

STATEMENT of CONDITION

THE FARMERS STATE BANK

Merkel, Texas, Close of Business Dec. 31, 1927.

RESOURCES table with items like Loans, Banking House, Furniture & Fixtures, etc.

LIABILITIES table with items like Capital Stock, Surplus & Profits, Bills Payable, etc.

The above statement is correct. W. L. DILTZ, Jr., Cashier

OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

- J. S. Swann, President; Herbert Patterson, Assistant Cashier; R. O. Anderson, V. Pres.; Dallas Scarbrough; J. C. Mason, V. Pres.; David Hendricks; W. L. Diltz, Cashier.

SOVIETS HIT AT HEAD OF MOSLEM

Russians Attack Islam in Samarkand, Quaint City of Central Asia.

Washington. — Samarkand, venerable city of central Asia, has been the scene of a series of recent clashes between the Soviet apostles of modernism and the conservative religious leaders of Islam.

The quaint city with the melodious name lies about 250 miles southwest of Tashkent, Turkestan, on the Transcaspian railroad.

Perhaps nowhere in the Moslem world, except Mecca, could the Russians have invaded a more hostile territory to attack Mohammedanism, says a bulletin of the National Geographic society. According to ancient legend, Samarkand was the head of Mohammedanism and Mecca the heart.

Samarkand is more than 6,000 years old and once had a population of more than a million. Today it has fewer than 60,000 inhabitants.

After the Russians took the city in 1928, they built a new city outside its western limits. A long, wide boulevard, shaded by tall poplars, now separates the two settlements.

The native city is a labyrinth of narrow, crooked, dusty streets, bordered with dirty mud walls of courtyards and one-story houses.

The fourth side of the square is occupied by ramshackle booths of odd pieces of lumber or tin, or strips of canvas on tall poles.

In a secluded spot in the old city, perhaps a half mile from the registan, is the tomb of the mighty Tamerlane, conqueror of Asia.

From an elevated position above the surging mass of humanity the riot of color suggests that the natives vie with the rainbow and each other.

In a secluded spot in the old city, perhaps a half mile from the registan, is the tomb of the mighty Tamerlane, conqueror of Asia.

A large park in the center of the Russian quarter is the hub of the new city, from which wide, well-shaded streets radiate in all directions.

Some pass through masses of ruins of Samarkand when it was at the height of its prosperity. One of these roads leads to the citadel, situated on a hill between the two cities.

Blocked by Mere Man. Knoxville, Tenn.—An attempt of woman members of the board of education to equip a beauty parlor in the vocational school here was so frowned upon by male members of the board that the move has been abandoned.

Buried Two Days. Chisholm, Minn.—Buried under tons of ore and earth for two days and believed dead, Nick Bozenich was found alive in the Bruce mine by fellow workers who had been digging for his body 46 hours.

THE DOER OF DEEDS

By EVELYN GAGI BROWNE

IT ISN'T the man who tells you How everything should be done; Who points out this one's failures, And jibes at everyone.

Who boasts how he'd have done it, And criticizes the way. The Doer of Deeds is working— Who counts in the world today.

It's the man who's in the struggle, Whose face is grimed and worn, Who keeps on fighting bravely, Though battling-scarred and torn.

He may fall—but gets up gamely, And, striving, never teeds. The ones who sneer and slander, But dares to do the deeds.

He gives himself, unsparing, And never counts the cost; But knows the joy of fighting, Although his cause is lost.

To him belongs the credit, And the victor's laurels, too; For the world today is needing The man who dares to do!

(Copyright.)

SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT

By F. A. WALKER

THE LOGICAL SEX

ABOUT the oldest tradition in the world is the one that describes the "race of men" as the logical sex.

The masculine human being is convinced that he solves his problems by reasoning with himself about them.

On the other hand, he is convinced that the female of the species is simply guided by instinct.

This is in spite of the fact that all over the world, from China to Peru, when it comes to the question of feminism, the men lay down a general proposition and then proceed to evade it.

In a word, women and men are "equal." But man's prejudices must not be interfered with. He still reserves to himself the right to protect and regulate the other half of humanity.

Women have the right to vote at elections all over the continent of North America. They may be admitted to the bar and plead before the courts. But the question whether or not they should be allowed to sit on juries is not yet settled in most of the states.

Various reasons are given by those who oppose the change.

When it is examined the opposition is found to be based on the theory that the gentle sex must be regulated as it has been in the past.

An interesting example of masculine logic is supplied by the German republic.

In the constitution of that state it is provided explicitly that men and women have the same rights and, apart from fighting, must perform the same duties.

Yet when the proposal to make women eligible for jury duty came up before the federal council in the form of the proposed draft of a law, it was negatived.

The explanation given by Herr Von Preger, the Bavarian representative, ought to be framed and hung up in every woman's club in the world as an example of how not to reason.

"The Bavarian government," he said, "maintains the principal standpoint that women are not suited to judicial office. The admission of women would result in a softening of justice, which is most undesirable just at this time."

So it all comes to this: Women may elect those who make the laws; they may expound the same laws, but they are not fit to decide simple questions of fact arising in connection with the administration of the laws.

When Mrs. Poyser made the tart generalization that the women were made fools "to match the men" she was really unnecessarily severe on the long suffering sisterhood.

(© by McClure Newspaper Syndicate.)

What Does Your Child Want to Know?

Answered by BARBARA BOURJAILY



WHY DOES A CAT'S FUR STAND UP WHEN SHE IS FRIGHTENED? To make the cat seem larger And scare away its foes, it humps its back and says, "spost, spost," And then away it goes.

(Copyright.)

STATEMENT of CONDITION

FARMERS & MERCHANTS NAT'L BANK

Merkel, Texas

Close of Business December 31st, 1927

RESOURCES

RESOURCES table with items like Loans, Time and Demand, Overdrafts, Warrants, Ind. School Dist., etc.

LIABILITIES

LIABILITIES table with items like Capital Stock, Surplus and Undivided Profits, Dividend Unpaid, etc.

STATE OF TEXAS } I, Booth Warren, Cash

County of Taylor } County of Taylor, do solemnly swear that the above statement is true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

BOOTH WARREN, Cashier

Directors

- J. T. Warren, G. F. West, Sam Butman, Sr., Geo. L. Paxton, Booth Warren

EVEN RICE HURT GIRL'S STOMACH

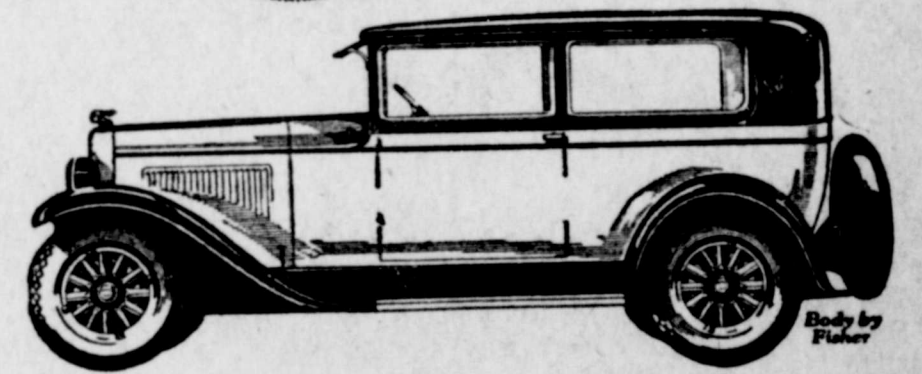
"For years I suffered from gas and constipation. Used to get headaches and dizzy spells. The first dose of Adierika gave me relief. Now I rest well."—Mrs. B. Brinkley. Just ONE spoonful of Adierika relieves gas and that bloated feeling so that you can

eat and sleep well. Acts on BOTH upper and lower bowel and removes old waste matter you never thought was there. No matter what you tried for your stomach, Adierika will surprise you. Merkel Drug Co. It

We will not be open on Sunday mornings. Buy your meat Saturdays. CLARENCE SAUNDERS

new

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The Added Value of Many New Features -the Added Safety of Four-Wheel Brakes

Not only does the New Series Pontiac Six introduce superb new body creations by Fisher. It also offers the added value of many new engineering features and the added safety of four-wheel brakes—at no increase in price...

PRICES: 2-Door Sedan, \$745; Coupe, \$745; Sport Roadster, \$745; Sport Cabriolet, \$795; 4-Door Sedan, \$825; Sport Landau Sedan, \$875. The Oakland All-American Six, \$1045 to \$1265. All prices at factory. Delivered prices include minimum handling charges. Easy to pay on the liberal General Motors Time Payment Plan.

LOWE MOTOR CO. MERKEL, TEXAS

PONTIAC SIX NEW SERIES

THE NEW FORD

Is here. We are glad to have anyone who has not had a ride in the new car to call us.

Seeing is Believing

CALL NOW

Merkel Motor Co.

The Sandman Story

by Martha Martin

ABOUT THE ZEBRAS

"I've named you Julia," said Queen Bess to her child.

"Of course it was the keeper in the zoo who told me that he thought that would be a nice name for you, and I think so, too. I thought so the moment he spoke of it."

