

## ABILENE PARTIES PURCHASE BAKERY

Messrs J. T. Blanton and T. B. Nordyke of Abilene closed a deal Tuesday in which they became the owners of the Home Bakery, so notoriously managed in this city for a few weeks by one Quentin by name a man who departed to parts unknown between suns.

The new owners of the Home Bakery are well known in Abilene and ask that the people of Merkel lend their assistance in making the Home Bakery a success in such a way as to keep Merkel money in Merkel. Both the proprietors are young men and have previously acquainted themselves with the bakers profession. The establishment will be in the same building it formerly occupied while under the direction of said "Quentin".

## KEY RATE REDUCED BY WATCHFUL WAIT

For the last eighteen months or longer Mayor J. J. Stallings and Fire Chief F. J. Ferrier have been working on the reduction of the insurance key-rate in Merkel. Especially has the latter been devoting his time to this matter and it has now been accomplished after these many months of watchful waiting.

A letter to Hon. J. J. Stallings, mayor, from the office of the State Fire Insurance Commissioner on June 25, advises the former that a new supplement to the Merkel Key-rate is now being prepared, allowing credit of seven cents from the present key-rate of 55 cents and same will be promulgated at once. This means the Merkel insurance will hereafter be based on a 48 cent rate instead of 55 cents as the basis has been in the past.

## ABILENE TO HAVE THREE BIG DAYS

Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday of next week are to be gala days in Abilene if Secretary Fred Wood of the Commercial Club and Fair Association is not badly mistaken.

Much has been done by the members of the Fair Association to make the three days Mid-Summer Race Meet a success in every respect. Races are to be held each afternoon at 2 p. m. and a grand demonstration of Fire Works each evening at 8 o'clock.

### Texas Cattle Break Record.

KANSAS CITY, June 22.—Texas cattle established a new record here yesterday and today, when a shipment in by C. O. Keiser of Canyon, Randall County, Texas, sold at \$9.25, \$9.15 and \$9.10, these prices being the highest ever paid for any Texas fed cattle on any open market in the middle west. The cattle were handled and sold by Clay, Robinson & Co., the well known commission firm with offices at all markets. These cattle were Herefords; were fed kaffir corn and sorghum silage, ground kaffir corn and milo maize and kaffir corn fodder, as well as two pounds of cottonseed meal a day during the past ninety days.

Keep cool by having a nice refrigerator with it full of ice, let "Mack's" reduced prices.

### Valuable Pet Poisoned

The large Saint Bernard dog belonging to Sammie Scheidler formerly of this city was poisoned last week at the family home in Corpus Christi.

Many Merkel children will remember the large dog and will regret to hear that some one intentionally poisoned him. The animal was valued at \$500, being of registered pedigree.

## A. & M. TEACHERS AT BUFFALO GAP SOON

Teachers from A. & M. College will be at Buffalo Gap, August 16th, 17th, and 18th., for the purpose of giving a three days short course in farm work. The same programs will be rendered as are given at College Station and is to be without cost to the farmers of Taylor county.

The following program for the interest of the men has been arranged and in addition to this a portion of each day will be devoted to cooking demonstrations and other demonstrations of the culinary department of the farm home.

### First Day

9:30—Registration.  
10:00—Horse & Mule Judging.  
11:15—Soils and soil fertility.  
1:30—Poultry.  
2:15—Hogs and Sheep.  
3:30—Soils and soil fertility.  
Night Program to be Arranged by Local People.

### Second Day

9:30—Silos, feed and feeding.  
10:30—Dairying.  
11:15—Horticulture.  
1:30—Horticulture.  
2:15—Cattle Judging.  
3:30—Agronomy.  
Night Program to be Arranged by Local People.

### Third Day

9:30—Co-operation.  
10:30—Dairying.  
11:15—Crops.  
1:40—Poultry.  
2:15—Hog Cholera.  
3:30—Farm Management.

## NEW BAKERY NOW OPEN

We have purchased the bakery formerly controlled by Mr. Quentin and are now ready to supply your wants in anything in the Bakery Line.

We are exclusive bakers and hope to merit the patronage of all Merkel merchants and people by giving good service and satisfaction at all times. Call on or phone us for your fresh bread and cakes.

The Home Bakery.  
Blanton & Nordyke, Proprietors.

### Notice to the Public

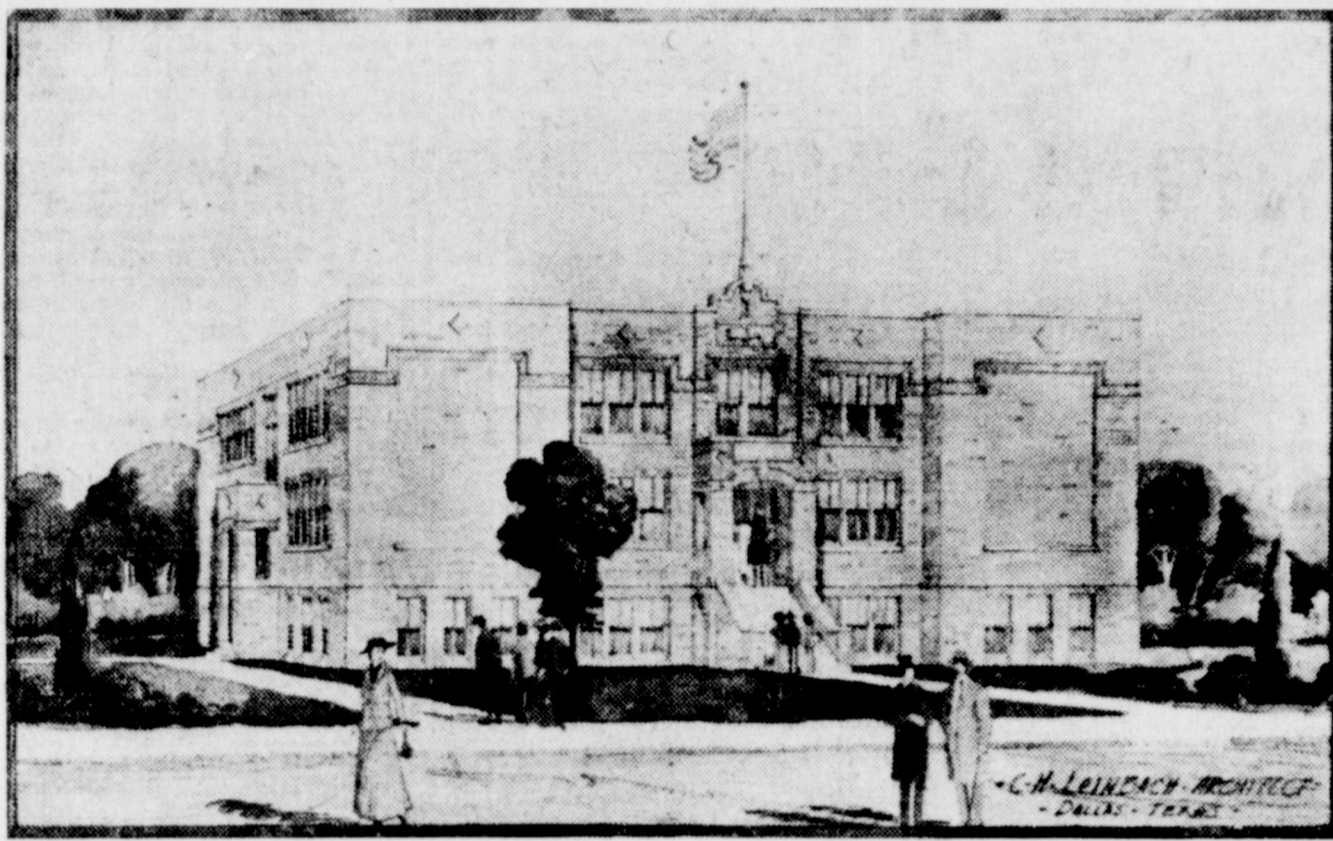
I have purchased the Quentin stock of candies I have boxed candies that I will sell for half the marketed price of selling also chewing gum 2 packages for a nickel that you pay 5c for a single one and all candies at greatly reduced figures. Come around and see my stock. I offer you no damaged stuff. Yours for business.  
A. C. Boney.

This 6-30-1915.

