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VOL. 23.

MERKEL, TAYLOR COUNTY, TEXAS, FRIDAY, JULY 21, 1911.

NO. 22.

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Publicity must be given to all preliminary campaign contributions and expenses.

All general election expenses must be made public before the election, beginning fifteen days before election and making publication each six days until election.

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If the rate be maintained for the 240 counties of Texas, more than 110 school districts in the State have voted local taxes during the year 1911.

These reports also show that 245 school houses will be constructed during the year 1911 in the counties reported, which, assuming that the same ratio will obtain for all the counties of the State, indicates that at least 600 new school buildings will be constructed in Texas the present year. Collin county reports seven new school buildings; Houston County, eight new school buildings; Erath County, nine new school buildings; Hopkins County, nine new school buildings; Jack County, nine new school buildings; Nueces County, eleven new school buildings; Harris County, twelve new school buildings. These facts can have but one meaning—that the people of Texas are rapidly coming to the conclusion that modern, convenient and sanitary school buildings are absolutely necessary to assure efficient schools.

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It is evident that it will be some days before any accurate idea of the total number of dead is available, perhaps weeks. Many of the terror-stricken fled into the interior. Others who possibly survived the storm of fire are believed to have died from exhaustion.

Among the 122 victims known to have perished in the neighborhood of Porcupine is Jules Metayer, 30 years old, the French Consul.

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Charles A. Rasbury of Dallas, Tex., defeated candidate for grand exalted ruler, announced that he would seek the office again next year.

Thomas McNulty of Baltimore was re-elected grand trustee. McNulty's election completes the list.

ST. LOUIS WANTS RICE TRADE

Has Ambition to Control Trade in this Product.

St. Louis: St. Louis capital is about to begin a campaign to wrest from New Orleans her supremacy as the rice products center of the United States. A movement is under way for the erection of a large modern rice mill and the involving of the markets of the Southern States.

Seven years ago no rice was grown in Arkansas. Now that State produces more rice than North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Florida or Mississippi. Arkansas ranks third as a rice growing Commonwealth, coming next to Louisiana and Texas, and there is every indication that it will soon take the position of honor.

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Indications of the Solidity of Good Business Conditions.

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The death list probably will exceed forty. Officers who were interviewed differ as to the size of the crew, but this seems due to the fact that several new men joined the crew at Greytown.

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New York: By grafting the shin bone of a man onto a woman suffering from necrosis, thus practically giving her a whole new lower leg, the surgeons of the New York hospital for deformities have completed an operation unique in surgery. One of the hospitals which handle emergency cases reported that a man had been killed in an accident. As the body was unclaimed and would have gone either to the potter's field or to dissecting table or some medical college, requisition was made for one of the legs, from which the tibia was taken. It was kept in an ice box immersed in a strong salt solution until the surgeon was ready to use it.

AGREE ON STATEHOOD VOTE

Other Agreements an Adjournment in Sight.

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AERO CALL AT WHITEHOUSE

First Thru-the-Air Call on President Made by Atwood.

Washington: President Taft received his first aerial visitor last week. The president stood on the rear portion of the White House as Aviator Harry N. Atwood of Boston, after circling the Washington monument, landed on the White House lawn. Alighting from the machine Atwood walked to where the president stood and was presented by him with a gold medal from the Aero Club of Washington.

Gravel Diggers Smothered.

San Antonio: In a cave-in at the county gravel pit Antonio Rodriguez and Eugenio Rivas, two laborers, were instantly killed. They were smothered to death while their fellow-workmen were making frantic efforts to remove the several tons of gravel under which they were buried.

McNamara Trial Oct. 10.

Los Angeles, Cal.: Judge Bordwell has set the trial of the McNamara brothers for October 10. The McNamara brothers are alleged to have been among those responsible for the Los Angeles Times disaster.

RED RIVER TO GULF HIGHWAY GAIN 1000 MILES OF TRACKAGE

The Long Talked of Project Seems to Be Very Popular.

Dallas: The proposed macadam highway from the Red River to the Gulf is attracting a great deal of attention. The pathfinding party left Red River last Monday morning to go over the route and at every stop along the line has met with enthusiasm and encouragement. Every town visited has pledged support to the enterprise.

Towns and cities not touched by the route now proposed are evidencing interest and talking of building laterals connecting with the main highway. Texarkana wants a road from that city to the main road and is willing to back the building of it. Palestine is interested in a road from that city to Dallas connecting with the main road and several of the smaller towns in the counties through which the road will pass will build to the main highway.

The trip through the State by the party which started Monday is creating much interest in road building and even if the Red River-to-the-Gulf highway is not built as planned the tour will result in much good to the State at large.

SHOWING OF STATE BANKS

The 664 State Chartered Banks Show Splendid Condition.

Austin: The State Department of Insurance and Banking has made public a statement which shows that during the period from March 7, 1911, to June 7, 1911, being the date of the last call, three banks with a total capital of \$1,250,000 have been authorized to begin business.

Seven have discontinued, either by liquidation or consolidation, leaving in existence 664 with a combined capital of \$21,952,500, and surplus and undivided profits of \$5,898,621, or a net increase of 23 banks and \$5,796,673 in capital, surplus and undivided profits. The total reserve of demand deposits is 43 per cent, and cash reserve 12 3-10 per cent. Individual deposits aggregate \$56,304,827.

Want I. & G. N. Bill Repealed.

San Antonio: On the grounds that the International & Great Northern bill passed by the last Legislature is preventing the sale of railroad bonds and thus stopping developments in Texas, the Chamber of Commerce of San Antonio has started a State-wide campaign for its repeal. The bill was passed to force the International & Great Northern Railroad to pay all claims before passing out of the hands of a receiver. The support of every commercial body in Texas will be expected in an effort to have a special session act favorable on the bill.

Big New Hotel for El Paso.

El Paso: With all financial arrangements made for the new \$450,000 hotel, the directors of the company are arranging for active construction work. The new building will be eight stories high, with basement, and is under contract to be completed by Sept. 1, 1912. This makes a total of \$770,000 that is being expended on four new buildings in the city of El Paso.

Mexico Exports Car of Spuds.

Laredo: The first solid carload of Irish potatoes ever imported through this port from Mexico was received in Laredo and shipped north last Thursday night. Usually there is a large quantity of potatoes exported to Mexico. The importing of them is now due to the shortage in the North.

100 Bushels of Corn Per Acre.

Clarksville: Earle Harville, a member of the Red River County Boys' Corn Club, who lives in the Cuthand bottom section, eight miles south of Clarksville, will make one hundred bushels of corn from a single acre this season, according to the statement of farmers who live in the vicinity. The boy planted Hasting's Prolific, a variety of corn grown extensively in Government experiments on sandy bottom land, and has given the patch careful cultivation.

Floyd County Gets Court House.

Floodada: The Commissioners' Court have met and let the contract for the construction of Floyd County's new court house. The cost of the building will be \$75,000. The successful bidder for the contract was L. L. Thurmond & Co. of Dallas. Work is to begin at once.

Navy Hydro-Aeroplanes Do Stunts.

Hammondsport, N. Y.: Successful tests of the new navy hydro-aeroplanes have been made here. Lieutenant Elyson made flights with Lieutenant Towers, starting from and alighting on the waters of Lake Keuka. In another test the aeroplane was started from the land and settled on the water. Rising again, the machine circled about and alighted in the fields.

Auditor Announces that There Are One Hundred Companies Within the State.

Austin, Texas, July 12.—A material increase, not only in the mileage, but also in the number of new railroads constructed and chartered and under construction, for the fiscal year ending June, 30 will be shown by the forthcoming annual report of the railroad commission. It will show that there have been an increase of close on to 1000 miles of new road, and about twenty new companies chartered and now constructing lines. The last annual report of the commission showed there were eighty railroads, and according to Auditor W. E. Fitzgerald of the commission, there will be at least 100 when the annual reports are received for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1911.

VALUE OF THE INTERURBAN

An All Round Benefit to All Towns Touched.

Corsicana: A special committee appointed at a mass meeting for the purpose left here early Monday morning, visited the several towns near Dallas and Fort Worth which enjoy interurbans. They were sent for the purpose of talking with the business men of the towns to learn from them what advantages or disadvantages interurbans are to the small towns. This was done in view of the fact that the Southern Traction Company has submitted a proposition to build an interurban from Dallas via Waxahachie to Corsicana and for the further reason that there are some here who claim that such an enterprise would be hurtful to the town. Almost without exception they were told by merchants and business men in all the places visited that the interurban had been of benefit to the respective towns in every way.

MUSTN'T HOLD TWO OFFICES

Member of Legislature Who Was Notary Public Has Trouble.

Austin: A question has arisen in connection with certain members of the Legislature having qualified as notaries public. First Assistant Attorney General Waltham advised the Secretary of State that a member of the Legislature is not eligible to become a notary public because he is prohibited from doing so under the provisions of Art. V, Sec. 19.

The member in question is Representative Aston of Grayson County, who filed his bond and secured his commission as a notary public. It also transpires that former Speaker John Marshall of the House was a notary public.

The effect of the ruling has caused a diversity of opinion. Some insisted that every act of Speaker Marshall while he was a notary was void, but the lawyers say that Mr. Marshall was a de facto officer and that his acts as Speaker were not invalid.

It was also claimed by some that the act of qualifying as notary resulted in the member forfeiting his seat as a member of the Legislature.

10-Year-Old Girl Electrocuted.

Dallas: Little Lillian Bratcher, daughter of Frank Bratcher, ran into a live wire as she was returning to her home from Circle Park Saturday night. The wire carried 2,300 volts, so death must have been instantaneous. She was accompanied by a 12-year-old brother, who rushed forward to rescue his sister, but was restrained by others, as to have taken hold of her would have meant death—a double tragedy. The wire she struck was a cable used for raising and lowering the arc light, and had become accidentally loosened in some way and was not seen in the dark.

Cotton in Southernmost Texas.

Brownsville: The cotton gins in this section are running night and day on account of the cotton opening unusually fast, considerable difficulty being experienced in harvesting the crop on account of the scarcity of labor. The prospects of a big yield are good and a second crop will probably result from the recent visit of the army worms, as new leaves are springing out where the dead ones were cut off. A yield of a bale or better to the acre is expected.

Aviator Dashed to Death.

Chicago: D. A. Kremer, a local amateur aviator, fell seventy-five feet with his Curtiss type biplane while taking tests for his pilot's license, and was killed. His engine fell on his neck, crushing him. Mr. Kremer had gone one and a half of the five kilometers required by the test. Then, in making a left-hand turn in cutting a figure 8, he banked his machine too steeply, and it turned over and dived to earth.

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RED RIVER TO GULF HIGHWAY GAIN 1000 MILES OF TRackage

The Long Talked of Project Seems to Be Very Popular.

Dallas: The proposed macadam highway from the Red River to the Gulf is attracting a great deal of attention. The pathfinding party left Red River last Monday morning to go over the route and at every stop along the line has met with enthusiasm and encouragement. Every town visited has pledged support to the enterprise.

Towns and cities not touched by the route now proposed are evidencing interest and talking of building laterals connecting with the main highway. Texarkana wants a road from that city to the main road and is willing to back the building of it. Palestine is interested in a road from that city to Dallas connecting with the main road and several of the smaller towns in the counties through which the road will pass will build to the main highway.

The trip through the State by the party which started Monday is creating much interest in road building and even if the Red River-to-the-Gulf highway is not built as planned the tour will result in much good to the State at large.

SHOWING OF STATE BANKS

The 664 State Chartered Banks Show Splendid Condition.

Austin: The State Department of Insurance and Banking has made public a statement which shows that during the period from March 7, 1911, to June 7, 1911, being the date of the last call, three banks with a total capital of \$1,250,000 have been authorized to begin business.

Seven have discontinued, either by liquidation or consolidation, leaving in existence 664 with a combined capital of \$21,952,300, and surplus and undivided profits of \$5,898,621, or a net increase of 23 banks and \$5,796,673 in capital, surplus and undivided profits. The total reserve of demand deposits is 43 per cent, and cash reserve 12 3/10 per cent. Individual deposits aggregate \$56,204,827.

Want I. & G. N. Bill Repealed.

San Antonio: On the grounds that the International & Great Northern bill passed by the last Legislature is preventing the sale of railroad bonds and thus stopping developments in Texas, the Chamber of Commerce of San Antonio has started a State-wide campaign for its repeal. The bill was passed to force the International & Great Northern Railroad to pay all claims before passing out of the hands of a receiver. The support of every commercial body in Texas will be expected in an effort to have a special session act favorable on the bill.

Big New Hotel for El Paso.

El Paso: With all financial arrangements made for the new \$450,000 hotel, the directors of the company are arranging for active construction work. The new building will be eight stories high, with basement, and is under contract to be completed by Sept. 1, 1912. This makes a total of \$770,000 that is being expended on four new buildings in the city of El Paso.

Mexico Exports Car of Spuds.

Laredo: The first solid carload of Irish potatoes ever imported through this port from Mexico was received in Laredo and shipped north last Thursday night. Usually there is a large quantity of potatoes exported to Mexico. The importing of them is now due to the shortage in the North.

100 Bushels of Corn Per Acre.

Clarksville: Earle Harville, a member of the Red River County Boys' Corn Club, who lives in the Cuthand bottom section, eight miles south of Clarksville, will make one hundred bushels of corn from a single acre this season, according to the statement of farmers who live in the vicinity. The boy planted Hastings Prolific, a variety of corn grown extensively in Government experiments on sandy bottom land, and has given the patch careful cultivation.

Floyd County Gets Court House.

Flodada: The Commissioners' Court have met and let the contract for the construction of Floyd County's new court house. The cost of the building will be \$75,000. The successful bidder for the contract was L. L. Thurmond & Co. of Dallas. Work is to begin at once.

Navy Hydro-Aeroplanes Do Stunts.

Hammondsport, N. Y.: Successful tests of the new navy hydro-aeroplanes have been made here. Lieutenant Elyson made flights with Lieutenant Towers, starting from and alighting on the waters of Lake Keuka. In another test the aeroplane was started from the land and settled on the water. Rising again, the machine circled about and alighted in the fields.

Auditor Announces that There Are One Hundred Companies Within the State.

Austin, Texas, July 12.—A material increase, not only in the mileage, but also in the number of new railroads constructed and chartered and under construction, for the fiscal year ending June, 30 will be shown by the forthcoming annual report of the railroad commission. It will show that there have been an increase of close on to 1000 miles of new road, and about twenty new companies chartered and now constructing lines. The last annual report of the commission showed there were eighty railroads, and according to Auditor W. E. Fitzgerald of the commission, there will be at least 100 when the annual reports are received for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1911.

VALUE OF THE INTERURBAN

An All Round Benefit to All Towns Touched.

Corsicana: A special committee appointed at a mass meeting for the purpose left here early Monday morning, visited the several towns near Dallas and Fort Worth which enjoy interurbans. They were sent for the purpose of talking with the business men of the towns to learn from them what advantages or disadvantages interurbans are to the small towns. This was done in view of the fact that the Southern Traction Company has submitted a proposition to build an interurban from Dallas via Waxahachie to Corsicana and for the further reason that there are some here who claim that such an enterprise would be hurtful to the town. Almost without exception they were told by merchants and business men in all the places visited that the interurban had been of benefit to the respective towns in every way.

MUSTN'T HOLD TWO OFFICES

Member of Legislature Who Was Notary Public Has Trouble.

Austin: A question has arisen in connection with certain members of the Legislature having qualified as notaries public. First Assistant Attorney General Walthall advised the Secretary of State that a member of the Legislature is not eligible to become a notary public because he is prohibited from doing so under the provisions of Art. V, Sec. 19.

The member in question is Representative Aston of Grayson County, who filed his bond and secured his commission as a notary public. It also transpires that former Speaker John Marshall of the House was a notary public.

The effect of the ruling has caused a diversity of opinion. Some insisted that every act of Speaker Marshall while he was a notary was void, but the lawyers say that Mr. Marshall was a de facto officer and that his acts as Speaker were not invalid.

It was also claimed by some that the act of qualifying as notary resulted in the member forfeiting his seat as a member of the Legislature.

10-Year-Old Girl Electrocuted.

Dallas: Little Lillian Bratcher, daughter of Frank Bratcher, ran into a live wire as she was returning to her home from Cycle Park Saturday night. The wire carried 2,300 volts, so death must have been instantaneous. She was accompanied by a 13-year-old brother, who rushed forward to rescue his sister, but was restrained by others, as to have taken hold of her would have meant death—a double tragedy. The wire she struck was a cable used for raising and lowering the arc light, and had become accidentally loosened in some way and was not seen in the dark.

Cotton in Southernmost Texas.

Brownsville: The cotton gins in this section are running night and day on account of the cotton opening unusually fast, considerable difficulty being experienced in harvesting the crop on account of the scarcity of labor. The prospects of a big yield are good and a second crop will probably result from the recent visit of the army worms, as new leaves are springing out where the dead ones were cut off. A yield of a bale or better to the acre is expected.

Aviator Dashed to Death.

