

ADVERTISE FOR BIDS ON OAK STREET PAVING

SCHOOL BOARD GUESTS LIONS CLUB MEETING

Board of Trustees and Four Heads of Departments Contribute to Program; Improvements to Grammar School.

Members of the school board were especially invited guests of the Lions club at Tuesday meeting, occupying a table arranged for them. It was in fact a school program, with Supt. Roger A. Burgess as toastmaster and three heads of departments contributing special numbers. Miss Lucy Tracey of the expression department rendered a delightful reading; Miss Christine Collins of the voice department gave two solos, with Mrs. E. Yates Brown of the instrumental department. Mrs. Brown also gave a piano solo number.

GRAMMAR SCHOOL NEEDS. Each member of the board of trustees present was called on for a one minute speech, all responding. Lige Gambill, member of the board, referred to the improvements needed on the Grammar school building, saying that something needed to be done in the near future and suggested a \$20,000 bond issue for that purpose. Superintendent Burgess, asked to point out the needs of the building, said the heating system was antiquated, the sewerage not up to standard and a new roof was needed. Mr. Burgess asked the co-operation of all the people with the board of trustees in school matters—that it was the policy of the board to advise the citizens of their plans looking to school improvements. Trustees present were O. J. Adcock, president; W. O. Boney, secretary; Eli Case, C. P. Church, Herbert Patterson and Lige Gambill.

OAK STREET PAVING. Mayor Henry C. West told of the petition being presented to the city council Monday night, signed by a majority of the property owners, asking for permanent paving on Oak street. He said an engineer was now drawing up specifications, and with the type of paving first to be decided on, construction would begin in the near future.

Sie Hamm, L. B. Scott and H. C. West were named as the program committee for the ensuing month. Yates Brown was appointed toastmaster for next week's meeting and B. H. Lancaster for the week following. The club voted unanimously to comply with the request of the San Angelo club to support that city as the meeting place for the state convention of Lions in 1930.

New Suit is Filed By Victim of Posse

Dallas, Feb. 7.—Blocked by a legal technicality in his effort to recover \$51,000 from members of a posse who shot him, mistaking him for a bank robber, E. V. Hall, an oil scout, has filed a new suit which avoids the technicality.

Hall charges that he received 37 gunshot wounds in his legs when the posse fired on him in Garza County shortly after a bank had been robbed at Sylvester. He said that he thought he was being held up when the posse sought to stop his car and attempted to ride through the group in the road.

His first suit failed when it was shown that in accepting \$700 from his insurance company after the shooting he had assigned his rights of recovery to the company. The company re-assigned the rights to him, but this action was taken too late to enter the record of the first suit.

Scout Troop Father and Son Banquet to Be Held Thursday Eve

The local troop of the Boy Scouts of America will celebrate the nineteenth anniversary of scouting in America with a Father and Son banquet here Thursday, February 14, at 7:30 o'clock, at the banquet hall of the Lions club. All Merkel boys of scouting age are urged, together with their dads, to be present. Ed. Shumway, scout executive of this area, Judge J. P. Stinson, president of the Chisholm Trail Area council, will be present, as will other notables of this section.

TAYLOR WILDCAT 1,000 FEET IN OIL

Prospects for a new oil field 12 miles south of Merkel become brighter each day as a result of the showing of Midcontinent Oil and Gas company's No. 1 Taylor, wildcat operation, which encountered its first oil showing two weeks ago.

One thousand feet of oil was standing in the hole Thursday, while workmen were busily engaged in erecting two 250-barrel tanks and laying a 4-inch flow line. Indications are that the well will be swabbed and tested out before going deeper.

GOOD OIL SHOWING. Whatever the proportions of the well when the final test is made, the opinion is unanimous among oil men that the showing in the test at this time is far superior to that produced by any wildcat test in this territory. Royalties and leases are changing hands at a rapid rate, brought about by the fact that the well has improved each day from the time of the first showing two weeks ago.

The well has attracted crowds daily, both from Merkel and Abilene. From the time of the initial showing it was believed that a new field had been discovered, and the fact that with each day's operation, prospects for a good well have grown brighter, has increased interest throughout this section. There were some who had misgivings at first, but the increased flow of oil has about dispelled all doubt as to the prospects of the Taylor wildcat becoming a well.

The disagreeable weather of Thursday was expected to retard operations on the well, but with the storage tanks installed, it will be only a short time until extent of production is known.

Thomas Smith Dies at Trent; Entered Confederacy at 17

Thomas Smith, 82, Sweetwater, for many years a resident of this section, died at his home in Sweetwater Monday. Funeral services were held from the Church of Christ at Trent Tuesday afternoon, with interment in the cemetery at that place.

Mr. Smith was born in Mississippi, but came to Texas when a young man, first locating in Robertson county. He entered the Confederacy at the age of 17 and served to the end of the civil war. At an early age deceased became a Christian and his life was one of devotion to his faith.

Survivors are his wife, seven daughters and two sons, one brother and two sisters. The daughters are: Misses Leola and Rose Norris, Sweetwater; Mrs. Will Craig, Morrilton, Ark.; Mrs. J. W. Hinson, Fletcher, Okla.; Mrs. E. Henderson, Abilene; Mrs. J. C. Hamner, Trent; Mrs. R. E. Griffith. The sons are Elery Smith, Trent, and Thomas Smith Jr. The sisters are Mrs. Lou Graves, Hatchell, Texas, and Mrs. Mollie McDaniel of Coleman. The brother, Merriel Smith lives at Hatchell, Texas.

Accident Victim Recovers; Suffers Pneumonia Attack

Fred Beal, one of the five men hurt when a truck turned over on the Phillips lease early last week, recovered from his injuries sufficiently to leave the hospital in three days. He was returned to the hospital Saturday, having developed influenza-pneumonia, and has been in a critical condition since that time.

Mr. Beal's father, J. W. Beal, who lives at Whitney, Hill county, has been at his son's bedside all this week. Some improvement was noted in Mr. Beal's condition Monday.

Emergency Operation.

Brooks Patterson underwent an emergency operation for appendicitis Wednesday morning, but reports from his bedside Thursday were that he had a good night and was doing nicely. It was the second attack in the last year. His condition was serious when the operation was performed.

CONCRETE WORK ON BANKHEAD IS NOW COMPLETED

Through Highway From Dallas to Mitchell County; Only Detour Now is Short Distance on City Streets of Abilene.

A completed highway across Taylor county. That is the good news people of Merkel and tourists have been spreading during the present week. The last of the concrete between Merkel and Abilene was spread Monday afternoon, thus closing the only uncompleted gap in the Bankhead highway between Dallas and Mitchell county.

A short stretch of concrete near the Abilene city limits will be allowed to harden before all of the road is open for use, but motorists are now enabled to travel the highway to the Abilene city limits, the only detour being on about three blocks of city streets. According to present plans, the through highway will be ready for travel in about two weeks.

TWO BOND ISSUES. Completion of the Taylor county stretch, which totals more than thirty miles, is consummation of a program instituted in October, 1923, when the county voted \$350,000 in road bonds. Progress was slow for more than two years due to disorganization of the state highway department and controversies between the county and state. In 1927 the county voted a one million dollar bond issue to complete paving on all state highways in the county and to build lateral roads.

The first link that extending eastward from Abilene to Callahan county, has been in use for more than a year. Then the strip beginning at the western boundary west of Trent and extending through that town and Merkel to near Mulberry creek about 12 miles west of Abilene was finished.

CONVENIENCE TO MERKEL. Completion of the gap is a convenience to Merkel people and to the motoring public in general. The long detours made necessary by the construction work has made travel between Abilene and the west extremely difficult during rainy weather. Even at best, the detours were rough and added considerable distance between Merkel and Abilene.

Texas Leading Oil Production State

Washington, Feb. 7.—Texas was the leading oil producing State in 1928, as disclosed by a report issued by the United States Bureau of Mines showing the December production and the total for the year.

Texas total production during the year was 256,888,000 barrels, an increase of 39,499,000 compared with 1927. California held its production to 500,000 barrels increase, or 231,982,000, while Oklahoma with 249,000,000, registered 26,000,000 barrels reduction.

Blair Well 1200 Feet. The Grisham-Hunter Campbell No. 1 well, located near Blair, has reached a depth of approximately 1200 feet. Much interest is being manifested in this test, and drilling operations are being closely watched.

Ray Gets Fifteen-Years.

Togo Ray, bank bandit, was sentenced to fifteen years in the state penitentiary by a jury verdict returned at Abilene this week. Ray was found guilty of robbing the Ovallo State Bank with firearms.

KEEPING UP WITH TEXAS

L. O. Harvey, state recordkeeper for the Macabees died Sunday at his home in Dallas.

A twelve story addition, providing 100 more rooms, has been announced for the Hilton hotel at Waco.

A theatre building to cost not less than \$175,000 with a seating capacity of 1,500 will be erected at Waco by outside capitalists.

R. Q. Lee, congressman-elect, has announced that he will seek an appropriation for enlarging the federal building at Abilene.

The annual spring sale of midwest Texas Hereford Breeders' association will be held February 25 at Sweetwater.

Capt. J. M. Miller, 77, resident of Texas for 53 years, died at his home in Waco. He was a member of the Waco fire department for 25 years.

H. W. Middleton, charged with murder of his father by poisoning, was found guilty at Bastrop and sentenced to 99 years in the penitentiary.

Gulf Refining company officials have announced their intentions to erect a large refinery at Sweetwater which will employ a minimum of 200 men for normal operation.

Work was begun this week on construction of the Hamlin Northwestern railroad, extending north from Hamlin ten miles to large sand and gravel deposits.

Funeral rites for Mrs. Mennie Ola Boyd, 34, wife of R. T. Boyd, Abilene contractor, were held in that city Saturday afternoon. She died early Saturday morning.

A new coupe belonging to Rev. J. Henry Littleton, pastor of the Hamlin Baptist church, was stolen from in front of the church while the pastor preached.

Accidents in Texas during the week of January 16-23 claimed 40 persons killed and 153 injured. Deaths from automobile accidents headed the list with 16 killed.

W. R. Montgomery of Edinburg was the winner in the election contest brought by E. M. Smith of McAllen, for legislative representative from the Seventy-third district.

Funeral services were held at Hamlin for Mart O. Farrow, assistant postmaster, who died in a Stamford hospital. The American Legion had charge of services at the grave.

Former Attorney General W. A. Keeling is protesting the proposed sale of a narrow strip of Texas territory along the border to the state of Oklahoma.

A pan of gasoline spilled on a stove ignited the home of Mr. and Mrs. Claud Key near Childress, setting fire to the house and fatally burning their three-year-old daughter.

Dallas police are searching for a man who entered the home of Mrs. A. K. Purdy and choked her when told there was no money on the premises. The house was ransacked.

Tom Ross, convicted with Milt Good of shooting two cattle association inspectors to death in 1923 and who escaped from Huntsville prison in 1926, was slain in Canada, according to press reports.

Ben C. Richards Jr., charged with forgery at Dallas in connection with the election but which resulted in the slaying of a bank clerk, pleaded not guilty when his case was called for trial early this week.

D. L. Snodgrass of Coleman has been elected president of the West Texas Baseball league, succeeding J. McAllister Stevenson of Abilene. W. R. Keeble, Abilene, elected at a previous meeting, declined to serve.

The jailer having possession of the keys could not be located when the inmates of the Nacogdoches jail frantically sounded an alarm of fire. Prisoners are believed to have fired the jail in an effort to escape, but came near suffocating while firemen extinguished the blaze.

