



**CHRISTMAS AROUND THE WORLD** — Displays in the foyer of Merkel Elementary building depicted holiday customs around the world. Holiday customs and displays were prepared by elementary students, with Mrs. Carroll Benson, sponsor. Displaying a few of the customs are, from left, Phil Dickenson, council room representative; Dennis James, student council president, and Kathy Hendricks, council vice president. (Staff photo)

## 1968 Top Stories Include Merkel's Youth Projects

News for 1968 for Merkel was highlighted in volume by what people did — rather than great events.

There were no great disasters or earth shaking events.

However, the pages of the Merkel Mail were replete with news of what people did during the year.

**JANUARY, 1968,** started off with a bang with livestock shows in Merkel and Trent. Chester Collingsworth made the announcements for Merkel. Steve Reddin showed the grand and reserve champion heifers in Trent.

Merkel Citizens responded to an emergency at the West Texas Rehabilitation Center and Mrs. Larry White was chairman of the Mothers March of Dimes.

The Rev. Kenneth Jones was called as pastor of the First Baptist Church.

**FEBRUARY, 1968,** saw the Merkel Chamber of Commerce plan the annual banquet for the installation of Lon McDonald as president. Mike Warren earned the coveted Boy Scout Eagle badge.

Bob Byerly resigned as Merkel head coach.

The Merkel High School Stage Glenn Reed, won the Showman's Trophy at the Brownwood Band, under the direction of Stage Band contest.

**MARCH, 1968,** saw the Merkel City Council opening a drive against traffic violators.

The Heart Drive under the direction of Mrs. Hugh Baker and Mrs. Ronnie Toombs raised a total of more than \$350.

The Merkel Library was opened for business according to board chairman Leon Walker.

Both Warren was named outstanding citizen and Joe McDuff was named outstanding farmer at the Merkel Chamber of Commerce banquet.

**APRIL, 1968,** saw the announcement that Wendell Robinson was

elect head coach.

Board members and staff personnel of the Taylor Electric Cooperative, Inc., attended the annual Congressional Dinner at Washington.

And Merkelites expressed surprise and shock that President Lyndon Johnson announced that he would not be a candidate for reelection.

Ann Riggan of Trent was named to the state "All Star" basketball team.

The Merkel Lions Club was honored on its 40th anniversary. Receiving membership awards were Booth Warren, Dr. W. T. Sadler, Wren Durham, Meyer Mellinger, Nolan Palmer and Ray Wilson. Also Frank Breaux, Herman Carson, David Gamble, Edwin Reed, Mack Fisher, Horace Hargrove, Isadore Mellinger, Dr. Don Warren and H. N. Odom.

Taylor Electric Cooperative, Inc., officials announced at the annual meeting that more than \$100,000 would be shared in capital credit refund checks. All board members were reelected with O. S. Moore as chairman. Reelected were Ray Osborn, R. C. Watts and Tommy Johnson.

Don King announced the opening game of the Merkel Little Leaguers.

**MAY, 1968,** saw Mrs. Frank Brnovak honored as regional Conservation Homemaker of the year at an Awards Banquet at San Angelo.

The Merkel Eighth Grade graduation Program was held May 29. Margo McAllister, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Tommy McAllister, gave the address and Mark Dudley, son of Mr. and Mrs. Don Dudley, presented the class gift.

Chamber of Commerce President Lon McDonald announced that Merkel would have a summer recreation program.

Mrs. Dink Whisenunt announced that the Young Homemakers would have a bake sale.

**JUNE, 1968,** saw a demand

from Merkel Motel owner W. J. Roddy, that a study be made of Merkel phone rates and service.

Merkel High School graduates heard Dr. John Stevens, vice president of Abilene Christian College, urge that today's youth become involved in events today. Robert Wilson, valedictorian, and Mary Johnson, salutatorian, and Felix Costello, class president, made addresses.

Opposition to a proposal that a higher state sales tax be implemented was voiced by Mayor Johnny Cox. Mayor Cox also announced plans for a series of "Town Hall" type meetings for a long-range planning for the needs of Merkel.

Bill Tate announced that swimming would be added to the Merkel Summer Recreation Program.

Tommy Cutler and his wife returned from a tour of Washington, D.C., where they accompanied a group of oratory winners in a contest sponsored by the electric cooperatives of Texas.

The Rev. David Hahn resigned as pastor of the Calvary Baptist Church.

Suggestions for a Youth and Recreation program for Merkel were outlined at a "Town Hall" type meeting.

Learn to Swim registration began.

City officials announced a system of charges for users of Merkel sewer facilities.

Mrs. Ray Wilson was named to head Merkel's USO drive.

**JULY, 1968,** saw plans for an Invitational Golf Tourney at the Merkel Country Club.

Boy Scout Troop 18 under the direction of Glenn Reed went to Camp Tonkawa.

Danny Doan was named to coach the Merkel All-Stars.

Sam Beam, Farm Bureau president, announced the opening of the annual Taylor County Farm Bureau Beauty Contest.

The Summer Recreation Track Meet got underway.

Herman Carson was named to head a committee to study recreational needs of the Merkel area.

Clay Satterwhite headed up a program of school repairs in the Merkel system.

Members of the Merkel 4-H Club reported a success tour of club projects.

Leon Walker was appointed chairman of the Teenage Activities program.

**AUGUST, 1968,** saw the city Council announce the hiring of Frank Alkin as general maintenance man.

Max Murrell, Chevrolet dealer, was named area director of the Texas Automobile Dealers Association.

Gail Boone reported the Merkel 4-H Club would hold a bake Fund.

John D. Young was elected superintendent of the Trent schools.

Mike Briley was hired by the Merkel City Council as night patrolman.

Merkel schools opened. Mack Fisher, superintendent, announced that the faculty was complete with the hiring of Eugene Bolas as assistant junior high coach.

The Badger Booster Club held its first meeting under the direction of Dan Allen, president.

Members of the Merkel Lions Club opened the Lions Club Community Center for use as a building for the Merkel Teen Recreation Program.

Bill Button was named president of the Merkel Optimist Club. Hewett, vice president; Connie Mack Seymore, secretary-treasurer; and Roy Kimbrell, publicity.

Norman Winter, manager of the Taylor Electric Cooperative, Inc., was elected to the Board of Directors of the Texas Electric Cooperatives, Inc.

**SEPTEMBER, 1968,** saw the opening of the Merkel Booster Club membership drive under the direction of Dan Doan and Calvin Wade.

Alan Reed was named captain of the Merkel Badger Band.

Merkel Badgers opened the football season with a trip to Clyde.

Gene Stewart was named president of the Parent-Teachers Association.

