, and we have in addition to our vast fields and garden spots, a livestock kingdom bigger than a number of the New England states combined. As a result of such advantages the eyes of the world are upon us.

No effort has been made in this article to give the reader a vision of what might happen in the future. It is merely a recital of the things that are going on right now. Our advancement as a state is unmistakable. We need not search for it through fog and smoke. It stands out in steel, brick, concrete and wood—in new factories, new stores, new institutions, and new homes—and it justifies the greatest possible optimism.

YOUR HOME TOWN.

EDITOR'S NOTE—This is the second of a series of talks on "Your Home Town." Other talks will follow. There will be food for thought and profit to you if you read carefully each one of these talks. The publisher of this newspaper is not finding any fault with his home town, but wants it to progress and set a pace that will be the envy of all towns in Texas—now the biggest and potentially the richest state in the Union.

Co-operation has built communities into towns and towns into cities.

Make this co-operative spirit your creed. Believe in it. Determine to do your everlasting best to find the pot of gold in your home town.

Work hard. Do a little more today than you did yesterday. It is the little bit more done in a day that makes for advancement and prosperity. Sluggards are a town's greatest drawbacks.

Patronize the institutions of your home town, not through idealistic and philanthropic motives, but because it is sound business. Your home merchants are vital factors in your home town. Your town can't exist without them. If they fail your town will fail. Every one will feel the deadening influence. And when your town dies your community spirit dies and all that goes with it.

With business depression and loss of co-operation in your home town will come a falling off of social spirit in the town and community. To escape the dull monotony, boys and girls will hurry away to the cities. The home town's population will slip back. Schools and churches will decline. The value of your property will decrease, and wild weeds and grass will grow in your main street.

It is not well for any one to live in a community that is dying. It is not well for a state or a nation to have decadent communities. It is good business for every one in your home town to be deeply concerned about making it completely happy, healthy and prosperous and keeping it so.

We repeat, in conclusion, be neighborly, be a good citizen, keep interested in your home town's welfare, patronize your local merchants and local institutions who make and keep up your town. Let the community spirit of your home town begin at the threshold of your own home and you won't have to advertise to have a highway run through your home town—it will be on all of them, because people will flock to your home town from everywhere.

(To Be Continued.)

SEVENTY-YEAR OLD CLUB.

Comanche county, Texas, has a 70-year-old club. Only residents of the county who are 70 years of age or older are eligible to membership. The club has 108 members and has lost only three members by death since its organization.

CURRENT COMMENT

By J. H. LOWRY

POLITICAL OFF YEARS.



This is what is known as an "off year" politically, and it is very trying on the people. After worrying through five or six months of the year without an election, or any of the excitement incident to a political campaign, I am firmly convinced that the state commits highway robbery when it collects poll taxes without giving the people an election in return. It would not be a greater act of cruelty if the state should force every man to buy a marriage license and then prohibit matrimony. Political campaigns serve to keep down crime. Men are not prone to treason, neither do they sully and plan crime when they are "het up" over a coming election. Under the spell of such excitement they are moved to loftier aspirations and nobler longings, and they think of better things. They grow patriotic, and in order that the government may endure and thrive—may escape the rock of Scylla and the whirlpool of Charybdis—they want to put the rascals out and enthrone political righteousness. Their minds do not run in low channels, and they can not think of bad things, because their better thought is challenged and all of their time is taken up telling of the competency, the nobility and the purity of their candidates, whom they always declare to be "as clean as a hound's tooth." It would pay the state handsomely to put on an election every year, or even twice a year, in order to keep down crime and eliminate the expense of prosecuting criminals. I have a neighbor who is a very good citizen every other year. During election years he is a man of patriotic impulses and very high ideals, and spends most of his time on the streets warning his countrymen against the bad men who are trying to capture the offices and ruin the country, and proclaiming the many virtues of the good men who stand for political righteousness and purity of government. But during off years this neighbor is frequently caught shooting craps or infracting the laws of his country in some other way.

But political campaigns have a value other than that of preventing crime, and are desirable and helpful from other viewpoints. They are educational, they inspire patriotism, they make men better acquainted with the beautiful and true, and they train men in the art of grace of oratory. If we had only prayer meetings, and the meetings of directorates and official boards we would have very few orators in this country, and the few we would have would never get up steam enough to wet a coat or make the people throw

up their hats and shout. It takes a political campaign to develop an orator worth while. If there had not been a Cataline opposing him Cicero would have been a very poor speaker and half of his hearers would have left before he reached his peroration. And if there had not been a king for Demosthenes to fling philippics at, Grecian literature would not have been enriched with the wonderful stories of Demosthenes electrifying audiences and swaying multitudes with his matchless oratory. If we must have orators and oratory, and I say we must, we must have elections, and when we let a year get by without an election we chill and kill many budding orators who might have commanded the applause of listening senates, awaked to ecstasy the proletariat, or kept a country picnic in session two hours longer.

This is a glorious June day, and enui hovers over imperial Texas like a pall. I saw a few men pushing a lawn mower this morning, and as I try to write this I see two or three men nodding on goods boxes. Think what a glorious good time we would be having if we were in the midst of a live political campaign. The fellows who were cutting grass would have been cheering the red-hot utterances of their favorite candidate, and the fellows who are nodding on goods boxes would be calling somebody a liar. Think of the thrills; think of the joy ecstatic that would thrill our souls if three or four candidates for governor were going over the state denouncing extravagance, corruption and those who have robbed us, and making us weep over our awful condition, and swearing by all that is high and holy that if they were elected they would clip the claws of the cormorant, mulct the money minions, swat the octopi, reduce taxes to nearly nothing, lengthen the school terms, pay the teachers better salaries and make old Texas blossom as the rose. They did this last year, and two years before last year, and two years before two years before last year, and we all had a glorious good time. True we haven't seen any bleeding octopi, nor any paralyzed money minions, nor any clawless cormorants lying around, and taxes are a little higher than ever before, but we enjoyed the promises and the acting of the weeping orators, and we would enjoy them again.

And political campaigns are educational. They teach us history, they teach us the science of government, they introduce us to the poets, they show us how bad bad men can be, and how gloriously good good men are. Most of us would have lived and died in ignorance of the affair at Runnymede if there had been no elections, but the candidates for office told us what a tyrant old King John was, and how the hard-headed,

liberty-loving barons of England wrung magna charta from the fat old beer-guzzling, tyrannical foe of liberty. Perhaps we would have heard nothing of the siege of Lucknow, and the dream of the sick maiden, if there had been no elections, but the candidates came and made us weep over the sorrowful condition of the besieged garrison, then with masterly perorations made us shout for joy as the strains of the Scotch bag pipes were heard in the distance, and it was known that the "Campbells had come." I doubt seriously whether we would ever have known anything of the Greek horse and the great part it played in one of the world's important battles if there had been no candidates seeking office in this country. Very blank on history we would have been if there had been no candidates to tell the story of the frail barques of Columbus that plowed the pathless seas, of the crossing of the frozen Delaware at midnight by Washington's bare-footed soldiers, and of old Andrew Jackson, who suffered his arm to be paralyzed by a blow rather than polish the proud British officer's boots. But perhaps the greatest calamity that would have befallen us if there had been no elections or candidates would have been our ignorance of poets and poetry. But for the candidates we might never have heard the immortal lines of Goldsmith.

"Till fares the land, to hastening ills a prey,
Where wealth accumulates and men decay."

And the cheering thought that we can get along all right without princes and lords might not have come to us, but

"A bold peasantry, a country's pride,
When once destroyed can never be supplied."

For some reason candidates for office have a very poor opinion of princes and lords, but they love "a bold peasantry" with an everlasting and an undying love, and never grow tired of repeating Mr. Goldsmith's lines. The fine feature of it all is that the princes and lords are never present to call the speaker's hand, and the "bold peasantry" always receive the lines with uproarious applause. I am sure I never would have heard the fine words, "He who saves his country saves all things, and, living, all things bless him," if there had been no elections, but every candidate I have heard has repeated them, and so I know them by heart.

Furthermore, I am confident that if there had been no candidates or elections, we, the people, would have paid very little attention and slight tribute to our liberties. It seems that nobody except the candidates care a great deal about our liberties, and if it were not for their apostrophes and warnings we might let our liberties get away and know them no more forever. But we'll never lose our liberties, because the candidates won't let us. Possibly we may

let a few of our liberties slip during political years, but if we do, the candidates will rally us the next year and we'll recapture all that we lose. Truly, our liberties are safe as long as we have candidates to remind us how Moses and the children of Israel were led by a pillar of cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night to a land made free; of Greece losing out because the golden chalice of liberty enabled the founders of Venice to fashion from their dreams a wonderful republic, which for ten centuries gave the touch of inspiration to the chisel of the sculptors and the brush of the painters, but when the people neglected to do homage at liberty's shrine only the shell and shadow of a republic was left mirrored in the waters of the Adriatic, and on the torn pages of the book of Venice was recorded the pale memory of her passing. Yea, indeed, it is fine to hear the candidate tell of the mighty struggles of liberty when the chains forged by old Mithridates were broken and the march was made from Babylon, through drear Armenian snows, across countless rivers and over the mighty hills to the shimmering waters of the Black sea; or of the liberty-loving French battering down the walls of the bastille and placing the fleur de lis on the brow of a free people; or when frail barques were guided across pathless seas and the fires of liberty were lighted on the altars of America's congenial climes, never to be quenched until the spheres sound their last note to mark the death of time. I am persuaded that our liberties will never be lost, neither will our glory depart, so long as we have elections and candidates seeking office.