Huge Sum For Roads.

Austin, Texas, Feb. 7.—The highway department wants \$35,000,000 a year for construction and maintenance for the next biennium, exclusive of money it may receive in Federal and county aid, Gibb Gilchrist, Highway Engineer, told the House Revenue and Taxation Committee.

PETITIONS ACCEPTED BY CITY COUNCIL AND ENGINEER EMPLOYED

Bids Are to Be Asked on Three Different Types of Pavement, Final Decision to Rest With Committee From Property Owners, Acting With City Council; to Award Contract by March 5.

Oak street citizens presented petitions to the city council Monday night, signed by a majority of property owners, asking for permanent paving on that street.

The council accepted the petitions and announced the employment of Engineer H. N. Roberts of Lubbock to prepare plans and specifications on three types of paving—3-inch brick pavement, brick or concrete, and solid concrete.

As soon as the engineer has completed the specifications, bids will be asked on the three different types, following which a committee of citizens living on Oak street will meet with the council and determine the type to be selected.

ADVERTISE FOR BIDS. It is expected the engineer will have the specifications ready so as to advertise for bids in the next few days. In this event, the committee representing the property owners, working with the city council, hope to be able to open the bids and award the contract by March 5. It will require from two to three weeks to assemble working material and organize the construction force, according to those familiar with the project, and if these calculations are correct, actual work of paving the street should begin about March 15.

Mr. Roberts, the engineer, has been instructed to prepare plans on the basis of a street 50 feet in width, this specification to be subject to the wishes of the committee of citizens representing the property owners, acting with the city council.

In accepting the petition, the city council made one reservation, according to Mayor West, that being that the company awarded the contract be required to pave at least 90 per cent of the street.

MAYOR WANTS NO GAPS. Mayor West, discussing the paving project and the action of the council, said:

"It is a great forward step for Merkel. We hope that those who have been active in the paving movement will continue their enthusiasm and efforts until they have secured the consent of every resident of Oak street for the paving of that thoroughfare, in order that the paving may be solid the entire length of the street. In addition to adding to the general attractiveness of the street, continuous paving will contribute to the value of every piece of property on the street."

Rapid progress has been made on the Oak street paving project. Three weeks ago a number of property owners on that street were guests of the Lions club, at which time they organized a committee to circulate the petitions asking for paving. A majority have signed, the petitions presented to the city council and engineer employed to prepare specifications. Bids are to be opened on March 5 and the contract awarded. Actual construction work should be well under way before April 1.

Funeral of Tye Youth.

Funeral services were held at Tye Thursday for Coleman Smith Jr., seven-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Coleman Smith. The little boy died at his home Wednesday morning from influenza complications.

Lee Buys Blanton Home.

Word comes from Washington that Congressman-elect R. Q. Lee has purchased the home of his predecessor, Thomas L. Blanton, in the capital city. The Lee home is a comparatively new brick dwelling, located at 1851 Irving street northwest.

Attends Poultry Show.

C. A. Gibbs of Sweetwater Hatchery attended the poultry show and school held in Big Spring January 29 and 30. He reported a large attendance, and many more exhibits displayed than expected. Mr. Gibbs entered some of his birds and won awards in every class he entered. He won three first prizes, two second and three thirds. E. N. Holmgren of A. & M. College was the judge.

PROPST RESIGNS COUNCIL PLACE

At the meeting of the city council Monday night H. L. Propst tendered his resignation as alderman, occasioned by his removal to Abilene.

The resignation was accepted, but since Mr. Propst's term expires in April, it is understood no successor will be named at this time. The vacancy will be filled at the April election.

Mr. Propst has served as alderman at different times over a term of several years and has given painstaking and efficient service in the duties of that office.

Merkel Masons Will Observe Birthday of George Washington

Merkel Masonic lodge will observe George Washington's birthday on the night of February 26, with a program of speeches and entertainment features, to be followed by refreshments.

Each year Masonic lodges throughout the nation observe with appropriate programs the birth of Washington and his service to the country and to the Masonic fraternity.

It is hoped to have a prominent out of town speaker for the ceremonies under the auspices of the local lodge. Committees are busy formulating the complete program and working out the details.

Carnes is Assessed Five to Seven Years on Plea of Guilty

Atlanta, Ga., Feb. 7.—Clinton S. Carnes, former treasurer of the Southern Baptist home board, whose disappearance late last summer led to the discovery of an alleged shortage of nearly \$1,000,000 in his accounts and his subsequent arrest in Canada, pleaded guilty in Superior Court here Tuesday to embezzlement and was sentenced to from five to seven years' imprisonment.

Carnes' plea was to one indictment charging theft of \$80,000 and he was sentenced immediately.

Trent Choral Club Heard Over Radio

Miss Christine Collins, director, presented the Trent High School Choral club to the Abilene radio broadcasting audience Saturday morning, the class and the instructor receiving many telegrams and letters of appreciation.

As a special number, Miss Collins presented one of her pupils, Malvin Howard, in a series of popular songs, who received a number of compliments for his ability as a radio entertainer.

Mr. Howard was on the air at Abilene station again Monday night and will be heard each Monday evening from 8 to 9.

Notice to Scouts.

As Herbert Patterson, local scoutmaster, will be attending an executive meeting in Abilene Friday evening, the regular meeting hour of Troop 20, there will be no meeting here this week, but all scouts are urged to be present the following meeting, as there will be important business afoot.

KEEP UP INSURANCE

Your house or barn, perhaps your hay,
 May catch on fire and burn some day.
 Insurance is the thing to use
 When you cannot afford to lose;
 And you should carry on your life
 Insurance to protect your wife.
 Take good advice and do not wait
 Until at last it is too late.
 The Farmers State Bank will help you choose
 The kind of insurance you should use.

The Farmers State Bank

OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS:

J. S. SWANN, President	HERBERT PATTERSON,
R. O. ANDERSON, V. Pres.	Assistant Cashier
DAVID HENDRICKS, V. Pres.	B. L. HAMILTON,
W. L. DILTZ, Jr., Cashier.	Assistant Cashier

Your Big Chance 25%

Reduction on all sizes of Portraits
 during the month of February.

Now is the time for that Portrait of
 Mother and Dad or that family
 group you have been think-
 ing of.

WE WILL BE RUSHED—MAKE
 YOUR APPOINTMENT EARLY

RODDEN STUDIO

Before you Build a Home See

CLAY LUMBER CO.

We can help you finance it, can give you
 service, furnish you with best grade of any
 kind of material and save you money.

WHY NOT TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE
 SAVING AND BUY FROM

CLAY LUMBER CO.

BLANTON'S SWAN SONG TO HOUSE

West Texas Congressman Says
 Houston Convention Sounded
 His Political Death Knell.

Washington, Feb. 7.—The Houston democratic convention sounded the political death knell of Representative Thomas L. Blanton of the Abilene district, the Texan declared in his farewell speech in the house Saturday.

Mr. Blanton's twelve years' service in the House will end March 4, as he surrendered his seat to enter the Senatorial race, in which he was defeated in the primary by Representative Tom Connally of the Marlin district.

"It has always been a pleasant recollection to me," Blanton said to the house, "that while I aspired to the senate and was defeated, there could not have been a chance for my election after the Houston convention. I knew it. The Houston convention spoke my death knell in my campaign because my part of the country in the western half of Texas was against what was done at the Houston convention."

Graceful tribute was paid by Blanton to his victorious colleague, Tom Connally, who was present when Blanton spoke. Blanton recalled that Connally and he went through a heated campaign lasting several months, in which each spoke three or four times a day.

TRIBUTE TO CONNALL Y.

"As we went through that campaign," Blanton asserted, "there was not an unkind word and when I was eliminated I had the pleasure of helping him to attain his ambitions to go to the Senate."

This assertion was greeted with applause from both republican and democratic sides of the House chamber.

"He and I are still good friends," Blanton continued, "and he will have my hearty support in every endeavor he makes on the other side of the capitol."

The Texan's objection to bills brought before the house is almost proverbial in Washington and Mr. Blanton took occasion in his swan song to explain that there was nothing personal in his opposition to so many measures.

"I want to thank all of you, my colleagues, for your patience in bearing with me," Blanton said. "I have had to oppose many bills in which you were interested. I have blocked many of them. You could not understand."

"You thought maybe there was something personal in it. There was not. It was a report that I had had from some department to the effect that some bill ought not to pass. I gave every bill that I attempted to block careful consideration and I had a report from the department against it when I took my stand against it. Possibly that helped to defeat some of you but I did what I thought was my duty."

"I have given the best that was in me, without stint, for my district and for the nation. I have worked every minute, Sundays and holidays for twelve years, but I am not sorry. I am only sorry that I must now leave this fine body of men with whom I have associated for so many years."

Lack of Finances May Shorten Terms of Taylor Schools

State aid rural schools in Taylor county will be cut from one to two weeks, due to the deficiency in state school finances, according to a statement by M. A. Williams, county school superintendent.

Mr. Williams cited a letter from S. M. N. Marrs, state superintendent of public instruction, which stated the state will be able to pay only 80 per cent of the amount approved for rural schools for the current year. On this basis Taylor county schools will receive approximately \$3,400 less than had been estimated.

About \$10,000 monthly is paid to teachers in Taylor county for salaries. Unless emergency appropriations are made the deficiency will reduce the school term from one to two weeks.

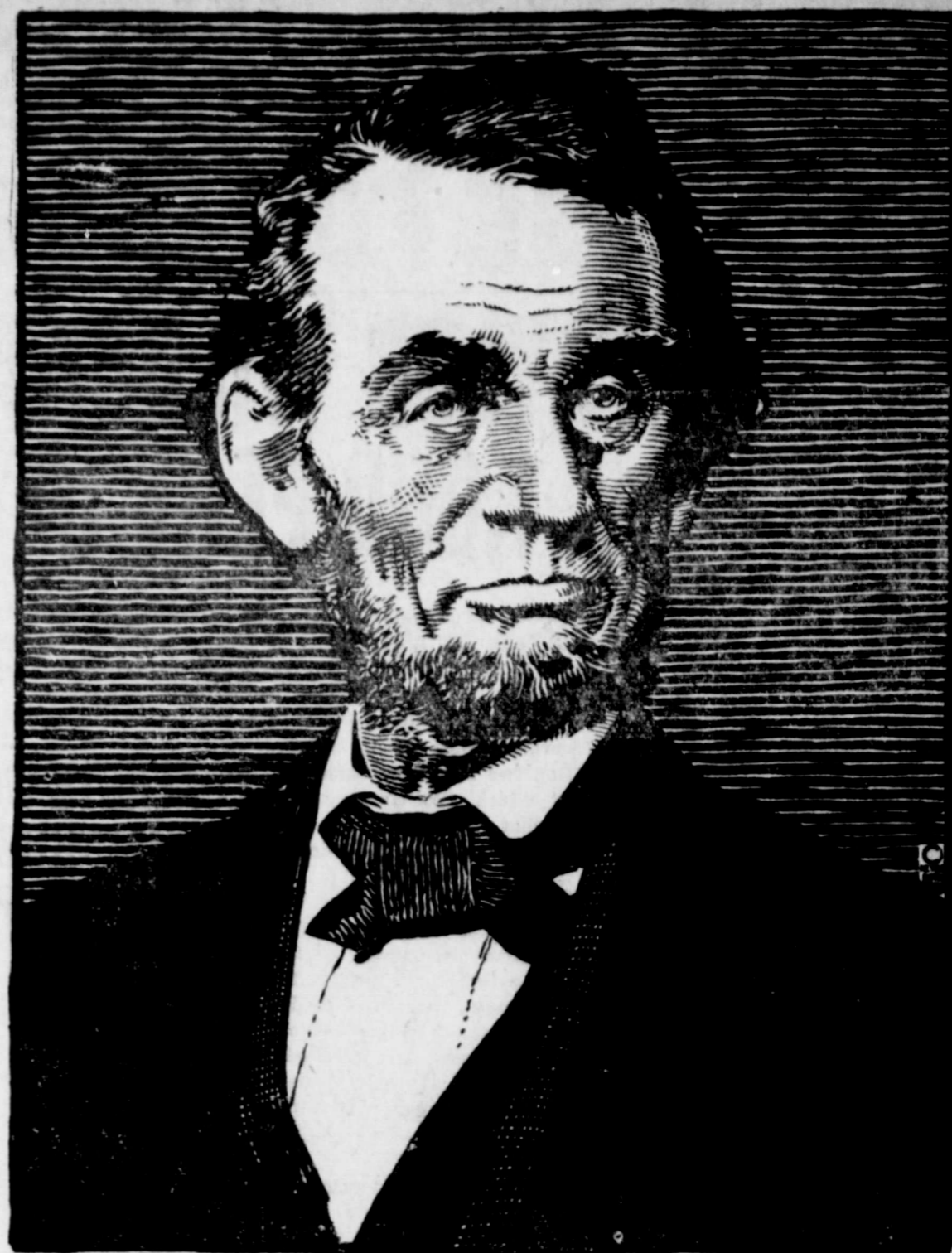
Texas has in the neighborhood of 17 billion board feet of pine and seven billion five hundred million feet of hardwood standing.

