

THE MERKEL MAIL

VOL. 46—NO. 41.

MERKEL, TEXAS, FRIDAY, DECEMBER 27, 1935.

On the "Broadway of America"

5c PER COPY

TO ELIMINATE EMPLOYABLES BEFORE JAN. 1

State Director Issues Order for Relief Grants Only to Families of Unemployables After That Date.

Austin, Dec. 24.—Names of all employables were being eliminated from rolls of the Texas Relief commission this week as officials prepared to close all district administrative offices Jan. 1, it was announced today by Adam R. Johnson, state director.

Johnson said relief grants will be made after Jan. 1 only to families of unemployables—those who will not, for various reasons, be employed by the Works Progress Administration and other federal agencies operating public works projects.

Limited relief funds will be available, it was estimated, until April 1, at which time it is expected all money will have been granted and the relief organization discontinued.

Counties were requested to submit by Dec. 20 lists of unemployables to be used as the basis for distribution of the remaining relief funds, estimated to total \$2,500,000. Checks will be mailed directly to recipients from the state relief office, Johnson said.

The state director said closing district offices and other retrenchment steps will reduce administrative personnel for the final quarter's operations by 3,000 persons and costs from \$375,000 to \$150,000 per month.

Unemployables include mothers unable to take jobs because of children at home, and persons unable to work because of old age or other interfering factors such as mental or physical handicaps. Relief officials have estimated that there are 50,000 households in the state within this classification. An inflexible budget of an average of \$15 per household for unemployables only will be allocated to the counties through March, 1936, after which unemployables will become the responsibility of the communities in which they live, Johnson said, unless unforeseen public grants are made for them between now and April 1.

Death Claims Wife Of Trent Resident

Funeral services were held at Trent Sunday afternoon for Mrs. Nora Freeman, 58, wife of J. E. Freeman, of Trent, who died Saturday at the home of her daughter and son-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Dean, residing on the Largent place. Rev. W. H. Howell, Baptist pastor, conducted the rites.

Besides her husband, Mrs. Freeman is survived by three children.

Kidnaping Victim Goes Home.

Wilmington, Pa., Dec. 24.—Caleb Milne IV, young socialite kidnaping victim, was taken from the Doydown emergency hospital Saturday by a federal agent to the home of his mother at Woodstock, N. Y. Pale limping, he showed visibly the effects of his days at the hands of the kidnapers.

December 31--Last Day FALL BARGAIN RATES

Until December 31, bargain rates will continue on all the daily papers, (except the Dallas News,) the Semi-Weekly Farm News and special magazine clubs in combination with the Merkel Mail.

Do not let the opportunity pass to supply your reading for next year at these money-saving club rates.

THE MERKEL MAIL

"Your Home Town Newspaper"

KEEPING UP WITH TEXAS

By a vote in the ratio of about 3 to 2, Dallas county voted Saturday for the legalization of liquor.

Mrs. S. H. Robinson, 74, wife of a San Angelo merchant, died of a heart attack while conversing with a friend in a drug store.

The Texas old age assistance commission announced after a meeting Friday it believed first payment of pensions could start by July 1, 1936.

P. T. Norton, Jr., 29-year-old junior attorney for the federal securities exchange commission, plunged seven floors from a Houston hotel to his death.

Holmes C. Oldham, 30-year-old Abilenean, died in a hospital at Pampa Saturday night of injuries received in an automobile accident near Pampa early Friday.

Alvis Welker, 50, of Nocona, was fatally injured early Sunday morning when the car he was driving ran through a fence and crashed into a tree a mile west of town.

Harry Lacy, 38-year-old negro farm hand, trailed for a week in East Texas river bottoms, admitted when captured that he killed Edgar Womack, prominent Trinity county farmer.

Greenville, victor over Corpus Christi, 45 to 0, and Amarillo, winning over Wichita Falls, 27 to 12, in the semi-finals of the Texas interscholastic league, will meet Saturday at Ownby field, Dallas, for championship honors.

By a vote of better than 2 to 1, taxpayers of the Tuscola independent school district authorized the issuance of \$4,000 in bonds to complete a gymnasium on which work was started last summer.

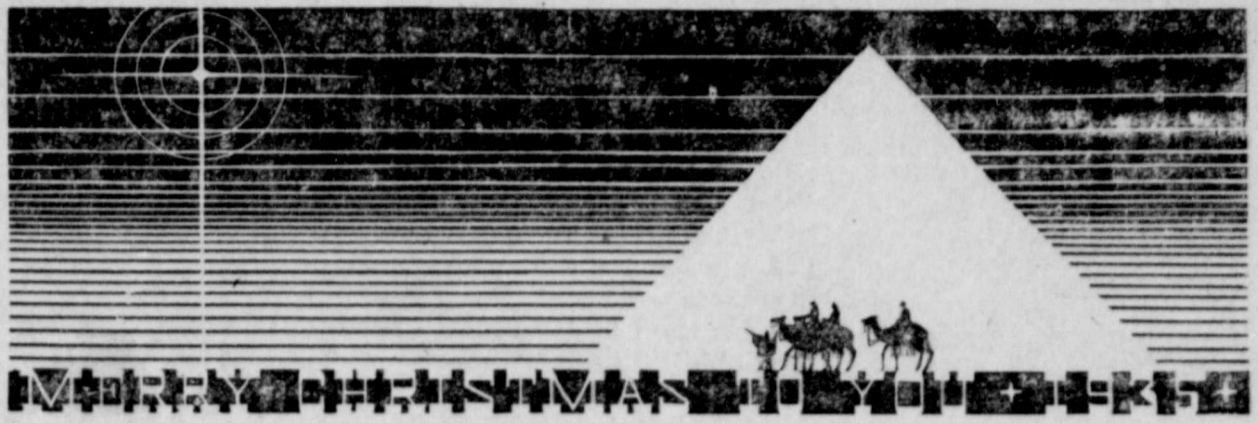
Injured Thursday afternoon when thrown out of the Wylie school bus when a door flew open, Maurice Ellis, 10-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. R. Ellis of Buffalo Gap, died Saturday at an Abilene sanitarium.

En route to Tucson, Ariz., for his annual winter sojourn, General John J. Pershing spent Saturday night in Abilene. He was accompanied by his sister, Miss May Pershing, and chauffeur, Master Sergeant C. C. Shaeffer.

The state highway commission awarded a contract to the Austin Bridge company of Dallas on a low bid of \$1,675,027 for construction of the sub-structure, super-structure and approaches to the Galveston causeway.

Governor James V. Allred has announced the appointment of Zeta Gossett of Fort Worth as state banking commissioner to succeed Irvin McCreeary of Gatesville, who has accepted the presidency of the Farmers State bank of Temple.

More Wool Used.
New York, Dec. 24.—Wool consumption for 1935 will be the largest since 1923, according to a recent estimate by the textile economic bureau.



Although the universe is filled with millions of stars, none can vie in fame with the Star that guided the three Wise Men of the East through the night to a tiny manger in Bethlehem. And just as it brought the world a message of peace

and good will we want this greeting to carry to you and all our friends our appreciation of the happiness your friendship has brought to us, and with it our wishes that this Christmas may bring to you all the joy, health and happiness that you could desire.

THE MERKEL MAIL AND FORCE

TWO CHURCHES IN UNITED SERVICE

Impressive Grouping of Christmas Carols Rendered in Sunday Evening Program.

In a co-operative service Sunday evening at the Methodist church, Grace Presbyterian and First Methodist churches united in a Christmas program of carols, special numbers and a reading, the entire hour being given over to appropriate hymns and carols emblematic of the season which celebrates the birth of the Christ.

Amid the setting of a large and beautifully decorated tree, with the chancel rail covered with cedars, evergreens and pot plants, in the glow of soft candle light from tall candelabra, the following program under the direction of Miss Christine Collins, with Miss Billie Gardner as accompanist, was effectively and impressively rendered by a massed choir:

Prelude; hymn, "All Hail the Power of Jesus Name"; invocation, Rev. R. A. Walker; "History of the Carols of the Bible," Rev. John H. Crow; Luther's "Cradle Hymn"; recitatives from "The Messiah," Miss Christine Collins; "Joy to the World"; solo, "There's a Song in the Air," Mrs. Homer Patterson; "Come All Ye Faithful"; reading, "The Other Wise Man," Mrs. R. O. Pearson; "Hark the Herald Angels Sing"; quartette, "The Birthday of a King," Misses Christine Collins and Bessylea Church, Cyrus Pee and Harry Barnett, and concluding with "Silent Night" and the benediction by Rev. R. A. Walker.

All-Stars vs Rule Here on Christmas

The Rule All-Star football team will tackle the Merkel All-Stars here on Christmas day at 7:30 in the afternoon.

The proceeds of the game will enrich the treasury of both Rule and Merkel athletic funds.

The Rule boys promise a hard fighting team and should furnish plenty of competition for the Merkel Stars. Many of the 1935 Badger stars will be seen in action here on Christmas day, including Captain and Co-Captain Higgins and Robertson, Riney, D. Pangle, M. Patton, L. V. Moore, R. T. Blair and others. It is hoped that Bussy Boaz will play with the boys Christmas, also Cal McAninch and other stars of yesteryear.

Coaches Hutto and Myers invite the public to see a real football game here on Christmas day at 7:30 p. m.

The Merkel All-Stars lost to Anson in Friday's game, 7 to 0, but they are to play Anson again, the next time to be in Merkel on Jan. 3, 1936, as the Anson boys promise a return game.

On Tarleton Honor Roll.
Stephenville, Dec. 22.—Mary Helen Lancaster and Margaret Miller of Merkel are listed among the 103 honor students of John Tarleton college who made 80 or above in all subjects for the second preliminary report, according to announcement this week from the registrar's office.

ANNOUNCE THREE DAY MEETING

Programs Arranged for Fifth Sunday by West Side Baptist Church at Tye.

A three day series of programs for a Fifth Sunday meeting has been announced for the West Side Baptist church at Tye, Friday, Saturday and Sunday, Dec. 27, 28 and 29.

The complete program follows:

Friday 6:45 p. m., song and praise service; 7:30 p. m., sermon by Rev. Roy A. Kemp, Abilene.

Saturday, 10 a. m., song and praise service; 11 a. m., sermon by Rev. Jasper C. Massegee, Coleman; 6:45 p. m., song and praise service; 7:30 p. m., sermon.

