

Keeping Up With Texas

Colonel Ernest O. Thompson, who ran second for governor in the democratic primary election of 1938, will announce his 1940 candidacy May 1, it was reported from Austin Saturday. He has still two more years as member of the state railroad commission.

Quince Miller, 32, lumber hauler, was killed when he was hit by an automobile as he walked along a highway near Jefferson early Sunday morning.

Ben S. Elrod, 67, one of the inventors of the Elrod machine, a strip material casting device used by newspapers, died Saturday at Corpus Christi.

Two automobiles smashed together on a highway near Brownfield Monday night, killing Lee Gable, 23, of Tahoka, and injuring seven other persons.

Jesse Steadman, 32, oil field "roughneck" for the Olson Drilling Co., was killed almost instantly Monday near Goldsmith when a swedge fell from the top of a rig and struck him across the back. His left leg was almost severed.

Charles Rogers, 60, owner of a Weatherford cleaning and pressing shop, was killed Sunday night in a head-on collision west of Weatherford.

Abilene was chosen as the next convention city for the seventeenth district American Legion convention, at the Legion meeting in Eastland Monday.

Representative Clyde L. Garrett Friday selected E. T. Comper, Jr., Abilene, for appointment to the Naval Academy, naming Horace C. Hogan, Jr., Rotan, as first alternate.

State police announced that 110 fatal accidents in January had taken a toll of 128 lives during the month, a reduction of thirteen fatal accidents and eleven deaths from the same month last year.

R. P. Carruth, farmer, died Monday of injuries received Saturday when he was hit by an automobile as he walked along highway 51, six miles west of Brownfield.

Dr. G. O. Gain, Dublin physician, was killed in a traffic accident Tuesday. As he was driving to Gorman to perform an operation, his automobile was in collision with an oil truck on a narrow concrete bridge six miles west of DeLeon.

Six-year-old Billy Ray Sweat, son of J. H. Sweat of Wilson, Route 1, drowned Monday afternoon in a cess-pool on the farm operated by his father in Lynn county. The boy had been missing only a few minutes when the body was found.

Deputy Sheriff W. G. Connell of Huntsville reported that an argument over five cents in a dice game led to the fatal stabbing Saturday night of two negroes, Elmo and George Walker, half-brothers. Another negro was held for grand jury action.

Bud Gee, 36, farmer of the Dodson community near Childress, was killed Saturday night while attempting to retrieve his son's kite which had lodged on a highline.

Mrs. C. H. Pennell, Fort Worth, about 33, was fatally injured Monday afternoon when the automobile in which she was riding collided with another car at a street intersection in that city.

Expressing opposition to a sales tax of any kind and advocating the abolishment of useless boards and offices which he declared would save the state \$6,000,000 a year, Alton M. Mead of San Angelo Wednesday announced his candidacy for lieutenant-governor, to which office he was an aspirant in 1938.

January business in Texas experienced a slump from December's activity but still was ahead of the record made by January, 1939, tabulations of the bureau of business research of the University of Texas show.

James W. Collins, 83, former Fort Worth merchant and veteran of the Klondike gold rush, died of a heart attack Monday night.

Morris Teague, about 30, was burned to death and his wife, 26, died of injuries suffered when their truck struck a culvert and caught fire three miles west of Post early Wednesday night.

Another O. Henry landmark in Austin is slated for extinction with the announcement of plans to raise the old First National bank building, where O. Henry, whose real name was William Sydney Porter, worked from 1891 to 1894.

The federal government has spent nearly \$456,000,000 in Texas since 1933 on construction or improvement to public property, \$74,275,620 of it last year, B. Frank White of the office of government reports has announced.

"Your Home Town Newspaper"

THE MERKEL MAIL

VOL. 50.—No. 51.

MERKEL, TEXAS, FRIDAY, MARCH 1, 1940.

On the "Broadway of America"

5c PER COPY

Local Merchants Will Meet Monday Night at 7:30

LONG ILLNESS CLAIMS LIFE OF W. P. MOORE, 73

Resident of This Section for 44 Years Passes Away at Home At Castle Peak; Funeral Rites Held Monday Afternoon.

Funeral services were held at 4 o'clock Monday afternoon from the Methodist church for W. P. (Buck) Moore, 73, resident of this section for 44 years. Mr. Moore had been in failing health for about four years and seriously ill the last few weeks. He died at 6:15 Sunday afternoon at his home in the Castle Peak community.

Rev. J. B. Stewart, Methodist pastor of the Blair circuit, officiated, assisted by Rev. John H. Crow, local Methodist pastor. Burial followed in Rose Hill cemetery by the grave of his wife, who died Oct. 25, 1938.

Born in Tennessee Mar. 13, 1866, he came to Texas with his parents when 13 years of age.

Surviving are three children, one son, H. P. Moore, Abilene, and two daughters, Mrs. Estelle Hannah and Mrs. Muri Smith, both of Merkel, five grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. Two brothers, Jim and George Moore, of Merkel, three half-brothers, Charlie Moore, Merkel, Dallas Moore, Coolidge, Ariz., and Lee Moore, Oklahoma City, and one sister, Mrs. T. J. Toombs, of Merkel, also survive.

Six members of the Woodmen of the World served as pallbearers: S. M. Hunter, W. L. Blair, E. B. Wallace, Lee Cox, Tom Lackey and W. T. Curb.

Flower girls were Mesdames Joe Bailey Toombs, Leon Toombs, George T. Moore, Jack Davis, E. B. Barnes, Misses Geraldine Cox, Peggy Toombs and Louella Hughes.

Warren Juniors Win 13 Out of 16 Starts

Although defeated by Pleasant Hill in the semi-finals of the Jones county tournament, the Warren junior boys closed out a very successful basketball season last Monday night. The team has played 16 games, winning 13 of them.

Individual scoring honors went to Beauford Buntin, ace forward, who scored 133 points this season.

Following are the games and the scores: Warren 16, Stith 5; Warren 13, Stith 7; Warren 11, Marrs 10; Warren 15, Union 18; Warren 13, Merkel 14; Warren 12, Noodle 6; Warren 16, Stith 9; Warren 13, Union 10; Warren 28, Merkel 10; Warren 19, Stith 3; Warren 17, Marrs 16; Warren 7, Marrs 9; Warren 11, Noodle 7; Warren 28, Merkel 8; Warren 15, Wilson 13; Warren 4, Pleasant Hill 9.

Lettermen on this year's squad include: Beauford Buntin, captain; Orval Ely, co-captain; Melton Cross, J. R. Baker, Nolan Price, Sherman Isenberg, and Mitchell Chancey.

The boys reported for baseball practice Tuesday, with about 15 coming out. Plans are under way for a great season.

Annual Tournament Dates Set Mar. 8-9

Invitations were mailed Monday to nearly fifty crack independent teams in this sector for the annual Merkel independent cage tournament to be staged Mar. 8 and 9.

Connor Robinson is tournament director. Mar. 4 is closing date for entries.

Last year's independent tournament was won by Lueders, surviving a fast field of 12 teams.

School Census Starts Mar. 1; Closes Mar. 31

Carl Black, who has again been designated by the school board as census enumerator, will begin his duties Friday, Mar. 1. The census must be completed in March.

All children who will be six years of age and not eighteen before the first day of September are to be included in the census.

BADGER BAND IN KRBC BROADCAST FRIDAY, 7 P. M.

Friday night of this week the Merkel Badger band under the direction of Richard Young will trek to Abilene where it will broadcast for the first time in the history of the band. The broadcast will originate from the studios of the Hardin-Simmons band on the H-S. U. campus.

The program, which is scheduled for 7 o'clock, will last fifteen minutes. This is an opportunity that few bands of schools the size of Merkel ever enjoy.

Numbers to be played include the following: March, "Yam," (Col. Earl D. Irons); overture, "The Cowboy Wedding;" march, "Mounties on Parade," (Ed Chenette.)

Friends of the band are urged to listen to the broadcast, as it is very encouraging to our young musicians when the public follows the various activities of the band.

Cooperative Secures Easement Around Sweetwater Lake

Easement around Sweetwater lake was granted the Taylor Electric Cooperative, Inc., at a meeting of the city commission of Sweetwater held Monday night, permitting the co-operative to serve some 60 resort cabin owners, it was stated by Johnny Cox, coordinator, who appeared before the Sweetwater officials with the objective of getting this easement so as to relet the communities of Nolan, Hylton, Blackwell, Cottonwood, Eskota, Maryneal and Bittercreek in Nolan county.

George R. Pepper, chairman of the Bittercreek community land planning committee, was spokesman for the delegation, pointing out that, unless families living in the above named communities could get the assistance of lake cabin owners, it was not likely an REA power line could be built through the areas.

Cox pointed out that it was necessary to add the lake property owners to get the minimum average requirement of customers up to 2 1-3 per mile. He said there were a number of "barren" miles along the proposed route of the power line which made it necessary to include Lake Sweetwater.

If approved by the REA, the grant will permit the Taylor county co-operative to extend about 75 miles and serve an additional 125 members, Cox stated.

Elder Cypert Suffers Another Stroke

Elder W. G. Cypert, retired minister of the Church of Christ and long-time resident of Merkel, suffered another stroke about 10:30 Thursday morning, second recurrence of the week, and his condition was considered so serious that all of the children were summoned. The earlier stroke was on Tuesday.

Two of the children, Mr. and Mrs. Dick Cypert and two children of Port Arthur and Mr. and Mrs. Roten Cypert of Lubbock, had come Monday for a visit with their father and other relatives. Dick was standing in the yard talking with his father when he was stricken Tuesday.

Street Graveling Job, Long Deferred, Starts On West End of Elm

First section to receive improvement under the new WPA street graveling project, which got under way Monday morning, is five blocks on West Elm street, from Kent street west to the intersection with the Noodle road.

The entire five blocks were graded first, while the graveling work started from the west end.

The project which entails an expenditure of \$18,000 will employ 55 men for five months. Gravel will be spread on 70 blocks of streets.

SUE GRIMES IS CROWNED HIGH SCHOOL QUEEN

In Colorful Coronation Ceremony, Royal Court Is Presented At High School Gym Before Large Crowd.

A three-tiered stage, set in royal purple studded with a galaxy of stars and rimmed with seven moons, furnished appropriate background for the colorful coronation of Sue Grimes, Sophomore class favorite, as High School queen in a beautiful ceremony in the High School gymnasium last Friday night. A large crowd of school patrons was present to witness the eventful coronation.

Proceeding the procession of the royal court, Don Wood sang "Moon Love," carrying out in word and sentiment the moon theme stressed in all coronation appointments.

Introductions of the personnel of the royal court were made by Billy Largent, editor-in-chief of the Badger Annual, sponsor of the affair, the staging of which reflected such great credit on the entire Senior class.

The royal court included: Clarice Higgins, Freshman favorite, escorted by H. F. Hennington and attended by Wanda Dingle and Mattie Joyce Riley.

