

"Your Home Town Newspaper"

# THE MERKEL MAIL

VOL. 58.—NO. 40.

MERKEL, TEXAS, FRIDAY, DECEMBER 26, 1947.

On the "Broadway of America"

5c PER COPY

## PERSONAL NEWS NOTES

Jimmie Nell Horton, a student nurse at Scott and White hospital, Temple, is home during the Christmas holidays visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. R. B. Horton, and other relatives and friends.

Mr. and Mrs. John Dunn, of Cisco, were week-end guests in the home of Mr. and Mrs. George T. Moore, D. I. Shelton, also of Cisco, who accompanied them, visited with his sister, Mrs. W. M. Elliott, and Mr. Elliott, Mr. and Mrs. D. I. Shelton, and their son, C. V. Shelton, and family, of Hamlin, left Tuesday morning to spend Christmas with their younger son, Lynn Shelton, and family, at Vicksburg, Miss.

Mr. and Mrs. R. P. Easters and Miss Loraine A. Boyce, of Beaumont, who have been visiting in Pecos with Mrs. Mattie Leeman, who has been critically ill but is now better, were passing visitors with friends here Monday afternoon, en route to Houston and their home at Beaumont.

Mrs. Twyman Collins has gone to Denton for a Christmas visit with her sister, Mrs. Floy Massey, and family.

Mr. and Mrs. W. M. Johnson of Big Spring and Mr. and Mrs. D. C. Johnson and daughter, Evelyn, of Oklahoma City, Okla., were week-end guests of Mrs. May Johnson.

Mr. and Mrs. Cayton F. Knox, of Norman, Okla., are spending Christmas week with their parents, Mr. and Mrs. C. K. Russell. Also guests in the Russell home are Mr. and Mrs. John T. Morgan, of Dallas, who arrived Wednesday.

Miss Mamie Ellis of Abilene spent the week-end with friends here.

Mr. and Mrs. John R. West left Friday for Johnstown, Pa., to spend Christmas with their son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. W. R. Arnold, and little daughter, Linda.

Mr. and Mrs. L. V. Moore, and children of Wellington are here for a holiday visit with their parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Mansfield and Mr. and Mrs. Ira Moore.

Mrs. Kenneth Sharp and daughter, Shirley Ann, of El Paso, are here for a Christmas visit. Mr. Sharp returned to Merkel several weeks ago as manager of the City Drug company but his wife and daughter will continue to live in El Paso until the end of the school term, as Shirley Ann is a senior.

First Lt. and Mrs. Downman Barlow are here from Camp Hood to spend the holidays with her mother, Mrs. Adah Heeter. Mrs. Barlow will remain for some time, but Lieutenant Barlow is due back at Camp Hood about Jan. 1. Arriving Monday night for a Christmas visit also were Mrs. R. E. Neal and daughter, Margaret Rebecca, of Hugo, Okla., who are to be joined by Mr. Neal, manager of the Lone Star Gas company at McKinney, to which place he was recently transferred.

Miss Mary Derstine, supervisor in the State School for the Deaf at Austin, and her nephew, Sammy Derstine, are home for the holidays.

Christmas visitors in the R. H. Mathews home are their daughters, Mrs. Wm. R. Reeves and Mrs. Reeves, of Chandler, Ariz., and Mrs. Noel D. Addy, her husband, Master Sergeant Addy, and daughter, Patricia, from Chanute Field, Ill.

Hubert Peterson, freshman student at University of Houston, is home during the Christmas holidays visiting his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Bill Peterson, and other relatives and friends.

### At All-Time High.

Chicago, Ill., Dec. 24.—It was the twelfth meatless Tuesday, but Americans were eating enough meat to boost the price of choice steers to an all-time high of \$40 a hundred pounds. The record-breaking price for beef-on-the-hoof was paid at Omaha and Chicago.

## MUSTANGS COME HERE FOR TWO GAMES JAN. 2-3

First At-Home Contests in Current Basketball Season, To Be Played Friday and Saturday, First Week of New Year

On Friday and Saturday, Jan. 2 and 3, the Badger first string cagers will have a chance to even things up with the Andrews Mustangs, who bested the local boys two straights last week-end. The "B" team, winners of both their go-rounds, will also meet the Andrews "B" team on the same nights.

"B" games will start at 7 p. m. each night, with the regulars meeting at 8 o'clock.

In the tournament last week at Hamlin, the Badgers took their game from Anson, 34-31, but forfeited the rest of the play, as they were due in Andrews for the week-end.

The Mustangs defeated the Badger "A" quintet, 38-26 and 50-38, respectively, on the two nights. The scores for the "B" team visitors were 28-19 on Friday night and 43-21 on Saturday night.

## John Mashburn Now Rated a Sergeant

Cpl. John Mashburn, son of Mr. and Mrs. Earl Mashburn, of Merkel, Texas, was recently promoted to the grade of sergeant, it was announced recently by Brig. Gen. B. M. Hovey, commanding general of Bolling Field Command, Washington, D. C.

Sergeant Mashburn is assigned as a key punch operator in the 12nd Statistical Control unit at Bolling Field. Other assignments have been Sheppard Field, Texas, Buckley Field, Colo., Pope Field, N. C. and Langley Field, Va.

He has been stationed at Bolling Field since last January. He was promoted to corporal last July.

A native of Merkel, Mashburn was graduated from Merkel High school. He got his final credits for graduation through the General Educational Development tests which are given through the United States Armed Forces Institute.

Before his enlistment in the Air Force in November of 1946, Sergeant Mashburn was employed at the Barrow-Sheppard Furniture and Funeral home in Merkel.

Sergeant Mashburn has one brother and one step-brother in the service. They are T-Sgt. Mashburn who is stationed in Japan with the Airborne Infantry and his step-brother, Cpl. C. L. Bagley, who is stationed on Guam with the Air Force.

## Taylor County TB Seal Sale Totals \$7,531.50

Taylor County Tuberculosis Association Christmas seal and bond sale totaled \$7,531.50, it was reported Tuesday by Mrs. Kay Busse, acting executive secretary.

If persons have been unable to remit for sheets of stamps sent them through the mail, they are urged to Busse said. Follow-up letters will be sent early in the New Year.

Collections are slightly ahead of the 1946 campaign to date.

### Receives Discharge.

Dormon Bland Clark, yeoman third class, who received his discharge at the San Diego, Calif., Naval Training Center, on Dec. 19, has returned home in time to enjoy the holidays with his mother, Mrs. Vera E. Clark. Before entering the service, Feb. 20, 1946, he was attending Port Arthur Business college. He is planning to attend college under the GI program.

### Connally Home.

Marlin, Dec. 24.—U. S. Senator Tom Connally arrived in Marlin on Tuesday for his first visit home since last Christmas.

## STENOS BECOME SANTA CLAUSES TO NEEDY GROUP

Dallas, Dec. 24.—Four Dallas stenographers decided that something should be done for needy children during Christmas time—and they did it.

Last week, Jackie Reese, Lorene Dickson, Charlotte Walters and Marjorie Darilek obtained the names of twelve underprivileged children from a juvenile court roster. During the week they solicited gifts from Dallas business concerns.

Monday the four Santa Clauses, who share the same apartment, entertained the twelve at a Christmas party. There were enough gifts to provide each child with seven separate packages and enough "thank you" smiles to provide the hostesses with plenty of Christmas spirit.

## James R. Baccus on Duty in Tokyo Area

With the Eighth Army in Tokyo, Japan.—Pfc. James R. Baccus, son of Mr. and Mrs. Roy Baccus, Route 3, Merkel, Texas, is serving his country as a trooper of the famed fighting 1st Cavalry division, which is on occupation duty in the ten prefectures of the Tokyo-Yokohama area of strategic central Honshu Island, Japan. While standing guard in the occupation, the division is also undergoing intensive training in all phases of weapons and tactics.

Private Baccus has been overseas since December, 1946, and is engaged to Headquarters and Headquarters Troop, 2nd Squadron, of the famous 7th Cavalry regiment as the Squadron Painter.

Before enlisting for service, Private Baccus was a student at McMurry college, Abilene. He is a graduate of Merkel High school. He entered the Army on Sept. 4, 1946.

The 1st Cavalry division is commanded by Maj.-Gen. William C. Chase, it is part of the Eighth Army commanded by Lt.-Gen. Robert L. Eichelberger.

## Governor to Broadcast Christmas Day Message

Austin, Dec. 24.—Gov. Beauford H. Jester announced Monday he will broadcast a Christmas message at 4:15 p. m. on Christmas Day.

The broadcast will originate over Station KAND, Corsicana, and will be carried over the Texas State network. The governor and his family will spend the Christmas holidays at the family home in Corsicana.

## Texas City Blast Voted No. 1 Story

The Texas City explosion was the number one Texas story in 1947, editors of the Texas Associated Press member papers voted overwhelmingly in the annual poll to select the top ten Texas stories.

These are the top ten Texas stories, with votes in brackets:

1. The Texas City tragedy (329).
2. The 41-day telephone strike (209).
3. The flying disks (149).
4. The Dr. Ross murder case (110).
5. The weather (hurricanes, blizzards, tornadoes), (104).
6. The student revolt at Texas A. and M. (97).
7. The East Texas forest fires (79).
8. President Truman's visit to Waco (78).
9. Legislature's refusal to vote new tax measures plus voting record-breaking expenditures (69).
10. The four-day chase in North-east Texas for the phantom bandit (56).

### Record of Births

Boy, to Mr. and Mrs. A. H. Moore, Thursday, December 18, 1947.

## JACK MILLERS WIN 1st PRIZE FOR LIGHTING

Second and Third Awards in Garden Club's Christmas Decoration Contest to Henry Wests and J. W. Bryans.

As first place winner in the Christmas lighting contest sponsored by the Merkel Garden club, Mr. and Mrs. Jack Miller were awarded the 6-way floor lamp, donated by the West Texas Utilities company, it was announced Tuesday.

The second prize—\$25.00 in cash offered by the Farmers and Merchants National bank of Merkel—was won by Mr. and Mrs. H. C. West. Third place award went to Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Bryan, to whom the Garden club, sponsors of the contest, will present a dozen of the best rose plants.

Judging, done by two Abilenians, was completed Monday night.

## Mrs. Katherine Story Dies in Houston

Mrs. Katherine Story, 20, who formerly lived here, died Monday in a Houston hospital. She had been ill for three weeks.

Funeral services were held at 2 p. m. Wednesday from the First Baptist church, with the pastor, Rev. E. M. Weathers, officiating, assisted by Rev. O. B. Tatum. Burial was in Rose Hill cemetery, under direction of the Barrow-Sheppard Funeral home.

Pallbearers were six cousins, Boyd Scott, J. W. Cole, Byron Ellerbe, Mark Williamson, Boyce Vancil and Elbert Love.

Mrs. Story, a granddaughter of J. E. Brooks of Borger, formerly of Merkel, had lived in Houston for the past five months. She was born Dec. 25, 1926, near Merkel. She united with the Baptist church in 1946.

