

THE MERKEL MAIL

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8 PAGES

HOW TEXAS STANDS OVER 10 INCHES EDUCATION & MULES

"The last shall be first and the first shall be last" is a dictum of inspired scripture. In the essential elements of a great Commonwealth the rank of Texas among her sister states presents some striking contrasts. The following statement of our rank in several important particulars is based upon figures of the Federal census and upon the latest research bulletin of the National Education Association. Remember that there are forty-eight states in the American Union:

Area	1st.
Value of farm crops	1st.
Production of cotton	1st.
Number and value of mules	1st.
Number of Goats	1st.
Value of livestock	2nd.
Production of sulphur	1st.
Production of oil	3rd.
Production of asphalt	3rd.
Value of corn	3rd.
Population	5th.
Wealth	7th.
Amount of permanent school fund bequeathed by our fathers	1st.
Percentage of children 7 to 13 years of age in school 1920	42d.
Proportion of teachers normal graduates or equivalent	30th.
Proportion of teachers with two years training or more beyond elementary school	39th.
Salaries of elementary teachers cities over 10,000	24th.
Salaries elementary teachers cities 10,000 to 100,000	33rd.
Salaries elementary teachers towns and villages under 10,000	37th.
Salaries in rural schools three teachers or less	35th.
Expenditure per pupil in attendance	37th.
Length of school term	35th.
Rural School teachers salary as compared to city teachers	29th.
Literacy of native-born population 10 to 20 years	38th.
Literacy of native-born whites 10 years and over	37th.
School efficiency	38th.

Lincoln said "This Union can not continue half slave and half free." Texas can not long continue first in material things and last in the intellectual and spiritual. First in mules and goats—thirty-eighth in the efficiency of the schools of our children. The statement of the facts is a supreme challenge to thoughtful and patriotic Texans.

H. F. ESTILL,
President Sam. Houston State Teachers' College.—Dallas News.

WHY NOT AN ARMISTICE DAY PROGRAM

Armistice Day this year falls on Sunday, and as is suggested by Rev. Fred S. Rogers, the splendid and untiring pastor of the Grace Presbyterian church of this city, there is no reason why Merkel citizens should not take immediate steps for arranging an appropriate and interesting program at one of the local churches for the evening hour on that day.

This is a day that every true American should feel proud to honor and commemorate and surely the citizenship of Merkel is no less patriotic or less interested in commemorating this great day. Hence this paper suggests that our citizenship joins hands in arranging a program in keeping with same.

Mr. and Mrs. Warren Smith are at home after visiting at Hamlin and other places.

OVER 10 INCHES RAIN IN OCTOBER

According to the report of Mr. B. M. Black of this city, who keeps a correct record of the rainfall in this city throughout the year, there has fallen here during the month of October, 10.44 inches of rain, and for the ten months past 27.44 inches have fallen.

Without doubt the fall for October has been far the greatest amount of rain that has fallen for the same month in the year for many years.

And while the rains have damaged considerably the cotton in the field, it is still expected that something like 2000 bales will be gathered, provided the weather from now on should be very favorable. Notwithstanding damage done to cotton the continued big rains have put into the soil of this country the best season that could be desired and much benefit will be derived from same.

Mr. Sam Butman Sr. was a very pleasant caller at this office one day this week, and stated that while there may have been some damage to the small amount of cotton yet in the fields from the excessive rains of the past month, he felt that much good will come to the country from the rains. On his splendid ranch some fifteen miles south of this city, Mr. Butman reports grass, wild rye and weeds coming nicely, and stock doing well.

FOOTBALL TEAM NAME SELECTED

At a "pep" meeting a few days ago a campaign was put on to select a name for the Merkel High Football Team.

Among the names submitted was that of "Badgers" which was accepted by the committee and will be used as a name for the team from now on. It is characteristic of the Badger to have lots of fight for his looks, and it takes a good dog to whip him. That is also true of Merkel Hi football boys. They are small, but have lots of fight for their size and looks. It will take a good town to beat them.

Come out and see the "Badgers" pour it on Rotan and Clyde. They will play Rotan Friday if the weather permits, and will meet the Clyde team Tuesday of next week.

The new groceryman, Mr. J. N. Carson, who opened his store for business in this city on last Saturday, reports a big business regardless of the fact that the day was bad, cold, and rainy. He says he was well pleased with the patronage extended him. Mr. Carson carried in this paper a quarter page advertisement with circulars put out also, when he stated did the work. And he is still advertising his business in this issue of the Mail.

A message to friends here yesterday morning from Mr. and Mrs. S. R. Weaver, at Big Spring, announces the arrival of a beautiful baby girl born at 7:30 a. m. on that date. We join many friends here in extending congratulations.

W. C. Church of the Stith community left first of the week for Plainview, where he went as a delegate from the Methodist church at Stith to the Annual Conference.

LOCAL METHODIST PAY CHURCH DEBT

We are informed by members of the official board of the local Methodist church that the church's building indebtedness has now been entirely paid out; the amount having been paid this conference year amounting to about \$3.00.

The debt was incurred during the conference year 1922, when an addition to the local church in the way of new Sunday school rooms and extension of the Main auditorium was made and which amounted to the sum of about \$7,500, some \$4,500 being paid that year.

The local congregation rejoices over the fact that the church indebtedness has been paid, and will now look forward to a more successful new conference year.

The local pastor, Rev. M. C. Hays, left first of the week for Plainview where he went to attend the Annual Meeting of the Northwest Texas Conference, and will be away over next Sunday.

Rev. Hays, has joined the official board and the members in their effort and desire to wipe out the local church debt, and no one rejoices more than he that this task has been accomplished.

Rev. Hays is without doubt one of the most able and eloquent preachers in the entire conference, and has made many warm and lasting friends during his and his family's stay in the city.

ELECTED PRESIDENT OF THE NEBR. WOMAN'S CLUB

Beatrice, Neb. Oct. 27.—The state convention of the Federation of Women's Clubs here closed yesterday afternoon when Mrs. Perryman of Ord, Nebraska, was elected president. Other officers were: Mrs. W. E. Miner of Oakland, vice-president; Miss Hattie Summers of Beatrice, recording secretary; Mrs. S. C. Stoner Seward, treasurer. Three hundred and sixty delegates attended the meeting. The place for holding the next state convention was left to the executive committee.

The above Mrs. Perryman, is a sister of Mr. L. R. Thompson Cashier of the Farmers and Merchants National Bank of this city, and is very prominent and active in Woman's Club work in that state, as is shown by the compliment and election to the presidency of the federated clubs of that state.

A CORRECTION

In the resolutions of respect item in our last issue by a committee of Odd Fellows from the Blair Lodge, concerning the death of A. J. Tucker, the deceased's name was given as J. L. Tucker. This was just an error by the committee and they ask that the correction be made through the columns of this issue. 1tpd.

Hicks Swafford, who for several months past, has been traveling throughout the northern states, selling flour and fine dairy feed, arrived Wednesday for a ten days visit with home folks and many friends. Hicks is another one of the many Merkel raised boys who have gone out into the world to make good.

NOTICE TO REBEKAHS

All Rebekahs are urged to come out and let us put our lodge on the honor roll for this year. 2t3p

ENFORCE MEDICAL PRACTICE LAWS

Dallas, Oct. 20.—The recently enacted medical practice act will be rigidly enforced if the representatives of six different organizations of legalized medical professions who met here Saturday have their way.

The meeting, called by the State health officer, resulted in the organization of the State Health Conference, of which W. H. Beasley of Austin is chairman and Dr. J. T. Crow of Dallas is secretary.

The medical men adopted a resolution Saturday providing for strict enforcement of the recently enacted medical practice law and placing such irregular practices as now are charged to exist in Texas in the hands of the State Health Board and the Board of Examiners for pushing to successful enforcement.

At the meeting Saturday it was said the law is not being enforced and that it has not been rigidly enforced since it was passed by the last Legislature. In the future alleged violations of the law will be called to the attention of grand juries and county and State officials as rapidly as they occur.

The "quack" came in for a scoring. The work of alleged "quacks" was condemned, and statements made to the effect that the legally practicing physicians should report such persons to the authorities.

Following the completion of the organization, the meeting adjourned, subjected to call of the chairman.

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

The School of missions scheduled for this week, has been postponed until next week on account of the disagreeable weather. The one night we were able to have it this week, there were forty present; next week we hope to have a well filled house each night.

Sunday, November 4, all the regular services of the day, at the morning hour the sermon will be: "Goodliness"; at the evening hour, an illustrated lecture will be shown illustrating the beautiful hymn, "America, the beautiful." Everyone welcome. Fred S. Rogers Pastor.

This paper hastens to commend the citizenship of Merkel and surrounding country for the very liberal patronage given the first number of the Dixie Lyceum course which appeared at the Cozy Theatre under the auspices of the local Cemetery Association, on last Tuesday evening. It was a very fine entertainment, given by four talented and highly educated young ladies, and not one word or act said or done that indicated the slightest of the low, vulgar, such as is found in many of the passing carnivals, and tent shows. As stated elsewhere in this paper there are yet three numbers of the lyceum course, and this paper trusts that the good people of Merkel will continue to lend their support to the future numbers as liberal as they have the one just appearing here. And then when you patronize these entertainments you are besides seeing something that is clean and uplifting, helping the good ladies of the Cemetery Association, for if there is any funds after paying the expense of the course the money will be expended in keeping up the cemetery. And that will depend upon the liberal patronage extended.

