

MERKEL VICTOR OVER HAMLIN IN CHRISTMAS GAME

Thrills Galore as Former Gridiron Stars of Both Towns Again Don Spangles; Score Was 6 to 0.

A large crowd of Merkel fans were treated to a real football game Christmas day, when the Merkel all-stars defeated the all-stars from Hamlin by a score of 6 to 0. It was a game of thrills from the first whistle to the last, with old "war horses" of the gridiron from both Merkel and Hamlin contesting every inch of ground and impressing upon the spectators that they had not forgotten their high school and college days, or how to play the game.

Proceeds of the game, which were reported as satisfactory, will go to the E.P. Scouts and the Merkel Cemetery Association.

MERKEL SCORES EARLY.

Merkel defended the west end of the field, which gave them the advantage of the wind. "Perin" Haynes received Hamlin's kickoff and returned the ball to the 40-yard line. A pass was incomplete and two line bucks netted short gains. Patterson's punt was short and Hamlin got possession of the ball on their 35-yard line. Two plays were stopped for Hamlin and a fumble gave Merkel the first break of the game. With the ball on Hamlin's 30-yard line, Hoss Tittle, Hutcheson, Patterson and Largent carried the ball for a touchdown in seven attempts. Patterson's try for point was blocked.

Following the score by Merkel, the Hamlin boys tightened up, and at no other time during the remainder of the game was either team in scoring distance.

TITTLE MAKES GAINS.

Tittle was the mainstay for Merkel, as he never failed to gain and it was he who plowed through a stubborn Hamlin line for the only marker of the game. Most of the contest was straight, hard football as played six or seven years ago. Merkel did not complete a pass out of the five attempted, and Hamlin completed two out of eight attempts.

There were fourteen stars on the defense, and they were the two lines on each side, which explains the light score. Among the linemen Witche, T. and J. B. Toombs, Buster Haynes and Max Swafford played excellent football for Merkel, while O. D. Roland, captain and coach, starred for Hamlin. It was fourth down, 14 yards to go, when Roland stood behind his own goal line and instead of punting, carried the ball 25 yards down the field for a first down and the longest, most sensational gain of the day. Charley Bryant and Buddie Withers also made nice gains for Hamlin.

MERKEL PLAYERS.

Those playing for Merkel were: W. L. Harkrider; L. T. Toombs, tackle; D. Murray, guard; J. B. Toombs, center; A. Witche, tackle; J. Hutcheson, quarter; M. Swafford, center; T. Darden, guard; H. Laney, guard; R. Largent, full; B. Smith, end; B. McClean, end; L. Tittle, right half; C. Patterson, left half.

Little Miss Geraldine McDonald of Abilene is spending the week-end with her Merkel friends, Fern and Arnie Love.

B. Y. P. U. Convenes At Blackwell Sunday

The fifth Sunday meeting of District II of Associational B. Y. P. U. will convene with Blackwell Baptist church next Sunday, with the following program.

- 2:15 Song Service, E. Y. Brown (leading).
- 2:30 Devotional Service, Mrs. Sam Ann.
- 2:50 A-I Standard B. Y. P. U., Why Have One, Miss Daisy Oliver
- 3:10 Quartette, First Baptist church, Sweetwater.
- 3:15 Bible Reading and Weekly Offering, How to Make them go, Miss M. Gordon.
- Open Conference, M. B. Sasse.

How Escape For Autoist.

Grado, Texas, Dec. 27.—Tossed from the top of the engine cab when truck was struck by a Texas and Pacific train here Saturday, W. N. was of Dallas, contractor, suffering minor injuries. The driver of the mine, which was loaded with dynamite, was thrown clear and was only slightly injured.

Start Graveling Noodle Dome Road Monday Morning

Actual work will start Monday on graveling the road from Merkel to Noodle Dome, according to W. H. Frazier, who is to direct the work.

Operations are to begin at Homer Patterson's pit, and Mr. Frazier requests that those who desire employment report to him at the pit early Monday. The distance to be gravelled will extend to the county line, approximately four miles. Mr. Frazier estimates that it will require about ten days to complete the work.

The road to be gravelled leads in the direction of the oil field and its completion will be a great convenience to Merkel people and others having business in the oil area.

NEW STRETCH OF PAVEMENT OPENS

Another stretch of pavement between Merkel and Abilene will be opened for travel today, according to announcement from Abilene.

The new road is in the vicinity of Tye, and its opening leaves only one gap, about four or five miles in length immediately west of Abilene, uncompleted. Only one detour will be necessary with the opening of the road east of Tye.

Commissioner P. A. Diltz estimates that it will be some time in March before the remaining paving connecting Merkel with Abilene will be completed. He says that the actual work if it was continuous, would require only about 45 days, but that with unfavorable weather and the delay usually encountered in road building, that considerable time will be consumed in completing the highway.

Pecan Tree Nets Bell Farmer \$335

Temple, Texas, Dec. 27.—A pecan tree that will net its owner about \$335 from this season's yield is reported from Bland in the northwest part of Bell county. The tree is growing in a field owned by the R. T. Wilkerson estate of which John Trimmer, postmaster of Bland, is the administrator.

Trimmer reports that he gathered 1,117 pounds of pecans from the tree, they being of the paper shell type. An average price of 30c per pound would account for the splendid financial return. The tree is said to have a limb spread of 117 feet in one direction and 106 in the other.

Crops were cultivated under it until the fruit weighed the boughs down so heavily that they almost touched the ground. It is claimed for the tree that it is not only the largest but the most prolific in existence.

Midland Buys Chickens.

Midland, Dec. 27.—One thousand White Leghorns from blooded pens at Brenham were shipped to Benjamin Golliday, Midland farmer, who will supplement his cotton income with egg money next year.

Train Victim Buried.

Cisco, Dec. 20.—Funeral services for Van J. Kuntz, 55, whose mangled body was found on the Texas and Pacific Railroad tracks west of Cisco Friday, were held here Sunday afternoon.

Texas Cotton Seed to China.

Corsicana, Dec. 27.—Two carloads, approximately 2,000 bushels, of pure bred Mebane cotton seed have been shipped from Corsicana via Houston consigned to Shanghai, China, for planting on one of the extensive cotton plantations in China.

Denton Bank Closes.

Denton, Texas, Dec. 27.—The Exchange National Bank, one of the oldest business institutions here, failed to open Wednesday.

A sign was placed on the door, saying, "This bank closed by order of the board of directors. Affairs in the hands of the bank examiner."

Officials of the bank would make no statement regarding the action of the directors, but one was expected later in the day.

The bank was capitalized for \$100,000.

Electricity and gas are being carried to remote sections of Texas by the interconnected systems of pipe lines and electric lines.

The history of Texas begins with the landing of La Salle on Lavaca Bay in February 1685. Here he founded Fort St. Louis.



Opportunities of 1928 are no more, but it is cheering to each of us, we are sure, to know that we face a new year with all its promises and opportunities to make the world a better place in which to live.

We of West Texas have a real opportunity for service to our state and to our communities. Capital is looking this way as never before. Liquid gold is flowing from the earth in such volume as to attract the attention of the world. Agricultural and livestock interests are prosperous in most sections.

Communities will grow and prosper during the new year in proportion to the efforts put forth in intelligent co-operation. Merkel, with its near-by oil field growing in importance day by day and an agricultural area second to none, has everything to attract the investor, the business man and the home-seeker.

This newspaper wishes for all a happy and prosperous new year, and pledges its best efforts during 1929 to the upbuilding of Merkel, Taylor county and the state of Texas.

SERIOUS INJURY TO MERKEL BOY

Alton Davis One of Five Hurt in Automobile Collision at Trent Last Friday.

Alton Davis of Merkel, 16-year-old son of T. T. Davis, who was one of five persons to receive serious injuries in an automobile collision at Trent last Friday, had sufficiently recovered to be taken to his home Thursday afternoon. He was treated at a local sanitarium for broken ribs, a fracture of the pelvic bone and cuts and bruises on the body.

Young Davis' father, with whom he was riding at the time of the accident, suffered painful lacerations of the head and face.

E. R. Sprawls of Tullia and his two daughters, Misses Carleen and Gwynn, who were in the other car, suffered painful but not serious injuries. Mr. Sprawls received lacerations on the right cheek and forehead, Miss Gwynn had cuts about the head and face and a hand laceration; Miss Charlotte suffered a severe bruise on the left knee. After receiving emergency treatment in Merkel, they were able to resume their journey to Tullia.

