

CLOSING EXERCISES START HERE TONIGHT

The closing exercises of the Merkel Public Schools will begin tonight, Friday, May 22, and end with the graduation exercises on the evening of June 1st. No admission charges will be made for any of these exercises and the public is cordially invited to attend.

Miss Christene Collins will present the High School Glee Club and Choral Club in joint recital at the Grammar School auditorium on the evening of May 22nd, tonight. The following program will be rendered: Barcarolle, Choral Club.

Wake Miss Lindy, Choral Club. In the Garden of Tomorrow, by Ray Garrett.

Little Grey Home in the West, Clesby Patterson.

I Dunno', Mosquitoes, and High School Gang, by Boys Quartette.

Caro Mio Ben, Ruth Watts.

Where My Caravan Has Rested, Ruth Watts.

The World is Waiting For the Sunrise, Glee Club.

Croon, Croon, Underneath the Moon, Glee Club.

Jean, A. J. Tucker.

What a Wonderful World It Would Be, Fred Giles.

A night in Spain—

A Gypsy Maiden, I—Ruth Watts.

Carmina, Choral Club.

Gypsy Trail, Adrian Rea.

Gypsy Trail, Glee Club.

On Tuesday evening, May 26, Misses Gay and Tracy will present their piano and expression pupils in a program at the Grammar school auditorium.

On Friday evening, May 29th, the Grammar School graduation exercises will be held at the Methodist church. The class will render a short program, and Rev. C. H. Little, pastor of the Presbyterian church will deliver the address to the class.

On Sunday evening, May 31, Rev. Lewis N. Stuckey, pastor of St. Paul's Methodist church of Abilene, will preach the Commencement sermon. This exercise will also be held at the Methodist church. Yates Brown, Choir Leader of the Baptist Church, will have charge of the music for this occasion.

On Monday evening, June 1, at the Methodist church, the largest graduating class in the history of Merkel will receive their diplomas. Prof. Edgar Godbold, President of Howard Payne College of Brownwood, will deliver the address to the class of forty.

Detailed programs for the exercises of this week appear elsewhere in this issue of the Merkel Mail. The programs for the exercises of next week will appear in next week's issue.

Each of these programs will begin promptly at 8:30 o'clock.

Meeting at Compere

Our regular summer revival meeting at Compere will begin Saturday night before the second Sunday in July and continue through the following week. Rev. Ira L. Parrack of Gorman will do the preaching. We will be happy to have him with us at that time. Please remember the date, Saturday night before the second Sunday in July. W. H. Albertson, pastor.

Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Buford returned first of the week from an extended trip to Corpus Christi, where they enjoyed the great southern climate. Mr. Buford reports that country very dry, and crops almost certain to be a failure.

DISCT. CONFERENCE IN BIGGEST MEETING

The delegates and visitors from the First Methodist church South, of Merkel, to the Annual District Conference, held at Cross Plains last week, returned late Thursday evening saying that the meeting was one of the best and most successful they ever attended. The meeting was also very likely the largest in point of number in attendance, the cause of which was the question of Unification, for several months the uppermost thought in the minds of many lay members.

The meeting was presided over by Rev. W. E. Lyon, the very popular and excellent Presiding Elder of the Abilene District. From facts presented to the conference, the spiritual condition of the church over the district was shown to be in fine condition, and, we might say here, in many respects the Merkel church showed to be in the lead, standing third in record of attendance in the whole district.

The delegates were indeed glad to hear the fine report from Dr. J. W. Hunt, President of McMurry College, concerning the wonderful growth of this the youngest denominational college in this section of the state. Dr. Hunt is indeed a great and good man, and with the continued undivided cooperation of Methodism throughout this section, will undoubtedly soon be able to make of that College a school second to none. By a resolution from the committee on Lay Activities, he was pledged this help and cooperation.

Mrs. N. G. Rollins, the very popular and capable President of the Woman's Missionary Society of the North West Texas Conference, was also present, and delighted every one with a most glowing report of the great work this organization is doing under her able leadership.

Besides the above, there were many interesting sermons and addresses, but the grandest and most outstanding of them all was the great sermon by the Rev. Lewis N. Stuckey, pastor of St. Paul's church, Abilene. He is without doubt one of the ablest preachers in all the West. And we feel that it will not be amiss to mention here that Rev. Stuckey has been engaged to conduct the summer revival for the Merkel Methodist church. He will have with him as personal worker and choir director, Rev. T. W. Brabham, the very able pastor of the Cross Plains church, who is also one among the great revivalists of this section.

The closing acts of the conference was the unanimous election of Mr. L. R. Thompson, prominent local Lay Leader, as District Lay Leader of the Abilene District, as well as the election of a solid delegation of Anti-Unificationists as delegates to the Annual Conference which meets this year at Canyon, on November 11th.

Those attending the Conference from here were: Rev. T. J. Rea, Dr. and Mrs. M. Armstrong, Mrs. E. P. Beene, Mrs. George Brown, Mrs. L. W. Cox, W. H. Frazier, Mr. and Mrs. L. R. Thompson and Mr. and Mrs. Thos. Durham.

Mr. W. C. Church was also present as a delegate from the Methodist church at Stith, as was W. A. Harrison and Mr. Frazier from the White Church. Mrs. A. W. Ely was also among those attending the meeting.

Mr. and Mrs. Tom Hall and daughter of Dublin, Texas, came in Tuesday for a visit with Dr. and Mrs. M. Armstrong.

POULTRY BUSINESS IS GROWING HERE

That the poultry industry in the Merkel community during the past three years has been growing in leaps and bounds may well be judged by the following facts and figures as given us by Mr. I. S. Simpson, local manager for the Merkel Produce Company.

Mr. Simpson's books show that since February 14, 1923, when his company began operation here, to January 1, 1924, his company handled \$9,849.61 worth of poultry, eggs, etc. And from January 1, 1924 to December 31, 1924, a total of \$17,133.07 was the business for the year, a gain of about \$8,000 over the previous eight and a half months. From January 1, 1925, to May 18, 1925, the company did \$10,193.03 worth of business, just four months and a half, making a grand total for the past two years and four months of \$37,173.71.

This is certainly a fine showing for the poultry producers of this section, and besides the fact that they produced a supply of produce for their own use, they have also been a great factor in feeding the world, and at the same time helping very much to enlarge their personal bank account.

These facts also bring to mind the importance and necessity of every one getting behind the poultry industry and as the days come and go, help to make it a greater success.

The above figures are of the Merkel Produce Company only, and do not include business done by grocery stores and other dealers in poultry.

DEDICATE COMPERE CHURCH ON SUNDAY

Special dedication services and dinner served at the church will feature the all-day dedication services of the new Presbyterian church at Compere on next Sunday, May 24th.

The program will begin with Sunday School at 10 a.m. This will be followed by the special dedication sermon by Rev. Fred S. Rogers, pastor at Lamesa and formerly of Merkel. At twelve o'clock dinner will be served at the church to all who come. A preaching service will be had in the afternoon at three o'clock by the district missionary. Singing will also be enjoyed in the afternoon. The night sermon will be preached by Rev. Fitzgerald of Anson.

The new Presbyterian church has recently been completed at a cost of about \$3,250.00, is of wooden structure and will accommodate the present membership very nicely and fill a long felt need in that community. Sunday School services will be held in the church every Sunday morning and twice each month there will be preaching services by pastor Bryant.

The public is extended a cordial invitation to attend the dedication services next Sunday.

Mrs. Lizzie Armstrong of Houston is a guest in the home of Dr. and Mrs. Armstrong, being here to especially visit with her twin sister, Mrs. Mrs. N. J. Armstrong, who is Dr. Armstrong's mother and who lives in the Armstrong home. Both the above mentioned ladies who are twins are seventy-seven years of age.

Try a Classified Ad in the Mail.

IT'S OUR LARGEST GRADUATING CLASS

On Monday evening, June 1st, the largest graduating class in the history of Merkel schools will receive their diplomas. Dr. Edgar Godbold, president of Howard Payne College of Brownwood, will deliver the address to the class of forty graduates at the Methodist church.

The number of graduates from Merkel High School this year by far exceeds any previous year. With the wonderful training that these students have been able to have through the ability of those who are teachers, and with the enthusiasm and earnestness of the superintendent, R. A. Burgess, these students will be able to enter any university or college. That is a credit to the students and to the school. Too much praise cannot be given the superintendent, who has been with the school for many years, as well as the splendid work done by the other members of the faculty.

The members of the graduating class are: Gladys Breeden, Marvin Brookerson, Jewel Burns, Mary Butman, Mamie Coats, Vada Cole, Byrom Curb, Evelyn Curb, Eulala Deavers, Dorris Durham, Ray Garrett, Fred Giles, Effie Grayson, Lucille Guita, W. L. Harkrider, James Harris, Andrew Jones, Lois Higgins, Velma Holloway, Isabelle McAdams, Royce McDonald, Clyde Matthews, Mildred Matthews, Gladys Mayfield, Harold Miller, Leona Mullen, Clesby Patterson, Jarrett Pinckley, Pauline Pinckley, Ruth Pinckley, Nola Province, Hazel Lee Rainbolt, Ermalee Rea, Adrian Rea, Ona Faye Rose, Perry Shannon, Buford Smith, James Swann, Melba West, C. R. Williams, Stella Wilson.

On Sunday evening, May 31, Rev. Lewis N. Stuckey of St. Paul's Methodist church, Abilene, will preach the commencement sermon. This exercise will also be held at the Methodist church. Mr. Yates Brown of the Baptist church will have charge of the music.

Monday evening the class will receive their diplomas. Dr. Edgar Godbold, President of Howard Payne College, Brownwood, will deliver the address.

NINE GIVEN FREEDOM BY "MA" LAST WEDNESDAY

The gates of the State Penitentiary were opened to nine convicts on Wednesday, six men and three women, making a total pardoning record to date, according to the Fort Worth Star-Telegram, of 414 since Texas' first Woman Governor was inducted into office in January of this year, a period of about four months.

It may seem strange to you, and you may not like it, but that's the kind of administration that a majority of the voters of the state voted for, like it or not.

ACCEPTS PLACE WITH FARMERS STATE BANK

Mr. Bill Sheppard has accepted a position with the Farmers State Bank, and this week entered upon the duties of same, taking the place of Mr. C. L. McLeod, as bookkeeper.

Mr. Sheppard is a Merkel reared young man, and for several years was connected with one of the local drug firms, where by his courteous manners and efficient service, he won the esteem of a large circle of friends.

Trade Trip Picnic Urged By Citizen

A Merchants Picnic and Trade Trip Combined! An idea from our editor which is well worth our consideration. Come on let's get the moss off our backs and plan it. Let's loosen up and get some new ideas on building business for fall NOW. Let's look ahead.

QUARTETTE GIVES FINE PROGRAM

The High School Quartette gave a most splendid program Tuesday evening at the Grammar School Auditorium. This is the first year that M. H. S. has had a male quartette and the members of the group and their director, Miss Christene Collins, are to be commended upon the wonderful progress made in so short a time. Although the boys had not appeared in public very many times, they rendered their program in good style, and showed to have had much practice on their well arranged program.

