

THE MERKEL MAIL

VOL. 42—NO. 37.

MERKEL, TEXAS, FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 1931.

On the "Broadway of America"

5c PER COPY

UNION THANKSGIVING SERVICE TO BE HELD

MERKEL POULTRY-RABBIT SHOW TO OPEN ON DEC. 10

Besides Cash Premiums, Business Men of Merkel Offer Merchandise Prizes Totalling Over \$100; Will Last Three Days.

The second annual show of the Merkel Poultry and Rabbit association will be held Thursday, Friday and Saturday, Dec. 10, 11 and 12. The location of the show will be in the Sears Estate building, between the Farmers State bank and the Mellinger Dry Goods store.

Besides the regular cash premiums that are being offered by the association, the merchants and professional men of Merkel are offering special prizes, which will amount to well over \$100—a large amount of merchandise, since prices have declined so much in the past twelve months.

H. M. Rose of Sweetwater will judge the show; R. A. Ellis has been named superintendent of poultry and Castle Ellis superintendent of rabbits, with Robert Hicks again secretary. The committees have everything in readiness and expect a larger and better show, with more exhibitors than in their last show.

Inviting anyone that wishes to show to enter their birds and rabbits, committees fostering the show have issued the following statement:

"The purpose of our organization is to promote more interest in good chickens, turkeys, ducks, geese, guinea and rabbits. The best way in the world to learn your special breed is in the show room. That is why we invite you to show with us and help us put this show over in a big way. The members of the association invite you to join them, the membership fee being \$1 per year. This association will help you market your poultry and eggs at the best prices obtainable."

The show will be governed by the American Poultry Association rules. All entries must be in not later than 4 p. m. Thursday, Dec. 10, to compete for premiums. The judging will begin Friday. The cash premiums on each variety of chickens, turkeys, ducks, geese, guinea, pheasants and pigeons will be: singles, first, \$1, second, 50c, third, 25c, fourth, ribbon, fifth, ribbon; pens, first, \$2, second, \$1, third, ribbon, fourth, ribbon, fifth, ribbon.

Entry fees will be 25c for single birds and \$1 for pens, (one male and four females.) Birds may be entered as singles and also in pen, which will

(Continued on Page Five)

MERKEL 20 YEARS AGO

(From the Files of Merkel Mail, December 1, 1911.)

Wait for that new buggy. We will have them in the next few days direct from the Studebaker factory.

—Anchor Hardware Co.

Miss Mattie Murphy visited friends and relatives in Abilene Friday and Saturday.

Forrest Adams was here the first of the week from Texarkana visiting his parents, Mr. and Mrs. G. H. Adams.

Miss Zora West visited her cousins in Abilene last week.

George Turner, one of the managers of the Merkel Amusement company, went to Abilene Wednesday morning to take some views of Fowler's aeroplane, which we expect him to show among his moving pictures at the opera house soon.

Merkel is getting to be a lively little city in the "social circle, having two or three places to go every night. There are two shows combined at the opera house this week and are having a large attendance, the price being low and the shows being exceptionally good. The black-face comedians cause much laughter and the moving pictures, which are new every

R. O. ANDERSON MERKEL BANKER, FREED BY JURY

Acquitted on Charge of Embezzlement and Misapplication of a \$160 Account; Second Trial Is Set For Dec. 14.

Abilene, Nov. 25.—A verdict of acquittal was returned by a 104th district court jury early Friday for R. O. Anderson, tried on a charge of embezzlement and misapplication of a \$160 account of the Thursday Club of Merkel, deposited in the Farmers State bank of that place, of which Anderson was active vice-president.

The jury received the case shortly before 5 p. m. Thursday and returned its verdict at 9:30 Friday morning. B. R. Blankenship was foreman.

Mrs. Anderson, in the courtroom with her husband, burst into tears and embraced him as the verdict was read by the court clerk.

In behalf of the defendant, his attorneys, Scarborough & Ely, gave the following statement to the press:

"The evidence clearly showed that not a dollar was ever taken from the bank. The record in the case, established by state testimony, showed that neither the bank nor the Thursday club of Merkel lost a dime, and that Mr. Anderson did not profit a dime. It showed that the bank is operating, in splendid condition, and that its officers and directors are friends of Mr. Anderson.

"We confidently anticipated speedy vindication. Our understanding is that no member of the jury ever voted to convict, but that the delay in reporting was occasioned by the fact that the jurors carefully went over every phase of the case as presented."

Another indictment against Anderson, of three counts, alleging embezzlement and misapplication in amounts of about \$4,000 was set for trial December 14 by Judge W. R. Chapman.

Merkelites to Attend State Teachers Meet

Superintendent R. A. Burgess and Mrs. Burgess, accompanied by Miss Opal Sloan, left Wednesday for Amarillo to attend the meeting of the State Teachers association, which convenes there Thursday, Friday and Saturday.

Two very prominent speakers are on program: United States Commissioner of Education, Dr. Cooper, and Miss Hail, president of the National Educational association.

THANKSGIVING DAY—1931

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

We approach the season when, according to custom dating from the garnering of the first harvest by our forefathers in the New World, a day is set apart to give thanks even amid hardships to Almighty God for our temporal and spiritual blessings. It has become a hallowed tradition for the Chief Magistrate to proclaim annually a national day of thanksgiving.

Our country has cause for gratitude to the Almighty. We have been widely blessed with abundant harvests. We have been spared from pestilence and calamities. Our institutions have served the people. Knowledge has multiplied and our lives are enriched with its application. Education has advanced, the health of our people has increased. We have dwelt in peace with all men. The measure of passing adversity which has come upon us should deepen the spiritual life of the people, quicken their sympathies and spirit of sacrifice for others, and strengthen their courage. Many of our neighbors are in need from causes beyond their control and the compassion of the people throughout the nation should so assure their security over this winter that they too may have full cause to participate in this day of gratitude to the Almighty.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, HERBERT HOOVER, President of the United States of America, do hereby designate Thursday, November 26, 1931, as a National Day of Thanksgiving, and do recommend that our people rest from their daily labors and in their homes and accustomed places of worship give devout thanks for the blessings which a merciful Father has bestowed upon us.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the United States to be affixed.

DONE at the City of Washington this 3rd day of November, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and thirty-one, and of the Independence of the United States of America the one hundred and fifty-sixth.

(S E A L)
By the President:
Henry L. Stimson,
Secretary of State. HERBERT HOOVER.

TEXAS GOODS IN NEED OF BOOSTS

A. M. Goldstein Points Out Path For Merchants in Article In Texas Weekly.

Dallas, Nov. 25.—Texas merchants should cooperate to increase the sale of Texas-made goods within the state, is the opinion of A. M. Goldstein of Waco, president of the Texas Retail Dry Goods Merchants association, as expressed in an article in the current issue of the Texas Weekly.

"It is a fact that there is much good merchandise produced in Texas which has not yet found a very wide market within the state," says Mr. Goldstein. "I doubt very much that the majority of the merchants of the state realize how much merchandise of almost every kind is being manufactured in the state, and being offered at prices in line with, or even lower than, goods manufactured in other states."

Mr. Goldstein points out that the merchant, of course, is in business to serve his customers, and not the manufacturers of merchandise, and that it is undoubtedly true that there was a time when most Texas people did not believe it was possible to produce goods of as high quality in Texas as are produced elsewhere.

"That feeling is disappearing," he says, "and there is a growing demand for Texas-made goods. Texas manufacturers are coming more and more to a better understanding of the local market and are turning out goods of quality and price in line with it. Also they are adopting better methods of merchandising their goods, of creating a demand for them. In view of this, they should receive, and I am quite sure they will receive to an increasing degree in the future, the fullest cooperation of the Texas merchants."

Mr. Goldstein declares that by expanding the local market for Texas-made products development of manufacturing will be furthered. This is one of the things we should do, he says, in order to make the people of the state less dependent upon export cotton.

"We must do more things for ourselves and for each other here at home," he says, "and less for people on the other side of the ocean. If there is to be a greater sale of Texas made goods in Texas it is the Texas merchants who must sell them."

Record of Births.

Girl, to Mr. and Mrs. John Payne, Trent, Saturday, November 21, 1931. Boy, to Mr. and Mrs. Will Spurgin, Comper, Sunday, November 22, 1931.

KEEPING UP WITH TEXAS

Diego, sailed from Houston this week with 3100 cases of grapefruit, the largest shipment of Rio Grande grapefruit ever to clear a Texas port.

Fort Worth bank clearings last week were \$10,127,300, the highest this year and \$100,000 higher than the year's previous high mark last February.

The Abilene Eagles and Cisco Lobes will engage the attention of football fans in West Texas Friday when they meet at Abilene for the Oil Belt championship.

The \$45,000 national orphanage of the Woodmen of the World, recently constructed at Sherman, was dedicated by a group of state and national officers last week.

Representative John Nance Garner of Texas, white-haired, straight-talking democratic leader and probable speaker of the house, Sunday observed his sixty-second birthday anniversary.

Southern Methodist university upset the Navy, 13 to 6, Saturday, for their second consecutive victory over the Middies and passed another notch in the trying 1931 schedule undefeated.

Due to the dismissal of a suit by those who opposed divorce from Reeves county, Loving, the last unorganized county in Texas, is expected to complete its organization at an early date.

Arch Sitton, recently released from the Texas penitentiary where he served one year for chicken theft, was fatally injured when dynamite set as a trap for chicken thieves at Dallas exploded.

Winning over 15 competitors, Miss Rue Raula Parcell, of Amarillo has been chosen beauty queen of Northwestern university, the selection having been made at the annual Army and Navy ball.

Three men in the Dallas county jail with life sentences in prison facing them have terms totalling 1,089 years against them and one man alone has 891 years written against his name by juries in nine cases.

Shot once with a shotgun as he fled from a work gang, J. B. Jennings, 32, a convict, was critically wounded Monday during an attempt to escape from the Retrieve State prison farm, five miles southwest of Angleton.

SOUTHERN STATES MAP PLAN TO CUT COTTON ACREAGE

Ten of Eleven States in Conference Adopt Resolution Calling For Uniform Laws Embodying 50 Per Cent Acreage Slash.

Jackson, Miss., Nov. 25.—The south-wide uniform cotton control conference late Monday adopted the Texas curtailment plan, calling for 50 per cent reduction in planting in 1932 and 1933, as its recommendation of relief legislation in all the southern states.

Ten of the 11 cotton producing states represented here cast their votes for the Texas plan to boost prices in the face of this year's bumper crop. North Carolina's delegation was instructed not to vote.

The resolution adopted by the conferees, seeking uniform legislation throughout the south, was recommended by a special committee composed of two representatives from each state, which wrestled for hours behind closed doors on the best plan for all legislatures to adopt.

The lead of the Texas legislature in enacting an acreaged curtailment law has already been followed by South Carolina, Arkansas and Mississippi.

Those states which have not taken action through legislative channels to restrict cotton acreage were called upon by the conference to do so before January 20. The governors of the states were urged to convene their legislatures at once to take steps outlined by the conference here.

Louisiana has enacted a cotton holiday measure which will probably have to be substituted by the proposed acreage reduction plan.

State Senator Oliver Cunningham of Abilene and Commissioner of Agriculture McDonald outlined the Texas plan to the conference.

Governor Ira Blackwood of South Carolina brought to the conference an "almost certain assurance" that if the conference resulted in uniform legislation.

(Continued on Page Five.)

CHURCHES JOIN IN THANKSGIVING THURSDAY 7 P. M.

Church of Christ Minister to Preach Sermon; Choirs to Unite in Song Service; Solo by Mrs. Homer Patterson.

Merkel churches will follow the usual custom of past years and combine in a community Thanksgiving service, to be held this year at the Methodist church. The service, which will begin at 7 o'clock, is to be held on Thursday (Thanksgiving) night.

Rev. E. L. Yeats, pastor of the Methodist church, will be in charge of the program and the Thanksgiving sermon is to be delivered by Rev. L. E. Carpenter, minister of the Church of Christ.

The president's proclamation on Thanksgiving will be read by Rev. J. T. King, pastor of the Baptist church, while the Presbyterian pastor, Rev. R. A. Walker, will give the scripture reading and lead the devotional.

