

THE MERKEL MAIL.

\$1.00 a Year.

Devoted to the Interests of Merkel and the Merkel Country.

Eight Pages.

VOL. XII.

MERKEL, TEXAS, JANUARY 30, 1902

NO. 50

REAL ESTATE AND INSURANCE

I have established a General Real Estate and Insurance Office in Merkel. It shall be my business to Sell Lands on Commission, Rent Property in the City, Collect and Remit Rents, Pay Taxes, Secure Abstracts of Title, Write Conveys, Mortgages, Conveyances, and all kinds of Commercial and Negotiable Papers. Notary Public in office

If you have lands for sale in any part of the country, list it with me, and the same will be advertised from time to time with no other charges than regular commissions when sale is made.

If you have lots or houses, or lots in the city, for sale or rent, list them on my books and get quick returns.

I want a list of all property in Merkel that is for sale or for rent.

A large and spacious office in rear of First National Bank has been fitted up with tables and chairs for your convenience. Drop in and see me.

YOURS FOR BUSINESS.

T. A. JOHNSON.

"Some time ago my daughter caught a severe cold. She complained of pains in her chest and had a bad cough. I gave her Chamberlain's Cough Remedy according to directions and in two days she was well and able to go to school. I have used this remedy in my family for the past seven years and have never known it to fail," says James Prendergast, merchant, Annato Bay, Jamaica, West India Islands. The pains in the chest indicated an approaching attack of pneumonia, which in this instance was undoubtedly warded off by Chamberlain's Cough Remedy. Chamberlain's Cough tendency of a cold toward pneumonia. Sold by Rust & Pittard.

A couple of years ago a cranky sort of an old man came into this office mad as a bull hornet and "stopped his paper." We have frequently met him on the streets since that time, and it is very amusing to us to note the look of surprise on the old man's face that we are in existence, regardless of the fact that he had "stopped his paper." Some day, and it won't be very long, either, that poor old fellow will turn up his toes. His spiteful old heart will be still forever. Neighbors and relatives will follow his lifeless clay out to the beautiful cemetery and lay him to rest among the flowers. An obituary will appear in the columns of this paper telling what a kind father, good neighbor, and benevolent citizen he was—which lie the recording angel will kindly overlook for charity's sake—and in a short time he will be forgotten. As he lays out there in the cold graveyard, wrapped in the silent slumbers of death, he will never know that the last kind word ever spoken of him was by the editor of this paper, which in life he "stopped."—Webber's Falls Monitor.

Very truly yours,
W. W. Kirk.

Mr. Kirk's Candidacy.

In making the announcement for County Judge, I am but giving publicity to what a great many people in the different communities already know.

If I had known that Judge D. G. Hill wanted the office, or would have consented to become a candidate, I should never have announced. During the past several months, he has given me repeated assurances that he would not be a candidate, to say nothing of his personal voluntary statement that he would support me if I entered the race.

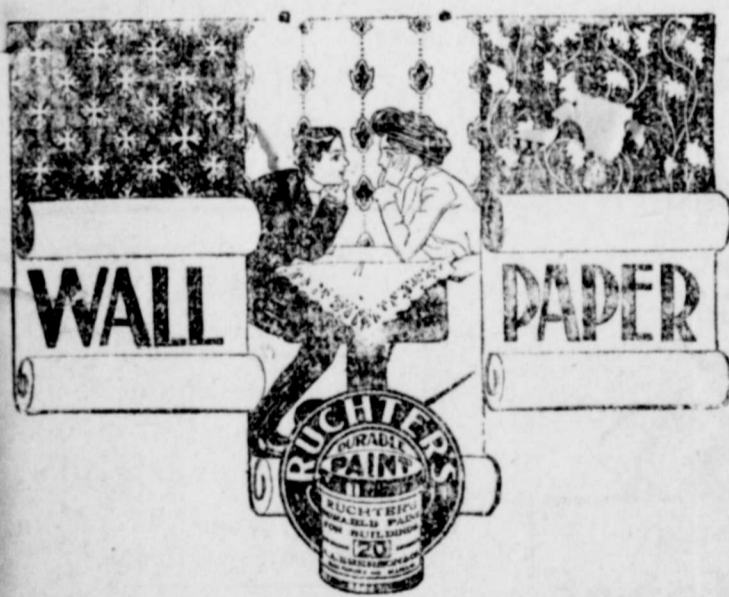
The morning he was appointed by the Commissioner's Court to fill the unexpired term occasioned by Judge Christenberry's death, he voluntarily stated to me that if I had any aspirations to be County Judge to prepare to

gratify them at the next election so far as he was concerned.

After I had declared my intention to run and had made known the fact to citizens in various portions of the country and had incurred some expense to make the canvass, I find that Judge Hill has been announced by some "friends."

Judge Hill knows these statements to be true, and whether he decides to run or permits his friends to run him, I do not make the above statements to embarrass him, but in simple justice to myself.

In the hope that I may secure an office which I very much desire, I will remain in the race to a finish, and shall appreciate your support.



FROM
12 1-2c
TO
60c
A ROLL

RUST &
PITTARD

Prairie Dog Poison.

We have several different kinds, besides the poisons used in their manufacture, which we can sell in quantities to suit the purchaser. Special prices on large lots. Let us figure with you on your next order.

We Handle

BASS' CARBON STRYCHNINE

RUST & PITTARD.

The \$2,000,000 New York... Methodists are congratulating themselves on ending this calendar year with a round \$15,000,000 of their \$20,000,000 thank offering fund. Mass meetings designed to insure the raising of the remaining \$5,000,000 are to begin in January, and are to be held in New York, Boston, Philadelphia, Baltimore, Cincinnati, and Chicago. In Pittsburg and other large cities no meetings are to be held for the reason that in them the task has already been accomplished, and the cities selected are intended to be national. Speakers at all of them are to be governors and United States senators. All the millions thus far raised will be used for strengthening existing enterprises.

For Royal Writing.

Whenever the signature of a king or queen is required in a visitor's book or elsewhere it is customary to provide a new pen, which is not used by the hosts or the other guests unless it be handed them by the royal visitor. Another point of etiquette connected with pens and paper is that a letter to a sovereign is written on thick white paper, on one side only, and is placed in an envelope large enough to contain the letter unfolded.

J. T. Warren, Pres.

S. F. West, V-Pres.

Geo. S. Berry, Cashier.

THE FIRST NATIONAL BANK

OF MERKEL

CAPITAL, = = = \$30,000
SURPLUS, = = = \$ 4,000

We Guarantee Satisfaction to our Customers, and offer them the Services of a Reliable and Conservative Banking Institution which is at all times Willing and Able to extend every Courtesy Consistent with Sound Business Principles.

DEMOCRATS IN SESSION.

Primary Election is Called for April 12. Other Matters.

The Executive Committee of the Democratic party met in Abilene Saturday and after hearing expressions from all the candidates decided to hold a primary election on April 12th for county and precinct officers, and that district and state officers be selected at a later date, this giving an opportunity for the people to learn something of the candidates for these respective offices who have not as yet announced. A resolution was introduced and passed unanimously that the tickets be printed by the Executive Committee and be headed "Official Democratic Ticket," and contain the names of all the candidates, and any ticket voted which did not contain the names of all the candidates would not be counted. The test adopted was:

"I am a Democrat and pledge myself to support the nominees of the Democratic party."

Everything passed off very harmoniously. Committee adjourned subject to the call of the chairman.

AT ABILENE.

Work on the Federal building is progressing very rapidly since the completion of the foundation.

The Methodists are overhauling and making an addition to the parsonage, which will make it quite an attractive home for their minister.

The J. L. Andrews brick storehouse is receiving its finishing touches.

The Daughters of the Confederacy had a very interesting meeting at the residence of Mrs. Pickens on Friday.

They never did fail; they never will fail. What? Cheatham's Laxative Tablets—to cure a cold at once. Carry them in your vest pocket. Always ready. Guaranteed. Price 25 cents.

THE HOME GOLD CURE

An Ingenious Treatment by Which Drunkenness is Being Cured Daily in Spite of Opponents.

No Noxious Doses. No Weakening of the Nerves. A Pleasant and Positive Cure for the Liquor Habit.

It is now generally known and understood that Drunkenness is a disease and not weakness. A body filled with poison and nerves completely shattered by periodical or constant use of intoxicating liquors, requires an antidote capable of neutralizing and eradicating this poison, and destroying the craving for intoxicants. Sufferers may now cure themselves at home without publicity or loss of time from business by this wonderful "HOME GOLD CURE" which has been perfected after many years of close study and treatment of inebriates. The faithful use according to directions of this wonderful discovery is positively guaranteed to cure the most obstinate case, no matter how hard a drinker. Our records show the marvelous transformation of thousands of drunkards into sober, industrious and upright men.

