

THE MERKEL MAIL

On the Broadway of America

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MERKEL, TEXAS, FRIDAY, DECEMBER 25, 1959—TWELVE PAGES IN TWO SECTIONS

PAGE ONE

VOL. 6 AGO

We say Merry Christmas to you with a charming yuletide story



Blenod Christmas

by Stanton M. Meyer

Now that Bruce Sickle is around forty, and probably getting fat and a little bald, maybe he's almost forgotten about little Jeanne and Victor back in the tiny village of Blenod, France—especially since Bruce Sickle is old enough now to have a couple of youngsters every bit as big as Jeanne and Victor were back on that December day in 1917. He lives somewhere in Ohio, perhaps, and I hope Santa Claus is good to him and his family this Christmas.

I'm sure that Jeanne and Victor haven't forgotten. It would be pretty hard to forget anything about that winter when the snow came down and covered up the stretches of broken bricks that once had been beautiful roads, and when the long trains of horse-guns creaked past, plowing deep furrows in the drifts faster than the flakes could fall.

And it would be hard to forget about Christmas that year, too, maybe because it seemed as if there'd be no Christmas. There weren't any candles, for one thing, and even if there had been, you didn't dare put them in the window for fear of enemy planes. And how could you go to mass of a *Nôel* when the church had no roof and only one wall? Even *le bon père* stayed at the field hospital, where he was sorely needed. No candles, no shops, no priest, no fat goose, no toys—and nothing to make them out of, either—not a very pleasant outlook for Christmas with *maman* ill and *papa* far away fighting for *la patrie*. But that was before Jeanne and Victor met Bruce Sickle. You see, it was late on the night of the twenty-third of December that the Buckeye Battery jingled wearily up the road from the east, where the sky was always red after dark. The gun carriages sounded for all the world like a score of Santa Claus sleighs, if you just listened to the clinking of the chains, and forgot about the creaking of the big wheels and the grunts of the soldiers who tried to push them out when the drifts got too deep. How the horses steamed! The lantern light picked out little shining streaks on their backs where the snowflakes had melted away.

Jeanne and Victor tiptoed to the window to watch while the animals were led away to the sheds and barns. Pretty soon the little street was filled with men, and then you could see the light shining out of the *auberge* onto the snow as the *propriétaire* held the door open.

After Jeanne and Victor were back in bed they could hear the horses stamping in the distance, and now and then under their window a broad, hearty laugh and low voices in an accent that sounded not at all like the talk of the English *soldats* who had often billeted here in the past. And then, pretty soon, it was morning.

The very first person little Victor and Jeanne saw after they had given *maman* her tea and bread and had made her warm and gone out into the street—the very first person was Bruce Sickle. Victor remembers his tanned face and his blue eyes, and how small his overseas cap looked on his big round head, and how funny his blue denim overall trousers flapped around his ankles when he walked, showing his spiral leggings underneath.

"Hello, kids!" he said, and laughed. A big hearty laugh that filled the whole street.

"*Vous êtes un Américain?*" asked Victor, timidly.

"Sure!" said Bruce Sickle, "un grand Américain and a darn grand cook!" And he laughed again.

"Cook?" said Jeanne, in her charming Lorraine accent. "What is cook? Un *Officier*, perhaps?"

"No! But yes! Better than an officer. A *chef*. *Chef de cuisine* is the man that cooks the grub for the whole

battery. Soup and coffee and beans and pump-dee-terry, and sometimes a *goulette* for the captain! Why, little girl, what is the matter?"

For the mention of all that food can make even a brave little French girl cry—even one whose *papa* is fighting for *la France*—if she has had nothing to eat for days but hard black bread and watery tea and a little weak red wine. And Jeanne was biting her lip hard to keep back the sobs.

In ten seconds Bruce Sickle was seated on the nearest doorstep with Jeanne on his knee and he was wiping away the tears with a blue handkerchief as big as an altar cloth. And in ten seconds more Victor was sitting on the doorstep beside him, doing the explaining as became the head of the family; and perhaps because he was old for his years—what boy was not in France in 1917? He told what there was to tell in straightforward, matter-of-fact, man-to-man fashion.

He told of *maman*, who had been ill of a malady in the chest for many weeks; of the *papa* who was far away in Picardy; of the great shell that had killed their only cow. Of the black bread that grew blacker and harder as the weeks went on. A doctor? No, of a certainty, there was none in the village. All were needed at the front. No, *monsieur*, *maman* had had no doctor. If it weren't for poor *maman*, and for the fact that little Jeanne would have no Christmas—the rest one could endure for one's *la belle France*. Why not? *C'est la guerre!*

And then suddenly the tall *Americain* had squeezed their hands and left them and was hurrying down the crooked little street. And then he was back again. With an American officer—a military doctor with gray chin-whiskers and bright boots, to whom he was amazingly respectful and said, "Yes, Major" and "Here are the children, sir." And in a little while Major Chin-whiskers was at *maman's* bedside, holding *maman's* wrist very solemnly while the tall *Americain*, the Monsieur Bruce Sickle, was giving them American chewing gum and telling them of his little sister in a faraway place called Akron.

Victor and Jeanne went to sleep late that night. *Maman* had been given medicine from a bottle brought by the American doctor. There had been white bread and jam and a strong chicken broth for supper. Bruce Sickle had brought them in under his overcoat. "From the officers' mess," he said. And now the moon was shining cold and white over the roofs of Blenod and it seemed that even the thunder to the east was nearly stilled.

Does Bruce Sickle remember Christmas Eve in Lorraine in 1917? With the distant murmur of music in the *auberge* and the muffled stamping nearer in the stables where the stout artillery horses nickered and champed the hay in the manger? To Victor that soft champing remains as a living memory, for it made him think of a story of another manger in a long ago time far away.

Victor noticed, too, the flickering lights in the market house where the Buckeye Battery was billeted. Did they ever sleep, these tall *Americains*? And where was that at cannoner going with Monsieur the Inn-Keeper's best and biggest red tablecloth?

And then, strangely, it was morning again.

Victor remembers hearing Jeanne call out from the little living room before he was half out of bed. And then of going in and of seeing *maman* sitting up in a chair, warm and comfortable and smiling. The rest is still like a dream of heaven—as it was then to a boy who had known only cold and shells and the sound of marching feet for three long years.

In the center of the clean-swept room towered a great

tree. One of the republic's own fir trees, no doubt, mysteriously appearing here in this little house as if there were no stern forest guards to protect the nation's wood reserves and keep pilfering hands away. Its high top touched the low ceiling and bent back again. From its branches—carefully tied on with bits of twine—were a dozen candles. Strange they looked, all lit at once! Each white candle bore a stencil mark in purple ink: "U. S. Commissary Dept." And their light made doubly wonderful the strange fruit that covered the tree—little dolls and mannikins and soldiers, cleverly clipped from cardboard; bars of real chocolate; queer little packages labelled "chewing gum". Beneath the tree stood a doll's house, its roof shingled over with the bright covers of cigarette packages. A miniature warship, carved from a single piece of wood with a trench-knife, was steaming through a snowy sea of white cotton. And next to it, miraculously contrived of cigar-box wood and tin cans, stood a toy gun-carriage, caisson and all, bearing the proud sign "Buckeye Battery".

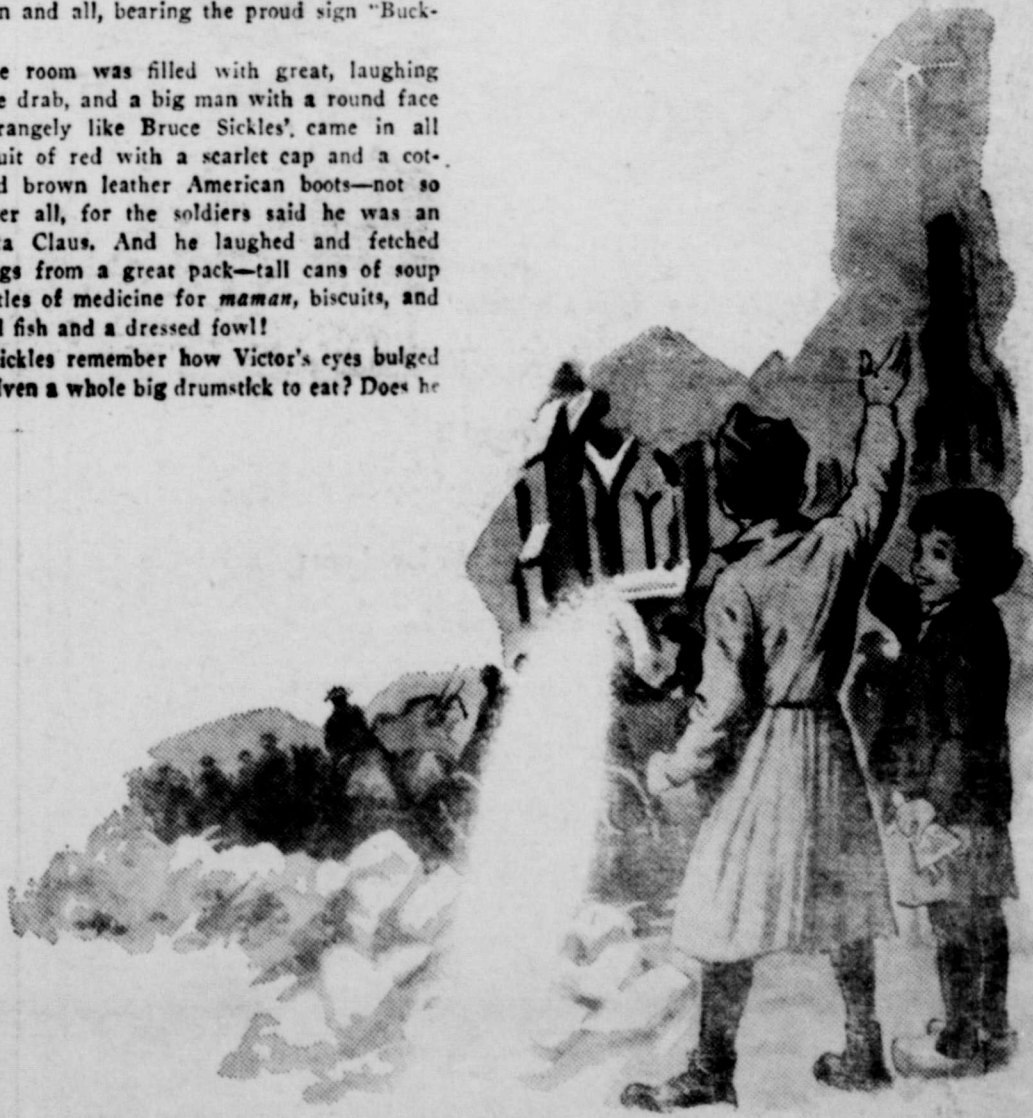
And then the room was filled with great, laughing soldiers in olive drab, and a big man with a round face that looked strangely like Bruce Sickle's, came in all dressed in a suit of red with a scarlet cap and a cotton beard and brown leather American boots—not so astonishing after all, for the soldiers said he was an American Santa Claus. And he laughed and fetched wonderful things from a great pack—tall cans of soup and beans, bottles of medicine for *maman*, biscuits, and cake and tinned fish and a dressed fowl!

Can Bruce Sickle remember how Victor's eyes bulged when he was given a whole big drumstick to eat? Does he

remember the warm red fire in the stove, and how the red-haired soldier made little Jeanne laugh when he imitated a cat-and-dog fight and then played on a mouth harp? Does he recall the songs, and how he taught a little French boy to sing "K-K-K-Katy" while the war seemed far away?

I wonder if he remembers seeing a boy and a girl the next morning, standing near the market house when the horses were led to their places at the guns and the Buckeye Battery jingled away through the snow toward the east where the thunder was loud again. Does he recall, perhaps, waving from the back of the escort wagon? And of hearing two voices cry, "Bon voyage!" above the noise of command and the horses' feet?

Does he remember? I, Victor, think he does.



This World War I Christmas story originally appeared a quarter of a century ago in the old *St. Nicholas Magazine* for November, 1934. It has since become something of a minor children's classic. To many a U. S. veteran who once spent a Christmas far from home—in Italy, France, the South Pacific or Korea—this tale may strike a nostalgic note of remembrance.

UP THE CANYON

By TOM RUSSOM

Well there wasn't anything wrong with any of us but what this two inch rain didn't help. My, it was fine and will be such help to small grain and the sowing of oats yet to come.

Livestock men are feeding their herds right along now and all livestock are doing real well. There won't be any more stock going to market now until after the first of the new year. Then it is our opinion there will be quite a few.