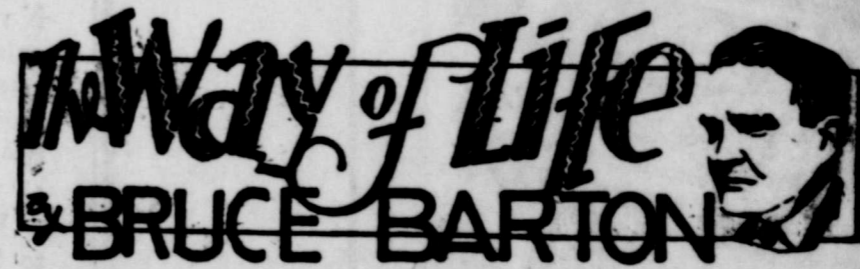
Music will be furnished by the combined choirs of the churches of the city, the song service to be led by Cyrus Pee. A special number will be a solo, "A Vesper Prayer," by Mrs. Homer Patterson.

Thanksgiving Day will be observed as a general holiday in Merkel with the public schools closing both Thursday and Friday and the banks and post-office and practically all of the business houses closing for the day.

Merkel will not have a local football game, but the Badgers go to Rotan for the closing game of the season and a large crowd of fans will follow them.

Biggest Fur Hunter.

New Orleans, Nov. 25.—Leasing of 700,000 acres of fur trapping land in Louisiana marshes to add to his present holdings, Morris Steinberg, of New Orleans, became the largest single holder of this type of land in the world. He now has holdings of more than one million acres.



A QUICK MILLENIUM.

When I was in London I read an interesting, and rather pathetic, newspaper article by the "baby member" of Parliament. His name is Frank Owen.

He recalled his maiden speech in which he proclaimed: "High hopes brought this Parliament into being. We will make it a Parliament of high endeavor."

He had been full of fine plans in those days. For one thing, the timber men were to have higher wages. "We got them another 1s. 6d. a week," he says, "and then the State sacked some of them."

"We looked forward to the debates on unemployment and agriculture and the mines," he adds, "and spoke from the back benches when the heavy guns were at dinner."

He was twenty-three in those days. Now he is twenty-five and wiser. His hopes have faded.

He thought he was going to play a large part in changing England and the Empire. Instead of this he is "spending his time answering letters issued by organizations ordering us

(a) to vote for humane slaughter of beasts (b) to vote against it.

(a) to open cinemas on Sunday (b) to close them.

(a) to prohibit sweepstakes (b) to extend them."

He has about reached the conclusion that all effort is futile, and that the world is on its way to perdition.

Some of us who are older can tell him from our own experience that he is now at the age of greatest discouragement. We, too, came into life full of determination to set things right instantly. We were frankly critical of the bungling of our predecessors. There should be no more mistakes and no delay!

In a couple of years we, too, were in the depths of despair, deeper depths than we have ever been in since.

It is not clear to any human mind just what is the whole purpose and plan of human life. But two things are reasonably apparent.

First, it does not seem to be any part of the program to have the millennium come quickly or easily. Gain is won only as a result of sweat and blood, and time.

Second, as we get older we see more clearly how destructive it would be if all the good ideas of youth were allowed to become immediately effective. The first two Great Reforms in whose service I myself labored were both successful. I think now that both were bad mistakes.

So in our later years we give up the idea of a quick millennium. Some of us do it in deep discouragement. Others say: "I cannot lick the world, (Continued on Page Two.)"

WHAT'S DOING IN WEST TEXAS

A Swisher county woman has preserved fifty-six different kinds of vegetables this season at a total cost of fifty dollars that is now valued at four hundred and seventy-five dollars.

Littlefield will ship twenty-one carloads of broom corn this fall.

The oil mill at Jayton has been reopened after a two year shutdown.

Five hundred and sixty-one Dickens county families signed up to can six hundred and ten calves this fall and winter, as a result of a chamber of commerce campaign.

An association to grow and market alfalfa has been organized at El Paso.

A nine story hotel was recently opened at Clovis, New Mexico, the tallest building in New Mexico.

Cotton uniforms are to be supplied to every soldier in the service of the United States army, Fort Bliss men at El Paso report.

The ranch experiment station at Sonora has 2,461 acres of land for grazing.

Wilbarger county celebrated its fiftieth birthday recently with a two day celebration of old timers.

The time of building the Seymour-Vernor extension of the Frisco railroad has been extended to the close of 1932 by the Interstate Commerce commission.

Two hundred farmers in Wilbarger county have individual light plants, and sixty are connected with the electric high lines.

A Levelland farm woman made a profit of twenty-two dollars from one hundred fifty cans of chicken meat made from the culls of her poultry flock. Observes the woman, "This brought me more than my husband made from four acres of cotton this year."

Highway 18 from Turkey in Hall

county to the Motley county line is to be graveled soon.

Forty thousand acres of sudan grass seed were harvested in the Muleshoe territory this season with yields as high as 1,600 pounds to the acre.

Several localities in West Texas are manufacturing sorghum molasses this year for the first time.

Two hundred thousand dollars worth of granite was ordered from Llano recently for the post-office annex construction at Houston.

A two and a half million dollar dam near Brownwood is under construction.

Nineteen head of Kentucky horses were sold at auction in Brady recently.

Canadian boasts a hog market with gross receipts of one million dollars annually.

A new court house at Wellington, Collingsworth county, is nearing completion.

Recently all designated highways into Shamrock were under detour.

We are thankful for your response to our Old Time Bargain Sale. Brown's Bargain Store.

Office supplies—Mail office.

THE WAY OF LIFE

(Continued from Page One) but there is one part of it I can lick, namely, myself. I'll see what I can do with that."

It's a good sporting proposition. And who knows? Maybe the spread of that simple idea is the real plan.

BOTH FOR \$1.50.

From now until December 31st, the clubbing price for the Semi-Weekly Farm News and the Merkel Mail is only \$1.50. Don't fail to renew during this time. If you want to subscribe to the Semi-Weekly Farm News, you can save one dollar by this deal.

While Chile is about 2,700 miles long it is at no place over 90 miles across.

American Men Worst Dressed in the World

Detroit, Nov. 25.—American men are the worst dressed in the world, and they would be even worse, if it were not for the influence of their wives, mothers and sisters, Detroit clothing merchants have decided.

Whether this state of affairs—a very sad one to the merchant tailors and designers—is due to carelessness, ignorance, or economy remained undecided. The merchants agreed, however, that whatever the cause, something should be done about the matter.

Watch for our Announcement about Santa Claus. Brown's Bargain Store.



GIVE THANKS

Scarcely had the Pilgrims settled in the Bay Colony three hundred and eleven years ago when the terrible New England winter descended upon them.

Only half of the party survived the hardships and sufferings of that first year. Those who were spared carried on like the dauntless pioneers they were and lived and prospered.

Give thanks for the example set us so many years ago. The homely virtues of self-discipline and perseverance are still the unailing source of abundant prosperity.

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MERKEL, TEXAS

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SWEETWATER
New Low Prices
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The Magnet . . .

No CITY, no town, can long exist industrially unless it can retain its home industries and, perhaps, attract other industries.

What influences an industry to locate in a particular community? Quality and cost of labor; quality, cost, extent and availability of raw material; a market for its product, and last, but far from least, the availability, dependability and cost of electric power.

Electric power is the motive power of industry because it makes possible the most efficient use of machinery, and because its cost is almost negligible.

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West Texas Utilities Company



SIGHT UNSEEN

by MARY ROBERTS RINEHART



NINTH INSTALLMENT.
SYNOPSIS.

Six people, Horace Johnson (who tells the story), his wife, old Mrs. Dane, Herbert Robinson and his sister, Alice, and Dr. Sperry, friends and neighbors, are in the habit of holding weekly meetings. At one of them, Mrs. Dane, who is hostess, varies the program by unexpectedly arranging a spiritualistic seance with Miss Jeremy, a friend of Dr. Sperry and not a professional, as the medium.

At the first sitting the medium tells the details of a murder as it is occurring. Later that night Sperry learns that a neighbor, Arthur Wells, has been shot mysteriously.

At a second seance, Miss Jeremy adds details about a summer resort where Charles Ellingham was known to have been at the same time that Mrs. Wells was there. She also speaks of a pocketbook being lost which contained some important car tickets and letters. Mrs. Dane, alone of the women, seems thrilled by the investigation.

Johnson goes alone and investigates the deserted house. He is frightened by strange noises, as of an intruder in the house, but completes his investigation.

He visits Mrs. Dane and tells her how he had carried off the firetrons and left behind his overcoat in his excitement. She then tells him she had advertised for the finder of the pocketbook and turns over to Johnson an answer she had received from one having guilty knowledge of the crime. Dr. Sperry announces he is to be married to Miss Jeremy when the club meets again.

NOW GO ON WITH THE STORY—

Sperry turned to me when he had gone out. "That was Hawkins, Horace," he said. "You remember, don't you? The Wells's butler."

"I knew him at once."
"He wrote to me asking for a position, and I got him this. Looks sick, poor devil. I intend to have a go at his chest."

"How long has he been here?"
"More than a week, I think."

As I drank my tea, I pondered. After all, the Neighborhood Club must guard against the possibility of fraud, and I felt that Sperry had been indiscreet, to say the least. From the time of Hawkins' service in Miss Jeremy's home there would always be the suspicion of collusion between them. I did not believe it was so, but Herbert, for instance, would be inclined to suspect her. Suppose that Hawkins knew about the crime? Or knew something and surmised the rest?

I was uneasy all the way home. The element of doubt always so imminent in our dealings with psychic phenomena, had me by the throat.

How much did Hawkins know? Was there any way, without going to the police, to find if he had really been out of the Wells house that night, now almost two weeks ago, when Arthur Wells had been killed?

That evening I went to Sperry's house, after telephoning that I was coming. On the way I stopped in at Mrs. Dane's and secured something from her. She was wildly curious, and made me promise to go in on my way back, and explain. I made a compromise.

"I will come in if I have any news to tell you," I said.

Sperry was waiting for me in his library, standing by the fire, with the grave face and slightly bent head of his professional manner.

"I wonder," I said, "if you kept the letter Hawkins wrote you when he asked for a position?"

He was not sure. He went into his consulting room and was gone for some time. I took the opportunity to glance over his books and over the room.

Arthur Wells's stick was standing in a corner, and I took it up and examined it. It was an English malacca, light and strong and had seen service. It was long, too long for me; it occurred to me that Wells had been about my height, and that it was odd that he should have carried so long a stick. There was no ease in swinging it.

From that to the memory of Hawkins' face when Sperry took it, the night of the murder, in the hall of the Wells house, was only a step. I seemed that day to be thinking considerably about Hawkins.

When Sperry returned I laid the stick on the table. There can be no doubt that I did so, for I had had to move a book-rack to place it. One end, the handle, was near the ink-well, and

the ferrule lay on a copy of Gibson's "Life Beyond the Grave," which Sperry had evidently been reading.

Sperry had found the letter. As I glanced at it I recognized the writing at once, thin and rather sexless, Spencerian.

Dear Sir: Since Mr. Wells's death I am out of employment. Before I took the position of butler with Mr. Wells I was valet to Mr. Ellingham, and before that, in England, to Lord Condray. I have a very good letter of recommendation from Lord Condray. If you need a servant at this time I would do my best to give satisfaction.

(Signed) Arthur Hawkins.
I put down the application, and took the anonymous letter about the bag from my pocketbook. "Read this, Sperry," I said. "You know the letter. Mrs. Dane read it to us Saturday night. But compare the writing."

He compared the two, with a slight lifting of his eyebrows. Then he put them down. "Hawkins!" he said. "Hawkins has the letters! And the bag! The question now is to whom was it written?"

We pondered that, to no effect. That Hawkins had certain letters which touched on the Wells affair, that they were probably in his possession in the Connell house, was clear enough. But we had no possible authority for trying to get the letters, although Sperry was anxious to make the attempt.

"Although I feel," he said, "that it is too late to help her very much. She is innocent; I know that. I think you know that, too, deep in that legal mind of yours. It is wrong to discredit her because I did a foolish thing." He warned to his argument. "Why, think, man," he said. "The whole first sitting was practically coincident with the crime itself."

It was true enough. Whatever suspicion might be cast on the second seance, the first at least remained inexplicable, by any laws are recognized. In a way, I felt sorry for Sperry. Here he was, on the first day of his engagement, protesting her honesty, her complete ignorance of the revelation she had made and his intention to keep her in ignorance, and yet betraying his own anxiety and possible doubt in the same breath.

"She did not even know there was a family named Wells. When I said that Hawkins had been employed by the Wells, it meant nothing to her. I was watching."

So even Sperry was watching. He

was in love with her, but his scientific mind, like my legal one, was slow to accept what during the past two weeks it had been asked to accept.