Another thing that makes political off years insipid, monotonous and undesirable is the absence of picnics. It's a fact thoroughly proven that a picnic won't function during a political off-year. You can have your brass bands, your pies, barbecue and pickles, your lemonade stand and a full complement of chiggers and ticks, and yet the picnic won't function unless there is politics to mix with it and give it seasoning and pep. There is as little fun in a picnic without politics as there is when a boy goes swimming in a creek by himself. The Sunday school orator doesn't satisfy at a picnic, neither does the orator who preaches diversification of crops or moral uplift. These things are good in their place, but they won't make a picnic. If you would have a picnic you must have an orator who denounces cliques and clans, who tattoos the backs of cormorants and corporations with ink of vitriol and pen of fire, and who denounces the opposing party as the agent of hell, and calls his opponent many kinds of a liar. It is a political off-year, and there are no picnics. I am so hungry for a picnic and its concomitant glories, that if it would bring on an election and a few good picnics,

I would gladly hear of the death of an office-holder; provided, of course, that the office-holder was a wicked Republican.

INTERNATIONAL TROUBLES. Great Britain and the United States are close kin. One is the other's mother, and of course one is also the other's daughter. But mother and daughter have not always dwelt together in peace and love. Either will see to it that no other nation tears the other's dress, but the mother and daughter have matched two scraps, the daughter winning both. Mother and daughter are again making faces at each other across the Atlantic. The United States has prohibited foreign ships entering her harbors with intoxicants on board, and at this writing it seems probable that Great Britain will pass a law requiring ships that enter her harbors to have liquor on board. Some see in these enactments friction that may lead to war, but a little thinking and wise statesmanship will solve the problem. Let the American boats leave home without intoxicants, and the British boats leave home stocked with liquors. Have schedules so arranged that the boats will meet at Uncle Sam's three-mile line, where the British boats will turn over their drinkables to the American boats, and on return trips the American boats deliver their stock to the British boats. If I had no harder problems than this to solve, I could soon get out of debt, yet two great nations are so slow in finding a solution that people are beginning to fear war.

MAD DOG EXCITEMENT. I note from the many papers I read that there is excitement over mad dogs in most Texas towns, and excited people are pumping their good friends, the dogs, full of hot lead. Some of the people shed tears over the sorrowful fate of their canine friends, but they are scared and they feel that they must kill. To read the official proclamations and the editorials one would think people are dying of hydrophobia in Texas like sheep of rot or hogs of cholera. As I now recall, there have been mad dog and hydrophobia scares every year of my existence, but what of the awful toll of life taken by hydrophobia? I have just read the monthly mortality report for Texas. There were deaths from nearly every other disease, but not one from hydrophobia. Furthermore, there are seven doctors in the town in which I live and not one of them ever saw a case of hydrophobia in man. People should be cautious and avoid all possible dangers, but statistics do not warrant us doing a whirling Dervish stunt every time there is a mad dog scare. There are ten times as many deaths from snake-bite as from hydrophobia. Why not organize and slay the snakes?

THE PORT OF GALVESTON

Second Largest Port in the United States

By I. D. McMASTER

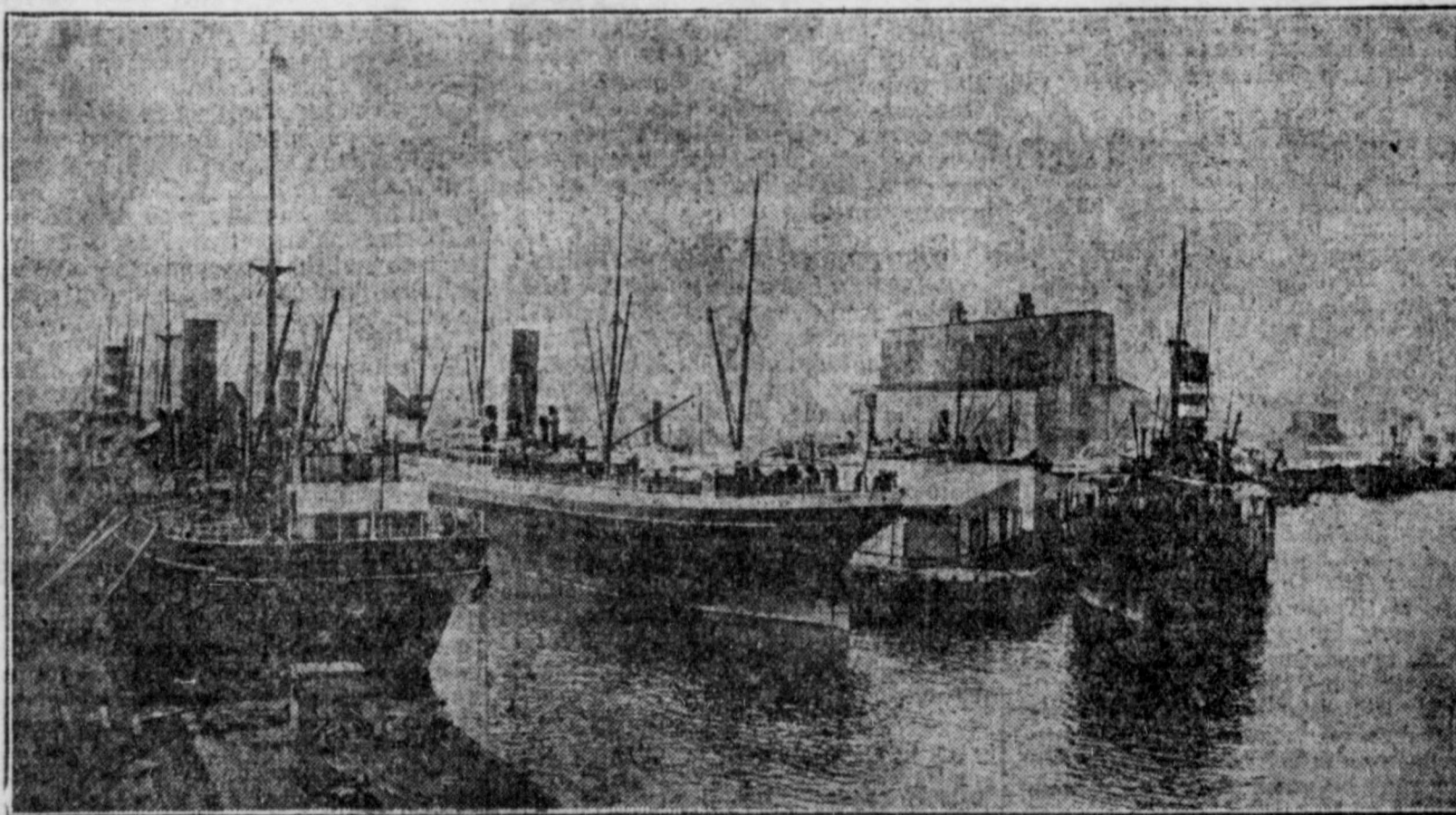
Secretary Galveston Commercial Association.

The port of Galveston, which for the past ten years has ranked among the first three ports of the United States, is so situated geographically that it serves all that section of the Southwest which is included in the states of Texas, Oklahoma and Southern Kansas, and also competes with other ports for the export business originating in the northern states lying between the Mississippi River and the Rocky Mountains. The territory in question is principally noted for its agricultural products and as a result the business of the port is confined almost exclusively to raw materials. The principal exports are cotton, grain, cotton seed products, sulphur and oil. The principal imports are oil, coffee, sugar, bagging, ties and oriental novelties.

Tonnage.

The tonnage passing through the port is enormous and for the past two years has run to nearly 13,000,000 tons, giving it the position of second port in the United States from this standpoint. The tonnage is handled by approximately seventy steamship lines serving all the major ports of the world. There was comprised in the movement more than 3,000,000 bales of cotton, 50,000,000 bushels of wheat, and other commodities in proportion.

The trade from Galveston is done chiefly with Great Britain, Germany and Japan, since these are the countries principally engaged in the spinning industry. The grain exported goes principally to the countries bordering on the Mediterranean Sea, and furnishes those people with breadstuffs who formerly depended entirely on Russia. Sulphur is in demand in all the European countries, either for manufacturing purposes or for use as fertilizer. The sulphur is mined at Gulf, Texas, by the Texas Gulf Sulphur Company, and is exported through Galveston. There has also been a considerable demand for this commodity in Australia. The greater part of the cotton seed products shipped out of the port go to Scandinavian ports or to Germany for dairy purposes.



"Seventy Steamship Lines Serve All the Major Ports of the World."

Ranks First as Cotton Port.

The port ranks first in the world as a cotton port. During the past several years the exports through Galveston have been almost double the exports through any other port in the United States and there have been times when the total volume of business here was more than the combined totals of all the other competing ports.

The physical properties comprising the developed water frontage at Galveston includes approximately thirty ship-side docks with nearly four million square feet of storage space. The cubic capacity of these docks is 52,833,486 feet. The cotton warehouses adjacent to or within easy trucking distance of the waterfront, coupled with those at shipside, are capable of housing the an-

nual cotton crop of Oklahoma and Texas, without undue crowding. Without resorting to the process of tiering (which is the practice at other ports, but which is seldom done here) more than a million and a quarter bales can be stored.

There are four grain elevators at the port with a combined storage capacity of slightly more than 5,000,000 bushels. In 1921 these elevators handled more grain through Galveston than was handled by any other port in the United States.

Deep Sea Fishing Industry.

Deep sea fishing is another important industry in Galveston. Nearly a million pounds of Red Snapper are caught and shipped to points in the interior every year. The largest of the deep sea fishing fleets is operated by the Gulf

Fisheries Company, which has some eight or ten ocean-going schooners operating regularly in this trade. These vessels are the Gloucester type, well equipped and are excellent sea boats.

The favorite fishing grounds are on the C&Mpeche banks off the coast of Mexico. These waters abound in Red Snapper and is the principal objective of most of the fishing craft operating along the coast. The industry is one that couples both business and romance for some of the perils undergone by the hardy crews of these vessels would do credit to the sea-faring tales of a century ago.