Wives, cure your husbands! Children, cure your fathers! This remedy is in no sense a nostrum, but is a specific for this disease only, and is so skillfully devised and prepared that it is thoroughly soluble and pleasant to the taste, so that it can be given in a cup of tea or coffee without the knowledge of the person drinking it. Thousands of drunkards have cured themselves with this priceless remedy and as many more have been cured and made temperate men by having the "CURE" administered by loving friends and relatives without their knowledge in tea or coffee, and believe today that they discontinued drinking of their own free will. Do Not Wait! Do not be deluded by apparent and misleading "improvement." Drive out the disease at once and for all time. The "Home Gold Cure" is sold at the extremely low price of One Dollar, thus placing within the reach of everybody a treatment more effectual than others costing \$25 to \$50. Full directions accompany each package. Special advice by skilled physicians when requested without extra charge. Sent prepaid to any part of the world on receipt of One Dollar. Address Dept. 1, EDWIN B. GILES & Co. 2330 and 2332 Market St., Philadelphia.

All correspondence strictly confidential.

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REMARKABLE CURE OF CROUP. A Little Boy's Life Saved.

I have a few words to say regarding Chamberlain's Cough Remedy. It saved my little boy's life and I feel that I cannot praise it enough. I bought a bottle of it from A. E. Steare of Goodwin, S. D., and when I got home with it the poor baby could hardly breathe. I gave the medicine as directed every ten minutes until he "threw up" and then I thought sure he was going to choke to death. We had to pull the phlegm out of his mouth in great long strings. I am positive that if I had not got that bottle of cough medicine, my boy would not be on earth today.—Joel Demont, Inwood, Iowa. For sale by Rust & Pittard.

Try reading The Mail.

The Merkel Mail.

ED J. LEEMAN, PUBLISHER.

Published Every Thursday.

TELEPHONE NUMBERS:

Office 31
Residence 37

If you know of any news item, we will consider it a special favor if you will report same to this office, either by person, letter or over the phone to either of the above number

ANNOUNCEMENTS.

RATES:

For District Offices\$10.00
For County Offices 5.00
For Precinct Offices 3.00

All announcements must be accompanied by the cash; no promise of future payment goes, and no deviation from this rule will be made. The above rates does not include name on ticket. Extra write-ups of candidates appearing elsewhere than in this column must be paid for at the usual rates.

DEMOCRATIC.

(All announcements under this head are subject to the action of the Democratic party.)

For County Treasurer:
J. H. THORNTON.
(re-election.)
JNO. T. TUCKER.

For Sheriff:
J. V. CUNNINGHAM.
(re-election.)

ax Assessor:
C. C. JACKSON.
(re-election.)

For County and District Clerk:
S. H. GARRISON.
(re-election.)

County Attorney:
T. A. BLEDSOE.
(re-election.)

For County Judge:
W. W. KIRK.

For Tax Collector:
BAYLOR CRAWFORD.

For Justice of Peace, Pre. 5, and
Commissioner Pre. 2:
J. J. MILLER.
(re-election.)

For Public Weigher at Merkel:
T. F. COMPTON.

The Mail has no intention of saying anything that anyone could take exceptions to. The fight we have made on incorporation has not embodied a single selfish principle, but was prompted by the need of the town in the way of better school facilities; also we had an eye to the comfort of the children who are forced to attend school during such weather as we are now having. The patrons of the school have no idea how uncomfortable the building really is. They ought to know that a child can not hope to show that advancement which is expected of it when handicapped by such conditions, and more than this, it is a detriment to them and a menace to their health. There are more ways of looking at this thing than from a financial point of view. Even if one should consult his pocket-book he could not consistently oppose it. Perhaps there are a dozen men in the district who pay taxes on a property valuation of over \$2,000; a majority of us are worth much less than that. Then would you not rather pay \$2.00 on the thousand for a term of years than to go down into your pockets and build a house by private subscription? Opposition has raised the point that the taxable values of the proposed district are not sufficient to more than pay interest on the

CLOSING OUT!

In order to make room for other goods that we expect to buy, we are very anxious to CLOSE OUT what we have on hand as soon as possible. In fact, the sooner we CLOSE OUT what we have the sooner we will buy more. And in order to accomplish this much desired end, we will sell our



.....ENTIRE STOCK AT COST.....

and carriage and a small per cent for ourselves. WE MEAN IT. Come and see our large stock of HARDWARE and GROCERIES; also Buggies, Wagons, Plows, Planters, and Cultivators.

G. F. WEST.

When it comes to Feed, we've got it....

bonds. Let those who have raised this issue figure up the tax on a \$200,000 valuation and see what amount he can each year lay aside as an accumulation fund. And then would it be possible to float bonds under such circumstances? Again the plea is raised that if the tax should be voted it would retard the growth of the district because people are slow to assume a burden of unnecessary taxes. The reverse would be the case, as a man who has children to educate is looking for just such a place. Snyder voted bonds and built a new school house last year, and within six months from the time the building was completed 60 houses for the accommodation of patrons of the school were erected, the taxable values of the district increased fully 50 per cent and the scholastic enrollment nearly doubled during the time. Hundreds of other towns in the state have been incorporated for school purposes, and the people generally are satisfied. There is no burden of taxation possible, as every detail of the work is subject to the approval of the State. Therefore, The Mail hopes to see incorporation carry, and firmly believes that the people will readily come to the rescue of the town in this crisis.

Moral Cowardice and Cupidity.

One of the saddest thoughts for contemplation, in the mind of the philanthropists today, is the abject, fawning weakness among those who should be towers of strength among their fellows. And there is no defeat so humiliating as misplaced and betrayed confidence. How many a man has gone down in the moral contest because he truckled to a scheming policy. How many a bright influence has been clouded and lost because of sordid lust. How many a man has been lost in the slave.

Physical cowardice is regarded as an almost unpardonable weakness; but how much more despicable is that a man who surrenders character, manly integrity, upon the altar of greed and lust.

The land is full of incentives to such a course. If one will

lend himself to a base policy, he will find the luring god of infamy not far from him. But what must be the reflections of such an one, when in the secret chambers of his own soul he communes with himself. It is ever true that "Whatsoever a man soweth, that shall also reap."

The man who is untrue to himself—to his own consciousness—is inevitably untrue to others. The man who will endeavor to cheat his own sense of right, will unscrupulously cheat others. He always cheats himself first, and carries constantly with him the humiliating brand of the moral coward. Sybel Hirst.

10 per cent less than Wholesale Cost.

In order to close out our entire stock of **Clothing, Duck Coats, Boy's Overcoats, Ladies Capes and Jackets, all Boots and Shoes, we have marked the price at 10 per cent less than Wholesale Cost.**

Now is the time to get bargains.

The Star Store.

It is currently reported that the Globe of Abilene will move here about April 1st. They have rented the Ferrier building. These gentlemen are good business men and will be a credit to the town.

Baylor Crawford announces this week as a candidate for Tax Collector, subject to the voters at the Democratic primary election April 12th. Mr. Crawford is a young man with high qualifications, sober and industrious habits and honest and reliable in every respect. The editor of The Mail has known Baylor for a number of years and unhesitatingly recommends his candidacy to the earnest consideration of the voters.

We handle the New Royal Sewing Machine at \$20.

W. P. Browning & Co.

Car of Alfalfa hay just arrived at G. M. Sharp's.

Bed Rock Prices!

In order to close out present stock to make room for new goods

Saddles, Harness, Etc.,

within a reasonable time, I have marked everything down to Bed Rock Prices.

You will save money by calling on me before buying elsewhere. Respectfully,

Z. F. GREEN.

J. R. McAdams left with his family for Gorman Sunday night.

County Surveyor Riney is shaping up the Sheppard addition to Merkel, on the South. The lots will soon be thrown on the market at very low prices.



How About Your Heart

Feel your pulse a few minutes. Is it regular? Are you short of breath, after slight exertion as going up stairs, sweeping, walking, etc? Do you have pain in left breast, side or between shoulder blades, choking sensations, fainting or smothering spells, inability to lie on left side? If you have any of these symptoms you certainly have a weak heart, and should immediately take

Dr. Miles' Heart Cure

Mr. F. H. Oaks of Jamestown, N. Y., whose genial face appears above, says: "Excessive use of tobacco seriously affected my heart. I suffered severe pains about the heart, and in the left shoulder and side; while the palpitation would awaken me from my sleep. I began taking Dr. Miles' Heart Cure and soon found permanent relief."

Sold by all Druggists, Dr. Miles Medical Co., Elkhart, Ind.

A WORTHY SUCCESSOR.

"Something New Under the Sun."

All doctors have tried to cure Catarrh by the use of powders, acid gases, inhalers and drugs in paste form. Their powders dry up the mucous membranes causing them to crack open and bleed. The powerful acids used in the inhalers have entirely eaten away the same membranes that their makers have aimed to cure, while pastes and ointments can not reach the disease. An old and experienced practitioner who has for many years made a close study and specialty of the treatment of Catarrh has at last perfected a treatment which, when faithfully used, not only relieves at once, but permanently cures Catarrh, by removing the cause, stopping the discharges and curing all inflammation. It is the only remedy known to science that actually reaches the afflicted parts. This wonderful remedy is known as "SNUFFLES, the Guaranteed Catarrh Cure" and is sold at the extremely low price of One Dollar, each package containing internal and external medicine sufficient for a full month's treatment and everything necessary for its perfect use.