The personnel of the quartette is as follows: First Tenor, A. J. Tucker; Second Tenor, Fred Giles; Baritone, Ray Garrett; Bass, Adrian Rea. Mr. Ray Garrett is business manager for the quartette, Miss Iris Garrett is accompaniste, and Miss Christene Collins is director. The program rendered was:

1. This and That.
2. The pretty Widow Brown.
3. The Girl with the Auburn hair.
4. Hens. Thumb Marks.
5. Give me Back my Dear Old Sunny Spain.
6. Envy.
7. All kinds of Women.
8. Solo, by Rag Garrett.
9. The Melancholy Evolution of Me, by Adrian Rea.
10. Solo, Miss Christene Collins.
11. At Harmond Junction.
12. Solo, by A. J. Tucker.
13. Land of My Sunset Dreams.
14. Pal of My Dreams—High School Gang.

MERKEL GIRLS AT C.I.A. IN AFFAIRS OF SCHOOL

Denton, Texas, May 20.—Miss Hattie Proctor of Merkel, a sophomore in the College of Industrial Arts, had a part in "The Torch-Bearers" presented recently by the C. I. A. Dramatic Club. The comedy was attended by a large group of students faculty members and townpeople.

Frequent training in dramatics is offered students at C.I.A. through plays staged in the big C.I.A. auditorium. Student roles vary from light parts to heavy character interpretations. All of this work is conducted under the direction of the C.I.A. reading department.

"Epaminondas and His Auntie," an old southern nonsense tale, was given by Miss Proctor of Merkel, at a recent recital staged by the C.I.A. reading department.

Misses Lois and Lorena Dry of Merkel, seniors at the college of Industrial Arts, are candidates for the degree of bachelor of science at the graduation exercises to be held June 2. Sixty-six bachelor of arts degrees and 131 bachelor of science degrees have been applied for, according to the registrar.

We regret to learn that Mrs. H. D. Clark is very sick at the family residence in the South-west part of the city, her condition being such that all the children have been called to her bedside.

Dora is the next station on our Trade Trip list and a community that we have long neglected and which has been to the gain of Sweetwater, Blackwell and Nolan.

Magnolia Jones says, "By all means we should go a hundred percent."

Ex-Mayor West says "Let's make this trip the feature of the season."

Here is the proposed plan as outlined to me by the editor: Let's ask every merchant in the town to close his business just one hour early on Friday, June 5th, and leave town promptly at five-thirty with a well filled lunch basket. Then say stop somewhere in the canyon or a sandwich lunch and from there on to Dora for the best program ever rendered on a trade trip.

It's been a long, long time since we have had an old fashioned Merchants Picnic, so why not make this a real one. Each merchant will show his neighborly spirit by asking his competitor who does not have a car to ride with him.

Let's have a conveyance committee to see that there is a representative from every business in town.

A committee from the Parent-Teachers Association to take charge of the lunch would add more to the success of this trip.

Shall we keep busy building our town all through the summer, or just let the laziness of hot weather gradually put us to sleep? Let's do something.

A. CITIZEN.

Mr. and Mrs. Emory McDonald, Mr. and Mrs. T. G. Bragg left Monday for a week's fishing and camping trip to the Llano river.

The Blue Bird says



The human crank is hard to turn. God made the country, but man put up the detour signs.

The income tax has been reduced, but most of us are now in reduced circumstances anyway.

There's nothing sure but death and taxes, according to the old saying. O, Death, where is thy sting? Gas will decide the next war, says an expert. It always has decided family battles.

Wonder what the German counterfeiter is doing for a living nowadays.

A 2-cent stamp will take your letter from Maine to California. If two cents will go so far in the Post Office Department, maybe Congress was justified in voting not to increase the carriers' pay.

If the foreigners who come over here in search of liberty find it we wish they would please let us know where.

Iceland wants prohibition. We are willing to give it to her. Don't take life seriously—you will never get out of it alive.

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Public Hearted

This bank has at all times stood by its depositors through thick and thin.

It has always met every fair demand upon it to help the people of Merkel.

And the strength behind this Institution in deposits, resources, and personnel which makes it a desirable banking home, assures the permanent maintenance of these policies.

We invite your business on our record.

FARMERS STATE BANK

A Guaranty Fund Bank
"The Bank That Helps You Get Ahead"

OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS
J. S. Swann, President J. C. Mason, Vice-President R. O. Anderson, Active Vice-Pres, W. L. Diltz Jr., Cashier Herbert Patterson, Assistant-Cashier. David Hendricks

HORN FOLKS WELCOME TRIPPERS

The Trade Trips by the business and professional men, which for some time have been made to the nearby school communities under the guiding hand of the Luncheon Club, have so far been very pleasant, entertaining and, in the minds of most of the people, very profitable.

The last trip was made to the Horn school community on last Friday evening, and was pronounced by many as being one of the very best yet held.

The meeting was held in the beautiful new Baptist church of that community, and besides a good attendance from the business interests, there was also a fine attendance from the splendid farmers and their excellent families of that community. And we might say here that the fine citizenship of that fertile and well developed country certainly did extend to their visitors every courtesy and kindness that it would be possible to find anywhere.

A very good program was given which included talks that were of interest to farmers and citizens alike. Mr. L. R. Thompson made the introductory talk. Dr. M. Armstrong told some interesting facts about community spirit along the good roads line. And Mr. J. C. Mason, with his usual wit and humor, delivered a very interesting and appreciated talk. He, like the other speakers, made it plain to the good people of that community that their trade would be appreciated by the banks and business interests of Merkel, and bid them a hearty welcome to our city whether they had business to transact or not. The coming Community Fair was a timely matter talk of by speakers. The large share that the farmers of each community are to have in the Merkel Community Fair, such as community booths, showing various farm products, prizes offered especially to the boys and girls in the better live stock line and many other features were explained.

As other means of entertainment, Messrs. Jack West and Delma Compton each gave a vocal solo and then a duet, and Misses Lola Dennis and Tommie Durham read. The numbers by the quartet composed of Messrs. John West, Harry Barnett, Dalma Compton and C. H. Jones were much enjoyed.

After the program was given, a get acquainted hour was spent. The next trip will be to Dora.

PERSONALS

Messrs. B. C. Gaither and L. A. Freeman left Tuesday for Lawrenceburg, Tennessee, where they will spend some time with old friends and relatives.

Mr. and Mrs. A. L. Barnett and Mr. and Mrs. Will Rogers and son of Synder, Texas, were here last Sunday visiting in the J. P. Hutchins home.

J. T. Coats and son, Lindon, Messrs. Monte Daniels, J. L. Beene and Homer Laney are on the Concho this week trying their luck among the finny tribe.

Miss Nell Barnes of Pecos City is here this week visiting Miss Velma Holloway.

Mrs. G. H. Cobb of Wichita Falls is the guest of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. L. M. Watkins, and daughter, Mrs. D. H. Vaughn.

Mr. and Mrs. R. A. Martin attended the funeral of Mrs. J. H. Warnick at Abilene last Thursday.

Mr. W. L. Diltz, Jr., Cashier of the Farmers State Bank, left Monday for Houston to attend the State Bankers convention.

SIMMONS ENTERS UNIVERSITY CLASS

Abilene, Texas, May 20.—An old time West Texas barbecue will be one of the attractions during the thirty-fourth commencement of Simmons College, to be held May 29 to June 4, at which time Simmons College will begin its career as a university. The commencement program will begin on Friday evening, May 29 with a concert by the Fine Arts department. On Saturday evening the fine arts exhibit will be displayed at the art building. The commencement sermon will be preached Sunday morning, the commencement speaker being Rev. A. C. Miller, pastor of the First Baptist church, Cisco, an alumnus of the institution.

Religious Pageant to be Given

On Monday evening, June 1, a religious pageant, "History of the Baptists" will be given on the campus. Several hundred people will be used in this pageant in which insight will be shown into early Christian customs, and the disadvantages under which early christians in America worshiped God.

On Tuesday, June 4th, the formal opening of the president's beautiful new home on the campus, will be held. The annual alumni banquet will be held on Wednesday evening.

Barbecue After Commencement

The commencement address will be delivered Thursday morning at the First Baptist church by Dr. Lincoln McConnell of Oklahoma City. Following this address about 100 students will have degrees conferred upon them. As a result of the filing of the new charter for Simmons at Austin a few days ago, which changes the name of the institution from Simmons College to Simmons University, the diplomas of the graduating class this year will have "Simmons University" on their diplomas.

Following the graduating exercises an old time West Texas barbecue will be spread on the university campus. The trustees are planning to make this one of the really big events of West Texas for the year. Thousands of friends of Simmons and hundreds of former students are expected to be present on this occasion to celebrate the beginning of Simmons University.

MRS. J. P. SUBLETT BURIED HERE MONDAY

Practically every one in Merkel, and scores of others from nearby communities were greatly saddened to learn of the death of Mrs. J. P. Sublett last Sunday evening, for Mrs. Sublett has lived here many years and was much loved by many, many friends and loved ones.

Funeral services were held at the Methodist church Monday afternoon at three o'clock. Rev. T. J. Rea, her pastor, was assisted in the services by Elder W. G. Cypert of the Church of Christ. Rev. Charles H. Little, Presbyterian pastor, read the 42nd Psalm for the scripture lesson.

Mary Emmalene Haynes Sublett was born August 4, 1866, in Smith County, Texas. In 1874 she came with her parents to Coryell county to make her home. There she was married to Mr. J. P. Sublett in 1881. To Mr. and Mrs. Sublett four boys and two girls were born, and are: B. T. Sublett, V. B. Sublett, Len Sublett, all of Merkel; George Sublett of Fort Worth; Mesdames W. J. Hayes, of Merkel, and S. M. Hunter of Quemado, New Mexico. All were present for the funeral.

Early in life Mrs. Sublett became a christian and joined the Methodist church. Of the many kind and honorable things that have been said of the deceased by her pastor, friends and relatives was that she practiced the true Christian ideals, was loyal to her church and her Saviour, was always at hand in sickness,

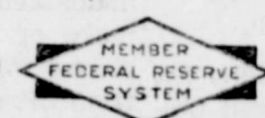
THE OLD RELIABLE FARMERS & MERCHANTS National Bank

Is exceptionally equipped in everything for your convenience, and in funds to take care of the requirements of its customers.

We solicit your business on the basis of a conservative and successful management for twenty-one years.

We invite you to visit us at any time you are in town, whether you are a customer or not. Ask us for a copy of our last statement.

J. T. Warren, Pres. L. R. Thompson, Cash.
Booth Warren, Ass't Cash. Owen Ellis, Ass't Cashier
DIRECTORS— J. T. Warren, Geo. F. West, L. R. Thompson, Sam Butman Sr., Booth Warren
Never Missed a Dividend
Never Assessed a Shareholder



Womans Missionary Society
The Missionary Society of the Methodist church had no meeting on last Monday afternoon. On next Monday afternoon we will have a lesson from the study. The lesson will be the 8th chapter. The Voice program will be combined with a business meeting on the first Monday. We are hoping the attendance will be good next Monday. The lessons from the study are good and a good attendance is always encouraging to both the teacher and members. Come at 2:30 next Monday afternoon.
Try a Classified Ad in The Mail.

Rug Specials

20% Off

Beginning **Saturday, May 23**
And Ending **Saturday, May 30**
we will give a special 20 per cent discount on all Wool, Grass, and Wool and fiber rugs in our stock.
Now is your chance to save money on rugs. Also get our low prices on Furniture.
J. T. DARSEY & CO.
"Furniture and Oil Stoves"

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

All officers, teachers and pupils of the Sunday School are urged to be present promptly at 9:30. This change is made on account of the dedication of the new Presbyterian church at Comper. Sunday School will close at 10:15, giving ample time for those who wish to attend the service at Comper.
Rev. Fred S. Rogers of Lamasa will preach the dedication sermon at Comper at 11:00 o'clock.
Senior and Junior Christian Endeavor at 7:00 p.m.
Preaching at 8:00 p.m. Song service and special music. Come and bring a friend. Choir practice Wednesday at 8:00 p.m.
Chas. H. Little, pastor.