Sunday, 9:45 a. m., Sunday School; 11 a. m., sermon by Pastor J. W. Reynolds; 12 noon, dinner on the grounds; 1 p. m., singing; 2 p. m. sermon by Rev. John A. Lovell, Dublin; 3 p. m., sermon, Rev. Sam Morris, Stamford.

Ernest Ripplette of Dublin and Rev. L. G. Sheppard of Sweetwater are to have charge of the music and singing for these services. The Ripplette quartette and Rev. and Mrs. Sheppard are to give special numbers in song.

Everybody is cordially invited to attend these services.

Present Car to Pastor Presbyterian Church

Christmas came to Rev. R. A. Walker and family after a most happy fashion Tuesday in the presentation by friends of a Ford V-8 Tudor, purchased from the Merkel Motor company. The list of donors included residents of both Merkel and Baird and surrounding communities.

Friends of all denominations and creeds took occasion to participate in the Christmas gift to the pastor of Grace Presbyterian church, who is also pastor at Baird, and whose broad Christian spirit and exemplary standards of living have made him universally popular.

Figures Show Record Gain in Pay Rolls

Washington, Dec. 24.—Factory employment and payrolls made the best showing last month of any November since 1925, Secretary of Labor Frances Perkins announced Monday.

Aggregate employment and payrolls in combined manufacturing and non-manufacturing industries showed net declines from October to November, the U. S. bureau of labor statistics reported.

"The decrease, however, was the smallest for any similar period since November, 1925, and much below the usual seasonal decline in employment and payrolls," Miss Perkins said.

Factory employment decreased one-half of one per cent and payrolls declined seven-tenths of one per cent. Factory employment exceeded the level recorded in any month since October, 1930, with exception of October, 1935. The factory payroll index was highest of any month since March, 1931, with the exception of October, 1935.

BAPTISTS HOLD SPECIAL SERVICE

Spirit of the Christmas Season Depicted in Pageant of Birth of Christ Child

With the background of an improvised chimney, such as Saint Nick always delights in, and midst a setting of a Christmas tree and Yuletide decorations, the Christmas program at the First Baptist church Sunday evening reverted to a scene before an old-fashioned fireplace.

It was here that a black mammy of the days of the Old South, (Mrs. A. R. Booth,) and little Sammy, (Billy Clyde Haynes,) were revealed as they listened to the program arranged by Mrs. Lucy Tracy Haynes.

After singing of "All Hail the Power" by the congregation and prayer by the pastor, Rev. C. R. Joyner, songs were rendered by the beginners, primary department and juniors, with a reading by Miss Clara Frances Largent, during which Miss Emma Joyner at the piano played softly the old familiar, "Home, Sweet Home."

A Christmas play was presented by high school students, including Jane Ferguson, Janet Berry, Janet Hayes, Juanita Huskey, Sylvan Mellinger, Roy Hagler and Clifton Bellamy.

Following a group of Christmas songs by Mrs. Yates Brown, the various characters in the family, depicted by Mr. and Mrs. Comer Haynes, Misses Iris Garrett, Helen and Pauline Joyner, Clara Frances Largent and (Continued on Page Five)

J. M. BLACKBURN, CONFEDERATE VETERAN, DIES

One of the Oldest Men in This Section and Resident of Canyon Since 1897; Aged Wife and Three Sons Survive.

J. M. Blackburn, 92, Confederate veteran and one of the oldest residents of this section, died at 7:15 Sunday evening at his home in the Canyon. He had been in failing health for several years and for the past two months had been confined to his bed.

Funeral services were held at the graveside in Rose Hill cemetery at 3 o'clock Monday afternoon, with Rev. C. R. Joyner, pastor of the First Baptist church, officiating.

Pallbearers were: Ike Garrett, Grady Neill, W. C. Mathews, Roland Toombs, Joe Hampton and J. L. Perry.

James Monroe Blackburn, lovingly known as "Uncle Jim," was born May 12, 1843, in Blunt county, Ala. He was married to Miss Queen McMurray, and to this union three sons and a daughter were born. Following the death of his first wife, he was married to Mrs. Mary Hicks. A daughter, Elizabeth, was born to them.

In 1861, Mr. Blackburn enlisted in the Confederate army and served four years duration of the war between the states. The family moved to Texas in 1897, settling in canyon.

Both of his daughters predeceased him in death. He is survived by his wife, who is 90 years old and three sons, John, U. Blackburn. 31 grand-children and a number of great-grandchildren survive.

Favorable Change For J. S.

Considerable improvement was noted Tuesday morning in the case of J. S. Thomas, who was carried to the West Texas Baptist sanitarium at Abilene, Saturday, gravely ill.

Mrs. S. D. Brown and daughter, Quannah, arrived Monday night to be with her father. Other children who have been here since Saturday are: J. B. Thomas and daughter, Fort Worth; Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Brewster and children, Sudan, and Sheriff W. A. Holt and Mrs. Holt, of Ballinger.

Nobel Prize Winner.

Stockholm, Sweden, Dec. 24.—Madame Irene Curie Joliot of Paris, daughter of the late Mme. Marie Curie, discoverer of radium, was co-winner with her husband, Prof. Fredrick Joliot, of the 1935 Nobel prize for chemistry.

MERKEL 20 YEARS AGO

(From the Files of Merkel Mail, December 17, 1915.)

The Rev. A. A. Baker at the outbreak of the Civil War joined the First Brigade Tennessee Cavalry and served as chaplain. After leaving the army he assisted in building two churches in Spring Hill, Concord and Santa Fe. In '84 he came to Texas and the following year he organized the First Presbyterian church of this place. At that time there were eleven members, five of whom were members of his own family. Believers of all faiths met and worshiped together.

Marion French, who now lives at Alvin, Texas, was the only official Methodist in Merkel at that time.

Capt. J. T. Tucker, Ex-Confederate, ex-legislator, justice of the peace, commissioner When J. T. Tucker heard the bugle call of the South, he left a country (where Dublin now stands) infested by Indians and joined Company G of the 20th Texas cavalry. Mr. Tucker married Miss Sarah Ann Woodrome and to this union were born Mrs. J. W. Daniel of this city and Mrs. Ed Vickers of Pecos. He purchased land from the government at \$1.00 per acre and built a log cabin. He was dubbed a "Nestor" by the large cattlemen who ruled this section. When it became known that the Texas & Pacific railroad was really building thru, he hitched up his prairie schooner and

came to where Derstine's lake now is and camped and waited so that his family could see what a train looked like.

Sam Butman, now one of the best known cowmen and landowners in this country, was once a sailor boy on the coast of Maine.

J. T. Warren, cattleman, banker and farmer, came to Merkel in '91 with \$750—all his earthly possessions.

J. P. Lamar is another who has found it profitable to settle in West Texas.

W. W. Johnson, commonly known as "Uncle Billie," bought land near Trent without seeing it in '94.

J. A. Hamner is among the earliest settlers who are here yet, exceeded in seniority only by Messrs. G. P. and Jonathan Bradley who "squatted" in the Canyon.

In 1888 J. T. Toombs, "Uncle John," purchased 160 acres of land near Nubia at \$3.00 per acre, paying \$50.00 down on the investment, reserving a small amount of money for his needs. In '88 Mr. Toombs bought the estate that was for sale in Merkel. It was a small heater and was sold to Arthur Thornton, then a very man clerking in his mother's

THE BADGER WEEKLY

Published weekly by the students of Merkel High School and Sponsored by the Senior Class of '36—Miss Alycen Ater, sponsor.

The Staff:

Editor-in-Chief—Mabel Maddox. Society Editor—Janet Hayes.
Assistant Editor—Juanita Huskey. Sports Editor—Oscar Adcock.
Joke Editor—Horace Boney

LEAPIN' LENA HAS ACCIDENT.

Leapin' Lena, of Merkel High school, famous for her beauty and efficiency, was seriously injured last Friday morning by a fall received in Petty and West's Barber shop. She was taken to a specialist and is receiving the best of care.

Lena had attended Merkel High school all this semester, regularly, every day, without exception. She has a round white face and small but very beautiful hands. She had attended every football game of the season, plus practice scrimmages. In fact, she was quite an athlete herself, having greater endurance in running than any of the football stars, even Coaches Myers and Hutto. Running was her profession.

Do not be surprised if you do not know this famous runner, for no man has ever photographed her face, and though she attended classes as well as ball games, she always stayed in an obscure place and did not show her face often. She was very quiet, making it necessary for one to listen carefully in order to hear her. She was extremely skilled with her hands, using them constantly.

This pretty, lively little thing was leaving Petty and West's Barber Friday morning (running, as usual) en route to school, when she slipped and fell. The side of her face struck against the steel foot-rest of the barber chairs. For a moment she lay motionless on the floor, her usually active hands limp. Then she was snatched up and taken to a specialist with whom she remained ever since. By the time this article is published, she will have undergone a major operation for the main injury was indeed very serious.

Regis has been taking Lena's place at school, thanks to the general watch to Mr. Hutto, who dropped his watch, "Lena," on the floor and broken it. Let us all wish Mr. Petty, "St. Regis," Hutto and "Leapin' Lena" a merry Christmas and a happy new year.

"LAS CUCHARACHAS."

At a meeting Wednesday morning the prospective members gathered to determine the name of the club and the number of students who were interested in a Spanish club. The name of "La Cucharachas" was chosen for our club, with the theme song of "La Cucharaca." The number who have met is around sixty-five, but we are expecting others to join later. The date of the initiation is not definitely decided, but soon after the holidays. The following committee was elected to have charge of the following program after the initiation: Betty Grimes, Murphy Dye, Sylvan Mellingner, Lloyd Vick and Roy Hagler.



E. E. Collins Service Station

Rid Yourself of Kidney Poisons

DO you suffer burning, scanty or too frequent urination; backache, headache, dizziness, loss of energy, leg pains, swellings and puffiness under the eyes? Are you tired, nervous—feel all unstrong and don't know what is wrong?

Then give some thought to your kidneys. Be sure they function properly for functional kidney disorder permits excess waste to stay in the blood, and to poison and upset the whole system.

Use Doan's Pills. Doan's are for the kidneys only. They are recommended the world over. You can get the genuine, time-tested Doan's at any drug store.

DOAN'S PILLS

SPORT NEWS.

Due to the fact that some of the basketball boys have no way home when they stay after school to practice, they have not been able to make a daily work-out. Coach Hutto thinks that after the Christmas holidays are over the boys can get down to business and produce an excellent team.