Merkel High School Band, under the direction of Glenn Reed, was awarded the trophy for best conduct at the Abilene Christian College Band Day.

Teen President Ann Walker announced the Grand Opening of

(Continued on Page 4)

### Up The Canyon

By TOM RUSSOM

A low of 15 degrees this morning in the Canyon, caught stockmen unprepared.

There was a very good program presented at Pioneer Memorial Church Sunday evening. The annual program, Christmas tree and a visit from Santa Claus headed the activities.

Ole' Santa came in telling the "good little boys and girls" that he "almost didn't make it."

Canyon residents were pleased to have former residents of the community attending the Christmas program. They were Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Alexander and son Jon Drew of Woodbridge, Va.; Mr. and Mrs. Tim Faggan, Houston, and Mr. and Mrs. Everett Powell and family of Roswell, N.M. Mrs. Alexander is the former Aleta Scott, Mrs. Faggan, the former Sue King, and Mrs. Powell is the former Edith Butman.

Also attending were Mr. and Mrs. Billy Riley and son, Billy Ray of Newice, and Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Ray Jr., and baby daughter, Midland, Mr. and Mrs. Jacky Riley and baby daughter of Abilene.

Well, this is the time to start thinking about New Year's resolutions, and I have been doing some mighty serious thinking about mine. I know there must be a lot of people in the Canyon who are doing the same, and would appreciate a call from anyone who would like to tell me theirs.

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

## CHRISTMAS AROUND THE WORLD IS SCHOOL'S THEME

The Decoration Committee of the Merkel Elementary Student Council has sponsored a Christmas project for this year's holiday occasions.

Elementary classes chose countries studied about them, and found out about their holiday observances.

### City Secretary's '69 Resolutions

Be It Remembered that I hold an office of Public Trust, and as the Municipal Clerk of my city, do by these presents pledge:

To uphold constitutional government and the laws of my community;

To so conduct my public and private life as to be an example to my fellow citizens;

To impart to my profession those standards of quality and integrity that the conduct of the affairs of my office shall be above reproach;

To be ever mindful of my neutrality and impartiality, rendering equal service to all;

To record that which is true and preserve that which is entrusted to me as if it were my own; and

To strive constantly to improve the administration of the affairs of my office consistent with applicable laws.

Realizing the aims and purposes for which our Government was established, these things I subscribe so to do.

FLOSSIE W. McKEEVER  
City Secretary.

Culminating their studies, members made and put up displays on "Christmas Around the World" in the foyer of the Elementary building.

Rooms participating and countries studied are: Mr. Bratcher's Room, "Joyeux Noel," France; Mrs. Benson's Room, "Prestige Kerstdagen," Holland; Mrs. Fisher's, "Froehliche Weihnachten," German; Mrs. Orsborn's, "Buon Natale," Italy; Mr. Davis', "La Posada," New Mexico, and Mr. Boaz's, "Merry Christmas," United States, with a special feature on the Cowboys' Christmas Ball.

Committee members compiling the displays are Kathy Hendricks, Phil Dickenson and Royce Bratcher.

Mrs. Helen Benson was adult sponsor.



**GORILLAS ARE HONORED**—Special recognition was given Saturday to the Trent Football Team and their coach, Charles Russell, at an Appreciation Banquet, to be held at the Trent High School Auditorium. Football members pictured are, first row, from left, Will D. Williams, John Bland and Allen Frazier, managers; and Mark Williamson; second row, Owen O'Kelley, Bob White, Gaylon Frazier, Lathan Henager, and Si Acuna. (Photo by Connie Harris)

## TRENT'S GORILLAS BANQUET HONOREES

The Trent Gorillas football team Class B regional champions for 1968, was honored Saturday night at the school's annual football banquet, held in the Trent High School auditorium.

Guest speaker, Curly Hays of Abilene, Southwest Conference official, said, "You have been tested — and you have pulled through. You got your heads together and went to work. You thought more of the team as a whole than you did yourselves." "Football is more of a way of life," said Hays, "and lessons are learned on the field of play that are often applied to everyday living."

James L. Wilks, master of ceremonies, introduced Coach Charles Russell by saying he was the "Vincent Lombardy, Darrell Royal and Gene Stallings of West Texas and Trent."

Coach Russell introduced each

player, said he was as proud of them tonight as he was at the first pep rally.

Russell, the only coach who won 20 games which included the Junior High record of 8 wins and 1 loss, did not have an assistant.

Ted Simpson presented Russell with a trophy from the football boys. A gift was also presented by Wilks to Mr. and Mrs. Russell "from the people of Trent."

Coach Russell was also chosen "coach of the year" in Sunday's area picks.

Named to the Class B Regional Team were Stan Hicks, Steve Reddin and Gaylon Brnovak, with Ted Simpson and Pat Carrier receiving honorable mention.

In concluding his speech to the large Saturday night crowd, Hays said, "Education is the name of the game and the football field is the class room and Gorillas, you have rated A plus."



## LEGAL NOTICE

THE STATE OF TEXAS  
To any Sheriff or any Constable  
within the State of Texas —  
GREETING:

You are hereby commanded to cause to be published once each week for four consecutive weeks, the first publication to be at least twenty-eight days before the return day thereof, in a newspaper printed in Taylor County, Texas, the accompanying citation,

of which the herein below following is a true copy.

CITATION BY PUBLICATION  
THE STATE OF TEXAS

TO: Robert Doggett, Defendant, Greeting:

YOU ARE HEREBY COMMANDED to appear before the Honorable Domestic Relations Court of Taylor County at the Courthouse thereof, in Abilene, Texas, by filing a written answer

at or before 10 o'clock A.M. of the first Monday next after the expiration of forty-two days from the date of the issuance of this citation, same being the 20th day of January A.D. 1969, to Plaintiff's Petition filed in said court, on the 4th day of November A.D. 1968, in this cause, numbered 4423 on the docket of said court and styled Bobbie Doggett, Plaintiff, vs. Robert Doggett, Defendant.

A brief statement of the nature of this suit as follows, to-wit: Plaintiff and Defendant were duly and legally married January 19, 1963 and lived together until August 17, 1964, at which time they separated because of Defendant's conduct. Defendant was guilty of cruel treatment toward Plaintiff. There is no community property and one child was born to this union as is more fully shown by Plaintiff's Petition on file in this suit.

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

The officer executing this writ shall promptly serve the same according to requirements of law, and the mandates hereof, and make due return as the law directs.

Issued and given under my hand and the seal of said court at Abilene, Texas, this 3rd day of December A.D. 1968.