"SNUFFLES" is the only perfect catarrh cure ever made and is now recognized as the only safe and positive cure for that annoying and disgusting disease. It cures all inflammation quickly and permanently, and is also wonderfully quick to relieve Hay Fever or Cold in the Head. Catarrh when neglected often leads to Consumption—"SNUFFLES" will save you if you use it at once. It is no ordinary remedy, but a complete treatment which is positively guaranteed to cure catarrh in any form or stage if used according to the directions which accompany each package. Don't delay, but send for it at once, and write full particulars as to your condition, and you will receive special advice from the discoverer of this wonderful remedy regarding your case without cost to you beyond the regular price of "SNUFFLES," the Guaranteed Catarrh Cure.

Sent prepaid to any address in the United States or Canada on receipt of One Dollar. Address Dept. 1, EDWIN B. GILES & Co., 230 and 232, Market St., Philadelphia.

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Come and see our new mouldings. Latest styles.

W. P. Browning & Co.

We have a nice line of carpets. Come and see them.

W. P. Browning & Co.

'Phone 43 when you want fresh meats and groceries.

If you want to increase your trade, advertise.

Smith & Davis can furnish you with what you want to eat. 'Phone No. 43.

A Tripple Hanging.

Smith, Brown and Jones hang all their hopes of recovery upon Cheatham's Laxative Chill Tablets. They will be around soon shaking hands with friends. 25c. No cure—no pay.

FOR SALE.

Four good male calves at \$25 each. Same can be seen at my barn.

J. T. Warren.

Ladies Heavy Cotton Vest's only 15c at The Star Store.

How to Succeed in Business.

Keep your liver in good condition by using Simmons' Liver Purifier (tin box.) It corrects constipation, cures indigestion, biliousness, stops headache, gets our heart in the right place so you can smile at your neighbors.

The Best is the Cheapest.

Not how cheap, but how good, is the question.

The Twice-a-Week Republic is not as cheap as are some so-called newspapers. But it is as cheap as it is possible to sell a first-class newspaper. It prints all the news that is worth printing. If you read it all the year round, you are posted on all the important and interesting affairs of the world. It is the best and most reliable newspaper that money and brains can produce—and those should be the distinguished traits of the newspaper that is designed to be read by all the members of the family.

Subscription price, \$1 a year. Any newsdealer, newspaper or postmaster will receive your subscription, or you may mail it direct to

The Republic,
St. Louis, Mo.

Paris Possibilities.

"In Paris the art of living has become an exact science, and the utmost possible is crammed into the twenty-four hours of the day," said a man just back from there to an interviewer the other day. "For example, take the restaurant life of Paris. How widely spread and varied it is! If you know your Paris, you can dine well there for a couple of francs or a couple of louis, as best suits your purse. You can dine in the balconies of the Ambassadeurs or the Restaurant du Rond Point, and a vaudeville show on an adjacent stage will help you to while away the time between courses. Or, still sticking to the Champs Elysee, you can take your principal meal of the day at Pailard's or Laurent's, and, for diversion afterward, you can saunter across the broad avenue to the Jardin de Paris, the naughty successor of the naughty Jardin Mabille of an earlier day. You can dine, if it be summer, in the classic and beautiful tinkle of the fountain's falling water sounding in one ear, while the other is filled with the 'oin du pays' of the tzigany band. Still sticking to town, you can take in the Cafe de Paris, a restaurant of highest rank in gastronomic history, or, by crossing the river to the quarter of the Notre Dame, you can obtain one of the famous 'de la tour d'Argent's never to be forgotten duck dinners."

The President's Dress.

President Roosevelt is a poor dressed, "Tip" says, in the New York Press. He has no time or inclination to give to the study of clothes. His figure and carriage are hard on clothes, anyway. Fifteen minutes after he has put on a new suit it is pulled out of shape and wrinkled all over. If you are in Washington you will see frequently two citizens taking an afternoon walk together, or, rather, not together, but one behind the other. They are President Roosevelt and his brother-in-law, Commander Cowles, of the navy. No two men in Washington are in more striking contrast in the matter of dress. The president's brother-in-law is the pink of perfection in his clothes. In their afternoon walks the commander will appear in a silk hat, frock coat, puff tie and immaculate shoes of shiniest polish. The president wears any old thing, his clothes look as if he kept on the floor of his bedroom l up in a tight bundle.

ELECTION IS ORDERED

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 1ST, IS THE TIME.

The Tickets, Names of Trustees Suggested and Other Important Facts.

In the election on school incorporation to be held Feb. 1st, there will be two tickets—one for the use of those who wish to vote against it bearing only the words "No Corporation," and one for the use of those who wish to vote for it bearing the word "Corporation" and the names of seven men who are to be voted on for trustees. Then if the majority vote is for "Corporation," the trustees for the district are elected by the same ballot.

Below is given a representation of the tickets, together with the names of seven men who have been suggested as trustees:

(For those who vote against)

No Corporation

(For those who vote for)

Corporation

For Trustees:

- J. T. WARREN
- J. H. WARNICK
- JOHN ELLIOTT
- J. L. MANN
- G. E. COMEGYS
- I. S. ALLEN.
- J. L. HARRIS.

If the corporation carries and the work of voting bonds and building is carried out, there will be a great deal of work to do and some responsible duties to perform; and those who are elected for trustees should be men who have an interest in the enterprise, against whom there is no prejudice, and who have good sound ideas of their own, and yet who are not contentious in having their ideas carried out, or obstinate in yielding to the wishes of the majority. There are a number of men in the town who would fill these requirements, but according to the suggestions of several men who have the interest of the work at heart, the above names are offered as those most favorably mentioned.

Change in School Trustees.

A slight change has been made in the personnel of the ticket for school trustees which is to be voted upon next Saturday. Mr. Collins asked to be excused from serving, giving as an excuse that he will be absent much of the time this year. Mr. Pittard has pleaded a pressure of business which would allow him but scant time to devote to school matters. The vacancies on the ticket have been filled by the names of two other good men, I. S. Allen and J. L. Harris, who will serve equally as faithfully and, we feel sure, give entire satisfaction.

Considerable opposition to the incorporation idea has cropped out the past few days, and it is evident some fight will be made. To the end that the people may be further enlightened upon the good that would result from the move, every friend of incorporation should be on hand Saturday.

Many of the blotches, pimples and other affections of the skin are caused by the failure of the liver and kidneys to cast off impurities, which remain in the system. Herbine will stimulate the liver and kidneys, and cleanse the system of all impurities. Price. 50c at F. M. Davis'.

Learning to Say "Rose-a-velt."

When President Roosevelt went to Washington as president, it seems there was still some doubt in social and diplomatic circles as to the correct pronunciation of his name. It was pronounced in the various circles as if spelled Roosevelt—Ruse-velt and Rusvelt. Then came from the White House a semi-official intimation that the correct pronunciation was as if the name were spelled Rose-a-velt, and now all Washington is trying hard to acquire the sound of o broad and hard, and say Rose-a-velt instead of Ruse-e-velt.

Pushing It Along.

The suggestion of Edouard Detaille, the Parisian artist, that persons of his craft should give up part of their time to the painting of store signs which should adorn and not disfigure the streets, has been received with a great display of interest by the Municipal Art League, of Chicago. The members of that organization think that the plan is practicable.

The Secret of Long Life

Consists in keeping all the main organs of the body in healthy, regular action, and in quickly destroying deadly disease germs. Electric Bitters regulate stomach, liver and kidneys, purify the blood, and give a splendid appetite. They work wonders in curing kidney troubles, female complaints, nervous diseases, constipation, dyspepsia, and malaria. Vigorous health and strength always follow their use. Only 50c, guaranteed by Rust & Pittard.

Looped-the-Loop and Went Crazy.

A suit for \$50,000 damages has been commenced against the company operating the "loop-the-loop" at Coney Island. A girl of 17 took a ride on this crazy machine and became delirious soon after returning home. A day later her mind gave way, and she is now in a New York state hospital. In bringing the suit her guardian declares that the machine is directly responsible for her condition, that it is dangerous to life and reason, and that these facts were known to the company before they permitted the girl to take the risk of a ride.

Tammany Gluttons Ate More.

W. S. Merrill, the Harvard sophomore who consumed at one sitting \$3 worth of food and drink, consisting of three steaks, two mutton chops with peas, two cups of coffee and two pints of apollinaris, has not touched the record of some of Tammany's feeders. Mayor Van Wyck once ate six and three-quarter pounds of steak at one sitting, and Patrick Diver, who holds the record ate eleven pounds. Mr. Merrill is as yet very young, however.

Cause for Embarrassment.

Rev. Dr. Greer, rector of St. Bartholomew's Episcopal church, New York, who has just declined the office of bishop, has often an experience that does not come to many clergymen. His congregation is composed in the main of very rich people, and when he makes an appeal for charity of any sort, he is sure to receive a number of blank checks, with a request that he fill in such amounts as he thinks would be right. He declares that he sometimes feels very much embarrassed as to what he should do.