Chicago: D. A. Kreamer, a local amateur aviator, fell seventy-five feet with his Curtiss type biplane while taking tests for his pilot's license, and was killed. His engine fell on his neck, crushing him. Mr. Kreamer had gone one and a half of the five kilometers required by the test. Then, in making a left-hand turn in cutting a figure 8, he banked his machine too steeply, and it turned over and dived to earth.

We Eat to Live



To Get The Best Out

of the human machine you must have the BEST groceries—food that is not only pure and absolutely wholesome but which gives zest to meals by its goodness.

Groceries like we carry not only give your body all the necessary energy for your daily work but make eating all that it should be—perfect enjoyment. If, after your coming meal, you find anything wrong, make a resolution to try us next time. One trial is all we ask.

B. C. GAITHER & SONS
The Reliable Grocers

COUNTRY CORRESPONDENCE

Nubia News.

July 18—The farmers are busy cutting feed.
Mrs. Walt Blair who has been sick for the past week is reported some better.
Jonas Davenport and family left Tuesday for Stanton to make that their home for awhile.
Mrs. Dora Clark, Miss Hattie Hunter and sister, Mrs. Dan Atwood visited Mrs. J. S. Blair last week.
Brown Davenport, wife and baby went to Merkel Tuesday.
Fanny Blair came home Saturday. She has been visiting her brother near Riney for the past week.
John Tillinghast and family visited Emmett Strickland and family Sunday.
Grover Blair and Herbert Davenport attended the party at Mrs. Clark's Saturday night.
K. Blackburn and wife visited Walt Blair Sunday.
There will be preaching here from Friday night until Sunday night. Sunshine.

Butman Community.

July 16—Everyone in our community is rejoicing over the rain. Crops are looking nicely in our community.
We are glad to say that everyone is in good health this week.
Mr. Brandon and Willie White of the Divide took dinner at the home of R. N. White one day last week.
Dent Cozart and son Otto spent one night last week with E. E. Patterson and family.
Oscar Dulin was in our midst Saturday night.
R. N. White and family attended services at White Church Sunday afternoon.
Joe Dulin was the guest of his cousins Chalmer and Owen Patterson Saturday night and Sunday.
All who attended the ice cream supper at Mr. Pannels Wednesday night reported a delightful time.
Mrs. Thornton and son Earl were among our visitors at Butman Sunday.
Mrs. Abbie Sloan of Big Springs is visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Butman.
D. D. Coats transacted business in Merkel Saturday.
E. E. Patterson went to Merkel Saturday.
Mr. and Mrs. Turner attended Sunday school at Butman.

Mrs. White and Mrs. Dulin were callers at Mrs. Griders Saturday.
Miss Lillie White was the guest of Ludie Dulin Saturday.
Lee White went to Merkel Saturday.
J. E. Costephens went to Merkel Thursday.
Nawl Perkins was at Sunday school.
Pat Huggins was a pleasant caller at Mr. Pannels Saturday evening.
Lee White attended singing at White Church Sunday afternoon.
Walter Lewis and family attended preaching at Butman Sunday night.
Mrs. Ensminger was calling at the home of Mr. Purdum.
J. A. Dulin transacted business in Merkel Monday.
Miss Ruth Pannel was the guest of Miss Mary Grider Sunday afternoon.
Joe Bickley accompanied Miss Ruth Pannel home from prayer meeting.
Dave Pannel and wife spent Sunday evening at Mr. Pannel's.
Millard Pannel has returned from Tye. Guess Who.

White Church Items.

July 18—The death angel entered the home of Mr. Pertram Monday night and took from him his faithful companion, Mrs. Pertram. Grieve not dear ones, she has gone to a better land. She is sleeping sweetly under the cold damp sod and her spirit is gently resting in the tender arms of God.
Pat Hutchins and Ray Brown transacted business in Merkel Monday.
Miss Jewell Hicks visited Miss Ethel Noel Sunday.
Mr. and Mrs. Riggins and family visited Mr. and Mrs. Jack Pane near Trent last week.
Joe Dulin was in the Butman community last week.
The ice cream supper at Mr. Pannels Wednesday night was very much enjoyed by all.
Mrs. B. L. Dulin and Miss Willie Dulin visited Mrs. Tucker and daughter Miss Mary Saturday afternoon.
Mrs. Noel transacted business in Merkel Saturday.
Mr. Hicks and daughter Miss Jewell were in Merkel Saturday.
Mr. and Mrs. White and family attended singing at White Church Sunday.
Oscar Dulin of Mount Pleasant

visited at Mr. Tylers Sunday.
Hardy Watford and sister Miss Theresa were in Merkel Monday.
We are glad to say that Mrs. Noel and family will remain in our community and not go to Sweetwater since the rains.
Mr. West was in Merkel Monday on business.
Mr. Davidson transacted business in Merkel Monday.
Kiah Spears of Center Point was in our midst Sunday.
John Williams and Ernest Pettit visited at Mrs. Noel's Sunday.
B. L. Dulin transacted business in Merkel Monday.
Lost Chicken.

Solves A Deep Mystery.

"I want to thank you from the bottom of my heart," wrote C. B. Rader, of Lewisburg, W. Va., "for the wonderful double benefit I got from Electric Bitters, in curing me of both a severe case of stomach trouble and of rheumatism, from which I had been an almost helpless sufferer for ten years. It suited my case as though made just for me." For dyspepsia, indigestion, jaundice and to rid the system of kidney poisons that cause rheumatism, Electric Bitters has no equal. Try them. Every bottle is guaranteed to satisfy. Only 50c at H. C. Burroughs.

Washing and Microbes.

Sir Almroth Wright in a recent London lecture said: There is a belief that by washing people wash off the microbes. We do take off a certain amount of microbes, but we also destroy the protective skin which is all round our bodies like the tiles of a house. When one has a horny hand no microbe can ever get near the skin. A great deal of washing increases the microbes of the skin, so I do not think cleanliness is to be recommended as a hygienic method. And this from the land of the morning cold tub.

A TEXAS WONDER.

The Texas Wonder cures kidney and bladder troubles, weak and lame backs, rheumatism and all irregularity of the kinneys and bladder in both men and women, regulates bladder troubles in children. If not sold by your druggist, will be sent by mail on receipt of \$1. One small bottle is two months treatment and seldom fails to perfect a cure. Send for Texas testimonials. Dr. E. W. Hall, 2926 Olive St., St. Louis, Mo. Sold by druggists.

No. 10052.

Treasury Department of the Comptroller of Currency, Washington, D. C., July 7, 1911.
Whereas, by satisfactory evidence presented to the undersigned, it has been made to appear that "THE SOUTHERN NATIONAL BANK OF MERKEL" in the town of Merkel, in the county of Taylor and state of Texas, has complied with all the provisions of the Statutes of the United States, required to be complied with before an association shall be authorized to commence the business of Banking;
Now therefore, I, Thomas P. Kane, Deputy and Acting Comptroller of the Currency, do hereby certify that "THE SOUTHERN NATIONAL BANK OF MERKEL" in the town of Merkel in the county of Taylor and state of Texas is authorized to commence the business of Banking as provided in Section Fifty one hundred and sixty nine of the Revised Statutes of the United States.
In testimony whereof witness my hand and Seal of office this Seventh day of July, 1911.
T. P. KANE,
Deputy and Acting Comptroller of the Currency.

The First National Bank located at Merkel, in the state of Texas, is closing its affairs. All note holders and other creditors of the association are therefore hereby notified to present the notes and other claims for payment. J. E. Fauoett, Cashier. July 10, 1911. 7-14m2

A Cure on Foot.

Physician—You must take exercise. The motor car, in a case like yours, gives the best exercise that—
Patient—But, doctor, I can't afford to have a motor car.
Doctor—Don't buy; just dodge them.

Old Soldier Tortured.

"For years I suffered unspeakable torture from indigestion, constipation and liver trouble," wrote A. K. Smith, a war veteran at Erie, Pa., "but Dr. King's New Life Pills fixed me right. They're simple great. Try them for any stomach, liver or kidney trouble. Only 25c at H. C. Burroughs.

Jacob's Wrestling With God

By Rev. W. H. Carwardine, Humboldt Park Methodist Church, Chicago

"I will not let Thee go, except Thou bless me."—Genesis 32:26.

"Two brothers had been separated for twenty years," said Rev. Mr. Carwardine. "They parted in anger. Esau, the elder, vowed to slay Jacob, the younger, for robbing him of his birth-right. It was a bad affair. But time had wrought a change.

"The elder brother had become the head of a wild, roving and indomitable race of people. The younger brother had been a wanderer, but had gathered about him, by industry and shrewd trading, a large fortune. Now, with his herds, servants and family he is moving back to the country of his early days. News is brought that Esau is coming to meet Jacob, and in fear the latter imagines that there is still hatred in his heart. He seeks to propitiate his brother with magnificent gifts, sends his flocks and family over the brook and beside the still waters of Jabbok he has the struggle of his life.

"Jacob's wrestling with the angel is the struggle of a soul with his God. Jacob was a racemaker. He had suffered in many ways by his fraud, perpetrated on Esau. But Jacob was the greater man of the two, and by right of character and intellect was better fitted for the birth-right and the prestige which it gave him than was Esau. The result was an illustration of the survival of the fittest.

"Man must suffer for the evil he has done, but he can rise superior to the mistakes and blunders of his youth.

"If there had been no hope for Jacob after the duplicity and deceit of his earlier life, largely the result of an overweening fondness of a mother for her favorite child, then there would be no hope for a vast number of good men in this life. But there must come the time of struggle, with its bitter tears and its fear and anguish. Through deep waters of mental and physical anguish, man's better nature comes to the front and he rises to a higher ideal. All souls that have wrought good to the world have had the storm and stress of struggle. Woe is the man who has evaded this struggle, whose courage failed him at the crucial moment, who ran from the angel of his better self and let slip the golden opportunity to win the self-victory.

"Evade the struggle and degeneration sets in. Degeneration is a terrible force, as inevitable as the laws of the universe. The uncultivated field returns to weeds. Flowers and fruit degenerate if not cared for. The change consequent on neglect is always for the worse. What we call the dregs of society contains men who once had a chance and have settled to the bottom of the social mass. If neglected physically he becomes dehumanized. If neglected mentally, he lapses into imbecility. If neglected spiritually, he becomes hardened toward God and things divine. It is not the dreamers and seers of visions who have played the great part in the world's drama. It is rather the strugglers and wrestlers who have wrought out the great things for humanity. When on the morrow Jacob had fought his battle and had halted upon his thigh, he had crossed the Jabbok a new man. He had crossed his spiritual Rubicon and had burned the bridges behind him and went out to a new life.

"Tell me thy name!" cried this man in the night struggle to the angel. It was the demand of the soul for an answer to the mystery of deity and things holy. It is the mystery of all things that touch on immortality and the eternal verities. What is the answer to the demands of the soul? What is the answer to the inquiry of my heart and my intellect as concerning the things that lie out so mysteriously beyond the ken of human conception. All men in greater or less degree have this demand of the inner nature for an answer to the deep riddle of life and the future.

"The answer to Jacob came by prayer. Physically he was crippled for life, but his loss was his strength. In his weakness he had received the greatest blessing of his life. When man battles truly with God he will be defeated as to his pride and his self-glory, but he will be victor in the soul strength that makes for a nobler life. Better to lose some things than to lose one's spiritual power. There are some scars that are worth having. Either the devil will inflict scars or God will. Better to carry about you the scars of the Almighty than those of the evil one. The old veteran who marched in the parade last Monday may have had the wounds of battle on his body, but they were honorable wounds and gained in a just struggle. Out of the scars and smitings of life's struggle comes the beatification of noble upliftings.

"Necessity drove this man to his knees. When we feel that the avenger is on our path, when the precipice yawns beneath our feet, when the sin of a lifetime is about to be revealed, when hope dies out and out last resource is cut off, then it is that some men think of God. Sorrows and afflictions drive many men to God. There was a time when we loved to choose our own way and did not pray that God should lead us on. Thank God then that He hears our prayer. Not all men are led this way. But some are—and it is good to know that the ear of the eternal is not deaf to our entreaty, nor His arm shortened that He cannot help.

THE FARMERS AND MERCHANTS NATIONAL BANK OF MERKEL

Capital and Surplus \$50,000.00

We are proud of the name. We are proud of its accomplishments. It has served us well. Through prosperity and adversity under this name we have grown from the youngest to the oldest bank in Merkel. Under this name we shall continue.

Our stockholders are all old settlers of Taylor county, whom the people know, and we invite your business upon our record and not upon promises.

THE OLDEST BANK IN MERKEL

No Change in Officers or Management Since Organization

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

J. T. WARREN G. F. WEST C. P. WARREN HENRY JAMES
ED. S. HUGHES J. T. HOWARD T. A. JOHNSON



No implement on the farm is used so often, so much, or for so many purposes as a wagon. No other lasts so long, if you get a good one.

What other argument is needed for you to buy the best? This does not necessarily mean the most expensive, as you will realize as soon as you examine the wagons we have to sell, the old reliable Mitchell and Bain.

They combine convenience, durability, easy running qualities and are honestly constructed of the very best materials.

With one of them you get wagon satisfaction for a life time.

West Texas Hardware Co.

ABILENE HOSPITAL

Corner Osage & Clinton Ave.—Both Phones
IS NOW OPEN FOR SURGICAL AND MEDICAL CASES. NO CONTAGIOUS DISEASES ADMITTED.
Open to all Ethical Physicians—Building New and Modern Conveniences
S. C. GAGE MISS ANNIE CALDWELL MRS. B. F. SHELL
Surgeon in Charge Graduate Nurse in Charge Matron

DRAGHON'S PRACTICAL *Business College*
More BANKERS endorse DRAGHON'S Colleges than endorse all other business colleges COMBINED.
Positions Guaranteed. National reputation. Address either Abilene, Texas or Sweetwater, Texas.

Go After Business

in a business way—the advertising way. An ad in this paper offers the maximum service at the minimum cost. It reaches the people of the town and vicinity you want to reach.

Try It—It Pays

Don't Take It For Granted

Just because you are in business, everybody is aware of the fact. Your goods may be the finest in the market but they will remain on your shelves unless the people are told about them.

ADVERTISE

If you want to move your merchandise. Reach the buyers in their homes through the columns of THIS PAPER and on every dollar expended you'll reap a handsome dividend.

IT IS SAFE IN A NATIONAL BANK

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SOUTHERN NATIONAL BANK

The Southern National Bank

OF MERKEL

Opened for business Monday, July 10, 1911, succeeds the First National Bank of Merkel, Texas

ALL GOOD BUSINESS SOLICITED

JOHN SEARS, President
C. L. BARKER, Active Vice Pres.

T. J. COGGIN, Vice Pres.
J. E. FAUCETT, Crshier.

DOCTORS

ADKISSON & MILLER
Physicians & Surgeons

Special Office Treatment for Diseases of Eye, Ear, Nose, Throat, and Chronic Ailments

GLASSES FITTED

Dr. W. V. CRANFORD
Office at
Rust & McCauley's Drug Store
TELEPHONES
Office 4-3 Residence 2-7-6

Dr. M. ARMSTRONG
PHYSICIAN AND SURGEON
Office with Armstrong & Co.
Office Phone 105. Residence Phone 12

Dr. S. L. DAVIS
DENTIST
Office Over The F. & M. National Bank
MERKEL, TEXAS

C. D. MIMS
ATTORNEY AND COUNSELLOR-AT-LAW
Practice in State and Federal Courts. Land and Collection Law a specialty.
OFFICE OVER FIRST NATIONAL BANK

W. W. WHEELER
Real Estate, Fire, Accident and Tornado Insurance Agent
Notary Public.
Office up stairs in First National bank building

WILLIAMS & JOHNSON
Real Estate, Fire, Life and Accident Insurance Agents
Respectfully Solicit Your Business
Notary Public in Office
Office over Farmers & Merchants National Bank
Merkel :: Texas

Abilene Steam Laundry
H. M. WARREN, Agent
Baskets shipped Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, returned Thursday, Friday and Saturday. Work called for and delivered promptly or received at the City Barber shop. I will appreciate your patronage.
H. M. WARREN
Phone 48 In City Barber Shop

Electric Bitters
Succeed when everything else fails. In nervous prostration and female weaknesses they are the supreme remedy, as thousands have testified.
FOR KIDNEY, LIVER AND STOMACH TROUBLE
It is the best medicine ever sold over a druggist's counter.

FARMER, STOCKMAN ATTENTION
Is your horse, mule or cow sick? If so we will give your money back for any case you fail to cure with any of Watson's celebrated line of Veterinary Remedies. Sold and guaranteed by Rust & McCauley Drug Co., Merkel, Texas. Manufactured only by
The Watson Co.
Pine Bluff, Ark.

The Merkel Mail

Published Every Friday Morning
THE MERKEL MAIL PRINTING COMPANY, INC.