### Specials for Saturday July 3rd

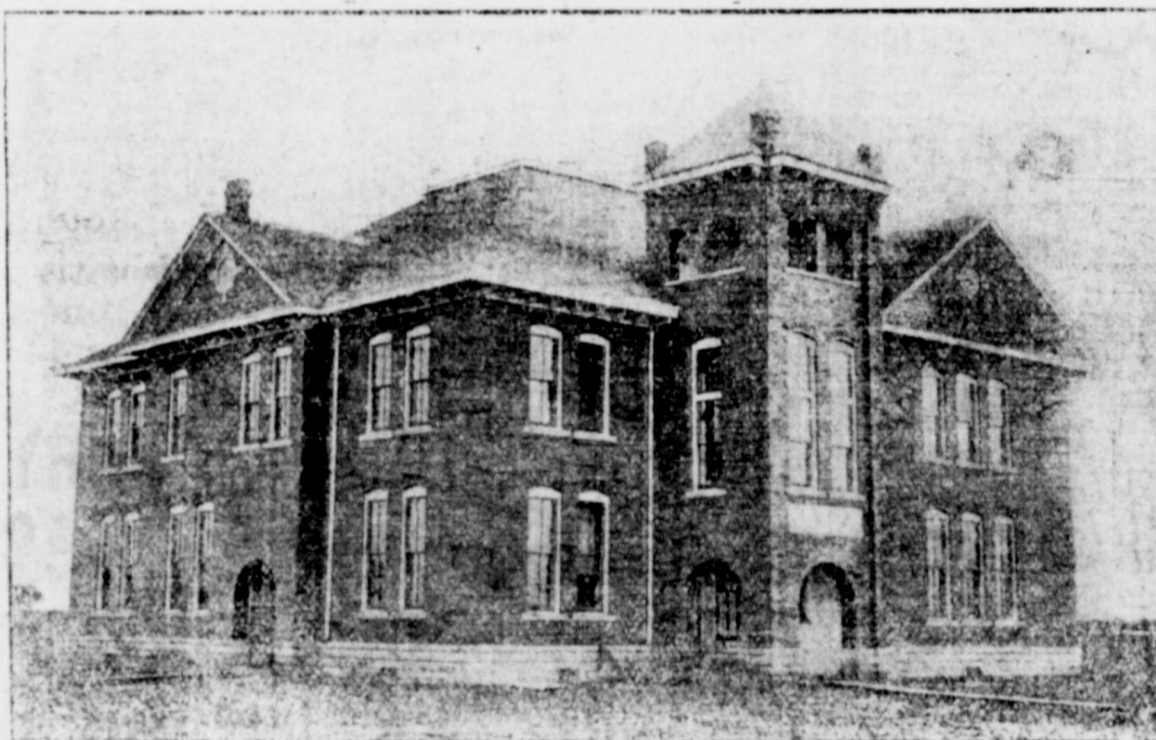
Our entire stock of dress gingham on sale at 8c per yard.  
20 per cent discount on Misses and childrens Dresses.  
Entire stock of summer footwear at 10 per cent discount.  
Harkrider's Dry Goods Store.

Come and drink a cup of high grade Canover Coffee at J. T. Dennis' Store Saturday. Ladies are especially invited. Come and bring your friends.



The above drawing of the new High School building for Merkel, was furnished the Mail by the architects C. H. Linebach Co., of Dallas. The building when completed will seat approximately 1250, including the seating capacity of the auditorium which will be between four and five hundred.

The eighteen class and study rooms are so arranged as to save the Merkel schools one if not two teachers, heretofore used on account of the two school buildings. Complete electric wiring, sanitary drinking fountains, built in black boards, modern heating apparatus, cloak rooms and many other conveniences will grace the new building.



Two buildings like the one above will be torn down and the material in them used in the construction of the new building so far as the contractors Messrs. Dalton & Wofford of Cleburne deem will be advisable to use.

Mr. Wofford who is here in person looking after the contract expects to have work started by the first of next week and will begin erection of the new building just as soon as the ground can be cleared where the south ward building now stands.

With these two old landmarks gone and the new monument erected to our educational system Merkel schools should demand the attention of prospective citizens coming from any part of the state.

The contract was given to the above firm as the lowest bidders. Their bid being \$15,187.00 including architectural fees.

## A GLORIOUS RAIN ON ENTIRE WEST

Every west Texas person is jubilant over the good rain of last week but to those who are not informed of the excellent conditions of Merkel and Merkel country, the report of the one and one half inch week end rain will be pleasing.

Little or no damage will be done to the wheat and oat harvest, the receipts of which continue to swell each day. Other feed stuffs such as milo, maize, kaffir, corn, and sorghum are practically assured crops with cotton conditions nearly 100 per cent perfect for this section of the state.

July 4th being Sunday the banks of Merkel will observe Monday as a legal holiday. The banking public will take notice and be governed accordingly.  
Farmers State Bank.  
F. & M. National Bank.

Will renovate old cotton beds for \$1.50 or make feather mattresses for \$2.00. All work guaranteed.  
R. J. Bassett,  
Phone 214.

6,000 mile guarantee on Pennsylvania Vacuum Cup Tires. For sale by H. M. Rose.

### Error on Grain Report.

Two weeks ago the Mail was handed a report of the wheat crop of M. L. Alexander of near Tye.

As we received the report Mr. Alexander made 36 bushels of wheat per acre and the report further stated that he marketed the same at Abilene for the reason of good roads though he took a sacrifice in price. Part of this report evidently was an error according to later information we have gotten. The good roads no doubt had some effect on the wheat being marketed at Abilene but the yield did not reach 36 bushels neither did Mr. Alexander take a sacrifice in selling his wheat at Abilene.

The Mail does not intend to allow a wrong impression to be circulated in reference to our neighboring towns and our readers can easily see how the Mail can be placed in a critical light by giving publicity to such articles in which the one giving the report was mistaken in his figures. Our informant was mistaken in the original report of this special crop of grain and in-turn the Mail gave the wrong report which we are glad to correct.

### Violin Over 150 Years Old

I have for sale a fine violin which is over 150 years old also a bicycle which will sell cheap.  
Capt. E. Hall.

## TAKES OVER ELEC. PLANT IN MERKEL

The American Public Service Corporation, owners of the Abilene Electric Co., and now in charge of the Merkel Electric plant, took management of the company's business in Merkel yesterday morning.

Immediately after the Abilene company took charge, the power was started and Merkel users of electric current probably thought the 24-hour service had started, but not so. Yesterday was regular ironing day in Merkel and the 24-hour service is scheduled to start August 1st. In charge of the plant under the new owners will be Mr. McSpaden from Abilene assisted by Ben Stanley of this city.

### Specials for Saturday July 3rd

Our entire stock of dress gingham on sale at 8c per yard.  
20 per cent discount on Misses and childrens dresses.  
Entire stock of summer footwear at 10 per cent discount.  
Harkrider's Dry Goods Store.

Furniture and undertaking. The Home Furniture Co., phone 54.

Try a sack of Cake flour from the Bob Martin Gro. Co.

## FINAL SELECTION OF TEACHERS MADE

The roster of the Merkel school faculty has been completed and all teachers elected and with two exceptions the various teachers have been assigned to their positions.

Since our report of the teachers elected for the high school the following have been elected for the lower grades. Miss Willie Valentine, re-elected, 1st grade, Miss Sophia Howard, re-elected, 2nd Grade, Miss Lena Longley of Whitewright 3rd grade, Miss Willie Carr of Bonham 4th grade, Misses Beulah Overshiner and Zelma Fletcher who were members of the faculty last year have been re-elected, their positions will be in the fifth or sixth grades yet to be assigned, Mrs. Robertson also re-elected will teach the 7th grade.

## MEETING OPENED WITH BIG CROWDS

The Baptist Meeting now in progress at the tabernacle opened auspiciously Sunday at 11 a. m. when Rev. Kimbrough of Abilene preached the first sermon outlining the platform of a good meeting and some of the things necessary for a meeting of spiritual success.

The initial sermon was taken from Math. 7, 1 to 12, and the outline of the sermon dealt with the essentials of a good meeting from a spiritual point of view, four of which were: Prayer, Preaching, Repentance, and Faith in the Lord Jesus Christ.

One special feature of the meeting is the excellent song service under direction of Miss Beulah Burkett. The service on Sunday morning being highly enjoyable in connection with the good sermon of Rev. Kimbrough. The meeting will continue through next week with services morning and evening of each day.

## 54 BALES COTTON MONDAY RECEIPTS

Monday was very much like a busy day in the fall on the Merkel streets. Other than the regular wheat and oat shipments going forward from here the cotton market took a sudden start.

E. A. McCoy of the Hodges community started bringing cotton to town early in the morning and by noon had marketed the entire amount of fifty four bales at a fair price, fifty bales selling for 7.65 and four bales going at 8.25. The sale was made to W. F. Dupree.

### Your Votes Appreciated

I will appreciate your votes in the contest now on at E. L. Rogers Grocery. Miss Sadie Woodrum.

### Furnished Rooms.

Furnished suit of rooms with water connections. Apply to Mrs. J. W. Daniel at Woodroofs Store.

### Refrigerators.

Absolutely closing them out at real money-saving prices. See "Mack."

Phone Bob Martin for Cake flour.

See the Home Furniture Co., for your house furnishing needs.