(Seal)  
Attest: R. H. ROSS Clerk,  
Domestic Relations Court  
Taylor County, Texas  
By Kathryn Williams, Deputy  
41 3tc

## LEGAL NOTICE

THE STATE OF TEXAS  
To any Sheriff or any Constable  
within the State of Texas —  
GREETING:

You are hereby commanded to cause to be published once each week for four consecutive weeks, the first publication to be at least twenty-eight days before the return day thereof, in a newspaper printed in Taylor County, Texas, the accompanying citation, of which the herein below following is a true copy.

CITATION BY PUBLICATION  
THE STATE OF TEXAS

TO: Johnnie Lee Ellis, Defendant, Greeting:

YOU ARE HEREBY COMMANDED to appear before the Honorable Domestic Relations Court of Taylor County at the Courthouse thereof, in Abilene, Texas, by filing a written answer at or before 10 o'clock A.M. of the first Monday next after the expiration of forty-two days from the date of issuance of this citation, same being the 20th day of January A.D. 1969, to Plaintiff's 1st amended Petition filed in said court, on the 2nd day of December A.D. 1968, in this cause, numbered 4273 on the docket of said court and styled In Re: Kenneth Ray Ellis.

A brief statement of the nature of this suit is as follows, to-wit: in regard to adoption as is more fully shown by Plaintiff's Petition on file in this suit.

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

The officer executing this writ shall promptly serve the same according to requirements of law, and the mandates hereof, and make due return as the law directs.

Issued and given under my hand and the seal of said court at Abilene, Texas, this 2nd day of December A.D. 1968.

(Seal)  
Attest: R. H. ROSS Clerk,  
Domestic Relations Court  
Taylor County, Texas  
By Irene Crawford, Deputy  
40 4tc

More than 6,000 medical research projects are under way at 146 VA hospitals.

## LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE  
THE STATE OF TEXAS  
County of Taylor

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN That by virtue of a certain execution issued out of the Honorable 42nd District Court of Taylor County, of the 15th day of November 1968, by District Clerk of said County for the sum of Eight thousand Five Hundred Four and 83/100 (\$8,504.88) Dollars and costs of suit, under an Execution, in favor of Abilene Savings Association in a certain cause in said Court, No. 31-504-A and styled Abilene Saving Association vs. Mel Thurman et ux Louise Thurman, placed in my hands for service, I, George Maxwell as Sheriff of Taylor County, Texas did, on the 18th day of November 1968, levy on certain Real Estate, situated in Taylor County, Texas, described as follows, to-wit: Lots 9 and 10 in Block 1 of College Heights Addition to the City of Abilene, Taylor County, Texas and levied upon as the property of Mel Thurman and Wife Louise Thurman and that on the first Tuesday in January 1969, the same being the 7th day of said month at the Court House door, of Taylor County, in the City of Abilene, Texas, between the hours of 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. by virtue of said levy and said execution I will sell said above Real Estate at public vendue, for each, to the highest bidder, as the property of said Mel Thurman and Wife Louise Thurman.

And in compliance with law, I give this notice by publication, in the English language, once a week for three consecutive weeks immediately preceding said day of sale, in the Merkel Mail, a newspaper published in Taylor County, Texas.

Witness my hand, this 18th day of November 1968.  
GEORGE MAXWELL,  
Sheriff Taylor County, Texas.  
By Robert Alexander, Deputy  
41 3tc

Average age of the 14.8 million WWII veterans is 43.3 years, the VA says.

Benefits for today's veterans include special assistance for young veterans with limited education.

**Mack's Cleaners**  
Your Dry Cleaner  
Is Your Clothes  
Best Friend  
Clothing Dry Cleaned  
lasts longer and looks  
new longer.

## WISHING YOU A DOGGONE

HAPPY  
NEW YEAR  
TO ALL!



SCOTTIE'S SPEEDWASH  
SCOTTIE, SYLVIA and Scott

## Gas Sales Reach New Highs in Oct.

The nation's gas companies set new sales records in October, the American Gas Association reported today.

Sales for the month were 9.656 million therms — 4.5 per cent more than the 9.236 million therms sold in October, 1967. Increased industrial usage offset the effects of warm weather on residential and commercial sales.

Increased compensation payments for about 1,952,000 service-disabled veterans will begin in 1969.

LIVE THE CAREFREE ELECTRIC WAY

Total-Electric Living  
is so clean you can  
use colors you never  
dared use before.



Use glamorous white-on-white, even!

Because electric heating, cooling, cooking and cleaning is flameless the new pastels, even white-on-white, stay clean. Choose furniture, draperies, carpets and walls in the colors you want—they stay clean in a modern total-electric Gold Medallion home.

Any home can be converted to electric Gold Medallion.

Call your electric contractor  
or West Texas Utilities



West Texas Utilities  
Company an investor owned company

GOOD LUCK  
in  
**GG**

WE WISH YOU THE VERY BEST!

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ONIS, TINA, ROBERT, JIM and MINGNON

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MERKEL AUTO PARTS

and

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WELCOME YOUR BUSINESS!

If It's Parts You Need, Let Us Serve You.  
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We Welcome you to our Fisher Fina Service Stations. Two Locations to Better Serve You at Fisher Service Center on Interstate 20 and Fina Wholesale Gas & Oil on West Highway 80.

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ONE STOP SERVICE FOR ALL YOUR INSURANCE NEEDS  
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OPTOMETRIST  
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504 Cedar St. Abilene, Texas



And may we pledge the united efforts of our officers and staff to help you make it a prosperous one.

LEGAL HOLIDAY - NEW YEAR'S DAY  
JANUARY 1ST

THE OLD RELIABLE  
FARMERS AND MERCHANTS  
NATIONAL BANK  
MERKEL, TEXAS  
Member Federal Deposit Insurance Corp.



SINGING OUR HEARTFELT WISHES  
OF GLADNESS TO ALL OUR PATRONS.  
WE PLEDGE TO SERVE YOU TO THE  
BEST OF OUR ABILITY IN 1969.