Entered at the Postoffice at Merkel, Texas, as Second-class Mail Matter
J. G. JACKSON, President L. S. ALLEN, Editor
E. T. MERRITT, Foreman
Any erroneous reflection on the character, standing or reputation of any person, firm or corporation which may appear in the columns of The Mail will be gladly corrected upon it being brought to the attention of the management.
TELEPHONE No. 61

If you have visitors, or if you know any item which would be of interest to readers of The Mail, the editor would appreciate a note or a telephone message to that effect. Or, if an occurrence of unusual interest transpires, a reporter will be promptly sent for full particulars.

Subscription \$1 per Year in Advance

FRIDAY, JULY 21, 1911

T. & P. TIME TABLE.

EAST BOUND

Train No. 8, leaves Merkel..	9:02 a.m.
Train No. 4 " " " "	11:29 a.m.
Train No. 6 " " " "	1:18 p.m.

WEST BOUND

Train No. 5, leaves Merkel..	5:31 a.m.
Train No. 7 " " " "	5:11 p.m.
Train No. 3 " " " "	6:26 p.m.

The Mail is the Paper the People Read

Next Saturday closes the most hotly contested prohibition campaigns ever fought in the history of the country. For three months an incessant battle of words has been waged in every neighborhood and on every stump in Texas. On the 22nd the battle of ballots take place. The case is now ready to be turned over to the jury. Be careful how you cast your ballot.

OUR GOOD READERS
The Old and The New

The following names have been added to our list either as new subscribers or renewals since our last report. Of course we would be glad if the list had been longer but we learned long ago to be thankful for the blessings as they come and ask for more if in accordance with what we deserved. There is no room for complaint so far. The business men have been exceedingly liberal in giving us a good share of their patronage at the same time our subscription list has steadily increased for which we desire now to return thanks and hope in the future to continue in your favor.

W. N. Hall, Merkel; Miss E. Love Hawkins, Huntingdon, Tenn; I. H. Harliss, Farmersville; J. W. Wheeler, Route 3 Merkel; W. W. Foster, Elk City, Okla; F. E. Combs, Route 3 Merkel; Sam Gant, Route 3 Merkel; A. V. Cook, Dora; J. E. Adison, Andrews; H. L. Rudmose, Fort Worth; J. F. Shaffer, Route 3 Merkel; Joe Provine, Van Horn; Pipes Brothers, Merkel; V. D. Jones, Bagwell; H. A. Harris, Delfin, Okla; Guy Boyd, Chandler; W. A. Harris, Route 2 Merkel; M. J. McWilliams, Fairlie; J. A. Collins, Merkel; J. J. Zuccarello, Pulasaki, Tenn; Mrs. Oscar Rhode, Houston; T. D. Ball, Lamar, Mo; J. W. Brazelton, Rising Star; D. E. Dalton, Dora; J. R. Dye, Merkel.

Go to the City Barber Shop for first-class work. West & Evans, Proprietors.

The reason other stores can't sell your flour as good as Light Crust is because they don't pay enough to get good flour. LIGHT CRUST is the highest grade flour brought to Merkel, try one sack and see the difference between LIGHT CRUST and other so called extra high patent flour. Light Crust is sold only by Merkel Dry Goods and Grocery Co.

Herman Hammans had a serious accident Tuesday in a runaway. The horse hitched to the ice wagon on which he was riding became frightened and the boy on attempting to jump from the wagon was thrown some distance and received a serious sprain of his arm.

When you feel lazy, out of sorts and yawn a good deal in the daytime, you can charge it to a torpid liver which has allowed the system to get full of impurities. Herbine cures all disorders produced by an inactive liver. It strengthens that organ, cleanses the bowels and puts the system in good healthy condition. Price 50c. Sold by H. C. Burroughs.

Three Wagner motorcycles were received yesterday morning by three of our rural mail carriers, F. A. Sanders, A. J. Adcock and Victor Harris, for purpose of delivering the mail on their respective routes.

You no longer have to order patterns. We have a full stock of Butterick patterns. We can give you any pattern made by the Butterick company. - Merkel Dry Goods and Grocery Co.

Mrs. J. T. Howard who has been in a Dallas sanitarium for several weeks returned Wednesday. Dr. George Howard who has been with her at the sanitarium accompanied her home. Her condition is very much improved.

Worms interfere with the growth of children. They become thin, pale and sickly. Get rid of these parasites at once if you would have healthy, happy, cheerful children. White's Cream Vermifuge destroys worms and benefits the whole system. Price 25c per bottle. Sold by H. C. Burroughs.

Our buyers will be off to market in a few days to buy new goods, so we are making especially low prices on all summer goods to make room for fall goods which will begin to come in in the next 30 days. Merkel Dry Goods and Grocery Co.

Elder J. S. Warnick of Dallas is conducting revival services at the tabernacle this week. The meeting will continue into next week.

Be sure and attend the Big July Clearing Sale now on at the New Store. Merkel Dry Goods and Grocery Co.

Mrs. May Earp is visiting her sister, Mrs. Emmet Counts. They left Thursday for Erath county to be at a reunion of their father's family.

For summer diarrhoea in children always give Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy and castor oil, and speedy cure is certain. For sale by all dealers.

G. D. Lewis of Nubia called in our office Friday.

BIG CLEAN-UP SALE

The following greatly reduced prices will be made at our store until the first of next month. :: See them

Our Entire Stock of Ladies Dress Skirts at ONE-HALF THE REGULAR PRICE
Ladies Summer Shirt Waists at Half Regular Price

Dress Lawns
All 10c Dress Lawns at 7 1/2c
All 12 1/2c Dress Lawns at 10c
All 15c Dress Lawns at 11c
All 20c Dress Lawns at 15c
All 25c Dress Lawns at 17 1/2c

Embroideries
All 12 1/2c Dress Gingham at 10c
All 10c Embroideries at 7 1/2c
All 12 1/2c Embroideries at 9c
All 15c Embroideries at 11c
All 20c Embroideries at 15c
All 25c Embroideries at 17 1/2c

Shoes
\$3.50 Walk-Over low cut Shoes at \$2.85
4.00 Walk-Over low-cut Shoes at 3.45
5.00 Walk-Over low cut Shoes at 4.00
Our entire stock of the Famous Red Goose School Shoes at actual wholesale cost.

Tailored Suits
A. B. Kirschbaum's Hand Tailored Suits at the following prices:
Any \$12.50 Suit at \$10.00
Any 15.00 Suit at 12.00
Any 18.50 Suit at 14.75
Any 20.00 Suit at 16.50
Any 22.50 Suit at 18.00
20 per cent reduction on Men's Fine Pants.

Pumps and Oxfords
\$1.75 Ladies Pumps and Oxfords at \$1.35
2.00 Ladies Pumps and Oxfords at 1.65
2.50 Ladies Pumps and Oxfords at 1.95
3.00 Ladies Pumps and Oxfords at 2.45
1.00 Childrens Pumps and Oxfords .85
1.25 Childrens Pumps and Oxfords 1.10
1.50 Childrens Pumps and Oxfords 1.25
1.75 Childrens Pumps and Oxfords 1.45

These prices are made in order to clean up the summer stock. Our goods are all marked in plain figures at regular prices and if you will bring this price list with you or call for one at our store you can absolutely know whether you are getting the benefit of these reduced prices.

W. L. HARKRIDER

LOCAL AND PERSONAL

Greene's Art Store. Open 8 to 6; and 8 to 10 on Saturdays.
Mrs. Iva McCoy visited home folks at Dora Sunday.
L. R. Hogg of Lafayette, La., is visiting home people.
Mrs. C. C. Bankhead visited her mother at Thornton.
Miss Alice May Boyce of Abilene is visiting in Merkel this week.
Mrs. Austin Fitts is at home from her visit to Mr. Fitts in Mansfield.
Miss Juanita Harris is visiting Miss Annie T. Daniels and other friends this week.
Miss Ruby Black of Sweetwater is the guest of Miss Fay Allen this week.

Edgar Boaz of Jones county and once a citizen of Merkel was in town Friday and Saturday.

Mrs. N. E. Sandlin has returned from a delightful visit with relatives and friends at Arlington, Palestine and Wills Point.

Now is the time to plant cane seed. We have pure Red Top cane seed at bottom price. Merkel Dry Goods and Grocery Co.

Mrs. F. L. Moore of the Compere neighborhood left Tuesday to visit her father in Sourry county to be gone about ten days

Mrs. E. A. Hargrove left Monday to join her husband at Mesquite who has accepted a position in a meat market at that place.

Sprains require careful treatment. Keep quiet and apply Chamberlain's Liniment freely. It will remove the soreness and quickly restore the parts to a healthy condition. For sale by all dealers.

Master Edwin Vickers of Pecos is visiting his grandparents, Capt. and Mrs. J. T. Tucker.

LOST—Small leather purse containing about \$9.75. Return to this office, will pay for trouble.

We now have a full and complete stock of Butterick patterns. We also have Butterick's Quarterly Fashion Book and the Delin-eator for sale. Merkel Dry Goods and Grocery Co.

Charlie Fryar and wife who have been visiting her father and mother Mr. and Mrs. H. M. Rainbolt left Monday for their home at Rising Star.

Never leave home on a journey without a bottle of Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy. It is almost certain to be needed and cannot be obtained when on board the cars or steamships. For sale by all dealers.

Cards are out announcing the marriage of Miss Virginia Mackey to J. E. McAtee at Durant on Sunday July 16. Miss Mackey was well known in Merkel, having taught music here for two years and was very popular.

A bad taste in the mouth comes from a disordered stomach, and back of that is usually a torpid liver:—A condition which invites disease. Herbine is the remedy needed. It corrects the stomach and makes the liver active and regular. Price 50c. Sold by H. C. Burroughs.

W. A. Harris on route 2 who has been trying to do with out the Mail for a few months came in this week and confessed his mistake, renewed his subscription and he will try to cut expenses some other way.

When the baby is suffering the double affliction of hot weather and bowel disorders, the remedy needed is McGee's Baby Elixir. It reduces the feverish condition, corrects the stomach and checks looseness of the bowels. Price 25c and 50c per bottle. Sold by H. C. Burroughs.

Mrs. Nannie Purdon of the White Church neighborhood was buried in Merkel cemetery Tuesday July 18. She was 25 years old and leaves a husband and three children.

Mrs. Claude Bigham and little daughter Alice were guests of Mrs. Bigham's parents, Mr. and Mrs. F. E. Allyn in Eskota last week.

SERIAL STORY

ELUSIVE ISABEL

By JACQUES FUTRELLE

Illustrations by M. KETNER

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SYNOPSIS.

Count di Rosini, the Italian ambassador, is at dinner with diplomats in the national capital when a messenger brings a note directing him to come to the embassy at once. Here a beautiful young woman asks that she be given a ticket to the embassy ball. The ticket is made out in the name of Miss Isabel Thorne. Chief Campbell of the secret service, and Mr. Grimm, his head detective, are warned that a plot of the Latin races against the English speaking races is brewing in Washington, and Grimm goes to the state ball for information. In a conservatory his attention is called to Miss Isabel Thorne, who with her companion, soon disappears. A revolver shot is heard and Campbell and Grimm hasten down the hall to find that Senator Alvarez of the Mexican legation, has been shot. A woman did it, and Grimm is assured it was Miss Thorne. He visits her, demanding knowledge of the affair, and there arrests a man named Pietro Petrolini. Miss Thorne visits an old man, Luigi, apparently a bomb maker, and they speak of a wonderful experiment.

CHAPTER VIII.—(Continued.)

Simultaneously the front door of the house on the corner, where Hastings had been hiding, and the front door of the lounge near the corner, where Blair had been hiding, opened and two heads peered out. As the car approached Hastings' hiding-place he withdrew into the hallway; but Blair came out and hurried past the legation in the direction of the rapidly disappearing motor. Hastings joined him; they spoke together, then turned the corner.

It was about ten o'clock that night when Hastings reported to Mr. Campbell at his home.

"We followed the car in a rented automobile from the time it turned the corner, out through Alexandria, and along the old Baltimore Road into the city of Baltimore," he explained. "It was dark by the time we reached Alexandria, but we stuck to the car, running without lights until we came in sight of Druid Hill Park, and then we had to show lights or be held up. We covered those forty miles going in less than two hours."

"After the car passed Druid Hill it slowed up a little, and ran off the turnpike into North Avenue, then into North Charles Street, and slowly along that as if they were looking for a number. At last it stopped and Miss Thorne got out and entered a house. She was gone for more than half an hour, leaving Mr. Cadwallader with the car. While she was gone I made some inquiries and learned that the house was occupied by a Mr. Thomas Q. Griswold. I don't know anything else about him; Blair may have learned something."

"Now comes the curious part of it," and Hastings looked a little sheepish. "When Miss Thorne came out of the house she was not Miss Thorne at all—she was Senorita Inez Rodriguez, daughter of the Venezuelan minister. She wore the same clothing Miss Thorne had worn going, but her veil was lifted. Velled and all muffled up one would have taken oath it was the same woman. She and Cadwallader are back in Washington now, or are coming. That's all, except Blair is still in Baltimore, awaiting orders. I caught the train from the Charles Street station and came back. Johnston, you know—"

"Yes, I've seen Johnston," interrupted Campbell. "Are you absolutely positive that the woman you saw get into the automobile with Mr. Cadwallader was Miss Thorne?"

"Absolutely," replied Hastings without hesitation. "I saw her in her own room with her wraps on, then saw her come down and get into the car."

"That's all," said the chief. "Good-night."

For an hour or more he sat in a great, comfortable chair in the smoking-room of his own home, the guileless blue eyes vacant, staring, and spidery lines in the benevolent forehead.

On the morning of the second day following, Senator Rodriguez, the minister from Venezuela, reported to the Secret Service Bureau the disappearance of fifty thousand dollars in gold from a safe in his private office at the legation.

CHAPTER IX.

Fifty Thousand Dollars.
Mr. Campbell was talking.
"For several months past," he said, "the International Investment Company, through its representative, Mr. Cressy, has been secretly negotiating with Senator Rodriguez for certain asphalt properties in Venezuela. Three days ago these negotiations were successfully concluded, and yesterday afternoon Mr. Cressy, in secret, paid to Senator Rodriguez, fifty thousand dollars in American gold, the first of four payments of similar sums. This

gold was to have been shipped to Philadelphia by express to-day to catch a steamer for Venezuela."
Mr. Grimm nodded.
"The fact that this gold was in Senator Rodriguez's possession could not have been known to more than half a dozen persons, as the negotiations throughout have been in strict secrecy," and Mr. Campbell smiled benignly. "So much! Now, Senator Rodriguez has just telephoned asking that I send a man to the legation at once. The gold was kept there over night, or perhaps I should say that the senator intended to keep it there over night." Mr. Campbell stared at Mr. Grimm for a moment, then: "Miss Thorne, you know, is a guest at the legation, that is why I am referring the matter to you."

"I understand," said Mr. Grimm. And ten minutes later Mr. Grimm presented himself to Senator Rodriguez. The minister from Venezuela, bubbling with excitement, was pacing forth and back across his office, ruffling his gray-black hair with nervous, twining fingers. Mr. Grimm sat down.
"Senator," he inquired placidly, "fifty thousand dollars in gold would weigh nearly two hundred pounds, wouldn't it?"

Senator Rodriguez stared at him blankly.
"Si, Senator," he agreed absently. And then, in English: "Yes, I should imagine so."
"Well, was all of it stolen, or only a part of it?" Mr. Grimm went on.
The minister gazed into the listless eyes for a time, then, apparently bewildered, walked forth and back across the room again. Finally he sat down.
"All of it," he admitted. "I can't understand it. No one, not a soul in this house, except myself, knew it was here."

"In addition to this weight of, say two hundred pounds, fifty thousand dollars would make considerable bulk," mused Mr. Grimm. "Very well! Therefore it would appear that the person, or persons, who got it must have gone away from here heavily laden?"

Senator Rodriguez nodded.
"And now, Senator," Mr. Grimm continued, "if you will kindly state the circumstances immediately preceding and following the theft?"

A slight frown which had been



"No One, Not a Soul in This House, Except Myself, Knew It Was Here."

growing upon the smooth brow of the diplomatist was instantly dissipated.
"The money—fifty thousand dollars in gold coin—was paid to me yesterday afternoon about four o'clock," he began slowly, in explanation.
"By Mr. Cressy of the International Investment Company," supplemented Mr. Grimm. "Yes. Go on."
The diplomatist favored the young man with one sharp, inquiring glance, and continued:
"The gentleman who paid the money remained here from four until nine o'clock while I, personally, counted it. As I counted it I placed it in canvas bags and when he had gone I took these bags from this room into that," he indicated a closed door to his right, and personally stowed them away in the safe. I closed and locked the door of the safe myself; I know that it was locked. And that's all, except this morning the money was gone—every dollar of it."
"Safe blown?" inquired Mr. Grimm.
"No, Senator!" exclaimed the diplomatist with sudden violence. "No, the safe was not blown! It was closed and locked, exactly as I had left it!"
Mr. Grimm was idly twisting the seal ring on his little finger.
"Just as I left it!" Senator Rodriguez repeated excitedly. "Last night after I locked the safe door I tried it to make certain that it was locked. I happened to notice then that the pointer on the dial had stopped precisely at number forty-five. This morning, when I unlocked the safe—and, of course, I didn't know then that the money had been taken—the pointer was still at number forty-five."

