

Strength

means SAFETY, and SAFETY means adequate and vigilant protection of depositors' funds.

No bank ever has been or could be more zealous in its discharge of this obligation to its depositors than has this bank in its 17 years of faithful service.

SAFETY—ever greater SAFETY is our constant watchword.

The Farmers State Bank

OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS:

J. S. SWANN, President
 R. O. ANDERSON, V. Pres.
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 W. M. DILTZ, Jr., Cashier.

HERBERT PATTERSON,
 Assistant Cashier
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 Assistant Cashier

Home Ownership

There is a time in the average man's life when he longs for the pleasant surroundings of a happy home. Many satisfy that longing while others, not willing to sacrifice part of their present income for their future welfare, put it off. But the man who makes the sacrifice is the one who comes out ahead in the end, for he not only enjoys his home while paying for it but has a permanent investment of which he will be proud in the years to come.

Why not line up with this class and let us show you our "QUALITY" materials and help you with your plans free of charge.

CLAY LUMBER CO.
 "Make her happy. Build a home first."

MEET ME



AT

Jesse James' Lawyer Now Seeking Freedom From N. Y. Madhouse

New York, Dec. 19.—A page out of the past was opened Monday in the chambers of a Supreme Court justice when an old gentleman came over from Ward's Island Hospital to plead for a comeback.

The tall, gray, slightly frayed man who held his head erect for all his 81 years was Col. Robert J. Haire, once a famous criminal lawyer, who had practiced all the way from the Missouri to the Hudson. He had been Jesse James' lawyer in the heyday of that bad man's career. After Jesse's death, he had been attorney for the James family in a cobweb of litigation out in Missouri. He had made and spent a fortune defending first degree murder cases right here in New York.

"I am not crazy and I can prove that I am not," Colonel Haire told Justice Isidor Wasservogel. "They say I am senile and can't go about like other men. Well, I am old and I forget easy just as other old men, but I am here to show you I am in my right mind."

Colonel Haire rapped his knuckles on the judge's desk.

"I have one friend left," he pointed to Miss Mary Coleman, a lawyer who had interested herself in his case. "She is the daughter of my old friend Captain Coleman and she is going to help me to get away from Ward's Island."

Reminding Colonel Haire that he had neither money nor relatives, the judge asked him what his plans were.

"I would have plenty to do," quavered the old lawyer.

"There has never been what I call a real history of Jesse James and the James boys written and I could write one and make money."

Colonel Haire's claim of legal connection with the James boys was established by an investigation of his career made by Ward's Island officials. Colonel Haire, it was revealed, also interested himself in the rights of negroes in Missouri after the Civil War. He was the first lawyer to win a seat for the negro man in juries trying accused negroes. Haire later became Attorney General of Michigan, according to Ward's Island investigators. He came to New York in 1885 to practice criminal law.

It was in 1927 that Colonel Haire was committed to the island hospital. Taken penniless from a downtown hotel, the lawyer was examined by physicians who said he was suffering from senile psychosis.

Final hearing on the plea for a writ of habeas corpus was adjourned until Thursday. In the meantime Colonel Haire is to be given more complete sanity tests.

Shoe Debt 48 Years Old Voluntarily Paid

Dundalk, Ireland, Dec. 19.—An old man walked into a shop here and informed the astonished proprietor that he had called to pay a five shilling debt that he had owed for 48 years.

There was no record of the transaction, but the visitor explained that he had bought a pair of children's shoes in 1881 and had left immediately for a job in England.

His first call on his return to Ireland was to pay for the shoes.

RESOLUTIONS ON THE DEATH OF MRS. E. P. BEENE.

The voice that so regularly answered by Scripture quotation at our class meetings is no more. On November 5 our class lost a true and faithful member in the person of Mrs. E. P. Beene. She was converted early in life and her characteristic trait of willingness to do what she could placed her among the very faithful in church and Sunday school work. She was loved and honored most by those who knew her best.

She will be greatly missed not only in church but in her home. We loved Mrs. Beene and will miss her fine association, but we are happy in the assurance of her peace with God, and, as her class mates, may God give us strength and courage to live so that we may have this assurance in our last hour, and may God's blessing rest upon her bereaved.

The Kings Daughters.
 (Editor's note—The above resolutions were prepared and furnished for our last week's issue but were omitted inadvertently from that edition.)

Serenader Is Shot.
 Chicago.—While serenading his sweetheart at Evanston, James Corcoran was shot in the leg by a neighbor.

EASY MONEY.
 If you want that cheap, long-time Federal Land Bank money, only 5 1/2 percent, on farm and ranch land, see V. Homer Shanks, Room 1, Penney Co., Texas.

Editor Gets Into Jam For Publishing Story

Jaikson, Miss., Dec. 19.—Thomas M. Hederman, editor and publisher of the Jackson Clarion Ledger, and Craddock Goins, reporter, were found guilty of contempt of court and fined \$10 and costs.

Circuit Judge W. H. Potter suspended the fine.

The charge was based on publication of a news article in the Clarion Ledger purporting to set out doings of a grand jury before action of the body was privileged for publication.

EASY TO FIGURE OUT.



Lying is a fault in a boy, an art in a bachelor, a necessity to a married man and a duty to a diplomat. Occasionally you will find a male who is boss of the house but he isn't four years old yet. It's easy to figure out a saving on your garage bill if you use CONOCO Gas and Oil regularly, and let us service your car.

EXPERT REPAIRING GREASING, ETC.

Everybody's Garage
 TELEPHONE 72

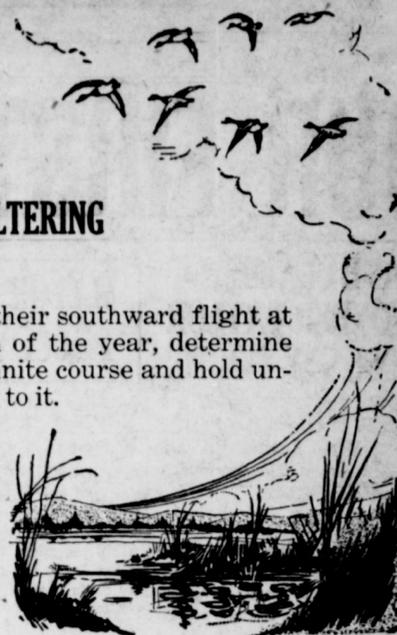
West Texas Maternity Rescue Home

Open to receive any unfortunate girl needing help and seclusion. Strictly private. Address

Lock Box 877
 Sweetwater, Texas

HOLD TO AN UNFALTERING PURPOSE

Ducks, on their southward flight at this season of the year, determine upon a definite course and hold unswervingly to it.



Likewise—the individual, who once having established a worthy objective holds unswerving to it with this same precise determination regardless of adverse circumstances, is bound to win out.

To this character of determination the Farmers and Merchants National Bank renders encouragement and solicits opportunity to be truly helpful to the men and women endowed with it.

THE OLD RELIABLE FARMERS AND MERCHANTS NATIONAL BANK

Merkel, Texas

"FOR THE PAST QUARTER CENTURY"



Just a Few More Days Left to Shop for Christmas

Xmas only comes one day out of every Three Hundred and Sixty Five. So get the spirit early and do your shopping with us.

Hardware gifts are the ones that last and give service longer. You know our slogan, so come in and make your selections, we will see that they are delivered when and where you want them.

A Freed Radio would be a nice gift; for the whole Family could enjoy it.

Liberty Hardware Co.

"If it's Hardware, we have it"

December 20, 1929.

THE BADGER WEEKLY

Published weekly by the students of Merkel High School and sponsored by the Junior Class of '30—Vera Baker sponsor.

The Staff:

Editor-in-Chief—Audrey Farris.
 Asst. Editor-in-Chief—Elvis Richardson.
 Sports Editor—Byron Patterson.
 Jokes Editor—Earl Watts.
 Misc. Editor—Vera Richie.
 Society Editor—Mattie Lou Largent.
 Senior Reporter—Doris Brown.

Sophomore Reporter—Ida Mae Derstine.
 Freshman Reporter—Silas Stevens.
 Baseball Club—Imogene Middleton.
 Choral and Glee Clubs—Artilee Simmons.
 Pep Squad Reporters—Tracy Campbell and Edwin Watson.

SPANISH CLUB NEWS.

Members of the Spanish club were called together Tuesday afternoon for the purpose of organizing. Elvis Richardson was chosen president; H. H. Copeland, secretary-treasurer and Lucille Cole, reporter.

Each member is going to select a name for the club and from these will be taken the name that is most appropriate.

