

Merry Christmas

Your Hometown Newspaper

THE MERKEL MAIL

VOL. 61—NO. 37

MERKEL, TEXAS, FRIDAY DECEMBER 22, 1950

On the "Broadway of America"

5c PER COPY

Oil Play Continues Good In Merkel Area

Two offsets to the Jim Wade No. 1 wildcat five miles northwest of town are scheduled to be drilled as new year's projects. The No. 1 G. W. Hobbs, L. L. Horne, has been spotted to go 4,700 feet with rotary. Mr. O. L. Harwell is jubilant over a new slush pit being dug on his place due west of the Wade producer.

The Geochemical Surveys Charlie Russell No. 1 is drilling at 5034 feet

Thursday morning headed for the Caddo pay, next test.

Well is assured on the Graves estate, American Trading Co. in the Stanley Field but has not been drilled in, having been cemented Tuesday.

The wildcat, Smith Estate north of Trent was plugged and abandoned. The D. and E. McLean, No. 1 Cook test, was again plugged and abandoned.

A drill-stem test on the Meeks, D. & E. and Exploration Norman Fitzgerald, was taken Wednesday where production is assured and it is expected that the big rig will be moved over to the new McLean well, north east corner of the estate which set surface casing last week and cable tools moved in to complete the Meeks.

Humble is drilling around 2,000 feet on the Johnny Sears Snyder No. 13.

Roark and Hoker is drilling at 1900 on the Odell Eoff No. 9 but no report on the American Trading Co. Foy No. 1 could be obtained.

Ray Wilson Motel Grand Opening May Be Valentine Day

Judging from the apparent progress being made by the building contractor, it is possible the Ray Wilson Motel may be ready for occupancy before the date set for its completion.

The excellent building weather has been greatly in their favor and every advantage has been taken of this fact. The roofing will soon be completed and then will come the inside finishing work.

This modern Motel will fill a long-felt want in Merkel and will no doubt attract many oil scouts and traveling men who now crowd into the nearby larger towns as they seek accommodation.

Mr. Wilson says he expects soon to begin receiving shipments of the furniture and fixtures and if everything continues to click as it has during recent weeks it may be he will be ready for his grand opening and the showing of the new courts by Saint Valentine day.

The Motel is on Highway 80 just west of town. Drive by and give it the once over.

Walter Boden Dies Thursday; Burial Today at Rose Hill

Walter Boden, 72, died Thursday morning at the Sadler hospital, following an operation.

His burial will be from the Starbuck Funeral Home at 2 p.m. today (Friday) with interment in Rose Hill Cemetery.

Mr. Boden was born in Tennessee April 18, 1878, moving to Texas many years ago and was a long-time resident of Merkel.

In 1929 he was married to Miss Myrtle Toombs and to this union was born one son, now deceased.

Other survivors include three brothers, J. B. Boden of Anaheim, Cal., Hurley Boden of Shep, Texas, and O. B. Boden of Merkel; one sister, Mrs. J. F. Abernathy of Merkel, one granddaughter, Mrs. Ovie Day of Chandler, Okla., and two great grandchildren.

Rev. Joe Allen, pastor of the First Baptist church will officiate at the funeral.

J. W. Bounds Dead; Was Former Merkelite

J. W. Bounds, a former resident of Merkel, was killed in an automobile accident near Post last Wednesday.

Mr. and Mrs. Bounds were enroute to their home in Ruidoso, N. M., when their car was in collision with another. Mr. Bounds died a few hours later in a Lubbock hospital and Mrs. Bounds is in a critical condition.

Many people in Merkel will remember Mr. and Mrs. Bounds as they were well and favorably known. Mr. Bounds was a pharmacist and connected with drug stores here.

Badger Co. Feast Employees; Give Bonus Checks

Mr. and Mrs. Jack Miller of the Badger Chevrolet Co. were hosts Tuesday evening to all officers and employees and their families of the company at a turkey dinner. The dinner was given in the show rooms of the new Badger building.

Manager Jack Miller presided over the banquet and acted as toastmaster. A review of the past year's business was given and some of the aims for the coming year were discussed.

As a whole, however, the get-together was a social one and the enjoyment of the wholesome food and the good cheer was uppermost.

At the conclusion of the banquet the employees exchanged gifts among themselves, and then Manager Jack Miller made all hearts glad by presenting nice gifts to all the women and children and substantial bonus checks to all employees.

The following employees and families were present to enjoy the Miller's hospitality: Mr. and Mrs. Earl Miller, Mr. and Mrs. Miller Patton, Mr. and Mrs. Calvin Peterson, Mr. and Mrs. John Brown, Mr. and Mrs. C. B. Rust, Mr. and Mrs. Truett Thompson, Mr. and Mrs. Ross Phillips, Mr. and Mrs. C. O. Mundy, Mr. and Mrs. Albert Chancy, Mr. and Mrs. Maurice Thompson, Mrs. Ruth Fiffle and Donna of Abilene, and the ever-smiling Manuel Sebastian Pancho.

Corvin Leverich Killed in Accident

Corvin Leverich, a former resident of Merkel, was killed in an oil field accident at Penwell, Texas, Wednesday.

When informed of the accident his mother-in-law, Mrs. Earl Stamford, and her son, Jack Stamford, suffered a heart attack and are now in a hospital at Odessa.

Mr. Leverich was a nephew of Mrs. N. D. Cobb, Merkel justice of the peace, and Mrs. Cobb left Thursday for Odessa to be with the family.

At this writing funeral arrangements are incomplete.

Local V. F. W. Post Act Santa Sunday

The local V. F. W. post will act as Santa Claus to widows and orphans of veterans and to others. They will distribute gifts Sunday, according to R. D. Ely, local commander.

Safety Was Their No. 1 Crop



Charles F. Kettering, world-famed inventor and research consultant to General Motors, came to Chicago to address the 29th annual National 4-H Club Congress and also a time off to congratulate eight farm youths who each won \$300 college scholarships plus a free trip to Chicago as the guests of General Motors for their outstanding contributions to farm safety. GM has sponsored the 4-H Farm Safety program for the last six years. Left to right are: Carolyn Younker, of Utah, Milton Spain, of North Carolina, Sally Hornecker, of Oregon, Mr. Kettering, Lawrence Beymer, of Indiana, Virginia McCoy, of Arkansas and Marian Linn, of Ohio. Kneeling are Valerie Logemann, of Minnesota and Vivian Fulton, of New York.

Better Not Shoot Fireworks in City Limits Say Officers

If you have the urge to shoot off a fire cracker, roman candle or any other fire works in the Merkel city limits during Christmas don't do it. You'll surely get into trouble if you do.

All law enforcement officers have been instructed to arrest any violators—and they'll do it.

Not only is it against the law but the fire hazard is so great, due to the long dry spell, that promiscuous shooting of fire works might cause a serious fire.

Don't go to the country to fire them off, either. You might start a grass fire that would destroy many acres of valuable grazing.

If you feel you must do some shooting join the army, marines or navy and give our boys in Korea some help. They need help. We don't need a fire.

Lion Minstrel Set For January 25

The Lions Club minstrel will stage their forthcoming show on Thursday night, January 25. The Queen Theatre will be the scene.

Rehearsals are now in progress and the director, Dr. Houston Byrd, says it is his intention to keep the cast hard at work after the holidays so that everyone will be letter-perfect.

Mrs. Rogers, Former Resident, Dies in N. M.

Her many friends in Merkel will be sorry to learn of the death of Mrs. Ida Rogers at the home of her son-in-law in Artesia, N. M.

Mrs. Rogers lived here several years ago, being engaged in the millinery business, and had many friends and acquaintances throughout this area.

RECORD OF BIRTHS

Girl, to Mr. and Mrs. Miniford McCoy, December 14, 1950.
Girl, to Mr. and Mrs. L. Z. Harp, December 15, 1950.
Girl, to Mr. and Mrs. Walter Tomlinson, December 17, 1950.

Holiday Business Good; Bank Deposits Reaches New High

Business in Merkel throughout the fall and holiday buying has exceeded the expectations of many, we are told.

This is accounted for by the fact that the cotton and feed crops were considerably larger than first estimated and the prices have been good. The summer rains made grass plentiful, cattle fat and prices on all livestock stayed up. There were several flurries in oil activity, with leases and royalties bringing good prices. All this adds up to good business.

Another evidence of Merkel prosperity is reflected in the deposits at the Farmers and Merchants National bank. An all-time high of almost four and one-quarter million dollars has been recorded. Never before did deposits here reach this figure.

Yes, we have much to be grateful for this Christmas of 1950. Let's show it, and look forward to the future with hope despite the lack of rain and the slowly darkening war clouds.

Badgers Win Over Wylie by 62 to 37

Starting at a fast pace and never letting up caused the Merkel Badgers to lead all the way here Tuesday night to down the Wylie Bulldogs in a non-district basketball game, 62-37.

Joe Dell Gregory paced the Badgers attack with 22 points. Stanley Whisenant was high scorer for Wylie with 18 tallies.

Merkel surged to a 25-15 half-time lead and then won going away in the final two quarters.

Merkel's B team also won, winning over the Wylie B five in a preliminary contest, 47-27.

Beyd Moore of Merkel was the game's leading maker with 13 while Bob Kuykendall was high for the Pups with nine.

SINGING AT HEBRON

A singing will be held at the Hebron Baptist church Wednesday, Dec. 27 at 7 p.m. Refreshments will be served following the singing and everyone is invited to attend.

Methodists Plan New Church Buildings

According to an announcement released by the Rev. Hugh H. Hunt, pastor of the First Methodist Church, the congregation voted, Dec. 17, to remodel and refinish their entire church plant and add some additional building by way of an extension on the Sunday School annex.

Formal action was taken in a church conference by the body. The vote was overwhelmingly in favor of the proposed plans. The needs for expansion and remodeling were presented to the church by Mrs. W. S. J. Brown, one of the committee members, who helped to formulate the plans. She presented the pastor who explained the plans in detail. The committee is composed of Louie Her-

ring, chairman, Tom Largent, Dee Grimes, Bill Toombs, Roy Largent, Raymond Ferguson, Mrs. W. S. J. Brown, Miss Mary Collins, Ace Sheppard and Herbert Patterson.

The committee has had under consideration for some time the plans adopted.

The plans call for a bringing of the present annex and the chapel into an architectural conformity with the gothic gables, spire and windows of the main sanctuary; this will be accomplished by remodeling these two wings into an Old English effect. The chapel will be converted into a two story unit for the accommodation of a smaller chapel, two large Sunday School rooms and a pastor's office. The sanctuary will be re-arranged, the altar and pulpit will be in the north, and a beautiful entrance on the south, supported on either side by massive pilasters. The entire sanctuary will be refinished inside and out. The outside will be done in new Perma-Stone. The auxiliary units will be done in Perma-Stone on the first floor, the second stories will be done in stucco with the Old English slats ornamenting the wall and gables.

This overall plan will make of the edifice one of the most beautiful churches in the surrounding counties. The church is more than gratified to announce these improvements and expansions.

The plan also provides for a two story annex as an extension of the present Sunday School facilities. This addition with the converted chapel providing some additional Sunday School rooms will give the church school about 3,000 square feet more floor space than now. A balcony will be built in the south end of the sanctuary and possibly other overflow space will be provided that will accommodate about 500 persons in the sanctuary.

LETTER TO SANTA CLAUS

Dear Santa:
I'm a little boy, 4 years old and I have been a good little old boy. So will you please bring me a blue tricycle, a gun and holster, a football, candies, fruits and nuts. And don't forget all the other little boys and girls. I live at 5th and Rose.

Derrell Hopper

Merkel 20 Years Ago

FROM THE FILES OF THE MERKEL MAIL 20 YEARS AGO

TO OPEN STORE HERE

Adams and Leverette have leased a building in Merkel and will open an implement store in early January with Harry Barnett as manager.

GOODFELLOWS FUND

The Goodfellows wound up their Christmas fund with an amount of \$250.09 raised for spreading cheer to Merkel people.

CHRISTMAS CHEER BOXES

Rev. W. A. Walker was chairman of the committee who distributed gifts of clothes, money and food to the needy from the Christmas cheer boxes from all Merkel business establishments.

CHRISTMAS PARTY

Mr. and Mrs. John Strawn hosted a Christmas party at their home in Trent, honoring the P. W. T. club. Sixteen guests enjoyed their hospitality.

CELEBRATED BIRTHDAY

H. H. Price, who lives near Blair, celebrated his 82nd birthday this week. All his children were present for the joyous occasion as well as

many grandchildren and great grandchildren.

MRS. GARDNER'S FATHER DIES IN INDIANA

Mrs. C. B. Gardner was called to Elmore, Indiana, by the death of her father, W. P. Brown who suffered a heart attack.

VISITS MOTHER

Mrs. Forest Gaither and two daughters are in Elk City, Okla., visiting her mother. Mr. Gaither will join them later.