STATEMENT

## Farmers & Merchants NATIONAL BANK

Of Merkel, Texas

JUNE 23, 1915

RESOURCES

Loans	\$113,860.67
Overdrafts	None
U. S. Bonds—Par	10,250.00
Stock in Federal Bank	1,500.00
Five Per Cent Redemption Fund	312.50
Furniture and Fixtures	3,600.00
Real Estate	6,500.00
Capital and Sight Exchange	101,024.51
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$237,047.68</b>

LIABILITIES

Capital	\$ 25,000.00
Surplus and Profits—Net	34,058.33
Circulation	5,250.00
Bills Payable	None
Rediscounts	None
Other Borrowed Money	None
Deposits	171,739.05
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$237,047.68</b>

**We Invite Good Business**

J. T. Warren, Pres.      Thos. Johnson, Cashier

An Agriculturist's Tribute.

The following article entitled "The Rural Mail Carrier" was recently written by Miss Jewel Mayes, secretary of the Missouri State Board of Agriculture, and is soon to be published in that organization's 1915 year book:

"The rural mail carrier is a forceful factor in the development of better methods of money making on the farm—he is a vital force in the country life of this State and nation!

"In this greatest and best nations the rural mail carrier is the hardest worked and the poorest paid when you consider the cost of his equipment, the length and burden of his hours, his dangers from wind and weather. He deserves substantial recognition at the hands of the wage-establishing law-makers of this nation—and that without years of red-taped delay.

"What innovation of three decades has done more than this revolutionary reform in the Federal mail service? It was first a joke. Its rebuff at the start sustains Sam Jordan's Crimson Trail of a New Idea. Its speed was slow but purty for some time—but it was right and it went. It was a dream at first, then project, then a trial, then a success. Today a daily mail is a necessity—and everybody takes it for granted.

"For generations the country people of these United States have paid their share of the Federal appropriations in delivering the mail to the door of every home and every place of business in every city in every State—and nothing was thought of the inequality to the farmer. It was believed that the business man should have his mail delivered daily to his desk and to his home free by the Government—but the farmer (the real business man) didn't get a square deal. The country man was left without his mail except as he journeyed to town once a week or so while the city man's mail came free to his desk four times a day.

"Blessed be progress, for today the rural mail man driving his gray horse, his bay team, his long-eared Missouri mules, his motorcycle as loud of smell as it is of noise, or his own automobile as full of growls and fumes as a frog is of croaks, turns in at every mail box every day at every country home on nearly every public highway in these forty-eight States, carrying joy and sorrow, sunshine and shadow, laughter and tears, brightening the days and glorifying the years of the busy millions of real producers of wealth.

"So Wonderfully organized is this rural mail system that in millions of homes the farmers reset their clock by the sight of the carrier as he drives down the road, as regular as the master mechanism on the tower of the national observatory.

"If you are a true booster, if you are a true friend to man, you hold in high regard your local carrier—and you prove it by doing well your part (and more) although the live long year in keeping his road (and your road) drained, graded and dragged.

"If you are in love and fellowship with every unselfish slave to duty you will write the name of your rural carrier high at the head of the loyal list of faithful folks who are silently solving our country life problems, day by day, in a practical way.

A TEXAS WONDER.

The Texas Wonder cures kidney and bladder troubles, dissolves gravel, cures diabetes, weak and lame backs, rheumatism and all irregularities of the kidneys 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.

### COMB SAGE TEA IN LIFELESS, GRAY HAIR

Look young! Common garden Sage and Sulphur darkens so naturally nobody can tell

Grandmother kept her hair beautifully darkened, glossy and abundant with a brew of Sage Tea and Sulphur. Whenever her hair fell out or took on that dull, faded or streaked appearance, this simple mixture was applied with wonderful effect. By asking at any drug store for "Wyeth's Sage and Sulphur Hair Remedy" you will get a large bottle of this old-time recipe, ready to use, for about 50 cents. This simple mixture can be depended upon to restore natural color and beauty to the hair and is splendid for dandruff, dry, itchy scalp and falling hair.

A well-known downtown druggist says everybody uses Wyeth's Sage and Sulphur, because it darkens so naturally and evenly that nobody can tell it has been applied—it's so easy to use, too. You simply dampen a comb or soft brush and draw it through your hair, taking one strand at a time. By morning the gray hair disappears; after another application or two, it is restored to its natural color and looks glossy, soft and abundant.

Notice of Road Bond Election for  
Commissioners Precinct No. 2.

Pursuant to an order of the commissioners court of Taylor county, Texas, made and entered on the 19th day of June, A. D. 1915, notice is hereby given that an election will be held in and for Commissioners Precinct No. 2, said county on

Saturday, the 24th day  
of July, A. D. 1915,

at the regular voting places in said precinct as defined in the minutes of said commissioners court, Book G, pages 62 and 63, constituting a road district to be known as Road District No. 2, shall be issued in the sum of One Hundred and Fifty Thousand Dollars for the purpose of constructing, maintaining and operating of macadamized, graveled and paved roads and turnpikes, said bonds to be of the denomination of \$1,000.00 each bearing five per cent interest, payable semi-annually, said bonds being due forty years from their date, with the option of redeeming the whole or any part thereof ten years from date.

All resident property tax paying voters of said precinct shall be eligible to vote at said election, and those favoring the proposition shall have written or printed on their ballots the words "For the issuance of Bonds," and those opposed shall have printed upon their ballots the words "Against the issuance of Bonds."

Witness my hand officially seal this 21st day of July, A. D. 1915.  
E. M. Overshiner, County Judge,  
2514 Taylor County, Texas.

Headaches and Nervousness Cured.

"Chamberlain's Tablets are entitled to all the praise I can give them," writes Mrs. Richard Oip, Spencerport, N. Y. They have cured me of headache and nervousness and me restored to my normal health." For sale by all dealers.

Advertised Letters.

Harris, Miss Hattie  
Hunter, Joe  
Romero, Rafael

These letters will be sent to the dead letter office July 10.  
H. C. Williams, P M  
Merkel, Texas

### EXIT CALOMEL

No More Nasty, Disagreeable  
Effects.

LIV-VER-LAX is now rapidly taking the place of calomel everywhere. It is just as effective, cleansing the system thoroughly of bile, toning up the liver; and making that sluggish feeling disappear like magic. Yet it is pleasant to take, and has none of the disagreeable after effects that makes us dread calomel so much.

Feel fine all the time. Take LIV-VER-LAX regularly and health becomes a habit.

GUARANTEE. Every genuine bottle bears the likeness of L. K. Grigsby, and if it does not give satisfaction your money will be returned. For sale in the big 50c and \$1 bottles at Mrs. E. M. Rust's Drug Store. 1814

**RINGS DYSPEPSIA TABLETS**  
Relieve Indigestion and Stomach Troubles.

Condensed Statement of  
Condition of

## The Farmers State Bank

MERKEL, TEXAS

As Reported June 23, 1915

RESOURCES

Loans	\$138,209.95
Overdrafts	None
Banking House	9,500.00
Other Real Estate	2,938.00
Furniture and Fixtures	4,500.00
Interest in Gty. Fund	1,083.86
Revenue Stamps	55.37
<b>Cash and Exchange</b>	<b>45,461.42</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$201,748.60</b>

LIABILITIES

Capital Stock	\$ 35,000.00
Surplus and Profits	7,743.71
Borrowed Money	None
<b>Deposits</b>	<b>159,004.99</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$201,748.60</b>

The above Statement is Correct.

R. O. ANDERSON, Cashier.

## SAFETY AND SERVICE

One of the best indications of a bank's popularity is a consistent increase in its business. Year after year Farmers State customers have been spreading the story of Safety and Service.

Our facilities are at your command and every member of our force is ready to do something for you.

## Farmers State Bank Merkel, Texas

A GUARANTY FUND  
BANK

# WOODROOF BROTHERS

# EVERYTHING TO WEAR

Prices Always Right

### PROFESSIONAL

**O. F. McMASTER**  
DENTIST  
Terms Cash

Office 2nd floor with Dr. Geo. L. Miller

**J. L. GILLILAND**  
DENTIST

Phones—Res. 53; Office 154  
Over Woodroof Bros.

**M. ARMSTRONG, M. D.**

Practicing Physician  
Office at Grimes Drug Store  
Merkel, Texas  
Telephones: Res. 1-2; Office 1-0-

**W. W. WHEELER**

Real Estate, Fire, Accident and Tornado  
Insurance Agent  
Notary Public.

Office over Farmers State Bank

**C. D. MIMS**

Attorney-at Law

General Practice and Collections  
Land Title Work a Speciality  
Office over Farmers State Bank.

**G. W. JOHNSON**

Real Estate, Fire, Life and Accident  
Insurance Agent  
Respectfully Solicits Your Business  
Notary Public in Office  
Office over Woodroof & Company  
Merkel — Texas

### SHAVING AND BATH PARLORS

The most Up-to-Date  
SHOP IN MERKEL

**CITY BARBER SHOP**

WEST & PATE : : Proprietors

### ABSTRACTS

To buy land without seeing it is poor  
business, but to buy it with-  
out an abstract is worse. You should  
see your title as well as your land.

