

A Merry Christmas to all!

Your Home Town
Newspaper

THE MERKEL MAIL

On the Broadway
of America

IN THE FRIENDLY TOWN

VOL. 63.—NO. 40.

MERKEL, TEXAS, FRIDAY, DECEMBER 19, 1952

5c PER COPY

March Of Dimes Campaign Plans Are Being Made

Tentative plans have been made for the 1953 March of Dimes Campaign, Jan. 2-31, stated Principal C. A. Farley, local campaign director.

The highlight of the Merkel campaign will be the Mothers' March on Polio, sponsored by the Room Mothers of the Parent-Teacher Association, to be held on the night of Jan. 29.

Another special event will be a double-header basketball game on Thursday night, Jan. 15. In the curtain raiser the Beta Sigma Phi Sorority will tangle with the ladies of the local school faculty. In the finale, the Lions Club will take on the men of the faculty. All proceeds will go to the March of Dimes.

Others means of raising money will be the March of Dimes Cards for all school pupils, coin collector miniature iron lungs in 25 local stores, and direct audience collections in the Queen Theatre.

The March of Dimes is the life-blood of the fight against infantile paralysis," said Mr. Farley. "Throughout the nation, 3,100 chapters of the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis are on call, day in and day out, winter and summer, working through selfless, understanding volunteers to meet every need of the polio patient.

When the deluge of the 1952 epidemic descended upon the nation, adding 55,000 new cases to the swollen roster of old cases still being cared for, our National Foundation Chapters were on

Christmas Tree Will Be Enjoyed At Trent Tonight

A community Christmas tree will be enjoyed by all the folks of Trent tonight, Friday. The program will start at 7:30 p. m. in the Trent Baptist Church. Everybody is welcome.

Local Telephone Officials Attend 1st Coop. System

Jack Murrury Toombs and Mack Hendricks of the Taylor Telephone Coop. Saturday attended the ceremony at Cotton Center, near Lubbock, opening up the first REUA rural telephone Coop. system in Texas, the second in the United States.

Deputy Administrator Riggs Spard was the main speaker. Allen Shivers spoke over the phone from Austin and it was read over the public address system.

A large crowd attended the ceremony. It was broadcast by radio and television.

MORE FISH TALES

Ira Cross, who is now working in Dallas wrote Vestal Hicks that he wasn't making much money but was having lots of fun.

Editor's note: Evidently Ira is telling his new friends all his old fish stories!

GIRL TO MILLERS

Born to Mr. and Mrs. James P. Miller a baby girl at the Sadler Hospital December 15.

FOR SALE FIREWORKS

Full stock. Two locations; one on Highway 80, west of Camp Fair, and one south of town on the farm-to-market road to Blair. Frank Harris. —Adv.

the spot, serving the stricken, paying the bills wherever necessary, assisting hospitals, working with health authorities, bringing equipment, trained personnel and epidemic 'know-how' into the fight."

Widening No. 80 Is Discussed By Lions Club

The matter of widening Highway 80 in Merkel was taken up at the Lions Club meeting Tuesday.

Booth Warren told what progress the committee to handle the matter had made. Mr. Warren is chairman of the committee. The other members are E. L. Horton, Griff Barnett and R. L. Elliott.

A big Christmas tree, beautifully decorated, was located near the stage.

Mr. Warren stated that the FCI Corporation had poured in over a million dollars in this area.

President Horace Boney announced that March 27, 1953, would be the 25th anniversary of the organizing of the local club. It was voted to hold a celebration at that time.

The president appointed a committee to suggest the closing holidays for next year: Herman Carson, Meyer Mellinger and Fred Starbuck.

Principal Edwin Read was appointed coach of the faculty basketball team and Chester Collinsworth of the Lions Club team that will play Jan. 15 for the benefit of the March of Dimes. Supt. Mack Fisher is to be the referee.

The club voted to get in touch with the city council in regard to the matter of widening Highway 80. Principal C. A. Farley reported that the boys who were going to the Jamboree would need work to earn money.

"Wonderful!" Is Word Voiced For Tuesday's Big Dollar Day

"Wonderful!" That was the report most of the merchants gave in regard to the Dollar Day in Merkel last Tuesday. The most unusual thing was that the buyers started coming early in the morning and the crowd remained more or less uniform throughout the day.

People took advantage of the big displays that were offered that helped make Christmas shopping easy.

This year people were buying not only toys and luxury items but they were also buying staple lines, like dresses and suits as gifts.

The Dollar Day was a climax to the big crowds that have been coming to Merkel to do their Christmas shopping. Many merchants reported that last Saturday was an unusually big day for them with crowds coming all day and late into the night to do their buying for Christmas. These buyers found not only the items they were looking for but they found that they could buy them at a price that was just what they needed.

Big crowds are anticipated from now until Santa slides down the chimney Wednesday night.

Coach Tommy Ellis' "A" Team Downed Bearcats 57-46 Monday

The Merkel Badgers posted a second half.

MERRY XMAS?

It must mean "Merry Xmas." The editor is in receipt of a card showing a Boy Scout giving flag signals. On the first line are five signals and below are four. That's enough figures to make "Merry Xmas." So it must mean "Merry Xmas." It is signed Cal Farley, Isadore Mellinger, Waymon Adcock, Frank Breaux and K. C. Whiteley, all active in the Boy Scout movement, Troop 20 and Post 20.

HAVE YOU SEEN IT?

Have you seen the Christmas Tree in the lobby of the Farmers & Merchants National Bank? It is something special — genuine Silver Tip Fir Tree grown at an elevation of 8,000 to 9,000 feet of the Sierra Nevada range of California, near the town called Sierra City.

It was sent to the bank, postpaid, with Christmas Greetings and Best Wishes from Bonnie, Jim and J. C. (Pete) White, 608 Swanson Drive, Sacramento 18, Calif.

New Telephone Equipment Will Be Installed

Mr. and Mrs. Tommy Odum left Tuesday morning to drive to Rochester, N. Y., in a truck to pick up their new common battery switchboard.

When this new equipment is installed the subscriber will be able to get the operator immediately without pressing a button or turning a crank. This will necessitate the replacing of the old telephone boxes with new modern instruments.

"We hope to have this whole new system operating by March," commented Mr. Odum, local telephone manager.

Mr. and Mrs. Odum will return from their trip on January 5.

STORES TO CLOSE

The stores of Merkel will be closed on Christmas Day, Dec. 25. This is one of the five holidays observed here. The bank will be closed.

Byron Patterson Critically Hurt In Plane Crash

Byron Patterson, 39, of Greenville, former Merkel resident, was critically injured at 4:10 p. m. Friday when the light plane he and a companion were flying crashed on takeoff at Love Field, Dallas.

He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. A. B. Patterson of Merkel. The parents were notified Friday night and immediately left for Dallas with Homer Patterson.

Mrs. H. H. Toombs, 342 Peach Street, Abilene, mother-in-law of the injured man, was to leave for Dallas.

Byron was reported to have had both legs and his back broken. He is a patient at Parkland Hospital in Dallas.

Byron is general foreman at Texas Engineering and Manufacturing Co.'s plant at Greenville. His companion, Richard Crawford, 34, of Arlington, is chief inspector for the company.

Mr. and Mrs. A. B. Patterson and Homer Patterson remained in Dallas until Sunday and left Byron rational and able to recognize folks. The parents returned Monday to Dallas to be with him on Christmas. Byron's sister, Mrs. Earl Beach, and husband are on their way to join them.

IS 99 YEARS OLD!

J. H. Campbell, Sr., was 99 years old Tuesday. He is in A-1 shape. Though his hearing is not so good he can read without glasses. He got his second eyesight several years ago.

Morris B. Smiths Celebrate Silver Wedding Day

Mrs. E. A. Conley and daughter, Kaye Lynne of Winters, arrived here Thursday, Dec. 11, and visited her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Morris B. Smith, and brother Sammy. The occasion was in honor of Mrs. Conley's birthday and to celebrate the 25th wedding anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. Smith. She also visited other relatives while here the remainder of the week.

Free Xmas Show For All Children At Queen Theatre

N. T. Hodge, owner of the Queen Theatre, is offering his annual free Christmas show next Saturday at 10:30 a. m. for all mothers and their children.

A wonderful program has been planned to please the taste of all the children, the little ones and the big ones. Comedy and cartoon will be featured. There will be 50 minutes of fun.

This is an open invitation for all the children and their mothers in this area to come and be the guests of the Queen Theatre. It is my Christmas gift to all the children. I promise all of you a good time," said Mr. Hodge.

Christmas Drama Will Be Presented By Nazarene Youth

Special Christmas services will be held at the Church of the Nazarene next Sunday. Rev. Marshall Stewart of Abilene will bring the Christmas message at the 11 a. m. service.

At 7:30 p. m. the young people of the church will present a Christmas drama entitled, "Birth of a King." The drama was written and is being directed by Miss Glenda Hinds, a member of the local church.

The public is invited.

YOUR GREETING

As the New Year's paper will be printed early next week all those wishing to place New Year's greetings in The Mail are requested to kindly get them in early.

The High School Christmas Pageant Is Well Received

"The Chorus in the Skies," a Christmas pageant one hour in length, was presented by the Merkel High School Players' Club and the Girls' Chorus on Monday evening, Dec. 8, in the First Baptist Church. The pageant was well received.

Mrs. Edwin Read, violinist, and Mrs. Tommy Odum, organist, played a prelude to Christmas Carols. Jerry Gibson and Bruce Knight lighted candles.

The setting for the pageant was suggested by the tableau picture. June Laney Gregory portrayed Mary; Gloria Teaff, Sandra Patterson and Gloria West represented the Angel Chorus. Glenda Petty played the role of Santa Claus.

Fourteen musical numbers were used to tell the message: "If one will but live the Golden Rule, he will be rewarded by hearing the Chorus in the Sky."

Twenty-eight girls comprised the chorus: Betty Chancey, Glenda Pangle, Mary Harris, Goldie Leverich, Peggy Bond, Wanda Bradely, Sue Byrd, Patsy Floyd, Wyona Foster, Marie Kerns, Marilyn Lykes, Sandra Patterson, Billie Rutledge, Shirley Shoemaker, Jane Tipton, Iris Verner, Joy Walker, Barbara Wilson, Bonnie Cason, Blanche Farmer, Betty

BULLETIN!

As the Mail was going to press Thursday afternoon a steady rain was falling, measuring 7 inch.

Editor's note: Looks like a wet Christmas!

CLOSING HOLIDAYS

The Merkel merchants have selected five closing holidays for 1953: Labor Day, Memorial Day, Thanksgiving, Christmas and July 4. The town will be open January 1.

ON HONOR ROLL

For the second six-week, 134 pupils were on the honor roll of the Merkel Public Schools, including 46 in the high school and 88 in the grammar school. The number would have been even higher had it not been for sickness and absences.

LEAVE FOR HOLIDAYS

A number of the teachers in the Merkel Public Schools will spend the holidays with relatives or at their homes in other cities. Supt. and Mrs. Burgess left Wednesday for Lubbock to spend Christmas with their parents.

RIDES IN WHEELBARROW

A free ride around the block in a wheelbarrow is the treat in store for Jim Moore of Blair. The ride will be made all the sweeter as R. B. Wells will push the vehicle. It's all because of an election bet in the recent heated Ferguson-Sterling clash.

OVER CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY

With Christmas coming on Sunday this year, business houses will observe Monday following as a holiday and practically all the mercantile stores, including the banks and post office, will remain closed all that day. The public schools dismissed Wednesday, to resume on Monday, January 2.

RECORD BIRTHS

Girl to Mr. and Mrs. R. E. Patton December 18. Boy to Mr. and Mrs. J. S. Arnold December 18. Girls to Mr. and Mrs. Henry Martin, residing north of town, December 18.

Foster, Dento Gibson, Jan Lemens, Vernell McLean, Barbara Sue McLeod, Tommie Maddox, Glenda Perry and Carol Salter.

Telling the story in play-form were Bertha Patterson, as little sister; Glynn Clark, as Fritz; and Patsy Anderson, as the visitor. Carol Salter was reader.

Mrs. Dale Gooch designed stage and costumes, and Mrs. Comer Haynes was director. Ushers were Eddie Breaux, Corky Cox and Delrel Kelso.

As a climax to the evening

Coaches Carroll Benson and Tommy Ellis presented lettermen and high lights of the season. Mrs. Lackey presented cheer leaders for next year: Nelda Jones, Jo Ann Young, Janice Rutledge, Billie Rutledge, Marie Kerns and Joy Walker.

Gifts were presented to those who contributed outstanding service to the Badgers, with special attention given to Ann Tipton, mascot. The program came to a close with the singing of the school song.

Merkel 20 Years Ago

TAKEN FROM THE 1932 FILES OF THE MERKEL MAIL

W. R. WALKER DIES

W. R. Walker, 67, member of the Abilene police force and a former prominent Merkel resident, died Saturday night at his home in Abilene. He operated the Walker cottage, which is now the Woodrum Hotel, for 12 years, later moving to Abilene.

IT'S LAST DAY

All delinquent taxes that are paid before December 31 may be paid without any penalty or interest attached. After that date a 10 per cent penalty plus interest from the date taxes become delinquent will be added on.

2 HOMES ROBBED

No clues have been found as to burglars last Saturday night of two Merkel residence. From Dr. Sadler's home \$15 worth stolen from a purse. Household linens, silverware and canned goods were stolen from the C. K. Russell home.

27,266 BALES GINNER

In the two weeks since the last tabulations of ginnings by The Mail 468 bales have been handled by the six gins in Merkel and the three in adjoining communities, Blair, Stith and Noodle, bringing the season's total to 27,266 bales.

SLOW DRIZZLE BEGINS

Sleet and snow with the accompanying moisture last week amounted to three-eighths of an inch, precipitation, according to Volunteer Weather Observer Nowler Hale. The year's total now stands at 43.48 inches.

This Happened in Merkel Forty Years Ago

TAKEN FROM THE 1912 FILES OF THE MERKEL MAIL

D. W. Patton left for his home at Scott, New Mexico, Monday.

I have opened a new meat market and earnestly solicit a share of your patronage. Fresh meats at all times.

W. J. Campbell

F. H. Duncan and W. E. Hamner of Trent were here Tuesday, looking after business matters.

Good solid work horse for sale, guaranteed for good service; \$50 on fall time.

Hogue-Hamilton Co.

Mr. Roberts, the well-known Spaulding man, was on the streets Monday.

Mrs. Hattie Barrett of Winters visited her sister, Mrs. Eli Case, last week.

Miss Charley Mae Largent of

ber 18. Girl to Mr. and Mrs. H. O. Smith, Golan, December 21.

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NEWS ABOUT TOWN

Mrs. W. L. Nichols and daughter Linda of Johnstown, Pa., are spending the holidays with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. John R. Mr. and Mrs. Frank Demere spent Sunday on the O-Bar-O Ranch near Clairmont with their grandchildren, Mr. and Mrs. Bud Roper, and great grandson, Stephen Don, born Nov. 25. Other visitors were Mr. and Mrs. Joe Weston, Stanly, Bill and John of Midland and Miss Sue Hutchens of

Magdalena, New Mexico. West. Captain Wallace Ricamore of Camp Stewart, Ga., arrived here last week on Tuesday to visit Dr. and Mrs. C. B. Gardner, also his wife who is visiting her parents, Dr. and Mrs. Gardner. Captain Ricamore left Monday for Georgia. W. D. Scott of Austin visited his son Leon and family from Thursday to Saturday last week.