SIX-INCH SNOW

A 6-inch snow fall covered all Merkel and West Texas 20 years ago and the thermometer reached a low of 16 degrees.

MOVE TO LEVELLAND

J. D. and R. J. Beasley have traded their ranch property near here for an 8000-acre plantation near Level-land and have moved there to start planting.

VISITS WITH SON

Mrs. S. A. Chenault of Houston is the holiday guest of her son, S. D. Gamble and family.

SOCIETY

LAMBDA BETA CHAPTER ENTERTAINS NEW MEMBERS

Lambda Beta Chapter of Beta Sigma Phi entertained their four new members, Helen Plumlee, Jo Barnett, Mary Chaney, and Helen Barlow, Thursday evening in the home of Mrs. Hoyt Byrd.

An initiation ceremony was conducted by old chapter members at the beginning of the evening, after which everyone enjoyed a Christmas tree. Gifts were presented Mrs. Elma McFarland, chapter sponsor, and Mrs. Hoyt Byrd, chapter president by the members.

A refreshment plate of spiced tea, open-face sandwiches, cutas Christmas trees and stars, and pecan crisps was served by the social committee to the four new members, two guests Sara Roughton and Barbara Williams of Zeta Alpha Chapter of Beta Sigma Phi in Abilene; Mrs. McFarland the sponsor, and the following old members: Janice Patterson, Helen Carter, Viola Allred, Evelyn Hill, Mary Nell Winter and Toody Byrd.

INTERMEDIATE G. A. PARTY

Mrs. Buster Horton's lovely home was opened to members of the Intermediate G. A.'s on Monday, Dec. 18, for their Christmas party. Following the program, gifts were exchanged and Mrs. Nim Teaff and Mrs. Horton were presented gifts in appreciation of their efforts as sponsors. The girls visited Mrs. Dodd, a student in who is very ill and sang carols, also delicious decorated Christmas cookies, sandwiches and candy were served by Mrs. Mullins to Barbara Sylvester, Patsy Mullins, Neva Cason, Gloria Teaff, Glenda Petty, Wanda Bradley and Elnovia Holmes.

WOODMAN GIFT PARTY

The Supreme Forest Woodmen Circle, No. 563 of Merkel entertained with a Christmas party for members and their husbands on Monday evening, Dec. 18 in the home of Mrs. J. C. Walton. The rooms were profusely decorated in Yule motif and gifts were distributed from a lighted tree. Mrs. Karl Bonneaux, gifted reader, entertained the guests with a program appropriate to the season and delicious refreshments were served after which a box was packed to send to the Woodman home at Sherman.

Those present were Mr. and Mrs. Gene Tiede from Spokane Washington and Mrs. Earl Teague, visitors and the following members: Mr. and Mrs. Karl Bonneaux, Mr. and Mrs. Charlie Seago, Mr. and Mrs. E. B. Wallace, Mr. and Mrs. Claude Perry, Mr. and Mrs. Carroll Walton, Mesdames Bill Reeves, L. J. Renfro, Alf Walla, Sallie Gant Eula Provine, Era McNiece and Miss Maurine White.

FAREWELL PARTY

The Nubia church was the setting for a community party on Friday evening of last week when friends of two popular couples who formerly lived there but now make their home in Arlington, combined host duties to entertain in their honor Mr. and Mrs. Bill Wallace and Michael together with Mr. and Mrs. Herschel Hammonds and Dale and Gale are visiting here, having been employed in defense work for about two months.

Miss Rose Myrth Lattimer of Abilene was director of indoor games after which each honoree was presented a lovely picture. Refreshments of home-made cookies and coffee was served to 50 guests.

FORTNIGHTLY STUDY CLUB

The Fortnightly Study Club held its annual Christmas party in the home of Mrs. W. T. Sadler Tuesday afternoon. The reception rooms were beautifully decorated in keeping with the holiday season.

Mrs. Johnny Cox opened the program with a prayer for peace. Bitsy West gave the Scripture reading and Mrs. Jim Carter read the Christmas Story as Mrs. Ben Hicks portrayed the story with a chalk drawing. Mrs. Edwin Read played two violin numbers, "O Little Town of Bethlehem" and "Silent Night" with Mrs. Comer Haynes at the piano and club members singing the latter number.

Gifts were exchanged and a refreshment plate of fruit cake, nuts and coffee was served to Bitsy West and the following club members: Mesdames Jim Carter, Ben Hicks, Henry West, Mack Fisher, Hoyt Byrd, Powell Miller, Earl Hughes, Weston West, Carroll Benson, Paul West, Geo. T. Moore, S. D. Gamble, Earl Lassiter, Andy Shouse, Joe Allen, David Gamble, Chester Collinsworth, Grif Barnett, Hugh Hunt, Johnny

Cox, Judd McReynolds, P. C. Wylie, Louie Herring, Comer Haynes, Clyde Bartlett, W. T. Sadler, Edwin Read and Miss Christine Collins.

GARDEN CLUB ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PARTY

The Garden Club's annual Christmas party was held Thursday in the home of Mrs. W. S. J. Brown, with Miss Christine Collins as the leader for the program. Charles Dickens' "A Christmas Carol" set the mood for the occasion when it was beautifully read by Mrs. Stewart Dean. This mood was furthered by Mrs. Andy Shouse when she played variations of "Silent Night" at the piano. Miss Mary Jo McConnell, accompanied by Miss Collins, sang a medley of songs in honor of our soldiers. They included, "I'll be Home for Christmas", "A Yankee Christmas", and "An American Prayer". Everyone joined in the singing of a group of Christmas carols.

The mirror over the mantel-piece of the Brown home reflected the striking arrangement of three white pine trees studded with colored balls and green leaves. Poinsettias also decorated the rooms.

Mrs. Twyman Collins, club president, poured the spiced tea which was part of the refreshment plate served to twenty-three members and guests.

YULE BANQUET FETES COUPLES CLASS

The Comrades Couples class of the First Methodist church held their annual Christmas banquet on Friday evening of last week at the community center. The hall was decorated with a lighted Christmas tree and long banquet tables were centered with holly and red candles.

Mr. Ernest Joyce presided as Master of Ceremonies introducing Mrs. Andy Shouse and Christine Collins and Mrs. Robt. Malone who sang an arrangement of "White Christmas." The invocation was given by Rev. Hugh Hunt after which a sumptuous turkey dinner and other seasonal viands was served buffet-style.

Mrs. Ray Wilson read an original story interspersed with carols led by Cyrus Pee. Gifts were distributed from the tree and Mr. Andy Shouse, teacher was presented a new hat in appreciation of his leadership. Those present were Messrs. and Mesdames William Cypert, Jack Hogan, Clyde Richards, H. A. Knox, Homer Newby, Kennedy Whiteley, Lester Dorton, Robert Malone, Grif Barnett, Virgil Patterson, Cyrus Pee, Stacy Bird, June Hogan, Dan Deene, Louie Herring, Holt Vaughn, Riggs Shepperd, Ray Wilson, Ernest Joyce, Andy Shouse, Vernon Simpson, Weldon Mc-

Aninch, Ben Hicks, Raymond Ferguson, Chester Collinsworth, Rhett Edison and Rev. and Mrs. Hugh Hunt. Youngsters present were Ann Shepperd, Mack Dorton, Claire Richards, Don and Keith Wilson, Paka Newby, Nancy, Mike and Bill Vaughn, Sharon Cypert, Lester Dorton, Jr., Ronnie Barnett, Robert Shouse, John Riggs Shepperd and Carroll Ann Deene.

SUPPER PARTY HELD IN BIRD HOME

The home of Mr. and Mrs. Spencer Bird was beautifully decorated Saturday evening when members of the 84 game club held their annual Christmas party there, in the form of a dinner.

A no-host affair, a delectable turkey menu was enjoyed and entertainment for the evening was informal for Messrs. and Mesdames Earl Hughes, F. Y. Gaither, Raymond Ferguson, Johnny Cox, Herbert Patterson, Andy Shouse, Robert Hicks, Spencer Bird, and Christine Collins, Robert Shouse and James Spencer Bird.

HOLIDAY DINNER

A Yule dinner of lovely appointments was given on Tuesday evening of last week by Mr. and Mrs. Paul West as a prelude to holiday gaily. The entertaining suite was beautifully decorated with festive dress and dinner was served by candle light. The turkey menu was served in three courses and the guest list for this delightful hospitality included Messrs. and Mesdames George T. Moore, Joe Allen, Horace Boney, David Gamble, W. T. Sadler, H. P. Crimm, Pete West, Carroll Benson, Tommy Ellis and Clyde Bartlett.

New Inventory Blanks for sale at The Merkel Mail office.



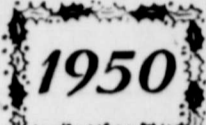
Christmas cheer is in the air— May its joys stay with you always!

Ferrier Service Station

Phone 210



HOLIDAY HAPPINESS FILL YOUR HOMES.



B & B Barber Shop

CHRISTMAS GREETINGS

We would like to take the opportunity offered by this Holiday Season to express to you the feeling of good will and appreciation with which we regard your friendship.

We have enjoyed very much the pleasure of serving you during the past year and hope that our pleasant relationship will long continue.

It is our earnest wish that all that is good shall be yours in the coming year.

Tom's Wrecking Shop



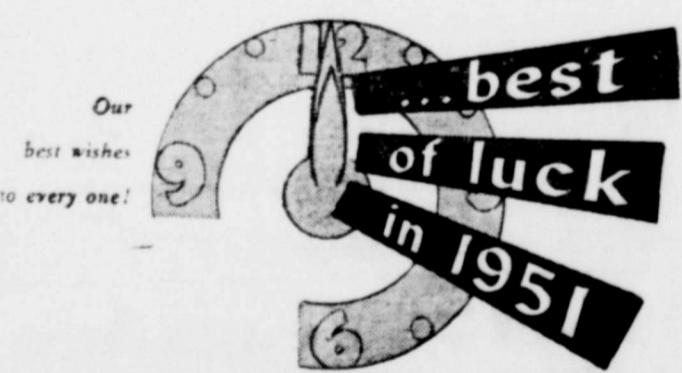
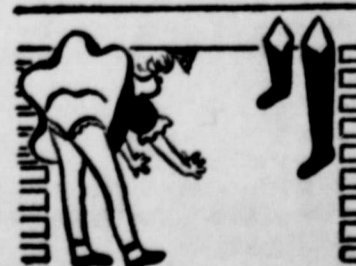
W. B. THOMAS



CHRISTMAS

Santa's sack contains our wishes for your joy and happiness!

Higgins Barber Shop
Pete, Carroll, Dean



DUDLEY RADIO SERVICE

QUANNAH DUDLEY

Phone 13



May every new day bring more happiness than the day before!

SAVE on Holiday Foods

SPECIALS FOR FRIDAY and SATURDAY, DECEMBER 22 & 23

WE HAVE A COMPLETE LINE OF CHRISTMAS FRUITS, & CANDY

Kimbell's Best **FLOUR** 25 lb. print bag **\$1.89**

CHOCOLATE DROPS CANDY, 1 lb. bag	29c	IMPERIAL PURE CANE SUGAR, 10 lbs.	89c
Chocolate Covered CHERRIES CANDY, 1 lb. box	59c	OCEAN SPRAY Cranberry Sauce, can.	15c

Folger's **COFFEE**, lb. **79c**

RED LABEL KARO, pt. btl.	25c	CHARMIN NAPKINS, box	10c
HERSHEY'S COCOA, 1/2 lb.	25c	MISSION PEAS, 303 can	15c
GLADIOA CAKE MIXES, box	39c	SPICED PEACHES, no. 2 1/2 can	25c
PURE PLUM Preserves, qt.	49c	RAISINS, 15 oz. box	31c
CHURCHS Grape Juice, 24 oz. btl.	45c	DEL MONTE PUMPKIN, no. 2 1/2 can	25c

NU-MAID **OLEO** Colored - lb. **29c**

PRODUCE	MARKET		
LARGE LETTUCE, head	12c	FAT DRESSED HENS, lb.	49c
SUNKIST LEMONS, lb.	13c	ARMOUR'S DEXTER BACON, sliced, lb.	45c
GREEN CELERY, stalk	22c	WHOLE FRESH HAMS, lb.	59c
FRESH COCONUTS, each	17c	FRESH DRESSED FRYERS, lb.	51c
FRESH Cranberries, lb.	19c	COUNTRY STYLE SAUSAGE, 1 lb. bag	39c

—We Reserve the Right To Limit Quantities—

CAMPBELL'S GROCERY & MKT.

Phone 173

We Deliver on Mon. & Fri.

Merkel, Texas

Trent Baptist Church Friendship Class Honored With Luncheon At Bright Home

Mrs. Zed Bright honored the Friendship class of the Trent Baptist church at her home last Wednesday, Dec. 13, with a Christmas covered dish luncheon.