Survivors include the husband, E. O. Story; her mother, Mrs. Carl Williams of Seminole; two brothers, Curtis Ellerbe of Seminole and Henry Lee Ellerbe, in the Army in Japan, and the grandfather.

## Merkel Woman's Son Killed in Odessa

Joseph Peterson, 39, son of Mrs. R. P. Fields of this city, was killed as the result of an accident at Odessa Sunday afternoon. He slipped as he was helping unload a truck loaded with oil pipe, and the pipe fell on him crushing him to death.

Funeral services were held from the Ret Funeral home at Odessa at 1 p. m. Tuesday, and the body was taken to Big Spring for burial.

Mr. Peterson, who had lived here until six or seven years ago, is survived by his wife and three children; one son by a former marriage, Bobby Glen Peterson, of Fort Worth; his mother, Mrs. R. P. Fields; three brothers, Bill of Merkel, Odie of Abilene and Alvie of Midland, and two sisters, Mrs. Earl Mashburn of Merkel and Mrs. R. H. Lassiter, of Oceanside, Calif.

Among relatives attending the funeral were Mrs. Fields, Mr. and Mrs. Bill Peterson and Mr. and Mrs. Earl Mashburn of Merkel, and Odie Peterson of Abilene.

## Local Agent Attends Annual T. & P. Party

June Graham, local agent for the Texas and Pacific railway, was among the more than 100 persons attending the first annual Christmas party of the 407 club, social organization of the employees of the railroad in Abilene and surrounding areas which was held Saturday night at the Wooten hotel, in Abilene.

A turkey dinner and a program featured the meeting.

## TO ACCEPT USS TEXAS FROM THE NAVY ON APR. 21

Houston, Dec. 24.—The USS Texas will be accepted by the state from the Navy in a ceremony at the San Jacinto battlegrounds on Apr. 21, 1948, the Battleship Texas commission has announced.

Lloyd Gregory of Houston, chairman of the commission, said last night that a current state-wide campaign being conducted by the Texas junior chamber of commerce had progressed to a point where the commission felt it could make a definite commitment to the Navy.

John G. Flowers, Jr., Houston, chairman of the financing campaign, said "we have progressed sufficiently far to know that we have a very good chance to meet our goal—\$15,000 for berthing the ship and \$50,000 for the first year's maintenance."

## Trent P-TA Plans Banquet for Jan. 6

Trent, Dec. 24.—The Trent Parent-Teacher association held its regular meeting on Dec. 2, with a good attendance, and during the meeting lots was accomplished. Approximately 150 parents and children were present.

It was reported that the playground equipment, slide and merry-go-round had been paid for, and a number of other projects planned for the rest of the year.

After the business meeting, a colorful program was rendered by the grade school, arranged by Mrs. Othell Jones, speech teacher, carrying out the Christmas theme. Mrs. Jones has proved very helpful in the program part of the meetings.

Several new members were welcomed and a good time was had by all present.

It is planned to have the P-T. A. banquet on Jan. 6.

## Seven Children Attend Well Child Conference

Seven children attended the Well Child Conference, sponsored by the Merkel Parent-Teacher association which was held last Friday at the office of Mrs. Elma McFarland.

Date of the next conference is Friday, Jan. 16.

## MERKEL VOTERS APPROVE BONDS FOR \$100,000

Total Includes Issuance of \$80,000 for Waterworks Repairs, Improvements, \$20,000 for Improving Sewer System.

By a narrow margin Merkel voters approved the issuance of \$100,000 bonds for waterworks and sewer improvements in last Saturday's election. Total vote cast was 190.

While the total bond issue submitted was for the sum of \$100,000, two propositions were placed on the ballot. Vote on each was:

No. 1, issuance of \$80,000 waterworks improvement bonds, 101 for and 89 against.

No. 2, issuance of \$20,000 sewer improvement bonds, 103 for and 87 against.

At a called meeting held Tuesday night, the city council canvassed the returns of the election, certified that above figures were correct and declared the bonds carried.

## Attend Funeral of Former Resident

Mrs. Sam Eason, who formerly resided in Merkel, died last Thursday morning at Big Spring, where she and her husband and family had lived for 40 years.

Attending funeral services, which were held Sunday afternoon, were these relatives from Merkel: E. L. Eason, a brother-in-law, and his son and daughter-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Leroy Eason. Sam Eason, who is the oldest brother of the Merkel man, was well known as a barber here many years ago.

Survivors are her husband, three daughters and two sons.

## "Merchants Day" A Feature Each Week

The firms of West Texas Utilities company, D. C. Doan Feed store and Barnett Bros. were in charge of the "Appreciation Day" program held this week.

"Appreciation Day," sponsored by a group of Merkel merchants, is held each Wednesday, with the big event scheduled at 4 p. m.

## MERKEL 20 YEARS AGO

(From Files of The Merkel Mail, December 30, 1927.)

### MR. O. J. ADCOCK IS APPOINTED FOR A FOUR-YEAR TERM.

Hon. O. J. Adcock, present postmaster who received a recess appointment following the untimely death of former Postmaster Taylor Davis, has recently received notice of appointment for a term of four years, his appointment by the President having already been confirmed by the United States senate. And, let us say here, we feel sure the appointment meets with universal approval of the patrons of the office. In fact, Mr. Adcock seemed to have been the choice of the majority of the people, and now, since he has held the office for almost a year, and has so ably demonstrated his ability for efficient and accommodating service, the entire community rejoices that he has been favored by the department with a four-year term.

For many years Mr. Adcock served faithfully and efficiently as one of the rural letter carriers from this office. Not only is Mr. Adcock accommodating in every way possible to the patrons, but maintains very able and efficient assistants who are also accommodating. Yes, we are proud of our postmaster, and join

the patrons of the office in extending to him congratulations.

### MISS OLA SHARP BECOMES BRIDE OF MR. D. C. BARNES.

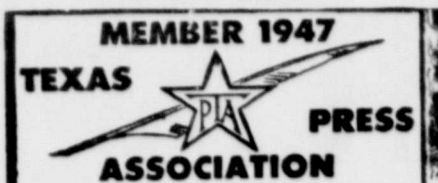
At nine a. m. on Christmas day at the home of the bride, there was solemnized a wedding, the contracting parties being Mr. D. C. Barnes and Miss Ola Sharp. The wedding was attended by a happy group of friends and relatives and took place in a room decorated with Christmas colors and a beautiful Christmas tree with holly and lights. The Rev. Mr. Parrack officiated with a brief but impressive ceremony.

Miss Ola Sharp is the popular daughter of Mr. and Mrs. G. M. Sharp and has made herself a warm place in the hearts of Merkel people. She has been a faithful worker in her church and has many friends in every part of our community. Mr. Barnes of Ida, Louisiana, formerly lived in Merkel and is well and favorably known to many of our citizens. The happy young couple left Thursday morning for their future home in Ida, La., and their many friends join in wishing for them a long and happy life.





## The Merkel Mail

Published Every Friday Morning  
C. J. GLOVER, Editor

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

SUBSCRIPTION RATES:  
Taylor and Jones Counties \$1.50  
Elsewhere \$2.00[In Advance]  
Advertising Rates On Application  
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.

## CLASSIFIED ADS

## MISCELLANEOUS

for  
QUALITY DRY CLEANING  
come to  
WHIT'S DRY CLEANER  
207 Ash St., Merkel  
Mr. and Mrs. L. B. Whitaker

BERT MELTON, agent for Abilene  
Reporter-News and Dallas Morning  
News; office on Kent street. Phone  
282.

WATER WELL DRILLING — I  
have 2 machines; all work guar-  
anteed. B. T. Sublett, Box 206,  
Merkel.

## RURAL SOCIETY

## BLUEBONNET CLUB.

The Bluebonnet Home Demonstration club met Dec. 16 for the annual Christmas party. Mrs. Leroy Riney led the group in singing and other numbers on the program were given by Mrs. Doyal Barnes and Mrs. Tom Russom.

The president, Mrs. W. H. Ensminger, had charge of a very impressive installation program, in which the following 1948 officers were installed: Mrs. E. J. Patterson, president; Mrs. W. H. Ensminger, vice-president; Mrs. Leroy Riney, council member; Mrs. Bill Wallace, secretary-treasurer; Mrs. Ashton Farmer, reporter, and Mrs. A. R. Toombs, parliamentarian. Mrs. Tom Russom concluded the program with a prayer.

From the Christmas tree beautiful gifts were received from club pals and refreshments of Christmas candy, apples and oranges were served to the following: Mesdames Doyal Barnes, Louis Farmer, W. C. Hunter, E. J. Patterson, Bill Wallace, W. H. Ensminger, Leroy Riney, Ford Butman, Frank Brnovak and Tom Russom. Three children were present.

The next meeting will be Jan. 6, at 3 p. m., with Mrs. Louis Farmer serving as hostess. New members and visitors are always welcome.

In recent years annual flood losses in the United States have exceeded \$110,000,000.

China and India, with 40 per cent of the world's population, account for only 2 per cent of its manufacturing.

New Feed Store Opened  
By Toombs and Moore

Toombs and Moore Grain company have opened a feed store in the Boden building on Front street, in the same building that is occupied by Denny Bros. Hatchery.

Formal notice of the opening will appear in next week's issue of The Mail.

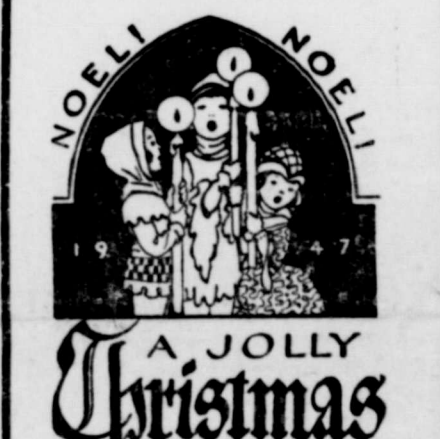
Fire annually destroys enough timber and lumber to build 140,000 five-room houses.



made-to-measure Clothing  
for men and women . . . at  
**WHIT'S DRY CLEANER**  
107 Ash Street  
Mr. and Mrs. L. B. Whitaker  
MERKEL, TEXAS



Merry  
YULETIDE  
Merkel Recreation  
Club  
FRED JINKENS



★ No matter what the language the spirit of Christmas is the same everywhere . . . in France, in Holland, in Sweden . . . and in the good old U. S. A. As you celebrate this joyous season in spiritual companionship with people of good will all over the world, it is our hope that this Christmas of 1947 will be the merriest you have ever enjoyed.

MERKEL HOTEL

## CHRISTMAS GREETING

The story of Christmas brings a glow to our hearts. In the spirit and warmth of this glow we wish you—

"A Joyous Christmas"

Bell &amp; Buford Barber Shop

## SEASON'S GREETINGS..

May time deal gently with you and yours. May Christmas bring untold joys and may the New Year open its doors of golden opportunity that you may prosper is the wish of each employee of this firm to each of you.

Farmers Co-op Society No. 1.