Louise Patterson, Junior favorite, escorted by John Mack Grant and attended by Becky Gardner and Doris Clyde Miller.

F. A. queen, Jeanette Neff, escorted by the F. F. A. president, Francois Harris, and attended by Jean Paine and Wanda Douglas, F. F. A. sweethearts.

Best all-round girl, Mildred McLean, escorted by the best all-round boy, Sammie McGehe, and attended by Leta Faye Orsborn and Mary Ellen Key.

Most popular girl, Loudale Gray, escorted by most popular boy, La- (Continued on Page Six).

Attend Funeral of Mrs. Tom Murdock Held at Henderson

Rev. J. R. Murdock and Mrs. Murdock of Noodle went to Henderson for the funeral of the former's step-mother, Mrs. T. M. (Tom) Murdock, which was held Friday of last week. Mrs. Murdock, who formerly lived in the Merkel area, died Wednesday afternoon, Feb. 21.

Rev. and Mrs. Murdock were accompanied by his sister, Mrs. J. F. Pace of Sweetwater, and Mrs. Tom Murdock's sister, Mrs. Roy Griffin of Merkel.

Rev. Mr. Murdock, Mrs. Pace and Mrs. Griffin had been called to the bedside of Mrs. Murdock three weeks ago and, when she seemed to be better, had returned home.

Badger Band to Hear Texas Tech Concert

On next Tuesday afternoon the Badger band will go to Abilene to attend a concert of the Texas Tech band to be held in the auditorium of the Abilene high school. Band members are urged by Director Richard Young to wear their uniforms, as the band is to be introduced to the attending audience.

At present there are around 90 students taking instrumental music at Merkel High school, but there is still a need for more students to fill up places in the band where there is a scarcity of certain instruments.

Mr. Young announced that he will conduct a summer school at Merkel High and this will be a further opportunity for students to take up an instrument.

Singing at Mt. Pleasant. Regular first Sunday singing will be held at the Baptist church at Mt. Pleasant Sunday afternoon, beginning at 2:30, it is announced by R. N. Bethel, president. Every one is invited.

Record of Births. Boy, to Mr. and Mrs. Leon Dickerson, Friday, February 23, 1940.

SEEK TO RAISE FUNDS TO BUY MILK FOR NEEDY

Business and professional women of Merkel formed an organization at a meeting held Monday night at the Farmers State bank building, with Mrs. Billye Caple as temporary president. Other officers elected are Miss Ruby Jinkins, vice-president, and Miss Mary Collins, secretary-treasurer.

A milk bottle committee was appointed by the president and one of the first objectives of the new organization is the placing of bottles in each of the business houses here, the proceeds of which are to be used for the benefit of undernourished children in the school. The co-operation of the entire town and surrounding communities is asked in making contributions through the bottles to this deserving fund.

Much enthusiasm was manifested at the opening meeting, which was called to order by Mrs. Caple as temporary chairman.

Every business or professional woman in the city is invited to attend the next meeting to be held on Monday night at 8 o'clock at the Farmers State bank building, and to become a member of the Merkel Business and Professional Women's club.

WTCC Convention Slated May 13-15 At Big Spring

Abilene, Feb. 29.—Dates for the 1940 convention of the West Texas Chamber of Commerce have been set as May 13, 14 and 15. West Texans will gather in Big Spring on those dates for the 22nd annual convention of the regional organization.

Preliminary plans for the event were discussed at a recent meeting of Big Spring Chamber of Commerce representatives and WTCC officials.

"Americanization" will be one of the central themes of the 1940 convention. The country's youth will participate through the co-operation of the Boy Scouts of America in an "Americanization parade." E. K. Fawcett, Del Rio, WTCC president, and a Scout leader for many years, made this suggestion several weeks ago and is calling upon area Boy Scout councils all over the West Texas territory to co-operate.

Cotton Shipments Boosted Washington, Feb. 29.—Increased cotton shipments were an important factor in boosting the margin of American merchandise exports over imports during January to \$126,589,000. January cotton shipments totaled 1,125,000 bales, compared with 327,000 a year ago.

Officers Elected. At a meeting of the directors held Monday night at the Lions hall, W. O. Boney was elected president. Other officers are: Clyde Bartlett, vice-president; C. J. Glover, secretary, and Booth Warren, treasurer.

Newly elected directors who took their places Monday night are Booth Warren, Dee Grimes, E. Y. Bailey, Clyde Bartlett and Nathan Wood. Holdover directors are Roy Reid, E. O. Carson, Paul Douglas, W. O. Boney and W. H. Bullock. The secretary is not a member of the board of directors.

Directors whose terms expired were S. D. Gamble, R. T. Gray, John West and Dr. L. C. Zehnppennig. Earl Watts, fifth director whose term expired, has moved away from the city.

Officers who served the association during 1939 were Roy Reid, president; R. T. Gray, vice-president; C. J. Glover, secretary, and Forrest Gaither, treasurer.

ATTEND MEETING AT ABILENE. Messrs. Chas. Mershon, Dr. Gamble, G. W. Johnson, L. P. Jones, Dr. Grimes and G. E. Comegys, all prominent and influential Merkel citizens, attended the chapter meeting of the Masonic lodge at Abilene Wednesday night.

Among those of our soldier boys who were on the ill-fated transport ship, the Tuscania, which sailed our shores on January 24, 1918, and was sunk by a German submarine on February 5, was Mr. Henry Askew, now the clever and efficient book-keeper at the Merkel Lumber company. Mr. Askew enlisted from Zephyr, Brown county, with the 16th Company, 20th Engineers, and in all spent about 16 months service in France and England.

Miss Mildred Sanders is spending the week with Miss Lucille Edwards at Maryneal.

DIRECTORS NAME W. O. BONEY AS NEW PRESIDENT

Annual Meeting to be Held For Hearing Suggestions; Discussing Plans, Trade Extension; Supper Tickets 25 Cents.

Annual meeting of the Merchants Trade Extension association, postponed by action of the directors from the past Monday night in order that more time might be permitted for organization, election of officers and mapping plans to be presented to the general assembly, will be held next Monday night, Mar. 4. Time of the meeting is 7:30 o'clock; place, the Lions hall.

Special attention will be given to "eats," a feature entrusted to the charge of R. T. Gray as chairman of the committee, assisted by W. H. Bullock and E. O. Carson.

Tickets, priced at 25 cents per person, will be sold by this committee, augmented by two other directors, E. Y. Bailey and Clyde Bartlett, and in selling the tickets the committee will canvass the entire town, as not only the heads of every business and all professional men of the city are expected to attend, but every member of all the firms and their employees and clerks. Owners of stores are urged to buy tickets for their working force, who are as vitally interested in the success of the trade extension program of the organization as are the business and professional men themselves. The directors are working toward the goal of making this supper-meeting a 100 per cent representation.

In deciding to sell tickets for the "eats" the directors felt that the expense would be taken care of in this way, and, furthermore, that it would be a good way to estimate how many would be present.

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Merkel 20 Years Ago

(From the Files of Merkel Mail, February 20, 1920.)

MANY MERKELITES TAKE AEROPLANE JOY RIDE.

Messrs. Fred J. Williams and George Ahl, of San Angelo, arrived in Merkel last Sunday afternoon and for two days remained here, taking those of our citizens who desired for a ride over the city. They were very courteous gentlemen and stated to a representative of The Mail that it was their intention to place Merkel on their list for regular visits.

The following is a list of those who partook of the pleasure of a trip in the air as handed in by these gentlemen: Herbert Dennis, Robert Dennis, Jackie Walker, L. B. Scott, Joel Counts, Booth Warren, W. Williams, Miss Elsie Vincent, Scott Jordan, Claude Comegys, De Verl Johnson, L. B. Howard, William O'Brian, William Brown, Marion Johnson, Preston Guthrie, Jack Anderson, Harry Merritt, Miss Elba Cox, Mrs. L. B. Scott, Jack West, Lewis Swann, Clifford Rose, Walter Boden, Homer Laney, Ed Heeter, Miss Mae Biddleman and Mr. and Mrs. L. R. Thompson of the F. and M. National bank.

THE MERKEL MAIL
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C. J. GLOVER, Editor

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(In Advance)

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TELEPHONE No. 61.

All obituaries, resolutions of respect cards of thanks, etc., are classed as advertising, and will be charged for at 1 cent per word with a minimum of 35 cents.

Letters from the People

To the Editor of Merkel Mail:
We wish to call the attention of your readers to the "Neely Bill" that was voted out of committee last session of congress and is now on the calendar of the senate.

This bill makes it obligatory on all states receiving funds direct from the United States treasury to have civil service rules in operation approved by the U. S. Civil Service commission. Since the federal government has not the right nor the power under the constitution to control a state's political machinery, it certainly has the right to dictate the conditions under which its money is to be spent.

Of course, politicians will raise a loud howl on the theory that the federal government is attempting to invade state's rights. So it would be in an indirect way with this difference. No state's rights would be invaded unless that state used federal funds.

While we bitterly oppose the inroads the federal government has already made on our state rights as accorded us by the constitution, yet we are of the opinion that only by the federal government can the "spoils system" be controlled.

It is too much to hope that our Texas legislature of their own accord will ever pass anything like an effective civil service law. Too much pressure would be brought to bear on them by the politicians who have so securely entrenched themselves behind breastworks made practically impregnable through the "spoils system."

Honest executives and heads of departments should welcome such a law as it would relieve them of the responsibility of having to make a choice among the several applicants.

We very much doubt that the present privilege of appointing one's subordinates adds anything to one's political prestige. While making a friend of the appointee, more often than not, he makes political enemies of the other applicants. Furthermore,

under civil service rules, should fraud or inefficiency show up among the subordinates, his skirts would be clean.

It is a well-known fact that under the "spoils system" appointees, as a rule, are not selected because of their fitness or qualifications for the respective positions, but because of their loyalty to the powers that be. It has proven an utter impossibility to enforce our nepotism law under present conditions.

Evidently a strenuous civil service law would do more to improve efficiency in office, eliminate graft, and give us cleaner politics than any law or laws ever placed on the statute books.

With all appointments to office made under civil service rules, the incentive to create new commissions—a practice that has already been carried to extremes in Texas—in order to accommodate friends in an attempt to build up their own political prestige, would be lacking.

If one doubts that efficiency in the various departments of our state and county governments would not follow a civil service rule, he should compare our post offices with our several government departments.

We are glad to note a growing sentiment among our thoughtful citizens for this change.

Louisiana's disgraceful muddle should bestir our citizens to become more politically minded, lest we find our state drifting in the same direction. It is to be hoped that the citizens of Texas, and other states as well, will deluge congress with demands that the "Neely bill" be passed, which would sound the death knell to a practice that is responsible for the greater part of fraud, extravagance and inefficiency found in our government.

Ours is supposed to be a government by the people; therefore, the people have the right to shape and control it. But so long as we remain indifferent to our political affairs, we can rest assured that our government will continue to be run in the interest of the politicians with the overburdened taxpayers footing the bills.