From All the Folks At  
**MERKEL AUTO PARTS**  
AND  
**FISHER FINA STATIONS**



# "Ring-the-Bell" Values for the *NEW YEAR*

5 DAYS NEW YEAR'S SPECIALS - Thursday, Dec. 26 through Tuesday, Dec. 31 - Closed New Year's Day, Jan. 1.

**PEAS** Kimbells Dry 1-Lb. **15¢**  
Blackeye ..... Pkg.

**Snowdrift** ..... 3-Lb. **59¢**  
Can

**OLEO** Kraft's ..... Lb. **39¢**  
Soft

**PEAS** KIMBELLS BLACKEYE With Snaps 300 Size ..... 2 for **29¢**

**TUNA** Sea Call ..... 2 for **49¢**

**PREM** Swift's ..... 12-Oz. **49¢**  
Can

**PEAS** Ranch Style WITH BACON 300 Size ..... 2 for **29¢**

**MEAL** Gladiola ..... 5-Lb. **39¢**  
Bag

**FLOUR** Gold Medal ..... 5-Lb. **49¢**  
Bag



*Values on FRESH MEATS*  
ARMOUR STAR 10-14 LB. AVG. TURKEY **HENS** ..... Lb. **39¢**

Salt **JOWL** ..... Lb. **23¢**

CHOICE Chuck **ROAST** Lb. **55¢**

**STEAK** Loin or T-Bone ..... Lb. **98¢**

**BACON** Swift Premium ..... Lb. **59¢**

**FRANKS** Swift Premium ..... 1-Lb. **59¢**  
Pkg.

MAXWELL HOUSE **COFFEE** 1-Lb. **69¢** 2-Lb. **\$1.37**  
Can Can

**Buttermilk** Feremost Half Gal. 2 for **93¢**

**BISCUITS** Meads .. 3 Cans **25¢**  
FOREMOST

**EGG NOG** Foremost ..... Qt. **49¢**

MAXWELL HOUSE FREEZE DRY **INSTANT**  
4-OZ. **93¢**  
JAR

CASHMERE BOUQUET **BATH SOAP**  
4 Bars ..... **29¢**

**AJAX** CLEANSER  
REG. SIZ. **25¢**  
2 Cans

**F A B** DETERGENT  
GIANT SIZE ..... **59¢**



MEADS **ROLLS** ..... Pkg. of 24 **29¢**  
KRINKLE CUT **POTATOES** .. 2-Lb. Bag **29¢**



RUSSETT **SPUDS** ..... 10-Lb. Bag **49¢**

YELLOW **ONIONS** ..... Lb. **9¢**

FRESH **TOMATOES** ..... Lb. **29¢**

RED ROME **APPLES** ..... 4-Lb. Bag **49¢**

MEXICO **ORANGES** ... 4-Lb. Bag **49¢**



"Where Customers Send Their Friends"  
TWO DELIVERIES DAILY at 10:30 a. m. and 4:30 p m.  
Phone 925-5713



DOUBLE PREMIUMS ON WEDNESDAY ON PURCHASE OF \$2.50 OR MORE IN MERCHANDISE

SAVE VALUABLE CASH REGISTER TAPES FOR PREMIUMS

# WANT ADS



## Miscellaneous

**FOR MONUMENTS and CEMETERY CURBING**  
M. A. (Sarg) NOSTER  
1404 Herring Dr.  
Merkel, Texas  
Phone 8-5665

**MASONIC MEETING**  
Stated Meeting of Merkel Lodge No. 710 on 2nd Saturday and 4th Thursday of each month at 7:30 p.m. Visitors welcome. Members urged to attend.

**BURR HENDRICKS, W. M. ROY MASHBURN, Sec'y.**

**LOST** — 25 head cattle strayed from my place 1 mile south of Blair. Branded right hip with "T over S." \$500 reward for information leading to recovery of cattle. Any information will be confidential. Stanley Toombs. 42 2tc

**FREE** — Dog to give away. brown and white part - terrier pup. Has had rabies and distemper shots. 928-5811 after 5:30 or come by 402 Oak. 42 1tc

**WANTED** — Fulltime construction hands needed. Contact Wayne Jackson, Cal - Tex Feed Yards, Trent. 42 2tc

**SEPTIC TANK service**, Hansen Plumbing Co., Anson, Texas, Phone 823-2145. 42 4tc

**LOST** — Blue tool box and tools Reward. Henry Brady, Phone 928-4671. 31 2tc

**FOR COMPLETE BEAUTY CARE** — Free facial, and a complete line of cosmetics, call Emma Shuggart, 928-5027 or Betty Satterwhite, 928-5665. 12 1tp

## For Rent

**FOR RENT** — Unfurnished 2 bedroom house. Nice and clean, plumbed for washer. Phone 928-5236 or see at 402 Ash. 42 2tr

**FOR RENT** — Two bedroom, unfurnished, plumbed, fenced, carpet, near school. 307 Haynes. Reasonable rent. Call Vaughn Dean, 928-5592 after 5 and on weekends. 42 1tn

**FOR RENT** — Two bedroom house on school bus route and FM road. Small rent. Phone 928-5108, 928-5067. 40 1tc

**FOR RENT** — One bedroom house, 404 Edwards, Call 928-5345 or 928-5998. 42 2tc

Enjoy **MERRY CHRISTMAS** at 1409 Stewart Street — 3-1/2 — No Down. First payment on March 1.  
**McADEN REALTY & INSURANCE**  
672-4610 Merkel 928-5948

**NEED**  
A New Water Well Drilled?  
Also Install Meyers Subs & Jacuzzi Jets  
Call **ROBERT HIGGINS**  
928-5998

Member 1967 **TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION**

**The Merkel Mail**  
PUBLISHER'S STATEMENT  
Established 1889

Published weekly at 916 N. Second St., Merkel, Texas  
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Any erroneous reflection upon the character, standing or reputation of any person, firm or corporation, which may appear in the columns of the newspaper will be corrected, gladly, upon being brought to the attention of the publisher.

For Classified Rates: See WANT AD Section.  
SUBSCRIPTION RATE: \$3.50 Per Year Taylor and adjoining counties \$4.00 Per Year, outside of Taylor and adjoining counties

Member of the Texas Press Association and West Texas Press Association.  
**ELAINE BRUMBEAU** Editor  
**DAVE BRUMBEAU** Publisher

# Wedding Plans

RAGAN-BURR

M Sgt. (retired) and Mrs. Seth D. Ragan of Rt. 2, Culbertson, Neb., announce the engagement of their daughter, Elizabeth Ann, to Mr. Terry Burr, son of Mr. and Mrs. Willis Burr of Rt. 2, Bird City, Kansas.

The bride-elect, a 1967 graduate of Merkel High School is presently a sophomore at York Christian College, York, Neb. She is employed as the secretary for the East Hill Church of Christ and is a member of the Phi Theta Kappa, a national honor society.

A 1968 graduate of Bird City High School, the prospective bridegroom is a freshman at York Christian College. He is a member of the East Hill Minstrels and the Sigma Tau social club.

An August wedding is planned.

# 1968 Stories

(Continued from Page One)

**OCTOBER, 1968**, saw the Rev. Herschell Smith called to the pulpit of the Calvary Baptist Church.

Merkel Homecoming was declared a success and Ben Hicks was named the 1969 president. Other officers are Nowlin Cox, vice president; Mrs. Don King, secretary; and Mrs. Lawrence Hewitt, treasurer. Miss Nora Nora Foster was crowned Coming Home Queen, Isadore Melinger was named Mr. X.