GETS 11-POINT BUCK
Mr. and Mrs. E. P. Howard visited their daughter, Mrs. C. C. Cardwell, and family in Junction over the weekend. Mr. Howard killed an 11-point buck.

Betty Wallace Directs Band That Wins Second
Miss Betty Wallace, daughter of E. B. Wallace, is the band director of the Roscoe Plowboy Band that won second division in the regional marching contest at Sweetwater December 6 with a score of 91.70. The Roscoe Band was organized by Miss Wallace in 1950. Roscoe had had no instrumental program for over 10 years until 1950.

Billy V. Mosier Is Home On Leave From Naval Station
S/A Billy V. Mosier, son of Mr. and Mrs. R. N. Mosier, is on a 14-day leave from the Naval Air Station, Corpus Christi. He will report for duty December 29.

Mrs. H. Robertson's Nephew Is Killed in Accident
Mrs. Houston Robertson received a telegram Sunday that her nephew's son, Randy Hogg, of Bay City had been killed in an accident.

Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Jaynes Attend Funeral Of His Aunt
Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Jaynes attended the funeral of his aunt, Mrs. Marion Gaines, 51, in Comanche last Saturday, a week ago.

CRAIG WRITES SANTA
Dec 8, 1952
905 Ash
Merkel, Texas
Dear Santa Claus:
I am a good little boy. I do everything mother and daddy tell me to. Well, almost everything I do want much for Xmas. I want a football suit, football shoes and Roy Roger Ranch. I love you.
Craig Litton
Editor's Note: This letter was addressed, "Santa Claus, North Pole."

SUE WRITES SANTA
Route 4
Merkel, Texas
Dear Santa Claus:
I am a little girl, 6 years old. This is what I want for Christmas: 1—China tea set service for 6. 2—Saran hair doll. 3—Doll's wood wardrobe and chest. 4—Toy sewing machine. 5—Little pam.
Lots of Love
Sue King



Dr. C. B. Gardner



We Wish Everyone
**A
MERRY
CHRISTMAS**

O. D. WATSON, Owner
Deluxe Laundry

Give new life to your budget **HERE**

SPECIALS FOR FRIDAY and SATURDAY Dec. 20 thru 24.

CALIFORNIA NAVAL ORANGES lb. 12c	DEXTER SLICED BACON lb. 43c
CELLO Celery Hearts pkg. 29c	FRESH PORK ROAST lb. 39c
FRESH COCONUTS each 15c	PICNIC HAMS lb. 45c
LARGE HEAD LETTUCE 12c	VEAL ROLLED ROAST lb. 55c

—FOR YOUR HOLIDAY FESTIVITIES—

CANDY, NUTS, APPLES, ORANGES, CRANBERRIES, LETTUCE, CELERY, TOMATOES, BANANAS, and COCONUTS, DRESSED TURKEYS, HENS And FRYERS, CURED HAMS, FRESH HAMS OR PICNIC HAMS, BEEF ROAST, ROLLED ROAST or PORK ROAST, BACON and STEAKS.

SUGAR IMPERIAL PURE CANE - 5 Lbs. **49¢**

ANGELUS — 10 OZ. PKG. **Marshmallow** 2 for 39c

ALL BRAND — TALL **MILK** 2 cans 29c

Cracker Jacks 2 pkgs. 9c

WESSON OIL pt. 33c

BAKERS PREMIUM **COCONUT** 4 oz. pkg. 17c

RED & WHITE **FLOUR** 5 lb. 45c

OLEO SUN SPUN Pound **19¢**

RED & WHITE — No 1 TALL **Fruit Cocktail** 2 cans 49c

CHURCH — 24 OZ. **Grape Juice** 2 bottles 65c

RED & WHITE — No. 1 TALL **PEARS** 2 cans 49c

DURAND — No. 3 CAN **SWEET POTATOES** 29c

Gold Coast Whole Spiced 2 No. 2 1/2 Cans **PEACHES** 65c

LIBBY'S — NO. 303 CAN **PUMPKIN** 15c

CATSUP RED & WHITE 14 oz. Bottle **19¢**

We Reserve The Right To Limit Quantities

WEST COMPANY

WE DELIVER EVERY DAY—ANY TIME OF DAY
For Quality Merchandise And Prompt Service, Call 59

Merry Christmas

The officers, directors and employees of the F. & M. Bank join in extending to you and your family sincere greetings for a Happy Holiday Season. There's no better way to say it than with those two important words . . . "Merry Christmas." They tell you of our friendship; the spirit of helpfulness you find at this bank the year around; our hope for your happiness and prosperity; and our appreciation of the many opportunities you have given us to be of service. They tell you that we join with you in looking forward with confidence; with a prayer for world peace; with a firm belief that the problems of today can be met and solved through faith, courage and determination. That's what we mean when we say "MERRY CHRISTMAS" to you!

THE OLD RELIABLE

Farmers and Merchants National Bank

MERKEL, TEXAS

Member Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation

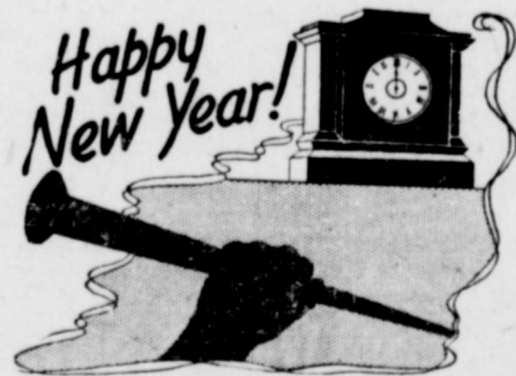
It Doesn't Have To
Be Christmas . . .

. . . for us to think of our good friends.

But the Yuletide does give us the opportunity to pause and express our appreciation for your friendship and patronage.

It's folks like you who make our business possible, and serving you is always a pleasure.

It's a pleasure, too, to pause and say "Thank You" . . . and extend a warm wish that you may have a very



HICKS AUTO SUPPLY

BEN A. WALTERS CLEMENTS S. CAREY BEN T. SUBLETT H. P. CRIMM
ERNEST C. JOYCE BEN R. HICKS BEN SUBLETT W. A. WHITELEY
LEWIS PERKINS HOWARD CUNNINGHAM MARVIN PERKINS ROBERT HICKS

NO INTERCHURCH COUNCIL
There will be no Inter-church Council in December.
The opossum is America's only pouched animal.

Legal Notices
LESTER L. RICE AND SONS, LTD.
ADVERTISEMENT OF LIMITED PARTNERSHIP
We, the undersigned subscri-

ers, have this day entered into a limited partnership agreeably to the provisions of the Revised Statutes relating to limited partnerships; and do hereby certify that the terms of our said partnership are as set out in the certificate of limited partnership as follows:
CERTIFICATE OF LIMITED PARTNERSHIP
LESTER L. RICE AND SONS, LTD.
STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY OF TAYLOR
This is to certify that the undersigned Lester L. Rice, Raymond J. Rice, Bill G. Rice, Jack C. Rice, and Caleb Reed are forming a limited partnership and make this certificate as follows:

1. The name of the firm under which the partnership is to be conducted is Lester L. Rice and Sons, Ltd.

2. The general nature of the business intended to be transacted is to establish and maintain an oil well drilling business with authority to own and operate drilling rigs, machinery, tools or apparatus necessary to the drilling and producing oil and gas wells; to contract for and drill oil and gas wells for other parties, as well as for the drilling and exploration of oil and gas leases owned by the partnership, and to maintain an oil business with authority to lease and purchase and sell oil and gas mineral leases and oil, gas and mineral interest in land, and to prospect and explore and develop lands for oil, gas and minerals.

3. The principal place of business of the partnership shall be situated in Abilene, Taylor County, Texas.

4. The names of all the general and special partners interested therein, distinguishing which are general and which are special partners, and their respective places of residence, are as follows:
Partner Place of Residence
Lester L. Rice, Abilene, Texas
General Partner
Raymond J. Rice, Marysville, Calif.
Special Partner
Bill G. Rice, Marysville, Calif.
Special Partner
Jack C. Rice, Yuba, Calif.
Special Partner
Caleb Reed, Abilene, Texas
Special Partner

5. The amount of capital which each special partner has contributed to the common stock in cash is as follows:
Raymond J. Rice \$21,375
Bill G. Rice \$21,375
Jack C. Rice \$21,375
Caleb Reed \$28,500

6. The period at which the partnership is to commence is the 15th day of May, 1952, and the period at which it is to terminate is the 15th day of May, 1972.

WITNESS OUR HANDS this the 1st day of July, 1952.

LESTER L. RICE
RAYMOND J. RICE
JACK C. RICE
BILL G. RICE
CALEB REED

Filed for record 11 o'clock a. m. Nov. 24, 1952.

To be published in the "Merkel Mail"

MRS CHESTER HUTCHESON
County Clerk, Taylor County, Texas.

THE STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY OF TAYLOR

BEFORE ME, the undersigned, a Notary Public in and for said County and State, on this day personally appeared Lester L. Rice and Caleb Reed, known to me to be the persons whose names are subscribed to the foregoing instrument, and acknowledged to me that they executed the same for the purposes and consideration therein expressed.

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND SEAL OF OFFICE this the 4th day of November, 1952.

CHARLOTTE LEWIS
Notary Public in and for Taylor County, Texas.

THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA
COUNTY OF YUBA

BEFORE ME, the undersigned, a Notary Public in and for said County and State, on this day personally appeared Raymond J. Rice, Bill G. Rice, and Jack C. Rice, known to me to be the persons whose names are subscribed to the foregoing instrument, and acknowledged to me that they executed the same for the purposes and consideration therein expressed.

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND SEAL OF OFFICE this the 1st day of July.

JEAN K. MOREHEAD
Notary Public in and for Yuba County, California

DATED this the 1st day of December, 1952.

LESTER L. RICE
Lester L. Rice, General Partner
RAYMOND J. RICE
Raymond J. Rice, Special Partner
BILL G. RICE
Bill G. Rice, Special Partner
JACK C. RICE
Jack C. Rice, Special Partner
CALEB REED
Caleb Reed, Special Partner
Adv. Dec. 19, 26, Jan 2, 9.



If you're having a devil of a time with your plumbing — don't delay. Call us at once. We'll send a man who will do the job quickly, courteously, and well. Reasonable charges.

MERKEL PLUMBING CO.
HEATING MEYERS PUMPS FIXTURES
OUR WORK IS GUARANTEED
FINANCING IF DESIRED
DAY OR NIGHT PHONE 164
123 Kent St. Merkel, Texas

IT'S
NOT TOO LATE
To Get
GOOD SELECTIONS

For Everyone at the
BEN FRANKLIN STORE

LET'S MAKE A DATE!

Call us up soon, and let's set a day for overhauling your tractor and other farm equipment.

Waiting 'til the last minute is mighty dangerous business that might lead to delays next season.

Now's the time to get your name on our advance service schedule.

MCCORMICK MACHINES
PARTS AND SERVICE



MERKEL FARM MACHINERY CO.

WE
HAVE
WISHED
YOU
29
MERRY
CHRISTMASES

SO

WE

WILL

MAKE

IT

30

WITH

ANOTHER

MERRY

CHRISTMAS

TO

YOU

AND

YOURS

FROM YOUR

FRIENDS

Patterson Grain

We DO appreciate your business.

Phone 222 Box 251

Merry Christmas

Wishing Everyone a Merry Christmas

Merkel Hotel

Mrs. L. G. Shafer, Manager

H. & H. Laundry



Best Wishes



MERRY CHRISTMAS, one and all

MRS. G. D. McCONNELL
"YOUR WATKINS DEALER"



HIGGINS PURE MILK



W. O. RAINWATER
COMMISSIONER, PRECINCT NO. 4
JONES COUNTY



Merry Christmas



MERKEL TELEPHONE CO.

SOCIETY

RUTHANEL HERRING MARRIES BENNY F. ROGERS

Announcement has been made of the marriage of Ruthanel Herring, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. E. W. Herring, Sr., of La Pryor and Benny F. Rogers of Merkel, son of Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Rogers. The couple was married December 8 at the Baptist parsonage in La Pryor.

Mr. Rogers has just returned from Germany where he served with the Army for 19 months. They will live in Merkel.

I. I. ADDISON ANNOUNCES DAUGHTER'S ENGAGEMENT

Mr. and Mrs. I. I. Addison of Anson announce the engagement and approaching marriage of their daughter, Alma Joyce, to Victor Dwain Hartwick, son of Mrs. N. C. Hartwick of Anson. The couple will be married at 5 p. m. January 4 in the First Baptist Church of Anson.

EASTERN STAR WILL HOLD CHRISTMAS PARTY TUESDAY

A Christmas party will be held by the Eastern Star December 23

at 7:30 p. m., for members and their families.

FIRE DEPARTMENT HOLDS CHRISTMAS BANQUET

The Merkel Fire Department held its Christmas banquet Dec. 9 at the Community Center. A turkey and dressing dinner was served to members and their families and guests.

Messrs. and Mesdames Ollie Fox, Ray Holmes and children, C. M. McWilliams and children, Ray Mundy and Charles (Rhett) Eidson, Jr., E. B. Wallace, Colonel and Kay, Clyde Wurst, Dale and Arlene, Pat Cypert, Homer Newby and Phillis, Buck Leach and Dick, J. W. Mansfield, Bud McKeever and Ronnie, R. O. Anderson, and W. M. Elliott Frank Mundy, Anna Socke.

ANNUAL CHRISTMAS DINNER FEATURED BY MU CHAPTER

Last Saturday evening the Mu Chapter of the Delta Kappa Gamma of Taylor and Jones Counties met in the Iris Graham Hall, McMurry College, for its annual Christmas dinner.

The table decorations featured snow scenes and poinsettias. The program of Christmas music was given by the McMurry Music Department.

Members from Merkel who attended the dinner were Mrs. Mack Fisher, Mrs. Carroll Benson and Mrs. Catherine Davis.

DORCAS CLASS ENJOYS SOCIAL AND DINNER

The Dorcas Class of the First Baptist Church met at the church for their Christmas social and dinner.



TAKE A SHORT CUT TO GLAMOUR WITH A SMART, SHORT CUT. MAKE YOUR APPOINTMENT NOW!

PHONE 261
Ann's Beauty Shop
ANNA ZELL BRIGHT
611 YUCCA ST.

RADIO REPAIRING
REASONABLE
All work Guaranteed
90 Days

FRANK KLASSEN
Behind Miller Implement Co.

FLOWERS say it better

For Sympathy
For Greetings
For the Holidays

The nicest way to say "thinking of you" at all times is with a distinctive Floral Token.

Now receiving daily artificial wreaths and bouquets for any and all occasions. Come and see these Lovely Selections and place your order early for prompt delivery.

Missie's Floral Shop
902 No. 2nd Phone 40—Day or Night

Taylor County farmers are being asked to grow more flax.

The new government planting goals for Texas call for 170,000 acres of flax. This is a 43% increase over last year's crop and reveals officials' concern over the dwindling supply of this vital crop.

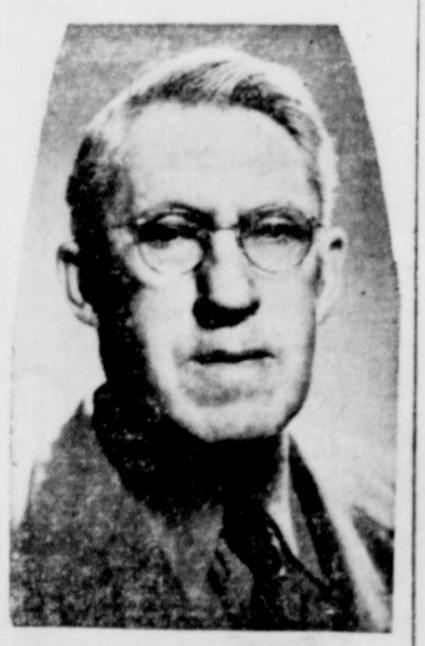
For three consecutive years the U. S. has failed to raise enough flax to take care of its own needs. Supplies on hand are the lowest in five years.