Upon entering everyone was presented a small corsage of green and red. The plate favors were small figures of Santa Claus.

After lunch a program was presented by the class president, Mrs. Bruce Hughes. Christmas and sacred songs were sung by Mrs. Odell Freeman and Mrs. Earl Duncan, with Mrs. Hamerick at the piano. Mrs. Freeman read several scriptures and the devotional was offered by Mrs. Riley Fugitt.

Secret pals were revealed and gifts exchanged, and the class teacher, Mrs. Riley Fugitt, was presented gifts from the class. These were especially beautiful and useful.

The affair was most enjoyable with an underlying current of both the Christmas and religious spirit.

Members present were Mrs. Zed Bright and Mrs. Alton Martin as hostesses, and Mesdames Bruce Hughes, Odell Freeman, Earl Duncan and daughter, Hamerick, Foy Steadman and daughter, Henry Martin and daughter, Carl Edwards, W.

O. Steen, Hank Brown, Elmer Freeman and son, Seth Rakes and daughter, Cecil Taylor, Bruce Howell and son, Richard Scott, L. W. Ross and daughter, Percy Scott, George Byron, Alton Martin, Wayne Boyd, Chock Hutcheson and son, Riley Fugitt and the class reporter, Mrs. Jack Bright.

Mrs. Othell Barnhill and daughter, Linda Jane, were visitors from Sweetwater.

At the next class luncheon new officers will be elected as the newly organized couples class has absorbed some of our members.

ANNOUNCE WEDDING PLANS

Mr. and Mrs. R. F. Warren are announcing the engagement and approaching marriage of their daughter, Josephine to Billy Gerald Maxwell, son of Mr. and Mrs. Nath Maxwell, of Noodle. The wedding is to take place in the near future.

CARD OF THANKS

We wish to express our thanks to all those who were so kind and helpful to us during the illness and death of our husband and father. Especially do we thank the doctors and nurses of Sadler hospital.

Mrs. John F. Walker and children, Frances, Leon and Joy.

PRESIDENTIAL PARDONS
The President of the United States has the power to pardon only those persons who have been convicted of crimes under federal law.

BIOLOGICAL WARFARE
Biological warfare is the use of bacteria, fungi, and the toxic pro-

ducts of living organisms to cause disease or death in men, animals, or plants.

GONE GOLD
Ten billion dollars worth of gold, more than half of the metal produced since America was discovered, has been lost in one way or another.



Our heartiest good wishes for your Yuletide joy. 1950

FOWLER & STANLEY
GENERAL CONTRACTORS



We're checking off our Holiday Greetings to you—yes—and you!

FOX REPAIR
Phone 66



WALKER SERVICE STATION
Phone 124



It's the season for jollity. Let's share it.

H & H LAUNDRY
PHONE 34



BEST WISHES
Accept our wishes for a Merry Christmas!

MERKEL CAFE



A sprightly, gay Christmas to you.

GUITAR GIN

W. A. PHILLIPS, Manager



Let carols proclaim our Christmas wish.

1950

MERKEL CO-OP SERVICE STATION
PHONE 9501



May your happiness match the brightness of Yuletide.

Ben Franklin Store

"HOME OWNED — NATIONALLY KNOWN"



We want to say, with deepest sincerity, a very happy holiday to you.

1950

HI-WAY SERVICE STATION

CLAUD PERRY

Newly Organized Couples Class Hold Get-Acquainted Luncheon At Trent Home

The Couples Class of the Trent Baptist church, was honored with a get acquainted supper Tuesday night, December 12 at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Odell Freeman. The food was delicious and the occasion a most enjoyable one.

The table was decorated with a Chinese linen hand embroidered cloth from Hong Kong, China and the center piece was made of cedar, mistle-toe and thorned gum drops to add color. The coffee table was also decorated with the same type center piece. Several gifts were placed around the lovely decorated Christmas tree.

After supper the "Christmas Story" was read from scripture by Mrs. J. B. Winn, Jr. and prayer was offered by Rev. Riley Fugitt.

Everyone joined in the exchanging of gifts and playing games.

Those present were: Mr. and Mrs. Odell Freeman and son, Ronnie as host and hostess, Rev. Riley Fugitt, Sherri and Mickey, Mr. and Mrs. Jack Bright, Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Winn, Jr., Mr. and Mrs. Odell Dickerson.

Jerry and Sue, Mr. and Mrs. Billy Joe Toombs and Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Freeman, Lavaughn, Barbara and Jimmy.

Tye P-TA Sponsors Community Tree

The Tye P-TA is sponsoring a community Christmas tree at the school Friday at 7:30 p.m. There will be fruit and candy for all the children. All who want a gift will bring a gift and register at the door. There will be a Christmas pageant, "Come Let Us Adore Him," given by the school children.

Everyone welcome to attend.

Dimes Fund Covers Polio Treatment

The cost of polio patient care at Gonzales Warm Springs Foundation is borne by Texas chapters of the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis, Ed. S. Stewart of Abilene, chairman of the 1951 Texas March of Dimes, pointed out today.

NFIP chapters in Texas have spent \$187,000 in March of Dimes revenue at the Texas Warm Springs institution through September of this year. The per diem rate by National Foundation chapters for treatment at Gonzales is \$10, exclusive of payments for braces and appliances.

Gonzales is one of the leading Texas facilities for the treatment of polio convalescents. The cost of this care at Gonzales, as at other hospitals, is met by county chapters of the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis through funds received from the March of Dimes.

Ownership Change In Local Hatchery

H. V. Stroud of North Hollywood, Cal., has bought the Arl Sharp Hatchery in Merkel. He has taken over the business and is planning many additions and improvements and just as soon as he can find living quarters will bring his family to Merkel.

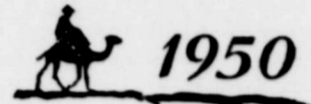
As a boy Mr. Stroud lived near Merkel and at Trent, so is no stranger to this section.

In addition to the hatchery it is Mr. Stroud's intention to carry a full line of chicken feeds and medicines.

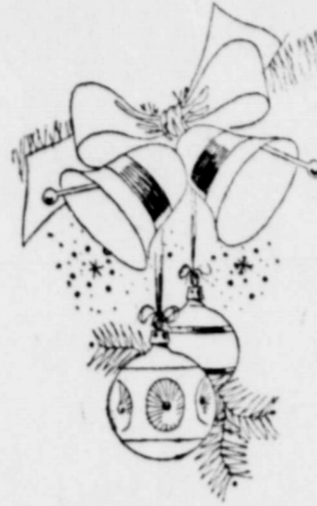
Read the Merkel Mail Want Ads.



The peace of Christmas be yours.



PALMER MOTOR COMPANY



We derive great pleasure in wishing you A HAPPY HOLIDAY!

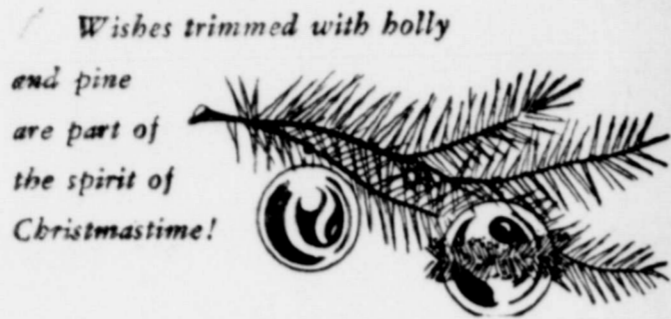
Buck's Shoe Repair



VILLAGE INN GROCERY

Phone 45

Good Fellowship— Good Fortune— at Christmastide



CLYDE'S GARAGE
East Highway 80

ATTENTION!
BABY CHICK BUYERS
PLEASE SEE US AND GET OUR PRICES BEFORE YOU BUY.
STROUD'S HATCHERY

Your Local Hatchery Dealer
235 EDWARDS ST. — MERKEL, TEXAS
Formerly Known as Arl Sharp Hatchery
WE CARRY ALL KINDS OF CHICKEN FEED AND MEDICINES



MAY ALL YOUR CHRISTMASSES BE BRIGHT!

J. L. LOONEY

Humble Service

Merkel, Texas



Yuletide Greetings

In this changing world with its modern tempo . . . it's nice to pause at this holiday season . . . express an old-fashioned greeting that has never changed . . . that is warm, friendly and sincere. "MERRY CHRISTMAS—HAPPY NEW YEAR." From our entire organization.

Hicks Auto Supply

ERNEST C. JOYCE
MARVIN L. PERKINS
CLEMENT S. CAREY
H. P. CRIMM
TED RICHMOND

W. A. WHITELEY, JR.
BEN A. WALTERS
BEN SUBLETT
ELIZABETH HICKS
BEN R. HICKS

ROBERT (BOB) HICKS



May all the wonderful things that go with Christmas be yours in the fullest abundance this year.



From all of us here to all of you—a most happy holiday.

FARMER'S CO-OP SOCIETY No. 1

Morris B. Smith, Manager

Williams Translation of New Testament Now Best Seller Among Religious Volumes

Having lived to see popular acceptance of his own New Testament translation, written in the language of twentieth century Americans and with "no antique words to clutter it," a retired Southern educator and preacher at 82 feels that his long career of scholarship has been rewarded.

He is Dr. Charles B. Williams, who since learning Latin declensions 65 years ago while following the plough on his father's North Carolina farm, rose to become president of Howard College in Birmingham and faculty member of such schools as Baylor and Mercer Universities and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary.

The fruit of his scholarship which has brought him the most happiness in his retirement in Florida is the report of the Moody Press in Chicago that his translation, "The New Testament in the Language of the Common People," has gone into its fourth printing and stands to rank as a "Best Seller" edition among religious volumes.

The aging theologian, author of a dozen other books also, recalls that it took him more than 20 years to turn out the New Testament revision from the original Greek text, and that he started the man-sized task only after one of his seminary students heard him criticize some of the accepted translations and suggested he "turn out a better one."

Although conservative in his theological position, Dr. Williams has not been left behind by the modern



DR. C. B. WILLIAMS

trends in education, and points out that he has taught both sociology and psychology.

"Life has become so complicated that a young preacher starting out today needs the social sciences just as much as he needs New Testament Greek," he observes.

A lifelong Southerner, Dr. Williams traces his ancestry back to Roger Williams, earliest exponent of religious tolerance in America.

Now a partial invalid, the man who was licensed to preach at 17 and whose first teaching job paid him \$20 a month, is satisfied as the twilight of his life approaches.

"I wanted the butcher, the cowboy, the cabdriver, the housewife to have the New Testament in the English expressions they know and use every day," he explains, and then quotes with feeling from a letter received from a reader of his volume who simply said:

"Dr. Williams, you have put the manna down where we can reach it."

TODAY'S LUMBER

During the past generation, the forest economy of the nation has been emerging gradually from one supplied by virgin forests to one of reliance upon growing timber as a crop.

Careful planning of space and equipment in the small home will allow the rooms to be used for more than one activity, yet will provide the space and privacy that every home needs.

BRIDAL BEES
Among unique wedding presents was the hive of bees which the town council of Kacsakmet, Hungary, offered to the newly-married couples housekeeping in the town.



Best wishes for your happiness this Yuletide.

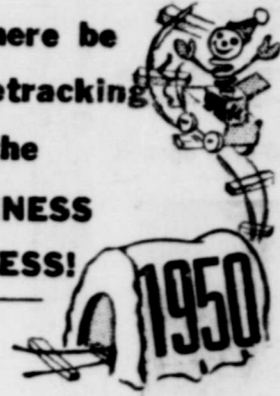
B & D GARAGE

STACY

WRIGHT



May there be no sidetracking of the HAPPINESS EXPRESS!



Mina Winter Butane Gas Co.

FIRST DOOR EAST OF POSTOFFICE

OUT OF GAS?

Gotta Flat?

BATTERY DOWN?

We Call for and Deliver
PALMER MOTOR COMPANY

Phone 159

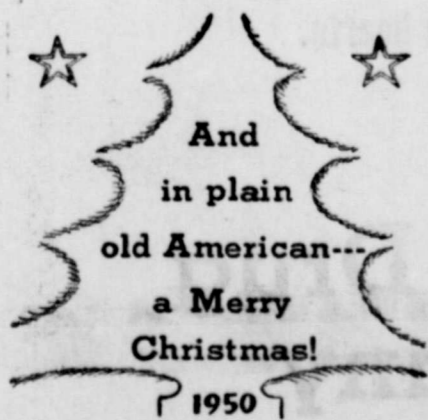
NOTICE INCOME TAX PAYERS

Every person, if single and earning \$600.00 GROSS and married persons earning \$1200.00 GROSS are required to file an income tax report, regardless of how many dependents they have.

If you need my services in making your report I suggest that you call during December, if your books are closed for the year, and have ready to mail in January. Have plenty of new 1950 Income Tax forms.