**WE MAKE ABSTRACTS  
AND KNOW HOW**

Taylor County Abstract Co.  
Abilene, Texas Geo. C. Bishop, Mgr.

### When in Abilene

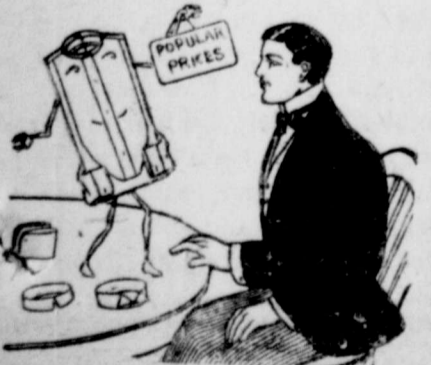
## Mosart Cafe

Regular Lunch 25c

Short Orders

Service and Satisfaction

**JACK GILSTRAP**



### OUR LAUNDRY

**SPEAKS FOR ITSELF**

When we tell you that we will "do  
up" your shirts, collars and cuffs in a  
manner that will delight the most fasti-  
dious, it's so! You can't beat it for  
excellence, beauty or saving of material  
and temper.

SWEETWATER STEAM LAUNDRY  
M. B. BELL, Agent, Merkel.  
Phone No. 133

### LOCAL AND PERSONAL

Miss Velma Stanley of Midland  
is the guest of Mrs. L. J. Renfro.  
Coon's sanitary bread at the  
Bob Martin Gro. Co.

Miss Mary Jennings of Abilene  
is in the city visiting friends.

Mrs. Nancy Armstrong visited  
friends in Abilene the past week.

Miss Elva and Ruby Payne of  
Abilene visited friends here Friday.

Mr. and Mrs. Hood Day of Es-  
kota visited relatives here Sunday.

E. W. Perminter is in Big  
Springs this week visiting relatives.

Miss Mattie T Mann of Clyde  
is here visiting her aunt Mrs.  
Alice Templeton.

Money to loan on Farms and  
Ranches. Geo. W. P. Coates,  
Abilene, Texas. 2t5

Miss Beulah Burkett of Abilene  
is here visiting Mrs. W. H. Dick-  
son and attending the Baptist  
revival.

Mrs. J. D. Gaither and children  
came in Tuesday from Mexia  
where they have been visiting.

Virgil Touchstone of Childress  
is here this week visiting his  
mother, Mrs. Alice Touchstone.

C. T. Beckham, James Bright  
and William Smith were among  
the visitors from Trent in Merkel  
Tuesday.

Mrs. Frank Johnson of Stam-  
ford is here visiting her hus-  
band's parents, Mr. and Mrs. G.  
W. Johnson.

Misses Nettie, Ana and Clara  
Oliphant of Dallas are here  
visiting Mr. and Mrs. O. J. Ad-  
cock and other relatives.

The Presbyterian Protheus  
girls will serve cream and cake  
at the Bob Martin Gro. Store  
Saturday.

Mr. and Mrs. R. E. Campbell  
and children of Paducah are here  
visiting Mrs. Campbell's parents,  
Mr. and Mrs. Frank Sears.

Mrs. R. A. Ellis and daughter,  
Mamie, were in Abilene Sunday  
visiting the family of their son  
and brother, Lester Ellis.

Mrs. Jno. Sears and children  
are at home from Whitewright  
where they visited the former's  
mother, Mrs. Lilly.

Pennsylvania Tires and Tubes  
for sale by H. M. Rose. Satisfactory  
adjustments always made. Dont  
forget the No. 265.

Mr. and Mrs. R. O. Anderson  
and children and Miss Elma  
Sheppard are at home from a  
motor tour to Dallas and Weath-  
erford.

Mr. and Mrs. Sam Swafford of  
Big Springs who came in Satur-  
day to visit the latter's parents  
Mr. and Mrs. S. H. L. Swafford  
returned to their home Sunday  
afternoon.

Jack Cannon of Jones county,  
adjacent to Merkel, is another  
who has recently joined the Ford  
Club with a five-passenger car.

D. C. Sibley of Arlington,  
came in Friday to visit his broth-  
er J. W. Sibley who has been  
very ill for some time.

Phone Bob Martin Gro. Co., for  
Cake flour.

Dr. E. A. Swafford of Rock-  
dale returned to his home Tuesday  
morning after a short visit here  
with his parents Mr. and Mrs. S.  
H. L. Swafford.

Ennis Grimes, Owen Ellis and  
W. L. Diltz, Jr., are in Galveston  
this week jumping the sea waves  
and seeing things in the Gulf  
City.

D. C. Sibley of Arlington re-  
turned to his home owing to ur-  
gent business matters. He was  
called here to visit his brother J.  
W. Sibley who is seriously ill.

The report of the birth of a ten  
pound son to Mr. and Mrs. W. R.  
Russell Monday of last week was  
omitted in our preceding issue.  
"Bob" is all smiles and took most  
of last week off to honor little  
"Bob, Jr."

J. S. French of Amity, Ark.,  
came in last week for a short visit  
with the family of Geo. Boyce  
and to look after business in this  
section of the country. Mr.  
French will return to his home  
soon.

Luther Swafford of Dallas who  
has been here with his wife visit-  
ing relatives returned to his home  
Sunday. Mrs. Swafford will re-  
main in Merkel a few days with  
her parents Mr. and Mrs. Largent  
before returning home.

Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Sublett,  
Mr. and Mrs. L. C. Sublett of  
Merkel and Miss Merial Christo-  
pher of Abilene returned Wednes-  
day from a ten days' trip to the  
Concho. All report a pleasant  
time and plenty of fish to eat.

Mr. and Mrs. Austin Pitts re-  
turned home Monday from Pasa-  
dena, Calif., where they visited  
their daughter Mrs. George  
Heinks. They also spent some  
time visiting the Exposition at  
San Diego and other important  
places of interest.

Mrs. E. B. Canada who is in  
Big Springs with her husband,  
having gone there some time ago  
for her health was operated on  
Wednesday of last week. Her  
condition is reported to be good  
considering the three operations  
she underwent.

E. W. Perminter who has been  
in Bonham and other east Texas  
towns for the past three months  
returned to Merkel last week.  
Mr. Perminter stated his trip  
was highly enjoyable and his re-  
turn to Merkel now was to enter  
into business for the summer, he  
will buy grain as his ad in this  
issue foretells.

Stove Wood for Sale.

Stove wood cut. Phone Jim  
Bridges 545 R 1-2. 25t4pd.

## CLASSIFIED ADS

FOR SALE—A large brood  
mare, gentle. E. D. COATS. 4t4

FOR SALE—Good milch cows,  
Chas. Orr, two miles southeast of  
Merkel. 1Augpd

LOST—Gentleman's gold band  
ring on streets of Merkel near  
Grimes Drug Store. Has initials  
G. T. E. engraved inside. Re-  
ward of \$1.00 will be paid for re-  
turn to Merkel Mail Office.

FOR RENT—Four room house  
in south Merkel, close in. See  
S. F. Haynes.

FOR SALE—Good Jersey milch  
cow, age 4 years for \$50.00. A  
bargain. See Dr. McMaster.

Coon's sanitary bread at the  
Bob Martin Gro. Co.

## DON'T MISS

## The Big EXCURSION

## TO EL PASO

Saturday  
July 3rd

Via



\$7.00 ROUND  
TRIP

Grand Celebration

Multitude of  
High-Class  
Attractions

For Particulars see

**A. J. Leighty**  
TICKET AGENT

Mrs. Walter Barclay of Mata-  
dor returned to her home Monday  
afternoon, having spent a week  
with her parents Mr. and Mrs.  
W. L. Barbee of Noodle.

Cake flour at the Bob Martin  
Gro. Co.

A clipping from the San An-  
gelo Daily Standard in giving the  
names of teachers elected for the  
city schools of that place carries  
the name of Miss Elva Payne of  
this place as elected teacher of  
fifth and sixth grades.

## STORES TO CLOSE MONDAY JULY 5TH

July 4th, being Sunday various  
Merkel stores will observe the  
following Monday as a legal holi-  
day and will remain closed for  
the day.

Those who signified a willing-  
ness to close are W. L. Harkrider,  
Parten D. G. Co., Woodroof Bros.,  
Star Store, J. P. Sharp, and  
Duckett dry goods companies, The  
Anchor Mercantile and Crown  
Hardware Company, Behrens-  
McMillen Fur. Co., and Home  
Furniture Co.

A move was started to have  
the entire town close for the day  
but the refusal of one firm kept  
grocery stores from being drawn  
into the agreement.

### Buy Your Wood Now.

Good dry mesquite wood deliv-  
ered for \$3.50 per cord, \$2.50 on  
the ground. 4 miles east of Mer-  
kel, phone R. D. Allen your order  
today. 11t5pd.

W. O. W.

Merkel Camp No. 719 meets  
second and fourth Friday nights  
of each month.