Mr. Sprawls was returning to Tullia from Abilene when the accident occurred, where he had been after his daughters, both being students in Simmons University. Mr. Davis and his son were returning to Merkel from the west.

South Carolina Boy Is Ill In Merkel

John G. Ferguson, young man living at Fort Lawn, S. C., is in the Merkel sanitarium suffering from a severe attack of influenza. He was accompanying the Georgia Tech football team to California on a special bus when he became violently ill a short distance from Merkel. When removed from the bus Christmas day he was delirious and his condition critical. He regained consciousness Thursday and it is believed he is now on the road to recovery.

Dana Bible Signs As Nebraska Coach

Lincoln, Neb., Dec. 27.—Coach Dana X Bible of the Texas A. and M. College, has been signed as head football coach of the University of Nebraska the athletic board of the university revealed. He succeeds Coach Ernest E. Bearg whose contract expires next year.

Mrs. Patterson Injured.

Mrs. E. E. Patterson, living southwest of Blair, received severe body bruises and a bad cut on the forehead when her automobile turned over Christmas eve between Merkel and Blair. She was treated at a local sanitarium and her injuries, while painful, are not serious.

Fall Dislocates Shoulder.

Reuben Dye, living on route 3 out of Merkel, suffered a painful accident last week at his home. While carrying an armful of wood into the house he slipped and fell, dislocating one of his shoulders.

GRANDMA TYE IS DEAD AT AGE 93

Had Lived in White Church Community Since 1878; Buried on Christmas Day.

In the passing away of Mrs. Permelia C. Tye, or Grandma Tye, as she was lovingly called by everyone who knew her, the community of White Church, has lost one of its best known and early settlers.

Grandma Tye was born Nov. 25, 1835, in Whitley county, Kentucky, and died Dec. 23, 1928, at the home of her son, J. V. Tye of Burleson, Texas with whom she had made her home since the death of her husband, J. J. Tye, in 1909. In the year 1856 she was married to J. J. Tye. To this union were born six children, four boys and two girls, four of whom still survives, a daughter, Mrs. Mollie Brown, and a son, Jim Tye, having preceded their mother in death. Of the remaining four, the three sons were at their mother's bedside when the end came. The names of the children are Mrs. Studie Tye, Chickasha, Okla., John P. Tye, Crowell, Texas, G. G. Tye, Hurley, New Mexico, and J. V. Tye, Burleson, Texas.

When the children were small, Mrs. Tye with her family, moved from Kentucky to Texas. Soon after their arrival in Texas in 1878, they located in the sparsely settled community of White Church. Only a few families were there, and there was no town of Merkel and only a few buildings and tents at Abilene. They built a log house and this was their home for a number of years, as lumber had to be freighted from Ft. Worth, the nearest railroad town. The nearest post-office was the then county seat of Taylor county, located at Buffalo Gap. There also lived the nearest doctor.

The family endured all the hardships of the early settler, having for their meat deer, antelope and wild turkey which roamed the country in countless numbers. Often bread was scarce as the wheat had to be taken to Fort Worth to be ground into flour. It is to the early pioneers of this great west who endured the hardships of the frontier days as did this good woman and her family, to whom we owe this wonderful land of ours. When she was about 17 years of age, she joined the Primitive Baptist Church and in the year 1885 she joined the Missionary Baptist Church, in which church she held membership until her death. She was one of those quiet, devoted Christians, who lived their religion every day. She was one of the kindest, gentlest persons that I ever met, and was loved by all who knew her. She was always ready in her timid way, to help all whom it was her privilege to help, and never an unkind word about anyone escaped her lips.

She was 93 years, 28 days old at the time of her death. She was buried Dec. 25, 1928, in the White Church cemetery beside the grave of her husband, who died in 1909. She had lived in this community since 1878 until a few years ago, when she moved with her son, J. V. Tye and family, to Burleson, Texas. She was survived by 4 children, 32 grandchildren and 43 great grandchildren. The out-of-town relatives here for the funeral were, J. V. Tye and son,

KEEPING UP WITH TEXAS

The total property valuation of the state's six hospitals is \$8,317,000.

There are about 6,000 grade crossings on the public highways of Texas.

San Antonio was founded in 1718 by the construction of the Mission Alamo.

France claimed Texas because of LaSalle's expedition, but in 1762 it was ceded to Spain.

Judge Stephen W. Blount, pioneer lawyer of East Texas, died Sunday at his home in Nacogdoches.

In proportion to population Texas has some of the best hotel facilities of any state in the union.

Texas has six state hospitals for mental cases with a combined capacity of more than 9,000 patients.

Roy Sinor, theatre manager at Pampa, was severely burned when a gas explosion set fire to his clothing.

A pump station of the Big Spring Pipe Line company exploded and caused fire damage estimated at \$10,000.

Since the organization of the state highway department in 1917 almost 400 grade crossings have been eliminated.

R. E. Shannon, 84 years old, first white child born in Sherman, died at his country home near that city last Sunday.

F. W. Cromwell, oil well driller, was attacked by thugs on the highway, badly beaten and relieved of money and pistol.

Bill Duncan, 40, was shot to death at his ranch home near Henrietta. "Babe" Hickman, his brother-in-law surrendered.

L. Barrientes, a merchant at Hondo, and his two sons were shot to death in the father's store. Louis Areos surrendered.

Funeral services were held at Smithville Thursday for John W. Hill, 93, member of the famous Terry's Texas Rangers.

George Wheeler, 37, of Big Spring, lived only an hour after being struck by an automobile while repairing a truck on the highway.

Funeral services were held at Abilene Thursday for Mrs. R. H. Rittenberry, aged 80, she had been a resident of Abilene for 20 years.

C. M. Franklin, tenant farmer living near Bartlett, raised and gathered eight bales of cotton on a tract of five and three-quarter acres.

Harry C. Van Wagner of Ft. Worth shot by a policeman at Houston after a downtown jewelry store holdup, died from the wound four days later.

The body of an unidentified woman was found early in the week on a lonely road near Strawn. "Murdered by unknown party" was the coroner's verdict.

In 1716 the Spanish became active in building a line of missions from East Texas to Mexico. The first was built on the present site of Nacogdoches.

The average number of conversations a day per telephone in Texas is about five. There are approximately 635,000 telephones in the state.

Miss Dollie Davidson was badly burned about the head, hands and arms today when two celluloid combs caught fire as she sat under a hair drying device at a beauty parlor.

Gulf Refining company will erect a refinery (skimming plant) at Sweetwater, permitting tank car shipment to serve towns and cities along the lines of the Orient, Santa Fe and Texas and Pacific.

The name "Llano Estacado" or staked plains, applied to the plains of West Texas, comes from the story that the Spanish explorer, Coronado staked his course across the plains to enable him to retrace his steps.

Leonard of Burleson, G. G. Tye, Hurley, N. M.; Mr. and Mrs. Grover Brown and two children of Wichita Falls; Frank and Orby Tye of White Deer; Mr. and Mrs. Gibson, Mrs. R. E. L. Norwood, son and daughter of Abilene; C. L. Brown and wife of Sweetwater, and a number of out-of-town friends.

The funeral was conducted by Rev. Ira L. Parrack and Rev. Willett of Merkel, a friend of one of the sons from Crowell.

The large crowd assembled for the funeral, proved the high esteem in which she was held.

A FRIEND.

MERKEL IS NOW READY TO ACT ON HOTEL PROJECT

Letter Sent to Maker of Proposition to Build For \$12,500 Bonus; Total of \$10,000 Already Pledged.

A new and modern hotel for Merkel promises to be the first big achievement for the new year.

With \$10,000 of the required \$12,500 bonus money already pledged, Chairman R. O. Anderson of the hotel committee of the Lions club has written the out-of-town parties who have made the proposition to build and operate, that Merkel was ready to talk business. It is the belief of Mr. Anderson that no trouble will be encountered in raising the remaining \$2,500.

The out-of-town hotel people who made the proposition to build and operate were attracted to Merkel by the campaign that was waged for several weeks to sell stock in the project, some \$30,000 being subscribed on this plan. They came to Merkel unsolicited and made the proposition to erect a three-story, modern building and operate it for a bonus of \$12,500. The plan met with the approval of the hotel committee and has received hearty endorsement from those who subscribed for stock when the movement was in its infancy.

The holiday season has prevented the hotel committee from seeing a number of Merkel citizens whom they are sure will join their fellow townsmen in making the new hotel a reality. With only \$2,500 to be subscribed, the project is more encouraging than at any time since the movement was started several months ago.