To encourage a big increase in 1953 flax production, the government has increased its average on-the-farm support price by 2c per bushel. Average flax yields this past season were 8.5 bushels per acre in Texas.

But experienced flax growers say that price is not the only attractive feature of the crop. It is unusually resistant to drought, disease, and insect pests. It also takes relatively little labor, and has thus permitted many farmers to keep a larger share of their land in a high-return crop.

With all these advantages, it is easy to see why flax has become so popular with the farmers. Latest acreage figures show Texas now in fourth place among flax growing states.

Free copies of a 16-page book on raising flax may be secured by writing Texas Flax Improvement Association, Kenedy, Texas.



A. C. DILLMAN
Flax Stands Drought

A. C. Dillman, Texas Flax Improvement Association and former USDA flax expert, tells why flax does so well in dry years. First: The flax plants grows during the cool season when less rain is needed. Second: it has less leaf surface from which moisture can evaporate. Third: its root system penetrates as deep as 3 or 4 feet in its search for moisture. Fourth: flax can survive long periods of drought and still make a good yield when rains come.

ner December 9. Mrs. J. B. Jones asked the blessing. After the dinner Mrs. Ernest Teaff gave the devotional. Mrs. W. L. Johnson, president, read the minutes. An offering was taken for the Lottie Moon, which was over \$18. The class members and visitors exchanged gifts. The next meeting will be held January 6 at the home of Mrs. M. T. Head, Mrs. Charles West co-hostess. There were 35 present to enjoy this social.

F. E. HAIL FAMILY HOLDS FAMILY REUNION DEC 7

Sunday, December 7 a reunion was held in the Recreation Hall at Lamesa for the children of the late F. E. Hail. Lunch was served and the afternoon was spent in conversation and games. About 50 guests attended the reunion, including Mr. and Mrs. M. R. Hail and Mr. and Mrs. Jennings Winters of Merkel.

V. F. W. AUXILIARY ENTERTAIN FOR HUSBANDS AND CHILDREN

The Ladies Auxiliary of Merkel V. F. W. entertained their husbands and children with a Christmas Party and tree at the Club House Monday evening. Gifts were exchanged. Coffee, cookies, candy and nuts were served to the guests and members.

MR. AND MRS. N. T. HODGE ENTERTAIN WITH DINNER

Mr. and Mrs. N. T. Hodge entertained 26 relatives, friends and employees of the Queen Theatre with a Turkey dinner and all the Sunday night.

GLENER S. S. CLASS ENJOYS CHRISTMAS PARTY DEC. 10

The Gleener Sunday School Class met December 10 in the beautiful home of Mrs. Tom Largent, the teacher of the class. Co-hostesses were Mrs. Roy Largent and Mrs. Ross Ferrier. A covered dish was served at the noon hour consisting of turkey and dressing and all the trimmings.

Christmas carols were sung in the afternoon. Prayer was given by Mrs. Jack Miller. Mrs. C. B. Gardner reviewed the book "Little Mixer" by Lillian Nicholson Shearon. Christmas gifts were chosen by the members from a pretty Christmas tree.

There were 29 present to enjoy this wonderful occasion.

MERKEL GROVE ENJOYS ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PARTY

The Merkel Grove No. 563 of the Supreme Forest Woodman Circle held its annual Christmas party Thursday night of last week at the Community Center.

Mrs. Carl Bonneaux, program chairman, presented a short but interesting Christmas program, including Christmas carols and poems.

Members and guests brought gifts and exchanged; then Santa Claus distributed gifts, toys and candy to the children. A delicious dinner was enjoyed by 30 guests.

GOODMAN HOME D. CLUB HAS CHRISTMAS DINNER

Mr. and Mrs. Cal McAninch entertained the Goodman Home Demonstration Club with its annual Christmas party Tuesday evening.

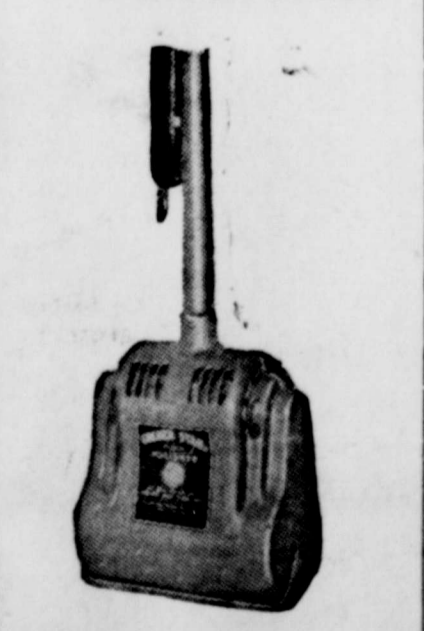
A bountiful turkey dinner and the trimmings were enjoyed by all.

Gifts were exchanged from a beautiful tree. Games of 84 were played the rest of the evening.

Jenning Winter and Mrs. Walter Phillips were missed by all due to their being ill. All other club members were missed who were unable to attend.

About thirty-five were present.

FOR RENT ELECTRIC FLOOR POLISHER



STARBUCK CO.

FOOTBALL BANQUET IS HELD AT McMURRY DINING HALL

The Merkel High School Pep Squad honored the Badgers with the traditional football banquet on Friday night, December 12, in the McMurry Dining Hall. Other guests were the school board, the faculty, the Merkel High Band, Dr. W. T. Sadler, Dr. Don Warren, and Dr. James H. Chaney. Mrs. Thomas Lackey, pep squad sponsor, was in charge of arrangements.

Red roses, entwined about the goal posts in the school colors, gave a veritable picture of a "Rose Bowl Game."

Bonnie Cason, president of the pep squad, served as toast mistress. Mr. Lackey gave the invocation. "Welcome Boys," a musical reading, was given by the three cheer leaders, Sue McLeod, Billie Rutledge and Marie Kerns. Derrill Kelso gave the response.

Glenda Perry, Pat Anderson, Denta Gibson and Iris Verner sang "Football Hero" and "Winter Wonderland." Mr. Gene Names gave "A Soldier's Monologue." Mrs. Peggy Layton of Abilene sang "You Belong To Me" and "White Christmas." Patsy Floyd and Delores Reese played accompaniments.

Highlight of the program was the "Rose Bowl Game" with Betty Foster as umpire. Neva Cason as timekeeper and Jan Lemens as score-keeper. Players chosen for the first quarter were Supt. Mack Fisher, Mrs. W. G. Reed, Dr. Sadler, and Mrs. Names. During the second quarter star players were Imogene Dye, James Simpson, Wyona Foster and Barbara Morgan.

Four new players came into the game during the third quarter: Goldie Leverich, Leon Kelso, Ed dies Sandusky, and Conita Bagley. Playing in the fourth quarter were Sue Byrd, Delbert Allred, Sandra Patterson and Jimmy McAninch. The final score was 15-14, in favor of the Gold Team.

UNION RIDGE H. D. CLUB HAS CHRISTMAS PARTY

Mrs. B. D. Buntins home was the scene for the Union Ridge H. D. Club Christmas Party, Dec. 12.

Mrs. J. H. Clark presided over the business meeting. Mrs. Clyde Newton called the roll, answered by "When I First Learned Of Christmas." Mrs. Don Riney led the Christmas Carols. Mrs. O. R. Douglas read the Scripture. Mrs. Deverl Teaff offered the prayer.

A group of children, Jo Ann Steve and baby Buntin, Judy Agnew Vicki Teaff, Youlanda and Wayne Carey, Tommie and Ann Riney gave readings and sang "Jingle Bells," led by Tommie Riney.

From a Christmas tree gifts were received by each one present.

A Christmas Box was packed for a patient at Abilene State Hospital. John Clark is the friend for the club.

A refreshment plate was served to sixteen present.

The next meeting will be held January 2 at the home of J. H. Clark.

RUTH SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS HONORS HUSBANDS

The members of the Ruth Sunday Schol Class honored their husbands Tuesday evening with a banquet in the basement of the First Baptist Church. The tables were beautifully decorated with red and green foliage, red candles and opened bibles.

A delicious turkey dinner with all the trimmings was served, after which a musical program was enjoyed. Opening prayer was given by Buck Leach. Mrs. Keller Roberts, program chairman, welcomed those present.

Mrs. Sandusky read the Christmas story and brought the devotional. A solo was given by Mrs. Leach accompanied by Mrs. Sandusky. The group sang Christmas songs led by Mrs. Leach.

Gifts were exchanged and a special gift was presented by the members to their teacher, Mrs. Keller Roberts. There were 39 present.

THE NOODLE P-T.A. ENJOYS CHRISTMAS PLAY

The Noodle P-T.A. met for its regular December meeting and Mrs. Ima Cotton Jennings rooms, first and second, gave a Christmas play. Judy Spurgin and Ida Beth Adkins recited Christmas poetry.

The P-T.A. voted to have Christmas parties for the school children today, Friday.

PORTABLE HEATERS NEED EXTRA CARE

A portable heater requires careful handling.

In selecting a new heater, buyers should insist on evidence that it is listed by Underwriters' Laboratories, Inc., which means that the device has been tested for safety.

Users should follow the manufacturers' directions especially with regard to fuel. An oil heater should never be filled indoors, or refilled or carried when lighted. In addition, it should be placed on a level floor to reduce the danger of tipping, and should never be placed near curtains, furniture or other combustibles.

UNCLE BENNIE TO HAVE 87TH BIRTHDAY SUNDAY

Uncle Bennie Wheeler of Fort Worth is visiting his granddaughter, Mrs. E. B. Wallace this week. He will celebrate his 87th birthday Sunday at the Community Center. Uncle Wheeler has been blind for several years and can now see after a successful eye operation. He invites all his friends to come and bring a covered dish.

He is an old timer of the Noodle community, except for the past few years. He now lives in Fort Worth with his daughter, Mrs. Ruby Ward.

At Christmas Time Fire Losses Are Greater

The National Board of Fire Underwriters this week (or today) warned against fire hazards in the home that during the winter months — especially Christmas time — result in fire losses greater than at any other time of the year.

According to the NBFU, total fire losses in the United States this year (1952) will reach \$770,000,000 — an increase of some six per cent over last year's record losses of \$730,084,000.

Last year, NBFU said, fire losses for the months of December (1951) through March (1952) amounted to \$284,540,000, an increase of three per cent over losses of \$276,149,000 reported for the corresponding months of the year before, and an increase of 10.8 per cent over losses of \$256,910,000 for a like period two years ago.

Faulty stoves, furnaces, boilers account for a major portion of all fires during winter months. Other causes are overheated or defective chimneys and flues, hot ashes and coals (including open fires), and sparks on roof.

On the basis of fire loss claims, NBFU reported that those hazards accounted for close to 20 per cent of all fires resulting from known causes during a 10-year period, 1941 through 1950. Such hazards are in addition to the ever and misuse of electricity that account for nearly 40 per cent of all fires every year.

To help overcome such fire hazards, the NBFU offers these suggestions:

1. Never overwork or "force" a furnace or heater that is giving insufficient heat.
2. Never try to "speed up" a fire by using gasoline or kerosene.
3. Keep a metal screen in front of a burning fireplace.
4. Use care in handling hot ashes. Always deposit them in a metal container equipped with cover (never a wooden or cardboard container).
5. Keep wood, coal and flammable liquid away from furnace and the furnace room free of trash.
6. Dispose of all rubbish safely.

P. T. Barnum, the circus man, purchased Jumbo, the elephant, in 1882.

Fall CLEANING MAGIC!

DEPENDABLE
HIGH QUALITY
LOW PRICES

You'll rave about the quality... New sparkle for weary wardrobes.

FREE PICK UP AND DELIVERY

MACK'S CLEANERS

PHONE 27

We Will Be
CLOSED
Wednesday
and
Thursday
Dec. 24 and 25

We offer you the best of service and the highest quality work

We will appreciate your business
PHONE 231
O. D. WATSON, Owner
Deluxe Laundry

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Harwell made a pre-Christmas visit here over the weekend. They are living in their new home in Kermit.

Calling A Spade, Etc. Mac: "Give me that shovel." Jack: "That snow shovel?" Mac: "It is so a shovel!"

—Real Estate—
ANDY SHOUSE
115 Kent St.

To Relieve Misery of
COLDS
take 66¢
LIQUID OR TABLETS—SAME FAST RELIEF

BAKE Your Gifts

GOLD MEDAL 10 L.B.
Enriched FLOUR 89c

SOFTASILK BOX
CAKE FLOUR 43c

BISQUICK BOX
49c

CRUSTQUICK 2 FOR
Bettie Crocker PIE CRUST MIX 39c

Bettie Crocker CAKE MIXES

Party Cake 33c
Devils Food Cake 33c
Ginger Cake 29c

THIS YEAR GIVE FOOD

We Reserve the Right to Limit Quantities
CARSON GROCERY & MARKET

Suggestions for the whole family

For Mother:
A new Chevrolet Powerglide Complete with Radio and Heater.

For Dad:
A new Chevrolet Pickup if he is tired of hitching the trailer to the family car.

For Sister:
A good used car 1951 Henry J a gas saver. \$795.00

For Brother:
A 1948 James Motorcycle \$125.00.

Budget terms available on all items. Installation will be made at recipients request. Be sure to ask about our Gift Certificate Plan.

Come in and See our Christmas Gift Displays

BADGER CHEVROLET CO.

"Useful Chevrolet Accessories Make Wonderful Christmas Gifts"

Lady Who Wanted Dirt Is Found --- And Thereby Hangs A Story

The lady who has been looking for some dirt has been found!

She is Mrs. Homer Tye of Merkel.

A short time ago the dirt arrived from Venezuela. It was sent at the request of the lady from Rev. John N. Russell's son, Paul, who lives in Venezuela. The dirt to the home of Rev. Russell. It got here the name of the son had been lost in their travels and his wife.

The story appeared in The Merkel Mail about the arrival of the dirt. The lady saw the story. She went to Rev. Russell and got her Venezuela dirt.

Why Venezuela dirt?

Well, that is a good story. Mrs. Tye has a hobby of collecting dirt from all parts and points of the world. She has dirt from almost all the 48 states and several foreign countries. She keeps them in bottles and labels them with the information of where they are from and who sent them.

Mrs. Tye gets soldiers to send her dirt on their travels overseas. She writes missionaries to send her dirt of the countries they are in. She just got the name of Chinese and Brazilian missionaries from Rev. Russell and is writing

them to send her some dirt from the countries they are in.

William M. Hays Of Salt Branch Dies at Age of 84

William Monroe Hays, 84, resident of the Salt Branch community for about 60 years, died unexpectedly at 6:10 p. m. Tuesday at his home.

Mr. Hays was a charter member of the Salt Branch Baptist Church, holding his membership there until the church disbanded recently.

Survivors are four daughters.

Mrs. H. W. Hester of Merkel, Mrs. J. O. McMurry and Mrs. Neva Sparks both of Abilene, Mrs. F. O. Jaynes of Phoenix, Ariz.; two sons, Bill and Paxton, both of Merkel.