I left him at ten o'clock. Mrs. Dane was still at her window, and her far-sighted old eyes caught me as I tried to steal past. She rapped on the window, and I was obliged to go in. Obligated, too, to tell her of the discovery and, at last, of Hawkins being in the Connell house.

"I want those letters, Horace," she said at last.

"So do I. I'm not going to steal them."

"The question is, where has he got them?"

"The question is, dear lady, that they are not carried take."

"They are not his, either."

Well, that was true enough. But I had done all the private investigating I cared. And I told her so. She only smiled cryptically.

The following day was Monday. When I came downstairs I found a neat bundle lying in the hall, and addressed to me. My wife had followed me down, and we surveyed it together.

It was my overcoat! My overcoat, apparently uninjured, but with the collection of keys I had made missing.

The address was printed, not written, in a large, strong hand, with a stub pen. I did not, at the time, notice the loss of certain papers which had been in the breast pocket. I am rather absent-minded, and it was not until the night after the third sitting that they were recalled to my mind.

At something after eleven Herbert Robinson called me up at my office. He was at Sperry's house, Sperry having been his physician during his recent illness.

"I say, Horace, this is Herbert."

"Yes. How are you?"

"Doing well, Sperry says. I'm at his place now. I'm speaking for him. He's got a patient."

"Yes."

"You were here last night, he says. Do you happen to have noticed a walking-stick in the library when you were here?"

"Yes. I saw it."

"You didn't, by any chance, take it home with you?"

"No."

"Are you sure?"

"Certainly I'm sure."

"Suppose we'll see you tonight?"

"Not unless you ring off and let me do some work," I said irritably.

He rang off. I was ruffled, I admit; but I was uneasy, also.

It was that day that I discovered that I was being watched.

I did not tell my wife that evening.

After dinner I went into our reception room, which is not lighted unless we are expecting guests, and peered out of the window. The detective, or whoever he might be, was walking negligently up the street.

As that was the night of the third seance, I find that my record covers the fact that Mrs. Dane was housecleaning, for which reason we had not been asked to dinner, that my wife and I dined early, at six-thirty, and that it was seven o'clock when Sperry called me by telephone, and asked me to accompany him to the Wells's house to see if we could find the other overcoat.

He slipped an arm through mine when I joined him, and we started down the street. "I'm going to get to the bottom of this, Horace, old dear," he said.

"Remember, we're pledged to a psychic investigation only."

"Rats!" he said rudely. "We are going to find out who killed Arthur Wells and if he deserves hanging we'll hang him."

"Or her?"

"It wasn't Elinor Wells," he said positively. "Here's the point: if he's been afraid to go back for his overcoat it's still there. I don't expect that, however. But the thing about the curtain interests me. I've been reading over my copy of the notes on the sittings. It was said, you remember, that curtains—some curtains—would have been better places to hide the letters than the bag."

I stopped suddenly. "By jove, Sperry," I said. "I remember now. My notes of the sittings were in my overcoat."

"And they are gone?"

"They are gone."

He whistled softly. "That's unfortunate," he said. "Then the other person, whoever he is, knows what we know!"

"Just where does Hawkins come in, Sperry?" I asked.

"I'm damned if I know," he reflected. "We may learn tonight."

The Wells house was dark and forbidding, but I led the way with comparative familiarity.

"In case the door is locked, I have a few skeleton keys," said Sperry.

We had reached the end of the narrow passage, and emerged into the square of brick and grass that lay behind the house. While the night was clear, the place lay in comparative darkness. Sperry stumbled over something, and muttered to himself.

The rear porch lay in deep shadow. We went up the steps together. Then Sperry stopped, and I advanced to the doorway. It was locked.

The lock gave way to manipulation at last, and the door swung open. There came to us the heavy odor of all closed houses, a combination of

carpets, cooked food, and floor wax.

"Now, friend Horace," he said, "if you have matches we will look for the overcoat, and then we will go upstairs."

As we had anticipated, there was no overcoat in the library, and after listening a moment at the kitchen door, we ascended a rear staircase to the upper floor. I had, it will be remembered, fallen from a chair on a table in the dressing room, and had left them thus overturned when I charged the third floor. The room, however, was now in perfect order, and when I held my candle to the ceiling, I perceived that the bullet hole had again been repaired, and this time with such skill that I could not even locate it.

"We are up against some one cleverer than we are, Sperry," I acknowledged.

"And who has more to lose than we have to gain," he added cheerfully. "Don't worry about that, Horace. You're a married man and I'm not. If a woman wanted to hide some letters from her husband, and chose a

curtain for a receptacle, what room would she hide them in. Not in his dressing-room, eh?"

He took the candle and led the way to Elinor Wells's bedroom. Here, however, the draperies were down, and we would have been at a loss, had I not remembered my wife's custom of folding draperies when we close the house, and placing them under the dusting sheets which cover the various beds.

(To Be Continued.)

We are thankful for your response to our Old Time Bargain Sale. Brown's Bargain Store.

At a greyhound racing club just opened in London members may dine and watch the races without leaving their tables.

Watch for our Announcement about Santa Claus. Brown's Bargain Store.

Second sheets at Merkel Mail office.

THANKSGIVING DAY

All of us have something we can be thankful for this Thanksgiving Day.

Let us look on the bright side of things. Let us be thankful for what we have and look ahead with renewed confidence, determination and courage to the better times just around the corner.

This Institution Will Not Be Opened All Day

THANKSGIVING DAY
Thursday, November 26th

FARMERS STATE BANK IN MERKEL

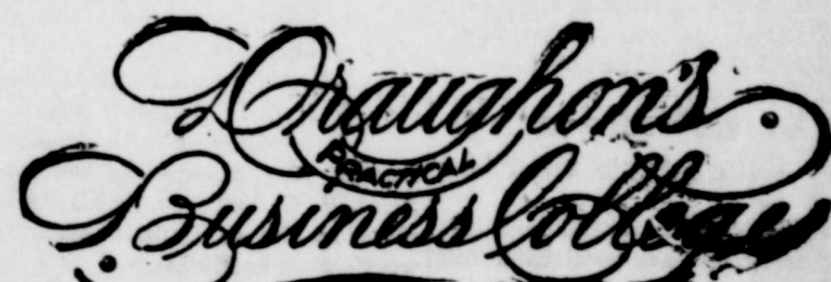
Capital \$40,000.00
Paid-in Surplus \$10,000.00

OFFICERS

C. M. Largent, President Dave Hendricks, v-president.
J. S. Swann, v-president. W. L. Diltz, Jr., cashier.

DIRECTORS

C. M. Largent, Dave Hendricks, J. S. Swann, Max Mellinger,
W. L. Diltz, Jr.,



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 evoked 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)

FURNISHED APARTMENTS

If you have a furnished apartment or furnished rooms for rent, why not try a classified advertisement in the Merkel Mail? It will cost only 25 cents per insertion.

PHONE 61

Positive Proof of FORD ECONOMY

City of Detroit purchases 137 new Ford cars
Hundreds now in use prove low cost of operation

THESE 137 new Ford cars represent one of the largest deliveries ever made to a municipality at one time.

21 radio-equipped Ford scout cars were traded in on this purchase. They had been operated day and night for two years in heavy traffic and all kinds of weather.

Their individual records ranged from 78,434 miles to 143,723 miles with a grand total of 2,283,097 miles. The operating cost of the 21 cars was 2.284 cents a mile—less than 2 1/3 cents. This cost included all fuel, oil, tires, repairs and every other item except depreciation and insurance.

Of 577 Ford cars in Detroit City service the 300 in the Police Department traveled a total of 6,591,937 miles during the past fiscal year, at an average cost of 2.9 cents a mile.

Many claims have been made on operating costs, but here in the carefully kept motor car records of the City of Detroit is positive proof of Ford economy.

In the paragraphs above, it is seen that 21 Ford scout cars averaged less than 2 1/3

cents a mile and 300 Ford cars in all branches of Detroit police work averaged 2.9 cents a mile!

Day and night, twenty-four hours a day, these Ford cars are in operation. Few branches of transportation demand such grueling service. The records show that low fuel and oil consumption is but one of the Ford's many economies. Ford materials, simplicity of design and accuracy in manufacturing provide unusual strength, stamina and freedom from replacements and repairs.

The individual car buyer as well as the purchasing department of a city or a business cannot afford to ignore the proved economy of the Ford car.

FIFTEEN DIFFERENT BODY TYPES

\$430 to \$640

(F. O. E. Detroit, plus freight and delivery. Bumpers and spare tire extra at low cost. Economical time payments through the Authorized Ford Finance Plans of the Universal Credit Co.)



THE MERKEL MAIL
Published Every Friday Morning
Glover and Caple, Publishers.
TELEPHONE No. 61

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

SUBSCRIPTION RATES
Taylor and Jones counties\$1.50
Anywhere else\$2.60
(In Advance)

Advertising Rates On Application.
All obituaries, resolutions of respect,
cards of thanks, etc., are classed as
advertising, and will be charged for
at 1c per word.

CHURCHES

SUNDAY SCHOOL ATTENDANCE.
The attendance at the four report-
ing Sunday Schools in Merkel last
Sunday was 642, as compared with
672 on the previous Sunday. The re-
cord for the same Sunday a year ago
showed 764.

MEN'S PRAYER MEETING.
Tom Coats will be the leader for
the Men's Sunday Afternoon Prayer
service next Sunday. The meeting is
to be held at the Methodist church
and the lesson will be the twenty-se-
cond chapter of Acts. A cordial invita-
tion is extended to all the men in
Merkel and surrounding communities
to join in these services.

THE FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH.
Sunday is the opening day for our
"Every Member Canvass." Let every
member be present. Pray about it in
your homes. Ask God to lead you to
do His will and that will be best for
you.

Pastor's text for Sunday will be
"Now Perform the Doing of it." Bro-
ther W. J. Largent is expected to be
in Sunday School Sunday morning
and will be happy to see you. Brother
Bill Haynes, who has led us so success-
fully, will smilingly greet you.
All other services at regular hours.
Bring your visitors and worship with
us.

J. T. King, Pastor.

CHURCH OF CHRIST.
Bible study 9:45 a. m. Preaching
and worship 10:45 a. m. and 7:15 p. m.
Ladies Bible class Tuesday 2:45
p. m. Prayer meeting Wednesday
7:15 p. m.

L. E. Carpenter, Minister.

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.
Sunday School 10 a. m. Preaching
services at 11 a. m. and 7 p. m. At
this Thanksgiving season we may ex-
press our gratitude by being in Sun-
day School and church services.
Prayer meeting Wednesday at 7
p. m. Come worship with us.

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

METHODIST NEWS NOTES.
The goodly crowd that attended the
service last Sunday, which was the
first service of the church year, was
very gratifying. The weather was
discouraging but the church was com-
fortably filled and a very happy spirit
prevailed.

We urge a good attendance at the
Thanksgiving service to be held
Thursday evening at 7 o'clock at the
Methodist church. Sermon by Rev.
L. E. Carpenter.
Regular services next Sunday. The
pastor will be present.

Two Die in Auto Crash Near Trent, Third is Injured

An automobile-truck crash on high-
way 1 near a railroad underpass two
miles west of Trent early Friday
morning resulted in the death of two
members of a family and the serious
injury of a third.

The dead are Hugh O. Dubberly,
59, Big Spring, and his wife, 48, Mr.
Dubberly was district clerk of How-
ard county.

Their daughter, Janie Bess, 10, who
suffered a broken leg in the crash,
was given treatment at Sweetwater
and returned to Big Spring late Sat-
urday afternoon.

The Dubberlys were en route from
Big Spring to Hubbard to attend
funeral services for his father,
when the accident occurred, shortly
after 2 o'clock. Their Ford car,
veering to avoid a truck parked on
one side of the pavement, crashed
head-on into the rear of another
truck which had stopped on the
opposite side.

The Dubberly car was telescoped,
the impact throwing Mrs. Dubberly
partially through the windshield.
She was killed instantly. Mr. Dub-
berly died soon after being removed
from the wreckage.

Deputy Constable W. R. Sumpter,
called to the scene to investigate the
crash, reported details of the accident
to The Mail. He said that Jack
Blankenship, driving a truck of an
Abilene fruit and vegetable company,
had stopped his machine to repair
a flat tire. He was going west. A
truck of the Winn Produce company
of Sweetwater, driven by John Blox-
som, going east, was hailed by Blan-
kenship, and Bloxsom stopped on the
opposite side of the highway, he said.

Dubberly, the officer said, appar-
ently swerved out, when he faced the
lights on Blankenship's truck, to
avoid striking the machine, and crash-
ed into the back of Bloxsom's machine.