H. H. ANDERSON, Mgr.

Sincerely Wishing

Merry Christmas

and a

Happy New Year

to Every One

PLEASE NOTICE—Friends and Customers: Due to critical illness in the paternal family we are closing the working department of our Cleaners until Jan. 1.

107 Ash St. **WHIT'S** DRY CLEANER

Mr. and Mrs. L. B. Whitaker

The Old Way  
IS BEST!

This refrain we hear "again and again" as Christmas and the New Year come and go. We turn in search of a new way to convey our kind wishes and we find that the old way is hard to beat. So we say in all sincerity and in our friendliest way, "Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!"

WOOD'S STORE

May Yours Be A Joyous Christmas  
Overflowing With Happiness

We promised ourselves we would never let Christmas go by without taking the opportunity of extending our best wishes to you, our loyal friends. We hope you receive as much cheer from our greeting as we derive pleasure from sending it.

H. and H. LAUNDRY

A Message To Our  
Friends At Christmas

To Our friends both old and new we wish to extend our warmest greetings at this holiday season.

May Your Christmas Be Chery and  
Your New Year a happy one.

HIGGINS BLACKSMITH SHOP  
and SERVICE STATION



in this bank joins  
in wishing you a  
**Merry Christmas**  
and a  
**Happy New Year**

THE OLD RELIABLE

## Farmers &amp; Merchants National Bank

MERKEL, TEXAS

DIRECTORS:

Sam Butman, Sr.,  
W. S. J. Brown,

H. C. West,

W. T. Sadler  
Booth WarrenMAY JOY OF THE CHRISTMAS  
SEASON BE YOURS

The essence of the Christmas Spirit is the spreading of joy through thoughtful deeds, chery words and unselfish giving. By doing these we make our own joy complete. LET'S SHARE AND ENJOY!

BOONE SERVICE STATION

May Christmas 1947 Be Jolly  
May The Year 1948 Be Bountiful

We appreciate you and the patronage you have given us during the past. We strive to be worthy at all times of your loyalty.

WATTS BUTANE

## A YULETIDE WISH

We have received much pleasure during the past year in serving you and we would like to show our gratitude by wishing for you mirth, happiness and all the good things Christmas brings as well as a Happy and prosperous New Year.

GOODMAN STORE

MAY ALL GOOD  
THINGS BE YOURS

If the fairy Good Fortune granted us three wishes we would wish for you—

GOOD HEALTH, WEALTH AND  
HAPPY DAYS THROUGH 1948.

May We Have The Pleasure of serving you through  
a Prosperous Year.

Seymore's Texaco Station  
Daniel Radiator Shop



**MERRY YULETIDE**

We fondly think of Our Friends at this season and send to each of our warm wishes for the jolliest Christmas you have ever had. We hope your New Year will be one of success and happiness.

**DOYLE'S VARIETY AND GIFT SHOP****MAY YOUR HOLIDAYS****BE THE BEST****YOU'VE EVER HAD.**

We greet you in the spirit of the holiday season.

We are at all times interested in our community and want to contribute what we can in a physical, moral and material way to make it a better and happier place for ourselves and our fellow citizens to live in. We shall consider it an honor to have your business and your friendship during the New Year.

**MERRY CHRISTMAS  
PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR**

**C. F. CURB****Gulf Products****Air Force to Triple Program for Training Pilots in Coming Year**

The United States Air Force will triple its pilot training program by increasing aviation cadet classes from the present 1,000 a year to at least 3,000 during 1948. The expansion is expected to add approximately 2,000 newly-trained flying officers to the USAF each year, Captain Wayne Hall of the US Army and US Air Force Recruiting Office in Abilene has announced.

The accelerated pilot training program is required in the USAF's 70 group program. By mid-1948 the USAF will have 337,000 enlisted men, 64,000 officers, 55 fully-manned ready to fight groups and 15 skeletonized groups capable of rapid expansion in event of an emergency.

The USAF is streamlining aviation cadet procurement by replacing costly psychomotor examinations, which measure an applicant's probable ability to absorb flight instruction, with intensified qualifying aptitude tests, a morals-and character interview by a board of officers, and a rigid physical examination. Captain Hall stated that no flying safety precautions would be lost with the abandoned tests since they had not measured flying performance but merely gauged learning capacity.

The Air Force's latest developments in training techniques and aircraft, resulting from far-reaching research conducted during World War II, are being integrated in the expanded course of instruction.

The Pilot Training course is divided into three phases. The first two, primary and basic instruction lasting approximately 35 weeks, are given at Randolph Field. The third phase, specialization in fighter aircraft or bombers, will be undertaken at Barksdale Field (Shreveport, La.) or Williams Field (Phoenix, Ariz.)

While in training aviation cadets receive monthly pay of \$75 plus \$1 a day ration allowance. Cadets' uniforms and equipment are supplied by the Air Force, and a \$10,000 life insurance policy is underwritten at government expense for all cadets in training.

The Air Force aviation cadet course, often called "the World's best and safest pilot training program," places equal emphasis on military training, ground school classes and flight instruction. Under war-trained combat-experienced officer-instructors, who supplied aerial tactical principles in all parts of the world, the cadets receive "revitalize" training brought up-to-date by the integration of new developments and experiences in the same type of course which successfully trained thousands of pilots during the war.

Captain Hall has requested that any one desiring further information regarding the pilot training program contact him at the Army Recruiting office located in room 307 of the Post Office building in Abilene.

**REWARD**

**THREE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$300.00)** for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the party or parties who poisoned my small black and white Collie dog, named 'Lady' on Friday and/or Saturday nights, Dec. 12th or 13th.

Sam Butman, Sr.

**Merkel Boys Named ACC Honor Students**

Abilene, Dec. 24.—Two students from Merkel have been named as honor students in Abilene Christian college, for the first half of the 1947 fall semester. They are: Willard Paine, son of Mr. and Mrs. O. W. Paine, and Joe Reagan, son of Mr. and Mrs. A. A. Reagan.

Abilene Christian college counts the scholastic top ten per cent of its class as its honor students.

May Your

**CHRISTMAS**

Be

**MERRY**

And Your

**NEW YEAR**

Rich In

**BLESSINGS****W. B. Thomas****MERRY CHRISTMAS...**

To our faithful friends we extend greetings and best wishes. We are glad Christmas gives us the opportunity to do this and say "thank you" for your patronage.

**Mr. and Mrs. A. M. Jackson****YULE GREETINGS...**

Each sparkle on your Christmas tree reflects the kind thoughts we have for you on this day.

That yours will be the Merriest Christmas and the happiest New Year is our best wish.

**ELI CASE AND SON  
Grocery and Market**

**PEACE ON EARTH---GOOD****WILL TO ALL**

We are nearer our goal of peace today than ever before. For this and all other blessings we should be and are grateful.

In the Spirit of the One who came that we might have this peace we greet you and wish you joy on this glad day.

**HICKS AUTO SUPPLY**

# CHRISTMAS

## A FRIENDLY BEACON

In colonial times Christmas found the home the center of merry-making and celebration. The aroma of "sugar and spice and everything nice" mingled with the hearty welcome and friendly laughter of families reunited and friends dropping in.—Well, that sounds so good to us and brings back such fond recollections in our own past that we decided the best wish for our own friends would be for "AN OLD-FASHIONED, MERRY, CHERRY CHRISTMAS AND A NEW YEAR OF MANIFOLD BLESSINGS."

**Higginbotham-Bartlett Company**

Merkel, Texas



## WE LOOK AHEAD!

To the year 1948 as a year of Prosperity with a limitless field for achievement and progress.

Best Wishes for Your Success in this Year

**BARNETT BROTHERS**

GRIFF

VINCENT

A Joyous

## HOLIDAY SEASON

To Each of You!

The point we would like to make is this: We appreciate the many favors given us in the past and we take this means of thanking you, inviting you to visit us often, and wishing for you the best of everything for Christmas and the year 1948.

**Merkel Drug Company**

### City 4-Person Family Needs \$3,000 Annually "To Live Modestly"

Washington, Dec. 24.—The government estimates in a recent report that a "typical" city family of four needed between \$3,000 and \$3,458 a year to maintain a "modest but adequate" standard of living at June, 1947, prices.

The report—the result of a 2 1-2 year study of living costs in the nation's 34 largest cities—was prepared by the Bureau of Labor Statistics. It was submitted to a Senate-House Economic subcommittee by Ewan Clague, commissioner of labor statistics.

At last June's price levels, the report said, four-person families in each of the large cities surveyed would have had to spend more than \$3,000 annually to live "modestly."

Clague told the subcommittee it was "safe to say" that retail price increases have boosted city family expenses across the nation "at least another three per cent" since the budget estimates were made.

The government report was in the form of a "city worker's family budget." An explanatory statement said the budgets were "an attempt to describe and measure a modest but adequate American standard of living."

"The budgets are a list of goods and services that, according to the prevailing standards of the community, are considered essential," the statement said.

It said the cost figures were based on the needs of a 38-year-old working man; his 36-year-old non-working wife; a daughter, 8, and a son, 13. Clague said this family was chosen as "typical" because "most American families tend to pass through this stage at one time or another."

Separate dollar estimates were given for each of the 34 cities but no national average was estimated. The cities, and how much the "necessary" annual budget would cost in each last June, include:

Washington, \$3,458; Seattle, Wash., \$3,388; New York City, \$3,247; Milwaukee, \$3,317; Boston, \$3,310; Detroit, \$3,293; Pittsburgh, \$3,291; Minneapolis, \$3,282; Chicago, \$3,282; San Francisco, \$3,317; Baltimore, \$3,260; St. Louis, \$3,247; Mobile, Ala., \$3,276; Norfolk, Va., \$3,241; Denver, \$3,168; Philadelphia, \$3,203; Atlanta, Ga., \$3,150; Houston, \$3,020; Kansas City, Mo., \$3,010, and New Orleans, \$3,004.

### Vote for UMT is Plea Of Legion Petitions

Indianapolis, Ind., Dec. 24.—The 300,000 UMT petitions now being circulated throughout the nation by the American Legion and 67 other national organizations contain the following statement:

"Peace is worth striving for. Therefore, we, citizens of the United States and voters, urge you, our representative in the 80th congress of the United States, to support and vote for legislation establishing a system of Universal Military Training for American young men, as recommended by the President's Advisory Commission on Universal Training."

### Additional Donors To Cemetery Fund

Checks for \$10.00 each have been received for the Cemetery Maintenance fund from Merkel Post 5683, VFW, and from W. R. Hudspeth, of Lueders, Chairman T. L. Grimes announced the past week.

The first American agricultural experimental station was founded in Connecticut 70 years ago.



TO ALL MY FRIENDS

## A Merry Christmas

To you, my friends and neighbors, I extend this holiday greeting—"May your heart be filled with joy . . . may your homes be warm with light, food and friendship."

On Christmas Day, I'll be on the job, with hundreds of my fellow workers, to make sure that cheery lights burn brightly for you . . . to bring you Yuletide music . . . and by supplying dependable electric service, make every task in your home easier and quicker.

May your Christmas be a happy one! . . . that's your electric servant's wish for you.