He paused with one hand in the air; Mr. Grimm continued to twist the seal ring.
"It was all like—like some trick on the stage," the minister went on. "Like the magician's disappearing lady, or—or—I! It was as though I had not put the money into the safe at all!"
"Did you?" inquired Mr. Grimm amiably.

"Did I?" blazed Senator Rodriguez. "Why, Senator—I! I did!" he concluded meekly.
Mr. Grimm believed him.
"Who else knows the combination of the safe?" he queried.
"No one, Senator—not a living soul."
"Your secretary, for instance?"
"Not even my secretary."
"Some servant—some member of your family?"
"I tell you, Senator, not one person in all the world knew that combina-

tion except myself," Senator Rodriguez insisted.
"Your secretary—a servant—some member of your family might have seen you unlock the safe some time, and thus learned the combination?"
Senator Rodriguez did not quite know whether to be annoyed at Mr. Grimm's persistence, or to admire the tenacity with which he held to this one point.
"You must understand, Senator Grimm, that many state documents are kept in the safe," he said finally. "Therefore it is not advisable that any one should know the combination. I have made it an absolute rule, as did my predecessors here, never to unlock the safe in the presence of another person."

"State documents!" Mr. Grimm's lips silently repeated the words. Then aloud: "Perhaps there's a record of the combination somewhere? If you had died suddenly, for instance, how would the safe have been opened?"
"There would have been only one way, Senator—blow it open. There is no record."
"Well, if we accept all that as true," observed Mr. Grimm musingly, "it would seem that you either didn't put the money into the safe at all, or please sit down, there's nothing personal in this—or else the money was taken out of the safe without it being unlocked. This last would have been a miracle, and this is not the day of miracles, therefore—!"

Mr. Grimm's well modulated voice trailed off into silence. Senator Rodriguez came to his feet with a blaze of anger in his eyes; Mr. Grimm was watching him curiously.
"I understand, Senator," said the minister deliberately, "that you believe that I—!"
"I believe that you have told the truth," interrupted Mr. Grimm placidly, "that is the truth so far as you know it. But you have stated something in error. Somebody besides yourself does know the combination. Whether they knew it or not at this time yesterday I can't say, but somebody knows it now."

Senator Rodriguez drew a deep breath of relief. The implied accusation had been withdrawn as pleasantly and frankly as it had been put forward.
"I ran across a chap in New York once, for instance," Mr. Grimm took the trouble to explain, "who could unlock any safe—that is, any safe of the kind used at that time—twelve or fourteen years ago. So you see, I doubt if he would be so successful with the new models, with all their improvements, but then—? You know he would have made an ideal burglar, that chap. Now, Senator, who lives here in the legation with you?"

"My secretary, Senator Diaz, my daughter Inez, and just at the moment, a Miss Thorne—Miss Isabel Thorne," the senator informed him. "Also four servants—two men and two women."
"I've had the pleasure of meeting your daughter and Miss Thorne," Mr. Grimm informed him. "Now, suppose we take a look at the safe?"
"Certainly."

Senator Rodriguez started toward the closed door just as there came a timid knock from the hall. He glanced at Mr. Grimm, who nodded, then he called:

"Come in!"
The door opened, and Miss Thorne entered. She was clad in some filmy, gossamer-like morning gown with her radiant hair caught upon her white neck. At sight of Mr. Grimm the blue-gray eyes opened as if in surprise, and she paused irresolutely.

"I beg your pardon, Senator," she said, addressing the diplomatist. "I did not know you were engaged. And Mr. Grimm!" She extended a slim, white hand, and the young man bowed low over it. "We are old friends," she explained, smilingly, to the minister. Then: "I think I must have dropped my handkerchief when I was in here yesterday with Inez. Perhaps you found it?"
"Si, Senorita," replied Senator Rodriguez gallantly. "It is on my desk in here. Just a moment."

He opened the door and passed into the adjoining room. Mr. Grimm's eyes met those of Miss Isabel Thorne, and there was no listlessness in them now, only interest. She smiled at him tauntingly and lowered her lids. Senator Rodriguez appeared from the other room with the handkerchief.
"Mil gracias, Senator," she thanked him.

"No hay de que, Senorita," he returned, as he opened the door for her. "Monsieur Grimm, au revoir!" She dropped a little curtsy, and still smiling, went out.
"She is charming, Senator," the diplomatist assured him enthusiastically, albeit irrelevantly. "Such vivacity, such personality, such—such—she is charming."
"The safe, please," Mr. Grimm reminded him.

(TO BE CONTINUED.)

"Noblesse Oblige."
In Mrs. Walford's story of Lord Mansfield, in her recent book, entitled "Recollections of a Scottish Novelist," the top note of propriety is reached.
The noble lord's young nephew, seeing him annoyed at a railway station at having no servant at hand to get his newspapers, ran post-haste and procured them. Lord Mansfield showed no gratitude whatever.
"Edward," was all he would say, "recollect, Edward, that a gentleman should never hurry himself in public."

In Proportion.
Wife—I want a cap, please, for my husband.
Shopkeeper—Yes, madam. What size does he wear?
Wife—Well, I really forget. His collar are size 16; though I expect he'd want about size 18 or 20 for a cap, wouldn't he?

POULTRY

FATTEN FOWLS FOR MARKET

Food Should Be Given at Regular Hours and Then Only What the Birds Will Eat Up Clean.

Chickens for broiling or frying should be fed extra for two or three weeks to get them fat, with plenty of good, solid meat on breast and thighs. Range poultry is never classed as first-class market poultry.

Put six to eight chickens in a clean, roomy coop; place coop in shed, which should be kept quiet and moderately dark. Give first morning feed of cornmeal mixed with milk; just what they will eat with a relish. At nine o'clock give a second meal of baked bread mixed with boiled vegetables. At noon give cracked corn mixed with a little wheat. At 5 p. m. give cornmeal mixed with milk. They should be fed at regular hours and given only what they eat up with a relish at each meal. No food should be allowed to lie in the coop, as they lose their appetite when food is left in the coop to turn sour.

Sour food is not fit to feed. Wash out the coop every morning. This is necessary and should not be neglected. Give a little gravel or charcoal about twice a week. Give milk instead of water. By this method chickens may be fattened in two weeks' time. Chickens thus fed will make prime market poultry and will command an extra price.

WATERING CAN FOR CHICKS

Excellent Fountain May Be Made Out of Old Tomato Can—Cut 1/2 Inches From Bottom.

An old tomato can, with a hole punched in side as shown in illustration, will make a good watering vessel.



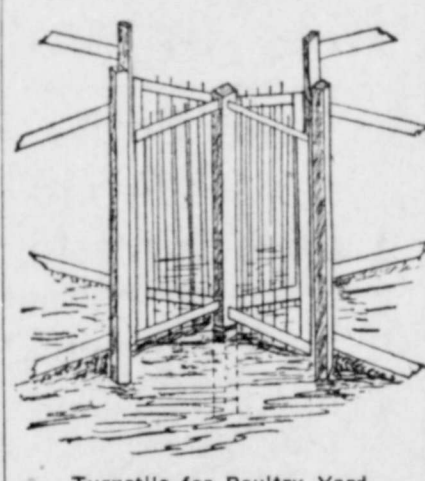
Watering Can for Chicks.

sel for young chickens. The cut should be about 1 1/2 inches from the bottom.

TURNSTILE GATE FOR YARD

One Passage Made to Answer for All Where Four Pens Come Together—How It Is Made.

In the poultry-yard where four lots come together it is convenient to have the gates all at one corner, or in other



Turnstile for Poultry Yard.

words, make one gate answer for all four. The illustration shows the construction of the gate. The end posts are 2x1 1/2 feet from the center post on which the gate turns. An inch iron pin 18 inches long and 12 inches in the post that the gate is framed on and six inches in the post in the ground. This should fit the holes very tight that the gate may turn solidly.

Value of Grit and Charcoal.

It pays to keep a supply of grit, oyster shell and charcoal before the fowls. The more you can coax your saying hen to eat and assimilate, the more material she will have to turn into eggs. Her body must be nourished and material supplied for eggs. To provide for both purposes during cold weather means grinding up a great deal of food. The grit helps to do this and the oyster shell furnishes material for the egg shell. Charcoal furnishes no nourishment, but promotes digestion, and is a bowel corrective.

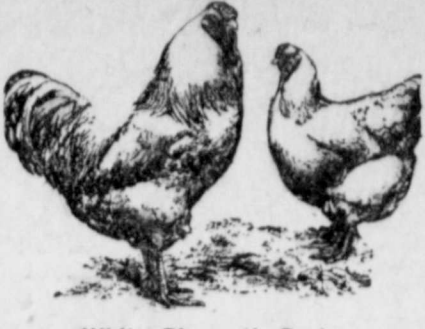
Brooding Hens.

With brooding hens we give exactly the same diet, except for soft food. That affects the fertility and is used only occasionally for a change. Then we usually give blood meal and bran mixed in the hopper. In the pens we keep grit and shell all the time, and since grit is scarce in this country, we use gravel, coal cinders and broken glass in order that the hens may have something sharp to cut and digest help food.

POPULAR BREED OF CHICKENS

White Plymouth Rocks Are Large, Strong and Vigorous, Besides Being Excellent Layers.

White Plymouth Rocks resemble the barred in every particular except color. They are white in plumage throughout, writes Mrs. D. A. Dean



White Plymouth Rocks.

In Green's Farm Gardening. They are one of the most popular white breeds. They are as large, strong and vigorous as the barred variety and, being pure white, will breed much more uniform in color. They lay especially well in winter and their eggs are large. They make fine mothers. Thrifty and active—regular hustlers—not sluggish like the Asiatics. Ready for table or market much younger than the smaller breeds. Keep the egg basket full, and incidentally the owner's pockets in the same condition.

HARD WORK MEANS SUCCESS

To Hatch and Brood Chickens Artificially One Must Stay With Work Night and Day.

A great many people buy incubators and brooders and expect them to run themselves. There would be just as much sense in the hen leaving her eggs for the wind and sun to hatch instead of setting on them and guarding them, night and day, for 21 days.

Inanimate things won't run themselves; they must be run. Machines are all right, but they haven't brains; men must supply the intelligence.

Now, it has been proved by thousands of people in different parts of the world that artificial incubation and brooding of poultry is an assured success. But to make this success requires close personal attention from start to finish. The work cannot be entrusted to any Tom or Dick or Harry. Tom and Dick and Harry hired to do the work may set the machine going, but they won't keep them going. They lack the personal equation. They would just as soon see you make a failure as they would see you make a success of the chicken business.

To hatch and brood chickens artificially one must stay right with the work, day and night. This does not mean that you have to sit up with and nurse the machines and baby birds, but that you just about know exactly what they are doing every hour of the twenty-four.

Many people fail to keep the infant chicks dry, warm and well supplied with fresh air in the brooder. This is a simple matter, but an essential. A herd of goats will get along in a remote brushy pasture for weeks at a time with nothing but bushes and fence rails to feed upon. Not so with baby chicks; they must be fed at least five times each day.

The neglect of simple sanitation in the brooder is responsible for heavy mortality among young feathered stock. Fifty or a hundred or more young birds in one close room will soon make foul conditions, which in turn will soon lead to disease and death if the foulness is not removed. Those who are very careful to keep the brooder scrupulously clean usually have good success with brooder chicks, and those who allow them to become filthy meet with inevitable loss.

Failures, then, in hatching and brooding poultry by artificial means are due to the use of infertile eggs, allowing temperatures in the machine to run too high and too low, lack of good ventilation, failure to keep the brooder clean and the young birds supplied with direct sunlight, and irregular feeding. These may all be summed up in one phrase—lack of close attention to details.

POULTRY QUOTES

Feeding the turkeys too often is an injurious practice.

Every farmer should go into the pure bred poultry class.

Don't expect to get winter eggs from late hatched chicks.

Get rid of some of the roosters that are now worrying the hens to no good purpose.

The Indian Runner duck is not inclined to fatten so readily as other varieties.

Hunt up private customers and agree to sell them strictly fresh eggs—then do it.

The quickest way to "break up" a setting hen is to shut her up a day with a rooster.

The comb is as sure an indicator of the health of the bird as the tongue is of the person.

Teach the turkeys to have a regular feeding ground apart from the other fowls of the farm.

Late hatched chicks make good broilers or soft roasters in the fall when the prices are high.

The very best kind of a pen for ducklings is one that can be easily moved from one part of the yard to another.



SPRING FOG, Stretchy, Drowsy, stupid, tired, head-achy—not sick, but don't feel good.

Just a few signs that you need that most effective tonic, liver-stirring Spring Remedy—

OXIDINE

—a bottle proves.

The Specific for Malaria, Chills and Fever, and a reliable remedy for all diseases due to a torpid liver and sluggish bowels and kidneys.

50c. At Your Druggist
THE BERNERS DRUG CO., WACO, TEXAS.

Girl chums are almost as thick as a fat man.

Lewis' Single Binder, extra quality tobacco, costs more than other 5c cigars.

It's the land of the free—for spinners and bachelors.

ERYSIPELAS AND CHILBLAINS
Alleviated and cured by the use of Tetterine. It is an old established and well known remedy for Eczema, Tetter, Ground Itch (the cause of Hookworm Disease), Infant Sore Head, Chaps, Chafes and other forms of skin diseases.

J. R. Maxwell, Atlanta, Ga., says: "I suffered agony with a severe case of eczema. Tried six different remedies and was in despair, when a neighbor told me to try Shuprine's Tetterine. After using \$3 worth of your Tetterine and soap I am completely cured. I cannot say too much in its praise."
Tetterine at druggists or by mail 50c. Soap 25c. J. T. Shuprine, Savannah, Ga.

Personal.
Garrulous Barber—As the sayin' goes, "There's always room at the top."
Sensitive Customer—How dare you refer to my baldness!

Pandemonium.
"Nature knew what she was doing when she deprived fishes of a voice."
"How do you make that out?"
"What if a fish had to cackle over every egg it laid?"

Might Help.
Mrs. Willis (at the Ladies' Aid society)—Now, what can you do for the poor boys at the front?
Mrs. Gillis—I was reading today, where the soldiers are always making sorties. Now, why can't we get the recipes for those things and make them ourselves and send them to the boys?—Puck.

Old Map of America.
Claude Vautin, an English mining engineer, who has been prospecting in Peru, returned the other day on the steamship Zaccapa. Besides looking after mining property, he has been collecting interesting antiquities of the country.

One of the most interesting things he brings back with him is a map of South America made by the Jesuits in 1592. It gives an outline of the land as far north as Cuba and is apparently accurate. Its purpose is evidently plain, for every missionary station in the country at that time is indicated on the map, and the line of travel necessary to reach them is marked out. This map was obtained by Mr. Vautin at Puno, Peru.

Another interesting collection he brought back is the death masks of the Incas. These were hammered out of metal and placed over the faces of the dead. Three of these obtained by Mr. Vautin are of sheet gold.

A SPOON SHAKER.
Straight From Coffeedom.

Coffee can Marshall a good squadron of enemies and some very hard ones to overcome. A lady in Florida writes: "I have always been very fond of good coffee, and for years drank it at least three times a day. At last, however, I found that it was injuring me. I became bilious, subject to frequent and violent headaches, and so very nervous, that I could not lift a spoon to my mouth without spilling a part of its contents."
"My heart got 'rickety' and beat so fast and so hard that I could scarcely breathe, while my skin got thick and dingy, with yellow blotches on my face, caused by the condition of my liver and blood."

"I made up my mind that all these afflictions came from the coffee, and I determined to experiment and see."
"So I quit coffee and got a package of Postum which furnished my hot morning beverage. After a little time I was rewarded by a complete restoration of my health in every respect."
"I do not suffer from biliousness any more, my headaches have disappeared, my nerves are as steady as could be desired, my heart beats regularly and my complexion has cleared up beautifully—the blotches have been wiped out and it is such a pleasure to be well again." Name given by Postum Co., Battle Creek, Mich.

Read the little book, "The Road to Wellville," 1/2 ppts. "There's a reason."

Ever read the above letter? A new one appears from time to time. They are genuine, true, and full of human interest.

Hood's Sarsaparilla

Acts directly and peculiarly on the blood; purifies, enriches and revitalizes it, and in this way builds up the whole system. Take it. Get it today.

In usual liquid form or in chocolate coated tablets called Sarsatabs.

JUST ONE Bond's Liver Pill

at bed time CURES Headache, Constipation, Biliousness, Colds, Malaria, etc. They are mild, safe and effective. One is a dose.

TRY ONE TONIGHT. Your druggist can supply you, or send 25c to

Bond's Pharmacy Co.
LITTLE ROCK, ARK.
25 cents, or 5 for \$1.00, by mail. A free sample on request.

Father Loses an Excuse.
"Don't you regret seeing your children growing up to face the responsibilities of the world?"

"Yes," Mr. Higgins said; "it's a little disappointing to find my boy so that he is no longer an excuse for my going to the circus."