BAPTIST CHURCH

Regular services next Sunday. Sunday School at 10 a.m. Preaching at 11 a.m. and 8 p.m. All B. Y. P. U.'s meet at 7 p.m.
You will receive a hearty welcome to any or all of our services. W. H. Albertson, Pastor.
W. O. Boney can make you a loan from 5 years to 33 years at 6% interest.

No More Flies

Get more milk from your cows by ridding them of these summer pests with **DR. LEGEAR'S FLY CHASER**
Drives flies, mosquitoes and gnats from livestock. One or two applications a day during fly time will keep your animals contented and producing. Easy to apply with the handy Dr. LeGear sprayer.
Satisfaction Guaranteed or Money Back
For Sale by HAMM DRUG CO.

Jewelry Carries the True Gift Sentiment

Gifts of jewelry are treasured through the years to come, an everlasting token of the deep regard of the giver.
The beauty of jewelry, its intrinsic worth, its constant usefulness without necessarily the drawback of being overly practical, combine to carry the thoughtful sentiment we all covet in a gift.
Whenever you have occasion to select a gift, we wish you to feel perfectly free to come in and inspect our offerings. We know you will be happy with whatever purchases you may make.
REX A. SMITH
Jeweler and Optometrist
233 Pine Street
ABILENE, TEXAS

Kwik-Way Valve Facing Machine and Kwik-way

Reseating Tools, due to their extreme accuracy, will true up the valves and valve seats in the motor, so that they will be better than when they were new, and will get more mileage from your gasoline. Most shops use grinding compound, which does not true up a warped or worn valve, or a worn valve seat and this means that you are paying out your money for results that you are not getting.

We will be pleased to show you this new equipment and talk it over with you.

HAND & RIDDLE GARAGE

Front Street Merkel

COMPERE ITEMS

By Miss Alma Stout

The farmers are all very busy planting their feed and cotton in the Compere community.

There was Sunday School at the Presbyterian church Sunday morning and at the Baptist church Sunday evening. Also singing Sunday night.

Mrs. Stout called on Mrs. L. V. Spurgin Friday afternoon.

Mrs. Marshall had as visitors Sunday evening, Mr. George Smith and family, Mrs. Randolph, Matt and Blanche Randolph and John Schoolcraft from Hawley, Mr. Chester Lucas, Misses Alma and Lorene Stout and Mr. Raymond Stout and E. C. Tarvin.

Mrs. Hurse spent the week-end with Miss Mary Proctor in Merkel.

Mr. Clarence C. Day visited in Abilene Saturday and Sunday.

Mr. Jasper Hobbs from Warren spent Saturday night with Mr. Raymond Stout.

Mr. Sim Sheppard of Waco, Texas, visited his brother, Mr. S. W. Sheppard last week. He was also here to attend the funeral of a sister who lived at Shepp, Texas.

Mr. L. R. Thompson, Cashier of the Farmers and Merchants National Bank, is attending the State Bankers Convention at Houston this week.

Try a Classified Ad in the Mail.

Grissom's Department Store

Abilene, Texas

To take care of your wants and needs that cannot be filled by local merchants, we have established a

Personal Shopping Service

This service is conducted by a woman who has a personal interest in you, who looks upon you not as a customer to be sold but as a

Person to be Pleased.

Phone or write your orders in and they will be attended to promptly and satisfactorily.

IS \$2,000,000 A YEAR WORTH SAVING?

Office of the Postmaster General, Washington, D. C., May 13, 1925.—June 1 to 7, 1925, has been designated "Better Mailing Week" when a nation-wide campaign will be undertaken to reduce the appalling loss occasioned by carelessness in addressing mail matter.

During that week several thousand motion picture theatres, through the courtesy of the Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America, will display on their screens appropriate slogans urging greater care in addressing; daily and weekly papers will be asked to acquaint their readers with the extent of the waste caused by misdirected mail; national business and commercial organizations, mail order houses advertising associations, and clubs are being requested to get the message to their members, and postmasters in a number of principal broadcasting cities will discuss the question over the radio.

All postmasters may help in this campaign of education by— Cooperating with motion picture theatres in the preparation of mats from slogans prepared by the department, and printed herewith.

Furnishing newspapers with local statistics and information based on the accompanying figures, or any other permissible information desired.

Making representations to local organizations of business men, civic bodies, clubs, large users of the mail, etc., with a view to securing their cooperation in the campaign and having the subject discussed at meetings during, before or after Better Mailing Week.

Asking school superintendents to establish special or regular courses in correct mailing and addressing practices.

And in any other way or ways which the ingenuity of individual postmasters might suggest without, of course, involving undue expense.

Below is printed one of five articles prepared for distribution to the press of the country. Some of these figures might be localized to apply to your city.

Do You Know
That 21,000,000 letters went to the dead letter office last year?
That 803,000 parcels did likewise?

That 100,000 letters go into the mail yearly in perfectly blank envelopes?

That \$55,000 in cash is removed annually from misdirected envelopes?

That \$12,000 in checks, drafts and money-orders never reach intended owners?

That Uncle Sam collects \$92,000 a year in postage for the return of mail sent to the dead letter office?

That it costs Uncle Sam \$1,740,000 yearly to look up addresses on misdirected mail?

That 200,000,000 letters are given this service, and

That it costs in one city alone \$500 daily?

And Do You Know
That this vast sum could be saved and the dead letter office abolished if each piece of mail carried a return address, and if each parcel were wrapped in stout paper and tied with a strong cord.

MORAL: Every man knows his own address if not that of his correspondent.

SALT BRANCH NEWS

By Lois Jaynes

News from this community is scarce as everybody is very busy. General Green is trying to take possession of the fields. Brother Dodd of Merkel filled the pulpit at Salt Branch Sunday morning.

Grandpa Stone and wife of Merkel were the guests of Mr. and Mrs. W. M. Hays Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Ollie Higgins were visitors of Mr. Austin Robertson and family Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Petty

were visitors of Mr. Austin Robertson and family Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Petty were visitors in the Mt. Pleasant community Sunday afternoon.

Mrs. Carl Jaynes and baby returned from Waco Saturday evening where they have been visiting relatives the past three weeks and were guests in the home of J. A. Jaynes Saturday night and Sunday, returning to her home in the Mt. Pleasant community Sunday afternoon.

Mr. and Mrs. Herman Abernathy are happy over the arrival of a new girl in their home.

Mr. W. M. Hays and family, Mr. Henry Hester and family called on Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Jaynes Saturday night.

Mr. and Mrs. Glascoe have returned from Waco where they attended the funeral of Mr. Glascoe's father.

Mrs. W. D. Butler was a visitor in Abilene last week while her husband attended court.

Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Higgins were guests of Mr. and Mrs. Ollie Higgins Tuesday afternoon.

Misses Annie Walker and Lois Jaynes were guests of Miss Fannie Mae Reeves Sunday.

CROSS ROADS NEWS

Mr. and Mrs. Jack Simpson and little son W. P. are moving to Scurry county near Snyder.

A Mothers' Day program was rendered Sunday afternoon at Cross Roads school house, though we only had a week in which to prepare for it, every one on the program did real well.

Mr. Lon Williams and family and Mrs. Isom of Caps attended the program Sunday afternoon.

Walter Boyett and wife of Winfield, Kansas, are visiting his parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Boyett.

A. J. Brewster and wife, Roy Gray and wife and mother visited relatives here Sunday and attended the program in the afternoon.

A program for the Sunday School rally on Friday night has been arranged and we are expecting a good time. Speakers from four other Sunday schools are to take part. Come hear them.

Farmers are very busy planting again since the recent rains. Mesdames R. W. Holder and R. F. England visited Mrs. McCarty Wednesday afternoon.

The W. M. U. met Tuesday afternoon at the home of Mrs. Will Teaff. After the usual program the hostess served cake and ice cream to the delight of all present.

WARREN NEWS

By Miss Rose Ellington

The farmers are all very busy planting and a few have had to re-plant.

The health of the community is fine at present.

Miss Helen McCormick entertained the young folks with a party Friday night and a large crowd was present. All reported a nice time.

Grandma Hobbs and Family spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. John Hobbs.

Misses Rose Ellington, Vera Jones, Lottie Gressett spent Friday night with Misses Helen and Artie McCormick.

Miss Willie Newman spent Friday night with Miss Willie Ellington.

Mr. and Mrs. George Stout and family spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. John Hobbs and family.

Rose Ellington is spending the week with her sister, Mrs. R. C. Kelso of Stith.

Mr. Tom Harvell, wife and Noil and grandma Harvell visited Mr. and Mrs. Ellington Sunday afternoon.

Mr. Copeland who got his foot mashed last Wednesday when a wagon load of water ran over it, is doing nicely at this writing.

Miss Juanita Shouse of Trent returned home Saturday after-

noon after a visit here.

Mrs. Emmett Patterson was a visitor in Abilene Thursday. Mr. Jasper Hobbs spent Saturday with Mr. Raymond Stout. The Warren school will close Friday.

Claude Ellington spent Wednesday night with T. B. Hobbs.

Mrs. Author McCoy spent Wednesday afternoon with Grandma Hobbs and Miss Ella Hobbs.

Mr. and Mrs. W. M. Jones and family spent Sunday with their son, Noil Jones, of Anson.

We regret to learn that Mrs. T. H. Spears has been quite sick for some time, and is at present in an Abilene Sanitarium for treatment.

Mr. and Mrs. W. N. Farris returned first of the week from an extended visit to Mineral Wells and Hunt county.

Mr. and Mrs. Belton Frost of Roscoe were week-end guests of Mrs. I. C. Holden last week.

Hurrah! No More Lice!



"Now I can set in peace. Even the poultry house, barn and stable are free from lice since we used

DR. LEGEAR'S LICE POWDER

Makes hens feel better and lay better when dusted into the open feathers of the fowl and around coops, roosts and other places where lice and vermin are likely to be found. Easily applied from sifter top can. Also good for repelling lice on horses, cattle and hogs.

Satisfaction Guaranteed or Money Back.

For Sale by HAMM DRUG CO.

6 Days 6

Listen For six days 20 per cent discount on Floor Lamps, 10 per cent on Bridge Lamps.

Look at our Bed Room Suits, 10 per cent discount.

See our Beautiful line of Reed Living Room Suits, for six days, 10 per cent off.

Don't you need a Refrigerator? Get an Automatic, the best made. Special prices for six days.

We have accumulated several pieces of second hand furniture, which we will close out in the next six days at special prices. Come see what we have.

BARROW FURNITURE CO.

The Merkel Mail

Published on Friday Morning by
The Merkel Mail Printing Co.
Thos. Durham, Editor-Mgr.

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MR. SARGENT'S CODE.

"The one thought and ambi-
tion of every college man should
be to be a public official with-
out vice, a private citizen with-
out wrong, a Christian without
hypocrisy, a man without guile,
submissive to law, obedient to
authority, thoughtful, kind and
above all, loyal to country and
self."

Such is the code outlined by
John G. Sargent, who recently
became Attorney General of the
United States, in a letter read
at the annual senior class ban-
quet at Tufts College, of which
he is an alumnus.

It is a good code, not only for
college men, but for everyone
who aims to be a good Ameri-
can.—Star-Telegram.