W. B. Farmer, Long A Merkel Resident, Is Buried at Baird

Funeral services were held at Baird Tuesday afternoon for W. B. Farmer, 79, pioneer West Texan and resident of Merkel for the past 23 years. Mr. Farmer died at the home of his daughter, Mrs. P. C. Jones of Abilene, Monday, after a short illness.

W. G. Cybert, minister of the Merkel Church of Christ, had charge of the funeral services. A service at the graveside was conducted by Baird Masonic lodge. Mr. Farmer was a member of the Merkel lodge. Burial was in the Baird cemetery beside the grave of his wife, who died several years ago.

A native of Arkansas, Mr. Farmer settled in Callahan county, near Cross Plains, in young manhood, and lived there until 23 years ago, when he moved to Merkel, where he was formerly in the furniture business. He went to Abilene last August to make his home with his daughter. He was a member of the College Church of Christ at Abilene.

Surviving Mr. Farmer are seven sons and two daughters: Will F. Farmer of Cross Plains, Alonzo Farmer of Marble Falls, Harvey Farmer of San Angelo, Melvin Farmer of Baird, O. B. Farmer of Sweetwater, Levi Farmer of Hamlin and W. L. Farmer of Safford, Ariz., Mrs. Will Thurmond of San Angelo and Mrs. Jones of Abilene.

Tuscola Youth Hit By Auto at Abilene

H. A. Caston, 8-year-old son of R. L. Gaston of Tuscola, is in the West Texas Baptist sanitarium at Abilene, suffering from a frontal fracture of the skull, received when he was struck by an automobile at Abilene Monday.

The boy was struck by an automobile driven by Howard Fulwiler of Breckenridge. The accident occurred in front of the Harvey Hays drug store as the child stepped from behind parked cars along North First street into the path of Fulwiler's machine. Witnesses of the accident said it appeared unavoidable.

Mrs. Touchstone Wins Silver Prize

Mrs. L. M. Touchstone, representative in Merkel for the Southwestern Life Insurance Company, was awarded 36 pieces of Sterling flat silver by the company at the annual convention of Southwestern Life agents at Ft. Worth Dec. 13 to 15 inclusive. Mrs. Touchstone won this prize as the agent with the record for continuous weekly production, and Merkel friends have been extending congratulations.

WHAT'S DOING In West Texas

It is the aim of the Woman's Book club, pioneer study club of Canyon, to develop a county library for Randall county from the subscription library which has been in use for fifteen years. A great number of books will be available from this source.

Ground was recently broken for the new \$30,000 Baptist church of Quitaque. The church building will include a basement, a number of class rooms, and a large auditorium. It will be furnished with the best and most modern of seats and other fixtures.

An extension road improvement program has been started by the citizens of Plainview. Five city blocks have recently been ordered paved by the city council. This will include paving of the streets on two sides of the Plainview sanitarium, and widening of seventh street. A dip in seventh street will be eliminated.

A summer resort that will make Del Rio known through out the state and beyond the border of the state as a summer resort is the dream of citizens of that town who are planning to use the water backed up by a power dam for recreational purposes, and are spending a large sum of money for the purpose.

By order of the city council at Crosbyton, elm trees are being planted in the city park to replace locust trees that have died. The city square has been much improved by bermuda grass that was set out in the spring. Crosbyton people do their part in civic beautification by keeping attractive lawns.

The West Texas Gas company's main line has reached the city limits of Hereford and has been brought beyond the railroad tracks. The welding crew is only about a mile and a half from town, and Hereford's prospects for natural gas in the near future are bright.

An addition to Alpine containing sixty lots of fifty foot frontage has been opened by Mr. and Mrs. W. B. Brown. Four new residences are under construction, all of brick veneer construction and orn in every detail.

The new Wallace theatre at Levelock, which recently celebrated its opening had a capacity crowd. The equipment of the theatre is unusually modern, having an electric amplifier for music. Everything from the ticket office to the electric sign is new.

The chamber of commerce at Dalhart has accomplished much constructive work this year, including the purchasing of a suitable site on which to build a \$80,000 hospital the sponsoring of the exhibit program, the marking of the federal highways, and obtaining eight hundred column inches of newspaper publicity.

The new \$75,000 viaduct at Las Cruces, N. M., which takes traffic on U. S. Highway 80 across the Santa Fe tracks was officially opened on December 22. The viaduct was made

possible by federal aid, state and county funds, is an imposing structure and gives beauty as well as safety to the tourists.

Native pecan trees, in Sabinal, budded to improved varieties five years ago are now bearing a crop of Burkett, Halbert, Texas Prolific, and Kincaid, pecans. Top-working the trees in the winter and budding the resultant shoots in the summer has proved the most profitable way to get a good crop.

Construction work between Olney and Seymour on the grade and drainage structure of Highway 24 will begin soon. The highway leaves Olney on Main street and follows the Gulf, Texas and Western railroad tracks to the Archer county line on the north. The contract has been awarded for the part of the highway passing through Archer county.

CLOSE NEW YEAR'S DAY.

On account of New Year's Day the undersigned banks will be closed all day Tuesday, Jan. 1, 1929. Patrons will please take notice and make their arrangements in accordance.

F. & M. NATIONAL BANK.
FARMERS STATE BANK.

Most of the crack express trains in this country are connected with the nation-wide telephone system up to the last minute before the train pulls out of the station.

Wanted—To buy maize heads.
Throckmorton Pioneer Dies.
Sam Swann

Try a Classified Ad in The Mail.

Effort to Befriend Calf Proves Fatal

Throckmorton, Dec. 27.—An effort to befriend an animal resulted in the death of Frank Falls, 19-year-old son of J. D. Falls, pioneer of Throckmorton county, on the Swenson Ranch, 10 miles northwest of Throckmorton.

Young Falls and a boy friend he was visiting on the ranch were riding after a calf which had a tin can tied to its head when the accident occurred. The horse the youth was riding fell after stepping into a bog hole, throwing Falls and pinning him to the ground.

Falls was visiting Roy Phillips, employe on the Swenson ranch.

The two youths were riding in the pasture when they saw the animal in distress and gave chase.

NOTICE—If you suffer with a Rupture ask to see our Trusses.
Hamm Drug Company.

Wanted—To buy maize heads.
\$18.00 per ton.
Sam Swann

American Telephone & Telegraph Co.
Bell System
157th Dividend

The regular quarterly dividend of Two Dollars and Twenty-Five Cents (\$2.25) per share will be paid on Tuesday, Jan. 15, 1929, to stockholders of record at the close of business on Dec. 20, 1928.
H. BLAIR-SMITH, Treasurer

FOLKS WHO KNOW US BEST

Know full well there is no show nor grandstand play about our policy. So we feel the best message we could think to write would be

HAPPY PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR

To all our friends and patrons. And since we really mean it we ask you to accept it as direct from our hearts to you.

RODDEN STUDIO

Never Having Tried To Steal A Car

you probably don't know how easy it is. We never tried either, but we know from looking at the stolen car records that lots of people do try—and get away with it.

We DO know how to protect you. Our policies cover theft, collision, public liability and all the misfortunes that the automobile owner is heir to.

We represent a company widely known for prompt settlements and good service.

W. O. BONEY

REAL ESTATE, FARM LOANS
FIRE INSURANCE
MERKEL, TEXAS

Consult Your Insurance Agent As You Would Your Lawyer

Pecans, Roses, Fruit Trees

EVERGREENS, HEDGES, SHRUBS, CHINESE ELMS, SHADE TREES AND EVERYTHING THAT GROWS offered at GREATEST BARGAINS ever sold to West Texas. From 50 to 100 per cent less than the price usually paid. Paper shell pecan trees 2 feet tall, 75 cents each, \$8 a dozen. Extra large 10 feet trees \$2.90 each, \$32 a dozen. Finest 2 year old roses, 35 cents each, \$4 a dozen. Rush request for catalogue. ABILENE NURSERY, 1350 Butternut Street, Abilene, Texas.

A MESSAGE OF APPRECIATION

The candle of the year flickers and dies. Together we have swung once more "around the great circle" soon to find ourselves at a new starting-point.

You have been a good friend of this bank and we know of no better time than this to make grateful acknowledgement of your many favors. We thank you both for your personal loyalty, and for the active influence you have exerted, which has made so many friends of yours also friends of ours.

We desire to repay your kindness with a fuller measure of helpful service to aid you in all your undertakings. In this spirit we salute the CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS and the NEW YEAR with you and wish you happiness, good health and good fortune.