Important to Mothers
Examine carefully every bottle of CASTORIA, a safe and sure remedy for infants and children, and see that it bears the

Signature of *Chas. H. Fletcher*
In Use For Over 30 Years.
Children Cry for Fletcher's Castoria

Mamma's Angel Gets Busy.
Pond Mother—And has mamma's angel been a peacemaker today?

Mamma's Angel—Yes, ma. Tommy Tuff was a-lickin' William Whippers, an' when I told 'im to stop he wouldn't, an' I jumped in an' licked the stuffin' out o' both of 'em.

An Eight Years' Walk.
Hiram Davis of Newburg went for a walk with his father eight years ago.

The father stopped to talk with a friend, and Hiram, then about ten years old, walked on. He was never seen after that until he walked into his parents' home recently.

The police all over the east were on the lookout for him, the Hudson river searched and finally he was given up for dead. When he greeted his father it was some hours before she could be calmed.

Davis has been out west—New York Sun.

TREE



MUNYON'S PAW-PAW PILLS

A trial package of Munyon's Paw Paw Pills will be sent free to anyone on request. Address Professor Munyon, 534 & Jefferson Sts., Philadelphia, Pa. If you are in need of medical advice, do not fail to write Professor Munyon. Your communication will be treated in strict confidence, and your case will be diagnosed as carefully as though you had a personal interview.

Munyon's Paw Paw Pills are unlike all other laxatives or cathartics. They coax the liver into activity by gentle methods. They do not scour, they do not gripe, they do not weaken, but they do start all the secretions of the liver and stomach in a way that soon puts the organs in a healthy condition and cures constipation. In my opinion constipation is responsible for most ailments. There are 26 feet of human bowels, which is really a sewer pipe. When this pipe becomes clogged the whole system becomes poisoned, causing biliousness, indigestion and impure blood, which often produce rheumatism and kidney ailments. No woman who suffers with constipation or any liver ailment can expect to have a clear complexion or enjoy good health. If I had my way I would prohibit the sale of nine-tenths of the cathartics that are now being sold for the reason that they soon destroy the lining of the stomach, setting up serious forms of indigestion, and so paralyze the bowels that they refuse to act unless forced by strong purgatives.

Munyon's Paw Paw Pills are a tonic to the stomach, liver and nerves. They invigorate instead of weaken; they enrich the blood instead of impoverish it; they enable the stomach to get all the nourishment from food that is put into it.

These pills contain no calomel, no dope; they are soothing, healing and stimulating. They school the bowels to act without physic.

Regular size bottle, containing 45 pills. Price, 50 cents. Munyon's Laboratory, 534 & Jefferson Sts., Philadelphia.

Home Town Helps

LONDON MUCH LIKE PARIS

British Metropolis is No Longer a Gloom-Enshrouded, Dignified City.

In the old days London was essentially a city of ponderous pomp. Paris in comparison appeared as a bright firefly beside the grim darkness which surrounded England's metropolis. Now, the streets of London are brighter, if possible, than those of Paris, the shops as gay, the movement as vivacious. Most of the plays in Paris were considered fit only for those who did not mind broad jests or who told each other in a whisper that they had been to the Palais Royal. Today, the London theaters boldly advertise the most risqué entertainments, there is no subject that is not discussed, no novel that is not read, and it has become a well-known saying that instead of the younger women being restrained by decorum from indulging in doubtful literature, books are now described as "the sort of book one would not give to one's mother to read"—for this was a girl's description of a well-known work of fiction.

Rush and hurry, hurry and rush, characterize the life of those who are called "the smart set." The early ride in the park, the afternoon drive and shopping calls, have given place to polo matches and pigeon-shooting, motor scorching, bridge and poker. If you wanted in the old days to see your friends, you could invariably find them at a quiet, solemn lunch, assembled in dim, stately dining rooms between 1 and 2 o'clock. Now, restaurants, hotels, tea houses and luncheon rooms are the resorts of the representatives of the fashionable world.

BEAUTY SPOTS THAT COUNT

No Place Where Garden is More Appreciated Than at a Railway Station.

There is probably no place where a garden is more appreciated by the public than at a railway station. Folks when out traveling have their eyes with them; they are open to all kinds of impression, and such as at home would in passing be barely noticed and even remain entirely unobserved, if met on travels, are welcomed with an interest highly profitable. The beautiful has added beauty; the partly hidden and insignificant becomes obvious; the eye searches greedily for new impressions, when we are out traveling.

This, then, is probably the fundamental reason for the railroad gardens. Culture has been given to otherwise ugly situations; trees have been planted along right-of-way fences; vacant spots have been transformed from barren cinders into beauty spots of lawns and flowers; not platforms and sidewalks have had the spotted shadows of trees thrown over them; the cheerless has been transformed into jubilant symphonies of colors and cool shadows, inviting, indeed, when summer burns the traveler's back.

Grass the Main Thing.

In large lawns such common shrubs as the snowball, the Persian lilac, and the Japanese quince, are excellent. Besides these there are the mock orange, the golden bell, the spiraea vanhouttei, and the pearl bush. The dogwoods and evergreens work in well in the decoration of a large lawn.

Of course these are not all that are needed for a beautiful lawn, for in fact the important thing is a thick, well-kept grass sod, the carpet, if you please, upon which to set the scenery. The cannas, hollyhocks, coleus and geraniums are necessary, but should be used only as borders, or some of them in porch boxes. Rose-bushes are often desired, and the hardier varieties should be obtained and placed together in rows or beds, as single rosebushes soon grow to limbs and appear unsightly.

Shrubs for Small Lot.

If the lot is small, say 40 by 150 feet, choose the low-growing shrubs, such as the spiraea of either prunifolia, thunbergii or bumalda families. These are hardy, low-growing plants about three feet in height. The spiraea thunbergii has very fine, light-green foliage, with little white flowers scattered along the branches. The spiraea bumalda, of the variety anthony waterer, is a very free flowering shrub, with crimson flowers. It is compact and low in growth. Spiraea prunifolia has drooping branches, with double white daisy-like flowers. The leaves of this variety assume brilliant hues in the fall.

Flowers on Lamp Posts.

Ornamental lamps, gorgeous with real floral decorations, kept green and fragrant perpetually in flower boxes suspended midway between top and bottom of the lamp standards, will be erected on Kearny street, from Market to Pacific.

About three months will be required to put up the lamps, and work will be commenced immediately. The flowers which will adorn the lamp standards will be watered and cared for by an automatic arrangement, the mere pressing of a button being sufficient to perform the deed.—San Francisco Chronicle.

OTTUMWA WOMAN CURED

By Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound

Ottumwa, Iowa.—"For years I was almost a constant sufferer from female trouble in all its dreadful forms; shooting pains all over my body, sick headache, spinal weakness, dizziness, depression, and everything that was horrid. I tried many doctors in different parts of the United States, but Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound has done more for me than all the doctors. I feel it my duty to tell you these facts. My heart is full of gratitude to you for my cure."—Mrs. HARRIET E. WAMPLER, 524 S. Ransom Street, Ottumwa, Iowa.

Consider This Advice.
No woman should submit to a surgical operation, which may mean death, until she has given Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound a fair trial.

This famous medicine, made only from roots and herbs, has for thirty years proved to be the most valuable tonic and invigorator of the female organism. Women residing in almost every city and town in the United States bear willing testimony to the wonderful virtue of Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound.

Mrs. Pinkham, at Lynn, Mass., invites all sick women to write her for advice. Her advice is free, confidential, and always helpful.

TAKEN AT A DISADVANTAGE

Awkward Question Put to Witness Led to Hasty Exit From the Stand.

A colored brother was charged with violating the prohibition laws, and one of the issues in the case was whether or not certain prohibited beverages were kept in an ice box in the defendant's place of business. Jim Jones, another colored brother, was introduced as a witness for the defendant, and swore positively that no prohibited beverages were kept in the box that day; that he was in the place all the morning. On cross examination, the city attorney asked if the ice box was open when he entered the place, or was opened in his presence. Jim promptly replied in the negative. He was then asked if he had been inside the box at any time that particular day, and replied that he had not. The city attorney then asked the all-important question of "how he knew there were no prohibited liquors in the box at that time." After considerable deliberation and a mute appeal to the defendant's attorney, which was very marked, Jim replied: "Fo' God, boss, I didn't know yo was gwine ter ax me dat." Jim was hastily excused by consent of all parties.—Exchange.

IN AGONY WITH ITCHING

"About four years ago I broke out with sores on my arms like boils. After two months they were all over my body, some coming, and some going away. In about six months the boils quit, but my arms, neck and body broke out with an itching, burning rash. It would burn and itch, and come out in pimples like grains of wheat. I was in a terrible condition; I could not sleep or rest. Parts of my flesh were raw, and I could scarcely bear my clothes on. I could not lie in bed in any position and rest. In about a year the sores extended down to my feet. Then I suffered agony with the burning, itching sores. I could hardly walk and for a long time I could not put on socks.

"All this time I was trying everything I could hear of, and had the skill of three doctors. They said it was eczema. I got no benefit from all this. I was nearly worn out, and had given up in despair of ever being cured when I was advised by a friend to try Cuticura Remedies. I purchased Cuticura Soap, Ointment, and Resolvent, and used exactly as directed. I used the Cuticura Remedies constantly for four months, and nothing else, and was perfectly cured. It is now a year, and I have not had the least bit since. I am ready to praise the Cuticura Remedies at any time. (Signed) E. L. Cate, Exile, Ky., Nov. 10, 1910.

Although Cuticura Soap and Ointment are sold by druggists and dealers everywhere, a sample of each, with 32-page book, will be mailed free on application to "Cuticura," Dept. 21, K, Boston.

An Artist.

"You had to refuse the request of these men?"
"Yes," replied Senator Sorghum.
"Were they angry?"
"Not at all. I showed so much grief at not being able to oblige them that they went away sympathizing with me."

CURED SORES WHEN ALL ELSE FAILED

Woman Acts as Benefactress to Children

Mrs. W. Linsky, of Salem, Mass., writes, telling of the wonderful results from the use of Resinol. In her own words the letter reads:

"I have used your Resinol Ointment for five years, as two different doctors recommended it. I have given it to a number of children with sores that they could not find a cure for, and it was always sure to cure them. I would not be without it."

Resinol is the indispensable standard remedy for all skin troubles, from the common pimple, cut, scald, boil or sore, to carbuncles, felons, eczema, erythema, herpes, barber's itch, psoriasis and every abrasion of the skin from any cause. Resinol Ointment can be instantly applied and its effect is instantaneous. It is put up in screw-top opal containers, selling at fifty cents or a dollar, according to size. It has the approval and recommendation of thousands of our best physicians, and hundreds of thousands of families are never without it. Another indispensable necessity is Resinol Soap, one of the finest, most soothing and refreshing toilet soaps in the world. It is a preventive of most of the skin troubles, including blackheads, pimples and chapped hands. It is especially adapted to the tender skin of infants and children. Nothing is better for shampooing and cleaning the scalp and for the prevention of falling hair. The ointment and soap are sold by all druggists.

Resinol Chemical Co., Baltimore, Md.

THE MARTYR.



Polly—So Mrs. Highmere's husband has developed bad habits. How did you hear about it?
Dolly—Oh, Mrs. Highmere invited us all to an afternoon tea so she could tell us how she suffered in silence!

ARE YOUR KIDNEYS WEAK?

Thousands suffer from sick or weakened kidneys without knowing the cause. If you have backache, headache, urinary disorders, look to your kidneys—give them the help they need. Mrs. R. E. Scott, 302 Front St., Baker City, Ore., says: "For twelve years I was a sufferer from kidney trouble. My back ached terribly, the kidney secretions were in awful condition and my bladder badly inflamed. I grew so bad I was bedfast and was so thin I looked like a skeleton. Doctors failed to help me and I began using Doan's Kidney Pills. They cured me permanently and I am now as well and strong as anyone."

Remember the name—Doan's. For sale by druggists and general storekeepers everywhere. Price 50c. Foster-Milburn Co., Buffalo, N. Y.

Prudential Reasons.

"So you are going to send your cook off. But isn't her name Arabella Gunn?"
"What's that got to do with our getting rid of her?"
"But, my dear boy, isn't there an ordinance against discharging A. Gunn within the city limits?"

When a man is on his uppers there isn't much consolation in knowing that an honest confession is good for the soul.

TO DRIVE OUT MALARIA AND BUILD UP THE SYSTEM

Take the Old Standard GROVER'S FAST-BLEND CHILL TONIC. You know what you are taking. The formula is plainly printed on every bottle, showing it is simply Quinine and Iron in a tasteless form. The Quinine drives out the malarial and the iron builds up the system. Sold by all dealers for 30 years. Price 50 cents.

No Argument There.

She—Oh, but mamma objects to kissing.
He—Well, I'm not kissing your mother, am I?

Stop at the WESTBROOK HOTEL, FT. WORTH. Absolutely fireproof. Texas' biggest hotel. Rates \$1.00 and up.

If a young man hasn't the cheek to kiss a pretty widow she may be willing to furnish it.

The Bradley's Hair Emporium; Westbrook Hotel Building, Box 665, Ft. Worth, Texas. Finest line of beauty hair goods, wigs, pompadour, switches, puffs and curls. Any of these articles made from your combings. Used or faded articles renewed. Mail orders sent on approval. Hairdressing and Manicure Parlors; Electrolysis and Chiropractic specialties.

The Summer Toast.

In all her business life the bit of work she is now completing has been most pleasant, says the free lance stenographer.
"I have been typewriting toasts on paper napkins," she said. "A society of club women who have planned to do a lot of outdoor entertaining this summer expect to use thousands of paper napkins, and I have had the job of typewriting a toast on each napkin. It is a pretty idea, and I tried to meet the charming sentiment of the ladies halfway by using a good non-copying ink, but in spite of that precaution I am afraid that many a guest will leave the lunch table with a purple smudge on her face."

Sincere But Awkward.

It was at the private theatricals, and the young man wished to compliment his hostess, says the Boston Transcript:
"Madam, you played your part splendidly. It fits you to perfection."
"I'm afraid not. A young and pretty woman is needed for that part," said the smiling hostess.
"But, madam, you have positively proved the contrary."

The man who thinks he knows it all never gets much of a chance to tell it.



LIBBY'S PATENTS Watson E. Coleman, Washington, D.C. Books free. Highest references. Best results.

MILLIONS OF FAMILIES are using SYRUP OF FIGS and ELIXIR OF SENNA

FOR COLDS AND HEADACHES, INDIGESTION AND SOUR STOMACH, GAS AND FERMENTATION, CONSTIPATION AND BILIOUSNESS, WITH MOST SATISFACTORY RESULTS.

NOTE THE NAME
CALIFORNIA FIG SYRUP CO.
IN THE CIRCLE
ON EVERY PACKAGE OF THE GENUINE

THE WONDERFUL POPULARITY OF THE GENUINE SYRUP OF FIGS AND ELIXIR OF SENNA HAS LED UNSCRUPULOUS MANUFACTURERS TO OFFER IMITATIONS, IN ORDER TO MAKE A LARGER PROFIT AT THE EXPENSE OF THEIR CUSTOMERS. IF A DEALER ASKS WHICH SIZE YOU WISH, OR WHAT MAKE YOU WISH, WHEN YOU ASK FOR SYRUP OF FIGS AND ELIXIR OF SENNA, HE IS PREPARING TO DECEIVE YOU. TELL HIM THAT YOU WISH THE GENUINE, MANUFACTURED BY THE CALIFORNIA FIG SYRUP CO. ALL RELIABLE DRUGGISTS KNOW THAT THERE IS BUT ONE GENUINE AND THAT IT IS MANUFACTURED BY THE CALIFORNIA FIG SYRUP CO. ONLY

NOTE THE NAME
CALIFORNIA FIG SYRUP CO.
PRINTED STRAIGHT ACROSS, NEAR THE BOTTOM, AND IN THE CIRCLE, NEAR THE TOP OF EVERY PACKAGE OF THE GENUINE. ONE SIZE ONLY. FOR SALE BY ALL LEADING DRUGGISTS. REGULAR PRICE 50c PER BOTTLE.

SYRUP OF FIGS AND ELIXIR OF SENNA IS ESPECIALLY ADAPTED TO THE NEEDS OF LADIES AND CHILDREN, AS IT IS MILD AND PLEASANT, GENTLE AND EFFECTIVE, AND ABSOLUTELY FREE FROM OBJECTIONABLE INGREDIENTS. IT IS EQUALLY BENEFICIAL FOR WOMEN AND FOR MEN, YOUNG AND OLD. FOR SALE BY ALL LEADING DRUGGISTS. ALWAYS BUY THE GENUINE.

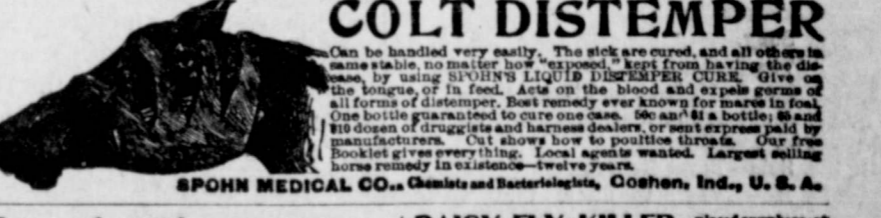
CALIFORNIA FIG SYRUP CO.