The banana trade has recently been revived after a lapse of something like two or three years. The Snyder Banana Company now has regular service

to Frontera, Mexico, and is bringing in two or more vessels each month with from 15,000 to 20,000 bunches of bananas aboard. The company recently took over several torpedo boat destroyers from the government, and after equipping them with Deisel motors, started them off in the banana trade.

The harbor at Galveston is one of the largest and best arranged in the United States. There is a minimum depth of 31 feet of water in the inner channel and 35 feet in the outer channel from Bolivar Roads to the High Seas.

GOVERNOR VETOED \$39,207,931 BILLS.

A total of \$35,960,099 was appropriated by the third called session of the Texas Legislature, which adjourned June 14th, as compared to the aggregate of \$39,207,931 of the bills vetoed by the Governor, a difference of \$3,247,832.

A comparison of the bills, totals for the two years, as vetoed and as passed by this session shows as follows:

	Vetoed	New
	Amount.	Amount.
Supplemental school	\$ 6,000,000	\$ 4,000,000
Rural aid	5,000,000	2,000,000
Judiciary	3,125,000	3,125,000
Educational institutions	11,898,125	11,004,477
Departmental	6,210,717	4,197,828
Elementary institutions	7,375,993	4,673,245
Emergency amounts	225,433	\$48,300
Miscellaneous claims	285,761	\$16,750

The governor also vetoed \$2,000,000 for salary for engineers for elementary institutions.

New Appropriations.

The appropriations for the session which closed Thursday are as follows:

	First Yr.	Second Yr.
Per diem and employes	70,000
Contingent expenses	40,000
Miscellaneous claims	843,300
Emergency	315,250
Judiciary	1,600,472	1,886,567
Educational	5,025,251	5,459,285
Rural aid	1,500,000	1,250,000
Supplemental school fund	2,000,000	2,000,000
Reclamation	184,800	179,200
Elementary	2,320,259	2,278,200
Departmental	2,126,197	3,062,551

It is estimated that the new tax bills will produce possibly \$4,000,000 additional funds, being inheritance, additional oil, slot machine, delinquent and sulphur tax.

The new tax laws will have to stand the test of the courts.

BRIEF TEXAS NEWS

FROM OVER
THE STATE

CITIZENS WORK ON ROAD.

Citizens of Athens, appreciating that 3-Mile Hill was more than a mote in the motorists' eye, and that county funds were not available to improve it, organized a road building posse and set forth to do the work themselves. Bankers, merchants, professional men, clerks and laborers swung pick and shovel and piloted scrapers. Business was suspended in Athens for a day and everybody worked. Local tourists passing over the road were held up and required to work or pay \$2.50 for a substitute. In one day the particular bad stretch of road was greatly improved, and volunteers completed the work the next day.

CHOC BEER EXPLODES.

The Brown county courthouse officials and loungers were aroused one day recently by a loud explosion which sounded like the report of a six-shooter. They rushed out to view the expected tragedy, but found no casualties. A bottle of choc or moonshine beer, one of a lot seized by the sheriff in a raid a few days before, had fermented and then exploded.

COURT WITHOUT JUDGE.

A district court without a judge and without even a number, exists in Tarrant county, and is said to be the only court of its kind in Texas. Naturally it is not doing business. The legislature recently authorized the new court. The governor must give the court a number and, pending the first election after the court is established, the governor names the judge. But in this instance Governor Neff has done neither, and it is said he will not do so for several months. A courtroom for the new court and all other appurtenances are ready, but a judge and a number must be provided before cases may be assigned to it.

BUGGY SALE ATTRACTS NOTICE.

Vehicle dealers in Texas once thought nothing of selling two or three buggies daily, but when a new buggy was sold by a dealer in Plainview a few days ago it attracted uncommon attention. It is said to have been the only buggy sold in that town, a busy trading center, within the last two years. Many spectators watched the so-called ancient vehicle as it was driven away by its new owner.

ORDER OF THE RAINBOWS.

The Order of the Rainbows has been instituted at Brownwood. It is an organization for girls and appears to be spreading over Texas, for wherever chapters are organized there are many applicants for membership. Twenty-eight girls have been enrolled as charter members of the Brownwood Rainbows.

PLAYING NATIONAL ANTHEM CORRECTLY.

Army bands stationed in Texas are playing the Star-Spangled Banner correctly at ceremonies for the first time in years. Heretofore it has been customary to play only the first two lines of a stanza and then the chorus. Now the full stanza and chorus are played, this being authorized by a recent order.

CHEWING GUM KILLS BABBOON.

Chewing gum killed a babboon in the Houston city zoo several weeks ago, according to Prof. A. C. Chandler, of Rice Institute, who was employed as an expert to investigate the animal's mysterious death. "The gum stuck in his throat and he strangled to death," was the report of the expert. Some thoughtless person fed the gum to the babboon. Hereafter the zoo is to be closed at dusk.

MASK IS TOO APPARENT.

An automobile being driven recently through Taylor county attracted attention by reason of its unusual appearance. The rear seat was piled high with firewood and on top of the load sat three Mexicans. Officers became suspicious and investigated. The wood was removed and beneath the seat of the car several gallon jugs of corn whisky were found. The whisky, wood and automobile were seized and the three Mexicans placed under arrest.

HOME-SPUN DRESS IS STRONG.

H. S. Stone, a farmer living near McKinney, has in his possession a cotton dress more than 200 years old that is yet strong, smooth and apparently durable. The dress was made by his great-great-grandmother-in-law, a Mrs. Chism, who is said to have picked, carded, spun and woven the cotton, dyed the goods in its various colors and then made the dress. She did this in her spare time, apart from her household duties.

BLINDNESS DOES NOT STOP HIM.

Losing his sight while very young through scarlet fever, Edward Francom, 15, of El Paso, has not lost interest in life because of this misfortune. He reads books for the blind fluently, speaks English and Spanish, is a rapid calculator and plays dominoes and keno and other games. After once meeting persons he can always recognize them again. He is a gifted musician, spends all his spare time at the piano and plays that instrument well.

METERS MUST BE CORRECT.

One of the new laws enacted in Texas is designed to prevent overcharges on gas, electric light and water meters and also to protect public utility companies against devices to prevent registration by the meters. Meters throughout the state will be inspected under direction of the state marketing and warehouse commissioner and penalties are provided for making larger reports on meters than the consumer actually uses.

PADDLING THE HOPPERS.

Millions of grasshoppers in West Texas have been killed by paddles, whole families spending the days in the field swatting the hoppers that have been destroying the crops. The old slogan of "swat the fly" has been changed in West Texas to "paddle the hopper."

DIE FROM OVER-EATING.

Three negroes were reported to have died in Central Texas recently from over-eating. One of them, so it is stated, ate too many roasting ears, another ate a mess of fish and then a quantity of ice cream, while the third, even though the weather was hot, ate possum and sweet taters to excess.

COWS ARE ELECTROCUTED.

Seventeen cows met death recently in Lynn county in an unusual and unexpected manner. Cows drift before a storm and an electric storm was raging. The cows drifted until they came to a wire fence, and, unable to go further, huddled against it. A stroke of lightning hit the fence wire and the cows dropped dead from electrocution.

PARIS HAS FINE WATER PLANT.

The new \$1,000,000 municipal waterworks plant of Paris, Lamar county, is in operation, having been formally opened and dedicated recently. It is claimed to be one of the most complete and modern in the state of Texas. The water supply is drawn from a large lake, where water is impounded.

CHILDREN PLEDGED TO READ.

A vacation reading club has been organized in Dallas by Miss Ruth Theobald, children's librarian at the public library. Boys and girls of the grammar school age are eligible to membership, the only requirement being that each child must give a pledge to read at least one book each week during the vacation period. Reports are to be given at the close of the season.

INSECTS CALL OUT FIREMEN.

A swarm of insects poured from the tower of the administration building at Baylor University, recently, a little while after sunset. In the dusk the swirling mass of insects looked like smoke and somebody turned in a fire alarm. The firemen got their revenge by turning a stream of water on the insects, killing many by the force of the water.

OLDEST TRACTION LINE IN TEXAS.

The electric street railway in Laredo is the oldest traction line in Texas, having been operated since early in the 80's. Electric street cars were being operated in Laredo when only a few of the eastern cities had them, and some time before there were any in other Texas cities. The company has operated only a short line, but is now preparing to extend the service to all parts of the city.

STRANGE FREAK OF LIGHTNING.

Another strange freak of lightning is reported from Pecos. During an electrical storm, lightning struck a home there, demolished the brick chimney on the roof, followed a galvanized gutter down the side of the building, entered the kitchen and put out a fire that was burning in the stove, but spared the stove and kitchen, neither of which was injured in any way. Falling rain put out a small fire that started on the roof.

AUTOMOBILES ARE POUNDED.

A system of pounding automobiles improperly parked or violating traffic ordinances has been inaugurated at San Antonio. The offending machine is hauled to the city pound and there the owner must go to reclaim it, which he may do by paying a pound fee of \$2, and at the same time he is served with a notice to appear in court and answer the charge of violating an ordinance. Should this summons be disregarded the owner may be summoned for contempt of court.

HARVEST HANDS USE AUTOS.

No longer does the housewife on the farm have the old dread of the harvest and threshing season with hordes of "hands" to feed, is the report from all parts of the grain section. Most of the laborers own motor cars or combine to have cars available for their use. When many are employed at one field they have a common bunk and eating house, if too far from a town. In the morning after an early breakfast, they ride to their work, at the noon hour they hop into their cars and soon are feeding at their favorite eating place, which may be a restaurant in town, and at night they return to their sleeping quarters. The auto is proving a great boon both to the harvesters and the housewives.