The truck drivers removed the Dub-
berlys from the wreckage and the
dead and injured were rushed to
Sweetwater.

Besides the injured daughter, Mr.
and Mrs. Dubberly are survived by
two other children: Hugh, 24, a Big
Spring refinery chemist, and daugh-
ter, Mary Gene, 18, who came to
Sweetwater early Saturday morning.

"The Miracle Woman" To Be Shown at Queen

In line with the policy of the man-
agement of the Queen theatre to show
feature pictures on Wednesday and
Thursday of each week, it is announced
film-lovers of this city will get the
opportunity to see and hear Barbara
Stanwyck in the powerful drama,
"The Miracle Woman," on Wednesday
and Thursday of next week, Dec. 2
and 3.

It is the sort of talkie that will bring
tears to the eyes of most persons. The
interest is gripped right at the start,
and is not relaxed up to the closing
scenes. Deeply appealing situations
are numerous. The story is said to be
unusual; it has many novel twists.
The management wishes to empha-
size especially that this feature is suit-
able for all, including children.

With a plurality of approximately
5,000 votes over a field of eight can-
didates, Richard M. Kleberg of Cor-
pus Christi, a democrat, was elected
Tuesday to represent the fourteenth
district of Texas in the national house,
succeeding the late Harry M. Wurz-
bach, republican, who was serving his
sixth term when death removed him.



HIGGINS-SCHWARTZ.
The romance of Miss Willie Maye
Schwartz and Ernest Higgins, whose
engagement was announced some
weeks ago, was culminated last Sat-
urday evening at 6:30 at the residence
of Judge W. W. Wheeler in the pres-
ence of only a few close friends. Judge
Wheeler officiated at the ceremony.
Miss Schwartz, the daughter of
Mr. and Mrs. John Schwartz, is a
very popular member of Merkel's
younger set, a graduate of Merkel
High school and the possessor of a
gracious personality that has won for
her many friends who wish for her
every happiness.

Ernest Higgins is the son of Mr.
and Mrs. Joe Higgins, popular resi-
dents of the Warren Community. For
some time he has been successfully
engaged in the oil business and at
present is located at Albany where
they will make their home after a
week's honeymoon trip via automo-
bile.

BRIDGE GAMES.

Mr. and Mrs. Claude Dye entertain-
ed with bridge games on Wednesday
night of last week. At the refresh-
ment hour fruit salad, sandwiches and
hot chocolate were served to Misses
Missie Dye and Edith Baker, Mrs.
Earl Beech, Messrs. Paul Causseaux,
Buck Leach and Byron Patterson and
the host and hostess.

CLASS MEETING.

The Aethlean and Dorcas class
gathered in regular session at the
home of Mrs. C. M. Largent on
Thursday of last week. The meet-
ing was opened by the singing of the
class song, "The Life Boat," followed
by scripture reading by Mrs. Brown
and prayer by Mrs. Meeks.

It was revealed by a committee
appointed to count the handkerchiefs
for the Orphans Home there were 65
in all.

After interesting contests and mu-
sic by Mrs. Ann Brown, and a song,
"Little Feet, Be Careful," by Little
Barbara Ann Brown, refreshments
were served by the hostesses, Mes-
dames Largent and Brown, to Mes-
dames Matthews, King, Chunn, Mc-
Donald, Meeks, Causseaux, Porter, Al-
len, Jones, Crawford, Ashby, Carson,
Polley and Baker. Visitors were Rev.
J. T. King, Mrs. Ann Brown and
Mrs. Charlie Largent.

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 ap-
preciate your patronage because they
solicit your business and make special
offerings of their goods.

The United States adopted the
eagle as her emblem in 1783.

Legal covers at Merkel Mail office

Special Sale on GLASSWARE AND COOKING UTENSILS

Friday-Saturday-Monday
Glasses 3c, 5c and 7c
Pans of all kinds 10c to 39c
Save Money at These Prices

T. L. HAMBLET'S VARIETY STORE (Next to "M" System)

A Thanksgiving
Treat at the
PARAMOUNT
Abilene
**CONSTANCE
BENNETT**
in
**"BORN TO
LOVE"**
NOW OPEN SUNDAY
1 TO 7 P. M.

Season Successful for Largent Show Cattle

With a string of successful show-
ings at the largest fairs and fine
stock shows of the Midwest and
Southwest, the prize-winning show
cattle of C. M. Largent and Sons
were brought home Monday night,
in charge of Joe Largent, son of Mr.
and Mrs. Tom Largent, who followed
them around the circuit.

Willie Joe Largent, who left here
with the famous Largent Herefords
on August 10 and exhibited them at

some twenty or more fairs, stopped at
Plainview and drove home with his
wife and children, who had been visit-
ing Mrs. Largent's parents, Rev.
and Mrs. W. J. Saffle, there.

Charlie Largent returned from Kan-
sas City Saturday, having gone for
the American Royal there last week.

Nearly 5,000,000 persons who are
insured against unemployment in
England, about half of those so pro-
tected, have never drawn the dole.

Typewriting and carbon paper at
Mail office.

SPECIALS

FRIDAY AND SATURDAY

FLOUR, Extra High Patent, 48 pounds, every sack guaranteed	\$1.00
SOAP, White Laundry, 10 bars	25c
COFFEE, Pure Peaberry, 2 lbs.	25c
CRACKERS, Graham, 2 lb. box	24c
SUNBRIGHT CLEANSER, 3 cans	14c
LETTUCE, per head	5c
DRIED PEACHES, 2 lbs. for	23c
BAKING POWDER, K. C., 25c size	19c
BAKING POWDER, K. C., 50c size	38c
PEANUT BUTTER, quart jar	32c
PEANUT BUTTER, 5 lb. bucket	60c
SALMONS, pinks, 2 cans	23c

ELI CASE GROCERY

"The Home of Good Groceries"

Phone 234 Prompt Service

PROSPERITY IS NEVER SAFE

Prosperity is never safe unless it rests upon pro-
tection.

Your home is never safe.

Protect it by insurance. Your business is surround-
ed by risks. Insure it. Your valuables are always in
danger unless protected by insurance. Insure your
present prosperity to remain prosperous. We can help
you.

W. O. BONEY
MERKEL, TEXAS
Farm Loans and all kinds of Insurance
Consult Your Insurance Agent as you Would Your
Doctor or Lawyer.

Sensational Discovery, 666 Salve
A Doctor's Prescription for Treating Colds Externally
Everybody Using It—Telling Their Friends

\$5,000 Cash Prizes For Best Answers
"Why You Prefer 666 Salve for Colds"
The Answer Is Easy After You Have Tried It
Ask Your Druggist

First Prize \$500; Next ten Prizes \$100.00 each; Next twenty
Prizes \$50.00 each; Next forty Prizes \$25.00 each; Next one
hundred Prizes \$10.00 each; Next one hundred Prizes \$5.00 each.
In case of a tie identical Prizes will be awarded. Rules: Write on
one side of paper only. Let your letter contain no more than fifty
words. Tear off Top of 666 Salve Carton and mail with letter to
666 Salve Contest, Jacksonville, Florida. All letters must be in by
midnight, January 31, 1932. Your Druggist will have list of win-
ners by February 15th.

666 Liquid or Tablets with 666 Salve Makes a Complete
Internal and External Treatment.

**Entire Stock
At Sacrifice Prices
SHOP NOW FOR CHRISTMAS**

Kilgore Jewelry Co.

210 Cypress Abilene, Texas

Badgers Go to Rotan For Close of Season

Merkel's Badgers closed their home
season Friday with a 7 to 0 victory
over the Blackwell eleven. Derrick
went across in the third period with
the only score of the game, after tak-
ing a lateral pass from Boaz. Boaz
kicked from placement for the point.

Merkel went on the defensive after
scoring.

Blackwell exhibited a good run-
ning attack, and did not attempt the
passing game until the last period.

The whole Merkel backfield, and
Toombs, Collins, Shouse and Ferrer
in the line were stars.

According to custom, beginning with
this season, the last home game is
dedicated to Joel Darsey, beloved, cap-
tain of the 1930 Badgers. The Black-
well victory marked the first game to
be so dedicated.

The Badgers will close their season
at Rotan Thanksgiving day.

Ginnings in Taylor County, 34,552 Bales

Cotton ginnings in Taylor county
to November 14, this year, were more
than three times as great as for the
same period last year, according to
figures from the United States cen-
sus bureau, released Monday by Tob-
ias Watson, government representa-
tive.

Ginnings to Nov. 14, 1931, were
34,552 bales, while for a year ago the
figure was 11,416 bales.

Closed San Antonio Bank to Open Again

San Antonio, Nov. 25.—The Com-
monwealth Bank and Trust company,
closed Oct. 6, is expected to reopen
and resume business "on a safe basis"
within a few weeks, A. J. Lewis,
liquidator, announced Saturday. He
said co-operation by depositors, stock-
holders and officers is making this
possible.

At the same time James Shaw, state
banking commissioner, in a state-
ment said he had "interested certain
prominent citizens" in a movement to
reorganize or buy assets of the City-
Central Bank and Trust company,
closed a few days before the Common-
wealth closing.

Mr. Shaw, taking cognizance of
what he called "misrepresentations"
during a court of inquiry, said that
until the banks' assets are appraised,
which he proposed to do, statements
about its losses are guesswork.

Dry Goods Store at Trent Puts on Sale

Residents of Trent and those in the
Trent territory have received a full
page circular this week advising
them of the Pre-Holiday sale to be
inaugurated by Bowers and Hamner,
popular dry goods firm of our neigh-
boring city.

The sale, which is being arranged
and promoted by D. F. Weathered
of Abilene, begins Friday morning
and a large array of bargains are
listed for prospective buyers.

Dr. Sadler to be Next Toastmaster for Lions

The next luncheon of the Lions
club comes Tuesday of next week,
December 1, at which time Dr. W. T.
Sadler is to be toastmaster, assisted
by E. Yates Brown.

The last luncheon was deferred on
account of the death of Uncle Bill
Sheppard, whose daughter, Mrs.
Frank McFarland, is hostess for Mer-
kel's civic club.

Although there was a drop of 16-
000,000 pounds in a world tea con-
sumption in the last year, the United
Kingdom drank 10,000,000 pounds
more.

A Texan, George C. Butte, vice gov-
ernor of the Philippines, formerly
head of the University of Texas and
defeated candidate for governor in
1924, when Mrs. Miriam A. Fergu-
son was returned to office, became
head of the government of the Phil-
ippine islands when Gov. Gen. Dwight
F. Davis departed on leave of absence.

Personal Mention

Mrs. Ted Nichols is visiting in
Winters this week.

Mrs. S. G. Vaughan is visiting at
the Butman ranch this week.

Mrs. A. B. Lewis of Fort Worth is
the guest this week of her sister, Mrs.
H. H. Jenkins.

Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Blake and little
daughter, Anna Lee, and Willie Har-
ris spent the week-end in Paducah.

Mrs. Fred Baker, in company with
her sister, Mrs. E. L. Berry, visited
their mother, Mrs. Sims, at Thalia
last week.

A trio of deer hunters, Claude Dye,
Paul Causseaux and Cotton Owens,
returned Monday from the Kerrville
section, "minus any deer."

Mr. and Mrs. Earl Beech and Mrs.
Claude Dye and little son, Billy Gene,
visited Sunday in the home of Mr.
Beech's parents at Breckenridge.

Rev. Van Lange, pastor of the M.
E. church at Elida, N. M., was the
houseguest of Mr. and Mrs. C. M.
Spears Saturday night and Sunday.

Rev. and Mrs. E. L. Yeats and
daughter, Miss Helen, visited a few
days in Gordonville after the close
of conference last week, returning
home Friday.

Miss Lottie Butman returned home
on the T. & P. Saturday afternoon
after a week's visit with friends in
Dallas. She accompanied her cousin
Lieut. R. G. Vaughan, in his Knitzer
plane as far as Dallas, after his
week's stay in Merkel.

Mrs. W. J. Largent and children
have returned from Plainview where
they visited in the home of her par-
ents, Rev. and Mrs. W. J. Saffle,
while Willie Joe was away the past
several months exhibiting the Largent
cattle over the Southwest.

Miss Mattilou Largent was accom-
panied home from C. I. A. for the
Thanksgiving holidays by Miss Kath-
ryn Parr of Amarillo. They with Miss-
es Louise Booth, and Maurine Smith,
also students at C. I. A., arrived
Tuesday with Mr. and Mrs. Tom
Largent who drove over to Denton to
bring them home.

BOTH FOR \$1.50.