The Neill brothers, who had a good herd of Southdown sheep, sold some of them. Due to being overstocked they wanted to cut down on the herd. The ewes brought an average of \$40 per head.

The boys have had excellent luck showing their sheep, and have a fine herd left.

Mrs. Frank Brnovak accompanied by her Sunday School class of the Pioneer church went to the home of Mrs. B. H. Riney Sunday morning and presented a program. Mrs. Riney, who has been unable to attend church for some time due to illness, is reported some better at this time.

Mr. and Mrs. Payton Scott of Wyoming arrived home to spend Christmas holidays with their parents, Mr. and Mrs. A. D. Scott and Mr. and Mrs. Bunk Tipton.

Mr. and Mrs. Howard Brown and Mrs. Kate Phillips of Merkel attended the Christmas program at the Pioneer church here Sunday night.

Ray Orsburn, stockman on the north side of the Canyon, has made a deal to rent the Mrs. John S. Hughes place for another year. It is one of the good farms in the White Church area. Ray is a pretty big operator in that area and sows a lot of small grain.

Frank Brnovak has been on the sick list but is improving at this time. He said if the deer season had lasted longer he would have been much better. He and Mrs. Brnovak bagged a deer apiece. That was real good luck.

Mrs. Oswald Everett of Crosbyton and Miss Mable McRee of Merkel attended church at Pioneer Memorial here Sunday.

Miss Peggy Exelander, granddaughter of Mr. and Mrs. B. H. Riney, attended church at Pioneer here Sunday. She and her mother the former Melissa Riney, have been visiting their parents and grandparents the past week.

Mrs. Jess Russom and daughter, Maggie, left the first of the

week to spend Christmas with their sons and brothers, Mr. and Mrs. Booth Russom of Seminole and Mr. and Mrs. T. H. Russom of Eunice, N. M.

CEMETERY FUND

The following persons have made contributions to the Merkel Cemetery Association fund:
 Fannie Boaz Richardson

The writer of this column and family extend greetings for a very merry Christmas and a prosperous and above all a hearty

and healthy New Year to all the readers.

For Butane Gas, Appliances
 and Tractor Conversions

PHONE 169

1142 North First

H. W. LEMENS

Merry
 Christmas!

Best wishes of the season and the hope that the coming year will bring new happiness to all.

Happy
 New Year!

Mina Winter

Butane

"Merry Christmas"

We say it BIG because we mean it BIG . . . everyone here at the F&M — officers, directors, and staff — join in extending to you and your family best wishes for the Merriest Christmas you have ever had. This is the time of year when everyday worries and troubles seem to diminish as we give more attention to unselfish living according to His teachings. Perhaps there's no better argument for keeping the Christmas Spirit throughout the year. There's no question that the simple procedure of following the Golden Rule would not only solve many of the major problems we have today, but in addition would prevent many of the problems that will arise in the days and years to come. It's a beautiful thought, but how can it be accomplished? It is a reality at Christmastime, isn't it — so it's not impossible. It is our hope that the Spirit of Christmas will be a reality with you throughout the coming year, that the happiness of the holiday season, the progress made possible by opportunities in this great country of ours, and the best of health be with you and your family for years to come.

THE OLD RELIABLE

FARMERS and MERCHANTS
 NATIONAL BANK

Member Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation



Beautiful indeed, is the story of Christmas . . . the story of how, so many years ago, the wise men saw the light . . . the Star . . . and followed it to a rich and wonderful reward. Again it is Christmas . . . a time to draw our loved ones and our friends closer to us . . . a time to find new faith and new hope in the true spirit of Christmas. It is in this spirit that all of us here at West Texas Utilities Company send warm and cordial Christmas Greetings to you and yours. May you have a very Merry Christmas. And may its laughter, its friendships and its good cheer be yours in abundance in this joyous season.



West Texas Utilities
 Company



We esteem it a privilege to have served you during the year just past. We hope that your Christmas is a merry one, complete with all good things and that your New Year will be filled with peace and prosperity.

STARBUCK CO.



We esteem it a privilege to have served you during the year just past. We hope that your Christmas is a merry one, complete with all good things and that your New Year will be filled with peace and prosperity.

WE WILL BE CLOSED FRIDAY & SATURDAY December 25-26

CARSON'S SUPERMARKET

FREE FREE THIS FAMOUS 1910 MODEL-T 4 Cycle 3H.P. Engine HALF SIZE REPLICA

Who wouldn't like to win this one -Half Size Replica of Famous 1910 Model-T 3 H.P. 4 Cycle Engine

EASY TO START WITH RECOIL STARTER STEEL FRAME - BODY OF MOLDED FIBERGLASS



REGISTER DAILY

NOTHING TO BUY NOTHING TO MAIL

Register Daily

NOTHING TO BUY Nothing To Mail

It's Big - It's Powerful - It's Hot - You don't Need To Be Smart - Just Lucky

NOTHING TO BUY - JUST COME-IN AND REGISTER EVERY DAY!

DRAWING TIME 4:00 P. M. CHRISTMAS EVE DEC. 24TH.

At Carson's Supermarket

The Texian Editor's

Frontier News Flashes

Department of Journalism & Graphic Arts University of Houston

Department of Journalism and Graphic Arts University of Houston December 14-19, 1859

NEWS FROM WASHINGTON

Every precaution it is understood here, has been taken to guard Harper's Ferry against disturbance.

The most stringent regulations will be adopted in regard to the presence of civilians at the execution of Brown and his associates. All applications for passes for civilians within the military lines on the day of execution will be refused on the ground that they will conflict with the military program for the occasion.

The entire line of military guards will be fully a mile distant from the scaffold.

Gov. Wise regards this precaution as necessary, as in the event of an attempt at rescue, the soldiers near the scaffold will be ordered at once to shoot the prisoners, and this would endanger the lives of innocent parties were they admitted so near

GALVESTON

The sunny south at least the portion of it which we inhabit, has been regularly frozen up, for the last two days, with the thermometer at sunrise at from 6 to 10 degrees below the freezing point...

LETTER FROM BROWNSVILLE

Since I last wrote, our affairs here have become decidedly worse.

The forces under Captains Tobin, Tomlinson and Rushnell, with our citizens, are considered insufficient to meet the present force of the enemy.

At two barricades we have a 24 pound brass howitzer kindly loaned to the city by Lieut. Langdon of the United States Army who commands one of them himself, doing duty day and night. The other is under the command of Capt. Kennedy...

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The coal strike is there is some hopes for to keep from freezing Squally times were for Merkel, much less that were not so lvoated. We are truly glaver. We really believe another day or two had to have chopped wood, that, too right in the face of fact that we brought out a new tax?

Misses Levy Titte and Inez Scott and Messrs. Loren Hombr and Dewey Brown motored the country home of Mr. Mrs. W. A. Tittle last Sunday evening and took dinner.

The following schools girls expected home for the holiday: Misses Una Faye Bland, Louise Warren, Geneva Brown Annie Mae Swann, Lola Armstrong, Julia Martin and Lena Swann. Stella Pearl W.atts is reported on the sick list this week.

40 YEARS AGO

IN MERKEL

Wm. L. Carey of Abilene was in Merkel this week in the interest of the new Texas automobile, of which he is county agent. Mr. Carey expects to soon appoint a local agent in Merkel. The Texan is manufactured in Fort Worth.

J. A. Collum of Grove Park Atlanta, Ga., was a visitor at the Merkel Mail office the past week. He is an old subscriber to the Mail. He owns a farm near Stith and is visiting at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Bridges at Stith.

C. E. French of Dallas, is visiting his sister, Mrs. George Boyce.

N. Hancock and brother, B. C. Hancock have bought out the Metropolitan Cafe and from now on it will be known as the Hancock & Bros Cafe. They expect to make a first class Cafe of it.

Mr. and Mrs. T. R. Lassiter left Wednesday for Paducah, Ky., to visit relatives. They will be away about two weeks. Mr. Lassiter urges the overseers to please look after the roads in his absence.

20 YEARS AGO

The Cres... Everybody's business is... by Jackson &... in the business... Waco.

Oscar Buf... the interest... City Barber... one of the... progressive young... the City and we congr... upon this thriving... establishment.

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Tax Man Sam Sez

Retired taxpayers have been given a lot of extra tax deductions by Congress. It is very important that taxpayers with retired income read their instructions. Here are some of the benefits:

- 1. An extra personal exemption for the taxpayer over 65. This can mean two extra exemptions—the husband and the wife.
2. Up to \$240 retirement income credit for the taxpayer. This is a reduction in the amount of taxes you pay. You may be due this credit for both husband and wife. The community property law gives double credit in some cases or it can make you lose your credit in other cases.
3. A tax credit for your pension or annuity. Don't forget the community property law here. Read your instructions carefully.

Peace on Earth Good Will Toward Men. And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace good will toward men. TAYLOR ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE INC

Season's Greetings



Wishing you a holiday
bright with candlelight, friendship,
happiness, good cheer
and pleasant memories to last you
all through the year!

DuBose  **Service**
1210 No. 1st Phone 417

Annual Stockholders' Meeting

Notice is Hereby Given:

That the annual meeting of the stockholders of The Farmers and Merchants National Bank of Merkel, Texas, will be held at the office said Bank on Tuesday, the 12th day of January 1960, at 7:00 o'clock P.M., for the election of Directors and the transaction of such business as may properly come before the meeting.

**FARMERS AND MERCHANTS
NATIONAL BANK
MERKEL, TEXAS**



SENATOR Yarborough's Report

In recent weeks, I have been surprised to read in newspaper reports from Washington that I have an office staff of 30 assistants.

Actually, I have a staff of 18 persons full-time, and three college boys who work half a day each, two at a rate of \$100 per month."

Thirty assistants would enable me to render the service I want to render to the people of Texas. I could render far more efficient service, but I have only 18 regular employees, plus the three half-time students.

Frankly, with key legislation to consider and pass, with mountains of mail to answer and many other pressing services to perform for Texas, we could easily keep that many people hard at work.

Our office directly serves and represents our 9 million Texans scattered over 265,000 square miles of territory. Our office procedure is a fast and complex operation where at any given minute the staff is working on everything from multi-million-dollar water development projects, to major education legislation, to getting an elderly widow's \$40 monthly pension raised or a disabled veteran hospitalized.

Our job of representing and serving the people under the American system of government by the consent of the governed is challenging and fascinating and almost never ending. Our staff is surely one of the hardest working and most dedicated in Washington.

For the service of Texas, we maintain offices in Austin and in Washington the year round, of the staff except an assistant. When Congress is in session, all had one secretary, works in Washington. After Congress adjourns, I return to my Austin headquarters and half of the staff members return with me to carry out our job here. James Boren, my Administrative Assistant, heads up my Washington office while I am in Texas.

Although the reports that we have a staff of 30 people are wholly incorrect, our sincere objective is to give Texans such efficient and responsible governmental representation that they

will assume our staff is twice as big as it really is.



... Wishing
You A Merry Christmas And
A Very Happy New Year!

WILSON JEWELRY

Q — I am the widow of a World War I veteran, and I have a daughter in college who is receiving death compensation payments from VA. She will soon reach her 21st birthday, but she will still be in school. Will it be possible for the VA payments to continue?

A — No. Under the law, compensation payments made to a child of a deceased veteran while she is in school may not be continued after she passes her 21st birthday.

Greetings



We'd like to join our old friend with the whiskers in wishing all of our cherished friends a Merry Christmas and a very happy New Year... may peace be with you always!

WEST HARDWARE

SEASON'S GREETINGS



Best wishes
for Christmas... TO ALL

PALMER MOTOR CO.

Your Pontiac — Rambler Dealer

Merry Christmas

Amid the gayety of the holiday season may we pause and remember the true meaning of Christmas.



Taylor Electric Cooperative

Merkel, Texas

MERRY CHRISTMAS



Forget all your
 cares and worries . .

this day is for fun!

HIGGINS SHOP

SEASON'S GREETINGS



WE WANT TO THANK ALL OUR FRIENDS
 FOR THEIR FAVORS AND PATRONAGE

Merkel Farm Machinery
 PHONE 30

MERRY CHRISTMAS

One of the joys at Christmas
 is greeting folks like you . .

**MERKEL
 Country Club**

TEEN TOPICS

By Sally

Dear Sally: Somehow, whenever I'm with boys I'm tongue-tied. With girls, conversation is easy but if you ask questions, a boy only says "yes" or "no" and conversation is gone.

A READER

This letter is typical of many a gal wants to be especially why is talk so difficult just when that come to our desk. Why oh bright and charming. Many a lass has wondered.