FOR SALE

A number of young bronze tom turkeys. Choice \$5.00 each, Mrs. Angus Garvin on Warren ranch, three miles east of Merkel.

Get a roast or steak from our choice Home Fed Baby Beef. Chickens and Turkeys dressed to order. Fresh Oysters and Cat Fish. Quality Market. Phone No. 2.

Adding machine rolls at Merkel Mail office.



—LEGAL HOLIDAY—
 TUESDAY FEBRUARY 12th
 The Old Reliable

Farmers and Merchants National Bank

Merkel, Texas
 "FOR THE PAST QUARTER CENTURY"



DAYS— Gone By!

REMEMBER long ago, when, after supper, every one pulled their chairs up close and crowded around the old center table? . . . It was the hour for "Dad" to read the Bible before retiring. . . . The old lamp placed in the table's center would flicker, get dim, suddenly it would brighten up again. . . . "Dad" would adjust his spectacles, turn to his favorite place and begin the Bible study. . . . Remember how he would stop, perhaps turn up the lamp when reading became difficult? . . . Then upon finishing, remember how he would rub his eyes? They seemed tired and strained from reading under the old lamp's dim light. . . . "Mother" then would speak up and say, "Children, it's your bedtime; here take your lamp and be off to bed and be careful not to stumble going up those stairs and through that dark hall." . . . Upstairs you would tromp, climb into bed and soon be off to the land of dreams in pleasant slumber. Remember?

THIS day and time there are no such hardships as your "Dad" and "Mother" endured. . . . Through the means of electricity, that magic power, you are able to read—yes, do anything without discomfort. . . . You have Electric Lights to illuminate your home. . . . Electric Ranges upon which to prepare your foods. . . . Electric Refrigerators preserve your foods and protect your health. . . . Many, many other electrical appliances make home life a genuine pleasure. . . . Even your garages and chicken yards are illuminated by this wonderful power called electricity.

THE West Texas Utilities Company stands ready—yes, anxious—at all times to serve you in a most efficient manner. . . . We will supply you with electricity and electrical appliances that will help you really enjoy life and make you be thankful you do not have to undergo the hardships of "Dad" and "Mother" in the DAYS GONE BY!

West Texas Utilities Company

WHAT'S DOING In West Texas

The latest fire fighting equipment including pumper, special hose, pressure hose for fires inside residences and ladder equipment mounted on a large Reo truck has been purchased by the city of White Deer. The truck will be paid for by the decrease in key rate fire insurance.

Soundings are being made preparatory to excavating for the new building of the American Telephone and Telegraph company at Cisco. The building will have four stories and will probably house division headquarters.

Chillicothe has installed the green, red and amber traffic light system on two of their busiest streets, thereby laying claim to being one of the smallest cities in the state to find such traffic direction necessary.

Bids are being advertised for the first resident paving to be done in Colorado to be opened by the city council February 20. The paving will consist of eight blocks.

A new butter factory has been installed at the Hope milk plant in Sweetwater, and will add an additional consuming unit for the cream produced in the section. The plant has increased the amount of sweet milk used from 100 gallons a year and a half ago, to over 700 gallons now.

Contract for the addition of ten stories to the Crawford Hotel at Big Spring will be let within 40 days, according to the owner, A. J. Crawford. A remodeled banquet hall with a seating capacity of 300, and a reception room will be added, with 102 guest rooms added to the present 150.

Carload shipments of various items, out of Ralls during 1928 excluding cotton, included 30 cars of wheat, 2 cars of corn, 321 cars of grain and calves, 2 of hay and straw, 2 other mill products, 26 of pummies and 4 of other commodities.

CARD OF THANKS.

We wish to extend our sincere thanks to our many dear friends who so kindly helped us in our recent bereavement, the illness and death of our dear husband and father, J. M. Bryson. Also for the beautiful floral offerings, the many words of sympathy extended to us, and the kind efforts to assist in any way.

- Mrs. Mary Bryson,
- M. and Mrs. A. W. Cook,
- Mr. and Mrs. S. W. Hampton,
- M. and Mrs. J. E. Bryson,
- M. and Mrs. S. L. McNay,
- Mr. and Mrs. T. C. Jinkens,
- And Grandchildren.

The present constitution of Texas was ratified by the people in 1876.

The annual lumber cut of Texas is about one billion five hundred million feet.

W. CORNELIUS
JEWELER
 At Hamm Drug Co.
 MERKEL, TEXAS
HIGH GRADE WATCH AND JEWELRY REPAIRING GUARANTEED.

Save Your Baby Chicks by Feeding
 Abtex Baby Chick Starter with powered buttermilk and bone meal.
 No Better Made Prices Right
Abtex
 A Full line Abtex feeds.
SWAFFORD
 Phone 44 So. Side

T. C. WILSON
JEWELER...
 DIAMONDS WATCHES
 116 Chestnut Street Abilene
 Phone 5227

George Miller of 101 Ranch Fame is Killed in Accident

Ponca City, Okla., Feb. 7.—George Miller, 49, one of the famous Miller Brothers of the 101 Wild West Ranch near here, was killed when his car skidded and turned over on the pavement south of here while he was en route to the ranch after a visit with friends here.

Miller in a dying condition was found by two men en route here. The men said they found him pinned beneath a front wheel.

The ranchman was rushed to a hospital here, but died before arrival.

Mrs. A. L. Jobe Dies Near Ranger

Mrs. A. L. Jobe, 72 years old, formerly of Merkel, died recently at her home near Ranger. She was the wife of Rev. A. L. Jobe, who is now conducting a grocery business in Ranger.

Mrs. Jobe had been an invalid for the past five years. She is survived by her husband, Rev. A. L. Jobe and six children, Mrs. L. N. Simmons, Abilene; Mrs. Oscar Jackson, Ft. Worth; Mrs. O. M. Sharp, Fort Worth; H. E. Jobe, McCamey; C. W. Jobe, Crane, Texas and Brittain Jobe, Ranger.

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

Woman and Paramour Hanged in Louisiana

Franklin, La., Feb. 7.—Two lovers, Mrs. Ada Bonner LeBoeuf and Dr. Thomas E. Dreher, paid the State of Louisiana its price for a murder Friday—a gallows' death.

Mrs. LeBoeuf mother of four children, was the first white woman ever to be hanged west of the Allegheny Mountains. She, with the doctor, who was ten years her senior, it is alleged, decided her husband, James, "stood in the way" and killed him to keep open their path of love.

Mrs. LeBoeuf was dropped through the trap at 12:17 p. m. She was pronounced dead at 12:27.

Dr. Dreher followed at 12:55 p. m. His legal hour of death was pronounced at 12:51.

Typewriting paper at Merkel Mail office.

Try a Classified Ad in the Mail

LET US DO YOUR COLLECTING

Western Collecting Agency

Upstairs over City Hall
 P. O. Box 2 Phone 103

Business Phone 21 Residence Phone 181

SECRETS OF TOMORROW

Tomorrow never tells you what is coming. All may be well but all may not be well. Tomorrow holds no worries for the man whose home, property, valuables and business are fully insured. We cannot tell you of the secrets of tomorrow but we can protect you against tomorrow's possible misfortune.

Ask us today.

W. O. BONEY
 REAL ESTATE, FARM LOANS
 FIRE INSURANCE
 MERKEL, TEXAS

Consult Your Insurance Agent As You Would Your Lawyer

The tragic end of Forbidden Love

Was it an accident...or a jealous wife's revenge?

ASHERTON sank back into the cab. At last he had eluded his wife. Now he and Marie Norton could enjoy their forbidden rendezvous...

Ahead of him the glare of headlights from Marie's roadster cut into the darkness. Silently, his cab followed. Soon they would be together at the roadhouse.

Suddenly the glare of the road brightened as another car, with its siren shrieking, shot around the bend behind them. "Some drunken fool," Asherton thought. Then his blood froze with horror. The big car headed straight for the roadster. In another instant they had crashed!

Asherton leaped from his cab, and fought to release Marie's unconscious body from the

tangled wreckage. Then glancing toward the other car, he saw, coming toward him—*his wife!*

His own wife! What did it mean? Had she in some way discovered their secret rendezvous? Was this tragic wreck an accident—or had she, in a jealous fury and at the risk of her own life, coldly determined to take revenge on the woman who stole her husband's love?

Only two persons know the actual story; and one of them tells it with startling honesty in the March issue of True Story Magazine. It is a daring revelation—*don't miss it!*

Partial Contents for March

My Mysterious Lover
 All For a Man's Promise
 I Wanted a Husband
 Meddling in Love
 The Beautiful Sinner
 After the Infatuation
 First in a Woman's Life
 —and 9 other stories

Tune in on the True Story Hour broadcast every Friday night over WCR and the Columbia Chain. Consult our Paper for EXACT Time.

March Out Now!
True Story
 At All Newsstands—only 25c

FLANCK
 BRAND
 WORK CLOTHES

THEY WEAR LONGER
JONES DRY GOODS, Merkel, Texas

Merkel Relatives at Funeral of Mrs. Dee Thorp at Colorado

Merkel friends will regret to learn of the death of Mrs. Lee Thorp, who will be remembered here as Miss Grace Snow, which occurred at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Dayton Snow, at Colorado. She had been ill about a year.

Deceased was a cousin of Mrs. Wade Ensminger and a niece of Mr. and Mrs. John Hughes and Mr. and Mrs. J. T. Blackburn. Her home was in

California, but she had been with her parents at Colorado during her illness. Attending the funeral from Merkel were Mr. and Mrs. Ensminger, Mr. and Mrs. John Hughes and children, and Mr. and Mrs. Blackburn.