The citizens of this state now have a chance to give their endorsement to a bill, which, if passed, will not only eliminate the evils of the "spoils system" but will practically destroy the political rings that infest practically every county and state government.

If you are interested in good government, clean politics and efficient service, then write your congressman and your senator urging them to support this bill.

It will require an immense pressure to get this bill by the politicians, but it will be well worth the effort.
J. O. McMinn.

SAVING MONEY
With Cotton Bags



Utility is the first duty of an apron—but they can be decorative as well as useful. A sturdy material that will stand being washed many, many times is essential. One large or several small Cotton Flour or Sugar Bags is all that is required to make a very attractive apron. There are many shapes and sizes of aprons to choose from and there's no end of different ways to trim them. Simple embroidery stitches such as the lazy daisy or cross stitch in bright colors add much and take very little time.

Other Cotton Bag Sewing ideas are illustrated in a free booklet. Send to National Cotton Council, Box 18, Memphis, or Textile Bags, 100 N. LaSalle St., Chicago.

Efforts Being Made to Complete "B" Project

Since approval of Taylor Electric Cooperative, Inc., "A" project by REA in Washington, Feb. 3, of 206 miles, special efforts have been made to complete "B" project. Since some 400 miles more line is in practically the same stage of development, it is difficult to know which communities will be included other than Tuscola and all south part of Taylor county. Many comparatively new extensions are being pushed to completion. Engineers are expected to be here to start pre-allotment survey on "B" project within two weeks, it was stated by Johnny Cox, coordinator of the Taylor county project.

It is the desire of the directors of TEC to complete all extensions soon for both "B" and "C" projects. Continued bad weather has retarded this development, but with the cooperation of all, there should be very little difference of time in completing each.

In some instances, people in other co-operatives who did not sign applications before the line was built are experiencing delays in getting service after the line is built and all the allotment funds are used. It is urged that all living on the proposed line, especially at this time those who live in the section covered by "A" project who have not signed for service, do so at once before the contract to build the line is let.

People are becoming more and more electrically minded and almost each day representatives from various communities are asking for extensions to include their communities. To the farmer there are many more uses for electricity than his city brother, but the farm wife is the one to whom electricity holds the most blessings. The tractor has replaced the horse and mule on the farm, but only until electricity comes are the hard, unpleasant household duties of the farm wife replaced.

New Cafe to Open for Business Saturday

The Club, Merkel's newest cafe, will open Saturday of this week, and it is announced by the managers, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Grimes, that coffee will be served free all day for the opening. The Club is located next door to the bus station.

Mr. and Mrs. Grimes come here from Bronte, where they formerly operated a cafe. They have also engaged in the same business at Robert Lee. Mr. Grimes is a nephew of T. L. Grimes of this city and the newcomers have an apartment with the Grimes family in the Hurley Toombs place, just recently remodelled.

John W. Moore, 47, automobile salesman, was killed Tuesday night when his car crashed into Chiltipin creek bridge, a mile north of Sinton on highway 44.

Every day, during 1939, the post offices in New York received, delivered and dispatched an average of 15,500,000 pieces of ordinary mail.

TYPEWRITER for rent. Merkel Mail office.

PERSONALS

Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Sparks of Abilene visited over the week-end in the home of their parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. M. Hays.

Mrs. M. T. Schultz returned the latter part of last week from a visit with Mrs. Joe Simmons at Seminole.

Having received honorable discharge from the army after three years of service at Fort Sam Houston, R. T. Blair returned home Monday night. He has as his guest Larue Boyd, of Jackson, Miss. The latter enlisted at the same time R. T. did and between the two a close friendship developed.

Mrs. David Gamble returned Monday from a visit with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. M. E. Ryals, at Dallas. Her husband drove down to bring her home.

Miss Maurine Tipton, who teaches in the Ballinger schools, was home to spend the week-end with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. S. G. Tipton.

Guests in the O. R. Douglas home Sunday were Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Kincaid and children of Sweetwater, Mr. and Mrs. Sterling Jerden and children of Lubbock, Mr. and Mrs. C. D. Taylor and sons of Abilene and Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Jerden of Morton.

Miss Hollis Perry accompanied Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Rhoden of Abilene to Midland for a week-end visit with Miss Lucille Justice.

Mrs. O. R. Douglas and Donald Wayne returned home Saturday from Fort Worth after spending a week with her mother, who has been ill in the home of a son there.

Mr. and Mrs. N. C. Bush, along with Mr. and Mrs. Freeman Denton and daughter of Big Spring, were visitors Sunday in Abilene with Mr. and Mrs. Clifford Orr and daughter. Mr. Orr is now a salesman for the Banner creamery.

Mr. and Mrs. Corvin Leverich and little son, Jimmy, of Penwell, were week-end visitors with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Earl Stanford.

Spending the week-end with their parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. S. Pinckley, were Miss Marie Pinckley, who teaches at Irene, and Miss Faye Pinckley, who teaches at Perryton. Another daughter, Mrs. Roy Patterson, was also over from Abilene.

Mr. and Mrs. Bert Freeman of Midland spent the week-end with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Ross Wheeler. Mrs. J. C. Raudel and daughter, Penny, of Quanah, are guests this week of her sister and brother-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. John R. West.

Several students from Texas Tech, Lubbock, were home for the last week-end, among them being Misses Betty Grimes and Rachel Patterson, Don Warren, Truett Patterson and A. C. Sears.

Miss Billie Gardner, accompanied by Mrs. Ross Ferrier and G. W. Wilhite of the Grammar school, drove to Austin to spend the week-end, Miss Gardner having gone for open house of her sorority, the Gamma Phi Beta. Miss Imogene Schulze went with them as far as Bangs.

Miss Christine Collins and Misses Iva Bragg and Leta Coppinger of Abilene spent the week-end as guests in the home of Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Bragg at Chillicothe.

Guests last week of Mr. and Mrs. John Grable were Mrs. Grable's parents, Mr. and Mrs. R. P. Lee, of Throckmorton. On Sunday Mr. and Mrs. Fred Hughes and two sons, Freddie Lee and Harold, were over from Abilene to spend the day.

Builds New Farm Home.

Work started Monday morning on a six-room frame home being erected by Henry Hester on his farm, two miles northeast of town. Cecil White is contractor.

Don't miss "What a Life"—Saturday preview at Queen theatre.

Productive Hand Bills



Hand bills must be attractive and they must be well printed to do their job the best. You can depend on The Merkel Mail printing to be the best possible. Try us next time.

The Merkel Mail
Printers and Publishers

OUR LOBBY —

A convenient place to meet your friends.

OUR DIRECTORS ROOM —

Always available for your committee meetings.

(If you have not received one of our 1940 calendars—you will find one on our lobby desk. Your friends may have one, too.)

THE OLD RELIABLE
FARMERS & MERCHANTS NATIONAL BANK
Merkel, Texas

Member Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation

HOLIDAY NOTICE

TEXAS INDEPENDENCE DAY

Saturday, March 2, 1940

This bank will observe next Saturday as a legal holiday and will not be open for business.

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and

MERKEL MAIL

Both Papers, Now One Year

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THE MERKEL MAIL

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- Rexall Milk of Magnesia USP 32-oz. 59c
- Rexall Rubbing Alcohol USP 16-oz. 29c
- Rexall Mi-31 Solution 16-oz. 49c
- CARDUI, \$1.00 size 89c
- Syrup Black Draught, 50c size 39c
- Syrup Black Draught, 25c size 21c
- Black Draught, Powder Form, 4 - 25c 75c
- Tek Tooth Brushes 2 for 43c
- Dr. West Tooth Brushes, 35c value 29c
- HALO SHAMPOO, 85c size 79c
- Harriet Hubbard Ayer's Hand Lotion, 85c size Both \$1
- Harriet Hubbard Ayer's Hand Cream, 85c size Both \$1
- SYRUP PEPSIN \$1.20 Size 98c
- 60c Size 49c
- NERVINE, \$1.00 size 89c
- ARMAND'S HAND CREAM \$1.00 Size 79c
- 50c Size 43c
- 25c Size 23c
- ZINE OXIDE 1 1/2 oz. Size 20c
- 1 oz. Size 15c

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— THE REXALL STORE —

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SPECIALS FOR FRIDAY & SATURDAY

6 BOXES MATCHES 15c
12 CANS BUILD-UP 48c

DRIP — REGULAR — VACUUM PACK CANS
Bright & Early Coffee 1-lb. cans 19c

No. 2 CANS CHERRIES 2 for 25c
4 LB. CARTON BIRD BRAND SHORTENING 39c
1 lb. Can Gold Bar
Marshmallows 15c
Tomato Juice, Each 8c

SUGAR, Pure Cane 10-lb. cloth bag 51c

LARGE SIZE QUICK ARROW SOAP FLAKES 9c
9 oz. Cans Crushed Pineapple 3 for 25c
FULL SACK P-K 1/2 GALLON
Puffed Wheat 10c
SYRUP 29c

CANDY, Orange Slices or Carmel Lb. 10c

TEXAS Small 2 HEADS
Oranges 3 doz. 25c
DELICIOUS Medium LETTUCE 9c
Apples 2 doz. 25c
WINESAP Small SPUDS Lb. 6c
Apples 3 doz. 25c
Grapefruit Doz. 25c
LARGE SIZE CELERY Bunch 15c
Bananas Doz. 15c
SPUDS, No. 1, 10 lbs. 19c
TURNIPS Bunch 5c
and TOPS

Peacock Onion Sets Qt. box 10c

LILY CHUCK
Margarine 2 lbs. 25c
SLICED ROAST Lb. 19c
Bacon, No. 1 Lb. 19c
Rib Roast Lb. 15c
SALT
PORK Lb. 10c
Pork Chops Lb. 15c

CARSON'S GROCERY & MARKET

"Trade at Carson's and Bank the Difference"
FREE DELIVERY PHONE 250

BLAIR ITEMS

Rev. J. B. Stewart, M. E. pastor, delivered two very impressive discourses Sunday on Matt. 7:26, his theme being "Building Things Eternal." Rev. Mr. Stewart is a very forceful speaker. Do not forsake the house of God. Bring a crowd with you. Services every fourth Sunday of each month.

Mr. and Mrs. Jim Moore attended the funeral of the former's brother, Buck Moore, at Merkel Sunday. Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Moore and Mr. and Mrs. Jessie Wilson and children of Seymour also attended the funeral of their uncle and other friends and relatives from here attended the funeral. All sympathize with the bereaved ones in their great sorrow.

Among those on the sick list are Mrs. Tom Spears, Mr. Loper, little Billie Jackson and Alonzo Moore.

Mr. and Mrs. John Meeks were hosts to a family reunion in their home on Sunday, Feb. 18. Those participating were Mr. and Mrs. Knox Beall, Abilene, and Mr. and Mrs. Tommie Patterson and Jerry Frank, of Merkel, Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Meeks and son, J. E., of Butman, J. L. Meeks, Sammie Doan and Mr. and Mrs. John Meeks.