**DISCIPLINING GIRLS FOR
PARENTAL LAXITY**

The women of Dallas, we are
told, are again urging that the
girls of Dallas wear uniforms at
the city schools. These women
are most of them mothers, we
may assume. Otherwise their
voice in the matter deserves the
less attention. And these girls
are most of them daughters
whose dress comes under the
supervision of mothers. If that
is the case, what the mothers
of Dallas are asking is that so-
ciety take off of them the re-
sponsibility of clothing their
own children by adopting and
requiring a standard uniform

for girl students in the city
schools.

Of course these ladies will be
willing to pay for the garments.
It is not a feeling of penurious-
ness or the stinginess with their
children that is involved. In mon-
ey they are ready to spend gen-
erously. But consciously or un-
consciously they have found
that they can not bring them-
selves to compel their daughters
to wear the kind of clothes they
think their daughters ought to
wear, so they ask society to ex-
ert that compulsion for them.

This business of farming out
the responsibilities of parent-
hood is growing here a little and
there a little. We scarcely notice
it. It has become a part of the
tendency of the times. Kinder-
gartens to get the tots out from
underfoot, Sunday schools to
give them their religion, day
schools to teach them tooth-
brush drills, carpentry, cooking,
fire prevention and how to cross
a street safely; Boy Scouts and
Girl Scouts to teach them how
to play, give first aid, show
courtesy and love the flag; movies
to entertain them, clinics
to tinker their health, music
memory contests to cultivate
their taste, and so on and on.
Every year there is a new move-
ment and every year the need
for more develops. It isn't bad,
not half bad. But the trend of
it all is that the influences of
which the child is sensible are
more from the outside than
from the home. They all make it
perfectly natural for a mother
to sigh for the passage of a rule
that her daughter shall be clad
in a uniform so that she, the
mother, will not have to face the
displeasure of the child in her-
self bidding her to dress mod-
estly.—Dallas News.

Mr. W. D. Haynes was called
this week to Knox City to attend
the bedside of a sick brother.
Mr. Haynes had planned a trip
to Alabama, but had to forego
same on account of the illness
of his brother.

One of the great howls made
by his honor, the man who said
he would be there to bring in
the "wood and water," and in-
cidentally extend the needed ad-
vice to "Ma" to assure her of a
fine administration, was that he
they, would save the taxpayers
15 million in taxes. But now
comes the State Tax Board and
announces that there will be NO
REDUCTION IN TAXES FOR
THE NEXT YEAR. But it was
good political buncomb, and of
which his honor, the Advisor,
has always been known to all
thinking men to be as full of as
a dog is of fleas in the summer
time. We generally get just
what the majority vote for, be
it good or bad.

Weekly Prayermeeting

Will meet Wednesday at 3:30
o'clock with Mrs. Fannie King,
Leader, Bro. Rea. The 8th chap-
ter of Matthew. Song 83. Prayer
by Mrs. Will Smith. Song. Pray-
er by Mrs. Bryant. Questions
asked by Mrs. Fannie King in
the old Bible, the 7th, 8th and
9th chapters of Judges. Close
with sentence prayer.

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

Anyone knowing themselves
indebted to William T. Duncan,
deceased, will please arrange
with the undersigned or his at-
torney, E. S. Cummings, of Mer-
kel, to pay said debt or give the
proper security for prompt pay-
ment of same, and anyone hold-
ing an account against the said
William T. Duncan, deceased,
will file with the undersigned or
his attorney, itemized statement
in duplicate and make proper
affidavit to same for the ap-
proval of the court, and after
approval by the court same will
be promptly paid by me. Ches-
ter A. Duncan, Administrator. 22t4

Mr. Marvin Boney and family
left this week for a trip via car
to California.

**"At the Gate of
Heaven"**

By MARTHA WILLIAMS

(Copyright.)

"HALLO! Hallo! Joy—I mean
Miss Joy—can I take you to
the moonlight Saturday night?" Joe
Gentry stammered across the Wilcox
gate. "Scuse me not gettin' down—
in the awfulest hurry, I am," he ran
on. "We're shy a band, you see, so
I'm after Old Shed and his crew befo'
they git snapped up."

"On your way! Quick—and then
some! Hurry! Hurree!" Joy Wil-
cox chanted from the porch steps,
waving him away with both hands.
Joe grinned happily, swung his hat
high with his best flourish, and gal-
loped down the long shady lane. He
had lost sleep in his fear of being
too late—that town fellow, Roger El-
ton, had been rushing Joy so hard
ever since he landed at his uncle's,
three days back.

Joe was fair-minded. He admitted
to himself that under other conditions
Roger wouldn't be wholly a bad sort.
Say as a brother-in-law. Just right
for Peggy Gentry—if only he would
think so. Peg was mighty pretty—
even prettier than Joy; also she was
wild for towns, travel, what she called
seeing life. The fact had worried Brer
Joe no little. Roger could give her
these desires of her heart. If only he
could be shown his role of special
providence. Joe stood ready to dower
Peg with his one big winning, the
Reelfoot Stake, plus the astounding
price of Light Heels, the unexpected
winner.

Old Shed swore by his conjure-bag
to "be dar Saddy night, right at chick-
en-roost time, wid three fiddles, er
banjo, er gittar, an de triangle." So
after dinner—the hour was noon, un-
derstand—he flung himself full length
in the hammock as happy as he was
tired.

Peg, framed in the doorway, looked
ostentatiously over his head, saying
carelessly: "Joy is giving herself a
surprise party tonight, and wants us
to come. Are you too tired?"

"Won't be after I snooze an hour,"
from Joe drowsily—then suddenly
wide-awake: "Did she tell you who
else is comin'?"

"Everybody in three miles round—
with the Eltons for good measure,"
Peg answered. "Looks to me her cap
is set Roger-fashion, and pinned fast
and tight. I don't see such a much
in him—do you?"

"Yes, J—n him!" Joe exploded.
"He's got manners, looks, money to
spend as he likes; he knows things
we never heard of—but he shan't have
Joy—I'll scalp him first."

"Don't!" Peg counseled, grave, but
twinkling. "The best people don't
wear scalp locks any more. Besides,
't would be mean to crab Tommy No-
len's act."

"Good Lord! Why?" Joe demanded.
"I'm why," Peg giggled. "Tommy's
so crazy about me he thinks Roger is
stuck on me, too."

Joe sprung up, laughing in spite of
himself. "I wish Tommy was a seer,"
he said mysteriously. "Say, Peg, if
he knew what he was talkin' about,
what would you say?"

"I'll say to you, 'Oh, you goose!'"
Peg flung over her shoulder as she
ran away.

The surprise party went with a
rush. Dancing on the piazza, cards in
the living room, solitudes for two on
benches out in moonlit shade. Joy was
a marvelous hostess—she played no
favorites—not even Roger. Joe ad-
mitted as much to himself, but grudg-
ingly. Certainly Roger's eyes clung
to her wherever she moved, entreat-
ingly, almost despairingly, it seemed.

By two in the morning there re-
mained only the patient Wilcoxes, the
persistent Tommy Nolen, Roger, Joe
and Peggy. She had been in wild spir-
its all evening; now she crouched at
the end of the huge mahogany sofa,
her eyes downcast, her face musing.
Tommy and Roger, making caryatides
of themselves, stood either side the
tall chimney-piece, making talk
elaborately, but evidently with ears
strained toward the piazza, whither
Joe had dragged Joy—without much trou-
ble.

If only the ears had been long
enough, fine enough, they would have
heard this: "Joe, you must help—I
don't know how to ask it—but it's
about Roger—"

"Well, what about him?" Joe
gloomed.

"I—I—that is—we feel rather re-
sponsible for him—Tommy Nolen is a
donkey—flat—but donkeys can kick
frightfully, you know—"

"What's Tommy got to do with Ro-
ger?" from Joe breathlessly.

"Why—don't you know he swears
he'll kill him—for cutting him out with
Peg?"

Explosive silence—then a howl of
laughter, a rush of feet—Joy fell upon
Tommy crying: "Come out! Come
out! Nobody has proposed to me to-
night, and the moon almost down!"
Joe laying violent hands upon Peggy
to drag her toward the front door,
where his car stood in waiting. At
the door, as by second thought, he
called cheerily to Roger: "Brother, if
it suits your notion, we'll take you on
home." His eyes, his voice, above all,
his laughter, made Roger take heart.
In a wink he was beside Peggy, had
taken her arm and was half carrying
her outside. There he lifted her bodily
in, swung himself beside her and said
almost huskily: "Make it the long
way round, Joe; remember, I'm just
at the gate of heaven."

"Me, too, brother! Shake!" Joe
answered, stretching back to them a
strong, warm hand.

**REAL ESTATE, FARM LOANS
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After a Fire==

you'll find no satisfaction in figuring up
the amount of insurance you should have
had. But there is a lot of satisfaction in
knowing that your property as it stands
today is fully covered by dependable fire
insurance.

Our fire insurance policies are dependable.

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MERKEL, TEXAS

Consult your Insurance Agent as you would your Lawyer.

**IN MEMORY OF MRS.
MINNIE MAE DUBREE**

Just as darkness was gather-
ing on last Thursday evening,
May 14th, at about eight-thir-
ty o'clock, the news came over
the wire, "Mrs. Dubree is dead."
Oh! such a shock when death
comes to our loved ones. She
had been in a sanitarium for
about ten days, where she strug-
gled for life. Often when she
could talk for a few minutes she
would say "Oh Lord, dear Jesus,
take me for I suffer so." Mrs.
Dubree was a kind and loving
mother, a good neighbor and
friend. Children, look to God for
your help in these sad hours for
you know where to find mamma.
She is at rest only waiting for
a short while for her loved ones
to meet her over there where
ther will be no more sad parting.

Mrs. Dubree was born April
25, 1879 at Sealy, Austin coun-
ty, Texas. She was converted at
the age of nineteen and united
with the Methodist church,
south, and lived a consecrated
life until death called her home.
The funeral services were held
Friday afternoon at 1:30 o'clock
at her home, Bro. Ledger, her
pastor, in charge. She was laid
to rest in the Rose Hill Ceme-
tery by the side of her husband
who preceded her about two
years and four months. She
leaves six children to mourn her
demise, as follows: L. C. Du-
bree of Burleson, Texas; Minnie,
W. E., Henry, Mrs. Lona Black-
well, and Mrs. Lillie Newberry
of Merkel. Children, mamma's
place is vacant in the home, but
be faithful to God and some
sweet day you will see her smil-
ing face again.

Through the shadow of death
to sunlight above
A thousand sweet memories are
holding them fast.
To the place they blessed with
their presence and love.
Their many friends wish to
join them in their sorrows. But

STOMACH ILLS

**Mississippian Was Weak,
Couldn't Eat Enough.**

"I had a bad case of stomach
trouble," says Mr. N. A. Smith,
of Shaw, Miss. "I couldn't eat
enough and was very weak. Every-
thing I ate hurt me, formed gas, and
I spit up my food."

"I would feel stupid or staggery.
I didn't feel like doing any work.
I knew what Black-Draught had
done . . . and I began taking small
doses. I certainly got relief. It
did me lots of good."

"When I go to town, I look first
to see how near out of Black-
Draught we are, and then get more.
We keep our home remedies and
the main one is Black-Draught."

In hundreds of thousands of
homes, housekeepers keep Black-
Draught as a remedy to relieve in-
digestion, biliousness, constipation.
Containing no harmful or other
mineral drugs, Black-Draught is
absolutely safe to take for all mem-
bers of the family.

You should keep Black-Draught
always on hand, for use when
needed.