OH, "DEM WATAHMELUNS!"

One of the largest watermelon crops ever raised in Texas is forecast for this year. Between 5,000 and 5,500 carloads are expected to be sent out of the state and more than that number will be eaten within the state. Already they have begun to come in to market and during July and August they are expected to attain the period of their greatest lusciousness.

COUNTY CLUBS HOLD PICNIC.

Demonstration clubs of Collin county, more than 30 in number, recently held a picnic at the Finch Park, near McKinney, which was attended by more than 500 women and girls. It was such an enjoyable affair and so many new friendships were made between the club members that it was decided the picnic should be made an annual affair. Other Texas towns might do likewise.

BLIND YOUTH COMPLETES STATE UNIVERSITY COURSE.

Roberta Stoll, blind for ten years, has won a B. A. degree from State University of Texas. Stoll has mastered three languages, English, Spanish and German. He has a wonderfully retentive memory, and made his grade on examinations by having the lessons read aloud to him. An accident, when but 18 years old, brought on the blindness.

AIRPLANE HUNTING FORBIDDEN.

Many persons did not know that hunting by airplane was becoming popular in Texas until the legislature enacted a law forbidding it. At the same time it is forbidden to hunt wild game of any kind from a motor boat or any other motor device. Hunters may travel to the hunting grounds or waters, presumably, in a motor-propelled vehicle, but must alight and be on solid ground before firing, else the law will swoop down on them.

EXPANSION OF GOVERNMENT HELIUM PLANT.

Orders for \$140,000 worth of machinery for improvement and extensions at the United States helium plant at Fort Worth were placed June 9th by engineers representing the United States Bureau of Mines.

The plant, the only one of its kind in the world, was installed by the Bureau of Mines and is operated for the Government by contract, under the supervision of Commander Olson, U. S. N.

MAIL CARRIERS GET HALF HOLIDAY.

In accordance with the expressed wish of a large majority of the residents of Dallas, the mail carriers of that city are to be given a half-holiday each Saturday during the summer months. About 30,000 ballots were circulated in taking the vote and of that entire number only 74 voted against the plan. The result of the vote was reported to the postoffice authorities at Washington and it is expected the half-holiday plan will be put into effect early in July.

TO ROPE JACK RABBITS.

One of the attractions promised visitors to the Fourth of July celebration at Sonora, county seat of Sutton county, will be the sight of Sonora ropers chasing jack rabbits across the rodeo park in an attempt to rope them. It will be the first time, it is said, that such a stunt has been "pulled" and the ropers are looking forward to it with great expectancy. The rabbits will be caught off the range just a day or two before the roping contest.

ARRESTING THE SPEEDERS.

Texas now has a new speed law which permits motorists to drive 35 miles an hour on country highways so long as they do not endanger other persons on the highway. But the motor cycle cops have not found it necessary to quit work, for they claim to find just as many exceeding the 35-mile an hour limit as formerly exceeded the 25-mile limit. And the returns are larger, for where the minimum fine formerly was \$1 and costs, it is now \$5 and costs, and may be made as much as \$200 if the court sees fit. Within corporate limits of towns and cities the speed limit is between 12 and 20 miles, as formerly, and must be observed.

PAISANO ENCAMPMENT.

The Paisano Baptist Encampment, 12 miles west of Alpine, is to be made the largest summer encampment in the Southland, according to plans now being carried out. More than one million dollars is to be expended to carry out the agreed program, first of which will be the permanent improvement of the 1,200 acres of fine timbered land already purchased for the site. Dr. George W. Truett, of Dallas, years ago selected the site as an ideal place for a permanent encampment, and ranchmen of Brewster, Presidio, Pecos and Jeff Davis counties have contributed a large amount of the capital to carry out the project. A large tabernacle having a seating capacity of 3,000 has been completed. Dining halls and small cottages are being built and camp sites will be laid off along the streets to be rented for nominal sums. A water system, sewerage, telephones and electric lights will be installed.

SHEEP AND GOAT CONVENTION.

Sheep and goat raisers from all parts of Texas met in Del Rio during the last week in June. Congressman Claude B. Hudspeth of El Paso, who has sheep and goat herds of his own, was among the speakers. John H. Kirby of Houston, president of the Southern Tariff Association, discussed tariff on wool and mohair. The convention brought delegates from points inside and outside of Texas, as it always does, for sheep and goat raising is coming to be more and more one of the important industries of the state.

DOG CALLS OUT POLICE.

A hurry call for the police called out the motorcycle squad of police at San Antonio recently. "Somebody is trying to steal my car," said a voice over the phone. The police found the family watching the garage, from which came an occasional faint sound of the klaxon. They opened the door and threw the glare of their flashlights on the car. No thief was in sight, but stretched on the front seat of the car was the family dog, one of his feet occasionally pressing the button of the horn. No arrest was made.

MARATHON GOLF RECORD.

A Texas boy, Nick J. Norris of San Antonio, has established a new world's marathon record on the golf links, completing 238 holes between dawn and dark. He played on the municipal golf course at San Antonio, starting at 4:55 a. m., and sinking his final putt on the 238th green at 8:10 p. m. The former record of 228 holes was held by Charles Daniels of New York, and was made on the Long Lake Country Club course at New York. Norris' record was 98 7-13 for each round of the eighteen holes.

NEW PROCEDURE FOR COURTS.

Judge E. B. Muse of Dallas suggests the use of phonographs in keeping a record of court proceedings. He believes it would be in keeping with steps taken by modern science in the last few years and would operate to eliminate long-drawn-out second and third trials, as the phonograph would enable the judge and jury to hear all the testimony given at the first trial. "It would greatly facilitate time and reduce expenses," said the judge. "There is nothing impracticable in this theory when one thinks of the many persons who listen to the great Caruso's voice and will continue to do so forever."

BEAUTY WINS PRIZE.

In addition to being crowned queen of the Panhandle Beauty Contest at the closing session of the Panhandle-Rock Island Railway agricultural and community life institute in Amarillo, recently, Miss Katherine Zimmerman of Amarillo is to receive as a prize a free trip to Hollywood, the expenses to be paid by the Rock Island. Miss Christine Collins of Channing won the second prize, a scholarship in Phillips University at Enid, Okla.; Miss Idalou Ellis of Lubbock won third prize, a business college scholarship, and the next three awards went to Miss Vera Ledrick of Pampa, Miss Ruby Vaughn of Shamrock and Miss Marie Wofford of Tulsa.

HI-JACKER OR OFFICER.

Auto drivers along the country roads near San Antonio have stopped their cars with fear and trembling frequently when an armed man would appear from behind a clump of bushes and signal to them to halt. Believing, in nearly all instances, the armed man to be a hi-jacker holding them up, the auto drivers and their companions would vision the disappearance of their pocket-books and watches, but great would be the relief when it was known that the man was an immigration officer looking for violations of the law. An order has been issued from the immigration office that hereafter immigration officers must wear signs which will identify them at a glance as officers of the law and not bandits.

CORPUS CHRISTI PORT PROJECT.

All conditions for the construction of the Corpus Christi deep water port now seem to have been consummated and it is expected that work will be begun on the project within the next few weeks. A total of nearly \$4,500,000 is available at the present time for the work. Of this total approximately \$1,500,000 has been appropriated by the federal government for the dredging and maintenance of the channel to deep water.

Nueces county has voted bonds of \$1,000,000 for the construction of wharfage and terminal facilities and the state has appropriated \$90,000 for the erection of adequate breakwaters to protect the harbor.

The federal government in making allotments of the funds contained in the rivers and harbors appropriation set aside nearly \$750,000 for the first year's work on the channel, and the final approval of the plans for the wharfage facilities automatically releases this allotment.

On the basis of this approval, the board of army engineers authorized the advertisement for bids for construction of the ship channel to Corpus Christi from Aransas Pass.

The channel is to be of 25-foot depth.



SAM McCOY BRASWELL
President Texas Press Association.

Sam M. Braswell, who was elected president of the Texas Press Association at Galveston June 9th, to succeed Will R. West, who resigned as president of the Association, in favor of Mr. Braswell, was born Nov. 22, 1886, at Center, Ala.

About the age of 12 years, young Braswell was "devil" in the McGregor Observer office at McGregor, Texas. He was one of the graduates of the class of 1905, Polytechnic College, Fort Worth, and was business manager of the "Polytechnian," the monthly magazine of this college. He owned the Moody Courier for two years, and after disposing of the Courier moved to Dallas and became business manager of the Home and State, before its sale to the Anti-Saloon League. He installed and assembled the present Dallas Press Room, but didn't like the petty detail incident to press room management, and finally returned to country newspaper work by leasing the Venus Times at Venus, Texas, later establishing the Venus Express, and discontinuing the Times.

Mr. Braswell bought the Clarendon News in 1917, from Joe M. Warren. He doubled the business of the News the following year, and has since enjoyed one of the best patronages accorded any Texas weekly. He was elected president of the Panhandle Plains Chamber of Commerce, a regional body comprising 38 Panhandle counties, in September, 1922. Sam has two hobbies—The Texas Press Association and development of the Panhandle country.



A. H. LUKER
Vice-President Texas Press Association.

Mr. A. H. Luker, who was elected vice-president of the Texas Press Association at the Galveston meeting June 9th, is editor and owner of the Grapeland Messenger, Grapeland, Texas. He began his newspaper career as "devil" in the office of which he is now owner, at the princely salary of \$5.00 per month. In 1905, at the age of 17 years, he took charge of the Messenger as editor and manager, which was then owned by a stock company. He bought the Messenger from the stock company in 1910, and has since developed the publication from a "hand shop" to an up-to-date printing plant, with cylinder and job presses, linotype, etc.

