

Taylor County's
Only Legal
Weekly
Newspaper

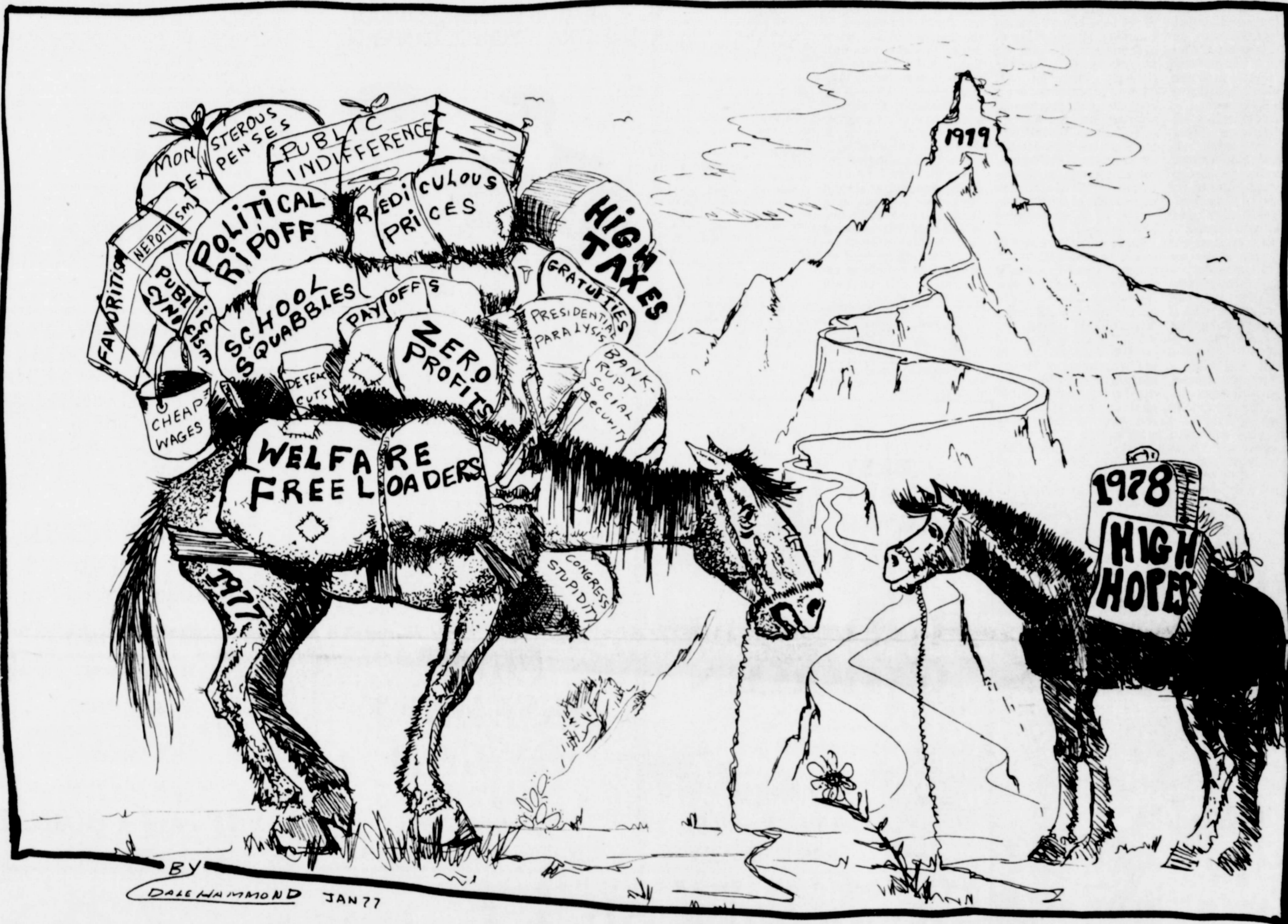
The Merkel Mail

15¢

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Vol. 88 No. 45



'Sonny, I sure hope your year is better than mine.'



News and Thoughts

By Martha Sue Justice



This Christmas was really something special for our family. We all traveled to San Antonio to visit with relatives which included: my husband's parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Justice, my parents, sister and brother-in-law and family. Shortly before we arrived my sister was arguing with my mother about whether Missy, (my niece) could tell time. Linda kept telling mother that she couldn't but needed to learn, while mother insisted that she already knew how. Linda said, "Mother, what makes you so sure she can tell time?" Mother said, "Well, she looks at that clock on the TV and always tells the time." At this point everyone just about fell out of their chairs. (I will also have to say that my Mother was very serious.) What was so funny?—The Clock On The TV Was A Digital Clock! My mother and sister have always been a lot of fun because of the crazy things they say and of course I always blame it on the fact that they are both born in the same astrological sign. (I dare not say which sign this is!) Christmas Eve, Linda said she had bought some of those logs for the fireplace that burn in all different colors. She said she

would like to burn them the following day on Christmas. We all pointed out to her that it was about 80 degrees outside. She, however, insisted that she was still going to burn them the next day. —Do you have any idea how she intended to do it without ever heating the house?—You guessed it!—she was actually going to turn on the air-conditioner. Thank goodness—a cold front came in Christmas morning.

Christmas Eve night was a truly fun filled time for all of us. My sister and brother-in-law were invited over to a neighbors house, (which also included the rest of our family), for music, games, etc. I had already heard a lot about this family, Robert, Mary Jane, and Bobby Flores, but I had no idea that the total and complete family were so highly talented. Upon arriving at the Flores home we were entertained with gospel, Christmas and country and western music. Bobby Flores played the guitar and the fiddle while singing with several other members of the family. Believe me—these were not amateurs, but professionals! Others that were present other

than the Flores family were: Irene and Bob Nunley, Esther and Freddy Valenzuela, Adam and Judy Trevino and Popreno and Grandma Tooty (Trevino). All their children were also present and had their songs and talents in evidence too. I don't think there are too many instruments they can't play or any songs they can't sing. Bobby Flores has his own group which plays all over that part of the country. The name of his group is: "Bobby Flores and The Brothers of the Road." Bobby said that he hopes to some day get up to West Texas for a show up here. I would like to thank all of you for a really super good time and for sharing Christmas Eve with us.

Sometimes kids get very confused about Christmas. One little boy asked his mother, "Is it true that Santa Claus brings us presents?" She said, "Yes, that's true." He said, "And the stork brings us babies?" She said, "Yes, that's true." He said, "And the Police Department protects us?" She said, "That's right." He looked up at her and said, "THEN WHAT DO WE NEED DADDY FOR?"

During the coming year—forget yesterday,—live for today, and pray that tomorrow will always be filled with joy and happiness.

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY—Nothing will ever defeat us when we follow God's direction.

I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills, from whence cometh my help. —Psalm 121:1

May God bless you all during the New Year!