Get a roast or steak from our choice Home Fed Baby Beef, Chickens and Turkeys dressed to order. Fresh Oysters and Cat Fish. Quality Market. Phone No. 2.

Second sheets at Merkel Mail office.

Kidnaping Charge As Co-Ed Disappears

Austin, Texas, Feb. 7.—Jack Griffith, alias Jack Freith, swimming instructor at Deep Eddy, an Austin bathing resort, and expert diver, claiming the title of the "human fish," is charged with kidnaping in connection with the disappearance of Fannie Lee Minter, 16, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. T. I. Minter of Austin and a University of Texas student. Griffith was married only a month ago.

Legal covers at Merkel Mail office.

for Economical Transportation
CHEVROLET
Six-Cylinder Smoothness

The COACH \$595
 The Roadster...\$525
 The Phaeton...\$525
 The Coupe...\$595
 The Sedan...\$675
 The Sport Cabriolet...\$695
 The Convertible Landau...\$725
 Sedan Delivery...\$595
 Light Delivery Chassis...\$400
 1 1/2 Ton Chassis...\$545
 1 1/2 Ton Chassis...\$650
 All prices f. o. b. Factory, Flint, Michigan.
Check Chevrolet Delivered Prices
 They include the lowest handling and financing charges available.

with increased Speed and Acceleration!
 Marvelous six-cylinder smoothness throughout the entire speed range! A freedom from vibration, drumming and rumble that makes driving and riding a constant delight! Increased speed and acceleration, with 32% more power for hills and heavy going!
 Such are the qualities of performance now available in the price range of the four. Such are some of the outstanding reasons why the new Chevrolet Six is enjoying the most triumphant public reception ever accorded a Chevrolet car.
 If you have never driven the new Chevrolet Six, you are cordially invited to come in for a demonstration.
 —a Six in the price range of the four!

BRACKEEN-HUGHES CHEVROLET CO.
 MERKEL, TEXAS
QUALITY AT LOW COST

AVERY RED LION DISC PLOWS

The New 2-in-1 Hitch
 FLEXIBLE when you want to turn corners, RIGID when you want to plow a straight furrow—and the change from one to the other is *instant and automatic!*
 The most practical hitch ever offered the farmer, and an exclusive feature of the new Avery Red Lion Disc Plow. With the rigid hitch you can plow perfectly straight and clean furrows—and with the flexible hitch you can quickly and easily turn sharp corners—save tugging and straining, save time. Let up on the draft and the hitch becomes flexible; resume the draft on the straight-away and the hitch becomes rigid.
 It's all in the way the new hitch is designed. It is simple, solid, enduring as time itself and absolutely trouble-proof. It is one more desirable and exclusive feature from Avery's 100 years of implement building experience—one more proof of what Avery is doing to help make your job easier.
 But the new hitch is only one of many striking advantages offered you by the Avery Red Lion. You'll want to see them all. You'll never find a plow you'll like any better—or one that will do the job better or easier or at lower cost. Avery Red Lion Plows are horse or tractor drawn. Come in and see them today.
 There is a full line of famous Avery walking, riding and tractor plows, tillage implements and Champion harvesting and haying machines
LIBERTY HARDWARE CO.
 MERKEL, TEXAS

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.

NEWSPAPER ADVERTISING.

The part played by newspaper advertising in America's present commercial position was the theme of a recent address by William A. Thompson, director of the bureau of advertising, American Newspaper Publishers' association, his audience being the New York State Publishers' association. He said in part:

"Newspaper advertising is the link that has connected seller and buyer in the scheme of mass production. It has brought the amazing buying power of the American people into contact with the equally amazing production power of the American manufacturer.

"The newspaper is the great adequate medium because it has measured up to a particular economic task with functions that are exclusively its own. We have often called it the universal advertising medium because it is the vehicle of communication between the sellers of most things and all of their buying public."

Personal Mention

Mrs. J. J. Hutchison returned Wednesday afternoon after a visit with her daughter, Mrs. William McCorkill of Fort Worth.

Mr. and Mrs. Wallace Bragg of Chillicothe were the guests of Mr. and Mrs. T. G. Bragg last week-end.

Miss Iva Bragg is the house guest of Miss Christine Collins this week.

Mr. and Mrs. Ben Whatley of Ennis, who stopped off for a visit with Mrs. Watley's sister, Mrs. C. L. Boswell, on their way to make their home in El Paso, continued their journey to the border city Tuesday afternoon.

Mr. and Mrs. W. E. DuBois, who have been residents of Merkel for some time, Mr. DuBois being engaged in oil well drilling activities, have moved to Lorraine, where Mr. DuBois will engage in the furniture business.

Mrs. G. C. Ely and Juana spent the week-end with home folks at Noodle, returning to Abilene Sunday, where Juana has been taking treatment for the past month.

Mr. and Mrs. J. Ben Campbell returned Monday from Carnegie, Okla., where they were called to the bedside of Mr. Campbell's sister, Mrs. W. A. Akin. She was somewhat improved when they left.

W. J. Sheppard, local manager of the Jones Dry Goods Co., is in St. Louis this week making purchases for his store.

Mr. and Mrs. M. D. Fowler have returned from a ten days' automobile trip which took them for a visit to Mr. Fowler's relatives at Madill, Okla. They report an enjoyable trip.

Mr. and Mrs. T. G. Bragg left the first of the week for the market centers on a purchasing trip for the Bragg Dry Goods Co.

Mrs. Max Mellinger, who has been ill for the past week, is reported

WARREN NEWS

Mr. and Mrs. Will Higgins paid a visit Sunday night to friends in Stith.

Mr. and Mrs. H. R. Chancey from Comper were guests of Mr. and Mrs. H. C. Chancey for Sunday.

We are glad to welcome the Will Sumpter family back to our community.

Mr. Whittman and family visited the W. R. Sumpter family in Merkel Sunday.

Warren school is progressing nicely with a number of new pupils, besides several who have not entered yet. Two fine teachers are responsible for much of the success of the school. We also have a good Junior boys' basketball team.

Grampa Haarvell is able to be up again.

The baby of Mr. and Mrs. Therman McCoy has been real sick but is some better at this writing.

Mrs. B. E. McCoy has been on the sick list but is up again now.

Messrs. Willie Chancy and Cornelius Mitchell of Abilene were guests of H. C. Monday recently and also attended to business matters here.

Teach your children thrift—to pay cash and trade at the Boston Bargain Store.

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

Adding machine rolls at Merkel Mail office.

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

MORGAN CALVIN HAMILTON.
(1870-1877)

Morgan Calvin Hamilton was born near Huntsville, in Madison county, Alabama, on February 25, 1809. In 1837 he removed from Alabama to the Republic of Texas. From 1839 to 1845 he served as a clerk in the war department, and during the greater part of the years 1843-1845 he was acting secretary of war of the state.

After the admission of Texas as a state he was still prominent in local affairs, and in 1867 received an appointment as comptroller of the treasury. He was a delegate to the constitutional convention of 1868. On the reconstruction of Texas he was elected to the United States Senate as a republican, and was re-elected, serving from March 31, 1870, until March 3, 1877. He was an active member of the committee on pensions and the committee on railroads.

When, on April 20, 1872, the senate had under consideration a bill supplementary to "An Act to Incorporate the Texas & Pacific Railway Company, and to aid in the construction of its road, and for other purposes," Senator Hamilton stated in debate that for many years Texas had been authorizing the construction of railroads and had expended millions of dollars on numerous projects, but had no railroad.

In one or more speeches made in the Senate he severely criticized the state legislature, saying that it was then overriding the state constitution, exploiting the people, and destroying their liberties.

Senator Hamilton died at San Diego, California, on November 21, 1893.

Andrew Jackson Hamilton, his brother, was born in Madison county, Alabama, on January 28, 1815. He was educated at a common school and subsequently worked for a time on his father's farm. He afterwards engaged in business, and was for some years clerk of the circuit court of his native county, when he studied law. In 1846 he settled in Texas, practiced law for many years in Austin and for a time served as attorney general of the state. In 1856 he was a presidential elector on the

Buchanan ticket. He subsequently became a republican and was elected to congress, serving in 1859-1861.

In 1859 Andrew Hamilton was the Conservative candidate for governor and his friends thought him elected, but after a canvass of the votes by General Reynolds his opponent, General Davis, was declared elected.

Andrew Hamilton opposed the secession of Texas and during the early part of the war lived in the North. On November 14, 1862, he was made brigadier-general of United States Volunteers and in the same year was appointed military governor of Texas. He was sent to command troops at Matamoras. President Andrew Johnson made him provisional governor in 1865. In 1866 he became chief justice of the supreme court of Texas. He was a member of the second

reconstruction convention and mainly instrumental in getting a very liberal electoral bill engrafted in the constitution of 1868.

Andrew J. Hamilton died at Austin, Texas, on April 10, 1875.

Leases Merkel Garage.

Frank McFarland, well known Merkel automobile mechanic, has leased the Merkel Garage, and cordially invites his friends to see him in his new place of business. He is prepared to do all kinds of automobile repair work giving personal supervision to every job entrusted to his care.

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

Second sheets at Merkel Mail office.

MERKEL THEATER

NOW HEAR OUR NEW MUSIC

FRIDAY AND SATURDAY

THE WHOLE FAMILY 50 CENTS

Bob Custer in "WEST OF SANTA FE"

News, Krazy Kat, Part Five "The Terrible People" and "The Collegians"

MONDAY AND TUESDAY

"WHAT A NIGHT"

With Bebe Daniels

Comedy News Variety

WEDNESDAY—THURSDAY

Gary Cooper and Nancy Carroll in

"THE SHOP WORN ANGEL"

Good Actors—A Good Story—Come and See It.

COMING

"SINS OF THE FATHER," "WINGS"

PAY CASH AND SAVE MONEY

WE OFFER YOU A COMPLETE AND MODERN DRUG STORE WHERE YOUR EVERY DRUG AND ACCESSORY NEED CAN BE FILLED, PLUS A SERVICE THAT WE ARE CONSTANTLY STRIVING TO IMPROVE.

If you are not already a patron of this store, we cordially invite you to become one. It is our ambition to give to Merkel and this section a drug store complete in every sense of the word—pure drugs and everything at all times that you will expect to find in a modern drug store—and by paying cash you save considerable money on your drug store requirements.

Artstyle's and King's Candies

IN SPECIAL BOXES FOR

VALENTINE DAY FEB. 14

You know the quality of these candies. We keep a complete stock of these excellent sweets at all times.

Come to see us when you need anything in the drug line. You will be pleased with the completeness of our stock and our anxiety to please you.

HAMM DRUG CO.

Under New Management

Farmers Bring Us Your Cream

We have installed a Cream Station in connection with our Grocery business, and are prepared to buy your cream, giving you the best possible price for same. We have connections whereby we ship cream in quantity lots, thus enabling us to handle your products in large quantities.

Kerosene Oil Tank

We are handling the Pierce Petroleum Co. Kerosene, having installed a large tank, and are prepared to serve you with this product in both large and small quantities.

Merkel Cash Grocery

Successors to Dunn Bros.

ANNOUNCING

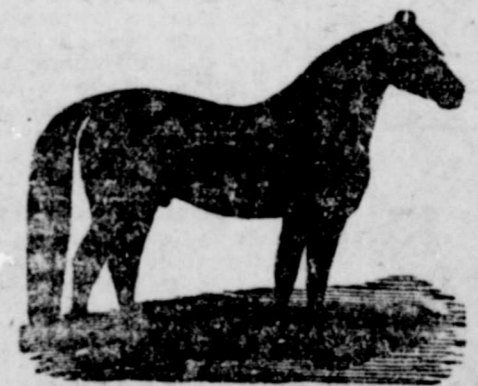
McFarland GARAGE

I have leased the Merkel Garage and will give personal attention to all work entrusted to our care.