Perhaps the chief reason is that anxiety makes her self-conscious. And unfortunately the boy reacts the same way.

Yes, conversational failures are the fault of both partners. But boys usually blame the girls for these uneasy silences. This is strictly unfair, of course. But since the burden of talk traditionally falls on the female, she must train herself to carry the ball even when she gets no assist from her team-mate.

The trick, Sugar, is to say whatever comes into your head — barring mean or personal remarks. Feminine yakety-yak may bore boys, but it's better than nothing. Actually boys are more interested in feminine topics than they admit, provided you add in your remarks to THEM and show an interest in their reactions. Try it and see.

Maybe you get the jitters, the flutters, the ka-wolly-wobble when you enter a room full of people.

Look! Here's a hint — two don'ts and a do.

Don't teeter nervously in the doorway. Don't sneak in and cower in a corner. DO make a brisk, smooth entrance, no matter how scared you feel. That's the secret, chum: briskness! No lingering to brook over your fears and foibles.

Greet your hostess first. Then walk directly to the nearest group or — better still — to the crowd that seems to be having the most fun.

And as you join the gang say something! It doesn't matter what. Some frantic that's new. Or a simple complimentary comment about the music, the house, someone's new dress or hair-do. No mean cracks, of course, even for the laughs you might get.

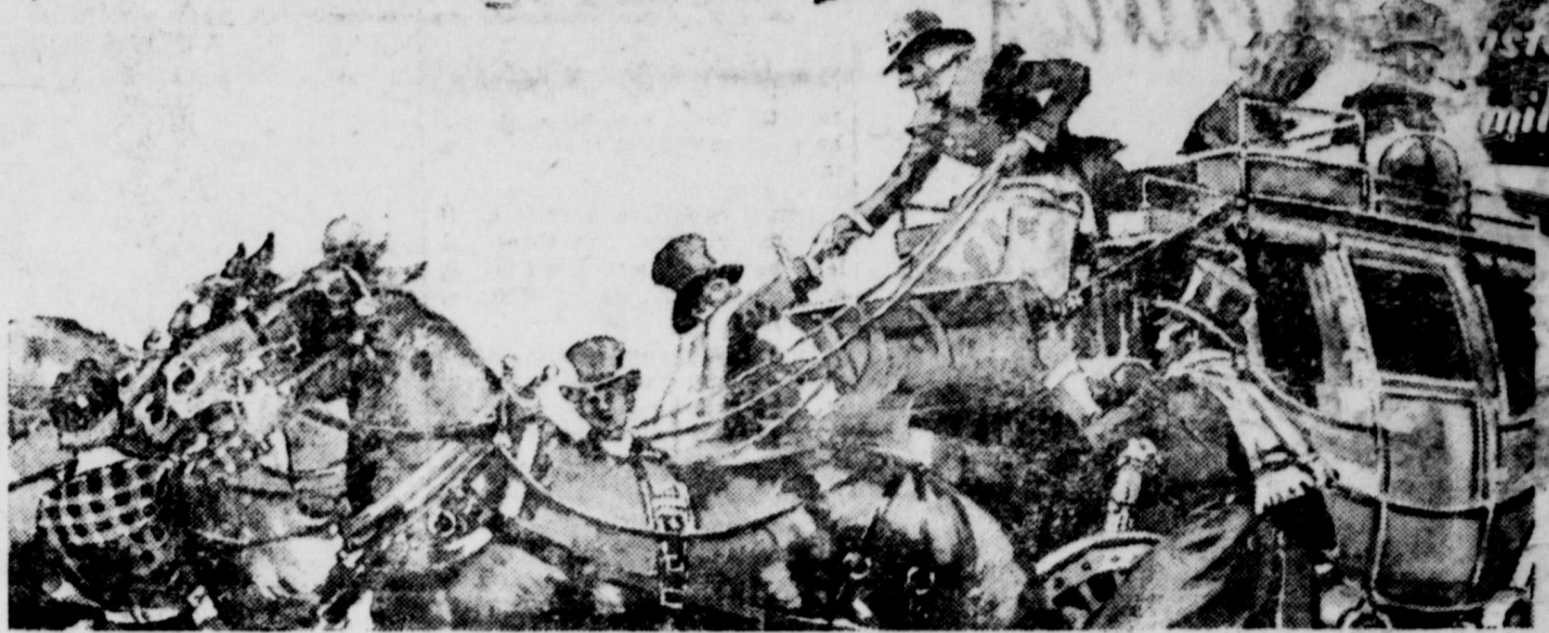
Say something immediately and you can be silent the rest of the evening. People, being human, will judge you by the first impression you make.

The poor creep who enters a room like a fugitive from the chain gang makes others feel uncomfortable. Nervousness, unfortunately, is as contagious as measles.

Merry Christmas

PAGE ONE

AGO



We hope that Christmas finds you surrounded by loved ones,
 with your every wish granted and with a happy vista
 down the months ahead.

MERKEL DRUG CO.

Merry Christmas



In taking inventory of our assets for
 the past year, we find one that we
 value most. This priceless asset is
 friendship. And who are our friends?"
 Why of course, they are YOU . . . our
 customers!

**TAYLOR TELEPHONE
 COOPERATIVE INC.**

MERKEL, TEXAS

Merry Christmas to You!

FROM ALL OF US AT CARSON'S SUPERMARKET

XMAS GIFTS

WITH YOUR CASH REGISTER TAPES
LOTS OF TOYS TO CHOOSE FROM
STILL LEFT. SO COME IN AND
SELECT YOURS NOW. IF YOU LIKE
A FEW, YOU CAN ALWAYS PAY
THE DIFFERENCE.

**DRAWING FOR THE
BIG MODEL-T**
WILL BE AT 4:00 p.m. THURSDAY

DOMINO
Powdered Sugar
box 10c

CHOCOLATE COVERED
CHERRIES
CANDY
BOX -- 39c

CHEESE
VEL VEETA
2 Lb.
BOX -- 79c

Del Monte
PINEAPPLE
Sliced
1 1/2 Can 2 for 39c

**SUGAR
CRISCO
PEARS
FOLGERS
JELLO**

DOMINO
10 lb. limit **89¢**

CREAMY
3 lb. can - - **69¢**

REMARKABLE
2 1/2 can - - - **29¢**

COFFEE
Pound Can - - **59¢**

ASSORTED
5 box limit **5¢**

- SURE BUYS -

OUR DARLING 303
CORN - 2 for 33c

KUNER'S 303
G. BEANS 2 for 33c

KUNER'S 303
PEAS - 2 for 33c

KUNER'S 303
Tomatoes 2 for 33c

APPRECIATION DAY
Time Sale Only

TUESDAY ONLY THURSDAY ONLY

FOLGER'S
Instant Coffee

6-oz. Jar **59¢** 1/2 gal. **29¢**

SALE TIME 4:30 TO 5:30 p.m.

The Natural Mate
For Every Meat
Ocean Spray
CRANBERRY SAUCE
2 for 39c

DEL MONTE
Fruit COCKTAIL
303 CAN
2 for **43¢**

DEL MONTE
PEACHES
No. 2 1/2 Can
2 for **49¢**

WHITE HOUSE
APPLE SAUCE
303 Can
2 for **25¢**

Prices Good
Wednesday & Thursday
Dec. 23 & 24th

Special Bulletin
SPECIAL BULLETIN
We will be Closed
Christmas Day and
Saturday
Dec. 25th & 26th

**XMAS
bulk NUTS**
Straight
or
Mix'em

Walnuts
Brazil Nuts
Almonds
Pecans lb. **49¢**



Finest Quality
MEATS

Gooch Blue Ribbon
BACON
2 lbs. **73¢**

TOP BRANDS 1/2 or whole
HAMS Lb. - **49¢**

FRESH - ORSBORN
HENS Lb. - **29¢**

Fresh
PORK ROAST - - - - - lb. 37c
Elk Iron
CHEESE - - - - - lb. 49c
Gooch Country Style
SAUSAGE - - - - - 2 lbs. 63c
GOOCH

PICNIC Lb. - **29¢**

FULL LINE of SMALL or LARGE
Boneless Canned
HAMS & PICNIC

GOLD MEDAL
FLOUR 10 Lb. BAG 89c

Betty Crocker Chiffon
Coco 'n Orange box 49c

Betty Crocker CONFETTI
ANGEL FOOD - box 43c

Betty Crocker
Cake
MIXES - 2 boxes 55c

JELL-O - Whip Cream
Dream Whip - box 23c

Sunshine
CANDIES - - - - - cello 29c

Sunshine Chocolate
Queen Cookies - pkg. 39c

NABISCO
RITZS - - - - - box 29c

KRAFT
BLACKBERRY
JELLY

20-oz.
Jar -- **33¢**

● FROZEN FOODS ●

SIMPLE SIMON
PUMPKIN PIES
Each - - **49¢**

GROVE-10-oz.
STRAWBERRIES each 19c

BIRDSEYE-Big
TURKEY DINNER each 59c

CLEANSER
COMET
reg. 17c

Bleach
OXYDOL
giant 69c

Real-Clean
ZEST
Bath Bar 22c

Regular
CHEER
box 31c

Garden Fresh
Vegetables

SUNKIST
ORANGES
LARGE
POUND **17¢**

GREEN
CALAVOS - - each 5c

FRESH
CELERY - - - lb. 9c


Fresh
COCONUTS - - - - - lb. 9c

Yellow
ONIONS - - - - - lb. 5c

Fresh
CRANBERRIES - - - - - lb. 23c

BEKO
SPUDS - - - 10 lbs. 43c

CARSON'S SUPERMARKET



MERKEL, TEXAS
STORE HOURS
WEEKDAYS: 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.
SATURDAYS 7:00 a.m. to 8:30 p.m.

TRADE WITH US AND BANK THE DIFFERENCE

Christmas FOOD SALE

IN ORDER TO GIVE OUR EMPLOYEES
A WELL-DESERVED HOLIDAY AND A
MERRIER CHRISTMAS — OUR STORE WILL
BE CLOSED
ALL DAY FRI. & SAT. DEC. 25 and 26
STOCK UP ON YOUR CHRISTMAS NEEDS
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 24
MERRY CHRISTMAS

SPECIALS FOR WEDNESDAY and THURSDAY THURSDAY, DECEMBER 23 - 24

FOLGERS COFFEE Lb. - - - - **59¢**

CRISCO 3 lb. can - **69¢**

LIGHT CRUST
FLOUR 5 lb. bag - - **39¢**

HERE'S FUN For Every Youngster in the Family. PAGE ONE
AGO



The NEW
GYM-DANDY

SURREY F-R-E-E
Come in and Register Every Day. Nothing to buy. You don't have to be present to win.
DRAWING WED. DEC. 23

Garden Fresh **VEGETABLES**

- FRESH CRANBERRIES box 27c
- CRISP CELERY - - - - stalk 11c
- DELICIOUS APPLES - - - - lb. 15c
- GOLDEN BANANAS - - - lb. 15c
- CALIFORNIA ORANGES - - - lb. 19c
- KENTUCKY WONDER Green BEANS - - lb. 25c
- FRESH COCONUTS - - - each 15c
- YELLOW ONIONS - - - - lb. 7c
- RUSSET SPUDS - - - - lb. 7c

SUN SPUN—No. 2 1/2 Can
SPICED PEACHES 25¢

DEL MONTE—303 Size
FRUIT COCKTAIL 2 for -45¢

DEL MONTE—Crushed or Sliced
PINEAPPLE Flat Can - - - - 15¢

PARKAY
OLEO 2 Lbs. - - **49¢**

DEL MONTE—Whole
GREEN BEANS 303 Can - - **25¢**

KIMBELL'S — 303 Can
CRANBERRY SAUCE 19¢

MEAD'S
BISCUITS 3 Cans - - **25¢**

BORDEN'S
MINCE MEAT Pkg. - - - **25¢**

BAKER'S
COCONUT Can - - - **19¢**

MARSHMALLOW CREAM
HI-POLITE Jar - - - **25¢**

DOMINO Powdered or Brown
SUGAR - - - -2 pkgs. 29c

DEL-MONTE—303 Can
PUMPKIN - - - -2 for 25c

KRAFT—10-oz.
MARSHMALLOWS 10-oz. pkg. 19c

KLEENEX—Dinner
NAPKINS - - - - pkg. 25c

CHRISTMAS MIX CANDY
ALMONDS
WALNUTS
PECANS
BRAZIL NUTS
PEANUTS
EGG NOG MIX qt. 59c

★ **Finest Quality MEATS** ★

HORMEL—Half or Whole
HAMS lb. 49c

GOOCH'S RANCH STYLE
BACON - 2 lb. pkg. 79c

GOOCH'S 2 Lb. Pkg
SAUSAGE - - - - 69c

FRESH
PORK ROAST - - - - lb. 39c

FRESH PORK
SPARE RIBS - - - - lb. 39c

TOM -18-20 lb.
TURKEYS 49c

JELLO - - 2 pkgs. 15c

KIMBELL'S—Sweet Midget
PICKLES pint jar 2 for 69c

PITTED
DATES - - 8-oz. pkg. 27c

KIMBELL'S—Stuffed — 7 1/2-oz.
OLIVES 49c

GANDY'S — Whipping
CREAM - - half pint 25c

REFRIGERATED — PARKING LOT IN REAR — FREE PREMIUMS — CONVENIENT LOCATION

WILSON'S FOOD STORE

Phone 173 - Two Deliveries Daily at 10 a.m. & 4 p.m.