From now until December 31st, the
clubbing price for the Semi-Weekly
Farm News and the Merkel Mail is
only \$1.50. Don't fail to renew during
this time. If you want to subscribe to
the Semi-Weekly Farm News, you
can save one dollar by this deal.

TELEPHONE THE MAIL

The Mail will be glad to
receive news of entertainments
or visitors in Merkel homes,
as well as other news items of
a general nature. If you have
company, entertain friends or
return from a trip please tele-
phone 61 or 29.

CLASSIFIED ADS

FOR SALE

FOR SALE CHEAP OR EXCHANGE—206 acre sandy farm, one mile north Golden, orchard, potato and watermelon land; give terms. What will you? See Joe Garland or Tom Garland.

FOR SALE—Seed oats, also baled wheat. See Roy Harrell, Merkel, Texas.

FOR SALE—White Leghorn cockrel, good blood line; also 100 broilers. O. W. Paine, Merkel, Texas, Route 4.

WANTED

I STILL KNOW HOW and am anxious to make your terrace surveys. Lee D. Williams.

Acraage Reduction

(Continued from Page One.)
form cotton acreage reduction the federal government would take an additional 4,000,000 bales off the market.

Governor Blackwood, whose state passed both cotton reduction and prohibition acts, said he conferred with Bernard Baruch, New York financier, just before coming here, and had been so assured. The governor ardently advocated the Texas reduction plan.

A committee designated to have charge of the movement to urge immediate legislative steps by the other southern states included: J. E. McDonald, commissioner of agriculture of Texas.

Monday's Rain Added Five Eighths of Inch

The fine fall seasoning already received was further enriched with a heavy downpour of rain about noon Monday that reached torrential proportions for a short while. The precipitation at this time was five-eighths of an inch, according to the gauge of our good friend, B. M. Black.

This brings the total for the months of October and November to 8.92 inches.

Hugh Dubberly, 23, was appointed as district clerk of Howard county to serve out the unexpired term of his father, Hugh O. Dubberly, who was killed early Saturday morning in an auto accident west of Trent. His wife was also killed in the crash.

List of Prizes

(Continued from Page One)

entitled them to compete in all prizes offered. There must be seven or more entries in each class of each variety to receive first money, five or more to receive second money, except pens where there must be three or more. Otherwise, ribbons and honors only will be received. All birds must be leg-banded with numbers on them so that proper entry can be made. Bands may be secured from the secretary for this purpose at a small cost. There will be no entry fees or prizes offered on rabbits, but they may be put on display and owner be responsible for the care of same.

SPECIAL PREMIUMS BY MERCHANTS.

1. Best display of 15 or more birds, with not less than three males in display, by one exhibitor—\$5 in cash, by association.

2. Second best display of 15 or more birds with not less than three males in display, by one exhibitor—One 3-gallon Liquid Sprayer, donated by West Co.

3. Best pen of old birds in show, all breeds competing—\$5 in gold, by Farmers State bank.

4. Second best pen of old birds in show, all breeds competing—One Chicken Feeder, by Rose Tin Shop.

5. Best pen of young birds in show, all breeds competing—\$5 in gold, by Farmers and Merchants National bank.

6. Second best pen of young birds in show, all breeds competing—One year's subscription to the Merkel Mail, by Merkel Mail; one suit and dress, cleaned and pressed, by City Dry Cleaners.

7. Best Cock bird in show, all breeds competing—\$1 cash, by Dr. C. B. Gardner; one pair Buck Brand Overalls, by Bragg Dry Goods company.

8. Second best cock bird in show, all breeds competing—50c cash, Dr. R. I. Grimes; one work shirt, by Max Mellinger.

9. Best cockrel in show, all breeds competing—\$1 cash, by W. O. Boney; \$1 in merchandise, by Eli Case grocery.

10. Second best cockrel in show, all breeds competing—\$1 roast, by Patterson's market; 25c cash, Merkel Ice Co.

11. Best hen in show, all breeds competing—\$1 roast by Wheeler and Vaughn; \$1 Big Smith overalls, by Brown's Bargain store.

12. Second best hen in show, all breeds competing—25 lbs. All-Mash Startena, by Garrett Feed Store; 5 gallons green gasoline, by Sinclair Filling station.

13. Best pullet in show, all breeds competing—One 48 lb. sack La France flour, by McDonald grocery; one

chicken feeder, by Liberty Hardware company.

14. Second best pullet in show, all breeds competing—5 gallons red gasoline, by Stanford Filling station; one chick feeder and one chick fountain, by Hamblet's Variety store.

15. Best pen Rhode Island Reds—21 bakery products, by Merkel Dandy bakery; 50c cash, by Good Mass cafe.

16. Second best pen Rhode Island Reds—\$1 bottle hair tonic, by McDonald Barber shop.

17. Best pen Minorcas in show—5 gallons gasoline, by Warren Higgins; suit or overcoat, cleaned and pressed, by Blake's Dry Cleaners.

18. Best pen White Leghorns—5 gallons gasoline, by Woodrum Filling station; 200 lbs. cottonseed, by Nichols Ice Co.

19. Second best pen White Leghorns—5 gallons green gasoline, by Merkel garage; one pint O. D. enamel, by Burton-Lingo company.

20. Best pen of Buff Leghorns—\$1 blacksmithing, by F. A. Folley; one pint O. D. enamel, by Burton-Lingo company.

21. Best pen Brown Leghorns—2 lb. Red and White coffee, by Bob Martin grocery; hair cut and shave, by Buford and Potts.

22. Best pen Silver Laced Wyandottes—\$1 in merchandise, by A. R. Booth; one pair rubber heels, by N. A. Dowell; one quart 502 Cook's paint, by Merkel Lumber company.

23. Best pen White Wyandottes—5 gallons gasoline, by J. D. Porter Filling station; two pies, by Ed's Cafe.

24. Best pen Barred Plymouth Rocks—One pair electric curling irons, by West Texas Utilities company; one box Pratt's gape remedy, by Dunning Drug store.

25. Best pen Buff Plymouth Rocks—One pair shoes half soled, by City Shoe shop; 24 lb. sack flour, by J. N. Carson grocery.

26. Best pen Buff Orpingtons—One pair ladies' rayon hose, by W. J. Sheppard; one gallon Gulf lubricating oil, by Frank Golladay.

27. Second best pen Buff Orpingtons—One box Martin's Poultry tone, by City Drug store.

28. Best pen White Langshans—\$1 repair work, by McFarland garage;

one pint O. D. enamel, by Burton-Lingo company.

29. Best pen Black Langshans—One battery charged, by Bishop Hunter; hair cut and shave, by City Barber shop.

30. Best pen Dark Cornish—One box LeGear's Worm capsules, by Merkel Drug company; \$1 in merchandise, by Boyd grocery.

31. Second best pen Dark Cornish—One meal, by Wiman's cafe; one hair cut and shave, by Palace Barber shop.

32. Best pen of Bantams—One chicken feeder, by Liberty Hardware company.

33. Best pen Jersey black Giants—\$1 Brushing Lacquer, by Barrow Furniture company; hair cut and shave, by Floyd McCoy Barber shop.

34. Best pen Australops—One inner tube, by Delaney-Delmer company.

35. Best pen Hamburgs—One inner tube, Merkel Motor company.

36. Best pen Pit Games—\$1 in eats, by Busy Bee cafe; 50c in merchandise, by Joe Garland.

37. Best trio turkeys—One feeder, by Liberty Hardware company; one gallon Oonoline oil, by H. C. Foster, Sinclair agent.

38. Best trio of geese—One gallon Dixie Best Syrup, by "M" System; one pint O. D. enamel, by Burton-Lingo company.

39. Best trio ducks—\$1 labor, by Curley's Repair shop; one pair baby shoes, by J. T. Dennis.

40. Best trio guineas—\$1 labor, by Earl Teague Tin shop; one meal, by Mack's Cafe.

41. Best pair pigeons—One bottle Ogene, by Dr. Wm. M. Gambill; 10 lb. sack meal, by G. M. Sharp.

42. Best Capon—One battery charged, by Blue Front garage.

43. Second best capon—5 gallons white gasoline, by Stanford Filling station.

44. Best S. C. White Leghorn pullet—One setting eggs, by W. C. Eoff.

45. Best S. C. White Leghorn cockrel—One setting eggs, by W. C. Eoff.

46. Best Rhode Island Red Cockrel—One setting eggs, by E. H. Cordell.

47. Best Rhode Island Red pullet—One setting eggs, by E. H. Cordell.

48. Best Dark Cornish Cockrel—One setting eggs, by Robert Hicks.

49. Best Dark Cornish pullet—One setting eggs, by Robert Hicks.

setting eggs, by Robert Hicks.

50. Best dozen Brown eggs—One setting of R. I. Red eggs, by R. A. Ellis.

51. Best dozen white eggs—One setting of R. I. Red eggs, by Bob Mayfield.

52. Best pen Silver Laced Wyandottes—One setting S. L. Wyandotte eggs, by Castle Ellis.

The Abilene Hatchery and the Frank Kirk Hatchery will also offer premiums, which will be placed later with some other individual premiums that will be added later.

Ft. Worth Livestock

Fort Worth, Texas, Nov. 25.—Fat cattle sold on a steady basis Tuesday and all classes, beef steers excepted, met with a good demand. Calves scored an advance of 25c. Stocker receipts were small, conditions remaining notably unchanged as to cows and steers, with calves sharing in the higher price trend of slaughter calves. Receipts were estimated at 1,800 head of cattle and 700 calves.

In keeping with recent conditions, fat steers were slow in finding an outlet. Fed steers ranged around \$5 to \$6, and grassers brought \$4.

Salesmen disposed of cow consignments at prices within the usual spread. Some fleshy grades were taken at \$3 to \$3.50, good butcher cows sold at \$2.75 to \$2.85, and canners

moved around \$1.50 to \$1.85. A few head of toppy cows notched \$4.25.

The showing of heifers and yearlings was small, and hardly sufficient to test the trade. Dealers were within a general range of \$5 to \$6.50 with some at \$7.

Fat bulls cleared up to \$2.60. Other sales were around \$2 to \$2.50. Receipts included several short cars and a fair supply of individuals.

Although scattering sales of slaughter calves of heavy weight were reported up to \$5, most of the supply cleared at \$4 to \$4.50. The outlet was good at the advance.

Cotton Receipts.

Only 173 bales were added to Merkel's cotton receipts for the past week up to Wednesday morning, bringing the total for the season to 8,613 bales, of which 1772 are still in the yard, according to the records of Public Weigher Houtson Robertson. The T. & P. had shipped 6,006 bales, while 835 have been removed from the cotton yard, either by truck or carried home by the owners.

5 1-2 per cent Federal Loans are Better Loans. Longer time, lower rates; plenty of money; never come due. W. Homer Shanks, Sec'y-Treas., Citizens N. F. L. A. Farms, Ranches, Business Property for sale or exchange. Room 1, Penney Bldg., Abilene, Texas.

Lowest Rate EVER OFFERED

READ THE ABILENE MORNING NEWS

You're One Day Late If You Don't Read "WEST TEXAS' OWN NEWSPAPER"

Many big news items of national and world wide importance, all election news, all night baseball and football news appear in the

Abilene Morning News

One day AHEAD of other state papers that are commonly known as "prelates"—(printed one day and reach you the next). The Abilene Morning News, published at 2:00 a. m. reaches you the same day it is printed.

Subscribe now for one year including Sundays.

\$3.95

By mail only in West Texas. Approximately one cent per day.

Page of Comics Daily

Eight Pages Sunday Comics

Give your subscription to your home town agent or mail coupon below with your personal check or money order.—This Bargain Rate good until December 31, 1931

\$3.95

USE THE COUPON

ABILENE MORNING NEWS, Abilene, Texas.
For the enclosed \$3.95 please send your paper one year, including Sundays, to:

NAME
City Town State

What? a telephone in the KITCHEN?



Forget to order something?

If you're like lots of women, you may find you're out of something right in the middle of preparing dinner. That's when the handy kitchen telephone meets another emergency.



Or perhaps a portable telephone

It plugs into the wall like a lamp. Move it from one location to another as you need it. Ask for details at the telephone office. Extra charge for installing sockets.



Like to sleep late?

Folks may think you're lazy . . . but why not make or answer calls from your bed? Mighty nice when you're sick, too . . . saves jumping up from afternoon naps . . . adds a distinctive touch to your bedroom.



For sale . . . One step saver

One man stayed with the baby while his wife went shopping. Before she got home he'd ordered an extension telephone. "Saves at least a mile a day," he declares. An extension telephone saves many, many weary trips.