HAVE A LOOK

And you will be convinced we have the best all-around general line in the country, consisting of

John Deere Working Plows	::	Standard Disc Plows
John Deere Sulkey Plows	::	Standard Cultivators
John Deere Cultivators	::	and
John Deere Disc Harrows	::	Hancock Disc Plows

The Old Reliable

Studebaker Wagons,
Are the Best.

Buggies, Phaetons, Surries and hacks.
All Grades and Kinds. We have some Genuine Bargains.

LOOK at OUR FURNITURE
COOK STOVES
HEATING STOVES
All kinds HARDWARE

Our Motto:—
Prices Below Our Competitors

...GEO. L. PAXTON, Abilene

DR. JOS. H. WARNICK, PRES.
WM. H. DUNNING, CASHIER.

JOS. H. WARNICK,
...BANKER...

Responsibility, = = = \$20,000

ELLIOTT & MILLER
DEALERS IN

...Wind Mills, Pumps and Water Supply Goods...

We keep in stock the Star steel mill, direct stroke and back gear; Eclipse wood mill, Dandy and Aermotor steel mills; a full assortment of pumps, piping from 1/4 to 2 in., plain and galvanized; brass cylinders and working barrels from 2 to 4 in. We buy in car lots and can make Fort Worth prices on anything in our line.

ARE YOU DEAF? ANY HEAD NOISES?

ALL CASES OF
DEAFNESS OR HARD HEARING ARE NOW CURABLE
by our new invention. Only those born deaf are incurable.
HEAD NOISES CEASE IMMEDIATELY.
F. A. WERMAN, OF BALTIMORE, SAYS:

Gentlemen:—Being entirely cured of deafness, thanks to your treatment, I will now give you a full history of my case, to be used at your discretion.
About five years ago my right ear began to ring, and this kept on getting worse, until my hearing in this ear entirely ceased.
I underwent a treatment for catarrh, for three months, without any success, considered of physicians, among others, the most eminent ear specialist of this city, who only an operation could help me, and even that only temporarily, that the hearing in the affected ear would be lost forever.
I then saw your advertisement accidentally in a New York paper, and after I had used it only a few days according to your directions, to-day, after five weeks, my hearing in the diseased ear has been entirely restored, and I beg to remain, Very truly yours,
F. A. WERMAN, 730 S. BALTIMORE, Md., March 30, 1921.

Our treatment does not interfere with your Examination and advice free. **YOU CAN CURE YOURSELF**
INTERNATIONAL AURAL CLINIC, 596 LA SALLE

READ THE ME IF YOU WA

To the Trading Public!



IN ORDER TO CLOSE OUT PRESENT STOCK TO MAKE ROOM for Advance Shipments of New Goods, soon to arrive, we have placed all Winter Goods on the Bargain Counter. They must go. Most of the goods will do for Summer Wear, and the prices are **SPEEDY MOVERS!**

Come in and get suited before the stock is entirely picked over.

SHOES!

We have just received a large shipment of Fine Shoes for Men, Women and Children. This gives us the largest stock of Good Shoes for Little Money in the town. We can suit you in Style, Quality and Price, and should be glad to show them to you.

Respectfully,

FITTS & SMITH.

SPOT CASH MERCHANTS, = Merkel, Texas.



THE MERKEL MAIL.

ED J. LEEMAN,
EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR

Entered in the Postoffice at Merkel, Texas, as second-class mail matter.

Subscription Rates:

One year	\$1.00
Six months	.50
Three months	.25
Invariably in advance.	

ADVERTISING RATES		per month
One inch space		\$1.50
Two inch space		2.00
Quarter column (4 1-2 inches)		2.50
Half column (9 inches)		4.00
One column (18 inches)		7.50
Four issues constitute a month. All advertisements run and charged for until ordered out, unless limit is specified when insertion is made. Special prices on time contracts. Local notices, 5 cents per line, each insertion.		

SPECIAL NOTICES.

Communications to insure publication must bear the signature of the writer, as well as the name of the place under which they write. This is required merely as a guarantee of good faith. Obituaries, Cards of Thanks, etc., are inserted at one-half the regular advertising rates. Positively no deviation from this rule.

VOTE RIGHT.

Whenever any measure is proposed for the benefit of the town there is always some person who forthwith declares, "I am agin it!" Happily, no such opposition has so far been encountered against incorporating the district for school purposes. The people readily understood that it was a move for the good of the town and country surrounding, and that no personal benefits would accrue except those which would be a natural result from school facilities.

On the eve of the Saturday tells the tale, the people will see the wisdom of a good incorporation. To question a vote at it is to be an

of knowledge, and you owe it to the town, which is just now at a crisis in its history, to give it this boost. Friends of the move should all vote and lend their influence to secure other votes; for a misstep now means a severe blow to the town.

As heretofore stated, this election has nothing to do with the assessment of taxes or of voting bonds for building purposes, which is an after consideration.

There is only one way to vote, and that is the right way.

A CORRECTION.

A few issues back The Mail stated that Editor Grogan of Sweetwater, who is a candidate for the Senate from this district, was in favor of maintaining the present quarantine line and also in favor of administering the law as now administered. In this we were mistaken, and as The Mail does not desire to misrepresent any one we hasten to make a correction. Mr. Grogan's platform follows:

"Maintain the quarantine line, at or near where it is now located, but let cattle pass at any time of the year, if found free from contagious diseases."

In addition to this, Mr. Grogan recommends an open season from Dec. 15 to March 15. This last clause is the one which the editor of The Mail overlooked in his perusal of the gentleman's platform, and hence we naturally fell into the error of supposing that the quarantine line was, in his opinion, good enough. Mr. Grogan is not an intellectual pigmy by any means, but is a gifted, scholarly man, and we had no call to misrepresent him.

The Baird Star remedied The

Mail's statement that State Treasurer Robbins "broke a precedent" by substituting that "precedent broke on Mr. Robbins." Granted; but there should not have been any precedent to break. Men who are elected to responsible positions ought to conduct the affairs of the office in the way that the law directs, and then there would be no precedent to follow. The fact that it had been customary to deposit State funds in banks did not license Mr. Robbins to do likewise. Let it be thoroughly understood that officers must do their duty and there will be less scrambling for office, less incompetents elected to responsible positions, and less mismanagement of official affairs.

James Stephen Hogg's advocacy of late primaries does not seem to retard the move in the opposite direction. Early primaries are undoubtedly the best for the country and the people want the scramble over with as quick as possible. A month or two of campaigning is undoubtedly enough for the average candidate.

The dry weather throughout Texas is becoming a serious problem. People are becoming dissatisfied in the east and are coming west to better their condition. But in nearly every location they have run up against a hard proposition, and do not find the rainbow.

The Republican opposition to any sort of tariff legislation during the present Congress means at least that the burden will not be enlarged. There should be some comfort in this assurance.

Will the prince fall in love with simply a President's daughter?

Hard times, hard times, pressing mightily hard; scant is the cupboard and its supply of lard. All my meat to buy and money's hard to find; this is the way the world wags when a fellow's behind. Plant hogs.

Parents who expect their boys to amount to anything should see to it that they are around the fireside when night comes. A boy who has full scope of the town of nights will soon come to a bad end.

Remember that a vote for corporation means a vote for a new depot, a vote for a steam laundry and a vote for the many other enterprises which follow in the wake of industrial progress.

Let the friends of incorporation for school purposes vote long and often. We want as big a majority as possible—in fact, we want to make it unanimous. Let not interest lag for one moment.

The failure of Phillips, the corn king, says an exchange, was due to being long on rye. It is generally admitted that the man who is long on rye will in time be short on everything else.

Do not retard the growth of Merkel by one little act of selfishness on your part, but put in a vote for corporation.

But what has become of Hanna, the boodle man, who has been making goo-goo eyes at the President?

The man who has to buy his way into office is not a safe man to trust with the people's money.

Incorporation may be a dead thing, but dead things sometimes come to life. Be sure and vote.

When a "pistol toter" starts out on the war path some innocent bystander suffers, and thus one man's folly causes countless numbers to mourn.

Strenuous efforts are being made to get a resolution expressive of sympathy for the Boers through Congress.

Merkel will embrace a population of over 2,000 people inside of twelve months. Watch this prediction.

Let the people see to it that money has nothing to do with the election of officers this year.

The west offers to immigrants an ideal location, healthy climate and generous hospitality.

Put pure men into office and the ballot box will be purged of its rottenness.

Any kind of an old canal will do. Just an outlet for Texas products is all we want.

One has to write thirteen letters, says a wag, before he gets encouragement.

Change in School Trustees.

A slight change has been made in the personnel of the ticket for school trustees which is to be voted upon next Saturday. Mr. Collins asked to be excused from serving, giving as an excuse that he will be absent much of the time this year. Mr. Pittard has pleaded a pressure of business which would allow him but scant time to devote to school matters. The vacancies on the ticket have been filled by the names of two other good men, I. S. Allen and J. L. Harris, who will serve equally as faithfully and, we are sure, give entire satisfaction.

fragile babe and the grown child are strengthened by Hite's Cream Vermifuge. It destroys worms, gets digestion at work, and so rebuilds the body. Price 25c at F. M. Davis'.