The funeral was held at 2:30 p. m., Thursday at the First Baptist Church here. Starbuck Funeral Home was in charge.

WATCH OUT FOR FLU

Weather during this season — warm days and cold nights — is favorable for flu development in the swine herd. Protect the animals from the elements, advise Texas A. & M. experts.

EXPECT GOOD BUSINESS

Many merchants and economic forecasters expect excellent business for at least the next eight months, Dr. A. H. Chute, University of Texas retailing professor, reports.

Ed Powell Names Six Appointments

Sheriff-elect Ed Powell announced six of eight appointments he plans to make in the Taylor

County sheriff's department.

Mr. Powell named Leroy A. Arnold, former police captain and member of the Abilene force for seven years, to the job of chief deputy, and Robert H. (Bob) Ross, unsuccessful candidate for sheriff, as deputy in charge of the office.

O. D. (Doyle) Woody, a deputy in the Jones County sheriff's department at Anson, was named day jailer and his wife, jail matron. Harlan H. Lusk, former detective sergeant, was made a deputy and Sam Gilbreth was re-appointed as night jailer.

The sheriff-elect has yet to appoint two other deputies to bring his staff to full strength—five deputies, two jailers and one matron.

The appointments will be effective Jan. 1 when Mr. Powell takes office.

The Thousand Islands are in the St. Lawrence River.

LEGAL

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN

THAT Geochemical Surveys acting under and pursuant to the terms and provisions of AN ORDINANCE MAKING IT UNLAWFUL FOR ANY PERSON TO DRILL FOR, MINE, OR IN ANY MANNER ENGAGE IN OPERATIONS FOR THE PURPOSE OF EXTRACTING OIL, GAS OR OTHER PETROLEUM PRODUCTS FROM THE SOIL WITHIN THE TERRITORIAL LIMITS OF THE CITY OF MERKEL, TEXAS, EXCEPT UNDER EXPRESSLY DESIGNATED CONDITIONS, ETC., being Ordinance No. 276 passed and entered on the 2nd day of September, 1952, did on the 18th day of December, 1952, file with the City Secretary of the City of Merkel an application for a permit to drill a well for oil and/or gas at a location 322 feet from the West Line and 50 feet from the South Line of Lot 26, League 148, Grimes County School Land Survey, Taylor County, Texas. This well is to be located in Drilling Block No. 2, as designated by the City Council of Merkel, Texas, a distance of 178 feet from the West Line and 50 feet from the South Line of the Drilling Block.

A hearing upon such application will be held at the City Hall in the City of Merkel, Texas, on the 5th day of January, A. D. 1953, at 7:30 P. M., at which time and place all persons interested may appear and contest said application.

Adv. Dec. 19, 28, Jan. 2.

When Merkel Was Young In 1897 He Was Young, Working for The Mail

In 1887, when Merkel was young, a boy took his first job as a printer on the Merkel Mail. Today, that boy has retired as a printer, after 55 years of work at his trade. He is Ben F. Hill of El Paso.

A big story about this appeared in the El Paso Herald-Post. A copy of the paper was sent to the Merkel Mail.

Mr. Hill retired Thursday, Nov. 26. He was honored at a dinner given by the printer's union.

Mr. Hill has been in print shops for 55 years and is the oldest working printer in El Paso. He has been a Herald-Post printer for the last 28 years.

He has seen the printing trade

undergo great transitions — from the old handset days to the linotype and just recently to the typesetters.

Mr. Hill was named after a famous printer — Benjamin Franklin. He was born 73 years ago on a farm near Stephenville in Erath County. As a boy he drove a team of four oxen and cleared raw land.

"The farm work was too hard so I became a printer," said Mr. Hill. When he worked for the Merkel Mail he got 50 cents a week for operating an old Washington hand press.

"Pulling that lever was hard work," he recalled.

Mr. Hill is unmarried.

FIREWORKS

All Kinds
From 1c Each up
SEE
Larry Kerns
AT
Tom's Wrecking Shop
East on Highway 80

see yourself in *Luxite's*
Famous "Charm" Slip

America's Favorite Nylon Tricot Slip
Now, at a New Low Price

\$7.95

Beloved by every woman who slips it on!
Luxite's "Charm" slip with the oh-so-flattering fit, the delectable frosting of nylon net and delicate Val lace. Ever lovely.
Ever washable in fine Nylon Tricot.
Alpine Pink, Milan Straw, French Macha Venetian Blue, Boulevard Black — All Sizes.



The pettiskirt — finished with a wide flounce and shirred band of nylon net edged in Val lace. Alpine pink, Venetian Blue, Milan straw, white, black.
Sizes S-M-L \$5.95

Any woman would be proud to receive one of these lovely gifts for Christmas. You will find many other attractive gifts here.

Joyce's

CARD OF THANKS

We wish to thank all for their thoughtfulness, kindness and flowers, and also the Sadler Hospital staff for their fine treatment of Mrs. Cassie Berry, while in the hospital.

Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Berry and Children.

FOR SALE

FOR SALE — Girl's Bicycle, almost like new. Phone 145 or call at 402 Oak street. 1140c

FOR SALE — Child's tractor like new, \$10. Phone 13J or 105 Yucca street. Mrs. Murry Toombs. 1140c

FOR SALE — Fireworks — two locations. One on Highway 80 West of Camp Fair and one south of town on the farm-to-market road to Blair. Frank Harris. 1140c

FOR SALE — Poinsettias, Plants and Cut Flowers — Order early to get what you want. Missie's Floral Shop. 1140c

\$100 for your old Refrigerator or on a new G-E or Philco DeLuxe Model Refrigerator. Palmer Motor Co. tf32c

MRS. TAYLOR at Taylor's Grocery store is representative for Wanda's Florist in Trent. tf37c

FOR SALE — Good fat Rhode Island hens. Troombs & Moore Feed and Seed Store. Phone 270. 1140c

I HAVE a nice selection of plants for yard or cemetery planting also roses. Mrs. B. T. Sublett, 705 Oak St. tf39c

FOR SALE — Our new 7.5 foot Frigidaire. \$179. Merkel Drug. tf35c

JAMES H. CHANEY

Chiropractor

211 Oak St. — Merkel
PHONE 18

Enjoy
Good Food
at
PO PO'S
NEW CAFE
Specialty — Pit Barbecue

AT NIGHT

You can still get your groceries.
We are open until 10 p. m. every night and all day

VILLAGE INN
On Highway 80

Good

HOT CHILI

Every Day

35c

STUTS CAFE

CALL FOR...

Repair Service

on any make
Refrigerator & Appliance
We Have Graduated,
Licensed Service Men
Available—Full Time.

—at—
Palmer Motor Co.
Merkel Phone 159

—Visit With Us Regularly—

Highway Service Station
ROY HUNTER, Owner

Pick-up and Delivery Service—PHONE 9500
—THAT GOOD GULF GASOLINE—
Expert Washing and Greasing

1302 So. 1st — On Highway 80 — West

CLASSIFIED AD SECTION

LODGE CALLS

NOTICE MASONS

Lodge No. 710, A. F. & A. M., Saturday, Dec. 27 at 8 p. m. All members are urged to attend. Visiting brethren cordially invited.
W. R. Cypert, W. M.
C. B. Rust, Secy.

Regular meeting of Merkel Chapter No. 212, O. E. S. will be held Tuesday, Dec. 23, 1952, 7:30 p. m. Masonic Hall, Merkel. After the meeting a Christmas party will be held and members and their families are invited to attend.
Inez Pratt, A. M.
Fern Windham, Secretary.

LOST AND FOUND

WILL the party who got the Stetson Hat thru mistake at the First Baptist Church Dec. 7 please return it to the office of the church and get their hat. 1140c

WILL party who borrowed my Electric Sander and also Hedge Clippers return them to me. Will give a nice Christmas present for returning these articles. A. J. Cannon, 1311 Ash Street. 1140p

LOST — Flint Rock with branch impression. REWARD. Merkel Mail. tf32c

FOR SALE — Crochet and handmade gifts of all kinds. Christmas cards, all occasion cards & personalized stationery at the Hobby Shop, 704 Locust. tf30c

FOR SALE — 6-room house. Good water well, double garage, very desirable. Location on south side. See C. B. Rust. tf28c

FOR SALE — 4-ft. Case 1-Way. Plowed about 200 acres. One-half price of new. Palmer Motor Co. 3137c

FOR SALE — 320 acres — West 1/2 Section 46 Blk. 18, T & P Ry. Lands in Jones County, Texas. Located about 1 1/2 miles East Noodle, 235 acres in cultivation, 85 acre pasture, well improved. This good farm will be sold for cash to settle the estate of John M. and Anna E. Cook. Not leased for oil and gas at this time. No royalty has been heretofore sold. One-half the royalty, non-participating, will be reserved by the heirs, purchaser to have exclusive authority to execute oil and gas leases. Sealed bids will be received by and should be handed or mailed to Booth Warren, President, Farmers & Merchants National Bank, Merkel, Texas, until 12:00 o'clock noon on Saturday, December 20, 1952. The place will be sold to the highest bidder but the right is reserved by the heirs, to reject all bids should no satisfactory offer be received. Jim B. Cook, Agent for the Heirs. 3133p

FOR SALE — Poinsettias, Plants and Cut Flowers — Order early to get what you want. Missie's Floral Shop. 1140c

FOR SALE — Used refrigerator. Late models. Old models. Electric or gas. Terms to suit. Palmer Motor Co. tf16c

FOR SALE — Bibles all sizes and all prices. Leather or Cloth bound. See M. E. Randolph at 911 Oak. tf21c

FOR SALE — Trade your old Bath Fixtures on a New Set at Merkel Plumbing Co. tf6c

FAIRBANKS MORSE deep well pumps, submersible pumps, jet pumps or booster pumps. Miller Implement Co.

WE ARE ready to sell pumps — trade pumps or talk pumps — Fairbanks Morse of course. Miller Implement Co.

1/2 H. P. MEYER'S Jet Pump good condition, bargain. Miller Implement Co. tf12c

ORDER your Xmas Magazines now. Get our low prices and SAVE money by ordering from the MERKEL MAIL.

FOR your Stationary and other supplies see The Merkel Mail.

WE have a nice selection of Christmas Cards. Also print your name on Cards. The Merkel Mail.

MISCELLANEOUS

HAULING — We haul gravel, sand, fertilizer, yard dirt. Tractor with front end loader for hire. E. G. Williams, 501 Thornton. 3138p.

WE will continue our mattress work and will appreciate your business. All work guaranteed. R. L. Griffin. 3138p.

WATER Well drilling and Surface pipe set. L. A. Coats and Jack Stanford, Phone 287 and 45. tf21c

SEE — Me about your water well drilling needs. B. T. (Tye) Sublett Phone 166. Residence 106 705 Oak St., Merkel. tf12c

WATER WELL drilling and surface pipe set. Higgins & Malone Box 267, Merkel. Phone 26.

FOR MONUMENTS, see J. T. (Tom) Coats, Phone 131. P. O. Box 314.

FOR CHRISTMAS — Give a subscription — To The Merkel Mail.

BUSTER HESTER, agent for Abilene Reporter-News and Dallas Morning News. Phone 269W.

AUTO & TRACTOR BATTERIES

12 Month \$8.95 Ex.
24 Month \$12.95 Ex.

Dudley Electric

For
RADIO SERVICE

See
QUANNAH DUDLEY

At
Dudley Electric

Electric Iron Repairs

Zedic L. Johnson Wins High Praise From Commandant

Zedic L. Johnson received the following letter from Col. Philip

V. Browning, commandant of the Army Engineers Officers School at Ft. Belvoir, Va.:
"For the past 21 weeks your son, Zedic, has been undergoing training to become an officer in

the Corps of Engineers. He has done exceedingly well in meeting the challenge of a rugged period of training. The physical, mental and moral standards required of officer candidates are very high and in achieving these standards Zedic has shown a strong desire to better serve his country while he is in the service.

"I am particularly anxious that Zedic's family and friends know of his fine record. It is a record of which he can be justly proud.

"I look forward to seeing you and other members of the family or close friends at Ft. Belvoir for Zedic's graduation reception and exercises." O/C Zedic will be home December 20 and spend the Christmas holidays with his parents. He will return to Ft. Belvoir January 4 and after graduation January 13 will be commissioned lieutenant.

Billy Ray Perry Injuries His Back In Accident Wed.

Billy Ray Perry suffered an injured back when the truck and trailer he was driving for the Patterson Grain Jackknifed at the Fulweiler Ranch between here and Abilene Wednesday morning. Billy entered the Sadler Hospital where he is resting all right. The trailer was thrown into the ditch. Cab and trailer were badly damaged.

HOME FROM HOSPITAL

Mrs. J. T. Warren left the Sadler Hospital Thursday of last week and is now at home. She suffered a stroke but is getting along nicely. Her daughters, Mrs. Henry Coit of Dallas and Mrs. Kirby Beckett of Lubbock, who had been here, returned to their homes Saturday.

IS RIP VAN WINKLE!

Dr. George L. Miller, 3432 Richmond, San Diego, 3, California, sent in his renewal to The Merkel Mail and wrote: "The Mail is a better paper under your management. Crop and oil news are my chief interests. I am a Rip Van Winkle of that area."

Mrs. John D. Jones Attends Funeral Of Her Brother

Mr. and Mrs. John D. Jones were in Dallas over the weekend attending the funeral of her brother, Russell L. Smith. Accompanying them were their daughter, Mrs. E. L. Clark, and granddaughter, Miss Patsy Clark, of Abilene.

Ben Franklin Store Makes Three Awards For Dollar Day

The Dollar Day awards at the Ben Franklin Store were given to R. W. Price, Jr., Mrs. Joe K. Higgins and Tommie Smith. John Hammond, owner of the store, requested that these folks come in and get their merchandise.

Coach Benson Will Attend Meet At Fort Worth

Coach Carroll Benson will attend the board of directors' meeting of the Texas High School Football Coaches Association December 19 and 20 at Fort Worth. Coach Benson was elected as director in August at the Coaches' School in Fort Worth.

Donald Hunt Named On Honor Roll At McMurry

Donald Hunt, McMurry College student is one of the first scholastic honor for this year. In order to be included on the honor roll a student must be in the upper ten per cent of his class. Donald, a freshman, is the son of Rev. and Mrs. Hugh Hunt.

HOSPITAL NOTES

Admission to the Sadler Hospital the past week were:
As medical patients — I. L. Brooks, Mrs. B. W. Hamner, Sara Wheeler, Terry Lee Derrington, Mrs. Dee Grimes, William Nolte, Mrs. Loal Lea O'Kelley, Bob Hicks.
For surgery — Sue McLeod, tonsillectomy.

James E. Petty Is Promoted To Airman First Class

James E. Petty has been promoted to Airman Third Class at

Lackland A. F. Base, San Antonio. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Porter Petty. James is completing his basic training at the base.

LEGAL

ANNUAL STOCKHOLDERS MEETING

Notice is hereby given: That the annual meeting of the stockholders of Farmers & Merchants National Bank of Merkel, Texas, will be held at the office of said bank on the 6th day of January 1953, at 7 o'clock p. m. for the election of directors and the transaction of such other business as may properly come before the meeting.

BOOTH WARREN, President. Adv. Dec. 19, 26, Jan. 2.

THE STATE OF TEXAS

To: William Alfred Thomas Greeting: You are commanded to appear and answer the plaintiff's petition at or before 10 o'clock A. M. of the first Monday after the expiration of 42 days from the date of issuance of this Citation, the same being Monday the 2nd day of February, A. D. 1953, at or before 10 o'clock A. M., before the Honorable 42nd District Court of Taylor County, at the Court House in Abilene, Texas.