Mr. and Mrs. Ira Cavette and children of Sweetwater spent the week-end with their brother, Mr. and Mrs. Jim Cavette.

Vaughn Doan spent the week-end with Ira Farmer of Butman.

EPWORTH LEAGUE.

The Epworth League was organized at the Methodist church Sunday night, Feb. 25, with the following officers: John Mack Grant, president; Miss Joy Doan, vice-president; J. D. Sandusky, secretary. Group leaders are Misses Louise Addison and Lena Faye Orsborn; pianist, Miss Gwindolyn Sandusky; song leader, Miss Madlyn Brown; sponsor, Mrs. A. M. Jackson; reporter, Mrs. Hugh Campbell.

There will be a program presented at the M. E. church Sunday evening at 7 o'clock. Everyone is invited to come and help with your presence and influence. The spiritual uplift will help you.

GOODMAN NEWS

Mr. and Mrs. Ellis Rosson of Robstown visited Mr. and Mrs. Walter Phillips Sunday.

Avis Deavers, teacher in the Eskota high school, spent the week-end with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. H. A. Deavers.

Grandma Cade is visiting her son and daughter-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. L. R. Cade of Noodle, this week.

Helen McLeod of Trent spent Thursday night with Charlene James.

Hollis Medford of Oklahoma visited Mr. and Mrs. H. A. Deavers recently. Hollis is a nephew of Mrs. Deavers.

Mr. and Mrs. Pete Rutledge and family of Merkel and Mr. and Mrs. W. J. James and sons of Golan visited Mr. and Mrs. Hardy Rutledge Sunday.

Truett Meeks and Ted Washburn of Merkel and W. N. Williams of Post were Goodman visitors Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Armstrong and family and Mrs. Will Spurgin of Comper visited R. I. Rains of O'Donnell last week-end. They were accompanied home by E. B. Rains. A. J. reported plenty of snowdrifts when they left there Sunday noon.

Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Washburn and sons spent Sunday night with Mr. and Mrs. George Freeman of White Flat.

Delmer McLeod and family of Merkel visited Mr. and Mrs. L. A. Cox Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Gene Cade and daughter visited Gene's sister, Mrs. J. H. Anderson, of Lawn, Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Manson James and daughter, and Mr. and Mrs. Efford Brown and family of Trent, spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. J. F. Cox of Golan.

Mr. and Mrs. Truett Jeffrey of Sylvester visited Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. Pratt Cox.

Mr. and Mrs. W. B. Toombs of Blair and Mr. and Mrs. B. M. Eckert were guests of Mr. and Mrs. R. N. Campbell Sunday.

Manson James and Efford Brown made a business trip to Post last Friday.

Lucille Gilmore of Merkel is visiting her aunt, Mrs. R. N. Campbell, this week.

CARD OF THANKS.

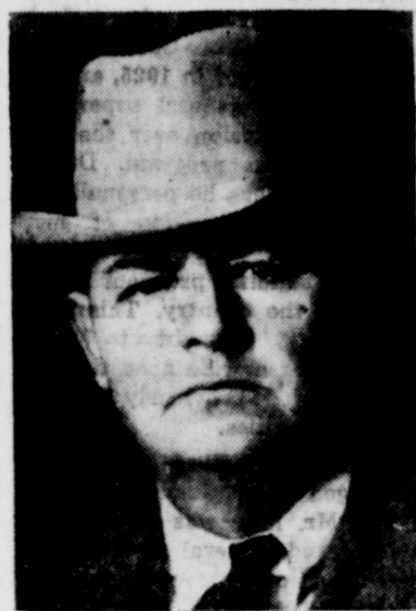
We wish to express our thanks to each and every one who assisted in any way during the illness and death of our dear mother and grandmother, Mrs. P. R. Demere, and also to those who remembered us with the lovely flowers.

May God bless you all.

Demere Children and Grandchildren.

Don't miss "What a Life"—Saturday preview at Queen theatre.

R. E. (Rex) Dillard In Race for County Clerk



R. E. (Rex) DILLARD

R. E. (Rex) Dillard of Tuscola, well known in Merkel, where he was engaged in business a number of years ago, was a visitor in the city last Thursday and authorized The Mail to publish the following statement announcing his candidacy for the office of county clerk:

To the citizens of Taylor county:

"In announcing myself as a candidate for the office of county clerk, I do so after carefully considering the importance of this office.

"To those of you who do not know me, I might say that I was born 16 miles southeast of Abilene in 1882.

At the age of 12 I moved to Taylor county and with the exception of one year spent in New Mexico, I have lived in this county since. I attended the public school and later the college at Buffalo Gap.

"I spent three years as a merchant and six years as county commissioner. The remainder of my life has been spent on a farm. I would be very grateful if those of you who do not know me would ask any of my neighbors or business men who are among the early day citizens about me. Most of those who are in business know me.

"If you elect me your county clerk, I will make you a good hand, and will endeavor to give you the kind of service you will appreciate. I will sincerely appreciate your support and influence."

Respectfully,

R. E. (Rex) Dillard.

Let us book your order now for baby chicks that live and grow and pay you a profit—hatched at Dunn's Hatchery, DeLeon, Texas. John Dunn.

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.

TRENT NEWS AND PERSONALS

Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Jones went to Coleman the past week-end to visit with Mrs. Jones' father, Jordan Campbell.

Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Hardy and son, Weldon, visited Virgie Hardy Sunday.

Beaty Pearl Hand, a graduate of Parsons Beauty school, has accepted a position in a Breckenridge beauty shop.

Mrs. Clark Hamner is ill at this writing, having undergone an operation for appendicitis at the Merkel hospital Saturday.

Mrs. W. J. Bicknell of Noodle spent the day Monday with Mr. and Mrs. John Gafford.

Mrs. Claude Rosson of Taft spent last Sunday with her sister, Mrs. A. W. Woods. Their mother, Mrs. Pomroy of Merkel, was here also.

Mrs. Bruce Howell and little son are visiting with Mr. and Mrs. John Howell of Abilene this week.

Mr. and Mrs. Sam Rosson of near Slaton attended the funeral Sunday of John Rosson of Anson and are now spending a few days here with relatives.

Alma Howell of Abilene was a visitor here last week.

Mrs. Clifford Estep is suffering from injuries resulting from a fall she received a few weeks ago. We're hoping she will soon be up and about again.

Rev. Alsie Carleton, pastor of the Clyde Methodist church and former pastor here, was in Trent Saturday.

Mrs. J. I. Leamon had as her house guest last week an old time friend, Mrs. P. T. Allday of Silverton.

James Strawn spent the past week-end with home folks.

Mrs. Fred Hale has as her guest, her sister, Mrs. Alexander of Lubbock.

BASKETBALL GAMES.

Monday night the Lueders girls beat the Jayton girls three points to win the semi-finals in the district tournament, which is being played at the Trent school gymnasium.

The Trent Independent Men's team beat the Noodle Independents, while the Noodle juniors beat the Trent juniors.

Large crowds have been reported for this tournament and the Trent P.-T. A. has served lunches.

The finals in this district meet were to be played Tuesday night, Feb. 27.

BIRTHDAY PARTY.

Mrs. R. B. Johnson was honored Sunday with a birthday party.

Out-of-town callers were Mr. and Mrs. S. T. Eason and grandchildren, George and Betty Holt, of Big Spring; Mr. and Mrs. Emmett Far-

Fort Worth Man Tells What Oil Industry Means to West Texas

Fort Worth, Feb. 29.—More than 122,000 persons in Fort Worth and its trade territory of West Texas get their living from the oil industry. Harold G. Neely, Fort Worth oil man, told the Junior Chamber of Commerce here Wednesday.

Over 44,000 men, women and children in Fort Worth, or more than one in five you meet on the street, depend for their livelihood directly upon the oil industry," Mr. Neely reported. "In addition, there are over 77,000 others in the 73 West Texas counties constituting our trade territory. That's a total of more than 122,000 Texans in these 74 counties who get their bread and meat solely from this one industry."

Thousands more benefit indirectly from the expenditure of the wages of the oil employees, Mr. Neely declared. Oil's pay roll in Fort Worth is \$11,758,800 a year, while in the West Texas area the industry spends \$22,325,270 more for wages, a total of \$34,084,070 a year. In addition, the oil industry pays West Texas ranchers and farmers \$20,000,000 a year in lease and royalty payments. Taxes

paid by the industry in West Texas total \$10,940,197 a year, while plant investments, equipment, etc., bring oil's total expenditure in West Texas to \$64,215,166 annually, Mr. Neely said, quoting figures just compiled by the Texas Mid-Continent Oil and Gas association.

"When the \$13,143,451 spent each year by oil men in Fort Worth for wages, taxes and improvements, is added, this is a total expenditure of \$77,358,617 a year from this one industry in Fort Worth and her trade territory," Mr. Neely added. "The largest part of this finds its way into retail trade in West Texas and ultimately into Fort Worth retail and wholesale houses and banks and thus into the pockets of you and me."

Oil company properties in Fort Worth, which is miles from any producing oil well, now represent an assessed value of \$17,851,982, or 12 per cent of the assessed value of all property in Tarrant county, the speaker said. In the 73 West Texas counties, oil properties make up an even larger share, being 27 per cent. The assessed value is \$187,757,382 out of \$692,382,506, or more than one-fourth. Altogether, the oil prop-

erties of the 74 counties aggregate \$205,609,364 at regular assessment rates.

"And every dollar of this \$200,000,000," Mr. Neely pointed out, "has been invested or created for our section of the state by the activities of the West Texas oil man.

"Whether you are directly in the oil business or not, you have a major stake in its success. You are vitally interested in the attitude of the state and local governments of Texas toward an industry which means so much to your city and region and yourself. And you may be sure that your own attitude toward this industry will reflect itself in the attitude of your governmental and taxing officials."

CANADA'S PRIDE

BUCKLEY'S MIXTURE

Immensely superior, a tremendous advance over more ordinary remedies, says Doctor. By far the largest selling cough medicine in all wintry Canada. Take a couple of doses—feel its quick, powerful, pungent action spread thru throat, head and bronchial tubes. Acts like a flash on coughs due to colds or bronchial irritations. Get Buckley's CANADIOL Mixture today. Over 10 million bottles sold. MERKEL DRUG COMPANY

CONOCO GAS

12c

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Ideal Security Life Insurance Co.

Secure Protection at Reasonable Cost

Pays Death Claims Quicker — No Wait — No Worry

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W. H. LITTLEFIELD, Sec'y-Treas.

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BIG IN MORE THAN SIZE!

Try a new Ford yourself! Not only in actual measurements, but in looks and feel and ride and action, you'll find it bigger money's worth than you ever thought low price would buy!

BIG IN MEASUREMENTS! Longer and roomier than any Ford car has ever been. Up to 4 inches more legroom in sedans.

BIG IN RIDE! Springbase in a Ford is longer than in any other low-priced car. In addition, longer, softer springs (on 85 h.p. models) and improved, self-sealing shock absorbers give a soft but steady big-car ride.