Mr. Luker entered his newspaper at Galveston in the contest for the best set display ads, and won a \$75.00 cash prize.

\$13 PER CAPITA IN SCHOOL FUND.

There has been a large number of inquiries received by the State Department of Education with reference to the probable amount of the per capita apportionment for the support of the public schools for the year 1923-1924. It has been estimated that the amount will be \$13.

In the event the state is held liable for the new textbook contracts, it will be necessary to set aside for the purchase of free textbooks \$2,000,000 instead of \$500,000 as indicated above, which would reduce the per capita apportionment to \$12.

TEXAS BIRD CITIES.

In an isolated and wild part of the gulf coast region of Texas, George Finley Simmons, former instructor in zoology at the University of Texas, has discovered bird cities of enormous size. In them he found nesting thousands of birds of a species that were not heretofore known to make their rookeries in Texas. In one remote locality near the mouth of the Guadalupe river, into which the San Antonio river empties, he found a rookery of the rare white ibis with about two thousand nests. Ornithologists have been looking for this bird for many years. It was thought almost extinct. Associated with the white ibis was the roseate spoonbill, with nests to the number of 200 or more. In the same rookery about 100 wood ibis were nesting. Another remarkable rookery was that of the white-face glossy ibis, American cousin of the sacred ibis of Egypt. This nesting place is about 25 miles from the coast in a prairie lake overgrown with tule. He counted 2,400 nests of this rare bird. Most of these birds and their plumage are now protected by both federal and state laws.

Kill Insects and Disinfect with PINE-O-PINE

Now used by thousands of people in Texas with satisfactory results, evidenced by a mass of testimonial letters received.

A housekeeper says: "Best of it's line I have ever tried." A dairyman: "I take great pleasure in recommending it to dairymen." A cattlemen: "Given your Pine-O-Pine disinfectant a trial and it seems to work better than anything else." A poultry raiser: "In my chicken houses Pine-O-Pine keeps them clear of mites and protects the fowl from lice by dipping them in a solution of Pine-O-Pine." A doctor: "Best disinfectant on the market."

These are extracts from a file full of convincing testimonials. Other features of PINE-O-PINE are: Non-poisonous, non-explosive, non-corrosive; will not injure fabric nor metal. ECONOMICAL—Solution costs not to be a pint; in 25c, 50c cans and up.

Sold by Druggists, Grocers, Feed and Hardware Dealers

Manufactured by PINE-O-PINE CO., Houston, Texas, U. S. A.

BUY IN FT. WORTH

Orders for Merchandise advertised in this column will be gladly furnished by the firms below:

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WILL YOUR SEEDS GROW?

Don't plant sterile seed or seed contaminated with weed seed. Tests require from 10 days, depending on the kind of seed.

Germination Tests—\$2.00 Per Sample.
Purity Tests—\$1.50 to \$5.00 Additional.

THE FORT WORTH LABORATORIES.
Box 1068, Fort Worth, Texas.

Well Drilling Supplies

Fort Worth Well Machinery & Supply Co.
(Manufacturers)

FT. WORTH WELL DRILLING RIGS

9—SIZES—9

2,000 feet and less. Write for Bulletins, Tools, Cables, Belt, Repairs, Engines, Tanks

Fort Worth, Texas.

BABY CHICKS and hatching eggs. 200 egg hens. 20,000 chicks weekly. Low prices. Ten varieties. Delivery free. 32 page chick book and catalog free. Standard Egg Farms, Dept. 1, Cape Girardeau, Mo.

Everything for the Musician

Complete Line of Zenith and C.G. Conn Band Instruments

Write for Catalog of any instrument that interests you.

WHITTLE MUSIC CO.
DALLAS, TEXAS

American Brand OVERALLS



Overalls that are built for wear. Extra strong stitching where the wear is severest.

Made of very finest blue denim.

The men who want quality overalls will give preference to American Brand ones they have worn them.

American Brand Overalls are sold by the best dealers in your city. If not, write us direct.

American Overall Co.
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS.

TIRES WITH 500 NAIL HOLES LEAK NO AIR

Mr. F. J. Williams of Dallas, Texas, has a new puncture-proof inner tube, which, in actual test, was punctured over 500 times without the loss of any air. Increase your mileage from 10 to 12 thousand miles without removing this wonderful tube from the wheel, and the beauty of it is that this new puncture-proof tube costs no more than the ordinary tube. You can write Mr. Williams at Commerce and Harwood, Dallas, Texas. He wants to introduce them everywhere. Wonderful opportunity for agents in unoccupied territory. Write him today.

UNION MADE FINCK'S DETROIT SPECIAL

WEAR LIKE A PIG'S NOSE

Largest Stock Work Clothing in the Southwest.

W. M. FINCK & CO., Dallas.

AULT'S Musical Instruments and Repairing

Popular Orchestration 35c
Popular Band Music 40c

Postage Prepaid.

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BELTING—Manufacturers of high-grade leather belting—both waterproof and regular. Also belt accessories. Fully equipped to do all kinds of repair work. No order too large or small for our capacity.

Pioneer Belting Co., Inc.
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AUTO PARTS

We buy old cars and tear them up for the parts. We have parts for almost any make.

Word & Ostrand
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INTERNATIONAL AUTO SCHOOL
(Ino. 1913)

707-17 South Flores Street
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS

Trains you to run a shop or act as agent in U. S. or elsewhere. Mexico and South America will soon get auto, and agents will make fortunes. Easy terms. Low tuition. Write or come.



American Truck Bodies

"27 Different Models"
"Standard of Southwest"
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Sold by Over 400 Ford Dealers
We Ship Right Now

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Manufacturers of BELTS, BLOWOUT SHOS, SKIVED AND SELF-VULCANIZING PATCHES, RELINERS, COLD PATCH AND TUBE REPAIR, AND AUTO ACCESSORIES.

The Home of Universal Lace Boots. The House of Service—Send us your orders.

WE BUY YOUR OLD TIRES AND TUBES.



A Little Fun Jokes to Make You Laugh

FORCE OF HABIT.

"Phwat was the last card Oi delt ye, Mike?"

"A spade."

"Oi knew it. Oi saw ye spit on your hands before ye picked it up."

A FORESIGHTED INDIAN.

An Oklahoma editor tells of an old Indian who came into his office to pay for his paper. The editor took the money; then the Indian wanted a receipt. After making it out, the editor wanted to know why he was so persistent about wanting a receipt. The Indian said: "Me die sometime. Go to big gate and St. Peter ask if I been good Indian. I say yes. He say, 'Did you pay editor for paper?' I say yes. He say, 'Where is receipt?' I no have it, I run all over hell to find you and get receipt."

MANY DIFFERENT TYPES.

Have you ever considered the many different types of automobile drivers? For instance, my aunt. She is the monologist type of driver. She gets about 13,473 words to the gallon.

A MIXED DESSERT.

An Irishman newly arrived in the country was being taken for a walk by his brother. It was around Thanksgiving time and the grocery store windows were decorated with cranberries.

"What are them things?" the immigrant asked.

"They're cranberries," the brother replied.

"Are they good to eat?" the immigrant inquired.

"Why, when them cranberries are stewed they make better apple sauce than prunes."

ALL SERENE.

"Did you mail those two letters I gave you, Norah?"

"Yes'm, at the post office. But I noticed that you'd put the two-cent stamp on the foreign letter and the five-cent stamp on the city one."

"Oh, dear, what a blunder!"

"But I fixed it all right, ma'am. I just changed the addresses on the envelopes."

FAIR ENOUGH

A number of years ago, while E. A. Thomas, chairman of the Council Bluffs committee, was making a trip through Canada, he was writing a letter in a hotel when he accidentally upset a bottle of ink, badly disfiguring the trousers of an irascible party across the desk. He apologized profusely.

"These trousers cost me \$10," shouted the man, "and you are going to pay for them."

"Certainly," answered Thomas. "If you will give me your name and address I will mail you a check as soon as I get home."

"You'll pay for them right now—this minute," the man insisted.

Although Thomas was a little short of ready cash, he counted out the \$10. "Now," he said, "I will take my trousers."

"Very well," answered the man. "If you will give me your name and address I will mail them to you."

"No," said Thomas, "I want them right now—this minute."

The man grinned sheepishly. "Say," he said, shoving back the \$10. "I guess it will be all right if you mail me that check."

GIRLS, THIS IS UNFAIR.

"When I was shipwrecked," said Captain Bowsprit, "I came across a tribe of wild women who had no tongues."

"Good gracious!" cried the fair maiden, "How could they talk?"

"They couldn't!" replied the old salt. "That's what made 'em wild!"

THE POOR FELLOW.

Two Irish women were discussing a railroad accident. One asked the other if any were killed in the terrible crash. She replied, "Shure, twinty-sivin Oitalians and wan Irishman," whereupon Mrs. Dooley, with a long sigh, came back with, 'O, the pore feller.'

EXTREMISTS

George F. Baker, the American financier who recently gave \$1,000,000 to the Metropolitan Museum, said one day at a luncheon:

"We extravagant Americans might take a lesson from the thrifty Scotch, though the Scotch, I must admit, are extremists."

"The Scotch chose oatmeal for their national food because oatmeal is a wholesome and economical food."

"There's a story about an old Scotchman who lay dying. His old wife sat at his side waiting for the end. She sat there a long time. Then she got up and said:

"Aweel, Jock, I must go awa' to the kitchen now. I'll leave the light by yer bed. Ye'll no be goin' afore I come back, but if ye should ye'll be sure to blow out the candle afore ye die, won't ye?"

ALL RIGHT, PARSON, LEAD THE WAY.

A colored minister in Louisville announced to his faithful flock the following: "Brethren and sistern, dis mornin' I'se gwine to preach a powerful sermon. I'se gwine to bind de unboundable; I'se gwine to define de undefinable; I'se gwine to lead you all through de impassable paths to infernal happiness."