*Reddy Kilowatt*

**West Texas Utilities Company**

## SEASON GREETINGS

Our warm thought and cheery greetings are for you. Please accept our wish for good health, good cheer and good fortune that this Christmas may be happy and the New Year filled with prosperity.

**WEST FARM MACHINERY CO.**

## BEST WISHES

FOR A JOYOUS CHRISTMAS  
and a  
BRIGHT AND PROSPEROUS  
NEW YEAR.

**SADLER CLINIC-HOSPITAL**

## OUR KIND WISHES

Making our greeting as simple and straightforward as we can is the best way we know to express our sincere wish for "A Very Merry Christmas."

**TOOMBS AND MOORE  
GRAIN COMPANY**



**TO  
ALL  
OUR  
FRIENDS**

We Extend Season's Greetings:  
Wishing for all a Merry Christ-  
mas and a Successful New Year.

**W. O. BONEY**  
Farm Loans and All Kinds of  
Insurance

**CHRISTMAS  
A. M.**

Here it is! That day again! The day  
we look forward to throughout the  
year. A jolly day bringing to old  
and young alike its blessings of  
Peace and Joy in the tokens of love  
and friendships and the good wish-  
es of friends far and near.

**MERRY CHRISTMAS,  
HAPPY NEW YEAR**

If we can assist you at any time  
please call on us.

**MERKEL MOTOR  
COMPANY**

**Consider Bedroom in  
Planning, Remodeling  
Home, Specialist Says**

College Station, Dec. 24.—Con-  
sider the bedroom, when building or  
remodeling. Comfort and conven-  
ience in these rooms are often giv-  
en little thought when plans are  
made.

Bernice Claytor, extension home  
management specialist for Texas  
A. and M. College, says that a pri-  
mary necessity for a bed room is  
plenty of ventilation. There should  
be at least two windows on different  
walls, for with only one window, it  
is difficult to have fresh air in the  
room when the door is closed. There  
is the other extreme, however—the  
bedroom with too many windows.  
This arrangement is inconvenient,  
for it usually means that the bed is  
placed against a window, where it  
can get damp or cold. The wall space  
should be arranged so that the head  
of the bed stands against a wall.

Many bedrooms are inconvenient  
because too little space is allowed  
at the sides and ends of beds for  
ease in making. Mrs. Claytor advises  
a minimum of 18 inches of free space  
on either side of a double bed and  
at least two feet between the end of  
the bed and the wall. Even more  
space is needed between the end of  
the bed and a bureau or chest of  
drawers.

Swing the bedroom door into the  
room rather than out, and swing the  
closet door out toward a window or  
the main light, so that light will  
shine directly into the closet. Closet  
and bureaus should be near the bed-  
room door, to save steps. Mrs. Clay-  
tor says, but don't place doors or  
bureaus so close together that they  
interfere with each other.

Bedroom lighting fixtures are  
most needed at heads of beds, dress-  
ing tables and bureaus, to give clear  
light yet cause no uncomfortable  
glare for the person in bed.

Bedside storage space, consisting  
of shelves or cabinets at the head of  
the bed, and a chest at the foot, or  
a flat roll-away chest under the bed,  
will take care of the clock, flashlight,  
books, writing pads, and extra  
blankets or comforts that are used  
only occasionally.

First recorded use of ration books  
was in 1000 B. C., when China ra-  
tioned rice after a flood.

Eighty-one per cent of Glacier na-  
tional park is accessible only by trail.  
The park is in Montana.

**Celebrate Fifty-third  
Wedding Anniversary**

The fifty-third wedding anniver-  
sary of Mr. and Mrs. H. E. Farmer  
was celebrated Dec. 4 in their home  
near Merkel. The couple came to  
Taylor county from Dukedom, Tenn.,  
in 1900 and have resided in Mulberry  
canyon ever since.

They have eight children, all boys,  
and all of them except one, H. E.  
Farmer, of Fulton, Ky., were pres-  
ent for the occasion. The other sons  
are: A. L. Farmer, Murray Farmer  
of Lawn, Whit Farmer of Snyder,  
Bell Farmer of Las Cruces, N. M.,  
Alton Farmer, Ira Farmer and Lewis  
Farmer. They have 14 grandchildren  
and three great-grandchildren.

The eight boys and their families  
were hosts for the celebration. Candy  
and apples were served in the after-  
noon and many lovely and useful  
gifts were viewed. Blanche Farmer,  
a granddaughter, presided over the  
register.

Out-of-town guests were Grant and  
Nathan Riggan of Big Spring, Mr.  
and Mrs. Elgin Riggan and children  
of Stanton and Hardin Reed of Mid-  
land. Also present were a host of  
nearby friends.

A Wish Was  
Never More  
Sincere When  
We Simply Say

**MERRY  
CHRISTMAS**

and  
**HAPPY  
NEW YEAR**

To Our Friends  
And Customers

**Merritt  
Plumbing**

**"JINGLE BELLS  
JINGLE BELLS  
JINGLE ALL  
THE WAY"**

This Christmas is more like old times and we  
are so thankful for the efforts toward perma-  
nent good will among men and nations.  
May the Holiday Spirit live with you and yours  
throughout the New Year 1948.

**MERRY CHRISTMAS  
AND  
HAPPY  
NEW YEAR**

**CAMPBELL'S**  
Grocery and Market

MAY

**CHRISTMAS**

Bestow Its

**BLESSINGS**

of

**HAPPINESS**

and

**CONTENTMENT**

Upon You

**JOYCE  
Belt and Button  
SHOP**

**WITH SINCERE  
GOOD WISHES FOR  
JOYFUL CHRISTMAS**

**AND A  
PROSPEROUS  
NEW YEAR**

This year has been one of unusual pleasure for us because we  
feel that we have been better able to serve you than before.  
We feel that it is our duty to improve our service that our busi-  
ness might prosper and grow and that by making such improve-  
ments that are possible we may show our appreciation to our  
steadily increasing number of customers for their patronage.  
Knowledge leads us on the quest of perfection, but realizing our  
short comings such as are always present in any human service  
we take this means of wishing you all the health, wealth, and  
prosperity the New Year affords.

**WEST COMPANY**

**"Your Friend for Over 50 Years"**

**GREETINGS**

We would like to add our Greetings to the others  
you are receiving from friends and loved ones at  
this time. We appreciate your friendship and wish  
you the best of all the things the season has to  
offer and say—"Merry Christmas, Happy New  
Year."

**MAX MELLINGER**



### GREETINGS TO OUR PATRONS

To you, our loyal friends  
and patrons, we wish a

#### MERRY CHRISTMAS

with happiness during  
the entire New Year  
ahead of us.

**Reeves Bros.  
Shop**

### May the BLESSINGS of the HOLY SEASON

Be Upon Those  
You Hold Dear.

**City Drug  
Company**

### Legal Notice

#### CITATION BY PUBLICATION. THE STATE OF TEXAS

TO: J. Stoddard Johnston, and the unknown heirs of J. Stoddard Johnston, G. W. Price and the unknown heirs of G. W. Price, The Peoples Building Loan and Saving Association, a corporation, and the unknown stockholders of The Peoples Building Loan and Saving Association, and Oscar N. Whitney, Assignee of The Peoples Building Loan and Saving Association, and the unknown successors and unknown heirs of said Oscar N. Whitney, assignee, Greeting:

You are commanded to appear and answer the plaintiff's petition at or before 10 o'clock A. M. of the first Monday after the expiration of 42 days from the date of issuance of this Citation, the same being Monday the 19th day of January, A. D., 1948, at or before 10 o'clock A. M. before the Honorable 42nd District Court of Taylor County, at the Court House in Abilene, Texas.

Said plaintiff's petition was filed on the 4th day of September, 1947. The file number of said suit being No. 15,495-A.

The names of the parties in said suit are: Mrs. Bessie M. Radford and O. E. Radford as Plaintiff, and J. Stoddard Johnston and the unknown heirs of J. Stoddard Johnston, G. W. Price and the unknown heirs of G. W. Price, The Peoples Building Loan and Saving Association, a corporation, and the unknown stockholders of The Peoples Building Loan and Saving Association, Oscar N. Whitney, and the unknown successors, and unknown heirs of said Oscar N. Whitney, Assignee, as Defendants.

The nature of said suit being substantially as follows, to wit: The Plaintiffs are suing the Defendants in trespass to try title for the title to and possession of Lots Nos. 7 and 8, in Block "U" of the Subdivision of Lot 1, in Block 209, in the City of Abilene, Taylor County, Texas, as shown by plat of said Subdivision recorded in Vol. J, on page 631, of the Deed Records of Taylor County, Texas; and also it is alleged that the Defendants for a period of more than 25 years, have not exercised dominion over said property and have not paid any taxes thereon, and that during said period of 25 years the Plaintiffs have openly exercised dominion over said property, and have paid taxes thereon for 25 years, before such taxes became delinquent, and they sue for the title and possession of said property.

If this Citation is not served with-in 90 days after the date of its issuance, it shall be returned unserved.

Issued this the 5th day of December, A. D., 1947.

Given under my hand and seal of said Court, at office in Abilene, Texas, this the 5th day of December, A. D., 1947.  
(Seal) J. Neil Daniel, Clerk,  
District Court, Taylor County, Texas.  
By Thelma Graham, Deputy.

#### ANNUAL STOCKHOLDERS' MEETING.

Notice is hereby given: That the annual meeting of the stockholders of the Farmers and Merchants National Bank of Merkel, Texas, will be held at the office of said bank on Tuesday, the 13th day of January, 1948, at 7 o'clock p. m. for the election of directors and the transaction of such other business as may properly come before the meeting.  
Booth Warren, President.

The 1946 world wheat production, excluding Russia and China, is estimated at 4,200,000,000 bushels, largest crop since 1940.

### In The Yule Spirit We Greet You And Extend Our Best Wishes

We are counting on serving you  
again in the same dependable  
courteous way, as we always have  
in the past.

**Scogin Grocery and Market**  
S. L. SCOGIN, Prop.

### FEDERAL LAND BANK LOANS

on farms and ranches in Taylor County.  
-- Long Terms -- -- Low Interest --  
**Abilene National Farm Loan Association,**  
RALPH C. SOUTH, Sec-Treas.,  
925 N. 2nd St., Abilene, Texas

### ALL THIS—

We trust that this Christmas will be the jolliest you  
have known, filled with good cheer and overflowing  
with happiness.

### AND MORE—

That good fortune, good luck and good health will  
attend you during 1948.

**W. F. GOLLADAY**

### In the Spirit of the Holiday Season

## WE GREET YOU

A sprig of holly here and a bit of mistletoe there,  
dash on a bit of tinsel and you begin to see the  
yule season develop into a real Merry Christmas.  
Let's make it better than ever this year.

BEST WISHES TO ONE AND ALL

**WOOZY'S CAFE**

# You're Going To Like This we hope

Because it's the very best wish we have for the very best friends and patrons we have for the very best Christmas they have ever had.

As Santa opens his pack we trust it will be filled with all the good things your heart desires.