Katherine Patterson was crowned High School Homecoming queen.

Earl Watts addressed members of the Lions Club on the subject of alcoholism.

Merkel's Community Fund Drive opened. W. J. Roddy, owner of the Asteroid Restaurant and Motel, was 1968 chairman. The goal was set at \$6,000.

Sherman Driggers Jr., president of the Trent Ex - Students Association, announced the annual Homecoming.

Max Murrell, president of the Merkel Hospital Board, reviewed progress of work on the new facilities.

Mrs. Larry White, president, announced plans for the Merkel Lambda Beta Chapter game night.

**NOVEMBER, 1968**, found Merkel voters going against the national trend and casting their confidence for Hubert Humphrey.

Wally Knight was elected president of the Merkel High School Drama Club. Other officers were Gaylon Doan, vice president; Debbie Black, secretary and treasurer and Mike Dudley, reporter.

Mrs. Hugh Baker and Mrs. Billy Lucas headed the door to door campaign for the Merkel Community Fund.

The Rev. Kenneth Jones announced the beginning of the Baptist Mission School in Merkel.

Waymon Adcock was named parade marshal for the annual Christmas Parade.

Joe Seymore, chairman for the Lord's Acre Sale, at Pioneer Memorial Methodist Church, announced proceeds from the sale will go to help defray church expense.

Trent students were invited to the Teen Center in Merkel.

**DECEMBER** — Merkel Goodfellow organized and "invited area people to make contributions to help needy families in the area." Lawrence Hewitt was named chairman and Mrs. Mary Mosier and Mrs. W. R. Cypert, co-chairmen.

Santa Claus made his "official entry" into Merkel riding atop a sleigh with eight tiny reindeer. A large crowd jammed Merkel streets to see the floats and hear the Badger Band play Christmas music. Taylor County Young Homemakers won first place in float entry; Beta Sigma Phi second, and Adcock Cleaners, third place.

Merkel's long - range Recreational Committee met with representatives of an engineering firm and studied plans for a recreational center to "include more than just Merkel."

Trent Gorillas, District 7 - B Champions, were honored at an appreciation banquet, along with their coach, Charles Russell. Class B All - Area Picks were announced and with Trent hav-

ing three players on the team. They were Stan Hicks, Steve Reddin and Gaylon Brnovak.

Merkel Badgers did not wake up in the cellar in Class AA football, and two players were named to the District all area pick. They are Johnny Thompson and Gaylon Doan.

Carolers from Merkel Elementary School presented Christmas Music in the lobby of Farmers and Merchants National Bank, Mrs. Norman Winter, organist, Mrs. Andy Shouse director. Organ was donated by S&M Music Company of Abilene.

Trent planning for "biggest livestock show ever," for December 27 - 28. General Superintendent is John Hamer.

Merkel merchants say, "Christmas shopping very good."

**CLASSIFIED ADS  
GET RESULTS**

# Veterans WWI Roll Call Request

A national Roll Call of all Veterans of World War I, wives and widows has been requested in order to compile a complete file of non - members of Veterans and widows of World War I, according to Karl Bonneaux, Commander of Merkel - Trent Barracks No. 2248.

"Most veterans are not aware of the many benefits that they are eligible to receive," said Bonneaux. "Do you know you are entitled to a burial allotment? A grave marker and American Flag? Do you know you can request a burial in a National Cemetery? Also your wife? There is information for you concerning widow's pensions, hospitalization and rest home care."

World War I veterans and widows who are not already members are requested to fill in the Roll Call Box, found on page 5 of this edition in order "they may join the organization and be informed of their rights."

Information may be mailed to Bonneaux, Rt. 2, Merkel, Texas 79536.

# DWADLING A HAZARD ON BUSY HIGHWAYS

The driver who dwaddles along 20 or 30 mph slower than the mainstream of traffic is in great danger — and is a greater menace — on the Interstate routes than on conventional highways, according to the American Automobile Association.

The AA said that new studies by the U.S. Bureau of Public Roads reveal that speed variations — above or below the speed at which most of the vehicles are traveling along Interstate routes — greatly increase the hazard of accident involvement and that maintaining the pace of most traffic reduces the hazard even more than on other highways.

The involvement rate goes up as vehicles travel faster than the mainstream, but it goes up even more dramatically when speeds fall below that of the majority of vehicles, according to the report. Thus, if you are traveling an Interstate route, you should be on guard both against passing too many vehicles or

finding that too many vehicles are passing you. Adjust your speed to the pace of general traffic and your chances of an accident will be tremendously diminished.

# Jimmy Riggans Entertain Class

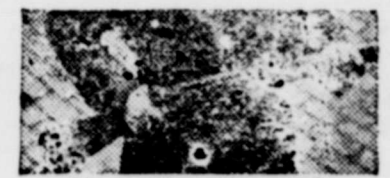
Mr. and Mrs. Jimmy Riggan, Rt. 2, Merkel, were hosts to the Trent Baptist Church's young couples' Sunday School Class Thursday, Dec. 19.

A Turkey Supper was served to twenty eight guests. Children presented the Christmas program with Christmas carols, Bible verses and a skit entitled "Meanness Pays Off."

Mike McGill gave a devotional on "Being Full at Christmas — Thank - full, Prayer - full, and Joyful."

Sunday School class teacher, Mrs. Odell Freeman, was presented a gift.

Attending were Ben and Mrs. Jim Collins and children, and Messrs. and Mrs. Wayne Sipes and children, Ivan Griffith and children, Ronnie Freeman and children, McGill and children, Odell Freeman and Mrs. Watson and Judy Lackey and the host and family.