DON'T FORGET
TO SAVE YOUR
CASH REGISTER
TAPES FOR
PREMIUMS

Son
FB

El Paso Street, Merkel, has recently been transferred to James Connally, AFB, Tex., for duty as transient maintenance mechanic in the 350th Field Maintenance Squadron.

Campbell, S. J., 38, attend-

Merry Christmas

May Christmas bring you joy and may each day of the year add to your enjoyment of life! And may we continue to serve you in the future as we have during the past!

MERRITT PLUMBING

301 Kent

JOY TO ALL



As Christmas and New Year's bells peal . . . they shall include in their music the message of the good will we wish for our staunch customers. Best wishes for the coming year.

H. W. LEMENS
BUTANE & APPLIANCES

**SUBSCRIBE
RENEW
NOW
SAVE 1 DOLLAR**

\$2

FOR 52 WEEKS

Outside Trade Area \$250

THE MERKEL MAIL

"Your Hometown Newspaper"

LIMIT FIVE YEARS PER PERSON

OFFER GOOD UNTIL JAN. 1

Device To Test Hearing Given Merkel Schools

The Merkel P.T.A. and Merkel Lions Club have just recently purchased an audiometer for use in the local public schools.

The P.T.A. paid \$200.00 and the Lions Club paid \$138.00 for the purchase of this scientific equipment to be used to conduct hearing tests.

The county health nurse and all of the elementary and primary teachers have received training in the administration of hearing tests as a screening device for finding children with hearing impairment.

Last week all of the local first graders were given these hearing tests by use of the audiometer by the country health nurse and apparently two or three pupils are in need of medical attention.

It is estimated that from 5 to 7 per cent of the pupils in any given school will have a hearing defect of such degree as to warrant medical diagnosis and treatment.

Studies have shown that children with hearing defects are repeating their grades with four times the frequency of normal hearing children in the same schools.

Mr. and Mrs. John Turner and daughter, of Grants, N. M., and Mrs. Frank Quillin and children of San Diego, Calif., are holiday guests in the home of their mother, Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Walton.



As you gather around your tree, may all troubles and worries disappear. Here's wishing you the best of everything for the holiday season!

Clyde Wurst

Best Wishes . . .



We just can't seem to wish enough happiness to all the wonderful people we have served this past year.

Ann's Beauty Shop

Pat Johnson, Mrs. Mae Seago

FREE

GREASE JOB

with each

STEAMCLEANING and GAS FILL-UP

24 HOUR SERVICE

J. L. FISHER

Cosden Higher Octane Station

Hiway 80 West

Phone 218

Gleaners Have

Christmas Dinner

Gleaners Sunday School class of the First Methodist church met in the fellowship hall of the church Wednesday, Dec. 23, for the annual Christmas dinner.

Tables were laid with white cloths, Red Ferns, Holly and other decorations. Grace by the Rev. J. A. Cooley.

Wade Ensminger gave Mrs. Homer Patterson sang Ave Marie accompanied at the piano by Mrs. Brandon Wade.

Christmas carols were sung after which gifts were exchanged from a decorated tree. Thirty-four were present. Special guests were the Rev. and Mrs. J. A. Cooley, Mrs. Earl Hughes, Mrs. Oswald Everett of Crosbyton, and Mrs. Hallie Burden.

T.E.L. Class Meets With Mrs. Massey

The T.E.L. Sunday School Class of the First Baptist Church met in the home of Mrs. Unice Massey on Dec. 16 for their annual Love Feast. The pastor, Rev. Mart Hardin, opened the meeting with a prayer. Turkey with all the trimmings was served.

A reading on Christmas was presented by Mrs. W. T. Sadler. Visitors present were the Rev. and Mrs. Mart Hardin and chil-



We want to wish

our many good

friends a very

Merry Christmas!

Pete, Cal and Dean

Higgins

Barber Shop

dren, Sam, Ligon, C. I. Sherrill and Mrs. Sadler. Members who attended were: Mines, Roy Miller, Sam Swann, Pick Allen, Clay Satterwhite, Bessie Thompson, Jim Mansfield, Bessie Jackson, T. J. Bird, A. R. Booth, K. W. King, Austin Robertson, Earl Foster, Houston Robert, Irene Pomroy, Jennings Winter, Dave Anderson, Myrtle Walker and the hostess, Mrs. Massey.

FUNERAL SERVICE INSURANCE

PAYS CASH ANYWHERE

1 Month To 90 Years

\$100.00 To \$500.00

Starbuck Life Insurance Co.

SEE US First and Last

ONE DAY SERVICE

All Work Guaranteed

Where Upholstering Is Done By Experienced Craftsmen.

Free Estimates

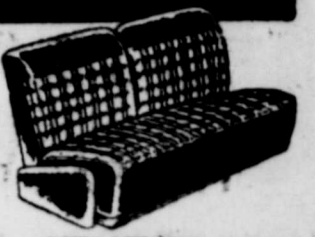
SEAT COVER CENTER

1656 Butternut St.

Abilene

Phone OR. 4-3991

SEAT COVERS



Merry Christmas

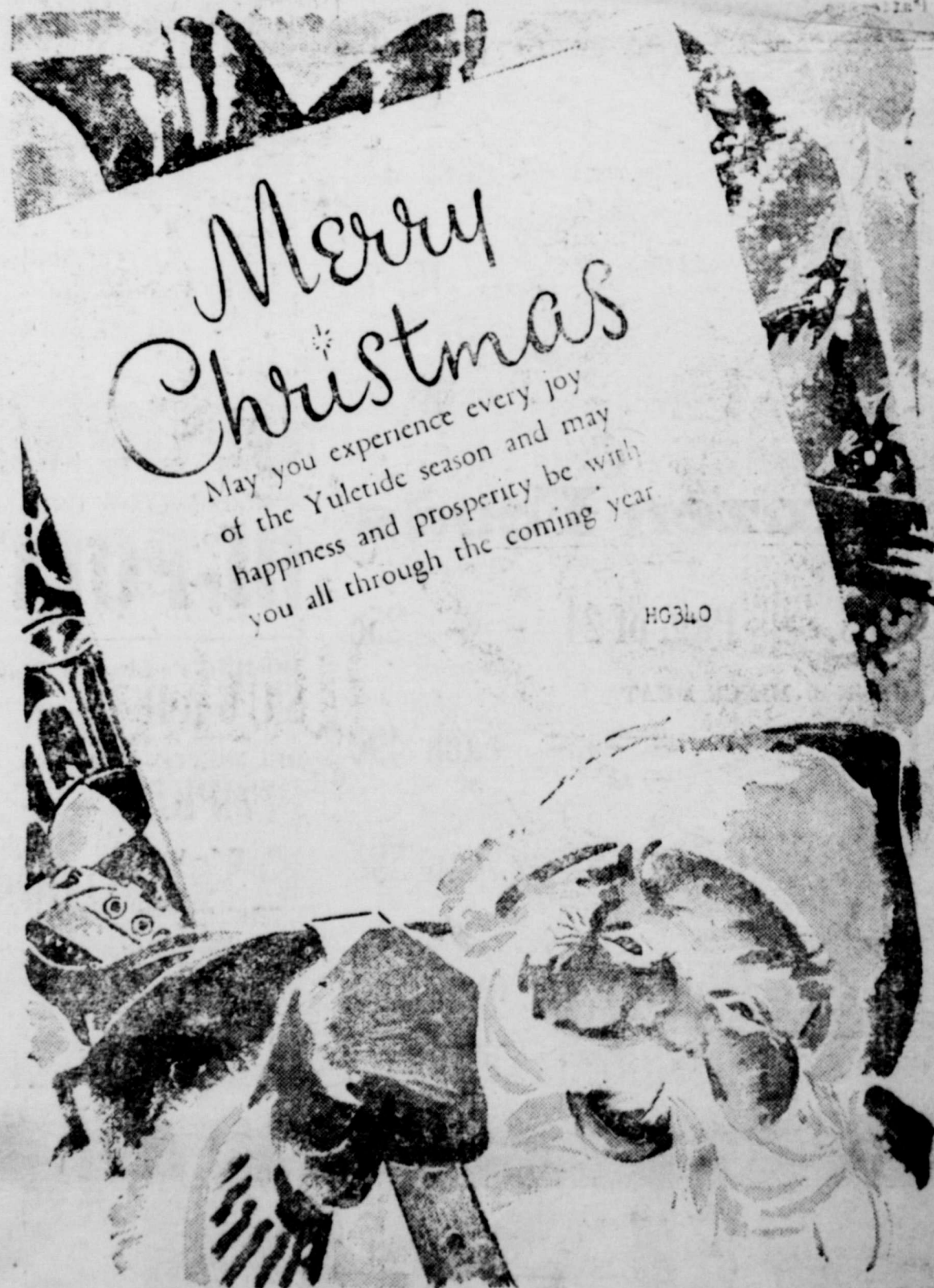
The gift we treasure most was not given at this Christmastime . . . but rather it was given all through the year. This gift is your friendship and patronage. We treasure it most because we know it is your way of showing us that our service has been welcomed by you, and that you value this service. So for another year we say "Merry Christmas to All!"

BEN FRANKLIN Store

HOME OWNED

Merry Christmas

May you experience every joy of the Yuletide season and may happiness and prosperity be with you all through the coming year.



BURTON-LINGO Lbr. Co.

MOBILE LIBRARY SERVICE DUE HERE

Mrs. W. R. Cypert was named Merkel's general chairman of the Multi-County Bookmobile Demonstration of Texas Rural Library Service, Texas State Library at a meeting in the high school Wednesday.

Other officers are Mrs. Geo. T. Moore, secretary; Mrs. Joe Cypert, registration chairman; and Christine Collins, publicity chairman.

The Bookmobile will be in Merkel every third Saturday and will

be parked in front of the Welfare Office 56 Kent Street.

Registration cards, to be filled in by individuals and taken to the Bookmobile on its first visit, are available now and may be obtained by calling Mrs. Cypert at 3160.

The object of the "Library-On-Wheels" is to stimulate interest in reading at all age levels—adult young people, and children. It will provide books and materials which will prove a source of information to all people, the farmer, the rancher, the city-dweller.

Purpose of the overall program is to bring about improved library service on a permanent basis at the close of the demonstration.

Bookmobile stops will not be made at schools, but they will cooperate with schools and school librarians in various ways.

A borrower's card, issued when registration card is turned in, is all that is needed to take advantage of the library service. There is no charge for reading the books.

Season's GREETINGS

We want to extend our sincerest thanks to our patrons and their families for their many favors and kindnesses during the past.

A very Merry Christmas to you!

WOOZY'S CAFE

Club's Christmas Party Held In Williams Home

The Merkel Garden Club's Christmas party was held in the home of Mrs. Jarrett Williams, with Mrs. Dee Grimes, co-hostess.

Mrs. W. T. Sadler presided at the refreshment table which was Christmas cloth, designed and covered with a pink and gold made by the hostess.

At the business session, Mrs. Sadler, president, introduced the leader for the afternoon, Mrs. Ross Ferrier.

Christine Collins, director of the program, introduced Mrs. Clyde Bartlett who reviewed "The Little Mixer," by Lillian Nicholson Shearor. Miss Collins, accompanied by Mrs. Williams at the organ, led the group in singing Christmas carols.

Wrappings of the Christmas gifts exchanged were judged with first place going to Mrs. Dale Litton.

The next meeting will be in the Merkel Elementary Library at 4 p.m., Jan. 7, when Mrs. ib Shaw of Abilene will show a film on "Flower Arrangement."

THE SIMPLE THINGS

The three greatest masterpieces in literature, it is said, are the Lord's Prayer, the Twenty-Third Psalm, and Lincoln's Gettysburg Address. Incidentally, recall their wording:

"Our Father, which are in Heaven, hallowed by thy name."

"The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want."