Now, Julia was a baby zebra, and her mother was a grown-up zebra.

A zebra, as you know, is something like a horse with stripes.

"I suppose there are some people who wouldn't think a baby zebra was the sweetest thing in the world, but I do," Mother Zebra said.

Sometimes now she was called Mother Zebra, though, of course, Queen Bess was her real name, as I've said before.

"Your father, Julia Zebra, is known as George First. Does not that make him sound regal?"

"Regal means kingly, of course."

"You're enjoying the hay, too, now, Oh, yes, you're eating very grown-up



"A Little Bird Told Me," said Mother Zebra.

food, and yet you are only a little girl, only a little girl.

"Your father is eleven years old. You see, that makes him very, very wise and important."

"There are creatures of eleven years old who may not be wise and important, but to my zebra mind there is nothing much finer in the way of an age than the age of eleven."

"The King, your father, thinks that my age is a fine age. I am nine years old."

"We are both from Cape Colony, South Africa, which is far, far away from here. There are nine zebra cousins here in the zoo, which is a splendid number. Of course I think eleven would be a nice number of zebras to have here, and perhaps they'll send for two more some time to make the number eleven."

"I really think, though, that nine is all right as a number when it means the number of cousins we have here."

"And eleven is the finest age to be."

"Two of our babies have been given to other zoos, which is quite fair, I suppose. We were given something in this zoo in exchange."

An exchange is fair. Even if it means exchanging zebras and other fine beasts.

"One of the young zebra children was sent to Belgium, which is far, far away, across an ocean, and then still more of a distance."

"To be sure, I do not think so much of the distance, for I came here from a greater distance still. But people think that is far away."

"The other baby zebra was sent to a zoo in this country. But you are to stay here with your mother, for you are your mother's Julia baby girl!"

"I knew you were going to look just as you do."

"How did you know that, Mother Zebra?" asked Julia Zebra.

"A little bird told me," said Mother Zebra.

"A little bird?" repeated Julia.

"Yes," said Mother Zebra, "a little bird. But when I say that I say it as people do who use that expression."

"When some one knows a nice secret they are apt to say:

"Oh, a little bird told me.' They mean that it is a very nice little secret—just such a one as a dear little bird would tell."

"Dear me, dear me," continued Mother Zebra, "what a handsome bumble-bee I do see over yonder."

"He's handsome, but I hope he's not coming to call on me. He has a most magnificent bumble-bee suit."

"He must have paid a great deal of bumble-bee money for it."

"Ah, he's not coming to call here. He sees a flower over yonder. Well and good, well and good."

"It's a nice world, isn't it?" asked Julia as she looked about her.

"Couldn't be better," said Mother Zebra. "Couldn't be better!"

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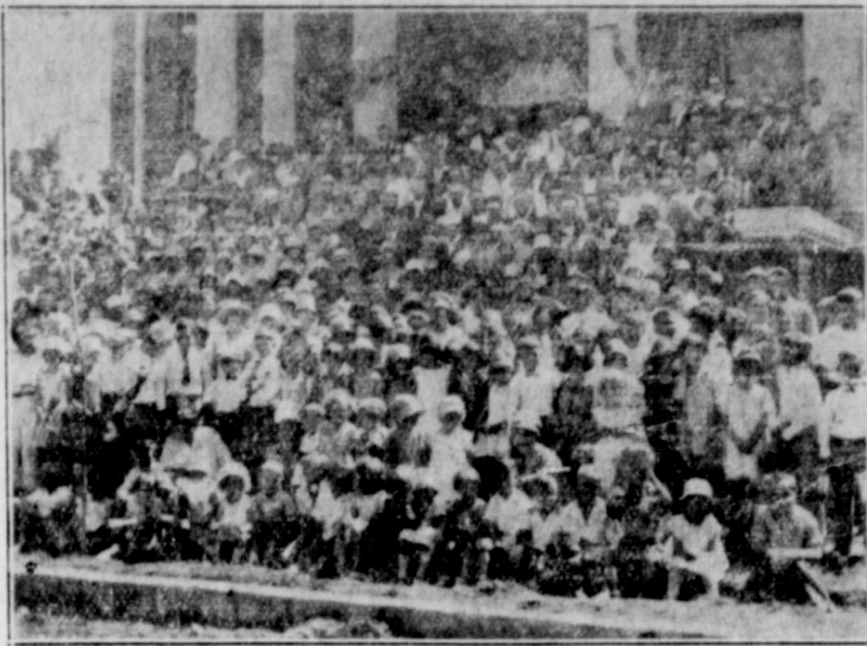
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Sunday School Group, First Baptist Church, Merkel, Texas



Officers, Teachers and Other Workers of Merkel Sunday School.

VINOL HELPS NERVOUS, RUN-DOWN MAN

"Before taking Vinol, I was run-down, nervous and irritable. Now I feel like another person."—R. McCoy. Vinol is a simple, strengthening iron and cod liver compound in use for over 25 years for sickly, nervous women, run-down men and weak children. The very FIRST week you take Vinol, you begin to feel stronger eat and sleep better. Merkel Drug Company.

Buy a coupon book today and start February for a saving at—**CLARENCE SAUNDERS**



REV. IRA L. PARRACK
Pastor First Baptist Church,
Merkel, Texas

Efficiency of The Merkel Baptist Church

We are sure every Baptist in all Texas, and especially in West Texas will take great pride in the accomplishment of the First Baptist Church of Merkel in reaching again the Advanced Standard in Sunday School work for 1928. Last year the Merkel Sunday school was one of only three in the entire Southern Baptist Convention to reach this Standard. The Merkel Church for years has been a leader in all the South in Sunday school work. The church started on its advanced work several years ago under Walter Jackson, who was educational director of the church for several months. Under the capable leadership of Pastor Ira L. Parrack the church has made advancements that challenge the admiration of all Southern Baptists. Pastor Parrack is one of our most efficient pastors, not only in Sunday school organization, but in preaching the old time gospel as well. He believes in organization, but he does not let organization take the place of the leadership of the Holy Spirit, and the fire of personal evangelism. Brother Parrack is a pastor who stands for every interest fostered by Texas and Southern Baptist. The Baptist Standard and West Texas Baptist are coming into practically every home in his church. The church not only contributes liberally to the conquest campaign, cooperative program, but is liberal in helping care for the two local institutions in the association—Simmons University and the West Texas Baptist Sanitarium.

What has been accomplished by the Merkel Church can be accomplished by other churches. Consecration, devotion, hard work, a dependence on the Leadership of Christ, evangelism and organization will do the work.

—West Texas Baptist.

We appreciate your business, large or small, and endeavor to merit your patronage by always giving courteous service and quality meats. Baker & Wheeler.

Dunn Bros. Grocery and Market

Specials for Friday and Saturday For Cash

- Sweet Potatoes, NICE and SMOOTH per pk. .40
- Tomato Ketchup VAN CAMPS 14 Oz. .20
- Del Monte Peaches, size 2 1/2 .25
- Sun Kist Peaches, size 2 1/2 .25
- Maxwell House Coffee, 3 lb. 1.50
- SUGAR, 25 pound sack 1.75
- Woodford Corn, No. 2 per can .15
- Lettuce, good firm head .07 1/2
- Baking Powder, CALUMET 1 pound can .25

We will have for Saturday, a complete line of fresh vegetables of all kinds.

Don't forget our Cream Station. Test every day.

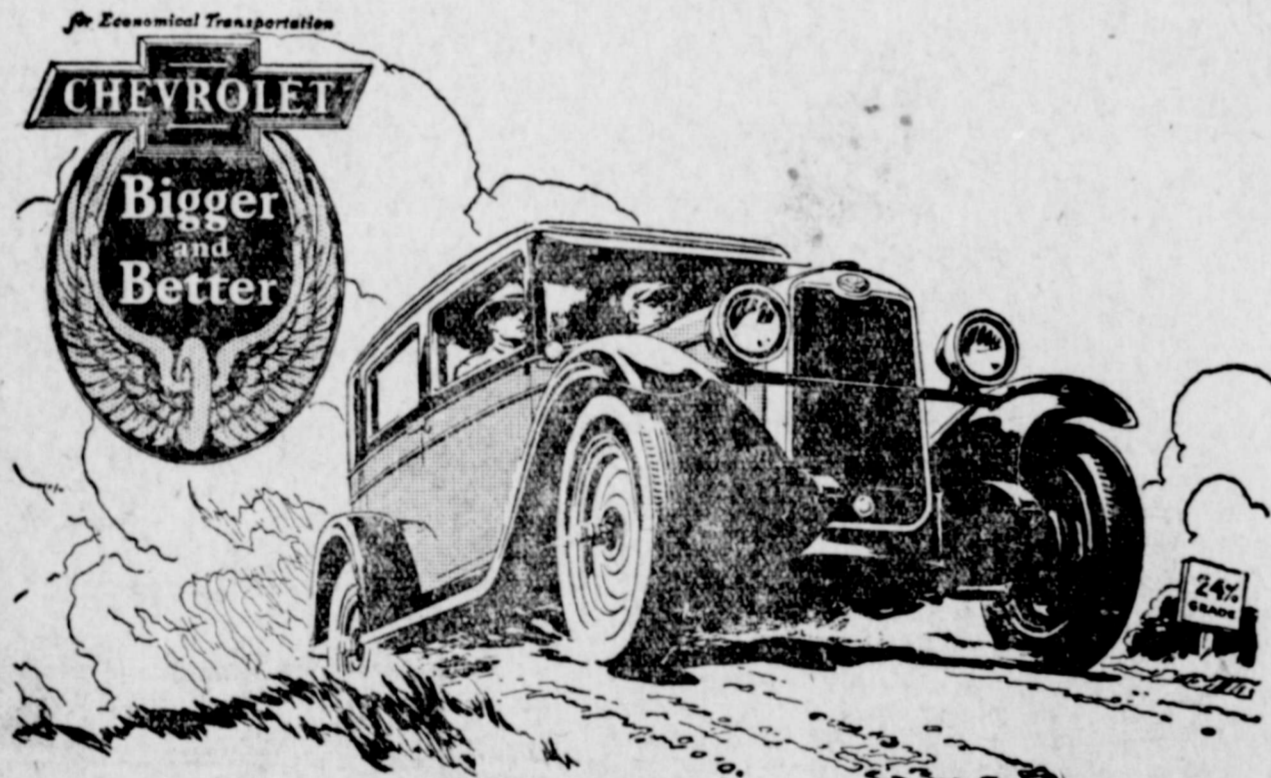
When you want a nice chicken, either fryer or hen, we have them.