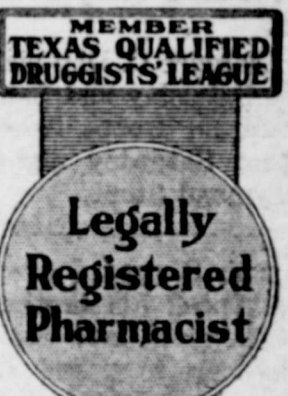
Sold everywhere, 25c. C-30

BLACK-DRAUGHT
LIVER MEDICINE

we will all meet her in the sweet
bye and bye. A Friend.



PROTECTED BEST—
and Preserved with cor-
rectly fitted Glasses.
ABILENE OPTICAL CO.
T. S. Higginbotham, Stan-
dard Optometrist
229½ Pine St. Abilene



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COMPANY**
S. D. Gamble, Mgr.

Lytle Beach

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TRAP SHOOTING SWIMMING

Motor Boat rides, private boat
privileges, pavillion for private
parties, restaurant and confection-
ary service.

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during morning hours every
week day by authorized Red
Cross Life Guards.

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- * elry, and valuables. Mail to-
- * day. Cash by return mail.
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If you suffer from any form of
skin diseases such as Itch, Eczema,
Tetter or Cracked Hands, Poison Oak,
Ring Worm, Old Sores or Sores on
Children. We will sell you a Jar of
BLUE STAR REMEDY on a guar-
antee. It will not stain your clothing
and has a pleasant odor.
For sale by **MERKEL DRUG CO**

**Are You Cooking Electrically?
The Twentieth Century Way?**

Not for the up-to-date housewife are the dirt, heat
and inconvenience of the old-fashioned cook stoves!
She has an Electric Range in her kitchen and it is her
pride and joy. To prepare the evening meal on the
Electric Range is no trick at all. The heat is there at
the snap of the switch.

She Comes from the party, from Church or the
shopping trip and finds it a pleasure to cook electrically
because it is so fascinatingly easy to do and so certain
of perfect results. Do you wonder that the owner of
an Electric Range is so proud of her possession? You
would be too, if you had one of these splendid ranges
in your kitchen.

Here are some of the vital reasons why you
should own an Electric Range:— it is modern,
cool, cleanly, convenient, cooks better food
and does it in a scientific manner. We offer
a really low cooking rate. If you will call at
our office we will be glad to explain the many
superiorities of Electric Cooking.

WEST TEXAS UTILITIES CO.

Opening The Mid-Summer Season in Our Ready-to-Wear Department

Opening of the summer season is being emphasized this week in our ready-to-wear department with our initial showings of many smart new styles, fresh from the best markets. Warm Summer days are here---a distinctly new season---and here are the new styles that we have assembled for you. They are as cool as their bright airness makes you feel.

Summer Frocks

are here in a wonderful pretty showing. Plain and embroidered voils and voils and linen combination trimmed in braiding, buttons, tucks, lace and ribbons. Dainty cool becoming frocks modestly priced at

\$6.75 to \$18.75

Pretty dresses of both linen and voils entirely made by hand, hand embroidered, hand drawn work. They are in white and all new shades for summer wear sizes 14 to 52. Priced

\$6.75 to \$27.50

Dainty summer dresses of figured and plain georgette trimmed in laces, ribbons, nets and hand made flowers, moderately priced

\$18.75 to \$35.00

New Summer Coats

They are of sheer georgette in navy, black and rose, smartly trimmed in ribbon, puffs, tabs and ruffles. Worn with printed dresses making an attractive summer ensemble. Prices are from

\$18.75 to \$27.50

Minter Dry Goods Company

"Abilene's Progressive Store"

Mail Orders Receive Prompt Attention

Will Preach at Nubia

The Rev. Alma Matthews requests the Mail to announce preaching at Nubia on next Sunday, May 24th, to which every one is cordially invited.

E. J. Barker and family of Lockney are guests this week of the former's parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Barker.

Miss Olie Garoutte has recently returned from a trip to Marlin, Texas, where she spent some time in the interest of her health. Her many friends will be glad to know that she returned somewhat improved.

CARD OF THANKS

We wish to extend our thanks and appreciation to all who were so kind and faithful during the illness and death of our beloved mother. Also the floral offerings were very much appreciated. May God's richest blessings rest upon each and every one is our sincere desire. Walter, Henry, Louis and Minnie Dubree, Mrs. Lona Blackwell, Mrs. Lillie Newberry.

We are very thankful to Mr. W. C. Hunter, Merkel, Route 5, for the renewal of his subscription to the Mail for another year

A HELP TO THE AUTO OWNERS OF MERKEL

Messrs. Hand and Riddle have just installed a new electric machine for grinding valves for any make of automobile. This is the only machine of its kind in Merkel, and they cordially invite you to come in and see it and they will take pleasure in explaining the working of the machine and the money it will save you in fuel by keeping your valves in A-1 condition. You will get more power, speed and mileage and save you considerable on your gas and oil bill.

Noodle Class Given Party

The Bereau Class of the Noodle Baptist Sunday School was entertained on Wednesday evening at the home of Mr. and Mrs. W. Ronndtree, with Miss Exa Cole as hostess. Many games and contests were enjoyed. A refreshment plate of ice cream and cake was served with miniature pennants in the lass colors of white, Nile green and gold, as plate favors.

Those enjoying this hour were Misses Ruby Reagan, Cleo Reece Tiny and Johnny Harris, Nettie Watson and Vernie Derrick. Mrs. C. T. Derrick, Mrs. Clyde Deavers, Mrs. R. D. Cole, Mr. and Mrs. V. L. Merritt, Mr. and Mrs. Emmitt Womack, Mr. and Mrs. Clayton Goode, Messrs. Jack and Morris Goode, Leonard Jenkins, R. D. Reece, Hoyt Reagan, R. T. Womack, Martin Roundtree, Alvin Brewer, Carleton Vick, Tim Nabors, and Alton Booth.

Senior League Program

Subject: "Means of Social Service." Leader, Lewis Giles. Scripture by leader. Song service. Talk, Mildred Matthews. Talk, Floyd Dowell. Talk, Delbert Polly. Duet, Opal Patterson and Eva May Johnson. Talk, W. L. Harkrider. Business and benediction.

Motor Charity and Cupid

By JANE OSBORN

(Copyright.)

UNDER other circumstances Ben Gleason would have enjoyed the walk along the smooth country turnpike, fresh autumn air blowing in his face, bringing back half-shaped recollections of autumn days of his boyhood. As it was, Ben felt wrath and indignation—wrath at his younger brother for having driven Ben's car across country and back the day before without replenishing the gasoline supply, and indignation at himself for not having noticed so important a detail before starting out. If things had gone as he expected he would have had ample time to get to Hillcrest for that important legal conference at the appointed hour.

Finding himself without gasoline, with his car stopped dead still on the roadside just five miles from anywhere, didn't seem like so great an obstacle at first. Ben had an idea that all he would have to do was to hail the next car, beg some gasoline and then go on his way.

The first motorist he had hailed proved to be a pretty girl, driving alone with her dog. At sight of the tall, broad-shouldered young man signaling for help at the roadside the pretty girl pulled her soft hat down over her nose and sped along all the faster. A middle-aged man and woman came along next in a stuttering old touring car. At sight of Ben the woman held her hands up to her face in apparent dismay and her companion at the wheel squeezed what speed he could out of his old vehicle.

Ben had locked his car and had started off walking in the direction of a farmhouse some miles back, hoping that there he might be able to telephone to a garage for help or otherwise find a solution for his problem, when Margaret Oliver came spinning along in her comfortable little roadster. He hailed her, but barely expected a response. To his surprise she drew in to the roadside and asked Ben if she could give him a lift. Ben explained that the abandoned car further along was his and that he wanted to get to Hillcrest or to a garage.

"I'll tell you what I'll do," said Margaret, opening the door of her little car. "You get in here and I'll drive you to Hillcrest."

"But you're going in the opposite direction," said Ben, who nevertheless took the proffered seat at Margaret's side. "You don't want to turn around and go to Hillcrest?"

"It won't take long," said Margaret. "That certainly is mighty kind of you," said Ben, sincerely grateful.

"It's most uncommonly considerate—" "It's only what you'd do for a fellow motorist yourself," said Margaret. "I thought it was a sort of unwritten law of the road to help each other that way."

"Not on this road," said Ben emphatically. "I've called out to every car or truck that passed and you were the only one that stopped."

Margaret laughed. "Probably they are afraid," she suggested. "Haven't you heard of our gentleman bandit that's been holding up motorists lately?"

"At least you weren't afraid," said Ben. "I should think people could tell a bandit when they saw one."

"Oh, but the people who have been held up say that this one is very good-looking. Anyway, bandits never look the way you expect they are going to. I might be one, too, but I'm not, and I don't believe you are, either." They sped along together in silence for a few minutes. Then as they neared the group of country homes that marked Hillcrest, Ben noticed with satisfaction that he still had time to arrive at the home of his client, Mr. Matthew Clark, ten minutes before the hour set for the conference.

"You could just drop me at the Clark place," suggested Ben as they drew into Hillcrest. "I'm no end grateful to you. It's an important business appointment, and I understand he's rather easily irritated. If I'd been late I might have lost out entirely."

Margaret laughed. "Yes, Uncle Matthew is easily irritated," she said. "I ought to know, because I happen to live with him. I'm his ward. He hates people to be late. But he has his good traits—Uncle Matthew has."

Ben felt some confusion and showed it. Margaret let him out at the road entrance, not wishing to drive up to the house.

"Don't let uncle know how you got here," she said. "It would make a bad impression. Besides, he'd have a fit if he knew I gave a stranger a lift. He was warning me about that bandit; only this morning. Now, I'll run over to the garage and get 'em to go bring in your car. It'll be here waiting for you when you want it."

Mr. Clark was so well impressed with the young lawyer sent out from his law firm that he insisted on having him stay for dinner, and it was there that Ben was formally introduced to Margaret Oliver, Mr. Clark's very charming niece and sole heiress.

A month later when they announced their engagement Mr. Clark chortled to himself. He had played matchmaker for the first time in his life and had succeeded.

Margaret had a confession to make to Ben. "I must tell you," she said, "that when I gave you a lift that day, I truly thought you were the good-looking bandit. I was scouring the country for him. It seemed so exciting to think of meeting a real bandit, and I wanted to see what would happen. And see what did happen!"



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See Our Society Brand Suits

Prado Cords

Linen Suits

Tropical Prices \$11 to \$40

In the New English Cuts

CALEB REED'S MAN SHOP

JUNIOR-SENIOR PLAY AT TRENT FRIDAY, MAY 29

See "Yimmie Yonson's Yob" at the school auditorium of Trent High School, Friday night, May 29th., a Junior-Senior play. Tickets for play on May 22nd will admit holders. Admission 10c and 15c for those not having tickets.

Don't fail to see Yimmit. He is everything from a tear to a side-splitting laugh.

Gordon, son of Mr. and Mrs. L. L. Murray, is suffering from a broken leg received when he jumped over a high fence last Monday.

Piano Recital at Stith

The piano pupils of Mrs. Edgar Bradley will give a recital at the school auditorium of the Stith tabernacle Friday evening, May 22nd. The public is cordially invited to attend.

From the indications, the program which starts promptly at 8:30 o'clock, promises to be one of the best that has been presented in this community for some time.

Miss Mona Margaret Jones, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Chas. H. Jones, returned last week from Alvin, Texas, where she spent the past nine months with an aunt and went to school, studying music.