Buy your Grain, Hay and Salt from G. M. Sharp, the only exclusive Grain Dealer in Merkel.

There is a time for all things. The time to take Simon's Cough Syrup is when afflicted with sore throat, hoarseness, coughs or colds. It is guaranteed to cure you. Price 25 and 50 cents.

Buy McDonald Shirts and Overalls.

J. T. Warren.

An Old Soldier Dead.

Just as The Mail went to press last week news was received of the death of F. J. Walling, which occurred Wednesday night at the home of his son, Dr. Walling, in the Shiloh community. Grandpa Walling was in his 91st year, and had been quite feeble for a time. He was a Mexican war veteran, having been with Sam Houston throughout the campaign, and served valiantly to the end. A consistent Christian and a man of liberal, generous impulses, he was loved and esteemed by all.

The Mail joins in expressions of sympathy to the bereaved family.

CORN at West's. Prices right. Corn sound.

If you have some good vendor lien notes you wish to cash, I can probably place them for you. H. C. Williams.

The Mail is authorized to announce T. F. Compton as a candidate for public weigher at Merkel, his candidacy being subject to the action of the Democratic party. Mr. Compton has made an efficient weigher and, so far as we know, has given general satisfaction. He promises his best attention to the office in the future if elected.

FEED—4 carloads—at West's. 'Twill be to your interest to see him before buying.

A local paper can be of incalculable benefit to the community and the readers can help the paper along in its work immensely. An exchange in explaining how the readers can assist, says: "Everybody can help to make a paper interesting by sending in for publication all local happenings, such as marriages, births, deaths, buying and selling of lands, the visiting of people, especially strangers and relatives from other parts of the country; he leaving or moving away of any family, and where gone, and he moving into your neighborhood of new families; the clearing of new land and improvements of any characters. We don't want any little jokes that are of interest to only one or two persons, neither do we want anything personal that is likely to offend or hurt anyone's feelings."

HAY at West's. Price it. Try it.

Young men cannot estimate too highly the advice of parents and friends. It affords them the benefit of experience and is given them from sincere solicitude for their welfare. It should be remembered, and weighed, and acted upon.

A good rain would be worth its weight in gold, almost. But we are very well for a month or

Herbina should be used to enrich and purify the blood; it cures all forms of blood disorders, is especially useful in fevers, skin eruptions, boils, pimples, blackheads, scrofula, salt rheum and every form of blood impurity; it is a safe and effectual cure. Price, 50c at F. M. Davis'.

Phone G. M. Sharp when you want feed.

When you want meats, vegetables or fruits 'phone 43.

T. B. Story has leased his wagon yard to Smith & Davis and will take a little outing for recreation and to look after his farm 7½ miles northwest of town. He has some improvements going on in the way of grubbing and putting more land in cultivation, and his farm will contain 200 acres instead of 80 acres. Clark brothers from Hill county have rented the same and will put 100 acres in cotton and the balance in feed stuff. The Mail hopes Col. Story will have a good time, make lots of money and find a wife in his rounds.

When wanting anything to eat 'phone 43.

E. Rogers was up from Caps Saturday. He says farmers are well along with their work, notwithstanding the dry weather, and that but few of them are "blue." Mr. Rogers' son, Elbert, who was under treatment by a Waco specialist, has come home completely cured, we are glad to learn.

East Texas and Louisiana Syrup.

J. T. Warren.

COTTON RECEIPTS.

The total number of bales of cotton weighed in the Merkel yard this season is a little the rise of 4,000 and will probably reach 4,500 before the season is over. This is about half the receipts of last season, which shows the production per acre fell off fully two-thirds, when the increased acreage is considered.

I represent companies that will give you reliable insurance—fire, life, accident and health—at reasonable rates.

H. C. Williams.

J. J. Stallings and H. L. Propst attended the meeting of the Democratic Executive Committee at Abilene Saturday.

We are showing the best \$1.50 hat that ever happened.

J. T. Warren.

County Attorney Bledsoe was in the city Tuesday.

See G. M. Sharp for your seed oats, free of Johnson grass.

Dr. Walter Browning and wife left Friday night for their home at Kemp, Texas, after a pleasant visit with their parents here.

Top prices paid for green and dry hides.

F. P. McGuffin.

U. S. G. Henry, representing the Bucklen Medicine Co., of Chicago, and one of the best known traveling men on the road, was in the city Monday. Mr. Henry is a brother of Mrs. Bonine who was defendant in the sensational murder trial in Washington a month ago.

BRAN at West's. Best and cheapest.

Courtney Hunt of Alvord is prospecting in the city this week.

The Mail's 'phone is 31. If you know any item of news, or if friends or relatives are visiting you, or if you are going or have been off on a visit, please let us know. It will be a great favor.

To MAKE ROOM

Not Money.

Below we give a few items which we propose to sell to make room— NOT MONEY:

Blankets,
Comforts,
Capes,
Jackets,
Duck Coats,
Heavy Woolen Over Shirts,
and Winter Dress Goods.

J. T. WARREN

Many a bright and happy household has been thrown into sadness and sorrow because of the death of a loved one from a neglected cold. Ballard's Horehound Syrup is the great cure for coughs, colds and all pulmonary ailments. Price, 25 and 50c at F. M. Davis'.

We are selling some stuff to make room, not money. J. T. Warren.

We are now in a position to remit money for you direct to the State Treasurer or General Land Office. Please call at this bank when wanting to transact business of this kind.

The First National Bank.

J. C. Watkins left Sunday morning for New Mexico on a prospecting trip. He thinks of locating there, but we look for him back soon.

Strayed or Stolen—One muddy dun horse, about 14½ hands high, 8 years old, branded X on left thigh or hip, and dim brand possibly on shoulder. A liberal reward will be paid for information leading to his recovery. F. P. McGuffin.

Elbert Barnes was in settling up with the printer Saturday.

FOR SALE.

240 acres, 7½ miles northwest of Merkel. 150 acres in cultivation, 2 good wells, 3-room house, barn, orchard, and other improvements. Price \$10.00 per acre, \$1500 cash, balance on easy terms. Apply to T. B. Story.

Whosoever has suffered from piles knows how painful and troublesome they are. Tabler's Buckeye Pile Ointment is guaranteed to cure piles. Price 50c in bottles. Tubes, 75c at F. M. Davis'.

Go to G. M. Sharp's for your bran, oats and wheat chops.

Mr. Joe Garland and Miss Zephyr Pruitt were married at the home of the brides parents at Portales, N. M., last Thursday. —Snyder Coming West.

Lewis Martin has bought the Clark stock of groceries, and would be pleased to have his friends call on him. He promises courteous, generous treatment.

The town was full of prospectors Saturday. Among the number were several gentlemen from northern states.

Use Peace-Maker Flour. J. T. Warren.

J. T. Warren vaccinated all his cattle, from two's down, last week. Mr. Warren lost only five head from blackleg last year, and he hopes to make this year a record breaker.

See F. P. McGuffin for fresh meats. Fish Saturdays and Sundays. Phone No. 61.

5 gallons Pickles and Kraut \$1.50.

J. T. Warren.

Mrs. S. J. Wallace is visiting her husband at Van Horn, who is holding down a temporary job as agent there.

The properties of Ballard's Snow Liniment possess a range of usefulness greater than any other remedy. A day seldom passes in every household, especially where there are children, that it is not needed. Price, 25 and 50c at F. M. Davis'.

Plenty of corn now at G. M. Sharp's.

After the trip I will be glad to see my friends in my office at Abilene where I am better prepared now than ever, for the care of their teeth. Feb. 3 to the 6. 4 days at Merkel.

Dr. T. S. Hollis.

In the announcement column this week will be found the name of W. W. Kirk as a candidate for county judge, subject to the action of the Democratic party. Mr. Kirk is a young man of high attainments. He served one term as school superintendent and made an enviable record, and enters the race because he wants the office and believes himself qualified to discharge its duties in a satisfactory manner. Give his candidacy due consideration.

If you don't want to go to Abilene to have your dental work done you had better see Dr. T. S. Hollis, Feb. 3 to 6. His last trip until this fall. He will be well equipped to serve his friends this trip.

W. W. Kirk, candidate for county judge, was in the city Friday.

Now is the Time to Buy.

Having just finished invoicing after the most prosperous year of our business, we take time to wish our patrons A Happy and Prosperous 1902, and to promise every purchaser at The Reliable Store Better Values and larger lines to choose from than ever before. In the future, as in the past, we shall keep abreast of the times and shall strive to merit the confidence which the people of Taylor and adjoining counties have reposed in this store, by furnishing only Reliable Goods at the Lowest Possible Prices. While invoicing we found ourselves overstocked on the following lines, which we now offer at Bargain Prices:

MEN'S UNDERWEAR.	MEN'S CLOTHING.	LADIES' CAPES.
To make room for new goods, we offer great reductions. A Bargain in every item.	We have more than we care to carry over and make Unusual Prices for 20 Days.	A few only left which you will need for the coming cold weather Yours at Low Prices.

In fact for the next 20 days we will offer unusual bargains in order to reduce stock and prepare for shipments of new goods now in transit
Yours truly,

COME AND BUY NOW...