BIG IN "FEEL"! Gears shift easily and quietly, with fingertip gearshift on steering post.

Brakes are the biggest hydraulics ever used on a low-priced car.

BIG IN ACTION! Learn for yourself what a difference 8 cylinders make . . . why they are used so extensively in the more costly cars. Own a Ford and you enjoy 8 cylinder performance . . . at low operating cost.



FORD V-8

DIFFERENT FROM ANY LOW-PRICED CAR YOU'VE EVER SEEN!

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SERIOUS MINDED . . .

. . . Property Owners

Who realize a tomorrow's uninsured loss may wipe out today's bank account, will be interested in an insurance survey prepared by this agency.

At no cost or obligation.

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MERKEL, TEXAS

FARM LOANS AND ALL KINDS OF INSURANCE

Consult Your Insurance Agent as you Would Your Doctor or Lawyer

QUEEN THEATRE CALENDAR

Friday-Saturday—Double feature program, Alice Faye and Warner Baxter in "Barricade," Cesar Romero and Marjorie Weaver in "The Cisco Kid and the Lady;" cartoon and serial.

Saturday preview only — Jackie Cooper and Betty Field in "What a Life;" selected short.

Monday-Tuesday—Bette Davis, Errol Flynn and Olivia deHavilland in "The Private Life of Elizabeth and Essex," in technicolor.

Wednesday and Thursday—Jane Bryan and Paul Muni in "We Are Not Alone."

Coming next week—"Everything Happens at Night."

"Barricade"

Two Americans live a startling drama, trapped in a remote United States consulate besieged by fierce Mongolian bandits, in "Barricade," thrilling 20th Century-Fox picture showing Friday and Saturday at the Queen theatre. Alice Faye and Warner Baxter, co-starred in the film, are the couple and their story is one of the adventure-packed romantic highlights of the season.

With death seemingly but an hour away, these two learn to love in the face of peril and their efforts to resist the bandits and fight their way to safety make for thrilling entertainment in the best screen manner.

Featured in the cast supporting Miss Faye and Baxter are Charles Winninger, Arthur Treacher, Keye Luke and Willie Fung, under the direction of Gregory Ratoff.

"Cisco Kid and the Lady"

O. Henry's smiling desperado of the Old Southwest, the Cisco Kid, finds new adventure in Arizona and deadly danger in a beautiful senorita's eyes, as he returns to the screen in "The Cisco Kid and the Lady." This 20th Century-Fox picture comes to the Queen Friday and Saturday, with plenty of excitement, thrills, laughter and romance making it a rare screen treat.

Handsome Cesar Romero is the new Cisco and a more daring, romantic figure never roamed the Western bad lands. Featured in the cast are Marjorie Weaver, Chris-Pin Martin, George Montgomery, Robert Barrat, Virginia Field and Harry Green. Herbert I. Leens directed.

"What a Life"

When youngsters see "What a Life," which shows for the preview Saturday night only, it simply will be a case of repeating their own school experiences, with all the thrills, joys and heartaches. For adults it's a chance to live their own teenage years again.

Jackie Cooper, in a part that carries him back to his performances in "The Champ," is "Henry." Betty Field is his girl. James Corner is the boy who makes "Henry's" life what a life. John Howard and Janice Logan are his kindly friends, Vaughan Glaser is the hard boiled principal, and Kathleen Lockhart the tough teacher. Hedda Hopper is the boy's mother and Lionel Stander the cock-sure detective.

"Elizabeth and Essex"

The local premiere of "The Private Lives of Elizabeth and Essex," co-starring Bette Davis and Errol Flynn will take place at the Queen theatre Monday night, according to an announcement from the management. The Warner Bros. production, filmed in technicolor, has been hailed by critics who viewed it at the recent Hollywood world premiere as the season's most impressive offering, worthy to take its place with the finest screen achievements of all time.

Telling a highly dramatic and essentially human story against the magnificent pageantry of the Elizabethan court, "The Private Lives of Elizabeth and Essex" deals with the one great love in the life of England's most famous queen. The role of Elizabeth is one which Miss Davis, universally acknowledged to be the screen's greatest dramatic actress, was destined to play, and according to advance reports, she is every inch and fibre the Queen!

Side by side and pace by pace with her, strides Errol Flynn as Lord Essex. It is the type of role precisely suited to the handsome Irishman—that of a dashing soldier, victorious in defeat, irresistible in all adventures of the heart, the hero of the populace—truly a man among men.

The supporting cast includes such names as Vincent Price, who plays the role of Sir Walter Raleigh, bitter rival of Essex; Olivia de Havilland as Lady Penelope Gray, lady-in-waiting to Elizabeth and hopelessly in love with Essex; Donald Crisp as Francis Bacon, Essex' confidante and advisor; and Henry Stephenson,

Seeks Re-Election On Basis of Record



VIVIAN FRYAR

To the people of Taylor county: I am indeed grateful to you for your support and co-operation and the many courtesies extended to me during the three years of my service to you as your county clerk. My deputies and I have endeavored to render you economical, efficient and courteous service at all times. It is for you to say whether I will continue as your county clerk for another two years. If you feel that my record as a citizen and as an officer merits the continuation of my service, I will certainly appreciate your vote and influence in the coming primary election.

Respectfully submitted,
Vivian Fryar.

Henry Daniell, James Stephenson, Alan Hale, Ralph Forbes and hundreds of others.

"We Are Not Alone"

To the simple English doctor who is tragic hero of James Hilton's novel, "We Are Not Alone," the first of his works he has personally adapted for screen purposes, which comes to the Queen next Wednesday and Thursday, Paul Muni brings in rounded whole the ripe talent for characterization which distinguished his "Zola" and his "Pasteur." Playing this plain small town Englishman of 1914 without benefit of make-up, yet living the character as utterly as those others, he turns in a performance powerful in understatement and the more dramatic because undramatically handled.

Jane Bryan plays the part of an Austrian girl befriended by the doctor, a difficult role superbly done. Flora Robson as the wife makes a detestable character an artistic achievement. The large cast is accurately chosen for types.

MAGAZINE SUBSCRIPTIONS.

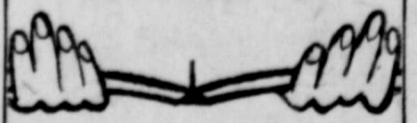
We will appreciate the privilege of sending in your subscription to the leading magazines. On a great many of them, if you want to include your subscription to The Mail, we are in position to make special clubbing offer. See us before you renew.

"Stomach Distress so bad I Could Hardly Work"

Says C. S. Gross: "After taking Adia Tablets the pains are relieved and I eat anything." Try Adia for excess stomach acidity on our money back guarantee. Sold at all Drug Stores.



NEW 'phone book goes to press March 8



Would you like a telephone, so your name will be in the new directory? Is a change needed in your present listing which has not been reported? If so, please notify the telephone business office now.

Age Limit Makes It Possible For More Boys To Participate

Austin, Feb. 29.—For every high school football player disqualified under the new 18-year Interscholastic League rule, two will participate who would have been ineligible under the former eight-semester regulation, University of Texas League officials believe.

"By stressing an age limit, we lose 1,368 older boys who could have returned under the semester rule," R. J. Kidd, league athletic director, explained. "On the other hand, we'll gain exactly 2,990 who will still be under 18, but will have completed eight semesters' attendance in school. That's an increase of 1,662 or 54 per cent."

"What we're trying to do is make it possible for more boys to play football without lowering either education's or the game's standards."

Kidd also contended that the quality of players will not be impaired by the age-limit reduction, pointing to the fact that only five of the 22 boys on the 1939 all-State football squad were 18. Of the remainder four were 16, 13 were seventeen.

The plan was adopted to eliminate friction over the eight-semester rule that had arisen between 11-grade and 12-grade schools, since the latter systems objected to the semester ruling as unfair because it eliminated students in the twelfth grade. Under the new system the number of semesters of participation will be unimportant.

League officials pointed out that the state department of education has decided on a 12-grade school system for Texas and that, therefore, any discrimination against the system by the league would be in conflict with the board.

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 telephone 61 or 29.

May Elected Head, Community Gas Co.

Dallas, Feb. 29.—Chester L. May of Dallas, executive vice-president and general manager of Community Natural Gas company and Texas Cities Gas company, Feb. 19 was elected president of the two companies served by Lone Star Gas company, the wholesale end of the system. Mr. May succeeds the late L. B.



CHESTER L. MAY

Denning, Sr., who in addition to being president of Lone Star Gas corporation was also president of these companies.

Mr. May's election places him at the head of a gas system serving 170,000 meters in more than 290 towns and cities in north central Texas and southern Oklahoma, the largest gas system in the southwest. The system extends from Hollis and Purcell, Okla., on the north, to Round Rock and College Station on the south, and from San Angelo on the west, to Sulphur Springs and Clarksville on the east. It also includes El Paso and Galveston which are off the main pipe line system.

A career man in the natural gas industry, Mr. May entered the business in 1909 in Ohio. He served with the Ohio Fuel Supply company and later with the Arkansas Natural Gas company. Coming to Texas in 1916 to make a survey of all properties of Lone Star Gas company, he later was appointed assistant to the superintendent of gas measurement and in 1921 was appointed

general superintendent of the Farmers Gas company.

This company was absorbed by Community Natural Gas company which was organized in 1925, and Mr. May was named general superintendent with supervision over the company's expansion program. During the next five years he personally supervised the construction of more than 200 town distribution plants, the largest building program of any company in the country. This great accomplishment brought to towns and cities over a wide area the type of gas service previously enjoyed only by large cities.

In 1933 Texas Cities Gas company was merged with Community Natural and Mr. May was elected vice-president and general manager of both companies, having held that position in Community Natural since 1929. In 1935 the Municipal Gas company, which served 20 Texas cities, was also merged with the Community Natural Gas Co.

Don't miss "What a Life"—Saturday preview at Queen theatre.



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Jeweler
Watches—Diamonds—
Silverware
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MISSIE'S FLORAL SHOP

Day Old Chicks 6c — Day Old Chicks 6c
Delivered at 6 1/2c

—Don't forget the Turkey Incubator will start March 1st, receiving custom hatching turkey eggs.

Specially Built and Designed Turkey Incubator
—We are getting 90% hatch on all fertile chicken eggs out of the Mammoth Smith Incubator. This makes low price chicks. Day old chicks 6c.

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"We're on guard day and night!"

THIS MODERN LINERIDER—so like the old-time cowboy—has a mortal enemy too. The cowboy waged a continuous battle against the rustler. The lineman's big fight is against depreciation—and the ravages of wind and rain, heat and cold.

Just as the soil is worn away by erosion... just as a herd of cattle or sheep can be depleted by theft or disease, so does the electric line suffer from depreciation and the elements.

The lineman is constantly at work on the lines entrusted to his guardianship. Repairing and replacing old wires. Destruction by a sudden storm—or damage by a run-away car or truck—must be repaired in as short a time as possible.