Again we would like to remind you that we consider it a privilege to serve you at all times and are striving constantly to give you courteous and efficient service.

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A PROSPEROUS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR

# PATTERSON GRAIN

J. A. PATTERSON

CLESBY PATTERSON



## OUR WARM AND HEARTY GREETINGS

With good wishes for a  
CHRISTMAS  
of good cheer and a  
NEW YEAR OF PEACE

### HY-WAY CAFE

Mrs. Mary Outlaw, Prop.

## GREETINGS ... and Best Wishes For Christmas

We shall remember 1947  
as a year of very pleas-  
ant associations and we  
hope the New Year will  
show a continuation of  
this relationship.

### PO-PO CAFE

Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Giles

## MAY THE HOLIDAY SEASON BE A HAPPY ONE FOR YOU

We would like for you to accept our Christmas  
greeting in the spirit we give it, for we mean  
every word of it. We are wishing that this  
Christmas will be different from any other  
Christmas you have ever known . . . because it  
will be brighter and happier than before. We also  
hope that the New Year will pour out its bless-  
ings on you and that you will have health and  
happiness in abundance.

### ADCOCK CLEANERS

## SINCERELY—

Wishing You A Christmas of  
Mirth And Good Cheer  
—and—  
A New Year of Happiness  
And Bounty



Your patronage during the new year will be greatly appreciated

## BARROW-SHEPPARD CO.

## CLASSIFIED ADS

### FOR SALE

FOR SALE—Electrical ice box, can  
be seen at West Texas Utilities,  
Merkel. Call at telephone office.

PHOTOS until Jan. 3rd. See Ikey  
Turner. Phone 121.

FOR SALE—Officer's tent, 8x12,  
with 6-ft. walls and windows; also  
2-wheel trailer. W. G. Richardson,  
Cor. Martin and Mesquite.

FOR SALE—Young Shorthorn bull,  
subject to register. J. W. Teaff,  
Jr., Route 3, Merkel.

FOR SALE—Harper, Northern Star  
cottonseed, also Martin's combine  
milo. Farmers Coop Society gin.

FOR SALE—5 rooms and bath; best  
location; best built house in town;  
block south new hospital. Ben  
Sublett. Box 206, Merkel.

Finer nursery fruit trees and pecan  
trees; visit us, Shanks Nurseries,  
Clyde, Texas. "Largest Apple Or-  
chard in Texas."

FOR SALE—Some of those good OIC  
pigs, extra choice. Johnny Cox.

AVAILABLE NOW—Rubber punc-  
ture-sealed tubes and white Side-  
wall tires, in all popular sizes.  
Magnolia Service Station.

UNIVERSAL jet type pumps, with  
all the pipe, etc. Palmer Tire and  
Appliance Co., Phone 15.

Healthiest, quickest-maturing OIC  
hogs, pigs. Shanks Nursery Hog  
Farm, Clyde, Texas.

FOR SALE—Batteries for all autos,  
trucks and tractors, \$3.00 trade-in  
on old battery. Dudley's Radio  
Service. Phone 193.

SOUTH WIND and Tropic Air heat-  
ers; for immediate delivery; we in-  
stall same. Magnolia Service Sta-  
tion.

HAVE several nice residences for  
sale in Merkel; take your choice.  
ANDY SHOUSE

HAVE a nice stock of hot water and  
gas heaters, defrosters for hot  
water heaters. Badger Chevrolet  
Company.

PLENTY Black Hull seed wheat.  
Patterson Grain.

"HOME OF GOOD FEEDS" — We  
handle Abtex, Stanford, Golden  
Oak, Ledgers, C. L. Green and  
Mar-Ket feeds; also dealers in  
poultry and eggs, handling Dr.  
LeGear's and Dr. Salsbury's poul-  
try and stock remedies; see us for  
all your needs. Hale's Feed and  
Seeds, Trent, Texas.

FOR SALE—Two-story brick build-  
ing 40x80, formerly occupied by  
Sadler Clinic. W. T. Sadler, M. D.

NEED LUMBER—2x4, 2x6, 1x4, 1x6,  
1x8, center match, shiplap, kiln-  
dried flooring; direct mill ship-  
ments on any amount of common  
yellow pine lumber; inspect our  
stock; cash and carry. J. W. Ham-  
mond Lumber Co., Merkel; located  
in alley behind Ben Franklin store.

PLENTY of seed wheat and seed  
oats; also a few sacks of maize  
for chicken feed. Toombs and Moore  
Grain Co.

### FOR RENT

MY BEST furnished 2-room apart-  
ment vacant. Mrs. A. H. Thorn-  
ton. Phone 76.

FOR RENT — 3-room furnished  
apartment, bills paid; couple only.  
Mrs. Joe B. Toombs, South 7th and  
Locust.

FOR RENT — 3-room furnished  
apartment; private bath. Mrs. Bert  
Melton. Phone 282.

FOR RENT—Brick business build-  
ing, 20x90, corner Edwards and  
North Second. Bob Hicks.

APARTMENTS for rent; nice, close-  
in, at Clyde; furnished; \$30.00.  
Shanks Apartments, Clyde, Texas,  
Phone 74.

FOR RENT — 2-room apartment,  
furnished or unfurnished; also 3-  
room house, partly furnished. Pho.  
9047 after 6 p. m.

VACUUM CLEANER for rent, 75c  
per day. Farm and Home Supply.

### LOST AND FOUND

FOUND— Single key on tag; may  
be valuable. Inquire at Merkel  
Mail office.

LOST— Black plastic purse, driver's  
license in it; Friday. Mrs. Frank  
Brnovak, Route 4, Merkel.

### WANTED

COUPLE with two children want  
to rent unfurnished apartment or  
house with bath. Write Box 542,  
Merkel.

WILL BUY your maize; pay best  
market price. Toombs and Moore.

WILL PAY 85 cents per 100 lbs. for  
scrap iron; also junk batteries and  
radiators bought. Bowles Plumbing  
Shop. Phone 286.

FURNITURE upholstering and re-  
pairing; also have a state health  
department permit to do any kind  
of furniture upholstering. See Ira  
Cross at J. T. Darsey Furniture  
store.

SEE Lendon A. Coats for water well  
drilling. Phone 281W.

ELECTRIC MOTORS repaired. Dud-  
ley's Radio Service. Phone 193.

### LODGE CALLS

NOTICE MASONS  
Stated meeting of Merkel  
Lodge No. 710, A. F. and A.  
M., Saturday, Dec. 27,  
at 7:30 p. m. All members are urged  
to be present. Visiting brethren cor-  
dially invited.  
C. B. Rust, W. M.  
Andy Shouse, Sec'y.



## Specials for Friday & Saturday

DECEMBER 26th and 27th

Texas ORANGES AND  
GRAPEFRUIT, 8 lb bag 30c  
TOKAY GRAPES, lb. 15c  
CRISP LETTUCE, 2 heads 25c

432 CALIFORNIA—  
LEMONS, lb. 11c  
PASCAL CELERY, stalk 17c  
Fresh Little Joe YAMS lb 12c

Red and White  
ENRICHED FLOUR 10 lb. bag 93c

RED and WHITE  
Coffee, lb. 48c; 3 lbs. \$1.39

Red and White—Sliced and Halves  
Peaches, 2, No. 2 1/2 cans 55c

Red and White—HALVES—  
Apricots, 16 oz. can 21c

HONOR BRAND—Heavy Syrup  
Fancy Pears, No. 2 1/2 can 47c

BONNER THOMPSON  
Seedless Raisins, 15 oz. 19c

AZAR HALVES  
Shelled Pecans, 4 oz. pkg 14c

BANG-O-  
Popcorn, 10 oz. can 17c

Red and White  
MAYONNAISE 8 ounce jar 19c

THREE-MINUTE  
Oats, 20 oz. pkg. 15c

RED and WHITE  
Fruit Cocktail, No. 2 1/2 43c

Denton SPANISH  
TOMATO SAUCE, 8 oz can 7c

MOTTS  
Apple Juice, qt. bottle 18c

KUNERS CUSTARD  
Pumpkin, No. 2 can 14c

RED and WHITE  
Mince Meat, 8 oz. pkg. 19c

BRIMFULL  
Pie Cherries, No. 2 can 29c

SUN SPUN 16 oz. Jar  
Salad Dressing, each 35c

Collins—PURE  
Apple Jelly, 32 oz. jar 39c

RED and WHITE  
Flav-R-Jell, 4 oz. pkg. 08c

Kuner—OLD FASHION  
Pickles, 15 oz. Jar 29c

WASHINGTON—FANCY  
Winesap Apples, lb. 12c

COLORADO  
Yellow Onions, lb. 10c

IDAHO WASHED—RUSSET  
Potatoes, 5 lb. bag 29c

Red and White FANCY—2 No. 2 cans 25c  
Tomato Juice, 46 oz can 28c

CHOCOLATE— Red and White  
Dainties, 1-8 oz. can 22c

RED and WHITE  
Pure Vanilla 1 1/2 oz bottle 27

Red and White, Dromedary, O'Spray  
Cranberry Sauce, 3 for 67c

Pure Granulated Soap  
WASHO, large package 33c

Rich Creamy  
CRUSTENE 3 pound can \$1.19

## MEAT MARKET DEPARTMENT

ARMOUR STAR—  
ROLLED ROAST, lb. 55c

ARMOUR STAR—  
SAUSAGE, 1 lb. Cello 48c

ARMOUR STAR BACON 79c

ARMOUR STAR— (6 to 8 lb. average)  
PICNIC HAMS, lb. 49c

SWIFT PREMIUM  
PREPARED HAMS, lb. 75c

LONGHORN CHEESE, lb. 55c

## THE RED & WHITE STORES

WEST COMPANY HAROLD BROWN  
MERKEL TRENT

Bird's Store  
NOODLE





## ANNUAL LOG HUNT.

One of the most elaborate social events of the Christmas season is the Yule Log party given by Mr. and Mrs. W. S. J. Brown at their Noodle-Hereford ranch, Thursday night, Dec. 18, being the fourteenth annual affair, complimenting ten couples.

By matching cards the guests found their partners as they gathered around the long table groaning under the weight of much fine food, with a huge baby beef tom turkey as the center of interest.

Table decorations were as unusual as beautiful. The centerpiece, an old-fashioned music box which played "Silent Night," was in the shape of a stately white church with steeple, over which, suspended from the huge pine beam, were three gold cathedral bells. Colored candles on semi-circle bases were placed at various intervals, while Santa Claus candles in red and white designated each plate location. Beautiful godesia flowers, holly, cedar, pine and other Christmas decorations transformed the table into an atmosphere of friendly Christmas cheer. Mrs. V. P. Tippet, of San Angelo had charge of the table arrangement.

The meal over, paper cutouts were given each one, and matching these were means of finding partners for the main event of the evening, hunting the Yule log. Nailed to trees along the route were a series of eight billboards giving directions leading to the vicinity where the log had been decorated and hidden by Mr. and Mrs. Booth Warren.