**How do you get the truth through?**  
The Iron Curtain isn't soundproof. And so the truth is broadcast, through the air, where it can't be stopped by walls and guards, up to 16 hours a day to millions of people in the closed countries behind the Iron Curtain.  
Will you help the truth get through?  
Send your contribution to:  
**Radio Free Europe,**  
Box 1905, Mt. Vernon, N. Y.  
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**USE  
ZIP  
CODE**

# Merry Christmas & a Happy & New Year

from  
all of the  
folks at  
**Lone Star Gas**





THE NEW YEAR BRING HARMONY

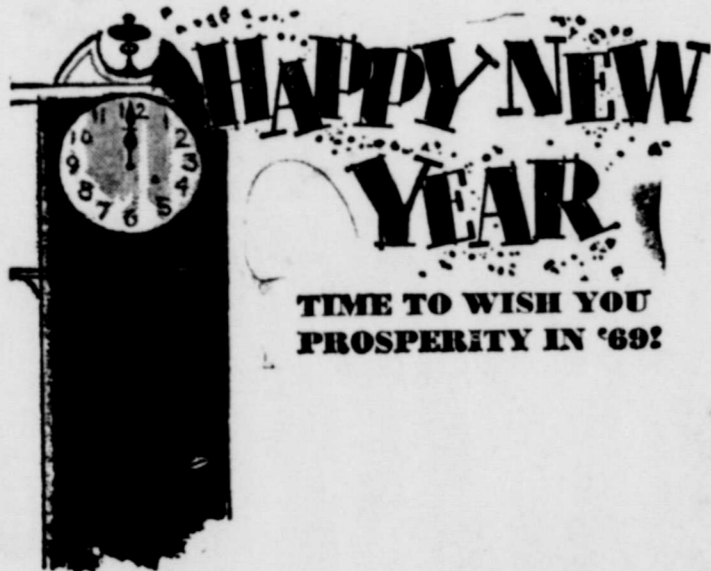
HIGGINBOTHAM - BARTLETT CO.  
RAYMOND PAT



JOHNNY COX

BOOKKEEPING — INCOME TAX

NOTARY



MERKEL ELEVATOR

JACK, JEAN and GAINES



May the year be full of health, wealth and happiness

CYPERT TAX SERVICE



MRS. JACKY CRAMER REYNOLDS  
... the former Barbara Jean Anderson

ANDERSON-REYNOLDS  
WEDDING VOWS READ

Barbara Jean Anderson and Jacky Cramer Reynolds were married Saturday, Dec. 21, at First Baptist Church. The bridegroom's brother, Jerry Don Reynolds of Direct, student in Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, officiated. Johnny Hardesty was organist, Bill Jones soloist.

The bride is the daughter of Mrs. Margaret Anderson and the late J. T. Anderson. Mr. and Mrs. Cramer Reynolds are parents of the bridegroom.

Tommy Anderson presented his sister in marriage.

Mrs. Tom McAninch of San Clemente, Calif., sister of the bride, was matron of honor.

Bridesmaids were Nancy Evans, Mrs. Van Gauthe of Avoca and Marsha Brock of El Centro, Calif.

Peggy Reynolds and Lisa Fatheree were flower girls. Ring bearer was Bart Pursley.

Tommy Reynolds, brother of the bridegroom, was best man. Groomsmen were Van Gauthe, Rodney Robertson and Bill Holloway, Rickey Thomas and Mark Reynolds were ushers.

The bride wore a gown of organza over peau de soie with batteau neckline and empire bodice. Handclipped chantilly lace motifs trimmed gown and chapel train. Her veil was caught to a flower headdress of lace and seed pearls. She carried chrysanthemums.

Attendants wore royal blue velvet empire gowns with satin yoke

and sash. They carried votive lights with jeweled lace flowers. White satin bows were in their hair.

The bride and bridegroom are

A NATIONAL ROLL CALL  
(To be filled in only by)  
All Veterans of World War I, Wives & Widows Who Are Not Members of the V.W.W.I., USA, Inc., or its Auxiliary.

Name & Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Branch of Service \_\_\_\_\_  
Married \_\_\_\_\_ Single \_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Non-Member Eligible for Auxiliary \_\_\_\_\_

AFTER-CHRISTMAS  
SALE!  
BRAGG'S  
"EXCLUSIVE BUT NOT EXPENSIVE"  
Merkel

PRE-INVENTORY  
CLEARANCE  
SALE  
AT  
Crawford's

Merkel High School graduates and are attending Hardin - Simons University. She is a sophomore majoring in elementary education. A senior majoring in Bible, the bridegroom is a member of Kappa Delta Kappa and Alpha Mu Gamma.

The bridegroom's parents hosted the rehearsal dinner at the Merkel Restaurant.

The couple will live at 1326 No. 21st in Abilene.

Border Patrol  
Needs Young Men

The U.S. Border Patrol of the Immigration and Naturalization Services has an urgent need for physically fit young men desiring a career in Federal Law Enforcement work, according to William D. Biggs, assistant district director for investigations, San Antonio.

"This is a career opportunity for those who like action and outdoor work," said Biggs.

The entrance salary of an Immigration Patrol Inspector is \$6,981 a year in grades GS-7, with automatic increase to grade GS-8 after completion of a year of probationary service.

"No experience is required," said Biggs. "To qualify, applicants must pass a written test of verbal abilities, judgment, and aptitude for learning a foreign language. Candidates who pass the written test are called for oral interviews in the order of their standing on the list."

Anyone interested in obtaining further information, may write Immigration and Naturalization Service, P. O. Box 2539, San Antonio, Texas 73206.

Nearly seven million home loans valued at \$70 billion have been made under the World War II G.I. loan program since 1944. VA reports that half the loans are now fully repaid.



BILL'S FLOWERS

ANN and VERNON WADE



GREETINGS TO OUR MANY FRIENDS!

JOHNSON'S GROCERY & CAFE



It's a pleasure to wish you a year bubbling over with joy!

BEN FRANKLIN STORE

JOHNNY HAMMOND



MAY IT BE PROSPEROUS!

MACK'S CLEANERS

**LEGAL NOTICE**

THE STATE OF TEXAS  
To any sheriff or any Constable  
within the State of Texas —  
GREETING:

You are hereby commanded to cause to be published once each week for four consecutive weeks, the first publication to be at least twenty-eight days before the return day thereof, in a newspaper printed in Taylor County, Texas, the accompanying citation of which the herein below following is a true copy.

CITATION BY PUBLICATION  
THE STATE OF TEXAS  
TO: William Ray Belyeu, Defendant, Greetings:

YOU ARE HEREBY COMMANDED to appear before the Honorable Domestic Relations Court of Taylor County at the Courthouse thereof, in Abilene, Texas, by filing a written answer at or before 10 o'clock A.M. of the first Monday next after the expiration of forty-two days from the date of the issuance of this citation, same being the 20 day of Jan. A.D. 1969, to Plaintiff's Petition filed in said court, on the 9 day of May A.D. 1968, in this cause, number 804derol in this cause, numbered 4081 on the docket of said court and styled In Re: Vickers Children.

A brief statement of the nature of this suit is as follows, to-wit: In Re: Adoption as is more fully shown by Plaintiff's Petition on file in this suit.

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

The officer executing this writ shall promptly serve the same according to requirements of law and the mandates hereof, and make due return as the law directs.

Issued and given under my hand and the seal of said court at Abilene, Texas, this 5 day of Dec. A.D. 1968.