DUNN BROS.

Phone 77 Kent St.

You can save money on Meats at **CLARENCE SAUNDERS** Market. Our Prices are always lower and quality higher.

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Sensational New Performance

Amazing New Low Prices!

Longer, lower, more rugged and powered by an improved valve-in-head engine—the Bigger and Better Chevrolet offers a type of over-all performance so thrilling that it has created wildfire enthusiasm throughout America.

Never before has there been such motor car value—marvelous new beauty, sensational new performance, and greatly improved quality... at the most amazing prices in Chevrolet history.

You need only to see and drive this sensational new car to know why it has everywhere encountered a public reception of history-making proportions—why everyone calls it the world's most desirable low-priced automobile. Come in today for a demonstration!

BRACKEEN-HUGHES CHEVROLET CO.

MERKEL, TEXAS

MASSEY-WOODS CHEVROLET CO.

TRENT, TEXAS

QUALITY A.T. LOW COST

The COACH
\$585

The Touring or Roadster . . . \$495

The Coupe . . . \$595

The 4-Door Sedan . . . \$675

The Sport Cabriolet . . . \$665

The Imperial Landau . . . \$715

Utility Truck . . . \$495 (Chassis Only)

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Check Chevrolet Delivered Prices

They include the lowest handling and financing charges available.

QUEEN

"NOT OCCASIONALLY—BUT ALWAYS A GOOD SHOW"

IT STARTS FRIDAY and SATURDAY

The Most Thrilling Serial in Years!

WHISPERING SMITH BRIDES

A harrowing tale of the railroads of the West—Ten Weeks of blood curdling entertainment.



From the famous novel by FRANK H. SPEARMAN

FREE! FREE!
ALL CHILDREN WITH PARENT ADMITTED
FREE FRIDAY AND SATURDAY

Complete Change of Program each Day

FRIDAY Only
LEWIS STONE and BARBARA BEDFORD

"The Notorious Lady"

Folks here's real entertainment with Lewis Stone at his best. A First National Picture Also—2-REEL COMEDY

Monday and Tues.

One woman against a world of men. Pola Negri in the supreme achievement of her career.

Pola Negri

—in—
"The Woman On Trial"

Here is the utmost in drama and a guaranteed attraction. A Paramount Picture Also— "SHORT SUBJECTS"

SATURDAY Only
Jack Luden

"Shootin' Irons"

An honest-to-goodness, sure-fire drama. It's a Paramount picture. Also— "DUMMY LOVE" 2-Reel Comedy

Wed. and Thurs.

Johnny Hines

WHITE PANTS WILLIE

It's the richest, fastest, peppiest Hines ever put the laugh on you. A First National Picture Also— "SCARED PINK"—2-Reel Comedy

—COMING SOON—

THE GREATEST PICTURE OF ALL TIMES
"THE COVERED WAGON"

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

SUBSCRIPTION RATES
 Taylor and Jones counties \$1.50
 Anywhere else \$2.00
IN ADVANCE
 TELEPHONE No. 61
 Entered at the postoffice at Mer-
 kel, Texas as second class mail.

Had you as a citizen noticed the fine condition of Rose Hill Cemetery. If not you should take notice. If you have loved ones resting there, you certainly have reason to rejoice. And as a citizen of this town and community you should also be proud. To keep the city of the dead in such beautiful condition speaks well for

any people. Let's all extend thanks and commendation to the Cemetery Association, every member of it, and the painstaking and hardworking care keeper as well.

Mr. Joe Owen and family who have been residing at Iowa Park for the past few years, have moved back to this city, much to the delight of their many friends.

HONORING MISS SWANN

Mr. and Mrs. Warren Smith entertained in honor of Miss Bill Swann on the eve of her departure for St. Louis last Friday evening, complimenting her with a lovely dinner and later a Theatre party at the Palace. Miss Swann's friends who enjoyed Mr. and Mrs. Smith's hospitality were Mr. and Mrs. E. Yates Brown and Mrs. E. N. Brown.

Almanac Traced to the Ancient Saxons

In the early days of Greece it was customary to announce the first day of the month either through a herald or placards pasted on the city walls. These placards were known as kalends, or kolendae from the Greek, "I call or proclaim." The book of accounts referring to the days of the year was known as a calendarium, hence the word calendar. Excavators at Pompeii have discovered a square block of marble that served the Greeks as a calendar. Each side served as a record of three months. Each month was headed by the proper sign of the zodiac, and contained astronomical, agricultural and religious information. Verstegan, early lexicographer, tracing the origin of the word almanac, says:

"Our ancient Saxon ancestors used to engrave on certain squared sticks about a foot in length, sometimes more, sometimes less, the courses of the moons of the whole year, whereby they always certainly tell what new moons, full moons and changes should happen, as also their festival dates; and such a carved stick they called al-mon-aht; that is to say, al-mon-heed, to wit, the regard or observation of all the moons, and hence is derived the name almanac."—Detroit News.

Are Stevenson's Books to Stand Time's Test?

The bishop of Durham in his oration at the Stevenson commemoration dinner indirectly raised the question whether physical disabilities are a handicap to individual distinction in life. His observations suggest that weakness in one sense may be the path to greatness in another. Robert Louis Stevenson was an only son and a chronic invalid. His physical weakness, like Scott's lameness and Byron's club foot, the bishop remarked, tended to induce in him an almost morbid cult of virility.

The bishop wound up his address with a question to which Stevenson enthusiasts of the present day would admit of but one answer. When his books had to stand nakedly on their merits would they be able to hold their own against the rival claims of new works armed with all the subtle appeal of direct relevance to the time present? When we think of the future over the Waverly novels for long after they were published and of the apathy regarding Scott in the present generation, no one can answer the bishop's question dogmatically.—Weekly Scotsman.

Ask today about our coupon books—
CLARENCE SAUNDERS

JUST HUMANS
 By GENE CARR



"IN DE LAST HAUL I HELD OUT ON YA, SO DERE'S FIFTY COMIN' TO YA."
 "DAT'S RIGHT, KID; MONEY COT DAT WAY WON'T DO YA NO GOOD."

Mannequin Promenade
 Wednesday Evening, Feb. 9
 eight-thirty o'clock
 Crystal Ball Room
 MEZZANINE FLOOR OF THE
 Hilton Hotel

We cordially invite you to attend this brilliant Spring Revue of smart creations for Women and Misses.

"ABILENE'S FINEST STORE"

GRISSOM'S
 ABILENE, TEXAS

Religious Faith No Secret in Jerusalem

In Jerusalem, the little city of great things, religious observances play a part in daily life unknown in other capitals. Since it is the center of three great faiths and all their subdivisions, can it be wondered at if each faith and branch thereof jealously guards rights and rites acquired throughout centuries, often through famine, siege and untold hardship?

The religious festivals bring their own pageantry to the city. There are Moslems with their adherents from northern Africa, India, Afghanistan, Bokhara, Arabia, and the Sudan; Christians of all denominations; Latins, including many of the religious orders and the Uniate churches which acknowledge the supremacy of the pope; the eastern churches, which comprise the Orthodox, the Armenian, and Syriac, Coptic, and Abyssinians; the Anglican church; the Jews, divided into Ashkenazim, Sephardim, Karaites, Yemenites, Georgians, and Bokharans. — National Geographic Magazine.

Cartoon in Japan Not Inspired by Politics

In Japan, apparently, the cartoon did not have the democratic beginnings of its occidental counterpart. Here in America the cartoon was originally used in magazines and newspapers as a political weapon, but the Japanese cartoon was more than eight hundred years old before the first issue of the Yokohama Mainichi Shimbun, first of the Japanese dailies, appeared in 1871.