M. E. SUNDAY SCHOOL

On account of the weather being so bad last Sunday we had no Sunday school, but let us look forward to next Sunday with the view in mind that if the weather will permit, every member of the Sunday school will be present.

Our pastor being away at Annual Conference we will have no church services, but let every one take it upon his or herself to come next Sunday and bring some one with you. Let's make our Sunday school what it should be. Well attended. L. W. Cox, Supt.

CHURCH OF CHRIST

Regular services at the church next Sunday and all who can are expected to be in attendance. Be in your place and on time.

See the big doll in our show window to be given away on December 1st. Merkel Drug Company.

RODEO AND BARBECUE AT ROBY NOV. 7

Roby will celebrate the opening of her new railroad, The Roby and Northern Railroad, on Wednesday, November 7th, 1923 with a big rodeo and barbecue.

The biggest, little short line railroad in America. We want to show you the latest achievement in construction and equipment of the most modern and up to date railroad in all West Texas, operated by electricity.

The West Texas Utilities Co. and the Business firms of Roby invite the people of all West Texas to be at Roby for the big celebration. The eats are on us. We have ordered 6,000 pounds of barbecue. There will be plenty of eats for all.

The West Texas Utilities Co. and the business firms want you to come to Roby, the county seat of Fisher County, Texas, and spend one big day having a good time and celebrating with us. There will be speaking for men; Free barbecue for every body; amateur rodeo open to all; Five Grand prizes offered, Bronco busting, Bull dogging, Goat roping and many other events; music by one of West Texas' best brass bands.

You can't forget the place; Don't forget the date, Wednesday, November 7th, 1923.

PARENT TEACHERS CLUB NOTES

It will soon be time for the regular meeting of the Parent Teachers Club. We are expecting a full attendance at this meeting because of the fact that we will decide which room is to receive the first \$25.00 worth of books for the library. The room having the largest percent of parents present at this meeting will be awarded the first books. If you have a child in school come help that room to be first to secure a library. This does not include the high school but only the grades up to the 8th.

We are going to have a trained nurse also to visit with us at this meeting and you will want to hear what she has to say about the value of the services of a trained nurse to the school. This should interest every patron of the school. Don't forget the date, Wed. afternoon at 3:30 Nov. 14 school building.

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1ST LYCEUM NUMBER A GOOD ONE

The first number of the Lyceum Course being given under the auspices of the Merkel Cemetery Association was given at the Cozy Theatre on Tuesday evening. The Sorority Singers, a quartet of most excellent young ladies, furnished the entertainment for the evening. The house was well filled with a pleasing audience. The program was absolutely clean, varied, ably rendered, and interesting from start to finish. The signers of the contract that brought the course to Merkel are gratified that Merkelites are showing their appreciation for this sort of wholesome entertainment by their attendance.

The house was well filled, and the financial outlook for the course is very encouraging. Remember that all the net proceeds of the course go to the benefit of the Merkel Cemetery Association. The money could not go to a worthier cause.

There are three numbers yet to come. At least one of these will even exceed the most excellent program rendered at the Cozy on Tuesday evening. Do not fail to see this one. They will be given by well trained talent that can be secured in no other way. You will enjoy the program of clean stuff, and at the same time will help a good organization. Announcement as to dates of the remaining numbers will appear in the Merkel Mail at the appropriate time. Come. Encourage the young people to patronize this sort of entertainment. It will certainly be much more helpful to them than their attendance at some degrading, smutty tent show. There will be nothing in the entire course that is not uplifting as well as really entertaining to the people.

BANKS WILL CLOSE

Notice is hereby given that both the Farmers State and F. and M. National Banks, of Merkel, will be closed on Monday, November 12, following Armistice Day, November 11, which falls on Sunday. R. O. Anderson Cashier; L. R. Thompson, Cashier.

MERKEL "BADGERS" SMOTHER WINTERS

For the second time this year the Merkel boys "poured it on" Winters. The defeat coming this time to the tune of 42 to nothing. The game was played on a muddy field and in a rain, but in spite of that, a fair crowd witnessed the fray.

There was nothing spectacular about the game except that Winters never made a first down, while the Merkel boys never had to punt.

The game was clean and well fought from whistle to whistle, and was ably called by Mr. Rose. The boys play Rotan here today and Clyde next Tuesday. Come out and see our boys play. The Rotan game will be well worth your money as it will be a very close score.

The Clyde game will be interesting to every one. Be sure to see it.

Misses Gyrle Howard and Alva Wheeler, students this year at C. I. A. were at home for a visit for a few days. They attended the B. S. U. meet at Abilene also.

Condensed Statement

of the condition of

The Farmers State Bank

Merkel, Texas

Close of business Sept. 14, 1923

RESOURCES

Loans	\$313,985.44
Banking house & Fixtures	13,800.00
Other Real Estate	9,070.19
Stocks & Bonds	21,616.65
Due from State Cty. Fund	28,442.79
Cash & Exchange	151,646.70
Total	\$538,561.77

LIABILITIES

Capital Stock	\$ 50,000.00
Surplus and Profits	27,314.70
Bills Payable	55,000.00
Rediscounts	NONE
Other Borrowed money	NONE
DEPOSITS	406,247.07
Total	\$538,561.77

The Above Statement is Correct

R. O. Anderson, Cashier

The Home of Guaranteed Deposits

MARRIED

In this city Sunday at 4 o'clock at the residence of Mrs. R. A. Tarbuton, Mrs. G. A. Dyer and Miss Opal Dean and Reese. The bride is a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Tarbuton, seven miles from Merkel, and a niece of Mrs. R. A. Tarbuton, this city. The newly wedded couple will make their home at Lorenz street, this city.

\$100 SALARY

Times are prosperous, positions plentiful. Our scholarships guarantee \$75 to \$100-a-month positions or your money back. Ten times as many positions a graduate. Write today for Guarantee Contract, finest catalog in the South and Special Offer 10. Address Draughon's Practical Business College at either place below.

Abilene, Texas
DARUGHON'S
Wichita Falls, Texas

2t2p.

FIELD LANDS—All tillable and ready to plow. This tract of land is located 30 miles northwest of Lubbock, in the shallow water belt. It is especially adapted to cotton raising. Can be bought for \$2.00 per acre for 5 years on the balance 6 percent. After first payment but interest until 1927. We are exclusive agents for d. WEIR & GLOVER Abilene, Texas.

"Strong and Well"

I WISH you could know how much I am improved since taking the Cardui," writes Mrs. Nannie Brown, of Black Rock, Ark. "You wouldn't know me for the same weak invalid I was before I took it. At my age I had to keep off my feet or I would have been in bed. I couldn't do my housework, and I just got where I'd most as lief be dead as living. Some one told me of a thousand of Cardui. He got it for me and I took three bottles before I stopped—then off and on for the last three years just as a tonic. I saw a decided improvement after my first bottle. I used the three, and was able to do my work with ease, and now I sew for my family and for others. I am feeling fine, and strong and well." Take Cardui! It may be just the medicine you need.

CARDUI
The Woman's Tonic

100 PER CENT PERFECT WHITE

Made From Pure Barium Sulphate—No Black Shows a Complete Absence of Color.

Black and ordinarily been called "no color," and taken to denote the absence of color. Likewise, white, being constituted of all colors, may also be considered as no color. A white body is assumed to reflect all the light that strikes it. There is no absorption and hence there is no color. A black body absorbs all the light that impinges upon it and reflects none, therefore there is absence of all color.

Theoretically this is true, but there is no white that will reflect 100 per cent of the light, and no black that will absorb 100 per cent of the light. We often hear of a whitest white, until a whiter one comes along and displaces it from its position of eminence. The same fact holds good for black. But, inasmuch as some white must be taken as a standard of comparison a choice must be made of the whitest white. Pure barium sulphate is, accordingly, taken as the 100 per cent perfect white, the white which reflects all the light that strikes it.

From a practical standpoint it is equally incorrect to state that black denotes absence of all color. For one black is blacker than the next and the blackest black, which is assumed to have no color at all, may be found to possess some light trace of color when compared with another new black. Furthermore, as the eye is not absolutely perfect and as its sensitivity is not infinite absorption of light, as defined by the sensation produced in it, is relative only. Even the deepest black would exhibit traces of color, would reflect a little light, if our eyes were sensitive enough to detect it.—Scientific American.

ODD EGGS OF THE MURRE

Pacific Coast Bird Picks Its Own From Among Thousands of Others.

The California murre is by far the commonest bird on the rocks along the coast. It crowds together in immense colonies. The bird lays a single egg in the open, with no sign of a nest, not even a bit of grass or a stick to keep it from rolling.

Its peculiar shape helps to keep it in place, even on the bare, sloping rock, and if it is accidentally started down grade by the movement of a bird, it does not roll straight but swings around like a top on its own axis and comes to a standstill a little lower down, writes William L. Finley. Thousands of eggs, and yet no two alike! The combined effect is that of a whole spring flower garden of tints.

