

# THE MERKEL MAIL

VOL. 41—NO. 1.

MERKEL, TEXAS, FRIDAY, MARCH 21, 1930.

On the "Broadway of America"

5c PER COPY

## PLANT, FLOWER EXCHANGE LIONS HALL ANNOUNCED

Entrants in Home and Lawn Beautification Contest and Those Contemplating Entering Asked to Participate.

A plant and flower exchange for entrants in the Home and Lawn Beautification contest sponsored by the Lions club of this city and also for those as well who contemplate entering between now and May 1st, the closing date for entries, will be held Wednesday, March 26, at the Lions club hall. The hours are from 9 until 11 and Mrs. Sam Swann, chairman of the committee, will be on hand, assisted by other ladies, to receive the plants and flowers and to assist in the exchange.

Of course, there is no charge. Those having surplus bulbs, cuttings and plants are asked to bring them to the exchange and they are entitled to receive in exchange any plants or flowers on hand and for which they have need in their own yards. This plan will enable many entrants in the contest to secure desired plants and bulbs for their own use, while they will be assisting others by furnishing their surplus.

Plants suggested for this season, which are probably overwintering beds in some of the yards, are daisies, violets, perennial florets, pansies, chrysanthemums, cuttings of hedge plants, cannas or any annuals.

Several have already signed the application blanks, one of which is printed in this issue of the Mail, among them being Mesdames Dee Grimes, T. G. Bragg, A. T. Sheppard, J. T. Dennis, Charles H. Jones, Byers Petty and Robert and Thomas Jr. Bearden.

Those desiring to enter have until May first to sign the application cards, as entries will be closed at that time.

Judging will begin July first and, as announced in the beginning of the contest, the judges will be selected from out of town and will not be made known until after the winners are announced.

The classes of entrants are divided as to those who own their own homes and those who rent. Besides the silver cup, offered by the Mail as the prize open to all, first and second prizes will be given in each of the above two classes for the following: most beautiful front yard, most beautiful back yard, most beautiful flower garden, most beautiful individual shrub, most beautiful bed of zinnias and most beautiful bed of roses.

The list of prizes will be announced at an early date, but it can be stated now that they will be well worth while consisting of plants, shrubs and flowers in season at the time of the awards, as well as prizes donated by local merchants both for the home and yard use.

## MERKEL 20 YEARS AGO

(From the Files of Merkel Mail March 25, 1910.)

The first real item of actual work in the construction of our system of water works transpired this week when G. W. Kelley of Opalouas began unloading and hauling four cars of material to the site selected on Elm street, a couple of blocks west of the postoffice where a fine plant is to be located. Before long we will have in operation a system which will be a source of pride, pleasure and profit for our citizens.

The Mail this week announces the candidacy of Mr. J. Fuller for the office of district clerk of Taylor county.

Mr. and Mrs. Cleveland Johnson of Trent were visitors in our fair city last week.

Letch Hunnicutt returned to Merkel this week from Alabama, resuming his old job at the Elite.

Arthur C. Browning, now a full-fledged and prosperous knight of the grip, was in Merkel this week with homefolks.

## POLITICAL POT BOILS

With the city election less than two weeks off, considerable political activity was noted the first part of this week and as the result two tickets for aldermanic honors have been submitted by friends of the prospective candidates. Three aldermen are to be elected at the regular city election on Tuesday, April 1, to fill the places now occupied by R. O. Anderson, Booth Warren and W. H. Frazier.

Two of these have declined to enter for re-election, but at the solicitation of friends Booth Warren has consented to stand for re-election. Supporters of the administration have also secured the consent of T. G. Bragg and Herbert Patterson to allow the use of their names in the race for city alderman.

Thursday morning friends of L. L. Muray, Herbert Patterson and L. R. Thompson submitted the names of these three men as candidates for the aldermanship. It will be noted that Herbert Patterson's name is included on both tickets.

The names of all these candidates appear in the regular announcement column of the Mail this week.

The election for trustees for the Merkel Independent School district is to be held Saturday, April 5. The terms of three trustees expire at this time, O. J. Adcock, president of the board, A. J. Canon and Eli Case, and these three gentlemen have signified their intention to serve another term, if the voters shall choose to re-elect them.

Other entrants may follow within the next few days in the contest for school trustees, and it is possible other candidates may be heard from in the aldermanic races.

## Merkel's New Marshal Has Assumed Duties

Having been appointed by the mayor and city council at a special meeting, Perry P. Dickinson, a former police officer of Abilene, assumed his duties last Friday as Merkel's city marshal. He removed here at once with his family and they are located on Oak street. The new city marshal is a peace officer of several years' standing, with an excellent reputation, and has made many friends since coming to our city.

Right at this time, attention is called by Mayor J. P. Sharp and the members of the city council to the fact that all stop signs must be observed and prohibited turns at alleys and U turns at some of the street intersections will not be permitted. For the present, City Marshal Dickinson is giving warning to all who violate these ordinances, but, after a period of education along this line, it is stated that all traffic violators will be arrested.

## Sanitarium Notes.

Mrs. Melvin S. Davis was reported resting well at the Merkel Sanitarium Thursday after a major operation on Wednesday.

Clyde Mayfield was brought to the Merkel Sanitarium Tuesday for an emergency operation for appendicitis and is doing nicely, according to late reports.

"Skinney" Evans drove the Mitchell car of G. W. Boyce to Ballinger last week and says he will take Mr. Boyce and Mr. Holcomb back this week when they will finish organizing a nest of Owls at Ballinger.

Dr. C. W. Watson and James Bright of Trent were visitors to our city Sunday, making the trip in Mr. Bright's new runabout.

Roy Elliott, a windmill promoter of this place, spent the first few days of the week at Stith assisting in the erection of a windmill. Mr. Elliott left for Stith again Wednesday on a similar mission.

See those new Panama Skirts at Hogue-Hamilton's.

New Shirt Waists at the Star Store

Forest Gaither, who is attending college at Georgetown, Texas, spent several days of this week visiting his parents, Mr. and Mrs. B. C. Gaither.

## Forty Years Old

With this issue of the Mail, we begin the forty-first year of newspaper history in Merkel. The Mail was established March 20, 1890, by M. J. Cox, who was universally known as "Mary Jane" Cox and than which no other given name was ever known, according to those of his time here and those who knew him later in life in other parts of Texas.

Much of the early history of Merkel, reprinted herewith with some revisions and necessary additions to bring the beginnings up to date, is to be credited to the first edition of the Mail, which was four pages, six columns in size, and which was complimented by contemporaries throughout the state as a well prepared weekly newspaper, reflecting much credit to its editor.

For these early copies of the Mail, the present publishers are indebted to Sam Butman, Sr., who has supplied the files of the first year complete and in a good state of preservation.

## SCOUT JAMBOREE DATES MAY 2-3

Chisholm Trail Area Leaders Also Discuss Finance Plans At Session.

When officials of the Chisholm Trail area, Boy Scouts of America, met in session Tuesday at Abilene, they voted to make application for state papers which will give the council recognition as the Chisholm Trail Area Council foundation. It is said to be one of the few in America undertaking this movement.

Of the session Tuesday, which continued through the dinner hour and until 9:30 that night, dates for the annual jamboree to be held at the permanent camp near Buffalo Gap were set for May 2 and 3 and a ruling was made that a scout will be allowed to take part in only three definite events during the affair.

Council finances were discussed by James P. Stinson, president of the Chisholm Trail council, and Herbert Patterson, finance chairman. Decision was made for all area finances to be raised under the leadership of Mr. Patterson and a special committee.

Twenty-four officials, representing seven cities and towns of the area, were in attendance.

MERKEL CHARTER MEMBERS. Last week marked the twenty-second anniversary of Scouting and in honor of the occasion President Hoover opened the week with a radio address Monday night.

Merkel Scout troop No. 20, which was organized in 1925, has the distinction of being the only troop in this council that has been active ever since its organization and has grown to a membership of 40, including members of the second Merkel troop, No. 66.

Charter members of Troop 20 are: W. A. Whiteley, John D. Coats and Sterling Sheppard, all three of whom are attending S. M. U.; William Sheppard, Simmons U.; J. T. Darsey, Jr., Benjamin Sheppard and Byron Patterson.

At a meeting of Region 9, including the states of Oklahoma, New Mexico, Louisiana and Texas, which is to be held at Fort Worth next Friday, March 28, Chief Scout Executive Beard of New York City will be the chief speaker and it is expected that several of the leaders from this council area will attend the regional meeting.

## Well Pleased With Advertising Stunt

Responding to the advertisement in the last issue of the Mail that Saturday, March 15, was "free ice cream day," hundreds visited the City Drug store on that occasion and the proprietor, H. H. Jenkins, feels gratified at the success of the stunt.

One of the features of service in his soda fountain department to which Mr. Jenkins wishes to call attention is that he has samples of moulds on display for ice cream favors to be used for parties, etc.

## "Two Days to Marry."

Owing to the threatening rain, the attendance for the presentation of the play, "Two Days to Marry," at the White Church school building last Friday night was cut down and in order to permit everyone to see it, the same play will be presented again this Friday night at 8 o'clock at Butman tabernacle. In case of inclement weather again, it is announced that the date of the play will be changed to Tuesday night. There will be plenty of good music.

## KEEPING UP WITH TEXAS

Joe Costutter, 45, oil well driller, was burned to death in a residence fire at Big Spring Monday.

While completing arrangements for his wife's funeral, W. M. Clary, 73, retired lawyer, dropped dead Monday in his home in Amarillo.

Funeral services were held in Abilene Sunday for George W. Fry, president of the West Texas Utilities company, who died Thursday at his home in that city.

Emery Abernathy and William Turner, two of the three men, who escaped from the McLennan county jail a few days ago, have been arrested in Middleton, Ohio.

Mrs. Laddie Miller, 57, wife of Sam E. Miller, veteran editor of the Mineral Wells Index, died suddenly Tuesday at her home as the result of a stroke of apoplexy.

Major K. M. Van Zandt, 93, active president of the Fort Worth National bank since its organization 56 years ago, died at his home in Fort Worth from heart trouble Wednesday.

Cecil Durham, Jr., 20 months old son of Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Durham, died at Beaumont of injuries received when he upset a bucket of boiling water on himself at the home of his grandmother.

Governor Moody Tuesday filed without his signature the bill enlarging powers of the railroad commission in regulating pipe lines and designating pipe line owners and operators as public utilities.

As she crossed a busy downtown street in Dallas, a widow dropped an envelope containing two bonds worth \$1,000, representing her life savings and when she later noted her loss she returned for a fruitless search.

After being relieved of his duties as grand master of the Texas Odd Fellows, in convention at Abilene, Barry Miller Monday mailed his application to the state chairman as a candidate for the office of governor of the state.

When an ice box rolled against him and pinned him between it and the service door, A. D. McDonald, 30, of Virginia Minn., was strangled to death at Dallas as he was trying to enter his apartment through a small service door rather than awaken his family.

Orval D. Kennedy, sixteen year old son of Mr. and Mrs. D. L. Kennedy of Brownwood, has recently sold a short, short story, entitled "The Unknown Partner," to Collier's magazine and has received a check for \$100 for his reward.

## Cattle and Livestock.

On Tuesday Dudley and Munger shipped a car of sheep to Fort Worth and on Wednesday J. A. Patterson shipped a car of mixed cattle to the same point.

## Singing Convention.

The Taylor county singing convention will meet in call session at Tye Sunday afternoon at 2:30 and a large group of singers is expected to be on hand. The convention recently purchased 100 new Stamps and Vaughn song books, which will be used. A special invitation is extended to the people of all the western part of the county to be present.

## A Distinguished Visitor.

The O. E. S. chapter has received a letter from Mrs. Effie Gladden, deputy grand matron, O. E. S. district No. 2 of Rotan, stating that she will be here Friday, March 28, at 3 o'clock, at which time she hopes to meet all the officers and members of this chapter. The worthy matron of Merkel chapter No. 212 extends a cordial invitation to all O. E. S. members.

## Entry Blank LIONS HOME AND LAWN BEAUTIFICATION CONTEST

Merkel, Texas

Please enter my name in the class checked.

Improving and beautifying the home grounds by proper planting of trees, shrubs, flowers, etc., better kept yards, and cleaner alleys and streets.

Class 1—Those who own their homes.

Class 2—Those who rent their homes.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to \_\_\_\_\_

Mrs. Sam Swann, Chairman, Home and Lawn Beautification Contest, Merkel, Texas. (Entries must be received before May 1st.)

## Sweetwater Man is Named Comptroller

On Wednesday, George H. Sheppard of Sweetwater, county democratic chairman of Nolan county, and engaged in the real estate and insurance business there, accepted the appointment by Governor Moody to the office of state comptroller. He is a cousin of our fellow-townsmen, A. T. Sheppard, W. J. Sheppard and Uncle Bill Sheppard.

The new comptroller, who was born in Waco but reared in the southern portion of Nolan county, has served as secretary of the board of city development of Sweetwater, was county assessor of Nolan county for four terms and also was mayor of Sweetwater from 1920 to 1925, serving as secretary of the chamber of commerce at the same time. He is a past president of the state tax assessors' association and in 1918 was called to Austin to work out a system when the state turned over to the tax collectors of each county the collecting of automobile license fees.

## Record of Births.

Girl, to Mr. and Mrs. Willie Mashburn, Saturday, March 14, 1930.

Boy, to Mr. and Mrs. T. H. Risson, residing in the canyon, Monday, March 17, 1930.

Boy, to Mr. and Mrs. R. C. Whetsel, residing south of town, Tuesday, March 18, 1930.

## TOWN DOCTOR

"DOCTOR OF TOWNS" SAYS

PLAY THE GAME.

There are a lot of people in every community who say "Sure, I'm willing to do something to help push my town along;" but when it comes right down to brass tacks they stall with "well, I can't do it today," or "I'll see about it tomorrow." And "tomorrow" never comes.

There are those, too, who when asked to do some particular thing for the benefit of all, say they will do it, when, even while they are saying it, they have no intention of doing it at all. When asked about it later they offer an alibi, saying "I didn't think it amounted to anything, so didn't do it."