VOTERS CAN NOW REGISTER IN MERKEL

As a convenience to the voters of Precinct 2 beginning January 1, 1978 the Justice of Peace Office will hold voters registration at the Justice of Peace Office, 132 Kent St., Merkel. Also included will be change of address and name on the voters registration list.

On November 1, 1977 the County Tax Office mailed all new voters registration certificates, these certificates are valid through February 29, 1980. If you have not received yours, come by the Justice of Peace Office and we will help you to obtain a new card. (New cards are yellow).

Voter registration applications are printed in Spanish and English.

All voters must be registered 30 days prior to an election to be qualified.

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

HSU to Offer New Courses

Hardin-Simmons University will offer a number of new courses during its spring registration Jan. 9, including two courses for the new graduate program in generic special education.

Both new courses in education will be offered by the Hardin-Simmons Evening College. Introduction to the Psychology of Exceptional Learners will be offered from 6 to 8:45 p.m. each Tuesday and will be taught by Dr. Robert Schoonover, associate professor in special education. The class will seek to understand the terminology and definitions associated with exceptional learners, the causes of exceptional learners' unique problems and the characteristics of exceptional learners.

Dr. Lana Holland, assistant professor in special education, will teach Individual and Educational Programming for Exceptional Learners each Monday at 6 p.m. The class is designed to develop assessment and programming skills for exceptional learners.

The English department will also offer two new courses this spring, both of which may be taken for graduate credit. Dr. Lawrence Clayton, head of the department, will teach a regional literature course, Studies in American Literature: The American West, each Monday at 6 p.m. The class will focus on writers of the Trans-Mississippi West. Among the writers to be studied are Mark Twain and Bret Harte, along with several contemporary authors.

Also for the first time Hardin-Simmons will offer a course in creative writing. Dr. Robert Fink, assistant professor in English, will teach the class, which is being offered as a part of the department's Special Studies class. The new course, entitled Special Studies: Creative Writing Workshop, will be

offered Tuesday and Thursday evenings. Students may take the class for either graduate or undergraduate credit.

The creative writing class will be based on the University of Iowa concept in which each student will write an original work, duplicate it and circulate it to the other members of the class, who then read and discuss it. Students will also read selections from magazines which feature contemporary writings.

The department of accounting and quantitative science will offer a new junior-level course called Business Problem Programming. It will be taught by Dr. Charles Neblock, instructor of computer science and computer data processing, and will be basically an introduction to COBOL, the most common computer language. Dr. Neblock will also cover the organization of files and the general use of information structures in the business environment.

Eight semester hours of elementary Spanish credit can be earned in a single semester through the new Dartmouth Intensive Language Model class being offered this spring at H-SU. The class, taught by Dr. David Gifford, head of the department of foreign languages, will meet Monday-Friday for one hour of class, one hour of drill and one hour of laboratory work each day.

Teaching History in the Secondary School, another junior-level course, is designed to acquaint the student with textbooks, materials, methods, and lesson planning for teaching secondary school history. Teaching the class will be Dr. Kenneth Jacobs, assistant professor in history.

Dr. Charles Robinson, chairman of the division of science and head of the department of mathematics, will instruct a first-year course entitled Finite

Mathematics with Applications. The course is designed to meet the needs of students of behavioral and social sciences who need a background in mathematics. It will serve as a followup to Algebra and Elementary Functions I for those students who do not need a background in trigonometry such as is provided in Algebra and Elementary Functions II.

A philosophy course, Problems and Topics, will be offered on Tuesday and Thursday mornings and will be taught by Dr. Clinton Dunagan, associate professor in philosophy and Bible. The content of the course will be determined through consultation with the students who enroll in the class. Particular concern is shown for the philosophy of science and history. Other possible areas of study are metaphysics, epistemology, aesthetics and linguistics.

Registration for the spring semester at Hardin-Simmons will be held Monday, Jan. 9, and classes will begin the following day. Regular college registration will be held all day; Evening College registration will be held from 7 to 8:30 p.m.



THINK SMALL

The smallest recorded freshwater fish and the shortest of all vertebrates is the dwarf pygmy goby (Pandaka pygmaea) found in the Philippines. Adult males measure only .28 to .38 of an inch, making them smaller than their own name.



The smallest continent is the Australian mainland, with an area of about 2,940,000 square miles.

A small computer the size of a desk is not only easy to operate, but can provide small businessmen with many of the same benefits big companies get from their big computers. Called the IBM System/32, it can improve inventory control and generate key reports that can make a major contribution to the management of a business. Yet it fits in almost anywhere.

The smallest book printed with moveable metal type measures a mere .1131 x .1131 inches and is bound in red calfskin to a thickness of .059 inches. It was published in Scotland in 1975.

Truth about beef to be revealed at Ft. Worth conference

What's really behind that mouth-watering steak Americans are so fond of? Are we apt to run out? Are there any health hazards in it?

Fact, not fiction, about one of the country's most important industries will be revealed Jan. 30 at the first-ever "Beef Truth Conference" in Fort Worth's Convention Center.

And the answers will

come from those most in the know—two former Cabinet members, one of the nation's foremost nutrition experts, a commodity broker, the chairman of the national meat board and deans of two major agricultural colleges.

Kicked off by a 7:30 a.m. prayer breakfast address by noted inspirational speaker Dr. Norman Vincent Peale, the conference will examine the beef industry from both sides of

the meat counter in informative sessions geared toward both the consumer and producer.

Dr. Earl Butz, former U.S. Secretary of Agriculture and dean emeritus of Purdue University's college of agriculture, will address the mid-morning session. His topic, "The Truth—We Will Always Be a Nation of Beef Eaters!" will project the stability of the beef business and predict how government policies will influence the industry's future.

Highlighting the 12:30 p.m. luncheon will be a talk by former U.S. Treasury Secretary John Connally on the cattleman's role in free enterprise. Himself a rancher, the former Texas governor will discuss "What this Country Needs."

The controversial diet heart issue will be confronted in the afternoon session, beginning at 3:00 p.m., when Dr. George V. Mann, world-noted nutritionist and coronary disease research scientist from Vanderbilt University's school of medicine, speaks on "The Medical

Truth about Beef and Health."

Other key points to be dealt with are: Are we turning into a hamburger society? David Stroud, president of the National Live Stock and Meat Board, will respond to that question when he divulges "The Truth about the Steak in Your Future."

What outside forces affect the price of beef at the ranch? Commodity broker Dr. Robert Lewis of Larned, Kan., will shed some light on the "Truth about Cow Numbers" during the afternoon program.

Will beef continue to be the "Cadillac of the food industry"? Summarizing the "Beef Truth Perspective" will be Dr. Frank Baker, dean of the college of agriculture at Oklahoma State University, and Dr. L.S. "Bill" Pope, dean of the college of agriculture, New Mexico State University.