We sincerely believe that Taylor county and the surrounding schools will get more competition from the Merkel Badgers than ever before.

Watch out for the Merkel basketball squad!

VOTE OF THANKS.

We students—Mary Jo Russell, Billy Wood, Janell Black, Roy Hagler and Juanita Huskey—are grateful for the interest which Mr. Burgess and the other members of the Lions club have shown.

We greatly enjoyed the second luncheon given to honor the highest ranking students of each grade in High school. We feel that this courtesy is inspiring High school students to become more sincere in their efforts.

CHORAL CLUB.

Perhaps one of the most aggressive, as well as the largest, organizations in Merkel High school is the Choral club.

All over the campus can be heard such sayings as "I enjoy Choral club days more than any day in the week!" or "Choral club is the life of our school!"

There are about fifty ambitious and enthusiastic young girls who meet in the studio each Monday and Thursday to prove to their sponsor, who is equally as enthusiastic about her work, just how well they can sing those songs which were new to them on the last Choral club day.

The club is composed of such a variety of personalities, you could surely find your idea of a young lady. There is that feminine dignity, such as we

find in Hollis Perry, Missie Spurgin and many other of our girls. There is the ambitious type who are always wanting to do something like Eva Faye Bush, Opal Buzbee or Ina Mae Berryman. Then, too, we have that "Hurrah for the Fun!" type which takes in Thelma Patterson and Maymie Webb, as well as many others.

In spite of the sponsor's dignity and appreciation of quietness, the reporter believes she is as fond of one girl as another.

A committee has been selected to plan the dresses for the year.

WHO'S WHO AROUND THE CAMPUS.

Betty Grimes has been attending Merkel High school for three years. During this time she has gone to county meet in Junior Girls' Declamation. We are very proud of the record that Betty has made in declamation. In Choral club Betty has taken a very active part for three years. She is gracing the list of girls that are out for volley ball this year.

Last but far from least is Betty's position in the Pep Squad. Every year since she entered High school Betty has been a member of the Pep Squad. One year she was assistant leader and this year she has been a very capable and happy main leader. Betty seems to be a leader in everything which she enters. Keep up that good work, Betty, and you will always be a leader in whatever you choose to do in life.

Adding machine rolls at Merkel Mail office.

Try a Classified Ad for Results.



Vogue Beauty Shop
Mae Melton
Mamie McDaniel

NOTICE OF STOCKHOLDERS MEETING.

Notice is hereby given that a meeting of the stockholders of the Farmers State Bank in Merkel, Merkel, Texas, will be held at the office of said bank the second Tuesday in January, 1936, being the 14th day of the month, for the election of directors. Polls open between 2 p. m. and 5 p. m.

Jog P. Self, Cashier.

Two full lines of cosmetics—Marie Tomlin's and Boyer's—Vick Drug Company.

The plowing season is now on. Bring your dull Discs to C. P. Stevens and have them rolled.

Complete line of office supplies at Mail office.

The Home of COMFORT COURTESY FRIENDLINESS



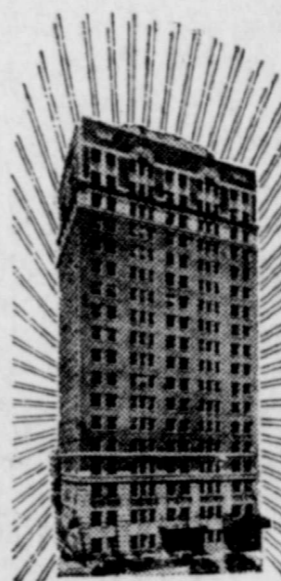
JACK FARRELL, Manager

"Friendly" is the word here. Smiling attendants greet you everywhere. It's a pleasure to stay here. Ask anyone!

18

Floors of Cheerful Guest Rooms All With Bath

\$2 And Up



To all our good friends who have helped to make this a successful year we extend our warmest greetings of the season.

We wish you a Merry Christmas with the sincere hope that a full measure of happiness and prosperity will be yours in the New Year to come.

THE OLD RELIABLE

Farmers & Merchants National Bank

Merkel, Texas

"THIRTY YEARS OF UNINTERRUPTED SERVICE"



Merry Christmas and A Happy New Year
BLAKE'S DRY CLEANERS

Phone 68

Elm Street

PEACE
JOY
CHEER

May Christmas Give You These And More!

And may you enter the New Year with a determination to make it a prosperous, happy one. When you begin your inventory of 1936 we hope you will find an overstock of pleasant memories, loads of joy, peace and cheer; and you will be better off for having lived in such a year.

We are entering the New Year with the determination to excel our past efforts to please you and co-operate with you every hour of every day during the coming year.

Campbell's Grocery and Market

A Merry Christmas!

A wish to you, our customers! May the Holiday Season bring you a wealth of joy and good fellowship. May the New Year bring you Health, Happiness and Prosperity in full measure. For ourselves, we also have a wish: That we may continue to serve you faithfully and well, making life easier by this service and rendering it in a more personal manner than ever before.

Progress is our watchword, so we hope this year may bring new developments in Electric Service which will further seek to simplify labor, save time, and do both at the lowest possible cost to you.

We cordially extend Season's Greetings to all, and add the hope for a better acquaintance and the privilege of rendering to you a more liberal service, which our past experiences and achievements make possible.

West Texas Utilities Company

Rex Beach writes:
POWDER

Fine Serial Fiction in a new form. . . . Three Prize Short Stories (of four installments each) by a master story-teller. . . . They're Rex Beach at his best.

FINAL INSTALLMENT.
Mechanically Ben made an effort to rise, but could not manage it. "Must have hit on my head," he mumbled thickly, and raised groping fingers. Then he sat up. He knew now that he had not fallen into a pit. "Where are they? What's happened?" Betty was sobbing wildly; her hair hung in a cascade about her shoulders; she was clad only in her nightdress, and it was soaked with the water she had poured over Ben to revive him. Beside the open door to the hall lay the wreck of a chair; two of its legs were splintered, broken off; Ben realized more clearly now what it was that had crashed down upon his head. With an effort he scrambled dizzily to his feet. Water was trickling into his eyes and blinding him; he brushed it away, then discovered to his great surprise, that it was not water at all, but blood, his own blood. His head felt twice its normal size; his brain did not function clearly and his limbs refused to obey him. Betty's voice came to him as if from a long distance; she was telling him something, trying to make him understand that they were alone in the house and that their assailant had fled. When this became plain to Furlong, he sat down. It was some time before the girl succeeded in stanching that flow of blood around, for she was scarcely in condition to render help to anybody. By the time her task was completed Ben had managed to get a pretty clear idea of what had happened. She had been awakened by a sound and had realized that somebody was in her room; she had uttered a frightened challenge, only to feel groping hands upon her, to find herself in the grasp of some unseen person. She retained no very clear recollection of anything after that; the rest was a hideous nightmare. Not until the miscreant had bolted out of the house and she had finally managed somehow to strike a light, did she make aware of the reason for his flight. Then she had stumbled over Ben and had realized that it was his voice she had heard calling to her.

that it was the sound of his coming that had interrupted the attack. His plight had done a good deal to bring her back to herself, but now she threatened to again abandon her self-control. Furlong checked this by saying: "Betty Durham! You've got nothing on but your nightie!" It was some time later when the girl emerged from her room, dressed after a fashion, to find her deliverer waiting in the kitchen with a scowl upon his face. "You got a gun?" he inquired, harshly. "No, Ben. Why?" "I'm going to kill Maddox." For a moment Betty stared at the speaker; with shaking fingers she plucked at her dress. It was in a thin, reedy voice that she said: "It wasn't Maddox." "How do you know?" "Oh, I know! It wasn't Maddox." "Are you sure?" The girl nodded, and Ben bowed his throbbing head in his hands. "I'm glad," he groaned. "Providence certainly brought me back. It wouldn't happen that way once in a thousand times. Whoever it was, I'll find him." Both the man and the girl were in wretched condition. The rest of the night they sat together, watching the

clock and listening for a possible return of the marauder, waiting for the day to break. It was shortly after they had finished breakfast that Furlong was surprised to discover signs of activity, movements, going on at the well which caused him to stare fixedly, then to announce, incredulously: "Say! I believe Maddox is fixing to shoot the well!" Betty took her place at his side. "Why—he can't. He dassent! The powder men won't be here till to-morrow." "All the same, he's doing something queer. See those cans—those shiny things?" "You couldn't hire Tiller to touch nitroglycerine. He's scared of it—" Ben uttered an oath. "I tell you he's filling those cartridges. He's crazy! You've got to stop him!" Betty turned white; she shook her

head. "I won't go near the place. It's—it's Aunt Mary's well." "Then I'll stop him. Why, it's ten to one he'll sear the rock, ruin the whole job and—Damned if I don't believe he's trying to do that very thing!" Furlong started for the door, but Betty clung to him. When he pushed on past her she followed him. Together they hurried across the field and took the path through the mesquite. As they went the girl continued to implore him not to interfere. Halfway to the drilling camp they met the engineer hastening towards the farmhouse, and the latter announced: (Continued on Page Six.)



May this joyous Christmas season be but a forerunner of the happiness and prosperity that will be yours throughout the year.

Liberty Service Station
JAY GREENFIELD, Mgr.

CORDIAL WISHES

Our best wishes to you and your dear ones for a very Merry Christmas and a New Year that will bring happiness to all of you.

WHEELER AND VAUGHN

Best Christmas Wishes to Our Friends and Customers

May the days and miles ahead carry you over pleasant ways to new happiness, success and prosperity.

And During 1936—

We hope you'll MORE than "make the grade" and come SMILING THROUGH!

MAGNOLIA PETROLEUM CO.
CHAS. H. JONES, Agent

THE SEASON'S GREETINGS

With the utmost sincerity and pleasure we wish to express our thanks to you and wish you a Merry Christmas, and a happy New Year. We have appreciated your business this past year, 1935.

May we continue to have your esteem, friendship and cooperation in years to come.

Wishing you unbounded success and good luck for the coming year.

HUGHES MOTOR COMPANY

IN BLESSED MEMORY

The gift without the giver is bare. Not so with the gift we celebrate this Christmas Day, for He not only gave a gift to humanity, He gave Himself and His Father's Kingdom that we might enjoy eternal happiness for His efforts.