Buy your Graduation Gifts

At

50% DISCOUNT 50%

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JEWELRY

WE HAVE IT

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One hundred Ladies Trimmed Hats whites and all the new shades and styles, \$6.00 values now \$2.85

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Prescriptions of all Kinds Carefully Compounded.

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GOODYEAR SHOE SHOP

176 CYPRESS ABILENE, TEXAS OPPOSITE GAMBILL'S

THE AMERICAN CAFE

WHEN IN ABILENE— You will find the American Cafe a good place to eat. Many Merkel People eat regularly with us—We invite you to do likewise.

Open at All Hours.

OPPOSITE T. & P. STATION

FIRE SALE

To Continue to May 30 One-Half Price Sale will Continue to May 30th

We are receiving some Fresh New Merchandise to go with the FIRE SALE. It all goes at practically ONE-HALF OFF

SEALE & ROBBIN CO.

—AT—

ASH DRY GOODS COMPANY

151 Chestnut St. Phone 1866 Abilene, Texas

NOODLE NEWS By Special Correspondent

This warm weather is surely fine on growing crops, also fine on weeds. And they are growing.

Farmers are very busy, and Noodle is a forsaken place.

The Sunday School class party given at the home of Mr. and Mrs. W. Roundtree Wednesday evening of last week was a most enjoyable affair. Games were enjoyed by the younger people. All present report an evening pleasantly spent.

Preaching at Baptist and Christian churches Sunday morning and evening. Also singing at Christian church Sunday afternoon.

We are sorry to report Opal Vick's continued illness.

Mrs. C. B. Compton and children have moved back to Abilene.

Mrs. Clyde Deavers called on Mrs. C. T. Derrick one afternoon last week.

Miss Flossie Carter spent last week end with home folks in Abilene.

Mrs. Cole was in Merkel Monday morning.

A. P. Cowan and family, Mrs. Joe Virden and children of Abilene were in Noodle Friday, going on to Hamlin for a few days.

Mrs. S. C. Vick and son, Carlton were in Noodle Wednesday.

Miss Mary Kate Campbell spent from Friday until Sunday with her parents in Merkel.

Mr. and Mrs. W. B. Howard and little son, Roger, were in Abilene Sunday.

Dell Eoff is still going on crutches. Apparently his knee is no better. He says he will not play ball again for some time.

V. E. Spurgin was in Noodle Monday and paid a visit to the blacksmith shop.

Misses Linnie and Dula Harrison of the Horn community were in Noodle Tuesday morning.

Mrs. A. J. Barbee was in Noodle Monday afternoon. Quite a number of callers were at the Herring home Sunday afternoon.

Miss Mabel Jenkins was in Noodle Tuesday morning.

Mr. Sanduskey of our community surely has a nice looking crop. He has worked faithfully and a good looking crop is his reward.

Some of the farmers complain of a scarcity of moisture. Weeds are so thick they have sapped the moisture out of the soil. Perhaps we shall have another rain soon.

Some of our people went over to Horn last Friday night. The program rendered by members of the Commercial Club of Merkel was quite enjoyable.

Russell Herring paid a visit to Hamlin one evening last week.

N. B. Wheeler was in Noodle Tuesday morning.

W. B. Howard was in Abilene Tuesday.

Dell Eoff, wife and mother were in Noodle Monday.

Mrs. V. E. Spurgin and children were in Noodle Tuesday morning.

Hicks Goode is farming for Dell Eoff this week.

Lee D. Williams was in Noodle Tuesday.

Felix Howard was in Merkel Tuesday afternoon.

Bob.

Mr. and Mrs. James White are announcing the birth of a baby daughter, Wednesday, May 20.

MULBERRY NOTES By Miss Hazel Thomas

The farmers are very busy this week planting cotton. The ground is in splendid condition since the good rains.

Miss Lena Chancey, from Arkansas is visiting Misses Frankie and Maggie Lee Chancey of this community.

Mrs. Arthur Walton called at the Chancey home Friday afternoon.

Mrs. C. E. Thomas had as Sunday guests, Mr. and Mrs. L. D. Kelso of Stith, Dewey, Marjorie and Mr. and Mrs. Carl Thomas of Merkel, Mr. and Mrs. L. M. Walsh and family, Mr. and Mrs. Wiley Clark in the afternoon.

Mr. and Mrs. Jim Reagan of Hodges visited in our community Sunday.

Misses Stella Kelso and Mary Kate Lightsey were the Sunday guests of Hazel Thomas.

Mr. and Mrs. Dewey Redding attended services at Stith Sunday night.

Mr. and Mrs. Gene Reagan are visiting the latter's parents, Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Smart, at Lubbock.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Walsh called at the Walter Barley home Tuesday night.

Mrs. W. L. Diltz, Jr., and daughter, Betty Jane, spent last Tuesday in Abilene visiting relatives.

Mr. L. L. Murray returned from the Baptist Sanitarium at Abilene Monday, after being there almost four weeks, having had an operation for appendicitis.

Mrs. S. E. Archer and two sons of Coleman were visiting Mrs. Archer's parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Hutchins, last Sunday afternoon.

Mrs. J. C. Williams and daughter, Mary Estella, of Stamford, are here for an extended visit to Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Hutchins.

Miss Mae Beidleman was brought home last Saturday, after being in a sanitarium at Abilene on account of an operation for appendicitis.

Mr. Kenneth Sharp was returned home Monday from the Baptist sanitarium at Abilene, where he underwent an operation for appendicitis.

Misses Ruby and Evelyn Hamm and Guy Darsey were in Abilene Tuesday.

Mrs. R. N. Campbell returned first of the week from a visit to relatives at Eastland.

Business Must Come First

By H. IRVING KING

(Copyright.)

CECILIA PATTERSON was a young lady possessed not only of good looks and a will of her own, but of "lands and fine houses and cash in the bank." Both of her parents were dead, and Cecilia had inherited from them her good looks, her strong will, and her money.

Jack Edgecomb was a year or two older than Cecilia when his father died, and had been so busy enjoying himself all his life that, as he said, he "had not had time to get married." He had hunted big game in Africa, yachted and traveled. The death of his father now forced Jack, for the first time in his life, to make an effort to comprehend that complicated and somewhat mysterious science called business, for the investments and financial interests of the elder Edgecomb had been many, various and extended.

Among his father's papers Jack found a bundle of documents relating to the "Rio Verde Copper Mines," with a memorandum, "See Steinitz & Co." Unable to make head or tail out of the papers, Jack looked up Steinitz & Co. in the directory and went to the address given.

The outer office was a large room where, beyond a little railed-off space, were several clerks, most of them well along in years.

"Please take my card to Mr. Steinitz," said Jack, and an angular typist, rising without a word, took the card and disappeared.

Presently she returned and motioned Jack toward the inner office. He entered and, to his surprise, saw that the room was tenanted only by a remarkably pretty young woman of between 25 and 30 who said: "Sit down, won't you, Mr. Edgecomb?"

"I—er—wished—to see Mr. Steinitz, if I might," replied Jack.

"Oh, that's all right," laughed the young lady. "There isn't any Steinitz. I am Steinitz & Co. People are often surprised. You see there was a Steinitz when father first went into business; but he died long before I was born and father kept the old firm name. And when father died, and I took over the business, I kept it also. Had to. Imagine trying to carry on business under the name of Cecilia Patterson!"

"Are you Cecilia Patterson?" cried Jack. "I have often heard of you."

"Of course you have," replied Cecilia. "And I of you; and have wanted to hear at first hand an account of your elephant shooting. But business first."

"What a wonderful woman," thought Jack as he left the office. And Cecilia thought, "What a delightful young man—but how utterly and densely stupid."

Jack had to see Cecilia many times after that "on business," and he was invited to call at her house, too, where they dropped business and talked of other things. In short, they became very intimate and Jack proposed.

"Oh, Jack," she said, "I am sure I shall never marry anyone but you. But think, dear, you are so stupid in business matters. Your fortune and mine, combined, would take a lot of looking after. Can't you, won't you, try and get a grasp of business affairs? I tell you what I'll do. If, at the end of a year, you can prove to me that you have mastered the principles of business, I will marry you."

Cecilia was crying now, but between her sobs she managed to say, "About the Rio Verde?"

"Do as you please with it," returned Jack. "I'll send you a power of attorney."

For a year Cecilia did not see Jack. Some said he was still in the city; some that he was hunting in the Rockies. Cecilia devoted herself to the Rio Verde. At first everything went well. And then things began to happen. The bears got hold of the stock and clawed the life out of it; the bulls tossed it upon their horns, only to throw it back again to the bears. For a while it would rank among the most decidedly inactive stock, and then suddenly begin strange and unaccountable gyrations. Cecilia was in great distress; she was losing her own money and Jack's too. All her financial acumen seemed to be of no avail. Then, when things were at the very worst and a crash seemed impending, Rio Verde began to steady itself.

The stock went up and up in a calm, beautiful climb. Rio Verde became standard and unassailable. And the year of Jack's probation was over. He came into the office of Steinitz & Co. looking hearty and brown as a berry. "Hello, Cecilia," said he. "The year's up. Just back from six months on the yacht in Europe. How are you, and how's Rio Verde?"

"Oh, Jack, I'm glad to see you," cried Cecilia. "Rio Verde came near ruining us both."

"I suppose Chew & Co. made you the most trouble, didn't they?" asked Jack.

"Why, yes, but how did you know?" said Cecilia.

"Oh," was the reply. "I've been a silent partner of that brokerage firm for a year."

"But you have been away six months," she said.

"Yes," replied Jack; "but there are cables—and a man with a firm grasp of business matters, like myself, can do a lot by cable."

And so they were married.

Shoes For The Whole Family

Newest Styles

Latest Thing in White

"At the Price you want to Pay"

—Make us a Visit—

Yager Shoe Company

FOOT FITTERS

Repairs while you wait.

Abilene

Lubbock

DO YOU REMEMBER Merkel 23 Years Ago?

(Editor's Note—The following items were taken from the Merkel Mail of February 27, 1902.)

A Bachelors' Club

Apropos of the recent contemplated organization by the girls of a "Hugging Society," the boys have perfected the organization of a "Bachelors' Club" for mutual protection, with Mr. Chas. Craven as president and Comer Clay as secretary. A roster of the club follows: Chas. Craven, Bumps Smith, Jud Browning, Albert Clay, Will Province, Ves French, Tom Story, Comer Clay, Asa Sheppard, F. E. Telford, Will Calvert, Seth Hamilton, Ed Flemming and Jud Sheppard.

By-laws have been adopted and the organization is now in working order. It has for its object the promotion of matrimony among its members, but is diametrically opposed to "Hugging Societies" or other similar means of coercion, and each member must be selected according to his merits. Ladies from 16 to 45 are eligible, all of whom must have qualifications commensurate with the demands of the club members of which the following is a partial list:

Asa Sheppard wants one who has a very delicate appetite and is a good rustler.

Albert Clay, one that can make a living for two.

Ves French, one that will take special care of him in his old age.

Comer Clay, one that doesn't go much on looks.

Ed Flemming, just any old thing.

Jud Browning, one that has no desire for the truth.

Seth Hamilton, a 200 pounder.

F. E. Telford, one that can twist his mustach to a perfection.

Jud Sheppard, one found of cats, dogs and flowers.

Bumps Smith, one who likes to be petted.

Chas. Craven, one who is proficient in the art of hair combing.

Correspondence solicited. A report of the condition of The First National Bank of Merkel at the close of business on February 25, 1902, gives the following: Loans and discounts, \$92,090.64; banking house and fixtures, \$6,000.00; Capital and Surplus \$33,000.00; Individual deposits subject to check, \$68,233.71.