Mrs. E. Yates Brown of Midland and Johnny Cox were first to locate the log, which was beautifully wrapped in cotton snowballs. A large box of chocolate candy, roman candles and skyrockets had been left to delight the group. A large pile of brush placed nearby was used for a bonfire, around which the hunters gathered for a period of visitation and relaxation from the more than a mile trek in search of the Yule log.

The host, Bill Brown, brought a large four-wheel trailer filled with hay, but pulled by a tractor, to the scene of the bonfire to return the happy group to the lodge.

With Tom Largent as announcer,

the game of "bingo" was enjoyed for quite some time. Yates Brown as Santa Claus passed out presents from the large native Christmas tree that was indeed beautiful in lovely Christmas decorations. A large basket of popcorn balls were consumed.

At a late hour, guests more reluctantly than usual left, assuring the hosts that no party in the past had equalled this one.

Signing the guest "Log Book" were Messrs. and Mesdames E. Yates Brown, Midland, V. P. Tippet, San Angelo, Booth Warren, Tom Largent, S. D. Gamble, Roy Largent, D. Grimes, Willie Joe Largent, Johnny Cox and Dr. and Mrs. W. T. Sadler.

## COMRADES CLASS ANNUAL CHRISTMAS BANQUET.

The dining room of the First Methodist church was beautifully decorated Tuesday evening when members of the Comrades Couple's class held their annual Christmas banquet. Mrs. Riggs Shepherd read an appropriate Scripture and Miss Adelle Elkins sang Christmas Carols, after which Mrs. Comer Haynes entertained with readings. Gifts were exchanged by all present.

The long banquet table was artistically centered with Yule suggestions and a delicious turkey menu was served to the following: Messrs. and Mesdames Cyrus Pee, Griff Barnett, Lee Darden, June Hogan, Homer Newby, Lester Dorton, Ray Wilson, Riggs Shepherd, Raymond Ferguson, Weldon McAninch, Frank Simpson, Spencer Bird, Bill Skiles, Virgil Patterson, Cayton Knox, Mrs. Earle Watts, Mrs. Comer Haynes and Miss Adelle Elkins.

## Andy Shouse

Life Insurance  
Real Estate

Will be glad to assist you with your income tax return.

## CHRISTMAS PROGRAM FEATURED AT GARDEN CLUB.

Mrs. Raymond Ferguson was a most gracious hostess to the members of the Garden club at their regular meeting last week, entertaining at the Community Center with a Christmas program.

"There Is a Song in the Air" was sung by Mrs. Homer Patterson, accompanied by Mrs. C. B. Gardner. Buddy McKeever entertained with two appropriate readings and Mrs. Gardner played a medley of Christmas selections. A timely discussion of Christmas trees was given by Mrs. Joe Bailey Toombs after which delicious refreshments were served to Mesdames Shannon, J. B. Toombs, Homer Patterson, Sublett, Grimes, Murray Toombs, C. Patterson, Dennis, Herbert Patterson, Hicks, Miller, Case, Petty, Brown, Gardner and Ferguson.

## CHRISTMAS BANQUET.

Members of the Cheerful Workers Sunday School class of the Methodist church enjoyed a lovely Yuletide banquet on Thursday evening of last week in the parlors of the church.

The table was decorated with silver wreath, pine cones and Christmas candles, where a most seasonal turkey menu was served. Invocation was given by Rev. R. L. Butler, after which "Greetings" were extended by Andy Shouse, who is teacher of the class. Two very beautiful musical numbers were given by Miss Adelle Elkins who sang "Silent Night" and "White Christmas" and

"Minuet" was played by Miss Nina Osborn.

Contests and games were enjoyed by the following guests: Rev. and Mrs. R. L. Butler, Mr. and Mrs. Andy Shouse, Misses Betty Jane Tittle, Adelle Elkins, Mary Collins, Gladys Newton, Lela Patterson, Lena Faye Osborn, Nina Osborn and Patsy Simpson and Billie Tucker.

## JUNIOR CLASS PARTY.

The Community Center was the scene for an enjoyable Christmas party for the Junior class of Merkel High school on Dec. 15, for which the class sponsors and room mothers were hostesses. The evening was spent in playing games, and gifts were exchanged.

In a short Christmas program that was presented, Mrs. Owen Robertson and Mrs. C. F. Lindsay gave appropriate readings, Jorene Risinger, a piano number, and Jean Kemper and Dick Lindsay, vocal

solos, accompanied by Joy Lansford. Approximately 40 Juniors attended.

(MORE SOCIETY—on Page 10)

## Hospital Notes.

Mrs. W. D. Graham was admitted to Sadler Clinic-Hospital last Thursday for treatment of burns. Also admitted during the week for treatment were: Mrs. Annie Scott, Dec. 21; Sylvia Smith, of Dallas, who was here visiting her grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Hill, Dec. 21; Earl James, Mrs. H. B. Richards of Sweetwater, Dec. 22.

Claude Perry, hospitalized Dec. 3 for injuries sustained in an auto-

mobile accident, was dismissed Monday.

## GREETINGS...

We extend sincere appreciation for your cooperation during the year and wish for you a

JOYOUS HOLIDAY SEASON

MODERN BEAUTY SHOP

Mrs. Dent Gibson, Bobbie Books

## To Our Friends and Customers

... who have helped make a very difficult year in our business easier and brighter by their thoughtful consideration of our problems in trying to serve them, we wish to extend to them in the same spirit at this season our

Most Sincere Wishes for a Merry, Merry Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous New Year.

PATTERSON BROS., Plumbers

W. J. PATTERSON J. V. PATTERSON

WE TAKE THE LOSS—YOU DO THE GAINING—TO



## SPECIALS

Fri. and Sat.

Dec. 26 & 27

## Buy 'em By The CASE—BELOW COST

WHITE SWAN—TEXSUN—FAULTLESS	24 Cans
Grapefruit Juice, No. 2 cans	\$1.79
HEART'S DELIGHT	24 Cans
Pineapple Juice, No. 2 cans	\$3.79
ADAMS—	24 Cans
Orange Juice, No. 2 cans	\$1.79
HUNT'S (Heavy Syrup) HALVES or SLICED	24 Cans
Peaches, No. 2 1/2 cans	\$6.49
ADAM'S	24 Cans
Blended Juices, No. 2 cans	\$1.79
BROOKS	24 Cans
White Hominy, No. 2 cans	\$1.79
REGARDS—TOWN TALKER	
WHITE or GOLDEN FIELD	24 Cans
Sweet Corn, 24 No. 2 cans	\$2.98
GARDEN RUN—	24 Cans
Sweet Peas, No. 2 cans	\$2.38



CRISP—Large		BELL	
LETTUCE	13c	PEPPERS, lb.	15c
RADISHES, SQUASH,		TEXAS, sack—	
TURNIPS AND TOPS,		ORANGES	29c
AVOCADOS—		LARGE	
Washington—Delicious		CARROTS, bn	10c
APPLES, lb.	9c	CALIFORNIA	
TEXAS—sack		ORANGES, lb.	9c
Grapefruit	29c		

SALT		CHOICE MEATS	
JOWLS, lb.	37c	BEEF—Fancy Fresh	
FANCY LEAN		RIBS, pound	34c
Sliced BACON, lb.	69c	Choice ALL MEAT	
		BOLOGNA, lb.	43c

We Reserve the Right to Limit Quantities

CARSON Gro. & Mkt.

We Deliver Choice Meats :- Fresh Vegetables Phone  
Mon & Fri :- Fancy Grub :- 250

Best Wishes for a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year



## QUEEN Theatre

Movies are Your Best and Cheapest Entertainment  
Box Office Opens: Nights 6:30; Sunday Matinee 2:00  
Last Times Thursday—"HER HUSBAND'S AFFAIRS"

Friday and Saturday  
2 BIG SHOWS FOR THE PRICE OF 1  
Gene's Swingin' Singin' the Texas Way!  
GENE AUTRY :- LYNNE ROBERTS :- CASS COUNTY BOYS

## "Robinhood of Texas"

— PLUS —

Meet the Hepcats and their Dreamboats!  
FREDDIE STEWART :- JUNE PREISSER :- JUDY CLARK  
Abe Lyman and His Orchestra

## "Junior Prom"

Color Cartoon—Jack Armstrong Serial

Sunday, Monday and Tuesday  
See—The Hard-Bitten, Hard-Hittin' Roughnecks of the Threshing Crew Putting Their Strength Against a Raging Prairie Fire!  
ALAN LADD :- DOROTHY LAMOUR :- ROBERT PRESTON

## "Wild Harvest"

Latest News—Sports—Color Cartoon

WEDNESDAY-THURSDAY

Don't You Dare Take Your Eyes off the Screen—Terror and Terrific Tension—In a Mansion of Mystery

ERROL FLYNN :- BARBARA STANWYCK

## "Cry Wolf"

Chapter 12 Jesse James Serial—Technicolor Musical

New Year's Eve Midnight Show—Dec. 31  
WEDNESDAY, 11:30 P. M.

Don't Miss Our Gala Midnight Show New Year's Eve! Souvenirs and Favors for All—Come Early and Stay Late!

Groucho's on the Loose with the Most Beautiful Girls in America!

GROUCHO MARX :- CARMEN MIRANDA

ANDY RUSSELL :- GLORIA JEAN

## "COPACABANA"

Arde Clyde Comedy

STOCK UP NOW ON BARGAINS—SO BE A THRIFTY BUYER AND BUY NOW—



## FRIENDLY WISHES

for a holiday of fun and frolic among those you love and a New Year of prosperity and happiness.

**Kimbell Milling Company**

A. J. CANON

## WELCOME 1948

**SUCCESS AND HAPPINESS TO EACH OF YOU DURING THE NEW YEAR.**

Our achievement goal for the year is to supply your every need in an efficient, courteous way.

**Badger Chevrolet  
Company**



### AT CHRISTMAS TIME

more than at any other season, people feel friendly. It's in the very air. In this spirit, then, we offer you our best wishes for a very Merry Christmas.

**BULLOCK HARDWARE**

### Legal Notice

#### CITATION BY PUBLICATION THE STATE OF TEXAS.

TO: V. C. George, Greeting:  
You are commanded to appear and answer the plaintiff's petition at or before 10 o'clock A. M. of the first Monday after the expiration of 42 days from the date of issuance of this Citation, the same being Monday the 2nd day of February, A. D., 1948, at or before 10 o'clock A. M., before the Honorable 42nd District Court of Taylor County, at the Court House in Abilene, Texas.

Said plaintiff's petition was filed on the 20th day of Dec. 1946. The file number of said suit being No. 15,124-A.

The names of the parties in said suit are: Ruby Mae George as Plaintiff, and V. C. George as Defendant.

The nature of said suit being substantially as follows, to wit: Plaintiff and defendant were duly and legally married on October 15, 1934, and lived together until October 7, 1945. Three children were born to plaintiff and defendant. There is no community property. Plaintiff sues for divorce on grounds of cruelty and also sues for custody, control and support of the children.

If this Citation is not served within 90 days after the date of its issuance, it shall be returned unserved.