Said plaintiff's petition was filed on the 13th day of Dec., 1952. The file number of said suit being No. 18,639-A.

The names of the parties in said suit are: Mary Louise Thomas as Plaintiff, and William Alfred Thomas as Defendant.

The nature of said suit being substantially as follows, to wit: Plaintiff and Defendant were duly and legally married on June 7, 1952 and lived together until June 23, 1952. No children were born to this marriage and none will be born and plaintiff and defendant accumulated no community property. Plaintiff sues for divorce on grounds of cruel and harsh treatment. Plaintiff asks that her maiden name of Mary Louise Sturdivant be restored to her.

If this Citation is not served within 90 days after the date of its issuance, it shall be returned unserved. Issued this 15th day of December A. D. 1952. Given under my hand and seal of said Court, at office in Abilene, Texas, this 15th day of December A. D. 1952. J. NEIL DANIEL, Clerk 42nd District Court Taylor County, Texas

By Dorothy Dickerson, Deputy. Adv. Dec. 19, 26, Jan. 2, 9.

THE STATE OF TEXAS

TO: PAUL LEE REMMERS GREETING: You are commanded to appear and answer the plaintiff's petition at or before 10 o'clock A. M. of the first Monday after the expiration of 42 days from the date of issuance of this Citation the same being Monday the 26th day of January, A. D. 1953, at or before 10 o'clock A. M., before the Honorable 42nd District Court of Taylor County, at the Court House in Abilene, Texas.

Said plaintiff's petition was filed on the 14 day of August, 1952. The file number of said suit being No. 18,425-A.

The names of the parties in said suit are: Clydia Mae Remmers as Plaintiff, and Paul Lee Remmers as Defendant.

The nature of said suit being substantially as follows, to wit: Plaintiff and defendant were married on or about the 29th day of July, 1950, and continued to live together as husband and wife until on or about 5th day of February, 1952, when they became permanently separated.

Plaintiff would show that as a result of this marriage union one child was born January 3, 1951, a male, Bobbie Lee Remmers.

Plaintiff alleges no community property has been acquired by plaintiff and defendant.

Plaintiff prays for divorce on grounds of harsh and cruel treatment, and that she be granted custody of said minor child and that the defendant be required to pay \$15.00 per week toward the support of said child and attorney's fees.

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

Issued this 10th day of December A. D. 1952. Given under my hand and seal of said Court, at office in Abilene, Texas, this 10th day of December, A. D. 1952. J. Neil Daniel, Clerk

42nd District Court Taylor County, Texas. By Irene Crawford, Deputy Adv. Dec. 19, 26, Jan. 2, 9

INCOME TAX PAYERS

EVERY PERSON — ADULT OR CHILD who had \$600.00 or more GROSS INCOME in 1952 must file a return. If your Books are closed for 1952 and you wish my services in making your return I have plenty of 1952 Forms and can make the return ready for mailing after January 1st

R. O. ANDERSON

For The Best In

Body and Paint Auto Work And Expert Electric Polishing
JOHN BROWN IN CHARGE

FOR 24-Hour Wrecker Service

NEW EQUIPMENT

PHONE 159

Palmer Motor Co.

The Perfect Remembrance

Artificial Center Pieces and Mantle Decorations

Cemetery Wreaths Corsages

Poinsettias Azaleas

FOR SALE — Pot Plants and an assortment of Cut Flowers at all times. Wanda's Florist, across from hospital.

WANDA'S FLORIST

MRS. BEN SUBLETT MRS. W. H. ENSMINGER
Across from the hospital

A-1 USED CARS A-1 ONLY 2 LEFT

1949 PONTIAC 4-DOOR

\$1095

Six, Silver Streak, Radio Heater, Seat Covers, Hydromatic, 5 Tires like New. Yes, it's slick!

1950 FORD V-8 TUDOR

\$995

RADIO, HEATER, GOOD TRANSPORTATION

Paul Honeycutt Motors

SALES  SERVICE

Get Ready Early To Say

MERRY CHRISTMAS

Over the phone to some loved one in a far-away town. And you will be surprised how little the cost.

These are the station-to-station night, Sunday and Holiday Rates.

KOREA	\$12.00	HOUSTON	\$1.20
Berlin, Germany	\$12.00	DALLAS	.90
New York City	\$2.05	KANSAS CITY	\$1.35
LOS ANGELES	\$1.80	plus 25% Federal Tax.	

Call for "Long Distance" and say to whom and where

MERKEL TELEPHONE COMPANY

HOSPITAL BED RENTAL SERVICE

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Merkel, Texas

Hollywood Hannah
BY MODERN BEAUTY SHOP



"A sensible girl isn't as sensible as she looks," says Hannah, "because a sensible girl has more sense than to look sensible!"

MODERN BEAUTY SHOP
MRS. DENT GIBSON
MRS. MARK HUBERT
121 Edward St. Phone 201
MERKEL, TEXAS

THROAT DISCOMFORT or Minor Irritations

New Miracle Drug Gives Wonderful Fast Relief


of minor throat irritation associated with colds, smoking or other common irritants. Take sensational new NEO-AQUA-DRIN Throat Lozenges for minor throat irritation. Works fast, these two ways:

- 1 relieves feeling of roughness, tickling, irritation, and discomfort almost immediately.
- 2 combats Gram-positive germs which may cause minor throat discomfort with antibiotic miracle drug, Tyrothricin.

NEO-AQUA-DRIN is guaranteed to contain up to twice as much of the pain-relieving local anesthetic or germ-inhibiting ingredients as most other products. Made by McKesson & Robbins, Bridgeport, Conn.



NEO-AQUA-DRIN
Throat Lozenges
1 col. x 4 in. 2-276
MERKEL DRUG CO.

free your Home forever from the **HARD WATER bogey**
Surprisingly LOW COST
PAT. APPLIED FOR


- SAVES LOADS OF SOAP
- GIVES CLEANEST RINSES EVER
- REMOVES OLD PIPE SCALE
- HELPS HEAT WATER FASTER, CHEAPER
- LESSENS BAD ODORS & FLAVORS
- USES NO CHEMICALS

Sold By **MERKEL DRUG CO.**



To wish you all the Joys of a very Merry Christmas Day.

H. W. LEMENS

WHOLESALE GAS, OIL and BUTANE



May the glorious Christmas Season bring Peace and Happiness to you, our friends.

PATTERSON BROTHERS PLUMBERS

W. J. PATTERSON



With most sincere wishes that you may enjoy a truly Merry Christmas.

KIMBELL MILLING CO.

D. C. DOAN, Manager

Good Crowd Sees New 1953 Ford Last Friday

The showing of the new 1953 Ford brought a good crowd of people long last Friday, asserted Paul Honeycutt.

"Some seemed to like the changes and new im-

provements," said Mr. Honeycutt. "We sold our full quota of new cars on Friday and Saturday."

Curb's Stolen Car Is Recovered In Dallas Last Week

Constable Luther Land and S. P. Curb were in Dallas Wednesday of last week and recovered Mr. Curb's car. It was stolen from in front of the Queen Theatre Dec. 2.

Ernest Hendricks Awaits Orders For Going Overseas

Pvt. Ernest Hendricks, who has been visiting in the home of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Hendricks, has arrived in Camp Kilmar, N. J., where he will await overseas orders. Pvt. Hendrick enlisted June 5 and took training in Fort Leonard Wood, Mo., and Ft. Belvoir, Va.

THE MERKEL MAIL

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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.

CHRISTMAS 1952

On Thursday of next week, Dec. 25, will be Christmas and the world will pause to celebrate that day, the day of the birth of the Christ Child. That world-shaking event happened over nineteen centuries ago and still the message that was wrought in that period is as pertinent today as it was in those ancient years.

The birth of Jesus heralded the dominant theme of peace on earth and good will to men.

In those days there was no peace, there was little good will to men. Nation fought against nation, each vying with the other to top the world. Rome ruled and she ruled with an iron fist. The sword was above the word. Only might made itself felt.

And neighbors were inclined to be suspicious of one another.

Jesus came into the picture and brought a new message, a message of hope, a message of peace, a message of good will to men.

He preached the doctrine of turning the other cheek, of loving thy neighbor as thyself, of taking no thought of tomorrow. These were revolutionary ideas in those ancient days and He and His followers paid the penalty of any new idea that interferes with the customary thought of man.

He was crucified and His followers were persecuted. Of course, that was in the ancient times.

For nineteen centuries the message of the Messiah has been persistently preached all around

the world. It has been preached for nineteen centuries week after week and year after year.

And what of today, Dec. 25, 1952? What do we find? Do we see men turning the other cheek? Do we see men at peace? Do we see good will in the world? What hope do we see after nineteen centuries of a message that shook the world?

Do we observe peace in the world today? There is a war going on now in Korea. Call it by any name you wish, it is still a war. Men are being wounded, men are bleeding, men are now dying. Our own Merkel boys are of it and in it, being wounded and dying.

There is a war going on in Indo-China. Iran holds a dangerous situation. The Russians may drive down through Iran and Iraq toward the Suez Canal.

So the cry for peace that was sounded over 1900 years ago is still a cry that is being raised today. President-Elect Eisenhower has put his brilliant mind to answering the demand for peace in Korea.

Shall we say that the message that was brought to the world at the time of the birth of Christ is a mere dream, a fancy, a delusion and that the world can never enjoy peace? That indeed would be a travesty on the beliefs of mankind today.

It is our firm belief that there can be peace on earth and good will to men.

It is our firm belief that it can become a reality.

It is our firm belief that it is not a fancy, not a dream, not a delusion.

To bring this about man, every



Sallie Gant

man, must believe that he himself will bring to the world the day of peace and good will and act accordingly. And when enough persons believe and act in this manner, the message of peace and good will heralded over nineteen centuries ago will become a reality and every man will live under his fig tree and nation will not lift up sword against nation and neither will they make war any more.

This is the message of Christmas.

"WHITE-ICISM"

That's ALL — and the sage of Field adds that it is good to observe Christmas; it is just as important to remember what it means.

NO SHILOH SINGING
 There will be no singing at Shiloh on Christmas night but singing will be held on the regular night in January.

Ronald Burleson Is Discharged From U. S. Army

Ronald Gene Burleson, son of Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Burleson, was discharged from the Army after serving 18 months in Germany. Gene and his wife are now living in Merkel. Gene will return Monday to work at the refinery at Stith.

The Dionne Quintuplets were born on May 28, 1934.



SPECIALS for FRIDAY and SATURDAY, Dec. 20 thru 24.

IMPERIAL SUGAR 10 Lbs.	89¢
TOWIE SALAD OLIVES QUART	59¢
KRAFTS Miracle Whip pint	29¢
OUR VALUE PEARS 303 can	22¢
WRIGLEY'S GUM 3 pkgs.	for 10¢

SNOWDRIFT 3 lb. Can	79¢
POWDERED or BROWN SUGAR box	15¢
REGULAR F A B pkg.	29¢
AZALEA OLEO lb.	23¢
DELMONTE — 46 Oz. Pineapple Juice	29¢

RUSSELL'S MUG APPLE JELLY 12 oz.	25¢
OCEAN SPRAY Cranberry Sauce	21¢
BAKER'S 4 OZ COCONUT and 1 JELLO PUDDING BOTH FOR	17¢

FOLGERS COFFEE Pound 79¢

PRODUCE	MARKET
YELLOW ONIONS lb.	8¢
FRESH GREEN CELERY stalk	19¢
CARTON TOMATOES ctn.	15¢
FLORIDA — 5 lb. Bag ORANGES	29¢
FRESH COCONUTS each	14¢
ASSORTED Lunch Meats lb.	49¢
SLICED BACON lb.	47¢
FRESH DRESSED HENS lb.	49¢
CHUCK ROAST lb.	49¢
DENISON FRYERS lb.	59¢

—We Reserve the Right To Limit Quantities—

CAMPBELL GROCERY & MKT.
 Phone 173 We Deliver on Mon. & Fri. Merkel, Texas

Big New '53 FORD

THE NEW STANDARD OF THE AMERICAN ROAD!



With 41 "Worth More" features... it's worth more when you buy it... worth more when you sell it!

This '53 Ford sets an entirely new standard for the American Road. For in this big new Ford you'll find 41 "Worth More" features that give you more of the things you want... more of the things you need... than ever before in low-priced car history. You'll find the "Go" you need to handle today's long-distance driving. You'll enjoy Ford's new *Miracle Ride* that brings you the smooth, quiet riding comfort you need for today's level parkways or rough, rutted byways... plus nearly effortless steering, braking, and parking. And you'll see beauty that belongs wherever you may drive.

When you see this new Ford at your Ford Dealer's, you'll understand why it is worth more when you buy it... worth more when you sell it. You'll agree that here, indeed, is the New Standard of the American Road!

A few of the 41 "Worth More" features in the 1953 Ford

NEW MIRACLE RIDE—Not just more responsive spring and shock absorber action, not just foam rubber cushions, but a balanced ride that gives you a new concept of comfort.	SHIFT TO FORDOMATIC—and you'll never shift again. It's the finest, most versatile automatic drive ever. And remember, Ford also offers the smooth and thrifty Overdrive.	POWER-PIVOT PEDALS—are suspended from above to eliminate dust, drifty floor holes. They give more unobstructed floor space and provide easier pedal operation.	CENTER-FILL FUELING—prevents hose marks, and makes "filling up" easier from either side of gas pump. Shorter gas filler pipe gives you trunk space for an extra suitcase.	FULL-CIRCLE VISIBILITY—with huge, curved, one-piece windshield, a car-wide, one-piece rear window and big picture windows all around—gives you visibility unlimited.
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Here now... the '53 FORD

PAUL HONEYCUTT MOTORS

FOR A MERRY, MERRY CHRISTMAS!

It's so convenient — it's so easy — and what a dazzling assortment of gifts. Stop in today — do your Christmas shopping the easy way! Here are a few of the many gifts to choose from—

TOYS	BILFOLDS
CIGARETTE LIGHTERS	MUSICAL
DOMINOES	POWDER BOXES
KING'S CANDY	SHAVING SETS
STATIONARY	DOLLS
KODAKS	TOILET SETS
ELECTRIC TOASTERS	TWEED
COFFEEMAKERS	COTY'S TABU
RADIOS	EVENING IN PARIS
CLOCKS	OLD SPICE
AMERICAN	FRIENDSHIP GARDEN
GREETING CARDS	

PHONE 266

CITY DRUG

Badger Girls Play Close Game With Wylie "A's"

The Merkel girls basketball team journeyed to Wylie Monday night and played two good games. The "A" team score was 37 to 30 in Wylie's favor. This was a close game all the way.

Lois Black was high point girl for Merkel with 18 points. Wylie won the "B" game 30 to 14. High point girl for Merkel was Glenda Perry with 9 points.

On December 11 Merkel girls hosted the Clyde girls to two losses. The "A" team score was 32 to 69 with Imogene Dye high scorer with 13 points.

The "B" high scorer was Laura Williams with 8 points. The final score was 61 to 12.

Mrs. Betty Lackey, girls coach, said that the girls were doing as well as could be expected, since very few of them have had any experience. They are showing improvement and need the backing of the community. "Let's get behind our girls," suggested Mrs. Lackey.

Complain of Heat And Yet Get Heat In Winter Time

It is an illogical fact that many people complain about the heat of Texas summers and yet sit indoors during the winter months in a temperature about as high as that about which they complained in the summer season, is the view of Dr. Geo. W. Cox, state health officer.