Some scientists say that the wide variation in size, shape and color undoubtedly helps the murre to recognize her own. After the eggs are hatched, the difference in pitch, volume and quality of the voices may tell the mother which chick belongs to her.—National Geographic Magazine.

Singing to the Jury.

Lawsuits are settled by an odd method among some of the remote tribes of Eskimos. When two natives have had a dispute each collects his family and friends to assist him in settling it. The parties meet at an agreed time in the largest hut in the village, and literally sing at each other.

The plaintiff's party chants a series of rough verses insulting the defendant and everything that is his. Then comes the rival's turn, and for the next hour or so they sing at their enemy, putting their insults into some sort of meter.

The old men of the village act as judge and jury, and the verdict is given to the side which, in the opinion of the aged experts, has compressed the largest amount of insult into the best verse and the most noise.

Speaking From Experience.

Two inhabitants of a sage brush town were seated on a cracker box exchanging desultory conversation.

"You know them hot cakes what the feller flips in the window of the Fort-lorn Hope restaurant?"

"Yes, I know 'em."

"Ever try 'em?"

"Yes, I've tried 'em."

"What do you think of 'em?"

"The citizen thus appealed to gazed reflectively toward the foothills for some minutes and then rendered judgment."

"That feller's a better juggler than cook."—Pittsburgh Chronicle-Dispatch.

Coloring Silk in Cocoons.

Much interest has been awakened by the experiments at Lyons in feeding silkworms with leaves stained with various dyes in order to cause them to spin silk of corresponding hues. When fed on red food the worm spins red cocoons, and the silk seems to retain the color. The experiments with leaves stained blue have been less successful.

Although the expectation has been raised that this process may prove of commercial importance, the experimenters say that they do not expect to make any discoveries which will affect the industry of dyeing.

What is Meant by "Dumb-Bell."

"Did you post 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."

DICKENS HAD ODD CLOTHES

Author Always Overdressed and Had Appearance of a Gambler—Charles Lamb Always Wore Black.

"He had a double gold chain outside his waistcoat, and such breastpins that I thought he looked like one of our river gamblers." Such is the description of Charles Dickens, given by Prentice in an account of his tour by the United States. A tendency for overdressing was always one of Dickens' characteristics.

A photograph of Dickens, taken in 1852, shows him in a frock coat with a broad velvet collar, a waistcoat made of some furry stuff, and trousers of a huge check. Percy Fitzgerald says the French painter's remark, that Dickens was "more like one of the old Dutch admirals we see in the picture galleries than a man of letters," conveys an admirably true idea to his friends.

"The first time I saw Archbishop Whately," said the provost of Oriel college, Oxford, "he wore a pea-green coat, white waistcoat, stone-colored shirt, flesh-colored stockings. Bishop Heber was dressed in a parsley and butter coat. Doctor Arnold in a light blue coat with metal buttons and a buff waistcoat."

Charles Lamb always dressed in black. "I take it," he said, "to be the proper costume of an author." When this was once objected to at a wedding, he pleaded the raven's apology in the fable that "he had no other." His clothes were entirely black, and he wore long gaiters up to the knees.

Southey wore cloaks; he had a fawn-colored all-around coat and a cap with a knob to it. He never put on a swallow-tailed coat. Like Southey, Porson, the great Greek scholar, had an utter contempt for appearances. When Hazlitt met him in the library of the London institute, he was dressed in an old rusty black coat, with cobwebs hanging to the skirt, and with a large patch of coarse brown paper covering the whole length of his nose.—London Tit-Bits.

WHITTIER WAS IN LOVE ONCE

Writer's Romance With Elizabeth Lloyd His Only Sweetheart, Told in a Little Volume.

Whittier never married. His heart never yearned in verse for a Highland Mary or a Maid of Athens, and so far as his work, and the superficial aspects of his life were concerned, he seemed to be so remote from the divine—or human—passion as Joan of Arc or Savonarola.

And yet it is now known the poet who walked his days in lonely bachelorhood had had a romance, had loved and lost, had really in his own life enacted, in a measure, the world-old theme which found such haunting expression in his own "Maud Muller." The story is told in a little volume, "Whittier's Unknown Romance," in which his letters to Elizabeth Lloyd, Whittier's only "sweetheart," are reproduced. The lack of Elizabeth's letters to him, however, leaves the story incomplete. They were destroyed, for some reason, not hard to surmise, by the lady's request.

Few allusions in Whittier's poems are traceable to her, though the companion of his "Mermaid," whose sweet influence he acknowledged, is said to have been his Elizabeth, and in his own letters he attributed much of his inspiration on various themes to conversations he had with her.—Detroit News.

Her Tyrannical Superior.

They had a woman traffic officer in an eastern city and she was a good one, too. She wore white gloves, knickerbockers, a jaunty cap and directed traffic with all the nonchalance of an expert. The other day, however, she turned in her equipment and returned to skirts. A friend wanted to know what the trouble was.

"I don't care to discuss it," she declared.

"Aw, go ahead and tell me, dearie," said the other.

"Well, the chief refused a reasonable request and I quit."

"Something in the line of duty?" the other woman wanted to know.

"I so consider it. I merely wanted an hour off to get my hair washed."

Sheep Buried in Snow Three Weeks.

A correspondent recalls an incident which happened some years ago on the moors between Huddersfield and Oldham, England. A heavy fall of snow had drifted up and many of the sheep which had been grazing on the moor were buried. For three weeks the snow held fast, and drift after drift was searched by shepherds for the missing sheep.

At the end of the third week three sheep were discovered buried beneath a drift in one of the cloughs. They were in a very emaciated state, and had apparently lived by eating the wool off each other's backs, for all three were as bare as newly shorn sheep. One died soon after, but the other two completely recovered from their enforced starvation.

Put His Foot in It.

Hub (with magazine)—Here is an interesting article on dress. The writer describes the clothes women will wear twenty years from now.

Wife—That doesn't interest me a particle.

Hub—Why not?

Wife—Because, unless something wonderful happens I shall still be wearing this same old blue serge suit I've had ever since we were married.

—Boston Transcript.

THE FARMERS & MERCHANTS National Bank

Merkel, Texas

The Success of this Community Depends upon

The Thrift of Its Citizens

Make money and spend less than you make and keep it safe by

Depositing the Surplus in

The Farmers & Merchants National Bank of Merkel

One of the strong and conservative banks of West Texas

Under careful and expert management and direction

We Solicit Your Business On

The Record We Have Made

4% Interest On Deposits In Our Savings Department.

We have for rent 50 modern two-lock safety deposit boxes.

Secure one and keep your deeds, bonds, and records absolutely safe and strictly confidential.

COME IN and TALK it over.

Never missed a dividend—Never assessed a shareholder

CARD OF THANKS

We take this method of extending our thanks and appreciation of the many kind acts and words of consolation extended us during the recent illness and death of our precious baby girl, by the good people of Merkel. We also extend our thanks to Drs. Grimes and Cranford and lady nurse, for their faithful and untiring services. Mr. and Mrs. H. J. Hignight.

DIED

Dorles Madge, the 5 year old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. H. J. Hignight, died at the residence of Mrs. Friar where they were rooming, on Edwards street, about 10:30 o'clock Sunday night with congestion. The body was shipped Monday night to Arkadelphia, Arkansas, for burial accompanied by its parents.

Get your meat at Hughes. We have Texas and Ohio salt. 1tp.

Ford
Truck Chassis
#370

Flare board body type, ideal for packers, plumbers and others handling heavy merchandise. Body types to meet every hauling requirement can be supplied.

A dividend-paying business utility—a title the Ford One-Ton Truck has earned for itself through years of reliable service in diversified lines. Powered by the famous Ford Model T engine through the Ford planetary transmission and special Ford worm gear, it brings to the business man his delivery service the abundant power, reliable operation, and real economy for which the Ford product is notable everywhere.

It carries its load day in and day out with a minimum of attention. Its ease of handling adapts it for use in the limited areas about loading docks, warehouses and construction locations. Giving rapid, dependable hauling service at low initial cost, and at the lowest possible expense for operation and upkeep, it pays the highest dividend on the investment of any motor transportation equipment available to the business world.

MERKEL MOTOR CO.
Ford
CARS · TRUCKS · TRACTORS

REPAIR PARTS
Genuine Ford Parts Only. The most complete and best equipped parts department in Merkel.

The Auto Owner's Department Store

TIRES AND TUBES
Firestone Cord Tires
Vacuum Cup and Oldfield Fabric Tires
Each the best buy in its class. Fresh stock, fully guaranteed.

A store within a store; that is our big, busy auto supply department. Here you will find everything that will enhance the value or add to the pleasure of your car. We stock on-

ly items of proven merit, and every transaction is backed by a record of over twenty-five years of better service.

TOOLS TOOLS	OILS AND GREASE	TRIMMINGS	ACCESSORIES
Pumps, Jacks, Special Wrenches, Special Tools We can fit anything from a Ford to a Pierce Arrow	Cup Grease, Gear Grease, Motor Oil, Spring Oil Only the Best Products Sold Here	Top Material, Top Recovers, Side Curtains, Upholstering Seat Covers, Cushions Mats, Effecto Enamel, Marvel-o	Fox Locking Wheels, Motometers, Locking Radiator Caps, Visors, Fender Braces, Bumpers Clocks, Speedometers, Spotlights. A complete Line. Let us Show You.