Come Early
R. O. ANDERSON

Goyous Noel



Mrs. G. D. McConnell

"YOUR WATKINS DEALER"



Come in and see the
New Silver Anniversary

Pontiac



- ① A look at the Car proves its Quality
- ② A look at the Price proves its Value!

Double Proof

that **Dollar for Dollar** you can't beat a **Pontiac!**

In the short time since it was presented, thousands of people have flocked to see the great new Silver Anniversary Pontiac—few cars have ever had a reception to equal this. Most people came to admire, which is natural enough. But a great many people do more than admire, they start figuring—they begin to compare this wonderfully beautiful and desirable car with the modest price tag it bears. The conclusion is obvious—no car, at any price, offers more for every new car dollar you invest than a great new Pontiac! Drop in any time and look at the car—then look at the price—you'll be doubly sure that dollar for dollar, you can't beat a Pontiac!

Palmer Motor Co.

Goodman HD Club Has Christmas Party At McAninch Home

The home of Mrs. Cal McAninch was the scene for the annual Christmas party of the Goodman Home Demonstration club. The all-day meeting was held last Thursday, Dec. 14.

The Christmas motif prevailed throughout in the decoration of the rooms which were lovely in the riot of colors.

The meeting was called to order by the president, Mrs. Frank Carter, at 11:30 a.m., the minutes of the previous meeting were read by the secretary, Mrs. M. G. Goode, which were approved. During the business session Mrs. Carter read a letter received from the Anson club stating Mrs. Harvey had been nominated for vice-president of district seven by the Willow Creek Home Demonstration club. The Goodman club unanimously endorsed Mrs. Harvey for this important post.

After the business meeting the club adjourned to a delicious covered dish luncheon.

The afternoon session was opened

with Mrs. Karl Bonneaux leading the song, "Jingle Bells," after which Mrs. George Crow led in prayer and Mrs. J.W. Tiner gave a devotional which was very interesting.

Games were then played and Mrs. Cal McAninch gave out gifts which revealed club pals, and then new pals were drawn.

Those present for this pleasant Christmas party were two new members, Mrs. T. E. Goode and Mrs. W. L. Phillips; four visitors, Mrs. Wilma Stephens of Alamogordo, N. M., Mrs. J. L. Land of Merkel, and Mrs. Geo. Crow and Miss Mabel McRee of the Union Ridge Home Demonstration club. Members present were Mes-

dames J. C. Washburn, M. G. Goode, Frank Carter, Grover Blair, H. H. Windham, D. R. Butler, J. W. Tiner, H. C. Barnwell, Ivy Sadberry, Karl Bonneaux, and the hostess. Several children also were present.

The next meeting will be in the home of Mrs. H. C. Barnwell at the Goodman store in January.

Read the Merkel Mail Want Ads.

to Relieve
Misery of
COLDS
take **666**
LIQUID OR TABLETS - SAME FAST RELIEF

Merry Christmas

Happy New Year

We treasure
most the
privilege of
serving you
this coming
year.



EDD'S CAFE



WEE WINKER—Marilyn Koenig of Holland, Mich., awoke one morning to find this baby screech owl peering through her window. When a photographer arrived to obtain graphic evidence of the peeping tom, the small screecher added one more offense to his record: he winked at Marilyn.

Times Have Changed



There was a time not very many years ago when Santa had quite a bit of trouble giving away his electrical appliances and equipment around here. Few farms had the lifeblood of Willie, the Wired Hand—electric power.

Times have changed. Santa can now drop off those stoves, refrigerators, vacuum cleaners, irons and other tools of modern living almost anywhere in this area. Willie, the Wired Hand, is ready to take over just about any new chore on Christmas morning. And he

can be counted on to keep at it throughout all of the new years to come.

As a locally-owned, locally-controlled business with its roots and heart right here, we're mighty proud of the help we've given Santa. And we surely appreciate all of the help and friendship this community has given us. We can put our heart into it when we wish you all the season's very best.

Taylor Electric Coop, Inc.

SERVING FARM AND RANCH HOMES IN SEVEN COUNTIES

OFFICE, MERKEL, TEXAS



The happiness
shop is in full
production
building Yuletide
cheer...

BADGER CHEVROLET

Phone 123 **COMPANY** Merkel



Let a holiday spirit prevail, and
giver and receiver alike cherish
the happiest Christmas ever.



May the faith of the
children be strong in
your hearts.

**Merkel Drug
Company**

Brown's Annual Yule Log Party Given at Noodle Ranch Lodge

Continuing a custom started seven-teen years ago, Mr. and Mrs. W. S. J. Brown entertained ten couples with a Yule log party at their Noodle Hereford ranch, Monday night, December 18. Without this traditional party Merkel Christmas social season would not be complete.

The beautiful lodge was decorated appropriate of the occasion in a profusion of lights and tinsels. In its usual place in the Southwest corner of the long room stood a stately tree towering above the split pine logs into the ceiling glittering amid its festive ornaments. A crackling fire in the huge fireplace gave both light and warming cheer. The mantle, also of split pine logs, held baskets of pine needles and burrs. Above the mantle anchored to the rock chimney was the old mounted American eagle, killed by Mr. Brown many years ago on the ranch. In the center of the room was the dining table with accommodation for twenty two people. Many expressed the opinion that the table, this year decorated by Mrs. W. T. Sadler and Mrs. Roy Largent, was the most beautiful and unusual of any previous occasion.

On the center piece on a slightly raised platform of artificial snow stood little figures of choir girls, with ruffled skirts of red and green; across their chests were written a few bars of the music of "Noel, Noel". Place cards were attached to sprigs of green holly with red berries. Napkins and table cloth with matching Christmas designs covered the table that was loaded with food in abundance.

After the meal couples found their partners by matching Christmas cards cut in various shapes to hunt for the Yule log decorated and hidden by Mr. and Mrs. Johnny Cox Mrs. W. S. J. Brown and escort Booth Warren were first to locate the log. Contrary to custom the bonfire and fire works were omitted due to hazards of fire in the tall dry grass. The hollow log that has been redecorated and used over and over for many years was carried back to the lodge by the finders.

The carol singing was led by Yates Brown and Mrs. V. P. Tippet. Then gifts that were piled under the Christmas tree were distributed by Johnny Cox acting as Santa Claus.

Shortly after the stroke of twelve guests registered in the log book, assuring the gracious host and hostess that this party was the most enjoyable of any previous year and looking forward to next year.

Those enjoying the hospitality of the Browns were Messrs. and Mesdames E. Yates Brown, Midland, V. P. Tippet, San Angelo, Booth Warren,

Tom Largent, Lige Gamble, Roy Largent, Dee Grimes, Willie Joe Largent, Johnny Cox, and Dr. and Mrs. W. T. Sadler.

"Emergency Wedding" Stars Larry Parks

Larry Parks and Barbara Hale join hands in a mile-a-minute dash to the nearest justice of the peace in "Emergency Wedding," Columbia Pictures' new production coming to the Queen Theatre Sunday.

The Parks-Hale combination, so popular in "Jolson Sings Again," are given a happy vehicle for their talents in "Emergency Wedding," comedy of a boy and girl who fall in love fast and get married even faster. The bride, however, doesn't stay for breakfast, and that's where the fun begins.

Willard Parker, Una Merkel and Alan Reed head the supporting cast of the new film.

INLAND PORT

Although Pittsburgh, Penna. is only an inland river port, it is larger than most of the seaports of the United States and handles more water-borne freight than Philadelphia, San Francisco, or Los Angeles.

Fidelis Matrons Christmas Social

The home of Mr. and Mrs. Buster Horton was the scene of a merry party on Thursday evening, Dec. 14, when members of the Fidelis Matrons Sunday school class of the Baptist church entertained there with their Christmas social. A brilliant lighted tree displayed gifts of toys which were donated to the new nursery, soon to be in operation. Mrs. Nim Teaff was presented a linen table cloth and napkins and games of "42" progressed until the refreshment hour when delectable date pudding and hot drink was served to the following: Messrs. and Mesdames Dean Higgins, David Gamble, Truett Jones, Joe Allen, Horace Boney, Pete Mullins, Bob Fowler, Gordon Pursley, Pete Petty, Nim Teaff, Jarrett Pinckley, Buck Leach, Geo. T. Moore, Paul West, Bud McKeever, E. B. Wallace, Charles Sylvester, Davis Hobday, Mesdames Joe Higgins and Bill Hayes.

Cash Register paper now on sale at the Mail Office.



NOOK CAFE
Ed Wilson



We wish you well this season.

TOOMBS & MOORE

Merry Christmas



A bottom-of-the-heart wish for Holiday happiness.

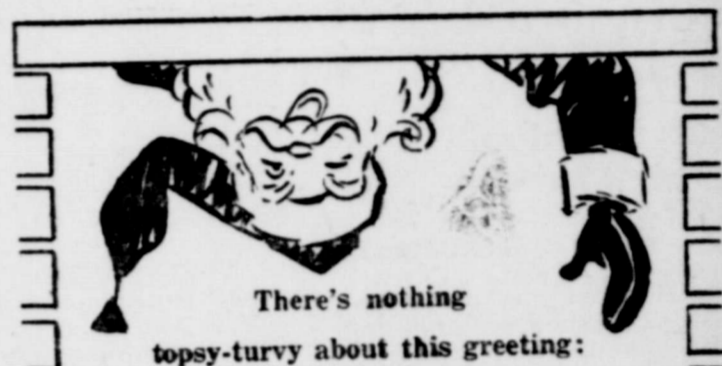
1950

Doan Grocery



HAPPINESS RULE YOUR HOMES THIS SEASON.

Dowdy & Toombs



There's nothing topsy-turvy about this greeting: here's a straight-forward wish that your Christmas be happy and gay!

C. R. (Rufus) TITTLE



Kind and generous may the New Year be for you



L. A. Coats



Yule Greetings

SADLER CLINIC-HOSPITAL

May an abundance of good-will, good cheer, happiness and prosperity bless your home during the holiday season and in the New Year to come.

Goodman HD Club Has Christmas Party At McAninch Home

The home of Mrs. Cal McAninch was the scene for the annual Christmas party of the Goodman Home Demonstration club. The all-day meeting was held last Thursday, Dec. 14.

The Christmas motif prevailed throughout in the decoration of the rooms which were lovely in the riot of colors.

The meeting was called to order by the president, Mrs. Frank Carter, at 11:30 a.m., the minutes of the previous meeting were read by the secretary, Mrs. M. G. Goode, which were approved. During the business session Mrs. Carter read a letter received from the Anson club stating Mrs. Harvey had been nominated for vice-president of district seven by the Willow Creek Home Demonstration club. The Goodman club unanimously endorsed Mrs. Harvey for this important post.

After the business meeting the club adjourned to a delicious covered dish luncheon.

The afternoon session was opened

with Mrs. Karl Bonneaux leading the song, "Jingle Bells," after which Mrs. George Crow led in prayer and Mrs. J.W. Tiner gave a devotional which was very interesting.

Games were then played and Mrs. Cal McAninch gave out gifts which revealed club pals, and then new pals were drawn.

Those present for this pleasant Christmas party were two new members, Mrs. T. E. Goode and Mrs. W. L. Phillips; four visitors, Mrs. Wilma Stephens of Alamogordo, N. M., Mrs. J. L. Land of Merkel, and Mrs. Geo. Crow and Miss Mabel McRee of the Union Ridge Home Demonstration club. Members present were Mes-

sames J. C. Washburn, M. G. Goode, Frank Carter, Grover Blair, H. H. Windham, D. R. Butler, J. W. Tiner, H. C. Barnwell, Ivy Sadberry, Karl Bonneaux, and the hostess. Several children also were present.

The next meeting will be in the home of Mrs. H. C. Barnwell at the Goodman store in January.

Read the Merkel Mail Want Ads.

to Relieve
Misery of
COLDS
take **666**
LIQUID OR TABLETS - SAME FAST RELIEF

Merry Christmas

Happy New Year

We treasure
most the
privilege of
serving you
this coming
year.



EDD'S CAFE



WEE WINKER—Marilyn Koenig of Holland, Mich., awoke one morning to find this baby screech owl peering through her window. When a photographer arrived to obtain graphic evidence of the peeping tom, the small screecher added one more offense to his record: he winked at Marilyn.

Times Have Changed



There was a time not very many years ago when Santa had quite a bit of trouble giving away his electrical appliances and equipment around here. Few farms had the lifeblood of Willie, the Wired Hand—electric power.