The first Nipponese cartoonist was a lordly person, a Buddhist monk, Kakuyu, abbot of Toba, who was born in 1053 A. D. He employed most of his eighty-seven years laughing at the follies and vanities of the decadent Kyoto court and at pretentious low-brows everywhere. His influence over that branch of Japanese art was as great as that of Shakespeare on the English drama. In fact, for centuries the only Japanese name for the cartoon was "Toba-e"—"Toba Pictures." No cartoons appeared in Japanese newspapers until a few years ago, but now they have become so popular that in all the large cities they are printed as daily features.

The Hobo Instinct

One of the primal instincts of man which refuses to be eradicated is the wandering urge. It originated, undoubtedly, from necessity. The need for changing hunting grounds and camp sites was always present in prehistoric and early historic times. Later when people settled down, founded towns, and agricultural districts became established, the necessity for this urge ceased to some extent. The instinct of wishing to see new lands, however, has continued and undoubtedly that is one of the reasons for the present popularity of motor camping.—Field and Stream Magazine.

COMPERE ITEMS

The health of this community is very good at present, although Mr. Allred of the Truby community has been real sick with a cancer on his lip which has caused him much pain and suffering of late.

We have been having some pretty weather which every one is glad to see, especially the farmers who are very busy putting up their land for another crop.

A crowd of Compere young folks went on Chalk Peak kodaking Sunday and all had a real nice time.

There was a large crowd at the party at Mr. and Mrs. E. C. Tarvin, Sr., Friday night, and all reported a nice time. Mr. Tarvin has very recently had a new radio put in his home which he is very well pleased with.

Mrs. Wilburn and children visited Mr. and Mrs. Chester Bond of the White Church community Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. A. C. Bond and children visited at Mr. and Mrs. G. C. Bond's of the White Church community, Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. L. A. Blount of the I. X. L. community, spent Sunday night with Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Stout.

Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Stout and Mrs. Beulah Cunningham and children, visited at Mr. and Mrs. Tarvin's a while Saturday night.

Mr. Roy Blount of I.X.L. community spent Saturday night with Mr. Burlie Bond.

Mr. and Mrs. E. C. Tarvin Jr. visited at Mrs. G. W. Stout's a while Sunday afternoon.

Mrs. A. M. Stout and children of

the Hawley community visited at Mrs. G. W. Stout's Sunday.

Mrs. G. W. Stout has as her guest now her daughter, Mrs. Beulah Cunningham and children from Shawnee, Oklahoma.

GOLAN NEWS

Mr. Leo Harris of Kale Community spent Saturday night and Sunday with Mr. Palmer Skidmore.

Mr. and Mrs. C. C. Stribling of Trent and his mother, of Floydada, spent the day with Mr. and Mrs. C. A. Duncan.

Mr. and Mrs. E. C. Hill and family of Royston were the guests of Mr. and Mrs. Will Hill Sunday.

Mr. J. D. Dunn of Roby and sister Mrs. Porterwood and children, were here Sunday.

Mr. Carl and Otho Thompson of Spur, Texas, were home for the weekend.

Mr. and Mrs. Homer McLeod have recently moved from Abilene to the Golan community.

Mr. D. R. Thompson and family spent the day Sunday with his daughter, Mrs. Ollie Fox of Merkel.

Mrs. Jim Jeffrey is reported being very ill this past week.

We had Fifth Sunday singing at this place Sunday afternoon. We had a very good singing with a large crowd from almost all the county.

Quite a number of our Golan people went to church at Sylvester Sunday night.

Would you wish a nice saving on your Grocery Bill for 1928? If so start today with—

CLARENCE SAUNDERS

We now have in stock and on display
the Automatic, safety hatch
 Ideal Incubators and Brooders

which we will be glad to show you and explain why they are better. You will find the price of the above mentioned incubator in line, and the hatch better.

The Ideal Incubator is priced in competition to mail order houses. If thinking of ordering, see this one before ordering.

We also have a car of—
John Deere Implements
 shipped, which will soon be on display at our store. Any thing you need in hardware will be found at this store.

Crown Hardware Company
 "We save you money every time and give you satisfaction all the time"

YES OUR VALENTINES ARE HERE

We have cut suits, lace, and frilly ones in time for—

Our Big 19 cent Sale
 which starts Saturday

and continues through next week. Unusual bargains at a ridiculous low price. Bargains for man, woman and child. Come early to this sale unique

SEARS VARIETY STORE
 "The Home of Bargains" Merkel, Texas

es Sir!

Mr. Car Owner

We have the facilities for giving you complete service. We have—

1. One of the best equipped shops in West Texas.
2. Three mechanics, two of whom have had special training, and are as good as the best.
3. Magnolia Gasoline and Oil, and all grades of Mobiloil.
4. Batteries repaired and recharged.
5. Willard batteries for sale, also batteries for rent.
6. Dunlop tires.
7. Genuine Chevrolet parts.

When in need call 17

**Brackeen-Hughes
Chevrolet Company**
Merkel, Texas

Dora Doings

Bro. Garner filled the pulpit at the Methodist Church Sunday, and everyone enjoyed the sermon.

Quite a bit of sickness around, but with our new doctor everybody soon gets well.

Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Perry made a business trip to Abilene Monday.

M. V. Brownfield has a new radio, so he is on the wave now.

Mr. and Mrs. Jim Kinzey of Pyron visited H. S. Wright and family Saturday and Sunday.

Grandad Oliver is on the sick list this week.

The young people enjoyed a radio and play party with Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Gregg Friday night.

Jasper McCoy of Merkel has been buying cattle and hogs in our community this week.

Our Basket Ball team defeated Blackwell Saturday night 28 to 20. Come on boys, we're for you.

Our school is progressing nicely with our fine principal and good staff of teachers.

Misses Billie and Johnnie Oviler are spending a few days at home from Draughon's business college at Abilene.

Mr. and Mrs. Bill Tyrone of Littlefield visited Mr. and Mrs. Alvis Tyrone last week-end.

John Dudley was the lucky man at naming the reel at the road show Friday night.

Mr. and Mrs. Forest Reynolds of Abilene were in this city Saturday.

R. L. Ford and children motored to Mulberry Canyon Sunday. Nance

CARD OF THANKS

I wish to express my sincere gratitude and appreciation to all those friends and neighbors who offered so many kind deeds and expressions of sympathy during the recent illness and death of my sister, Mrs. Burfield. It was all greatly appreciated and will be long remembered.

JOHN COOMER. 1tp

Ask today about our coupon book—
CLARENCE SAUNDERS

Blair Items

There is some sickness in this community at this writing.

Mr. and Mrs. Jim Horton of Southland, Texas, visited in the home of their daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Meeks, and family, the past week.

Mr. and Mrs. Reed Cox and little son, Jimmie Warren, of El Paso, are the guests of Mrs. Cox's father, Mr. Sam Provine, and other relatives for several days.

Mr. J. P. Spears of Valera, Texas, has been the guest of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Tom Spears, the past ten days.

Mr. and Mrs. Sam Grayson and family accompanied by Mr. Ernest Hill of Burleson, dined with their daughter, Miss Effie, Friday evening.

Mrs. Hugh Campbell acting as hostess.

Mrs. Claud Doan and little daughter, Otis Ray, and Miss Mae Melton, spent the week-end with Mrs. Zep Climons of Lawn, Texas.

Misses Norma Neighbors and Jessie Clinton were the guests of Mrs. R.B. Horton one day last week.

Mr. Pat Addison made a business trip to Valera Sunday.

Mrs. Sam Patton and daughters, Misses Wynona, Ruby and Norma, Mrs. Alfred Meeks and daughters, Misses Alma and Willie Mae, accompanied by Mrs. Jim Horton of Southland, Texas, were the guests of Mrs. Hugh Campbell one day last week.

Mrs. Floyd Cogburn and children were the guests of her sister, Mrs. D. C. Doan, one day last week.

Miss Hazel Lee Rainbolt, home economics teacher in the Hermleigh schools, was down last Sunday to visit her parents, Mr. and Mrs. H. M. Rainbolt. Mr. and Mrs. Howell Britain, of Abilene, also visited in the Rainbolt home Sunday.

Mr. C. A. Derrick, formerly of this community, but now living at Stamford, was here first of the week.

You can always get as good as the best in fresh and cured meats at Baker & Wheeler Market.

- LADIES -

Mrs. Lankford will have her assistant, Miss Drake, in our store Saturday to meet the out of town people and make appointments for next week.

By special requests she will remain next week. Phone or call her for an appointment she will tell you how to rid yourself of blackheads, open pores and dandruff. Ask any of Mrs. Lankford's customers about this line.

Hamm Drug Co.
Exclusive Dealer

SERVICES AT COMPERE SATURDAY AND SUNDAY

Pastor Parrack will preach at the Compere Baptist Church Saturday at 1 a.m. and Rev. W. T. Hamor of Anson will preach Sunday afternoon at three o'clock. It is hoped that the membership of the church will be in the Saturday service and the public generally is invited to the Sunday afternoon service. Bro. Hamor is pastor of the First Baptist Church at Anson and is a good preacher and will have a good message that will make you glad you attended the service.