Day or night—the lineman is subject to call. The light of a flashlight may be his only illumination while atop a 50-foot pole, working on high voltage lines.

He is one of the hundreds of men and women, working "behind the scenes," who help make Electric Service efficient, dependable and economical here. On him we bestow a title of honor—"A Modern Linerider."



This is the second of a series of "THUMBNAILED SKETCHES" featuring the work performed by our Linemen in bringing ELECTRIC SERVICE to your home



West Texas Utilities Company

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FOR SALE—Good work mule. Woodrow Patton, Merkel, Texas, Route 4.

FOR SALE or TRADE—'33 Chevrolet truck in good shape with steel dump body. See George L. White at Mt. Pleasant.

SEE US for Baby Chicks, backed by a real breeding program; all hatchery flocks blood-tested and culled; prices reasonable. Sharp's Hatchery, "Quality Chicks."

FOR SALE—Work mares, horses and mules. A. D. Scott, Route 4, Merkel, Texas.

FOR SALE—Fresh milk cow, with calf. Burton-Lingo Co.

FOR SALE—Seven choice Jersey cows, four fresh at this time, the other three heavy springers; also registered Jersey bull of best breeding for sale or service. See R. A. Walker and-or Booth Warren.

FOR SALE—Windmill and tower. Claude Derrick.

FOR SALE—We have storage tanks, stock tubs, tank floats, windmills, water well supplies, pipes and fittings. Higginbotham-Bartlett Co.

FOR SALE or Trade—Several good young work mares and mules; also twenty good young Jersey milk cows and springer heifers. Pierce Horton.

FOR RENT

ROOMS for rent, furnished or unfurnished. Mrs. Irl Walker.

FOR RENT—Modern three-room furnished apartment. Dr. M. Armstrong.

WANTED

WANTED to topwork your pecan trees, converting your native seedling pecans into the thin-shelled Burkett variety. Clyde Nursery, Clyde, Texas.

MR. PRODUCE SELLER—Your produce will find the top price at Merkel Creamery; cream, chickens and eggs; we know our cream, 8 years' experience. Joe Stalls, Operator, in rear Campbell's Grocery.

WANTED—Prospects for cars; will give \$5.00 cash for prospects where sale of over \$200 is made. O. C. Shouse at Merkel Motor Co.

TO THE PUBLIC—We are now equipped for first class repair work on cars, tractors, washing machines, motors, etc. Give us a trial. Irl Walker and Odell Crow, West Side Wrecking Yard. All work guaranteed.

LOST and FOUND

LOST—Lions club key and the clasp, initials E. O. C., No. B-3171. Please return to E. O. Carson.

ANNOUNCEMENTS
POLITICAL

(Subject to action of the Democratic Primary in July.)
For County Commissioner, Precinct No. 2:
H. B. (Hob) ROBERTSON.
A. J. CANON (Re-election).
W. R. (Bill) SUMPTER.
BUSTER HORTON.
L. A. (Lem) DUDLEY.
W. R. COX.
D. J. (Dave) ANDERSON.
C. R. (Rufe) TITTLE.
For Commissioner, Precinct No. 4.
Jones County:
T. A. TUCKER.
For Constable, Precinct No. 5, Taylor County:
C. K. RUSSELL.
P. F. WEST.
EARL DANIEL.
For Sheriff, Taylor County:
W. E. (Elmer) LOWE.
SID H. McADAMS (Re-election).
W. T. McQUARY.
For County Judge, Jones County:
GILBERT SMITH.
For Justice of the Peace, Precinct No. 5:
N. D. COBB (Re-election).
For County Clerk:
R. E. (Rex) DILLARD.
VIVIAN FRYAR (Re-election).

Railroads Improving.
Washington, Feb. 29.—The commerce department said that railroad operations had "improved markedly" last year, with an increase of \$395,000,000 in freight revenue and \$12,000,000 in passenger revenue.

If you do not take The Mail—subscribe now and enjoy it every week.

Hardin in Race for Rail Commissioner

Prairie Hill, Feb. 29.—Ross Hardin, one of the famous Hardin twins in the state legislature, this week actively began his race for state railroad commissioner, opposing Chairman Lon A. Smith.

Promising to "clean up the East Texas oil field" and to institute some economy measures in the Austin office of the railroad commission, Hardin said he favored "cutting down on some of those 'dead-head' employees down there," and prohibiting issuance of allowables on dead wells.

Ross, who serves Limestone county in the house of representatives, while his twin brother Doss serves as state senator, made the first talk Wednesday in the series of weekly radio broadcasts he will make during the campaign. The outspoken young legislator speaks at 1 p. m. each Wednesday over the Texas Quality Network, just following the Crazy Crystals program.

During his six years in the house, Ross Hardin has championed the old-age pension cause. He voted for the joint resolution designed to finance the pensions.

Merkel Girl Weds Weatherford Man

On Saturday evening at 7 o'clock Miss Alberta Gregory and Perry Gouge were united in marriage, with Rev. R. U. Rister performing the ceremony, which was read at the Rister home.

The bride is the youngest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William Gregory of Merkel; the groom is a son of Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Gouge of Weatherford and grandson of Mr. and Mrs. W. L. Massey of this city.

Present for the ceremony were William Gregory, Mrs. W. L. Massey, A. J. Massey, Misses Ila Mae and Della Ray Massey, J. W. Massey and Mrs. R. U. Rister and children.

On Sunday a wedding dinner was served in the home of the bride's parents, with the following as guests: Mr. and Mrs. W. L. Massey, Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Massey and family, Rev. and Mrs. R. U. Rister and family and W. G. Richardson.

Following the dinner Mr. and Mrs. Gouge left for Weatherford, where they will make their home.

Butman News

This wind (Monday) has about blown us away, but most of us are over the "flu."

Mrs. Will Butman visited in Coleman last week with her sister and brother-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. E. C. Ray.

Messrs. Wade Ensinger and Ernest Meeks have made business trips to Fort Worth.

Mrs. Dennis Counts visited her aunt, Mrs. Earl C. Green, of Sweetwater, Monday.

Don't forget — Brother Taggart will preach Sunday. Everybody come.

Several of this community have been to see Miss Lottie Butman and report her doing nicely. We're glad to hear that.

Several from here saw "Gone With the Wind" and report it well worth seeing.

Try a Classified Ad in The Mail.

LOCAL NEWS BRIEFS

The fireboys answered a call at 4 o'clock Thursday morning to the county barn in South Merkel, which was merely a test alarm. There was no fire.

Mr. and Mrs. Emmett Grimes returned Monday to their home at Georgetown after a visit here to see Mrs. Harriet Grimes, who was taken seriously ill last Friday night. Her condition was much improved Monday when the Georgetown relatives left and she was reported Thursday morning as "getting along nicely."

To help their father, M. Elliott, celebrate his 80th birthday, dinner guests in the Elliott home were Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Elliott, Mr. and Mrs. Edgar Elliott and family and Mrs. Ernest Ensinger and son, all of Divide, also Mr. and Mrs. Carl Black.

Mrs. J. W. Eland, who will soon be 80 years old, sustained painful and serious injury when she fell at her home Wednesday afternoon and broke her hip. She tripped on a board in the yard. An interesting note in connection with the accident is that Dr. M. Armstrong, the attending physician, first waited on the J. W. Eland family 49 years ago in Coryell county. He has served five generations of the Blands.

Grandpa Frank Ervin Dies at Weatherford

Friends here have learned of the death of Grandpa Frank Ervin, 92, at Weatherford, on Sunday, Feb. 18. Funeral services were held on Tuesday following.

Grandpa Ervin will be well remembered here, as he resided in this section about 22 years before moving to Weatherford. He was an elder in Grace Presbyterian church.

Born in Virginia, he was married in 1865 in Coryell county to Miss Sarah Warren, sister of the late J. B. Warren. Besides his wife, he is survived by five children, two daughters and three sons.

Drive for Relief of Poles.

New York, Feb. 29.—A drive for \$1,000,000 to aid Polish war sufferers was launched Monday. The money is to be a birthday present to Ignace Jan Paderewski, Polish pianist and statesman.

Order your chicks now, so you can get them when you want them. Of course, you want the chicks that live and grow—hatched at Dunn's Hatchery, DeLeon, Texas. John Dunn.

Bakerwell Mineral Water Co.
Mineral Wells, Texas

Former Merkel Girl Places Third In Essay Contest; Wins \$5 Prize

Willadean Thornton, former Merkel girl, recently moved to Abilene, won the honor of third place in an essay and story contest at Abilene high school. There were approximately 700 juniors and seniors of Abilene high school entered in the contest, titled "Life Insurance in Action," which was sponsored by the Abilene Association of Underwriters.

First prize went to William Snow; second prize, to Bobby Ruth Carter, both of whom are seniors. The prizes were \$15, \$10 and \$5, respectively. The former Merkel girl, winning third place, now lives at 1166 Victoria.

On Feb. 20 a banquet was held at the Hilton hotel, Abilene, honoring the prize winners, with prominent insurance men from all over Texas attending.

Engagement of Guy Garland Announced

Mr. and Mrs. Rollin Colgrove Dean of Westfield, N. J., are announcing the engagement of their daughter, Dorothy, to Lieutenant Guy P. Garland, U. S. N., at present attached to the USS California.

The wedding will take place at the Lakewood church on Mar. 17, at 4:30 p. m.

The groom, son of Mr. and Mrs. Joe Garland of Merkel, is a native of Texas and was graduated from the Naval Academy in the class of 1929. The bride was graduated from Westfield high school and attended Beaver college in Pennsylvania.

Western Union Earns Profit.

New York, Feb. 29.—Western Union Telegraph Co., for the year 1939, reported net income of \$1,380,114 after charges, equal to \$1.32 a common share, compared with net loss of \$1,637,879 in 1938.

Herbert Marshall Elopes.

Las Vegas, Nev., Feb. 29.—Herbert Marshall, suave British movie actor, eloped to this southern Nevada town and was married late Tuesday to Elizabeth Roberta Brandt, actress model.

Don't miss "What a Life"—Saturday preview at Queen theatre.

Hospital Notes.

W. M. Warren of Tye was admitted to Merkel hospital last Friday for treatment.

Mrs. Clark Hamner of Trent underwent an appendectomy Saturday. C. C. Hall, oil field worker, was admitted Sunday for first aid and surgery.

Wibur Thomas, who had major surgery on Feb. 18, was dismissed Monday.

A boy was born at the hospital Friday, February 23, to Mr. and Mrs. Leon Dickerson.

Adding machine rolls at The Merkel Mail office.

Announcing Opening of . . .