The conference, sponsored by the American Polled Hereford Association, precedes the 55th National Polled Hereford Show and Sale, Jan. 31-3 Feb. 2 in Fort Worth.

ARMY RESERVISTS HAVE AN EXTRA PAYCHECK TO SPEND.

As an Army Reservist you earn an extra income serving 16 hours a month doing an important job for your country.



THE ARMY RESERVE. PART OF WHAT YOU EARN IS PRIDE.

CHRIST

Thou Christ a thousand times in Bethlehem be born, If He's not born in thee, thy soul is all forlorn. God's spirit falls on me as dewdrops on a rose If I but, like a rose, my heart to Him disclose. In all eternity no tone can be so sweet As when man's heart with God in unison doth beat. Whate'er thou lovest man, that, too, lovest God; dust, if thou lovest dust.

FIRST ASSEMBLY OF GOD

Need a ride? Call 928-5761 N. 2nd & RUNNELLS

CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH EXTENDS A SPECIAL INVITATION TO EVERYONE TO ATTEND SERVICES WITH THEM

Sunday School 10:00 a.m.
Morning Worship 11:00 a.m.
Evening Worship 7:00 p.m.
Wednesday Services 7:00 p.m.

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ED'S FEED & SEED MERKEL, TEXAS



We celebrate the joy of living as we exuberantly greet the New Year! It's time too, to say thanks for your support in the year just past.

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We Will Be Closed
Mon. Jan. 2nd.

THE BEST IS YET TO COME

Happy New Year

PRICES GOOD
THURSDAY
FRI. & SAT.
Dec. 29-30-31

Pimento Cheese
Hot Bar-B-Que
Beans -Potato Salad

DRY
BLACK EYE
PEAS
LB 39c

32 OZ BOTTLE
COCA COLA EA. 69c
OR 7 UP PLUS DEP.
CHRISTMAS NUTS
1/2 PRICE

SHORTENING SWIFT JEWEL \$1.09
4 2 OZ.

HOG JOWLS 49c
LB

BACON LB \$1.29
TURKEYS LB 49c

HAMS
WHOLE OR HALF \$1.29
CENTER CUT \$1.69
BUTT END \$1.19
SHANK END \$1.09

HAM PATTIES \$1.19
12 OZ

CHUCK ROAST LB 89c

FRESH GROUND
HAMBURGER LB 69c

TABBY 6 OZ CAN
CAT FOOD 2 FOR 29c

LIBBY'S WITH SNAPS
BLACK EYE PEAS 300 SIZE 29c

WOLF BRAND 24 OZ CAN
CHILI & BEANS 89c

STAR KIST
TUNA FLAT CAN 69c

AUNT JEMIMA BUTTERMILK 2 LB BOX
PANCAKE MIX 89c

INSTANT 3 OZ JAR
LIPTON'S TEA \$1.59

SWIFT'S
VIENNAS 5 OZ CAN 29c

11 OZ JAR
COFFEMATE 89c

VAN CAMP'S 300 SIZE 2 for
PORK & BEANS 49c

PEACHES THRIFTY MAID
NO 2 1/2 CAN 49c

PEAS RANCH STYLE WITH BACON
300 SIZE 29c

CORN CREAM STYLE
303 CAN 29c

CHILI WOLF BRAND
19 OZ CAN 89c

CATSUP DEL MONTE
32 OZ BOTTLE 79c

SPINACH DEL MONTE
303 CAN 29c

TRAPPEYS WITH JALAPENO 303 CAN
PINTO BEANS 29c

PETER PAN 28 OZ JAR
PEANUT BUTTER \$1.39

FLOUR GOLD MEDAL
5 LB 69c

TURKEY WINNERS WERE

1st WEEK-ANNA BELL SHOUSE

2nd WEEK-TAREZIA ENGLISH

3rd WEEK-CARLA CASTILLO

4th WEEK-HAZEL PACK

CORNBREAD
MIX GLADIOLA 2/29c
6 OZ PKG

CRYSTAL WHITE
LIQUID 89c
48 oz.

PUREX 49c
1/2 GAL

DOWNY \$1.89
FABRIC SOFTNER 64 OZ

ERA \$1.19
GT. SIZE

TIDE \$1.89
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EASY-DELICIOUS

DINNER ROLLS KEITH
24 CT PKG 49c

BIRDSEYE 9 OZ
COOL WHIP 69c

TROPHY SLICED 10 OZ 3/4
STRAWBERRIES \$1.00

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AT 'THE CROPS-IN' PRICES

RUBY RED
Grapefruit 29c

Tangerines LB 29c

LETTUCE EA 25c

CARROTS PKG 19c

RUSSET 10 LB BAG
POTATOES 79c

MILK PRESTONS \$1.49 REG \$1.59
LOW FAT GAL HOMO GAL

MILK PRESTONS 85c REG 89c
LOW FAT 1/2 GAL HOMO 1/2 GAL

OLEO MEADOWLAKE 39c

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SOUR CREAM OR DIPS OR GANDYS QT 33c

EGG NOG FOREMOST
OR GANDYS QT 69c

BISCUITS DOTTIES
8 OZ CAN 2 FOR 25c

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FOOD STAMPS
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PEANUTS FOR SALE: Contact Lee Presswood after 5:00 p.m. 928-5815. 38-tfc

FIREWOOD FOR SALE: Custom cut. Tree removal done. Inquire at 1415 N. 2nd. Call 928-4916. 43-3tc

MOBILE HOMES 3 bedroom, double wide mobile home set up and anchored on 2 acres only 15 minutes N.E. of Merkel. Small Equity. Hooker Realtors 677-9145 Jean Rutledge 692-6640. 45-2tc

FOR SALE: good fresh jersey milk cow Jack Bagby Phone 928-5006. Merkel, Texas. 45-1tp

FOR SALE: 1960 Chevy pick-up and small girls bicycle. Call 928-5723. 45-1tc

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FOR RENT apartments for rent 512 Rose 45-2tp

MISCELLANEOUS

WE BUY PAPERBACKS Come by or call The Merkel Mail, 928-5712. 3-tfc

REAL ESTATE

LAND FOR SALE? Call Collect-Bill Largent, Farm and Ranch Mgr. at Frances McClure Inc., Realtors 3157 South 77th Abilene. 698-3211, Night 998-2375. 46-tfc

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Shafer Plows - Continal Belton Products
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DOTY FARM EQUIPMENT CO.
266 Chestnut
Rights-Sundays-Holidays 672-2451 - 698-2572

1977 TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION

The Merkel Mail
PUBLISHER'S STATEMENT
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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.
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TERMS: 25 cents discount if bill is paid prior to first insertion.
Card of Thanks: \$3.00 minimum for the first 50 words, 6 cents per word for each additional word.
TERMS: Cash in advance unless account is established.
NOTICE: of typographical or other errors must be given before the second insertion or claims for refund or extensions will not be recognized.