The Mail editor had the pleasure of forming the acquaintance of Mr. J. L. Banner Saturday.

Such men as he is a substantial addition to our country, and the Mail opens its arms to them.

W. W. Wheeler announces

this week as a candidate for commissioner and Justice of the Peace from this precinct. Mr. Wheeler is too well known to require any eulogy from the Mail, but it might be well to state that he has an enviable record to his credit, and the people will make no mistake in honoring him with the office.

Thaxton Neill Honored With Birthday Party

Sunday, May 17th, at the home of Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Neill, Mr. Thaxton Neill was given a birthday dinner in honor of his 21st birthday.

After returning from church the guests began to arrive. Dinner was served to about thirty people and of course every one enjoyed this very much. Then in the afternoon every one enjoyed a social hour until about three o'clock, when the young people went to singing at Cross Roads where all enjoyed singing. After the singing we came back and took some pictures.

Then the birthday cake candles were lighted, which looked very beautiful. Thaxton was very successful in blowing out all of the candles. Now, who do you suppose will be the lucky one? The cake was cut and Lillian Blair got the ring.

The day was very much enjoyed by the following: Mr. and Mrs. Oran Neill, Mr. and Mrs. A. R. Toombs, Mr. and Mrs. Bedford Neill, Mr. Daniels and grandmother Neill.

The young people were: The honoree, Thaxton Neill, Wade Casey, Carl Matthews, Sam Clifton and D. J. Neill, and Misses Lillian Blair, Jennie Reece West, Flossie Campbell, Opal Neill, Ruby Neill, Nola Neill, Dolly Toombs and Lilly Mae Neill. There were also several children present. All wished Thaxton many more happy birthdays.

Mrs. Frank Hamm and daughters, Ruby and Evelyn, and Mr. and Mrs. Sie Hamm attended the funeral of Mrs. J. H. Warnick last Thursday.

Mr. R. D. Tyler and family of Abilene were here to attend the funeral of Mrs. J. P. Sublett. Mrs. Tyler is a sister to Mrs. B. T. Sublett.

Mr. Max Mellinger is in Houston this week looking after business affairs.

Dr. and Mrs. M. Armstrong had as their guests last week, Mr. and Mrs. George Swain of Moffett, Texas, and Mr. John Grimes of Bronte, Texas.

Mr. and Mrs. Doss Sheppard of Dallas, and daughter Miriam, visited relatives here last week.

Important Schedule Change

EFFECTIVE MONDAY MAY 25th

Train No. 5 will pass Merkel at 5:27 a. m. instead of 6:03 a. m.

EFFECTIVE SUNDAY MAY 24th

Train No. 6 will pass Merkel at 11:38 p. m. instead of 12:33 a. m.

San Angelo Sleepers will be handled on train No. 5 instead of No. 15.

Trains No. 15 and 16 will be discontinued. Last train No. 15 passing Merkel Sunday; last train No. 16 passing Merkel Saturday.

J. C. Childress
Ticket Agent



FOR JUNE GRADUATES-- JEWELRY

10 TO 25% OFF ON EVERY ARTICLE

IN SELECTING a Commencement Gift, why not commemorate the event by a gift that will be most pleasing and permanent. Graduation is a notable event in your son's or your daughter's or young friends' life—make the gift a notable one, too.

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PRESLEY'S
 Jewelry and Gift Shop
 209 Pine St. Abilene, Texas

J. P. Howard
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 Phone 173

—FOR PLUMBING—
 That is as good as the
 BEST
 See **JONES**
 Phone 266 And
 Ben Jones **DAVIS**
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Len Sublett
 Water well Driller,
 all work guaranteed
 first-class.
Merkel, Texas

PROFESSIONAL
THOS. C. WILSON
 The Jeweler
 Watches, Clocks and Jewelry
 Repaired
 All Work Guaranteed
 Located at Merkel Drug Co.

DR. R. I. GRIMES
 Physician and Surgeon
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 Phones 105-163 Res. 165

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

G. W. JOHNSON
 Insurance—Notary Public
 Over West Company—Front St.
 Merkel — Texas

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

SMOTHERING
 Texas Lady Tells How She
 Got Rid of Her Troubles.
 "The first time I took Cardui, I
 was in an awful bad way," says
 Mrs. Ora Carlisle, R. F. D. 5, Troup,
 Texas.
 "I was afflicted with awful
 smothering spells. My mother had
 some Cardui in the house that she
 was taking, so she immediately be-
 gan giving it to me. In a few days
 I got all right.
 "Last fall I got run-down in
 health. I was weak and puny and
 I began to suffer with... I would
 get so I could hardly walk. Having
 taken Cardui before, I sent to the
 store for a bottle of it.
 "Almost from the first dose I
 could feel the improvement. ... I
 am much better now.
 "Cardui has helped me a lot
 and I am glad to recommend it. I
 don't feel like the same woman I
 was last fall.
 "My appetite is good now, and
 I'm sure it's Cardui that's made it
 pick up, for in the fall I had no
 relish for food at all, while now I'm
 hungry for my meals."
 At all drug stores. C-23
CARDUI
 THE WOMAN TONIC

TYPEWRITER SUPPLIES
 Ribbons and Carbon Paper,
 Royal and Corona Typewriters
 for sale, rent or exchange. Mail
 orders solicited. Abilene Type-
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SEND \$1.00 for 3 beautiful knit
 neckties; cost \$1 apiece any-
 where. Money returned if not
 satisfied. American Legion, Abi-
 lene, Texas. 1t5

The BULL'S EYE
 Editor and General Manager
 WILL ROGERS



An Unknown Historical Fact
DID you know that George Washington, The adopted Father of our Country, just before he got on the Ferry to cross the Delaware for the Photographing of that now famous Picture, Did you know that he smoked two sacks of 'Bull' Durham while he was waiting for the Ferry? (things were just as late in his War, as they were in our last one). Now I have never heard of this 'Bull' Durham episode before, neither have I ever heard it denied. So if it's never either been affirmed or denied, there is no reason to disbelieve that it's not true. 'Bull' Durham originated in Virginia, and Washington lived in Virginia, and he was a great man to patronize home industries. And as Washington was the best man of his day, and Durham the best tobacco of its day, there is no plausible reason to doubt that these two most excellent Institutions didn't readily recognize the good in each other and get together.

Will Rogers
SIXTY-FIVE YEARS AGO!
 In 1860 a blend of tobacco was born—'Bull' Durham. On quality alone it has won recognition wherever tobacco is known. It still offers the public this—more flavor, more enjoyment and a lot more money left at the end of a week's smoking.

TWO BAGS for 15 cents
100 cigarettes for 15 cents

'BULL' DURHAM
 Guaranteed by
The American Tobacco Co.
 111 Fifth Avenue, New York City

CONDENSED AUSTIN NEWS

Mrs. Emma Grigsby Meberg, Secretary of State, is visiting at her home in Plainview. This is Mrs. Meberg's first visit home since her appointment as head of the State Department.

Miss Edith Hodgson, public health nurse of Lubbock County, has resigned and will go to New Mexico, where she has accepted a position with the Bureau of Child Hygiene of the New Mexico State Board of Health.

Adjutant General Mark McGee said that he had not appointed a successor to Ranger Captain W. L. Wright, who has resigned. No other resignations have been received and no orders issued affecting the ranger force. General McGee said.

Dr. E. H. Sellers, chief geologist of the Bureau of Economic Geology and Technology of the University of Texas, has returned from Mexico, where for the last two months he has been making a geological survey for American oil interests.

Fifty applications for the position of prison auditor to succeed M. E. Bogle, resigned, have been received by the special commission created by the Legislature to make the appointment. The commission, composed of the Attorney General, the Comptroller and Treasurer, met to make the selection, but deferred action until later.

Calling upon his friends to support the new administration, W. W. Boyd, Game, Fish and Oyster Commissioner, has sent out a letter announcing his retirement on April 1 when his successor, T. E. Hubby of Waco, takes office. Mr. Boyd will return to his home at Decatur, to engage in the insurance and real estate business once more, he said.

Mrs. Viola Berry of Huntsville, former Austin resident, mother of five and several times a grandmother, has registered in the University of Texas for work on her M. A. degree. Mrs. Berry is the mother of K. L. Berry and Eugene Berry, famed Longhorn football stars. She received her bachelor's degree last year at Sam Houston State Teachers' College at Huntsville.

Another oil concern, known as the Humphreys Corporation, has just been organized by Col. A. E. Humphreys, well-known operator in Texas, and leader in the development of the Mexia field. The corporation was granted a permit to do business in Texas, having been organized under the laws of Delaware. It is capitalized for \$50,000. Wilmington, Del., is given as the home office of the concern.

Since Gov. Miriam A. Ferguson was inducted into office on Jan. 20, it is estimated that she has granted approximately 350 applications for executive clemency, including pardons, conditional paroles, restorations to citizenship, paroles and furloughs. This is shown by the records in the office of the Secretary of State. A large majority of the applications were granted upon recommendation of the Board of Pardons, following investigation by that body.

"Loyalty to the department and the administration is expected of every person employed," is an outstanding point made by the new State Highway Commission in instructions which have been given to all division engineers, maintenance superintendents and county foremen, and this declaration is followed with the statement that "it is possible to teach a loyal person to be efficient, but it is impossible to teach a disloyal person anything, with much satisfaction."

Vindication of James E. Ferguson, for which the impeached Governor had striven for over seven years, was consummated March 31, when his wife, Miriam A. Ferguson, the first woman Governor of Texas, affixed her signature to the so-called amnesty bill passed by the recent regular session of the Thirty-Ninth Legislature. In signing the bill Mrs. Ferguson carried out the topmost plank of her campaign—"vindication of Jim."

Governor Ferguson will leave on the night of May 4 for Orange to remain until May 9 as the guest of friends, it being her first rest since her induction into office. Announcement to that effect was made by William E. Lea of Orange, president of the Texas Highway Association, who extended the invitation to the Governor to visit his city. Mr. Lea said that a number of entertainments would be arranged for the Governor.

A warranty deed conveying 5,004 acres of land on which Austin, including the State Capitol site is located, to the State of Texas for a consideration of \$20,000 has been sent to Galveston for the signature of Mrs. Stella Chambers McGregor and Mrs. Kate Chambers Sturgis, who are selling the land to Texas. The deed, drawn by Robert E. Coffer, attorney, and already signed by Governor Miriam A. Ferguson, includes practically every lot in the city of Austin, and permanently clears all property titles.