Bedroom telephones • • Kitchen telephones
Extensions upstairs • • Portable telephones

(75 cents a month additional—Nominal installation charge)

SOUTHWESTERN BELL TELEPHONE COMPANY



Notice to Farmers

The gins in Merkel will run only two days per week, beginning with next week. These days will be Wednesdays and Saturdays. Our customers will please take notice.

- Farm Bureau Gin.
- Sam Swann Gin.
- Planters Gin.
- South Side Electric Gin.
- Hamm Gin.
- Guitar Gin.

QUEEN THEATRE

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 26TH
TALLULAH BANKHEAD—FREDERIC MARCH IN

"MY SIN"

Truly a great picture. See it.
Also "Radio Dough," Comedy and "Cats Nightmare," Crazy Cat.

FRIDAY-SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 27-28
RICHARD DIX IN

"DONOVAN'S KID"

Remember Dix in "CIMARRON"
Extra—"Fur Fur Away," Comedy.

WEDNESDAY-THURSDAY, DECEMBER 2-3
The Picture You've Been Waiting for—Barbara Stanwyck and Star Cast in

"THE MIRACLE WOMAN"

A picture you will never forget. If you don't see another picture, be sure and see this one. We heartily recommend it.
The Management.

Prices Always 10c and 25c

BUY NOW FOR CHRISTMAS

Take Advantage of this Great Money-Saving

OPPORTUNITY SALE

30 Per Cent to 50 Per Cent Discount

Don't wait until it's too late. This is our FIRST SALE. There are many wonderful surprises in store for you here.

C. M. PRESLEY, Jeweler

"The House of Quality"

209 Pine St.

Abilene, Texas

Rural Community Correspondence

TRENT NEWS AND PERSONALS

On last Wednesday afternoon Mark Williamson celebrated his tenth birthday by having a few of his little friends over to his home for a party. After several games were played, the guests marched into the dining room where the birthday cake was cut in the center of the table. A wise old owl sat with all the fortunes of the children concealed beneath his wings. Candy, cake and ice cream were served to Wickford and Jimmie Ed Massey, A. C. Terry, Jake Roberts, Jr., Deverle Bishop, Ernest and Claude Stewart, Luther Warren Ashford, T. G. Murdock, Billy Jo Bowers, Junior Ruthford of Abilene, Elley Smith, Glen Reeves and Kirby Steadman. Mrs. Roy Stewart and Mrs. C. T. Beckham assisted Mrs. A. Williamson with the entertaining.

Miss Pauline Taylor was a passing visitor with friends here Saturday. She was en route to her home at Seminole after a stay of several weeks in Missouri.

Mr. and Mrs. John Payne are announcing the birth of a baby girl, born Saturday the 21st.

Mrs. Joe Green and children of Lamesa came Wednesday to be at the bedside of Mrs. S. Grayson of Goodman.

Mesdames C. R. Rutherford and Bob Martin of Abilene were guests here Wednesday in the homes of Mrs. M. G. Scott and Mrs. T. J. Williamson.

Mr. and Mrs. Buddie Burks, Mrs. T. G. Hamner, Mrs. W. E. Hamner, John and May Hamner had a pleasant outing Wednesday and Thursday on the Jim Ned, hunting pecans and fishing.

Mrs. B. F. Forrester and sons, Welton and Mac, were guests from Saturday until Sunday in the home of Mr. and Mrs. G. B. Tittle in Abilene.

J. B. Winn spent Sunday visiting his daughter and her husband at Earth.

Mrs. Dexter Edwards entertained pupils of her music class Saturday afternoon at her home. A short musical program was enjoyed along with games and contests, after which refreshments were served to the following: Misses Vera Bright, Elizabeth Winn, Ida V. Etep, Lillian Grace Reeves, Hazel Wanda Williamson and Willie Jo Hamner.

On Tuesday afternoon, Nov. 17, from 3 to 5, Mrs. Volley Vesels, assisted by Mrs. T. G. Hamner, was a most gracious hostess to twenty-five ladies, naming Mrs. Clifford Estep as honoree. Games and contests of various kinds were enjoyed and at the refreshment hour a delicious sandwich plate and hot chocolate was served.

On Friday evening Mrs. Alex Williamson named her brother, Hubert Beckham, of Lamesa as honor guest. Those present were Mr. and Mrs. Reynolds, Mr. and Mrs. John Strawn, Mr. and Mrs. Claud Stribling, Hubert Beckham, Misses Virginia Strawn and Maurine Smith, Mrs. O. L. Reeves and the hostess. Coffee, cake and whipped cream and popcorn were served at the refreshment hour.

The P. T. A. have given the school an honor roll board to be placed in the lower hall of the school building and each six weeks the names of the ones that have attained 90 and above in their grades will be placed on this board. Those on the honor roll for the past six weeks are:

Primary grades, Mrs. Reeves, teacher—Billy Jones, Othell O'Kelly and Willie Jo Hamner; second and third grades, Miss Strawn, teacher—Coyce Shannon, Lodie Fred Crain, Virginia Cleo McRee, Virgil Currington, Vertis Ross, Lee Roy Martin, Venita McDonald and Dorothy Jo Strawn; fourth and fifth grades, Mrs. Reynolds, teacher—Kenneth Burkhardt,

Kirby Steadman, Mark Williamson, Kathy Shannon, Margaret Relihan and Elley Smith; eighth grade, R. F. Elliott, teacher—Russell Owens; ninth grade, Miss Burgess, teacher—Mildred Steadman; tenth grade, Miss Sheppard, teacher—Charlie Howell; eleventh grade, Rosa B. Jenkins, teacher—Helen Hogue.

CHURCH OF CHRIST.

L. E. Carpenter, Minister.
Bible study 10 a. m. Worship 11 a. m. Prayer meeting Tuesday 7:15 p. m. Ladies Bible class Thursday 3 p. m.

High School News.

HOME ECONOMICS CLUB ENTERTAINED.

Home Economics club members were entertained on last Wednesday afternoon, from 2 till 4 o'clock, by Miss Sara Julia Johnson.

The Home Economics department was transformed into a gay room of white and orange, where an interesting program, contests, and games were enjoyed.

The color scheme was also featured in table appointments and in the refreshment course, consisting of pie with whipped cream and lemonade.

MERKEL MINISTER LECTURES IN CHAPEL.

Brother L. E. Carpenter, of Merkel lectured to the student body and faculty at the High school auditorium last Wednesday morning on "The Holy Land."

Brother Carpenter has visited in this land and showed pictures and souvenirs that he obtained from various places while there.

CAN YOU IMAGINE?

The Geometry class knowing their lesson?

Alton Martin with black hair?

Freddie Allyn talking without permission?

The reason Miss Burgess wants to spend Thanksgiving in Abilene?

A man wanting to attract Kenneth's attention?

Helen Hogue wanting to attend the ball game at White Flat?

Erma Fay with her hair set?

Johnie with his feet under his desk?

HISTORY CLUB.

The History club met Monday, Nov. 23, when the following program was given:

"My Country 'Tis of Thee," by all.

Minutes.

Two page summary of American History, Sallie Freeman.

"The Land of the Pilgrims," Johnnie Terry.

"Pathfinder," Helen Bright.

Life Story of a Thanksgiving Turkey, Mildred Steadman.

Two page summary of General History, Thelma Nalley.

"The Land of Liberty," Sarah Julia Johnson.

"Pathfinder an Invention," Joe Eble McLeod.

"The First Thanksgiving Day," Asha McLeod.

"Pathfinder A Current Event," Veda Orand.

"America for Me," Jack Perkins.

Jokes, John Hamner.

Son of "America the Beautiful," by the History club.

New program was read by Helen Bright.

SPORTS.

Trent and Roby played ball at Roby Friday, Nov. 20. They played a fair game, the score being 30-0. Trent's team lacked practice, however. Hamner, Henry Bright and Chas. Howell starred on the side of Trent. Roby boys played a clean and aggressive game. Trent felt as though they got all the breaks, but it was the better trained team that won.

Roby will play Trent again at Trent Monday after Thanksgiving.
Trent will play Divide at Divide Thanksgiving.

The new bath house is about completed.

BLAIR ITEMS

At this writing rain is threatening with a few showers falling. This section is not seriously in need of the moisture but the fall rains will put the land in fine shape for starting the winter. Breaking will be early for the coming season, with hope for a good crop yield next year. This fall has been an unusual season in that no frost has yet fallen. Vegetation is growing almost like spring and during the rain of last Monday night there was lightning and thunder like the spring of the year.

The cotton ginning season is practically over, with 1,755 weighed at this writing.

Mr. and Mrs. Eli Brooks, with their son, John, left Thursday for Red Spring, Texas, for a visit of a few days with their daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Moore.

Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Latimer and little son and Mr. and Mrs. Odie Latimer and little son of Nubia were here last week as guests in the home of their parents, Mr. and Mrs. Jack Latimer.

Hurman Dean made a business trip to Abilene Friday.

Ashley Bryant attended court at Abilene one day the past week.

Mr. and Mrs. Tom Spears and daughter, Miss Zuma, attended the Taylor county singing convention at Abilene Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Jim Moore and Mrs. R. B. Horton and two charming children, Jimmie Nell and Reuben, spent a most delightful day with the former's son, Mr. and Mrs. Dee Moore, of Tye Sunday.

Irvin Lackey spent Saturday and Sunday with his sister, Mrs. Maggie Hunter, and family.

Mr. and Mrs. Odie Pribble of New Mexico came over by automobile Saturday and will be guests of the latter's parents, Mr. and Mrs. George Clinton, for some weeks.

Mesdames Minnie Reeves and Chat Burks and little son, Howard, were visitors in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Murray Farmer Monday.

Mrs. H. Eddie Farmer of White Church was a most charming hostess in her home Monday to Mesdames A. L. Farmer and Hugh Campbell.

Rev. Marvin Williams filled his regular appointment at the M. E. church Sunday.

Two-Year-Old Trent Child Dies at Abilene

Funeral service for Virgil James, 2-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. M. L. James, of five miles northeast of Trent, was held Monday at the graveside in the Shiloh cemetery. The child died at 12:30 p. m. Sunday in an Abilene sanitarium. He had been ill several days.

Besides the parents survivors are a brother, Turna, and a sister, Charline. The maternal grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. M. J. Maynard of Trent and the paternal grandmother, Mrs. B. L. James of Merkel, also survive.

Watch for our Announcement about Santa Claus. Brown's Bargain Store.

BOTH FOR \$1.50.

From now until December 31st, the clubbing price for the Semi-Weekly Farm News and the Merkel Mail is only \$1.50. Don't fail to renew during this time. If you want to subscribe to the Semi-Weekly Farm News, you can save one dollar by this deal.

Passes Away at Home Of Daughter in Snyder

After almost a year's confinement to bed, Mrs. Lena A. Booth, wife of A. J. Booth, passed away Saturday, Nov. 21, at 11:35 p. m. at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Mart Smith, at Snyder.

Funeral services were held at the beautiful cemetery in Snyder at 10:30 a. m. Saturday, Nov. 22, conducted by Rev. Mr. Young, pastor of the Methodist church. Active pall bearers were: Earl and Marvin Smith, Snyder; Thad Ruzell and Carl Booth, Thoreau, N. M.; Jim Atkins, Abilene, and John S. Atkins, Merkel.

Mrs. Booth was born near Tuscaloosa, Ala., August 1, 1858, and came to Texas in 1886. She was married to A. J. Booth in Hopkins county on the 5th of June, 1888. Moving to Taylor county in 1903, she lived in the Elm Grove community until about 16 months ago. Since then she had made her home with her daughter at Snyder.

During the time she lived in Taylor county Mrs. Booth made many fast friends, all of whom will be grieved to learn of her passing.

Besides her husband, she is survived by one son and three daughters: A. A. Booth, Lamesa; Mrs. Emma L. Smith, Snyder and Mrs. Mary Williams and Mrs. Lucy Russell, Thoreau, M. The latter formerly lived in Abilene. All of the children were present when death came. Two sons died several years ago.

She also leaves sixteen grandchildren and one great-grandchild. Three sons by a former marriage also survive.

RURAL SOCIETY

BLAIR 4-H CLUB.

The Blair 4-H Adult club met on Wednesday, Nov. 18, at the Baptist church, with thirteen members present. A round table discussion was held on ways and means to retain the service of the county demonstration agent, Miss Caroline Chambers, for the month of December. A motion was made for each club member to pay a ten cent fee a month for incidental expenses of the club.