HELP WANTED

EXCELLENT OPPORTUNITY for an agricultural oriented person to earn an extra income selling a full line of farm seeds to farmers and ranchers on a commission basis. Send complete resume to Miller Seed Company Box 886, Hereford, Texas 79045. 44-4tc

LOST & FOUND

Lost Shetland Pony Light and speckled, mane and tail almost white in color, mare. She was wearing a new set of reins, and etc. when she disappeared from 1205 South 10th. If seen please call 928-5804. 45-1tc

LOST silver gray male poodle, weighs approximately 25 pounds and is about 12 years old. He has on a Town and Country Clip and answers to the name of Tex and is kind of hard of hearing. He was lost in the vicinity of 5th and Oak. If found please call F. R. Stanford, 928-5762. 45-1tp

Services

FINE FURNITURE FABRICS a better price. Professional upholstery available. Randy's Fabrics, 1190 Butternut, 673-2238. 6-tfc

MERKEL DAY CARE CENTER (licensed) operator by a licensed vocational nurse call 928-4904. Thelma Wade. 38-tfc

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A New Water Well Drilled? Also install Meyers Subs & Jacuzzi Jets
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Public Notice

CITATION BY PUBLICATION
THE STATE OF TEXAS
TO: Unknown Natural Father, Respondent:
GREETINGS:
YOU ARE HEREBY COMMANDED to appear and answer before the Honorable Henry J. Strauss of 326th District Court, Taylor County, Texas, at the Courthouse of said County in Abilene, Texas, at or before 10 o'clock a.m. of the Monday next after the expiration of 20 days from the date of service of this citation, then and there to answer the petition of Beula Wynne Love Supervisor, Taylor County, Petitioner, filed in said Court on the 16 day of December, 1977, against Cindy Vinson Natural Mother and Unknown Natural Father, Respondent, and said suit being numbered 415-C on the docket of said Court, and entitled "In The Interest of Matthew Alan Vinson, a Child", the nature of which suit is request to Terminate Parent-Child Relationship. Said child was born the 13 day of November, 1977.

The Court has authority in this suit to enter any judgment or decree in the child's interest which will be binding upon you, including the termination of the parent-child relationship and the appointment of a conservator with authority to consent to the child's adoption. 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 the 16th day of December, 1977.
Irene Crawford Clerk, 326th District Court, Taylor County, Texas. By Faye Lyons, Deputy. 45-1tc

PUBLIC NOTICE
NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS, FIRMS OR CORPORATIONS DOING BUSINESS WITH CLAYTON CHEMICAL COMPANY, ABILENE, TEXAS.
Notice is hereby given that CLAYTON CHEMICAL COMPANY announces its intention to become incorporated under the corporate name of CLAYTON CHEMICAL CO., INC., effective January 1, 1978.
DATED the 20 day of December, 1977.
S. E. Clayton, Secretary 45-4tc

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202 CHERRY

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VACANT LOTS FOR SALE-for trailer and buildings in all sections of town. Reduced for quick sale.
2 BEDROOM HOUSE-water well, new carpet, one bath, and big garage.
For sale 2 bedroom, 1976 mobile home, water well fence and garage.
For sale 2 bedroom house near school.
WE NEED ALL KINDS OF LISTINGS HOUSES FARMS & RANCHES

PUBLIC NOTICE

CITATION BY PUBLICATION
THE STATE OF TEXAS
TO: Unknown Natural Father, Respondent:
GREETINGS:
YOU ARE HEREBY COMMANDED to appear and answer before the Honorable 326th District Court, Taylor County, Texas, at the Courthouse of said County in Abilene, Texas, at or before 10 o'clock a.m. of the Monday next after the expiration of 20 days from the date of service of this citation, then and there to answer the Amended petition of Mag Gonzales Villalobos and Lupe Valdez Villalobos, Petitioner, filed in said Court on the 22nd day of December, 1977, against Natural Mother Anna Alfaro and the Unknown Natural Father, Respondents, and said suit being numbered 252-C on the docket of said Court, and entitled "In The Interest of Baby Boy Alfaro, a Child", the nature of which suit is a request to Terminate and Adopt a Child. Said child was born the 31 day of October, 1977, in Abilene, Taylor County, Texas.
The Court has authority in this suit to enter any judgment or decree in the child's interest which will be binding upon you, including the termination of the parent-child relationship and the appointment of a conservator with authority to consent to the child's adoption. 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 the 22nd day of December, 1977.
Irene Crawford Clerk, 326th District Court, Taylor County, Texas. By Sandra Harris, Deputy. 45-1tc

ALL TYPES OF INSURANCE BONEY INSURANCE AGENCY
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has expert repairmen. They can resole the old clodhoppers or perform delicate orthopedic alterations. You name it and we can do it. Go by the CIRCLE A WESTERN HOUSE on North 2nd Street in MERKEL and take advantage of their new BOOT & SHOE REPAIR SERVICE.
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TV REPAIR
C.B. ANTENNAS PRICES ARE VERY DEFINITELY COMPETITIVE
STEROS RECORD CHANGER & 8 TRACK PLAYERS
STANFORD'S ELECTRONICS
123 KENT MERKEL
928-5762

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COME IN & SEE ALL OF THE USED BOOKS WE NOW HAVE ON SALE.
HARLEQUIN ROMANCES, 25c EACH OR 5 FOR \$1.00
ALL OTHERS 30c EACH OR 4 FOR \$1.00
THE MERKEL MAIL

ALCOHOL IS....

This safety information is courtesy of the Texas Safety Association, asking Texans to "lead the way for a safe holiday".

ALCOHOL IS...
Alcohol is a natural substance formed by the reaction of fermenting sugar with yeast spores and is the major chemical ingredient in distilled beverages is ethyl alcohol and is a colorless, tasteless liquid.

Alcohol is classified as a food, with calories but no nutritional value, and as a drug, because it has a dramatic effect on the central nervous system.

A 12 ounce can of beer, an average 4 ounce glass of wine or a mixed drink or highball with an ounce of 100 proof liquor all contain an approximate 1/2 ounce of alcohol. If drunk slowly, all will have an equal effect on the body and the brain.

ALCOHOL WORKS IN THE BODY
Alcohol does not have to be digested like other food, with 20 percent of consumed alcohol absorbed directly and immediately into the bloodstream through the lining of the stomach, with the other 80 percent processed only slightly slower through the gastrointestinal tract and then into the bloodstream. Alcohol is in such a rush to get into the blood that moments after being consumed, it can be found in

all tissues, organs and secretions of the body.

Once in the blood, alcohol is carried directly to the brain where it works on the brain's central control areas, slowing down or depressing brain activity.