THE OLD RELIABLE

FARMERS & MERCHANTS NATIONAL BANK

MERKEL, TEXAS

J. T. Warren
Sam Butman Sr.
Booth Warren
Owen Ellis
Geo. T. Moore

G. F. West
Geo. L. Paxton
F. Y. Gaither
Wilbur Thomas
Rosie Laney

Pay Cash In 1929

and be happy---

WE WISH TO THANK OUR PATRONS FOR THEIR PATRONAGE IN 1928 AND HOPE TO SERVE YOU IN 1929—AND WISH YOU A PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR.

Hamm Drug Co.

SIE HAMM
JAY CAUSSEUX

S. A. FARRIS
QUAY HAMBLETT

BILL HAMM

(THE CASH DRUGGIST IN 1929)

AUTO REPAIRS

It is a saving of money and possible loss of life to see that your car is in tip-top shape.

We specialize on repair work—all makes of cars. The price is as low as is consistent with good workmanship.

C. S. HIGGINS GARAGE

Back of Postoffice



ABERNELIUS

JEWELER
At Hamm Drug Co.
MERKEL, TEXAS

Bring us your Watch Troubles
All Watches and Jewelry Repairing
Guaranteed.

ABILENE EAGLES WIN STATE TITLE

Abilene, Dec. 27.—Mighty Eagles of Abilene soar above all, 1928 high school football champions of the Texas Interscholastic League. The highest school boy honors of the State came to the Eagles Friday afternoon when they repelled a hustling, fighting swarm of Port Arthur Yellow Jackets, 38 to 0.

With their sweeping, unrelenting attack, came the second state championship for the Abilene eleven. It copped the title back in 1923, defeating Waco, 3 to 0, in the finals. Friday's victory not only brought the Eagles their second state title, but also it was a history making day for the Texas Interscholastic League.

Abilene's 38 to 0 victory was the largest score by which a team has been forced to accept defeat in the finals. Oak Cliff eleven of 1924 held the record until Friday, having defeated Waco, 31 to 0 in 1924. The all time state high scoring record was set in 1921 when 48 points were passed, Bryan defeating Oak Cliff Dallas, 35 to 13 in the final.

Throckmorton Pioneer Dies.
Throckmorton, Dec. 27.—Following several years of ill health, Mrs. B. F. Thorp, pioneer of Throckmorton, and widow of the late County Judge B. F. Thorp, died at her home here this afternoon. Death resulted from a heart attack.

BAPTIST ANNOUNCEMENTS.
All regular services Sunday and through the week. The pastor will speak Sunday morning, "What Have I Done With 1928." The Sunday evening service will be our college student service.

The service will be in charge of Miss Lucey Tracey and will be rendered by college students home for the holidays. All students attending any college or University will be recognized and be given an opportunity to speak a word about their school or school life. A cordial invitation is extended to the public in general.

Ira L. Parrack, pastor
"Over the Top" for colds, la grippe and flu. Ask your druggist.

Wanted—To buy maize heads. \$18.00 per ton.
Sam Swann

Try a Classified Ad in the Mail

Judge and Mrs. W. W. Wheeler Celebrate 51st Xmas Together

Judge and Mrs. W. W. Wheeler, enjoyed their fifty-first Christmas celebration in their home with old fashioned Christmas dinner, by having with them their entire group of children, grandchildren and one great grandchild. The attendance on this occasion represented four generations.

Those of the children were Mrs. Aurra Johnson, Mr. and Mrs. Burl Wheeler, Mr. and Mrs. Ross Wheeler, Mr. and Mrs. A. B. Harris, Mr. and Mrs. V. W. Lepard and Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Lepard.

The grandchildren present were Mr. and Mrs. E. E. Dunn, Mr. and Mrs. W. L. Johnson Jr., Master Howard Johnson, Miss Joyce Wheeler, Misses Francis Harris, Evelyn Lepard, Ann Lepard and Dorris may Lepard. The great grandchild was little Miss Mary Fay Johnson.

This family has lived in and around Merkel since 1890, and to show how the children have hovered around the home nest will be seen from the fact that they all get their mail at Mer-

kel, except Mr. and Mrs. Burl Wheeler, who live in Abilene, and Mr. and Mrs. V. W. Lepard, who live in the Horn community in Jones county, and get their mail through Anson.

It has been the custom for a number of years for the children of this family to spend Christmas day at home with mother and it is looked forward to as an annual occurrence.

CLOSE NEW YEAR'S DAY.

On account of New Year's Day the undersigned banks will be closed all day Tuesday, Jan. 1, 1929. Patrons will please take notice and make their arrangements in accordance.

F. & M. NATIONAL BANK.
FARMERS STATE BANK.

BLACKSMITH WORK.

I have bought the Polly Blacksmith Shop and am prepared to do all kinds of Blacksmithing, Horseshoeing, Wood work and Acetelyne Welding, with complete equipment. I am now installing a disc roller. I am prepared to give the very best of service and guarantee my work. I respectfully solicit the patronage of those in need of anything in my line.

J. H. MENGES & CO.

We Wish You A New Year Bright All Through

And if there is anything better we wish that for you, too.

And we would not forget to add that we thank you, oh, ever so much for your favors during 1928.

It will be our greatest pleasure to continue the same relations in 1929.

J. T. DENNIS



New Year's Eve A Century Ago!

It was a custom of our forefathers a century ago to gather around the hearth, and there with their families to watch the face of the great old clock as it ticked away the minutes that marked the passing of the Old Year and the dawn of the New.

This was a beautiful and solemn observance. Gathered in the spirit of mutual trust, they sought faith and confidence to meet the problems of the New Year.

Confidence born of trust is the basis of all human progress. The New Year brings to us the resolution and the hope that through service we may continue to merit your confidence and trust.

We extend to you our heartiest wish for a Happy and Prosperous New Year.



West Texas Utilities Company

As The New Year Opens Wide Its Doors

WE REJOICE THAT MANY NEW FACES APPEAR IN THE HOUSEHOLD OF OUR FRIENDS

HAPPY NEW YEAR

Whatever this business is or may be is because of the friends we have made and held. Not through any patent method of winning friends but in the simple, old-fashioned way of courteous service, weighed in the scales of justice, measured with the rule of fair-dealing, wrapped in the cover of satisfaction and held fast with the tie of kindness and consideration of the customer's rights.

With full appreciation of every favor of the past year we will enter 1929 with enthusiasm and determination to hold all the friends we have and make some new ones.

May the joys you most desire be yours during the holidays and each hour of the New Year.

HAPPY NEW YEAR

The Farmers State Bank

THE MERKEL MAIL
Published Every Friday Morning
J.J. HUTCHISON, Editor

SUBSCRIPTION RATES
Taylor and Jones counties \$1.50
Anywhere else \$2.00
(In Advance)

TELEPHONE No. 61

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

THE NEW YEAR.

It will soon be time for new year resolutions which, as usual, will cover a wide range of "wills" and "wont's." As the Mail sees it, the resolution of outstanding importance for the citizenship of Merkel to make is the building of the new hotel. Only \$2,500 is needed to assure the erection of a hotel suited to the needs of Merkel for several years to come. Ten thousand dollars has been pledged on a required bonus of \$12,500, the proposition coming from experienced hotel operators. Undoubtedly it is an opportunity that Merkel should grasp. It will at once put the town in the class of progressive West Texas communities, an invitation to tourists, oil operators and others who are being attracted to this section in constantly increasing numbers. Merkel should not let the old year close without "cinching" the new hotel. Chairman R. O. Anderson of the Lions club hotel committee is receiving pledges to the bonus fund.

From every section of Texas come reports of heavy Christmas shopping. Merkel merchants were accorded liberal patronage during the last days of the shopping season, which emphasizes the fact that our local stores keep well abreast of the times in both merchandise and service.

GOVERNMENT IN BUSINESS.

President-elect Hoover declared throughout the campaign his opposition to the government in competition with private business. Newspaper publishers in the smaller communities of the country will view with interest his attitude toward the printing of return addresses and the selling of envelopes by the government, in direct competition with every job printing establishment in the land. For years the smaller newspapers and job printing offices have protested his unfair competition on the part of

Uncle Sam, urging that it takes away a large source of revenue to which they are rightfully entitled. A bulletin recently sent out from the office of the National Editorial Association reads: "The N. E. A. will continue the fight against unfair government competition by appealing to congress for relief."