THE CLUB

— Merkel's Newest Cafe —

SATURDAY, MARCH 2

— Featuring —

Plate Lunches
Sandwiches
Hamburgers
Short Orders

FREE COFFEE
Served All Day
SATURDAY
Mar. 2
U - R Welcome

"WE STRIVE TO PLEASE"

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Grimes, Managers
LOCATED NEXT DOOR TO BUS STATION

RED & WHITE BRAND FOODS

SPECIALS for FRIDAY-SATURDAY

MARCH 1st and 2nd

| | |
|---|---|
| WINESAP APPLES, Doz. 15c | LEMONS Doz. 20c |
| ORANGES Doz. 15c | LETTUCE 2 heads 9c |
| GRAPEFRUIT Doz. 23c | CARROTS 2 bunches 5c |
| SPUDS 10 lbs. 19c | |
| SUPREME Salad Wafers, 2-lb. box 29c | RED & WHITE Meal 5-lb. bag 17c |
| BIRD BRAND Shortening, 4-lb. carton 39c | DEL DIXI Pickles, Sour or Dill, Qt. 15c |
| RED & WHITE Coffee 1-lb. can 25c | Red & White FLOUR 6 lbs. 29c |
| | 12 lbs. 59c |
| | 24 lbs. 93c |
| | 48 lbs. \$1.79 |

Thrift Specials-Choice of Following:

- 2 Bars LADY GODIVA SOAP
- 2 Boxes RED & WHITE MATCHES
- 1/2 lb. Box MARSHMALLOWS
- 1 4-oz. Can PIMIENTOS
- 1 Large Can HOMINY
- 1 Can VIENNA SAUSAGE
- 1 Pkg. 3-MINUTE OATS
- 2 Pkgs. RED & WHITE FLAV-R-JELL
- 2 Rolls TOILET TISSUE
- 1 Box BROWN or POWDERED SUGAR
- 1 Bottle BLUING
- 1 No. 2 Can TOMATOES
- 1 Can CHILI BEANS
- 1 Pkg. CORN FLAKES

Choice of Following:

| | |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1 Pt. Salad Dressing | 1 6-lb. bag R&W Flour |
| 2 cans Pineapple Juice | 1 qt. R&W Grape Juice |
| 1 lge. pkg. 3-Minute Oats | 1 1/2 gal. Pineapple Juice |
| 1 1/4 lb. pkg. R&W Tea | 1 lge. bot. Vanilla Extract |
| 2 No. 2 cans Corn | 1 2-lb. box Salad Wafers |
| 5 bars Laundry Soap | 1 Kitchen Mop |

3 Pkgs. Chewing GUM

Market Specials :-:

| | |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| DRESSED HENS .. Each 59c | PORK LIVER 2 lbs. 25c |
| SLICED BACON Lb. 22c | CHUCK ROAST ... Lb. 17 1/2c |

WEST COMPANY, Merkel
D. C. HERRING & SON, Noodle

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

SANTA CLAUS... IS HERE AGAIN!

1938 G M C Pick-Up, 3-4 ton.
1938 International Pick-Up, 1 ton.
1939 Chevrolet Coupe, radio, new tires.
1939 Ford Deluxe Tudor, like new.
1937 V-8 Coupe.
1937 V-8 Coach.
1935 V-8 Long Wheel Base Truck.

IF OUR PRICES don't look right, make your own suggestion — Easy Terms — Enjoy the spring and summer in one of these guaranteed used cars.

MERKEL MOTOR CO.
— Your FORD Dealer —



OUTSTANDING READER GIVES MODERN DRAMA.

Texas Independence was the theme used in decorating the Lions hall for the "silver tea" hosted by the Fortnightly Study club on Saturday afternoon. Red and yellow were the predominant colors used in decorations and a clever arrangement of the six flags which have flown over Texas made a very pretty and colorful setting for this first social affair given by the club this season, which was attended by approximately sixty ladies.

Highlight of the afternoon's entertainment was a play, "Twilight," given by Mrs. Nora Everton from the speech department of Hardin-Simmons university. England is the setting for this modern drama which gives one a very interesting view of the social customs of the English people, also their loyalty to their government. Mrs. Johnny Cox, club president, introduced Mrs. Everton as one of the outstanding readers in West Texas.

The tea table was laid with lace and centered with a reflector holding a silver bowl of red carnations and yellow jonquils. Presiding at the tea table were Misses Julia Martin and Mamie Ellis. Mesdames W. S. J. Brown and Owen Robertson. Miss Vinnie Heizer, Mrs. Elma McFarland and Mrs. Bud Winter also assisted with the service.

Mrs. S. D. Gamble, Mrs. Johnny Cox and Mrs. Connor Robinson received guests at the door.

EASTERN STAR MEETS AT MASONIC HALL.

The regular meeting of the Merkel chapter No. 212, Order of the Eastern Star, was held Tuesday evening in the Masonic hall.

Inspiring talks were made by a number of the leading members, after which delicious ice cream was served as a surprise treat of the worthy patron.

Those present were Messrs. and Mesdames H. P. Smith, M. S. Cummins, Gene Reese and Andy Shouse; Mesdames J. M. Williamson, R. J. Miller, Nannie Causeaux, Aurra Johnson and Bessie Merritt.

SEWING CLUB.

The Sewing club met Wednesday afternoon in the home of Mrs. L. V. Moore. After sewing and a short business meeting, refreshments were served.

Those present were Mesdames E. Y. Bailey, Stacy Bird, Earl Beech, Spencer Bird, Milton Case, N. D. Callaway, Pat Davis, Herbert Dunn, David Gamble, John Grable, W. L. Lee, George T. Moore, Nolan Palmer, Byron Patterson, Owen Robertson, Connor Robinson, Max Swafford and Urban Zehnfennig.

The next meeting will be with Mrs. David Gamble on Mar. 13.

W. M. U. CIRCLES.

The Maybelle Taylor Circle heard Mrs. Lum Gilbreath teach 14 chapters from II Samuel when they met Monday afternoon in the home of Mrs. Worth Lee for the regular Bible study lesson.

Those present were Mesdames Nolan Palmer, Buck Leach, Erwin Bailey, Alvin Wozencraft, Fred A. Baker, Sr., A. R. Booth, Clyde Bartlett, Lucy Ford, Lum Gilbreath and the hostess.

This Circle will meet the second Monday in March in the home of

Mrs. A. R. Booth, and the lesson will be I Kings 4 through I Kings 17.

The Blanche Rose Walker Circle met in the home of Mrs. Sam Swann on Monday afternoon, with Mrs. W. L. Johnson as leader. Mrs. J. S. Swann led the opening prayer and Mrs. Cooper Waters taught an interesting Bible lesson. Mrs. J. O. Castles closed the meeting with prayer.

Members present were Mesdames J. S. Swann, J. O. Castles, A. D. Fulton, Cooper Waters and Sam Swann.

The next meeting will be with Mrs. Cooper Waters Mar. 11.

The Elkin Lockett Circle of the First Baptist church met Monday afternoon in the home of Mrs. W. F. Patterson. The meeting was opened with prayer by the leader, Mrs. Chas. West. In the absence of the teacher, Mrs. J. L. Winters, Mrs. Williamson taught an interesting Bible lesson to the following: Mesdames Collins, West, Williamson, Zollinger, Meeks, Tatum, Patterson, Sharp, Criswell. The meeting closed with prayer by Mrs. Collins.

Queen Crowned

(Continued from Page One)

Moine Sherrill, and attended by Helen Heeter and Gay West.

Sophomore favorite, Sue Grimes, escorted by Don Wood, and attended by Bettie Cade, Bonnie White, Sue Pinkley and Juanez Holt.

Senior favorite, Bernie Opal Dean, escorted by Don Warren and attended by Miriam Diltz, Euvolda Fox, Winona Kelso and Margie Hogan.

ENTERTAINERS.

As the assemblage took place on the stage—the queens each gracing her own moon—Don Wood sang "You're Lovely Tonight," and following the placing of the crown on the head of the lovely High School queen by Billy Largent, representing the Badger Annual, an entertaining program of music was presented.

Two songs were rendered by Mary Ellen Key, "I Poured My Heart into a Song" and "If It Wasn't for the Moon;" Will Grimes was heard in two violin numbers, "Star Dust" and "Stairway to the Stars," and Miss Dorothy Shannon, introduced as the "Jeanette McDonald" of the High School, gave "Indian Summer." Miss Christine Collins played the program soloists.

Jannell Black on Honor Roll at Southwest TSTC

San Marcos, Feb. 29.—Among the 217 students of Southwest Texas State Teachers college who made the honor roll for the fall semester just completed is Jannell Black of Merkel.

According to Dr. A. H. Nolle, dean of the college, the total number of students on the honor roll represents approximately 15 per cent of the students enrolled in the college for the semester.

All students making at least a "B" average with no "F's" were included. Eight students with five or more subjects had a straight "A" record.

Adding machine rolls 15c or two for 25c; regular retail price everywhere. For sale at the Merkel Mail.

RURAL SOCIETY

UNION RIDGE CLUB.

Mrs. Kenneth Pee opened her home to members of the Union Ridge Home Demonstration club on Friday, Feb. 23. After a short business session, Mrs. W. C. Lee, program chairman, led a discussion on "Better Diets."

Mrs. Leo Harris' and Mrs. Pierce Horton's birthdays were remembered with captowels from the club members. Mrs. Woodrow Patton was welcomed as a new member.

Marshmallow pudding and cookies were served to Mesdames Roland Toombs, Dale Burleson, Gertrude Pee, guests, and the following members: Mesdames Denzel Cox, O. E. Harwell, W. C. Lee, S. O. Patton, Lige Harris, Pierce Horton, Frank Carr, Woodrow Patton, Chester Bond, Leo Harris, M. L. Douglas, J. H. Clark and Weldon McAninch, Misses Norma Patton and Mabel McRee and the hostess.

BLUEBONNET CLUB.

Mrs. Jim Perry was hostess on Tuesday afternoon to members of the Bluebonnet Home Demonstration club. Roll call was answered with hints for improving lunches. The by-laws of the Texas Home Demonstration association were given by the secretary, Mrs. W. H. Ensminger.

The program was "Food Needs of Texas Families, and the Importance of Meat and Milk in the Well Balanced Diet" by Mesdames Jim Perry, W. C. Perkins, J. B. Stewart and Dewel McLean.

Mrs. W. C. Perkins was nominated to represent the club council, from which three delegates will be elected for district meeting.

Refreshments were served to the following members: Mesdames Carl Keith, Joe Seymour, Don Riney, Dewel McLean, A. R. Toombs, W. C. Perkins, Elmer Patterson, T. A. Ransom, Ben Butman, James Simpson, T. J. Neill, W. H. Ensminger, Lloyd Mathews, Jim Perry, George Anderson and three visitors, Mrs. A. D. Barnes, Mrs. Erin Walden and Mrs. Raymond Thomas.

The next meeting will be with Mrs. Dewel McLean on Mar. 12.

WEAVER SPRINGS CLUB.

The Weaver Springs Home Demonstration club met in the home of Mrs. John Coomer on Thursday, Feb. 15. All members were present and two visitors from the Bitter Creek club, Mrs. George Pepper and daughter.

After a singsong Mrs. Pepper made an interesting report on the last council meeting. Miss Stinson, county HD agent, gave a demonstration on mattress, quilt and pillow protectors, which was most instructive.