Will do all kinds of auto repair work. Bring your troubles to us.

EVERY JOB GUARANTEED.

Frank McFarland



DON'T

Turn Him Out to Die When He Gets Old

Grind His Feed

And He Will Stay

FAT

We Grind and Gin on Wednesdays and Saturdays.

Sam Swan

CLASSIFIED ADS

FOR SALE

FOR SALE—Dark Cornish Game chickens and pullets. See Robert Hicks.

FOR SALE OR TRADE—Just completed, brand new, compact, bungalow home, 4 rooms and bath, all conveniences, close to school. Will sell on liberal terms or trade for equity in good farm. Booth Warren.

Used Cars with an O. K. That Counts

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

CHEVROLETS

Late 1926 Chevrolet coupe, unconditionally guaranteed. You'll have to see it to appreciate it.
 1925 Chevrolet touring, a good looking, serviceable car, curtains, good rubber, O. K. \$185.00
 1925 Chevrolet touring, fair condition \$150.00
 1924 Chevrolet roadster, good condition \$75.00

FORDS

Late 1924 Ford touring, new top, paint, a good one, \$100.00
 1924 Ford touring, good condition \$85.00
 1923 Ford touring, none better, curtains good, \$65.00
 1927 Ford truck, stake body, none better \$225.00

Some for \$25.00.

1927 Essex 4-door sedan, a good one, \$465.00
 1926 Oldsmobile coach, perfect condition new heavy duty rubber, \$465.00

BRACKEEN-HUGHES CHEVROLET CO.

"Home of Better Used Cars"

FOR SALE—Rhode Island Red eggs for setting, Owens farm strain, 75 cents per setting. Would like to have few better customers. Bill Harwell, Merkel, Route 1.

LOTS FOR SALE—In Haynes-Moody addition, Merkel's choicest residence section; gas, electricity and water. Each lot. For further information John S. Hughes.

BRUGHUM FOR SALE—Good bunches, "good" heads, bright feed, better than red top; 5c per bundle, three miles northeast of Trent. Pete Neill.

FOR SALE—A number of young bronze tom turkeys. Choice \$5.00 each. Mrs. Angus Garvin on Warren ranch, three miles east of Merkel.

FOR SALE—Fine Qualla cotton seed at \$1.50 per bushel. Teaff Bros.

FOR SALE—Two incubators, 250 egg capacity each. Both in good condition; at reduced price. W. A. Campbell. Merkel, route 5.

BABY CHICKS from M. Johnson Imperial and Star mating strains; 100, \$15.50; 300, \$15.00; 500, \$14.50; 1000, \$14.00 per hundred. J. S. Touchstone, Hawley, Texas, Box 77. Phone 9036F13 Anson, Texas.

FOR SALE—Span five year mare mules; one smooth mouth mule; one bay mare; a bargain for some one. See Bill Haynes, Merkel Motor Co.

FOR SALE OR TRADE—86 acre farm, well improved; will rent, if can't trade. L. B. Scott. Merkel Motor Co.

FOR SALE OR TRADE—Dayfan Radio complete with two loud speakers; will trade for stock. L. B. Scott. Merkel Motor Co.

FOR RENT

FOR RENT—Three unfurnished rooms, also one bed room; close in. C. S. Higgins Garage.

FOR RENT—24x50 stucco building; concrete floor; on Front street; suitable for shop. Phone 286W.

FOR RENT—Three room apartment furnished; all modern conveniences. Mrs. S. F. Haynes.

BLAIR HOTEL—Rooms for rent, or rooms and board; reasonable.

FOR RENT—Two furnished rooms. Mrs. Geo. Moore. Phone 265W.

FOR RENT—Four room house, also 2-room furnished apartment with all modern conveniences. Mrs. E. D. Coates, Phone No. 7.

FOR RENT—Furnished or unfurnished rooms. Mrs. Dan Reidenbach.

FURNISHED ROOMS, first house north Christian church. Mrs. R. L. Bradshaw.

Try a Classified Ad in the Mail

WANTED

WANTED—20 acres grubbing done at one. See Booth Warren.

SEE B. M. BLACK for upholstering remodelling, repairing, staining or enamelling furniture.

LOST AND FOUND

LOST—Two hand bags, between Trent and Bickley oil field, also three lace boots. Hand bags contained men's wearing apparel. Reward. Notify J. D. Sosebee, Anson, Texas, or leave at Merkel Mail office.

LOST—Bunch of keys, name of Stephens Hotel on tag. Notify hotel or leave at Postoffice.

LEGAL NOTICE.

SHERIFF'S SALE

The State of Texas, County of Taylor: Notice is hereby given that by virtue of a certain Order of Sale issued out of the Honorable 42nd District Court of Taylor County, of the 2nd day of February 1929, by Miss Belle Wellborn, clerk of said 42nd District Court for the sum of \$1215.00 dollars and cost of suit, under a Judgement; in favor of B. M. Black in a certain cause in said Court, No. 8018-A and styled B. M. Black Vs. A. C. Rose, Mary Rose and Jas. H. Beall, Jr., placed in my hands for service, I, H. T. O'Bar as Sheriff of Taylor County, Texas, did, on the 6th day of February 1929, levy on certain Real Estate, situated in Taylor County, Texas, described as follows, to-wit:

The Northeast quarter and the northwest quarter of lot no. 30, League no. 148, Grimes County school land, Taylor County, Texas, (It is ordered adjudged and decreed that the lien or claim of the defendant, Jas. H. Beall, Jr., is subject to and inferior to the lien held by the plaintiff) and levied upon as the property of A. C. and Mrs. Mary Rose, and Jas. H. Beall, Jr., and that on the first Tuesday in March 1929, the same being the 5th day of said month, at the Court House door, of Taylor County, in the City of Abilene, Texas, between the hours of 10 A. M. and 4 P. M., by virtue of said levy and said Order of

Sale I will sell said described Real Estate at public vendue, for cash, to the highest bidder, as the property of said A. C. Rose and Mary Rose, and Jas. H. Beall, Jr.

And in compliance with law, I give this notice by publication, in the English language, once a week for three consecutive weeks immediately preceding said day of sale, in the Merkel Mail, a newspaper published in Taylor County.

Witness my hand, this 6th day of February 1929.

H. T. O'Bar,
 Sheriff Taylor County, Texas
 By W. F. Whaley Deputy.

Teach your children thrift—to pay cash and trade at the Boston Bargain Store.

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

Get a roast or steak from our choice Home Fed Baby Beef. Chickens and Turkeys dressed to order. Fresh Oysters and Cat Fish. Quality Market. Phone No. 2.

Try a Classified Ad in The Mail

"FEDERATED"

This Means—
 Good Goods for Less Money.



If you pay cash why not trade at a Cash Store and Reap the Benefit!!

NOODLE NEWS

Although there has been a great deal of flu in this community, the general health conditions are better at this time.

There was preaching at the Methodist church Sunday morning and night, Brother J. Taylor doing the preaching. Reverend Mr. Watson also preached at three o'clock Sunday afternoon.

We regret to learn that the Oscar Bird family are moving to town this week, but it is a pleasure at the same

time to report that Mildred is up after an illness of several weeks.

Vernon Gilbreth, brother of Elvis Gilbreth, is here attending school.

R. D. Réce has gone to Commanche to accept employment.

Mrs. Tom Jenkins has returned from Dora where she was called by the illness and death of her father.

According to the groundhog tradition, we will have six more weeks of winter.

A number of basketball games have been played at Noodle and, of course, we "nearly" always win.

Lloyd Taylor was a visitor in Mer-

kel with his cousin last Sunday.

Mrs. Earl Foster, who is sick, is reported some better.

Brother Bill Murdock will preach at the Baptist church both morning and night next Sunday.

On account of bad weather choir practice was missed last Friday night, but it will be held tonight if the weather is favorable.

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

Legal covers at Merkel Mail office.

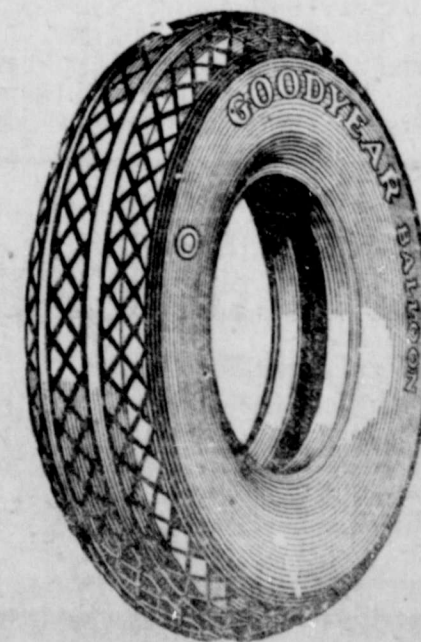
HOT SHOTS FROM THE Clarence Saunders Store

FOR SATURDAY ONLY

Flour	FLAKY WHITE 48. S. Every Sack Guaranteed	\$1.85
Coffee	WHITE SWAN 3 Pounds. One to Customer	\$1.80
Bacon	DRY SALT Swifts Square Side Oxfords, Pound	20c
Tomatoes	TWO POUND STANDARD Six to Customer	60c
Spuds	25 Pounds to Customer Two Cents Pound	50c
Bananas	NICE RIPE GREEN TIP Pound	10c
Lettuce	NICE CRISP FIRM HEADS	8c
P&G Soap	ONE TO CUSTOMER Thirteen Bars	50c

Nice Line of Seasonable Vegetables Priced Right.
 Phone 69 We Guarantee We Deliver

We Do All the Work!



You won't need to write a letter, get a money order, wait several days, pay express parcel post charges--and the. PUT THEM ON YOURSELF when you buy tires here at home from us.

We put 'em on--inflate 'em to correct pressures--inspect them regularly--and we are at your call 365 days in the year for SERVICE.

All this with Goodyear Tires at prices as low or lower than you are asked to pay for ordinary tires.

Highway Service Station

J. C. WHITE, Prop.
 Phone 254

Dry Cleaning Service!

First class work at all times with a service in keeping with such workmanship is the basis on which we conduct our business. We would like an opportunity to show you.

CITY DRY CLEANERS

Phone 189 "Sudden Service" Kent Street

MAJESTIC

Beginning Mon. Feby. 11th

THE BADGER WEEKLY

Published weekly by the students of Merkel High School and sponsored by the Junior Class of '29—Vera Baker sponsor.

The Staff:

Editor-in-Chief—J. T. Darsey Jr.
 Asst. Editor-in-Chief—Milton Case
 Sport Editor—J. D. Ashby.
 Humor Editor—Willie Harris.
 Society Editor—Dorice Brown.
 Miss. Editor—Frances Frederickson.
 Senior Reporter—Raymond Earthman.
 Junior Reporter—J. T. Darsey Jr.
 Sophomore Reporter—Louise Booth.
 Freshman Reporter.
 Willie Evelyn Boaz.

SOPHOMORE EDITION

A CHRONICAL OF THE SOPHOMORE CLASS.

The members of the Sophomore class are entering upon their ninth year (some more, some less, of course) of school life. They have come up through those seemingly dark years—dark because they have scarcely been thought of and have left few memories to be cherished at present.