Another stretch of paved road connecting Merkel with Abilene will be opened to travel today. Work of graveling the road from Merkel towards the oil field will begin Monday. If we could only make the new hotel a reality, the closing days of 1928 would be memorable ones in the history of Merkel.

Four Graduates of Comedy Lot Appear in "Beau Broadway"

Four graduates of the Mack Sennett custard pie school were brought together again when 'Beau Broadway' coming Friday to the Queen theater, was filmed at the Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer studio as the first of a new series of Lew Cody-Aileen Pringle sophisticated comedy-dramas. May St. Clair, the author and director of the sparking production, was a Keystone "cop," property man, scenarist and director on the old Sennett lot.

The great drama! The dream of freedom, of liberty, of an opportunity to seek happiness, to worship freely as one desires, to rear one's family in peace and safety—the land of hope—of escape from the terrible thrall of the eternal menace—the land of opportunity—America.

That postal card is a symbol. The great bridge is a symbol. And it lights the darkened cottage with its promise.

That is the theme of "The Wheel of Chance," one of the greatest and most poignant First National pictures that has ever reached the screen. It comes to the Queen theatre next Wednesday and Thursday, with Richard Barthelmess as the star, playing the dual role of the twin brothers.

"Over the Top" for colds, la grippe and flu. Ask your druggist.

Just received a nice assortment of pipes of all kind—Hamm Drug Co.

Try a Classified Ad in the Mail

TEXAS SENATORS IN U. S. CONGRESS
(Copyright, 1928, by Alva O. Hearne)

JAMES PINKNEY HENDERSON
1857-1858

James Pinkney Henderson was born in Lincoln county, North Carolina, on March 3, 1808. He was of an old and honorable pioneer family, members of which were among the early settlers of southwestern Kentucky. He pursued academic studies in the town of Lincoln, North Carolina; received a classical education, was admitted to the practice of law in 1829 and rapidly gained prominence in the legal profession.

Henderson removed to Mississippi in 1835, where he resumed the practice of law. Shortly after locating in Mississippi he firmly resolved to join and assist the Texans, then struggling for their freedom from Mexican domination. In furtherance of his plans he assisted in recruiting and training a company of volunteers. He went to Texas in advance of the company shortly after the memorial battle of San Jacinto, and upon his arrival President Burnett commissioned him to return to the United States for the purpose of recruiting additional volunteers. He raised a fine company in North Carolina and carried it to Texas at his personal expense. Reaching Texas in the month of November, 1836, soon after General Sam Houston had been elected president of the new republic, he was appointed attorney general, and the latter part of December, 1836, was made secretary of state. In 1837, Henderson was appointed

special envoy to England and France, with full authority to secure a recognition of Texas independence, and to negotiate treaties of amity, commerce and navigation. His splendid bearing and unusual talent soon won respect for Texas at the courts of England and France. He was greatly aided in his duties by General Lewis Cass, then American minister to France, with whom he became closely associated. He married Miss Frances E. Cox, an accomplished young lady of Philadelphia, in the city of Paris.

Upon his return to Texas in 1840, Henderson was given a tremendous ovation for his diplomatic success. He then located in San Augustine, Texas, as a lawyer, and very soon ranked among the most eminent lawyers, possessing great ability and enjoying a large and lucrative practice. In 1844, he was appointed minister to the United States and joined Isaac Van Zandt, the resident minister, in the negotiation of a treaty of annexation. The United States senate declined ratification of the treaty. However, the annexation was concluded by a joint resolution of the United States congress adopted on March 1, 1845.

In 1845 Henderson served as a delegate to the Texas constitutional convention, and in November of that year he was elected as the first governor of the state and inaugurated on February 19, 1846. The Mexican war began in May following his inauguration as governor, and Texas placed four regiments of troops in the field. By authority of the Texas legislature, Governor Henderson personally took the field as a major general of the United States army un-

der General Zachary Taylor. He achieved great distinction in the three-day battle of Monterey, for which the United States congress voted him a sword. He and Jefferson Davis and others were commissioned to effect the treaty of capitulation with Don Pedro de Ampudia, the commander of the Mexican forces.

After the war Henderson returned to Texas and resumed and completed his term as governor. Declining reelection, he resumed his law practice, and for several years was in poor health. He repeatedly declined official posts. When, in 1857, the state legislature unanimously elected him as a states rights democrat to fill the vacancy created in the United States senate by the death of General Thos. J. Rusk, he reluctantly accepted. Following a short period of rest and recuperation in Cuba, he took his seat in the senate on November 9, 1857. He had served only a few days when it became necessary for him to go to Philadelphia for treatment. Senator Henderson died in Washington, D. C., on June 4, 1858.

Fisher County Gusher.

Hamlin, Dec. 20.—Fisher county's eighth oil well came in Tuesday—gusher from the high-gravity pay found at around 3,125 feet. Due to the heavy gas pressure no gauge of the production has been made early in the night.

The strike is Cranfill-Reynold's No. 1 J. G. Sharp, center of the northeast half of the southwest quarter of section 207 B. B. & C. survey, eastern Fisher county, and one-fourth mile northwest of nearest production in the same operators' No. 1 B. F. Willingham.

Criswell-Wilson.

Wilmer Criswell and Miss Lena Mae Wilson, both of the Stith community, were married at the Baptist Parsonage Sunday; Rev. Ira L. Parrack officiating. They were accompanied to Merkel by Stith friends.

Legal covers at Merkel Mail office.

"Over the Top" for colds, la grippe and flu. Ask your druggist.

= Gafton =

TRENT, TEXAS
Where Everybody Goes—Always a Good Show—Fine Music!

TODAY, FRIDAY, DEC. 28
A Special Attraction
John Gilbert in "Man, Woman and Sin"
Also comedy, "Love's Young Scream" and chapter 5, "Eagle of the Night," the Wonder Serial

SATURDAY, DEC. 29
Carl Laemmle presents
William McLeod Raines' "THE GRIP OF THE YUKON"
A powerful story of the Frozen North, with Neil Hamilton, Francis X. Bushman and June Marlowe.
Also comedy, "Whose Wife" and News

LOOK—LOOK—LOOK
Big Time Midnite Matinee
Monday Morning at 12:01. (Doors open at 8:30 Sunday Eve)
SHOWING "THE BAT"
Greatest of all mystery pictures—and Chas. (Buddy) Rogers with Mary Brain and Chester Conklin in
"VARSITY"

A Great Story of Fatherly Love.
Big Double Headline Attraction—Popular Prices

MONDAY AND TUESDAY
A Paramount Picture
"DOCKS OF NEW YORK"
with George Bancroft, Betty Compson and Baclanova.
Great Cast—Great Picture—See It—Also Comedy

WEDNESDAY AND THURSDAY
A Warner Bros. Special
"THE MIDNIGHT TAXI"
with Antonio Moreno and Helen Costello
Also Comedy and News

COMING SATURDAY, JAN. 5
Hoot Gibson in "King of the Rodeo"
"Folks, you ain't seen nothing yet" till you see Hoot in this. By far, the best he has ever done. Filmed in Chicago the past summer during the World's Champion Rodeo Meet. Don't forget the date.

Holiday Special!

\$14.00 Round Trip

TO
EL PASO

ON SALE DEC. 23-24-28-29 and 30
Return Limit, TEN days

OTHER

Attractive Holiday Rates in Effect to Texas and Louisiana Points

FOR FULL PARTICULARS



Reservation, Etc. See
J. C. Childress
Ticket Agent

When the Last Second of The Old Year has Passed

We trust it will leave you with many pleasant memories of service well rendered—of a substantial contribution to the happiness of the world during 1928.

And as the hands of time move into the realm of a New Year we hope that it will bring you many new opportunities to serve and make others happy and that in doing so you will find pleasure and profit.

We thank you again and again for your loyal support to this business during the past year and hope we may be privileged to see you often in 1929.

MERKEL DRUG CO.