Times have changed. Santa can now drop off those stoves, refrigerators, vacuum cleaners, irons and other tools of modern living almost anywhere in this area. Willie, the Wired Hand, is ready to take over just about any new chore on Christmas morning. And he

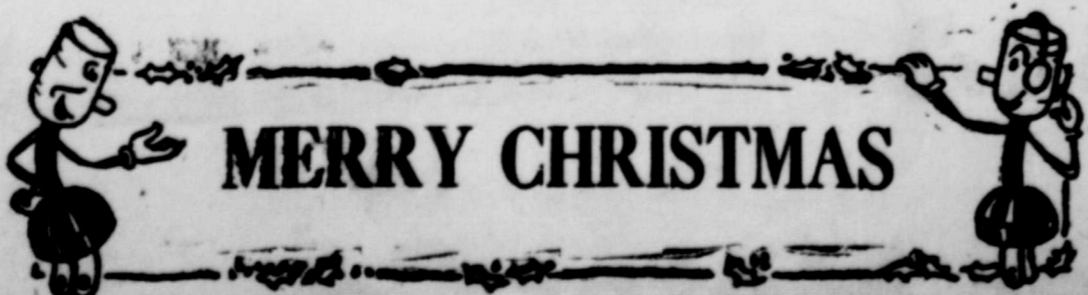
can be counted on to keep at it throughout all of the new years to come.

As a locally-owned, locally-controlled business with its roots and heart right here, we're mighty proud of the help we've given Santa. And we surely appreciate all of the help and friendship this community has given us. We can put our heart into it when we wish you all the season's very best.

Taylor Electric Coop, Inc.

SERVING FARM AND RANCH HOMES IN SEVEN COUNTIES

OFFICE, MERKEL, TEXAS



The happiness shop is in full production building Yuletide cheer...

BADGER CHEVROLET
Phone 123 **COMPANY** Merkel



Let a holiday spirit prevail, and giver and receiver alike cherish the happiest Christmas ever.

May the faith of the children be strong in your hearts.

Merkel Drug Company

Brown's Annual Yule Log Party Given at Noodle Ranch Lodge

Continuing a custom started seven-teen years ago, Mr. and Mrs. W. S. J. Brown entertained ten couples with a Yule log party at their Noodle Hereford ranch, Monday night, December 18. Without this traditional party Merkel Christmas social season would not be complete.

The beautiful lodge was decorated appropriate of the occasion in a profusion of lights and tinsels. In its usual place in the Southwest corner of the long room stood a stately tree towering above the split pine logs into the ceiling glittering amid its festive ornaments. A crackling fire in the huge fireplace gave both light and warming cheer. The mantle, also of split pine logs, held baskets of pine needles and burrs. Above the mantle anchored to the rock chimney was the old mounted American eagle, killed by Mr. Brown many years ago on the ranch. In the center of the room was the dining table with accommodation for twenty two people. Many expressed the opinion that the table, this year decorated by Mrs. W. T. Sadler and Mrs. Roy Largent, was the most beautiful and unusual of any previous occasion.

On the center piece on a slightly raised platform of artificial snow stood little figures of choir girls, with ruffled skirts of red and green; across their chests were written a

few bars of the music of "Noel, Noel". Place cards were attached to sprigs of green holly with red berries. Napkins and table cloth with matching Christmas designs covered the table that was loaded with food in abundance.

After the meal couples found their partners by matching Christmas cards cut in various shapes to hunt for the Yule log decorated and hidden by Mr. and Mrs. Johnny Cox Mrs. W. S. J. Brown and escort Booth Warren were first to locate the log. Contrary to custom the bonfire and fire works were omitted due to hazards of fire in the tall dry grass. The hollow log that has been redecorated and used over and over for many years was carried back to the lodge by the finders.

The carol singing was led by Yates Brown and Mrs. V. P. Tippet. Then gifts that were piled under the Christmas tree were distributed by Johnny Cox acting as Santa Claus.

Shortly after the stroke of twelve guests registered in the log book, assuring the gracious host and hostess that this party was the most enjoyable of any previous year and looking forward to next year.

Those enjoying the hospitality of the Browns were Messrs. and Mesdames E. Yates Brown, Midland, V. P. Tippet, San Angelo, Booth Warren,

Tom Largent, Lige Gamble, Roy Largent, Dee Grimes, Willie Joe Largent, Johnny Cox, and Dr. and Mrs. W. T. Sadler.

"Emergency Wedding" Stars Larry Parks

Larry Parks and Barbara Hale join hands in a mile-a-minute dash to the nearest justice of the peace in "Emergency Wedding," Columbia Pictures' new production coming to the Queen Theatre Sunday.

The Parks-Hale combination, so popular in "Jolson Sings Again," are given a happy vehicle for their talents in "Emergency Wedding," comedy of a boy and girl who fall in love fast and get married even faster. The bride, however, doesn't stay for breakfast, and that's where the fun begins.

Willard Parker, Una Merkel and Alan Reed head the supporting cast of the new film.

INLAND PORT

Although Pittsburgh, Penna., is only an inland river port, it is larger than most of the seaports of the United States and handles more water-borne freight than Philadelphia, San Francisco, or Los Angeles.

Fidelis Matrons Christmas Social

The home of Mr. and Mrs. Buster Horton was the scene of a merry party on Thursday evening, Dec. 14, when members of the Fidelis Matrons Sunday school class of the Baptist church entertained there with their Christmas social. A brilliant lighted tree displayed gifts of toys which were donated to the new nursery soon to be in operation. Mrs. Nim Teaff was presented a linen table cloth and napkins and games of "42" progressed until the refreshment hour when delectable date pudding and hot drink was served to the following: Messrs. and Mesdames Dean Higgins, David Gamble, Truett Jones, Joe Allen, Horace Boney, Pete Mullins, Bob Fowler, Gordon Pursley, Pete Petty, Nim Teaff, Jarrett Pinckley, Buck Leach, Geo. T. Moore, Paul West, Bud McKeever, E. B. Wallace, Charles Sylvester, Davis Hobday, Mesdames Joe Higgins and Bill Hayes.

Cash Register paper now on sale at the Mail Office.



May all of you be happy and Christmas-gay!

NOOK CAFE
Ed Wilson



We wish you well this season.

TOOMBS & MOORE

Merry Christmas



A bottom-of-the-heart wish for Holiday happiness.

1950

Doan Grocery



HAPPINESS RULE YOUR HOMES THIS SEASON.

Dowdy & Toombs



There's nothing topsy-turvy about this greeting: here's a straight-forward wish that your Christmas be happy and gay!

C. R. (Rufus) TITTLE



Kind and generous may the New Year be for you



L. A. Coats



Yule Greetings

SADLER CLINIC-HOSPITAL

May an abundance of good-will, good cheer, happiness and prosperity bless your home during the holiday season and in the New Year to come.

Gleaners Party Wednesday At Largent Home

Members of the Gleaner Sunday school class of the Methodist church annually hold their Christmas party in the home of Mrs. Tom Largent whenever possible, since Mrs. Largent's prestige as a hostess even exceeds the attractiveness of the home in its beautiful Christmas dress. This luncheon was held last Wednesday amid a profusion of cut flowers, popcorn balls and Yule symbols arranged throughout the rooms. The turkey menu was served at high noon. Mrs. Clyde Sears of Abilene giving the invocation. Mrs. Dee Grimes class president introduced Mrs. H. H. Hunt who reviewed "Precious Jeopardy" by Lloyd C. Douglas after which a marvelous musical program was rendered by Mrs. Homer Patterson, Mrs. C. B. Gardner and Don Wood, in early Carols and excerpts from the Messiah.

Gifts were exchanged by the following from Abilene Mesdames Eli Case, Ona Johnson, Chester Imes and Clyde Sears, ex-members from Abilene and the following guests from Merkel. Mrs. Willie Joe Largent, W. U. Shannon and H. H. Hunt. Class members present were: Mesdames F. Y. Gaither, W. W. Toombs, Denzel Cox, Sally Gant, Lee Tipton, Kenneth Pee, Jack Miller, D. H. Vaughn, Homer Patterson, W. S. J. Brown, Dee Grimes, Lu Petty, Ross Ferrier, Mossie Hatfield, O. R. Douglas, Robert Hicks, Herbert Patterson, Winnie Cypert, J. R. Ingram, Kate Masters, John Shannon, Tom Largent, R. B. Bland, Roy Bacus, Misses Mabel McRee and Connie Pogue.

"Rocky Mountain" At Queen Thursday

For the first time in Warner Bros. history, a picture has been filmed without a single interior.

"Rocky Mountain," an adventure drama starring Errol Flynn, starting Thursday at the Queen Theatre, was filmed in its entirety in the outdoors near Gallup, New Mexico.

The entire action took place on a mountain and the surrounding desert in the space of two days and two nights. There was not even so much as a single structure of any kind that is seen in the film.

JOINED AIR CORPS

Hollis McLean, son of Mr. and Mrs. Dewell McLean volunteered for two years service in the Air Corps. He took his physical examination Tuesday and left for San Antonio Wednesday where he will take his basic

Bon Bon Tarts For Christmas



Christmas cheer in a tart shell is what you'll call this elegant egg nog chiffon in chocolate candy cups. The creamy richness of egg nog and the fluffiness of unflavored gelatine make a filling to delight Santa himself, with a chocolate shell added for real luxury.

The egg nog filling has the delicate texture which you can always count on in gel-cookery.

Egg Nog Filling

1 envelope unflavored gelatine 1/4 teaspoon salt
3/4 cup cold water 1 1/2 cups scalded milk
3 eggs separated 2 teaspoons rum flavoring
1/2 cup sugar 1/2 teaspoon vanilla

Soften gelatine in cold water. Beat egg yolks slightly in top of double boiler; add 1/4 cup of the sugar and salt. Gradually stir in scalded milk. Cook, stirring constantly, over very hot water until mixture coats a metal spoon. Add softened gelatine, rum flavoring and vanilla, and stir until dissolved. Chill until the mixture is slightly thicker than the consistency of an unbeaten egg white. Beat egg whites until stiff; gradually beat in remaining 1/4 cup sugar. Fold into custard. Spoon into chocolate tart shells. Decorate in Christmas motif.

Bon Bon Tarts

1 package semi-sweet chocolate 2 tablespoons shortening
Place semi-sweet chocolate morsels and shortening in a pint measuring cup; place in water in a saucepan, or in the top of double boiler. Melt over hot, not boiling water, to prevent steam from condensing inside cup and prevent chocolate from thickening. Stir occasionally until melted. Place 8 2-inch paper baking cups in muffin pan. Divide equal amounts of chocolate among baking cups. Swirl completely around sides and bottom of cups with back of a teaspoon. Store in refrigerator for several hours or in the freezing compartment for 36 minutes. To remove paper, pull around sides from left to right, and then from bottom. YIELD: 8 Bon Bon Tarts.

VISITS PARENTS

Pvt. Neil Byrom, son of Mr. and Mrs. V. P. Byrom, who is stationed at Ladd Field, Fairbanks, Alaska arrived in Merkel December 15 where he will visit friends and relatives during the holidays. He has been stationed in Alaska the past year and half and will report back there for duty on January 10. It has been two years since he has been home to visit his parents.



To All
Far and Near

MERKEL HOTEL

Phone 197



C. F. CURB
Gulf Products



In the Spirit
of the Season!

May every moment of your holiday
be filled with gaiety and happiness!

IRA CROSS

Cherished in our hearts, the greatest holiday of all renews its happiness each year. A very Merry Christmas.

Sallie Gant

Merry
Christmas



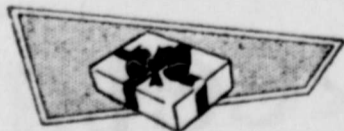
The true
peace and
joy of the
season be
with you...



Joyce Fabric
Shop

Merry
Christmas
1950

MAY ALL
THE SEASON'S BEST
BE YOURS
THIS CHRISTMASTIME.



MERRITT PLUMBING

Merry

Christmas

AND MAY YOUR NEW
YEAR BE A HAPPY
AND PROSPEROUS ONE

PATTERSON GRAIN

J. A. PATTERSON CLESBY PATTERSON

Heads Texas Retailers



WILLIAM J. BROWN, head of Titcher-Goettinger Co., Dallas, is the newly elected president of the Council of Texas Retailers' Associations. The Council, a federation of 11 statewide retail associations whose members number some 26,000 merchants and businessmen throughout Texas, has announced that it will oppose needless spending in state government and a state sales tax, state income tax or similar taxes in Texas.

Other newly elected officers are vice-presidents R. C. Houlihan, Ft. Worth and R. Don Herod, Houston and secretary-treasurer, H. E. Dill, Dallas.

Home Clubs Hold Annual Christmas Party in Merkel

Last Friday afternoon Merkel was host to the Taylor County Home Demonstration Council at the Merkel Community Center. The occasion was the annual Christmas party of the clubs comprising the council.

The building was beautifully decorated, the work of the Blue Bonnet, Union Ridge and Merkel Home Demonstration clubs.

Mrs. Lee Strother, chairman of the recreation committee, directed the games, and in this she was assisted by Mrs. Roy Vernon of Rogers and Mable McRee of Union Ridge.