Slow drinking resulting in a low level of alcohol in the blood, such as one drink an hour, has a mild tranquilizing effect from the depressed central nervous system. Alcohol's first effect from the depressed central nervous system. Alcohol's first effects are exerted on the upper parts of the brain where learned behavior patterns such as self-control and judgement are stored. After a drink or two, the learned behavior may temporarily disappear, making you lose your inhibitions, talk more freely, feel like the "life of the party," or make impaired judgements.

Continued input of alcohol creating higher blood alcohol levels, will depress brain activity further, and may impair memory, muscular coordination and balance. Still larger alcohol intake in a relatively short period of time depresses deeper parts of the brain, producing a state of loss of control when judgment is severely affected, and sensory perceptions are dulled. If steady, heavy drinking is continued, the alcohol will anesthetize the deepest levels of the brain, and may result in coma.

HOW QUICKLY ALCOHOL TAKES EFFECT

The speed with which alcohol enters the bloodstream and begins to exert itself on the brain and body depends on several things. One is how fast you drink. Sipping a drink slowly at the rate of one drink an hour will prevent your brain from "jolting" and does not build up in your bloodstream. Gulping a drink will produce immediate intoxicating effects and depression of deeper brain centers. The half ounce of alcohol in an average mixed drink, can of beer or glass of wine, can be burned up by the body in about one hour.

Another speed factor is how much you weigh. The same amount of alcohol will have a greater effect on a 120 pound person than on a 180 pound person, as alcohol is distributed uniformly in the circulatory system. Heavier persons will therefore have smaller concentrations throughout the bloodstream.

Whether your stomach is empty or full will make a difference, as eating before you drink and with your drink will slow down the absorption rate of alcohol into the bloodstream. The body will have a more even re-

sponse to the alcohol.

Your emotional condition and the setting or circumstances you are in also affect the rapidity of intoxication. If you are emotionally upset, under stress, or tired, alcohol may have a stronger impact on you than normal. Your expectations will also have an influence so if you think you are going to "become drunk," the ease and speed with which you will feel intoxicated will be increased. By contrast, if you are sitting comfortably and relaxed having a drink with a friend, alcohol will not have as much effect on you as when standing and drinking at a cocktail party.



The average American consumes less than two pounds of veal a year.

Excise Tax to Drop on Telephone Bills

December 23, 1977--Inflation battered consumers will receive some relief in 1978--\$360 million in savings thanks to the steady decline of the federal excise tax on telephone bills, the Continental Telephone Company of Texas announced today.

Beginning January 1 this tax drops from 5 percent of the bill to 4 percent. The decrease started several years ago as the result of Congressional action and will continue declining 1 percent annually until January 1, 1982, when the levy is eliminated.

The tax savings represents the estimated difference between what customers would have paid in 1978 at the 5 percent rate, and what they will pay at the new 4 percent rate. Some \$60 million of the total will be saved by

customers of Independent telephone companies, according to estimates by the U. S. Independent Telephone Association. The remainder of the savings will apply to Bell System customers.

The association represents the interests of the nation's 1,600 non-Bell System telephone companies serving more than 29 million telephones--one out of every five in the nation.

The excise tax was first imposed by Congress during World War I as a "temporary" measure. Although repealed briefly after the war, it was reinstated during the Depression and has continued ever since at rates as high as 15 percent on local service and 25 percent on long distance calls. From 1954 to 1971 it stood at 10 percent.

IMPORTANT

John Williamson Jr. to Speak

THERE WILL BE A MEETING AT THE REA BUILDING TUESDAY, JAN. 3rd AT 7:30 P.M. JOHN WILLIAMSON JR., FROM IWOA PARK, AMERICAN AGRICULTURE STRIKE ORGANIZATION. MR. WILLIAMSON WILL BE HERE TO HELP MERKEL ORGANIZE AN AGRICULTURE STRIKE ORGANIZATION. ALL FARMERS & BUSINESSMEN ARE URGED TO ATTENDED

HAPPY NEW YEAR

We'd like to bestow our wishes for a healthy and fruitful New Year to all!

J.L. & Polly Fisher
Merkel Auto Parts

Crawford's

JANUARY CLEARANCE SALE STARTS TODAY

It's Twice as Nice to Shop **Crawford's**

Aliens To Report During January

District Director, Joe F. Staley, San Antonio, Texas of the Immigration and Naturalization Service estimated that 120,000 aliens will report their addresses in the San Antonio area during January under the Federal Alien Address Report Program.

Mr. Joe F. Staley said that all non-citizens, except those in diplomatic status and foreign representatives of certain international organizations are required to file the address report.

He added that any alien who willfully violates the address report requirement may be subject to serious penalties.

In addition, aliens who are not in the United States during January must report their addresses to the Service within 10 days after their return to this country.

The District Director said that address report cards will be available at United States post offices and at the Immigration and Naturalization Service office at San Antonio beginning January 1, 1978.

HAPPY NEW YEAR

MAY IT BE YOUR BEST EVER!

STAR HARDWARE, TRENT

A New Year is here!

Hoping this year will be filled with greater happiness for everyone, everywhere!

The Dairy Bar

Happy New Year

May it be brilliant and bountiful!

Syble's Beauty Nook

a New Year's Resolution

That we will continue, in every way we can, to help make your year successful and happy. Sincerest thanks.

Crawford's

Wishing you every happiness all through the year.

BEN FRANKLIN

Smooth Sailing

May all your joys be multiplied many times over in the New Year!

KBGG RADIO

RING in a NEW YEAR

It's the friends we have who make our New Year happy! Hope yours will be that special too.

MERKEL DRUG

HAPPY NEW YEAR

We welcome this little feller with open arms and warm hearts. As we get off to a fresh start we wish you a bountiful New Year!

BONEY INSURANCE

DO IT NOW!

December 31 is the last day to deduct \$1500 tax-free from your income!

If you are NOT enrolled in a retirement plan (other than Social Security), you have until December 31 to start your own Individual Retirement Account (IRA) at Sweetwater Savings... AND DEDUCT \$1500 TAX-FREE FROM YOUR INCOME!

With a Sweetwater Savings IRA account, you can deposit up to \$1500 a year tax-free toward your retirement. A husband and wife, both working, can deposit up to \$3000 a year into a tax-free IRA account. At Sweetwater Savings your IRA account will earn up to 7.75% annually. So, why take less? Come in... we'll help you tailor a Sweetwater Savings IRA plan to fit your income.

Please contact me. I would like to know how to open an individual Retirement Account at Sweetwater Savings

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone _____ AC _____

Fill out and mail to: Attn: Bobbie Ellis
Sweetwater Savings, P.O. Box 1399, Sweetwater, Texas 79556

EARNINGS COMPOUNDED DAILY

ANNUAL RATE	ANNUAL YIELD*	ANNUAL RATE	ANNUAL YIELD*
7.75% 6 Year Cert. — \$1,000 min.	8.06%	6.50% 1 Year Cert. — \$1,000 min.	6.72%
7.50% 4 Year Cert. — \$1,000 min.	7.79%	5.75% 90 Day Cert. — \$1,000 min.	5.92%
6.75% 30 Mo. Cert. — \$1,000 min.	6.98%	5.25% Passbook — \$5 min.	5.39%

*Based on daily compounding of earnings for 12 months

A substantial interest penalty is required for early withdrawal of certificate accounts

SWEETWATER SAVINGS ASSOCIATION

SWEETWATER ROTAN ROSCOE HAMLIN COLORADO CITY

Tye School News

In Mrs. Albus's Developmental Reading Class the groups are competing to see which group can read the fastest without any mistakes, plus in first grade we're sounding words and putting our vowel sounds to work.