W. M. Elliott, C. C.  
S. Hamilton, Clerk

### Specials for Saturday July 3rd

Our Entire Stock of dress ging-  
hams on sale at 8c per yard.  
20 per cent discount on Misses  
and childrens dresses.

Entire stock of summer foot-  
wear at 10 per cent discount.  
Harkrider's Dry Goods Store.

### Whenever You Need a General Tonic

Take Grove's  
The Old Standard Grove's Tasteless  
chill Tonic is equally valuable as a  
General Tonic because it contains the  
well known tonic properties of QUININE  
and IRON. It acts on the Liver, Drives  
out Malaria, Enriches the Blood and  
Builds up the Whole System. 50 cents.

### SOME SPECIAL PRICES

ON  
**PENNSYLVANIA  
DIAMOND and  
GOOD YEAR Tires**

**FILTERED GASOLINE  
and AUTO OILS my Speciality**

**HENRY M. ROSE**

### LOCAL AND PERSONAL

Miss May Cordill of Big Springs  
is visiting Miss Ina Mae Adams.

Coon's sanitary bread at the  
Bob Martin Gro. Co.

Mr. and Mrs. T. L. Grimes  
were in Abilene Sunday.

Before you buy your furniture  
see us. The Home Furniture Co.

Miss Ona Stanley visited rela-  
tives at Nubia Sunday.

Mrs. J. M. Byrd of Stith visited  
friends here Saturday.

Cake flour at the Bob Martin  
Gro. Co.

Miss Ava Harris is in Chico  
visiting her sister, Mrs. J. M.  
Cox.

Mrs. Walter Holt of Trent visit-  
ed her parents, Mr. and Mrs. J.  
S. Thomas, Monday.

Miss Floy Leamon of Trent  
visited her sister, Mrs. Twyman  
Collins, the past week.

Miss Bertie Carpenter of Cros-  
byton is the guest of her sister,  
Mrs. Chas. Deutschman.

Miss Jackie Jennings of Abi-  
lene spent the weekend with her  
sister, Mrs. Wesley Edwards.

6,000 mile guarantee on Penn-  
sylvania Vacuum Cup Tires. For  
sale by H. M. Rose.

Mrs. A. C. McGee of Detroit'  
Texas came in Tuesday morning  
to visit her parents Mayor J. J.  
Stallings and wife.

Mr. and Mrs. E. M. McDonald,  
and the latter's daughters, Misses  
Nell and Lucy Tracy, motored to  
Hillsboro where they will visit  
relatives.

Mrs. W. C. Williams and chil-  
dren of Bronte were guests of  
Mr. and Mrs. W. L. Diltz last  
week, the parents of Mrs. Wil-  
liams.

Free coffee demonstration at J.  
T. Dennis' Store Saturday. Come  
and bring your friends.

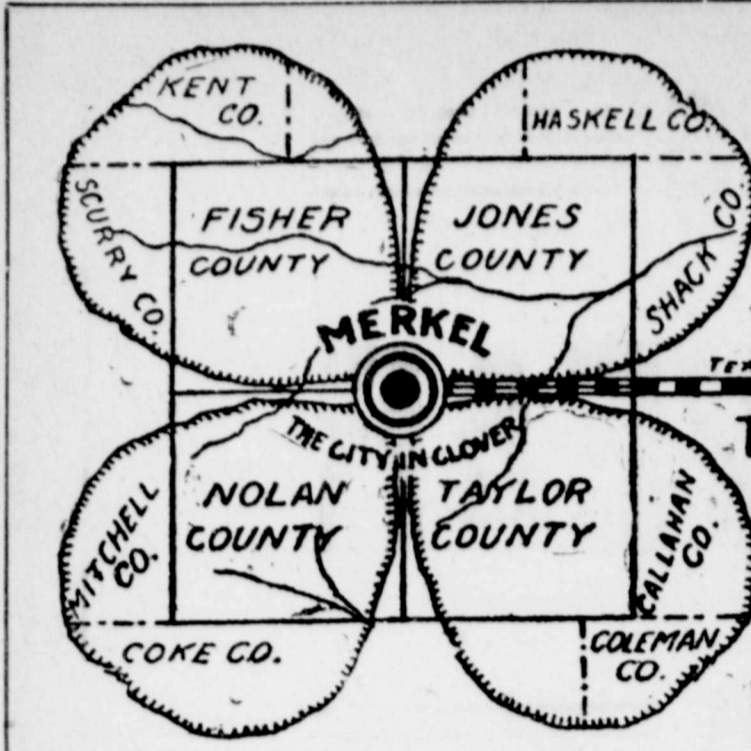
Mrs. Josie Clark of Ft Worth  
who is here visiting her daughter  
Mrs. E. F. Stanley visited friends  
and relatives in the Mulberry  
Canyon Sunday.

Miss Leila Hill of Grandview  
came in Monday afternoon and  
will spend the summer here visit-  
ing her sister Mrs. Frank Fer-  
gusson.

Miss Lurline Powell of Anson  
came in Thursday to visit Mr.  
and Mrs. J. J. Stallings and their  
daughter Mrs. McGee of Detroit  
who is here.

Mrs. S. F. Annis left Tuesday  
for Abilene enroute to Ft Worth  
where she will spend several  
weeks with her sister, Mrs. B.  
Morse.

J. B. Sublett of Lampasas was  
stricken with paralysis Wednes-  
day. His brother, J. P. Sublett,  
of this city, left for that point  
yesterday afternoon, being ac-  
companied by a sister, Mrs.  
Starkey, also of Merkel.



**MERKEL**  
 GOOD HOMES; GOOD SCHOOLS,  
 GOOD CHURCHES; GOOD PEOPLE;  
 THE CITY TO LIVE IN,  
 THE CITY TO INVEST IN

THE MERKEL COUNTRY  
 OPPORTUNITY FOR THE YOUNG MAN,  
 GOOD HEALTH FOR THE OLD MAN,  
 EMPLOYMENT FOR THE POOR MAN,  
 INVESTMENTS FOR THE RICH MAN,  
 PROSPERITY FOR ALL.

**The MERKEL MAIL**

PUBLISHED EVERY FRIDAY MORNING  
 THE MERKEL MAIL PRINTING COMPANY, INCORPORATED  
 HOMER L. EASTERWOOD, Editor and Manager

SUBSCRIPTION, \$1.00 PER YEAR, IN ADVANCE  
 Entered at the Postoffice at Merkel, Texas, as Second-Class Mail Matter

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 its 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 to get the full particulars.

**ANOTHER MESSENGER OF DEATH.**

Mystery surrounds the explosion of the Austrian arsenal at Trieste and another such calamity in one of the fortresses at Trent on which the Italians have surged during the last few days.

The Memphis Commercial Appeal, in commenting on the singularity of these two occurrences, connects them with the work of Guilio Ulivi, an Italian scientist, who announced before the war started that he had succeeded in separating the infra-red rays of the spectrum which, projected thru the air by wireless moved with the speed of lightning and fired all explosives with which it came in contact. To demonstrate the workings of his achievement Ulivi is credited with having fired explosives five miles away from the F-ray apparatus as proof to the king of Italy that his discovery would really work.

If this be true, which it no doubt was, according to scientists' reports, the discovery of Ulivi, as the Appeal said, will prove a harness for lightning and will tame the very devils of war, making explosives as deathly as a venomous rattlesnake in a pit with a man.

But again, as the Appeal suggested, without absolute control of the F-Ray it would be practically useless. After Ulivi's first demonstration to the king of Italy of his discovery, the scientists contended that he could and would make a device that would absolutely master the course of the F-Ray and send it only to the point where it was meant to go. This declaration was made over a year ago and who knows but that Ulivi has succeeded in directing the course of an unseen force capable of exploding every bomb or shell within the radius of several miles or within a certain outlined path or at a certain mark.

War is a queer thing in this enlightened day of horrifying slaughter. The Krupps have mastered the art of making guns; Von Triptz has made sea cruises a nightmare to the Allies; Edison is credited with the new storage battery for submarines that will work another wonder in under-sea fighting by giving the periscope messenger of death universal cruising radius; the navigation of the air has all but been perfected by the French and English with heavier-than-air machines, closely offset by the work of the Zeppelins, and who knows but that Ulivi has perfected his harness for the F-ray? If he has, there is a possible reason for the mysterious explosions at Trieste and Trent. For one of these explosions the Austrians executed more than two score of Italians, believing them to be the secret conspirators.

All things now seem possible in war-fare and who knows but that Ulivi did this work with his new discovery. Assuming that he did, which Italians deny to be true, war with munitions should soon cease, to give room for a new form of death dealing devices. All the bombs possible to manufacture would be useless in the path of such a force. They would only mean death to those who held the explosives.

We ask to what extent can the work of man be carried? We are constantly awe-inspired at the announcements of human ability to handle natural forces. We seem to have reached a time when doubt of human ability to do all things, not Godly, has ceased and everything is possible. Who knows but if the work of Ulivi is found to be true it will stop all the present forms of war-fare? If this be true the F-ray will be more deadly than all the Krupp guns, asphyxiating gases or other death death dealing machines.