In HIS Name We Wish You a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year

FARMERS STATE BANK
Merkel, Texas

PUTTING TWO And TWO TOGETHER

and wishing our friends and customers a couple of good wishes

MERRY CHRISTMAS
HAPPY NEW YEAR

W. O. BONEY
MERKEL, TEXAS

A MERRY CHRISTMAS

When the midnight chimes of some distant church announce the arrival of Christmas may every heart be happy, carefree and full of good things of life. We hope that the Christmas spirit of Good-Will will prevail in your household not only on Christmas Day but throughout the new year 1936. When you reach the end of the coming year may you find yourself better off in every way.

These firms are glad of this opportunity to express their appreciation to the people of this community for the progress made in the past and resolve now to do every thing in our power toward improving our service to our friends and patrons during the coming year.

CONTINENTAL OIL CO.
W. F. Golladay, Agent

TOOMBS & GUITAR SERVICE STATION
WOODRUM SERVICE STATION
D. C. HERRING & SON, Noodle
E. BRADLEY MERCANTILE CO., Stith
A. J. NEWMAN, Compere

MERRY CHRISTMAS TO OUR FRIENDS And a HAPPY NEW YEAR

And if our wishes for you all come true . . .

Good Times Are Ahead

And everything's going to be alright!

MERKEL DRUG CO.

TO OUR FRIENDS AND PATRONS

Each day of the year we try to make new friends. We are proud of the friends this business has made in the past—our old friends—and also take pride in the fact that we have, and are making new friends each and every day.

At this season of the year we are thinking of all our friends and patrons and wishing each of you a very Merry Christmas, we hope that you will enjoy a happy Yuletide season and that the New Year may be good to you and to those whose happiness depends upon you.

BURTON-LINGO CO.

MERKEL MAIL

Published Every Friday Morning
C. J. GLOVER, Editor
TELEPHONE NO. 61

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

SUBSCRIPTION RATES --
Taylor and Jones Counties \$1.00
Anywhere else \$1.50
(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.

PERSONALS

Becky Jewel Gaither, daughter of
Mr. and Mrs. Forrest Gaither, who
underwent a tonsil operation Sunday,
is reported doing nicely.

Mrs. S. J. Callahan of Tulare, Cal-
ifornia, has been a visitor in the home
of her daughter, Rev. and Mrs. Bill
Dowell, the past week.

When Mr. and Mrs. Byron Patter-
son returned from a week's visit with
his sister, Mrs. E. E. Beech, in Ov-
erton, they were accompanied by Mrs.
Beech, who is spending the holidays
with the parents, Mr. and Mrs. A. B.
Patterson.

Mrs. Will Piller of Longview is vis-
iting her daughter, Mr. and Mrs. H.
L. Simpson, this week.

TRENT NEWS AND
PERSONALS

School closed Friday afternoon for
one week for the Christmas holidays.
Several of the teachers are remain-
ing here while others have gone to
homes. The Misses Nichols are
visiting Mrs. O. L. Reaves has
arrived from Mt. Vernon, Mr. Blankenship
of Ephenville and Mrs. Ellen Dun-
ton of Sweetwater.
Dorene Scott is home from Mc-
Culloch. Miss Marjory Adrian
of C. C.
Mrs. Martin and little daugh-
ter were recent guests
of Mr. and Mrs. W. E.

Mr. and Mrs. Eastland was
visiting his parents, Mr. and
Mrs. Hamper.
Mrs. Stollas is a guest
of Mr. and Mrs. Andy
Reid at school.
Mr. Pettit who is work-
ing at school is visit-
ing his friends during the
holidays.

Mrs. Hays Wheatley and
her daughter, Louise, left the 20th on
the Special for a visit of two
weeks with relatives in Tennessee.

Mrs. Parker has gone to Post and
other points on the Plains to spend
the holidays visiting her daughter,
Miss Inez Parker, and her son, Ike,
and his wife.

Mr. and Mrs. James Bright have
gone to Corpus Christi to spend the
rest of the winter.

Mrs. J. C. Randel of Quanah is
guest in the home of her parents, Mr.
and Mrs. R. B. Johnson.

Bill Nalley of the Dickinson oil
fields is the guest of relatives.

Miss Mildred Steadman is home
from C. I. A. to spend the holidays
with her mother.

RENEAU-BULLARD.

Miss Lillie Ellen Bullard of Es-
ter and Floyd Renau of Trent were
married last Wednesday at Sweet-
water. They will reside at Winters
where Mr. Renau is engaged in farm-
ing.

Senator Schall Dies.

Washington, D. C., Dec. 24.—Thom-
as D. Schall, blind Minnesota republi-
can senator, died at 11:31 a. m. Sun-
day of injuries received in an auto-
mobile accident near here Thursday
night. He was 58 years of age.

SPECIAL NOTICE.

The Mail will run a news men-
tion free of charge of box supports and
benefits in any community, but, if de-
sired more than once, the second pub-
lication will be charged for.

Read Merkel Mail Want-Ads.



Whiteley Bros. Service
Station

CHURCH SERVICES

SUNDAY SCHOOL ATTENDANCE.

Only 608 were present at the six
reporting Sunday Schools here Sun-
day, as compared with 632 on the pre-
vious Sunday. A year ago 746 were
in attendance.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH.

We are indeed glad to have our
Sunday School superintendent, W. J.
Largent, with us again, and he will be
with us until the Fort Worth Fat
Stock show.

There was a Christmas program at
the church Sunday evening. Mrs.
Comer Haynes directed it and each
part was played well.

Sunday School at 10 a. m. Preach-
ing at 11 a. m. and 7:15 p. m. BTS at
6:15 p. m. WMU at 3 o'clock Monday
afternoon. Prayer meeting at 7:15
Wednesday evening.

ALATHEAN CLASS.

As next Sunday is the last Sunday
in the year of 1935, we hope to meet
every member of the class at Sunday
School. So let's have a full class. We
had a good class Sunday and one of
our old class members back with us.
So hope to have all in this class this
last Sunday. Visitors are welcome to
come and meet with us at all times.
Class President.

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

Sunday School at 10 a. m. Preach-
ing at 11 a. m. Evening service will
be at 5:30, with special music ar-
ranged by the music committee. Pray-
er meeting on Wednesday evening.
Everyone is cordially invited to
these services. Strangers always wel-
come.

R. A. Walker, Pastor.

METHODIST CHURCH.

Services as usual on Sunday and
throughout the following week.
John H. Crow, Pastor.

NORTHSIDE MISSIONARY
BAPTIST CHURCH.

Sunday was a high day in Israel
for all those that attended our ser-
vices. We were lifted up Sunday
morning as Rev. A. M. Dowell deliv-
ered a heart-stirring message. Then
Sunday evening, as Brother Dowell



Pitt's Eat Shop

brought a message on "The Uplifting
Hand of God," we were all made to
rejoice, heaven was made glad and
satan was defeated as a young man
and wife came weeping giving their
hearts to Christ.
All services same as usual.

CHURCH OF CHRIST.

Bible study 10 a. m. Lord's day,
preaching 11 a. m. and 7 p. m. by
Brother A. J. Rollins, young people's
program 6 p. m.

For the Wednesday evening ser-
vice at 7 o'clock, we will have one of
the young preachers from A. C. C.

You are cordially invited to all of
these services.

The Elders.

NAZARENE CHURCH.

Sunday School at 9:45 a. m. Preach-
ing 11 a. m. NYPS at 6:30 p. m.
Preaching at 7:30 p. m. Mid-week
prayer meeting Wednesday evening at
7 o'clock and don't forget the watch
night service beginning at 7:30 on
Tuesday night, Dec. 31.

Our revival begins Jan. 1 and we
will appreciate your co-operation.
Through the revival the pastor will
do the preaching. In the watch night
service we will have two sermons, one
about 8:30 and the other about 11

QUEEN THEATRE

Merkel, Texas

"Showing the Pick of the Pictures"

Tuesday Night Preview 11 P. M.,
Wednesday Mat. 2 P. M.
and Night

Kathryn Hepburn and Fred
McMurray in
"ALICE ADAMS"

Comedy, "The Rag Doll"

Thursday, Dec. 26
"SHANGHAI"

Friday-Saturday

"THE LAST OUTPOST"
With Carey Grant and
Claud Rains

First chapter of "New Adven-
tures of Tarzan"

Saturday Night Preview 11 P.
M., Monday and Tuesday
Will Rogers in

"Steamboat Round the Bend"

Tuesday Night Preview 11 P. M.
Wednesday Mat. 2 P. M. and
Night

"Keeper of the Bees"

Don't Forget Thursday Night

\$75.00 CASH--FREE

ON WINNING RECIPE

BELLE OF WICHITA

Famous Texas Flour

Contest

Ask

McDONALD GROCERY

Distributors

Phone 259

PROFESSIONAL

BEN M. DAVIS

Certified Public Accountant

Attorney-at-Law

Income Tax Consultant

Mims Bldg. Abilene, Texas

R. I. Grimes, M. D.

Physician and Surgeon

Hospital Facilities

Tel.: Office 163; Residence 165

West Bldg. Merkel, Texas

PAULINE JOHNSON

Successor to

G. W. JOHNSON

Insurance--Notary Public

In new location, next door to McDon-

ald Barber Shop--Elm St.

Merkel, Texas

Ernest Walter Wilson

ATTORNEY-AT-LAW

Insurance Law a Specialty

General Civil Practice

125 1/2 Pine St. Abilene, Tex.

o'clock. Rev. J. L. Mayhall, the former
pastor, will bring one of the messages
on watch night. There will be a de-
votional service between the preach-
ing hours. Come worship with us.
R. T. Smith, Pastor.

BLAIR ITEMS

(Omitted Last Week.)

The Baptist revival, conducted by
the eloquent Rev. C. R. Joyner of
Merkel, closed Sunday night. Many
from the surrounding communities at-
tended these services. With the mar-
velous discourses delivered in this
series of meetings, souls were won to
the kingdom of God. With each suc-
ceeding services the evangelist has
grown closer to the Blair folks, and
we appreciate the fine Christian
spirit presented by Misses Joyner and
Foster for playing the piano for the
meeting and pray God's blessing for
them both.

Kenneth McClure is on an exten-
ded visit with his brother, Mr. and
Mrs. Vivian Terrell, of Rosebud.

Cariene Hughes visited relatives at
Merkel over the week-end.

Mr. and Mrs. R. B. Horton and
children, Reuben and Jimmie Nell,
are visiting relatives at Wortham.