Too many people think that the only thing that counts in community building is something big. If it isn't something that will get their name in the paper or grow a halo around their head it doesn't interest them. If they cannot be the "big toad in the puddle" they don't want to be in the puddle at all. But let me tell you this: Any industry that considers your town for the location of a new factory or for any of the dozen other things, is more interested in what all the little frogs do ALL the time than they are in what one or two big ones do occasionally.

A chap told me not long ago that it was no use for him to do anything for his town, because nobody ever appreciated it when he did it. When I asked him how he knew that, he said, "well, nobody ever says anything about it." There are many people like him, they want a brass band to lead a parade in their honor every time they do something for the good of the community.

That always makes me think of the old, old, time-worn story of the lady at her first baseball game, who expressed surprise at all the yelling and cheering when a fielder caught a fly ball, saying, "Why this excitement? I thought that was what he was supposed to do."

Citizens are SUPPOSED to do those things that will build their community. Each is supposed to come "to bat" and at least make an attempt to "hit"—to play the game. They are SUPPOSED to support the community the same as they are supposed to support and furnish bread and butter for their family.

A man does not expect the blare of trumpets every time he brings home a bag of groceries, but if he fails to do it his family will starve to death. And Merkel will get all thin and gaunt, hollow-eyed and weak-kneed, puny and sickly looking, if you and all the other people in Merkel do not furnish the "groceries."

The sacks, bags, bottles and cans of community groceries are labeled.

(Continued on Page Two.)

## PRACTICAL FACTS ACRES PER FARM PLANTED TO FEED

County Agent Heald Quotes Figures from Census of Taylor Farms to Show Advantages of Raising More Feed Stuffs.

"The reduction of cotton acreage means planting more feed," is the way C. M. Heald, Taylor county agent, looks at the situation in speaking before the Lions club Tuesday in reference to the movement in Texas for the purpose of producing and feeding livestock on the farms. "The purpose of this movement," he said, "is to market feed through stock."

"Today there is an actual shortage of feed in this section," he said. "The farm census of the county shows very little feed on the farms and you would be surprised at the number who do not plant any feed. No state can exist without livestock on its program. The amount of feed in this county is less than two tons of milo maize to the farm. Following the plan of cotton acreage reduction, there would be no surplus of feed, because as it is now there is less than 12 acres of feed planted to the farm in this county. It is the endeavor of the county agent's office to encourage more feed and to plant better field seed."

"At the present time there are between 15,000 and 20,000 acres under terrace in this county, whereas only a few years previous there were only 7,000 acres terraced. All of it needs to be terraced to keep water that falls on the farms in the farm land. When a gallon of water runs off, it is capable of carrying from one to three pounds of plant food with it and for this reason terracing is urged to save not only the water but the plant food that disappears with the water."

The above gives some idea of the thoroughly practical talk made by the speaker, who is doing a splendid work in this county. He was a visitor in the city and, while he had prepared no set speech, his summary of the feed crop situation and his explanation of the terracing plans afforded material for sober thought and further constructive work on the part of the Lions club in their endeavor to cooperate with the farmers of this section.

W. C. Boney presided at the luncheon Tuesday. The club singing was led by E. Yates Brown, with Mrs. Brown at the piano, and the invocation was delivered by Rev. R. A. Walker.

The only guest present besides Mr. Heald was W. A. Tittle, a brother of Zufe Tittle, introduced as a Lion from Brownfield. In a few brief remarks he

(Continued on Page Four)

## FRED ROBINSON ENTERS RACE FOR GOVERNOR

Waco, Texas, March 20.—Formal announcement of his candidacy for the democratic nomination for governor has been made here by Fred B. Robinson, former newspaper man and one of the publishers of the Waco Times-Herald at the time of its sale to D. D. Moore of New Orleans and later consolidation with the Pentecost-Morning paper here. He has long been known as an advocate of good roads and lower taxes and in his announcement calls attention to the fact that the initial in his name stand for "for better roads." His announcement in part is as follows:

### OPPOSES BOND ISSUE.

"At least three of the larger chambers of commerce of the state have announced in favor of the big bond issue, and of course will have a candidate in the race, which will make same a direct issue, hence it will be necessary for those voters who oppose the bond plan to have a candidate. I am qualifiedly opposed to any state bond issue.

"I am for the home man against the out-of-the-state tourist every time, and claim that if the present highway commission had gone ahead with the \$100,000,000 they are credited with having spent of the people's money in the last three years, and used the same judiciously in finishing up present roads, shortening and straightening between towns, wherever possible, instead of almost invariably going out and starting new ones, there would not be a mile of poor road on any important highway in Texas today.

"Then I also favor taking \$5,000,000 out of the over \$10,000,000 (average) on hand the first of every month in the highway fund, since January, 1928, according to the state treasurer's reports, and by adding thereto \$2,500,000 from the federal aid, close every important gap in Texas in one year, without increase of taxes.

"There are claimed to be 4,000 miles of hard surface roads in Texas, which are practically valueless in rainy weather, due to about 400 miles of intervening poor road. My plan would give 4,400 miles connected 'good roads' right now, not thirty years hence."

"Then I favor reducing license fees to \$3 for cars costing under \$1,000, with \$5 maximum, and reduce the gas tax from 4c to 2c, as with federal aid and other income, this would give about \$24,000,000 a year, which, I think, is as much as the highway commission can judiciously spend in a two-days' session a month, as same would be \$1,000,000 a day of the people's money.

### FOR ELECTIVE COMMISSION.

"I also favor a highway commission of three members, elective preferred, at salary of \$5,000 a year each, who will devote their entire time to the work.

"While the road question, costing the people twice as much as all other branches of our state government, is the paramount issue, in my belief, there are many other issues, which I will discuss when the campaign really opens, yet will mention only one here, and that is the penitentiary question.

In brief, I favor rebuilding the prison system on the Wynne farm near Huntsville at an expense of about \$1,000,000, instead of going out and buying more land and rebuilding elsewhere at an ultimate expense of around \$6,000,000 to \$10,000,000, or even only \$5,000,000, the lowest estimate.

"And I also oppose selling the farm land at this time, at a probable sacrifice, as I believe oil will be found under portions of these lands.

"I was born in Huntsville, Walker county, raised in a country printing office, removing to Waco about a quarter of a century ago, and have been in the newspaper business all my life. I have been president of three press associations, and am at present president of the Ex-Presidents association of the Texas Press association. I am a member of union labor, and believe if the farmers would likewise organize, they would be better off. I am an old-time democrat, always bowing to the will of the majority."

### BABY CHICKS CUSTOM HATCHING POULTRY SUPPLIES AND SEEDS ABILENE HATCHERY AND SEED STORE

Frank W. Irvine, Owner  
318 Mesquite St. Phone 7492  
Abilene, Texas

See  
**W. D. HUTCHESON**  
Local Representative  
**Sam Dryden & Son**  
Abilene, Texas  
**Granite and Marble  
Monuments**  
Phones Bus. 69 Residence 179

## THE TOWN DOCTOR

(Continued from Page One.)

"pep," "pride," "gumption," "coordination" and "commonsense," without which any community will cease to grow—and in nature, business, or anything else,—to cease to grow is to perish.

When a town ceases to grow it dies on its feet, and not even the undertaker makes any money out of it; for there isn't enough inspiration left to have a good funeral.

A dead town is a sorry sight, and the saddest part of it all is that we cannot lay our hands on the fellow who killed it.

When you lie back, stall, alibi, pass the buck and refuse to "get behind and push," fail to provide the "groceries"—your town dies—it just dies and dies and dies, and you know and I know

## 6 6 6 Tablets

Relieves a Headache or Neuralgia in 30 minutes, checks a Cold the first day, and checks Malaria in three days.

666 also in Liquid.

that when a town does that it's a DEAD ONE.

This Town Doctor Article, one of a series of fifty-two, is published by the Merkel Mail in cooperation with the Merkel Lions club.

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W. HOMER SHANKS.  
Conveyancer.

Cheap Federal Loans, long time. Farms and Ranches. Draw deeds, releases, land papers, only \$1.00. 20 years experience. Room 1, Penney Bldg., Abilene, Texas.

**For Tin, Plumbing  
And Repair Work  
See  
EARL TEAGUE  
Tinner and Plumber  
Phone 100  
Satisfaction Guaranteed**

## Week End EXCURSION FARES



One Fare Plus 25c

FOR ROUND TRIP EVERY  
SATURDAY AND SUNDAY  
FINAL LIMIT MONDAY MIDNIGHT

To all points on

The Texas and Pacific Railways  
within a radius of two hundred miles.

FOR PARTICULARS CONSULT  
J. C. CHILDRESS, Agent

# Attention! Farmers of this Section

Every agency in this state and throughout the South which is interested in farm prosperity is expending every energy in an earnest effort to reduce cotton acreage this year.

## TEXAS MUST DO ITS PART OUR COMMUNITY MUST HELP

In line with this important movement, smaller and better crops of cotton are being urged as a remedy for overproduction, foreign competition, inferior quality, and low prices.

In a matter so vital to the economic safety and to the very life of our own section, this bank is heartily in accord with other interests in this state and the South for the planning of a sane acreage for 1930, and in making wise diversification of crops the main thought and aim during the few weeks that lie between us and planting time. Again we say FEWER ACRES, MORE INTENSIVE CULTIVATION, BETTER SEED.

### THE OLD RELIABLE

## FARMERS AND MERCHANTS NATIONAL BANK

SAFE BANKING SINCE 1904

MERKEL, TEXAS

Congratulations to the MERKEL MAIL on its  
Fortieth Birthday!

## 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.

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

Consult Your Insurance Agent As You Would Your Lawyer

FOR

Seiberling Tires

Seiberling Batteries

VULCANIZING

BATTERY REPAIRS

GAS AND OILS

BENTON COLLINS

South 1st and Butternut  
Abilene, Texas

## Chickens Kept Healthy FREE of Insects STAR Parasite Remover

Is a highly concentrated lime-sulphurous compound recognized for its germ destroying and health building qualities. If given fowls in their drinking water or in a mash feed one day each week and sprayed in nests and on roosts every fifteen days as directed, we will positively GUARANTEE it to keep your flock in better health and egg production, eggs will hatch better, with a stronger and more vigorous young chick. Also will keep them FREE OF LICE, mites, fleas and blue bugs or we will refund your money. Begin its use NOW and your flock will be free of disease germs and destructive insects before baby chick season. It is no trouble to use, costs less than three cents a year per fowl. STAR TABLETS for Baby Chicks prevents and relieves bowel trouble and ALL diarrhoea or your money back. HOPE, COLDS, SORETHROAT, sorely relieved with STAR TABLETS. Sold and GUARANTEED by

MERKEL DRUG CO.  
Merkel, Texas

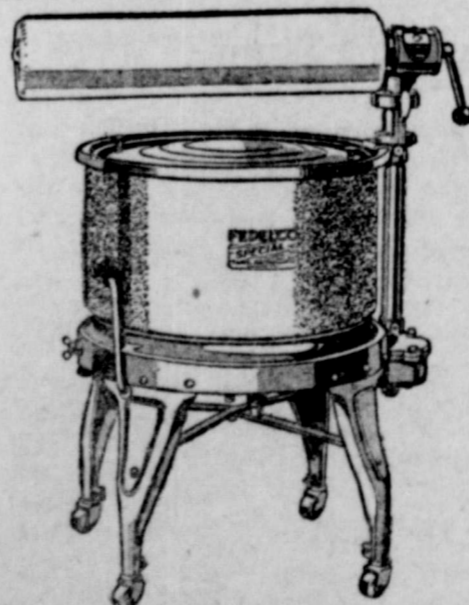


## The Fedelco "Special" Makes Washday a Playday



Once you have installed the Fedelco "Special" Complete Home Laundry equipment in your home, you can forget forever the back-breaking labor of old-fashioned "washday."

Just a few minutes' pleasurable work for the laundering, a simple process of ironing with the Fedelco Ironer... and you are free. The results are remarkable... far better than by other methods.



Investigate this Modern time, labor and money-saving equipment. You are sure to appreciate the many superior features of the Fedelco "Special."

Convenient Terms

**West Texas Utilities  
Company**

*Draughon's  
PRACTICAL  
Business College*

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 annually to select from when you master the nationally known Draughon Training. Mail coupon for details of this unusual plan today.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_ (MM)

**MERKEL MAIL WANT ADS FOR RESULTS**

## 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.

### CHAPEL TUESDAY.

Dr. J. D. Sandefer, president of Simmons university, Abilene, was the speaker at chapel on Tuesday morning, March 18.

Dr. Sandefer brought with him a piece of a desk, which was all cut up. This desk was cut up by our fathers and mothers but we are more civilized and should not cut on the desks. We should "begin where they got." Dr. Sandefer said he had visited the home of Shakespeare and in this home there was a desk that Shakespeare had used when he was a boy and it was cut up just like the one he had with him.

The children of today finish school when they are too young. They go to college when they do not know how to take care of themselves. Anyone living as close to Abilene as we do should be able to obtain an education. If you do not go to school when you have a chance there is nothing to you. A man who succeeds must succeed at the rate of a man who flies through the air.

He said he remembered the first buggy, first train, and first automobile that he ever saw.

He said that twenty-eight years ago he predicted that there would be a machine to fly through the air and that he would go to his son's wedding in an airplane. This prediction came true because not so very long ago he went to his son's wedding in an airplane.

Does one really realize the problems of life? One should go to college to increase his intellectual ability, his physical fitness and his spiritual concepts.

If a person makes a success he should stay in high school until he gets his diploma and should go to college three or four years.

If a person drinks, smokes and dances he is not wanted at Simmons. He is not needed.

Dr. Sandefer closed his most interesting talk with the following quotation: "The happiest man or woman in the world is the one who can think the most beautiful and interesting thoughts."

### THE SOPHOMORES.

Wind!—that means March. When March comes it seems as if everyone loses his school spirit and also his disposition. The "Sophos" are trying their best to meet it gladly and not mind the wind—we believe in the motto: "sunny-side up."