CANDLE LIGHT SERVICE AT STITH EPWORTH LEAGUE SUNDAY EVENING

Subject: "Jesus the center of all our young people's work."
How Jesus is the center of all four departments of the Epworth League will be discussed.
At the close of the service a consecration service will be held by candle light.
All Leaguers be on time as we wish to make a good showing for District Secretary. Reporter.

Try a Classified Ad in the Mail

ANNOUNCEMENTS Political

FOR District Clerk:
MISS BELLE WELLBORN
FOR County Clerk:
W. E. BEASLEY
FOR Sheriff:
H. T. O'BAR
FOR Tax Collector:
EARL HUGHES
FOR Tax Assessor:
J. T. HOWARD
FOR Treasurer:
AUSTIN FITTS
FOR County Attorney:
FRANK E. SMITH
FOR County Judge:
TOM K. EPLEN
FOR County School Supt:
M. A. WILLIAMS
Precinct Announcements
FOR Commissioner, Precinct No. 2:
PHILLIP A. DILTZ
JOHN J. TOOMBS
FOR Public Weigher:
THOS. A. BEARDEN

TRENT CHURCH OF CHRIST

Last Sunday was one of the greatest days in the history of the Trent Church. All classes were well attended and the interest was intense at every service. Both morning and evening discourses were delivered to alert audiences that filled the house.

Interior repairing of the house is going on this week and we will be ready for even greater services next Lord's Day. So come and bring your friends and find a hearty welcome for all.

Bible Study 10 a.m. Sermon 11 a.m., subject, "The Lord's Business." Communion 12 M.

Children's Class 6:45 p.m. Young People's Service 6:45 p.m.

Sermon 7:45 p.m. Subject, "The Great Commission Fulfilled."

Midweek Bible study Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. Singing class Friday night at 7 p.m. Carl A. Collins, Minister.

Would you wish a nice saving on your Grocery Bill for 1928? If so start today with—
CLARENCE SAUNDERS

COSTS YOU NOTHING PAYS YOU BEST

Our office is maintained to serve you, without cost, in all insurance matters. Our policies are written to protect you fully and pay you most in cases of loss.

You will find us equipped to give you all forms of property protection insurance, advise you in all insurance matters and serve you at all times. Consider us pleased to give free consultation whenever desired upon insurance.

W. O. BONEY

RIOR ESTATE, FARM LOANS
INSURANCE
SIDE DEN
St. Abilene

As You Would Your Lawyer

ly like the taste of
Salad Dressing. It's
Ed Vickers. 27t4p

Chrysler Value

Now

Greater Than Ever

New LOWER
PRICES

\$670

and upwards

Now, at sensational new lower prices, Chrysler offers even greater value than ever before.

These outstanding values are the direct result of a huge and constantly growing public demand.

Four great lines of cars—"52," "62," "72" and New 112 h. p. Imperial "80"—a car and price to suit your needs and means, from \$670 to \$3495.

Inspection of any of these four Chrysler models will instantly convince you of the superiorities of Chrysler lines, appearance and appointments.

Come in and see how far Chrysler is foremost in quality, value and smartness, in every price field.

Then, best of all, make arrangements for a demonstration to learn by experience just how far Chrysler is foremost in performance.

Chrysler

40 Body Styles

Maverick Motor Company

Front St.

Merkel, Texas

ASK FOR A DEMONSTRATION

Chrysler PRICES

New Chrysler "52"

Two-door Sedan \$670
Coupe . . . 670
Roadster . . . 670
(with rumble seat)
Touring . . . 695
Four-door Sedan 720
DeLuxe Coupe . 720
(with rumble seat)
DeLuxe Sedan . 790

Great New Chrysler "62"

Business Coupe \$1065
Roadster . . . 1075
(with rumble seat)
Touring . . . 1095
Two-door Sedan 1095
Coupe (with rumble seat) 1145
Four-door Sedan 1175
Landau Sedan . 1235

Illustrious New Chrysler "72"

Two-Pass. Coupe \$1545
(with rumble seat)
Royal Sedan . 1595
Sport Roadster . 1595
(with rumble seat)
Four-Pass. Coupe 1595
Town Sedan . 1695
Convertible Coupe 1745
(with rumble seat)
Crown Sedan . 1795

New 112 h.p. Imperial "80"

Roadster . . . \$2795
(with rumble seat)
Five-Pass. Sedan 2945
Town Sedan . 2995
Seven-Pass. Sedan 3075
Sedan Limousine 3495

All prices f. o. b. Detroit, subject to current Federal excise tax. Chrysler dealers are in position to extend the convenience of time payments.

CONTINENTAL OIL COMPANY

Call 72—Everybody's Garage

MACK BUZBEE, AGENT

"The Woman on Trial" a Powerful Love Drama

Pola Negri in a truly feminine role, one of great emotional strength, again distinguishes herself in a picture that interprets the heart of a woman.

"The Woman on Trial" which opens Monday and Tuesday at the Queen Theatre, is a powerful love drama in which two intrigues merge to create an astounding climax.

One intrigue is nourished in the heart of a woman whose love compels her to follow a curious destiny. In love with a poor artist who is very ill, she marries a man of wealth so she may be able to provide suitable care for the real object of her ardor.

Her intrigue in this matter is pursued by a jealous scheme fostered by her husband to obtain possession of

their child when the parting of the ways come. Betrayed, and with her child wrested from her, she carries out a furious revenge that brings her to trial for murder.

Tears are shed profusely throughout the picture, but there are lighter moments, scenes that finally traverse a rainbow of happiness. It is, in all, a finely balanced Paramount production.

"Whispering Smith Rides" the ten episode chapterplay released by Universal, is based on the novel "Whispering Smith," written by Frank H. Spearman, one of the best known American authors. The first episode of "Whispering Smith Rides" will be shown at the Queen Theatre Friday and Saturday.

Buy a coupon book today and start February for a saving at—
CLARENCE SAUNDERS

Notice Auto Owners

I have now with me Mr. Carl Thomas

one of the best auto mechanics in the country, who will be in charge of the mechanical end of the business. Bring us your repair work and have it done right. Satisfaction guaranteed.

Magnolia Gas and Oils Tires, Tubes and Accessories

We will appreciate your business

Blue Front Service Station Pierce Horton, Mgr.

A GOOD POSITION FOR YOU!

—Every day Tyler Commercial College graduate take places at good salaries in business. Only a few months in America's biggest and best business training school is all you need to step into a good salaried position.

—Your training here will be in the hands of a master faculty of trained experts. When you graduate FREE employment department can place you in good position.

—The reputation of this institution insures you success.
—Fifty thousand successful men and women began their careers here.
—Clip and mail the coupon for the large book, "Achieving Success in Business." It is FREE. Send Now.

(We have no branch schools. We lead; others follow.)

— CUT AND MAIL THIS COUPON NOW —

TYLER COMMERCIAL COLLEGE, Tyler, Texas.

Gentlemen:—Please send me your large free book "Achieving Success in Business." I am interested in a training that will help me secure a good position.

Name _____

Address _____

Piggly-Wiggly Orchards

Few fruit trees have been planted in many years, and the supply of home-grown peaches, plums, pears, berries, figs and other fruits is far below the demand.

People will go twenty miles to get fresh fruit. The grower does not have to take it to market.

Back yards will produce enough fruit for town homes. Why not raise abundance of fruit at home?

We have sure-bearing varieties for every section. Ask for Free catalogue.

WE ALSO MAKE BEAUTIFUL HOME GROUNDS

Ramsey's Austin Nursery

AUSTIN, TEXAS

FROM NUMBERS, B. C., TO THE U. S. CENSUS

First Counting of Noses Was Done by Moses.

Washington.—All Turkey stayed at home one Friday recently while 50,000 officials took the first census of the Ottoman empire.

"Turkey has made up for tardiness by asking questions far more thorough than appear in the famous first census of history," says a bulletin from the Washington headquarters of the National Geographic society.

"Take ye the sum of all the congregation of the children of Israel, after their families, by the house of their fathers, with the number of their names every male by their polls; from twenty years old and upward, all that are able to go forth to war in Israel."

"Thus spoke the Lord to Moses, and Moses, with Aaron's assistance, collected the figures for the first census report, which may be found in practically every home and hotel room. It is appropriately entitled "Numbers," the fourth book of the Bible.

"By its breadth of scope the census William of Normandy ordered for his new kingdom of England, resembles modern censuses. He commanded his minions in 1085 A. D. to record every lord and peasant, every acre, every ox, every mill, every manor, every weir and every plow, the value thereof and—this is forward looking—the natural resources, woods, fields and streams capable of development and revenue. The report to William the Conqueror became the Domesday Book, unreadable today except by scholars, yet protected in the public record office at London as one of the most precious possessions of England.

Russia's First Count in 1297.

"The United States, although a newcomer in the ranks of civilization, was one of the first nations to establish the modern periodic census. Sweden took the lead before our first census in 1700, but England, France and Prussia did not see the necessity of regular counting of noses until ten or twenty years later. Russia took no census until 1897.