"If the average person would

TWO SICK MEN

Two businessmen occupied adjoining rooms at the Sadler Hospital this week. Bob Hicks and E. O. Carson, E. O. couldn't stand the wall between them. He got lonesome. Finally he exclaimed, "I've a good mind to punch a hole through this wall so I can talk to Bob!"

realize the definite hazard in developing and maintaining an indoor temperature about 70 degrees, or at most 72 degrees, when the outside thermometer registers around freezing," he said, "there would be fewer colds, less bronchial conditions, and less pneumonia than there are today.

"Fresh air is one of the body's basic needs and no amount of luxury or artificial pleasure can be substituted for it. It may be a comfortable feeling to be warm, especially with the consciousness of the tough weather outdoors, but it is quite another matter to achieve this comfort at the probable cost of health.

"Winters in the Temperate Zone are sufficiently trying upon the human system with their sudden and sharp temperature changes, without adding to the burden by making a hothouse of one's home. Of course, colds and other respiratory affections can be acquired in many different ways, but one of the easiest methods of becoming victims of such hazards is the overheated house.

"To become overheated and perspire, though the latter condition may not be perceived, and in this softened state to brave the cold winter blasts, is to take a thoroughly unwarranted chance with health.

"The wise householder therefore will check up on his artificial heat problem. He will resolve to keep his thermometer within safe limits."

L. D. Gaither, 70, Former Resident, Is Buried Here

A graveside funeral for L. D. Gaither, 70, former resident here was held at 2 p. m. Thursday of last week in Rose Hill Cemetery.

Prior to the Merkel rites other funeral services for Mr. Gaither were held in San Antonio.

Mr. Gaither died at 2 a. m. Tuesday of last week in a San Antonio hospital.

He had lived in San Antonio for the past year. Prior to that, he

was foreman of the Wing Halseff Ranch at Eagle Pass about 25 years.

He was reared in Merkel and was in the grocery business here before moving to Eagle Pass.

Survivors include one sister, Mrs. Rex Dillard of Tuscola, and

one brother, F. Y. Gaither of Merkel.

IT PAYS TO FEED



THE BEST
Patterson Grain
We DO appreciate your business
Phone 222 Box 251

Battery Down?
CALL 66
Generator — Starter
Service and Exchange
BRAKE SERVICE
Fox Repair Shop

Complete Dinner
75c
WITH DESSERT
AND DRINK
AT
STUTS CAFE

GENERAL AUTO REPAIR
Including generator, starter, major overhaul of all kinds.
WE PICK UP AND DELIVER
B. & D. GARAGE
Stace Bird Wright Dish

EVERYDAY LOW PRICES SPECIALS TILL XMAS

VEL or FAB
2 large 55c
1 Giant 69c

CLEANSER
A JAX
2 cans 25c

PALMOLIVE SOAP
3 Regular or
2 bath 23c



a Pack of Merry Christmas Wishes!

EL FOOD
Apple Butter jar 22c

WHITE SWAN WHOLE GREEN BEANS can 25c

OCEAN SPRAY
CRANBERRY SAUCE
Can **23c**



PET MILK
2 Tall 27c

BAKERITE Shortening 3 Lb. Tin **63c**

COFFEE FOLGER'S Pound **79c**

SUGAR Imperial 5 Pounds **49c**

MIRACLEWHIP Salad Dressing Pint **29c**

NU-MAID OLEO lb. 22c

OUR DARLING — 303 CORN 2 for 38c

KUNERS PEAS 3 for 25c

WILSON'S MOR can 39c

HONEY BOY SALMON can 39c

KIMBELLS R.S.P. PIE CHERRIES No. 2 can 23c

CHARMIN NAPKINS 2 Boxes 23c



CHOICE & U. S. GOOD BEEF CHUCK ROAST lb. 49c

DRY SALT JOWLS	FRESH Ground Meat
Lb. 19c	Lb. 55c

SLICED BACON lb. 45c

CHOICE BEEF SHORT RIBS	CELLO ALL MEAT WEINERS
Lb. 45c	Lb. 49c

CHOICE & U. S. GOOD BEEF ROUND STEAK lb. 79c

WILSON'S - DECKER'S 4-8 Averages PICNIC lb. 39c



DIAMOND WALNUTS lb. 49c

STEWARTS PECANS lb. 39c

XMAS — YOUR CHOICE CANDIES bag 23c

DEL MONTE — CRUSHED PINEAPPLE No. 2 25c

DROMEDARY DATES lb. 39c

DELMONTE Fruit Cocktail 303 23c

CHOCOLATE COVERED CHERRIES lb. 59c



FRESH CRANBERRIES lb. 33c

YELLOW ONIONS	FRESH CARROTS
Lb. 8c	Cello Bag 15c

JUMBO CELERY stalk 19c

JUMBO CRISP LETTUCE	GOLDEN BANANAS
Head 12c	Lb. 12c

COOKING ROME BEAUTY APPLES lb. 12c

FRESH TOMATOES lb. 15c

SATURDAY — DECEMBER 20 LAST DAY TO ORDER TURKEYS FOR CHRISTMAS —

FREE DELIVERIES

MON., WED., FRI., 4:00
PHONE 250

We Reserve the Right to Limit Quantities

CARSON GRO. and MKT.



QUEEN THEATRE

MOVIES ARE BETTER THAN EVER!

NEW OPENING TIME: Box Office Opens

Nights 6:30 — Matinee 2:00 P. M.

FRIDAY and SATURDAY DEC. 19-20
2 — BIG FEATURES — 2

Don't miss either of these big action picture! They are "Tops" in their class.

1. "ARTIC FLIGHT," filmed above the Artic Circle, with Wayne Morris and Loa Albright.

— PLUS —

"TEXANS NEVER CRY"

with GENE AUTRY

World's Greatest Cowboy and Champion World's Wonder Horse on a perilous do-or-die mission for Texas and Mexico!

Also BLACK HAWK and COLOR CARTOON

KIDDIES FREE SHOW!
SATURDAY, DEC. 20 — 10:30 A. M.
50 MINUTES CARTOONS AND COMEDY
TELL YOUR FRIENDS!

Sunday—Monday—Tuesday, Dec. 21-22-23

Cancelled in October on Short Notice but Postively will be shown Now!—ADVENTURE—SPECTACLE

DESIRE — Beyond Your Wildest Dreams!

In Sensational — COLOR By TECHNICOLOR

"ISLANDS OF DESIRE"

with LINDA DARNELL — DONALD GRAY

Added — Latest News Event and Cartoon

FEATURES: Sunday 2:30 — 4:25

Monday and Tuesday 7:00 — 8:55

WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY DEC. 24-25

No one will ever see a thing as funny as this tree!

The Wonderful Story of a wish come true!

"IT GROWS ON TREES"

with IRENE DUNN — DEAN JAGGER

Added Color Cartoon and Sports

PLAN FAMILY XMAS
It is not too early to begin de-

veloping family plans for Christ-
mas. Plan so each member will

have a definite part in the observ-
ance, suggests Texas A. & M.

Bombay duck is an Indian dish
of fried fish.

Savings Drive To Save Lives Is Xmas Plan

The National Safety Council announced a nationwide Christmas savings plan to stop accidents. "If every American will join this savings plan before the Christmas holidays a real yuletide bonus — human life — will be paid," said Ned H. Dearborn, council president.

The campaign has been joined by more than 160 national organizations, and by city and state public officials and civic leaders. They will unite in creating an awareness of the special holiday hazards and will enlist voluntary cooperation from every American to hold accidents to a minimum this Christmas.

The year-end holiday season is the most dangerous period of the year, Mr. Dearborn said. Traffic accident deaths on both Christmas eve and Christmas day are about twice as high as the annual daily average.

"Travel is especially heavy over long holidays, which encourage traditional family get-togethers even when the members must drive considerable distance," he said. "The festive spirit of the season, plus the normal winter hazards of bad weather, slippery roads and longer periods of darkness create added danger."

For a safe and merry Christmas, the National Safety Council suggests these precautions:

1. Driving or walking, put the Christmas spirit of "good will toward men" into practical use by being extra courteous to others. And take your time!
2. If streets are icy or slippery, keep your speed down and your caution up.
3. If you imbibe Christmas spirit in liquid form, stay away from the steering wheel of a car.
4. Avoid home hazards, too.

Hilarious Comedy Play Xmas Day At Queen Theatre

Universal - International's "It Grows On Trees," a hilarious comedy for the entire family plays Wednesday and Thursday at the Queen Theatre with a strong starring cast headed by Irene Dunne, Dean Jagger and Joan Evans.

This clever laugh-riot concerns a typical American middle-class family, harried by budget trouble which discovers in its backyard a couple of trees growing five and ten dollar bills.

What happens when Polly Baxter, the wife, pays off the family mortgage with the money and gives some of it to her husband for expenses on a business trip only to find that it turns to dust in both bank vault and wallet, shouldn't happen to anyone except on the silver screen.

A drone is male bee that gathers no honey.

"Island of Desire" Is Romantic Story At Queen Theatre

United Artists' gorgeous Technicolor romance "Island of Desire," which plays Sunday and Monday at the Queen Theatre, puts that dependable old desert island classic, "Robinson Crusoe," definitely in the shade.

For, while Crusoe had his man Friday, Linda Darnell, the beautiful star of "Island of Desire" has two handsome, stalwart men to do her bidding and pay her homage.

The exciting story concerns a young navy nurse, played by Linda, who is marooned with a young marine corporal on a tropical Pacific Island.



In the Spirit
of the Season!

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



May you rejoice in the gladness of
this Christmas Season and may
the spirit of Peace and Good Will
remain with you always.

MERKEL FARM MACHINERY CO.

Bullock Hardware

TOYS For Good Little GIRLS and BOYS!



VALUES
GALORE!
SHOP OUR
COMPLETE
TOYLAND!

WHITE'S Christmas Thrift Sale

Give a WHITE Super Chief Bike this Christmas!
FULL SIZE BOYS' OR GIRLS' MODEL
Priced at only... **37.95**
OH BOY! IT'S HEEN!
Payments only \$1.25 weekly!
Full 26-inch Racing-type roller chain. Safety approved rear reflector. Kick-up parking stand, enameled rims. Maroon and ivory trim.
DELUXE GREYHOUND COASTER WAGON
1 1/2" RUBBER TIRES! ENAMEL FINISH! A REAL VALUE... **8.95**

BIG VALUE TOT'S TRICYCLE
REGULAR \$7.95
5.88
BRIGHT RED FINISH!
ADJUSTABLE SEAT AND HANDLEBARS!

DELUXE "JACK DEMPSEY" BOXING GLOVES
2 PAIRS (4 GLOVES) TO A SET!
IT'S FUN!
IT'S SPORT!
SPECIAL **6.95**

BONNIE BRAIDS DOLL
SHE CRIES!
SHE SOBBS!
SHE COOS!
11 1/2-INCH SIZE
3.98
COMPLETE WITH BLANKET!
Bring a sparkle to the eye of your little girl this Christmas with this cuddlesome Bonnie Braids Doll, a specialty because of her famous "father!"
DELUXE 14-INCH SIZE BONNIE BRAIDS DOLL
THE DOLL ANY LITTLE GIRL SHOULD BE PROUD TO OWN... NOW ONLY **6.95**

REGULAR 98c VALUE
Special 29c
"JOE PALOOKA" DURABLE PLASTIC BOP BAG
RETURNS TO UPRIGHT POSITION!
REALLY AN OUTSTANDING VALUE!
HURRY! HURRY! SUPPLY IS LIMITED!

THRIFT SALE SPECIALS!

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JUST LIKE MOM'S! A REAL BUY! SPECIAL **2.19**

SENSATIONAL TOY ELECTRIC IRON
COMPLETE WITH ELECTRIC CORD!
NOW ONLY **1.59**

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DURABLE PLASTIC! HOOD IS COMPLETELY REMOVABLE! NOW **98c**

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NOW ONLY **2.19**

NURSE'S KIT
EVERYTHING NEEDED TO BRING DOLLY BACK TO NORMAL... NOW **98c**

WASHING MACHINE
JUST LIKE MOM'S CHRISTMAS THRIFT SALE SPECIAL **2.39**

MAKE THIS A WHITE CHRISTMAS!

SHOOTING GALLERY
THE FINEST OF INDOOR GAMES! FOR HOURS OF ENTERTAINMENT! STURDILY CONSTRUCTED! CHRISTMAS THRIFT SALE SPECIAL **2.66**

WESTERN FRONTIER SET
BE SURE TO GIVE HIM THIS SENSATIONAL WESTERN FRONTIER SET
COMPLETE WITH RIFLE, HARMLESS BULLETS, STAGE COACH, COVERED WAGON, STOCKS, CORNERS, INDIANS, SOLDIERS, BANDIT AND BUFFALO
PRICED AT ONLY... **4.95**

TALLY BELL SET
WITH BASKET AND BASKETBALL! BELL RINGS WHEN BASKET IS SCORED!
CHRISTMAS SPECIAL **1.99**

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SHE WILL LOVE THIS MAPLE ROCKING CHAIR!
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PRICED AT ONLY **5.95**

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WITH GALLOPING HORSES & BELL!
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VENDS GUM WHEN PENNY IS INSERTED!
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TEACHES THE YOUNGESTERS TO SAVE! NOW ONLY **1.98**

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SENSATIONAL MAKE VALUE! REGULAR \$3.98
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FOR THE PARADE RAILROADER, YOUNG OR OLD!
WITH 2-RAIL TRACK, ELECTRIC!
PRICED AS LOW AS... **17.95**

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WHITE Auto Store
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BOYS' AND GIRLS' LEATHERCRAFT HOBBY KIT
EDUCATIONAL AND HIGHLY ENTERTAINING! CHRISTMAS SPECIAL **1.49**

Kit includes 8 cut-out pieces of leather for making a purse, wallet, key and comb case. With linings.
HOLSTER SET
COMPLETE WITH 2 GUNS & 2 LEATHER HOLSTERS
PRICED AT ONLY **1.77**



Wilson Jewelers
Present
Your
CHRISTMAS
CHECK LIST

- for LADIES—
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ELGIN HAMILTON BULOVA WYLER
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Punch Bowl Set
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Birthstone Ring
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- for MEN—
WATCHES
ELGIN HAMILTON BULOVA WYLER
BILLFOLD
WATCH BAND
SHAVERS
SUNBEAM REMINGTON SCHICK
Cigarette Lighters
ZIPPO RONSON
Belt Buckle Set
BOOK ENDS
TIE RACKS
MASONIC RING
Birthstone Ring
SHIP CLOCK

Diamonds Always Make the Perfect Gift
For Ladies and Men



Attend the Church of Your Choice

Amity Baptist Church
 Morning Service—11:15 a.m.
 Sunday School—10:30 a.m.
 Evening Bible Class 6:30 p.m.
 Evening Services 7:30 p.m.

Merkel Calvary Baptist Church
 Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
 Morning Service 11:00 a.m.
 Evening Bible Class 6:30 p.m.
 Evening Worship 7:30 p.m.

Primitive Baptist Church
 Saturday Night Service
 Sunday Service 11 a.m.

Tye Baptist Church
 Sunday:
 Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
 Morning Worship 11:00 a.m.
 Training Union 6:45 p.m.
 Evening Services 7:30 p.m.

Tye Methodist Church
 Sunday:
 Sunday School 10:00 a.m.
 M. Y. F. 7:00 p.m.
 Prayer Meeting 7:30 p.m.
 Morning Service 11:00 a.m.