-- Buy your accessories and supplies where you have a complete line from which to choose. --

West Company

"We Sell Everything But The Car."

HIRED FIDDLERS MUST BE PAID OFF

If it is true "the least governed are the best governed," then we, the people of the United States, are drifting away from the ideals of our forefathers, and are developing a bureaucracy out of the simple and effective form of government which we inherited.

The National Industrial Conference Board of New York, is the authority for the statement that the people of the U. S. are now paying out annually the sum of \$3,800,000 in salaries to those who occupy some Government position, either National, State, county or municipal, and that the expenses incurred by these office holders in the performance of their duties will amount to several hundred million more. According to

a recent published statement, one person out of every twelve sixteen years of age or over, engaged in a gainful occupation, is on the public payroll.

The American people are now paying out the huge sum of nearly \$4,000,000,000 to public employees, or approximately \$3-6.50 per capita and \$91 for every person over ten years of age who is gainfully employed. Exclusive of pensioners there are 2,700,000 public servants drawing pay. There is one public servant for every forty persons, women and children and the usual figure for average families, every eight heads of families support an office holder and his family.

These figures show to what length the people of this country have gone in establishing new commissions, new bureaus and new ways of destroying initiat-

ive on the part of the individual. The figures should prove startling enough to cause those who read them to give the matter serious consideration. But will they? Congress will be in session again in a few months and the various State Legislatures will assemble and these bodies will be presented with numerous demands from organizations, cliques and uplifters for more laws which will call for new bureaus and new office holders, and then when it comes to pay taxes, they will forget their responsibility for the situation and protest as loudly and long as anybody else.

Americans are a law ridden people, and yet have less respect for law than any other person on earth. We demand laws and then refuse to obey them. We demand Government aid for everything from feeding a baby

to damming a mountain torrent. We hire sleuths and inspectors to shadow us and make us trouble and then kick because taxes are high. We have paid them in the past and will continue to pay them in the future unless voters about face and declare for a "Government of the People, by the People and for the People." We now have a Government of Bureaus, by Bureaus and for office holders.

A letter to the family here first of the week from Mrs. C. M. Largent who is in Dallas, states that Mr. Largent who had just had a cataract removed from one of his eyes, withstood the operation fine and was getting along nicely, all of which will be good news to the family's many friends here.

Read the Classified Column.



You May Talk to One Man

But an advertisement in this paper talks to the whole community.

Catch the Idea?

FARM FOR SALE

I am offering my well improved farm of 320 acres, 165 in cultivation, with 80 acres more suitable for cultivation for sale. Lots of wood, and fine grass. For price and particulars see the undersigned. The land is located five miles from Merkel R. B. Wells.

Dr. Chas. Williams, of Abilene, was here yesterday for a visit with his mother, as well as to mix with old friends. Dr. Williams was recently elected 1st. Vice President of the Electric Medical Association, at the annual meeting in Mineral Wells last week.

Buy a Radio Set to listen in during the cold months. Call at the Mail office and get particulars.

BIG RODEO AND BARBECUE

Celebrating The Opening Of The Roby And Northern Railroad

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 7th. 1923.

The Biggest, Little short line railroad in America. We want to show you the latest achievement in construction and equipment of the most modern and up-to-date railroad in all West Texas operated by electricity.

Entertainment for Everybody. The West Texas Utilities Company and the Business Firms of Roby invite the people of all West Texas to be at Roby for this big celebration. The eats are on us. We have ordered 6,000 pounds of barbecue. There will be plenty of eats for all.

The West Texas Utilities Company and the Business firms want you to come to Roby, the county seat of Fisher County, Texas, and spend one big day having a good time and celebrating with us.

Speaking by Prominent Men

Free Barbecue for Everybody

Amateur Rodeo Open to All--Five Grand Prizes Offered---Bronco Busting, Bull Dogging, Goat Roping and many other events.

MUSIC BY ONE OF WEST TEXAS' BEST BANDS

You Can't Forget The Place

Don't Forget The Date

Wednesday, November 7th., 1923

Prizes for Rodeo events include hand made handsome saddles, Navjo blankets, shop made bridles and other attractive prizes.

THE WEST TEXAS UTILITIES COMPANY

The Merkel Mail

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

SUBSCRIPTION \$1.50 PER YEAR
TELEPHONE No. 61

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

**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

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

Owing to the fact that I do not think it best that my boys Claude and Harrell run accounts and have goods charged to me, I hereby notify the business men and any others, that any goods bought by them and charged to me, without a written order from me, will not be paid for by me. Mrs. C. L. Cash

W. E. Perkins, formerly of the Mulberry Canyon, but for the past year residing in Comanche County, was here last week for a visit with home folks and friends. He had us put him down for the Mail another year while here.

**Plus-Value
RUGS**



Satisfactory Rugs must be pleasing in appearance and give long service.

You may choose the design and color to meet your requirements from the many we are showing, and we guarantee you satisfaction with the service you receive from your purchase.

Both domestic and foreign weaves from which to select, and sizes to fit most every room.

**DARSEY
Furniture Co.**

**Night
coughing—**

exhausts you so that you are more tired in the morning than when you went to bed. Dr. King's New Discovery stops coughing by gently stimulating the mucous membranes to throw off clogging secretions. It has an agreeable taste. All druggists.



MANY ODD WILLS

Spite Is Often Carried Beyond the Grave.

Ante-Mortem Vindictiveness Is Often Displayed in Last Testaments.

Spite is often carried beyond the grave, just another proof of the weakness of human nature. We might think that bitter feelings would die before the Grim Reaper, but there are many cases on record which disprove this.

Recently a wealthy man who died in New Jersey cut off his wife and daughter with a mere pittance. In leaving the latter \$2 1/2 a month, he explained that one pound is to remind her of the day she called him a "black pig," and another pound in honor of the time she hit him, while the 12s marked the occasion when she "complained" of his cough.

Wives have often come in for very rough handling in the wording of wills. A Bristol sailor left his widow in with which to buy nuts, as he asserted she took more pleasure in cracking them than in mending his stockings.

A certain Lieutenant Colonel Nash—no connection of Beau Nash—bequeathed to the ringers of Bath Abbey an annuity of £10 "provided they should muffle the clappers of the bells and ring them with doleful accentuation from 8 a. m. to 8 p. m. on each anniversary of his wedding day, and during the same number of hours, only with a merry peal, on the anniversary of the day which released him from domestic tyranny and wretchedness."

But a man need not actually have entered the bonds of matrimony to write vindictively of the opposite sex. Here is a clause from the will of an old bachelor: "I beg that my executors will see that I am buried where there are no women interred, either to right or left of me. Should this not be practicable in the ordinary course of things, I direct that they purchase three graves and bury me in the middle one of the three, leaving the two others unoccupied."

"During my married life," writes another testator, "I have always declared that my wife was the dearest woman in the world, and I am convinced that if any other should be so rash enough to marry her he will find her so. To deter as far as possible anyone from making such a ruinous experiment, I leave her nothing."

Another man left all his money to his wife, but stipulated that she should lose £200 every time she appeared in public unveiled, £200 every time she smiled at a man, and £1,000 if she allowed a man to use an endearing expression to her or to kiss her.

Meanest of all, however, was the man who left his wife one farthing with directions that it should be forwarded to her in an unstamped envelope.

One of the most vindictive wills on record was that of the famous Lord New—a very wealthy but sharp-tongued peer who, having neither wife nor child to annoy, took it out of his relatives. A sample item of his amazing will is as follows:

"By a previous will I had left £50,000 to my brother John, but as he has sent his son to Oxford instead of Cambridge, contrary to my expressed wish, I reduce his legacy to £200."—London Answers.

"Smiling, the Boy Fell Dead." Little Willie was the best brought-up youth in his community, but there were times when his training was strained. On one occasion his mother detected the odor of tobacco on his breath.

"Willie, you naughty, naughty boy!" he exclaimed. "You've been smoking. You'll be sick."

To which the polite child replied, sadly: "Thank you, mother, I'm dying."—American Legion Weekly.

Got What He Ordered. There is a New York scientist who is greatly interested in coal mining. He decided to subscribe to a press-clipping bureau, to get every new slant on coal. He said to the service bureau: "I want everything you can find about coal." The first clipping he got was an article about a man who was suing his wife for a separation because she bit him on the head with a lump of coal.

Awful Dishonesty. "You simply can't trust anybody nowadays. Everybody seems so dishonest. My maid, in whom I had the utmost confidence, left me suddenly and took with her my beautiful pearl brooch."

"That is too bad!" sympathized her friend. "Which one was it?"

"The very pretty one I smuggled through last autumn."

Conceited. "What makes you think he's conceited?"

"He told me this evening that he thought I ought to congratulate his boss on the fact that he had such a wonder in his employ."

Modern History. "Why do your pupils look so tortured?"

"They have to memorize the names of towns where peace conferences were held after the great war."—Zurich Nebelspalter.

CLASSIFIED ADS

FOR SALE

FOR SALE--Two horses 15 1/2 hands high, \$125.00; one mare, \$25.00; one four-year old mare mule, \$200.00; one two-year old mare mule, \$60.00; one deering Moore and Rake in good shape, \$60.00; one grain drill, \$12.50; one good 14-inch Sulkey Plow, \$25.00; one disc pulverizer, \$30, one walking 14-inch Middle buster, \$12.50. Will sell on fall time with approved notes. T. D. Compton, route three. Merkel. 19t3p

FORDS FOR SALE--Have some good Ford Cars for sale. Marvin Boney. tf.