"Deeply religious settlers of America nearly upset our first census when they harked back to another less fortunate Bible census. "Satan stood up against Israel," our ancestors pointed out to the marshals, "and provoked David to number Israel from Beersheba even to Dan." What happened? "God was displeased; therefore he smote Israel. The Lord sent pestilence upon Israel; and there fell of Israel 70,000 men."

"Fears that our first census would bring similar destruction upon the nation did not materialize, so the marshals delivered their reports to President Washington within nine months for all the original states, except Vermont, Rhode Island and South Carolina. Vermont and Rhode Island entered the Union later. The marshal of South Carolina found workers scarce at \$1 per 150 heads counted.

"Today a visitor at the census bureau may see the names of famous Americans and the answers given to the first census takers' simple questionnaires. John Hancock's family consisted of two 'free white males of sixteen and upward,' three white females, seven other persons (servants no doubt) and no slaves. Progress in 70 years presents a contrast with data for Abraham Lincoln collected in 1800: 'Age, fifty-one, married, lawyer, value of real estate \$5,000—personal estate \$12,000, Kentucky, place of birth.'

"From one census every ten years the census bureau has increased to 104 censuses, in addition to many special surveys such as that made to supply data to congress for immigration quotas. One census collected every week shows the number of babies born. Using these figures the bureau sets up its large calculator at an exhibit and every 20 seconds announces to the world that the millions of Americans has been increased, for example, by baby No. 118,972,331.

Statistics About Buying.

"Not content with counting men, women and children, where they work, whether they are in school and if so, how long; not satisfied with tabulating the value of what grown and tons of manganese ore dug out of the ground; not resting even with summing up the business of hats and hammocks, shoes and sulphuric acid manufactured in the United States, the census bureau proposes to 'complete the picture.' To finish the portrait in figures of the whole United States, it is necessary, they say, to have a census of distribution. That means an accounting of what is sold to the housewife over the grocery, drug and meat counters, and of what the wholesaler sells to the retailer.

"Recently the census bureau released its first experimental distribution survey for which Baltimore served as a laboratory specimen. The weavers of figures found that in Baltimore 283 people are required to support one neighborhood grocery; that Baltimoreans spend \$456.72 per year in stores; that the department stores take the most; that Baltimore spends more on automobiles than on furnishing its homes and that in the average family purchasing budget food requires 31 per cent, clothing 20 per cent and the family automobile comes next with 9 per cent. The same survey has been extended to ten other cities: Chicago, Atlanta, Denver, Fargo, N. D.; Kansas City, Providence, San Francisco, Seattle, Springfield, Ill., and Syracuse, N. Y. Some day it will be extended to the whole nation."

Brown-Watts

The wedding of Miss Edna Watts and Mr. James Brown was solemnized at eight o'clock Wednesday morning in the parlors of the Methodist parsonage with the Rev. Mayhew officiating and only Miss Gladys Watts, sister of the bride, and Mrs. Milliken, present.

This wedding was the culmination of romance of several years duration and therefore did not come as a complete surprise to the many friends of this popular couple who wish for them so much happiness throughout a long and prosperous life.

Mrs. Brown is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. L. A. Watts of Betis Heights. She has been employed for a number of years by the Mellinger Dry Goods Company and has, because of her charming personality, won many friends throughout the entire community.

Mr. James Brown is the eldest son of Mr. and Mrs. George Brown, pioneer residents of Merkel, and is a man respected and genuinely liked by every one.

Mr. and Mrs. Brown left by automobile immediately after the ceremony for Odessa and other points in West Texas for a short honeymoon. They will return to Merkel as their home.

SILVER BUCK SHOWS GREAT INTELLIGENCE IN "BLOOD WILL TELL"

Silver Buck, the famous white horse of Buck Jones, plays an important role in the Western Star's new picture, "Blood Will Tell," which opens at the Palace Theatre Saturday. Silver Buck is called upon to use all his "horse-sense in several scenes to save Buck from a gang of thugs. Besides being one of the most beautiful horses in the United States, he is also one of the most intelligent.

It is an interesting fact that the Western Star bought this horse as a colt for one hundred dollars, and now he is practically priceless since not one horse in a million has the necessary intelligence to act as directed.

He is said to give unusual demonstrations of his intelligence in this latest picture of the romantic west

PALACE THEATR



Wednesday, Thursday & Friday February 22nd., 23rd., and 24th.

and one of its picturesque natives.

Paramount's production, "God Gave Me 20 Cents," which comes to the Palace Tuesday, is comparable to the best pictures which have so far been produced and because of it, both director and cast are destined to garner much praise.

P. A. L. HIKE.

The P. A. L. Club hiked to Mulberry last Saturday. After meeting at the home of Melba West, the anxious few started on their journey. They reached their destination at about eleven o'clock, every one agreeing that they were very hungry but not tired. After a long search enough wood was found to prepare the meal, which was certainly relished by every one. The next hour was spent in kooking and acrobatic stunting. After resting a little while we started on

the homeward journey. The rumor is out that we played leap-frog all the way back, but no one has been able to prove it. With high spirits and sore feet, tired but all the wiser, the bunch sat down and watched Merkel draw near.

The girls enjoying the meal, which consisted of sandwiches, bacon, marshmallows, pickles, fruit and soda pop, were Elizabeth Harkrider, Venice Bell, Gladys Watts, Mildred Hamm, Eunice Bird and Ruby Joe Higgins. Miss Roberta Sloan chaperoned the happy crowd of girls.

The one-derise of the girls when they reached their respective homes was, that many more of these enjoyable hikes might be had before the year is over.

Try a Classified adv in the Mail



His word is his bond!

A "personal guarantee" means very little to you, unless you know the man who makes it.

Ninety per cent of the things bought for your home are selected by the lady member of the firm. She is the purchasing agent. Most men admit that she is a capable buyer, and the reason is this: She must be shown — convinced by proof — that an article is what she needs and is worth the price!

For that reason, she sees the advantage of dealing with a local merchant — a man whose "personal guarantee of satisfaction" means just what it says.

She knows that what he advertises in this paper is entitled to her consideration. Because she has confidence in her neighbor—the local dealer—she can safely invest the family funds in what he guarantees.

Read the Ads in this Paper and save yourself money by trading here

Merke, Texas

PROFESSIONAL

STRONG, M. D.
Dentist
Furnish Drugs From Office.

Dr's. Grimes & Sadler
PHYSICIANS & SURGEONS
HOSPITAL FACILITIES

PHONE DR. GRIMES
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PAULINE JOHNSON
Successor to
G. W. JOHNSON
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Real Estate, Fire, Accident and
Tornado Insurance Agent.

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PILES CURED-
No Knife No Pain No Detention
DR. E. E. COCKRELL
Rectal and Skin Specialist

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Dr. Chas. E. Harrison
Practice Limited to-
The Eye and its Errors of Refraction

T. C. WILSON
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116 Chestnut Street Abilene

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Water well Driller,
all work guaranteed first-class.

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Phone 164w P. O. Box 224

FREE! FREE!
One Large 8x10 Enlargement
with each \$5.00 worth of
Kodak Finishing

E. L. WILSON & SON
Contractors for
PAINTING and PAPERING

Full Set Teeth \$17.50

No Better Plate Made at Any Price
22-k Gold used in all Crown and
Bridge work at \$4.50 and Up



HOUGHTON

Work Guaranteed
Years Experience
DENTIST

like the taste of
Salad Dressing. It's
Ed Vickers. 2744p

CLASSIFIED ADS

FOR SALE

FOR SALE-A 3-section book case
and some other nice house furnishings.

FOR SALE-New Perfection
four-burner oil cook stove; one
wood and one coal heater.

EGGS-English White Leghorns,
Hoffman strain, selected, at three
cents each.

FOR SALE-I have good Chevrolet
radiator and bumpers.

FOR SALE-A span of mare mules,
six and nine years old, weight about
1,200 pounds each.

FOR SALE-My home on Oak street.
Free of encumbrance and will give
terms to reliable party.

FOR SALE-Four shetland ponies,
the very thing for your youngster.

FOR SALE-Teams and tools and
land for rent.

DEPENDABLE TREES AND
PLANTS-Finest trees in fifty-two
years. Sure-bearing Peach, Plum,
Apple, Apricot, Fig, Nectarine,
Jujube, Persimmon, Grape,
Blackberries, Hauptberries,
Dewberries, Pecans.

FOR SALE-Have 200 bushels more
of the Mebane Early Triumph Cotton
Seed from Lockhart, Texas, at \$1.75
per bushel.

FOR SALE-Complete Blacksmith
shop at Blair, Texas, including building
and lot, power hammer, gas engine,
and all necessary tools.

FOR RENT

FOR RENT-Nicely furnished
apartment. Gas; bath; garage.

RENTER WANTED-Have 480
acres good land, 320 in cultivation,
excellent improvements, for rent to
reliable party with good teams and
implements.

FOR RENT-Four room house
completely furnished on south side of
T. & P. Ry., four blocks from T. & P.
station.

FOR RENT-5-room house,
reasonable. C. S. Higgins.

LOST AND FOUND

FOUND-A huge wolf hound, black
and white spotted, bob tailed. Geo.
Bishop, near Salt Branch.