In order to be given membership to this organization a pupil must have an average of 85 on Spanish. There are twenty-seven who have come up to these requirements. They are: Ross Ferrier, Audrey Farris, Mary Elizabeth Grimes, Lela Patterson, Opal Huskey, Mildred Richardson, Fae Vantreese, Joyce Wheeler, H. H. Copeland, Isadora Mellinger, Velma Lee Holden, Myers Mellinger, Woodrow Wozencraft, Ida Mae Derstine, Nell Hughes, Oleta Moore, Florene Rider, Joel Darsey, Elvis Richardson, Truett Meeks, Dorice Brown, Lucille Cole, Thelma McAninch, Norma Patton, Marcella Pinckley, Imogene Middleton and Artie McCormick.

DRAMATIC CLUB NEWS.

Misses Frances Frederickson and Nina Vantreese and J. D. Ashby and Orion Tittle will entertain the Dramatic club at their monthly meeting to be held at 7:30 Thursday evening of this week. The play "The Confessional" by Percy Wilde, will be presented by J. D. Ashby, Eleanor Mae Hamilton, Harold Boney, Nina Vantreese, J. E. Boaz and Odell Hunter.

CHAPEL MONDAY.

At chapel last Monday morning Mr. and Mrs. Delmer entertained the student body by showing their musical talent. Mrs. Delmer played the piano and Mr. Delmer played first several numbers on the saxophone, then he played the xylophone, and also a number on the saw.

ANNUAL NEWS.

The Annual staff has already sent one shipment of pictures to the Southwestern Engraving company. Thirty per cent discount was given on all pictures that were in by December 15. The Annual staff hopes to have all pictures ready for shipment after Christmas.

OBSERVATIONS OF A SENIOR.

The Freshmen (are they dumb) are even being real good this week as they are looking for Old Saint Nick. That Sad Sophomore (?) Ross Ferrier wants to know if ole' Santa can come up a gas pipe if you don't use anything but gas.

For the first time in 29 years there was no rain in the U. S. last Wednesday and Friday Mrs. Young came to school without having any visible red in her costume.

We understand that the Junior class has agreed to let Mr. Rodden try to take their pictures, but 'tis said that the class is not liable for any damage to camera or film.

Lee Darden has been accused of dreaming while telling the High school of the merits of the Senior class beauty.

These are "dog days" for the Annual staff, which is in the midst of all



IN STORMY WEATHER
 Your feet need protection which stout shoes afford. This, however, does not preclude buying new shoes just because the soles of the pair you are wearing have worn thin. Let us repair your present shoes and they will be equal to new again, and your will be the satisfaction of having saved

factory Guaranteed

SHOE SHOP
 Perry, Prop.
 T ST.
 LET NEAT

its labors as the Annual is right now being prepared for the engraver.

It is reported that a certain young and innocent Freshman said recently that the Museum of Natural History was the museum for any student to whom history comes naturally.

FRESHMAN NEWS.

At last we got off from school for a week or two. Some of us need to get off from school for a spell, but Xmas only comes once a year so we're gonna celebrate plenty. To begin with we "pulled off" a Christmas tree party and gifts we got galore! But we hope everyone has a happy Xmas and a prosperous New Year, even to the teachers.

FOR THE JOKE COLUMN.

Sandifer: "Miss Sloan, I have a very nice gift for you—one for your neck." Miss Sloan (eagerly): "Ye-ah! What is it?—a string of pearls?" Sandifer: "No. A bar of soap! To keep that beautiful school girl complexion."

OVER THE TELEPHONE.

You know this Lee Darden, Senior class president, sure springs a heavy line while he is talking to a girl when Glynn is not present or while he is talking over the telephone. The other day we overheard him in the following conversation on a long-distance call.

"Hello—Yes, this is he, who is it speaking?"

"No, I'm afraid I can't guess."

"How well do I know you? All my life? Aw, quit yer kiddin', tell me who you are—Please do, you have a nice voice—"

"You ought to work for the movies—No, I mean it—c'mon tell me your name?"

"I know I ought to remember you but can't make it—where'd I meetcha?"

—Cisco?—never been to Cisco? Well, how about Sweetwater?—wasn't there? Look here, baby, you might as well tell me your name!"

"Gimme some kind of a hint—what color hose do you wear? Flesh?—Hmm—Merkel eight—that might mean anything—what race and nationality are you—Ooh—don't say things like that you will make me blush!"

"Well, what color hair have you?—naturally blonde? That doesn't help much. I've known several blondes. What flavor lipstick? Kissproof? No—I don't remember—Do you like your likker straight? Not at all? Say, you're old-fashioned—you remind me a lot of my mother—what?? You are my mother? ! ! !"

CHORAL AND GLEE CLUBS.

"At last the pageant is over," said the members of the Choral and Glee clubs, Friday night, Dec. 13, 1929, when the curtain went down the last time.

But this was soon forgotten for the following night, Saturday, Dec. 14, was the time set for the social meeting. Everybody was in a "whirl" all day and eight o'clock found nearly all the members at the party.

All members and High School teachers were requested to come disguised as some person in the theatrical or musical world. They appeared as follows:

Little Red Riding Hood—Miss Loyless.
 Clara Bow—Miss Sloan.
 Greta Garbo—Miss Baker.

Sweet Adeline—Miss Tracy.
 Little Bo Peep—Miss Martin.
 Duncan Sisters—Willie Mae Swartz and Nadine Tippett.

Two Black Crows—Bryon Patterson and E. L. Turner.

Our Gang: Thelma Leach (boy); Artie Simmons (little girl); Mary E. Grimes (boy); Willie E. Boaz (little girl); Harold Boney ("Fatty"); Buddy Rogers—Orion Tittle.

The Jew—Milton Case.
 Ramona—Gwyndoline Vickers.
 Dolores Del Rio—Thelma McAninch.

The Vagabond—James West, Jr.
 Little Orphan Annie—Ola Smith.
 "Johnny"—Fred Baker.

Jeanine of Lilac Time—Himalaya Swafford.

Everybody was asked to do some part on the program. The "Two Black Crows" kept all laughing with their wise cracks and funny "jokes."

BASKETBALL NEWS.

The Merkel Cagers are ready for

some games now. They already have one game matched for Wednesday night with the Noodle outsiders. They have fifteen men out and new ones coming out every day. They have just had one week's practice but much is expected of them. They have two letter men out this year: Orion Tittle, who is captain, and also placed on all district team last year, and Lee Darden, a man to watch.

Those coming out are: Orion Tittle, Lee Darden, Joel Darsey, Fred Guitar, Gerald Derrick, Calvin Irwin, Weldon Coates, Clinton Bryan, Baylor Amason, B. P. Middleton, Leo Harris, Jim Patterson, Mordell Shouse and Tracey Campbell.

SENIOR BOYS CLUB ORGANIZED.

The male members of the 1930 Senior class met last Tuesday and organized the honorable P. P. P. A. A. club. J. D. Ashby was elected president, Orion Tittle voted the secretary and treasurer, and J. T. Darsey, Jr., was elected reporter.

The president then took charge of the meeting and the following selections were made:

Motto—"Never fail, come everytime."

Colors—Blue and white.
 The official uniform will consist of blue overalls and white shirts.

Unlike former clubs the P. P. P. A. A. club is to be very active and periodic celebrations are planned.

HAPPENINGS OF SCHOOL LIFE.

Last week was a very agreeable week for hiking. But as for studying, such warm weather makes one lazy, especially near Christmas time.

The peace and calm of school life has been greatly disturbed by a bunch of girls singing at noon. They seem to want us not to forget them or the songs one.

Thursday afternoon the birds had almost learned "Singin' in the Rain." It was like this: Inside, classes were pretending to be held. Outside, the clouds were hanging low, trying to decide whether to rain or not. From a tree top came the song of the bird. If it had been raining the bird would have been "Singin' in the Rain."

Friday the 13th all the English classes wrote Christmas stories. We would like to have them published to amuse you but we do not have space.

Friday the 13th Orion Tittle, the senior representative, was elected, in a close battle, the most popular boy.

We hope everybody is as glad he got it as we are.

After 4:00 o'clock Wednesday afternoon school children will not meet again until December 30.

There is a new Freshman boy in school. From all reports, the girls seem pleased with him, perhaps more than pleased. Even a certain Junior girl! The Juniors are planning to take advantage of the Christmas tree the Seniors are giving for them Wednesday.

A HIKE.

Last Saturday morning at eight o'clock seven girls hiked to Mulberry. Those who enjoyed the day out were: Vera Tee Beasley, Louise Booth, Doris Brown, Mary Elizabeth Grimes, Bessie Lou Pannell, Nadine Tippett and Lois Clark. The lunch consisted of: sandwiches, pickles, olives, cakes, candy, fruit, roasted weiners and drinks. These girls returned to town at three o'clock. This hike was greatly

enjoyed, especially the truth meeting.