J. P. SHARP & COMPANY.

TOWN and COUNTRY.. NEWS

WEEKLY BUDGET OF HAPPENINGS THROUGHOUT THE COUNTY...

ABILENE.

Jan. 29.—The cold weather the past week will have the happy effect of killing out the insects and all their eggs, so the farmers say.

J. V. Cunningham has withdrawn from the tax collector's race and will run for sheriff alone. This is the first time that the office of sheriff and collector has ever been separated in this county. The new office already has several patriots ready to sacrifice themselves for the good of the people.

Henry Sales, Jr., and Miss Blanch Roberts, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Roberts, were married at the residence of the bride's parents Tuesday morning, Rev. Lowrance of the Presbyterian church officiating. Both are very popular young people and their many friends wish them much happiness.

The Democratic executive committee held their meeting here Saturday according to the call of ex-chairman Hill. It was decided to hold the primary for county candidates April 12th and to hold nominating conventions for all offices other than county and precinct. It was decided that the committee should take the matter of tickets in hands and see to their printing and distribution, assessing each candidate for county office the sum of \$10 and each candidate for precinct office at Abilene, Buffalo Gap and Merkel \$2 to defray the expenses of holding the election and printing tickets.

J. W. Jennings was down from Merkel Saturday and reported that the land was getting a little too dry to plow.

Another teacher for the public schools at this place will be selected by the board February 3rd. There are over 1200 enrolled in the public schools of Abilene now and one or two additional ward buildings are badly needed.

The plumbing contract for the epileptic colony south of Abilene has been let to the Gainsville Plumbing Co., at a cost of \$26,987.50. This contract was awarded to another firm some time back, but they paid their forfeiture and let the state award it to another firm.

Geo. S. Berry was down from Merkel Saturday representing

Mulberry Canyon before the meeting of the Democratic executive committee.

T. W. Stansbury and Miss Mollie Kirkendall were married at the Methodist church at Potosi Sunday evening.

C. A. Dunavant, in business here for the past year or so, left Tuesday night for his old home in Ratliff, Miss.

DORA.

Jan. 25.—News scarce this week.

Mr. Linn and Mr. Holder went to Abilene Thursday.

Misses Annie and Liddie Jackson went to Valley Creek Friday.

Mr. Bomon returned from Buffalo Saturday.

R. W. Ground went to Valley Creek Saturday.

While out feeding cattle Sunday morning Mr. Bryson came near freezing to death, but he is up again, we are glad to learn.

Mrs. Bloxom is very sick; we hope she will soon be up again. A slight snow fell at Dora Tuesday night.

Kat Klaw.

NUBIA.

Jan. 29.—Mr. Sam Toombs has taken a setback and is not getting along so well.

Bartie Reynolds is down with the pneumonia.

Mrs. Joe Brandon is visiting her mother and at the bedside of her brother Bartie.

Girtie Russell of near Merkel is visiting Mrs. T. J. Walker in Nubia.

A crowd had a storm party at J. M. Blackburn's Saturday night.

R. M. Davenport is on the puny list.

A light snow has fallen in the Canyon and still is trying to snow. I think there is going to be a chili stand in Nubia.

Rose Bud.

Balliett's Big Bailwick.

The federal judicial officer who probably has the largest territorial jurisdiction is Andrew J. Balliett, United States court commissioner at Rampart precinct, Alaska. He covers over 150,000 square miles in his district. His functions are like those of a Peoh Bah. He not only has the regular duties of a court commissioner, which are in themselves multifarious, but he acts as justice of the peace, judge of probate and recorder of all the mining claims in his district.

Frisco's Chinese "Hello" Boom.

The Chinese telephone exchange recently opened in San Francisco differs from all others in San Francisco or in the world, in that it is a thing of gorgeous beauty and a marvel of luxurious good taste and splendor. The exchange has been constructed with a view to making it one of the leading show places of Chinatown. It is in the second story of a three-story building, a narrow stairway leading to it. At the head of the stairs is the big sign of the company, in Chinese character. You first enter an ante-room, where a smiling and bowing attendant, who is kept there solely for that purpose, welcomes you. In the center of the room is a blackwood table, upon which are tobacco, cigarettes and tea cups. At one end of the table is a pot of tea. Every one is served as an evidence of hospitality. Back of this ante-room are the apartments of the manager of the company. These are fitted up in Oriental splendor, and consist of a parlor, a dining room, a bed room, with four bunks, and a neat little kitchen. The manager and his four assistants are constantly on duty, and the exchange never closes, from one year's end to another. In the front room beyond the ante-room is the main exchange. This is fitted up with dragons, serpents and other Chinese emblems, and is also luxuriously furnished. Rare and quaint designed lanterns swing from the ceilings, and are furnished with small electric lights. The walls are hung with banners of red and gold and along one side of the room is a row of teakwood chairs and cushions. The switchboards are exactly like other exchanges, and they are operated the same, except that the hello girls are male Chinese.

Easily Understood.

They are telling a story of William H. Crane to the effect that when he was last in London he was invited to dine at the House of Commons restaurant, and his host ordered a bottle of Irish whisky from which he poured frequently and copiously. "Say," said Mr. Crane, "do all you English statesmen partake as liberally and as frequently of that liquid as this?" "We do," said the host. "Well, all I've got to remark is, that I'm not surprised that the Boer war continues," said Mr. Crane.

Cheap Enough.

The election expense statement of a woman candidate for a membership in the school board of Newburgh, N. Y., is: "No talk, no money, no promises, no solicitation, no intimidation, no bribery, no cigars or schooners."

A Carnegie Scotch School.

The technical school near Galspie, Scotland, in which the Duchess of Sutherland and Andrew Carnegie are jointly interested, will devote special attention to handicrafts likely to enable young men and women to earn their living. Its aims are thus explained by the Glasgow correspondent of the Montreal Star: "For bye farmin' will be a principal subject, an' there will be lan' near the school for the purpose o' experiments. Then spinnin', weavin' and dyein' will be developed, particularly among the lasses, wha' will get besides needlework, cookery, laundry work, scientific dressmakin', poultry an' dairy work, as well as ordinary learnin' like mathematics an' the three Rs. The duchess is appealin' for bursaries an' money to start a fund to meet rinnin' expenses after the school has been started. She'll get it, for she has the knack o' workin' up enthusiasm on any subject she tackles."

Young Women as Bank Tellers.

"Behind each of the thirteen windows in the savings department of the Royal Trust bank, in Chicago," remarked a business man from that city, the other day, "sits a young woman, taking in and paying out the money of several thousand depositors. They have been employed some time, and I believe they are the only young women tellers in any large banking institution in the world. They have proven faithful and accurate in their work, and the manager of the bank says that men will never displace them. They are always at work on time; when the closing hour comes they are never in a rush to get for fear of working a minute too long. Neither do they spend the bank's time in telling each other of their experience the night before, as young men are prone to do. The girls were not hired because the bank sought to save money because they are paid the same salaries as men. The change was made because they were found more reliable and efficient."

Glenn's Achievement.

William F. Glenn, of Atlanta, Ga., in a contest, wrote 12,097 legible words on a postal card, consuming seventy hours in the task. The record before this feat was 5200 words. The writing was in ink and no lines crossed each other.

Morgan's Queer Present.

J. Pierpont Morgan received, on the morning the big railroad consolidation was effected, a mounted bears tooth from a friend who had been shooting in Canada. As he looked at it he said: "I wonder if it is prophetic."

Fortune Knocks Once at Every Man's Door

and this may be the rap that will tempt you to court the fair goddess that rules the world.

The days of '49 were a wild scramble of the adventurer to find the yellow metal that has brought prosperity in its wake wherever found and made more millionaires than any other one industry. Mining for precious metals has been gradually narrowing down to a science until today it is considered the safest avenue for the investment of money with almost surely the largest returns.

INTELLIGENT INVESTMENT

of small sums in the co-operative plan of mining has put not a few men and women on the road to prosperity. The company doing this advertising has four undeveloped but promising claims in a proven mining district and offers an attractive proposition to secure the co-operation of money to be used in the development of its property. It is now placing the first installment of treasury stock on the market at a nominal figure, and if you are interested, write for prospectus and other information. Address

Spanish Gulch Gold Mining Co., The Dalles, Ore.

DRUGS..

EVERYTHING NEW!

I have opened up a stock of Pure, Fresh Drugs, Patent Medicines, Paints, Oils, Wall Paper, Sundries, Etc., next door to First National Bank, and invite the patronage of all.

All Prescription Work is done by a Registered Pharmacist, insuring best results

Nicest line of Druggists' Sundries in the town.

F. M. DAVIS.

You've got the pier thing when you get Hunt's Lightning Oil for burns, bruises, cuts or sprains. The most penetrating and long limed known. Guaranteed. Price 25 and 50 cent

A GOOD THING.

erman Syrup is the special description of Dr. A. Boschee, a celebrated German Physician, who is acknowledged to be one of the most fortunate discoveries in medicine. It quickly cures coughs, Colds and all Lung troubles of the severest nature, removing, as it does, the cause of the affection and leaving the parts in a strong and healthy condition. It is not an experimental medicine, but has stood the test of years, giving satisfaction in every case, which its rapidly increasing sale every season confirms. Two million bottles sold annually. Boschee's German Syrup was introduced in the United States in 1868, and is now sold in every town and village in the civilized world. Three doses will relieve any ordinary cough. Price 75c at Rust & Pittard's. Get Green's Prize Almanac.