A CLEVER THIEF.

"Hang it, man! If your flivver has been stolen, why don't you communicate with the police?"

"I'm not worrying about the flivver. I'm wondering how he got the thing to go."

UNCLE SI.

Uncle Si whistled merrily as he rearranged his display of canned fruit, and paused at intervals to gaze blankly at the shelves and chuckle.

"Forty years ago," said Uncle Si, taking his seat on the edge of an empty cracker box, "old 'Squire Hardwick owned nearly all of the farm land between town and the river, and his check was good for ten thousand dollars. When he came to town, he came in a wagon; and to those who asked why he did not buy a carriage, he said: 'Because there's no sense in it. Folks are livin' too fast. Luxuries like carriages will be the ruination of the country, and I never expect to set foot in one of 'em.'

"The 'Squire's son, Bob, is a little over 70 years old now. He has money in both banks, and when he comes to town he rides in a buggy that has rubber tires. People urge him to buy an automobile, but he says he doesn't believe in such things. He says the country has gone crazy on the subject of speed, and he never expects to get inside of any vehicle that moves faster than a good horse can trot.

Uncle Bob has one son, Billy, aged 40, who runs a store here in town and has an auto.

"Last week a birdman came down in West's pasture north of town, and began to take up passengers in his airplane. A great many of the young people went up, and some of these urged Mister Billy to share the wonders of their adventure.

"Not me," said Billy. "I like to ride fast, and I'm not denying I break the speed limit when the roads are in good shape. But I'll do my speedin' on the ground where folks belong; and if they ever get me in one of them things, they'll have to hog-tie me first."

AUTO HINTS

Apply a small quantity of graphite over the surface of wire spokes and rims to keep them from rusting.

In descending slippery hills a lower gear should be engaged, and the speed of the car reduced by the throttle rather than the brakes.

Never park a car in the center of a highway, near a fire plug, at a street intersection, just around a curve or corner, on a hill, partly on the pavement, in a dark spot without lights, in front of a theater, on soft ground nor near emergency entrance or exits of hospitals.

To keep wheels from spinning when driving through mud, use added weight on the rear wheels. Load up the back of the car with rocks, and have the passengers sit tight. Do not attempt to lighten the car to get through a bad spot in the road.

Make sure that the bolts which fasten the top to the windshield frame are securely fastened at all times; many serious accidents have been known to originate from the top blowing back.

Never use a fabric tire on one side of the car and a cord tire on the opposite wheel. Because of the difference in sizes there is a constant wear on the differential.

When a car has been standing idle for a long time it is wise to crank the engine by hand, as the strain on the storage battery is terrific, and it also is too cold to function at its maximum capacity.

Dust and dirt on front glasses and reflectors cut down the efficiency of headlights. Therefore, periodic cleaning should be resorted to. Old and blackened lamp bulbs give greatly diminished candlepower and should be renewed.

IT'S IN DALLAS

Requests for information in regard to service or merchandise offered in this column will be gladly given by these firms:

ART GLASS MFRS.

Church Windows

Best Opal Glass for lamp shades. Celluloid hand mirrors repaired. Chipped Glass Signs. Wind Shields. Everything in Glass.

Dallas Art Glass Mfg. Co.
Dallas, Texas.

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5 In 1 Hair Tonic

will positively stop dandruff and falling hair or money will be promptly refunded. Price \$1.00 per bottle. If your dealer cannot supply you, write us.

"5-IN-1" MFG. CO.,
Dallas, Texas.

ELECTROPLATING

Nickel Plating

TEXAS ELECTRO PLATING CO.
1801 Clarence St.
DALLAS, TEXAS.

The Starr Piano Co., 102 So. 1st St., Richmond, Ind. Gentlemen: Please send me your catalogue of—

—Starr Pianos —Starr Phonographs
—Starr Player Pianos —Gennett Records

Mark catalogue wanted with a cross.

Name
Address
Route Box

HEMSTITCHING PLEATING

All Kinds of Buttons Covered.
HARRY BERNSTEIN
107 E. 10th. FT. WORTH, TEX.

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(Corporation Audit Company)

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Specialists Income and War Excess Profits Tax. Statements certified by this firm are accepted by financial institutions in the East and all sections of the country, as well as in Europe. Established in the Southwest 13 Years. Western Indemnity Bldg., Dallas, Texas.

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1 Gal. Oak Keg \$1.50
2 Gal. Oak Keg \$1.75
3 Gal. Oak Keg \$2.50
4 Gal. Oak Keg \$3.00
10 Gal. Oak Keg \$4.00
15 Gal. Oak Keg \$4.25
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If Chaired or for Drinking Water, Add 50c per Keg Extra.

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WACO, TEXAS
Capital, \$50,000.00

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TEXAS FARM NEWS



CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS

De Leon watermelon crop for 1923 is estimated at fifty cars.

Good crops are reported from all sections around Richmond, South Texas.

The wheat and oat crops around Abilene are not large but turning out fairly well.

Wheat will average 15 bushels per acre in Motley county.

On the whole, crop prospects of Milam county are excellent, with little damage to cotton by the boll weevil.

The wheat yield of the Wichita Falls section is considered below average, new fields making about 15 bushels per acre.

The Amarillo section reports an average wheat yield of 12 bushels per acre, with good prospects for barley and small grain.

The first wagonload of new wheat sold on the Plano, Collin county, market at 92 cents per bushel, and tested 57 pounds.

McColloch county farmers have almost killed out the grasshoppers by poisoning, and crops in general are reported favorably.

Sterling county ranchmen have sold to northern feeders, 3,800 muttons for \$17-100, or \$4.50 per head. The sheep are 1, 2, 3 and 4 years old.

Farmers in Navarro county are well pleased over the good oat crop which will make between 40 and 50 bushels per acre.

A. P. Thomas, residing 2 miles north of Weslaco, in the Rio Grande Valley, has the honor of having produced the first bale of 1923 American cotton. It weighed 434 pounds and was sold on the Houston Cotton exchange for \$1,275, including bonus.

The first car of watermelons shipped by the Bellville Watermelon Association netted the growers \$520. The shipment was consigned to Colorado. The acreage to watermelons is 1,500 in the vicinity of Bellville.

During the five months of 1922 just passed over 660,000 head of live stock have been received by the Fort Worth stockyards, averaging 2,500 carloads a month.

Hundreds of prizes have been offered by the Chamber of Commerce of Marshall for the capturing and destroying of boll weevils in Harrison county.

Hall county, in the upper Panhandle country, estimates its cotton crop at 75 per cent, well chopped and worked out, and condition of the feed crop at 80 per cent.

The cotton crop in Gregg county, East Texas, as reported June 25th, is very promising, with some complaint of boll weevils and boll worms.

Erath county oats will make a good yield. Early corn is assured owing to recent rains. Sorghum and peanuts are looking thrifty.

Crop conditions are fair around Devine, South Texas. Corn is already made. Farmers are fighting the weevils with boll weevil machines. Broomcorn has been harvested.

The oat yield in Bell county is around fifty bushels per acre. The wheat crop is small, but in many fields is turning out much better than was expected.

Denton county, one of the banner wheat counties of Texas, estimates its wheat yield at from 15 to 25 bushels per acre, and scaling around 60 pounds per bushel. Oats are scaling 25 to 50 bushels, and of fine quality. Threshing was completed about July 4th.

Representatives of the Chamber of Commerce of Breckenridge, the Breckenridge Automotive Association and the county farm agents, have planned and definitely decided to hold an automobile show and a poultry show in Breckenridge Thursday, Friday and Saturday, Oct. 5, 6 and 7.

The first crate of tomatoes of the 1923 season were brought to Jacksonville May 28th, by C. A. Patton of Ironton community. A premium was given by local merchants for the first three crates. A general estimate is that a total of 1,000 cars will be shipped from Jacksonville territory.

Terracing the Martindale Farms, five miles west of Lockhart, comprising about 6,000 acres, is now under way by Norman Martindale, the owner. The material that will be used will be one car of cement, to three cars of sand and one car of crushed rock. The soil of the Martindale farm is heavy black waxy, and washes very easily.

Anthrax continues to rage in Harris county, and is spreading into Galveston county, Dr. Leon G. Cloud, State Veterinarian, states that it is one of the most serious conditions in recent months. It is reported that during the last ten days in Harris county over 1,000 head of cattle have died of the disease. Both Harris and Galveston counties have employed veterinarians to combat the plague, and cattlemen and county officials are co-operating in the fight.

The grain yield of Runnels county is reported to be the heaviest ever known in this county, but the acreage is comparatively small. Wheat is yielding from 18 to 20 bushels per acre; oats from 50 to 75 bushels.

J. I. Robbins, who has one of the largest and best herds of Holstein dairy cattle in Henderson county, has offered to furnish fresh sweet milk free daily during the summer months to any children in Athens who are not able to buy milk.

Sheep shearing on a large scale began on the Littlefield Cattle Company's Ranch June 21. The shears were run by power furnished by a gasoline engine and from 1,000 to 1,200 sheep were sheared daily.

With the aid of continued fair weather, threshing was finished in Collin county by July 1st. The yield of wheat is from 12 to 30 bushels, and oats from 25 to 75 bushels per acre.

Grain men estimate that the wheat crop of Texas will be between 14,000,000 and 15,000,000 bushels, and that the combined wheat and oat crop will bring about \$30,000,000 of new wealth to the state of Texas.

W. W. Roy of Byers, Clay county, has raised two crops of oats on the same land the same season. The first crop was harvested late in May, then the stubble suckered out, and the second crop almost as good as the first was harvested in June.