BUT HE WAS MISTAKEN.

While Mr. and Mrs. Burgess were returning from their week-end trip, they were held up. Returning home Mr. Burgess gives us this sad account.

Mr. B: "Yes, I was disappointed."

Harold: "Why?"

Mr. B: "I misunderstood him. I thought the robber said, 'your wife or your money.'"

Texas University's endowment fund from oil royalties amounts to nearly \$13,000,000 and in spite of the oil price situation is growing at the rate of more than \$150,000 each month. Including oil funds the institution's endowment is now valued at \$32,500,000, only the income from which is available, however, for current expenses.

Typewriting paper at Merkel Mail office.

FOR HARD TIMES

Make Your Xmas Gifts Hardware



CROWN HARDWARE CO.

Annual Bargain Rates:

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

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

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

Abilene Morning News 1 Year	\$4.70
Star-Telegram 1 Year	7.45
Merkel Mail 1 Year	1.50
Total	\$13.65
All Three Papers 1 Year	\$12.00

RENEW YOUR SUBSCRIPTION NOW—DON'T WAIT

FULL YEAR'S CREDIT GIVEN FROM TIME YOUR PAPER EXPIRES

For a MERILLIE CHRISTMAS

AND A SENSIBLE ONE

DIAMONDS
 WATCHES
 THERMOS BOTTLES

PURSE SETS
 TOILET SETS
 TOILET WATER
 GLASSWARE

FINE PERFUME
 LEATHER PURSES
 FOUNTAIN PEN SETS



FOR HER—

PANGBURN'S FINE CANDIES
 BOX FINE STATIONERY
 COMB AND BRUSH SET

FOR HIM—

BOX OF OUR FINE CIGARS
 A BEAUTIFUL SMOKING SET
 PERFUME SETS

Hundreds of other items in our big stock ready for your Christmas selection. We have anticipated your every want in Christmas goods and cordially invite your inspection.

Merkel Drug Co.

THE MERKEL MAIL

Published Every Friday Morning
Glover and Caple, Publishers.

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.

CHILDREN MUST
ATTEND SCHOOL

With the re-opening of school after Christmas on Monday, December 30, the period for compulsory attendance at school will begin in the Merkel Independent School district. This date is fixed by the board of trustees for each district. After that date all children between the ages of eight and thirteen inclusive must attend school for five school months and no one is permitted to employ children of these ages during school hours. Parents are not permitted to keep their children out of school except for certain specific reasons listed in the law. When children are absent for any of these legal reasons, the law requires that they send a written excuse stating the cause for absence. The law provides a fine for employing such children or for parents keeping their children out of school except for specified reasons. The reasons listed in the law as "acceptable" are:

- (a) Sickness of the pupil.
 - (b) Serious sickness or death in the family.
 - (c) Severe storm that makes traveling dangerous.
 - (d) Other unusual cause acceptable to the teacher or superintendent.
- Referring to the enforcement of compulsory attendance, Supt. Roger A. Burgess said:
- "The people of Merkel have always complied with this law. In fact, practically all the parents of children in Merkel are very anxious for their children to be in school every day that it is possible. They do not have to have a law which forces them to send their children to school.
- "People of the district will be performing a duty to the children of those few parents who may possibly not comply with the law to telephone me at 174 and let me know about children who are not in school."

Where Our Teachers
Will Spend Christmas

With the dismissal of school Wednesday afternoon, many of the teachers in the Merkel Public Schools are planning to go to their homes for the Christmas holidays, some plan visits elsewhere, while most of those who reside in Merkel will remain here with their families.

Supt. and Mrs. Roger A. Burgess will visit in Brownwood and Matamoras, Mexico, expecting to return to Merkel December 27.

Miss Roberta Sloan will visit her parents at Whitewright.

Miss Vera Baker will spend Christmas with her parents in Abilene.

Mrs. Jeneva Young expects to remain here until Christmas Eve, when she will go to Leonard to spend Christmas with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Sudderth.

Principal M. S. Davis and Mrs. Davis are going to the Rio Grande valley and expect to see how Mexico celebrates on Christmas Eve.

The other two members of the High school faculty, Misses Julia Martin and Lucy Tracy, will remain in Merkel.

Mrs. Jack Anderson will spend Christmas with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Sudderth, at Leonard.

Mrs. Len Sublett expects to go to Lone Wolf, Okla., for the holidays.

Miss Addie Williams goes to her home at Whitewright for the holidays.

Miss Ora L. McDonald will be at her home in Abilene during the Christmas vacation.

Miss Jessie Rodden will be with her sister in Dallas for Christmas.

Ralph Duke is going to De Leon first and then will spend part of his holidays in Dallas.

Miss Evelyn Curb will spend Christmas Day in Ballinger and will return to her home here for the remainder of the holidays.

The other Grammar school teachers, Misses Vennie Heizer, Orpah Patterson, Imogene Hayes, Alzada Pogue and Eunice Russell and Mrs. Teaff, will remain in Merkel.

From thirteenth place in 1927 and tenth place in 1928 Texas will be in seventh or eighth place in electrical current generated.

In 1921 Texas shipped 19 cars of fruits. In 1929 it expects to export 1,000 cars—just a small gain over than 25,000 per cent.

Used as an anaesthetic by Dr. Morton, dentist

HAROLD B. LEETON



After having been voted the most popular boy in the Merkel High school for the session of 1927-1928, Harold E. Leeton, who is a grandson of Mr. and Mrs. J. H. McDonald and who attended school here last session also, has been voted the most handsome in a recent Who's Who contest held at the Norphlet, Ark., High school.

In a special dispatch, chronicling the selection, which also carried photographs of Miss Scott, the winner of the beauty award, and of Harold, the winner of the handsome title, the Gazette of Little Rock said: "Leeton, a star athlete, is the president of the Junior class. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. H. B. Leeton."

LETTERS TO SANTA CLAUS.

Dear Santa Claus: How are you? Fine, I hope. Santa Claus, I want a ten cent doll or a 25 cent doll. I have a little sister who wants a ten cent doll. Well, Santa, I will close. From a little girl at T. H. Russon's.

Dear Santa Claus: I am a little boy eight years old. Please bring me a football, boxing gloves and lots of candy, nuts and fruit. Dear Santa Claus, don't forget dad; he has been sick a long time.

Harold Kaley, Jr.

Dear Santa Claus: I am a little boy not yet 2 years old. I would love for you to bring me a little kiddie car, a choo-choo train and I'll have my stocking up for candy, fruits and nuts. Oh, yes, Santa, please don't forget to bring me a little doll. I like them, too. I am your little friend,
Billy Bob Douglas.

P. S. Don't forget mother, daddy and my grandmothers.

R. Q. Lee Will Be
Candidate Again

Cisco, Texas, Dec. 19.—It has been learned from Col. R. Q. Lee's friends that he will be a candidate to succeed himself in congress. At present Mr. Lee is busy in Washington, working on matters of vital importance to the 17th district which he represents.

Mr. Lee will visit in Texas during the Christmas holidays and at that time will have further announcement to make regarding his forthcoming race, according to advices received by his friends here.

Try Magnolia Coke—No Soot—very popular where used. Saves on Fuel Bill.

Swafford—Phone 44.

Personal Mention

Mrs. M. C. McElroy of Glen Rose is the guest of Miss Iva Bragg this week. Miss Arline Willett is home for the holidays from Southwestern university.

Miss Dona Loyless has returned to her home in Fort Worth for the holidays.

Mrs. J. L. Banner is visiting in Slaton with her sister, Mrs. S. L. Owens.

Mr. and Mrs. Solan Caple of Abilene were Sunday guests of Mr. and Mrs. George Caple.

Misses Ottie and Iva Chance of Roby were guests the early part of the week of their sister, Mrs. A. Morton.

Miss Melba West of Baird was the guest of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Henry West, for the week-end.

Mr. and Mrs. Earnest Costephens of Roscoe spent a few days with their parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Costephens.

Mrs. O. R. Douglas and little son, Billy Bob, accompanied by her mother, Mrs. Taylor, were in Abilene Monday shopping.

L. A. Freeman has returned from an extended visit of several months with his son W. T. Freeman, at El Centro, Calif.

William Sheppard is home from Simmons University to spend the Christmas holidays with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Sheppard.

Medames Austin Fitts, Rufus Grisham and M. Walker and Miss Ruth Howard, all of Abilene, were guests Tuesday of Misses Ona and Pauline Johnson.

Mrs. C. F. Stevens has just received the announcement from her daughter, Mr. and Mrs. R. L. Kesner of Yuma, Ariz., of the birth of a fine eight pound baby boy.