Lacking organization, needing school spirit, they entered high school. They organized and learned what school spirit is. Under a good sponsor and an able president, the class prospered and established a name (I hope) as a class, remember, that was their Freshman year.

It was new then; it is not new now. It wished to be a leader. It was. Alas! 'Tis not so now. The class lacks spirit. Its president lacks spirit. Even that peppy one is not so well, she lacks school spirit herself.

But wait! The Sophomore class is not so bad. It has not come out with flying colors so far. No other class but the Freshman (drat 'em) has. But it is only now becoming enthused. (It is, or am I supposing that it is?).

Anyway, the Sophomore class promises to be a leader in the present campaign. It may be defeated, but if it's candidate could be put over by faith, he would be.

SENIOR NEWS.

By the time you read this, the Seniors expect to have put over their candidate, William Sheppard, in the most popular boy contest. We lost the last contest to the Freshmen, but that's no sign we'll lose this one to any class—if anything, it puts more fight into us—we are more determined to win it.

Next week, in the Senior corner of the Badger Weekly, there will be some very interesting reading matter. All the Seniors are going to—but wait till next week. Don't miss it.

SOME ANNUAL POINTERS.

William and Raymond have been trying for many weeks to find some other way besides walking to go to Abilene to obtain some "ads" for the "Badger." At last they have gotten Mr. Burgess' permission—but it looks like they're going to have to walk.

Observe the notice in Bragg's window—it will give all the businesses in town who have helped the annual by buying an "ad" in the "Badger." We hope all the business men who have not bought an "ad" will especially notice it. After that, we hope you will take measures to get the name of your firm on this poster.

SENIOR NEWS.

The Senior candidate for the most popular boy is William Sheppard, and believe me, he is going to win, because the Seniors are supporting him to the last notch. So just watch our money go.

The Seniors were honored Monday morning in chapel by being represented in a splendid program given by Miss Tracy's speech arts class by Misses Eunalea Gilmore, Ima Gene Mangum, Helen McCormick, and Bernice Lasater.

The Seniors wish to express their regrets on hearing of the illness of Mrs. T. D. Compton, mother of one of our classmates, Helen Compton.

PUBLIC SPEAKING CLASS PROGRAM.

The high school students always welcome members of the public speaking class as entertainers during the assembly period, not only because of the interesting selections given, but also because of the enthusiasm with which the members respond. There is wonderful training found in this practice, for the boy or girl who thinks on his feet before the student audience is paving the way for better citizenship. Schools throughout the country are realizing more and more the value of public speaking in all of its branches, and we feel that this class is doing its part as a promoter of interest in good speech.

As Imogene Mangum gave the ora-

Bleeding Gums Healed

The sight of sore gums is sickening. Reliable dentists often report the successful use of Leto'sorrhoea Remedy on their very worst cases. If you will get a bottle and use it as directed, you will get relief. If it fails, Hamm Drug

Lynn McSpadden not because of any personal opinion but because the dope points that way?

—That at the rate things are going now the 1929 Badger will be one of the best ever published.

—That on the whole the students seem to be putting out fairly good work and that the Sophs are the leading class in good grades?

—That it looks like the '29 M. H. S. cagers are again due for a successful season?

—That Merkel should be well represented at the county athletic meet at Abilene?

—That we wonder what you often think of this old column, and—Will you tell us which parts of the Badger Weekly you like best in order that we may better please you?

Editor, J. T. Darsey Jr.

SOPHOMORE CLASS NEWS.

We, the Sophomore class, had a class meeting February 1.

This meeting was held for two purposes:

First to discuss the editing of the Badger Weekly by ourselves.

Second, to elect the class' most popular boy. Joel Darsey was elected.

Are we going to fight for him? Just watch and see.

PERSONAL NEWS.

We understand that one of the Juniors, the Hon. J. T. Darsey, is so smart that the teachers can see his brain working. I would hate for my eyes to be that good.

The Sophomore class has a new member, Therman Landreth, who has moved here from Abilene.

FRESHMEN NEWS.

This week we are running the most popular boy in each class, the Freshmen are running Lynn McSpadden. We are going to try very hard to put over our candidate. The "Fish" have won every contest that has been in Merkel High school, so we are expecting to win this one. Watch our smoke!

Reporter.

THE SPIRIT OF M. H. S.

What we have often proudly hailed as old M. H. S. is asleep, a sleep that will end in death. Let's wake her up!

The last and only chance we have to show our colors is in the coming contest. Let's show the little town of Merkel and adjoining little villages that Merkel Hi is able to create "hot" competition among her fellow-students, although many of them are destined as "tight-wads."

Sophomores, come on. We want to ride on the band wagon of our school. So just cut the strings of your old "pocket-book" and make the coin fly. We don't exactly like the idea of these slimy "Fish" getting ahead of us in everything. Let's put them on the very rear section, where they belong.

What M. H. S. needs is the coin and pep—Step into it!

Try a Classified Ad in The Mail

COTTON GINNINGS IN WEST SLUMP

Twenty counties of Central West Texas will show a total of slightly in excess of 441,000 bales of cotton produced in 1928, as against 527,000 bales at the same time in 1927, according to the governments clean-up report on cotton (ginnings prior to Jan. 16).

The decrease is about 86,000 bales, and the average per county has dropped from 26,000 bales to 22,000 bales plus.

Runnels has definitely carried off the honors as the top producing cotton county of the belt Coleman is second, Jones third, Haskell fourth and Taylor fifth. Comparative figures, 1928 in the first column and 1927 in the second, are given for the 20 counties:

Brown	12,984	7,570
Callahan	10,479	7,972
Coleman	41,262	28,998
Dawson	23,451	37,720
Dickens	19,257	32,575
Eastland	6,659	3,737
Fisher	24,096	32,072
Garza	11,000	20,229
Haskell	34,376	47,747
Howard	23,370	18,619
Jones	39,433	61,998
Knox	29,505	47,131
Martin	9,640	2,810
Mitchell	26,390	28,456
Nolan	10,983	18,703
Runnels	58,045	59,705
Scurry	11,729	32,961
Stonewall	9,174	14,725
Taylor	31,110	41,856
Throckmorton	8,239	6,253
Totals	441,482	527,919

Two Men Hurt in T. & P. Freight Wreck

Ranger, Texas, Feb. 7.—Two trainmen were injured and between \$75,000 and \$100,000 damage was done when an eastbound freight and stock train of the Texas & Pacific Railway Company was derailed at Colony Curve, three miles west of Ranger, last week. The injured men are M. Woodson, fireman, Fort Worth, and H. M. Gist, brakeman, Fort Worth. Neith is seriously hurt.

A tank of gasoline was ignited when the contents were splashed on a fire which had been built on the right of way by a Mexican workman.

Fitting Sequel to Famous Air Picture Is Coming to Queen

Characterized as the companion picture to "Wings" Paramount's great epic of the air, "The Legion of the Condemned," another story of the War from the standpoint of the aviator, comes to the Queen theatre next Monday and Tuesday.

Here is a story that differs entirely in story content from the famous roadshow, but in color, romance, characterization and downright thrills "The Legion of the Condemned" has taken its place right up alongside the production which is still standing them up in larger cities.

Like "Wings," the tale is from the pen of John Monk Saunders, a mem-

ber of the United States Air Corps during the War, and is directed by William Wellman, who saw service with the Lafayette Squadron and who is credited with the direction of "Wings."

The photoplay deals with an unattached flying unit at the Front, composed of men who, because of their dark past, wanted to die. Their daring exploits were the talk of the War. Nothing was too hazardous as an undertaking. Into this group of men who welcomed death comes Gary Cooper as the young American newspaperman, betrayed by his sweetheart. The high spot shows Cooper forced to carry his ex-sweetheart across the German lines as a spy.

Try a Classified Ad for Results

= Gafton =

TRENT, TEXAS

Where Everybody Goes—Always a Good Show—Fine Music!

TODAY, FRIDAY, FEB. 8th

William Fox presents "ROAD HOUSE"

With an all star cast; also a fine short Western and News AND SOME ONE GETS A BEAUTIFUL 23 PIECE IMPORTED, HAND PAINTED SET OF CHINAWARE.

SATURDAY

Carl Laemmle presents
 Rex, King of Wild Horses, in
"TWO OUTLAWS"

With Jack Perrin and Kathryn Crawford. More thrills and an entertainment than you can imagine. Comedy "Rubber Necks" and News

MONDAY AND TUESDAY

The One You Have Been Waiting For
 Emil Jannings with a great supporting cast in
"SINS OF THE FATHER"

This picture is now running in New York at \$2.00 admission and breaking records everywhere. See it at regular prices. Comedy, "Slick Slickers"

WEDNESDAY AND THURSDAY

"THE FOUR FLUSHER"

With George Lewis, Marian Nixon and Big Collegians cast. You will enjoy this picture of modern youth. Comedy, "Smith's Restaurant" and News

COMING SOON

"Wings," "Uncle Tom's Cabin," "The Last Warning," "The Shop Worn Angel."

QUEEN

SHOWING THE PICK OF PICTURES

FRIDAY AND SATURDAY

TOM MIX IN
"SON OF THE GOLDEN WEST"

The first of Mix's new pictures—and he gets better all the time—and this one proves his best yet. Also the new Jungle Serial, "Tarzan The Mighty," considered the greatest Jungle Serial ever made and Comedy "Stage Frights"

MONDAY AND TUESDAY

AT THE TOP OF THE BEST
"THE LEGION OF THE CONDEMNED"

With Fay Wray and Gary Cooper
 Torn by Jealousy and suspicion, Gail plunged into that flying squadron of scarred souls. Gay with a broken heart, fighting fiercely for a chance to die. A daring mystery melodrama of a squadron of fliers who court death to land spies behind the German lines. Considered better than "Wings."

THIS PICTURE WILL HAVE SOUND EFFECTS
 Also Comedy "Habeas Corpus" and News Reel

WEDNESDAY AND THURSDAY

"THE LOVES OF CASANOVA"

With Special Cast
 A picture that will thrill you and one that is different. Also Comedy "Bumping Along" and Kinogram News

CHINA NIGHTS

FREE Chinaware to each lady present on Wednesday and Thursday. Each piece of China well worth the price of Admission.

For the first time . . .

CLASSIC ART deliberately utilized in motor car design



NOTE how the dynamic symmetry of Chrysler fender contours and wheels expresses the very essence of life and motion, just as do their counterparts in the "wave border" of the classic masterpieces of architecture and design.

THAT Chrysler motor cars are so different in appearance from all other motor cars is not to be wondered at in view of the unique plan by which their remarkable beauty has been attained.

Chrysler engineers recognized, as no others had recognized, that true beauty in automobile design must come, not from a chance inspiration of individual designers, but from a conscious and deliberate plan.

Guided by glorious precedents in art, architecture and design, they applied the authentic forms of beauty which have come down the centuries unchallenged and unsurpassed and translated them into terms of motor car utility and beauty.

It is because Chrysler style and beauty have this secure artistic foundation that they have won the admiration and enthusiasm of thousands upon thousands the country over.

New Chrysler "65"—Six body styles priced from \$1040 to \$1145—New Chrysler "75"—Nine body styles priced from \$1535 to \$2345—New Chrysler Imperial—Five custom body styles priced from \$2675 to \$3475. All prices f. o. b. factory.