It seems that it is almost time for picnics and parties, etc. The Sophomores are counting "big" on something to this effect in the very near future.

The cards were given out last week and whoopee! Did you see the Sophomores that were on the honor roll. Maybe some more would be on it only because of their deportment. But we're sure they weren't really mean—the teachers must have got them mixed up with someone else at deportment meeting.

If you want to see the "peppiest bunch" in school just take a peep at the Sophomores.

### BASEBALL NEWS.

In a baseball game Thursday afternoon, March 13, the Grammar school girls defeated the Caps girls 26 to 2. There were two home runs made for Merkel, both by Adcock.

The line-ups were:  
Merkel—Dye, c; Adcock, p; Parks, 1b; Russell, 2b; V. Davis, 3b; Denny, 1ss; Owen, rss; Mansfield, lf; Hunter, rf; R. Davis, cf.

Caps—L. Parmalee, c; Hallowell, p; C. McCarty, 1b; Isom, 2b; Poe, 3b; Buchanan, 1ss; M. Parmalee, rss; Long, rf; R. McCarty, lf.

### NEXT DOOR TO MERIT.

There are not very many thrills in one who always pays his bills. Who does his work and takes his play in somewhat of a routine way. Avoids the jazzy side of life. Trusts and is trusted by his wife. Keeps on the job and out of court. And is of "excellent report." Still, tho he's no material for novel or for serial, ut minds his business, does his laborer's rather pleasant as a neighbor! —Berton Braley.

### HIGH AND GRAMMAR GIRLS DIVIDE GAMES.

The High school girls played interesting games with the Grammar school girls last Tuesday and Wednesday. They were victorious in the one Tues-

day, but due to the fact that some of the best players could not stay and play they were defeated on Wednesday. The score Tuesday was 5 to 2 in favor of the High girls and on Wednesday 13 to 5 in favor of the Grammar school girls.

The line-ups were:  
Grammar school—Florence Nicholson, c; Frances Adcock, p; Valeria Parks, 1b; Vivian Lasater, 2b; Vivian Davis, 3b; Annie Lee Owen, rss; Blanche Denny, 1ss; Alta Myrl Hyatt, rf; Ruth Davis, lf; Carabel Mansfield, cf.

High school—Margaret Miller, c; Lone Bryan, p; Johnnie Middleton, 1b; Reba Martin, 2b; Margarette Turner, 3b; Pearl Wallis, rss; Melba Taylor, 1ss; Floy Wells, rf, Alice Russell, lf; Jess Higgins, cf.

### BASEBALL TOURNAMENTS.

Bradshaw Saturday, March 15, won the boys championship in the ward school play ground ball tournament for Taylor county, while the Merkel and Trent girls' teams were left in the final round of their division, the championship to be played off at Merkel Tuesday afternoon.

Bradshaw boys first defeated Lawn in the quarter-finals, and then administered a 4-0 shutout over Merkel in the semi-finals. Trent, beaten by Bradshaw by a score of 7 to 5 in the final round, had a bye in the quarter-finals and trounced Hamby by a one-sided score in the semi-finals. Hamby had a quarter-final bye, and Merkel eliminated Caps at the same stage.

Caps beat Hamby in the girls semi-finals. Merkel was defeated by Bradshaw, but the latter was ruled out for the use of an ineligible player.

In the rural division Pleasant Hill won both the boys' championship and the girls' championship by beating Elmdale. There were only two entries in each division. Pleasant Hill also won all rural tennis titles by default.

Merkel boys first played and defeated Buffalo Gap, 17 to 3. The second game was with Caps, which Merkel boys won 25 to 13. The third game was lost to Bradshaw 4 to 0.

### TAYLOR COUNTY TENNIS TOURNAMENT.

North Park school made a clean sweep of championships in the boys' division of the Taylor county tennis tournament, while honors among the girls were divided by Bradshaw and Trent, with Bradshaw winning the singles and Trent the doubles.

In the boys singles, Arnold Glenn of North Park defeated J. D. Ashby of Merkel in the final round and then,

paired with Carroll Eastman, came back to defeat the Merkel doubles team for the title in that division. The score for the North Park team was 7-5, 7-5. Ashby and Fred Guitart, the Merkel combination, faltered after getting away to a four game lead on the first set. Harold Boney was used as an alternate for Merkel.

North Park beat Bradshaw and Merkel defeated Trent in the first round of both the boys' singles and the boys' doubles.

### SPORT NEWS.

The Merkel Grammar school girls baseball team report a very exciting day at Abilene Saturday. Merkel had a good showing, both workers and boosters.

Three games were played Saturday, putting Merkel at the head for county championship. The games were as follows: first game, Pleasant Hill won 35-9; second game, Caps won 17-7; third game, Bradshaw, lost 15-8, but the Merkel team was given this game because Bradshaw played some ineligible players.

### "SENIOR SARCASM."

It seems that every class in school is loyal and proud, but any faithful reader of the Badger Weekly could see that the Juniors are blessed with an unusual amount of conceit. Why, one would even think to read the story of their members in the last issue that the Junior class is great! What will they do and say if they ever reach that pinnacle of dignity and learning of being Seniors!

Why, they probably won't even get to wear caps and gowns when (and if) they graduate!

### LITERARY NEWS.

For several weeks students who were interested in essay writing and in spelling have been busy preparing for the county tournament of the Interscholastic league where they are ex-

pecting to carry away highest honors. The following entered the local try-outs, which were held on Wednesday and Thursday, March 12 and 13: essay, Elvis D. Richardson, J. T. Darsey, Jr., Isadore Mellinger, and Opal Huskey; Senior spelling, Elvis D. Richardson, Odell Hunter, Velma Lee Holden, Beryl Hunter; Junior spelling, Nell Hughes, Lena Mae Hogit, Meyer Mellinger and Isadore Mellinger.

The representatives from Merkel are: Elvis D. Richardson in essay; Elvis D. Richardson and Odell Hunter in Senior spelling; Nell Hughes and Lena Mae Hokit in Junior spelling.

### JOKES.

J. T.: "What would you do if a robber stuck a gun in your ribs and said: 'Your money or your life?'"

Elvis: "If I were you I would say 'I have neither.'"

Milton: "What would you say if I asked you to marry me?"

Doris: "Nothing. I can't talk and laugh at the same time."

Photographer: "Do you want a large or small picture?"

Byron: "A small one."

Photographer: "Then close your mouth."

Mr. Middleton: "Now, B. P. can you give me any reason why I shouldn't punish you for your disobedience?"  
B. F.: "Yes, Mother. The doctor said you weren't to take any violent exercises."

Visitor: "What's your real name?"  
Little Mary: "Mary."

Visitor: "What's your pet name?"  
Little Mary: "Mother says I'm too young for that yet."

Take our advice. If you pay cash—then buy at a cash store—Boston Bargain Store. "Cash makes the price lower."

## Southland Coaches Register Big Gains

With a state-wide expansion campaign in full swing, in which hundreds of thousands of dollars are being invested for new equipment and stations, the Southland Greyhound lines report that 63,000 more people have been served by their coaches so far this year than during the corresponding period of the prior year.

During the first two months of 1929 the lines handled 75,000 passengers. Increased service, lines and equipment resulted in this figure being boosted to 138,000 this year.

As a part of the improvement program of the Southland which is effecting the entire system of 4,000 miles over Texas, new stations are being constructed and old ones remodeled. Practically every station in every town in the state-wide network is on the program of development, according to officials of the company.

"A recent reduction of approximately 25 per cent and complete revision of schedules in further perfecting service for practically all lines in the network was one of the principal steps in the Southland's campaign of development and improvement," says Ed Ekstrom, president and general manager with headquarters in San Antonio. "It is our desire to co-operate in every way possible in aiding in the development of every community and farming area we serve throughout Texas. We are expanding in every direction, and our improvements are a step ahead of demand. A total of 73 old buses on various recently acquired lines are being replaced by 50 new 28 to 34 passenger coaches, giving the system a total of 150 in operation this year."

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.

The longest aqueduct in the United States is 259 miles long and carries water from Mt. Whitney to Los Angeles.

Try a Classified Ad in the Mail

## Farm And Ranch Loans

If you want to buy, sell or trade your farms or ranches, see us.

**YOUNG & PROPST**  
505 Alexander Bldg.

BOX 343

Abilene, Texas

for Economical Transportation



# Chevrolet announces A NEW SERVICE POLICY

The Chevrolet Motor Company and its nation-wide dealer organization are pleased to announce a new and broader service policy—one of the most liberal ever offered on a low-priced automobile.

Put into force as a written and signed agreement given to the purchaser by the Chevrolet dealer when the car is delivered—it offers the following provisions:

**1** Every Chevrolet owner receives his car from the dealer in perfect condition—thoroughly lubricated, properly adjusted, and ready to operate with maximum efficiency from the very first mile of ownership.

**2** Every Chevrolet owner is entitled to free inspection and adjustment of his car at the end of the first 500 miles of usage.

**3** Every Chevrolet owner is entitled to free inspection of his car every 1000 miles thereafter, so long as the car is in operation.

**4** Every Chevrolet owner is entitled to free replacement of any part which may prove defective in workmanship or material, within the terms of Chevrolet's standard warranty. This includes both parts and labor.

**5** Provision number 4 will be carried out by any Chevrolet dealer in the United States. As a

result, the Chevrolet owner may travel to any part of the country, with assurance that the guarantee on materials and workmanship will remain in force.

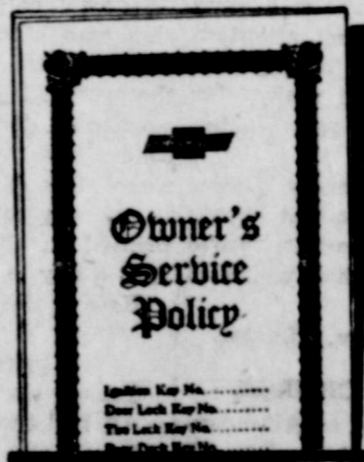
This new policy constitutes definite proof of Chevrolet's high quality—for such liberal provisions could only be made in connection with a car built of fine materials to exacting standards of workmanship.

Back of this policy, and assuring its successful operation, is one of the most complete and efficient service organizations in the world.

There are more than 10,000 Authorized Chevrolet Dealer Service Stations in the United States alone. Each employs skilled mechanics thoroughly trained at Chevrolet Service Schools. Each has specially designed tools and machinery developed exclusively for Chevrolet service work. And each has on hand, at all times, an adequate stock of genuine Chevrolet replacement parts.

As a result, Chevrolet's flat-rate charges, including both parts and labor, are the lowest in the industry on many service operations!

In considering the purchase of a low-priced automobile, think what this service means—in terms of lasting satisfaction, as well as in increased economy.



to all points in TEXAS

COMFORT, economy, convenience—that is what motor coach travel represents. This dependable transportation company serves nearly every city and town in Texas over the 3,165 miles of their routes.

### A few low fares:

Circo ..... \$ 1.90  
Ft. Worth ..... 5.30  
Houston ..... 12.90  
El Paso ..... 12.45

TERMINAL  
PHONE 210

**Southland Greyhound Lines**

The Roadster, \$495; The Phaeton, \$495; The Sport Roadster, \$555; The Coach, \$565; The Coupe, \$565; The Sport Coupe, \$655; The Club Sedan, \$625; The Sedan, \$675; The Sedan Delivery, \$595; The Light Delivery Chassis, \$365; The 1½ Ton Chassis, \$520; The 1½ Ton Chassis with Cab, \$625; The Roadster Delivery (Pick-up Box Extra), \$440. All prices f. o. b. factory, Flint, Michigan.

CHEVROLET MOTOR COMPANY, DETROIT, MICHIGAN  
Division of General Motors Corporation

A SIX IN THE PRICE RANGE OF THE FOUR

## 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.**"Corporal Eagen"**  
A Rookie Comedy  
To Be Played Here

Under the auspices of the Woman's Missionary society of the Presbyterian church, "Corporal Eagen," a rookie comedy, will be given here at the Queen theatre April 28 and 29. This was decided during the week when a committee from the church society, headed by Mrs. John West, met with Mr. Thoresen, representative of the Universal Producing company of Fairfield, Iowa, and completed arrangements for the presentation.

The production is said to be something different and new in the way of community entertainment. "Corporal Eagen" has a record of large and appreciative audiences and good press reports throughout the entire country. The production will be offered by 200 local people and promises to be an unusual success. The show is a story of rookie life and is filled with unusual group settings and costumed people in choruses, a short minstrel and many other features. In addition to all these, there is a play proper which is exceptionally good. The short minstrel is one of the high spots of the show.

The show is a screaming comedy from start to finish and will use a number of local business-men in unusual comedy parts. If you want to laugh, see "Corporal Eagen." Particulars as to cast and rehearsals will be announced later.

**Friends are Urging  
His Name for Trustee**

With a view to enlisting him as a candidate for school trustee, friends of Rev. R. A. Walker, pastor of the Presbyterian church, have approached him during the week and urged him to permit the use of his name. Due to the fact that he has had a wide experience in teaching, both in high schools and in rural schools, and also having raised a family and having had children in the public schools here and elsewhere in the state, giving him a clear insight into the methods and needs of the public school system, it is stated by his friends that he is peculiarly fitted to serve his community as school trustee.

When asked about the matter Thursday, Mr. Walker stated he had not made any decision as yet but that he was considering the request that had been made by his friends.

**Harley Sadler Opens  
Season at Sweetwater**

After taking his first vacation in years, Harley Sadler and his own company are to have their grand opening at Sweetwater three days this week, beginning with "Slander" as the opening play Thursday night. The Simmons University Cowboy band is to parade the streets of Sweetwater during the afternoon and give a program from the stage of the city auditorium preceding the opening of the show.

It is announced that there will be no advance in prices and all the programs are new to this section. Special features are Eddie See and his band and Henry Russ and his Georgia Crackers, a mountaineer string band, including singers, dancers, soloists and other popular entertainers.