Mrs. J. E. Boaz, Misses Willie Evelyn and Fannie Bell Boaz and Miss Margaret Canon accompanied Miss Roberta Sloan to Whitewright Thursday and will remain until Monday.

Rev. R. A. Walker, pastor of the Presbyterian church, accompanied by his daughters, will leave Monday for Paris to join his wife there and Miss Velma from C. I. A. for the holidays.

J. H. Edwards, who with his son, T. G. Edwards, recently purchased the Crown Hardware company here, has removed to our city with his family and they are being given a cordial reception.

After witnessing the Breckenridge-Waco game at Breckenridge last Saturday, Messrs. Howard Lake and Frank Barnett of Waco came on to Merkel for a brief visit with Mr. and Mrs. George Caple, Mr. Lake being a brother-in-law of Mr. Caple.

R. O. Anderson returned Tuesday from Haskell where he and Mrs. Anderson had gone on account of the serious illness of Mrs. Anderson's father, G. E. Comegys. Mrs. Anderson remained at his bedside, but reports late Wednesday evening indicated that he was some better.

CLOSE CHRISTMAS DAY.
On account of Christmas Day and New Year's Day the undersigned banks will be closed all day on both days, Dec. 25, 1929, and Jan. 1, 1930. Patrons will please take notice and make their arrangements in accordance.

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

Try a Classified Ad for Results

Junior B. Y. P. U.

Title: "The Birth of the King."

Song—"While Sheppards Watched their Flocks by Night," by Margaret Miller.

"The First Christmas Day," by Billy Robins.

Reading—"We Three Kings," Lois Beasley, Wanda Hunter, Geraldine Teague.

"The First Christmas Gifts," by Bobbie Copeland.

Reading—"The Prince of Peace," by Kathryn Copeland.

Song—"Away in a Manger," sung by all.

Song—"Silent Night, Holy Night," sung by all.

Lee Rhynes Killed.

G. F. Rhynes, who resides four miles north of Trent, received word Tuesday that his son, Lee Rhynes, 23, who was teaming at Carlsbad, New Mex., had been killed. The body is to be shipped to his father's home for burial. Besides his parents, the deceased is survived by four brothers, Rupert, Damon, Newell and Kirkton, all of whom reside at the home of their parents. Lee Rhynes left here about three months ago to locate at Carlsbad.

Ice cream was first served by Dolly Madison, wife of President Madison.



YOUR RADIATOR
we may find defects—vital defects that may cause trouble—which you do not see now and do not bother you at present. But sooner or later this defective radiator will prevent your water cooling system from operating properly. Better let us inspect and overhaul your radiator before trouble comes.

WELDING AND GENERAL REPAIR WORK ALSO BATTERY SERVICE

Warren Higgins Garage
Phone 91

Cattle Movement.

On Thursday of last week Collins Bros. shipped a stock of calves to Bernicker Bros., 13 miles from Sweetwater, to feed there.

Baker and Collins shipped a car of mixed cattle to Fort Worth Monday and McCoy and Lowe shipped a car of mixed cattle to the same market Tuesday.

Collins Bros. shipped a car of mixed cattle and also a car of calves to Fort Worth Wednesday.

C. M. Largent and Son shipped one of their fine bulls to Sanger, Texas,

QUEEN THEATRE

FRIDAY AND SATURDAY
Dec. 20-21

Jack Perrin and Helen Foster
With
"Rex," King of Wild Horses
In

"Hoof Beats of Vengeance"

Also
An Adventure Serial
"The Vanishing West,"
Chapter No. 9
2 Reel Comedy

MONDAY AND TUESDAY
Dec. 22-24

Tod Browning's Production
"The Thirteenth Chair"

With
Conrad Nagel, Lelia Hyams and Margaret Wycherly
A Great Mystery Story
Also 2 Reel Comedy
"Fighting Fathers"

With
Metro-Goldwyn News Reel
Tuesday is Family Night
Regular Prices if you come alone

WEDNESDAY & THURSDAY
Dec. 25-26

Joan Crawford
In

"Our Modern Maidens"

With
Rod La Rocque, Douglas Fairbanks, Jr., Anita Page and Josephine Dunn
Also
International News Reel No. 91

completing a sale which was made short while ago.

Texas individual incomes total \$3,100,000,000 annually.

King George of England is continuing his collection of stamps, which now fill nearly 200 volumes.

Try a Classified Ad in the Mail

DAPPER DAN

Dapper-torial

"A shoddy scarf," says Dapper Dan,
"Will nearly ruin any man
Who thinks that good appearance counts:
We clean them in immense amounts."

It doesn't make any difference to us WHAT you want renovated—we've never seen a job yet that we couldn't do to the entire satisfaction of the customer. Look in your clothes closet and see what you have that ought to be cleaned or pressed.

MODERN DRY CLEANERS OF COURSE

Phone 3

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

Be Early

Have your headlights tested and get your license for 1930 before the rush begins.

We are an
AUTHORIZED TEST STATION
and ready to serve you

Merkel Motor Company

LEST YOU FORGET WE DO

JOB PRINTING

When you are in need of job work, think twice before you send it out of town. If you will have the Merkel Mail do your work, you will get some of this money back.

THIS IS SOMETHING FOR YOU TO THINK ABOUT

The Merkel Mail
PHONE 61

ember 20, 1929.

THE MERKEL MAIL

PAGE FIVE

SOCIETY

THURSDAY NIGHT BRIDGE CLUB.

Miss Mona Margaret Jones entertained members of the Thursday night bridge club with a pretty Christmas party on last Thursday evening. The house was colorfully decorated with Christmas decorations and colored lights and all party favors were in harmonious designs. Games of bridge progressed until the refreshment hour when a delicious salad and sandwich course with iced tea was served to Misses Lola Dennis, Johnnie Sears, Christine Collins, Vera Baker, Roberta Sloan, Dona Loyless, Evelyn Curb and the hostess.

CHRISTMAS PARTY.

The hospitable home of Mr. and Mrs. Henry West was the scene of a gay party on Tuesday evening when Miss Vera Baker entertained friends at bridge games. Gay colored lights, a huge Christmas tree, lighted tapers, cedar, all combined to inaugurate the holiday spirit for guests at bridge games interspersed with radio music.

Table decorations and game accessories were in seasonal motif and at a late hour sandwiches, fruit cake and coffee were served to Misses Evelyn Curb, Christine Collins, Mona Margaret Jones, Roberta Sloan, Johnnie Sears, Mr. and Mrs. Claude Young, Messrs. Clesby Patterson, C. J. Glover, Jr., Ralph Duke, Olin Lusby, George West and the hostess.

GLEANERS CLASS PARTY.

The members of the Gleaners class of the Methodist church were delightfully entertained last Thursday afternoon at the lovely country home of Mrs. Tom Largent with Mesdames Largent, Frank Iddings and Lee Tipton as hostesses.

The rooms were unusually chery with an open fire burning brightly, a Christmas tree on which there was a gift for each guest and other decorations in the favored holiday colors.

Mr. Herbert Patterson presided during the business session. Members sang and roll call with Bible verses. The devotional service was led by Fred Latham with prayer by L. R. Thompson.

During the social hour Christmas lights were enjoyed, the favors given by Mrs. L. R. Thompson and Mrs. E. C. L. Love.

Each guest was remembered with a gift from her "pal."

At tea time delectable luncheon was served to Mesdames Fred Latham, Doc Vaughn, Fred Guitar, Eli Case, Herbert Patterson, Tom Toombs, Will Toombs, Jake Cox, Ray Clyde Sears, Ross Ferrier, L. R. Thompson, Bishop Hunter, Reece Hall, Richardson, Rush Buford, Royell, W. M. Gambill, Len Sublett, Stanford, J. P. Sutphen and Miss Delou Largent.

T. E. L. LOVE FEAST.

The annual Love Feast of members of the T. E. L. Sunday School class held Tuesday in the parlors of Baptist church.

The banquet hall was gorgeously decorated in full Yuletide regalia, culminating in a Christmas tree with lighted tapers centering the table.

The following program interspersed courses of the luncheon, which was served at high noon: a turkey menu, seasonal in all accessories.

Mrs. J. J. Toombs, class president, presided as master of ceremonies, introducing Mrs. L. B. Howard who beautifully rendered the story of the Christ Child in a vocal solo. Mrs. C. Gardner entertained with a brilliant solo selection and Mrs. E. Yates and Mrs. L. B. Howard appeared in a two piano number which was also highly applauded. Informal by the past presidents which very inspirational and appealing culminated the program for Mrs. E. Yates Brown, L. B. d. C. B. Gardner, F. C. McJ. W. A. Buckner, Sam Swann, Ague, Hale Lancaster, Ross Thomas Bearden, R. W. L. B. Scott, W. J. Largent, Walter, T. E. Collins, A. R. Dent Gibson, J. J. Toombs.