Refreshments were prepared by the Union Ridge, Blue Bonnet and Merkel clubs, who also served. The Ovalo club made the plate favors, which were small candles on cranberry holders and tied with red ribbon. The Ovalo club was also in charge of registration of guests and the gifts which were turned over to Santa Claus for distribution.

Mrs. Edgar Holly of Potosi led the group in the singing of Christmas Carols. She was accompanied by Mrs. Sam McLeod of Union Ridge.

The concluding ceremony was the lighting of the favor candles by

everyone present. Soft music with a Christmas theme was played while all bowed in silent prayer.

Just before adjournment a brief goodbye speech was made by Miss Annie Lucy Lane, the county home demonstration agent. She leaves shortly for Stephenville where she will be agent for that district.

Clubs represented at this enjoyable meeting included Union Ridge, Merkel, Blue Bonnet, Lake Abilene, Hamby, Pleasant Hill, Ovalo, Wylie, Potosi and Rogers.

In addition to the sixty-six mem-

bers of these clubs there were about twenty guests present for the occasion.

**Let Us Do Your
Job Printing
Prompt Service**

—Visit With Us Regularly—

HIWAY SERVICE STATION

CLAUD PERRY, Owner

Pick-up and Delivery Service—PHONE 9500

—THAT GOOD GULF GASOLINE—

Expert Washing and Greasing

1302 So. 1st — On Highway 80 — West

Merry Christmas

and

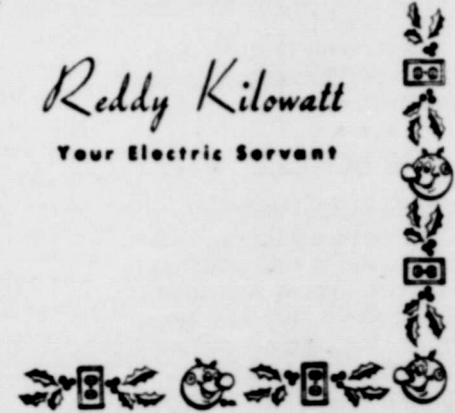
A HAPPY NEW YEAR

Santa Claus is coming to town and all of us at your electric service company hope that he will leave for you and your family a bag full of Yuletide happiness and joy. "May your New Year bring peace and prosperity" is our sincerest wish.

Reddy Kilowatt
Your Electric Servant



**West Texas Utilities
Company**



Merry Christmas

Good friends,
let us be
thankful for
this gracious
season.
1950



HIGGINS & SON

"PURE MILK"

SEASON'S



We're deeply grateful for the gift of your friendship.

LEMENS BROS. SERVICE STATION

Phillips "66"

Merry Christmas
1950

To all the good people of our town we wish the sum of all happiness.

Let us share the joy of the season without stint

West Company

Your Friends For Sixty Years

The Merkel Mail

Published Every Friday Morning
I. M. BOOKMAN, Publisher
Entered at the postoffice at Merkel, Texas, as second class mail.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES
Taylor and Jones Counties \$2.00
Elsewhere \$2.50

Advertising Rates On Application
TELEPHONE No. 61

Any erroneous reflection upon the character, standing or reputation of any person, firm or corporation which may occur in the columns of THE MERKEL MAIL, will be gladly corrected upon being called to the attention of the editor.

The publisher is not responsible for copy, omissions, typographical errors or any unintentional errors that may occur other than to correct in the next issue after it is brought to our attention. All advertising orders are accepted on this basis only.

HOLIDAY ACCIDENT TOLL EXPECTED GREAT

Everybody looks forward to the Christmas-New Year's holiday season, with the possible exception of the National Safety Council, traffic officers and the State Highway department.

They will be struggling to hold in check a rising accident toll this year, knowing that the year-end holiday period includes the most dangerous dates in the calendar.

Traffic deaths this year are running more than 10 per cent ahead of 1949. A final death toll of about 35,000 is in prospect.

The Christmas-New Year's holiday season is the peak accident period of the year.

Heavier travel and the festive spirit of the season always add to the normal winter hazards of bad weather, slippery roads and more hours of darkness.

A little extra time, thought and courtesy will prevent holiday tragedies therefore motorists are advised to start trips early and set an easy pace. Speed should be cut down if weather or road conditions are bad. Hurry and speed are at the root of most serious accidents.

Lets all resolve now that Merkelites will guard Christmas pleasures by safety measures.

TIPPING THE SCALES

Our country is confronted with a struggle for survival against an enemy that has shown it can draw on the unlimited reserves of the manpower of Asia. Factors that can help mightily to tip the scales in our favor will be superior technical ability and productive efficiency. These must be our conservers of manpower. No longer can we afford promiscuous political cursades against our most efficient industries in the name of liberalism. No longer can we afford to condemn bigness itself. Well managed bigness operating competitively is national necessity.

In one field alone, retailing, the manpower promises to be critical although mass distribution is a modern miracle of efficiency. We would be facing a worse manpower shortage now if the political attacks of a few years ago on some of our larger businesses had succeeded in stifling the labor-saving innovations they introduced. Moreover, it has now proven beyond a doubt that no system of merchandising can exert a monopolistic influence. There are 30,000 more individual grocers in business today than there were 10 years ago—and about 275 more food chains. In other words, competition has grown steadily more intense. What is true

Uncle Sam Says

PROTECT



YOUR COUNTRY and YOURSELF U. S. SAVINGS BONDS

It is time for every American to ask himself what he can do to help keep his country strong and free. There is much to be done for here's what we must do to support our defense forces and to end aggression in the world: Produce the materials and equipment needed for defense; raise the money to pay the cost of increased defense efforts; do all we can to prevent inflation. Buying U. S. Savings Bonds helps do all of these. Enrolling for the Payroll Savings Plan where you work means you are providing for your own financial security and at the same time helping your country. **THAT IS SOMETHING EVERYONE CAN DO.**

U. S. Treasury Department

here is also true in the other fields of retailing. It is true in manufacturing and related lines.

One thing we often overlook is that the small business has its special advantages in attracting and holding its customers — personal contacts, special services and other factors. The smaller concern is often able to avoid overhead and operating costs which are a necessary part of larger operations. And what it all adds up to is that the country needs them all — big and little — in the critical days to come.

NAMED NEW ENGLAND

Capt. John Smith, the governor of Jamestown colony in Virginia, gave northeastern United States the name of New England, according to the Encyclopedia Britannica.

BUTTERFLY FRAGRANCE

Butterflies give off a variety of odors resembling the fragrance of flowers. Red clover, mignonette, violets, and sandalwood all have their fragrance imitated by butterflies.

Recent experiments show that good pastures produce as much livestock feed per acre as high yielding corn or grain sorghums on the same type of land.

Plastic Tableware Soon Will Serve Army Mess Halls

A new type of plastic tableware developed by the Army Quartermaster Corps may replace the heavy white chinaware now being used in mess halls.

The plastic tableware developed as a result of extensive tests is to be made of cotton rag-filled phenolmelamine-formaldehyde. The rag content is chopped cotton cloth chiefly from shirting material, which increases durability.

The plastic plates, saucers, and other pieces are the results of more than three years of field and laboratory tests. Testing of the tableware was based on acceptability by soldiers, meeting of military requirements, and annual replacement cost. The tableware was subjected to the rigors of climate—from tropical heat to deep freeze—and to various durability tests.

"BULLA BULL"

A papal bull is an official document or letter issued by the Pope, and is so called because the parchment is sealed with a leaden seal, or bulla.

Agricultural Notes

A visit to a nursery will help the homestead gardener to decide which shrubs and trees to look for when he takes to the woods and fields this fall in search of native plants for the home grounds.

Dairy cows that averaged 200 lbs. of butterfat in the Dairy Herd Improvement Associations of the nation

in 1949 consumed \$131 worth of feed and returned only \$121. Thus a cow that produced only 200 pounds of butterfat actually cost the producer a loss of \$10.

Farmers during the winter should protect all motors that require liquid for cooling with a good anti-freeze. Radiators should be cleaned and flushed, hose connections should be tightened and worn hose should

be replaced before the anti-freeze is added.

Farmers who are now storing grain on the farm or already have grain in farm storage should make sure that it does not become infested with grain destroying insects.

Cash Register paper now on sale at the Mail Office.



OUR GOOD WISHES ...

that your holiday hold the best of everything for you and yours!

PHONE 17W

JAY GREENFIELD

At Christmas

May this message of thankful appreciation for your goodwill come to you at a time when you too are enjoying the pleasant memories of friendships that have lasted through long loyal years.

Farmers & Merchants National Bank



MAY YOU ENJOY AN ENCHANTED CHRISTMAS. 1950

Modern Beauty Shop

Phone 201



CHRISTMAS JOY

May heaven and nature sing for you this season.



Merkel Plumbing Company

Sam O. Hill & Son

CHECKERBOARD CHUCKLES • From Your Purina Dealer



Merry Christmas

from Your Purina Dealer
EAGER FEED STORE
We Deliver Phone 155

Play For Basketball Title Starts Jan. 2; Badger Record To Date Not Impressive

Coach Ellis' basketball boys wound up their pre-holiday schedule with a record of one triumph and five losses. Thus far this season the Purple and Gold clad hoopsters have lost two games each to Ballinger and Avoca and one to Winters. They have downed the Hamlin five for their lone victory.

Coach Benson's "B" team has compiled a record of one win against two losses.

Joe Dell Gregory leads the local goal shooters with a total of 87 points, or an average of almost 15 points per game. Arlan Harris and Billy Harris have racked up 39 tallies each, and Jeff Chancey and Bob Johnson have meshed the nets for 34 counters each.

Even though the Badgers have not made an impressive record so far, they have made lots of improvement since the start of the season and are expected to make it rough on some of the teams of the conference. At the present it seems that the Roscoe Plowboys have the inside track in the district race.

The Merkel thinly clads were outclassed by the Avoca Mustangs, 57-37, here last Friday night. The Badgers were "off" on their goal shooting and were really never in the ball game. Avoca led 30-15 at the half. Joe Dell

Gregory took scoring honors for Merkel with 17 points. Billy Harris was runner-up with 12.

In the preliminary game, the Merkel girls were also outclassed by the Avoca lassies, 43-23. The local sextet made a real ball game out of it for the first half, trailing by only four points, 21-17, but faltered in the last two periods. Leona Watson and Jean Miller paced the locals' attack with 8 points each.

In preparation for the conference race which gets underway on January 2 at Colorado City, the Badgers will tackle the Coleman Bluecats in the Merkel gym on Friday night, Dec. 29.

Increased Demand For Geologists

Petroleum industry demand for geology graduates is increasing sharply, Arthur H. Deen, Chairman of the University of Texas Geology Department, reports.

"Since December 1, representatives of three major oil companies have visited the University, interviewing 30 to 50 students, and smaller companies have called in, seeking to fill individual jobs," Deen said. Demand for geologists dropped sharply after World War II.

Champion Cutting Horse To Compete At Fort Worth Show

Skeeter, 1950 world's champion cutting horse, will compete in the rodeo and horse show of the Fort Worth Southwestern Exposition and Fat Stock Show, Jan. 26 through Feb. 4, states a letter from Skeeter's owner, Barbara Worth Stables of North Sacramento, Calif. The champion cutting horse was purchased recently from Phillip Williams of Tokio, Tex.

An entry in the horse show is expected from Mexico City, Jose Ramon Rivas having written for entry blanks for the jumper competition. In addition to Skeeter, the Barbara Worth Stables will bring seven other horses from California, including Oregon Duke, 1950 Pacific Coast champion jumper, and Duffy Malone, 1950 champion hunter of the Grand National Exposition.

Deadline for horse show entries is January 4 and 850 are expected. Premiums offered total almost \$25,000.

RECORD BIRTH

Greenville, Ky., claims a record birth. A cow there gave birth to 47 calves at one time, one being perfectly formed while the other 46 were abnormalities. The cow and the 46 abnormal calves died within a day

after the birth, while the normal calf lived.



REPEAT THE

SOUNDING JOY

THIS CHRISTMAS.



CITY DRUG

FIRE WORKS

Large Assortment

GASTON WALKER



HELP!

A ROPE just out of reach won't save a drowning man! Insurance that just misses giving full protection to all your property will not save you from financial loss when a disaster comes.

Boney Insurance Agency

Consult Your Insurance Agent as You Do Your Doctor or Lawyer

1022 1/2 N. 1st

Office, 21 -:- PHONES -:- Res. 65W



LET'S STRIKE A CHORD OF MERRIMENT.

WINTER'S LAUNDRY

PHONE 231



HAPPY HOLIDAY!

MERKEL ICE COMPANY

PRE-CHRISTMAS

Food Specials

FRIDAY & SATURDAY

...for HOLIDAY FEASTING!