CHRYSLER

A CHRYSLER MOTORS PRODUCT

MAVERICK

MOTOR COMPANY

Chrysler-Plymouth Sales and Service

What the Gray House Hid



The Mystery of a Haunted Mansion
by Wyndham Martyn

Give a house a bad name and, no difference what its beauties and advantages may be, its value will deteriorate. If the reputation is of a particularly sinister nature the place is likely to become a drug on the real estate market; for who wants to buy a haunted house or one that has been the scene of marked and repeated calamities?

The Gray house was a delightful place in every outward aspect. Its pleasing architecture and beautiful grounds smiled at the beholder from every angle of view. Its every line suggested wealth, home and large-scale hospitality; its gardens bowered of loveliness; its spacious lawns a romping place for troops of merry children; its rooms places of reception for many guests; a place for home comings at holiday time, for weddings, parties and other pleasant gatherings.

But the house belied its happy appearance. As a country place it had passed from one man to another, some fatality or serious disaster attending the period of residence of every tenant. Children were drowned in the beautiful swimming pool. Sudden and unaccountable death assailed from other quarters. When the place was untenanted, except for caretakers, these latter were subject to the fatalities. Every human who tried to live in the house seemed marked for serious consequences.

It took all the courage of which Hilton Hanby and his wife undeniably were possessed to cause them to decide upon the Gray House as a place of residence. Neither was superstitious, but the eerie reputation of the place impressed even them. But the beauty and advantages of the domicile, coupled with the fact that it was a rare bargain, won them over. And it was due to the bravery of the Hanbys and certain of their close friends that the mystery of the Gray House was cleared up and its shadows dispelled. This was not accomplished without some exciting times and hair-raising experiences, all of which make a fascinating narrative.

CHAPTER I

"There's a lady asking for you, Mr. Hanby. She says she won't go away until she sees you."

Hanby looked at Smucker, and sighed. The secretary—he had chosen this designation himself—was a small, thin man with an active Adam's apple, who despised tact as something beneath him. Hanby had often set out for his offices in Leonard street with the intention of letting Smucker go, and of replacing him with a neat, smiling, efficient girl; but invariably some sixth sense informed Smucker of his danger. Invariably he would speak of his vast responsibilities, of his large family, of his invalid father, of the house he was buying on the installment plan, and of the ravages of insects in his little garden.

A neat, smiling, and efficient girl would have known that her employer was busy, and would have found out what the visitor's errand was.

"What does she want?" inquired Hanby.

Smucker assumed his superior air. "She wouldn't say. Otherwise I



"I suspect she is desirous of selling you a dog."

should have informed you, Mr. Hanby."

"What do you think she wanted?" "I suspect she is desirous of selling you a dog."

Hanby brightened.

"That's easy. Explain in well-chosen language that in another incarnation I was a priest of Eubastis. I cannot, therefore, as a one-time worshiper of the Sacred Cat, buy dogs from strange ladies."

Adolf Smucker sighed. His employer's frivolity always saddened him. He would have preferred to serve a sterner, more unbending, portlier, and older man, a man who never made jokes or saw them. Smucker often

wondered why it was Hilton Hanby had succeeded so well. A swift glance showed Smucker that his employer was looking at the photographs of the splendid estate he was about to buy.

Mr. Smucker passed to the outer office with slow step. The lady who would not go was the sort of person whom he always surveyed with hostile eyes. She wore too much jewelry and was enraptured lavishly in fur.

"If," said he coldly, "you wish to sell one or more of your dogs, Mr. Hanby says for me to buy he's not in the market."

The stranger pressed her three tiny breasts so closely to her that they yeelped.

"Not all his money could buy even one of them!" she snapped. "I must see him. Tell him I shall stay here all day until he comes through that door."

"Madam, I suggest telephoning from a pay station."

"My darlings will not enter a telephone booth, and I dare not trust them to anyone else. Tell him I do not want to buy or sell. I have something to say of vital importance, and he will be wise to see me at once."

Mr. Smucker, who had all the nastier little curiosities about life which dwell so frequently with his sort, wondered if here at last he was to learn some hidden details of his employer's past. Hanby was a handsome and generous man. Women liked him. Perhaps this singular creature had a daughter who had trusted too well.

"Something about his past?" Mr. Smucker suggested.

"Something about my past," flamed the caller.

Mr. Smucker turned on his heel and re-entered the private office.

"It isn't the dogs," said he. "What she wants is a private conversation about the past. I may be wrong, Mr. Hanby—I hope I am—but I think she knows something about your past which may not be creditable to you."

"Thank you, Smucker!" said Hanby. "I can always trust you to take the kindly view. You are quite right. My past was blacker than night. If I had my deserts, I should long ago have been electrocuted. Bring the lady in. I trust she is beautiful!"

Smucker went out, offended. As usual, Hanby had laughed at him. Well, the day was not so far distant when Adolf Smucker would have his turn! He wasted a lot of office time dreaming of what he would do when he was in power.

"Madam, I have persuaded the boss to see you," he said loftily. Then he jumped back. "That black dog nearly bit me!"

"I can rely on his instincts," she said. "You stand convicted as one whom no woman should trust. Do not attempt to deny it, and don't move your throat in that impudent manner!"

She swept past him into his employer's room.

If he had expected youth or beauty, Hanby was disappointed. It was a tall, gaunt old woman who faced him. He judged that some day, now long distant, she had been beautiful. He could see that she was richly dressed, and that the jewels she wore were costly. There was a look of tragedy in her smoldering dark eyes.

"I'm afraid you were kept waiting," Hanby began pleasantly.

"I have been kept waiting for thirty years," she said.

"At least you cannot blame me for that." He observed that her eyes were fixed on the photographs of the house he had made arrangements to buy. "I don't think you sent in your card."

"My name is Selenos," she said.

"Selenos?" Hanby asked.

"Selenos, Selenos," she repeated.

"If you were a Californian, it would be a familiar name. There is the Selenos river."

"And you were named after it? I was born near a big river, too, but I had a lucky escape. Think of me as going through life labeled Housatonic Hanby!"

"The river was named after me," she explained.

Mr. Hanby thought a moment.

"Of course California came into the Union late, didn't it? In the forties, I think."

"The river was named after my family, not after me personally; but I did not come here to discuss my family affairs or to listen to yours. You are about to buy an estate near Pine Plains?"

"I am to complete the purchase this afternoon."

"You must not go there!" she cried dramatically. "I cannot allow it!"

Her manner began to antagonize Hanby.

"Why not?" he inquired coldly.

"It is sacred ground, and you are not fit to dwell there. The idea of its

being desecrated by a large family is intolerable!"

"Really, Mrs. Selenos—" he began. "Miss," she said. "Above all else I despise and loathe men. Men have always oppressed me. How they have lied and perjured themselves to keep me from the Gray house! But at last I am in a position to buy their silence. What did you give for the place?"

"That, my dear lady," he said suavely, "is entirely my own affair."

"I expected you to lie," she said.

"A man of your type would," Miss Selenos took out her check book.

"Well, what profit do you decide to make? I wish to buy the place from you."

"It is not for sale."

(Continued Next Week)

Cut Long Distance Telephone Rates

District Manager N. H. Moore of the Southwestern Bell telephone company, has announced reduced long distance telephone rates to points 130 to 1,500 miles distant from Merkel. The new rates were made effective Feb. 1.

Calls to points located within the above distances are lowered 5 to 25 cents in cost, Mr. Moore said. The decrease applies on person-to-person and day station-to-station rates. Evening and night station-to-station rates remain unchanged in all but few instances.

"More than \$5,000,000 will be saved annually to telephone users in the United States by the reduction," he continued. "Of this sum, approximately three-quarters of a million dollars will be saved in the states served by the Southwestern Company—Missouri, Kansas, Oklahoma, Texas and Arkansas."

"The present cut in long distance rates is the third to be made in a little more than two years."

"As a result it is estimated that approximately ten million dollars has been subtracted from the nation's yearly 'long distance bills.'"

The Lone Star flag of Texas was adopted by the Third Congress of the Texas Republic in session at Houston January 25, 1839.

I am in the market for some good butcher hogs, and cattle. O. F. Weidenbach at Quality Market.

Try a Classified Ad in The Mail.



Auto Suggestion

Said Dapper Dan: "If you're a man
"Like other fellows are,
"At times you spoil your clothes
with oil
"And grease—around your car!"

Write JINGLES about DAPPER DAN FUN and MONEY

We will pay YOU \$1.50 for each jingle about DAPPER DAN that we use in our newspaper advertising. Anybody can write them. Try your hand at JINGLE WRITING. It is a most profitable occupation as clever jingle writers command big salaries. Each jingle must be about DAPPER DAN, embracing speedy service, low prices or quality goods. The jingle in this ad gives you the idea as to style and length. Make them snappy and clever. Each jingle must be brought in person with cleaning. Winners' names printed at bottom of each newspaper advertisement. We will run one each month.

Make Money Having Fun
MODERN DRY CLEANERS OF COURSE
Phone 3

Across from Postoffice
You'll like the plan of Dapper Dan. The clever Cleaning-Dyeing man!

Merkel Relatives Attend Funeral of Son and Brother

J. A. Giles, 55, son of Mr. and Mrs. John A. Giles of Merkel, and brother of Mrs. T. T. Earthman, also of this city, died last week at his home in Sherman. Funeral services were at the First Baptist church at Sherman, with Dr. J. A. Ellis, pastor, and Rev. Mr. Graves of Denison, officiating. Travis Lodge, A. F. & A. M., of which deceased was a member, was in charge of services at the cemetery.

Mr. Giles was well known in Merkel, he having visited his parents and sister here quite often. He was prominent in school work, and was formerly superintendent of schools for Grayson county. Coming to Texas from Alabama in 1907, he first located in Hopkins county and later made his home in Grayson county, where he was connected prominently with teaching activities. He was principal of the Golden Rule school, in the Cotton Mill community near Denison, at the time of his death.

Survivors are his widow, Mrs. Katie Anderson Giles; his parents, Mr. and Mrs. John A. Giles of Merkel; two daughters, Misses Mattie Lou and Naoma Giles, Sherman; two brothers, A. M. Giles of Abilene and L. D. Giles

Union Ridge School Work For Past Month

Since the flu epidemic has subsided, attendance at the Union Ridge school is much better, and most of the students are doing good work.

The first year Spanish students are greatly interested in their new work, thus making teaching a pleasure for the instructor.

School honors for the month: First grade—Dorwell Carey, Blanton Carey, Marvis Kelso. Second—Robbie Lee Kelso. Fifth—Alice McAnich, Alice Carey. Seventh—Mary Bell Douglas. Eighth—Bessie Lou Pannell, Bernice Clark, Clements Carey, Blanche Carey, Bessie Jones.

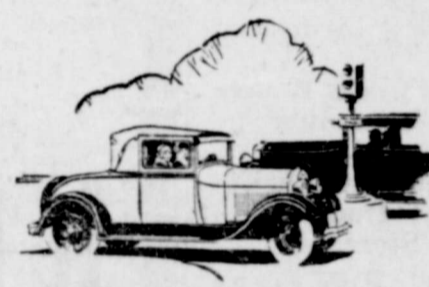
The geographic center of Texas is in McCulloch County, 10 miles north-east of Brady.

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

DRESSMAKING
MRS. PETTIT
Phone 164J

There are many reasons for the ease of steering the new Ford



THE new Ford is exceptionally easy to steer because of the well-proportioned weight of the car, the steel-spoke wheels, the co-ordinated design of springs and shock absorbers, the size and design of the steering wheel, and the simple mechanical construction of the steering gear.