With the season for truck shipments about to close, the number of cars shipped for the entire Rio Grande Valley is 3,339. About twice this number were shipped last year. Good prices, as a rule, have prevailed throughout the season.

Smith county shipped about 34 cars of strawberries, and the season closed June 1st. Most shipments were made to points in Texas, Oklahoma and Louisiana. The acreage was larger than usual, and yield was good, but prices were unsatisfactory.

Reward of 50 cents per thousand for punctured cotton squares has been offered by the Farmersville Chamber of Commerce. The squares must be collected within Farmersville trade territory.

The first annual exposition of the East Texas Cotton Palace and Poultry Show will be held at Athens, October 4th to 6th. Substantial prizes will be offered on best grade and staple of cotton. Prizes for community and county exhibits will also be open to all East Texas counties.

The small grain crop this year will be the largest in Tom Green county's history. Over 8,000 acres are planted in oats and over 2,000 acres in wheat in this county. The yield is estimated between 300,000 and 400,000 bushels, or about 230 cars. The oat yield is between 40 and 60 bushels per acre, and wheat about 15 bushels.

Various methods are being used by Texas farmers to combat the grasshoppers. Flocks of turkeys are being used to good advantage. Many farmers who do not own a flock of turkeys are renting them from other farmers, and turning them into their fields. Some farmers are using swatters made of forked sticks with wire netting between the forks.

TREES AND PLANTS.
PORTO RICO Potato Blips—Ready April 25th, prepaid, 1,000-\$2.25; 5,000-\$8.75; 10,000-\$16.00. Satisfaction guaranteed. WHITEBROOK (Texas) CURING PLANT, T. H. Matthews, Manager.
FINE SHADES, Evergreens, Fruits, Flowers, Texas grown; new catalog free. JOHN S. KEER NURSERY CO., Sherman, Texas.

AGENTS WANTED.
STORE or agent in each town to sell DEITY SUE GINGHAM PROCKS to every woman. High quality, latest styles, including 14,000 PRIMER. Satisfaction guaranteed. Free commission. STAR SALES CO., Fort Worth, Texas.
"AIR THIEF" sells to every car owner; saves time, work and money. Basic Patent, absolutely no competition; your profit \$18.50 daily, \$18.50 for 25 Live agents wanted everywhere, write today. THE HAWMOND CO., 212 S. Ervay St., Dallas, Texas.

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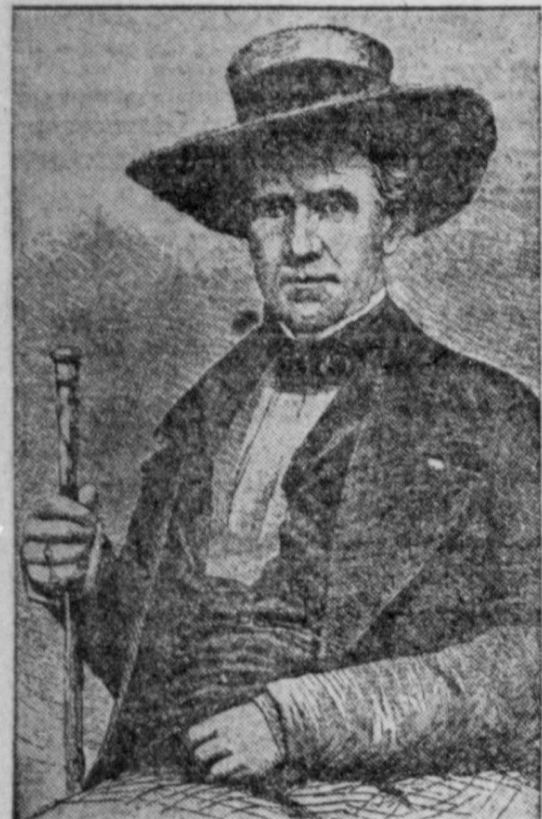
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For Our Boys and Girls

By AUNT MARY.



General Sam Houston.

GREAT MEN AND WOMEN.

Among the "Great Men" of our wonderful state no one is more honored or respected than "General Sam Houston." He was born on the 2nd of March, 1793, at a place called Timber Ridge church, in Rockbridge county, Virginia. His father was of Scotch origin and had acquired some land and a little wealth. His mother was a woman of remarkable beauty, great intellect and force of character. His father is said to have been a large, powerful man, very fond of military life. He died when his son "Sam" was but thirteen years old. His mother was left with nine children. But with the determination and courage which she always showed she moved with her

young family to Blount county, in Tennessee. They were very near the settlement of the Cherokee Indians.

Sam Houston had very little opportunity for an education; and his great store of knowledge came from close application to the few books that came within his reach, and his careful study of human nature.

An early escapade shows his strong liking for adventure and the free life of the wilderness. He had been placed by his family as clerk in a store, but the tame life soon became a drudgery to him. So he ran away and went to live with the Cherokee Indians. Here he was adopted by one of the sub-chiefs. He wore the dress of the Indians and soon mastered their language; which is said to have never been done before by an adult, as the language is very difficult. In later life he still wore the costume of the Indian most of the time. His life with the Indians and his complete knowledge of their language was of great help to him in after life. When his family found him he could not be persuaded to return to them. Here he remained until his eighteenth birthday, returning to the white settlement only to obtain supplies.

At this time he found himself in debt for ammunition and trinkets, so he determined to return to civilization and teach school in order to be able to wipe out his debts. He always said this was the period of his life he was proudest of and in which he felt the highest dignity and self-satisfaction.

When twenty years old he enlisted as a private in the army. This was in 1813, during the second war between Great Britain and the United States. He was promoted to sergeant almost at once and was known as the best drill officer in the regiment. Later he received the commission as ensign from President Madison.

This was at the period of the Creek War, where they determined to wage war against the "whites." The Indians massacred the settlers,

and General Jackson was ordered to take charge of the situation. Ensign Sam Houston was in his regiment. At the battle of To-ho-ne-ka, or Horseshoe Bend, of Tallapoosa River, Alabama, he was the second to scale the wall the Indians had built. Major Montgomery had been through first and was instantly killed. Ensign Sam Houston was hit with an arrow in the thigh and had two bullet wounds in the shoulder. He was a long time in recovering his health. Afterwards he was made an agent for the Cherokee Indians. He went to Nashville to study law and was admitted to the bar. He was made Adjutant General of Tennessee. In 1823 he was elected to Congress and was often the center of very stormy battles. He was re-elected to a second term. In 1827 he was elected Governor of Tennessee. While Governor he married a Miss Eliza Allen, a daughter of a wealthy and respected family. After a little more than two months of married life she suddenly left her husband and returned home. No reason was given for the separation. He resigned the governorship and went to live with the Cherokee Indians again.

In 1832, with a few friends, he came to Texas.

He was elected a delegate from Nacogdoches, Texas, to the state convention that met at San Felipe in 1835, forming the Texas Constitution. Houston was elected Commander-in-Chief of the Army, with but one dissenting vote.

From then until after the fall of the Alamo, things moved very slowly. His power in the army was very limited. After the fall of the Alamo he took definite charge and from then until the battle of San Jacinto on April 21, 1836, in which General Houston captured Santa Anna and Texas' independence was assured, he never wavered. During the battle he was wounded, from which he never fully recovered. In the fall he was elected the first President of the Republic of Texas, the next President being Mirabeau Lamar. General Houston was elected again and took office December, 1841. After a stormy period Texas was finally admitted into the Union, October 14, 1845. He was then elected Senator of the United States in 1846. After finishing his term he returned to Texas, hoping to spend the

remainder of his days in peace and quiet. This, however, he was not destined to do. In 1859 he was nominated for Governor and canvassed the state, speaking in favor of the preservation of the Union. He was elected and continued his fight to keep Texas in the Union. Although he opposed Lincoln for President, yet he did not want Texas to secede. He was overthrown and Texas seceded from the Union, joining the Confederacy. His last days were spent in comparative poverty. He had married again and had several children.

He died July 26, 1863, aged seventy years. He had lived to see the fulfillment of his prophecies that the Union must stand together.

The mourning of the people of Texas was sincere and deep. With all his faults and the antagonisms he had aroused, he was regarded as a national hero. Texas was the love of his heart, and to the end he fought for what he thought was best for her.

recompense except that we their lives. Of course, among them, like among people, there are harmful and destructive birds, but even in these, if we will look closely enough, we will find many virtues.

How familiar are you with your wonderful Texas birds and their habits? Do you know which bird is the meadow lark? Do you know how sweetly it sings? What color its eggs are? What it eats?

Then there are many more, too—the quiet little wren, the wise owl, the majestic eagle, the saucy sparrow and many, many others, too.

To the little boy or girl under sixteen years of age who will write me the best story on "A Texas Bird I Know and Love," I will give a beautiful book on "Birds and Their Habits." Do not write more than two hundred words, and send it to me by August 1st. All good stories that do not win the prize will be published if possible. Address "Aunt Mary, Box 544, Fort Worth, Texas." Enclose a self-addressed stamped envelope.

LETTER ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS.

This month I have received the following letters from my children:

Sallie Belle Thompson, Box 120, Route 1, Overton, Texas.
 Pearl Edmonds, Cameron, Texas.
 Rosita Hightower, Box 74, Route 2, Cushing, Texas.
 Mozell Justice, Box 24, Route 3, Thornton, Texas.
 Edith Cox, Splendor, Texas.
 Mary Francis Allen, 4918 Lindsley Street, Dallas, Texas.
 Alma Edythe Thomas, Aspermont, Texas.

LITTLE GIRL'S COOK BOOK.

The first thing I require in my home is "cheerfulness." So I will require it of my little readers. A "sour" face will make a "sour" pudding, so they say. So when we go in our kitchen today it will be with a smile and a happy disposition. Won't it?