FOUND-Some keys. Owner can get
same at this office by paying for this
notice.

STRAYED or stolen, cream, muley
Jersey cow. Been missing 3 weeks.
Please notify W. F. Hall, Merkel,
Texas, route 1.

WANTED

GRAVEL HAULERS WANTED
If you have a wagon and team and
want to haul gravel for road building
see me at once. W. H. FRAZIER.

We will not be open on Sunday
mornings. Buy your meat Saturdays.
CLARENCE SAUNDERS

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

Exide

BATTERIES

Watch the old Battery, Boys!
I am here for your benefit
as well as mine.
Plenty of New Batteries on hand
PRICES RIGHT
S. M. HUNTER
at EVERYBODY'S GARAGE

TO USE IN LIEU OF
A CHRISTMAS TREE

PERHAPS you may want to vary
the time-honored custom of having
a Christmas tree. If so, here are some
substitutes that may appeal to you
because of their novelty or practicality:

A Christmas umbrella lends itself
well to living room decoration and
requires less work in preparation and
clearing away than a tree. Get a
large, colored umbrella, the kind in
use for advertising purposes, or utilize
any old umbrella that may be on hand.
Put a heavy string through a hole
bored in the top just below the ferrule
by means of which to suspend the
open umbrella from the ceiling. The
frame may be decorated in any desired
manner. A good effect is obtained
by covering the inner and outer
surface with green crepe paper and
relieving the severity with tinsel
festooning. A green paper-covered
umbrella decorated with "icicles" and
snow like that used on Christmas
trees also makes a strong appeal.

Fasten pin hooks, such as are used
to hang draperies, to the under side of
the umbrella for holding the Christmas
gifts. The heavier articles should be
hung along the ribs to insure
safety, but light gifts can be distributed
all over the surface.

A Christmas cornucopia is an interesting
and unique solution of the problem
of gift distribution. Make a large
cornucopia out of cardboard and cover
it with green or gilt paper. Hang this
from the ceiling so that the large end
is considerably lower than the small
one.

Before hanging the cornucopia,
place in it the various gifts well
wrapped so as to prevent breakage.
Fasten a cover firmly over the open
end and decorate it to correspond with
the cornucopia. It is well to have the
large end so arranged in hanging that
when the covering is removed the gifts
will land on the table.

A Christmas chariot gives little
folks a fine chance to help in the
distribution of gifts. By using a few
laths, some stiff wire and an old
baby cart, the framework of the
Christmas chariot may be easily
fashioned. This can be decorated with
crepe paper, tinsel or the like. The
little fairy queen, airily dressed,
should be seated in the chariot drawn
by several of the other children
appropriately gowned. The gift packages
which the fairy queen distributes
should be tied in white paper with
tinsel cord or delicately colored
ribbons to harmonize with the occasion.

A Christmas cross is easily
constructed and quite effective as a
substitute for the time-honored tree.
The cross may be made of two rough
boards securely fastened to a base and
the entire surface covered with laurel
evergreen branches, or green paper
festooning. If small electric lights are
available a pretty effect can be
obtained by outlining the cross with
colored bulbs. Gifts may be hung on
the cross by means of screw eyes or
small hooks.

While not inappropriate for the
home, nevertheless, the Christmas
cross seems especially well adapted
for use in the church where an interesting
program may center around
it.-Alice Crowell Hoffman.

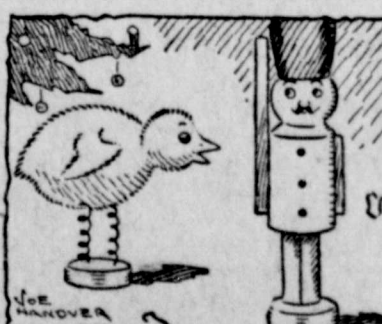
(© 1927, Western Newspaper Union.)

The Christmas Bells

THE bells of Christmas exercise
a mystic spell. . . .
They awaken rhythm and music
not sensed at . . . other
times. The best within us
awakens with the first joyous
pealing of these bells, and we
are glad! . . . Everyone is
glad on Christmas. . . .
Frivolous and feasting bespeak
only the joy of the occasion.
The bountiful platter, the full
cup, and the hearty greeting indicate
but faintly the warmth of
friendliness and good-will which
lies so deep within us. . . .
Let the bells continue to ring
"A Merry Christmas!"-W. D.
Pennypacker.

(© 1927, Western Newspaper Union.)

Well Satisfied



Wooden Soldier-Don't you wish
you were a real chick?
Toy Chick-Not on your life-I'd be
too apt to get fried!

Feast in Honor of Christ

The very first evidence of a feast
having been held in honor of the birth
of Christ was in Egypt, about the year
200.

You can save money on Meats at
CLARENCE SAUNDERS
Market. Our prices are always lower
and quality higher.

B. M. Black does upholstering, furniture
repairing and remodeling work
staining, enameling, etc. Bring to my
shop at residence.

PILES
Cured without the knife

Blind, Bleeding, Protruding, no
matter how long standing, within a
few days, without cutting, tying, burning,
sloughing or detention from business.
Fissure, fistula and other rectal
diseases successfully treated.

Examination FREE.
Dr. E. E. Cockerell
Rectal and Skin Specialist
312 Alexander Bldg. Abilene
Will be at HAMM DRUG Co.
Tuesday, Feb. 7 from 1 to 5 p.m.

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WEBSTER'S
NEW INTERNATIONAL
DICTIONARY

-THE MERRIAM WEBSTER

Because

Hundreds of Supreme Court
Judges concur in highest praise
of the work as their Authority.
The Presidents of all leading
Universities, Colleges, and Normal
Schools give their hearty indorsement.

All States that have adopted a
large dictionary as standard have
selected Webster's New International.

The Schoolbooks of the Country
adhere to the Merriam-Webster
system of diacritical marks.

The Government Printing Office
at Washington uses it as authority.

WRITE for a sample page of the New
World, specimen of Regular and India
Papers, FREE.

G. & C.
Merriam
Co.,
Springfield,
Mass.

Get
The Best!



Give us a chance to prove to you
the superior quality of our meats and
we believe you will become one of our
regular customers. Baker & Wheeler
Market.

Mr. T. H. Spears was in the city
recently and while here made this
office a very pleasant call, having us
send the Mail to relatives in the state
of Alabama.

Try a Classified Ad in the Mail

Try a Classified Ad for Results

Hey, You!!

Why be scared of
The Adolphus?

We have rooms with
bath at \$2.00

Coffee 5c

The ADOLPHUS
DALLAS, TEXAS

YOUNG FRIEND, LISTEN!

Young friend, had it ever occurred to you that if you remain where
you are and continue what you are, that you will always be where
you are and be what you are? It has, no doubt, but what have you
decided to do about it? Consider the advice of America's greatest
business men; they say a business education obtained in a good
business college is the greatest aid to business success. This being true
and you desiring to make a success and get the most out of life, you
should write for our free instructive catalogue and begin in earnest
to better yourself-read what Byrne training has done toward
making some of America's greatest bankers, merchants, financiers, U. S.
Senators, court reporters and secretaries. Read the statements of
girls and boys who worked their way through Byrne College and
those who borrowed the money, as well as those who came from homes
of plenty. This reading will open to you visions of success that will
inspire you to action and in a short time, you will be where and what
you would like to be. Fill in the blank below and mail for catalogue
right now; this very minute make the start-the cost is a two cent
stamp, the result may be thousands of dollars to you.

NAME ADDRESS

BYRNE COMMERCIAL COLLEGE
1708 Commerce Street, Dallas, Texas.



Trade among Friends

No matter what some folks say to the contrary, there
certainly is a lot of sentiment in business. Friendship,
for instance, makes more satisfactory sales than
all the cleverness and argument in the world.

You like to trade at a certain store-not because its
counters are arranged in a scientific way, but because
the folks who serve you are always friendly and helpful.

Just that very thing-FRIENDLY SERVICE-is the
power that draws people together into communities
like this, where everybody can enjoy the many benefits
of neighborly cooperation.

And FRIENDLY SERVICE is the sentimental reason
why you find it very much to your advantage to trade
with our advertisers-to buy where you feel at home,
where your friends will see that you are well satisfied.

Read the Ads in this Paper
and save yourself money by trading at home

LADIES NOTICE
ONE DAY SALE
of the newest
PRINTS
19c

SATURDAY ONLY
Boston Bargain Store
One of the Federated Chain

L. R. THOMPSON

District Agent

Peoria Life Insurance Company

Every Policy sold on its merits and liberality of benefits. No Safer Company in the United States.

If you are thinking of **LIFE INSURANCE** see us

Life--Health--Fire--Tornado and Wind-storm--Hail, Accident, Property Damage and Personal Liability. Every kind of Insurance. Prompt personal service to all business entrusted to me.

BAPTIST W. M. S.

The executive members of the W. M. S. met in the home of the president, Mrs. T. E. Collins, Tuesday afternoon at three o'clock, to discuss plans for some work to be carried on by the Society. Several plans were discussed as to some organizations the W. M. S. are to foster, but were left until Tuesday. So please every woman that is the least bit interested in the work come to the church for our business meeting at three o'clock next Tuesday afternoon. Reporter.