FOR SALE--Choice White Holland Toms, \$5.00; hens, \$3.00 per pair, \$8.00. If shipped, postage and crating is extra. Mrs. C. E. Stamps, Merkel, Rt. one. 19t3pd.

FOR SALE--Good Radio Set, with or without Magnavox. Apply at Merkel Mail office. tf

FOR SALE--320 acres 5 miles west Merkel, 135 in cultivation 3 room house, well, cistern, barn, good school 1 1/2 miles from place. Part cash rest 1-2 years time. See J. A. Collins at Collins Hotel. 26t2

FOR SALE--My home place of 160 acres, about 90 in cultivation, fine well of water, 5 room house, cistern and barns near Shiloh Gin place. Can give some terms. Also have 160 acres of land near Brownfield, cheap. Sam Grayson. Phone 17. 26t2p.

FOR SALE--RANCH-- Now to the man who wants adandy stock farm, I have it. 861 acres, 3 miles east of Shep. One three and one four room house, two wells of finewater as well as running water, 180 acres in farm, and some more good farming land and all good grass land. I will sell it so cheap that you will feel like it was given to you. The man who now owns it is buying a larger place. A small payment and long time. Will take in exchange a small home in Merkel or a little farm, provided they are worth the money. See me. E. D. Coats. tf

FOR SALE--Giant Bronze turkeys of the very best type. Toms, \$7.00, hens, \$5.00. Come early so as to get your choice. Satisfaction guaranteed. Mrs. J. H. Madderra, Merkel, Texas. Route 5. 26t2p.

FOR SALE--A Fort Worth Style E Well drill with a good Hercules engine ready to go. Will sell cheap. Part cash and part on time. E. D. Coats. tf

FOR SALE--80 acres agricultural land, 25 acres in cultivation, 4 miles west of Merkel, near highway. \$40 an acre, \$200 cash, balance \$300 a year and interest. Dr. Miller. 1t

FOR SALE--Ford Roadster in good shape. See Sie Hamm at Sanders Drug Store. 1t.

FOR SALE--Good Seed Wheat, free from Johnson grass and weed seed, at \$1.10 per bushel. R. B. Wells. 1t

FOR SALE--House and Four lots close in. Would take a span of good mules as part of first payment. S. F. Haynes. 1tpd

FOR RENT

FOR RENT--Two good rooms for light house keeping. Mrs. S. F. Haynes. 1tp

FOR RENT--One or two nicely furnished rooms for light house keeping. See Mrs. M. D. Daniels, Oak street, Merkel, Texas. 1tp

LOST

LOST--Gentlemen's large gold finger ring with initial C en-

Many Big Specials

In order that we might be prepared with a full and complete stock of every item needed to fill your wants during the cold, wet weather now upon us, we have this week received by express, many big specials; just the things you will want to keep you warm and dry during the wet, cold weather, and which makes our stock of merchandise complete. In fact we can yet fill your every want for the entire family.

In shoes we can fit every member of the family; likewise in clothing for men, women and children we are well stocked. And our stock of blankets are the best ever offered when the quality and price are considered.

SATURDAY SPECIALS

One big assortment of Dress Gingham for Saturday only, well worth 25c the yd., will sell at 15c the yd. Also one case of 36 inch brown domestic, well worth 22 1-2 cents the yd., for Saturday only at 15c the yd., as long as it lasts.

Max Mellinger
THE STORE ON THE CORNER

graved in old English for set, also Odd Fellows emblem, 3 links, engraved on side. Finder return to C. C. Campbell at the Mail office and get reward. tf.

LOST--Front Curtain for a Ford Roadster. Lost on some of main streets of town. Finder leave at Merkel Mail office or bring to Clarence Hartline, Rt. 2. 1tp

LOST--Casing, rim, and inner Tube, size 33x4 for a Dodge Car, some where between White Church and Merkel. Finder will please return to McFarland Garage or John Ray's Store at Blair. A. A. Lindsey, Rt. 5. 1t

LOST--A white gold, diamond bar pin. Will pay reward for return of the pin to Dixie Howard at the Merkel Dry Goods Company. 1tp

STRAYED--A Mule, on Tuesday evening of this week, a dark brown mare mule, 5 years old, red trimmed, strayed from my place in Mulberry Canyon near Nubia. Anyone knowing of the mule will please notify Z. L. Cargill, Merkel, Route 5. 1tp

FIRST CLASS LAUNDRY SERVICE

If you want first class Laundry service we do it. Any and all kinds of it. Cleaning and pressing, dyeing at reasonable prices. Semi-Finish, or family washing everything included except Silk goods, at 10 lb. minimum, 10 cents per pound. Phone 218 or leave at Petty's West's or City Barber Shop. tf

Mrs. F. A. Polly and little son Winston motored over to Albany last Tuesday to visit her sister, Mrs. Edd Nobles, who returned home with her and spent a few days. Mrs. Nobles has now gone to Mexia to join her husband where they will make their future home.

W. H. Brunson, a well to do stockman and banker, of Midland was a guest last week in the home of Mr. and Mrs. H. M. Rainbolt. tf.

The many friends of George Logsdan in this city regret to learn of the auto accident in which he was injured last Saturday in or near Abilene.

With every 25 cents worth of Nyal products purchased at the Merkel Drug Company we will give 100 votes in the beautiful Doll Contest. tf.

Mr. C. P. Hendricks traveling representative for one of the big candy companies, has our thanks for another's years subscription to the Mail.

Mr. M. L. Estes has our thanks for a subscription to the Mail which he sends to his son, L. L. Estes at Plainview.

L. C. Patton another splendid citizen on route four was in the city yesterday and has our thanks for his renewal to the Merkel Mail.

REBUILT TYPEWRITER BARGAINS

(Terms like Rent) Special Discount for Cash UNDERWOODS REMINGTONS L. C. SMITHS WOODSTOCKS ROYALS OLIVERS ALL MAKES

USED MACHINES ACCEPTED AS FIRST PAYMENT Satisfaction Guaranteed or Payment Refunded

WE REPRESENT JOHN YORK OF DALLAS TEXAS

Tutt's Pills

The first dose astonishes the invalid, giving immediate relief, regulating bowels and digestive organs, inducing

GOOD DIGESTION

**REAL ESTATE, FARM LOANS
FIRE INSURANCE**

There is just one day when it is wise to insure. Yesterday is gone. Tomorrow may be too late. Today, the day Before you may suffer a loss by fire, or Theft, is the one wise day to cover yourself fully with insurance.

Today we can protect you from tomorrow's possible loss. Today is the only day you can be sure you are in time. Call on us today--be insured in time.

W. O. BONEY
MERKEL, TEXAS

Consult your Insurance Agent as you would your Lawyer.



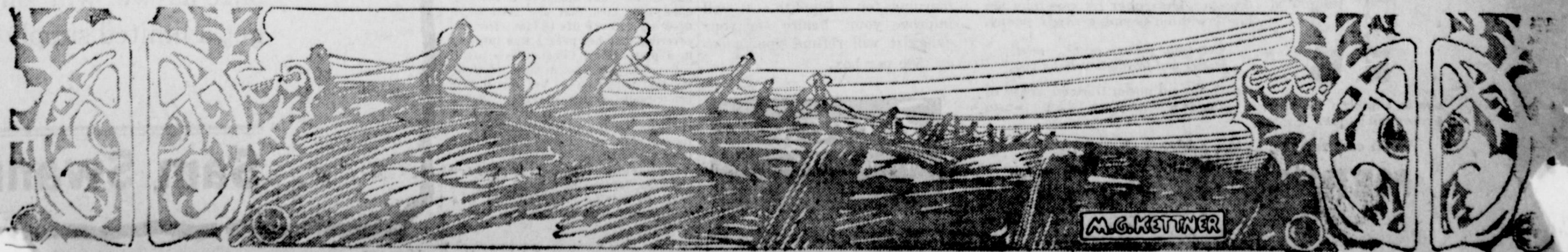
Christmas is Coming-



And all discriminating people make their selection of Greeting Cards early. We have just received our Exclusive Line and will soon put them on display and arrange them for your inspection. For those who desire a special greeting, we have blank cards and can print anything on them you wish. See our line.



Merkel Mail Ptg. Co.



Our Grandmothers Never Dreamed
of a Stove Like This--

Special Demonstration

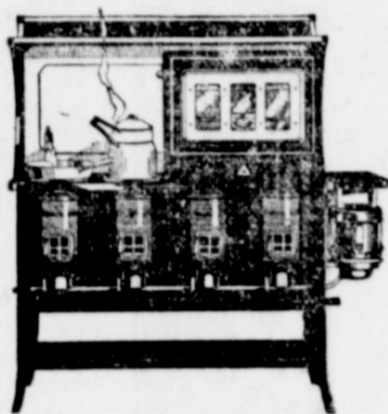
On Nov. 3rd. from 2:30 to 6 p.m.

of

NEW PERFECTION

Oil Cook Stoves and Ovens

A model for every purpose--Camping, yachting, laundry, etc.
as well as the regular kitchen stoves and ranges



A representative direct from the manufacturers will be in charge. Here's an opportunity to actually see for yourself both the famous Blue Chimney Model and the newest New Perfection with the Superfex Burners, given many tests.