Sam Province visited in the home of

CHRISTMAS CHEER

May all of your fondest wishes
and dreams come true during the
coming year and we sincerely
hope that disappointment shall
be a total stranger to you.

BARRON MOTOR CO.

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pastor, will bring one of the messages
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R. T. Smith, Pastor.

her uncle and aunt, Mr. and Mrs. Bob
Malone.
Mr. and Mrs. Jack Latimer left the
past Monday to spend the winter in
Corpus Christi.
Mr. and Mrs. Mark Malone and
family are sporting a new Ford V-8
recently.

Two full lines of cosmetics—
Marie Tomlin's and Boyer's—
Vick Drug Company.

Each of Us Wishes Each
of You

A MERRY, MERRY
CHRISTMAS
And a
VERY HAPPY
NEW YEAR



Bird & Swafford
Service Station

Dowell's Auto Top and
Glass Co.

An ad to make a little call
and wish the wish that's
best of all . . .

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND
HAPPY NEW YEAR

BOB McDONALD BARBER SHOP

Elm Street Phone 13

Gail College

of

BUSINESS EFFICIENCY

HELEN GAIL ROBINSON, A. B., President

161 1-2 Cedar Abilene, Texas Box 980

WHY?

1. All graduates and advanced students employed—100%
2. Individual Instruction from Efficient Teachers.
3. New Equipment.
4. Select Student Body.
5. Low Tuition Rates (\$10—\$175).

COST?

3 Months	1 subject	\$10
	2 subjects	\$15
	3 subjects	\$25
1 Year Courses	Stenographic	\$75
	Salesmanship	\$50
	Accountancy	\$100
2 Year Courses	Secretarial Science	\$100
	Business Administration	\$175

Civil Service Training \$30 (Free to students who buy a two-year course).

What better Christmas Present could you give a boy or girl than tuition in Gail College? Invest a few weeks' earnings and give them a training that they can use the rest of their lives—a training that becomes more valuable the longer they use it.

For Terms and Information Write Box 980, Abilene, Tex.

New Term Starts Jan. 2

Mrs. Bob
er left the
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alone and
Ford V-8

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Boyer's—

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13

NECESSITATED ADS

FOR SALE

DON'T SCRATCH—Get Paracide Ointment, the guaranteed itch remedy. Paracide Ointment is guaranteed to relieve itch, eczema, itching piles or skin irritations, or money refunded. Large jar 50c at Merkel Drug Co.

SORE THROAT—TONSILITIS!—Nothing equals a good mop and instant relief is afforded by Anathesia-Mop, the wonderful new sore throat remedy. Positive relief guaranteed or purchase price refunded by Vick Drug Co.

FARM FOR SALE—Possession Jan. 1936, 320 acres, maize, cotton and corn land; two sets fair improvements, plenty water, 150 acres cultivation; good grass; low taxes; \$12.00 acre with some terms. Why rent? Write owner, L. B. Howard, Box 112, Vernon, Texas.

FOR SALE—Two good mules, a 4-gallon cow, 3 milk goats, one single row cultivator, one single row planter, 2 sets of harness; for rent—two-story brick on Kent street; two furnished apartments January 1. Mrs. A. H. Thornton.

FOR SALE OR TRADE—1935 Ford V-8 coach; also 157 acre farm 3 miles southeast of Hamlin on pavement; also 100 acre farm west of Merkel on pavement; easy terms; will sell or trade either. W. E. Lowe, Merkel, Texas.

FOR SALE—Good O. I. C. pigs, priced reasonable. Tom Russom, Merkel, Texas, Route 4.

FOR SALE
HORSES AND MULES
USED IMPLEMENTS AND TRACTORS
WEST COMPANY, INC.

WANTED
WILL DO Custom Grinding; all kinds of feed; Mondays only. Vernon Hudson, Merkel, Texas, Route 2.

WANTED—A woman for general housework and companion for elderly lady. Mrs. T. F. Compton. Phone 166.

Voters of Wichita Falls defeated a proposed \$1,260,000 revenue bond issue for the construction of a municipal light and power plant by a vote of 1,584 to 964.

CHERRIO!

At this holiday season we wish to extend to you, as a friend and customer the best wishes of the season. May your heart be gay, and your gifts many on this CHRISTMAS DAY.

PO-PO SANDWICH SHOP

A CHRISTMAS WISH

May the holidays be as pleasant as any you have ever spent, and may the New Year hold much happiness for you.

Richie & Jackson Garage

To Place 33 Families On 120-Acre Units In Plans Project

Lubbock, Dec. 24.—Thirty-three families will be installed on that number of 120-acre units of the Ropesville project of Texas rural communities, Inc. by Jan. 15, it is planned.

C. T. Watson, Assistant to V. R. Smitham, state director of rehabilitation and resettlement, said in Lubbock Saturday that 33 applicants of a total of more than 1,200 would go before a local advisory board here Thursday.

Successful applicants will work the farms as tenants for one year after which, if they and the government mutually are satisfied, they may buy the farms. Thirty-five years period is allowed for purchase. Improvements, consisting of four-room house, barn, windmill and poultry house and costing approximately \$2,500 have been installed. The government will place grain and bundle feed in each barn and allow tenants to sign notes for costs.

Half of the 33 families will be located before Jan. 1, it is hoped.

Program of Songs

(Continued from Page One)
Thelma Mathews, Messrs. Byers Petty and Clark Mundy, were shown about the fireside during the rendition by the choir of "Away in the Manger" and "O Little Town of Bethlehem." In the pageant that followed, Miss Bess McNiece and Harold Morgan represented Mary and Joseph, the parents of the Christ Child, and the three shepherds appeared in the persons of Murphy Dye, Victor Joyner and Weldon Davis.

The program concluded with Yates Brown leading in the singing of "Silent Night," so universally adapted as the favorite of all hymns of the Christmas season.

Home For Holidays.
Canyon, Dec. 22.—Gordon Murray, Merkel, is the only Taylor county young person enrolled for work at the West Texas State Teachers college here this semester. He left Friday for his home to spend the Christmas holiday with relatives and friends. He will return to Canyon Jan. 2 to finish this semester's work. The second semester will begin Feb. 3.

The plowing season is now on. Bring your dull Discs to C. P. Stevens and have them rolled.

At the
New R & R Texas Theatre
Sweetwater
"West Texas' Finest"

Friday-Saturday
Will Rogers' Latest Picture
"IN OLD KENTUCKY"

Sunday-Monday
Wallace Beery—Lionel Barrymore in
"AH WILDERNESS"

Tuesday-Wednesday
Tom Brown—Virginia Weidler in
"FRECKLES"

Thursday Only
"IT'S A GREAT LIFE"
With Joe Morrison and Rosaline Smith

R. & R. RITZ
Friday-Saturday
"IVORY-HANDLED GUNS"
With Buck Jones

HAPPY HOLIDAYS

This happy season has come again, so filled with thoughts of our friends and customers who have favored us during the past year. And for your every happiness we send our wishes true.

J. D. PORTER SERVICE STATION

Officers Eastern Star Chapter Holds Stated Meeting

At a stated meeting of Merkel chapter No. 212, Eastern Star, held on Tuesday evening, Dec. 17, Worthy Matron Mrs. Priscilla Williamson and worthy patron, Brother M. S. Cummings, presiding, the degrees of the order were exemplified by Mrs. Alta Nesmith. There have been five transfers and three new members added since May 31 this year.

The Florence Read club meets every second Friday night in the month. The purpose of this club is to study the work. All members are urged to attend and fill the chairs, and visitors are especially invited.

On the evening of Dec. 3, Mrs. Nina Hedrick of Sweetwater, deputy grand matron of section 6, district 2, Order of the Eastern Star, made her first official visit to the local chapter.

Two full lines of cosmetics—Marie Tomlin's and Boyer's—Vick Drug Company.

Use The Mail Want Ads.



Corner Garage
T. T. DAVIS, Owner

Helping in Mattress Factory.
D. H. Simpson, whose occupation is mattress finisher, is here from Longview for a while helping his father, H. L. Simpson, in the Simpson Mattress factory.

SALUTATIONS.....

Here's a warm good wish and true for your Christmas joy. May life bring lasting happiness as a Christmas gift to each of you. And may the New Year be the beginning of many prosperous ones that are in store for you.

HUNTER AND SUBLETT BROS.

We are grateful for all the past patronage and sincerely trust that we will be favored with your 1936 business.

MERKEL PRODUCE

E. E. DUNN

Wishing You A
Merry Christmas
And A
Happy New Year

Wishing You a
Merry Christmas
And
Happy New Year
BULLOCK HARDWARE CO.

Receives Injuries When Car Overtakes at Curve

En route for a Christmas visit with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Laney, Homer Laney of Bronco sustained a deep cut across the cheek and other injuries, but not of a serious nature, when his car overturned Saturday night, as it struck the muddy shoulder of the road at the curve in the highway west of White Flat.

He came on to Merkel with a passing motorist and will remain for the intended holiday visit.

Adding machine rolls at Merkel Mail office.



We Extend Our Best Wishes

Buck's Shoe Shop

TO OUR FRIENDS AND CUSTOMERS

MERRY CHRISTMAS
Here's hoping Christmas bells ring out a song of joy for you on this happy holiday.

HAPPY NEW YEAR
Here's hoping New Year's bells ring in a steady to of extra-happy-days to come.

CHURCH MOTOR CO.

1935—1936

With us the old year will go on record as a happy one because of the co-operation and loyalty of our patrons. Please accept our sincere thanks and our wish for

A MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR

BOOTH GROCERY

CHRISTMAS JOY
At this season of the year our thoughts turn especially to our patrons who have made this year what it has been for us. To you we owe our sincere thanks, and appreciation; and hope to have you in our store more often during 1936.

May you have the most joyful Christmas and may the New Year hold in store for you everything that you desire for yourself.