The Ford steering gear is of the worm and sector type used on high-priced cars and is three-quarter irreversible.

In simple, non-technical language, this means that the car responds easily and quickly to the steering wheel, yet there is no danger of the wheel being jerked from the hands of the driver by ruts or bumps in the road. A light touch guides the car, yet you always have that necessary feel-of-the-road so essential to good driving.

Strength of materials and careful workmanship give unusual stability to the Ford steering gear and housing.

The steering worm, for instance, is splined to the steering worm shaft and is stronger, of course, than if a single key were used to hold

the shaft and worm together. The steering worm sector is forged and machined in the same piece with its shaft.

The housing of the steering gear mechanism is made of three steel forgings, electrically welded together. This housing is then electrically welded to the steering column. Such a one-piece steel unit is naturally much sturdier than if several parts were used and bolted or riveted together.

Throughout, the new-Ford steering mechanism is so simple in design and so carefully made that it requires practically no attention.

The only thing for you to do is to have the front steering spindles, spindle connecting rods, and drag link lubricated every 500 miles and the steering gear lubricated every 2000 miles.

For this work, you will find it best to consult the Ford dealer. He has been specially trained and equipped to help you get the greatest possible use from your car over the longest period of time at a minimum of trouble and expense.

FORD MOTOR COMPANY
To My Friends in Merkel and Taylor County
I take this method of announcing that I am now connected with the Security Abstract and Title Company, located in rooms 322-23 Citizens National Bank Bldg. Abilene, Texas, being associated with my son, Clyde Beasley, and R. W. Grimsley in the Abstract business. We have a complete set of Records pertaining to all land titles in Taylor County, Texas, and will appreciate a reasonable share of your abstract business.
When in Abilene call at our offices and we will give you the best services possible.
W. E. BEASLEY

PROFESSIONAL

M. ARMSTRONG, M. D.
Office Over Farmers State Bank.
Res. Phone 12. Office 196.
Local Surgeon T. & P. For Last 10 Years.
Furnish Drugs From Office.

Dr's. Grimes & Sadler
PHYSICIANS & SURGEONS
HOSPITAL FACILITIES
—X-RAY—
PHONE DR. GRIMES PHONE DR. SADLER
Res. 165 Of. 163 Res. 136 Of. 163

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No Knife No Pain No Detention from Work
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Eyes Examined and Glasses Fitted
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Roll Developed 10c; Prints 3,4,5c
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My Work As Good As The Best.
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Water well Driller, all work guaranteed first-class.
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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
Gold Fillings \$1.50 and Up.
I Cure Those Old Bad Gums.



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All Work Guaranteed
25 Years Experience
SOUTH SIDE DENTIST
116 1-2 Chestnut St. Abilene.

Dr. W. A. BUCKNER
Dentist
Office, Farmers State Bank Bldg.
Phone, Office 195 Residence 231



OSBORN-PROVINE.

Miss Una Bell Provine and Luther Osborn were united in marriage at Sweetwater on January 26th, the ceremony being performed at the parsonage of the Highland Heights Methodist church by Rev. Mr. Hanks.

The bride is the charming daughter of Mrs. Mary E. Provine and was a graduate of the Merkel High school last year, while the groom is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Enis Osborn and is a progressive farmer of the Blair community.

The young couple will make their home on a farm near Blair and their many friends wish for them a happy and successful voyage on the sea of matrimony.

THURSDAY CLUB.

Mrs. Robert Hicks entertained members of the Thursday club with a pretty party, this club day in which a color scheme of yellow was predominant. Tables arranged for games of 42 carried yellow and white mints and colorful game accessories in harmonizing hues. At the culmination of the games a delectable refreshment plate was passed on which the colors for the party were cleverly stressed in salads and confections. The guest list included Mesdames T. L. Grimes of Abilene, Brackeen, Burgess, Robertson, Largent, Ferrier, McFarland, Anderson, Gamble, Warren, Dee Grimes, West, Dye, R. I. Grimes, Scott, Jones and Hicks.

DINNER GUESTS.

Mr. and Mrs. L. B. Scott extended hospitality to friends at dinner on Tuesday evening in their attractive home on Oak street. A Valentine motif was employed in place markers and later in table accessories for games of progressive 42 as the diversion of the evening. Guests were Messrs. and Mesdames Booth Warren, John West, Dee Grimes, Sam Swann, Earl Lassiter, W. J. Largent, C. B. Gardner, Bill Haynes, Ed. McCrary, L. B. Scott and Miss Lucy Tracey.

LANE-WATTS.

In a beautiful ceremony at the Methodist church last Sunday morning, Miss Lillian Watts, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. L. A. Watts, became the bride of Sherman J. Lane of Abilene, Rev. T. C. Willett being the officiating minister.

The church was beautifully decorated with ferns and flowers. The wedding music was furnished by Mrs. J. Samuel Rider of Abilene. The bride, a graduate of Merkel High and popular here among a large circle of friends, was attractive in a broadcloth ensemble of midnight blue with accessories of beige.

A wedding breakfast was served members of the wedding party immediately following the ceremony, after which Mr. and Mrs. Lane left for a short trip.

Out of town guests were Mrs. James Adkisson of Houston, sister of the



SAVE TIME AND MONEY

You save both when you patronize us. Our high quality oils and gasoline save you time by making your car operation perfect, and time saved is money in your pocket. Motoring satisfaction comes from knowing that your oil and grease are functioning perfectly, and we guarantee our products to do this very thing. Our garage service is up to the same high standard.

**EXPERT REPAIRING
GREASING, ETC.**

Everybody's Garage
TELEPHONE 72

groom; Miss Bert Slusher of St. Louis, cousin of the bride, and Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Knight of Richland Springs.

Mr. and Mrs. Lane will reside in Abilene, where Mr. Lane is a contractor.

PHIDELIS PARTY.

Mesdames Earl Baze and Bill Haynes entertained members of the Phidelis class with a pretty party in the home of Mrs. Bill Haynes on Monday evening of last week. A business meeting preceded the evening's contests and indoor games. At the refreshment hour an ice course was served with hot chocolate to Misses Salina Teaff, Lucy Tracey, Vennie Heizer, Madeline Berry, Althea Boden, Mesdames Holland, Sam Swann, Byers Pettye, Warren Smith, Kirby Beckett and the hostesses.

Blair Items

Rodney Moore from California is the house guest of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Zebb Moore, the past two weeks.

Mr. and Mrs. S. L. Scoggins and daughters, Francis and Nell, left Sunday for a week's visit with relatives in Wood county.

Bro. Badget of Abilene, was the guest, of Mr. and Mrs. Dean Sunday afternoon.

Mr. and Mrs. Tom Spears motored to Salt Branch to the singing Sunday afternoon.

Mrs. Carl Hughes and children, Mrs. Hugh Campbell attended the workers' meeting at Trent Monday.

On January 30th God, in His wisdom, saw fit to call back to Him, the little soul of the infant son of Mr. and Mrs. Riley James.

The little Babe is gone to rest. To reign with God forever blest. We could not wish it back again. But say, "Dear Babe, with God remain."

CARD OF THANKS.

We desire to thank our friends for their many kindnesses at the death of our dear infant baby. The loving sympathy and the kindly ministrations to the mother will always be remembered by us as love tokens from sincere friends.

Mr. and Mrs. R. E. James,
Z. V. Moore and family.

Teach your children thrift—to pay cash and trade at the Boston Bargain Store.

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

Try a Classified Ad for Results

Dora Doings

J. M. Bryson one of our pioneer settlers died at his home in Dora last Thursday after a month's illness. He was 78 years old. All his children were at his bedside when the end came. Six grandsons acted as pallbearers. We extend our heart felt sympathy to the bereaved family.

Mrs. Dug Hannah improves slowly, and Mrs. A. D. Cross, who has been sick for a week, improves slowly.

Miss Novis Whiteaker of Butman school spent the week-end with home folks.

Our boys' and girls' basketball teams went to Champion Monday and carried off the honors; girls' by 14 to 19, boys' 12 to 20.

Mrs. A. W. Cook is slowly improving after several week's illness.

The county health nurse is visiting the Divide Rural High School this week, examining ear, eye, throat and teeth, and conducting a physical look over.

Hoyt Shelton is convalescing at the home of John Lester in Sweetwater

after an operation on his head last week.

Mrs. S. E. Porter is confined to her bed with flu the last few days.

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

Sunday School at 10 a. m. Preaching at 11 a. m. and 7:15 p. m. Men's meeting Tuesday evening. Prayer meeting Wednesday evening. Come worship with us in all the services.

Wm. Elliott, Supt.
R. A. Walker, Pastor.

METHODIST SERVICES.

We begin our annual missionary cultivation period next Sunday, laying special emphasis on evangelism this year. The book to be used in this special program is, "The Methodist Evangel," by Dr. O. E. Goddard. Dr. Goddard is one of our most successful pastor-evangelists and has written a great book on this subject. This book should be in every Methodist home. Come next Sunday and get your copy. We will make this book the basis of our Sunday morning sermon and will use it in our prayer meeting and in the Woman's Missionary society meet-

ings. We have been having some great times in our prayer meetings. Get the church and Sunday school and prayer meeting habit. We are always glad to meet you in the church.

T. C. Willett, Pastor.

BAPTIST ANNOUNCEMENTS.

All regular services Sunday and through the week. Sunday school begins in all departments not later than 10 a. m. Officers and teachers should be in their places 15 to 30 minutes before that time. Preaching by the pastor 11 a. m. and 7:15 p. m. Morning subject, "The Lord's Wages." Evening subject, "The Devil's Wages." All B. Y. P. U.'s meet at 6:30 p. m. Strangers and visitors are always welcomed. Come and help us serve the Lord better.

Ira L. Parrack, Pastor.

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

"FEDERATED"

This Means—
Good Goods for Less Money.



If you pay cash why not trade at a Cash Store and Reap the Benefit!!

**Hokus-Pokus
Grocery**

Appreciates Your Business
Open Early and Late

It Pays to Pay Cash

Don't Forget--

**Nunnally's
Chocolates**

VALENTINE DAY FEBRUARY 14th

MADE FOR THOSE WHO CARE

City Drug Store

A Host of Satisfied Customers

Get behind the wheel
and Get the facts!



"The New Buick—The New Style"

Drive before you buy
match Buick power,
getaway, swiftness
and stamina against
any other automobile
--then you'll choose a

Buick

With Masterpiece Bodies by Fisher

COUPES, \$1195 to \$1875—SEDANS, \$1225 to \$2145
SPORT CARS, \$1225 to \$1550—These prices f. o. b.
Buick Factory. Convenient terms can be arranged on the
liberal G. M. A. C. Time Payment Plan.

Buick Motor Company, Flint, Michigan, Division of General Motors Corporation

DEAVOURS-WARE CO.
Abilene, Texas

**25 PATTERNS OF
Wallpaper
TO CLOSE OUT AT
Half Price**

These are all pretty patterns, but we must clear the racks in order to give room for new stocks that will arrive next week. That's why we are offering such low prices.

PAPER TWO ROOMS FOR THE
PRICE OF ONE WHILE THIS
HALF-PRICE SALE IS ON!!!

Barrow Furniture Co.

MERKEL, TEXAS

PHONE 239

"Legion of the Condemned" Queen Monday and Tuesday

SISTER PICTURE TO "WINGS"—CONSIDERED BETTER. WITH SOUND AND MUSICAL SCORE EFFECTS.