"Fourscore and seven years ago,"

Not a three-syllable word is them; hardly any two-syllable words. All the greatest things in human life are one-syllable things — love, joy, hope, home, child, wife, trust, faith, God. All great things are simple.

CHRISTMAS HOLLY

Holly, because it is always green, was regarded by the Druids, ancient pagan Irish priests, as being sacred. It became identified with Christmas because the early Christians believed the crown of thorns was made from holly. Legend says that holly berries were originally white but that all of them turned crimson, like drops of blood, after the crucifixion of Christ.

There seems to have been a great rivalry in early English times between holly and ivy — the former being considered masculine, and the latter, feminine.

Holly was considered good luck to a household at Christmas. Whichever partner, husband or wife, who first brought a sprig into the house, was supposed to rule the household for the ensuing year. Holly is celebrated in such Christmas songs as "Deck the Halls With Boughs of Holly."

MOST MERKEL STORES TO CLOSE TWO DAYS

Most of the Merkel merchants will take advantage of the once-in-seven-year opportunity for a long week-end by closing Dec. 25 and Dec. 26.

The Merkel Mail is being mailed a day earlier than usual so that readers will have two days to take advantage of the pre-Christmas specials found in the ads.

The bank will observe two days for Christmas. It will be closed on Christmas Day and Saturday.

The post office windows will be closed Christmas Day and there will be no rural or city mail delivery. Mail will be boxed as usual.

The city hall will close at noon Christmas Eve and remain closed until Monday morning.

March Of Dimes Plans Revealed

Plans are now complete for Merkel's participation in the new 1960 March of Dimes Campaign, according to C. A. Farley and Booth Warren, co-chairmen of the local drive.

The highlight of the Merkel campaign will be the Mothers' March by the P.T.A. Room Mothers, under the direction of Mrs. David Gamble, on Thursday night, January 28.

The Girl Scouts will sell the special Polio balloons on three Saturdays, January 9, 16 and 23, followed by the Boy Scouts on January 30.

About 50 coin collectors will be placed in local business places.

Most of the citizens will receive special contribution envelopes through the mail.

The students of the Merkel Elementary and Primary Schools have already contributed \$50.00 to the March of Dimes through their United Fund several weeks ago.

Booth Warren will have charge of raising funds in the rural areas immediately surrounding Merkel.

Couple Celebrate 50th Anniversary

Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Clark celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary Sunday, Dec. 13, with an open house for their friends and relatives.

Children of the couple are Bernard Clark, Willie Joe Clark, Mrs. Joe Edd McDuff of Abilene, Mrs. M. B. Jones of Lubbock, J. H. Clark, Jr., of Merkel and Woodrow Clark of Girard, Kan.

They have nine grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

HOLIDAY GREETINGS

A sincere hope that the cheer of the holidays will mark each day of the New Year is but a part of our wish to you. May our friendship grow stronger as we serve you throughout the coming year.

PATTERSON BROS. PLUMBERS

W. J. Patterson J. B. Allison

Best Wishes

TO OUR DEAR FRIENDS AND PATRONS

Florence Berry Wanda Welch Ethel Pee
Birdie Mae Halbrook Marie Estep Marvin Martin
Mary Grimes

Bragg's Dept. Store

Exclusive But Not Expensive

N-O-T-I-C-E

Anyone wanting to use the facilities of Taylor Refrigeration Locker Plant is asked to do so before 5 p.m. Thursday. The plant will be closed Christmas Day and Saturday.

Mr. and Mrs. Elmo Collins of Lubbock visited Mary Collins and Mrs. J. S. Pinckley last week.

Mr. and Mrs. Ben Neel of El Paso and Don Wilson of NTST college, Denton, are here to spend the holidays with their parents and brother, Mr. and Mrs. Ray Wilson and Keith.



Christmas commemorates the most Wonderful Happening that ever befell the human race. Let us, in our joy, help to celebrate the birth of Jesus by passing on to others the happiness that dwells within our own hearts.

Cyrus Pee
Insurance Agency

THE MERKEL MAIL - Merkel
Friday, December 25, 1960

MERRY CHRISTMAS **AGO**

AND A DOGGONE GOOD NEW YEAR!

MACK'S CLEANERS

Have A Happy Holiday!

Bill's Garden Shop
Phone 162

GREETINGS

We are hoping that every one of you enjoys the happiness of Christmas and the holiday season. We wish to express our thanks for your patronage and your friendship, and hope we may serve you throughout the future years!

HIGGINBOTHAM-BARTLETT

WANT ADS



CELLANEOUS

windmill servicing, W. Call 213-J. 6-tfc

Wiring with all Electric Aliances purchased at Palm-tor Company. Phone 159. 30-tfc.

FINE FLOOR SANDING 349. Heavy Duty Sander. Expert work. 38-tfc.

ANTED — Elderly lady to care for in my home. Must be neat and clean. All modern conveniences. Call 304-J or write 311 Cherry. 38-4tc.

FOR WATER WELL DRILLING AND CLEAN OUTS see Lester Blair, 205 El Paso Street or B. T. Sublett, 705 Oak Street. Tel. 106. 33-4tc.

LOST — Beige purse containing bill fold, pictures, drivers license, \$54 and some change. Keys on chain. Call OW 23384 Abilene collect. Martha Mattingley, Route 1, Tye, Texas. Reward for return.

NOTICE MASONS

Stated meeting of Merkel Lodge No. 710, A.F. & A. M. Thurs. Dec. 24, 8:00 p.m. All members are urged to attend. Visiting brethren cordially invited.

Henry Martin, W. M. C. B. Rust, Secretary.

FOR RENT

FOR RENT — One and two bedroom apartments. Also bedrooms. Call 405 W or inquire at the Merkel Hotel. 49-4tc

FOR RENT — 3-room house with bath. G. N. Reynolds. Phone Trent 2-9382. 36-3tc.

FOR RENT — 2-room furnished apartment. Recently redecorated. \$37.50 per month. Utilities paid. Lady preferred. Mrs. L. A. Watts. 406 Yucca. 38-tfc

FOR RENT — 7-room furnished house with two baths. \$55 per month. No bills. R. T. Smith. Tel 388-R. 40 3tp.

FOR SALE—Maytag deep Freeze. Perfect condition. Owner, R. M. Ferguson. 40-tfc.

FOR SALE

BUILDING a new home? Wish to brighten your landscaping. Ten large shrubs and two trees planted. \$49.50. Ph. QR. 2-5012. Garden Gate Nursery, Inc. 2937 outh Treadaway Blvd., Abilene. 35-4tc

FOR SALE — Used set of World Book Encyclopedia in good condition. See Mrs. S. P. Curb. 1415 N. 2nd or phone 42M. 41

Ike Turner

Electrical & Mechanical Contracting
1038 N. 1st St. Phone 56

Dr. James H. Chaney

Dr. Eleanor Weldon

CHIROPRACTORS

211 OAK

Phone 18

Merkel, Texas

FOR SALE — ABC clothes dryer used about 40 hours. Cost \$159, sell for \$75 if sold at once. Phone 350-W or see at 1411 S. 7th. 40-2tp.

FOR MONUMENTS CALL TOM COATS 131 MERKEL, TEXAS 16-tf

BATTERIES CHARGED 29c

WHITE AUTO STORE Merkel, Texas

FOR SALE — 3 bedroom house with bath and large living room in A-1 condition. Close to school and churches, a good buy for someone. See Cyrus Pee. 26-4tc

FOR SALE — Seed oats, 2 mi. north of town. \$1 per bu. See Dave Tarpley. 31-4tc.

FOR SALE — Nortex Seed Oats. First year from Experiment Station. \$1 per bushel at barn. Bring sacks. Sam Butman, Rt. 4, Merkel. 38-tfc.

FOR SALE — A good horse for hard work and especially gentle for kids to ride. Also 3-year old stallion. See Charles Byer, 1 mile west of Blair. 41-3tp

FOR SALE — 1 M Farmall tractor and all equipment. 800 bales of sorghum alum hay. Tractor may be seen at farm 8 miles northwest of Merkel. Write Loyd Gunter, 1917 N. Lincoln, Odessa, Texas. 41-2tp.

ACE TV — Sales - Service Service All Makes & Models Satisfaction Guaranteed Phone 228

FOR SALE — Broad breasted Bronze turkeys, toms and hens, ready for Christmas. Call 9011-JL. 39-3tp

CARD OF THANKS

We wish to express our sincere thanks and appreciation to neighbors and friends for the kindness and sympathy shown us in our recent sorrow. We are especially grateful to Dr. Sadler and Dr. Warren and their staff of nurses. The beautiful floral offerings were deeply appreciated.

The George W. Rister Family.

CARD OF THANKS

Our heartfelt thanks to all who extended comforting sympathy and help in our recent sorrow. For the beautiful services, floral offerings, food and other kindnesses, we are deeply grateful.

Mrs. Betty Renfro
The L. J. Renfro Family



Greetings

From All of Us To All of You And a Bright New Year

Hobbs Electric & Ditching

Phone 69

Starr Rest Home

By Mary Outlaw

Everyone is getting along fine at this writing.

Mrs. David Kirkland and Mike, Mrs. James Sparks, Abilene, visited their Aunt Pearl Wiggins Friday evening.

We want to thank Mr. and Mrs. W. O. Steen, Abilene for bringing chili that Mr. Steen had made for the home. The patients had a chili supper. It was real good chili and we appreciated their kindness.

The Juniors No. 2 of the First Baptist Church came Friday night and sang carols for the patients. We sure did enjoy them. There is something about carols that them for coming.

Rev. C. C. Dorn, minister of the Trent Methodist Church filled his appointment here Sunday, Dec. 2th. There were a large number of his members who came to help him sing.

We want to thank the Church of Christ Church of Merkel for the nice large box of apples, oranges, grapefruits and candies to Mrs. Brown for delivering it. Mr. Johnnie Meyers of Abilene visited his mother, Minnie Meyers Sunday.

Mrs. Van was able to attend church Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Willard West, Dallas, visited his sister, Saturday and brought her a gift to go under the tree.

The staff had their party in our home Thursday evening despite the rain. Several games were played including Bingo. All the employees were present, including their husbands. Lillian Floyd won the door prize which was a beautiful blue blanket. Punch, fruit cake, coffee chocolate candy and date loaf candy were served.

ed. Pictures were taken of the party and colored pictures of last years tacky party were passed around for everyone to see. Gifts were opened off of the Christmas tree and everyone saw what each one got and then the party was over. Every one reported a nice time.

Mr. Elbert West Stitch visited his sister, Hettie West Sunday.

We want to thank Mrs. Dora Agnew for the lovely corsage she gave us for Christmas. We thank her daughter, Bertie Agnew for bringing them.

We have our Christmas tree. It is a beautiful silver tree this year. We want to thank Paul Wheeler of Abilene for bringing and giving it the Rest Home. Paul never forgets us at Christmas.

We are glad Bob Hicks is improving after having surgery in the Sadler Clinic.

Mrs. Sharp and daughter of Clyde, visited her father, Mr. Wrenn Sunday.

Mr. Popham and son and W. B. Popham, wife and son, of Wichita Falls, have been visiting in Merkel on the weekend. While here they came and took Mr. Popham down to the place where he lived so long. He visited every day for several days.

We want to thank Frank and Ethel Carr for the nice orange cake, also the chocolate and coconut cake (both home-made), they brought the home Sunday for Christmas, also the big box of jellies, jams, pickles and relishes they brought also.

Mr. Joe Bryant, Abilene, visited his father Saturday.

Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Joplin, Spur, Mr. and Mrs. Earl Joplin, California, visited their mother, Jennie Joplin.

Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Outlaw, Stephenville are visiting in our home.

We want to thank all the nice people who sent our patients nice Christmas cards.

We want to thank Mrs. Ina Hunter and Sandra for the gift they gave us also the gifts she gave each employee that works here. It was certainly appreciated.

Mrs. Joe Hartleys children and grandchildren from Oklahoma visited Mrs. Hartley Sunday.

Thanks to Mrs. Booth and Mrs. Miller for coming Sunday and singing Christmas songs for the patients.

Mr. and Mrs. Claud Smith, of Abilene, visited grand pa Smith Sunday evening.

We want to thank the hostesses from the Eddie Glenn Snadusky wedding for the pretty Christmas center piece they sent to the Rest Home. Congratulations Eddie Glenn and Mrs. Eddie Glenn.

You can tell its Christmas time here in the Rest Home. Everyone is stringing all their cards on the walls of their rooms, they are so proud of each card.

Talking of Christmas cards we had one from Trobe Vaughn of California last week. A beautiful painting by him on the front of the card.