(Seal)  
Attest: R. H. BOSS, Clerk,  
Domestic Relations Court,  
Taylor County, Texas.  
My Marie Gill, Deputy.

41 4c



ELIZABETH (LIZ) ERNSTEIN  
... missing since March

**Parents Ask Help  
In Finding Their  
Daughter, Liz**

"Will you please help us find our daughter?"  
This is the plea from Norman and Ruth Ernstein, of Redlands, Calif., and parents of Elizabeth (Liz) Lurene, who was just two months short of her fifteenth birthday when she vanished without a trace last March 18.

"She was last seen walking home from school along a lonely tree-lined street amid the orange groves of suburban Redlands," said Mrs. Ernstein. "In her arms, she carried a blue notebook and a red algebra textbook."

Since that time, law enforcement agencies, family members and friends have spent countless hours tracking down hundreds of tentative leads. But not one clue has brightened all their efforts. Seemingly, Liz has disappeared like a "breath of air on a winter's day."

But surely there is a simple explanation," says her father. "Was she abducted? "Did she run away from home? Is she dead? or is she alive and, perhaps, in YOUR town?"

The parents are asking for help.

"Ruth and I are begging you to help us find an answer to our torment —" said Ernstein, — "to

help us end the long nightmare of these past eight months — and the Lord willing, someone in your area may have seen her."

**JOHNNY COX**

Bookkeeping  
Income Tax Service  
Notary  
114 Edwards 928-4943



A sweet note  
that your  
New Year be  
filled with  
E. A. Conley  
Barber Shop



May 1969 truly bring the  
brotherly Love one seeks:  
to every one of our loyal  
patrons, A Joyous New Year.

FRED and NAOMI STARBUCK



CYRUS PEE INSURANCE



May the New  
Year find every one of our  
favorite customers Ridin' High

MALONE IMPLEMENT



It's never  
too late to wish you the  
very best of everything!

DuBOISE TEXACO SERVICE



greetings from your friends at

MINA WINTER BUTANE



May 1969 hold both pros-  
perity and safety for you!

MERKEL RESTAURANT & MOTEL

ALL  
TYPES  
OF  
INSURANCE  
BONEY  
INS. AGENCY  
Phone 8-5151



DALE & FANNIE'S  
Shamrock  
Cafe



The Bells Toll for  
You a Happy New Year

BRAGG'S



Just popping up to wish our friends  
the best of everything in 1969!

FROM ALL THE FOLKS

AT

MERKEL DRUG



A YEAR OF  
PROSPERITY  
ABUNDANT WITH HEALTH AND HAPPI-  
NESS AND THE GOOD THINGS IN LIFE.

FROM ALL THE FOLKS AT  
GENE STEWART FORD SALES

# GOOD LUCK IN 1969



HERE'S HOPING THE YEAR AHEAD IS ONE OF PROGRESS!

W. B. THOMAS SERVICE STATION



ROBERT H. WINTER  
... in Vietnam

## Robert H. Winter With U.S. Marines

Merkel area has its share of men and women in the armed forces, both stateside and in Vietnam, and word was received this week that Robert H. (Pres) Winter, with the U.S. Marine Corps, is with the Marine First Marine Division, South of Da Nang.

Pres Winter, son of Mr. and Mrs. Norman Winter, is in the intelligence capacity of scouting for the Intelligence Corps of the First Marine Division.

A 1968 graduate of Merkel High School, Pres was in the top ten in his graduating class at Basic Training at San Diego, Calif. He received the second highest grade in the Foreign Language Adaptation at the Defense Language Institute at San Francisco, Calif., in learning to speak Vietnamese.

Winter arrived in Vietnam via Anchorage, Alaska, Tokyo, Japan and Okinawa.

## FOR MERKEL FFA Chapter Sweetheart

Katie Neill, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. T. J. Neill, R. 1, Merkel, has been elected FFA Sweetheart of the Merkel Chapter for 1968-69.

A senior at Merkel High School, Miss Neill has been an active member of the chapter for four years and a 4-H Club member for seven years. She has won numerous awards and held various offices in the 4-H Club.

In school she is a member of the Badger Band and a member of the Merkel FFA Chapter of Future Homemakers of America.

In June of this year, Katie attended the Texas 4-H State Round-Up at Texas A&M University with a Vegetable Production and Marketing demonstration.

Katie has shown lambs as her projects in all of the major livestock shows in the state. She has

some 35 lambs on feed at the present time and plans to show them at stock shows in Abilene, El Paso, San Antonio, Houston and Dallas.



Ready for the unexpected? Next time an emergency arises, you'll be ready—if you start buying U.S. Savings Bonds now. Now 4.15% interest rate!

U.S. Savings Bonds



How are you fixed for the future?

Look into U.S. Savings Bonds as a smart place to put your money. And now, Savings Bonds pay 4.15% interest!