## CARD OF THANKS.

We wish to express our sincere thanks for each word of consolation spoken and every kind service rendered during the recent illness and death of our husband and father. We feel that nothing was left undone by our friends.

May the richest blessings of Him that knoweth best and doeth all things well be your reward, is our earnest prayer.

Mrs. R. B. McRee, Sr., and Family.

## Charlie Higgins Moves.

The first part of the week Charlie Higgins moved his garage from former location back of the postoffice to the stucco garage east of Middleton and Stanford's filling station on Front street, the same building where Connie Lepard has his used car depot. This is a more convenient location, Charlie thinks, and he wants all his friends and old customers to come to see him and will welcome new friends in his new quarters.

The best speed of an average fox is estimated at about 26 miles an hour—faster than a coyote but slower than a jackrabbit.

## CHURCHES

MERKEL, A CITY OF CHURCH  
ACTIVITY; ON THE CREST OF  
AN EVANGELIST URGE; AP-  
PROXIMATELY 850 IN SUNDAY  
SCHOOL ATTENDANCE.

Last Sunday there were 845 present at the five reporting Sunday Schools in Merkel, being the largest attendance in 1936 and falling only 16 short of the banner Sunday, Dec. 15, last year. The Baptist Sunday School led with the largest number present, 314, while the Methodists were second with 286. The attendance at the Presbyterian church passed the 100 mark, there being 108 present last Sunday. At the Church of Christ 100 were present and at the Nazarene Sunday School 37.

## UNION REVIVAL PLANS.

Committees for arranging details and conducting the union revival, which is to start Sunday, March 30 and which is being sponsored by the men who have met regularly for the past several months in Sunday afternoon prayer services at the various churches in Merkel, have been appointed and much interest is already manifest in the coming special meetings.

As stated in last week's issue of the Mail, Rev. J. W. Joyner of Forrester, pastor of the Presbyterian church there, will lead the revival. E. Yates Brown is to be in charge of the combined choir. The meetings will be held at the Methodist church and the pastors will be in charge of the services.

The committees, which have been appointed, are as follows:

Advertising—W. I. Crane, Chas. Jones, Herbert Patterson, Hurley Toombs.

Working committee—John Toombs, Lee Cox, W. W. Haynes, W. M. Elliott, S. M. Hunter, L. L. Murray.

Offering and ushers—Will Toombs, S. G. Russell, Tom Bearden, Earl Lassiter, Eli Case, Frank Golliday, A. R. Johnston.

Finance—S. M. Hunter, E. O. Anderson, W. D. Hutcheson.

About 35 men were present at the prayer service last Sunday afternoon at the Methodist church. The meeting next Sunday will be at 2 o'clock at the Baptist church with T. D. Compton as leader. The subject will be "Am I my brother's keeper?" (Gen. 4:9.)

## CHURCH OF CHRIST.

Last Lord's day we enjoyed splendid services, the best for sometime, with two baptisms. The sermon in the morning was on the Lord's Supper, the third in a series of four sermons on the four items of Christian worship. Next Lord's day we shall discuss "Prayer," the fourth and final item of Christian worship according to Acts 2:42: "And they continued steadfastly in the apostles' teaching and fellowship and of the breaking of bread and the prayers."

The series of sermons on the life of Christ are taking well. The largest audience yet gave excellent attention to the discussion on Jesus raising Lazarus from the dead. The subject for the next time will be, "Jesus Washes the Disciples' Feet."

We are glad to see so many visitors and we wish all would feel at liberty to criticize us when we need it, "prove all things; hold fast that which is good." (1 Thes. 5:21.)

J. G. Malphurs, Minister.

## PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

Sunday School at 10 a. m. Attendance and interest good last Sunday. All who were present last Sunday come next Sunday and ask somebody else to attend with you. Preaching services at 11 a. m. and 7:30 p. m. Prayer meeting Wednesday evening at 7:30. Revival to begin the fifth Sunday. Come worship with us.

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

## AT THE METHODIST CHURCH.

Some good things on the program for next Sunday at the Methodist church. We begin with Sunday School which meets promptly at 9:45. A class and a welcome for everybody. At eleven o'clock the Senior Epworth league will take charge and render a short Anniversary Day program. This will be especially interesting to the young people and we hope that every young person of the church and all others who can will be present to enjoy this program.

At the evening hour, 7:45, Rev. E. E. White, presiding elder of the Abilene district, will be in the pulpit. Immediately after this service the second quarterly conference will be held. Brother White never fails to bring a good message. You will enjoy him. Let's give him a good hearing. All the members of the quarterly conference are expected to be present for this conference. Come and worship with us.

T. C. Willett, Pastor.

## CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE.

We are glad to report that we have been having good services the past week. The Wednesday night prayer service was especially blessed of the Lord last Wednesday night. We had 37 present and have our goal set for 50 this week.

The message on "An Ideal Christian" brought by Rev. J. F. Hendrix last Sunday morning was greatly enjoyed by those present and was given with the unction of the Holy Spirit.

The subject for next Sunday morning will be "The Conditions of Man and the Promises of God." Text Isa. 41-49, also Philippians 4-19. For the evening hour the subject will be "Knowing God." 1 Chro. 28-9.

Merkel is a better place for you to live in because of her churches. Do you not owe them your cooperation and support?

Meet with us next Sunday. A welcome for all.

Leona Forbes, Pastor.

## BAPTIST ANNOUNCEMENTS.

All the regular services Sunday and during the week at the usual hours. For the morning 11 o'clock service Rev. D. J. Dodd, a retired minister, will preach, this being the anniversary of his 82nd birthday and an annual custom. At the night service Mrs. A. T. Douglas of Abilene will make a talk about Simmons university. Everyone is cordially invited to these services.

## MATTERS MUSICAL

## MUSICAL MATERS

TEXANS WRITE WINNING  
STATE ANTHEM "TEXAS,  
OUR TEXAS."

Austin, March 20.—Fires of Texas patriotism were fanned to flames in the hearts of a small group, this week, by the singing and adoption of the new state anthem, "Texas, Our Texas," at a joint session of the state senate and house of representatives. Co-authors of the song, Mrs. Gladys Yoakum Wright and William J. Marsh, both Texans, were present, handed the copyright of the song to the secretary of the state, and were presented with the \$1,000 award offered by Pat M. Neff, former governor, who inaugurated the movement to select and designate a state anthem during his administration in 1924. Mr. Neff was the speaker of the evening.

The dedication ceremonies were conducted by Miss Margie Neal, state senator from the Second district and a direct descendant of Francis Scott Key, author of "The Star Spangled Banner."

The anthem, "Texas, Our Texas," was selected from the six best songs chosen from those submitted during Governor Neff's administration, and also was given first place over 31 songs selected from those submitted in the present legislature, one from each senatorial district. Altogether 300 songs were submitted, coming from every state of the union. A resolution is pending to have the new anthem printed in all text books, and sung once a day in the public schools.

Here is the winning anthem:

## TEXAS, OUR TEXAS.

Texas, our Texas!  
All hail the mighty state!  
Texas, our Texas!  
So wonderful—so great!  
Largest and grandest,  
Withstanding every test;  
O Empire, wide and glorious,  
You stand supremely blest.

## Chorus.

God bless you, Texas,  
And keep you brave and strong,  
That you may grow in power and  
worth  
Throughout the ages long.

Texas, O Texas!  
Your free-born Single Star  
Sends out its radiance  
To nations near and far.  
Emblem of Freedom!  
It sets our hearts aglow,  
With thoughts of San Jacinto  
And glorious Alamo.

## Chorus.

Texas, Dear Texas!  
From Tyrant grip now free,  
Shines forth in splendor  
Your star of Destiny!  
Mother of Heroes!  
We come, your children, true,  
Proclaiming our allegiance—  
Our Faith—our Love for You.  
—Gladys Yoakum Wright.  
—William J. Marsh.

Mr. W. J. Marsh will attend the Federation of Women's Club that convenes in Abilene March 21 through April 3. And will launch his song in

## SOCIETY

## LUNCHEON.

Mrs. Tom Largent was a most gracious hostess to a group of ladies for luncheon at one o'clock last Thursday. The entertaining rooms of her suburban home were especially gay with sweet peas as was the table which was beautifully appointed in snowy madras and pink glassware where a four course chicken luncheon was served.

Places were marked for Mesdames L. B. Scott, Ross Ferrier, Amy Sears, R. I. Grimes, Lige Gamble, F. C. McFarland, Chas. H. Jones, Miss Mary Eula Sears and the hostess.

THURSDAY NIGHT BRIDGE  
CLUB.

Miss Iva Bragg acted as hostess to members of the Thursday Night Bridge club on last Friday evening. At the culmination of the games delicious sandwiches, caramel nut pies a-la-mode and candies were served to Mesdames Evelyn Curb, Roberta Sloan, Mary Eula Sears, Lola Dennis, Johnnie Sears, Christine Collins and Mrs. S. D. Gamble.

## PHILATHEA PARTY.

Mrs. Ray Cox and Miss Alma Cox entertained the Philathea class in a delightful way Tuesday evening of last week. Interesting games and chatter progressed until the hour came for "revealing the pals."

Twenty-six members were present and enjoyed the sumptuous plate of country ham and all the essentials served by the two hostesses.

## SENIOR LEAGUE PARTY.

An entertainment, commemorating St. Patrick, was given the Senior league at the home of Miss Dahlia Watkins on last Friday.

Each guest was presented with a check for one hundred dollars signed by St. Patrick himself and was requested to write a list of the things he would buy with the money. A brief

all arrangements before the people while there.

Mrs. Earthman and her Jolly Quintette which includes Mrs. Brit Baker, Misses Thelma McAninch, Edith Baker and Kathleen Mashburn will again entertain over KFYO, Abilene, on Saturday evening from 8 to 9 o'clock.

The Men's Glee club under the direction of Miss Christine Collins will sing "Lead Thou My Soul" at the 11 o'clock service at the Presbyterian church Sunday.

The Salt Branch quartette will sing a program of sacred songs, favorites of a period from 40 to 60 years ago, over KFYO, Abilene, on Friday evening from 7 to 8 o'clock.

business meeting, combined with the devotional, followed. The roll was called, business and departmental duties were discussed.

Much laughter accompanied the guessing of the authors of the various lists of articles purchased with the hundred dollar check, and the various games played and forfeits paid.

St. Patrick himself would have approved of the delicious ice cream and cake served in green and white and decorated with a Shamrock.

Only a few leaguers missed the evening of fun. Those present were: Misses Orpah Patterson, Ethel and Eleanor Mae Hamilton, Thelma McAninch, Gwendolyn Vickers, Mary Elizabeth Grimes, Wanda Odell and Beryl Hunter, Ouida Mae Hulsey, Lela and Addie Fae Patterson, Nadine Tippet, Willie Mae Swartz, Ola Mae Hartman; Messrs. Roy Patterson, Lowell Vickers, Wayne Nicholson, Ford Smith, Horace Edwards, Tracy Campbell, Paul Collins, Weldon Coates, Clinton Bryan, Donald B. Willett, Orion Tittle and Max Swafford.

## FIDELIS MATRONS.

Mesdames Florence Berry and C. S. Higgins entertained the Fidelis Matron class Thursday afternoon in the home of Mrs. Higgins. In the business session Mrs. C. S. Higgins was elected president of the class. The guests found their gifts under the Shamrock and new for-get-me-nots were drawn.

St. Patrick sandwiches and punch were served to Mesdames Sam Swann, Dean Higgins, Pettit, Hagood, Balin, Byers Petty, Jim Mayfield, Warren Higgins, George Caple and the hostesses.

Take our advice. If you pay cash—then buy at a cash store—Boston Bargain Store. "Cash makes the price lower."

## PLANT MORE FEED

(Continued from Page One)

expressed his pleasure at being present and took occasion to note the many improvements that had been made recently in Merkel and that were attributable, in part he was sure, to the activity of the Lions club.

B. T. Sublett was toastmaster and he had provided a most entertaining musical program by Mrs. Earthman and three of her pupils in songs and piano numbers. Those appearing on the program, besides Mrs. Earthman, were Misses Edith Baker, Thelma McAninch and Kathleen Mashburn.

Through courtesy of Mr. Copeland, representing the Southwest Cigar company, H. H. Jenkins of the City Drug store passed La Fendrich cigars to the company assembled. Mr. Jenkins by the way, was initiated into the club with much ceremony, mostly merriment occasioned by a clever series of questions, to which he was pledged to respond truthfully.

Henry C. West was introduced by the membership committee as a former Lion, who was coming back into the membership.

L. B. Scott, reporting for the minstrel committee, stated that the Lions club received \$147.23 net as their share of the proceeds.

At the suggestion of Booth Warren, a committee was appointed to canvas the merchants with regard to additional features for the next "Cow Day." This committee consists of Dee Grimes, A. T. Sheppard and L. B. Scott.

## A Business Change.

Announcement is made in this issue of the Mail by Floyd Dowell that he is now in charge of the Gulf Station, formerly operated by B. E. Smith. He will appreciate a continuance of the patronage of all old customers and wishes to invite his friends and the motoring public to come by to see him.

## I Have Moved

to

## New Location on Front Street

In the stucco garage east of Middleton and Stanford's Filling Station.