ONLY THREE MORE DAYS TO GET YOUR FAVORITE NEWSPAPER AT

Annual Bargain RATES:

(These Rates Expire Dec. 31st)

Abilene Morning News 1 Year \$4.70
Merkel Mail 1 Year \$1.50
Total \$6.20
Both Papers 1 Year \$5.50

Star Telegram, Daily and Sunday \$7.45
Merkel Mail 1 Year \$1.50
Total \$8.95
Both Papers 1 Year \$8.00

Star Telegram, Daily only \$5.95
Merkel Mail 1 Year \$1.50
Total \$7.45
Both Papers 1 Year \$6.50

Dallas News, Daily and Sunday \$7.45
Merkel Mail 1 Year \$1.50
Total \$8.95
Both Papers 1 Year \$8.00

Dallas News, Daily only \$5.95
Merkel Mail 1 Year \$1.50
Total \$7.45
Both Papers 1 Year \$6.50

NOW OPEN!
Fifth Annual
BARGAIN RATE OFFER
For Mail Subscriptions

This is another tremendous value. The Dallas Morning News, daily and Sunday, 365 days, mailed to your address, substantial saving. The regular rate is \$10.00 a year for

\$7.45

To those who do not desire the big Sunday edition, during this campaign we will mail the daily edition only at a reduced rate. Regular rate \$8.00 a year, now

\$5.95

THE DALLAS MORNING NEWS

Supreme in Texas
Order your subscription through local agent in your city. The rate is good for subscriptions only in the state of Texas, Oklahoma, Louisiana, Arkansas and New Mexico.

Merkel Drug Co., Local Dallas News Agent

CANYON NEWS

Parents of this community enjoyed a Christmas program given by the Butman school children Friday afternoon. After the program, Santa came and distributed presents from the tree.

Vergil and Jackie Jones were visitors at Butman school Friday afternoon.

Misses Elna Hale and Noris Whiteaker went to their homes in Abilene and Dora respectively to spend Christmas holidays.

Anna Lee Reynolds spent Sunday with Nina Lois Anderson.

Evalyn, Nadine and Jimmie Perry visited Mrs. Johnnie Barbee Sunday.

Those enjoying Christmas trees in their homes Monday night were Mr. and Mrs. Johnnie Latimer, Mr. and Mrs. Willie Mathews and Mr. and Mrs. Sam Butman Sr. Several homes were represented at each tree and all reported a very nice Christmas.

Earl Palmer and Blanton McLean were visitors at Dora Monday night. Blanton is a Sul Ross college student and is spending Christmas holidays with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Bob McLean, of the I. X. L. community.

Several of this community were present at the ball game in Merkel Christmas day.

Mrs. Will Butman and children Lottie and Bennie Butman, motored to Coleman Tuesday afternoon for a short visit with their sister, Mrs. Luel Ray.

A large number of young people enjoyed the Christmas party given by Miss Odena Pribble, Tuesday night.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Lewis of Dora, spent Christmas day with their son, J. A. Lewis.

Frank Whisenhunt of Odessa spent Christmas with relatives and friends near here.

Mr. and Mrs. Seymore of the Nubia community celebrated Christmas by having a big reunion.

Sincerest wishes for a Happy New Year for all the Merkel Mail friends.

Read the advertisements in this paper. There's a message in every one of them that may enable you to save money. At least you will know where to find what you want without doing a lot of hunting and asking questions, and you also know the merchants appreciate your patronage because they solicit your business and make special offers.

RESOLUTIONS ON THE DEATH OF TERRELL WINTER.

To the Worshipful Master, Wardens and Brethren of Merkel Lodge, No. 710, A. F. and A. M.

We your committee appointed to draft resolutions in memory of brother Terrell Winter, beg to submit the following:

Whereas, on the 2nd day of December, A. D. 1928, it pleased the Grand Master of the Universe in his infinite wisdom to remove from among us our dear brother Terrell Winter, and to transplant him a member of that Celestial Lodge above, where the Supreme Architect of the Universe presides; and whereas, brother Winter had been an honored member of this lodge for more than thirty-five years, having affiliated with us soon after the organization of Merkel lodge, in the early 90's; at all times loyal to the principles of the order; during his active life, was punctual in attendance upon the meetings of the lodge.

And whereas, in the death of our brother this lodge has lost a worthy member; one who lived and practiced the true principles of our order, and in his every day life was a living example of those great tenets, Faith, Hope and Charity; having faith in God, Hope in immortality and Charity toward all mankind; ever ready to land a helping hand to a brother, or friend, to aid him in his efforts at reformation, and while we drop a sympathetic tear for his bereaved ones, we bow in humble submission to the will of our Heavenly Father, and leave in his hands the soul of our deceased brother.

Therefore, be it resolved, that resolutions be spread upon the minutes of this lodge, a copy delivered to the family of our deceased brother and a copy handed the Merkel Mail for publication and that the members of this

lodge wear the usual badge of mourning for thirty days.

W. W. WHEELER
JOE HOLMES
S. A. COATS,
Committee.

Passed and approved this 22nd. day of December, A. D. 1928.

Attest:
C. L. BOSWELL,
Secretary, Pro. T.
Merkel Lodge No. 710, A. F. and A. M.
(SEAL)

Mt. Pleasant News

Bro. Huston Scott preached at the Baptist church Sunday morning and Sunday night. A large crowd attended both services.

There was a Christmas tree at the school house last Friday night "Ole Santa" was good to everybody.

Miss Emma Campbell spent Sunday with Miss Eleanor Mae Hogan.

M. and Mrs. R. S. Darden Jr. and Mr. and Mrs. Morris Smith spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. C. J. Whisenhunt and family.

Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Rolland and baby from the Plains are here visiting Mr. and Mrs. C. R. Rolland.

Mr. and Mrs. R. S. Darden Jr. had supper with Mr. and Mrs. Morris Smith Sunday night.

Mr. and Mrs. Homer Campbell and son spent Sunday afternoon with Mr. and Mrs. Dewitt Campbell and family.

Mr. and Mrs. E. V. Satterwhite and family and Mr. and Mrs. Howard Henley and family spent Christmas with Mr. and Mrs. Clay Satterwhite and family of I. X. L. community.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Whisenhunt

and family of Odessa spent last Tuesday night with Mr. and Mrs. C. J. Whisenhunt and family.

Mr. and Mrs. F. T. Hogan and family, Mr. and Mrs. Morris Smith, and Mr. and Mrs. R. S. Darden Jr. spent last Tuesday with Mr. and Mrs. R. S. Darden Sr. and family.

Mr. and Mrs. J. T. Humphreys and family spent Christmas with Mr. and Mrs. Jess Anderson and family.— "Brown Eyes."

"Over the Top" for colds, la grippe and flu. Ask your druggist.

Wanted—To buy maize heads. \$18.00 per ton. Sam Swann

Adding Machine paper—Typewriter paper and ribbons—Loose leaf ledgers and all kind of office supplies—Hamm Drug Co.

Your favorite cigar is always moist when you buy it at—Hamm Drug Co

Typewriting paper at Merkel Mail office.

Tate-Lax

(Sweet or Bitter)

For Rheumatism, Neuralgia, Headache, Constipation, Stomach, Liver and Kidney Disorders

Satisfaction Guaranteed by Hamm Drug Company The Dr. N. F. Tate Medicine Co., Waco, Texas

THE FUTURE LOOKS ROSY GO THE WATKINS WAY

Here's a once-in-a-life-time opportunity for you. Own a big, thriving, profitable business of your own as District Dealer. Supply our nationally known household and veterinary products. Millions of America's farm homes for sixty years have demanded the J. R. Watkins food products, toilet articles, health and veterinary preparations, because the name back of each article has stood unalterably for highest quality and lowest prices.

This demand has built up a \$10,000,000 organization with twelve great branches and factories strategically located in the United States and Canada and an army of 7,000 dis-

tributors supplying these products to nearly every farm and home.

We have helped these Dealers build big businesses, earn good livings and put away substantial savings each year. The Watkins Opportunity is open to you, too—it means the good things of life for you big earnings, and all that go with them—savings, independence, a home, a car, educational advantages for children, provision for comfortable old age—all of these are yours as a Watkins Dealer.

You have heard of men who seek opportunity. Now opportunity seeks the man. Are you the Man?

SEE

W. A. WHITELEY
For Vacant Localities

A Happy and Prosperous New Year to All.

SOME GOOD BARGAINS

IN

Used Ford Cars

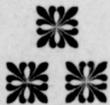
We have some of the best bargains in used cars and only ask that you see them for yourself.

We buy, sell or trade new and used FORDS—Make our place your headquarters.

We Save you Money

MERKEL MOTOR COMPANY

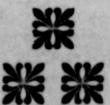
WE JUST SIMPLY COULD NOT BE HAPPY



Without wishing happiness for our patrons too. We are proud of our big "family" of loyal customers. You have been good to us and we want you to know we appreciate it.

We wish you the very choicest enjoyments the New Year affords and hope that 1929 will bring you more blessings than you have ever received before.

And remember—we are anxious to continue to serve you and will do our very best to please you during the new year.