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR
J. H. McDONALD GROCERY
We Deliver Phone 259

POWELL

(Continued From Page Three.)
 ced, breathlessly: "Tiller's gone plumb off his nut! He's goin' to shoot the well himself. You better stay clear."
 Furlong dashed past the speaker and emerged from the shelter of the bushes in time to see Maddox gingerly swing a long, cylindrical tin over the well mouth and guide it into the opening. A new manilla rope had been run through a block on the derrick, and with this he lowered the charge.
 Ben yelled at him; he waved his arms. Maddox glanced over his shoulder, then let the line slide smoothly through his hands.
 "Take my tip an' don't go too close," the engineer shouted. "He ain't no powder man an' that well's makin' gas. She blows off every few minutes."
 Betty seconded this warning in frantic tones of appeal: "Let him go, Ben. He knows what he's doing. You've got no right stopping him. You'll just make trouble."
 "It's none of my business," the latter agreed, impatiently. "but there's something crooked—" He ceased speaking; then he seized Betty and whirled her around with the sharp command, "Run! Get back!"
 They were still perhaps a hundred yards from the well, but Furlong's practiced eye had seen something that suddenly raised the hair upon his head. That rope from which was suspended the heavy charge of liquid death no longer hung vertically, it no longer ran over the block and into the casing; instead it was falling in loops

about Maddox. It was coming up out of the well!
 Maddox himself was alive to what had happened. That which he most greatly feared had come upon him, and he also turned to flee. But the platform was slippery or else he tripped over the rope and fell. The others heard his cry of terror. He quickly regained his feet, but to Furlong it seemed as if his movements thereafter were maddeningly slow and deliberate.
 The engineer's apprehensions had been well grounded. Once again gas had been released far down in the earth, and now, like breath forced from the lungs of some tortured giant, it rose, propelling the smoothly fitting cartridge of nitroglycerine ahead of it as a pea is propelled out of a peashooter. It was a phenomenon by no means unusual in a well as unstable in its balance of forces as this one. In fact, under like conditions none but a madman would have dared to risk Maddox's maneuver.
 The latter had not put fifty feet behind him when up, out of the well mouth shot the gleaming tin cylinder. Directly above and in its path hung the massive forty-foot steel bit suspended from its wire cable.
 What happened next the observers

were never able to agree upon, but the world dissolved into an inferno of smoke and flame and the suddenness of it rocked the sky, upheaved the earth. The two came together with a cataclysmic roar. Furlong and Betty Durham were tossed headlong, flung down like straws. When they scrambled to their feet, dazed, shaken, terrified, it was to find themselves enveloped in a mighty dust cloud. The eighty-foot tower of heavy timbers was gone; in an instant it had utterly vanished. Where it had stood was a shallow,
 (Continued on Page 7.)



Simpson Mattress Factory

The Finest of GOOD WISHES

—For—

A MERRY CHRISTMAS DAY

And as Time Marches on . . .

May the New Year abound in Good Fortune and Cheer for our friends and business associates.

HIGGINBOTHAM-BARTLETT CO.



Merry Christmas

Just the same old wish "Merry Christmas," but sent to each of you in all sincerity. We wish for you a very Happy Christmas day, and may the remaining days of 1935 and all of the three-hundred and sixty-six days of 1936 be filled with joy, happiness and wealth untold.

And Thanks

We are so happy now when we've come to the end of the old year, and are standing on the threshold of the new, that we want to express our appreciation for all of the good things you've done for us—all the kind words our patrons and friends have spoken in our behalf and express the hope that the new year will bring peace, happiness, health and wealth in abundance.



Barrow Furniture Co.

Merkel, Texas

J. L. Mayhall, the former Mr. and Mr. bring one of the messages feel. There will be a device between the preach- some worship with us.
 R. T. Smith, Pastor.

AIR ITEMS

(Continued Last Week.)
 revival, conducted by Rev. C. R. Joyner Sunday night. Singing, reading, and services. With the songs delivered in songs, souls were God, with the the evangelist the Blair the fine Misses

TO YOU AND YOURS:

A MERRIEST MERRY CHRISTMAS

—And—

A HAPPIEST HAPPY NEW YEAR

WE WISH YOU A DOUBLE PORTION OF EVERY-THING GOOD YOU COULD WISH FOR YOURSELF

Bragg Dry Goods Company

West Co. Greet's You

WITH ALL GOOD WISHES FOR A GLORIOUS HOLIDAY SEASON

It gives us genuine pleasure at this time to look back upon the cordial relations that have existed between us in the past and to hope for a continuance of your friendship in the months to come. May this Christmas prove to be a most joyous occasion and the New Year bring Good Luck, Good Cheer and Much Success to your house.

We Thank You For Your Patronage and Wish For You and Yours A Very

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR

Ter

CLASSIFIED ADS

FOR SALE

DON'T SCRATCH: Paracide Ointment is guaranteed to relieve any form of eczema, itch, ringworm or itching skin trouble within 48 hours or money refunded. Large 2-oz. jar 50c at Merkel Drug Co.

SORE-THROAT—TONSILITIS: Instantly relieved by Anesthesia-Mop, the wonderful new sore-throat remedy. A real mop that relieves pain and checks infection. Prompt relief guaranteed or money refunded by Vick Drug Co.

WANT TO BUY your maize heads. See me for prices at your barn or put on the car; always on top with the price. L. L. Murray, Merkel, Texas.

FOR SALE—Cord wood, \$2.00 per cord on ground. Star Hardware Co., Trent, Texas.

WANTED

CUSTOM GRINDING—Mondays only, on all kinds of feed; 15c per hundred. Vernon Hudson, Salt Branch. **SHARP'S HATCHERY** will be open for business Jan. 2nd.

WANTED—Dealer in nearby locality for the J. R. Watkins company. See me at once. W. A. Whiteley.

LOST AND FOUND

LOST—Auto tail light and license number attached. Notify Sam Butman, Jr.

LEGAL NOTICE.

PURSUANT to provisions of Section 304 of the Banking Act of 1935, notice is hereby given by The Farmers & Merchants National Bank of Merkel, in the city of Merkel, state of Texas, that the liability imposed upon the holders of shares of its common stock by the provisions of Section 5151, U. S. Revised Statutes, as amended, and Section 23 of the Fed-

eral Reserve Act, as amended, shall cease on July 1st, 1937. By order of the Board of Directors, Booth Warren, Cashier.

BEST WINNER



MAGNOLIA SERVICE STATION

Chas. H. Jones



COTTON'S CAFE

Season's Greetings

To You!

Your Treatment of our business has been royal and we hope that Christmas crowns each and every one of you as kings and queens of joy and Happiness!

DANDY BAKERY

Phone 56

With All GOOD WISHES For CHRISTMAS

We extend our greetings and best wishes in the spirit of the season, eagerly hoping that your Christmas will be bright and shining with all the things it may take to make you happy.

CITY CAFE

ALVIN WOZENCRAFT, Prop.

We Wish You A BRIGHT And CHERRY CHRISTMAS!

To you, our friends, we offer the hope that Christmas will find you wealthy in PEACE, HAPPINESS, and Plenty of CONFIDENCE in the PROMISING DAYS of THE NEW YEAR.

REID VARIETY STORE

...HAPPINESS ...SERENITY ...PROSPERITY

Our Hope is That All These Will Be Yours At—

CHRISTMAS!

Our Christmas greetings to you are limited only by our poor power to put our feeling into words.

For feeling as we do about the fine friendship and neighborliness that you have given to us we wish to express at this season the unlimited hope that your Christmas this year will be the very best that has ever come to you.

BARROW FURNITURE CO.

Merkel, Texas



LIBERTY SERVICE STATION
J. GREENFIELD, Manager

THE RED & WHITE STORES

WISH YOU A MERRY CHRISTMAS



Specials Thurs. & Sat., Dec. 24-26

- Fresh Cocoanuts, each ..10c
- Fresh Grapes, pound10c
- Cranberries, pound25c
- Fresh Tomatoes, pound 10c
- Lettuce, head5c
- Celery, bunch10c
- Spuds, Idaho No. 1, 10 lbs 33c
- Oranges, 288 size, doz. ...19c
- Oranges, 150 size, doz. ...36c
- Oranges, all sizes
- One-half box\$1.85
- Apples, Delicious, box \$2.75
- Apples, Delicious, doz. ...30c
- Grapefruit, 6 for15c
- Supreme
- Salad Wafers, 1 pound17c
- Red and White
- Pumpkin, No. 2 can, each 10c
- Red and White
- Moist Coconut, 3 oz. can 10c
- Red and White
- Mince Meat, pkg.9c
- Bulk
- Cocoanut, 1-2 pound15c
- Red and White
- Flav-R-Jell, all flavors, pkg. 5c
- Red and White
- Coffee, pound32c
- Pure Cane
- Sugar, cloth bag, 10 lbs. 52c
- Red and White
- Catsup, 14 oz. bottle18c

- Red and White
- Preserves, strawberry, 1lb. 23c
- Red and White
- Marshmallows, pound17c
- Christmas
- Mixed Candy, pound15c
- Red and White
- Cranberry Sauce, can19c
- Red and White
- Fruit Cocktail, can17c
- Red and White
- Extract, 25c size19c
- Red and White
- Tomato Juice, 3 cans25c
- Red and White
- Peas, No. 2 can18c
- Red and White
- Asparagus, small can19c
- Red and White
- Corn, No. 2 can15c
- Green
- Beans, No. 2 can17c
- Standard
- Tomatoes, No. 2 can, 3 for 25c
- Red and White
- Peaches, No. 2 1-2 can18c
- Red Pitted
- Cherries, No. 2 can17c
- Red and White
- Pineapple, No. 1 can10c
- No. 2 can18c
- Red and White
- Olives, stuffed, 7 3-4 oz. 27c
- Del Dixi
- Pickles, sour or dill, quart 17c
- Sun Spun
- Salad Dressing, pint23c
- Shortening, 4 lb. carton 55c
- Sliced Bacon, pound29c
- Picnic Ham, pound25c
- Cheese, pound23c
- Star Skinned Ham, lb.28c

WEST CO., Merkel
D. C. HERRING & Son, Noodle

A. W. WOOD, Trent
BRADLEY MER. CO., Stith

GOSDEN BROS., Blair

OUR CHRISTMAS WISH FOR YOU IS FULL OF SINCERITY!

May this joyful season find you blessed with the presence of your loved ones, happy in your work, secure in your home, ambitious for the future, and full of the spirit that makes Christmas the greatest day on the whole calendar.

HUGHES MOTOR CO.

Chevrolet Sales and Service
Phone 123
Merkel, Texas

WEEKLY

(Continued From Page Three.)

Spanish Club meeting but we are all looking forward to it. Thanks to Miss Stroud.

JUNIOR NEWS.

Hello! Yes, we're still here and enjoying our work very much. We have one especially bright student among us, however. She is one Jannell Black who averaged 94 and was invited to luncheon Tuesday, Dec. 15, by the Lions club.

Lately we have set a new goal—that is to buy more Annuals than any other class in Merkel High school. Our class representative—Mattie Lou Ford, is working hard at selling us Annuals and we are working hard at buying them. Here's good luck to us!