Speed--Quick Lighting--Flame Control--Ease of Operation--Baking, etc.
will all be demonstrated

This is a SPECIAL INVITATION to attend this demonstration
It will be worth your while and instructive--We hope you come.

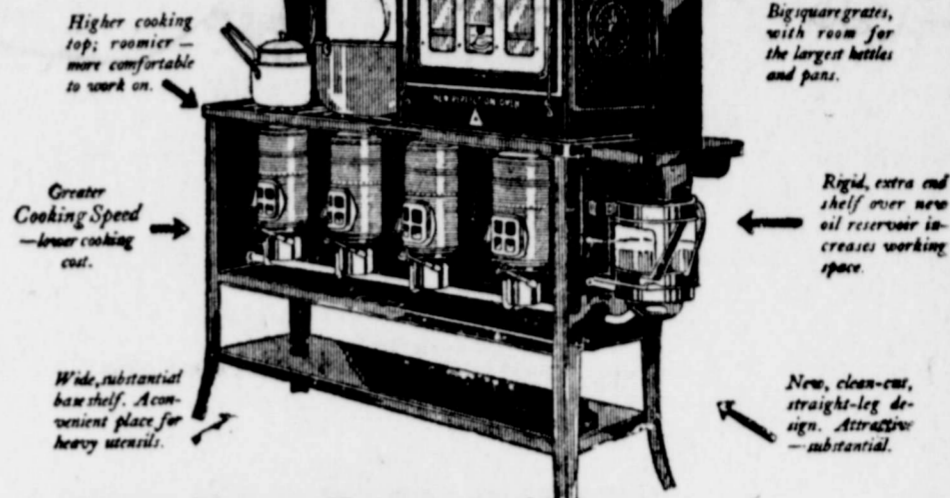
Every adult visiting our store at time stated, will be given a chance on a white enameled Perfection Heater that will be given away at 6 p. m. sharp.

Crown Hardware Company

Improved

Blue Chimney

New Perfection



Gives You a Faster and Finer
Oil Stove at Popular Prices

NEW PERFECTION Oil Range
with SUPERFEX Burners



Wearisome coughing--

need not be endured long. Dr. Bell's Pine-Tar Honey will stop it quickly by clearing away the heavy phlegm and reducing inflammation in your chest and throat. It combines just such modern medicine as your doctor prescribes--with the soothing pine-tar honey that generations have relied upon to break up coughs. Keep Dr. Bell's on hand for all the family.

All druggists. Be sure to get the genuine

DR. BELL'S Pine-Tar Honey

Junior B.Y.P.U. Program

Study: "A Sling, a Boy, and God."

President in charge.

1. Prayer.
2. Song "Onward Christian Soldiers."
3. Business.
4. Group Captains in charge.
- a. Introduction, Mary Ellen Ashby. b. The Challenge, Ava McCandless. c. David Visits His Brother, Mildred Bird. d. David asks questions, J. D. Ashby. e. David is taken to Saul, Iris Garrett. f. When Goliath Saw David, Thelma Miller. g. David's Victory, Dorothy Daniels. h. Scripture reading as follows: Psalm 27:1, J. D. Ashby, Psalm 17:20,21, Mildred Bird; John 14:13,14, Iris Garrett; Phil. 4:13, Dorothy Daniels.
5. Leader takes charge.
 1. Leaders ten minutes.
 2. Sword drill.
 3. Closing prayer.

It is now being asked, will business houses close for Armistic Day? This question comes up every year, and there is always some dissention and dislikes about closing for this day as well as for Thanksgiving, Fourth of July Etc. Of course the stores have nearly always closed for Armistic Day here before and this paper will be glad to make the announcement this time as usual, provided some one will give us the facts.

Read the Classified Column.

Ferrasal Relieves Man Loseing Position

"About three weeks ago I was nearly down with indigestion and almost unable to hold my position. Have been bothered with indigestion, gas, etc., for years, started to taking FERRASAL and began to improve from the very first dose. And now I haven't felt better in several years, and gained seven pounds in the last two weeks.

A. Dee Phelps.

517 Liberty St., Dallas, Texas. Excess acid causes indigestion. FERRASAL neutralizes this acid at the source and aids nature in passing it out of the system. If neglected, excess acids often result in ulcers, cancer, chronic bowel disorders, catarrh, constipation, kidney trouble and rheumatism. Take FERRASAL regulary night and morning for a month. It will improve your health or your druggist will refund your money. 50c per box.



50c per box at Merkel Drug Co.

LURED PIRATE TO HIS DOOM

Bellamy Betrayed by Captured Sea Captain Who Feared He Would Plunder Provincetown, Mass.

In his history of the Massachusetts Bay colony, Governor Hutchinson tells of the notorious pirate Bellamy, who, in 1717, was decoyed to his doom by the captured captain of a now obsolete craft called a "snow." Bellamy had promised to give back the snow if the captain would pilot him safely into harbor. But the good captain, fearing the pirate meant to plunder Provincetown, hung his lantern in the shrouds just as a violent storm arose, and nudged the shore, with the pleasing result that Bellamy's whole fleet was wrecked, and many of the pirates who were not drowned were executed by the town fathers.

Alden's "Collection of Epitaphs" says that for many years after his shipwreck a man of a very singular and frightful aspect, who was supposed to have been one of Bellamy's crew, used, every spring and autumn, to be seen traveling on the cape. Aged people related that he frequently spent the night in a private house, and that, wherever the Bible or any religious book was read, or any family devotion performed, he invariably left the room.

It was also stated that during the night it would seem as if he had in his chamber a legion from the lower world, for much conversation was overheard which was boisterous, profane, blasphemous and quarrelsome in the extreme.—Detroit News.

RULER ORDERED WIFE SLAIN

Emperor Constantine Had Faustina Smothered to Death Because She Accused Stepson.

Flavia Maximinna Faustina was the second wife of Constantine the Great. In the year 306 her father took her to Gaul, where he gave her in marriage to the Emperor Constantine. She was for a long time a most exemplary wife and mother. Her devotion to her husband was such that she even sacrificed her father's life to him, after discovering that her parent was involved in a plot against Constantine's life.

Faustina has been accused of staining the last years of her life by the commission of many crimes, among others that of causing the death of Crispus, the son of Constantine by a former wife, by making false accusations against him.

Constantine revenged himself on Faustina for having caused his son's death by having her suffocated in a warm bath.—Detroit News.

Mr. J. B. Rosson, of Trent, Route two, was in the city yesterday, and while here dropped in to have the Merkel Mail come to his address. He also reports Mrs. J. J. Stallings, Fort Worth here on a visit to her many friends, and to look after her farms which Mr. Rosson reports having rented for the next year.

It is always better for the borrower and for the depositor to do business with a conservative bank. The Farmers and Merchants National Bank solicits your business on that basis and will have plenty of money to supply the needs of its customers.

Miss Lillie Benard of Dallas, spent a few days with Mr. and Mrs. W. L. Burns of this city, while enroute to Escota, where she will teach in the schools again for the third year.

The varied services of the Farmers and Merchants National Bank are at the service of the community. If you are in doubt about the policy and services of the Bank come in and talk it over.

We are informed that Miss Proctor of this city is one of the splendid teachers of which there are three in the Compere School and which began for the 1923-24 term on last Monday.

Notice! to Farmers

who want Kasch cotton seed direct from Ed Kasch, see me at once as we will only get a limited supply

Sam Swann

WHO WANTS ME?



I am one of
**Madame Hendren's
Twenty Dollar Dolls**

I walk—I talk and go to sleep when you want me to. I will be given away Absolutely FREE!

With each twenty-five cent purchase of Nyal Toilet Products made at our store between now and Dec. 1st, you receive 100 votes. The little girl having the largest number of votes to her credit on December 1st can take me home without paying a single penny.

Get your father, mother, sister, brother and friends to vote for you.

Any little girl under thirteen years of age is eligible. Enter your name as a contestant. Don't waste a moment's time.

You can see me at the address shown below.

MERKEL DRUG CO.
Merkel, Texas

COZY THEATRE

Matinee Saturday 2 to 5:30

Friday PETE MORRISON in "DANGEROUS LOVE" Also— Christie Comedy And— Travelogue	Saturday "THE THREE BUCKAROOS" A Western Special Produced by the American Film Corporation Also— Fox Sunshine Comedy And— Mutt and Jeff
Monday and Tuesday "THE SONG OF THE SOUL" A Goldwyn Special with an All-Star Cast Also— Good Comedy And— Sport Review	Wednesday and Thursday A PARAMOUNT FEATURE Also— Christie Comedy And— Travelogue

Senior B. Y. P. U. Program

1. Learning to be content, Philippians 4:10-20. Leader, Bill Haynes.
2. Contentment and happiness, Selena Teaff.
3. Content but not complacent. Lillian Craig.
4. The beggar and the king—Grady Collins.
5. Worry hinders growth, by Warren Smith.
6. Contentment essential to Service, Ola Sharp.