MAX MELLINGER

MERKEL THEATER

Under New Management
SHOWING GOOD PICTURES IN A GOOD TOWN.

FRIDAY AND SATURDAY "THE GLORIOUS TRAIL"

Ken Maynard's Newest. Don't Miss this Thriller.

MONDAY AND TUESDAY Clara Bow with James Hall in "THE FLEET'S IN"

The "IT" Girl in a new picture

WEDNESDAY AND THURSDAY Charles (Buddy) Rogers

with Mary Brian and Chester Conklin in

"VARSITY"

Another Big Paramount Picture

COMING SOON

Jack Mulhall in "WATERFRONT" "SHOW GIRL" with Alice White Clara Bow "THREE WEEK ENDS"

WITH DEEP APPRECIATION OF THE RELATIONS OF 1928

We are looking forward to a continuation of our pleasant associations in the days that are to come in 1929.

A. R. BOOTH

Merkel, Texas

Phone 27

With the Passing of the OLD YEAR

And the arrival of the new, with the accumulated experience of all past years, we realize now more than ever that there is nothing finer than friendship, fellowship and the joy of serving.

The old year could have been better—it could have been worse. For the good things we give credit to our friends and the bad things we'll try to overcome with service with a smile in 1929. We thank every one of you and wish you a Happy and Prosperous New Year.

BAKER AND VAUGHN

Merkel, Texas

Phone 107

Dry Cleaning Service!

Let us suggest that one of your resolutions for the New Year be that of becoming acquainted with our expert dry cleaning service. It costs no more to get the best.

CITY DRY CLEANERS

Phone 139

"Sudden Service"

Kent Street

WANTED ADS

SALE

...ers, 15 cents per
ly Merkel Mail.

...y heifers, heavy
...kind. At my
...C. Jinkens.

...good work mule at
...ck Motor Company.

ED CARS.

...days' trial. If not satisfied
...an put car in on any new or used car
...for price paid.

1926 Ford Roadster (balloon)	\$135.00
1927 Ford Truck, cab stake body	-----
-----	\$200.00
1927 Chevrolet Sedan	\$465.00
1926 Chevrolet Touring	\$250.00
1925 Chevrolet Touring	\$300.00
1924 Dodge Sedan	\$250.00
1925 Ford Touring, a good one	\$100.00
1926 Chevrolet coupe, bargain	\$240.00

Other bargains in cheap cars as low
as \$5.00.

These cars are in good condition
ready to go. Other cheap cars.

BRACKEEN-HUGHES
CHEVROLET CO.

Home of O. K. Used Cars.

FOR SALE—Shetland ponies. S. A.
Destine.

FOR SALE—1924 Ford Roadster
good running condition. Good rubber;
will trade for milk cows. Otis Foster.

FOR SALE—Good milk cow, fresh in.
See Mrs. E. B. Wilburn, near Compere
School House.

LOST AND FOUND

LOST—Ladies' watch, yellow gold,
Waltham, "Sadie," engraved on
back. Reward. Missie Dye or return
to Woodrum Hotel or Merkel
Mail.

LOST—Heavy boomer chain Friday
afternoon between Rufe Tittle's and
Burton-Lingo. Please return to P. A.
Diltz for reward.

WANTED—Man and wife to do
farm work. See Claude Touchstone.

Second sheets at Merkel Mail of-
fice.

DAPPER DAN



Happy New Year!

"A resolution I have made!"
Said Dapper Dan with zest;
"To please the cleaning-dyeing
trade,
"I'm going to do my best!"

To keep each man's apparel
clean—also, each woman's
dress* to work with heart
as well as bean the public's
pants to press; to keep all
clothing in repair, and never
bat an eye; to do a per-
fect job whenever I'm called
upon to Dye—that's Dap-
per Dan's resolution!
HAPPY NEW YEAR!

MODERN DRY CLEANERS OF COURSE

Phone 3

...ss from Postoffice

I like the plan of Dap-
per Dan. The clever Clean-
ing man!

FOR RENT

FOR RENT—Furnished or unfur-
nished rooms. Mrs. Dan Reidenbach.

TWO OR THREE room apartment,
nicely furnished; modern. Mrs. C. L.
Boswell. Phone 171W.

FOR RENT—Four room house, lights,
gas and garage; close in. Joe Gar-
land at City Furniture Co. Phone 272.

AFTER JAN. 1st I will have furnis-
hed and unfurnished rooms for rent at
my home in Noodle. Address Mrs.
Lottie Green, 1241 North Fourth.
Abilene, Texas. Phone 6419.

FOR RENT—Three upstairs rooms,
with all modern conveniences; near
school and churches. Mrs. S. F.
Haynes.

WANTED

WANTED—Good farm hand by the
month; married man preferred. Apply
J. D. Jones, Dora, Texas.

Wanted—To buy maize heads.
\$18.00 per ton.
Sam Swann

Galveston is the oldest important
port of Texas and one of the most con-
veniently situated ports in America.

CARD OF THANKS.

We take this method of thanking
our many friends and neighbors for
what they did for us during the
death of our husband and father.
May God bless you all.
Mrs. T. B. Cox and Roy.
Waldo Cox and Family.

CARD OF THANKS.

We wish to thank our many, many
friends for their untiring efforts of
kindness and sympathy shown us
during the sickness and death of our
husband and father. May the richest
blessings rest upon each one of
you.
Mrs. W. H. Gillam and Children.

CARD OF THANKS.

We take this method of thanking
our friends and the friends of our
late father for their many kind acts
and tender sympathy during his ill-
ness and death. We do especially
thank each one for the beautiful floral
offerings. May God bless you all.
The Children of Uncle Terrell Winter.

CARD OF THANKS.

We wish to extend our most sincere
appreciation to all those who have of-
fered their care and sympathy before
and after the death of our dear and
beloved father.
Mrs. Thena Yandell
and Family.

Seeking... Ben Richards Jr.

Dallas, Dec. 27.—District Attorney
William McCraw said he will ask that
Ben C. Richards, former Dallas county
Ku Klux Klan leader, be tried on Jan-
uary 7 for forgery.
Richards and A. A. Crabb were in-
dicted for affixing the name "Clyde R.
Vest" on two \$1,000 checks, an argu-
ment over which led to the fatal shoot-
ing of Orville L. Mathews, Dallas
banker and bet stakeholder. A jury
which heard testimony against V. Ray
Adams, charged with killing Mathews,
was unable to agree.
Crabb, McCraw indicted, probably

will plead guilty and his case disposed
of before Richards goes to trial.

CLOSE NEW YEAR'S DAY.

On account of New Year's Day the
undersigned banks will be closed all
day Tuesday, Jan. 1, 1929. Patrons
will please take notice and make
their arrangements in accordance.
F. & M. NATIONAL BANK.
FARMERS STATE BANK.

Bargains: We have connections
with oil companies, oil brokers and in-
vestors in real estate. It will pay
you to list your holdings with us.
Thompson and Boswell

Try a Classified Ad for Results

PROFESSIONA

M. ARMSTRONG, M. D.
Office Over Farmers State
Ban.
Res. Phone 12. Office 195.
Local Surg on T. & P. For Last
10 Years.
Furnish Drugs From Office.

Dr's. Grimes & Sadl

PHYSICIANS & SURGEO
HOSPITAL FACILITIE
—X-RAY—
PHONE PHONE
DR. GRIMES DR. SADL
Res. 165 Of. 163 Res. 136 Of. 163

PAULINE JOHNSON

Successor to
G. W. JOHNSON
Insurance—Notary Public
In New City Hall—Front St.
Merkel —:— Texas

W. W. WHEELER

Real Estate, Fire, Accide
Tornado Insurance Age.
Notary Public.
Office over Crown Hardware Co.

—PILES CURED—

No Knife No Pain No Deten-
tion from Work
DR. E. E. COCKRELL
Rectal and Skin Specialist
of Abilene, Texas
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Lee R. York

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Civil Practice in all Courts. Special
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My Work As Good As The Best.
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Full Set Teeth \$17.50

No Better Plate Made at Any P
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Gold Fillings \$1.50 and Up
I Cure Those Old Bad Gum



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All Work Guaranteed
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QUEEN

SHOWING THE PICK OF PICTURES

FRIDAY

Lew Cody and
Aileen Pringle

—in—

"Beau Broadway"

An unusual film romance
of the Bright Lights and
the Squared Circle. Thrills
of the prize ring! Night
life in all its glamor!

Also "The Scarlet Arrow"
and comedy "Polar Perils"

MON & TUES.