We wish to all of you a Merry, Merry Christmas and a Prosperous New Year.

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the Partnership between Bert Chapman and B. F. Gilchrist was dissolved on the 1st day of November, 1959. All debts due to the said Partnership are to be paid and those due the same discharged at Bert Chapman Oil Company, 104 Santos Street, in the city of Abilene, Texas, where the business will be continued by the said Bert Chapman under the firm name of Bert Chapman Oil Company.

Done at Abilene, Texas, November 25, 1959.

(SIGNED)
Bert Chapman
B. F. Gilchrist

39-40-41-42



HIGGINS SHOP
Phone 91

For COLDS take 666

SUBSCRIBE
RENEW
NOW
SAVE 1 DOLLAR

\$2

FOR 52 WEEKS

Outside Trade Area \$250

THE MERKEL MAIL

"Your Hometown Newspaper"

LIMIT FIVE YEARS PER PERSON

OFFER GOOD UNTIL JAN. 1

A MERRY CHRISTMAS

for All!



-We want to wish each and every

one of you a glorious Holiday!

May the spirit of brotherly

love bring peace to all mankind!

FARMERS COOP. GIN

MERKEL, TEXAS

GREETINGS



The trumpeting in of the holiday season usually means a time of parties, family gatherings and general rejoicing. But people usually take time from their gala doings to give thanks for their blessings. At this time we would like to wish you and yours the best for the coming year.

J. L. FISHER COSDEN Station

SPEED WASH

DO A WEEKS WASH IN 30 MINUTES
USE AS MANY MACHINES AS YOU NEED

20¢ PER LOAD CHEAPER THAN OWNING YOUR OWN MACHINE
DRY YOUR WASH 40 lbs. 50c

COIN OPERATED — WASH DAY OR NIGHT

920 No. 2nd AIR NEXT DOOR TO MERKEL MAIL MERKEL

J. D. HAMILTON Feed & Grain Storage
303 South 15th PHONE OR. 4-4371 Abilene

Field seeds of all kinds VETCH, WINTER PEAS
OATS & WHEAT, BARLEY & RYE
BARBED WIRE — \$6.85 a Spool

16-20-0 and 13-38-0 Fertilizer
ALL TYPES OF INSECT SPRAY, DRENCHES AND SCREW WORM KILLERS.
ALL KINDS OF STOCK SALT AND MINERALS
Wayne Show Calf Feed — Dog Food and Hog Feed
BOOKING WAYNE RANGE CUBES
AUTHORIZED BUTLER BUILDING DEALER

The Merkel Mail

Established 1889

Published Weekly at 916 N. Second St., Merkel, Texas

R. E. Gardner, Owner and Publisher

Entered at the Post Office at Merkel, Texas as second class mail.

Any erroneous reflection upon the character, standing or reputation of any person, firm or corporation, which may appear in the columns of this newspaper will be corrected, gladly, upon being brought to the attention of the publisher.

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AIR CONDITIONED
COIN OPERATED
WASHERS & DRYERS
OPEN 24 HOURS
DELUXE LAUNDRY
PICKUP AND DELIVERY
210 KENT ST. PHONE 231
George & Veda West

JACK POT
WINNERS and LOSERS
THIS WEEK

Tuesday—Loser — Bill Carter	100.00
High Lee Barnhart	30.00
Wednesday Loser — Mrs. S. B. Stevens	100.00
Rita Clodfelter	35.00
Thursday—Loser — Mrs. R. L. Denson	100.00
F. L. Bartlett	40.00
Friday—Loser — Mrs. J. W. Thomas	100.00
Wesley Rister	45.00
Saturday—Loser — Robert Wyche	100.00
Gale O'Brien	50.00
Monday—Loser — W. T. Carlson	100.00
Sandra Pursley	55.00

Nothing To Buy.
All You Have To Do Is Sign Register To Win.
MERKEL DRUG CO.

"MIRRORS"
FOR YOUR

- Living Room
- Dining Room
- Bedroom

"Every Woman Loves A Mirror"

Remember Her For Christmas
Give Her A Choice of A

- Clonet Door Mirror
- Shadow Box Mirror
- Frame Type Mirror
- Venetian Type Mirror

We Cut Glass To Your Specifications
For All Types of Furniture Tops

ASK FOR OUR CHRISTMAS SPECIALS
INGRAHAM GLASS CO.
Ph. OR 3-8141 Abilene 141 Burger



Letters To SANTA

Trent, Texas Dec. 8, 1959

Dear Santa,
I want you to come to see us. Please bring me a doll. Don't forget the other boys and girls. I want some clothes for my baby doll and some hi-heels, and a twirling suit.

Love,
DELANNA
Trent, Texas
Dec. 8, 1959

Dear Santa,
I have been good this year. I am in the second grade. My teacher is Mrs. Watson. For Christmas, please bring me a football.

Love,
GAYLOND FRAZIER
Trent, Texas
Dec. 8, 1959

Dear Santa,
I have been good this year. I am in the second grade. My teacher is Mrs. Watson. For Christmas, please bring me a baby doll and buggy, baby dresses, piano, Shirley Temple costume, and some hi-heels.

Love,
SHEILA
Trent, Texas
Dec. 8, 1959

Dear Santa,
I have been a good boy this year. I am in the second grade. My teacher is Mrs. Watson. For Christmas please bring me a bicycle.

Love,
LARRY PURSER
Trent, Texas
Dec. 8, 1959

Dear Santa,
I have been good this year. I am in the Second Grade. My teacher is Mrs. Watson. For Christmas please bring me a baton and ring. And don't forget the other boys and girls.

Love,
LINDA McANINCH
Trent, Texas
Dec. 8, 1959

Dear Santa,
I want you to come to see us. Please bring me a baby doll, a piano, and a bicycle.

Love,
KAYLA
Trent, Texas
Dec. 9, 1959

Dear Santa,
I want you to come to see me.

Please bring me a big doll with long blonde hair. Remember the other boys and girls.

Love,
PAM McELMURRAY
Trent, Texas
Dec. 8, 1959

Dear Santa,
I want you to come to see me. Please bring me some boots, bicycle, a ballerina suit, and a twirling suit.

Don't forget the other boys and girls.

Love,
CRESTA
Trent, Texas
Dec. 8, 1959

Dear Santa,
I have been good this year. I am in the second grade. My teacher is Mrs. Watson. For Christmas please bring me a big baby doll. Don't forget my baby sister. She wants a big baby doll too.

Love,
LINDA ACUNA
Trent, Texas
Dec. 8, 1959

Dear Santa,
I have been good this year. I am in the Second Grade. My teacher is Mrs. Watson. For Christmas, please bring me a toy piano, bride doll, baby buggy and some hi-heels.

Love,
GAIL MOSES
Trent, Texas
Dec. 8, 1959

Dear Santa,
I want you to bring me a drum, baby buggy, baton, bride doll and bicycle.

Don't forget the other little boys and girls.

Love,
BRENDA MORRIS
Trent, Texas
Dec. 8, 1959

Dear Santa,
I want you to come to see us. Please bring me a cattle truck.

Love,
ANDY SHOUSE
Trent, Texas
Dec. 8, 1959



OUR sincere wishes for a happy holiday to our customers.

Andy Shouse

BEST WISHES



To all our many friends we wish a very merry Christmas and the happiest of New Years. We're grateful for the friendship that exists between our customers and ourselves.

Barbara's
Beauty Shop
Marlene Williams
Barbara Whisenhunt

Merry Christmas

PAGE ONE

AGO



Compass in the rated wire from ... of him es and

To all those we have known and happily served during the past year. It is with great pleasure we send these greetings.

PATTERSON GRAIN

Christmas Greetings...



May Santa Claus be good to you. May this Christmas be the happiest time for you and yours and may the New Year bring you everything your heart desires.

BADGER CHEVROLET

MERRY CHRISTMAS



The Christmas tree is decked with lights. Hearts are full of joy. Families are united for this festive day. We wish you the happiest of Christmases and continued peace and joy the year to come.

MERKEL TELEPHONE CO.



Merry Christmas

We offer our very best wishes for a merry Christmas and a very happy New Year, rich in contentment and pleasure...

BONEY INSURANCE AGENCY

Your friendly
BUTANE - PROPANE
 Dealer
IRVEN THOMPSON

Continental Warehouse East Highway 80
 Merkel, Texas Phone 224 — Nights 47

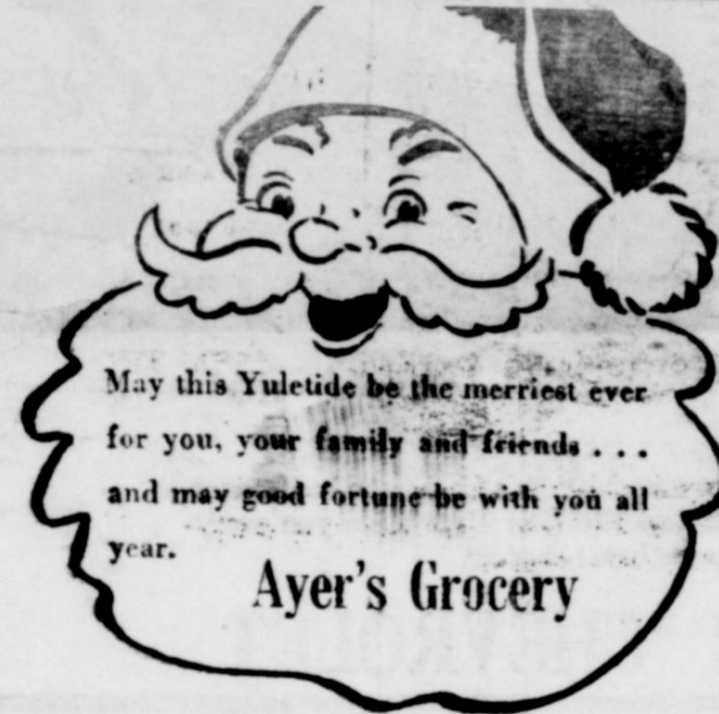
SEASON'S GREETINGS



Santa's loaded his sleigh with gifts for the good.
 We'd like to do the same if only we could!
 Instead we'll have to wish to each one of you
 Happiness, Peace and Joy the whole year through!

DAIRY BAR

JOY TO YOU



May this Yuletide be the merriest ever
 for you, your family and friends . . .
 and may good fortune be with you all
 year.
Ayer's Grocery



It is our sincere hope that happiness and prosperity will find their way into your home, and remain with you throughout the year.

BULLOCK HARDWARE

gabby doodle from noodle says:

DEAR MISTER EDITOR:
 As a general thing, our preacher is a very independent feller and don't pick out his sermons with a eye on the season of the year. He's liable to pick out Thanksgiving Day for a sermon on the Declaration of Independence, but Sunday he crossed us up and took his text on Christmas.

He allowed us how Christmas Day was a time when folks ought to do a heap of thinking about the "brotherhood of man." I'm strong in favor of thinking about it but I ain't got much faith in the outcome. Fer instant, it'll be mighty hard to ever git a complete brotherhood of man as long as two fellers is trying to marry the same girl or a Democrat and a Republican is campaigning fer the same office.

But I think Christmas is a good time fer a feller to try and git a better understanding of his friends and neighbors and use it to help hold together what little world we got left.

It would help a heap of folks if they'd git up about four o'clock Christmas morning and go out and take a good, long look at the heavens above 'em. A feller can feel mighty small and humble when he looks up these cool, clear mornings at the vastness of a heaven full of shining stars and planets. He gits to thinking there's a awful lot of space in this universe and that humans might not be all that's important in God's scene of things. The human race shifts around a lot and maps don't stay put from one war to the next, but them heavens up there ain't changed a bit since the start of time.

Us rural folks that putters around afore daylight doing our chores and looking at that sky sometimes git somepun in our hearts and souls that a heap of city folks might not git. And at Christmas time it will make a feller more lumble and thankful fer God's blessings, and makes him feel a little more friendly with the human race.

Yep, there a lot of religion and Christmas spirit a feller can see these mornings why do there above that barn. If he looks long enough and hard enough his bitterness about politics, religion, or things in life will git a heap smaller and his love fer man kind will git a heap bigger.

But I know there ain't many of you folks that is going to git up at four o'clock Christmas morning to see this wonderful sight, so I'll knock off my sermon right here. In the meantime, I ain't mad with nobody, Mister Editor, and my little pieces to your paper is always meant in fun. I'm at peace with everybody at this Christmas time, and I want to wish everybody, including them free-wheeling Congressmen, a Merry Christmas!

Yours truly,
 GABBY

Garden Club Meets In Trent

The Trent Community Garden Club met at 7 p.m. Monday, Dec. 7, in the Trent High School Cafeteria.