Sheriff Cunningham's Card.

To the voters of Taylor County: As it seems that the law requires the separation of the two offices my fellow citizens have so often honored me with and for which I have again announced, I take this method of withdrawing from the race for Tax Collector, and saying that I shall remain in the race for Sheriff.

While I have chosen the office of least profit of the two, the emoluments of the sheriff's office now being small, I may possibly get a support out of it, and if I find it insufficient for a living, I believe I can trust my fellow citizens of Taylor county to give me a corner on the poorfarm if necessary.

I cannot too earnestly thank the good people of Taylor county for their support in the past and shall, if again called to fill the office, endeavor to prove the sincerity of my gratitude by performing my duties as faithfully and as conscientiously as if the emoluments were as great as heretofore.

In withdrawing from the race for collector, I do not do so in favor of anyone, but simply leave the field wide open to all.

Whatever the future may bring I shall ever feel grateful and appreciative of your kindness in the past.

I remain, your humble servant,
J. V. Cunningham.

New Century Comfort.

Millions are daily finding a world of comfort in Bucklen's Arnica Salve. It keeps pain from burns, scalds, cuts, bruises; cures ulcers and fever sores; cures eruptions, salt rheum, boils and felons; removes corns and warts. Best pile cure on earth. Only 25c at Rust & Pittard's.

A Cough

"I have made a most thorough trial of Ayer's Cherry Pectoral and am prepared to say that for all diseases of the lungs it never disappoints."
J. Early Finley, Ironton, O.

Ayer's Cherry Pectoral won't cure rheumatism; we never said it would. It won't cure dyspepsia; we never claimed it. But it will cure coughs and colds of all kinds. We first said this sixty years ago; we've been saying it ever since.

Prepared by Dr. J. C. Ayer & Co., Lowell, Mass.

Queensware at Cost.

The holiday trade on Queensware was unusually heavy, but I still have a large stock, and during January you can buy anything in this line at ABSOLUTE COST. Come and look over and price my mammoth stock. At cost for 30 Days.

W. H. DICKSON
HEADQUARTERS FOR...
HARDWARE FARM IMPLEMENTS
WAGONS WIRE NAILS ETC.

Advertised Letters.

Following letters remain un-called for in the Post Office at Merkel, Texas, and if not called for will be sent to the Dead Letter office Feb. 1. When calling for them please state advertised.

MATTIE R. WITT, P. M. Armstead, Della Hauze, P E Jackson, Mrs Emma Lauglen, Joe Jones, Miss Nettie Moore, Lillie Montgomery, Mrs Mollie
Rosa Peck, Dr. D C Privette, Miss Julie Sewell, J W Warnick, S H Wimberly, A M Wasen, T J

Teachers' Institute.

The Taylor County Teachers' Institute is hereby requested to meet at Abilene Feb. 14 and 15.

PROGRAM.

1. Invocation.
2. Address of Welcome—D.G. Hill.
3. The Benefits of Literary Study—Prof. Sewell.
4. Methods of History Teaching—Prof. Kelley.
5. Uniform Course of Study for Rural Schools—Prof. W. R. Headley.
6. Neatness as a Means of Discipline—Miss Mable Lockett.
7. Fads in Education—Miss Neva Parker.
8. Defects in Examination—Miss Callie Totten.
9. Memory Training in Grammar Grades—Prof. M. L. Morris. Papers limited to 10 minutes each.

D. G. Hill,
County Judge.

School on Lookout Mountain.

That a Southern university for women be established on Lookout mountain is the present project of the Memphis (Tenn.) Commercial Appeal. "The erection of a Southern university for women," it says, "enables one to appeal to two passions that are peculiarly strong in the Southern people. One is their reverence for their women and the other is their love for the South itself, and for the peculiar civilization which has hitherto dignified it and made it worth loving."

Very Much a Family Affair.

A family of five generations celebrated Christmas together in Altoona, Pa. The several representatives of the five generations are: Mrs. Sarah A. McClelland, aged 87 years; her son, William McClelland, aged 63 years; his daughter, Mrs. Anna Price, aged 40 years; her daughter, Mrs. Carrie Snow, aged 19 years, and little Esther May Snow, her daughter, aged 10 months.

THE FACTS IN THE CASE.

When you read a thing you like to feel that it's the truth. The Dallas Semi-Weekly News gives the facts in the case.

SPECIALLY EDITED.

If you'll read The News a while you'll like it. It holds the attention. It is specially edited, that's why. Brains and not hazzard go into the makeup of The News.

TWO PAPERS YOU NEED.

You need The Merkel Mail, because it's your local paper. It gives a class of news you can't get elsewhere. You need The News because it gives you all the State news. The Merkel Mail and The Semi-Weekly News one year for only \$1.75, cash in advance.

The News is promptly stopped at expiration of time paid for.

GOOD ADVICE.

The most miserable beings in the world are those suffering from Dyspepsia and Liver Complaint. More than seventy-five per cent of the people in the United States are afflicted with these two diseases, and their effects; such as Sour Stomach, Sick Headache, Habitual Costiveness, Palpitation of the Heart, Heart-burn, Waterbrash, Gnawing and Burning Pains at the Pit of the Stomach, Yellow Skin, Coated Tongue and Disagreeable Taste in the Mouth, Coming up of Food after eating, Low Spirits etc. Go to your Druggist and get a bottle of August Flower for 75c. Two doses will relieve you. Try it at Rust & Pittard's. Get Green's Prize Almanac.

Remember you can buy any shoe or boot in our house at 10 per cent under Wholesale Cost.

The Star Store.

Tammany Gluttons Ate More.

W. S. Merrill, the Harvard sophomore who consumed at one sitting \$3 worth of food and drink, consisting of three steaks, two mutton chops with peas, two cups of coffee and two pints of apollinaris, has not touched the record of some of Tammany's feeders. Mayor Van Wyck once ate six and three-quarter pounds of steak at one sitting, and Patrick Diver, who holds the record ate eleven pounds. Mr. Merrill is as yet very young, however.

Talk That Talks...

It's nice to do business with plenty of nice, new goods and plenty of appreciative customers. We have the

Right Goods at Right Prices!

Our stock of General Merchandise is complete, and we should be glad to show and price it to you.

J. O. HAMILTON.

Big Cut In Lumber Yard!

We have moved and remodeled our old sheds, erected a new one in center of yard and have filled all with a bran new stock of Lumber, Shingles, Sash Doors, Brick, Lime, Cement Building Paper, etc.

This cut has widened our yard driveways all around, which enables us to serve as many more of our customers at the same time with the best material ever brought to Merkel.

Our Lumber is of all dimensions—short, wide and long. Thick, but dry and bright, these things it takes, you know! To make your home good tight and strong—It is to your interest to buy of Burton-Lingo.

BURTON-LINGO CO.,

Lumber Dealers

J. S. Barnes,

Manager

JEWELRY

Bought at a Discount for Cash and will be sold the same way. The largest, best assorted, and by far the cheapest in price, quality considered, ever opened for sale in the town. Call and inspect it whether you wish to buy or not.

R. B. USTICK

Fine Repairing a Specialty....

A. J. HILL,
BARBER.
Agent, Model Steam Laundry of
Abilene.

S. T. EASON, THE BARBER.
NORTH FRONT STREET.
A genteel shaving parlor for
genteel people.

J. M. PATE, BARBER.
NORTH FRONT STREET.
First class work and prompt and
polite attention to all.

DR. F. N. BROWN,
DENTIST.
Nitrous Oxide Gas Administered.
Office, Pine St. Abilene.

J. J. MILLER,
Justice Peace and Notary Public
Also fire insurance agent. Will write deeds,
take acknowledgments, pay taxes on land, fur-
nish abstracts of title and transact all other
business entrusted to him.

I. O. O. F. LODGE
No. 355 meets every Friday
night. Visiting brethren cordially
invited to attend.
S. H. Basham, N.G.
T. F. Compton, Sec.

DR. T. S. HOLLIS,
THE DENTIST
Office over Harris' Drugstore, Abilene, Texas.

H. C. WILLIAMS,
Real Estate and Insurance Agent
Notary Public
Takes Acknowledgments, Draws up Deeds, Etc.
OFFICE AT WARNICK'S BANK

J. A. LEEMAN
Physician and Surgeon.
Office, Davis' Drug Store.

G. H. RICHARDSON
Physician and Surgeon.
Residence, West Merkel.

BEST
PASSENGER SERVICE
IN TEXAS.
4-IMPORTANT GATEWAYS-4



NO TROUBLE TO ANSWER QUESTIONS.