U.S. Savings Bonds



By your voyage through the year bring happiness

ADCOCK'S CLEANERS

# 1969



TO OUR MANY FRIENDS

IRVEN THOMPSON



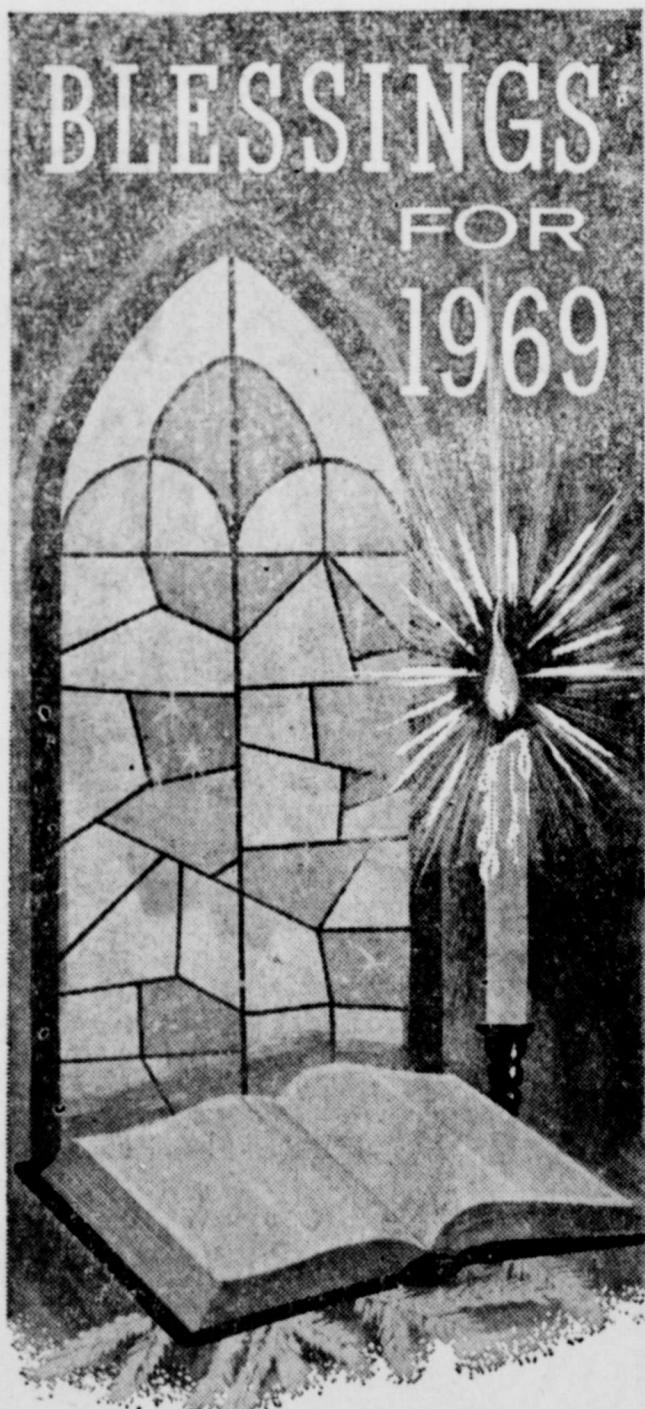
HICKS AUTO SUPPLY

# Good Luck in '69



It's time to wish you all a Happy New Year!

WILSON JEWELER



May the Lord show us the way to peace and happiness on earth.

TAYLOR ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.  
MERKEL, TEXAS



Just poppin'-out with a Happy Day

Barnett Barber Shop



BULLOCK'S HARDWARE & GIFTS

ALMEDA and WILLIE



Happiness to all our many patrons at this time

Clyde Wurst Garage



As 1969 begins, we'd like to wish our patrons every blessing!

FARMERS UNION INSURANCE  
CONNIE MACK SEYMORE



THANK YOU FOR THE PRIVILEGE OF SERVING YOU IN THE PAST. WE LOOK FORWARD TO CONTINUING TO DO SO IN 1969.

HARDY GROCERY  
JOYCE, ROYCE and LINDA

NABISCO  
SNAKS  
CHIPSTERS 33c

WHIPPED OLEO  
PARKAY

SOFT LB. 39c

HUNT'S  
PEACHES

3 2 1/2 CANS FOR 89c

RANC HSTYLE  
BLACKEYE PEAS

2 300 FOR 25c

DREHER  
SOUR or DILL  
PICKLES

22 OZ.  
Jar 33c

DEL MONTE  
DRINKS

ASSORTED - 46-Oz. Can  
2 for 47c

METZGER'S  
WHIPPING  
CREAM

1/2 PT. CTN. 29c

ARMOURS 4 OZ.  
VIENNA  
SAUSAGE - 2 - 39c

ARMOURS 12 OZ.  
TREET ..... Can 47c

TENDER, TASTY,  
MEATY  
**FRYERS**  
FOR THRIFTY  
BUYERS



Grade A  
Whole Only ..... Lb. 29c

**ROAST** CHOICE BEEF  
ARM or  
ENGLISH LB. 69c

**FRANKS** ARMOUR STAR  
ALL MEAT  
12 OZ. PKG. 39c

**BACON** ARMOUR STAR  
POUND 59c

**HAM** ARMOUR STAR  
BONELESS CANNED  
3 LBS. 259

**SALT JOWL** FRESH  
NO. 1 LB. 19c

**BOLOGNA** HORMEL  
ALL MEAT LB. 49c

**STEAKS** GOOCH B. R.  
5 IN PKG. LB. 69c

RING  
RING  
RING  
out the  
**SAVINGS**

5 BIG DAYS

THURSDAY THROUGH TUESDAY  
DECEMBER 26 - 27 - 28 - 30 - 31

BORDENS  
CHARLOTTE  
FREEZE

1/2 Gal. Carton 23c Otherwise 35c

WITH \$5.00 OR MORE IN TRADE  
EXCLUSIVE OF CIGARETTES

HUNTS 46 OZ.  
Tomato JUICE Can... 29c

KOUNTY KIST 12 OZ.  
Y.K. CORN... 2 for 33c

KUNERS 303  
Cut Green BEANS 2 - 39c

MISSION 303  
Garden PEAS... 2 for 29c

DEL MONTE 303  
SAURKRAUT 2 for 33c

MY-T-FINE REGULAR  
PUDDING..... 3 for 19c

INSTANT  
PET MILK .. 8 Qt. Box 79c

HUNTS PIZZA  
CATSUP .. 14 Oz. Bot. 10c

COFFEE

MARYLAND CLUB  
(1 Limit)  
POUND CAN 69c

FLOUR

GLADIOLA  
5-LB. BAG 49c

SNOWDRIFT

3 LB. (1 Limit)  
CAN 55c

Miracle Whip

KRAFTS  
QUART 49c

SUGAR

IMPERIAL  
(1 Limit)  
5 LB. BAG 49c

Frozen Foods

GORTONS 8 OZ. PKG.  
FISH CAKES - 2 for 49c

MR. G. CRINKLE CUT  
POTATOES 2-Lb. Pkg. 29c

GORTONS 8 OZ.  
Breaded SHRIMP .. Ea. 59c

ARROW 16 OZ. BAG

**BLACKEYE  
PEAS** ..... 2 for 25c  
(New Year's Treat)

GIANT  
DASH ..... Box 63c

GIANT (1 Limit)  
OXYDOL ..... Box 59c

PREMIUM  
DUZ ..... Gt. Box 63c

BORDENS  
EGG NOG ..... 2 for 49c

METZGER'S 1/2 GAL.  
HOMO 2 MILK ..... 2 for 93c

METZGER'S 1/2 GAL.  
BUTTERMILK .. 2 for 89c



The **APPLES**  
of our  
BUYERS

COLORADO  
DELICIOUS

LB. 19c

FRESH  
CARROTS ..... Lb. Cello 10c

CALIFORNIA  
ORANGES ..... Lb. 15c

FRESH  
CABBAGE ..... Lb. 6c

CHOICE  
LEMONS ..... Lb. 15c

TEXAS  
YAMS ..... Lb. 10c



WE GIVE  
GIFT BOND  
STAMPS  
DOUBLE  
ON  
WEDS.

**CARSON'S**  
SUPER MARKET  
MERKEL TEXAS  
FRESH VEGETABLES  
FREE DELIVERY  
MON - WED - FRI  
BEST MEATS IN TOWN