Vanilla Ice Cream.
 3 cups thin cream.
 2 tablespoons sugar.
 2 teaspoons vanilla.
 Speck salt.
 Blend all the ingredients; then sugar is dissolved; freeze like any ice cream.

OUR BIRDS.

In our birds we have true and mighty friends, who every day are doing us a great service with no thought of

PRIZE POEM FOR BOYS AND GIRLS.

Following is a poem I was very fond of when I was a little girl. I am going to give you an opportunity to earn a really lovely present. Just write me a letter telling me which one you think loved "Mother" best and why. Don't write more than 100 words. It must be on my desk by August 6th:

WHICH LOVED BEST?

"I love you, mother," said little Lon,
 Then forgetting his work, his cap went on,
 And he was off to the garden swing,
 And he left her the water and wood to bring.

"I love you, mother," said rosy Nell—
 "I love you better than tongue can tell."
 Then she teased and pouted full half the day,
 Till her mother rejoiced when she went to play.

"I love you, mother," said little Fan.
 "Today I'll help you all I can;
 How glad I am school doesn't keep."
 So she rocked the baby till it fell asleep.

Then, stepping softly, she fetched the broom,
 And swept the floor and tidied the room;
 Busy and happy all day was she,
 Helpful and happy as child could be.

"I love you, mother," again they said,
 Three little children, on going to bed;
 How do you think that mother guessed
 Which of them really loved her best?

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WOMAN'S PAGE
MRS. MARGARET STUTE
FOOD.
Its Use to the Body and Proper Preparation.

The first subject in our divisions of foods is "Fruits and Vegetables." From these we draw the greater portion of our mineral supply. We need minerals to build bone and good blood as well as other body fluids.

Fruits are an especially important part of our diet, but must be eaten with care as to selection. They contain a large quantity of vitamins and are especially of value to young children and invalids. Among those used most extensively are orange juice, and tomato juice. In cases of rickets and scurvy they are a necessary part of the diet. Lemons, grapes, and peaches are easily digested. The apple exerts a most excellent influence upon the liver and kidneys. The juice of ripe pineapples contains an enzyme that is a great aid to digestion, and is valuable in cases of diphtheria and diabetes. Dates, figs and prunes are excellent laxatives. Dates, because of their sweetness, may be substituted for candy with children without the harmful effects of candy. The banana should not be given very young children, and is much more easily digested if cooked. It contains a large quantity of starch. Plums, peaches, apricots and raspberries can be eaten by those on a restricted sugar diet. Grape juice and other juices from fresh fruit are appetizing and wholesome.

Fresh and canned fruits are valuable for their contents of vitamins, mineral contents and laxative effects. Dried fruit is excellent because of its energy value and also its laxative powers. Overripe or unripe fruit should not be eaten raw, as they may cause serious digestive disturbances. Before serving all fruit should be thoroughly washed, as it is, as a rule, covered with dust and germs.

Vegetables should play a large part in our diet, especially growing children and expectant mothers. They also supply mineral matter to the body as well as fruit. Certain vegetables are very rich in iron which is a great factor in bone building and blood conditions. Vegetables should be cooked only until tender, drained immediately and served promptly. Time for cooking varies with age, size and freshness. Do not undercook, as they are not palatable. An example is beets; where beets are young they are cooked 45 minutes, and old beets from three to four hours.

To preserve the color of green vegetables cook uncovered. Potatoes should be cooked in the skins in order to prevent the loss of nutritive material and must be mealy to be digested easily. Because of starch contents they should play a large part in the average diet. Beets, carrots, parsnips, turnips, and onion contain many valuable mineral matters and must be included in the well-balanced diet. Peas and beans are important because of their muscle-building power. Asparagus is easily digested even by invalids. Cauliflower belongs to the same family as the cabbage, but is more readily and easily digested. Celery is easier digested if cooked. Spinach is very rich in iron and should be used freely by expectant mothers.

Texas is especially blessed, as in most parts fruits and vegetables can be obtained the year around. With a little work and time every one can have a few vegetables in their yard, even if it is very small and only onions and the like can be planted. Dig up a few weed patches and flowers if necessary. Because if we do not have health, nothing else is worth while. Vegetables and fruits should constitute one of our main sources of food—especially in the summer time when they are fresh and cheap. You will be surprised at your increased energy if you eat freely of vegetables. Provide a variety for your family and they will not tire of them. Change your method of cooking them and serve in attractive ways. The way a food is presented to one is the most important factor. Serve a hot food—hot, and a cold food—cold. Do not do things by halves. A sprig of green parsley or lettuce leaves adds to their attractiveness. Artistically arranged flowers add much to the enjoyment of a meal. As of the little importance these details may seem, yet try them for a week and see if you are not fully repaid for your efforts in the increased enjoyment of your family at meal time.

LATE FASHIONS
This charming little dress is not so difficult to make. The unusual collar gives it a very distinctive style. It is charming made up in a solid colored material with sleeves and collar bindings and plaited ruffles on skirt made with fancy colored material. Be sure the predominating color of trimming harmonizes with the dress goods. For size 16 it will require 6 yards of 36-inch dress material, 1 1/4 yards of 36-inch for trimming, 1 1/4 yards narrow ribbon for bows and 3-3-8 yards ribbon for sash.

HOUSEHOLD HINTS.
Provide your chickens with plenty of cool water and good shade during these hot months.
Use perfectly ripened, unbruised fruit for canning, when possible, in order to get the best form, color and flavor.
Home-made ice cream is delicious and much more healthful than other kinds. It will not hurt the children to have it quite often, in reasonable amounts, during the summer months.
Show your wife as much courtesy as you do your neighbor's wives. She deserves much more, you know.
A bit of candle may be cut to fit the neck of the glue bottle and used in place of a cork, and it will never stick.

QUESTION BOX
Question: Will be pleased to have you tell me how to can ripe tomatoes without using acid.—A. M.
Answer: In "Tested Recipes" this month is a simple and excellent method. The success of canning any article depends on how "sterile" you can make the jars. Rubbers, tops and utensils used in cooking must be thoroughly clean and free from all grease. Be sure article to be canned is hot entirely through or boiled as long as directed.
Question: Can you tell me how to clean brass ware?—R. D.
Answer: Vinegar and salt will remove all blemishes and the article must be then thoroughly rinsed.
Question: What is good to kill green lice on rose plants?—F. L.
Answer: I have used "Black Leaf 40" with great success on mine. If it is used as a spray directions come with the bottle. However, nicotine is the base and I have a friend who saved cigar butts, soaked them in water for a few days, drained, diluted the liquid, used as a spray and has had as good results.
Note.—I will gladly answer any questions pertaining to the household thru this column. Address Mrs. Margaret Stute, Box 1012, Fort Worth, Texas.

TESTED RECIPES.
This month I am giving you my family famous pickle recipes. They are excellent.

CUCUMBER PICKLES.
(Sour.)
Use the smallest cucumbers you can procure, making 2 1/2 inches the limit of length. To each 100 cucumbers allow 1 ounce of mustard seed, 1 ounce of cloves, 1 large tablespoonful of salt, 1 cupful of sugar and 2 small red peppers. Put the spices in thin muslin bags, using at least 2 bags to each 100 pickles. Place the cucumbers in a kettle on the stove with enough good vinegar to cover them; also place the bags of spices in the vinegar, together with the peppers cut in slices. Heat the vinegar as slowly as possible; and when it is scalding hot the pickles are ready to seal and set away. If this recipe is carefully followed, perfectly satisfactory results will be obtained.

TOMATO PICKLES.
One peck ripe tomatoes, 1 peck green tomatoes, 3 heads of cabbage, 1 dozen onions, 1 dozen peppers; cut all fine; salt heavily; let stand overnight. Drain in the morning as dry as possible; put in kettle and boil 1 hour with 3 pounds of brown sugar and enough vinegar to cover well. Before taking off the fire add 1 tablespoon grated horseradish, 1 teaspoon ground pepper, 2 tablespoons white mustard seed, 1 tablespoon mace, 1 tablespoon cloves, 3 tablespoons celery seed, 1 tablespoon tumeric. Seal like any fruit. This recipe makes the best chopped pickle I ever ate.

DILL PICKLES.
To put up dill pickles, select smooth cucumbers of medium size (wash them thoroughly in cold water, and pack them in a can), placing first a layer of dill (aromatic seeds so well known to German cooks) and vine leaves, then a layer of cucumbers, and so on until the desired quantity has been obtained. Then tightly close the barrel, making a brine from 9 quarts of water to 1 of salt and pour enough through the bung-hole to well cover the cucumbers. After 2 or 3 days drain the brine from the cucumbers, boil again, and after it has cooled pour it over the cucumbers. The bung-hole in the top of the barrel is left open until the cucumbers begin to ferment, after which it is closed with a stopper. To obtain a good result, the cucumbers should be kept well under the brine. When the barrel is open a stone should be placed on the pickles to keep them down.

PICKLED PEACHES.
One-half peck peaches, 2 pounds brown sugar, 1 ounce stick cinnamon, 1 pint vinegar. Boil together sugar and vinegar 20 minutes. Put peaches in hot water for an instant and in taking them out rub the fur off with a coarse towel. Now stick four cloves in each peach, then put them in the syrup and boil until tender.

GOOD CANNED TOMATOES.
(Requested.)
Peel the tomatoes and remove the hard white part near the stem. Season with salt and let tomatoes boil one-half hour. Can and seal while hot. Will keep perfectly in a cool place.

PICKLED NASTURTIUMS.
Use the green seed, and in picking retain a short length of stem on each. Lay them in cold salted water for 2 days, and then place them in cold water for another day. Drain well and place the seed in a glass jar, cover with vinegar heated to the boiling point and close the jar tightly. In a few days the seeds will be ready to use. They are an excellent substitute for capers.

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