Same building where Connie Lepard has Used Car Depot

## CHARLIE HIGGINS

Phone Garage 56

Residence 169J

Dunnam Bros.  
SPECIALS FOR FRIDAY AND SATURDAY

Lemons	good California, per doz.	28c	Peas	White Cloud, No. 2 cans, 2	25c
Bananas	large green tips, per doz.	23c	Beans	String, No. 2 cans, 2 for	25c
Greens	Mustard large bunches	8c	Corn	Round-Up, No. 2 cans	11c
Onions	fresh per bunch	8c	Cookies	Pilgrim, 25c package for	19c
Spinach	nice, fresh, per lb.	6c	Beans	Pintos, 13 lbs. for	\$1.00
Tomatoes	nice, fresh, per lb.	12c	Hominy	No. 2 1-2 cans, 2 for	25c
Carrots	nice bunches, 3 for	20c	Hominy	No. 2 cans, 3 for	25c
Lettuce	nice, hard heads	8c	SPAGHETTI, OR MACARONI	2 boxes for	15c
Pork & Beans	Libbys', No. 2 cans	9c	Picnic Hams	not salty, per lb.	25c
Spuds	No. 1, per peck	53c	Bacon	Sliced, Hormel or Sinclair's, lb	30c
Coffee	Morning Joy, 3 lb. bucket for	\$1.19	Lunch Meat	any kind, per lb.	28c

## Dunnam Bros.

E. M. BAKER, Manager.

Abilene

Winters

Eliasville

Merkel

## CLASSIFIED ADS

### FOR SALE

**MILK COW**—One choice milk cow and young calf for sale. Lee Baker.

**FOR SALE**—A \$160.00 deposit on a new Chevrolet Six with the Massey-Woods Motor Company of Trent; car to be delivered when called for. Will sell this deposit for \$110.00. John L. Camp, 519 Mims Bldg., Abilene, Texas. Phone 4814.

**BABY CHICKS** every Tuesday from M. Johnson strain of White Leghorns at \$14.00 per hundred. J. S. Touchstone, Hawley, Texas, Route 2.

**PLYMOUTH ROCK EGGS** for sale. \$1.00 per setting of 15. Mrs. W. L. Harris, at A. B. Cranston's place, Route 1, Merkel, Texas.

**HOGS FOR SALE**—Some shoats, Poland China, 65 to 70 pounds; cheap, if sold at once; one mile west Noodle. T. C. Jinkens.

**USED FARMALL** cultivator and planter and three disc plow for sale. T. E. Jones, Abilene, Texas, Box 423.

### FOR RENT

**FOR RENT**—Modern 4-room house and bath. Mrs. R. I. Grimes. Phone 165.

**FOR SERVICE**—Jersey male at my farm. Please leave check if I am not at home. Hollis McCoy.

### WANTED

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

**DEALERS WANTED**—Real business opportunity. We can place several live wide awake men in a profitable business selling direct to consumers in your home county. Write quickly for free catalogue. G. C. Heberling Company, Dept. 2295, Bloomington, Ill.

### LOST AND FOUND

**STRAYED**—White female Spitz; answers to name of "Lady." Finder please return to Vergil Hassey at Ice House and receive reward.

**LOST**—Dec. 23rd Leuger pistol between Merkel and Trent. Liberal reward will be paid for return or information leading to its return. Call at Merkel Mail office.

### LEGAL NOTICE.

**NOTICE TO DEPOSITORS AND CREDITORS OF THE FARMERS STATE BANK OF MERKEL, TEXAS**

The Farmers State Bank, Merkel, Texas, closed its doors on the 10th day of February, A. D. 1930, and is now being liquidated by me as provided by law. If you have a claim against said bank you are hereby notified to present the same with legal proof thereof to me at Austin, Texas, within ninety days after the 21st day of March, A. D. 1930.

Form for proof of claim will be mailed to every known creditor, and additional forms can be procured from the office of the Banking Commissioner, Austin, Texas.

**JAMES SHAW,**  
Banking Commissioner of Texas.  
Dated at Austin, Texas, this 21st day of March, A. D. 1930.

Read Merkel Mail Want Ads.



The way many things are changing but once a user of our Conoco Gas and Oils, there is no changing. Perfect motor satisfaction is our constant aim, and how well we have succeeded is best demonstrated by the fact that our customers continue to be here day after day, week after week, and month after month. We will be glad to number you among them.

**EXPERT REPAIRING  
GREASING, ETC.**

**Everybody's Garage**  
TELEPHONE 72

## ANNOUNCEMENTS POLITICAL

(Subject to the action of the Democratic Primary in July.)

For Congress, 17th district:  
R. Q. LEE, (Re-election.)

For District Attorney 42nd district:  
J. R. (Bob) BLACK, (Re-election.)

For Sheriff:  
H. T. O'BAR, (Re-election.)

C. R. (Chas.) WALDROP,  
N. L. SEALE.

For County Clerk:  
W. P. BOUNDS, (Re-election.)

For County Treasurer:  
AUSTIN FITTS, (Re-election.)

For Tax Collector:  
EARL HUGHES, (Re-election.)

For Tax Assessor:  
J. T. HOWARD, (Re-election.)

H. F. LONG.

For District Clerk:  
BELLE WELLBORN, (Re-election.)

For County Attorney:  
GRAY BROWNE.

WILEY L. CAFFEY.

For County Superintendent:  
M. A. WILLIAMS.

For Commissioner, Precinct No. 2:  
P. A. DILTZ, (Re-election.)

W. H. FRAZIER.

RUFE TITTLE.

THOMAS A. BEARDEN.

JOHN J. TOOMBS.

For Public Weigher, Precinct No. 5:  
S. A. (Sam) BANKSTON.

I. N. BROWN.

DENT GIBSON.

DENZEL COX.

A. D. FULTON.

T. D. COMPTON.

OSCAR W. WALKER.

HOUSTON ROBERTSON.

### CITY OFFICES.

For Alderman:  
BOOTH WARREN (Re-election.)

T. G. BRAGG.

HERBERT PATTERSON.

L. L. MURRAY.

L. R. THOMPSON.

### LODGE NOTICES

Merkel Chapter Royal Arch

Masons meets on first Thurs-

day night of each month. Vis-

itors cordially invited

Joe Hartley, H. P.

O. R. Dye, Secretary

Adding machine rolls at Merkel

Mail office.

## Grand Opening

SEASON 1930

## Harley Sadler's

OWN COMPANY

CITY AUDITORIUM  
SWEETWATER

## 3---DAYS---3

—Starting—

THURSDAY, MARCH 20th

EVERYTHING NEW

—Opening Play—

## "Slander"

—Also

CLASS VAUDEVILLE  
HIGH

EDDIE SEE and His 18-  
Piece Concert Band

—See and Hear—

HENRY RUSS

and his Georgia Crackers, a  
Mountaineer String Band

Singers, Dancers, Soloists  
and Entertainers

No Advance in Prices

Reserved Seats at Bowen's  
Drug Store on west side of  
Square, Sweetwater, Texas.

## Large Numbers From Here Attend Sessions I.O.O.F. and Rebekahs

During the three days state convention of the Odd Fellows and Rebekah assembly at Abilene Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday of this week, there were large numbers in attendance from the Merkel organizations. Among these were Mrs. W. R. Cox, Rebekah representative, and Mesdames J. D. Slaton, A. M. Dougherty, P. A. Polly, Pearl Hollingsworth, Arrah Jones, Jesse Higgins and Miss Dora Garoutte.

Odd Fellows attending were W. R. Cox, delegate, J. D. Porter, alternate, Rev. R. A. Walker, T. D. Compton, E. L. Wilson, P. A. Diltz, L. L. Murray, H. M. Rainbolt, C. M. Hazelwood, C. A. Higgins, J. E. Higgins, W. M. Elliott, Tom McAninch, Dave Shelton, W. M. Carey and Ray Harrell and others.

Fort Worth won the next convention.

The Odd Fellows elected the following officers: F. M. Compton, Waco, grand master; T. W. Davidson, Dallas, deputy grand master; W. D. Carroll, Comanche, grand warden; E. Q. Vestal, Dallas, re-elected grand secretary, and John A. Kee, Fort Worth, re-elected grand treasurer. G. A. Wheeler was elected grand representative of the lodge.

On Wednesday the Rebekahs elected the following officers: Mrs. Mae Self of Whitesboro, president; Mrs. Maggie Jordan of Paris, vice-president; Mrs. May Hatcher James of Dallas, warden; Mrs. Elizabeth Lampkin,

## R. & R. PALACE

Sweetwater

THIS WEEK

THURS.-FRI.-SAT.

"SONG OF THE WEST"

with

John Boles

Joe E. Brown

Better than "The Covered Wagon."

SATURDAY NIGHT

11:20 P. M.

MIDNITE

REVIEW!

with

Joan Crawford

in

"MONTANA MOON"

Don't Miss these

Saturday

Midnight

Shows.

Paris, and Mrs. Minnie Dale, Iowa Park, delegate and alternate to the national Association of Rebekah assemblies; Mrs. Mattie Knauff, San Antonio, secretary; Mrs. Bertha Hubbard Porter, Fort Worth treasurer.

THE MERKEL HOME LAUNDRY.

After a slight falling off in our business due to local conditions, we are glad to state that last week our patronage came back to normal. We wish to express our appreciation for the continued support we are receiving and to assure everyone that gives us a trial the very best of service and prompt delivery. We call for as well as deliver. Phone 294J.

THE MERKEL HOME LAUNDRY.  
Mrs. Jay, Manager.

## Our Hatchery is Open For Inspection All the Time.

You are invited to come and visit our plant and learn all the details.

### Baby Chicks for sale

Table Chicks 12c

Thoroughbred Leghorns, brown and white, 12c

Thoroughbred Heavy Breeds, all strains, 14c

"You don't have to keep our Chicks—our Chicks will keep you."

## The Merkel Hatchry

J. M. Templeton, Jr., Mgr.

## Mr. Geo. Byrd

Kimball Mills' Field Man will be here Monday to cull your hens. Notify me or Merkel Hatchery.

We'd hate to say K. B. Feeds were the best made but will say there is none better.

## SWAFFORD

Phone 44

# SPECIALS

## Friday and Saturday

### SOME SUGGESTIONS WHAT YOUR DOLLAR WILL BUY

COFFEE, Hill Bros. or Folger's, 2 lbs. \$1.00

FLOUR, extra high Patent, 48's \$1.55

FLOUR, extra high Patent, 24's 80c

TOMATOES, hand packed, No. 2,

12 cans \$1.00

BLACK EYED PEAS, Wapco, 18 oz.

12 cans \$1.00

PORK & BEANS, Wapco, 18 oz.

12 cans \$1.00

SAUSAGE, Vienna, Armour's

12 cans \$1.00

POTTED MEAT, Wilson's, 25 cans \$1.00

PICKLES, quart sour, glass, 4 jars \$1.00

SOAP, P. & G. or C. W., 25 bars \$1.00

PEACHES, Gold Bar, No. 2 1-2 table,

4 cans \$1.00

MATCHES, good and cheap, 6 boxes 20c

TOILET PAPER, good quality, 6 rolls 25c

YOU MAY ASSORT YOUR DOZENS ANY WAY THAT YOUR DOZENS COME OUT EVEN.

### STRETCH YOUR DOLLAR OUT

Vegetables, fruits, etc. priced at competitive prices.

CREAM 31c

**SOLE OWNER**  
**CLARENCE SAUNDERS**  
**OF MY NAME**

! HOME OWNED AND OPERATED !  
Phone 69 We Deliver

# NOTICE

I am now in charge of

## Gulf Station

Formerly operated by B. E. Smith.

Your Patronage Appreciated

## FLOYD DOWELL

We Fix Flats

We Extend

## Congratulations

to the publishers of

## The Merkel Mail

on their Fortieth Birthday

## Barrow Furniture Co.

MERKEL MAIL WANT ADS FOR RESULTS

# YOUR NEWSPAPER FORTY YEARS OLD TODAY

## DESCRIPTIVE ARTICLE BY FIRST EDITOR PAYS TRIBUTE THIS COUNTRY

Pictured as Finest Agricultural and Grazing District in State; Climate and Rainfall Continuous True to Form.

Volume 1, Number 1 of the Merkel Mail, published March 20, 1890, featured on the front page a highly interesting descriptive article of the Merkel country, which in the headlines is referred to as "the finest agricultural and grazing district in the state," "the best watered country in Western Texas," "beautiful scenery and a healthful climate."

The article is reproduced in full herewith.

### MERKEL AND SURROUNDINGS.

Ever since the Texas & Pacific railroad has opened up the western country, the passersby on the train have been attracted and charmed by the beautiful country surrounding Merkel, and the steady growth of this modest but enterprising little town. No prettier or more fertile spot can be found in the west. The town of Merkel was started in 1883 and the growth has been steady. There has been no effort made to get up a boom at any time, but the beauty of the location, the fertility of the soil and the abundant supply of good water has induced a number of intelligent and enterprising citizens to make their home in and around Merkel. The present population is about 700.

Merkel is located 17 miles west of Abilene. It is five miles from the Jones county line and seven miles from Nolan and the southeast corner of Fisher counties. By rail it is 430 miles west of Texarkana and 438 miles east of El Paso. Geographically it is nearer the center of the state than any other town. The elevation is 2,000 feet above the level of the gulf.

### WATER AND SOIL.

One of the greatest attractions of Merkel and the surrounding country for 15 miles north and south is the inexhaustible supply of good, pure water that is to be found at a depth of from 25 to 30 feet. This water is cool and clear and free from mineral and is not affected by the longest drouths, either in quality or quantity. It can be used with success for irrigating, if necessary, at a small cost, compared with California and other places where irrigation is the sole dependence for agriculture. Every farm and ranch in the surrounding country and almost every house in Merkel have wells of fine water.

The soil is mostly a dark, sandy loam and varies from two to six feet in depth and is underlaid by a strata of gravel. The surface of the country being gentle, undulating and well supplied with water courses prevents any stagnant water or marshy lands. The soil is remarkable for remaining moist through the severest drouths, when less favored land would be parched and vegetation destroyed.

The geological formation of the

country indicates that at some period of the world's history this was the bed of the Gulf of Mexico. The receding waters left a deposit which is the soil of this vast region. The washings of this soil, carried eastward by the various streams, have formed the rich valleys of the Brazos, Colorado and other rivers in Eastern Texas.

### PRODUCTS.

This soil is very rich and is adapted to the cultivation of corn, cotton and small grain. Sorghum and millet are never failing crops, while milo maize, dhurra and kaffir corn can be successfully raised for forage. All kinds of vegetable and vines grow well. The experiments in fruit culture have proven that the peach, apricot and plum do well. The apple has not been so successful except on older soil and by a little irrigation. The almond tree flourishes and the native pecan could be cultivated with profit. Grape culture is very successful.