PRIZE BIRTHDAY DINNER.

Sunday, December 8, when Mr. G. L. Baker returned from the trip, they found the dining table long covered with good things such as turkey, chicken, cakes and centered with a huge cake and candles in honor of Mrs. Bak-

nday.

Preparing the dinner and arranging details of the happy event were R. F. (Buck) Mash-

and Fred Bak-

No Soot—very saves on Fuel

CLASSIFIED ADS

FOR SALE

FOR SALE OR TRADE—Milk cows; we want to buy your cows and hogs. See McCoy and Lowe.

I HAVE ABOUT 150 tons of maze head in Lubbock Co.; price \$20.00 per ton at barn. J. W. Keeling, Lubbock, Texas, Route 4.

FOR SALE—At a bargain lots 1 to 6, inclusive, Block 24, Grimmert's Addition, Merkel, Texas. American Finance Co., (Owners.) Mercantile Bank Bldg., Dallas Texas.

FOR SALE—At reasonable price well matured second year Lankhart-Bred cotton seed for planting; have some storage at Farm Bureau Gin. C. B. Williams, Merkel, Texas, Route 1.

CHRISTMAS BIRDS—Why not give mother, sister or sweetheart a song bird and be remembered each day of the year. See Mrs. C. P. Stevens.

MILK COW—One choice milk cow and young calf for sale; also one choice Jersey male calf, three weeks old. Lee Baker.

FOR SALE—Maize heads, \$25.00 per ton at barn. J. W. Teaff, Route 4, Merkel, Texas.

LOST AND FOUND

LOST—Plush laprobe. Will pay \$2.50 reward for return. C. J. Glover, Jr., at Merkel Mail.

FOR RENT

FOR RENT—Seven room house, 2 blocks north business section. See Harry Woodrum.

FOR RENT—Neatly furnished apartment; close in on pavement; gas; lights, telephone and garage furnished. Jas. H. West.

FOR RENT—January 1st corner store building now occupied by Clarence Saunders Store. See Max Mellinger.

NEW TWO ROOM apartment, nicely furnished, private entrance, adjoining bath; gas, hot and cold water. Mrs. C. L. Boswell. Phone 171W.

FOR RENT—Former Sie Hamm home; 4 rooms and bath. See B. H. Lancaster at Clay Lumber Co.

FOR RENT—6 room house on Oak street, close in, modern, available January 1st. Dr. Gardner.

FOR RENT—Good 5 room house; double garage. See E. C. Richards. Merkel, Texas.

FOR RENT—3 room unfurnished apartments, private bath, garage. O. R. Dye.

FOR RENT—4 room house, lights and gas; newly papered, not been occupied since work was done; newly painted inside. S. F. Haynes, phone 265J.

WANTED

WASHING AND GREASING Modern grease rack. Cars washed and greased the right way. Highway Service Station. J. C. White, Manager.

WANTED—To buy a good used piano. Phone 174.

WANTED—Tenants for houses. See John S. Hughes.

LODGE NOTICES

Merkel Chapter Royal Arch Masons meets on first Thursday night of each month. Visitors cordially invited. Joe Hartley, H. P. O. R. Dye, Secretary

Chicken and Cake Sale.

The Philathea class of the Methodist church will have a pie, cake and chicken sale at the Case Grocery next Saturday. Their friends are urged to remember the time and their patronage is solicited.

THE MERKEL HOME LAUNDRY. If you will call Phone 294J, we will be glad to call for your laundry work, give it the best of attention and return the bundle to you promptly. Our prices are reasonable and we feel sure that if you give us a trial you will be satisfied, just like so many of our customers tell us they are. A trial is all that we ask.

THE MERKEL HOME LAUNDRY. Mrs. Jay, Manager.

A Chicago antiquary has ascertained that the Columbus voyage cost \$7,000.

Blair Items

Rev. John Reynolds and wife and baby and Miss Scott of Abilene visited their brothers and sisters Sunday, Mr. and Mrs. Spergin Scott and Mr. and Mrs. Carl Hughes.

Mrs. George Miller Reeves and babies, Mrs. Melvin Montgomery of Butman and Mrs. Murry Farmer and daughter, Freda, were guests of Mrs. W. O. Reeves Saturday.

Mrs. Frank Demere of the White Church community and Mrs. Eli Brook met with the 4-H club girls when they gathered with Mrs. Hugh Campbell Thursday.

D. C. Doan and family have moved to Colorado where he is in business.

Miss Viola Dulin of Sweetwater is spending the week with her sister, Mrs. R. M. Doan.

Miss Sherman of Trent has been visiting her relatives, Mrs. W. A. Campbell and Mrs. Shortie Swafford, for the past few days.

Arthur Wesley Cavette entertained a number of his little friends Friday afternoon from 2 till 5 o'clock to celebrate his seventh birthday. A pleasant afternoon was spent in playing informal games, after which dainty refreshments were served and many nice presents were revealed.

Mr. and Mrs. Floyd McCaine have as their guest this week, their sister from Roby.

Texas building and loan companies increased their assets \$20,000,000 in 1928 and now represent a total capital of \$113,000,000.

S. A. F. E. Reduces Fare on Their Planes

Oklahoma City, Dec. 19.—Fares on Southwest Air Fast Express planes will be reduced to 5.5c a mile, lowest in the country, on Jan. 1, for a 60-day "trial period," Bill Voght, division passenger agent has announced.

This will make the total fare from Oklahoma City to principal points in Oklahoma, Texas and Missouri which the line serves equal to or less than train and sleeper fare.

CHURCH OF CHRIST.

No one knows when Christ was born; God evidently did not mean for his birthday to be observed, or he would have mentioned the day in the Bible. Many of the best scholars are sure now that it did not occur on Dec. 25th; but some do think it occurred in August. The Lord's day, which occurs every first day of the week, is the day for Christians to observe. (Acts 20:7; 1 Cor. 16:1, 2; Heb. 10:25)

There is nothing wrong to be happy (the right way) and to exchange presents, and this can be done without making people believe the day to be holy because of Christ's birthday. This is erroneous; for the season was first a heathen festival. But in our giving, we should give to those who need it worse than ourselves, for this is the teaching of Jesus, who said, "It is more blessed to give than to receive."

All regular services next Lord's day, as follows: 10 o'clock, Bible school; 11 o'clock sermon; 6:15 o'clock,

LEGAL NOTICE.

Trent, Texas, Defendants. In Equity. No. 774.

PUBLICATION NOTICE.

The President of the United States of America. Greetings:

To the Inhabitants and Taxpayers of the City of Trent, Texas:

You and each of you are hereby notified that The Brown-Crummer Investment Company has filed its Bill in the above entitled cause, praying for judgment against the City of Trent, Texas, upon the following described warrant and coupons, heretofore issued by the City of Trent, Texas, to-wit:

City of Trent Waterworks System Warrants, Series 1926.	
30 Coupons, numbered 3, due September 1, 1928, from Warrants Nos. 1 to 30, both inclusive, \$30.00 each,	\$900.00
30 Coupons, numbered 4, due March 1, 1929, from Warrants Nos. 1 to 30, both inclusive, \$30.00 each,	900.00
30 Coupons, numbered 5, due September 1, 1929, from Warrants Nos. 1 to 30, both inclusive, \$30.00 each,	900.00
City of Trent Waterworks Extension Warrants, Series 1927.	
Warrant numbered 2, due March 1, 1929,	1000.00
5 Coupons, numbered 2, due September 1, 1928, from Warrants Nos. 2 to 6, both inclusive, \$30.00 each,	150.00
5 Coupons, numbered 3, due March 1, 1929, from Warrants Nos. 2 to 6, both inclusive, \$30.00 each,	150.00
4 Coupons, numbered 4, due September 1, 1929, from Warrants Nos. 3 to 6, both inclusive, \$30.00 each,	120.00
	\$4120.00
	472.00
	\$4592.00

Attorneys' Fees, at 10%

and further praying for judgement for interest upon the above described warrant and coupons from the date of their maturity, at the rate of six per cent (6%) per annum, and attorneys' fees at the rate of ten per cent (10%) of the face thereof, together with interest at the rate of six per cent (6%) per annum on said attorneys' fees from the date of the filing of said suit, to-wit, the 16th day of November, 1929; that said Bill further prays for the appointment of a Receiver for the City of Trent, Texas, and for a restraining order, restraining the City and its said officials from expending any funds in the City Treasury for any purpose, pending the final hearing of said cause, and a permanent injunction restraining the said City and its said officials from expending any of said funds, save and except for the payment of the above described two series of warrants, and for such other and further relief as the premises may warrant. And you are hereby commanded to appear before the District Court of the United States aforesaid and file your answer or other defense in the above suit in the Clerk's Office of said Court, pursuant to said Bill, on or before the 27th day of January, 1930, and to do and receive what the Court shall have considered in that behalf; otherwise the said Bill will be taken pro confesso. And this you are not to omit, under penalty of law.