Issued this the 18th day of December, A. D., 1947.

Given under my hand and seal of said Court, at office in Abilene, Texas, this the 18th day of December, A. D., 1947.

(Seal) J. Neil Daniel, Clerk, District Court, Taylor County, Texas  
By Grace Jenkins, Deputy.

### MOVIE CALENDAR

Friday - Saturday — Double feature program: Gene Autry, Lynne Roberts, Cass County Boys in "Robinson of Texas" and Freddie Stewart, June Preisser, Judy Clark, Abe Lyman and Orchestra in "Junior Prom;" color cartoon and Jack Armstrong serial.

Sunday, Monday and Tuesday—

Alan Ladd, Dorothy Lamour, Robert Preston in "Wild Harvest;" latest News, Sports and color cartoon.

Wednesday - Thursday — Errol Flynn, Barbara Stanwyck in "City Wolf;" Chapter 12 Jesse James serial, technicolor musical.

New Year's Eve midnight show, Wednesday, Dec. 31, 11:30 p. m.—Groucho Marx, Carmen Miranda, Andy Russell, Gloria Jean in "Copacabana;" Andy Clyde comedy.

#### "WILD HARVEST"

A stirring combine that should arouse a great deal of interest among film fans is that in Paramount's new action thriller, "Wild Harvest." The film boasts starring roles filled by Alan Ladd, Dorothy Lamour, Robert Preston and Lloyd Nolan, supported by Dick Erdman and Allen Jenkins. "Wild Harvest" is, in Ladd's own words: "The toughest and the roughest picture I ever made," which ought to satisfy his countless followers. For the first time he is teamed with the sultry, stunning Dorothy Lamour, who has a straight dramatic role in the film that is set in the great wheat belt of America.



**FOX REPAIR  
SHOP**



#### EVERYBODY

• WE ARE THE WORLD'S MOST INVENTIVE RACE—AND YET WE HAVEN'T FOUND A NEW WAY OF SAYING "MERRY CHRISTMAS." MAYBE IT'S JUST AS WELL!

• IN ANY EVENT, WE CAN PHRASE NO BETTER MESSAGE FOR THIS JOYOUS SEASON THAN THAT ANCIENT WISH.

**Eager Grocery  
and Feed**



May  
this Christmas bring  
happiness as true,  
as that  
we have known  
in our relations  
with you!

**BUCK'S  
Shoe Shop**



## A MERRY CHRISTMAS!

*May the spirit  
of the First Christmas  
gladden your hearts  
this  
Christmas season*

**Farm and Home Supply**

MR. and MRS. FORREST BARNETT



## A MERRY CHRISTMAS

WE KNOW OF NO BETTER TIME THAN CHRISTMAS TO GIVE RECOGNITION TO OUR MANY FRIENDS WHO HAVE CONTRIBUTED SO GREATLY TO OUR SUCCESS DURING THE PAST YEAR.

FROM ALL OF US ONCE MORE TO YOU, WHETHER YOU ARE OUR CUSTOMER OR NOT...

**A MERRY CHRISTMAS**

**BEN FRANKLIN**

J. W. HAMMOND, Proprietor



• At Christmastime we greet good friends. If 'neath our roof you've rested, come again and be refreshed. If you have never crossed our threshold, visit us in the months ahead. To one and all we say,

## MERRY CHRISTMAS!

**WILSON JEWELRY**

From Us To You...

## A WISH SINCERE

That you may have blessings untold during the New Year is our special wish for you. We would not forget to wish for you and yours all the joy and gladness that Christmas can bring.

We would like to serve you during 1948 to prove that we want to add to your happiness during the New Year.

**CLAUDE SMITH'S FOOD STORE**



## SOCIETY

### FIDELIS MATRONS BANQUET.

The Fidelis Matrons Sunday School class of the First Baptist church held their traditional Christmas banquet Monday night, Dec. 8, in the church parlors.

The tables were beautifully decorated with Christmas greenery and candles. A lighted tree and a figurine pageant carried out the theme for the Christmas program. The in-

vocation was given by the pastor, Rev. E. M. Weathers, and Mrs. Buster Horton gave a toast "To the Men," who were the honored guests. Buck Leach gave the response for the men. Truett Jones and Buster Horton directed the singing of the Christmas carols. The Christmas story, "Bethlehem," was told by Mrs. Nim Teaff. At the conclusion of the program gifts were exchanged. A delectable turkey menu was served to: Rev. and Mrs. E. M. Weathers, Dr. and Mrs. W. T. Sad-

ler, and Messrs. and Mesdames Jarrett Pinckley, David Gamble, Truett Jones, Buster Horton, Austin Petty, Geo. T. Moore, Vernon Horton, E. B. Wallace, Dean Higgins, Gordon Pursley, Tom Kerns, Chas. Sylvester, O. B. Leach, Riley James, Hoyle Lemmens, Leon Bigbee, Bob Fowler, Mack Tucker, Ray Mundy, Ed Sandusky and Sam Martin; Mesdames Nim J. Teaff, Billie Chambless, Bud McKeever and Dunning McConnell.

### MERRY CHRISTMAS.

One of the gayest of the gala parties of the Christmas season took place Thursday night, Dec. 11, when the eighth grade of grammar school was entertained at the Community Center. The room mothers, Mesdames C. B. Rust, Bryan Dunagin, J. D. Sandusky, Tom Kerns, A. Z. Decker, D. B. Bowen, Robert Riney, W. D. McLeod, J. D. Johnson and Tom Seymour, and the teachers, Mrs. Judd McReynolds, Mrs. R. A. McCollum and Mr. C. A. Farley, were all present and also enjoyed the party.

Games were played and soda pop, sandwiches and cookies were served to: Ann Booth, Thantia Decker, Bobby Dye, Billy Greenfield, Pauline Harris, Bob Johnson, Joy Johnson, Doyle Jones, Maxine Kerns, Merkel McCoy, Jimmie Lou McLeod, Charlene Madison, Boyd Moore, Ann Newton, Ken Riney, Connie Mack Seymour, Joann Seymour, Bobby Shouse, Dale Shugart, Betty Merrell Watkins, Wanda Beaird, John Bishop, Kenneth Bowen, Freddie Brabbin, Ramon Cordova, Carol Dunagin, Emma Jean Ely, Billy Harris, Gaylon Johnson, Franklin Mashburn, Julia Moore, Billy Moser, Bryan Mundy,

Clinton Newton, Jimmy Petty, Fayrene Reynolds, Charles Reddin, Voncel Rust, Elmer Sandusky, Wanda Thompson, Delores Trevino, Joe Frank Warren and Sammy Seroggins. After the refreshments the pupils gathered around the huge present-laden Christmas tree and girls were exchanged. Special gifts were presented to Mrs. McReynolds, Mrs. McCollum and Mr. Farley.

### Population of U. S. Put at 144,708,000

Washington, Dec. 24.—The United States population was 144,708,000 on Oct. 1, the census bureau estimates.

The record figures include the armed forces, whose strength was 587,000 overseas and 748,000 at home. The civilian population alone was 143,373,000.

The bureau said the population has increased more than thirteen million or almost 10 per cent, in the seven and one half years since the last census was taken April 1, 1940.

In the 1930-1940 period, the gain was less than nine million or 7.2 per cent.

Florida, pistol-shaped peninsula extending out into the Atlantic Ocean and Gulf of Mexico, has the longest shoreline of any state in the nation, 3,750 miles.

## MERRY CHRISTMAS

Everywhere we see reminders that it is Christmas and we want to remind you we are wishing all good things for you.

## HAPPY NEW YEAR

Fowler and Stanley

BUILDING CONTRACTORS

## JOYOUS CHRISTMAS

Christmas is here again and the opportunity afforded us to thank you for past favors and to wish for you and yours a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Woodrum Service Station

## WE WISH FOR ONE AND ALL A MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR GROVER GILBERT

Representative  
ABILENE LAUNDRY -:- Merkel, Texas

## OUR SINCERE WISH FOR A JOYOUS CHRISTMAS

Best Wishes for the New Year

We trust that 1948 will bring you joy and satisfaction in each individual undertaking and that the year as a whole will show worthwhile achievements.

R. O. ANDERSON

## GREETINGS

Our kindest regards and warmest wishes are that you and your loved ones will enjoy a

Merry Christmas  
and a

Happy New Year

D. A. LEE

## JOY JOY TO THE WORLD

Once again we roll away the cares of life and take on the happiness of the season to wish one and all a

Merry  
Christmas  
Happy  
New Year

City Dry Cleaners

L. J. RENFRO

## BEST WISHES FOR CHRISTMAS

AND 1948

We sincerely hope that you will have all the happiness and joy that this Christmas and the New Year can bestow upon you.

Tarpley Service Station

## NOTICE to FARMERS and RANCHMEN

Only 5 Days Left to Meet  
The Deadline

Farmers and Ranchmen are required to file an estimate of their 1947 income by January 15th, 1948, unless they make and file their 1947 return between January 1st and January 15th, 1948. To avoid the rush between Jan. 1st and Jan. 15th, 1948, if your books are closed for the year I have 1947 forms and can make your return ready to mail after Jan. 1st. Come in December and avoid the rush.

R. O. Anderson

## Your Local USED-COW Dealer Removes Dead Stock FREE

For immediate service  
Phone 4001 Collect  
Abilene



CENTRAL HIDE &  
RENDERING CO.



19 Our wish 47  
for you at  
Christmastide

## THE QUIET JOYS OF HOME AND FIRESIDE

... the family gathered around the heavily-laden table... turkey and dressing, mince and pumpkin pies... the Christmas tree with its tinsel... the toys beneath... May you enjoy these deep sweet pleasures this Christmas of 1947.

## SEASON GREETINGS

As the candle from your window casts its gleam, may it send its warm radiance over your entire household bringing brightness and cheer within; making Christmas a day to be enjoyed to the fullest and recalled later with fond memories.

We always appreciate the opportunity to serve you.

Fisher's Grocery and Market

## BURTON-LINGO CO.

CLYDE BARTLETT

ELMER ROBINSON



## BEST WISHES FOR CHRISTMAS JOYS

As the precious minutes and hours of Christmas Day unfold may they each bring a joy and pleasure that will add up to the happiest, most wonderful Christmas you have ever experienced.

**BIGBEE BROS. ICE**

**MERRY CHRISTMAS FOLKS**



**WALTON'S BARBER SHOP**  
J. C. WALTON - PETE RUTLEDGE  
DEAN HIGGINS

**A JOLLY  
CHRISTMAS**  
With Loads of Cheer and  
Bundles of Happiness  
for each of you.  
**BILLIE'S TOT-TO-TEEN  
SHOP**

## YES, CHRISTMAS IS A DELIGHTFUL TIME

And we want to wish you the best of everything the season has in store. We have enjoyed serving you and want to thank you for the friendliness you have shown us.

**Merkel Co-Op Station**  
LEON TOOMBS

## A SINCERE WISH

For Happiness at Christmas to those in your home and your loved ones wherever they be. May joy so fill your hearts that the overflow will last on through the entire New Year.