LEGAL NOTICE.

THE STATE OF TEXAS To the Sheriff or any Constable of Taylor County—Greeting:

You are hereby commanded to summon Eli Thornton by making publication of this Citation once in each week for four consecutive weeks previous to the return day hereof, in some newspaper published in your County, to appear at the next regular term of the 42nd Court of Taylor County, to be holden at the Court House thereof, in Abilene, Texas, on the first Monday in January, A. D. 1937, the same being the 4th day of January, A. D. 1937, then and there to answer a petition filed in said Court on the 1st day of December, A. D. 1936, in a suit, numbered on the docket of said Court No. 10,975-A, wherein Mozell Thornton is Plaintiff, and Eli Thornton is Defendant, and a brief statement of plaintiff's cause of action, being as follows: Plaintiff and defendant were

married about August 15th, 1920, and separated about January 1st, 1925, that there is no community property, and there are two minor children, Oscar, age 14, and Kermit, age 13, both living with and supported by plaintiff. Plaintiff sues for a divorce on the grounds of more than three years abandonment, and for the complete care, custody and control of Oscar Thornton and Kermit Thornton, all of which is fully alleged in her original petition now on file and to which reference is here made.

Herein fail not but have before said Court at its next regular term, this writ with your return thereon, showing how you have executed the same.

Given under my hand and seal of said Court, at office in Abilene, Texas, on this 1st day of December, A. D. 1936.

Belle Wellborn, Clerk, District Court, Taylor County, Texas. By Zola McKee, Deputy.

Has your subscription expired? Come in and renew it next time you are in town. Special club rates on Semi-Weekly Farm News, Pathfinder and several Magazine Offers.

Typewriting and carbon paper at Mail office.

Office supplies—Mail office.

NOTICE OF STOCKHOLDERS MEETING.

Notice is hereby given that a meeting of the stockholders of the Farmers State Bank in Merkel, Merkel, Texas, will be held at the office of said bank the second Tuesday in January, 1937, being the 12th day of the month, for the election of directors and the transaction of such other business as may properly come before the meeting. Polls open between 8 a. m. and 5 p. m.

Joe P. Self, Cashier.

If you have any visitors, Phone 29 or 61.

Advertisements in The Merkel Mail.

Merry Christmas



Darsey Furniture Co.

SIGNALS ALL GREEN! CLEAR ROAD OPEN! FULL SPEED AHEAD!

MERRY CHRISTMAS

—And a—

HAPPY NEW YEAR TO YOU!

MERKEL MOTOR CO.

Ford Sales and Service



and HAPPY NEW YEAR MACK FOWLER Carpenter and Contractor

CORDIAL WISHES FOR A Merry Christmas

During the year now drawing to a close you have been good friends and loyal customers, and at this season we wish to take this means of extending to you our sincere wishes for a very Merry Christmas and a New Year filled with happiness and prosperity.

BRAGG DRY GOODS CO.

New Stylish Goods at the Right Prices

Announcing...

LOW LONG DISTANCE RATES

all day CHRISTMAS, all day New Years

To make it easier for friends to exchange holiday greetings, the telephone company this year will keep its lower night and Sunday rates in effect ALL DAY Christmas and ALL DAY New Year's Day. Instead of having to call Christmas Eve to get the lowest rate, you can call any time after 7 p. m. Christmas Eve, including all of Christmas Day... and for a similar period at New Years.

You are cordially invited

to listen to a special Bell program on the Columbia Network, 9 p. m. December 24. SOUTHWESTERN BELL TELEPHONE CO.



We Can't Balance Our 1936 Books Till We Wish You

A Merry Christmas

The greatest asset in our business is your good will. Our appreciation of your loyalty and patronage cannot be measured in words, we know, but we feel that it is altogether fitting that we should make this grateful acknowledgement of our dependence on the friends who have been our patrons through all the good years and the bad ones, too.

It is with sense of deep humility in the presence of this feeling that we eagerly extend to you . . . and you . . . and you . . . all our friends everywhere, the sweetest greeting ever known to the tongue of mankind . . MERRY CHRISTMAS.

Higginbotham-Bartlett Co.

Phone 62

Merkel, Texas

TRENT NEWS AND PERSONALS

Mrs. Carroll Chambliss and daughter, Caroline, spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. Alton Boone.

Mr. and Mrs. H. R. Poor went to San Antonio Monday and plan to remain over Christmas.

Mrs. Alton Boone spent Friday in Sweetwater with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Welch.

Mrs. Annie Boone is spending the holidays with her daughter, Mrs. Horea Winn, and family in Sylvester.

Miss Annilee Sawyer spent the week-end with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. A. D. Sawyer.

Mr. and Mrs. Horace Taylor and baby of Sonora arrived Tuesday to spend the holidays with Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Winn and Mr. and Mrs. Pat Duncan.

Skylor Dunn of Denver, Colo., a former resident here, spent a few days this week with Mr. and Mrs. O. L. Bishop and family.

Mrs. Gene Childs of Big Spring is spending the holidays with her mother, Mrs. R. B. McRee, Sr., and sister and brother-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Bob Dennis. The McRee family plan a series of Christmas festivities to be climaxed with a family tree Thursday night.

Miss Rachel Carleton, McMurry student, spent the week-end with Rev. and Mrs. Alsie Carleton.

Miss Imogene Mangum, teacher in the Sonora public schools, arrived Saturday to spend the holidays with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Mangum.

Edgar Lee Mangum, a student in McMurry college, is also spending his vacation with them.

Oscar B. Crane of Bryan came Sunday to spend the first of this week with his brother, John Crane, and family. He plans to spend Christmas day in Cumby with other relatives.

TITTLE-HAMNER.

Two prominent families of the

Trent community were linked in the marriage solemnized at 3 o'clock Sunday afternoon at the Baptist parsonage uniting Miss Gladys Hamner and Cullen Tittle. Rev. C. R. Joyner officiated. The couple were accompanied by Mrs. T. C. Hamner and Mrs. Buddie Burks, sister-in-law and sister of the bride. She wore a gray traveling suit, with gray accessories.

Mrs. Tittle is the youngest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Hamner, was reared in the Trent community and educated in the public schools here from which she was graduated in the class of 1934. The groom, son of Mr. and Mrs. C. R. Tittle, was reared in the Trent and Merkel communities. He attended the Merkel High school for several years and was a member of the football squads of both Trent and Merkel High schools.

They will reside in the newly furnished home south of town where Mr. Tittle will be associated with his father in farming interests.

MUSICAL COMEDY DECIDED SUCCESS.

"Rose Time," a musical comedy presented by local talent Tuesday and Wednesday evenings of last week, gained favorable comment at both showings. Miss Virginia Martin, representative of the national producing

company, was general director of the show. Unusual co-operation and community interest was manifested in its production.

Those in the cast were: Joe Nalley, Mrs. John Payne, John Hamner, Johnnie Terry, Elsie Bishop, Sally Roberts, Mr. and Mrs. Merton Bell, Bob Taylor, Lucille Howell, Winnie McDonald and Jack Bowers.

The following girls participated in the chorus, presenting four delightful numbers: Bobbie Ruth McLeod, Ola Martin, Dorothy Martin, Vera Bright, Sarah Wilson, Johnnie Roberts, Lady Fred Crane, Anna Jean Riggins, Virginia Chlo McRee, Helen Martin, Dorothy Jo Strawn, Lois Orand, Vivian Gordon, Gladys Stribling, Elsie Bishop, also the following boys took part in the song numbers: Garth Strawn, Mark Williamson, Jake Roberts, Kirby Steadman, Ebery Smith, T. G. Murdock, Billy Joe Bowers, Leroy Martin, Nolan Hickey.

Popular girls were LaNelle Edwards, Peggy Titsworth, Ruth Marie Murdock, Wanda Murrell Dingle, Virginia Chlo McRee, Dorothy Jo Strawn, Vivian Gordon and Ola Martin. LaNelle Edwards was presented a vanity case as first place winner in this contest, and Dorothy Jo Strawn was also presented with a gift for selling the most tickets preceding the play.

All proceeds were donated for school purposes.



ED'S CAFE



Missie's Floral Shop



J. M. BONEY Electrical Work



J. L. SPECK, JEWELER

OVER AND OVER AGAIN AND AGAIN

But Never More Sincerely
You Have Heard The Words,

MERRY CHRISTMAS!

The very words live and breathe with the spirit of the season. In all sincerity and gratitude for your good will and consideration in the past, we extend you our cordial and heart-felt greetings of this good season of the year.

May your Christmas be good and may the New Year deal kindly with your dreams and ambitions.

J. H. McDONALD GROCERY & MARKET

Front St.

Phone 259

WE HOPE THAT

1937

WILL BE THE YEAR OF FULFILLED HOPES

A bright and shining New Year is knocking at your door . . . and we hope that it is the knock of opportunity for you!

In gratitude for your fine patronage during the past year, we wish to extend our New Year's Greeting, coupled with our very genuine hope that 1937 will be a veritable gold mine of opportunity and accomplishment for you.

- L. C. ZEHNFENNIG, D. D. S.
- Wm. T. SADLER, M. D.
- M. ARMSTRONG, M. D.
- EARL THOMASON, D. D. S.
- C. B. GARDNER, M. D.

Dear Santa:
 you brought me last Christmas the pretty doll
 a new dress and if it is not asking too
 much she really should have a buggy.
 The fresh air would be good for her
 if I could take her out riding
 during nice weather.
 Daddy says we'll have a
 happier Christmas this year because
 I am well. Remember how sick
 I was last year with that bad
 cold? We have not had
 one at our house this
 winter. Mother says it is
 because we have heated the
 entire house like they do
 at Aunt Mary's.
 Please Santa, don't bring
 Junior another rubber gun.
 He has one that is broken.
 When it was new he made
 me play cops and robbers
 and I was always getting shit.
 Sally



... Lone Star Gas System

POW

(Continued From Page 1)
ced, breathe



PATTERSON-WALKER.

The marriage of Miss Mamie Walker and Comer Patterson was solemnized in a pretty home wedding on Friday at 5 p. m. in the presence of the immediate members of both their families. Rev. R. A. Walker, pastor of Grace Presbyterian church and father of the bride, officiated.

The bride is the very attractive and popular daughter of Rev. and Mrs. R. A. Walker, who moved here 9 years ago from Paris. She has been employed in the Works Progress Administration Abilene office for some time. For her wedding, Mrs. Patterson wore a traveling suit in blue with accessories of black.