Reports were given by the chairman of each committee.

Members decided that symbols of the club would be the mimosa tree and yellow climber rose.

Mrs. Horace Holt was appointed chairman of the fund raising committee.

Mrs. Ernie Black, who was in charge of the program, introduced Mrs. N. B. Coughan who gave a demonstration on "How to Make Candle Roses and Paraffin Candles."

Mrs. Weldon Beasly and Mrs. Black, hostesses, served cookies and cakes the Members and visitors. Mrs. Coughan and Mrs. Fay Steadman.

TOO LATE TO CLASSIFY

FOR SALE—27 ft. Amana freezer, good condition, \$200; Bendix TV, \$25; 4-passenger boat; electric razors, \$6.95 to \$14.95; Polaroid Land Camera, No. 80-A, \$35; Polaroid Land Camera, No. 800 with auto. focus, reg. \$166 for \$69—wink lights, \$17; transistor radio, \$29.95; Argus C-3 Camera \$24.95 with flash; musical instruments—cornets and trumpets, baritone sax. See McCue Drug. Phone 9506. 41-1tc

NOTICE TAX PAYERS

If your Books are closed for the year and you wish to avoid a rush I have 1959 Tax Forms and can make your report to be mailed after 1st of January 1960.

R. O. Anderson

TIMEX WATCHES

\$695 to \$1495

MCCUE DRUG

Phone 9506

Yuletide Greetings



ONCE again the world waits, hushed, the mystic birth of the infant Jesus. Once again thoughts turn to love and kindness and charity. It is a truly wonderful time. May its joy be yours.

Milze Brown Paint & Body Works

641 So. Trendaway Phone OR. 3-3933

than \$1,000 of your GI term insurance, and the amount converted must be in multiples of \$500.

Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Stockbridge attended funeral service in Abilene Monday for Miss Ora Glenn, aunt of Mrs. Stockbridge.

It's all right to speak straight from the shoulder, providing it originates higher up.

ANDY SHOUSE
 - Real Estate -
 INSURANCE
 115 KENT ST.
 Phone 322

Carpet Clearance
KNIGHT CARPET CO.
 2833 South 14th



We wish a Merry Christmas and peace and happiness for you this year.

IRVEN THOMPSON



May it bring you PEACE, HAPPINESS and PROSPERITY

MAX MELLINGER DEPT. STORE

MERRY CHRISTMAS

May this Christmas be the merriest for you and yours and may the New Year bring you everything your heart desires.



MERKEL MOTORS

BULLOCK HARDWARE



Merry Christmas

We esteem it a privilege to have served you during the year just past. We hope that your Christmas is a merry one, complete with all good things and that your New Year will be filled with peace and prosperity.

WE WILL BE CLOSED FRIDAY & SATURDAY December 25-26

CARSON'S SUPERMARKET

The Texian Editor's

Frontier News Flashes

Department of Journalism & Graphic Arts University of Houston

Department of Journalism and Graphic Arts University of Houston December 14-19, 1859

NEWS FROM WASHINGTON

Every precaution it is understood here, has been taken to guard Harper's Ferry against disturbance.

The most stringent regulations will be adopted in regard to the presence of civilians at the execution of Brown and his associates. All applications for passes for civilians within the military lines on the day of execution will be refused on the ground that they will conflict with the military program for the occasion.

The entire line of military guards will be fully a mile distant from the scaffold.

Gov. Wise regards this precaution as necessary, as in the event of an attempt at rescue, the soldiers near the scaffold will be ordered at once to shoot the prisoners, and this would endanger the lives of innocent parties were they admitted so near.

GALVESTON

The sunny south at least the portion of it which we inhabit, has been regularly frozen up, for the last two days, with the thermometer at sunrise at from 6 to 10 degrees below the freezing point. . . many kinds of labor were obliged to be suspended and in the melee, type setting had but a poor show. Our own compositors shared the general affliction and we have only been able to set up the principal items of interest received.

LETTER FROM BROWNSVILLE

Since I last wrote, our affairs here have become decidedly worse.

The forces under Captains Tobin, Tomlinson and Rushnell, with our citizens, are considered insufficient to meet the present force of the enemy.

At two barricades we have a 24 pound brass howitzer kindly loaned to the city by Lieut. Langdon of the United States Army who commands one of them himself, doing duty day and night. The other is under the command of Capt. Kennedy . . . who has about 40 citizens to expand the force and protect the West side of the city. Another barricade on the East side of the city has an old seven pounder. This last cannon I found under the command of an officer of the liberal army of Mexico who with his company are sent over from the garrison of Matamoros to assist in protecting a city of the Great Republic from Mexican banditti who call themselves being living on this side of the river. In the name of De-selves American citizens and democracy and Republican principles: What next?

40 YEARS AGO

IN MERKEL

Wm. L. Carey of Abilene was in Merkel this week in the interest of the new Texas automobile, of which he is county agent. Mr. Carey expects to soon appoint a local agent in Merkel. The Texan is manufactured in Fort Worth.

J. A. Collum of Grove Park, Atlanta, Ga., was a visitor at the Merkel Mail office the past week. He is an old subscriber to the Mail. He owns a farm near Stith and is visiting at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Bridges at Stith.

C. E. French of Dallas, is visiting his sister, Mrs. George Boyce.

N. Hancock and brother, B. C. Hancock have bought out the Metropolitan Cafe and from now on it will be known as the Hancock & Bros Cafe. They expect to make a first class Cafe of it.

Mr. and Mrs. T. R. Lassiter left Wednesday for Paducah, Ky., to visit relatives. They will be away about two weeks. Mr. Lassiter urges the overseers to please look after the roads in his absence.

20 YEARS AGO

IN MERKEL

The Crescent Jewelry Company has opened for business in Everybody's Confectionery. The business is owned and operated by Jackson & Roscoe, live wires in the business, hailing from Waco.

Oscar Buford has purchased the interest of Henry Ross in the City Harbor Store. Mr. Buford is one of the most active and aggressive young business men of the City and we congratulate him upon this thriving business establishment.

The coal strike is over and there is some hopes for the people to keep from freezing to death. Squally times were just ahead for Merkel, much less other places that were not so favorably located. We are truly glad it is over. We verily believe that in another day or two we would had to have chopped wood, and that, too right in the face of the fact that we had bought our wife a new ax?

Misses Levy Tittle and Inez Scott and Messrs. Loren Hemick and Dewey Brown motored to the country home of Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Tittle last Sunday evening and took dinner.

The following school girls are expected home for the holidays: Misses Ona Faye Bland, Louise Warren, Geneva Brown, Annie Mae Swann, Ola Armstrong, Julia Martin and Lena Swann.

Stella Pearl W. is reported on the sick list this week.

Tax Man Sam Sez:

Retired taxpayers have been given a lot of extra tax deductions by Congress. It is very important that taxpayers with retired income read their instructions. Here are some of the benefits:

1. An extra personal exemption for the taxpayer over 65. This can mean two extra exemptions—the husband and the wife.

2. Up to \$240 retirement income credit for the taxpayer. This is a reduction in the amount of taxes you pay. You may be due this credit for both husband and wife. The community property law gives double credit in some cases or it can make you lose credit in other cases.

3. A tax credit for your pension or annuity. Don't forget the community property law here. Read your instructions carefully.

FREE FREE THIS FAMOUS 1910 MODEL-T 4 Cycle 3H.P. Engine HALF SIZE REPLICA

Who wouldn't like to win this one

—Half Size Replica of Famous 1910 Model-T 3 H.P. 4 Cycle Engine

EASY TO START WITH RECOIL STARTER STEEL FRAME — BODY OF MOLDED FIBERGLASS



REGISTER DAILY

NOTHING TO BUY NOTHING TO MAIL

Register Daily

NOTHING TO BUY Nothing To Mail

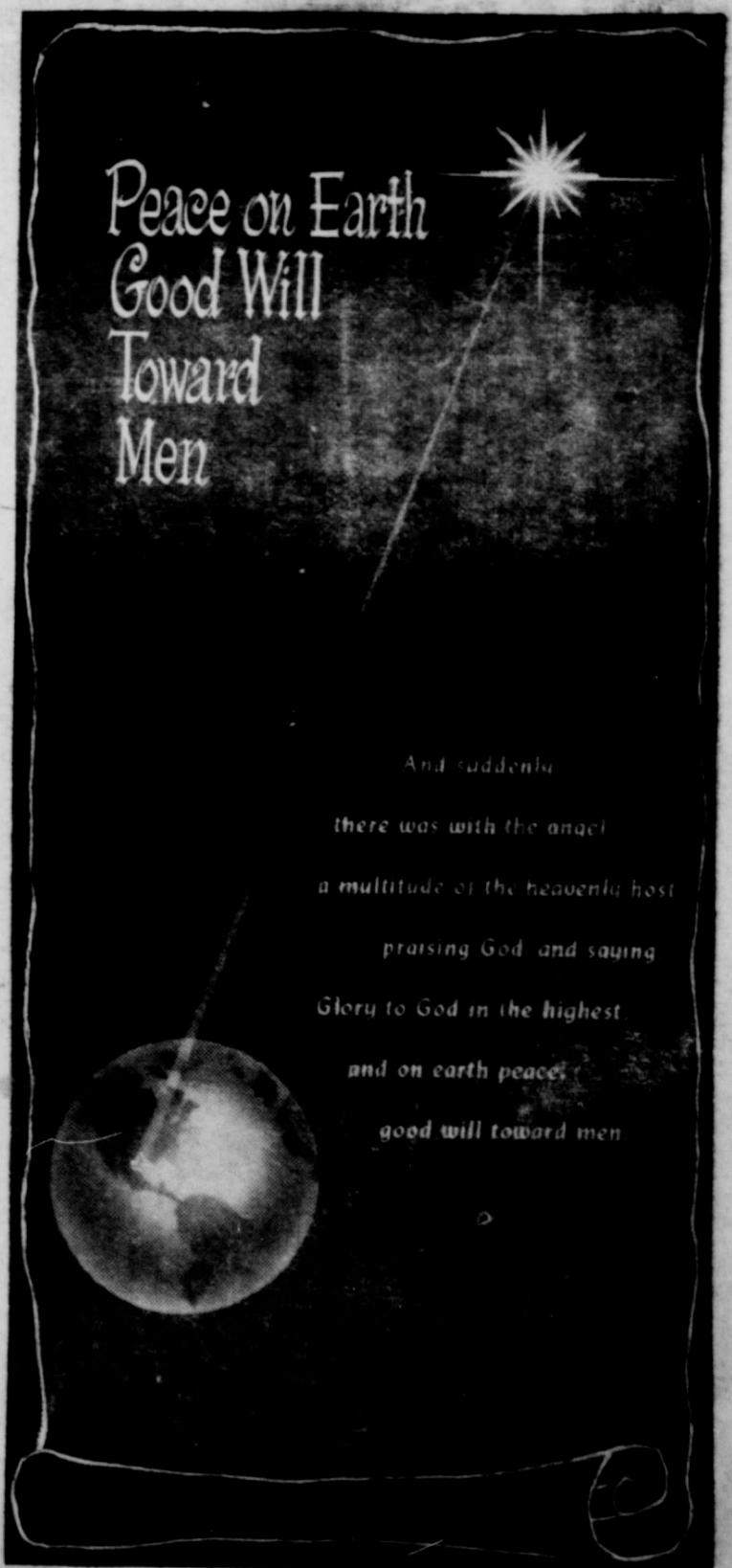
It's Big — It's Powerful — It's Hot — You don't Need To Be Smart — Just Lucky

NOTHING TO BUY — JUST COME IN AND REGISTER EVERY DAY!

DRAWING TIME 4:00 P. M.

CHRISTMAS EVE DEC. 24TH.

At Carson's Supermarket



TAYLOR ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE INC.

Season's Greetings



Wishing you a holiday
bright with candlelight, friendship,
happiness, good cheer
and pleasant memories to last you
all through the year!

DuBose  **Service**
1210 No. 1st Phone 417

Annual Stockholders' Meeting

Notice is Hereby Given:

That the annual meeting of the stockholders of The Farmers and Merchants National Bank of Merkel, Texas, will be held at the office said Bank on Tuesday, the 12th day of January 1960, at 7:00 o'clock P.M., for the election of Directors and the transaction of such business as may properly come before the meeting.

**FARMERS AND MERCHANTS
NATIONAL BANK
MERKEL, TEXAS**



SENATOR ☆☆☆ Yarborough's Report

In recent weeks, I have been surprised to read in newspaper reports from Washington that I have an office staff of 39 assistants.