As the Commercial Appeal suggested, so it may

be that science may bring world-peace which christianity shall glorify. If Ulivi's discovery can bring this about he will be a benefactor of all humanity.

**MAMMY'S "SCIENCE."**

What's dat you calls it? Chrish'en S'iens?  
 Dem's fine words, I declare;  
 But, honey, yo' old mammy's name  
 For things like dat is prayer;  
 Jes suppuration to de Lord  
 On whom we puts our 'liance;  
 To git down on yo' mahrrer bones  
 Is 'ligion, tain' no S'iens.  
 I's been er-prayin' all mah life,  
 From Amen back on through;  
 I thought dem hifalutin' words  
 Meant sumpen whar was new —  
 What's dat you say? No doctors, chile,  
 No powders an' no pills?  
 No lookin' at er nigger's tongue,  
 No mullen tea fer chills?  
 No collard leaf fer mizry heads,  
 No liny-mint fer sprains,  
 But jes to kneel befo' de Throne  
 An' pray off all yo' pains?  
 So dat am Chrish'en Siens, chile?  
 Well, 'tain' fer me to say  
 Dat de Lord is hard o' hearin'  
 When you physics folks dat way.  
 But I is 'zerved, when of mrrh pains  
 I make de Lord aware  
 Dat calomel an' quinine pills  
 Helps de answer to de prayer.  
 —Sara Beaumont Kennedy.

**PASTED PARAGRAPHS**

The lightning bug is brilliant,  
 But he hasn't any mind;  
 He travels through the darkness  
 With his headlight on behind.  
 —Cornell Widow.

The lightning bug is thoughtful,  
 Of this, please, have no fear.  
 He has that light so auto "bugs"  
 Won't bump him in the rear.  
 —Yokers Statesman.

The lightning bug has wisdom  
 Which we should all admire;  
 Unlike the cigarette bug, he  
 Ne'er sets a town afire.  
 —Houston Post.

The lightning bug's a wonder,  
 Of that there is no doubt,  
 He turns his flashlight on a spell,  
 Then turns himself right out.  
 —Commercial Appeal.

Some bug, this beetle, lightning like,  
 All lit up without booze,  
 He works a switch within himself  
 And never blows a fuse.

The Fannin County Favorite tells their readers who have not visited the cemetery to do so. This is a useless entreaty for the Favorite, for that is the last place any of them want to visit.

Yesterday ended the chances for the June bride. Those who did not take advantage of the opportunity can pursue the watchful waiting policy for another twelve months, perhaps.

Here is hoping Dr. M. M. Carrick, who once visited Merkel, will make such a good job of cleaning up Mexico that the United States will not have to get the stink on her hands.

It has been said that little drops of water make the mighty ocean but little grains of wheat and oats make a fine solution; for the Merkel country.

An exchange says Mr. Bryan has joined Col. Roosevelt on the beautiful isle of Nowhere-in-Politics.

Good roads and good people is a hard combination to beat, so says an exchange.

The new drink is called a Wilson-Bryan splitz. What is there in a name?

**BURROUGHS DRUG STORE**

Merkel's Favorite Drug Store

And a place where your wants are always given our PROMPT and EFFICIENT ATTENTION

FREE DELIVERY DAY OR NIGHT

**BURROUGHS DRUG STORE**

Ever see how carefully an experienced trout fisher selects his fly to suit the weather, the season and the time of day?  
 He studies the conditions, then chooses the right bait.  
 We have studied problems in the use of petroleum products for all purposes under conditions obtaining in many parts of the globe. Knowing these conditions we can give you a  
**TEXACO PRODUCT**  
 suited to your purpose in whatever activity you may be engaged. That is the only bait we use—and it is right.  
 Our rapidly growing business in all parts of the world has been built upon this foundation. Our line of products includes all that may be required from petroleum.  
**FOR HOUSEHOLD, FARM AND FACTORY**  
 They are marketed under the "Made-in-Texas" Red-Star-Green-T emblem.  
**The Texas Company**  
 General Offices, Houston, Texas

**CALOMEL WHEN BILIOUS? NO! STOP! MAKES YOU SICK AND SALIVATES**

"Dodson's Liver Tone" is Harmless To Clean Your Sluggish Liver and Bowels.

Light Calomel makes you sick. It's horrible! Take a dose of the dangerous drug tonight and tomorrow you may lose a day's work.

Calomel is mercury or quicksilver which causes necrosis of the bones. Calomel, when it comes into contact with sour bile crashes into it, breaking it up. This is when you feel that awful nausea and cramping. If you are sluggish and "all knocked out," if your liver is torpid and bowels constipated or you have headache, dizziness, coated tongue, if breath is bad or stomach sour, just try a spoonful of harmless Dodson's Liver Tone tonight on my guarantee.

Here's my guarantee—Go to any drug store and get a 50 cent bottle of Dodson's Liver Tone. Take a spoonful and if it doesn't straighten you right up and make you feel fine and vigorous I want you to go back to the store and get your money. Dodson's Liver Tone is destroying the sale of calomel because it is real liver medicine; entirely vegetable, therefore it can not salivate or make you sick.

I guarantee that one spoonful of Dodson's Liver Tone will put your sluggish liver to work and clean your bowels of that sour bile and constipated waste which is clogging your system and making you feel miserable. I guarantee that a bottle of Dodson's Liver Tone will keep your entire family feeling fine for months. Give it to your children. It is harmless; doesn't gripe and they like its pleasant taste.

Piles Cured in 6 to 14 Days  
 Your druggist will refund money if PAIN OINTMENT fails to cure any case of Itching, Bleeding or Protruding Piles in 14 days. The first application gives ease and relief. 50c.

Cures Old Sores, Other Remedies Won't Cure.  
 The worst cases, no matter of how long standing, are cured by the wonderful, old reliable Dr. Porter's Antiseptic Healing Oil. It relieves Pain and Heals at the same time. 25c, 50c, \$1.00

Creation.  
 In the beginning God created the heaven and earth, the editor and the adviser—wait! wait! all to the good. The next day it snowed and He created the man who does not believe in advertising and another who does not take the home paper. And the devil got into the moulding machine and created the man who takes the paper for several years and fails to pay for it. After he had completed that sorry job and having a few lumps left he created "the excuse of a man" who tries to settle his subscription by instructing the postmaster to mark his paper "refused."—Ex.

The Quinine That Does Not Affect The Head  
 Because of its tonic and laxative effect, LAXATIVE BROMO QUININE is better than ordinary Quinine and does not cause nervousness or ringing in head. Remember the full name and look for the signature of E. W. GROVE, Inc.

# ABILENE

## Big Mid-Summer Race Meet And Fire Works Carnival JULY 5-6-7

Four high-class races daily, both running and harness. Big purses which will be contested for by the pick of Texas Speed Kings and Queens. **BIGGER, BETTER, GRANDER THAN EVER**

**FIRE WORKS** SOMETHING DIFFERENT—A grand, spectacular display in mid-air of the Battle of the Clouds. Fifty set pieces reproducing in realistic beauty Niagara Falls, exploding the bombs used in the bombardment of the Dardenelles and the fall of Liege. Once seen never forgotten. The greatest educational, instructive and enlightening event in the history of Central West Texas. Hundreds of Sky Rockets and Canons illuminating mid-air at all times. Remember the place and the hour

Abilene, Texas, Fair Park, Monday-Tuesday-Wednesday, July 5-6-7  
Races Start Promptly at 2 p. m. Fire Works 8 p. m.

**GENERAL ADMISSION TO RACES FREE  
GRANDSTAND 25 CENTS**

**ADMISSION TO FIRE WORKS  
Main Gate 15 Cents Grandstand 25 Cents**

**EXCURSION RATES ON ALL RAILROADS  
PLENTY OF FREE ICE WATER**

**Your Account**

will receive our Careful and Systematic attention.

You will save Time, Worry and Dollars by placing Your Account in Our Hands.

Why not begin at once?

**E. L. ROGERS  
GROCERY**

**Money! Money!**

Plenty of money to loan on farm and ranch land at 8 per cent interest. My Company has plenty of funds, regardless of the War, so if you are going to need a loan this fall prepare for it now. V. E. Muir, Abilene, Texas. 1814

## COMPARE PRICES

### In the Light of Firestone Extras

YOU who know, know tire values from experience; but note also the specifications in this cross section. The same relative values apply in all sizes of Firestone tires. For instance, in the 30 x 3 inch, you pay only 40 cents more for the more mileage values represented in these extras. And only a trifle more in proportion for the larger sizes.

Less material and lower grades are traps to make sales on prices. The Firestone organization, the largest in the world specializing in tires, can make and market tires and tubes at a lower cost to you, the user, than any one else in the industry.

**Actual Size 3-inch "Plain Tread" FIRESTONE**

Fig. 1. 4 plies of fabric in Firestone—4 plies in the ordinary.