The groom is the son of Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Patterson, pioneer family of this community. Pat will assume the duties of Taylor county tax assessor-collector on January first, having been employed for the past two years as deputy collector and assessor.

Immediately following the ceremony Mr. and Mrs. Patterson, accompanied by Mr. and Mrs. Fred Guitler, Jr., left on an automobile trip to San Antonio and Galveston. Upon their return they will be at home in a lovely new home in Belmont, Abilene.

MERKEL STUDY CLUB COMPLETED IN ABILENE.

In the organization of the Merkel Fortnightly Study club here two years ago, the Aloha club of Abilene sponsored its federation both in the State Federation of Women's clubs and in the Abilene City federation, so on Thursday afternoon of last week they complimented their protegee with a Christmas party of lovely appointments.

Mrs. Robert C. Westbrook was hostess for both the visiting club and the Aloha club, receiving in the colonial suite of the Wooten hotel. Red carnations graced the rooms and the tea table was covered with snow and centered with white chrysanthemums on a reflector. Silvered leaves outlined the mirror and white tapers in silver candelabra were lighted. Dainty refreshments were served.

Mrs. Bates Thatcher presented the program, giving a review of the book "The Return of the Wiscman" (Winkler-Kirkland) by Mary F. Head, Aloha resident, directed the program and Mr. C. S. Bass gave greetings to the guests; Mrs. Henry West, Fortnightly president, responded. Merkel ladies attending were Mesdames R. A. Burgess, Joe P. Self, J. R. Rudd, W. T. Sadler, Lige Gamble, Clyde Smith, C. B. Gardner, Thos. Durham, R. P. Lindsay, Henry West, Misses Christine Collins and Johnny Sears.

DINNER PARTY.

Miss Helen Heeter was named honor guest by her mother, Mrs. Adah Heeter, on Friday evening when she entertained Helen's most intimate friends with a six o'clock dinner.

The house was profusely decorated in Yuletide colors augmented by a



BUCK'S SHOE REPAIRING

THE NEW YEAR 1937 JOINS THE PARADE OF PROGRESS:

The ever widening horizon of future progress is soon to reside in the opportunities given by the New Year.

One of our resolutions is to serve you with increased efficiency and with even greater appreciation for the loyalty of your patronage, for which we sincerely thank you.

FRANK GOLLADAY

CONTINENTAL OIL CO.
Phone 190

beautiful Christmas tree. An attractive fruit center was flanked by lighted red tapers and place cards were miniature Santas with candy cups as favors. A seasonal menu was served in courses. After dinner hours were spent playing Christmas games. Present were Misses Betty Joe Reid, Joyce Renfro, Euvalda Fox, Bonny Church, Loudale Gray, Billie McGehee, Anne Lee Blake, Doris Gay West and Helen Heeter.

STUDIO PARTY.

The voice pupils of Christine Collins were entertained on Monday evening in the studio with Delma Compton as guest entertainer. A lighted crystal tree and other holiday decorations made the rooms very attractive where an informal musical hour was enjoyed.

Red Santa Clauses moulded of ice cream and angel food squares iced in white and embossed with Christmas greetings in green were served to Misses Vivian Davis, Phyllis Smith, Louise Patterson, Lucile Justice, Frances Higgins, Thelma Mathews, Pearl Mathews, Helen Heeter, Dorothy Shannon, Elna Tucker, Mrs. W. A. McSpadden, Mrs. Homer Patterson, Messrs. Delma Compton, C. J. Glover and Alton Bicknell.

CHRISTMAS BANQUET.

"Las Amigas" Sunday School class held their annual affair last Thursday evening in the basement of the Baptist church. Guests were greeted at the door by Miss Thelma Mathews and later all were ushered into the banquet room where the tables, house decorations and tree were adorned in Christmas fashion.

An elaborate turkey menu was set on the table in family style, and after the dinner a most enjoyed program was as follows: piano melodies, Miss Emma Joyner; reading, Mrs. Comer Haynes; songs, Mrs. Ann Brown. After these numbers, presents were passed from the Christmas tree, then all gathered in an informal half hour of singing Christmas carols led by Mrs. Brown. During this time Miss Juanita Stroud gave a song in Spanish dialect.

Those enjoying this happy evening were Misses Ruby McNiece, Juanita Stroud, Neweta Cleveland, Vennie Heizer, Helen Joyner, Sis Gamble, Dot Swafford, Nadine Clack, Maurine and Clara B. White, Emma Joyner, Vivian Davis, Thelma Mathews, Lona Joyner, Lucille Crick, Johnnie Sears.

R & R Texas

Sweetwater
"West Texas' Finest"

Thursday Only
"NORTH OF NOME"
With Jack Holt, Evelyn Venable

Friday-Saturday
James Cagney, Mae Clark in
"HE'S A GREAT GUY"
Visit Us on Christmas Day

Sunday-Monday
"STOWAWAY"
With Shirley Temple
And Robert Young, Alice Faye

Tuesday-Wednesday
Barbara Stanwyck, Joel McCrea in
"BANJO ON MY KNEE"

R. & R. RITZ

Friday-Saturday
Ralph Bellamy in
Harold Bell Wright's
"WILD BRIAN KENT"

and Mesdames Comer Haynes, Ann Brown, Bill Haynes, L. V. Moore and John Paul Rudd.

WILLING WORKERS CLASS.

Mrs. L. L. Murray was hostess for the Willing Workers class of Grace Presbyterian church on Tuesday, Dec. 15, when an interesting Christmas program was given. Each member told the most exciting Christmas story about Santa Claus they could remember, and a lighted tree had a gift for every one present.

Refreshments of cherry pie with whipped cream and coffee were served to Mesdames R. A. Walker, Roger Williams, J. R. Walling, W. M. Elliott, J. J. Russell, S. A. Derstine, J. E. Tucker, W. A. Campbell, S. G. Russell, W. T. Curb, S. G. Russell, Jr., J. H. Witche, R. P. Lindsay, Misses Lizzie Keny, Mary Keny, Jennie Keny, and Mrs. Hattie Stegall and Miss May Warmack, visitors.

PHILATHEA BANQUET.

On last Friday evening the Philathea class of the Methodist church

held their annual banquet with their husbands and friends as guests. The church parlors were beautifully decorated and on the pretty tree were gifts for every one.

A delicious turkey menu was passed to Messrs. and Mesdames Cyrus Pee, Ocie Douglas, E. B. Wallace, Will Sheppard, Elmo Collins, Kenneth Pee, Clark Mundy, Ted Bicknell, Vernon Hudson, C. H. Collinsworth, Milton Case, Raymond Ferguson, Rev. and Mrs. John H. Crow, Mrs. L. A. Watts, Weldon Hudson, Misses Julia Martin, Hallie Pike, Mabel McRee and Lottie Butman and Leland Mundy.

SKATING RINK

NOW OPEN

Prices—20c first hour, 15c each hour thereafter; Ladies—First hour, 20c, free thereafter.

Next Door to West Texas Utilities Co.

QUEEN THEATRE

Merkel, Phone 248

Showing the Latest and Best Pictures for Less



MERRY CHRISTMAS!

WEDNESDAY AND THURSDAY, DEC. 23-24
Matinee Thursday 1 P. M.

"VALIANT IS THE WORD FOR CARRIE"

CHRISTMAS EVE FUN FROLIC

THURSDAY, DEC. 24, 11 P. M.
AGAIN FRIDAY, DEC. 25

"Pigskin Parade"

With Stuart Erwin, Arline Judge, Patsy Kelly and Jack Haley
Attend the Prevue for Souvenirs and Favors

**SATURDAY ONLY, DEC. 26
"RANGER COURAGE"**

Also Two-Reel Comedy and "Phantom Rider" No. 14

SATURDAY PREVUE 11 P. M., MONDAY and TUESDAY
Bing Crosby and Madge Evans in

"PENNIES FROM HEAVEN"

With Louis Armstrong and His Famous Swing Band
Added—Selected Short Subjects

(NOTE—Shown for the first time in these parts and will prove one of the best musicals of the year.)

WEDNESDAY-THURSDAY, DEC. 30-31

Mae West in

"GO WEST, YOUNG MAN"

DON'T FORGET THURSDAY NIGHT

**ELI CASE & SON
GROCERY & MARKET**

Phone 234

Prompt Service



Specials for Thursday and Saturday

- Bananas, large yellow fruit, doz. 15c
- Apples, Winesaps, 2 dozen 25c
- Oranges, med size, per dozen 15c
- Grapes, Red Emperors, pound 10c
- Tangerines, large size, dozen 25c

Extra, Extra, Oranges Dozen 25c Dozen 40c

Cocoanuts, large size, 3 for 25c

Cranberries, per quart 25c

Apples, large size Delicious, doz. 50c

Special Price on Fruit by the box

Grapefruit, Marsh seedles⁶ for 19c Per bushel \$2.15

Lettuce, large firm heads, 2 for 9c

Celery, Jumbo size, stalk 15c

Carrots, large bunches, each 5c

Green Beans, nice and tender, lb. 10c

Fresh Tomatoes, fancy pinks, 3 lbs. 25c

Marshmallows, 1 lb. pkg. 19c

Cocoanut, 1 pound pkg. 52c

Sugar, pure cane, 10 lb. cloth \$1.00

Shortening, 8 pound carton 20c

Steak Round or Loin, pound 20c T-Bone, 17c—Chuck, Seven, 17c

Roast, chuck, seven 15c—brisket lb. 10c

Pork Chops, steak, sausage, lb. 25c

Sliced Bacon, per pound 2

Oleo, all sweet, pound 2

Dressed Turkeys, per pound 2

Oysters, pint 45c—quart 84

Sausage, per pound 15

Cheese, Longhorn, pound 23c

Hams, half or whole, lb. 29c

Cordially and Sincerely
We Wish For You And Yours
A MERRY CHRISTMAS

May you long remember this Christmas as a day of unalloyed joy and memorable associations.

**PETTY AND WEST SANITARY
BARBER SHOP**



TEXACO SERVICE
JIMMIE TOOME

MERRY CHRISTMAS

The long-awaited day is at hand, and we hope that it contains a multitude of blessings for you, in the form of dreams that have come true, and in quantity of mental serenity and happiness that it brings.

It gives us real pleasure to wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy, Happy New Year.

MERKEL DRUG CO!