WINTERSMITH'S

Oldest and Best Cure For Chills and Fever Malaria
A general tonic of 40 years' success. Contains no arsenic or other poisons. Unlike quinine, it leaves no bad effects. For sale by druggists and merchants. If your dealer can't supply it, write to

CHILL TONIC



Constipation Vanishes Forever

Prompt Relief—Permanent Cure
CARTER'S LITTLE LIVER PILLS never fail. Purely vegetable—act surely but gently on the liver. Stop after dinner distress—cure indigestion, improve the complexion, brighten the eyes. **SMALL PILL, SMALL DOSE, SMALL PRICE.** Genuine must bear Signature



Wentwood
W. N. U., DALLAS, NO. 29-1911.



PARKER'S HAIR BALSAM

Clears and beautifies the hair. Promotes a luxuriant growth. Prevents Hair from Falling Out. Restores the Youthful Color. Cures scalp diseases & hair falling. 25c and 50c. Druggists.



Thompson's Eye Water
Gives quick relief to eye irritations caused by dust, sun or wind.
DEFIANCE Cold Water Starch makes laundry work a pleasure. 16 oz. pkg. 10c.

Death Lurks in A Weak Heart

If Yours is fluttering or weak, use "RENOVINE." Made by Van Vleet-Mansfield Drug Co., Memphis, Tenn. Price \$1.00



MRS. W. H. DICKSON, EDITOR

Marriage Announcement.

Mr. and Mrs. Marion E. Mackey announce the marriage of their daughter Virginia Louise to James E. McAtee on Sunday July the sixteenth, nineteen hundred and eleven, Durant, Okla. At home after August 1, Durant

The above announcement has been received by Merkel friends. The bride recently resigned her position as music teacher in the Merkel schools and went to Durant to join her parents who moved to Oklahoma last fall. She was popular here in social, art and musical circles.

Mr. McAtee made a number of friends during his visit her last summer. He is a successful young business man. Their many friends extend congratulations and best wishes.

Ten girls dressed in school girl fashion met at the home of Miss Winnie Warren Monday afternoon for the purpose of organizing a club to be known as the G. F. & F. C. Miss Inice Moon was elected president, Miss Winnie Warren vice-president, Miss Mary Gunn secretary and treasurer. It is not for us to know how the girls spent the time for the proceedings of this club are to be a secret. Delicious ice cream was served to Misses Pet Sears, Mary Gunn, Faye Lowrey, Inice Moon, Mattie Paylor, Pauline Johnson, Carrol Rister, Jessie Sutphen, Irene Swann.

Miss Laura Jennings entertained in honor of her cousin, Miss Ina Coleman of Paris, Friday evening, July 14 at her home. The invited guests were Misses Agnes Hall, Annie Lou O'Brian, Winnie Warren, Ova Teaff, Maud Martin, Pet Sears, Nina Wright; Messrs. George, Frank and Ross Ferrier, Forest Gaitner, Taylor Jennings, John West, Letch Hunnicutt, Wesley Edwards, Virgil Touchstone. After a number of games had been enjoyed the hostess assisted by her sister Miss Jennings served a two course luncheon.

Miss Agnes Hall entertained at her home Tuesday evening with five tables of 500. Her guests were Misses Maude Martin, Annie T. Daniel, Pet Sears, Annie Lou O'Brian, Winnie Warren, Juanita Harris, Abilene, Nina Wright, Bellvue; Messrs. George Frank and Ross Ferrier, S. L. Davis, Virgil Touchstone, Wesley Edwards, Lester Ellis, Wright, Mesdames and Messrs. W.N. Hall, Fred Bigham, Lanier Brown. Punch and cake were served at the conclusion of the games.

B. Y. P. U. Program.

Subject, "Little Books of the Bible." Leader, Barney Garrett. Scripture reading, John 3:1-13. Song. Prayer. Song. The Incarnate Christ—Ola Sharp. Duet—Murtice and Clara Saffle. God's Wonderful Love—Winnie Warren. Solo—Ethel Roberts. How are we to know that we are children of God—Maxie Banner. Closing exercises.

Subject for missionary program July 24, 1911, "Evangelism and church building." Hymns. Scripture, Eph. 4:7-13. Kings 8:27-30 41-43.—By President. Church building loan fund—Mrs. Smeltzer. Evangelism—Mrs. Whitaker. As it should be—Mrs. Roberts. Power through prayer—Mrs. Swann. A letter from a missionary—Mrs. E. Hall. Prayer—Mrs. Valentine.

Misses Ruth Merritt and Kittie Pipes will leave Saturday for Dublin to visit relatives and friends and attend the reunion. They will visit other towns and will be absent from Merkel for some time.

MERKEL SENIOR GIRLS OF 1911

Do I say this is for the young ladies of the graduating class? Yes. So it devolves upon me to reply to you through the press. To a Senior, duty should even be a joy. Especially to the girls of the graduating class and the one poor boy, and of any class that ever finished the Public School, they are of the greatest. Their style is always of the very latest.

To the good wishes of the people, in general, I proudly respond, Especially of the young ladies, of whom I am very fond. It inspires me, like reading an illustrated Scott's Ivanhoe. You may have forgotten it, but they haven't, I know.

Friends, here is to the record of the Senior Girls forever, Who were always so kind and clever. The record which is most brilliant and the hours which have come and gone. That shall mark their pleasant school days which are to help them along. They have reached the goal for which they have so nobly striven; Yet, through days and years of faithful persistent labor they were driven.

I admire them greatly in the aggregate, And success, I hope, will always be their fate. I honor them also in the abstract; You may not believe me, but it's a fact. I am glad they are citizens of the renown City in Clover, And hope they'll live a hundred years old, and not a bit over.

Their beauty and goodness upon their lives are stamped deep; So may success and happiness, they always keep. And may peace and joy abide with them wherever they may be— Sleeping, working or this wide world roaming with neither you nor me. Here is to their friends, truest of the true; And faithful among those that care not what they do.

You will find them always bright, tractable, hopeful and wise, And contentment and faith beaming in their eyes. The history of them from their first battles of school life to the present day. Have been spent in a bright and cheerful way. Merkel citizens glory their achievements for several reasons— One is because their goodness never changes like the seasons.

They stand well in the estimation of the land; By always doing the work that is at hand. The magnetic word "Senior" that ever draws old remembrances of the long, yet pleasant school day. Spent together in the golden school room where they yet the golden rule obey. It resembles the loadstone; it pervades the school rooms As electricity does the atmosphere when the morning dawns.

The Senior pennant—the older it grows the louder it speaks, And under it is where the secrets always creep. Of the old pennant I will always sing, But oh, you class ring.

Here is all honor to the Senior Classes of Merkel, living or dead, But I guess you know it as you have often heard it said. May pleasant dreams await them wherever their future homes may be, And then their good works you will see. —H. P. B.

A Fishing Trip.

On July 5 at 10:30 a. m. Fred Guitar, V. B. Keith of Fort Worth, Buster Brown, Ross Ferrier and Wesley Edwards comprised one of the jolliest fishing parties that ever cast a line left Merkel for the Concho river. They were advised by that most congenial J. T. Warren to take the left hand road (?) this side of San Angelo, which they, tho 'tis safe to assert they had their wires badly crossed.

Being advised at Ballinger that the San Saba river with Menardville as headquarters (?) afforded better fishing than the Concho, they were only a moment making up their mind to head for Menardville and within a few minutes were happy on their way. Taking supper at the Garden (?) of Eden, Mr. Guitar acting as apothecarian for the crowd, had by mistake taken a Rip Van Winkle powder which put him in a rather meditative mood, so to speak. Tho 'twas the universal belief of the party that he was under the influence of a "Grouch." This he denies, however. Laid out between Eden and Manardville resuming their journey at an early hour the next morning reaching their headquarters in time for breakfast. Loading up with supplies they drove 10 miles up the river and struck camp and before casting for the object of their trip with unbounded success, too.

Everything went well until the next morning when they were compelled by one said Buster Brown alias Max Russell to move camp on account of the many "spooks" and reptiles, also vowing that his bed was walking the night before. The crowd being overpersuaded they moved farther down the creek and took up their abode with a nest of hogs which dealt them misery the rest of their stay.

Spending this day at the mouth of Spring creek, and as fishing had become monotonous by noon the afternoon was spent in such sports as fighting hogs, climbing grapevines, catching halgamites, swimming, high diving, singing solos, "Coming Back" (?) Ask Fred.

Our esteemed friend Mr. V. B. Keith of Fort Worth took upon himself to act in the capacity of geographical engineer for the party and together with his fishing and official duties he had very little time to devote to the social side of the trip question, tho did discord them on his return trip to act as assistant to Ross Ferrier, who had declared himself the "exaggerated mechanic."

Starting for home Saturday morning at 7:30 all went well for about 15 miles when our, the exaggerated mechanic, began to have visions of a Green Bench and trouble began. A Blow out, then cutting out, and trouble began, terminating in mutiny aboard the Boat, and... well, ask any of the crowd why they didn't dinner at Paint Rock (?)

Arriving at Ballinger at 4 p. m. made a raise of the necessary evil, repaired the car, ate dinner and started for Merkel. Here one of the party went violently insane, taking all of Old Comeback's strength to hold him in the car while A. H. D. Edwards apprised the people, who were obstructing the highway, of his terrible mental condition, and 'tis safe to assert they gained the highway at once, notwithstanding Cnarlies trouble in hitching up the mules. The next trouble was in trying to persuade Old Comeback and "A. H." D. Edwards that 'twas safe to come thru Buffalo Gap, but they both remembered a picture of a negro choir singing "Yield not to temptation" while a chicken sat on the window sill. They came thru tho were oh so meek. We have all wondered why, for they weren't still at any other time of the trip.

Reaching home about 11 p. m. all good humored tho a little worse for the trip but still living over the times they had, and incidentally settling up their expenses. We could hardly believe they were as successful as they report but for disinterested parties who had the pleasure of enjoying part of their catch. One of 'Em.

Invalid rolling chair for sale. Come to see John Daniels. 3t

RECENT RAINS IN MERKEL COUNTRY

This part of West Texas has again been blessed with good rains while it could not be called a general rain yet it is so nearly so that the whole country is benefited. Even before the rain the feed crop and cotton had never suffered to an alarming extent and with the rains last week and this we are assured a fairly good yield of feed stuff. The cotton has plenty of time yet to make either a bumper crop or be cut short by various causes. At present prospects for a year of plenty are good. Last Saturday we talked with farmers from all over the country and this is what they say:

N. D. Teaff, J. W. Childers, Steve Keny, W. L. Barker, J. D. McKinney, W. J. Rogers and Tom Keene who live east of town got some rain but not enough.

J. W. Teaff, Wm. Simpson, A. B. Bayless, J. M. Dunnigan, H. C. Floyd James Patterson, and George Harris who live in adjoining neighborhoods had fine rains.

H. H. Tittle and Sam Provine and all living south of town report good seasons. J. H. Grayson and Ben Wheeler say that the rain was good in their part. Fred hale and H. L. Propet of the Trent country say the rain was light.

Revival Meeting at Tabernacle.

We have planned to begin a revival meeting at the tabernacle July 30. Rev. J. M. Bass of Macon, Ga., will preach and Prof. O. W. Stapleton will lead the singing.



REV. J. M. BASS



PROF. O. W. STAPLETON

They are noted men, they have the very strongest endorsement. They held two fine meetings in this state last year, one at Hamlin and one at Rotan. These meetings resulted in hundreds of conversions. They are now holding a fine meeting at Abilene. We invite all the denominations of the town to join in the meeting and make it thoroughly union. We invite all the singers We invite the people of the country to attend the meeting. I feel confident if you desire to camp you could get a house free as we have some vacant houses now. Why not come in and spend two weeks with us. Now dear people, let us pray and work for a great revival. Yours fraternally, A. M. Martin, Pastor.

Miss Sallie Orr of Putnam is visiting relatives and friends in Merkel.

Miss Emma Dyas of Colorado City is the guest of Miss Eather Williams.

The Secret of Youth. Do you ever wonder how you can remain young, or why other women older than you, look younger than you do? The secret can be put in a few words: "Preserve your health, and you will preserve your youth." By "health" we mean not alone physical health, but nerve health, as, sometimes, magnificently strong-looking women are nervous wrecks. But whether you are weak physically or nervously, you need a tonic, and the best tonic for you is Cardui. It builds strength for the physical and nervous systems. It helps put flesh on your bones and vitality into your nerves. Take CARDUI The Woman's Tonic. "My mother," writes Mrs. Z. L. Adcock, of Smithville, Tenn., "is 44 years old and is passing through the change of life. She was irregular and bloated and suffered terribly. My father stepped over to the store and got her a bottle of Cardui, which she took according to directions and now she is up, able to do her housework and says she feels like a new woman." Try Cardui in your own case. Write to: Ladies' Advisory Dept., Chattanooga Medicine Co., Chattanooga, Tenn., for Special Instructions, and 64-page book, "Home Treatment for Women," sent free.

Learn BOOKKEEPING. We teach the ACTUAL BUSINESS methods from the start to finish. Each student has individual sets of books and gets individual instruction. We guarantee to make a first-class bookkeeper of you or refund your money. A course in salesmanship free to those who take the bookkeeping course. SHORTHAND. Learn to write Shorthand. We teach the celebrated Modern Method of Shorthand, which is the best in use today. Also Graham or Pitman. We can prepare you in a short time to be an expert Shorthand writer. We teach the touch system of typewriting, which is far ahead of any other system. TELEGRAPHY. Thousands of telegraph operators needed. There is no calling that offers such sure promotion and certain success as telegraphy. We have the best equipped telegraph department in the South, expert teachers, and direct main line connection with railroad companies (in fact, our college is now the official training school of the M., K. & T. Railway System), affording an abundance of practical work for our students. Now is the time to begin. Special rates now on. Will give you more for your money than any other college. Every national bank in Fort Worth represented on our board of directors. Good positions absolutely guaranteed. Brantley-Draughan Business College. Corner Fourteenth and Main Sts. Fort Worth, Texas.

J. A. WOODARD. Livery, Feed and Sale Stable. SOUTH SIDE. Solicits a share of your patronage during the New Year and promises courteous treatment. Phone No. 44. Opposite T. & P. Depot. MERKEL TEXAS

Physicians Advise. The use of a good laxative, to keep the bowels open and prevent the poisons of undigested food from getting into your system. The latest product of science is VELVO Laxative Liver Syrup, purely vegetable, gentle, reliable and of a pleasant, aromatic taste. Velvo acts on the liver, as well as on the stomach and bowels, and is of the greatest possible efficacy in constipation, indigestion, biliousness, sick headache, feverishness, colic, flatulence, etc. Try VELVO LAXATIVE LIVER SYRUP.

KILL THE COUGH AND CURE THE LUNGS WITH DR. KING'S NEW DISCOVERY FOR COUGHS AND ALL THROAT AND LUNG TROUBLES. GUARANTEED SATISFACTORY OR MONEY REFUNDED. J. M. Whitlock of Dallas county is prospecting in the Merkel country this week. He reports crop conditions much better in this than in Dallas county. Mr. and Mrs. Reed who have been visiting John Eoff and family returned to their home at Winters Monday. Mrs. J. M. Terry and grandchildren of Centinel, Okla., are visiting Mrs. Alice Templeton. E. C. Loggins of Fort Worth was in the city last week visiting the family of J. J. Stallings.

SWIFT POSTMEN OF VENICE. They Are Clever in Dodging the Canals and Know Every Street in City. Probably the letter carriers of Venice are the most ingenious in the world. They know how to dodge every waterway, turning up on their routes with a precise regularity that convinces you they have mapped every scrap of the damp city's dry land on their brains. If you go to your destination by gondola they can beat you thereto by a good bit of time. What they know about canals has been applied by them to navigation on land and they know every tiny street in the city. Of course, there are postoffice gondolas, too, gay yellow things that quite outcolor the yellow sunlight, and any day you happen over the "Rialto" of the Rialto you will see them tending to their red-and-gold poles underneath the old palatial Fondaco del Tedeschi, which, centuries ago, by decree of the Venetian senate, two famous architects of early days, Girolamo Tedesco and Giorgio Spavento, built for the use of the many German merchants then living in Venice (somewhere about the year 1545).—Travel Magazine.

A WOMAN'S BACK

The Aches and Pains Will Disappear if the Advice of this Merkel Citizen is Followed.

A woman's back has many aches and pains.

Most times 'tis the kidney's fault.

Backache is really kidney ache.

That's why Doan's Kidney Pills cure it.

Many Merkel women know this. Read what one has to say about it.