*Mr. Turner,
I have been
suffering from
headache
for some time
and have
tried many
remedies
but have
not found
any relief
until I
began to
take
Dr. King's
New Life
Pills.
I feel
much
better
now and
am
able to
do my
work
again.
I
recommend
them
to
all
who
suffer
from
headache
or
other
troubles.
Sincerely,
Mrs. N. A. Webster*

P. TURNER,
GEN'L PASS'G AND TICKET AGENT,
DALLAS, TEXAS.

Heads Should Never Ache.
Never endure this trouble.
Use at once the remedy that
stopped it for Mrs. N. A. Web-
ster, of Winnie, Va., she writes
"Dr. King's New Life Pills
wholly cured me of sick head-
aches I had suffered from for
two years." Cures headache,
constipation, biliousness. 25c at
Rust & Pittard's drug store.

Hunt's Cure is not a misnomer.
It does cure iten, ringworm, ecze-
ma, tetter and all similar skin
diseases. A wonderful remedy.
Guaranteed. Price 50 cents.

This Out to Settle It.
Perhaps the most appropriate
answer to the Baconian who have
now discovered that Bacon wrote
not only Shakespeare's works, but
those of Spenser, Marlowe and Bur-
ton, is, as the Springfield Republi-
can suggests, that given by Leslie
Stephen, who has placidly worked
out a cipher which proves beyond a
question that Shakespeare wrote
not only the plays and sonnets, but
he works hitherto erroneously at-
tributed to Bacon.

An Old Town, but Not Large.
Charleston, whose Midwinter
exposition has been opened, has a
population of 55,000. It is one of
the oldest cities in the United
States, the first settlement having
been made 200 years ago by Eng-
lish colonists. One hundred years
ago Charleston's population was
18,000, exceeded only by Philadel-
phia, New York, Baltimore and
Boston.

Had Forgotten How Snow Looked.
"This is the first snow storm I've
seen in twenty-six years," said Wil-
liam Hessel, of Bangkok, Siam, to a
Philadelphia reporter, the other day.
"Snow is unknown to Siam, and, of
course, you have heard the story of
the King of Siam calling the first
British ambassador a liar for saying
it snowed in his home country.
When we went to Bangkok we had a
picture representing a snow storm,
and Mrs. Hessel intrusted it to a
Siamese artist to be cleaned. The
latter took the snowflakes to be spots
or daubs of paint and carefully cov-
ered them over. The picture looks
more Siamese now, but the spectacle
of leafless trees amid a gorgeous en-
vironment of green grass and Siam-
ese flowers does not accord with
eastern ideas."

A Stutterers' School.
Courses of instruction for child-
ren who stutter have been started
in various German schools. In
Berlin six specialists, engaged by
the municipal board of education,
devote twelve hours a week to this
work. One and a half per cent of
the children attending German
schools stutter.

Lane's Gift to Harvard.
Mr. Gardiner M. Lane, class of
'81, has made a gift to the Harvard
corporation that will enable the
classical department to invite emi-
nent European scholars to lecture
at the university on subjects con-
nected with Greek and Latin litera-
ture.

Greatest Woman's Ranch.
Mrs. C. N. Whitman, of Denver,
owns the largest ranch of any wo-
man in the world. It is located in
Texas, near Tascosa, and is called
the L. S. ranch, from Lucien Scott,
the first owner. The ranch is thirty
miles square, and hundreds of
cowboys are employed upon it.

Oldest Trade Secrets.
The two oldest secret trade pro-
cesses now in existence are consid-
ered to be the manufacture of Chinese
red, or vermillion, and that method
of inlaying the hardest steel with
gold and silver which seems to have
been practiced at Damascus ages ago,
and is known only to the Syrian
smiths and their pupils even to this
day.

Smith's Veteran Constituency.
In the introduction of pension
bills the name of Representative H.
C. Smith, of Michigan, leads all the
rest. And why? Because Mr. Smith
has no less than 3,700 pen-
sioners in his district. He says
that this number cannot be exceeded
in any other congressional district.

A Cure for Lumbago.
W. C. Williamson, of Amherst,
Va., says: "For more than a
year I suffered from lumbago.
I finally tried Chamberlain's
Pain Balm and it gave me entire
relief, which all other remedies
had failed to do." Sold by Rust
& Pittard.

England's First Trade Unionist.
Thomas Atkinson, of England,
has attained his seventieth year as a
trades unionist, and is the first on
the list of membership of the Am-
algamated Society of Engineers. He
served his apprenticeship under
George Stephenson and helped in
the making of the famous Rocket lo-
comotive. He is now 90 years old and
has been for twenty-seven year
drawing 10 shillings a week from
his society.

Darling Is a Talker.
Judge Charles H. Darling, of Ben-
nington, Vt., who will succeed Mr.
Frank W. Hackett as assistant sec-
retary of the navy, is a forceful speak-
er, and his ready wit and graceful
manner at the table have made him
an acceptable after-dinner speaker.
This gift attracted the attention of
President Roosevelt when the latter
was present at a meeting addressed
by Judge Darling on the afternoon
of the Buffalo tragedy.

Frequently a Wisconsin Office.
It is noted that Henry C. Payne
will be the fourth Wisconsin man to
hold the position of postmaster gen-
eral. The others were Alexander
W. Randall under Andrew Johnson,
Timothy O. Howe under President
Arthur and William F. Vilas, ap-
pointed by President Cleveland.

Great Foreign Schools for Women.
It is announced that two universi-
ties for women will be opened next
year, one at Tokio, Japan, and the
other at Moscow. The Russian
university for women has been en-
dowed by a wealthy merchant, M.
Astraknoff, with 5,000,000 roubles.
It will contain for the present only
three academical faculties — medi-
cal, mathematical and physical
science. The Russian minister of
education, whose sympathy has
been gained, can not see his way as
yet to the concession of a legal fac-
ulty.

Many Women Buy Insurance.
Women are more and more pat-
ronizing life insurance, and many
of the companies maintain a wo-
man's department, presided over by
a female superintendent. The statis-
tics indicate that business women
and women of great wealth are the
principal patrons. Of course, this
does not have reference to "indus-
trial" insurance, in which the poor-
er families are so extensively inter-
ested.

Free Lunchees With Soda Water.
For many years saloonkeepers
have furnished their patrons with
luncheon at certain hours, the only
cost being the price of a drink, and
many men have taken advantage of
this to get a midday meal for noth-
ing. Now in some Eastern cities
their wives may do the same thing,
thanks to the enterprise of certain
proprietors of soda water fountains.
For some time past it has been the
custom to set out a plate of sweet
biscuits with each glass of soda
water, but now luncheons are being
served on a more elaborate scale.
One Philadelphia confectionery es-
tablishment has inaugurated the in-
novation of serving a dainty sand-
wich with each drink. Another an-
nounces that on Wednesdays and
Saturdays, matinee days, each wo-
man buying a glass of soda water
will be given her choice of either a
chick croquette or a lobster cro-
quette.

All in One

The Upper part contains a 50-lb flour bin with sifter, a moulding board, a tilting sugar bin, with close fitting lid, three drawers, one with 6 partitions for spices. In the lower part are 3 large drawers for table linen, groceries, etc. ample cupboard room for cooking utensils. Shelves, brackets, mirror and top piece make the Cabinet as handsome as it is convenient. It is mounted on the finest ball bearing casters. If you have any reason to believe that your kitchen work would not be lessened and that you would not feel better and happier with a Hoosier Kitchen Cabinet than without it, won't you kindly tell us what is the reason? If there is none, may we not have your order? Yours truly,

ED S. HUGHES & CO.
Abilene, Texas

S. W. SHEPPARD

Groceries Vegetables Fruits Country Produce and Fresh Meats, etc.

We sell almost everything afforded by the market, and sell at reasonable prices. Come to us for your groceries....

Now Is The Time TO KILL PRAIRIE DOGS

AND BASS' PRAIRIE DOG POISON is the principal agent of extermination. It is prepared especially for the man who does not have enough dogs to employ an expert. It is easy to use and costs about 1c per acre for the poison. The dogs are easier to kill this winter than usual, and you cannot afford to neglect them. A \$1.00 bottle poisons a pece of grain. Ask your druggist for it.

Bass Bros. Drug Co.
Abilene, Texas....

Liver Wrong—All Wrong. It is im-possible to have good health with a bad liver. It is nearly as impossible to have had health with a good liver. It may be, as you think, that the stomach, the bowels, the kidneys or the blood causes your bad health, but the liver is back of every one of them, and in nine cases out of ten, if you correct the liver you correct...

Herbinae

is as sure to correct the liver as it is sure you have one. Through the liver it cures Indigestion, Constipation, Malaria and those ailments which arise from a lack of proper digestion and assimilation of food. At druggists, 50 cents per bottle.

Finds Way to Live Long.
The startling announcement of a discovery that will surely lengthen life is made by editor O. H. Downey, of Churubusco, Ind. "I wish to state," he writes, "that Dr. King's New Discovery for Consumption is the most infallible remedy that I have ever known for coughs, colds and grip. It's invaluable to people with weak lungs. Having this wonderful medicine no one need dread pneumonia or consumption. Its relief is instant and cure certain." Rust & Pittard guarantee every 50c and \$1.00 bottle, and give trial bottles free.

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