Mr. T. H. Spears was in the city recently and while here made this office a very pleasant call, having us send the Mail to relatives in the state of Alabama.

HI-LEAGUE PROGRAM

Subject: "Jesus the center of all Our Young People's work."
 Leader, W. A. Whiteley.
 Song: Prayer.
 Scripture: John 12:26-32.
 Meditation and explanation by leader.
 Scripture comment, Margaret Turner.
 Jesus and Worship, Nadine Tippet.
 Jesus and World Conquest, Milton Case.
 Jesus and my neighbor, Lynn McSpadden.
 Jesus and my play, Dahlia Watkins.
 Candle service, Ouida Mae Hulsey.
 League Benediction.

HEMSTITCHING

I have my hemstitching machine at the Boston Bargain Store, on Front street, and will be pleased to have your work in this line. Mrs. L. R. Robbins.

Lilac Always Blossoms of Love and Lovers

The lilac is an oriental blossom coming to us originally by way of Turkey and Spain. It is supposed to be the flower of love and lovers, marking the heyday of spring. The love lore of the "lilylock," to give it an old-world name is varied and pleasant. A spray of white lilac, buried on the eve of a May moon, is a mid-lord charm which maidens practiced, believing that by the time the lilac died they would have the heart of the man they desired. If as many lilac petals as composed the name of a lover were strung on triple threads of white silk, and worn in a little bag next to the heart, before next lilac time came the lover would be won by this secret charm. If you have lilac in your garden no ghost can enter your house; if white lilac grows beside your door you will never be without love and luck; if you pluck a spray of lilac without your lover's knowledge when walking with him, put one of its petals in his drink; if he swallows it, he is yours forever and a day. A "luck lilac," usually found on white lilac, has five divisions of the petal instead of four. If you are in love, look for a luck lilac, swallow it, and your loved one will be faithful for all time! Thus love and lilac are irrevocably related.

Beds of Clay Reveal the Passage of Time

Geologists can follow the tracks of the sun and tell the time, year by year, in geological ages—so ancient that even by millions of years they are hard to count. Not far from Stockholm there are some remarkable beds of clay, regularly arranged in alternating bands of sand and clay. These turn out to be the layers deposited by the melting glaciers of the Ice Age, each one laid down in the spring and summer when the sun was hottest. And as there was a freeze-up each winter and melting each summer, the layers become almost as accurate an index to the antiquity of the Ice Age as the annual rings of a tree are to the age of the tree. Moreover, the same system of measuring geological time has now been extended over all Scandinavia, and parts of India and South America. Everywhere the layers appear to correspond so closely in the variations of their thickness, year by year, that there seems no doubt they were laid down in corresponding years.—Baron Gerard de Geer.

No Good Reason for Stopping the "Abuse"

Caroline Ticknor, in "Glimpses of Authors," gives us a peep at Longfellow as a business man as well as a poet. In November, 1855, soon after "Hiawatha" had been published and was selling madly all over the country, a Boston paper dared to criticize it adversely. Soon criticisms concerning the source of "Hiawatha" and accusations of imitation were made by newspapers from coast to coast. Longfellow's publisher—Fields—was greatly annoyed. One day, bursting into the poet's study, he exclaimed: "These atrocious libels must be stopped." Longfellow said quietly: "By the way, Fields, how is 'Hiawatha' selling?" "Wonderfully! None of your books has ever had such a sale." "Then," said the poet calmly, "I think we had better let those people go on advertising it."

DISTANCE

By DOUGLAS MALLOCH

I KNOW a house where two reside,
 Two hearts a thousand miles divide.
 And then I think of you today,
 Perhaps a thousand miles away,
 But when I think of you, my dear,
 It seems that you are almost here.
 This brings us near or takes us far:
 Not where we are but how we are,
 How long the miles would lengthen out
 If I had any cause to doubt,
 How many miles the miles would be
 To you, if you had doubt of me.

Ah, there are other women, too,
 Who stay at home, as I must do,
 I pity them, but more
 The weary woman waiting for
 Not someone's step but someone's sign.
 Some word to make her day divine.

And I would rather have you there,
 A thousand miles, and have you care,
 Than have you here, your vows forgot,
 Not caring whether here or not.
 Distance is not some mile that parts;
 It is the space between two hearts.
 (©, 1928, by Douglas Malloch.)

SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT

By F. A. WALKER

BELIEVE IN YOURSELF

ARE you a believer? That is a question about your self, not about your creeds or doctrines. Do you believe in yourself and is that belief sufficiently well founded to be a reliable mainstay in your endeavors?

One of the most interesting miracles that the Messiah performed was that in which He accomplished the healing of the boy who was an epileptic. It is especially interesting because the first appeal was to the disciples who wholly failed in their efforts. The father of the child was a little weakened in his faith by this failure and when he applied to Jesus for help he did so with some evidence of doubt as to the results.

The reply of the Messiah was "If thou canst believe, all things are possible to him that believeth." And when His followers asked Him why they had not been able to perform the healing they were told that it was their unbelief that hindered them. Of course this belief was not intended to have been in themselves or in their personal powers but in what Jesus often called to them "The Truth."

It is in the belief in the truth about ourselves that we should, and that the wise man does, find the basic elements of success and advancement. If we do not have confidence, which is only another name for belief in ourselves, we are not likely to get far in accomplishment. But that belief must be based on fact, on the truth, on the realities which exist in us and upon which we can call with faith and reliance.

Believing in oneself is absolutely necessary to any successful action. The man who does not believe in himself cannot make a speech worth listening to, he cannot write a book worth reading, he cannot run a winning foot race nor even successfully plow a furrow.

He is like a smooth-shod donkey on a glare of ice. If you ever saw one you know how he struggles to gain a footing and shortly lies still, panting from exhaustion and trembling with fright. His driver scatters sand or puts down bagging upon which he might get a toe hold. But the horse has lost his CONFIDENCE, he believes that he cannot get up and nothing short of punishment with the whip will make him even try.

So long as he had confidence, so long as he believed in himself and his ability to get on his feet he was willing to keep making the attempt. When the belief was gone, he was unwilling to make further trial. He was done for.

We are all like that horse. So long as we believe in ourselves we have the heart and the courage and the ambition to keep on trying.

The minute we are without the belief we are useless to ourselves and to everybody else.

Believe in yourself. Do not overbelieve. Attempt only what you have good reason to think you can.

Do not cease to believe in yourself until you have gone the limit, until you have tried every one of your resources, until you have exhausted every bit of your energy.

Failure, if it is honest failure, is no disgrace.

Giving up while there is still a chance to succeed is to your discredit. Fight it out to the end.

Go down with your colors flying. If you do that you will prove your belief in yourself and establish yourself as a worthwhile man.

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Palace Theatre

SATURDAY ONLY

TUESDAY

GOD GAVE ME 20 Cents



Also...

FRIDAY

"The Great Mail Robbery"
 With an All-Star Cast
 Also COMEDY

MONDAY Only
 A Special Picture

"HICKMAN (the fox) SHOW"

Also "Telephone Girl"

Wednesday and Thursday

"The Plastic Age"

With a Special Cast
 Clara Bow, Donald Keith
 Mary Aiden, Henry B. Walthall & Gilbert Rolan

Also... Winning Gold

WILLIAM FOX PRESENTS

BUCK JONES



BLOOD WILL TELL

SOLE OWNER
CLARENCE SAUNDERS
OF MY NAME

"Sole Owner" says— Cheap and Chaper prices. The cheapest prices in Merkel.

Specials, Friday and Saturday,

Grapefruit large and sweet .05

Bananas NICE FRUIT per dozen .25

Cabbage HARD GREEN HEADS per pound .03

Post Tosties large pkg .10

Apricots DEL MONTE per can .19

Peaches GOLD BAR SLICED per can .17

SPUDS IDAHO 15 pounds, pk .31

Tamales RATLIFF'S GOLD MEDAL per can .12

SOUP VEGETABLE TOMATOE 3 cans .25

Pork Roast HAM OR SHOULDER .21

Pure Pork Link Sausage .25

Heinz Dill Pickles Large each .04

Salt Pork FANCY BEST GRADE .16

Lamb, Fresh Water Cat Fish, Oysters and Dressed Chicken.

Fresh shipment Saturday of Lettuce, Tomatoes, Celery, Spinich, Peppers, Cauliflower, Turnip Tops, Etc. Best market affords.

We arethankful to Mr. John A. Woodard, for many years the very faithful and efficient night watchman and city marshal of this city, who has quietly and peacefully residing on his farm some twelve miles northwest of here, just west of Noodle, for the renewal of his subscription to the Mail.

Junior League Program
 Leader, Francis Marie Church.
 Song; Scripture; Song.
 Reading, Odell Hunter.
 Lesson. League benediction.

Would you wish a nice saving on your Grocery Bill for 1928? If so start today with—
CLARENCE SAUNDERS

Kodak Finishing 8 Hour Service

In at 9 a. m. out at 5 p.

RODDEN STUDIO