### CLIMATE AND RAINFALL.

The climate is mild and owing to the elevation and purity of the air, is free from the fevers and malaria of the low countries. As a health resort it can be recommended for persons suffering from pulmonary, bronchial or malarial diseases.

With the exception of some severe northers during January, the winters are not severe. There is very little cold weather until after Christmas and February is always pleasant. The continuous breezes, mostly from the south temper the heat of the sun in the summer and the nights are always cool and refreshing. The winters are usually dry, the first rains begin in April, which are often very heavy. The occasional showers grow less frequent until in June there is usually a few weeks of comparatively dry weather, thus giving the farmer time to reap and store his harvest, which is then ready. The mid-summer rains of August are heavy and last a week or two; it puts the soil in good condition for fall crops and covers the prairie with a good crop of grass to supply cattle and other stock with food during the winter. These rainfalls are very regular and with the exception of the memorable drouth, (1886,) have never been known to fail within the memory of the oldest inhabitants.

As the country becomes more cultivated the rainfall will be more abundant, as the water will be retained in the cultivated soil and the evaporation will be more regular than when it runs off the unbroken surface of the prairie into the water-courses and is gone. The meteorological changes that follow the settlement and cultivation of every new country will cause the vapor-laden winds from the gulf to discharge their aqueous contents

## MARY JANE COX A COLORFUL MEMBER NEWSPAPER CRAFT

(By Fred B. Robinson.)

Mary Jane Cox, founder of the Merkel Mail, was one of the most colorful and interesting members of the "craft" in Texas.

He attended meetings of the Texas Press Association, whenever possible, and by his ready wit was always a welcome and popular attendant.

I remember that at one meeting where he was in good humor, he received a telegram telling of the serious illness of a daughter back home, probably in Merkel, and I never saw a greater change come over the countenance of any one. My recollection is the child recovered, yet the reverence of Mary Jane for one of his own flesh and blood could be plainly seen.

I really believe "Mary Jane" was a nickname, yet am not certain about this, or rather do not know what his real name was. Certainly neither Mary nor Jane are masculine names.

The last time I saw "Mary Jane" was here in Waco, just outside where I am writing (Meropole hotel) and he was en route to the "Magic Valley," Harlingen or near there, and my information is he passed away a few months (or years) later.

Mary Jane Cox had his faults, like all of us, yet he had a heart of pure gold. He was famous at press conventions for wanting to "punctuate" his remarks, and always radiated good humor whenever he spoke.

I feel sure he is now among the saved in the Great Beyond.

If any of your old readers know what became of J. "Bony" Smith, who moved to Merkel from Huntsville, Texas, (outside) I would like to hear. He met me once as I passed through Merkel on the train, along about 1902, yet have never been able to hear of or from him since.

before passing to the north. The dry belt of all the western country is fast receding westward along with the Red Man and the buffalo and will soon be a thing of the past.

### STOCK RAISING.

Texas has always been noted for its stock-raising qualities. The rich grasses of these plains cannot be excelled for the production of beef. This is the natural home of the horse; here he is free from many of the diseases that are common in the eastern states, and the spirit and endurance of the Texas ponies are proverbial. With the importation of the heavier breeds, a race of horses is springing up that cannot be excelled in any country.

The short grasses and herbage near these mountains are favorable for sheep and goats. The wool product of Texas is very large and the Angora goat has been found to be very profitable.

All kinds of stock except sheep do well without care or protection during the winter. Nature abundantly provides for them. Sheep should be fed a little during the months of January and February, although thousands pass through without it.

### LOCATION.

The natural location of Merkel is (Continued on Page Seven)

## EARLY HISTORY MERKEL CHURCHES ENRICHED BY NAMES PIONEER FAMILIES

Baptist, Methodist, Presbyterian and Christian Churches All Had Flourishing Organizations Here Forty Years Ago.

The first issue of the Merkel Mail chronicles the fact that the Methodist, Baptist, Presbyterian and Christian denominations had flourishing organizations here at that time and for this fortieth anniversary edition of the Mail a history of each of these church organizations has been sought. In the course of years, the Christian church ceased to exist, although there are many here who recall the activities of members of this denomination in the early days. According to information from some of the present members of the Church of Christ, this latter denomination became active in Merkel in about 1904. The Nazarene church dates a much later organization. Hence, for the purpose of this article, the history of the three churches, whose organization predated or is contemporary with the foundation of the Merkel Mail, is given from existing records and reports.

**METHODISTS ORGANIZED FIRST.**  
"In 'A Brief History of the Merkel Methodist Church,' incorporated in the Year Book, recently published by this church, it is stated that according to the best information available the church was organized during the pastorate of Rev. R. F. Dunn, about the year 1882, with perhaps not more than fifteen members. Marion S. French, who now lives in Arkansas, was superintendent of the Sunday school and Mrs. G. W. Boyce, (then Miss Sallie C. French,) was one of the charter members.

Included in the list of preachers who have served this church as pastor are R. F. Dunn, H. M. Glass, J. W. Dickinson, M. L. Moody, A. K. Miller, J. H. Chambliss, with J. M. Patterson as assistant, J. C. Carter, W. A. Gilliland, O. J. Hider, C. W. Irvin, E. Hightower, R. S. Heizer, R. B. Young, C. A. Evans, C. S. Fields, J. W. Rowlett, S. J. Vaughn, J. M. Sherman, A. M. Martin, R. A. Clements, E. R. Wallace, W. P. Garvin, L. A. Humphries, C. S. Cameron, W. M. Murrell, C. W. Foot, M. C. Hays, T. J. Rea, W. R. McCarter, W. J. Mayhew and T. C. Willett, the present pastor. At least ten of the former pastors of this church have been raised to the sublime degree of presiding elder and perhaps all of the other living ones are "groaning so to be," to quote again from the Yearbook.

The present building was erected during the pastorate of Rev. C. S. Field, who is now an honored superannuate of the Central Texas conference, living at 3704 Stratford St., Dallas. The Sunday School annex was built during the pastorate of Rev. C. W. Foot, who is now pastor at Quana, Texas.

According to records of the Yearbook, supplemented by information

gathered since, Marion S. French and Mrs. G. W. Boyce, are the only living charter members, the next oldest member being Mrs. J. L. Harris, whose membership is now in its forty-second year. J. O. Hamilton has been a member of this church thirty-nine years.

### BAPTIST DATE FROM 1885.

In a brief sketch of the "Organization and Early History of the First Baptist Church of Merkel," prepared by Judge W. W. Wheeler, Nov. 10, 1922, it is stated that due to the loss of the official records it was impossible to get at the day or the month of the organization of this church, but the year in which it occurred is determined definitely as 1885.

Rev. G. W. Scarborough, father of Dr. Lee R. Scarborough, who is now president of the Baptist Theological seminary at Fort Worth, was living at that time on a farm-ranch on the Clear Fork, about 18 or 20 miles north of this place, and it was he who organized the First Baptist church of Merkel in that year with a charter membership of nine, "the personality of (Continued on Page Seven)

## TAYLOR COUNTY'S OFFICIAL FAMILY IN THE YEAR 1890

The official family, including district and county officers, as listed in the directory published in the first issue of the Mail, contained the following names:

S. W. T. Lanham, congressman.  
H. T. Sims, state senator.  
Alf. H. H. Tolar, representative.  
T. H. Conner, district judge.  
E. D. Shropshire, district attorney.  
H. A. Porter, county judge.  
T. A. Henry, county attorney.  
D. J. Red, district and county clerk.  
J. V. Cunningham, sheriff.  
T. O. Anderson, treasurer.  
John B. Bell, assessor.  
J. A. Thomas, surveyor.  
Erastus Graham, superintendent of schools.

J. L. Stephenson, hide inspector.  
C. E. Pratt, public weigher.  
J. A. Pratt, J. T. Rucker, J. M. Cope and R. C. Lyons, commissioners.  
R. J. Reed, justice of the peace.  
J. D. Jernigan, constable.  
Terms of court: county court—first Monday in February, April, June, August, October and December; commissioners' court—second Monday in February, May, August and November.

Thirty per cent of the inmates of the United States' institutions for the deaf are said to be children who have acquired deafness which might have been prevented if taken care of in time.

Complete line of office supplies at Mail office.

## Ed S. Hughes & Co.

Dealers in

Hardware,  
Stoves,  
Tinware,  
Barbed Wire,  
Farm Implements,  
Guns, Ammunition,  
Fishing Tackle,  
Wagons and Buggies

## A Full Stock of Hardware

Abilene

Texas

This is our advertisement in  
THE MERKEL MAIL  
40 Years Ago

## Ed S. Hughes & Co.

HARDWARE

931 South First Street

Abilene, Texas

## HURRAH! HURRAH! HURRAH! FOR MERKEL

SHE'S GOT A PAPER! - - A GOOD THING FOR THE TOWN! - - A BIG THING FOR THE COUNTRY!

But a Better Scheme for

## J. M. RADFORD

To Tell the People Where to Buy Their Groceries

WE WANT YOUR TRADE - - WE HAVE THE LARGEST STOCK, THE LOWEST PRICES

We give you a Cordial Invitation to Visit our Store and Get our Prices. We are Here to Please You.

J. M. Radford

THE GROCER

Abilene, Texas

(The above advertisement appeared in the Merkel Mail 40 years ago.)

Our Principal Office is at exactly the same Location now in

ABILENE, TEXAS

With Houses in the following 28 cities: Abilene, Alpine, Amarillo, Ballinger, Big Spring, Bowie, Brady, Brownwood, Cisco, Clovis, N. M., Coleman, De Leon, Farwell, Graham, Lubbock, Marfa, Memphis, McCamey, Odessa, Pampa, Pecos, Plainview, Quanah, Roswell, N. M., San Angelo, Stamford, Sweetwater, Wichita Falls.

# SAM BUTMAN, SR. BOUGHT FIRST TOWN LOT FOR \$25

(By L. R. Thompson)

Having always had a fine regard for the pioneer and a desire to do something of the beginnings of communities, I engaged Mr. Sam Butman, Sr. into relating to me some of the early history of this part of ylor county. Mr. Butman landed Baird in 1882, coming there from Maine, after having followed for some years a sea-faring life with his brothers and father who had followed the paths of the sea in and out of the great ports of the world. Bell plains was then the county seat of Callahan county.

It was a far step from the sea to a sheep herder; from the bleak and barren coasts of Maine to the prairie stretches of West Texas; but Mr. Butman took that step and had charge of a flock of sheep for a little more than a year and laid the foundation for the fine ranch on which he now lives consisting of about twelve thousand acres on most of which range cattle and sheep and on about thirteen hundred acres he raises cotton, feed crops and wheat. In the winter of 1882 Mr. Butman held a flock of sheep on Noodle creek when all of that part of the country was in pasture.

In 1883 he bought a section of land from Daniel Vicker on which was the first box house built in Taylor county. This land was afterwards in litigation and Mr. Butman consulted a law firm of which Mr. Bentley was a partner and they instructed him to let it go back and re-file which he did, and this same section is a part of his present holdings.

The early settlers in the canyon were the Tuckers, Costephens, Chas. Brown and Paul Demere. The Rev. Moses M. Norris, a minister of the Methodist Episcopal church, lived in a dugout on Mulberry creek and in this home was held Sunday school every Sunday and preaching once or twice a month. The Rev. Norris, along with the other settlers, made his living by selling posts and wood and gathering and selling bones.

The first railway station in Merkel was built facing Kent street about the year 1883 with J. L. Vaughn as first agent. Mr. Vaughn was a d agent and a great lover of flow and a staunch supporter of the church. He built the Ed Ash house and lived there until he left Merkel. Mr. Butman married his eldest daughter.

There were no stores in Merkel at that time and Mr. Butman bought for Mr. Trundy, a fireman on the T. & P. for \$25.00 the first lot that was sold, being the lot on which the Oasis filling station stands. A Mrs. Rollins bought the lots on the northeast corner of the same block.

The old government trail ran through Mountain Pass, just east of which were the two log houses of the stage station. The stages going through this pass were frequently attacked and many Indian battles were had there and many people killed. Panaceas for the common ailments were always at hand and physicians were called only in cases of severest illness. All the early settlers were sincerely generous in hospitality and their mutual hardships made them kindly and helpful one to another.

In connection with this article the editor has asked me to tell what induced me to come to Merkel and to give my early impression of the town. In August, 1919 I received a telegram requesting me to come to Kansas City, prepared to go to Texas. I took the first train and was told that a controlling interest in a bank at Merkel could be bought for a certain price which was book value and a bonus, and for me to go there and look over the proposition and if I thought it worth the money to purchase it. I reached here on the 31st day of August and immediately looked over the business and residence sections of the town, noting the number of vacant houses—and there were not a few—and went to my room in the Woodrum hotel and wrote that I was not very favorably impressed, but would spend a week here looking over the country before I returned.

I had never seen a cotton stalk until I saw it through a Pullman window as I came to Merkel, and I found that the credit of the country was based on this staple. I spent a week talking to farmers and looking at the cotton fields. Cotton was selling at 10 cents and the yield was above the average. The banks had passed successfully through two years of drought but their note cases were full. I was convinced that cotton at the controlling price would liquidate all the notes if the lenders had exercised a reasonably conservatism. I learned from all with whom I talked that Mr. Thos. A. Johnson was regarded as a conservative banker and many of them stressed his conservatism by the use of ad-

jectives that would not appear well in print and, upon the reputation they gave him as a banker and the prosperity of the country, I bought the bank and most of the notes were liquidated within the next ninety days and within four months the deposits were more than a million.

That first week was eventful. At the beginning nearly a third of the houses were vacant and it was unnecessary to secure advance reservations at the hotel. Before the week closed men were trying to rent rooms at \$25 per month and there was not a vacant residence or business building in the town. The Woodrum hotel was full to overflowing and our first oil boom was born and deceased within the next three weeks. The banks took on a metropolitan appearance as people lined up before the tellers' windows. Many nights in succession the bookkeepers were busy until after midnight. The gins were running every hour in the twenty-four and at full capacity. Everybody was wanting to buy something of everything offered for sale and the most numerous list of items on the income tax reports of the following year were the charge-offs of worthless stock purchased in 1910.