Refreshments of fruit, topped with whipped cream, and lemon cake and coffee were served.

The next meeting will be in the home of Mrs. Frase Demere on Mar. 7.

LEAP YEAR PARTY.

On Friday night, Feb. 23, a Leap Year party was given in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Whit Ritchie, with their daughter, Louise, as hostess.

An enjoyable evening was spent in games and contests in which prizes were awarded. The ladies voted for the boy whom they thought would make the best old bachelor and that was R. G. Toombs.

Delicious home-made candy was served to Gladys Pearl Johnson, Mildred Wilkins, Nina Joyce Riney, Eva Brown, Loretta Blackburn, Bernie Opal Dean, Dorothea Sue Bird, Mrs. Don Riney, Eloise McKinley of Abilene, Juanita Williams of Abilene. The boys were R. G. Toombs, Hollis Wilkins of Abilene, Chester Hammonds, Ira Oliver, Albert Oliver, all of Divide, LeRoy Riney, Walter Riney, Mickey McLean, Donald Latimer, J. W. Cook, Elby Frazier, Wade Ensminger, George Wayne Richie, Marvin Pruitt, D. J. Richie, Don Riney, James Riney of Slaton.

After candy was served all gathered together for a "singsong." Honored guest for the evening was Miss Mary Hufstuder of Abilene.

PARTY AT CEMPERE.

As Tuesday, Feb. 20, was the birthday of Mrs. E. C. Tavlin, her neighbors planned to go in that afternoon and surprise her.

But Mrs. Tavlin seems to be ready for any emergency and she was prepared, with gifts spread out on the bed from her children and their children who could not get there.

With the help of Mrs. Bond and Mrs. Ralph Wilburn, she had a delicious lunch laid out in the dining room of peaches, fruit cake, birthday cake, pink cake and hot coffee.

Mrs. Tarvin celebrated a birthday of 71 and challenged all guests to grow old in such a graceful manner, always for the "best that's to be." Her children and neighbors rejoice

Nazarene Revival to Close Sunday Night

The revival at the Church of the Nazarene under the leadership of Rev. and Mrs. Odell Brown will close Sunday night. There has been good interest and a number of conversions. Come and attend these closing services.

The evangelist's subjects will include "The Price of a Soul," "The Torments of Hell" and "A Solemn Day."

We are expecting a nice class to join the church.

R. T. Smith, Pastor.

To Hold All-Day Season Of Prayer Mon., Mar. 4

On Monday, Mar. 4, the W. M. U. of the First Baptist church will have their all-day season of prayer.

Beginning at 9:30, the morning program will include:

Song, "How Firm a Foundation," "Brief Current Events from Home Mission Fields," Mrs. T. E. Collins. Devotional, Mrs. J. M. Williamson. "Christ's Concern—Our Concern," Mrs. Lum Gilbreath.

"Modern City Challenging Mission Field," Mrs. J. O. Castles.

"A Ministry Within the Reach of All," Mrs. Owen Robertson.

Lunch, after which the following program will be given, beginning at 1:30.

Song, (to be announced.) Devotional, Mrs. Sam Swann. "Prayer for Cuba—Compassion and Concern," Mrs. J. L. Winters.

"Prayer for Negroes—Christian Concern," Mrs. E. O. Carson. "Prayer for Better Trained Leadership," Mrs. W. L. Johnson.

"Prayer for Spanish-Americans—Christian Concern," Mrs. J. M. Meeks. "Prayer for Mexicans in the Southwest—Compassion," Mrs. J. M. Williamson.

"Prayer for the French—Christian Concern," Mrs. Lucy Ferd.

"Prayer for the Chinese—Compassion and Concern," Mrs. Cooper Waters.

Business hour at 3 p. m., with Mrs. T. E. Collins in charge.

Nubia League Will Visit Hebron Church

The Nubia League will meet at the Nubia church house at 6 o'clock Sunday evening, Mar. 3, to take a program to Hebron. The services will begin at 7 o'clock. The first topic of the program will be "The Great Physician and His Modern Helpers," consisting of the Scripture reading by Louise Richie and three letters, the first by Nina Joyce Riney, the second by Betty Jo Seymour and the third by Mrs. Don Riney. The second topic, "What Jesus Thought Important," is to be discussed by Dewel McLean, after which the pastor of the Hebron church will take charge.

The program for Sunday, Feb. 25, was about "Great People." The talks were very much enjoyed by everyone. Everyone is invited to attend the services at Nubia church every Sunday night.

Accepts Position with Electric Cooperative

Mrs. Lynn Shelton, who for the past four years has been employed as stenographer with the Farmers State bank, has resigned and accepted a position with Taylor Electric Cooperative, Inc.

Mrs. Shelton, who was selected out of some twenty-five applicants, will do the stenographic work and handle other details incident to the office.

While her duties will be in the TEC office at Abilene the Sheltons will continue to make their home here. Her husband is employed with Waples-Platter company at Abilene and they will make the trip over and return daily.

in her life and the privilege of knowing her.

BLAIR W. M. S.

The Woman's Missionary society of Blair met Wednesday, Feb. 21, with Mrs. E. E. Trawek of Abilene as program leader. Mrs. C. A. Bickley of Abilene directed the devotional.

During the business hour the following officers for the year 1940-41 were elected: president, Mrs. A. M. Jackson; vice-president, Mrs. J. E. Addison, spiritual life assistant; secretary-treasurer, Mrs. J. D. Sandusky; reporter, Mrs. Hugh Campbell.

The next meeting will be on the first Tuesday in March. Meeting dates are first and third Tuesdays at 2 p. m. All ladies are urged to be present.

Carbon paper, 8 1/2 x 11, two sheets for 5 cents; 25 cents per dozen. At Merkel Mail office.

In The Churches

SUNDAY SCHOOL ATTENDANCE.

There were 530 present at the six reporting Sunday Schools here last Sunday, as compared with 435 the previous week. On the same Sunday a year ago the attendance was 549.

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

Sunday School at 10 o'clock. Preaching at 11 a. m., followed by a communion service. Offering for Reynolds home. Evening service at 7:30 o'clock. Prayer meeting Wednesday evening at 7:30.

Every one is cordially invited to attend these services. Strangers welcome.

R. A. Walker, Pastor.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH.

Sunday School at 10 a. m. Preaching 11 a. m. Training Service 6:45 p. m. Evening sermon 7:30.

Cooper Waters, Pastor. W. J. Largent, Sunday School Superintendent. Will H. Grimes, B. T. U. Director.

SENIOR B. T. U.

For the past four Sundays we have been studying "The Holy Spirit." Next Sunday, Mar. 3, we have a doctrinal program for the quarter of "What Is the Grace of God?"

Weldon Davis is leader and the topics of discussion are: "The Term, the Grace of God," by Robert Higgins; "God's Grace Expresses Itself in His Compassion," by Lloyd Robertson; "God's Grace Expresses Itself in His Patience," by Frances Lar-

gent; "God's Grace and His Forgiveness," by Mrs. Alvin Wozencraft; "God's Grace and His Kindness," by Vivian Davis; "God's Grace and His Sacrifice on Calvary," by Joyce Fulton.

If you do not attend Training Union, we invite each of you to be with us Sunday at 6:45.

Reporter.

METHODIST CHURCH.

Sunday School at 9:45 a. m. Morning worship at 11 o'clock. Young people's meeting at 6:45 p. m. Evening worship at 7:30. Prayer meeting Wednesday evening at 7 o'clock. John H. Crow, Pastor.

FUNDAMENTALIST BAPTIST CHURCH.

Saturday night preaching service at 7:30. Sunday School 10 a. m. Preaching 11 a. m. and 7:30 p. m. Prayer meeting Wednesday evening at 7:30.

R. U. Rister, Pastor.

CHURCH OF CHRIST.

Sunday services: Bible classes 9:45, preaching at 10:45, young people's meeting 6:30, preaching at 7:30 p. m. Wednesday evening Bible study at 7:30 o'clock.

You are invited to attend.

E. W. Key, Minister.

NEW LIVE OAK CHURCH.

Sunday School at 10 o'clock. Preaching at 11 o'clock at the New Live Oak Baptist church of Butman.

Mrs. Dennis Counts, Church Reporter.

Typewriter paper for sale at Merkel Mail office.

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"Quality Merchandise—Bigger Values—Prompt Service"

- BANANAS, Large Yellow Fruit, 2 doz. 25c
- DELICIOUS APPLES, Med. Size, Doz. 17 1/2c
- TEXAS ORANGES, Sweet, Juicy, 2 doz. 25c
- Colorado SPUDS, No. 1's 10 lbs. 19c

- KILN DRIED YAMS 5 lbs. 19c
- Cabbage Lb. 2 1/2c
- Carrots 3 bchs 10c
- LARGE HEADS LETTUCE Each 5c
- JUMBO STALKS CELERY Each 15c
- RADISHES, BEETS, GREEN ONIONS. Bunch 5c

- SHORTENING 4-lb. carton 39c
- BLACK PEPPER 8-oz. tin 15c

- Tomatoes No. 1 cans 5c
- SALMON Tall can 15c
- Bright & Early Vacuum Pack COFFEE Lb. can 20c
- PURE SORGHUM SYRUP Gal. 58c
- PLAIN or MIXED SALAD DRESSING Qt. 25c
- PICKLES SOUR Qt. Jar 10c
- English Peas DRY PACK 16-oz. Cans 2 for 9c

MARKET SPECIALS

- PURE PORK SAUSAGE Lb. 10c
- SLICED BACON Lb. 15c
- SALT PORK BACON Lb. 10c

- OLEO Lily Brand 2 lbs. 25c
- STEAK SEVEN Lb. 19c
- ROAST Rib or Brisket Lb. 15c

- PICKLED PIG FEET Lb. 18c

FRESH CAT FISH

QUEEN THEATRE

"Showing the Pick of Pictures for Less."

FRIDAY - SATURDAY

TWO SHOWS FOR THE PRICE OF ONE!

- No. 1—Alice Faye and Warner Baxter in "Barricade"
 - No. 2—Cesar Romero and Marjorie Weaver in "THE CISCO KID AND THE LADY"
- Cartoon and Serial Included

Saturday Preview 11:30 P. M. Only

JACKIE COOPER and BETTY FIELD

"WHAT A LIFE"

Selected Short Subject

MONDAY and TUESDAY ONLY!

Bette Davis, Errol Flynn and Olivia DeHavilland

"The Private Life of Elizabeth and Essex"

(In Technicolor)

Sponsored by F. F. A. Boys

WEDNESDAY and THURSDAY

JANE BRYAN and PAUL MUNI

"WE ARE NOT ALONE"

Next Week—"EVERY THING HAPPENS AT NIGHT."

Pathfinder Polls of Public Opinion

PATHFINDER

PATHFINDER polls keep millions of folks everywhere posted in advance on vital questions—war, politics, elections, farm problems, labor, world events. An exclusive PATHFINDER feature. Nothing else like it. A real news sensation.

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