Witness, the Honorable James C. Wilson, District Judge of said court, this 20th day of November, 1929.

George W. Parker, Clerk. (Seal) By Ida M. James, Deputy.

F. E. Smith, Abilene, Texas; Elcock and Martin, Wichita, Kansas;

Attorneys for Plaintiff.

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy of the original thereof now in my office. Witness the signature of the Clerk, and the Seal of the Court this 20 day of November, 1929.

George W. Parker, Clerk, (Seal) By Ida M. James, Deputy.

THE STATE OF TEXAS

To the Sheriff or any Constable of Taylor County, Greeting:

You are hereby commanded to summon Henry Lewis by making publication of this Citation one in each week for four successive weeks previous to the return day thereof, in some newspaper published in your County, if there be a newspaper published therein, but if not, then in the nearest County where a newspaper is published, to appear at the next regular term of the 42nd District Court of Taylor County, to be holden at the Court House, thereof, in Abilene, Texas, on the 1st Monday in January A. D. 1930, the same being the 6th day of January A. D. 1930, then and there to answer a petition filed in said Court on the 3rd day of December A. D. 1929, in a suit; numbered on the docket of

said Court as No. 8358-A, wherein Mamie Lewis is Plaintiff, and Henry Lewis is Defendant, and said petition alleging that plaintiff and defendant were married on or about the 1st day of July 1928, and separated on or about the 15th day of August, 1928. Plaintiff sues for a divorce on the grounds of cruel treatment, all of which is fully alleged in her Original Petition.

Herein Fail Not, and have you before said Court, at its aforesaid next regular term, this writ with your return thereon, showing how you have executed the same.

Given Under My Hand and the Seal of said Court, at office in Abilene, Texas, this 3rd day of December A. D. 1929.

Belle Wellborn, Clerk, District Court, Taylor County. (Seal) By Birdie Wilson, Deputy.

development classes; 7:15 o'clock, sermon, "No Room in the Inn." J. G. Malphurs, Minister.

CARD OF THANKS.

Please accept our thanks for your kind expressions of sympathy extended to us in our recent great loss of our beloved husband and father.

Mrs. W. V. Cranford. Mrs. L. D. Gaither.

CLOSE CHRISTMAS DAY.

On account of Christmas Day and New Year's Day the undersigned banks will be closed all day on both days, Dec. 25, 1929, and Jan. 1, 1930. Patrons will please take notice and make their arrangements in accordance.

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

Natural (casinghead) gasoline is becoming one of the big industries of Texas with 1928 production valued at \$22,492,000.

The earliest snow recorded in Texas fell in the Upper Panhandle on Oct. 14, 1909. North Texas has never had snow earlier than Nov. 20.

BAPTIST ANNOUNCEMENTS.

Sunday we begin our Christmas celebration. The pastor will bring messages in keeping with the season and the evening service will have special Christmas music by the choir, besides Christmas songs by the congregation.

We will have our real Christmas program on Tuesday at 7 p. m. with a welcome for all and Santa Claus will have a token for every child present.

Ira L. Parrack, Pastor.

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Sunday School at 10 a. m. Win one to the Sunday School, church and to Christ; no more appropriate time than so near to the birthday of our Saviour. Preaching services at 11 a. m. and 7 p. m. Christmas greetings and Happy New Year to all members of the church, town and surrounding communities. Come, worship with us.

W. M. Elliott, Supt. R. A. Walker, Pastor.

Fort Worth is the third greatest meat packing and livestock industry center in the United States, being excelled only by Chicago and Kansas City.

HOLIDAY SPECIALS

COFFEE, Elegant, 2 lb. tins, 5 lbs. sugar free	\$1.50
COFFEE, Elegant, 1 lb. tins, 2 lbs. sugar free	55c
COFFEE, Maxwell House, 3 lb. tins	\$1.30
CANDY, Christmas mixed, nice and fresh, lb.	20c
NUTS, mixed, lb.	30c
CELERY, large jumbo size, stalk	20c
BANANAS, large golden fruit, lb.	7c
ONIONS, Spanish sweets, lb.	4c
COCOANUTS, nice fresh stock, each	10c
PEAS, Kuners Economy, No. 2, 2 cans	25c
CORN, Primrose, No. 2, 2 cans	28c
TOMATOES, Standard, No. 2, can	9c
ORANGES, California Navals, nice size, dozen	20c
APPLES, Delicious, nice big ones, each	4c

SOLE OWNER

CLARENCE SAUNDERS

OF MY NAME

Phone 69 We Deliver

WHAT TO GIVE FOR CHRISTMAS

WE HAVE

<p>FOR MEN AND BOYS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hats Shoes Caps Gloves Sweaters House Shoes Hose Ties Handkerchiefs Scarfs Underwear Shirts Supporters Suit Cases Traveling Bags Trunks 	<p>FOR WOMEN AND GIRLS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hats Shoes Dresses House Shoes Bath Robes Gloves Knit Caps Sweaters Skating Sets Blankets Towels Bath Sets Underwear Hose Handkerchiefs Lunch Cloths Purses Garters Hat Boxes Trunks
---	---

And Remember that 15 per cent discount is figured off of the regular price.

BOWERS & HAMNER

Trent, Texas

Dora Doings

Work on graveling the lakes and low places in roads is progressing nicely and with a few days of sunshine they will be fixed so we can travel in most any weather.

John W. Newson closed a week's meeting here Sunday with several conversions and additions to the church.

Mr. and Mrs. Howard Howell are the proud parents of a baby boy, Clyde Edward. Mother and baby are doing nicely.

We are glad to report Mildred McAvoy better after her serious illness Saturday night.

Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Wallis were called to the bedside of their cousin, Mrs. Coving, at Hylton Saturday.

The state inspector visited our school last Friday and we hope we made a good impression on him.

The boys and girls basketball teams went over to Champion Friday and brought home the bacon, the boys 30 to 19, and the girls, 50 to 10. We are real proud of our teams and if you want a fast game, phone us.

Among those on the sick list this week are Mrs. Koerth, Mrs. Rogers and Launa Howell.

Miss Eula Lassiter of the Maryneal school spent the week-end here with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Ensminger.

Mrs. Bailey Whisenunt returned home Friday after a six weeks' visit at Del Rio.

NOTICE STOCKHOLDERS MEETING.

Notice is hereby given that a meeting of the stockholders of The Farmers State Bank, Merkel, Texas will be held at the office of said bank the second Tuesday in January, being the 14th day of the month at 4 o'clock p. m. for the purpose of electing directors for the ensuing year and such other business as may come before the meeting.

R. O. Anderson, V. P.

Try a Classified Ad for Results

Compere School News

We take this opportunity of thanking every one who aided in making our box supper a success Friday night, Dec. 13. The proceeds netted \$56.00. We wish to especially thank the merchants of Anson, Abilene and Merkel for the nice prize packages contributed and all others who gave their time and cooperation. The proceeds will be used to buy playground equipment and basketballs for the school.

The crowd present at the box supper Friday night was entertained by the Golan Choral and Glee Clubs, directed by Miss Pearl West. The program was thoroughly enjoyed and we invite them to favor us again.

Those present at the P. T. A. Thursday night, Dec. 12, enjoyed talks from the Jones County agent, Mr. Jobson, and Sam Swann of Merkel on "Certified" Cotton seed for the Compere community.

Compere school boasts of having a champion basketball team this year under the supervision of J. M. Taylor, principal. Come on, Compere! Let's give them our full cooperation.

The school children are all smiles over the fact that they are having a Xmas tree and program Friday evening, Dec. 20.

The teachers will leave to enjoy the holiday season, Friday and Saturday, J. M. Taylor to Quitman, Texas, Miss Robye Evans to Knox City, Texas, Mrs. M. K. Milner to Abilene, Miss Nina McAninch to Merkel.

COMPERE NEWS

Most of the people of this community are ready to start putting up their land for the next year's crop.

George Smith, who has been sick, is resting better at this time.

Boyd Tarpley has also been very sick but is doing nicely now. He is expected to be in condition to be brought home shortly.

The box supper at Compere was a decided success and was enjoyed by all present. The Glee club of Golan put on a nice program which everyone enjoyed. We want to have the pleasure of asking them to visit our school again. We had besides the lunch boxes surprise boxes also and plate pies. The total sum realized was \$54.65.