Mrs. Bob Malone was named as a member of the committee to attend the mass meeting at the city hall auditorium in Abilene on Thursday, Nov. 19. If the demonstration agent is retained, Miss Chambers will meet with the Blair 4-H Adult club on the first Wednesday in December.

New officers were elected for the following year as follows: Mrs. Bob Malone, president; Mrs. Johnnie Latimer, vice president; Mrs. A. D. Barnes, secretary-treasurer; Mrs. Elma Patterson, council member, and Mrs. Hugh Campbell, reporter.

This club has been organized for almost a year. The retiring officers are: Mrs. Will Matthews, president; Mrs. Carl Hughes, vice president; Miss Lottie Butman, council member, and Mrs. Hugh Campbell, reporter, (re-elected).

Our last meeting was an inspirational one and each club member was urged to attend the next meeting on the first Wednesday in December. Your co-operation would be greatly appreciated.

BARGAIN DAYS.

From now until Dec. 31st, subscription price for The Merkel Mail in Taylor and adjoining counties is only \$1.00 per year. This will save you 50 cents, if you will renew your subscription during these three months. If you are in arrears, you can pay up the past year and extend a new year at the bargain offer of \$1.00 per year. Do it now. Offer positively expires December 31st.

Advertise in the Merkel Mail.

COMPERE NEWS

The first P. T. A. meeting was held at the schoolhouse Nov. 19, with a large number of parents and visitors present. Several short numbers were rendered by pupils of the intermediate and primary grades. The following officers were elected: Mrs. H. R. Chancey, president; Mr. Dewey Ramsay, vice president; Mrs. Gene Bumpass, secretary; Mesdames Ben Adkin, S. S. Sherrell and Dewey Ramsay were elected as program committee for the parents. Their first program will be given Friday night, Dec. 4. Everyone is cordially invited to these programs.

Compere community has had another rain which is beneficial to grain crops.

Last Thursday morning Mr. Manuel Lucas and Miss Zuella Hall were united in marriage at Trent by the Rev. U. S. Sherrell, pastor of the Methodist church of that place. They were accompanied by Charles Ora Childers and Miss Flora Adkins. They will make their home near Noodle where Mr. Lucas is a prosperous young farmer. Their many friends are wishing for them a long and peaceful life.

M. K. Milner has returned home after having spent several days at Longview, Texas.

Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Taylor were visitors near Merkel last week-end. Mr. and Mrs. Will Spurgin are entertaining a fine boy in their home now.

Mr. and Mrs. Howard Smith left Saturday for Midland where Mr. Smith has accepted employment with the Bell Telephone company.

Jacquetta Palmer had the misfortune of getting burned last Sunday.

Mrs. McKinley and son and a Miss Scott of Brownwood were dinner guests in the home of Mrs. McKinley's aunt, Mrs. Jake Foster, last Saturday.

R. S. and John Palmer were in Abilene on business the first of the week.

Mr. and Mrs. E. C. Tarvin, Jr., and family of Truby were guests of their parents, Mr. and Mrs. E. C. Tarvin, Sr., and Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Stout last Sunday.

Messrs. Owen Smith and Frank

Merritt, who have been pulling bolls on the Plains, have returned home. Clyde Foster of Merkel spent the week-end with his grandmother, Mrs. Jake Foster.

The regular singing was postponed Sunday night on account of the bad weather. Gene Bumpass was a Merkel visitor Saturday.

A. W. Clemmer and son, Jordan, are pulling bolls at Muleshoe, Texas. Mesdames George Smith, N. C. Smith and Clova McClure were shopping in Merkel Saturday.

Miss Mildred Auvenshine of Noodle visited in the home of her cousin, Mrs. Ben Adkins, last Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Chester Lucas spent Monday with Mr. and Mrs. T. K. Marshall and family.

Funeral Held for Girl Killed by Baseball Bat

Funeral rites for Neida Durham, Bradshaw school pupil fatally injured when struck by a baseball bat while at play last Friday, were held Monday from the Bradshaw Methodist church, with the Rev. O. B. Herring, pastor, officiating.

The child was the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. H. T. Durham of Bradshaw. Unconscious from the time of the accident, she was brought to a local hospital Saturday. She died at 4:55 a. m. Sunday.

Born in Terrell, the Durham girl moved to Bradshaw with her parents seven years ago. Besides her parents she is survived by three brothers, Robert, Glenn and Jack, and one sister, Patty Ruth.

SINGING CONVENTION.

I take this method of calling your attention to the Fifth Sunday Singing convention that meets at the Immanuel Baptist church, 13th and Cypress streets, Abilene. So come, all you singers, as we will have a great day. Lots of good visiting singers are coming. Would be pleased if all classes having latest books can be there with same at 10:30, so we may have plenty of books. Also bring lunch and a little for me. Please do not forget books. Be there at 10:30 and oblige.

Tom Spears.

GRATITUDE

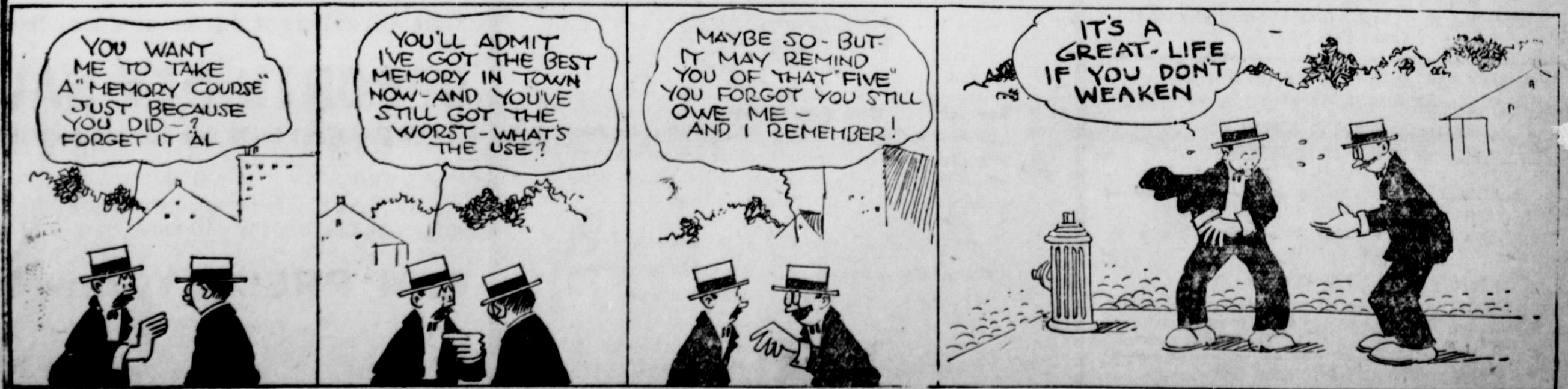
The entire organization is grateful to you for your support in our Anniversary Sale. In appreciation and as a further inducement for you to visit us we offer the following additional reductions for Friday and Saturday.

- Set Plates 50c
- Set Cups and Saucers 60c
- 10 Quart Granite Pail 23c
- Good Double Bit Axhandle 25c
- Butcher Knife 15c
- No. 2 Lamp, complete 50c

West Co.

"IT'S A GREAT LIFE IF YOU DON'T WEAKEN"

By Jack Rabbit



THE BADGER WEEKLY

Published weekly by the students of Merkel High School and sponsored by the Senior Class of '32—Mrs. R. B. Irvin, sponsor.

The Staff:

Editor-in-Chief—Ida Mae Derstine. Sports Editor—Willie Evelyn Boaz.
Assistant Editor—Lela Patterson. Assistant Sports Editor—Ross Ferrier.
Society Editor—Mary Elizabeth Grimes. Joke Editor—Cephas Wozencraft.

THANKSGIVING.

Many people think that the Pilgrims who came to America started a wholly new custom by feasting and giving thanks after harvest. Although it is they who are responsible for our celebration today, the idea was not altogether original with them. We find scriptures in the book of Judges which indicate that even that far back the harvest was celebrated. Then the Israelites handed the custom on down to the Romans, etc.

But the more direct custom was that of the English. They celebrated the "Harvest Home" or "Hawkie" by several days of feasting and merry-making. These facts lead us to believe that the Pilgrims only handed an old custom down to us, though, of course, conditions made them change it somewhat.

During such a depression as this we often hear the expression "not much to be thankful for this year." This attitude is very much in the wrong. Have we got to the point where we measure wealth only in worldly terms? Just because God hasn't seen fit to shower an abundance of earthly treasures upon us, must we feel ungrateful for that which we have? Most of us can be thankful for health, happiness, homes, loved ones and such things, for they mean much more than gold or silver.

AS TOLD TO DIARY.

Dear Diary—Please excuse me for not makin' any intree yisterday on account of I wasn't able. You see it was Thanksgiving Day an we had a extremely big toickey with dressin' among other things. The Dearborns was here an—Oh, I guess I better start in at the first an' explain.

At the extreme first the pilgrims come over here one cold day in November when the snow was all over the ground an' decided to have Thanksgiving. So they all went out and killed toikeys and made crane berry sauce an' fixed up the grandest feast ever was. They invited the Indians an' had Thanksgiving Day so ever since then everybody what wants to live in this here country has to celebrate that day, only most people do anyhow on account of they like mince pies and so forth.

Now I guess you understand purty well what it's about so I'll tell about yisterday—Wednesday when I got home from school Ma had mince pies baked an' puddin' an' pumpkins an' crane berries an' ever so many things fixed, but she saved ever' bit 'til yisterday. Dad killed the old gobbler an Ma made dressin' an' she invited a lot of society folks to come.

Ma made me go to church so I don't know what she done that morn' besides fix up the dining room an' table real fancy. Well, on Sundays we allus have dinner as soon as we get home from church so I worked up an appetite on the way back by skidding. But I was doomed to be sorely disappointed as I had to be satisfied with cold sandwiches—Ma saying that we would have dinner at six o'clock of course. Well six finally came an' so did a lot of dudes.

When we was seated at the table I noticed that a little glass thing-of-a-dodger full of water was settin' at ever body's plate. I drank mine an' was just fixin' to ask Ma why she didn't use the goblets—I mean goblets—when I noticed that they was settin' on t'other side of the plates. Later I saw Mrs. Dearborn dabbling her fingers in her cup of water. I wanted to call her down but on second thought I decided that after all it was she and not I who would have to drink the water.

To make the rest of the long story short I eat entirely too much—but the doctor says I'll be back in school Monday.

I am very thankful that I 'et enuf to miss school today, anyhow and I'm a' goin' to ask God to forgive Mrs. Dearborn for actin' so rude at the table an' fer takin' my favorite piece of toickey.

BADGERS CLOSE SEASON WITH ROTAN.

The Badgers will meet the Rotan team on Thanksgiving Day, November 26, 1931.

Say, be sure and don't eat too much lunch and be late for the game. Everyone bring your relatives and friends and be there on the side line "rooting for the Badgers."

We are expecting a number of the ex-Seniors to be present also. We

hope they have not forgotten their home team this goon.

This will be the last game for some of our Badgers—these who are Seniors. The Seniors are the following: B. P., Ross, Williams, Cade, Monte Moore, Paul, Toombs and Wilson. We are sure that these men will put up a good fight because this will probably be their last game for old Merkel High. We are all expecting a great victory on this day.

FOOTBALL NEWS.

Everybody is happy now! The Badgers won the game for old Merkel High last Friday. It was our last game at home for this season.

One reason that the Badgers fought so hard Friday was because the game was dedicated to our beloved captain of last year's team, Joel Darsey. With a picture of Joel's smiling and courageous face in the mind of every player, a great victory was obtained. From this time forward, the last game of each season that will be played at home will be dedicated to Joel Darsey.

JOKES.

Abilene cop (to Miss Martin): "Yes, as soon as I saw you coming around the corner, I said to myself: forty-five or nothing?"

Miss Martin: "But, really, officer it's this hat that makes me look so old."

Julia: "Say something sweet to me."
Paul: "Custard pie."

Mrs. Irvin: "Why do you go out on the porch everytime I start singing? Don't you like to hear me?"
Mr. Irvin: "It isn't that. I just want the neighbors to know I'm not choking you."

Margaret C: "You should take out an insurance policy."
Gerald D: "Why?"
Margaret: "Because a thought might strike you sometime."

Mr. Irvin (in physical education): "Do you ever take any strenuous exercise?"
Jimmy Junior: "Oh! Yes! I wind up my wrist watch every night."

Victim: "How do you sell your candy?"
"Sis": "I often wonder myself."