Notwithstanding its varying vicissitudes, I believe that Merkel is located in what is destined to be the most prosperous part of West Texas and that land and city property at present prices will prove profitable investments.

## Our Early Churches

(Continued from Page Six)

whom," according to Judge Wheeler's report, "were G. W. Scarborough and wife, and a son, C. B. Scarborough and a daughter, Ada Scarborough, G. W. Dunning and wife, O. X. Ginn and wife and T. B. Story, T. B. Story being a brother-in-law of C. E. Conner, a Merkelite of long standing but who is spending sometime in Florence, Kansas. It is in the latter city where Mr. Story, the only living charter member of the Merkel Baptist church, now resides.

At that time there were no public buildings in Merkel, not even a school building; and the organization was made in a small residence then owned and occupied by O. X. Ginn and at the time of Judge Wheeler's report occupied by W. P. Duckett on North Kent street.

After the organization, Rev. G. W. Scarborough was called as pastor of the church and O. X. Ginn was elected church clerk. Soon after this a small one room school building was erected on the ground where the tabernacle now stands and the First Baptist church of Merkel moved its place of worship to that building, with their meetings once each month on the third Sundays, with the business meetings of the church on the Saturdays before.

In the year 1890, Rev. S. H. Blair, then a missionary for a large district throughout this country, was serving the church as pastor, by agreement with his home association that he might give one-fourth of his time to the service of this church. "There was no understanding as to what he was to receive as pay for his services; all he got was more in the way of an offering," to quote from Judge Wheeler's report again.

After building their own church in 1893, the next thought was to organize a Baptist Sunday School; and in October, 1893, a few of the members of the church and a few members of the Presbyterian church, (who joined in the work,) met in the new Baptist church building and organized the Sunday School that survived through the influence of the early days and gradually developed into the Standard Graded Sunday School, which ranks so high throughout Texas and the South. Judge Wheeler was selected first superintendent of the Sunday School, with B. A. Cox, now of Abilene, as secretary, and the services of the first superintendent were continued until 1902 without interruption.

In the latter part of 1894 or the early part of 1895, Rev. Mr. Blair gave up the missionary work and left the country, and G. W. Smith was called to the pastorate of the church. He was the man who in the early 90's saw the need of a college in this section of the country and made a special trip to New York City to see Colonel Simmons and explain to him the possibilities of a Baptist college at Abilene and influenced him to start the institution.

The present magnificent building that houses the Baptist congregation was built about ten years ago, while the Rev. Ira L. Parrack was pastor during his first charge. The latter resigned, effective the first of March, to accept a call to the church at Chil-

## CHURCH FOUNDER



The late Rev. A. A. Baker who organized the Cumberland Presbyterian church here January 3, 1886.

licothe and the congregation is now seeking a pastor to succeed him.

GRACE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH. Grace Presbyterian church was organized as the Cumberland Presbyterian church January 3, 1886, by Rev. A. A. Baker, who became its first pastor. At the time of organization there were eleven members, five of whom were members of his own family and the other members being D. C. Hutcheson, wife and family, they being the parents of our fellow townsman W. D. Hutcheson, who was just a boy at that time. The small church then in use was situated near where the Church of Christ now stands.

Of the charter members, there are five now surviving: Mrs. A. A. Baker, wife of the pastor; her son, James L. Baker, San Jose, Calif.; her daughter, Mrs. J. B. Warnick, (formerly Carrie Baker); and two of the daughters of the late Mr. Hutcheson, Mrs. Tee Skillings and Mrs. John Campbell, the latter residing at Trent.

Information as to the church buildings since the organization of the Presbyterian church here is gathered from an article in the Presbyterian Advance, dated March 8, 1917, in part as follows:

"Having used the schoolhouse or the Baptist church as a place of worship up to September 8, 1890, the session resolved to build a house of their own and Rev. A. A. Baker was appointed to solicit funds. This building was a frame structure and cost approximately \$3,000.

"The campaign for the present building was launched on Thanksgiving Day, 1915. It is a brick-vener, 54x60 feet, built on a 9-foot basement wall of cement. The auditorium has a seating capacity of 200 and on the same floor are the pastor's study and six class rooms which may be thrown into the auditorium, increasing the capacity to 500.

"Including available material in the old building, the church cost \$8,350. The Board of Church Education furnished \$1,000, of which one-half was on grant and one-half on loan and the church is free from debt except \$450 of this loan.

"The present pastor, Rev. Hubert E. Bullock, has served the church for nearly three years."

Rev. A. A. Baker, the founder of the church and the first pastor, died March 18, 1922, having been born in Tennessee in 1835. In 1857 he entered ministerial duties in Murry county, Tenn., and at the outbreak of the war joined the first Brigade Tennessee Cavalry and served four years as chaplain. During these four years of service he conducted numerous revivals in the army and participated in one of much note at Dalton, Ga. In 1884 he came to Texas and stayed one year at Hubbard City. It was in the following year that he came to Merkel and organized the first Presbyterian church here. In writing of this noble man of God, the editor of the Merkel Mail in his issue of December 17, 1915, said: "Of all men in Merkel, whether they be old timers or newcomers, we would say that he is one of the most successful, if not the most successful. Not that he has hoarded immense worldly possessions, for such has not been the case. He has provided for his mature years and is to be commended for his success in this."

Rev. R. A. Walker is now the pastor of Grace Presbyterian church, completing his third year next month. Preceding him was Rev. Chas. H. Little, who is now pastor at Howe in the Paris presbytery, and Rev. Fred S. Rogers, now pastor of the Stamford church.

If you paint the inside of your book shelves a bright color, one that contrasts pleasantly with your room, it is a nice note of beauty.

Take our advice. If you pay cash—then buy at a cash store—Boston Bargain Store. "Cash makes the price lower."

In Death Valley, Cal., a temperature of 134 degrees in the shade has been reached.

## ONLY FEW OF FIRST MERCHANTS HERE AFTER FORTY YEARS

Twenty-seven display advertisements appeared in the first issue of the Merkel Mail and the names of these firms together with the various lines of business follow:

J. H. Thornton, General Merchandise.  
Calvert & Winn, Groceries and Provisions.  
Ozee, Bell & Co., Contractors and Builders.  
R. J. Reed, Furniture.  
Jerigan & Co., Shingles, Doors, Sashes.  
J. L. Vaughan, Town Lot Agency.  
City Hotel, James Corigan, Prop.  
H. Bullard's Restaurant.  
Merkel Barber Shop, E. R. Boyett, Prop.  
G. F. West, Groceries and Hardware.  
Ed S. Hughes & Co., Abilene, Hardware.  
T. C. Tune, Abilene, Photographer.  
Cox & Clark, Groceries and Provisions.  
H. C. Burroughs, Painter and Paper Hanger.  
J. M. Radford, Abilene, Grocer.  
E. Hearn, Boot and Shoe Maker.  
B. O. Cox, Attorney-at-Law.  
Louis C. Wise & Co., Land Agents.  
J. W. Shangle, Physician and Surgeon.  
G. H. Richardson, Physician and Surgeon.  
J. W. Dishman & Co., General Merchandise.  
W. P. Browning & Co., Lumber.  
M. S. French.  
Merkel Meat Market, D. M. Cravens, Prop.  
Latrobe Vaughan, Photographer.  
The Yellow Pine Lumber Yard, J. S. Barnes, Manager.  
Blanchard & Sweatt, Blacksmith and Repair Shop.

Scattered throughout the paper local readers call attention to the varieties of whiskies always to be had at the Maverick saloon, Abilene. Among the favorites listed were: Bell Brook, Old Jordan, Pure Malt, Belle of Nelson and the Celebrated Kentucky Club.

## As Pictured in 1890

(Continued from Page Six)  
favorable to a mercantile center. The passes from the southwestern part of Taylor and part of Nolan county and the beautiful and prosperous farming district of Mulberry canyon all have one outlet to the plain six miles south of Merkel. The direction of the water-courses and natural roadways favor easy and direct roads from the north and south. Many stockmen prefer shipping from this point on account of the ease of access and abundance of water. As the county advances, more and larger business houses will be necessary to buy the products and furnish the supplies of this large section of country.  
The gin at this place ginned over 400 bales of cotton last fall and the large acreage of wheat now growing will necessitate the erection of a mill this fall.

## SOCIETY AND EDUCATION.

The society of all this western country is first-class, and there is as large a percentage of church members as in any portion of the United States. The Baptist, Presbyterian, Methodist and Christian denominations have flourishing organizations. We have three large Sunday Schools, a flourishing Women's Christian Union and

## WORK RIGHT

On  
WATCHES  
CLOCKS AND  
SEWING MACHINES

OPTICAL GOODS FOR SALE

ALSO LADIES' HATS

Everything Reasonable in Price

R. A. TARBUTTON

Located on Kent Street

## Women Suffering Bladder Irritation

If functional Bladder Irritation disturbs your sleep, or causes Burning or Itching Sensation, Backache, Leg Pains, or muscular aches, making you feel tired, depressed, and discouraged, why not try the Cystex 48 Hour Test? Don't give up. Get Cystex today at any drug store. Put it to the test. See for yourself how quickly it works. Money back if it doesn't bring quick improvement, and satisfy you completely. Try Cystex today. Only 50c.

a Band of Hope. The Western Normal and Commercial College association, chartered July, 1886, has a large two story building for educational purposes and the public free school is also under good management. Owing to the advantages of transportation and travel and its central location,

Merkel will soon be an educational center.

We are indebted to the Progressive committee for data for this article and to whom we return thanks. All inquiries from a distance will be cheerfully answered by addressing J. L. Vaughn, secretary of this committee.

# G. F. West

## THE LEADER IN LOW PRICES

GROCERIES, HARDWARE,  
FARMING IMPLEMENTS,  
STOVES, BARBED WIRE,  
QUEENSWARE, GLASSWARE,  
HARNESS, ETC., ETC., ETC.

## CHEAPEST HOUSE WEST OF ABILENE

THE FIRST HOUSE IN MERKEL TO ATTEMPT TO SELL AT ABILENE PRICES, OTHERS BEING COMPELLED TO IMITATE.

## IT WAS A REVOLUTION IN PRICES

BUT THIS HOUSE DID IT JUST THE SAME.

## AND WILL REPEAT IT EVERY DAY

Give us a Trial and be Convinced

New Stoves, New Goods, Low Prices and Fair Dealing.

—AGENT FOR THE CELEBRATED—

# Buckeye Light Binder

MERKEL

TEXAS

(Our ad in first issue of Merkel Mail, Mar. 20, 1890.)

# West Co.

OVER FORTY YEARS IN MERKEL

## PROFESSIONAL

M. ARMSTRONG, M. D.  
Office Over Farmers State Bank

Res. Phone 12. Office 195  
Local Surgeon T. & P. For Last 10 Years.  
Furnish Drugs From Office.

DRS. GRIMES AND SADLER  
PHYSICIANS & SURGEONS  
HOSPITAL FACILITIES

PHONE DR. GRIMES Res. 165 Of. 163  
PHONE DR. SADLER Res. 136 Of. 143

PAULINE JOHNSON

Successor to

G. W. JOHNSON

Insurance—Notary Public  
In New City Hall—Front St.  
Merkel — Texas

LEE R. YORK JOHN L. CAMP

YORK AND CAMP

Attorneys-at-Law  
Civil Practice in all Courts. Special attention to land titles and probate matters.

711 and 712 Mims Building  
ABILENE, TEXAS

M. A. JONES

Experienced Jeweler

and

Watch Repairing

All Work Guaranteed

At Merkel Drug Co.

Merkel, Texas

DR. CHAS. E. HARRISON

Practice Limited to

The Eye and It's Errors of Refraction—Eyes Examined

and Glasses Fitted

405 Alexander Bldg.  
Phone 6161 Res. Phone 8285  
Abilene, Texas

## Len Sublett

Water well Driller,  
all work guaranteed  
first-class.

Merkel, Texas

Phone 164w P. O. Box 224

## EXIDE BATTERIES

13-Plate now \$7.50

Exchange

15-Plate now \$10.00

Exchange

S. M. HUNTER

Phone 72 Everybody's Garage

Dr. L. C. Zehnpfennig

Dentist

Dental X-Ray and Diagnosis

Office, Farmers State Bank Bldg.

Phone 195

SWEETWATER MARBLE

AND GRANITE WORKS

for

MEMORIALS OF MARBLE

OR GRANITE

ALSO CONCRETE COPING

J. T. COATS, Local Rep.

Merkel, Texas

Phone 274W.

Jeweler Engraver

Expert Watch Repairing

JOSEPH L. SPECK

At City Drug Store

Merkel, Texas

## Trent News and Personal Notes

Funeral rites for R. B. McRee, Sr., age 70 years, were held at the Methodist church here Saturday afternoon at 4 o'clock, with the Rev. E. D. Landreth of Hedley officiating, assisted by Rev. U. S. Sherill, local pastor. Interment was in the Trent cemetery. Mr. McRee died Friday morning, March 14, at 5 o'clock. His death came as a complete surprise to his relatives and friends, as he had been in good health up to just a few days prior to his death. He had been feeling badly and on Thursday had gone to Abilene to consult with a physician there, nothing serious being reported. Mr. McRee was an old-time resident, having lived here for the past 22 years. He is survived by his wife, four sons and two daughters, all of this place.

Pall bearers were T. G. Hamner, Leslie Beasley, Royce Dowdy, Charles Reid, Malcolm Beasley, E. Massey, Honorary: C. T. Beckham, O. A. Smith, J. M. Beasley, M. G. Scott, J. W. Dowdy of Abilene, W. H. Frazier of Merkel. Out-of-town relatives attending the funeral were J. P. McRee, Beaumont; C. C. Behea, Rockdale; Mrs. Susie Sloan, Hedley; Mr. and Mrs. Henderson, Lubbock; Mrs. Fannie Norman, Thorndale; Gus Norman, San Antonio, and Mr. and Mrs. I. M. Howell and two children of Ft. Worth. J. W. Bowers of Vernon spent Monday and Tuesday in the home of J. E. Bowers.