Mrs. C. A. Milliken, of Merkel, Texas, says: "My opinion of Doan's Kidney Pills can be expressed in a few words. They are the best remedy I ever used, during the fifteen years that my kidneys were disordered. I was greatly annoyed by a difficulty with the kidney secretions. My back ached constantly and if I sat for any length of time, it was hard for me to arise. I finally procured Doan's Kidney Pills at the store and McCauley's Drug Store and since using them, I have felt better in every way.

My rest in refreshing, my appetite has returned and my entire system has been built up."

For sale by all dealers. Price 50 cents. Foster Milburn Co., Buffalo, New York, sole agents for the United States.

Remember the name—Doan's—and take no other.

A Speaking Timepiece.

"The clock strikes one, we take no note of time," sang Young in his "Night Thoughts." Were Young living today he would get much more poetry from the speaking than from the striking timepiece. The new "time-talking clock," invented in Germany, announces the hours and quarters in "an agreeable voice." Its wheels actuate a stout belt, which runs over a roll connected with a sounding box. Upon this belt, or other film, the hours, which are recorded by a phonograph, are pressed by salivation on a copper plate. The mechanism which moves the hands is connected with the speaking device, and this with a funnel which re-enforces the sound and projects it outward through a speaker opening attached to the side of the clock. At night a lever reduces the clock to silence. But if one wakes and wishes to know the hour without striking a light, an easily found button is pressed and the clock immediately states the time. The speech film is practically indestructible and occupies very little space since because of its elasticity it may be wound upon a very small roller.

Saves Two Lives.

"Neither my sister nor myself might be living to-day, if it had not been for Dr. King's New Discovery" writes A. D. McDonald of Fayetteville, N. C. R. F. D. No. 8, "for we both had frightful coughs that no other remedy could help. We were told my sister had consumption. She was very weak and had night sweats but your wonderful medicine completely cured us both. It's the best I ever used or heard of." For sore lungs, coughs, colds, hemorrhage, lagrippe, asthma, hay fever, croup, whooping cough—all bronchial troubles—its supreme. Trail bottle free. 50c and \$1.00. Guaranteed by H. C. Burroughs.

How He Judged.

"I love you more than anybody in the world," she whispered, as she sat on hubby's knee, her lips close to his ear.

"Don't add hypocrisy to unfaithfulness," he responded sternly, pushing her away.

"Why, what do you mean, dear?" she asked, ready to cry.

"You care more for some other man than you do for me!" was the bitter response. "I don't know his name, but I think he is a Chinaman."

"You must have fever, dear. Do let me call a doctor." Her face was white with anxiety and the tears were falling fast as she started for the telephone.

"No. Sit down and explain—if you can. You wear a lock of my hair in your locket—just one little lock?"

"Yes."

"And the entire queue of some Chinaman on your head?"—Puck.

Death in Roaring Fire

may not result from the work of firebugs, but often severe burns are caused that make a quick need for Bucklen's Arnica Salve, the quickest, surest cure for burns, wounds, bruises, boils, sores. It subdues inflammations, kills pain. It soothes and heals. It drives off skin eruptions, ulcers, etc. Only 25c at H. C. Burroughs.

Mrs. Rachel Parlee Lewis.

Special to the Merkel Mail.

Nubia, Texas, July 12.—In Loving Memory of Dear Mother. At 1 o'clock on the morning of June thirtieth, in the nineteenth and eleventh year of our Lord, God, in his boundless infinite and incomprehensible wisdom, saw fit to summon from our home and midst, my dear and loving mother, so sweet, so kind and good. 'Twas sad, 'twas inexpressibly sad! Death is awful, and when of relatives or loved ones, 'tis shockingly awful, but 'tis the will and work of God, and 'tis the common fate of all.

My mother was a Christian, a strong devout Christian. Words are inadequate and insufficient to express or tell our sad feelings of deep sorrow. No our lexicon of language does not contain them. Our tears do manifest our sorrows and sad feelings more plainly and obviously, for as the poet says, "in such circumstances, and sad cases, words lose all their meaning." My mother was a kind and loving mother, true and loyal to life, strong and solid in belief on things concerning righteousness, for she was righteous, a constant, steady and consistent reader of the Holy Bible and found comfort in its sweet passages of truth. A profound, devoted member of the Methodist church, South, and found unexpressed pleasure in her church going. Times innumerable have I seen her pursue with pleasure the precious pages of the Book of Holy Writ. She read the bible in the evening foregoing her death the following morn. It is of intense pleasure to me to know that on her very last evening's sojourn with me on earth she read the bible.

She was a strong and firm believer in the "Fatherhood of God, and the Brotherhood of Man." A friend and advocate of never-dying, all existing universal truth, love, peace and justice. Her heart, soul and mind were tender and went out in pity for the poor and needy. She inclined and sided with the weak. Never did a truer and more tender heart throb in mortal bosom. Oh! how we miss her 'tis inexpressible. "She's gone but not forgotten." My mother was a prayerful mother, times untold have I heard her utter out her humble prayers, for she believed in the force and efficacy of prayer, her heart was as delicate as the purest, tenderest flower that ever radiated sweet aroma and she was often touched to tears.

The music of our home now is hushed—her sweet voice and tender words of kindness. 'Tis aching sad, 'tis crying pitiful, 'tis sorrowful indeed and truth. I am so sad and lonesome. The very noises sound strange and lonesome and full of meaning. We mourn and weep for mother, our loss is deeply felt. It is inestimable. "Ten thousand worlds like this," says the book of books. But, while we lost our mother, she found her Heaven where all is harmony and where she through all eternity shall have her dwelling place, unknown to sorrow, grief, discomforts and displeasures or other things like manner, but where all tears are wiped away. But mid our pall of cloudy sorrow and our heaviness of soul we should have consolation as my inner power of thought and comprehension or my conscience, rather tells me. "It is the work of the Almighty Hand, the guiding hand that guided her through all the devious ways of life and she is better now, be consoled." It is conceded that when a person having labored unflatteringly in the vineyard of the Lord and whose earthly works and chores have been pleasing and satisfactory in the sight of God makes an exit from this low life and goes wafting home to God, is met and greeted by an innumerable host of holy shining angels.

myriads and legions in number who convey the entering angel through the bright and shining gates of harmonious Heaven, where all music is sweet and dulcified, harmonious and melodious for sweeter and more pleasant than the sound of dulcimer or melodeon, where they all join in the songs of praise and exultations of which there is no end and so 'tis true and I say to all my friends and relatives whose hearts are made tender from this sad occasion as Long-fellow said:

"Be still sad hart and cease repining Behind the clouds is the sun shining Thy fate is the common fate of all Into each life some rain must fall."

Some days must be dark and dreary while never more this side of Holy Heaven shall I see the sweet face of smiling mother, save through our dreams, by no means shall we forget or lose memory of her sweet words of true instruction for as long as the motor of my body rushes warm blood through my veins that long will I lovingly entertain and cherish the sweet memories and recollections of dear mother I shall incline myself to call mind and entertain the speeding thoughts as they pre- vade and come trooping cross my power reminiscence or mind. I now say with struggles, attempts and strong endeavors and with an indomitable courage and resolution, will I try to live such a life as to allow me a home in Heaven, I say to all children who chance to read this sad and pitiful obituary as a note of warning, be kind to your mothers, treat them with respect for when they are gone you get no other, so a boy's best friend is his mother. Speak a loving word to them and do a deed of kindness and say to disobedience, "Avant, avant, get thee gone."

Mamma was born March 21, 1856 in Marshall county, Ala., married to Jas. Faight Lewis Dec. 24, 1876, professed religion August 1880 at Smith's chapel Jackson county, Ala., at the same time joined the M. E. church and was baptized by immersion and never did she doubt her religion. She was never known to say aught against her neighbors and instructed her children to do likewise, with kind thoughts and fond remembrances of mother, I close this sad report. Her son, Grover Lewis.

Beware of Ointments for Catarrh that Contain Mercury.

as mercury will surely destroy the sense of smell and completely derange the whole system when entering it through the mucous surfaces. Such articles should never be used except on prescriptions from reputable physicians, as the damage they will do is ten fold to the good you can possibly do from them. Hall's Catarrh Cure, manufactured by F. J. Cheney & Co., Toledo, O., contains no mercury and is taken internally, acting directly upon the blood and mucous surfaces of the system. In buying Hall's Catarrh Cure be sure you get the genuine. Its taken internally and made in Toledo, O., by F. J. Cheney & Co. Testimonials free. Sold by druggists. Price, 75c per bottle. Take Hall's Family Pills for constipation.

Dead Letter List.

The following letters remain in the postoffice at Merkel, Texas, for the week ending July 22, 1911

Mosibas, Sr. Jox Angel

Penaliz, Sr. Jaun

If not called for will be sent to dead letter office Aug. 5, 1911.

H. W. Derstine, P. M.

Stings or bites of insects that are followed by swelling, pain or itching should be treated promptly as they are poisonous. Ballard's Snow Lihment contractors the poison. It is both antiseptic and healing. Price 25c, 50c and \$1.00 per bottle. Sold by H. C. Burroughs.

How Cities Make Good Citizens.

Our great cities, receive annually vast accretions to their population from every country on earth. Most of these aliens come to us ignorant of our language, our customs and our institutions; many of them have been subjected in the lands of their origin to unjust governmental restraint; almost all of them have been used to a more or less oppressive governmental interference in every relation of life. If they are to become useful citizens of the United States, if they are to be absorbed into our nationality and made Americans, government must care for them, for they are unable to care for themselves. The city then must teach them, or at least their children, to read and write and think in English; must make them observe habits of health and cleanliness; must protect them from disease, and care for them when they are ill; must give them parks and playgrounds, baths and gymnasias; must, in short, fulfill towards them the parental relationship of State Socialism.—George B. McClellan in the Atlantic.

Help for Those Who Have Stomach Trouble.

After doctoring for about 12 years for a bad stomach trouble, and spending nearly \$500 for medicine and doctors' fees, I purchased my wife one box of Chamberlain's Stomach and Liver Tablets, which did her so much good that she continued to use them and they have done her more good than all of the medicine I bought before.—Samuel Boyer, Folsom, Iowa. This medicine is for sale by all dealers. Samples free.

Read the Mail. 1.00 a year

The Texas Hen

The Texas hen is the queen of the barnyard. Her cackle sounds as musical to the farmer as the clink of gold dollars and her flesh is the daintiest of food. We ship live and dressed poultry to the Northern and Eastern markets and give the nation its Sunday dinner.

The hen is the patron of mechanics, science and art and is further advanced in civilization than any other animal. She is a splendid advertiser, a good money maker and she uses so many labor-saving devices that she lives a life of ease and luxury. The incubator relieves her of the necessity of hatching her young; her nest is built by master mechanics; glass eggs take the place of the home-made product for decoy purposes and she roosts on automobiles. She is progressive, practical and happy and merrily sings as she lays 5,000,000 eggs per day.



The egg is the only animal product that is good for food and will produce its specie. It is the only product known to creation that has a dual commercial value and it finds its way to every table in the universe.

The poultry business in Texas has reached mammoth proportions. During the past year the total production, including eggs and young poultry, approximated \$25,000,000. The egg output was worth \$18,000,000. The Texas hen lays three times her value per annum. We have approximately 25,000,000 domestic fowls. We have more turkeys and geese than any other state in the Union.

Poultry farming in Texas is one of the most profitable of investments. Our natural conditions are adapted to the propagation of domestic fowls and their products and it is one of the many industrial fields in Texas, which present large opportunities to small investors.

Happiest Girl in Lincoln.

A Lincoln, Neb., girl writes, "I had been ailing for some time with chronic constipation and stomach trouble. I began taking Chamberlain's Stomach and Liver Tablets and in three days I was able to be up and get better right along. I am the proudest girl in Lincoln to find such a good medicine." For sale by all dealers.

His Hieroglyphics.

A colonel of a British regiment in South Africa who was repairing a railroad after one of General De Wet's many breakages discovered a fine empty house which he proceeded to occupy as headquarters. When the news of the colonel's comfortable quarters reached Bloemfontein he received a telegram which read: "G. T. M. wants house." The colonel was unable to make out what "G. T. M." meant and inquired of officers, who translated it "general traffic manager." "All right," said the colonel, "if he can use hieroglyphics, so can I." So he wired back: "G. T. M. can G. T. H." Two days later he received a dispatch from Bloemfontein ordering him to attend a board of inquiry. On appearing in due course he was asked what he went by sending such an insulting message to a superior officer. "Insulting?" repeated the colonel innocently. "It was nothing of the kind." "But what do you mean," demanded his superior, "by telling me I can 'G. T. H.?' " "It was simply an abbreviation," replied the colonel; "G. T. M. (general traffic manager) can G. T. H. (get the house)."

Twenty-Five Cents is the Price of Peace.

The terrible itching and smarting, incident to certain skin diseases, is almost instantly allayed by applying Chamberlain's Salve. Price 25 cents. For sale by all dealers.

Rogers' Old Balloon.

Gus Rogers' balloon which he used in his flight from the Common to Boston light nearly twenty years ago, when he lost his life, was destroyed during a fire in Malden, Mass. While this balloon was circling the light-house with Rogers, Delos Goldsmith, a newspaper man and one other passenger, a storm came up suddenly and the balloon descended rapidly. The accident was seen by the crew of a vessel and they sailed to the aeronaut's assistance, but all but Goldsmith were drowned before the vessel could reach them.

Right in your busiest season when you have the least time to spare you are most likely to take diarrhoea and lose several days' time, unless you have Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera, and Diarrhoea Remedy at hand and take a dose on the first appearance of the disease. For sale by all dealers.

REAL ESTATE BARGAINS

My office is located in the Merkel Mail building next to the postoffice where I will appreciate the visits of my friends and clients. I am going to do my very level best for those who will ask my assistance in the sale or purchase of any of our properties. Your lands should be listed with me and if given to me exclusively I will work that much harder to serve your interests. It is easy to sell any property of real merit—just the job of finding the man with the money who wants the property. If you have a horse and want a mule and I have a client with a mule who wants a horse and you are both fair in your valuations there will be a trade and two good friends made for my business. Some of our farmers have lands and want the money and some men with money are looking for good investments in lands. If you are among the latter read the following and if you are not interested write me what it would take to please you.

Section of Land at Sacrifice.

There is a real stable value in all good agricultural land, easily evident to any practical farmer or business man and in this piece of property you can get the biggest and best bargain in farming land in the Merkel country. It is already fairly well improved, 330 acres in cultivation, three sets of improvements but the value is in the soil outside of any of these. The price is \$10.00 to \$15.00 below the price of the same grade of land in that community and the land is offered for sale for just the amount against it. It will take \$5,000 cash now for the first payment, with terms on the balance.

Section of Good Cheap Land.

One of my clients who owns land in all parts of our country is making some prices which he knows will move the property and realize for him the cash. This proposition is to sell a section of land, with nearly one hundred acres in cultivation, more than one hundred acres of balance good tillable land and the rest good grass land. There is a good little house, good cistern and well with inexhaustible supply of water and this property is within one-half mile of good little town with bank, school, churches, gin and stores. Price, \$8.00 per acre, one-half cash and terms on balance.

Brick Building at a Bargain.

The assurance of an enhancement in value or a fair return of revenue either makes a good investment but in this proposition I can guarantee a good revenue from the investment from the date of the sale and anyone who will make investigation will see the promise of increase in value. This is one of the most desirable business properties in our little city and if you are interested write or ask for further information. It will take \$2500 cash to make the deal and liberal terms on the balance.

For Farming and Stock Raising.

A tract of land in the Clear Fork valley, consisting of 1128 acres, 450 in cultivation and the most of the other the richest valley land would make an ideal stock farm and one of the most profitable investments possible. This land is for sale at a bargain figure simply to enable the owners to divide their interests. Price, \$30,000; \$10,000 in cash or good trade worth the money. If you are looking for this kind of an investment do not waste time writing but come and look at the property and then make your proposition.

Real Bargains in Merkel Farms.

No country has a richer soil and our seasons compare favorably with those where lands are worth \$100 to \$150 per acre. We have the country for the man of ambition who wants his property to enhance in value. Our lands will never be cheaper and now is the time to make your purchase of a home. We promise you more than this value in our lands, the greatest blessing of life and that is the best of health which you can not buy in the countries with a lower altitude. This is not idle newspaper talk for I will make good on everything I tell you and you may come to look at any of the following propositions on a guarantee from me or our banks that you will find everything just as I represent it to you with this ink and paper.

A tract of 550 acres of land, 75 in cultivation, 90 per cent tillable but no improvements except tanks and fencing, desirably located and a good investment at \$18.00 per acre.

Half section, 320 acres, 125 in cultivation, 75 more good, making 200 acres of the richest Canyon valley soil, some of which has produced two bales of cotton per acre, balance rough mountain but some good grass land. No better home for a good farmer or investment for anyone. Price \$5,000; \$1500 cash, balance easy.

A good and good-looking improved farm, 135 acres in Stith country, 107 in cultivation and all level as the floor except three or four acres, good house, barn, cistern, well and other improvements. Price \$32 per acre; \$1500 cash and liberal terms.

A small tract, 80 acres, desirable property, well located and 4 miles of Merkel, will make someone a good little home. An abundance of good water and 55 acres in cultivation. Price \$27.50 per acre; \$1000 cash and terms.