Fig. 2. Extra coating of finest rubber between fabric layers in Firestone—less than 5% more than ordinary.

Fig. 3. 1-1/2 inch finest rubber cushion layer in Firestone—same quantity in others.

Fig. 4. 1-1/2 inch breaker strip of high-grade fabric and high-grade rubber in Firestone—same quantity in others.

Fig. 5. 1-1/2 inch side wall of stronger rubber in Firestone—same quantity in others.

Fig. 6. 1-1/2 inch side wall of stronger rubber in Firestone—same quantity in others.

Fig. 7. Bead of extra cohesive strength in the Firestone—same size bead in others.

Yet you pay only \$9.40 for this 30 x 3 Firestone—less than 5% more than four widely advertised makes.

Case	Case	Case	Case
30x3	30x3 1/2	34x4	34x4 1/2
\$9.40	\$10.55	\$12.20	\$13.50
11.90	13.35	15.40	17.00
17.75	19.40	22.30	24.40
27.30	30.55	34.80	38.40
28.70	32.15	36.90	40.55
35.55	39.80	45.95	50.70
40.00	51.50	58.75	64.50

**G. F. West Company**

**Would Not Need Much Land.**

When the farmers learn how much moisture they can hold in the ground by means of the "soil-mulch," and how long they can hold it in, there will be less praying for rain.

However, one cannot make as good a soil-mulch on a big field, as I have on my water-melon patch, because nobody, I believe, can make as good a mulch with the plow, as may be made with the hoe.

But any man who knows how, can make a good enough soil-mulch with the plow, unless he has more land than he can get to at the right time after a rain.

If the farmer knows enough to work into his soil such things as lot manure, stalk-litter, pea-litter, etc., and to prepare a good deep bed to catch the moisture, and then to make the right sort of soil-mulch at the right time, to hold the moisture in, he will not need too much land, especially if it is sandy land.

I mean that he will not require much in cultivation. Of course, if he can have plenty of pasture on which to grow good stock, to make money while he sleeps, and help keep up the fertility of his cultivated fields, so much the better.

R. R. Claridge,  
Agricultural Agt., T. & P. Ry. Co.  
Longview, Texas.

**To Drive Out Malaria  
And Build Up The System**  
Take the Old Standard GROVE'S TASTELESS chill TONIC. You know what you are taking, as the formula is printed on every label, showing it is Quinine and Iron in a tasteless form. The Quinine drives out malaria, the Iron builds up the system. 50 cents

NO 7481  
Report of the Condition of  
**THE FARMERS & MERCHANTS NATIONAL BANK**  
AT MERKEL  
In the State of Texas, at the Close of Business, June 23, 1915

**RESOURCES**

Loans and Discounts (notes held in bank)	\$113,510.67
Bills of Exchange—Cotton	1,440.63—114,951.30
U. S. Bonds deposited to secure circulation (par value)	6,250.00
U. S. Bonds pledged to secure postal savings dep. (par val.)	4,000.00—10,250.00
Securities other than U. S. bonds (not including stocks) owned unpledged	350.00
Subscription to stock of Federal Reserve bank	3,000.00
Less amount unpaid	1,500.00—1,500.00
Furniture and Fixtures	3,600.00
Other Real Estate owned	6,500.00
Due from Federal Reserve Bank	5,506.56
Due from approved reserve agents in New York, Chicago and St. Louis	13,811.99
Due from approved reserve agents in other reserve cities	43,071.82—56,883.81
Due from banks and bankers (other than inclu. in 8 or 9)	18,531.54
Checks on banks in the same city or town as reporting bank	12.70
Outside checks and other cash items	354.82
Fractional currency, nickels and cents	189.20—544.02
Notes of other national banks	2,055.00
Lawful money reserve in bank: Total coin and certificates	15,487.25
Legal-tender notes	500.00
Redemption fund with U. S. Treasurer (not more than 5 per cent on circulation)	312.50
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$236,984.68</b>

**LIABILITIES**

Capital Stock paid in	\$25,000.00
Surplus Fund	25,000.00
Undivided profits	\$12,792.31
Less current expenses, interest and taxes paid	3,733.68—9,058.63
Circulating notes	6,250.00
Due to banks and bankers (other than included in 5 or 6)	11,201.34
Demand Deposits:	
Individual deposits subject to check	144,227.46
Certificates of deposits due in less than 30 days	2,500.00
Postal savings deposits	3,597.25—150,324.71
Time deposits:	
Certificates of deposit due on or after 30 days	10,150.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$236,984.68</b>

STATE OF TEXAS, COUNTY OF TAYLOR, SS:  
I, Thos. Johnson, Cashier of the above-named bank, do solemnly swear that the above statement is true to the best of my knowledge and belief.  
THOS. JOHNSON, Cashier.  
Subscribed and sworn to before me this 30th day of June, 1915.  
G. W. JOHNSON, Notary Public.  
Correct—Attest: J. T. WARREN  
G. F. WEST,  
BEN T. MERRITT, Directors.

NO. 366  
Official Statement of the Financial Condition of  
**The Farmers State Bank**  
at Merkel, State of Texas, at the close of business on the 23rd day of June, 1915, published in the Merkel Mail, a newspaper printed and published at Merkel, State of Texas, on the 2nd day of July, 1915.

**RESOURCES**

Loans and Dis., personal or collateral	\$104,273.95
Loans, real estate	3,380.00
Real Estate (banking house)	9,500.00
Other Real Estate	2,388.00
Furniture and Fixtures	4,500.00
Due from approved Reserve Agents, net	31,813.32
Cash Items	1,899.44
Currents	5,354.90
Spells	2,394.00—10,097.44
Int. in Depositors Guaranty Fund	1,083.88
Other Resources as follows	639.02
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$201,748.60</b>

**LIABILITIES**

Capital Stock paid in	\$35,000.00
Surplus Fund	1,500.00
Undivided Profits, net	5,877.08
Individual Deposits sub. to check	151,878.53
Time Certificates of Deposit	3,403.99
Cashier's checks	3,512.27
Other Liabilities as follows:	
Reserved for taxes	399.68
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$201,748.60</b>

State of Texas, County of Taylor:  
We, J. S. Swann as president, and R. O. Anderson as cashier of said bank, each of us, do solemnly swear that the above statement is true to the best of our knowledge and belief.  
J. S. Swann, president.  
R. O. Anderson, cashier  
Subscribed and sworn to before me this 25th day of June, A. D. 1915. C. D. Mims  
(SEAL) Notary Public, Taylor County, Texas  
Correct—Attest: John Sears {  
M. Armstrong { Directors  
B. C. Moore {

## IF BACK HURTS USE SALTS FOR KIDNEYS

**Eat less meat if Kidneys feel like lead or Bladder bothers you—Meat forms uric acid.**

Most folks forget that the kidneys, like the bowels, get sluggish and clogged and need a flushing occasionally, else we have backache and dull misery in the kidney region, severe headaches, rheumatic twinges, torpid liver, acid stomach, sleeplessness and all sorts of bladder disorders.

You simply must keep your kidneys active and clean, and the moment you feel an ache or pain in the kidney region, get about four ounces of Jad Salts from any good drug store here, take a tablespoonful in a glass of water before breakfast for a few days and your kidneys will then act fine. This famous salt is made from the acid of grapes and lemon juice, combined with lithia, and is harmless to flush clogged kidneys and stimulate them to normal activity. It also neutralizes the acids in the urine so it no longer irritates, thus ending bladder disorders.

Jad Salts is harmless; inexpensive; makes a delightful effervescent lithia-water drink which everybody should take now and then to keep their kidneys clean, thus avoiding serious complications.

A well-known local druggist says he sells lots of Jad Salts to folks who believe in overcoming kidney troubles while it is only trouble.

## SALT BRANCH

We gladly received a nice rain Friday night with no hail which will be of great benefit to crops.

Jim Ingram and family of the Mt. Pleasant community were visiting relatives here Sunday.

Willis Taylor and Don Dunlap of near Loraine are visiting friends and relatives here this week.

W. J. Higgins and family spent Sunday afternoon with Bob Paul and family of Mulberry.

W. C. Lee is reported on the sick list at this writing.

The Salt Branch teams played two games Saturday afternoon the second team played Warren the score being 4 to 3 in favor of Warren, then the first team played Warren the score being 4 to 2 in favor of Salt Branch.

Singing was well attended Sunday afternoon.

**Severe Attack of Colic Cured.**  
E. E. Cross, who travels in Virginia and other Southern States, was taken suddenly and severely ill with colic. At the first store he came to the merchant recommended Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy. Two doses of it cured him. No one should leave home on a journey without a bottle of this preparation. For sale by all dealers.



MRS. W. H. DICKSON, EDITOR

The W. C. club met with Miss Julia Martin Monday afternoon at her home on Travis street.

On Monday of last week the Cap., of the "Whats-Wat" bunch called a special meeting at one of their regular meeting places on Mulberry Creek.