FANCY CRANBERRIES, lb.	18c	FANCY YELLOW ONIONS, lb.	5c
PASCAL CELERY, lb.	14c	NO. 1 IDAHO RUSSETT SPUDS, 5 lbs.	19c
ICEBERG LETTUCE, lg. head	10c	FANCY CLYDE YAMS, lb.	6c
WASHINGTON — DELICIOUS APPLES, lb.	12c	CALIFORNIA ORANGES, lb.	14c
FLORIDA ORANGES, lb.	9c	FLORIDA TANGERINES, lb.	19c

CHRISTMAS CANDY

BRILLIANT MIXED, lb.	32c
BARBER POLE, lb. stick	35c
WALKING CANE, each	5c
PEANUT BRITTLE, 8 oz. bag	29c
COCOANUT BRITTLE, 8 oz. bag	29c
Chocolate Covered CHERRIES, lb. bx	59c
MILK CHOCOLATES, lb. bx.	85c
LEMON DROPS, 12 oz. bag	27c
ORANGE SLICES, 1 lb.	27c
CHOCOLATE DROPS, 12 oz. bag	27c

CHRISTMAS NUTS

Diamond WALNUTS, med., lb.	50c
Diamond WALNUTS, small, lb.	42c
ALMONDS, lb.	55c
MIXED NUTS, lb.	59c
HOME GROWN paper Shell PECANS, lb.	50c
ROASTED PEANUTS, 10 oz. pkg.	25c

Cigarettes All Brands Christmas Carton **\$1.89**

HAVE A TREAT FOR CHRISTMAS DINNER

WHITE SWAN **COFFEE** 1 lb. can **75c**

GOOCH Blue Ribbon SAUSAGE, lb.	38c	FRESH PORK CHOPS, lb.	47c
MISS WISCONSIN — CHEDDAR CHEESE, 1/2 lb.	29c	CLOVERBLOOM "99" OLEO, lb.	35c

WEST'S FRESH DRESSED FRYERS FRESH DRESSED HENS **Either - lb. 48c**

IN MERKEL SINCE 1889



Your Merry Christmas is in the bag this year.



OAK STREET SERVICE STATION

TRUETT PERRY -:- PHONE 130



Johnny Cox

Texas Enjoys Almost As Much Sunshine As Florida In Winter

The "Lone Star State" gets more sunshine than the "Sunshine State" of Florida during the summer and almost as much in the winter months, according to a study just completed to determine the need for alleviating sky glare affecting motorists.

The study, based on the U. S. Weather Bureau records for the last 50 years, shows Texans and visiting motorists can expect about 150 to 200 hours of sunshine in December and January, compared with 200 to 225 for Florida. On the other hand, Texas should get 300 to 350 hours next June while Florida is getting about 275.

In analyzing the problem of glare, motorists reported that a new shaded windshield offers one solution. The new glass cuts out most of the bothersome infra red and ultra violet rays of the sun and still admits more than 70 per cent of average daylight.

Right at this time, however, Merkelites will trade a lot of sunshine for a real good old-fashioned gully-washer rain.

LEARNING THEIR THREE R's IN ANIMAL CLOTHING



Left to Right, First row — Mary Howe, Alden Lowack, Brenda Mashburn, Sharon Martin. Second row — June and Jean Owen, Tommy Hass and Sandra Merritt.

Mrs. Josephine Tidwell, a second grade teacher in the Merkel schools, has recently completed a unit on animals. The unit manner of teaching, which has gained in recognition and usage on progressive schools all over the country, has been incorporated into the Merkel schools, and has an enthusiastic promoter in Mrs. Tidwell.

Her group has been learning their three R's in "animal clothing". All the basic subjects are projected by means of, and upon the basis of the familiar animals that children know and love. Through studying the habits, benefits and peculiarities of these

animals, the children learn their "readin', ritin', and 'rithmetic".

Because the unit form of teaching provides an impetus, an ignition point of interest for the children, as well as a means whereby the teacher is able to discover, promote, and encourage the aptitudes and tendencies of each child, it is becoming

more and more widely accepted as an ideal teaching method for primary and elementary grades.

Culminating several weeks of study, collecting, and construction, Mrs. Tidwell and her class presented a program for the children's parents Thursday, December 7, showing examples of their crafts, their progress in the tool subjects, their art work, and ending with an original bit of poetry "Animal Talk" which they dedicated to their most interested and helpful principal, Mr. C. A. Farley.

Woman Known Here Dies in Dallas Home

Word was received in Merkel this week of the death of Mrs. F. A. Polley at her home in Dallas last Sunday. She is survived by her husband and two sons, Delbert and Winston. Mr. and Mrs. Polley lived in Merkel some several years and still own farms near Noodle. They are well and favorably known here and their friends will grieve at her passing.

PELICAN "COWBOYS"

Pelicans often combine in companies to drive fish into shallow water, where they eat them at their leisure, according to the Encyclopedia Britannica.

FILMED FIGHT

First prize fight ever filmed by a movie camera for general display to the public was the Corbett-Fitzsimmons fight at Carson City, Nev., in 1897.

Season's Greetings



Our very best Christmas wishes 1950

Wilson Jewelry

FOR RENT REFRIGERATORS at Palmer Motor Co. Phone 159

IT IS NOW TIME FOR INCOME TAX

Let Me Help You

ANDY SHOUSE

115 Kent St. Phone 322

USED REFRIGERATORS at Bargain Prices \$49.95 Up

Palmer Motor Co. Merkel Phone 159



Here's to a bright and beautiful Christmas 1950

LYDAY SERVICE STATION



MAY ALL THE BLESSINGS OF THE SEASON BE YOURS.

BONEY INSURANCE AGENCY

"O, come all ye faithful.."

As the glad notes ring out, and the young voices of the choristers blend in joyous unison, we extend our heartfelt greetings for the Yuletide. May the spirit of Christmas bless you throughout the New Year!

Starbuck Furniture Company

Marriage of Peggy Coats, Billy Black Solemnized Dec. 16

Peggy Coats and Billy Black were married Saturday at 6:30 p.m. Mrs. N. D. Cobb, justice of the peace read the single ring ceremony uniting this young couple.

The bride's mother, Mrs. Vera Coats, and Mrs. Robbie Black, sister-in-law of the groom, were the only attendants.

The bride was attractively attired in a navy suit with matching accessories.

The couple will make their home in Merkel.

PERSONAL NEWS NOTES

Mrs. R. A. McClain of Buffalo Gap was a week-end visitor in the home of Mrs. Tom King.

Mr. and Mrs. C. J. Harrison and Barry of Monahans are here visiting relatives and friends over the holidays.

Mr. and Mrs. Will Toombs left Thursday for Houston to spend the holidays with their daughter and son-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. James Dennison.

Mrs. Ollie Skidmore of Monahans and Mrs. D. E. Miller and grandson of Lubbock were the guests of Mrs. Lige Harris last Thursday and Friday.

Visiting in the home of Mrs. W. O. Boney over the week-end were her sister-in-law, Mrs. J. T. Montgomery of Pampa, and her niece, Mrs. Walter Rector of Temple.

Ed Jones, J. W. Kincaid of Bagwell, Mr. and Mrs. L. J. Adams, Diane and Jamie of Snyder were the guests of Mr. and Mrs. T. E. Collins over the week-end.

Mr. and Mrs. Mack Fawler of Port Aransas are guests of Mrs. Fowler's mother, Mrs. Claudie Holmes, and Mrs. Fowler's brother, Bob Fowler this week.

Mrs. Zola Teague has returned from Big Spring, where she visited her new grandson, John Richard who arrived on December 14. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. John R. Walling.

COUPLES CLASS FETED WITH BANQUET

One of the most beautifully planned parties of this holiday season was given by members of the couples Sunday school class of the First Baptist church on Friday evening, December 5, at the parsonage home of Rev and Mrs. Joe Allen. A no-host affair, the banquet rooms were colorful and a delicious turkey menu was served, buffet style, at foursome tables, centered with lighted candles. Mrs. Jim Carter related the Christmas story in beautiful manner as the devotional for the evening. Guests had brought gifts of toys which were donated to the new nursery when opened. Games of "42" furnished diversion for the evening for Messrs. Hester, Robert Higgins, Don Riney, Howard Carson, Henry Howard, Herman Carson, Alvin Wozencraft, Glen Robertson, Harold Reynolds, Jim Carter, Neely Tittle, Glover Wright, Tommy Odum, C. S. Carey, Wright Dishman H. O. Boney, Joe Allen and Mrs. R. T. Blair. Mrs. Allen, class teacher was presented a handsome lizard handbag from the class.

LAMBDA BETA CHAPTER
The Lambda Beta Chapter of Beta Sigma Phi met Tuesday evening in the home of Mrs. Bowman Barlow. The program was on "Preparing a Talk" given by Mrs. Barlow. Afterwards coconut pie and coffee were served to the following members: Mesdames Helen Carter, Toodie Byrd, Mary Chaney, Jo Barnett, Misses Janice Patterson and Viola Allred.

New Inventory Blanks for sale at The Merkel Mail office.



Season's Best

May Santa's packages hold peace, joy and health.



Andy Shouse

Exceptional Value!
LARGER, LOVELIER DIAMONDS



Let value be your guide. Choose a guaranteed registered Crescent Diamond Ring and be Sure! See our wide variety of styles and prices.

WILSON JEWELRY

A truly Merry Christmas to our good friends and neighbors.



May the joys of the season be completely and all yours.

W. F. GOLLADAY
Continental Oil
We Deliver Anywhere

Season's Greetings



1950

DITCH DIGGING

We now have a ditching machine and can dig your ditches.

WORK GUARANTEED FREE ESTIMATES

Merkel Plumbing Company
Phone 164
SAM HILL — FOREST HILL



May the joys of the season be completely and all yours.

W. F. GOLLADAY
Continental Oil
We Deliver Anywhere

Joy be yours this Christmas

1950

"Merry Christmas"



MAY EVERY HOUR BE PLEASANT AND CHEERFUL



MERKEL TELEPHONE COMPANY
TOMMY ODUM, Owner

City Dry Cleaners

CHIROPRACTIC REMOVES THE CAUSE.

JAMES H. CHANEY, Chiropractor

X-Ray Spinal Analysis
Office Hours: 9-12 2-5
Closed Thursday and Saturday Afternoons only

Classified Ads

LODGE CALLS
NOTICE MASONS
Stated meeting of Merkel lodge No. 710, A. F. & A. M., Saturday, December 23 at 7:30 p. m. All members are urged to attend. Visiting brethren cordially invited. Alton Martin, W. M. C. B. Rust, Sec'y.

FOR RENT
FOR RENT first of January. Large Garage and Paint Shop, close in, cheap rent. 2nd and Lamar St. See Joe Garland, 402 Edwards St. 1tc

FOR RENT—Downstairs apartment; frigidaire and gas cook stove; furnished if needed. See Zedic Johnson, 108 Orange St. 1tp

WANTED TO RENT
WANT TO RENT a nice five room house. Permanent resident. J. W. Phillips, Phone 40. 1tp

FOR SALE
FOR SALE—Large kitchen cabinet, excellent condition. Nolan Palmer.

BRING US your Eggs, We pay highest price. West Company. tf

FOR THAT Christmas dinner have a big fat capon. See Billy Beard, 405 Kent St. 1tp

FOR SALE—Plenty of cement and sheetrock. See W. B. or Leon Toombs. 1tch

FOR SALE—Business building on highway, now housing Palmer Tire and Appliance. Nolan Palmer. tf

FOR SALE—Oat Seed, certified new Nortex. Patterson Grain. We DO appreciate your business. tf

FOR SALE—My home at 209 Oak St. lot 50 by 140 ft. Seen by appointment only. Nolan Palmer, phone 129 or 159. tf

Have nice bargain on north side. Don't cost to look. Better see this one. Choice lot on Oak street. 4 1/2 room and bath on south side. New and already financed. Too good to last at the price. Have one stock farm for sale. Now could be the best time to buy. **ANDY SHOUSE, Agent**, 115 Kent St. Phone 322

FOR SALE
YOU PICK your used ice box. \$2.50 Palmer Motor Company.

SEED WHEAT, Patterson Grain. We DO appreciate your business. tf

FOR SALE—Two 15-gal. electric water heaters, 1/2 price. Palmer Tire and Appliance. ttc

FOR SALE—Give a nice fat Capon for Christmas. Billy Greenfield. Phone 17W. 2tp

FOR SALE—One Console circulating heater, will heat several rooms, used one year, less than 1/2 price, \$45.00. Palmer Motor Co. tf

5 room and bath on two corner lots, close in, \$5,000.

F. H. A. four room house, very nice, on Oak street, \$1,500. Will handle balance less than rent. If you want something nice you will like this. Very nice 5 rooms on corner lot. Has been built for about 4 years. Desirable in every respect.

130 acre farm, 5 miles of Merkel, on gas line, REA, school bus and RFD. Good heavy soil. If you want a good small farm you can't beat this one. We have a GI house, 4 1/2 rooms, built this year. Can be handled with small down payment.