I have some of the best little farms in our country, right up close to town and will be glad to show you or submit you propositions if you will let me know what you want.

FOR SALE OR EXCHANGE

A wealthy and successful business man who is retiring from active business owns one of the best gin plants, 4-stand Munger modern plant, all in good shape and with \$500 or \$600 worth of wood on the ground, is worth his price, \$6,000. It is in good community and will gin 1,000 to 2,000 bales any average year. He will give liberal terms or let me exchange it for good farming land in Taylor or Jones county, worth the money.

The owner of 150 acres of our best land, improved, owing \$1200, wishes to exchange the same for a small tract of 20 to 60 acres of good black land near some good town.

I have some handsome homes in Merkel to exchange for farm land and one client who wants to trade small improved farm for good comfortable home in the edge of Merkel.

If you do not see what you want, write and ask about it. If you are wanting to trade tell me about what you have got and what you want. All such information is treated as confidential and any business entrusted to me will be handled to the best of my ability.

J.G.JACKSON

Office Next to Postoffice at Merkel

Getting Ready for the County Fair



God of FASHION

By Rev. George R. Lockwood
Pastor of Glenolen Congregational Church, Philadelphia.

It is a strange thing that humanity can't seem to get along without idols. There has never been a period in the world's history that humanity has not worshiped some sort of idols. You can't read the Old Testament without having your heart pained; when you see how Israel was continually turning away from God, and placing something in their hearts that ought to have been occupied by God himself. Well, now exactly the same thing has been true in every age and amongst every people. There is a strong tendency in the mind and heart of humanity to reach out and lay hold upon something and put it in the place that belongs only to God.

The first strange god that is amongst us is the "Fashion." This whole subject of dress is a very interesting one. I always claim that it takes more brains to build a dress than it takes to build a house—and it takes brains to build a house. What I mean by that is, it takes brains to build a dress that, in a certain sense, befits the individual that is being clothed. It doesn't take any brains to reach your arm across to Paris and lug over here some fashion across the water—anybody can do that. But there are comparatively few people who seem to have the happy faculty of building a dress that just meets their own individuality. Such a dress as just fits you in every sense of the word—a dress that is the expression of your own mind and your own soul—that is an exceedingly hard thing.

What is the result of this thralldom that is in our midst this present day? There is a demoralization and a demoralization that is going on in our American life; it is enough to pain anybody deeply. I can't quite understand why America should reach across the ocean and bring her fashion from Paris.

If there is one city on the face of God's earth that is any lower down in perdition than another, it is Paris. And why should we be enslaved to Paris for our fashion? In every other respect we claim to stand on our own feet; why can't America stand on her own feet when it comes to the subject of dress? It seems to me there are brains enough in this country to create a fashion for ourselves and to break loose from the slavery of a foreign country.

But that is not the sad part of it all. I wonder if you realize the terrible extravagance that is associated with this one phase of our American life? I wonder if you can bring before your minds the untold number of homes that are simply wrecked; or, picture the hearts that are broken because of this terrible slavery, namely—the slavery of America to this god of "fashion!"

Let me illustrate. Here is a girl—she is brought up in a comparatively poor home; she has not had any experience in holding money in her own hands; she marries a comparatively poor young man, and they go and start a home for themselves. When he comes back from his first week, he puts his wages in her hands. She has had no experience in the use of money; and what does she do? Almost the first thing she does is to rush out into a great city, lose herself in one of these big stores and, instead of bringing home something that is going to make the whole atmosphere of that house rich and beautiful she brings home something that is absolutely worthless to herself.

She spent her money foolishly, and because the money is simply thrown away the home is wrecked and hearts are broken.

The second strange god to which I desire to call your attention is the "idol of education." What is the ideal education? Some people say it is knowledge; some say it is success; others say character and personality. In the eyes of a great many people education is that which fits one to make success in terms of money; but that is not my own ideal of education. It is that which fits us to serve our God and to serve our humanity, and anything that unfits us for the service of God and humanity—call it by any name you will, but don't call it education.

One of the perils of the east today is that education is being translated in terms of dollars and cents, instead of in terms of character and personality. What is one of the secrets of the great success of the west? It is education, and education of the right sort, too.

The third strange god that I want to speak about is the god of "amusement." Amusement is a good thing; it is a safety valve. I don't know what we would do with our nervous temperament, here in America, if it were not for amusements. I love to see people enjoy themselves, especially after a strenuous week of hard work. But amusements ought never to be an end; it ought always to be a means to an end, and that end must fit into the purpose of God and the welfare of mankind.

The real test as to whether an amusement is right or wrong is this: If it creates in our hearts a distaste for the things of the spirit it is wrong; if it unfits us for Christian service it is wrong. And if it doesn't do any of these things, but prepares us for the real and deeper enjoyment of life, then it is right, and the more amusement the better it will be for us.

It's the United effort of little things that make big troubles.

Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup for Children's teething, softens the gums, reduces inflammation, allays pain, cures wind colic, 25c a bottle.

Every time a child shows you its toy bank it's your ante.

Lewis' Single Binder, straight 50—many smokers prefer them to 10c cigars.

Even love may ripen into friendship.

THE KEYSTONE TO HEALTH IS HOSTETTER'S STOMACH BITTERS

You will find the Bitters a beneficial remedy in every way in cases of Indigestion, Dyspepsia, Costiveness and Cramps. Try it today and see.

When the Crop Is Laid By the homeseeking farmer will have the time to personally investigate. He cannot afford to pass the great, solid opportunity offered to secure a home in the fertile

Spur Farm Lands
covering 673 square miles, now being subdivided and sold in quarter sections and upwards direct from the owners—no selling commission to load the price—\$12 to \$18 per acre, one-fifth down, balance 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 years. Wonderful cotton country—No boll weevil. Healthy climate, schools, churches, railroad through lands. Lands being rapidly occupied. For free illustrated pamphlet, address Chas. A. Jones, Manager for S. M. Swenson & Sons, Spur, Dickens County, Texas.

Why Suffer the tortures of indigestion, constipation, biliousness and the hundred and one ills that spring from a disordered stomach which you can

Use
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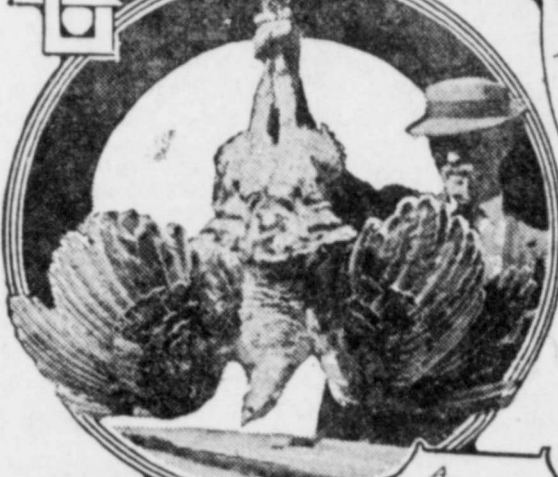
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AT THE OLD TIME COUNTY FAIR IN A RURAL DISTRICT

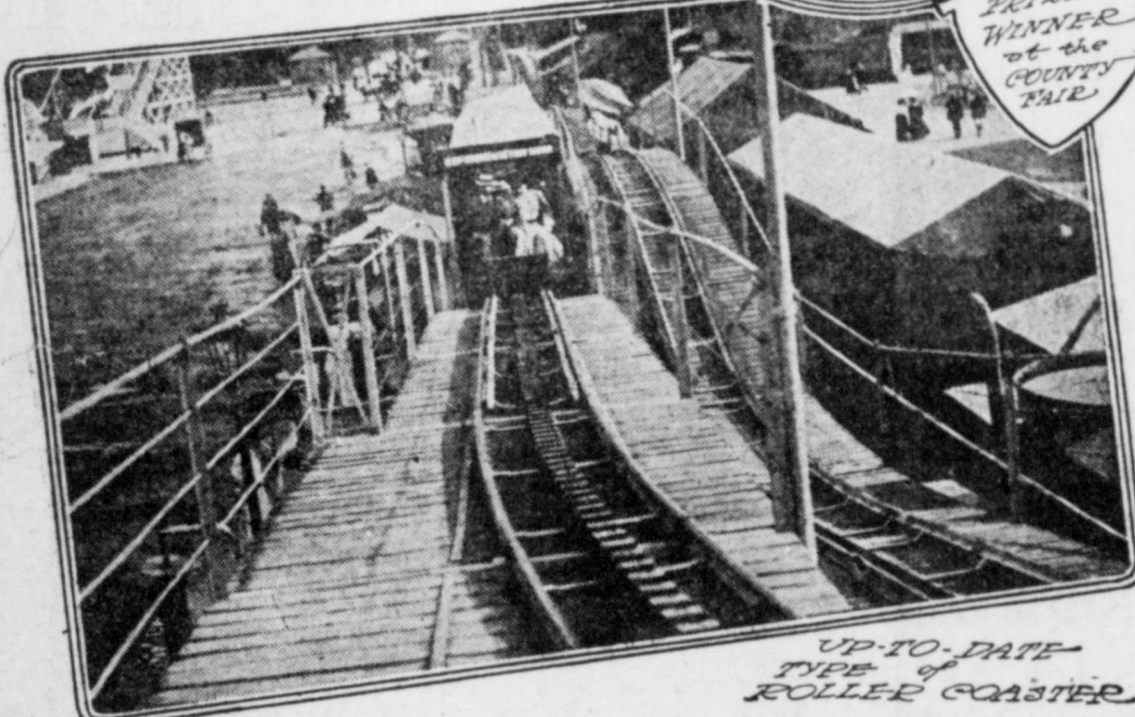
A PRIZE WINNER at the COUNTY FAIR

EXHIBITS for the COUNTY FAIR

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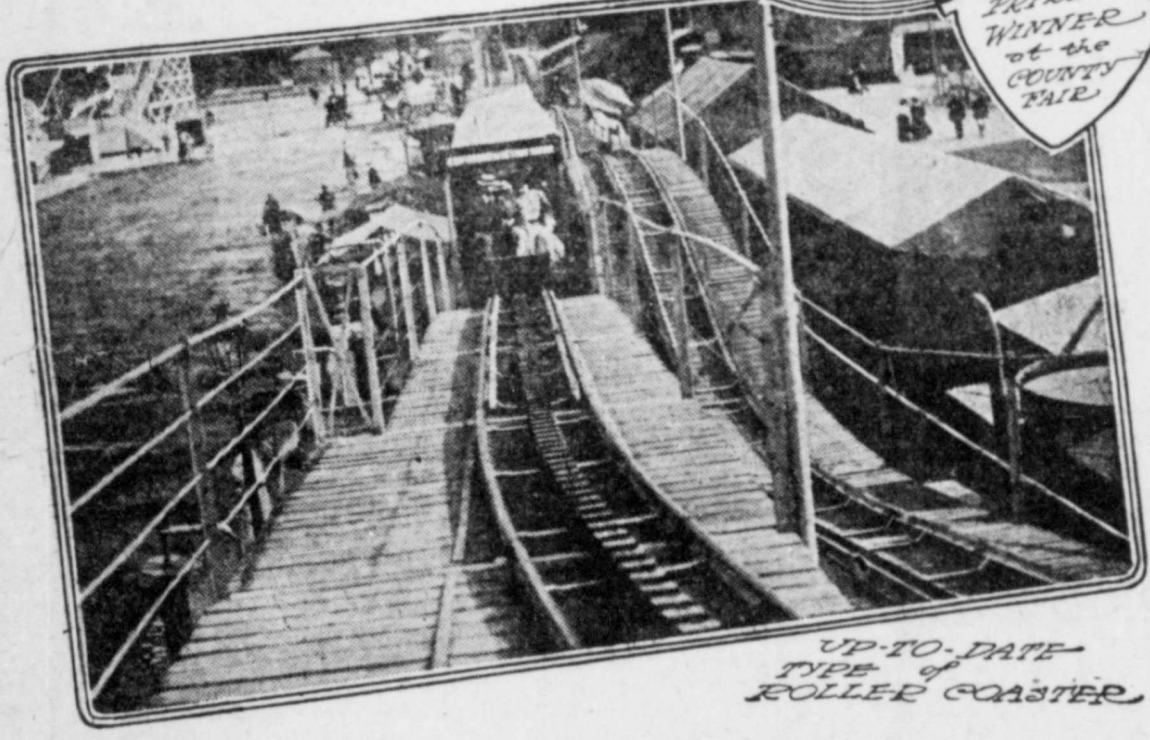
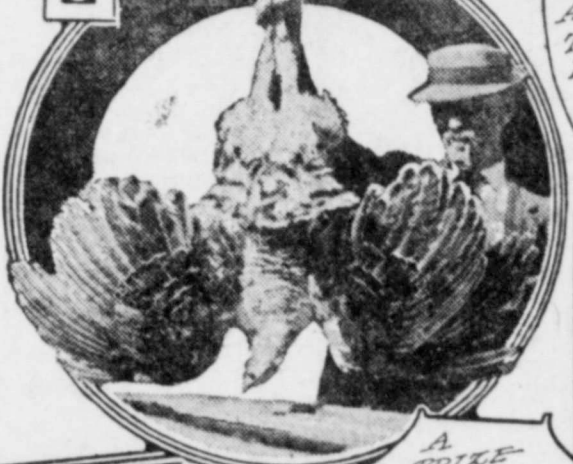
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God of FASHION
By Rev. George R. Lockwood
Pastor of Glenoiden Congregational Church, Philadelphia.

It is a strange thing that humanity can't seem to get along without idols. There has never been a period in the world's history that humanity has not worshipped some sort of idols. You can't read the Old Testament without having your heart pained; when you see how Israel was continually turning away from God, and placing something in their hearts that ought to have been occupied by God himself. Well, now exactly the same thing has been true in every age and amongst every people. There is a strong tendency in the mind and heart of humanity to reach out and lay hold upon something and put it in the place that belongs only to God.

The first strange god that is amongst us is the "Fashion." This whole subject of dress is a very interesting one. I always claim that it takes more brains to build a dress than it takes to build a house—and it takes brains to build a house. What I mean by that is, it takes brains to build a dress that, in a certain sense, befits the individual that is being clothed. It doesn't take any brains to reach your arm across to Paris and lug over here some fashion across the water—anybody can do that. But there are comparatively few people who seem to have the happy faculty of building a dress that just meets their own individuality. Such a dress as just fits you in every sense of the word—a dress that is the expression of your own mind and your own soul—that is an exceedingly hard thing.

What is the result of this thralldom that is in our midst this present day? There is a demoralization and a demoralization that is going on in our American life; it is enough to pain anybody deeply. I can't quite understand why America should reach across the ocean and bring her fashion from Paris.

If there is one city on the face of God's earth that is any lower down in perdition than another, it is Paris. And why should we be enslaved to Paris for our fashion? In every other respect we claim to stand on our own feet; why can't America stand on her own feet when it comes to the subject of dress? It seems to me there are brains enough in this country to create a fashion for ourselves and to break loose from the slavery of a foreign country.

But that is not the sad part of it all. I wonder if you realize the terrible extravagance that is associated with this one phase of our American life? I wonder if you can bring before your minds the untold number of homes that are simply wrecked; or, picture the hearts that are broken because of this terrible slavery, namely—the slavery of America to this god of "fashion?"

Let me illustrate. Here is a girl—she is brought up in a comparatively poor home; she has not had any experience in holding money in her own hands; she marries a comparatively poor young man, and they go and start a home for themselves. When he comes back from his first week, he puts his wages in her hands. She has had no experience in the use of money; and what does she do? Almost the first thing she does is to rush out into a great city, lose herself in one of these big stores and, instead of bringing home something that is going to make the whole atmosphere of that home rich and beautiful she brings home something that is absolutely worthless to herself.

She spent her money foolishly, and because the money is simply thrown away the home is wrecked and hearts are broken.

The second strange god to which I desire to call your attention is the "Idol of education." What is the ideal education? Some people say it is knowledge; some say it is success; others say character and personality. In the eyes of a great many people education is that which fits one to make success in terms of money; but that is not my own ideal of education. It is that which fits us to serve our God and to serve our humanity, and anything that unfits us for the service of God and humanity—call it by any name you will, but don't call it education.

One of the perils of the east today is that education is being translated in terms of dollars and cents, instead of in terms of character and personality. What is one of the secrets of the great success of the west? It is education, and education of the right sort, too.

The third strange god that I want to speak about is the god of "amusement." Amusement is a good thing; it is a safety valve. I don't know what we would do with our nervous temperament, here in America, if we were not for amusements. I love to see people enjoy themselves, especially after a strenuous week of hard work. But amusements ought never to be an end; it ought always to be a means to an end, and that end must fit into the purpose of God and the welfare of mankind.

The real test as to whether an amusement is right or wrong is this: If it creates in our hearts a distaste for the things of the spirit is wrong; if it unfits us for Christian service it is wrong. And if it doesn't do any of these things, but prepares us for the real and deeper enjoyment of life, then it is right, and the more amusement the better it will be for us.

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