IT SEEMS IMPOSSIBLE—

For anyone to be as clever as Paul Collins.

For anyone to be as ugly as Cullen Tittle.

For anyone to be as dumb as Bill Hamm.

For anyone to talk as much as Ross Ferrier and not ever say anything.

For anyone to be as conceited as David Gamble.

For Kennedy Whitely to meet biology classes.

For anyone to eat pecans in Miss Martin's history class.

For Carrol and Mr. Riddle to agree.

For the Juniors to have a new name for one of its members.

For Sarah Sheppard to have a goat.

For the Seniors to get their rings on the Monday before Thanksgiving.

CRAZY CRYSTALS BEST YET FOR STOMACH TROUBLE

CRAZY CRYSTALS

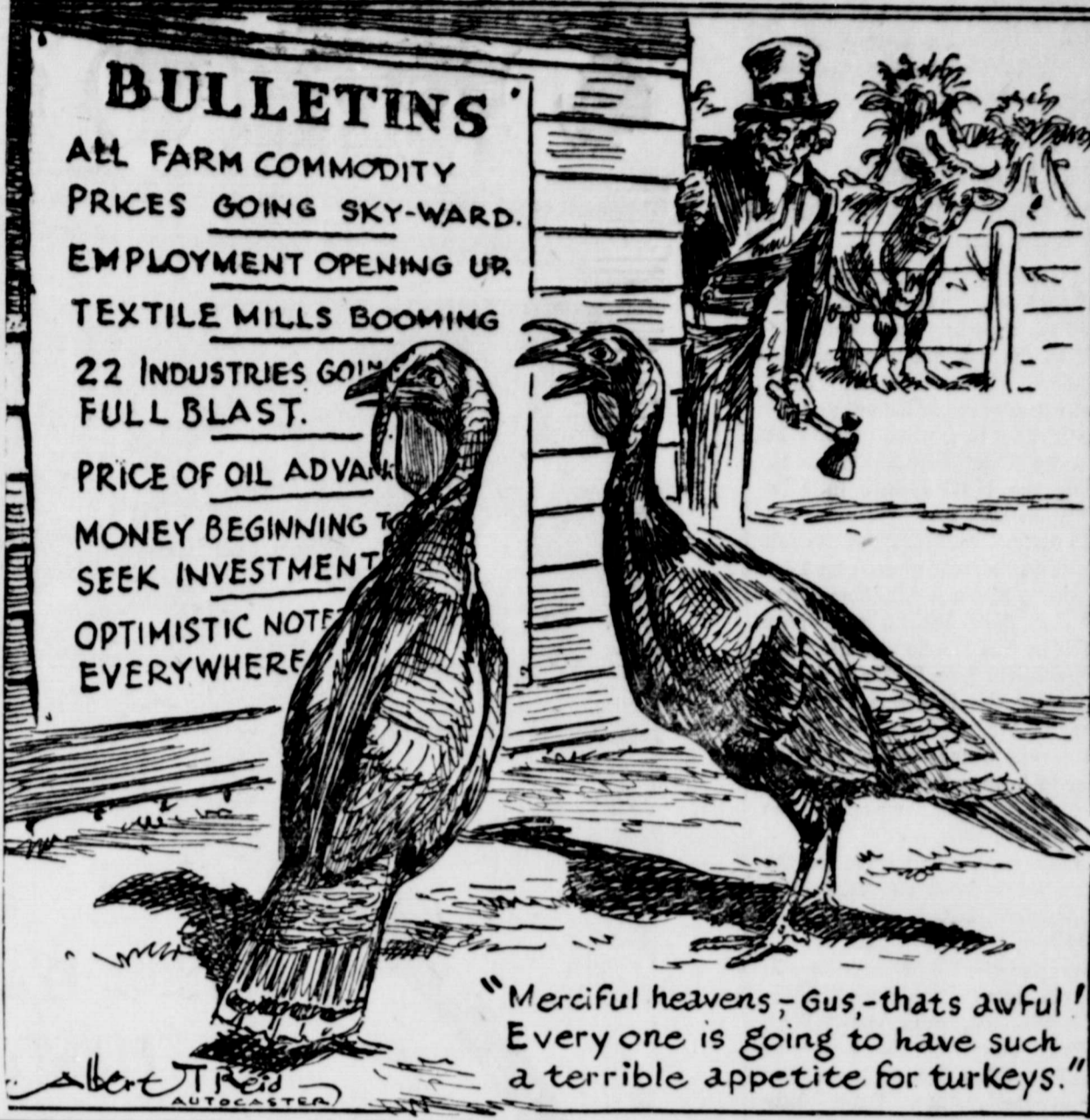
I have taken the trial size package of Crazy Crystals and have found they have helped me lots. My stomach trouble is better, and they are the best thing I have ever used for constipation. I have had stomach trouble for five years. Everything I ate fermented and have tried lots of treatments but have gotten no relief until I started using Crazy Crystals.

Mrs. Willie B. Wost,
Lanford, S. Carolina.

CRAZY WATER CO.
Mineral, Wells, Texas

Thanksgiving

By Albert T. Reid



For the second six-weeks period to be almost at an end.
For Coach to have to wake "Rosie" up in the first study hall after lunch.

THE SENIORS.

The Seniors received a great surprise Monday morning. The rings had arrived. Do you blame us for feeling a little superior to our schoolmates?

There are two things that should make us happy: we have our rings, and school will be out two days this week for the Thanksgiving holidays.

PEP RALLY.

On Friday morning, Nov. 20, Dora Marie Gaither, Sue Grimes and Billie Clyde Haines entertained during chapel period. They gave a short reading and ended their part of the program by giving fifteen rabs for the Badgers.

The pep squad sang two songs and gave some yells. Short talks were given by Coach Irvin and a few Badgers.

THE BADGERS SAY—

Gerald Derrick says: "The victory is ours with Rotan."

B. P. Middleton says: "The Senior players will help win the last game we play for M. H. S."

Bussie Boaz says: "We'll end the season with a victory."

Bud Toombs says: "Since the last is always the best, we'll win the game Thursday."

Paul Collins says: "Why, we're gonna beat 'em."

Mardell Shouse says: "I'll do my best—that's all anyone can do."

"Red" Williams says: "I hope I get to play Thursday and if I do I'll fight for M. H. S. for the last time."

Albert Cade says: "We're gonna fight hard and win."

S. G. Russell says: "I'll help the team win the last game of the season."

Ross Ferrier says: "The dope shows we are about even."

David Gamble says: "We ought to win the game, but if we don't win it won't be because we didn't do our best."

Coach Irvin says: "It's going to be a hard game. Something like the Anson-Merkel game."

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BEAUTIFUL DISPLAYS OF ENGRAVED CARDS IN A SATISFACTORY PRICE RANGE

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ONE LOT 25 CARDS AND ENVELOPES WITH NAME PRINTED \$2.50

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DON'T WAIT UNTIL THE LAST MINUTE. COME IN AND SELECT YOUR GREETING CARDS NOW

The Merkel Mail

"The Home Town Newspaper"

Phone 61

T. & P. Rates Reduced To 1 3/4 Cents Per Mile

Dallas Nov. 25.—"Tuesday, December 1, will be an important date in the history of the Texas and Pacific railway," said Frank Jensen, general passenger agent. "On Tuesday, December 1, for the first time in the history of the railroads in this country, a daily one-way coach rate of one and three-fourths cents per mile will become effective between Texarkana, Fort Worth and intermediate stations on Trains 31 and 32, also between Dallas, Fort Worth and El Paso on Trains 6 and 7, and between Dallas, Fort Worth and Big Spring on Trains 3 and 4."

The basic rate per mile at the present time on all railroads throughout the United States is 3.6 cents per mile, and the action of the Texas and Pacific railway in experimenting with a daily one-way coach rate of one and three-fourths cents per mile (which is less than one-half of the regular rate) is being watched with interest by the passenger traffic fraternity of the railroads throughout the country.

"There is no question," said Mr. Jensen, "but that a rate of one and three-fourths cents per mile on passenger trains is the cheapest means of transportation in the world today. It is impossible for anyone to use their automobile or any other means of transportation at so low a cost."

"When you stop to consider that the world's finest transportation is now available at the lowest fares in history and that you can travel a distance of, say, forty miles for 70-cents, 100 miles for \$1.75, etc., and check 100 pounds of baggage free, also that one-half of these exceptionally low rates will apply for children five and under twelve years of age, it is bound to be apparent that the Texas and Pacific railway is making the strongest bid within its power for passenger travel."

The one and three-fourths cent coach rates which are being authorized by the Texas and Pacific railway, effective December 1, are, of course, purely in the nature of an experiment,

and the increased travel superinduced by reason of the establishment of those sensationally low rail rates will, of course, be the determining factor as to the continuation of those drastically reduced fares after the six-months experimental period is over, said Mr. Jensen.

Austin Boy First in District Audition

Lavon Granam Holden, contralto, of Pittsburgh, Kan., and John Metcalf, baritone, of Austin have been announced as the winners in the Southwest district in the Atwater Kent audition by Alexander Keese, district chairman. The two winners will be heard in the final Atwater Kent audition from the NBC studios in New York City on Dec. 13.

In the district contest from Station WFAA in which eight girls from Texas, Colorado, Kansas, Oklahoma, Arkansas and New Mexico took part Miss Holden was No. 25 and her song was "The Spirit Song." Mr. Metcalf, No. 75, sang the Prologue from "Il Pagliaccio." Mr. Metcalf, who is 20 years old, was winner of the audition last year in Iowa, where he was living at the time. He lost, however, in the district finals.

The winner of second prize for the girls was Edith Noel, No. 31, coloratura soprano from Seguin. She sang "Caro Nome."

Thomas Bevins, No. 66, won second among the boys. The young basso from Elk City, Ok., sang "Abide With Me." Third place for the boys was won by John Pilon, No. 68, a baritone of Denver, Colo. Mr. Pilon sang "Eri Tu." The third girl was Margaret Womack, No. 23, a soprano from Arkadelphia, Ark., who sang "Una Doce Poco Fa."

Watch for our Announcement about Santa Claus. Brown's Bargain Store.

The largest dry dock in the world is at Brooklyn, N. Y. It can raise a 15,000-ton steamer in 25 minutes.

If you have any visitors. Phone 29 or 61.



**"BLESSED BE
THOSE FEASTS WITH SIMPLE
PLENTY CROWNED"**

—GOLDSMITH.

Three hundred and ten years ago the first day of Thanksgiving was celebrated. It was a humble, peaceful event participated in by the settlers of Plymouth colony—the Pilgrims. Because they had passed through a year of dreadful hardship and because they had come through, despite the flying obstacles, successfully, the Day of Thanksgiving was instituted. It holds an honored place in our list of national holidays today.

But some of the spirit that characterized that first celebration is missing today. The will to keep fighting, to win despite all obstacles, was the Pilgrims' method of doing things. Is that our modern method? For a year now our nation has been hide-bound with superstitious fear . . . and because we have laid down when fight was the order a period economically known as a depression now occupies the stage. But it can be beaten, will be beaten, if the true spirit of that first Thanksgiving is brought into play. If we face our problems as the Pilgrims faced theirs no depression in the world could stand under the onslaught.

Thus, from the pages of history and that first Thanksgiving, we learn much. Take faith . . . be . . . fight! Then, and only then, will we arise out of the so-called depression which today discourages people.

THIS PAGE SPONSORED IN THE SPIRIT OF THE DAY BY THE FOLLOWING CONCERNS:

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THE RED & WHITE STORES

**SPECIALS
FOR FRIDAY AND SATURDAY
NOVEMBER 27 AND 28**

SPUDS 10 lbs. 16c

LETTUCE, fancy crisp heads, each 5c

TURNIPS, Rutabaga, lb. 3c

GRAPEFRUIT, Texas seedless, 2 for 9c

APPLES, Winesap, 2 doz. 35c

ORANGES, Texas, doz. 23c

SUGAR, pure cane, cloth bag, 10 lbs. 53c

POST TOASTIES, large size, pkg. 10c

OATS, B & W, glassware, pkg. 21c

SOAP R & W Naptha 6 bars 19c

CATSUP, 14 oz, bottle 19c

DRIED FRUIT, peaches or apricot, 2 lbs. 25c

TOILET PAPER, 3 rolls 25c

COFFEE, R & W, 1 lb. can 37c, 2 lb. can 73c

Compound Swift Jewel 8 lb. pail 65c

JOWLS, salt cured, lb. 8 1-2c

BACON, sugar cured, sliced, lb. 20c

CHEESE, Wisconsin, lb. 23c