Our good friend and excellent citizen Taylor F. Davis of route three will be among those to receive the Mail another year.

CARD OF THANKS

We take this method of expressing our sincere thanks and appreciation to our friends and neighbors for every kindness and favor extended during the recent illness and death of our beloved wife and mother. May the Lord bless and care for each and every one of you, is our sincere prayer.

J. C. Moore
 Mrs. L. P. Jones
 J. C. Moore and family.

JUST RECEIVED—A CAR OF COLORADO LUMP COAL, Will Unload Friday and Saturday. CLIFFORD ROSE. 212.

With every 25 cents worth of Nyal products purchased at the Merkel Drug Company we will give 100 votes in the beautiful Doll Contest.

Elder W. G. Cypert will leave Saturday for Rotan to hold services Sunday morning and evening.

Will sell you a good Radio set cheap, aerial and everything. Apply at Mail office. tf

Intermediate League Program

Subject: Heroes of Faith, Bishop Walter R. Landreth. Leader: Stella Wilson. Song and prayer. Scripture Lesson by Leader Matt. 23:12; 10:39. A standard of greatness, Marsie Chaney.

The early life of the hero, Stella King. As a Bishop, Clara Lee Tarbuton.

A true hero goes to his reward, Intha Bird. What of the Church? by Anna Lou Russell.

Announcements; benediction. Every one is urged to come to League Sunday. We also have a rehearsal of the pageant.

LADIES!! New arrival of coats and dresses. You will like the low price.—Brown Dry Goods Company. It.

Mrs. H. B. Hill of Columbus, writes to send her the Merkel Mail for the next year, for which we are thankful.

Take your Eggs, Butter Etc. to Hughes Grocery. Itp

A GOOD WAY TO UPSET PRICES

Further Exposures of How Edison-Ford Money Plan Would Fail to Aid Farmer.

The way the Edison-Ford "commodity money" scheme, aimed to stabilize monetary values, would have exactly the opposite effect, is discussed in the present article, which is the second in a series prepared by the American Bankers Association, reviewing the exposure of the weaknesses of the plan as presented by William T. Foster, Director of the Pollack Foundation for Economic Research.

Briefly stated, the Edison-Ford plan provides for Government warehousing of basic commodities, against which currency would be loaned to the producer without interest, up to half the average value of the products for the previous twenty-five years. This currency would be cancelled as the commodities were withdrawn and passed into trade. On the other half of the value the producer would receive "equity certificates" which he could sell or use for bank loans. On these points Mr. Foster says:

Upsetting Price Equilibrium
 "Steady price levels depend mainly on the balance between the volume of goods on the market and the volume of money offered for goods. The Edison plan is designed expressly to upset the balance. A farmer delivers, say, two thousand bushels of wheat to the Government warehouse and the Government delivers one thousand dollars in new money to the farmer. When the farmer sells the wheat he repays the loan and the Government destroys the money. Thus the volume of money is increased precisely when goods are stored; and the volume of money is decreased precisely when these goods are marketed. In other words, each transaction begins by placing in circulation goods without money to match the goods. Dollar demand is created as the supply of goods is withdrawn; the supply of goods is created as dollar demand is withdrawn.

"Would it enable the farmer to borrow more money on his products than he can now borrow? When Mr. Edison contends that farmers would obtain larger loans on their crops than they can now obtain from banks, he is confronted by this dilemma: Either the banks are now refusing to make sound loans, or, under the Edison plan, the Government would make unsound loans.

"Neither Mr. Edison nor Mr. Ford can consistently contend that banks now refuse to make sound loans, for that is the way banks make most of their profits, and Mr. Edison and Mr. Ford have no doubt that banks are conducted for profit. It follows that the plan would yield larger loans to farmers only if the Government met the risks of unsound banking. In that case all that insolvent borrowers gained would be paid by the rest of the population, which, to say the least, is not a fair deal.

Cutting Down Farm Credit
 "Apparently, however, the Government is not expected to run many risks, for the farmer is allowed to borrow an amount no greater than one-half the average value of his product for the previous twenty-five years. But prices have risen so high since 1896 that the farmer could borrow on most products much less than half the present value of the products. It would be much less, therefore, than the farmer could borrow directly from the banks on graded products; on products not graded no Government loans would be made, for there would be no way of determining the twenty-five-year price average.

"However, the farmer, having obtained the stipulated Government loan on his goods, could then offer his equity certificate to a bank for an additional loan. But the equity certificate is virtually a second mortgage, and no bank would prefer a second mortgage to a first mortgage.

"Suppose the Old National Bank was willing to lend a farmer eight hundred dollars on one thousand bushels of wheat. Suppose, however, the farmer deposited the wheat in a Federal warehouse and obtained five hundred dollars from the Government. Certainly the bank would not lend the farmer three hundred dollars on the equity certificate. The protection of the bank would be greater if the farmer relied on the bank for the entire loan; for in that case the bank could realize on its security without being obliged to pay five hundred dollars to get the wheat out of Government storage. The farmer can now borrow more money from a bank on standardized farm products than under the Edison plan."

GETTING TOGETHER

"The earth and the fullness thereof" is the primary source of capital. The farmer, therefore, is the nation's greatest producer of wealth. Farming and banking—production and distribution—should go hand in hand. The problems of the farmer are the problems of the banker. Both are vitally concerned in bringing about a proper adjustment of transportation and marketing costs. The increasing tendency toward a more sympathetic understanding of each other's relation to these problems is one of the very encouraging signs of the times, and will result in further advancement of their mutual interests.—Walter W. Head, First Vice President American Bankers Association.

OUR REPUTATION and Your Health

We are interested, professionally, in just two things: the health of those whom we serve, and our own reputation, each is dependent upon the other. Unless your health can be restored by our work, then our reputation cannot be made and held. Inversely, if our reputation is lost; it must be because the health of our patrons has not been restored. Again, if our reputation is held and increased, it must be because the health of our patrons has correspondingly improved.

THINK IT OVER AND INVESTIGATE

BUSBY, CROWDER & HOWARD

Chiropractic Masseurs.
 Office at the Collins House, Phone 73.
 Merkel, Texas

NOTICE! NOTICE!

Will thank the person who picked up my auto jack from where same was left a short distance north of my car shed in the road, to return same to me. T. F. Harrell. Itp

The many friends of Mr. Sam Foster, who with his son Clyde was injured some weeks ago in a motor cycle wreck, will be glad to learn that he is now at home from the Sanitarium at Sweetwater, where he was confined for several weeks, and is thought to be getting along nicely.

Read the Classified Column.

J. N. CARSON GROCERY

To all the Good People of Merkel and the surrounding country: I thank you for the nice business you gave me on my opening day. I assure you that I appreciate and will never forget it. I am among you to stay and my motto will be to sell you Groceries at the

Very Lowest Prices Possible and give you the very best service that I am capable. I have many years experience in this business and pay cash for all my purchases and the lowest prices get my business, and I promise you whenever I can get a lower price on any item to share it with you. Anytime you you get anything at this store that Quality or Price does not satisfy you don't hesitate to return and get the purchase price. I also stand ready and willing at anytime to correct any mistakes, and want and will appreciate your business. I will serve

Cakes and Coffee Saturday, and this is a special invitation for you to come.

SPECIAL PRICES OFFERED you again.

J. N. CARSON

Across the Street from the Postoffice.

A Tax Free Investment

The 7% Cumulative Preferred Stock of the American Public Service Company is free from all taxation in Texas, and is also exempt from the normal Federal Income Tax. Dividends are payable quarterly on the first day of January, April, July and October.

The American Public Service Company has Never Failed to PAY when due the Quarterly Dividend on its Preferred Stock

For the quarter ended August 1, 1923, the output of electrical energy by the operating companies of the American Public Service Company, of which the West Texas Utilities Company is one, was 31.5% larger than for the corresponding quarter of 1922. This fact speaks most emphatically of the progress and prospects of the Company.

There is practically an unlimited field for the successful development of the electric light and power industry. The Preferred Stock of the American Public Service Company, which is engaged in this business, is an attractive investment offering safety of principal and regular dividends.

Stock may be purchased for cash, or on the part payment plan, the liberal features of which will be explained upon application at any office of this

West Texas Utilities Co

Abilene	Clyde	Lawn	Ovalo	Roby	Stamford
Albany	Cross Plains	McCauley	Pioneer	Rochester	Sylvester
Anson	Goree	Merkel	Plasterco	Rotan	Trent
Baird	Hamlin	Moran	Putnam	Itala	Tuscola
Buffalo Gap	Haskell	Munday	Rising Star	San Angelo	Wimbert
Cisco	*West Texas Ice Company				

MANIA FOR SPEED

French Drive Autos at Reckless Rate Down Mountains.

Writer Says Passengers Touring the Alps Sit Helpless and Trust to Luck and Skill

"The motor coach accidents which have occurred recently in the south of France do not surprise me in the least," writes a correspondent. "Having just returned from motoring over a number of mountain passes, I have had enough thrills to last me for a while.

"It was risky enough dodging the taxicabs in Paris, where apparently the speed limit is unknown, but on the steep gradients and zig-zags of the French Alps the danger becomes much more acute.

The pedestrian in Paris can, with some agility, escape with a whole skin, but a passenger in one of the motor coaches which make a feature of climbing several Alpine passes in the day can only sit helpless and trust to luck. The surprising thing is that accidents are not more frequent.