Brother Owens of Anson preached for us Sunday afternoon. We want everyone to be on time next Sunday for Sunday School as we are going to start it again. Brother Owens will be with us again on the next preaching day which will be the first Sunday. He will preach morning and night.

Bleeding Gums Healed

The sight of sore gums is sickening. Reliable dentists often report the successful use of Leto's Pyorrhoea Remedy on their very worst cases. If you will get a bottle and use as directed druggists will return money if it fails. Phillips Drug Store.

Sunday School will start at 10:30 o'clock.

We want the people of the four corners to get together with us for the next singing, which is the second Sunday. We want to ask Stith, Hodges and Salt Branch to be with us on that day. Everyone is invited to come.

ANNUAL STOCKHOLDERS' MEETING.

Notice is hereby given that the annual meeting of the stockholders of The Farmers and Merchants National Bank of Merkel, Texas, will be held at the office of said bank on Tuesday, the 14th day of January, 1930, at 5:00 o'clock P. M., for the election of directors and the transaction of such other business as may properly come before the meeting.

Booth Warren, Cashier.

Nature's Best Food
PURE MILK
A Few More Customers
Wanted.

CITY DAIRY

Lee Baker, Prop.
Merkel, Texas

PIERCE PETROLEUM CORPORATION

WE DELIVER ANY AMOUNT THE DAY YOU WANT IT
JUST PHONE 288 OR LEAVE ORDER AT THE
PENNANT SERVICE STATION
KEROSENE OILS GASOLINE

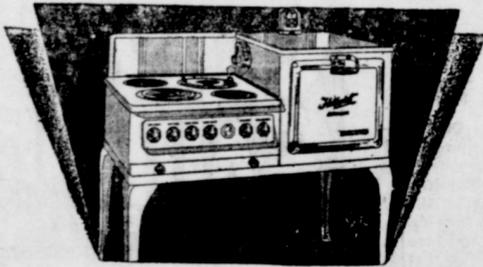
DOES YOUR CAR HEAT?

We have the latest equipment for cleaning radiators.

H. H. HAND
Welding and Vulcanizing



Let Hotpoint Make A Merry Christmas!



The New Model 1930 Hotpoint Electric Range combines all the features of the Ideal Christmas Gift, plus the knowledge that you are giving hours and hours of happiness for years to come.



Cooks while Mother shops



No need for Larry from adjacent bridge



No more kitchen worries

Picture the benefits and advantages of this Modern Kitchen Necessity. It means fewer hours in the kitchen, because it is not necessary to "cook" in the old-fashioned sense of the word. Merely prepare the meals, put them in the oven, set the Automatic Timer and Heat Control and your food will be ready at any given time—perfectly prepared.

It means better meals, more healthful dishes, increased economies, and Clean, Modern, Scientific Cookery.

CONVENIENT TERMS

Come in and let us demonstrate this indispensable Kitchen Utility—Convenient Terms can be arranged.



West Texas Utilities Company

"THE OLD RELIABLE"

The Manhattan was the first company to return to the South after the Civil War, to get in touch with their policy-holders, reinstate their lapsed policies and pay their death claims.

At the close of the World War, that great conflict that rocked Civilization to its very foundations—notwithstanding our policies in those days had Military Clauses exempting the Company from liability—The OLD RELIABLE paid every "war claim" in full regardless of whether the insured had been granted a permit for Military Service, and refunded every dollar to those who had secured and paid for permits.

For over THREE QUARTERS OF A CENTURY The "Old Reliable" Manhattan Life Insurance Company has weathered every Financial Storm, has fulfilled its every contract, and it is today one of the strongest Financial Institutions in the country.

It has the largest Reserve, in proportion to Amount of Insurance in Force, of any Company and its Surplus is in about the same proportion. Since organization, the Company has paid to its Policy-Holders, and now holds for their benefit, a sum equal to 107 per cent of total premiums paid in by them.

The Manhattan Life is the only New York company doing business in Texas. The Company was already in compliance with the requirements of the Robertson Law when it was passed, having been investing in Texas Mortgages for many years, and is well pleased with their Texas Investments.

With millions of dollars invested in Texas securities our Company has never lost a dollar on any Texas investment nor foreclosed on a piece of property in the State.

The traditions and ideals of

The Manhattan Life

its long record of faithful service to Policy-Holders since it was founded in 1850—have earned its title.

AGENTS WANTED

The Southwestern Department
ARTHUR EMERY, Manager
Suite 1517
American Ex. Nat'l Bank Bldg.
DALLAS, TEXAS



DALLAS LUBBOCK WICHITA FALLS ABILENE, TEXAS

\$150 A MONTH Our Affiliated Employment Departments, in closer touch with thousands of business concerns than any other, has evolved a plan that enables many young people, still in their teens, to command salaries of \$1,500 to \$2,400 a year in positions that are golden with opportunities for still further promotion. Hundreds of positions are daily to select from when you master the nationally known Draughon Training. Mail coupon for details of this unusual plan to

Name _____ Address _____ Age _____

MEET ME



AT
CROWN HARDWARE

**As Life
Sam Redwine**

(Mer-ville Times.)
Redwine is married. At boy has succumbed to the er a constant battle upid, which lasted many at last capitulated and unconditionally, handing fe, liberty and the pursuit ess into the hands of a miss of Merkel, Miss Doris Maybe you'll remember that imitable Sam was a volunteer e Sam's army for the World ind that after spending many months at Camp Bowie, he was t given the privilege of invading ace and adding his bit to the sup- sion of the Huns. Later he return- home with his millions of comrades receive the plaudits of a cheering

multitude and the smiles and adora- tion of the fair ones he had left be- hind—but through all this his heart was kept free of that romance and love which has caused the downfall of many a time-tried bachelor—but, now eleven years after the signing of the Armistice, he meets his fate. And right now, we pause to express the hope that it will be a happy fate—and that this fine old boy who has won his way into the friendship of so many people through his genial nature and sterling qualities, has made no mis- take in choosing a life-partner. This editor joins the many local friends of Sam Redwine in wishing for him and his bonny bride a long life of hap- piness.

Texas' center of population moved from Limestone county, in 1880 to McLennan county in 1920 and probab- ly will be in Coryell by 1930.

**One Shot, Two Deer
For Amateur Hunter**

Mullins, S. C., Dec. 19.—Among the best of hunting stories from this State this season is the one involving Dr. D. Walter Green of Mullins, an amateur deer hunter, who recently brought down two bucks with one shot. It was the first time in 15 years that Doctor Green had gone out in search of deer.

His story was substantiated by two companions who declared the bullet

from the doctor's heavy caliber rifle passed through the heads of both of the bucks.

Broom Tragedy.

St. Louis, Mo.—Sweeping the up- per hall to help his wife, James Tier- ney tripped over the broom, fell down the stairs and broke his back.

**For Tin, Plumbing
And Repair Work**

See
EARL TEAGUE

Tinner and Plumber
Phone 100

Satisfaction Guaranteed

6 6 6

is a Prescription for

**Colds, Grippe, Flu, Dengue,
Bilious Fever and Malaria.**
It is the most speedy remedy known.



Christmas Dinner
... "Our Joyful'st Feast!"



Lo, now is come our joyful'st feast!
Let every man be jolly,
Each room with yvie leaves is dressed,
And every post with holly.
Now all our neighbors' chimneys smoke,*
And Christmas blocks are burning;
Their ovens they with bak't meats choke,
And all their spits are turning.
Without the door let sorrow lie,
And, if, for cold, it hap to die,
Wee'l bury't in a Christmas pye,
And evermore be merry.
—Wyther

CHRISTMAS DAY—Christmas Dinner! They are inseparable! And as the rosy mist of Christmas Spirit rolls up on us, our "joyful'st feast" looms ahead as the pinnacle of the year—the meeting place of all things holy and all things happy.

Now you are making your plans for the Yuletide festival—all of the skill of your cookery is taxed to the utmost to make each new Christmas Dinner the crowning culinary achievement of the year. You forget calories—and put each concoction to this ultimate test—is it good to eat?

It must entice masculine appetites, bring masculine murmurs of delight, stir up masculine memories of

childhood Christmases. For it is no secret that the menfolks, young and old, have fond expectations of their favorite feast!

Father's pleasant anticipations of a real old-fashioned Christmas dinner often add to the smiling figures on Mother's Christmas check, or its equivalent in things dear to the heart of every woman! And, the youngsters—their happy exclamations at the sight and taste of one of your tempting Christmas dinners well repay you for all of your labor!

So, here's to a real old-fashioned Christmas Dinner—that will fill the menfolks with delight—and shower you with praise!