Mrs. Herrera is something else when it comes to reading a story or book. She brings smiles to all of our faces. Sometimes I wonder who enjoys the stories more, the children, Mrs. Herrera or me?

We have had a lot of new experiences this year. Some of these were brought about after my trip to New York, Thanksgiving. The children were amazed to learn the Statue of Liberty is green and the Empire State Building is no longer the tallest building in New York. It was a lot of fun sharing pictures of all the floats, Statue of Liberty, United Nations building and so many other sites.

Mrs. VanWinkle's Resource Class at Tye Elementary was established five years ago in order to provide instruction for children needing individualized attention. Phyllis VanWinkle is the Resource teacher and Christie Barnett is the teacher assistant. Judy Snapp is the Speech Therapist, serving the children at Tye who need speech therapy. She works three days each week in the afternoons.

With students from all grades, kindergarten through fifth grade, improvement of strengths and remediation of the weaknesses of each child is the goal of the Resource program. One of the highlights of each week's program is the Friday morning cooking classes when all the students get to sample of the results of the cooking project. The older girls have also enjoyed making small sewing projects such as doll clothes and purses.

Students, as well as the teachers, have experienced an exceptionally fine school year thus far and are looking forward to getting back into the daily routine after enjoying the Christmas holidays.



LOOK WHO'S HERE!

Mr. and Mrs. Michael King are proud to announce the birth of a baby girl, Kathryn Rose. She was born Tuesday, December 20, 1977 at 10:18 p.m. and weighed 6 lbs. 1 oz. and was 18 inches long.

Paternal grandparents are Don and Imogene King. Maternal grandparent is Mrs. Marie Shanks.

Baptist Evangelism Conference January 9-11

The 1978 Baptist Evangelism Conference, Jan. 9-11 in Fort Worth, will initiate the new year with inspirational speaking, study and music.

The conference will focus on two major Southern Baptist emphases, enriching family life and directly involving church members in worldwide ministries through Bold Mission Thrust.

Speakers will include Jimmy R. Allen, Southern Baptist Convention presi-

dent; Zig Ziglar, motivation specialist and founder of We Believe, Inc.; Rudy Hernandez, evangelist; S. M. Lockridge, pastor, Calvary Baptist Church, San Diego, Calif.; and Winfield Arn, founder of Institute for American Church Growth.

"A Bold Vision" is the theme of the conference, which is sponsored by the Evangelism Division of the Baptist General Convention of Texas. The sessions, which are open

to the public, will take place at the Tarrant County Convention Center. Subjects will range from the Christian home to mobilizing congregations for evangelistic ministries.

Before the Evangelism Conference convenes on the evening of Jan. 9, a

meeting for Spanish-speaking persons will be conducted at the North Fort Worth Baptist Church. Speakers will include Eliseo Aldape, president, Mexican Baptist Convention of Texas, and Guillermo Villanueva, evangelist from Mexico.

Scout Order of the Arrow banquet January 5th-18th

The Royal Inn in Abilene will be the location for the annual Order of the Arrow Banquet of the Chisholm Trail Council.

Brent Dixon, Lodge Chief for the Scout organization of select honor campers, also announced that the date is Thursday, January 5th, and the time is 6:30 p.m.

Henry McGinty will be the speaker and there will be "live entertainment" provided.

Deadline for reservations is January 2nd. Tickets are \$4.50 and Dixon stressed the importance of sending the money in with the reservation. Members may bring dates or other guests.

Cemetery Donations

The Merkel Cemetery Association Christmas Memorials are as follows:

Mrs. W. R. Dunning, P C

Mrs. Owen Ellis, P C M

Ola Heath Garrett P C

Heirs to the Est. of J. W. Tiner

Mr. and Mrs. Joe Hester

Mrs. D. L. Kinsey

Mrs. Howard L. Stanley

Mrs. L. B. Howard and daughters in memory of L. B. Howard

Mrs. Trula V. Cox

Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Harris in memory of Mrs. Ollie Skidmore and Mr. and Mrs. Lige Harris

T. G. Hull

Vera E. Ely

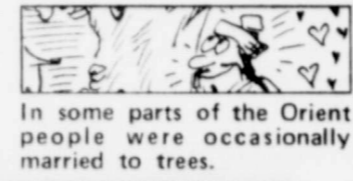
Mr. and Mrs. Wendell Moore in memory of Mrs. W. R. Kingston

Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Greenfield Sr. in memory of Mr. and Mrs. E. A. Click Sr. and Mrs. W. F. Hamblett

Roy H. Roberts

Gloria West

Mr. and Mrs. Allen Morgan Jr. in memory of Bill Morgan



In some parts of the Orient people were occasionally married to trees.

FANTASTIC YEAR END CLEARANCE

SAVE \$300-\$500-\$1000

and MORE. We aim to

clear our lot before Dec. 31st.

Select from one of these

6-14x76 3 Bedroom, 2 Baths

9-14x66 and 14x68

2 & 3 Bedroom - 2 Baths

1-14x56 2 Bedroom 1 Bath - \$7995.00

2-24x50 3 Bedroom 2 Bath

1-24x48 3 Bedroom 2 Bath

1-28x52 3 Bedroom 2 Bath

1-28x52 3 Bedroom 2 Bath

1-24x56 4 Bedroom 2 Bath

(\$2500 Off) 1 Only

1-8x36 1 Bedroom - \$4695.00

1-8x40 2 Bedroom - \$4995.00

Most of these are Factory Fresh 1978 Models. Only a few 1977 Models left.

EL TYE O

TRAILER SALES CORP

Tye Tx

915-698-2180

PRE-INVENTORY SALE

THURS.-FRI.-SAT

ALL MERCHANDISE

REDUCED

COME BY

FOR A

BARGAIN

Castille
Hardware & Gifts

NEW YEAR'S EVE DANCE



RAY PACK & HALFBREED

9:00 TILL 1:00

Dance The New Year In! CALL FOR RESERVATIONS

MERKEL VFW

GREGG FISHER PLUMBING
ALL TYPES OF PLUMBING WORK
QUALITY WORK AND REASONABLE PRICES
CALL
928 - 5379
5 - 8
928 - 5627

1/3 OFF EVERYTHING IN STOCK

Emma's Clothes Closet

NEW YEAR PRAYER

We give thanks and pray for peace and happiness for our friends and all mankind.