Ford
Lower First Cost and Upkeep
 There is a double economy in the Ford Car that materially lowers the cost of motoring for the millions of Ford owners today.
First—a Ford Car is the lowest priced on the market—the least expensive car the automotive industry has ever produced.
Second—it costs less to operate and maintain. Fuel consumption is low—you get high mileage from tires. Repairs and replacements are infrequent; and charges, even for the labor involved, are small.
 The Ford Weekly Purchase Plan makes it possible for anyone to buy a Ford on the easiest of terms. You may pay for your Ford out of your regular earnings. Ask any authorized Ford dealer about the details of this plan or write us direct, using this coupon.
 Ford Motor Company, Dept. N-5, Detroit, Michigan
 Please mail me full particulars regarding your easy plan for owning an automobile.
 Name _____ Street _____
 Town _____ State _____
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SEE THE NEAREST AUTHORIZED FORD DEALER

FORDOR SEDAN
\$660
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 Coupe - - - 520
 Tudor Sedan - - - 550
 On open cars demountable rims and starter are \$85 extra
 All prices f. o. b. Detroit

CLASSIFIED ADS

FOR SALE
 FOR SALE—Pedigreed Watson's Improved Acala Cotton Seed. See C. L. Tucker. tf

FOR SALE—Heavy Red Oats, free of Johnson Grass seed, 70c per bushel at the ranch. Sam Butman, Sr. 8t3

FOR SALE—Grocery store in good country trade territory. Good gin. \$1300.00 to \$1500.00. Apply at Merkel Mail. 1tp

FOR SALE—150 egg capacity Incubator, good as new. Apply to G. F. Turner, Route one, box 15, phone 9040F4. 1tp

WANTED
 WANTED—Milk customers. Deliver milk either night of morning. Mrs. R. L. Proctor. tf

HELP WANTED—Want enough workers to chop 100 acres of cotton next week. See J. W. or Jim Mayfield. 1t

WANTED—Large family to work on the farm. See Phillip Diltz. 1tp

LOST
 FOUND—A fountain pen, near Mrs. A. A. Baker's home. Owner can get same by applying at this office for information and by paying for this ad. 1t

LOST—Red ring necked hound white feet, white in breast, and white tip on tail. Collar with Fred W. Crum, Melvin, Texas, on name plate. Notify me at Melvin, Texas. 1tp

LOST—A gold fountain pen, colored blue on one end and has the initials of or an advertisement of the Franklin Fire Insurance Company printed on it. Will pay reward for the return of same to W. O. Boney, Merkel, Texas. 1tp

Advertise in the
Merkel Mail.

"HEBRON GOSSIP"
 By Mayflower
 The farmers of this community are almost through planting now and are looking forward to a good crop this year.
 The party given by Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Shouse Saturday night was very much enjoyed by all, and especially the lemonade and cake which was served.
 The B.Y.P.U. will meet Sunday afternoon at three o'clock. Every one come early and bring some one with you.
 Several from this community attended the singing at Union Ridge Sunday afternoon and heard some very good singing.
 Mr. Robert Davis Accompanied by Mr. William Pannell, motored to Winters Sunday.
 Mr. Ulmer and Miss Lola Shelton of Union Ridge visited their sister, Mrs. Johnnie Dunn, Jr., Sunday.
 Mr. and Mrs. Davis visited Mr. and Mrs. Harris Sunday.
 Miss Alma Davis spent Sunday with Miss Winnie Bayless.
 Miss Lillie Davis was the guest of Miss Evelyn Pannell last Sunday.
 Perhaps there will be more news next week than there is this, as the folks are all busy working and do not find time to visit.
 Mayflower.

Merit— and merit alone!

WOODSTOCK
 Standard Typewriter
LITTLE has been said in print about the Woodstock—but much has been said by thousands of enthusiastic operators.
 It's mainly this background of good will—earned by good performance—that is responsible for its success.
 Users will tell you the Woodstock is a most exceptional typewriter—a composite of all improvements conducive to effortless writing—plus a rare beauty of type and sturdiness of construction that stamps this machine as a thing apart.
Woodstock Typewriter Co.
 216 West Monroe St. Chicago, Illinois
 Branches and Distributors Everywhere
WOODSTOCK

"Specials To Offer"

We have a few specials in seasonable articles to offer you, at prices, with quality. We mention a few below.

Screen doors, screen wire, weeding hoes, water, hose, lawn mowers, ice cream freezers, fishing tackles, camp cots, flash lights, oil stoves, bath room supplies, plumbing supplies, windmills, pipe, Well we have anything you want, nearly?

Implements that will give you service and satisfaction.

Just call us and tell us what you want. If it's hardware we will do the rest. Day phone 43, night phone 63 or 267.

Liberty Hardware Co.

"If It's Hardware We Have It"

SENIOR NOTES

Tuesday morning, May 12, the High School enjoyed very much the chapel talk by Dr. J. W. Hunt, president of McMurry College.

Rev. C. H. Little, pastor of the Grace Presbyterian church, conducted the chapel last Tuesday. This was Rev. Little's first visit to the High School and his talk was appreciated by all. Miss Ona Fae Rose played two piano selections and the High School "Four" sang, accompanied at the piano by Miss Iris Garrett.

Mr. Burgess: "Do my questions embarrass you?"

Student: "No sir, not at all, the questions are perfectly clear. It's the answer that puzzles me."

Hurrah for Merkel High School, the school of the free,

The school of the clohopper, the hobo and me.

I sing of its praises, its honors and its fame, While trying to learn Spanish, Espanol by name.

My hardest subject is math, both solid and tough, And Mr. Jackson, the teacher, can't teach it enough.

All I can do is to sit down and sigh.

I'll quit studying Math. in the sweet bye and bye.

How happy I am when Mr. Burgess turns red,

And Miss Williamson swats me on the back of the head,

And then Miss Weedon, all without fear,

Comes up behind me and twists my ear.

And English, of that English, it gives me a pain.

The same old thing over and over again.

I'm going back to Inkum and look for a wife,

And I'll be darn if I go to school another day in my life. 'Duke'

Clesby: "Well I answered a question in class today."

Hazel Lee: "What answer did you give?"

Clesby: "Present."

"Great Scott! What on earth has that fool of a jeweler been playing at with this ring?"

exclaimed the young man gazing at the engagement ring in his hand

"What's the trouble?"

"Why I told him to engrave from A to Z (from Arthur to Lora) on the inside of it, and the blooming idiot has put in the whole alphabet.

He: "How did you get that wonderful hair?"

She: "Sleeping in a waffle-iron when I was a kid."

FOR SALE—A trigonometry in fine condition, never been used. See Isabel McAdams. Also have 45 invitations would like to exchange for wedding announcements.

Sales Report OF Jones Dry Goods Chain of Stores For Week Ending May First

MERKEL first I wish to thank the good people of Sweetwater, Tahoka, Colorado, Gainsville, Hamlin, Goree, Lorena, O'Donnell, Baird, Crosbyton, Slaton, Brownfield, W. J. Sheppard, Mgr.

JONES DRY GOODS

Miss Margaret Canon Celebrates Birthday

A few little friends were invited to the A. J. Canon home on Monday afternoon to enjoy a party, honoring Mr. and Mrs. Canon's daughter, Margaret, whose tenth birthday it was.

The little guests gathered in the house where various games were the chief amusement during the afternoon.

Then all were invited into the dining room, where the table was prettily covered, using a pretty punch bowl as the center attraction. The little guests were asked to cut the birthday cake. They were told to look for their fortune. A ring and a button were within the cake, and Miss Marie Stanford was successful in cutting the ring and was told that she would marry first. Not any one found the button, so no one was to be an old maid.

The little friends enjoyed this occasion with the honoree were: Misses Nell Durham, Willie Evelyn Boaz, Marie Stanford, Duncan Briggs, Mary E. Grimes and Mildred Richardson.

Little Miss Mary Elizabeth Grimes was a week-end guest of Abilene friends last week.

CITY FURNITURE has Ice Boxes, Refrigerators, dishes, Hose, Tents, Wood and Oil Stoves FOR LESS. Cross street from P. O. Joe Garland, Prop. 15t4

Mr. E. C. Tarvin, one of the substantial citizens of the Compere community, was here one day this week and while here called at this office and had us send him the Mail for the next year. Mr. Tarvin was very complimentary of the fine program recently put on by the local Trade Trippers at the Compere Presbyterian church. He also paid a nice compliment to the Merkel Mail, all of which we appreciate very much.

Try a Classified Ad in The Mail.

BOOSTER CLUB OF ZION CHAPEL GIVEN PARTY

The Boosters Club of Zion Chapel had an ice cream party at Mrs. Ola Spurgin's home last Friday evening. Among those present were as follows:

Mary Etta Pace, Gertrude Cook, Elizabeth Hanson, Mary Ellen Hanson, Lawrence Spurgin, Dennis Davis, Charles Childress, Clyde Chancey, Ed Chancey, Albert Chancey, Howard Smith, Wats Davis, C. J. Pace, Ralph Pace.

Following are the officers of the club: Charles Childers, president; Clyde Chancey, Secretary-Treasurer; Look-out Committee, Dennis Davis, chairman, Mary Ellen Hanson, Jean Allred and Clyde Chancey.

W. O. Boney represents the San Antonio Joint Stock and Land Bank. See him for 6% money.

NEW CAFE IN THE DANIELS BUILDING

We take this method of announcing to our friends and the public, that we have opened in the New Daniels Building on Front Street an up-to-date Cafe.

We invite you to call on us when in need of anything in the Cafe line, promising you the best of good, clean food, prepared in style and to your liking.

MASHBURN & PATTON, Proprietors 8t3p

Senior B.Y.P.U. Program

Doctrinal meeting. Leader and introduction by Stella Wilson.

1st part, Floyd Dowell. 2nd part, Flossie Campbell. 3rd part Ray Garrett. 4th part, Yates Brown. 5th part, James Swann.

Subscribe for the Merkel Mail

Miss Bird is very kind to animals. Only last week she let some baby mice sleep in her powder box.

Incorrect Interpretation

A small boy near Xmas time kept begging the teacher to let the class read the story about someone who ate a ribbon and it made him sick. It was only after persistent questioning that the bewildered teacher discovered that the child wanted to read "A visit from St. Nicholas," the particular lines he had in mind being these:

"Away to the window I flew like a flash, Tore open the shutters and threw up the sash."

Mrs. George Woodrum, accompanied by Mrs. E. M. Heeter, and Mrs. M. R. Woodrum, attended the funeral of Mrs. J. H. Warnick last week.

CAPTURED MAIL ROBBER TAUGHT CLASS SUNDAY

Oklahoma City, May 18.—Jeff Duree, convicted mail robber whose name has been linked with the looting of a number of banks was the teacher of a Bible class in a church he had helped to found when he was arrested near Phoenix, Arizona, recently.

Alva McDonald, United States marshal for the Western district of Oklahoma, who returned Sunday with Duree said that the man who flouted the law in Oklahoma apparently pulled the curtain on his misdeeds when he retired to the little 10-acre chicken farm in Arizona where he and his family were living with the respect of their neighbors there.

McDonald said Duree was pouring out the alleged loot of many Oklahoma bank robberies in charitable and religious undertakings, and that the little church where he taught his Sunday School class was built largely from stolen funds.

McDonald said Duree was reported to have been in Oklahoma only three weeks ago to recuperate his finances, and that the outlaw "protested he was glad to see me again."

Duree, a mild manered, pleasant man, is under a 25-year sentence in the Federal penitentiary at Leavenworth for mail robbery.

ROOMING HOUSE—Mrs. S. A. Noel is now operating the "Tourist Rooming House" on Front street, located over the Oasis Filling Station. 15t2p

Quite a number of the fronts of the stores along one of the main streets have been treated to a nice coat of paint, which not only adds much to the appearance of the business houses, but will be of much benefit toward preserving the buildings. Let more store owners do likewise.

Men's Dress Caps

Big new shipment of Men's Dress Caps in all the latest shapes and colors. Just what you have been looking for, "Men and Boys!" Caps that usually sell as high as \$2.25, Friday and Saturday only

\$1.69

Go to your Bank and borrow money and then come to our Store for your goods and we guarantee a big saving.

Brown Dry Goods Company

WE SELL FOR LESS—BECAUSE WE SELL FOR CASH

Silk Hose

Ladies, this is a beautiful well shaped hose, retails at many stores for \$1.25. We have this hose in the following colors, Tan Bark, Peach, Beige, Prussian Tan, Bronz and Black. Come early to get desired color. Friday and Saturday

Only 89c Pair