Mrs. Garland Venson, accompanied by Mrs. Murcheson of Sweetwater, visited in Trent Thursday. Mrs. Venson will be remembered as Miss Annie Clair Oliver.

Mr. and Mrs. Reuben Reeves and Lillian Grace attended the singing at the new South Side Methodist church in Sweetwater last Thursday night.

Mrs. Dee Portage and children visited at San Angelo last week.

Miss Pearl Martin of Hermleigh, who came to attend the funeral of R. B. McRee, was the guest of Mesdames T. G. Hamner and J. E. Bowers.

W. L. Boyd, Miss Mary Boyd, Mesdames Beuna McLeod, Homer Terry and Bessie Billings attended the Fat Stock Show last week and were guests of S. T. Howell and Mrs. T. B. Sorrels while there.

Ulric Forrester of Long Beach, Calif., spent a few days last week with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. P. C. Forrester.

Mr. and Mrs. Carlton and children of Abilene were week-end guests of relatives.

Okley Reid of Lamesa returned home Tuesday after a few days visit. He was accompanied on his return by his mother, Mrs. J. S. Reid, who will visit with him and his brother Melvin.

Miss Forrest Forrester, who is teaching at Roby, spent the week-end at home.

Mr. and Mrs. Volley Vessels, Mrs. Tom Vessels and Miss Fannie Vessels were week-end guests of Dix Vessels and family of Lubbock. They also visited Mrs. Volley Vessels' mother, Mrs. Russell at Clanton.

Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Topper and daughter, Bonnie, have moved to Christoval where Mr. Topper is working for the Reed Drilling company.

Mrs. Oscar Smith of Colorado spent Monday here visiting friends and attending to business.

Mrs. R. J. Harris and little sons, J. H. and Bailey Jo, of Eskota were recent visitors of Mrs. Harris' parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. T. Vessels.

Mr. and Mrs. L. W. Ross had as their guest last week their daughter, Mrs. Johnson, who lives on the plains.

Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Murdock of Big Spring spent Sunday with relatives here.

Delegates selected to attend the district P. T. A. to convene at Ballinger March 27 and 28 are Mesdames Alex Williamson, W. L. Boyd, Cal Hamner and Jack Bright. The alternates are Mesdames John Strawn and Reuben Reeves. The P. T. A. at Trent is doing some exceptionally good work this year.

On last Thursday evening C. C. Stribling and his mother entertained a few of their friends honoring Mr. and Mrs. Steen, who are moving to Clyde. "42" was pastime for the evening's entertainment and a delicious plate was served to the following: Mr. and Mrs. W. Y. Steen, Mr. and Mrs. Homer Terry, Mr. and Mrs. John Strawn, Mr. and Mrs. Algie Steen, Mrs. Beuna McLeod and Mrs. Alex Williamson.

Mrs. J. A. English and son of Hermleigh, with her daughters, Mrs. "Boots" Brown of Memphis, Texas, and Mrs. Joe Boone of Amarillo, are visiting friends and relatives here this week.

Members of the T. E. L. class were guests of Mrs. J. B. Winn at her home at a prettily planned St. Patrick's party Monday afternoon. After the devotion, games and contests were had and the most enjoyable event was when everyone was given an Irish potato, raisins, prunes, toothpicks and a knife and the one making the best pig in five minutes was the winner. Miss

Winnie Brown succeeded in making a complete pig, all except the "squeal." A lovely plate was served to Mesdames Boyd, Beckham, Uzzell, Howell, Terry, Towell, Dingle, Brown, Roberts, Roberts, McLeod, Massey, McLaughlin, English, Winn, Brown, Abbott, Williamson, Boone, Misses Winnie Brown and Fannie Aldridge and the hostess.

Those on the honor roll at Trent public schools for the past six weeks are: first grade, Mrs. Reeves, teacher, Mark Williamson, highest average, Kenneth Burkhardt, Kathryn Shannon, Kirby Steadman, Helen McLeod, Vertris Ross, Bernard Wortham, Cullen Price and Walter Robbe; second grade, Miss Strawn, teacher, Leo Eckert, highest average, Doris Margaret Steen, Jake Roberts, Cecil Ross; third grade, Charlie Robbe, highest average, Ellery Smith; seventh grade, Miss Burgess, teacher, Mildred Steadman, highest average, Helen Bright, Lena Bright.

On last Tuesday evening Mr. Sam Clinton's Sunday School class was entertained at the home of Mr. and Mrs. A. C. Terry with an ice cream social. Games and contests served to while away the time.

Mrs. T. J. Williamson, who had a turn for the worse last Sunday night, is reported better at this writing.

Mesdames Joe Nalley and Maud Bryant were guests of Mrs. C. R. Rutherford of Abilene Wednesday.

## Personal Mention

Miss Vera Baker visited her mother in Abilene last week.

Mrs. Johnny Cox of Abilene visited her parents here Thursday.

Mrs. Lee Smith of Knox City is the guest of Miss Lizzie Keny.

Joe Tiner was home from Texas Tech at Lubbock for the week-end.

Miss Bess Touchstone of Dallas was the week-end guest of relatives here.

Mr. and Mrs. C. S. Higgins visited Sunday with Mrs. Edna McLain in Sweetwater.

Mrs. George Caple has had as her houseguest this week Mrs. W. S. Parker of Dallas.

Mr. and Mrs. M. A. Dunn of Owens, Texas, visited relatives and friends over the week-end.

Mrs. M. Armstrong has had as her guest this week her cousin, Mrs. Emma Vantine of Dallas.

Judge N. D. Cobb had the pleasure Wednesday of a visit from Sheriff

Claud Box of Robertson county. The sheriff is one of those men to whom Judge Cobb gave their elementary instruction in the schoolroom when the latter was a teacher at Franklin, Texas.

Miss Hallie Pike is attending business college in Clinton, Okla., and will be away several months.

Mr. J. L. Harris, after a visit with her son and family at Eliaeville, is again with friends here.

Mrs. Melvin Evans and two children of Chicago are visiting Mrs. Evans' mother, Mrs. E. N. Brown.

After a visit with her sister, Mrs. Fred Witman, Mrs. McLane returned Thursday to her home in Mission.

After a visit with her parents, Miss Arlene Willett has returned to southwestern university at Georgetown.

Mr. and Mrs. Davis Stribling of Waco stopped over here a short while Wednesday afternoon to visit friends.

After a very pleasant visit with her father, S. F. Haynes, Mrs. Charlie Hill has returned to her home in Milford, Texas.

Mrs. R. L. Adcock, who has been in a Temple Sanitarium for several weeks, has returned home, much improved. She was accompanied on her

return by Miss Berdelle, who had been with her at the sanitarium and also for a visit to relatives in Waco.

Sterling Sheppard was home from Southern Methodist university at Dallas to spend the week-end with his parents.

Mrs. V. P. Tippet and children were over from San Angelo to spend the week-end with her mother, Mrs. E. N. Brown.

Mr. and Mrs. T. G. Bragg and Miss Betty Lou Grimes recently visited with Mr. and Mrs. Wallace Bragg in Chillicothe.

Miss Velma Walker from the College of Industrial Arts at Denton spent the week with her parents, Rev. and Mrs. R. A. Walker.

Mr. and Mrs. Jerome Hutcheson and Mr. and Mrs. Chester Hutcheson are here from Wilson, Texas, guests of relatives and friends.

Clark S. Mundy, whose home was formerly in the Stith community, has been added to the efficient staff of the postoffice department here.

Mrs. H. C. Williams, who lived in Merkel for many years and who is now making her home with her son in Knox City, is visiting friends here.

Mrs. Ruby Johnson and two child-

ren returned Tuesday to their home at Lindale after a visit with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. R. A. Reagan.

While in West Texas to attend the Rebekah assembly Mrs. Sallie Acrey of Waxahachie paid a visit to her cousin Dr. M. Armstrong and family.

Miss Ruby Hughes, head nurse at the Merkel Sanitarium, and Miss Bernice Morgan were in Abilene Thursday to attend the district meeting of nurses.

Mrs. Sam Cummings, who formerly lived here and whose many friends were glad to welcome her again, was a recent guest of Mr. and Mrs. Chas. H. Jones.

After a visit with Miss Melba West in Baird last week-end, Miss Mona Margaret Jones was accompanied home by Miss West for a visit with her parents.

Week-end guests of Mr. and Mrs. George Caple were Mrs. Caple's father, E. T. Smith, wife and two daughters, and her sister, Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Cobb, all of Waco.

En route to Long Beach, Calif., Mr. and Mrs. S. P. Nesmith, who have been living in Abilene since Mr. Nesmith resigned as manager of the Queen theatre, stopped over for awhile Mon-

day morning to say goodbye to friends.

Pierce Horton, accompanied by his mother and sister, Miss Eva Horton, visited relatives in Arlington and Italy last week and also attended the Fat Stock Show at Fort Worth.

After attending the Rebekah assembly at Abilene, Mrs. H. L. Bell of Minter is the guest of the L. L. Murray and Joe Stalls families, all of whom were old friends in East Texas.

## NOTICE TO FARMERS.

We wish to state to all Farmers that we have cotton seed to spare we can give you \$34 per ton and we can't say longer. Will be glad to get you any amount of the Russell Big Boll that is being put out by the Chamber of Commerce at Abilene at the same price you pay them—\$1.75 per bushel. Either of us will take your order and get these seed for you and buy your old seed at \$34 until further notice.

Jack Canon.  
L. L. Murray.

Take our advice. If you pay cash—then buy at a cash store—Boston Bargain Store. "Cash makes the price lower."

# MONEY RAISING SALE

The Crown Hardware Co., is offering the people of Merkel and trade territory some real money saving values in Hardware. In fact they are slashing the prices on many items in every department, they are overstocked on a great many articles—and they need some-ready cash—so don't fail to visit their store, and take advantage of this opportunity to save.

While the deal on the Crown Hardware Co. Store is still pending, it is under new management, and they are very anxious to meet every one in this trade territory, they want your business, and will at all times do their best to serve you with the best of merchandise at the very lowest possible prices.

## ICE CREAM FREEZERS

Auto Vacuum—4 quart, special price .....\$6.89  
Frost King—6 quart, special price .....\$4.96  
2 quart Freezers, special .....93c

## INCUBATORS AND BROODERS

The very Best

Automatic—160 Egg cap.—Reg. \$32.50, special \$18.75  
Automatic—250 Egg cap.—Reg. \$57.75, special \$32.50  
Safety Hatch—160 Egg cap., reg. \$32.50, special \$19.95  
Safety Hatch—250 Egg cap., reg. \$37.50 special \$23.95  
We are offering these below cost, every Farm should have one.

## Ice Tea Glasses

Good clear quality, regular  
10c value at .....7c

## Garden Hose

Good quality—new stock—  
50 feet complete .....\$3.95

## Galvanized Buckets

Good quality, medium size,  
special .....13c

## Tubs

Of Best Heavy Quality—  
No. 3 or large size, each 69c  
No. 2—Medium size, 49c

## John Deere

### Planter Boxes

Complete, regular price  
\$16.00 special

**\$10.95**

All Cultivator  
Sweeps at reduced Prices.

### TRACE CHAINS

Good weight, special

**76c**

## Gas Stoves and Heaters

Wesco Gas Range, regular \$45.00 value .....\$27.50  
High Speed Range, White Enamel, Blue trim, regular \$45.00 value .....\$39.50  
Wesco Range, White Enamel, Black trim, with cabinet, regular \$110.00 value, .....\$59.50  
Wesco Range, White Enamel, Blue trim, regular \$100.00 value .....\$49.50  
Vesta Gas Range, White Enamel, Gray trim, regular \$72.50 value .....\$39.50  
Coleman Pressure Range, reg. \$90.00 value .....\$24.50  
Everite Hy-Speed, oil Stoves, regular .....\$24.50  
These are real Bargains, all are priced far below Wholesale cost. Remember every Gas Stove, Wood or Coal Stove in the house carries a reduction that will save you money.

### Cups and Saucers

Fair quality, but durable, semi Porcelain, each

**7c**

Per set—6 each

**75c**

### Leather Collars

at below wholesale cost. Good quality, all hair laced—regular price \$5.50 at

**\$3.75**

regular price \$3.90 at

**\$2.95**

Stock Limited

We can only list a few of the items that we are putting special prices on—you will have to come in and look our stock over to appreciate just what we mean, when we say that we have on sale—for you will find many special bargains throughout this big stock of merchandise.

Beginning Friday everything will be sold for CASH—

No charges will be made—We are needing the money and have cut the prices to get it.

# Crown Hardware Co.

UNDER NEW MANAGEMENT

## Merkel, Texas

Special Sale Starts Friday Morning March 21st

to be closed as soon as we raise the necessary cash.

## Again Konjola Gives Proof of Amazing Power

Ten Years of Rheumatism Are Ended When New Medicine Is Given a Chance.



MRS. G. H. COLEMAN

What cheer and encouragement are to be found in the many victories of Konjola, the new and different medicine of 32 ingredients. Take, as a typical example of Konjola at work, the case of Mrs. G. H. Coleman, R. F. D. No. 3, Ft. Smith, Ark., imagine her happiness when she was able to say:

"When I look back and think how I suffered from rheumatism and kidney trouble for ten years I can hardly believe that I am well and happy as I am today. And all this glorious change is due to Konjola. For ten years I endured awful agonies. At times the pain in my limbs was so severe that I could not get around. Every night I was up many times, and the loss of sleep and rest told on my general health. A friend urged me to try Konjola, and what good advice that proved to be. In four weeks I was without a sign of rheumatism, and my kidneys were as good as ever. No wonder Konjola is the most talked of medicine in America. It should be in every home throughout the land."

Konjola is sold in Merkel at the Merkel Drug Co. and by all the best druggists in all towns throughout this entire section.