**We appreciate the kindness of our  
friends at all times.**

**B. & D. GARAGE**

STACY BIRD

WRIGHT DISHMAN

## RURAL SOCIETY

### UNION RIDGE HD CLUB CHRISTMAS PARTY.

The Union Ridge Home Demonstration club had its annual Christmas party on Friday, Dec. 19, at 2 o'clock in the home of Mrs. Beauford Buntin.

The program opened with all singing "Silent Night." Scripture was read on the birth of Christ by Miss Mabel McRee, followed by prayer by Mrs. George Crow. Then a duet, "O Come All Ye Faithful," by Mrs. Denzel Cox and Mrs. Ocie Douglas was followed by a poem, "Again the Star Returns," by Mrs. J. E. Jaynes. Mrs. L. S. Tipton, Jr., read a story, "I Remember Christmas." A beautiful Christmas story and poem was given by Mrs. Denzel Cox, followed by a reading, "Twas the Night (late) Before Christmas," by Mrs. J. E. Jaynes, after which all joined in singing "Jingle Bells."

Mrs. J. H. Clark closed by leading the group in prayer.

During the business session all officers gave reports of their year's work. Then gifts were distributed from a gaily decorated tree to the following visitors, Mesdames Buntin, Henry Holt, Jesse Adams, Odie Jones and son, Craig, and these members, Mesdames M. L. Douglas, Ocie Douglas, Clyde Newton, Joe Jaynes, J. H. Clark, J. K. Pee, O. E. Harwell, Deverl Teaff, Lee Ponder, J. E. Jaynes, Denzel Cox, George Crow, L. S. Tipton, Jr., and Miss Mabel McRee and the hostess. Children present were Mitchell Jaynes, Ann Tipton, Vicki Teaff, Sharon and Joan Buntin.

Twenty thousand workmen labored 21 years to build the Taj Mahal, considered by many to be the most beautiful building in the world.

## James H. Chaney

CHIROPRACTOR

Specializing in  
NERVOUS DISORDERS

—o—

Next Door to  
Bullock Hardware

Office hours—9 a. m. to 6 p. m.  
Tues. and Sat.—Close 4 p. m.

## A Joyous CHRISTMAS

to each of you  
and a hearty  
Welcome to the

**NEW YEAR  
1948**

**Doan Feed  
Store**

## CARD OF THANKS.

We want to express our sincere appreciation of the many kindnesses shown us during the illness of our beloved wife, mother and daughter, and we are deeply grateful for the love and sympathy extended us in her death; especially do we wish to thank Dr. and Mrs. Sadler and the hospital nurses for their ministrations and all those who sent the lovely flowers.

May the Lord bless every one of you is our prayer.

Clyde L. Irvin and Family.  
Mr. and Mrs. R. R. Meeks  
and Family.

Mr. and Mrs. I. N. Irvin  
and Family.

Each year 175,000 forest fires, or 575 per day, burn over 25,000,000 acres of an area the size of the state of Virginia.



TO GREET  
YOU AT  
**Christmas**

If we could—

we would say "Merry

Christmas" to each of you

personally. Since we can't,

the next best thing is to

put our greetings in print.

## SWAP SHOP

Claude Warren, Prop.

## OUR CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

is the familiar expression one friend gives another in greetings at this season—"A Merry Christmas to you."

**BEECH LAUNDRY**



**While angels  
hovered overhead,**  
the Star of Bethlehem guided  
the Three Wise Men  
to the Manger at Bethlehem.  
We cannot offer you their gifts  
of gold, frankincense and myrrh.  
Our gift must be restricted  
to the old, but heartfelt wish  
for all the joys and blessings  
of the Yuletide season.

**WHITE AUTO STORE**



**A**NOTHER YEAR has passed. Again glad bells are pealing out the Christmas story. Happy children and parents are planning for the day in the glorious old-fashioned way. Everyone is thrilled by the magic spell of Christmas for they know the spirit of the Christ Child is in the land.

While glad bells peal out, while children make merry, while carols are being sung and the Christmas story is being told and retold, we join in the joyous occasion by expressing best wishes for a

*Merry Christmas  
to each and every one*

**BRAGG DRY GOODS CO.**



## "SILENT NIGHT, HOLY NIGHT"

As we sing of the Christ Child in the manger who came to bring love and peace to mankind, we think fondly of our many friends and wish each of you Christmas Joys.

Cyrus Pee



And when the day  
is gone  
Our wishes for  
our friends  
Continue on and on  
and on!

MERKEL CAFE

## In The Churches

### SUNDAY SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

Attendance at the seven reporting Sunday Schools last Sunday was 761 as compared with 729 on the previous Sunday. The figure for the same Sunday a year ago is not available.

### PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Sunday School at 10 a. m. Morning sermon at 11 o'clock. Christian Endeavor meets at 6 p. m. Mid-week prayer meeting at 6:30 p. m. Wednesday.

D. S. Neel, Pastor.

### NAZARENE CHURCH

Sunday School 10:00 a. m. Preaching at 11. NYPS at 7:00 p. m. Preaching at 8:00. Prayer meeting at 7:00 p. m. Wednesday.

R. T. Smith, Pastor.

### CHURCH OF CHRIST

Bible School 9:45 a. m. Sunday. Worship 10:50 a. m. and 7 p. m. Young People's meeting 6:15 p. m. Prayer meeting Wednesday, 7 p. m. Troy M. Cummings, Minister.

### ASSEMBLY OF GOD

Sunday School at 10 a. m. Preaching services at 11 a. m. and 7:45 p. m. Services Thursday 7:45 p. m.

H. S. Earp, Pastor.

### FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

Sunday School at 10 a. m. Morning sermon at 11. Training Union at 6:00 p. m. Evening sermon at 7:00. Prayer meeting at 7:00 Wednesday evening.

Merle Weathers, Pastor.

### CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH

Sunday School at 10 a. m. Preaching at 11 a. m. and 7:00 p. m. Mid-week prayer meeting at 7:00 Wednesday evening.

A. T. Suskey, Pastor.

### METHODIST CHURCH

Church School 10 a. m. Morning worship 11. Youth Fellowship 6:30 p. m. Evening worship 7:00. WSCS Mondays, 2 p. m. Mid-week prayer Wednesdays, 7:00 p. m.

R. L. Butler, Pastor

### PRIMITIVE BAPTISTS.

Services, Corner South Eighth and Yucca streets, fourth Sunday in each month; 2:30 p. m. Saturday and Saturday night, 11 a. m. Sunday: spread lunch and singing in the afternoon.

Elder B. R. Howze, Pastor.

## Merkel Man Heads County ACA Group

Delegates to the Taylor county agriculture convention held last Monday, Dec. 15, elected five Taylor county farmers to a committee to administer the Agriculture Conservation Program in this county.

The county ACA committee members named are W. O. Higgins, chairman, Merkel; Billie McCasland, vice-chairman, Guion; K. C. Roberson, regular member, Ovalo; Burl King of Abilene, and Jarrett Pinkley of Merkel.

In elections held the previous week community committees to assist the county committee in their respective precincts were named as follows:

Precinct 1: John B. Lovett of Iberis, chairman; Joseph R. Miller of Potosi, and Samuel J. Canon of Hamby.

Precinct 2: Manton H. Ely of Merkel, chairman; Dewel McLean of Nubia and Herman L. Beasley of Trent.

Precinct 3: William S. Stockton of Buffalo Gap, chairman; Frank A. Boulter of Tuscola and Jack Richards of View.

Precinct 4: Leo M. Lilly of Shep, chairman; Ocia C. Grisson of Bradshaw and Chester T. Adams of Lawn.

These community committees will administer the price support and other ACA programs in the county and will assist the county committee in selecting the practices for which assistance will be furnished.

Delegates to the convention Monday were John B. Lovett of Iberis, Manton H. Ely of Merkel, Noble Touchstone of Tuscola and Jesse A. Horn of Bradshaw.

Texas has the tallest monument in the world — the San Jacinto Monument, at San Jacinto battlegrounds 18 miles from Houston, where Texas' independence from Mexico was won. It is 564 feet above grade line. Cost \$1,000,000.

—FOR—  
**Oil Investments  
LEASES and ROYALTIES  
Vernon Simpson**  
Phone 90 . . . Box 426

## Merry Yuletide Prosperous New Year

The mistletoe over the door gives us a sign of the gaiety of the season. We want to enter into the gay spirit and extend our best wishes for a Christmas of mirth and cheer and a bountiful New Year.

MISSIE'S  
Floral Shop

Wishing You—Our Friends

A MERRY CHRISTMAS

and

A HAPPY NEW YEAR

NOOK CAFE

## A HAPPY HOLIDAY SEASON TO ONE AND ALL

Accept our best wishes for a cheery Christmas and a New Year of Good luck.

We think of you all during the year but this season gives us the opportunity to express our appreciation and hearty thanks for your loyalty and patronage.

Ferrier's Service  
Station

## GREETINGS!

Dear Friends:

Christmas Gives Us  
An Opportunity . . . .

. . . . to tell you how sincerely we appreciate your business and your friendship.

Along with the Christmas Season comes the rude awakening of how neglectful we have been in expressing our feelings of friendship and good will toward folk like you.

Three hundred and sixty-four days out of the year all of us are absorbed in business. But on one day we forget all this, and think of others.

We'll be thinking of you and our other friends, who have made it possible for us to enjoy Christmas. We'll be thinking how fortunate we are to have your confidence and friendship. And we promise to leave no stone unturned in the years ahead to merit a continuance of this confidence.

And we're wishing you a very Merry Christmas, with a big 1948 that will reward you richly.

Sincerely,

TOM'S WRECKING SHOP



In This Joyous Season  
of Christmas

we want to renew all our old friendships, want each of you to feel your importance to us, and to realize that without you the story would have been quite different.

A very Merry Christmas to all of you, friendly people of this community!

ED'S CAFE



● We wish we could send a gift to each of you in appreciation of your confidence and friendliness during the past year. Instead, however, we must content ourselves with extending the simple wish that you may enjoy the best life has to offer now and in the months to come.

La Rue Beauty Shop

ALBERTA LA RUE -:- HOPE PATTERSON

## OUR PERSONAL GREETING TO EACH OF YOU —OUR FRIENDS

We have all heard the old adage that we get out of a thing about what we put into it. Let's put something into this wonderful holiday season and we feel sure the returns will be great.

We have an "extra special" big wish for a glorious Christmas and a Bright and Prosperous New Year for you.

We shall make it our goal to please you and be worthy of your patronage.

PALMER TIRE & APPLIANCE CO.

AND

YOUR MAGNOLIA DEALER

NOLAN PALMER



Christmas! No vaunting phrases can truly carry the meaning of that word, no marching adjectives picture its fulfillment. Its being and expression must ever lie in the simple words of the prophets, in the unpretentious but meaningful phrases of the Men of Galilee:

"ON EARTH PEACE,  
GOOD WILL TO MEN."

WEST'S AUTO SUPPLY STORE  
"Serving the Car Owner Since 1914"  
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