Actually, I have a staff of 18 persons full-time, and three college boys who work half a day each, two at a rate of \$160 per month.

Thirty assistants would enable me to render the service I want to render to the people of Texas. I could render far more efficient service, but I have only 18 regular employees, plus the three half-time students.

Frankly, with key legislation to consider and pass, with mountains of mail to answer and many other pressing services to perform for Texans, we could easily keep that many people hard at work.

Our office directly serves and represents our 9 million Texans scattered over 265,000 square miles of territory. Our office procedure is a fast and complex operation where at any given minute the staff is working on everything from multi-million-dollar water development projects, to major education legislation, to getting an elderly widow's \$40 monthly pension raised or a disabled veteran hospitalized.

Our job of representing and serving the people under the American system of government by the consent of the governed is challenging and fascinating and almost never ending. Our staff is surely one of the hardest working and most dedicated in Washington.

For the service of Texans, we maintain offices in Austin and in Washington the year round. When Congress is in session, all but one secretary, works in Washington. After Congress adjourns, I return to my Austin headquarters and half of the staff members return with me to carry out our job here. James Boren, my Administrative Assistant, heads up my Washington office while I am in Texas.

Although the reports that we have a staff of 30 people are wholly incorrect, our sincere objective is to give Texans such efficient and responsible governmental representation that they

will assume our staff is twice as big as it really is.

Q — I am the widow of a World War I veteran, and I have a daughter in college who is receiving death compensation payments from VA. She will soon reach her 21st birthday, but she will still be in school. Will it be possible for the VA payments to continue?

A — No. Under the law, compensation payments made to a child of a deceased veteran while she is in school may not be continued after she passes her 21st birthday.



... Wishing
You A Merry Christmas And
A Very Happy New Year!

WILSON JEWELRY

Greetings



We'd like to join our old friend with the whiskers in wishing all of our cherished friends a Merry Christmas and a very happy New Year... may peace be with you always.

WEST HARDWARE

SEASON'S GREETINGS



Best wishes
for Christmas... **TO ALL**

PALMER MOTOR CO.

Your Pontiac — Rambler Dealer

Merry Christmas



Amid the gaiety of the holiday season may we pause and remember the true meaning of Christmas.

Taylor Electric Cooperative

Merkel, Texas

MERRY CHRISTMAS



Forget all your
cares and worries . . .

this day is for fun!

HIGGINS SHOP

TEEN TOPICS

By Sally

Dear Sally: Somehow, whenever I'm with boys I'm tongue-tied. With girls, conversation is easy but if you ask questions, a boy only says "yes" or "no" and conversation is gone.

A READER

This letter is typical of many a gal wants to be especially why is talk so difficult just when that come to our desk. Why oh bright and charming Many a lass has wondered.

Perhaps the chief reason is that anxiety makes her self-conscious. And unfortunately the boy reacts the same way.

Yes, conversational failures are the fault of both partners. Put boys usually blame the girls for these uneasy silences. This is strictly unfair, of course. But since the burden of talk traditionally falls on the female, she must train herself to carry the ball even when she gets no assist from her team-mate.

The trick, Sugar, is to say whatever comes into your head — barring mean or personal remarks. Feminine yakety-yak may bore boys, but it's better than nothing. Actually boys are more interested in feminine topics than they admit, provided you address your remarks to THEM and show an interest in their reactions. Try it and see.

Maybe you get the jitters, the flutters, the ka-wolly-wobble when you enter a room full of people.

Look! Here's a hint — two don'ts and a do.

Don't teeter nervously in the doorway. Don't sneak in and cower in a corner. DO make a brisk, smooth entrance, no matter how scared you feel. That's the secret, chum: briskness! No lingering to brook over your fears and foibles.

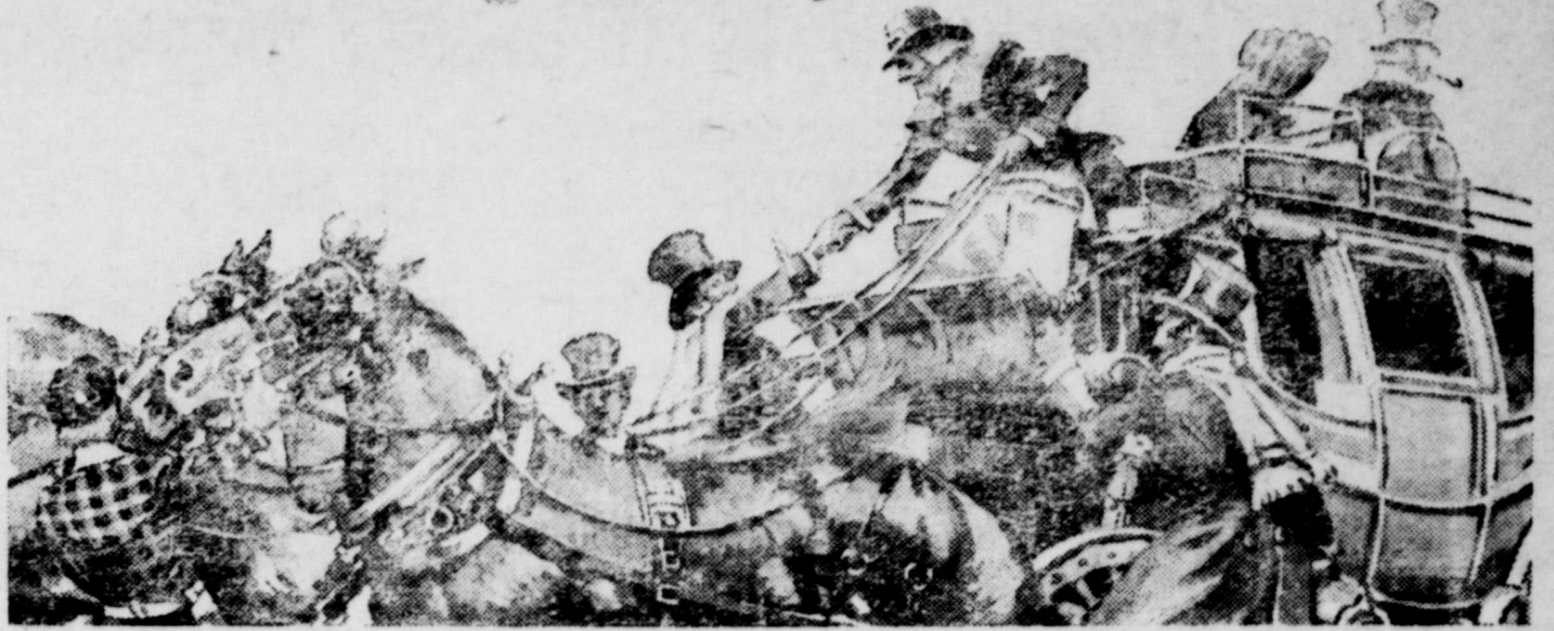
GreetN your hostess first. Then walk directly to the nearest group or — better still — to the crowd that seems to be having the most fun.

And as you join the gang say something! It doesn't matter what. Some frantic that's new. Or a simple complimentary comment about the music, the house, someone's new dress or pair-fo. No mean cracks, of course, even for the laughs you might get.

Say something immediately and you can be silent the rest of the evening. People, being human, will judge you by the first impression you make.

The poor creep who eneters a room like a fugitive from the chain gang makes others feel uncomfortable. Nervousness, unfortunately, is as contagious as measles.

Merry Christmas



We hope that Christmas finds you surrounded by loved ones,
with your every wish granted and with a happy vista
down the months ahead.

MERKEL DRUG CO.

SEASON'S GREETINGS



WE WANT TO THANK ALL OUR FRIENDS
FOR THEIR FAVORS AND PATRONAGE

Merkel Farm Machinery

PHONE 30

Merry Christmas



In taking inventory of our assets for
the past year, we find one that we
value most. This priceless asset is
friendship. And who are our friends?"
Why of course, they are YOU . . . our
customers!

TAYLOR TELEPHONE COOPERATIVE INC.

MERKEL, TEXAS



MERRY CHRISTMAS

One of the joys at Christmas
is greeting folks like you . . .

MERKEL Country Club

Merry Christmas to You!

FROM ALL OF US AT CARSON'S SUPERMARKET

XMAS GIFTS

WITH YOUR CASH REGISTER TAPES
LOTS OF TOYS TO CHOOSE FROM
STILL LEFT. SO COME IN AND
SELECT YOURS NOW. IF YOU LIKE
A FEW. YOU CAN ALWAYS PAY
THE DIFFERENCE.

DOMINO
Powdered Sugar
box 10c

CHOCOLATE COVERED
CHERRIES
CANDY
BOX -- 39c

CHEESE
VEL VEETA
2 Lb.
BOX -- 79c

Del Monte
PINEAPPLE
Sliced
1 1/2 Can 2 for 39c

DRAWING FOR THE
BIG MODEL-T
WILL BE AT 4:00 p.m. THURSDAY

SUGAR
CRISCO
PEARS
FOLGERS
JELLO

DOMINO
10 lb. limit

89¢

CREAMY
3 lb. can - -

69¢

REMARKABLE
2 1/2 can - - -

29¢

COFFEE
Pound Can - -

59¢

ASSORTED
5 box limit

5¢

— SURE BUYS —

OUR DARLING 303
CORN - 2 for 33c

KUNER'S 303
G. BEANS 2 for 33c

KUNER'S 303
PEAS - 2 for 33c

KUNER'S 303
Tomatoes 2 for 33c

APPRECIATION DAY

Time Sale Only

TUESDAY ONLY

THURSDAY ONLY

FOLGER'S

FREEZE

Instant Coffee

6-oz.
Jar **59¢**

1/2 gal. **29¢**

SALE TIME 1:30 TO 5:30 p.m.

Prices Good
Wednesday & Thursday
Dec. 23 & 24th

Special Bulletin

SPECIAL BULLETIN
We will be Closed
Christmas Day and
Saturday
Dec. 25th & 26th

XMAS
bulk **NUTS**
Straight
or
Mix'em
Walnuts
Brazil Nuts
Almonds
Pecans lb. **49¢**

The Natural Mate
For Every Meat
Ocean Spray
CRANBERRY SAUCE
2 for 39c

DEL MONTE
Fruit COCKTAIL
303 CAN
2 for **43¢**

DEL MONTE
PEACHES
No. 2 1/2 Can
2 for **49¢**

WHITE HOUSE
APPLE SAUCE
303 Can
2 for **25¢**

Finest Quality
MEATS

Gooch Blue Ribbon
BACON
2 lbs. **73¢**

TOP BRANDS 1/2 or whole
HAMS Lb. - **49¢**

FRESH — ORSBORN
HENS Lb. - - **29¢**

Fresh
PORK ROAST - - - - lb. 37c
Elk Hron
CHEESE - - - - lb. 49c
Gooch Country Style
SAUSAGE - - - - 2 lbs. 63c
GOOCH

PICNIC Lb. - **29¢**

FULL LINE of SMALL or LARGE
Boneless Canned
HAMS & PICNIC

GOLD MEDAL
FLOUR 10 Lb. BAG 89c

Betty Crocker Chiffon
Coco 'n Orange box 49c

Betty Crocker CONFETTI
ANGEL FOOD - box 43c

Betty Crocker
Cake MIXES - 2 boxes 55c

JELL-O — Whip Cream
Dream Whip - box 23c

Sunshine
CANDIES - - - cello 29c

Sunshine Chocolate
Queen Cookies - pkg. 39c

NABISCO
RITZS - - - box 29c

KRAFT
BLACKBERRY
JELLY

20-oz.
Jar — **33¢**

● FROZEN FOODS ●

SIMPLE SIMON
PUMPKIN PIES
Each - - **49¢**

GROVE—10-oz.
STRAWBERRIES each 19c

BIRDSEYE—Big
TURKEY DINNER each 59c

CLEANSER
COMET
reg. 17c

Real-Clean
ZEST
Bath Bar 22c

Bleach
OXYDOL
giant 69c

Regular
CHEER
box 31c

Garden Fresh
Vegetables

ORANGES
LARGE POUND **17¢**

GREEN
CALAVOS - - each 5c

FRESH
CELERY - - - lb. 9c

Fresh
COCONUTS - - - - lb. 9c

Yellow
ONIONS - - - - lb. 5c

Fresh
CRANBERRIES - - - - lb. 23c

BEKO
SPUDS - - - 10 lbs. 43c

CARSON'S SUPERMARKET



MERKEL, TEXAS
STORE HOURS
WEEKDAYS: 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.
SATURDAYS 7:00 a.m. to 8:30 p.m.

TRADE WITH US AND BANK THE DIFFERENCE