If you care to lease for oil or sell royalty, we have buyers.
DOWDY & TOOMBS

FOR SALE—40 fryers, weighing 2 pounds; \$1.00 each. Hugh H. Taylor, 207 Orange St. 1tp

FOR SALE—Slightly used floor waxer and polisher. Heavy duty type suitable for home or store use. Original retail price \$159.95. Will sell for \$75.00. Taylor Electric Cooperative.

WANTED TO BUY
CLEAN WHITE cotton rags wanted. Will pay good price. Merkel Farm Machinery Co. chg.tf

MISCELLANEOUS
FOR RENT — Electrolux vacuum cleaner with attachments. White Auto store.
FOR MONUMENTS, see J. T. (Tom) Coats. Phone 131. P. O. Box 314.
GET MY PRICES on brake service Phone 66, Fox Repair shop.
SEE Lendon A. Coats for water well drilling. Phone 287
WATER WELL Drilling and Clean-Outs. Higgins & Malone, Box 267, Merkel. Phone 26W.
WATER WELL DRILLING. Can give quick service. Have two machines. B. T. Sublett. 705 Oak St. Merkel, Phone 106.
BUSTER HESTER, agent for Abilene Reporter-News and Dallas Morning News; office with Dudley Radio.

Let Us Do Your Job Printing Prompt Service

Your local USED-COW dealer Removes Dead Stock FREE
For Immediate Service
PHONE 4001 COLLECT
Abilene, Texas



CENTRAL HIDE & RENDERING CO.

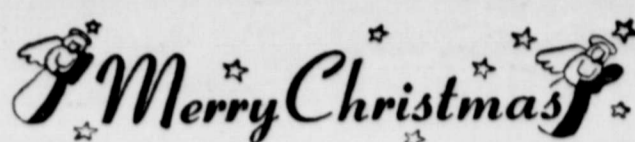
PICTURE FRAMING
"CUSTOM MADE"
Starbuck Furniture Co.
Merkel, Texas

MORE food SAVINGS at O-K
...FOR A MERRIER CHRISTMAS!
FRIDAY and SATURDAY — DECEMBER 22 and 23

COFFEE	FOLGER'S 2 pound can	\$1.57
BAKER'S Shredded COCONUT, 4 oz. can	18c	Regular \$1.25 Size HADACOL 89c
DOLE — No. 300 can Fruit Cocktail	19c	REMARKABLE Sliced PEACHES, no. 2 1/2 can 25c
HAPPY VALE Sweet Pickles, pint	25c	PRIMROSE CORN, 2 cans 35c
WELCH'S Grapelade, 10 oz. glass	23c	CHRISTMAS MIX CANDY, 2 pounds 49c
ARMOUR'S MILK	3 tall cans	32c
BLUE TAG, No. 2 Can Whole Green Beans	23c	DOLE — NO. 2 CAN Sliced Pineapple 31c
CHOCOLATE COVERED CHERRIES, lb.	49c	NU-MAID OLEO, pound 29c
PURE CANE SUGAR	10 Ponds	89c
CRISP LETTUCE, head	10c	HALF or WHOLE Cured HAMS, lb. 59c
LARGE CRISP CELERY, stalk	23c	PORK ROAST, pound 49c
EATMORE Cranberries, pound	19c	HORMEL Sliced BACON, pound 45c
NO. 1 SPUDS, 10 pounds	39c	FAT Hens, lb. 49c
		FAT Fryers, lb. 49c

"We Reserve The Right To Limit Quantities"

O-K GROCERY & Mkt.
PHONE 179 —FREE DELIVERY— Merkel, Texas



Pioneer DRIVE-IN Theatre

MERKEL, TEXAS
ONE MILE WEST ON HIGHWAY 90
—Shows Daily at Dusk—Rain or Clear—

FRIDAY & SATURDAY

America's Most Famous Fighting Scout! With Flame and Fury... His Courage Wrote the History of the First Crimson Frontier!
David Bruce — Kristine Miller — Damian O'Flynn

"YOUNG DANIEL BOONE"

Color by Cinecolor

SUNDAY & MONDAY

Whoop-de-woo! It's the Worlds Fastest Love Affair—She Got the Wrong Train—But the Right Man!

"WITHOUT RESERVATIONS"

Starring
CLAUDETTE COLBERT — JOHN WAYNE
Two Color Cartoons

TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY & THURSDAY

It's That Big-Time, Great-Time, All-Time Musical Triumph! Beauty! Rhythm! Songs!

Fred Astaire — Rita Hayworth — Adolphe Menjou — Xavier Cugat

"YOU WERE NEVER LOVELIER"

Color Cartoon

Christmas Greetings

QUEEN Theatre

"Always a Good Show—Sometimes a Great Show"
Box Office Opens: Nights 6:30; Matinee 2:00

LAST TIMES FRIDAY

"TEA FOR TWO"

SATURDAY MORNING

FREE! Christmas Kiddie Show FREE!

Christmas Treat For Everyone

SATURDAY (Only)

Starts 12:30 p. m.

Outlaw Road-Block Chokes Prairie Life-Line... But Tim's the Man Who'd Rather Shoot 'em out Than Pay Them off!

TIM HOLT — RICHARD MARTIN

"DYNAMITE PASS"

Two Reel Comedy, Serial and Color Cartoon

SUNDAY & MONDAY (Only)

Features Sunday at 2:47 and 4:42 Monday at 7:22 and 9:17
Some People Fall in Love At First Sight... But They Didn't Wait That Long! Such Happy-Talk! Such Happy-Doins! No Wonder They Declared a State of Emergency!

LARRY PARKS — BARBARA HALE

"EMERGENCY WEDDING"

News, Cartoon and Sport

\$\$ TUESDAY & WEDNESDAY \$\$

Features at 7:04 and 8:49

Could She Kiss—and Kill—and Not Remember? Accused of Murder, Cheated of Marriage... Faced With a Terrifying Future! Was it all True... or a Monstrous Plot to Wreck Her Life? You'll Know the Answer When You See...

"THE SECRET FURY"

Starring
CLAUDETTE COLBERT — ROBERT RYAN
Color Cartoon

THURSDAY & FRIDAY

Features at 7:12 and 9:02

Men as Unconquerable as the Peaks They Fought On! The Rugged No-Man's Land Where Renegades and Heros Battled Side By Side For the Love of a Captive Yankee Girl!

ERROL FLYNN — PATRICE WYMORE

"ROCKY MOUNTAIN"

Universal News and Color Cartoon

Sam Butman, Sr. Celebrates 88th Birthday At Butman Ranch Home Sunday, Dec. 18

Sam Butman, Sr., was made happy Sunday, Dec. 17 when his "chaps" prepared another party for him, and to make it more glorious, it was in the Butman ranch home where Mr. Butman's daughter and family, Mr. and Mrs. Euel Ray reside.

The Christmas spirit was revealed in every room as the old tradition of the family—a large gleaming tree stood in the spacious living room.

A bountiful meal, with nothing lacking was served buffet style to Mr. and Mrs. Lem Dudley, Mr. and Mrs. Dave Anderson, Mr. and Mrs. Lee Martin, Treava and Wesley Joe. These folks are termed as home folks of the Butman family as they in past years were residents of the Butman ranch; Mrs. Clark Perkins, formerly Ruth Weathers, now teaching in Merkel high school, taught school at the Butman school four terms; Rev. Fisher Diterline, Methodist pastor of the Blair Circuit, a student of McMurry college; Rev. Herman Stout, Baptist pastor of the New Live Oak Baptist church at Butman, student of Hardin-Simmons college; Georgia Ann McKeever of Brownfield, student of McMurry college, were also present.

The children present were Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Sloan, Mr. and Mrs. Wm. H. Gray, all of Big Spring; Mr. and Mrs. Will Butman and Louine, Mr. and Mrs. Banning Butman, Gale and Jacky, Mr. and Mrs. Sam Butman, Jr., Mr. and Mrs. Frank Bronovak, Mr. and Mrs. Louis Butman, Beverly Ann and Steven, Mr. and Mrs. Ford Butman, Robert Wayne and Dennis Ford, Mr. and Mrs. Tom Rusom, Mr. and Mrs. Joe Swinney, Harold, Herbert, Joseph, William Harold and Nancy Evelyn, Mr. and Mrs. Euel Ray, Vernon, Anna Loyce, Peggy June and Becky Ann, Jerrel Lee Butman and Miss Lottie Butman.

CHRISTMAS COMES EARLY

Mr. and Mrs. Rubin Dye and family celebrated an early Christmas when their son and his wife, Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Dye visited with them the past two weeks. They had their Christmas tree and big dinner with Mrs. Virgie Hamilton of Abilene.

J. R. is in the Air Force and is stationed at Hunter Air Base at Savannah, Ga. He had to report back at the base on Dec. 18. He and his wife left Thursday for Georgia.



A wish for all on this happy day—for all good things to come your way!

WOODRUM SERVICE STATION

Phone 190

Merkel Burial Association

ages covered from 1 mo. to 90 yrs.

(We honor any other Burial Policy at Face Value.)

FRED STARBUCK
MERKEL, TEXAS

Sec.-Treas.



FOLGER'S COFFEE

lb. 79c

PEPPERMINT Stick Candy, lb. 23c

Thrifty Buys

DOLE Fruit Cocktail, no. 2 1/2 32c
OCEAN SPRAY Chanberry Sauce, can 15c
GOLDEN IN GREEN BEANS, 2 for 25c
WHITE SWAN — 24 oz.
PORK & EANS, 15c
HEMET PEACHES, no. 2 1/2 19c
LIBBY'S — No. 2 can
Tomato Juice, 2 cans 25c
KARO White SYRUP, pint 19c
PRIMROSE CORN, 2 cans 32c
MA BROWN MINCE MEAT, pint 25c

Xmas Mix CANDY

Pound 23c

FRESH EGGS
Doz. 69c

Pitted DROMEDARY

DATES, pkgs. 23c
MISSION PEAS, 2 cans 25c
IMPERIAL SUGAR, 10 lb. 85c
NU-MAID OLEO, lb. 29c



RED DELICIOUS APPLES, lb. 12c

Fresh Jumbo CELERY Stalk 29c
Eatmore Cranberries Pound 18c

TEXAS — 5 lbs. ORANGES, sack 29c

Fresh Clear Cauliflower Pound 12c
Yellow ONIONS Pound 5c

IDAHO MESH BAG SPUDS, 10 lb. 35c

Sunkist ORANGES Pound 12c
Jumbo Crisp LETTUCE Pound 12c

SWIFTNING SHORTENING

GLASS WITH EACH CAN

3 lb. can 87c



HORMEL'S Tenderized HAMS, 1/2 or whole, lb. 59c

Fancy Cut Chuck Roast Pound 63c
Longhorn CHEESE Pound 43c

FAT — DRESSED HENS, lb. 47c

Sirloin T-Bone STEAK Pound 79c
Fresh Lean PORK CHOPS Pound 49c

HORMEL — TALL KORN Sliced BACON, 2 lbs. 85c

Fresh Dressed FRYERS Pound 49c
Armour's SAUSAGE 2 lb. sack 85c

RECIPE OF THE WEEK

By Mary Lee Taylor

Deviled Cheese Snacks

1 1/2 cups shredded dried beef (4 1/2 oz.)
1 tablespoon fat
4 teaspoons flour
3/4 cup Pet Milk
1 teaspoon bottled mustard
8 slices bread
16 thin strips American cheese (3 1/2 x 1/2 in.)

Cook and stir beef in hot fat over low heat until edges curl. Sprinkle flour over beef; stir in milk slowly. Boil and stir 1 min. Remove from heat; stir in mustard. Cover and let stand. Turn on oven; set at moderately hot (400°). Remove crusts from bread; toast on one side only. Cut each slice in half to form strips. Spread beef mixture on untoasted side of bread. Put a strip of cheese on each. Put on baking sheet. Bake on center rack of oven 5 min., or until cheese is slightly melted. Serve warm. Makes 4 servings.

OXYDOL, DUZ or Dreff, box 29c

PET MILK 3 tall 37c

Everyday Needs

EVERLITE SALAD DRESSING, pint 29c

AUNT JEMIMA MEAL, 5 pounds 39c

LIBBY'S ASP Whole Green BEANS, can 38c

EMPSON'S Tine Whole BEETS, can 35c

DEL MONTE Early Garden ASPARAGUS, no. 2 can 55c

2 POUND CAN FRUIT CAKE, each \$1.29

EVERLITE FLOUR, 25 lb. sack \$1.79

HI HO CRACKERS, lb. 32c

FRESH ORANGE SLICES, lb. 19c

Sunshine MARSHMALLOWS, pkgs. 17c

We Reserve the Right to Limit Quantities

CARSON Grocery-Market

We Deliver Mon & Fri

Choice Meats — Fresh Vegetables — Fancy Grub

Phone 250