Pioneer Memorial Chapel
 Sunday School 10:00 a.m.
 Morning Service 11:00 a.m.
 Evening Services 8:00 p.m.
 Wednesday:
 Evening Prayer Service 7:30

Trent Church of Christ
 Sunday:
 Sunday 11:00 o'clock
 Bible Class 10:00 a.m.
 Morning Worship 11:00 a.m.
 Evening Services 8:00 p.m.
 Thursday:
 Ladies Bible Class 4:00 p.m.

Noodle Baptist Church
 Sunday:
 Sunday School 10:00 a.m.
 Morning Worship 11:00 a.m.
 Young People's Class 6:30 p.m.
 Evening Service 8:00 p.m.

Merkel Church of Christ
 Sunday:
 Bible Study 9:45 a.m.
 Morning Service 11:00 a.m.
 Young People's Bible Class 6:30 p.m.
 Evening Services 7:30 p.m.

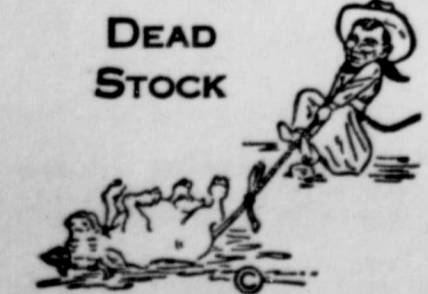
Trent First Baptist Church
 Sunday:
 Sunday School 10:00 a.m.
 Morning Worship 11:00 a.m.
 Training Union 6:45 p.m.
 Evening Services 7:30 p.m.
 Tuesday:
 U. M. U. 9:30 a.m.
 Wednesday:
 G. A.'s and R. A.'s 6:30 p.m.
 Prayer Services 7:30 p.m.
 Brotherhood, 1st Thursday of month, "You are a stranger here but once."

Hebron Baptist Church
 Sunday School 10:00 a.m.
 Morning Worship 11:00 a.m.
 Training Union 7:00 p.m.
 Evening Worship 8:00 p.m.
 Wednesday:
 Evening Prayer Services 7:30 p.m.

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 While you wait
 ALWAYS CARRY A SPARE KEY

Keys Duplicated
 for
 Autos-Offices
 Homes-Padlocks
 Apartments
 An Extra Key Today
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 Removes



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CENTRAL HIDE & RENDERING CO.

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 Phone 4-4001 Abilene, Texas

Merkel Grace Presbyterian Church
 Sunday School 10:00 a.m.
 Worship Service 11 a.m.
 Evening Service 7:00 p.m.

Compere Baptist Church
 Sunday School 10:00 a.m.
 Morning Worship, 2nd and 4th Sunday 11 a.m.

Church of the Nazarene
 Services at the Merkel Church of the Nazarene are as follows:

Sunday School 10:00 a.m.
 Morning Worship 11:00
 Training Union 7:00 p.m.
 Evening Services 7:30 p.m.
 Wednesday:
 Prayer Service 7:30 p.m.

Merkel Assembly of God
 Sunday school 10 a.m.
 Morning Service 11 a.m.
 C. A.'s (Young People) 7 p.m.
 Evening Worship 7:30 p.m.
 Tuesday W. M. C. 2 p.m.
 Wed. Prayer Service 7:30 p.m.

New Live Oak Baptist Church
 Sunday:
 Sunday School 10 a.m.
 Morning Worship 11 a.m.
 Training Union 6:45 p.m.
 Evening Worship 7:30 p.m.

Evening Worship 8:00 p.m.
 Morning Services 11:00 a.m.
 M. Y. F. Services 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday:
 Prayer Services 7:30 p.m.

Noodle Church of Christ
 Sunday:
 Bible Class 10:00 a.m.

Morning Worship Service 11:00
 Young People's Service 6:30 p.m.
 Evening Worship 7:30 p.m.

Merkel First Baptist Church
 Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
 Morning Worship 11:00 a.m.
 Training Union 6:30 p.m.
 Evening Worship 7:30 p.m.

Wednesday Prayer Service 7:30 p.m.
 W. M. U. Mon. 9:30 a.m.

Merkel First Methodist Church
 Sunday:
 Sunday School 9:50 a.m.
 Morning Worship 10:50 a.m.
 M. Y. F. 6:30 p.m.
 Evening Worship 7:30 p.m.

KEEP CHRISTMAS MERRY



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 CITY..... TEXAS

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Electrical Appliances
 \$1.00 DOWN BUYS ANY OF THESE APPLIANCES.

Choose a General Electric gift for lasting pleasure from our large stock of nationally advertised electrical appliances. You will find the GE Gift that will keep on giving every day of the year. Come in and choose yours today while our stocks are complete.

Refrigerators

GE — COFFEE MAKERS **GE — ELECTRIC MIXERS**
GE — VACUUM CLEANERS **GE — WAFFLE IRONS**
GE — ELECTRIC HEATERS **GE — TOASTERS**
GE — ELECTRIC BLANKETS **GE — IRONS**
GE — RADIOS **GE — HOME FREEZERS**

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PALMER MOTOR CO.
 PHONE 159 MERKEL, TEXAS

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CHEVROLET

Be sure you get the deal you deserve. See us now. Find out how much you'll be ahead with Chevrolet's exclusive features and our low prices. Find out why... There's **NO** Value like **CHEVROLET Value!**

SEE WHAT YOU GAIN WITH THESE EXCLUSIVE CHEVROLET FEATURES

More Powerful Valve-in-Head Engine with Powerglide Automatic Transmission (optional on De Luxe models at extra cost) • Body by Fisher • Center-poise Power • Safety Plate Glass all around, with E-Z-Eye plate glass (optional at extra cost) • Largest Brakes in its field • Unitized Knee-Action Ride.

Lowest-Priced Line in its Field!

WIN \$25,000 FIRST PRIZE IN THE GENERAL MOTORS BETTER HIGHWAYS AWARDS
 162 awards totalling \$194,000. Come in for free "Facts Book" containing entry blank and complete details of contest.

Badger Chevrolet Co.

CHERRY - WOOD

BEDROOM SUITE

WILL BE GIVEN AWAY SATURDAY AFTERNOON - DEC 20 AT 3 P M.

SEE IT DISPLAYED ON OUR FLOOR

SPECIAL PRICES FOR CHRISTMAS

MAGAZINE RACK EACH	\$1.69	END TABLES EACH	\$1.69
SMOKERS EACH	\$3.95	VEN. STYLE MIRRORS EACH	\$2.49
JUVENILE DINETTE SUITE 3-Piece	\$19.95	AJUSTABLE BED LAMPS EACH	\$2.95
SHREDDED LATEX PILLOWS EACH	\$3.95	ELECTRIC BLANKETS EACH	DOUBLE BED SIZE \$29.95
PLATFORM ROCKERS PLASTIC COVERED	\$24.50	MOTOROLA PORTABLE RADIO AND FLASH CAMERA	\$29.95

ALL WOOL RUGS REDUCED 25%

SAMPSON CARD TABLES EACH	\$5.95	STORAGE SPACE HASSOCKS	AS LOW AS \$10.95
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LAMPS - LAMPS - LAMPS ALL KINDS

24x36 CHENILLE THROW RUGS	WITH RUBBER TREATED BACKS \$2.95	LANE CEDAR CHESTS	AS LOW \$49.50
5 PIECE LIVING ROOM SUITE	Couch - 2 Chairs - 2 Tables ALL FOR \$135.85	3 PIECE SECTIONAL Regular Price \$195.00 LIVING ROOM SUITE	REDUCED TO \$97.50
PORTABLE ELECTRIC OVEN	Plugs into 110 Volt. ANY WALL PLUG \$49.50	ASK FOR YOUR FREE THERMOMETER	ADULTS ONLY

STARBUCK FURNITURE CO.

Merkel, Texas

BUY ABILENE HOME

Captain and Mrs. Jack M. Parks have bought a home in Abilene. They have been visiting Mr. and Mrs. Porter Petty the past few

days but will move into their home in about 15 days. Captain Parks is going overseas sometime in January and will be in Abilene until then.

Mrs. Jessie Boykin and two sons who have been visiting in the home of her grandfather, G. C. Smith expects to return home at Salinas California, this coming week.

Mrs. Odie A. Claxton, Jr., and daughter Cynthia Ann of Abilene spent several days this week visiting Mr. and Mrs. Ford Smith Jr.



For a gift that will really
"ring the bell" give a
G-E Automatic Electric Blanket!
Young or old—they
all want Sleeping Comfort!

These are some of the many features that make the General Electric SLEEP-GUARD BLANKET a wonderful and practical Christmas Gift:

- Comfort**
- Warmth Without Weight
 - Pre-Warms The Bed
 - Maintains Constant Temperature
 - Eliminates Midnight Hunt for Extra Blanket

- Economy**
- One G-E Blanket Takes The Place of Three Ordinary Blankets
 - Long-Wearing Washable Fabric

- Style**
- New High-Style Design
 - "Touch-Appeal" Luxury Fabric
 - Smart, Illuminated Bedside Control

You just dial "Sleeping Comfort" to suit your own personal taste — and enjoy perfect sleeping comfort.

West Texas Utilities Company

G-E Automatic Electric Blankets are available in six lush colors — Dresden Blue, Citron, Rose Pink, Sprout Green, Flamingo and Garden Green — and in sizes to fit any style bed.



NEWS ABOUT TOWN

Mr. and Mrs. H. R. McKeever and family visited in Big Spring Sunday with her sister, Mrs. L. W. Fleming, and family.

Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Greiner and son Ronnie of Keota, Ia., were guests Sunday and Monday of her cousin, Mrs. Woody Wilson, and family.

Mrs. Chester Hutcheson of Abilene spent Sunday with her father, J. T. Darsey.

Billy Bowen and Buddy Hurst of Fort Worth visited over the weekend with Mr. and Mrs. D. E. Bowen.

Mr. and Mrs. Leroy Eason of Ft. Worth came here Saturday night

He returned home Sunday and she will be here until Christmas with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Ray Jennings.

Mr. and Mrs. Lee Ward spent Sunday in Lamesa with his mother, Mrs. Ida Ward.

Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Morris with their daughters, Beverley, Norma Jean and Betty of Wichita Falls visited her parents, Mr. and Mrs. O. B. Boden, Sr., over the weekend.

Mr. and Mrs. Ezra Lamb of Carlsbad, New Mexico, spent Sunday with her brother, Dean Higgins, and family and her mother,

Mrs. W. J. Higgins, who returned home with them.

Mr. and Mrs. Ollie Fox were guests Saturday night and Sunday in Abilene of their son, J. D. Fox and family.

Mr. and Mrs. Stanley King spent the weekend with their son, Norman, and family in Lubbock.

Mr. and Mrs. Mason Pee Sweetwater visited his brother, K. and Cyrus, and their wives.

Mr. and Mrs. Coleman O'Connell and family spent Saturday Sweetwater on business and

Mr. and Mrs. W. T. spent Sunday in Cisco, Tex., with relatives.

Mrs. William T. Hutcheson and son, Steve of Houston are visiting with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. O. W. Paine.

Our Growing Trade Barriers Weaken Free World's Unity

WASHINGTON. — Nineteen countries, each a friend and ally of the United States, have protested to the Department of State that they are bewildered by various actions on our part which either threaten or reduce their trade in the American market.

They are bewildered, they say, at the inconsistency of our blocking trade (imports), while we are encouraging them to produce more and sell more in the United States.

In effect, their point is this: To shield American industries from foreign competition, we seem to be undermining our efforts to promote economic recovery, political stability, and military preparedness in the rest of the free world. Unreasonable trade barriers, they say, weaken the strength and unity of free nations.

This feeling among our allies, the Department of State points out, is very significant—and not only with respect to trade relationships. For the inconsistency in our trade policy raises questions in the minds of other people with regard to all our programs in the free world.

The practical effect of tighter restrictions on our imports, without doubt, is to hurt both the United States and friendly countries. For, the Department of State emphasizes, such barriers tend to diminish—

1. The chances of cutting down our foreign aid.
2. The opportunities for improving the use of manpower and resources among the free nations.
3. The livelihood of free peoples.

In addition, there is an impact on our leadership in world affairs. Since trade is the lifeblood of the world's economy, one sure result will be to lessen our leadership in all things if we do not support the movement among our allies toward freer trade.

For several years the United States has been aiding our allies through the Marshall Plan and the Mutual Security Program. This help to others is based on the assumption that they eventually will recover and will then be in a position to sell us enough to pay for what they need from us.

It is apparent, says the State Department, that if other countries are to become self-supporting, trade and not aid should become the means whereby they can obtain more dollars. Other-

wise, the American aid that keeps them going must continue to come out of the American taxpayer's pocket.

In addition, every move toward increased U.S. trade restrictions is used now as ammunition in the Communist attack against us. The Communists are propagandizing that our only interest in aiding others is to assure bigger markets for ourselves. They tell other people that this is our aim, that we are slamming our doors against the products of other people.

More directly, the Department points out, our own security requires the freeing of trade from unreasonable barriers. The manpower and resources of the United States alone are not sufficient. The United States needs to combine its strength with its allies to make the best possible joint use of manpower and resources. More trade is the best way to assure this.

But trade restrictions tend to prevent such cooperation. They force other countries to misuse scarce resources, to waste manpower, and to isolate their economies.

Most Americans, of course, realize that the well-being of free peoples goes hand in hand with how much is bought and sold in markets outside of each country. For example:

- In some cases, the foreign trade of our allies represents the equivalent of from 20 to 40 percent of their total national income each year.
- Our reliance on trade is likewise heavy, though the proportion is not so great. For not only do we ship abroad tremendous quantities of our goods, but also year by year our imports become more important to our way of living.

Just how significant our imports are to the health of American industry was pointed out recently by the President's Materials Policy Commission. Summing up on raw-material needs for the next 25 years, the Commission concluded that the amazingly efficient American industries are becoming increasingly dependent upon raw materials produced outside the United States.

The Commission also recognized the growing pressure here for "protectionism"—a descriptive term for import barriers—and it condemned what it called our "self-imposed blockade."

That blockade has been due, in part, to the efforts of domestic groups looking only to their own interests. The Department says must be scrutinized in the light of the general interests of the United States. In many cases they conflict with our general interests, and when they do, the latter should prevail.

The Department of State points out one barrier, the "cheese embargo," to illustrate just what trade restrictions will do. The curtailment of foreign cheese imports has had these effects:

1. It has seriously impaired the economic and political situations in poor regions of Southern Italy, Sicily, and Sardinia, where production and export of cheese to the United States represented a principal means of livelihood.
2. It has made it necessary for us to continue to give away more dollars to keep these areas buying our products.
3. It has meant that they have less money with which to sustain their own efforts at recovery and defense.

Unreasonable import barriers suggest this paradox: It is as though American workers in Detroit, producing trucks for our NATO partner, Holland, were refusing to buy Dutch cheese. To keep Holland buying the trucks, the Detroit workers would have to slip dollars into the pockets of the Netherlands.

That process, the Department says, is, of course, economic nonsense and is sure to create problems in world affairs. Yet it is just about what Americans are forced to do by unreasonable trade restrictions.

Moreover, and what is very important to all Americans, the process hinders normal business operations. It causes Government "interference" with the usual trade of farmers, businessmen, and consumers in doing business with foreign buyers and sellers.

The Department emphasizes that the alternative—a gradual elimination of trade barriers—offers the only sound solution. For the major trade problem of other countries is their lack of dollars; they believe we can help solve that problem by assuring them a "fair shake" at earning American cash.