EMMA'S CLOTHES CLOSET



NEW YEAR GREETINGS!

Wishing our many friends a harmonious and spirited New Year.

MERKEL VFW

LOOKING AHEAD



May your New Year be capped with joy in every direction. Thanks from us to you.

Merkel Chamber Of Commerce

PRE-Inventory Clearance

ASSORTED DENIMS SOLIDS AND PRINTS \$1.00 YD.

KING SIZE ELEC. BLANKETS \$38.95

ALL GARANIMALS 25% OFF!

FULL SIZE ELECT. BLANKETS \$27.95

TWIN SIZE ELECT. BLANKETS \$19.95

FULL SIZE ELECT. BLANKETS \$23.95

DUAL CONTROL ALL CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS 50% OFF!

QUEEN SIZE ELEC BLANKET \$31.95

SINGLE CONTROL SELECTED TOYS 50% OFF!

BEN FRANKLIN OPEN 8 - 6:30 MON. - SAT.



201 KENT MERKEL

928-4933

Funeral Held Oscar Flowers Dies in Abilene for Ida Davis

Ida Pentecost Davis, 82, of Merkel died at 4 p.m. Tuesday in Hendrick Medical Center after a brief illness. Services were at 2 p.m. Thursday in the United Methodist Church with the Rev. Allen Forbis pastor, officiating. Burial was in Elmwood Memorial Park in Abilene, directed by Starbuck Funeral Home.

Born October 21, 1895, in Cross Plains, she married T.H. Davis March 20, 1918, in Oplin. They moved to Abilene in 1941 and to Merkel in 1955. She was a Methodist.

Mr. Davis died in 1960. Survivors include three sons, Irvin Coleman, Tommy of Merkel and Rathel of Abilene; two daughters, Norma Atwood of San Angelo and Zella Willis of Clyde; two sisters Opal Atwood of San Angelo and Nellie Atwood of Eden; 12 grandchildren; and seven great grandchildren.

Grandsons served as pallbearers.

Lambda Beta News

Lambda Beta Chapter of Beta Sigma Phi held their annual Christmas party Tuesday, December 20th in the First United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall. Smoked turkey with all the trimmings was served to members and their families. Christmas carols were sung and the children were surprised by a visit from Santa Claus. Gifts were exchanged and members enjoyed visiting.

Members and families attending were: Ann and Gene White, Tiffany and Chad; Karen and Billy Riley, Billy Ray and Ricky; Kay and Larry Teaff; Robbie and Gary Hicks; Linda and David Leddy, Lisa and Grant; Glenda and Larry Teaff, David and Eric; Mignon and Phil Seymore and Shelley; Bobbie and Kenneth Elliott; Sarah and Billy Lucas, Russell and Teresa; Chera and Harold Hohertz, Brenda and Tim; Judy and Ricky Elliott, Tami and Kristi; Ginny and Lee Yaddow, and Ladd; Annette and Junior Clark; Barbara and Mike Welch, Pete, Patti, and Paul; Gloria Henslee, Candice and Dawn; Mary and Richard Hill, Richa and Austin.

Oscar Lee Flowers, 62, of Route 3, Merkel, a diesel mechanic with Permian Oil Co., died at 11:20 p.m. Monday at West Texas Medical Center after a lengthy illness. Services were at 10 a.m. Thursday at Elliott-Hamil Chapel of Faith, U.S. Highway 277, with Kennon Law of Tye and the Rev. Don Cauble, chaplain of the Abilene State School officiating. Burial was in Elmwood Memorial Park.

Born September 2, 1915, in Winters, he married Rosella Bardin October 10, 1936, in Ballinger. He attended Winters public schools. He lived in Winters and Big Spring before moving to Merkel. Mr. Flowers was employed by Permian Oil Co. at Tye as a diesel mechanic.

Survivors include his wife; two daughters, Mrs. Don (Rosetta) Dunbar of Cleburne and Mrs. Bobby (Robbie) Muchow of Boise Idaho; a son Roger G. Flowers of Lewiston, Idaho; five sisters, Billie Lindley and Mayme Jewel Little, both of Winters, Mary Opal Pruitt of St. Joseph, Mo., Nola Faye Ramey of Lubbock and Gladys Bates of Wichita Falls; a brother, Kenneth Flowers of Grapevine; and 10 grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Ollie Flowers.

Pallbearers were L.E. Vallery, Leo Odstrcil, Floyd McClellan, Dallas Muminer, Jack Mills and Ramirero Perez.

The family requests remembrances be made in the form of contributions to the Abilene Boys Ranch.

WE PAY 150% OVER FACE VALUE FOR ALL SILVER COINS.
 (\$2.50 FOR \$1.00 SILVER) (We pay 25% for silver dimes)
PRATTS COIN & STAMP SHOP
 2155 S. 1st.
 Abilene, Texas



Very Happy New Year

Ring in the New Year confident it will tick off many fruitful, happy hours for you.

TAYLOR TELEPHONE CO-OP

Abilene Savings Offers Two Retirement Accounts That You Can Build With Tax-Deductible Income.

If you are self-employed, or if you work for someone else and you are not now covered by a pension plan, you can now have your own government approved, tax-sheltered retirement plan.

- The Individual Retirement Account**
 All of your retirement savings are deductible up to \$1,500 per year or 15% of your income, whichever is less. The ideal retirement account if you work for someone else. Also, you can now set up a non-working spouse account which will allow you to contribute an additional \$250 for a maximum of \$1,750.
- The Keogh (Key-O) Account**
 The self-employed or unincorporated business owner can now set aside up to \$7,500 per year or 15% of income, whichever is less.

Both Individual Retirement Accounts and Keogh Retirement Accounts:

- Earn tax-free interest compounded daily.
- Automatically qualify as acceptable IRS retirement plans.
- Allow you many different payment options that you may select according to your needs.

Abilene Savings We'll Help You Find A Way

P.O. Box 444/301 Edwards Avenue/Merkel, Texas 79536/(915) 928-4702
 Member Southwestern Group Financial, Inc. Member FSLIC

Happy New Year

May each minute of the New Year be full of happiness!

DUBOSE TEXACO

Welcome New Year!

Time to send cheery New Year wishes and a very special "Hi" to all our devoted patrons.

WYLIE TRUCK TERMINAL

PSYCHOLOGY



Many psychologists say that children will often prefer to play with a toy or game that allows them to experience new sights and sensations—without taking them away from a safe environment and familiar faces.



Many parents have found that children enjoy a toy which shows them scenes from favorite TV shows, cartoons such as "Flash Gordon," history, geography and science in their own homes: a Viewmaster 3-D slide viewer from GAF. Hundreds of three-reel packets are available, many with illustrated booklets for more learning and fun.



Artichokes have a nutty flavor and cause any food or drink taken afterwards to taste sweet.