New Year's Special

"The Awakening"

with Vilma Banky and
Walter Byron—Never a
more beautiful story of its
kind. It will take you back
to dream of the past, to
think of the future, and
what you are now. Tender,
emotional, exciting, you
will think of it for weeks.
Also comedy "The Booster"
and International News

WED & THURS.

Richard
Barthelmess

—in—

"Wheel of Chance"

Brother against brother
and only one could win.
It's so real, so life-like,
you'll think it is real. It's
the most fascinating story
that has reached the screen
for years.

Also comedy "Wife Trouble"
and Kinogram News

Also Free Chinaware well
worth the price of admis-
sion.

SATURDAY

Jack Donovan

—in—

"Hoof Marks"

A super western with
thrills galore.

Also the fifth chapter of
"The Scarlet Arrow"
and two reel comedy
"Caught in the Kitchen"

FREE—Absolutely—FREE

A complete Golden Pheasant Dinner Set—Each lady present
on China Night receives FREE one piece of this Chinaware



Every
Wed-
nesday

Every
Thurs-
day

So do not miss the first nights beginning Jan. 2nd and 3rd

WE WISH TO ANNOUNCE

to our customers that beginning Monday, Dec. 31st our
Monday and Tuesday prices of admission will be 10c and 30c
owing to the fact, that we are going to give to you the best
pictures the market affords. Each Monday and Tuesday
we are giving you a special feature that will cost us con-
siderably more and pictures we want you to see which will
be run throughout the United States with admission from
50c to \$3.00 at all first run houses. We are giving them to
you as low as we possibly can and hoping you will take
advantage of this and see all of these splendid pictures we
have secured for you, we thank you.

Sincerely,

Queen Theatre

S. P. Nesmith Resident Mgr.

Just like we'd meet you on the street
or any other place—We want to say

HOWDY FOLKS

Hope this will be a happy, prosper-
ous New Year for you and all your
folks. You just don't know how we
appreciate your business and your
loyalty, but during 1929 we'll do our
best to show you.

Come to see us.

C. E. CONNER

Front Street Phone 42

MAKE HER HAPPY—

Build Her a Home First.
For the Best Material, See

CLAY LUMBER COMPANY

DIAMONDS T.C. WILSON WATCHES
JEWELER
TELEPHONE 6 ABILENE, TEXAS.
118 Chestnut Street



DUKE-ROGERS

Of interest to many Merkel friends is the announcement of the marriage in Fort Worth Christmas eve of Mrs. Maude Rogers of Big...

STUDIO RECITAL

Saturday afternoon a group of parents and interested friends gathered in the home of Miss Mary Pence for the purpose of hearing six of her piano pupils compete in a playing contest.

SENIOR WEINER ROAST

Merkel High school seniors of 1927 met at the high school building Wednesday night to renew the old school spirit.

SURPRISE PARTY

Every girl longs for that important event, her sixteenth birthday, which identifies her with the more important affairs of the day.

COMBINATION

"Combination" we refer to is quality of our service, the excellence of our oils and greases, the stability and greater wearing power of Dunsmack Tires.



COMBINATION

"Combination" we refer to is quality of our service, the excellence of our oils and greases, the stability and greater wearing power of Dunsmack Tires.

EXPERT REPAIRING GREASING, ETC.

Everybody's Garage

PHONE 72

ed them to the dainty guest book in which Miss Hazel Leslie assisted them to register. Birthday gifts were hung upon the Christmas tree which stood in a prominent corner of the spacious living room.

The prettily decorated arch with the birthday cake placed in the background offered a suitable setting for the entertainment for the occasion.

Miss Pauline Toombs delighted the audience with a group of Christmas poems. Little Miss Betty Lou Grimes and Master Robert Grimes showed their remarkable talents in their reading and singing.

CLOSE NEW YEAR'S DAY

On account of New Year's Day the undersigned banks will be closed all day Tuesday, Jan. 1, 1929.

F. & M. NATIONAL BANK, FARMERS STATE BANK.

NOTICE—If you suffer with a headache ask to see our Trigem. Hamm Drug Company.

Second sheets at Merkel Mail office.

Bargains: We have connections with oil companies, oil brokers and investors in real estate.

Wanted—To buy maize heads. \$18.00 per ton. Sam Swann

Sore Gums Now Curable

You won't be ashamed to smile again after you use Leto's Pyorrhea Remedy. This preparation is used and recommended by leading dentists and cannot fail to benefit you.

Personal Mention

Whit Farmer and family have removed to Snyder where he has bought Foster Watts of Del Rio and Mrs. Zeldie Johnson of Odessa were Christmas guests in the T. H. Watts home.

Mr. and Mrs. W. L. Carolan and son have returned from a holiday visit with relatives in Waco, their former home.

Miss Namie Ellis, who is teaching school at Fort Stockton, is spending the holidays with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. R. A. Ellis.

W. C. Ferrill, wife and son of Sidney, Comanche county, were holiday guests in the home of R. B. Wells Wednesday and Thursday.

F. C. Hughes, wife and son spent part of the Christmas holidays at Throckmorton as the guests of Mrs. Hughes' parents, Mr. and Mrs. R. P. Lee.

W. R. Bond and family of Roswell, N. M., spent several days of the holiday season with Mr. and Mrs. Bud Brown at Noodle.

Bud Brown of Noodle was brought to Merkel Thursday for medical treatment.

ment. After effects of a severe case of flu settled in his legs, making lancing necessary. He was reported as doing nicely.

Mr. and Mrs. J. S. Swann are enjoying a holiday visit from their children and grandchildren, including Mrs. Henry Jones of Tulsa and her three daughters; Miss Irene Swann of Roswell N. M.; Mr. and Mrs. Carson Miles of San Angelo; Mr. and Mrs. Forest Sears of Snyder.

Church of Christ

Elder W. G. Cypert of the local Church of Christ will preach at Union next Sunday, it being the fifth Sunday of the month.

Walter H. Adams of Abilene Christian College will preach at the North Side Church of Christ Sunday at 11 a. m. and 7 p. m.

Wanted—To buy maize heads. \$18.00 per ton. Sam Swann

Adding machine rolls at Merkel Mail office.

Try a Classified Ad for Results

Take home a box of good candy, our candy is fresh—Hamm Drug Co.

Try a Classified Ad in The Mail.

CLOSE NEW YEAR'S DAY

On account of New Year's Day the undersigned banks will be closed all day Tuesday, Jan. 1, 1929.

F. & M. NATIONAL BANK, FARMERS STATE BANK.

The first permanent settlement in Texas was established by the Spanish conquistadores who made expeditions to the north through El Paso del Norte.

TOO LATE TO CLASSIFY.

LOST—Two gray mares, one bay horse, two mules, one black and one brown. Z. L. Cargill, Merkel, Route 5. Phone 9007F14.

BLACKSMITH author and dramatic artist. I have bought the shop and am preparing a complete equipment. I will give the very best guarantee my work solicited the patronage of anything in my line.

Wanted—To buy \$18.00 per ton. Sam Swann

Try a Classified

Try a Classified

Wanted—To buy \$18.00 per ton. Sam Swann

NOTICE

TO OUR PATRONS

The old year is drawing to a close, and with the first of January we open a new set of books. We expect those now in account with us to settle by January 1, as no 1928 accounts will be carried over into the new year.

WE THANK YOU FOR YOUR PATRONAGE DURING 1928 AND WISH FOR ALL OUR FRIENDS A HAPPY AND PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR

WOODRUM'S Filling Station

THANKS TO YOU

our customers and friends for a very liberal share of your good will and patronage for 1928 and other years that have made it possible for us to enjoy a good business—

And Greetings and Best Wishes for you through 1929 and many years to come.

SWAFFORD COAL & FEED CO.

J. R. Swafford, Manager Phone 54

TO MY FRIENDS A "THANK YOU"

That comes from the heart and a wish for a successful and joyful New Year.

MRS. L. M. TOUCHSTONE

Representative Southwestern Life Insurance Co.

MAY YOU BE ABLE TO SAY— GOOD-BYE TO AN OLD YEAR That Has Been Good to You AND HELLO TO A NEW YEAR That Will be Better to You

As we come to the beginning of a New Year somehow we are glad—glad because it gives us the opportunity to "take stock" in more ways than one. We like to look back over the old year and study where we could have improved our service and served our customers better.

We pledge you anew, here at the beginning of 1929, that we will do our utmost to please you. We'll add good cheer with every measure of service.

Bragg Dry Goods Co.