By reducing our restrictions and thus helping our allies to find an opportunity to compete in our market, we will enable them to earn more dollars and to pay their own way. As a Department economic expert put it, "Trade, not aid, is the best way to strengthen the free world."

For the
Best
Truck Deal
in Town

See your **FORD** Dealer!

PAUL HONEYCUTT MOTORS



May the seasons cheer gladden you and stay with you this Happy Holiday Season.

Wanda's Florist

Edd's Cafe

4 Local Scouts Make Reservations Go to Jamboree

Four local Boy Scouts made reservations to attend the third National Boy Scout Jamboree to be held on the Irvine near Santa Anna, Calif., Dec. 23.

Billson, Bobby Malone, Harland and Kennedy Whiteley among the 140 Scouts and Scouts from the Chisholm Council who will attend the jamboree.

Over 50,000 boys from all over the nation and from 15 foreign countries will be camped at the historic Irvine Camp for a week.

Scouts from this area will be camped at Grand Canyon, Salt Lake City.

Travel will be provided by the Explorer Scouts. Reservations should be made at the local Scout Council, Merriam, Miss. to form a party for the last week of the jamboree.

One of the trails of the jamboree will be the Scout Trail.



The Happiest of Holidays!

J. T. Darsey



Sincere wishes for A HAPPY HOLIDAY!

Humble Service Station
Kenneth Purser



We Wish You A
Very Merry
Christmas.

Ann's Beauty Shop



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

Higgins and Bunch Garage



We derive great pleasure in wishing you A HAPPY HOLIDAY!

Stuts Cafe



May the joy of Christmas abide in you all.



J. L. Massey



Our compliments of the season to you —

Higgins Barber Shop



MOSLEY SHOE REPAIR



May God bless you At this Christmas time

La Siesta Motel



May the Joy and Peace of Christmas be with you throughout the year.

Norma's Beauty Shop



R. O. Anderson



Merry Christmas and Joy to our friends this Holiday Season

Wood's Grocery and Market



The Charm of CHRISTMAS lies in the thought that we live in the memory of our friends

Merkel Ice



We wish to thank everyone for their fine patronage and at this season we also wish you all

A Merry Christmas and A Happy New Year



STAR HDW. AND FURNITURE CO.
Trent, Texas



May you have a Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year!

Bob Fowler



May yours be a Merry one!

W. F. GOLLADAY
Wholesale Conoco Consignee



VILLAGE INN



"Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord." Mark 11:9

Best Wishes for a Merry Christmas.

MERKEL COURTS
Mr. and Mrs. R. N. Mosier



We offer our best holiday greetings and pledge you a bright and merry Yuletide season.



Dudley Electric
Quannah Dudley



The greatest gift is given again on Christmas Day; may this new Yuletide bring joy and faith abundant.
1952



MACK'S CLEANERS

To our many friends



The spirit of the season strengthens our bonds of mutual friendship



ADCOCK CLEANERS



May the joy of Christmas abide in you all.



CITY DRY CLEANERS



We hope you may be surrounded by joy and gladness and filled with the warmth Christmas brings to everyone.

Merkel Cafe



Dowdy & Toombs



BEST WISHES FOR A WONDERFUL HOLIDAY

BONEY INSURANCE AGENCY

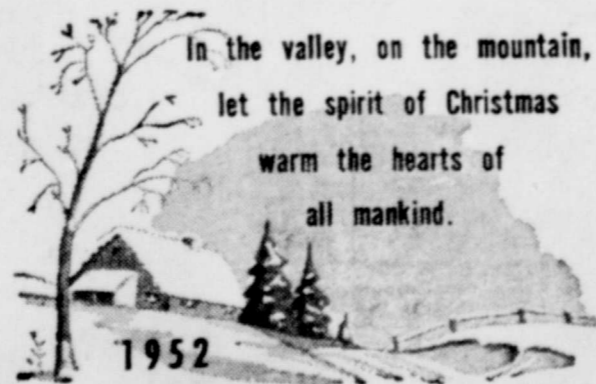


May the great joy of the season find its way into your hearts in large measure.

WILSON'S JEWELRY



Ben Franklin Store



Higgins Blacksmith and Welding Shop



PAUL HONEYCUTT MOTORS



Happiness and good will are the order of the day.

MERKEL PLUMBING Co.

Season's Greetings

Taylor Electric Cooperative, Inc
Taylor Refrigeration Co-op
Merkel, Texas



May you enjoy
the true peace
of the season.

West Company

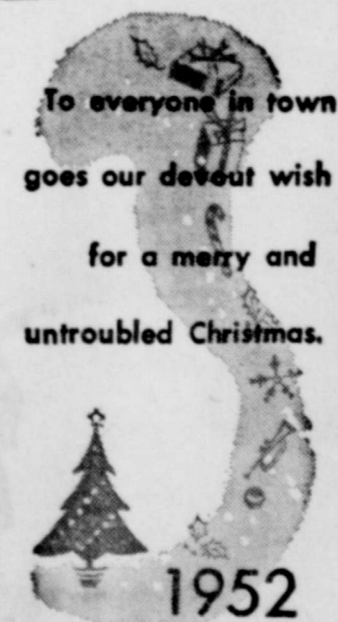


*Santa Told Us
Not to Tell*

We know what Santa's bringing you--
But, we're not going to tell.
His pack contains surprising gifts
And things you want as well.
But, we can tell you of our wish
That you and yours will find
This Christmas filled with merriment
Good will and peace of mind.

MERKEL DRUG CO.

MERRY CHRISTMAS



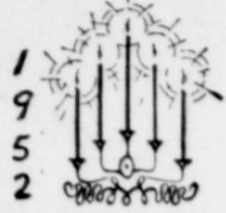
BURTON-LINGO CO.

CLYDE BARTLETT

J. D. GENTRY



The splendid spirit of the season shines in the hearts of men.



The Nook Cafe



Our hope for your peace and happiness goes out to every one of you.



City Drug



The gift we cherish most is the priceless one of your friendship. 1952

Eager Feed Store



A bright and merry Christmas to our friends and neighbors.

Max Mellinger



We're happy to be sharing another holiday season with you.



Service Station and Neta Courts



All the blessings of the season to you and yours. 1952

Highway Service Station ROY HUNTER, Owner



We're popping up to wish you a joyous Christmas. 1952

MERRITT PLUMBING



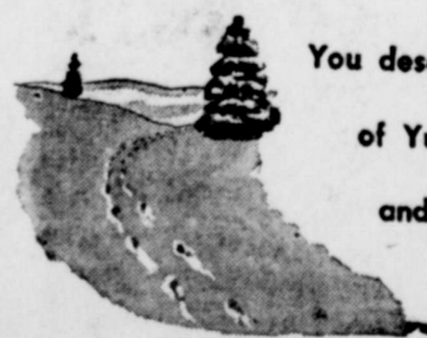
We're on time with 'special' wishes for a bright and happy holiday season.

O-K Grocery & Market

Merry Christmas



Christmas 1952 May all Happiness be yours



You deserve a wealth of Yuletide joy and peace.

HIGGINBOTHAM-BARTLETT COMPANY

Subscribe to
THE ABILENE
REPORTER-NEWS
 at the
 Fall Bargain Offer
 Daily & Sunday \$10.95
 Daily only \$ 9.95
 One Year—By Mail
 Anywhere in West Texas



GREETINGS

During This Blessed Season

We want to rejoice with you and your family on the happy meaning of Christmas and to join you in praying for true "Peace on earth and good will to men."

Mina Winter Bulane Gas Co.

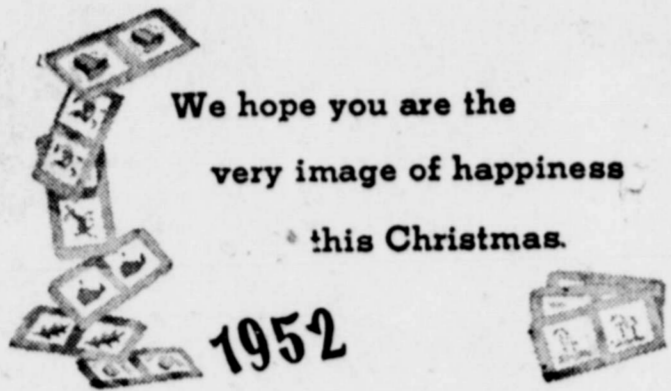


HAPPY HOLIDAY!

Clyde's Garage



Be of... Good Cheer



We hope you are the very image of happiness this Christmas.

Petty Service Station



Season's Greetings



May Christmas bring you all its joy

1952

Grif Barnett



A CHRISTMAS GREETING Especially for You

Peace attend you the season through. And may your fondest dreams come true.



1952

WHITE AUTO STORE



Christmas Wishes

...1952

In the prevailing spirit, we offer our hope for your complete happiness...



...and we commend to you the extra joy this season brings to all our hearts.



Home State Bank, Trent, Texas

Member — Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation

J. G. Wilks, President
 James V. Ross, Cashier
 John C. Crain, Director

T. H. Williamson, Vice President
 Pearl Matthews, Bookkeeper
 Dow Williamson, Director

Greetings

A wealth of happiness is yours this Christmas.

1952

B B Barber Shop

Bob McDonald
 M.B. Bell
 Homer Newby
 O.N. Buford

A Smooth Holiday Track



We'd like to "engineer" a Merry Christmas for you.

1952

Woodrum Service Station



Merry Christmas

Our sincere good wishes go out to you.



1952

Bowen's Service Station



A Portrait Of Christmas

Trees a-glow with colored lights—
be-ribboned gifts heaped beneath the
tree—stacks of greeting cards from
friends and loved ones—the heart-
stirring melody of Christmas carols—
stockings hung up on the mantle—
the promise of a princely feast on
the morrow—but, first Santa's visit
and the mad scramble of eager chil-
dren to see what he has brought.
This is Christmas. May all of this be
yours—and to it we add our warmest
greetings and kindest wishes.

Merkel Co-op Station



1952



*Not even a cataclysm could keep
us from offering you, in perfect
sincerity, the kind of Merry Christmas
the people of our town deserve.
Best wishes to all.*



BRAGG'S



What More Is There To Say

As our thoughts turn to you this
Holiday Season, we wonder just
how we can convey to you all that
is in our hearts.

We finally choose—as always—
the simplest and sweetest message
of them all: "Merry Christmas."

QUEEN THEATRE

CHRISTMAS



Fear not, for behold!

The good tidings of great joy are
wonderfully repeated for us all
again this year.

C. F. Curb
GULF PRODUCTS

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Light A Candle

For us on Christmas Day—and may its glow reflect the radiance of our cordial wishes to you and yours, this Christmas—and always.

And A Happy New Year
Missie's Floral Shop

joys of this
Season
with you,
y at
s, but each
ay of the
coming year.



Go You and Yours

May the Holiday Season bring to you an abundance of Joy, Love and Fulfillment.

Rufe Tittle

Commissioner Pct. No. 2



We extend to all the Joys
of a
Very Merry Christmas Day.

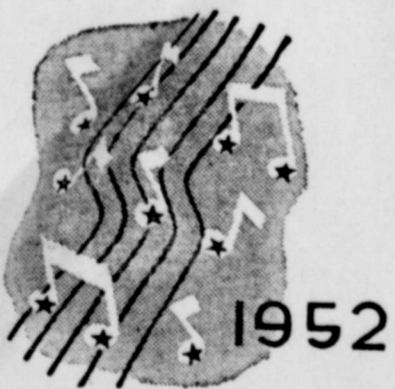
SADLER CLINIC-HOSPITAL

Irl Walker

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REPORTER-NEWS**
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HAPPY HOLIDAY

May your heart
sing with the
true joy of
Christmas time.



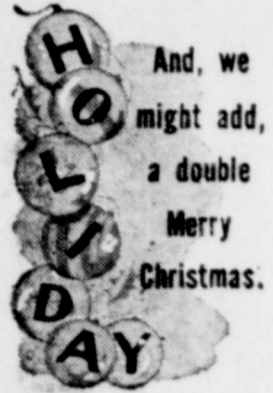
zy's Cafe



Merry Christmas to all of You

May the glow of your Christmas candles reflect all of the joys and fulfilled desires of the past year---and may that radiance forecast the coming year as the best and brightest of them all.

Starbuck Furniture Co.



And, we might add, a double Merry Christmas.

J.W. Love Service Station
Panhandle products
Trent, Texas



A Happy Holiday To All
The entire staff joins in wishing our friends the MERRIEST CHRISTMAS
PALMER MOTOR CO.



Badger Chevrolet Co.
Miller Implement Co.



Ferrier Service Station



We offer our best holiday greetings and pledge you a bright and merry Yuletide season



Andy Shouse



A bountiful, merry Christmas to one and all.



T. D. Scott Humble Service Station
Trent, Texas



Let's help Santa make this the merriest Christmas of all.

B. & D. Garage



In the East, a star, and in the hearts of men a great joy, for unto the world is born a Saviour. His blessing upon mankind!

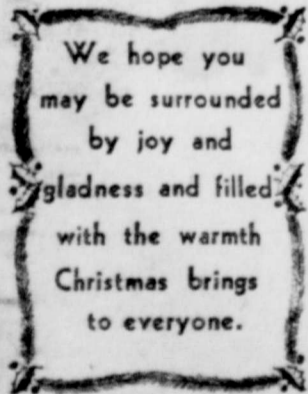
Oak Street Service Station
Truett Perry Jack Collier



Fox Repair Shop

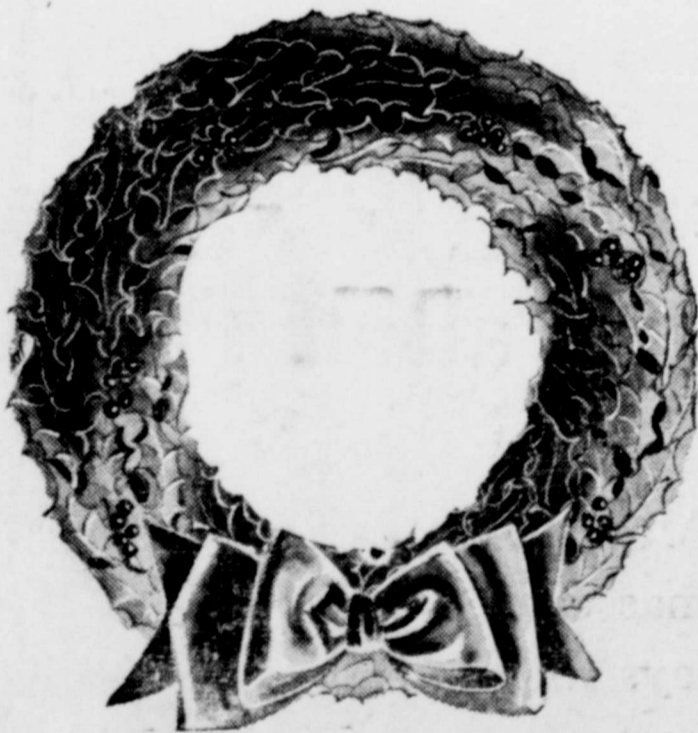


Cyrus Pee Insurance



And A happy New Year

Mr. And Mrs. D. A. Lee Camp Fair



It is a pleasure at this happy season to wish everyone

A Merry Christmas and

A Happy New Year
Farmers Coop. Gin
Morris Smith, Manager
Merkel, Texas



May the meaning of Christmas be deeper, its friendship stronger and its hopes brighter as it comes to you this year.

TOOMBS & MOORE
FEED AND SEED



An old, old wish rings true. May Merry Christmas

J. L. White
Building Contractor

VOL. 63.
Go In Me
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