THE MERKEL MAIL
 Thursday December 29, 1977

THE CHURCH OF CHRIST WEDNESDAY SCHOOL BEGINS WEDNESDAY, JAN. 4th AT 9:00 AM. AT THE CHURCH OF CHRIST.

CIRCLE A WESTERN HOUSE

hats
 shirts
 jackets
 belts
 jeans
 boots
 + more

Wishing you a Western Happy New Year

Watch for our Stock Reduction Sale

ALLSUP'S CONVENIENCE STORES

OPEN 24 HOURS

HAPPY NEW YEAR

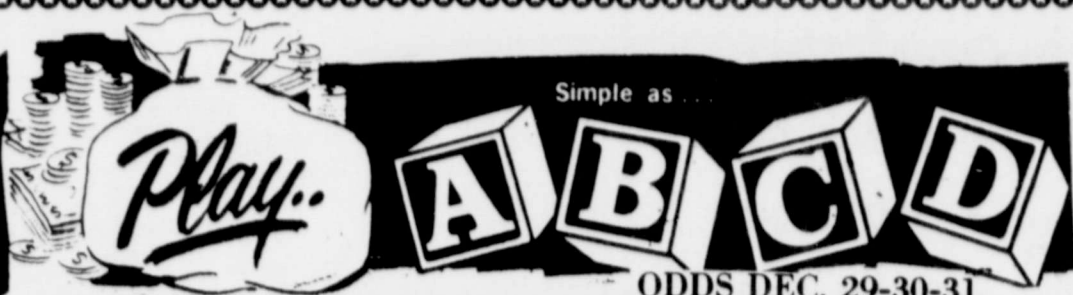
WE AT ALLSUPS WILL APPRECIATE YOUR BUSINESS IN THE COMING NEW YEAR!

BORDEN'S EGGNOG	89¢
SOUR CREAM	2 79¢
BORDEN'S WHIPPING CREAM	39¢
BORDEN'S BUTTER-MILK	79¢
BORDEN'S ICE CREAM	\$1.19
GEBHARDTS CHILI W/ BEANS	39¢
GEBHARDTS CHILI WITHOUT BEANS	49¢
GEBHARDTS TAMALES	89¢
SHURFINE BLACKEYE PEAS	89¢
CRISCO SHORTENING	\$1.49

HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS

INTERSTATE 20 WEST OF THE WYLIE TRUCK TERMINAL

START OFF '78 with SAVINGS A-PLenty



AND
WIN
UP TO
\$100.00

ODDS DEC. 29-30-31

PRIZE VALUE	NUMBER OF PRIZES	ODDS FOR ONE VISIT	ODDS FOR 5 VISITS	ODDS FOR 10 VISITS
\$100.00	7	3551	710	355
\$ 10.00	18	1381	276	138
\$ 5.00	25	994	198	99
\$ 50.00 in Trade Stamps	100	248	50	25

PRICES GOOD
THURSDAY
FRI & SAT
DECEMBER
29-30-31

GLADIOLA

MEAL
5 LB BAG **73c**

LOG CABIN
SYRUP
24 OZ BOTTLE **\$1.09**

RALSTON
CHEXS
ASSORTED BOX **69c**

HI-DRY
TOWELS
JUMBO ROLL **39c**

PINATA-ASSORTED
Tortilla CHIPS TWIN PACK **89c**

KRAFTS
Marshmallows 10 OZ PKG **35c**

GRIFFIN-FLAKE
COCOANUT 7 OZ PKG **49c**

MORTON HOUSE 300
Sloppy JOE CAN **69c**

LIBBYS 303 IN JUICE
Fruitcocktail 2 FOR **79c**

RANCH STYLE 23 OZ
Blackeye PEAS 2 FOR **69c**

VAN CAMP 300
PORK & BEANS 2 FOR **53c**

DEL MONTE 303
Sour KRAUT 2 FOR **59c**

KOUNTRY KIST 12 OZ W.K.
Golden CORN 2 FOR **45c**

POTATOES
SPRINGLES TWIN PACK **69c**

GRIFFIN
PLUM JAM 18 OZ GLASS **53c**

NABISCO
SNACKS ASST BOX **63c**

SHASTA
SODA POP 12 OZ CANS 6 FOR **79c**

POPSRITE
POP CORN 2 LB BAG **59c**

ASSORTED FLAVORS
KOOL AID 2 QT PKG **33c**

PEACHES HUNTS 4 LIMIT 2 1/2 CAN **89c**

CATSUP DEL MONTE 32 OZ JUG **73c**

SHORTENING JEWEL 42 OZ CAN **99c**

Coke COLA OR 7-UP PLUS 32 OZ 6 PACK DEPOSIT **\$1.19**



DOG-GONE GOOD!

SHOP AND SAVE

FROZEN FOODS

PATIO ASSORTED
MEXICAN DINNERS EA **53c**

WHOLE SUN
ORANGE JUICE 12 OZ **63c**

MORTON ASST
POT PIES 2 FOR **49c**

V.I.P. FRESH SHELL
BLACKEYE PEAS 10 OZ **35c**

CASSEROLE -NEW YEARS TREATS
BLACKEYE PEAS POUND PKG **39c**

BORDENS-GANDY-FOREMOST
EGG NOG QT. **69c**

I.G. DAIRY FRESH
HOMO MILK GAL **\$1.63**

I.G. DAIRY FRESH
LOW FAT MILK GAL **\$1.53**

I.G. DAIRY FRESH
BUTTER MILK 1/2 GAL **79c**

BORDEN-GANDY
-FOREMOST
CREAM 3 8 OZ PKG **\$1.00**

NEW-YEARS TREAT
FRESH SALT JOWL LB **39c**

BACON ARMOURS POUND **\$1.23**

ROAST BEEF CHOICE BEEF CHUCK LB **83c**

HAM SLICED CENTER CUT HORMEL LB **\$1.89**

BOLOGNA ALL MEAT LB **98c**

STEAKS GOOCH BR 5 PACK LB **\$1.09**

ARMOURS ALL MEAT
FRANKS BEEF OR REG 12 OZ PKG **55c**

BACON ARMOURS POUND **\$1.23**

ROAST BEEF CHOICE BEEF CHUCK LB **83c**

HAM SLICED CENTER CUT HORMEL LB **\$1.89**

BOLOGNA ALL MEAT LB **98c**

STEAKS GOOCH BR 5 PACK LB **\$1.09**

EGG NOG QT. **69c**

BOLD GIANT BOX **\$1.09** 1 LIMIT

WE GIVE GIFT BOND STAMPS
Double on Wednesday with \$5.00 or more

WE WELCOME FOOD STAMPS

CARSON'S SUPER MARKET

MERKEL, TEXAS
FRESH VEGETABLES

FREE DELIVERY MON WED FRI
BEST MEATS IN TOWN