"French motor drivers have a passion for speed, and when two cars meet on a hairpin bend, with a very narrow road surface and a precipitous drop of some hundreds of feet on the one side, the situation is rather unpleasant for the car on the outside edge, and decidedly thrilling for the passengers. When taking such a curve at speed, as is often the case, it is simply a matter of nerve and steady steering that pulls one through, as a sudden application of the brakes might send the car skidding into space.

"French drivers take risks that would appal an English motorist. They rush down steep mountain roads, following each other in a dense cloud of dust, or dash out of brilliant sunshine into dark tunnels at a pace that makes one gasp.

"It all seems so reckless, and yet it is really perhaps the most expert driving in Europe. One's feelings of thankfulness at being landed whole at one's hotel door are mixed with a profound admiration of French skill in meeting road emergencies, but also with a distinct preference for the slower but safer driving to which we are accustomed at home."

Suburban Life Not All Roses.

Most young married couples sooner or later get the desire for "a little place in the suburbs with a bit of ground around it." Sometimes their wishes are realized, sometimes they go to the end of their days with their dreams unfulfilled. Those who attain their goal generally find that suburban life is not all as they had pictured it. It is usually friend husband who has his eyes opened more than friend wife.

Friend husband lives and learns a great many things. Even if he has a little more money than the average he finds it's up to him to know how to do a lot of plumbing jobs, carpentry jobs and to learn something of electricity, for help in the suburbs along these lines is not always available.

Friend husband grumbles, especially to friend wife. But he learns and he does what's expected of him. He has his reward in turning patronizingly to his fellow worker who has not yet fallen for the country and saying, "You ought to live out of town, old man. Nothing like it in the world."—New York Sun and Globe.

Mails Were Accommodating.

An Irishman was astonished to receive the following letter from his son in London:

"Dear Father—I am in a deuce of a hole. Kindly send me £10, and oblige—Your loving son, Pat.

"P. S.—After writing this letter I was so stricken with remorse that I ran after the postman and tried to get it back. I can only pray that it will not reach you."

But who could be more astonished than the son when he received this reply:

"Dear Son: Your prayers are answered. The letter did not reach me. Father."—London Tit-Bits.

He Won.

The recently announced engagement of a widely known man about town to a young woman who lives in Watts brings to light, if his closest friend can be believed, a new angle in successful courtship. Said friend gives the inside dope on the proposal as follows:

"If you would marry me, it would make me quite happy."

"My dear Bob, happiness is gained in the pursuit of something, not in the catching it."

"That's not so!" cried Bob. "You've never chased the last car out of this town on a rainy night!"—Los Angeles Times.

Still Musical.

Two men who had been old school fellows met in a restaurant. After exchanging greetings, one said:

"By the way, old chap, when at school you used to be rather fond of music. Do you play any instrument now?"

"Yes," was the reply; "second fiddle at home."

His Idea of Substitution.

"So the Lord has sent you a little sister instead of the brother you asked for?" said the kindly neighbor.

"Yes."

"I suppose you are just as pleased?" "Just as pleased? I should say not. I suppose this Christmas if I ask for a jack knife they'll give me a doll buggy."



Ladies Coats Marked Special

One Rack of 35 Ladies and Misses Coats, ranging in price from \$10.00 to \$25.00, priced for quick selling at only \$8.75 to \$16.75

MILLINERY SPECIALS

—Fifty Ready-to-wear and trimmed Hats, all New this week, at \$1.50 to \$4.95
A Big Showing of Hats at \$6.95

LADIES SUITS

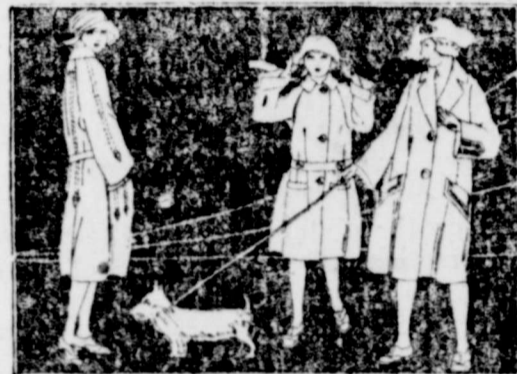
—All Marked Special. One lot of Ladies Suits, good Styles, all wool materials, and worth up to \$24.75, now specially Priced at \$12.75

SPECIAL PRICES IN OUR MENS SECTION

—Our Mens Section is overflowing with Quality Merchandise priced for quick turn over. Come and see.
—Special Prices of 25c and 50c on small Boys Hats.

Extra Special Prices

on
Ready-to-wear and Millinery
for
Saturday and Next Week
which means a real **Money Saving Week**



Childrens Coats

Our rack of 25 Childrens Coats, sizes 3 to 8, values to \$6.50, priced **\$2.95 & 3.95**

Woodroof-Bragg Co.

"The Place Most People Trade"

See the big doll in our show window to be given away on December 1st Merkel Drug Company.

LADIES!! New arrival of coats and dresses. You will like the low price.—Brown Dry Goods Company.

Come to the Merkel Mail office or your Counter Charge pads.

LAND! LAND!

Plenty of land yet for sale. I still have some of the best farms in the county and some of the best bargains to be had. Let me tell you about them. E. D. Coats.

Buy your canned goods at Hughes Grocery; five percent off.

NO HUNTING ALLOWED

This is to notify all hunters and the public in general that hunting, fishing, and trespassing on any lands owned and controlled by the undersigned is not allowed, and any person so doing will be prosecuted to the full extent of the law. This applies to one and all alike. J. E. Boaz.

A Banking connection next year may be very valuable to you. The farmers & Merchants National Bank will have plenty of funds to take care of all conservative business.

With very 25 cents worth of Nyal products purchased at the Merkel Drug Company we will give 100 votes in the beautiful Doll contest.

Ladies!! They Are Here.

We have just received by express a very large shipment of Coats and Dresses. They are the very latest creations, ranging in price \$9.00 to \$45.00, just the materials and style you have been looking for. We have made the price so low they will sell at once. Come early while assortment is good.

Also just received mens bootees, leather coats, mole-skin pants, wool shirts, Stetson hats, dress shoes, overcoats, and new all wool suits. Small profit marked on all the above for immediate sale.

Brown Dry Goods Co.

Quality Merchandise

HOME TOWN COMMANDMENTS

The following ten commandments adopted by an Illinois chamber of commerce might well be adopted by communities every where:

1. Thou shalt love thy home town above all other towns. Thou shalt be loyal to her people and her institutions.

2. Thou shalt guard thy home town from the hosts of evil that would invade and destroy her soul. Thou shalt keep the good name of thy home town clean and without stain or blemish.

3. Thou shalt elect as thy public servants men of strong character, eager to conserve the best interests of thy people. And when thou hast elected such men thou shalt stand to support and encourage them for their temptations are many and their burdens heavy.

4. Thou shalt exalt thy public school and honor it all the days of thy life with the best of teachers, buildings and equipment for school is the cradle of the future. Thy children are here and they shall be the leaders of tomorrow. No training is too good for them and no preparation superfluous.

5. Thou shalt defend the health of thy home from the death that lurks in marshes, swamps, and heaps of filth. Thou shalt exterminate the fly and the mosquito, for they carry typhoid and malaria. The tubercle bacillus shalt thou drive before thee with the sun and fresh air as thy allies.

6. Thou shalt build good roads and keep them good. For by her roads is a town known, for good or ill. "Eternal Watchfulness" shalt be thy motto, that thy roads may not ravel nor thy supervisor forget thee.

7. Thou shalt keep thy home town beautiful. The hills, the trees, the waters that Nature has given her thou shalt preserve in sacred trust. No hovel shalt thou permit to disfigure them. Thou shalt keep thy homes and door yards clean and cheerful. Thy waters shalt thou purify that they may bring thee life and strength. The future of the town shalt thou plan with care and diligence that thy growth be not haphazard, but full of thought and loving care, as the plans of a mother for the growth of her child.

8. Thou shalt honor thy community institutions. Thou shalt work together, with thy neighbors with all thy heart and strength and mind. Thou shalt work together in thy organizations and clubs for the common welfare. Thy leaders shalt thou learn to obey. Thou shalt serve on committees where thou shalt know one another better, thy work prosper, and thy friendship multiply.

9. Thou shalt be a good neighbor to all who live in thy home town, whether they be rich or poor. Thou shalt speak ill of none and good of many. Thou shalt be a friend to strangers and a visitor to the sick in their affliction.

10. Thou shalt go to church for the honor of thy home and for thine own good. Thou shalt not consider thy self too wise, too busy, to bad or too good to spend an hour or two on Sunday with thy neighbors in the worship of God. Thou shalt not send thy children to church. But thou shalt bring them there. Thou shalt offer thy self to thy spiritual leader for service of God, and thy community. So shall ye win many battles together.—The Southern Retailer.

J. T. Craddock, of Crawford, Texas, who has been here for several days attending the bed side of his sister, Mrs. J. W. Bland, who has been very sick for some time, left last night for his home; leaving his sister very much improved, we are informed.

LADIES!! New arrival of coats and dresses. You will like the low price.—Brown Dry Goods Company.