* "CHIMNEYS SMOKING"?
—Not if you cook with the
Modern Fuel—NATURAL GAS!

Lone Star ★
Gas Company

GAS



Supplying Gas Wholesale to

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It surely makes a big difference when your clothes are neatly pressed and free from dirt and spots. We exert every effort to do the BEST cleaning and pressing and solicit business on that basis.

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Phone 189 "Sudden Service" Kent Street

CHRISTMAS PORTRAITS

MADE UP TO DEC. 22nd

WILL BE FURNISHED

FOR CHRISTMAS

Rodden Studio

Merkel, Texas

**IT'S AN ILL
WIND, ETC.**

There's never a fire or a destructive accident that doesn't bring home to somebody—sometimes the property owner involved, sometimes just a casual observer—the vital importance of adequate, dependable insurance. But why wait for the ill wind to blow in your direction? Why not find out now about property protection and the type of insurance that best meets your particular needs?

A talk with us entails no charge or obligation.

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THAT'S US.
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Trent News and Personal Notes

Mr. and Mrs. Lige Hampton are the proud parents of a new baby girl who made her appearance last week. Mother and babe are doing nicely.

Mr. and Mrs. Everett Biggs and baby of Pecos came in last Sunday to spend the holidays with their parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Rawlings.

Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Armour returned from Temple Tuesday where they had been for the last few days with their son, John Stanley, for treatment.

Mrs. Joe English and daughter of Lamesa spent the week-end with relatives.

Mr. and Mrs. Emmett Morris of Blair spent a few days here with Mr. and Mrs. Mell Hand recently.

Miss Kathreen Freeman, who has been employed at Mineral Wells for the past two years, returned home last week.

The ball boys with a number of their friends and the teachers were royally entertained last Friday night in the Bowers home. After games were enjoyed, refreshments were served to about thirty-five and all report a good time.

Garnett Bryon and Floyd and Joe Reneau left last week for New Mexico.

Tom Rossen visited his parents, Mr. and Mrs. A. B. Rossen, last week-end.

Mr. and Mrs. Joe Nally has as their guests during the last week her parents, Mr. and Mrs. B. Rutherford, of Cottonwood.

Ciel Dowdy entertained a number of his friends last Wednesday night with a birthday party at his home north of town.

Viola Smith visited in Abilene last week-end.

Cora Scott spent last week with her brother and family at Blair, returning home last Saturday.

AT THE METHODIST CHURCH.

The Sunday school under the leadership of Brother Lee Cox is planning an old fashioned Christmas tree and program for Christmas eve night. Mr. and Mrs. Santa Claus will both be there and they are expecting to see and greet every boy and girl of the Methodist Sunday school together with their young and old friends. What a time we are going to have!

The pastor will be in his pulpit at both hours next Sunday. The theme for each message will be the Christ and what he has meant and will mean to the world. Read the story of his life as found in St. Mark's Gospel before you celebrate his birth and you will appreciate the Master more. Come to church and spend an hour with us.
T. C. Willett, Pastor.

Texas leads all the states in long distance bus service, having eighty routes covering 12,000 miles. California, with thirty routes covering 6,000 miles of highway, is second.

British flying schools have more applicants for instructions than they can care for.

It Proved Just the Thing For Me, Says Greenville Woman

"I Have More Vigor and Energy Now Than I Have Had In Months Since I Started On Orgatone," She Says

"Honestly, before I had used Orgatone just a few days I felt better than I had in many months," said Mrs. Will Stewart, wife of a well known employe of the New Ice Co., Greenville, Texas, who resides at 1321 Division Street.

"I suffered terribly with nervous sick headaches for several months," continued Mrs. Stewart and although I used everything I knew of my troubles continued and kept getting more serious until I began taking Orgatone, my stomach was in a weak condition and I couldn't hardly digest anything. My sleep failed to rest me and I would get up in the mornings feeling as tired and worn out as when I lay down at night.

"I don't think there's any medicine equal to Orgatone; at least it has proven just the right thing for me. The first few doses made me feel better and before my first bottle was gone all that tired, draggy feeling left me. I got up in the morning feeling refreshed and my work doesn't tire me like it did. My stomach is in good shape now and my liver agrees with me and gives me strength. I'm going to continue taking Orgatone awhile, for I believe from the way it is building me up it will only be a short while until I will be enjoying as good health as I ever did in my life."

Genuine Orgatone may be bought in Merkel at Phillips Drug Store.

Call Sent Forth For Fifth Sunday Singing

As our fifth Sunday Singing convention is close at hand, I will drop you a few lines through the Merkel Mail and ask all of you to get things in prime shape for a real convention. Remember we have never had a failure in eight years and it is now too late for one. As this event will also be the closing of the holidays, let's make it a wonderful day of song service to the Lord, a real religious worship.

I was providentially held away from Stith last Sunday but hope to meet the Hodges class and people next Sunday afternoon at 2 p. m. Let's have all kinds of new books for the fifth Sunday.

So arrange things early to get to Hodges ready to start singing at 10 or 10:30 by all means. Bring your dinner and books. Then, too, this is the time for electing officers for the next year. So have some good man in view to serve you as president. So we can transact the business in a few moments and keep the singing going.

Respectfully, your president,
Tom Spears.

Texas' white population increased from 3,204,848 in 1910 to 4,704,000 (estimate) in 1928. Its negro population in the same time increased from 690,049 to 779,000.

Men's Prayer Meeting.

The men's prayer service at the Presbyterian church last Sunday was largely attended, with much interest being manifested. W. W. Haynes was the leader. While these meetings are considered beneficial from every viewpoint, it is noted that only three churches are participating and it is urged that everyone in the city and surrounding communities join in these services. John Toombs is to be the leader next Sunday. The time is 2 o'clock and the service will be held at the Methodist church. The lesson for next Sunday is to be found in the 10th chapter of Romans.

CLOSE CHRISTMAS DAY.

On account of Christmas Day and New Year's Day the undersigned banks will be closed all day on both days, Dec. 25, 1929, and Jan. 1, 1930. Patrons will please take notice and make their arrangements in accordance.

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

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



Xmas Headquarters

A FEW OF THE MANY THINGS

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Diamond Rings Ruby Rings Men's Rings Watches, Bands Chains, Stationery Shaving Sets Military Sets Console Sets Community Plate 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Silverware Sets at a special price Smoke Stands Bridge Sets Bridge Table Covers Genuine Lucite Ivory Dresser Sets Book-Ends Diaries and Kodak Albums
--	--

A Complete Line of Gift Goods
Come in and examine them. It is a pleasure to show Our Wonderful Line of Xmas Goods.

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We have a large stock Completely Renewed Hups, Buicks, Chevrolets, Chryslers, Oldsmobiles and several others.

Several Good Cheap Cars in stock.

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SPECIALS FOR FRIDAY AND SATURDAY

Carrots	2 bunches for _____	15c	Lettuce	2 heads for _____	
Celery	per stalk	15c	Bananas	large green tips, per doz.	19c
Apples	gallon can	53c	Tomatoes	No. 1 cans, 3 for _____	20c
Beans	Red No. 2 cans	10c	Soup	Campbell's Van camp's	10c
Peaches	No. 2 Armour's 2 cans for _____	25c	Hominy	No. 2 cans, 3 for _____	25c
Turnip Greens	No. 2 cans	12c	Spinach	No. 2 cans	15c
Peas	Kuner's No. 1 cans	9c	Pork & Beans	No. 2 cans	10c
Pumpkins	No. 2 1/2 cans	18c	Sweet Potatoes	No. 2 cans	18c
Pineapple	No 2 1/2 sliced or crushed	28c	Beans	Pintos, 11 lbs. for	\$1.00
Soap	Crystal White 6 bars for	25c	Milk	Van Camps tall cans 4 for	30c
Lard	any brand, 8 lb. bucket	\$1.14	Coffee	Morning Joy 2 1/2 lb.	\$1.45
Crackers	6 lb. box	82c	Pickles	sliced, per qt.	22c
Salad Wafers or Saltine Flakes.	2 for	25c	Bacon	Dry, Salt, per lb.	15c
Bacon	Smoked, per lb.	22c	Bacon	Sugar-cured per lb.	25c
Steak	any kind per lb.	28c	Frankfurts	Swift's club, per lb.	25c

Dunnam Bros.

E. M. BAKER, Manager.

Abilene Winters Eliasville Merkel

OFFICE SUPPLIES

WE NOW HAVE FOR SALE AT OUR OFFICE IN MERKEL

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Paper Clips	Legal Paper
Adding Machine Rolls	Typewriter Paper
Second Sheets	Typewriter Ribbons
Legal Forms	Coin Envelopes
Shipping Tags	Sales Books

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