A fishing party on the Mulberry afforded many pleasant hours Monday afternoon and evening.

A picnic bunch motored out to the Warren Lake Tuesday evening when they enjoyed a delicious lunch, the moonlight and conversation.

The Protheus class will serve cream and cake at the Bob Martin Gro. Store, Saturday afternoon from 1 o'clock.

Land Interest Is Due

General Land Office } Austin, Texas, June 25, 1915. } To the Editor: Permit me, through your columns, to advise those of your readers who have not paid their last year's interest due on their school land that it will be necessary for them to pay by about the middle of August if they desire to prevent a forfeiture of their land.

Yours truly, J. T. Robinson, Commissioner.

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.

Coon's sanitary bread at the Bob Martin Gro. Co.



The Value of a Telephone

in the farmer's home cannot be measured in dollars and cents. It may be the means of saving your property from destruction by fire, your family from serious illness, your products from a drop in prices.

Thousands of farmer's telephones are connected with the vast system of this Company. The cost is most reasonable. Inquire of our nearest Manager.

Southwestern Tel. & Tel. Co.

Best Diarrhoea Remedy.

If you have ever used Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy you know that it is a success. Sam F. Guin, Whatley, Ala., writes, "I had measles and got caught out in the rain, and it settled in my stomach and bowels I had an awful time and had it not been for Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea remedy, I could not possibly have lived but a few hours longer, but thanks to this remedy I am well and strong. For sale by all dealers

Real Trouble.

The world is full of geniuses who, unfortunately, aren't willing to take the trouble to prove it.—Detroit Free Press.

A WORD FOR MOTHERS

It is a grave mistake for mothers to neglect their aches and pains and suffer in silence—this only leads to chronic sickness and often shortens life.

If your work is tiring; if your nerves are excited; if you feel languid, weary or depressed, you should know that Scott's Emulsion overcomes just such conditions.

It possesses in concentrated form the very elements to invigorate the blood, strengthen the tissues, nourish the nerves and build strength.

Scott's is strengthening thousands of mothers—and will help you. No alcohol. Scott & Bowne, Bloomfield, N. J.

Fault.

Disagreeable people always must be exaggerated, it seems, until they occupy much more than their allotted space in the world.

Cured of Indigestion

Mrs. Sadie P. Clawson, Indiana, Pa., was bothered with indigestion. "My stomach pained me night and day," she writes. I would feel bloated and have headache and belching after eating. I also suffered from constipation. My daughter had used Chamberlain's Tablets and they did her so much good that she gave me a few doses of them and insisted upon my trying them. They have helped me as nothing else has done." For sale by all dealers.

Purifying the Air.

The air of a room may be purified in two hours by setting inside of it wide-mouthed pitcher filled with pure and very cold water. By that time it will have absorbed all the gases in the room.

"TIZ" FOR ACHING, SORE, TIRED FEET

Good-bye sore feet, burning feet, swollen feet, sweaty feet, smelling feet, tired feet.

Good-bye corns, callouses, bunions and raw spots. No more shoe tightness, no more limping with pain or drawing up your face in agony.

"TIZ" is magical, acts right off. "TIZ" draws out all the poisonous exudations which puff up the feet. Use "TIZ" and forget your foot misery. Ah! how comfortable your feet feel. Get a 25 cent box of "TIZ" now at any druggist or department store. Don't suffer. Have good feet, glad feet, feet that never swell, never hurt, never get tired. A year's foot comfort guaranteed or money refunded.



Invigorating to the Pale and Sickly The Old Standard general strengthening tonic, GROVE'S TASTELESS CHILL TONIC, drives out Malaria, enriches the blood, and builds up the system. A true tonic. For adults and children. 50c

HER TELLTALE HANDS

By MARAH J. LOCKE.

(Copyright, 1914, by W. G. Chapman.) It was in a third rate city of Australia that I had found myself after wasting three years and a small inheritance prospecting, speculating and trading. I had studied medicine and when I found myself with only a few hundreds of my former thousands left, I bought out an obscure pharmacy in Balleran.

One chill October evening I sat in my little office back of the store apartment when I heard the front door open sharply and close as abruptly. A veiled woman, young I could guess from the rare grace of her movements, brushed hastily past the counter.

"Listen and act quick," she directed. "There is your fee."

I stared hard. My strange client had placed a hundred dollar bill on the table.

"I wish you to procure and bring to me in a saucer or some hollow dish," went on the young woman. "some corrosive fluid that will—will remove a blemish from the skin."

"There are a number of such acids," I said.

"Bring me the strongest, the surest," she said, and I arose, went out into the pharmacy and returned with a saucer one-half filled with the deadliest abrasive chemical I had in my stock.

"If I place a finger in that, it will do—what?"

"If briefly," I answered, "it will remove the outer cuticle."

"Leaving no discolorations?"

"None."

"And the pain?"

"Is inconsequential."

I started forward, for just then, compressing her lips sturdily, she placed the tips of her fingers first of one hand and then of the other flat deep into the acid. She held them up before her for inspection. The strange act accomplished, her hands, which had been delicately white before, were white still, but my professional eye traced the unnatural smoothness on thumb and fingers where the corroding fluid had removed the heavy outer cuticle, as where one would peel a plum or a pear.

There was an expression of satisfaction, of puzzling triumph in the face of my handsome client. She drew a pair of gloves from the pocket of her dress. She fixed her eyes steadily upon me.

"Can you trust you to forget this circumstance," she spoke. "Yes, I see the gentleman in your face. There is further to do. Fill a bottle with some harmless liquid and follow me to the door. When it is open warn me to be very cautious in using it. The fee will be doubled if you help me to act out my part successfully."

Blindly, I know not why, I followed her instructions. I went to the door with her. I voiced the warning she had directed. Distinctly I was aware that she meant the words for the hearing of two men lurking in the next doorway.

"I will be very careful of the acid," she spoke in a clear loud voice. "I wish to use it in some wood burning ornamental work. Oh!"

With a scream she stumbled. She fell, or rather pretended to fall flat upon the pavement. The bottle cracked to splinters. Wringing her hands as she regained her feet, she ran towards me crying distractedly.

"Oh, my hands! my hands!—I have burned all the flesh off my fingers!"

I read her purpose. I made a great ado of escorting her back into the pharmacy, of examining her hands, of treating them with curatives. Then she went away for the second time.

At the end of two weeks there came to me a letter enclosing a second one hundred dollar bill. It was pinned to a sheet of paper bearing the words: "As a gentleman and a true friend always—silence."

I hesitated about using the money, but bad business necessitated it. A business rival took away half of my trade. Then I had a fire—uninsured. I went from bad to worse and the sheriff sold out my few poor property effects.

I wandered away from the city along a country road. I must have fainted from illness and hunger in its center. Then I was conscious of being lifted into an automobile.

When I came back to myself again I occupied a bed in a cozily furnished room. Outside there was bird song. The clear sweet scented air suggested some sumptuous garden. Then my client of that eventful evening in the past entered the room.

She it was who had found me in the road and I was her guest at a beautiful villa many leagues from city proximity.

She was nurse, sister, friend—ah, within my heart of hearts far more than that before that delightful week ended!

She had been companion to a wealthy woman in a far distant country. In that household a terrible murder had been committed. She had been in that room just before the crime was perpetrated, had accidentally upset a bottle of ink and left the impress of her hands on a mantle.

She had seen in that room the stepson of her mistress, but knew he was innocent. Her evidence might have convicted him. Her mistress gave her a large sum of money and bade her fly.

The two lurkers I had seen had followed her across the ocean to verify the photograph of the finger marks. I had helped her to baffle them.

WHEAT AND OATS WANTED

Being in touch with some of the most prominent Grain Dealers in the State, we are in position to offer the grain growers of the Merkel country the Top Market Prices for their WHEAT and OATS

SEE US BEFORE SELLING YOUR GRAIN

THE MERKEL GRAIN COMPANY

E. W. PERMINTER, Mgr.

GOOD ANALYSIS OF WORRY

Foolish and Altogether Too Prevalent Habit Which All Should Strive to Avoid.

We worry because we are afraid of something. Worry is fear of the consequences of something that has occurred or something that may happen. A curious thing about it is that it is never associated with the immediate present. It is generally in the future, though sometimes in the past.

Animals and babies who are conscious of nothing but the present cannot worry. As all creatures, except human beings, live only for the moment, they do not worry because they have no recollection of what has happened and can form no conception of what may happen.

Human beings having the capacity to look back or forward, mentally are susceptible to the fear that causes worry, and as most persons live more in the past or future than in the present, this tendency affects for worry or not, according to our viewpoint of life in other respects. Worry is mental fear of an impending something.

Persons afflicted will be less worried about their condition than relatives or friends who sympathize with them. A person may worry in anticipation of a sickness or operation, but when they have the sickness or the operation is performed, the worry disappears, and, though they may fear, they cannot worry in the present.

Heir to Forty Millions.

The czarvitch, the future ruler of all the Russias, has been described as the most valuable child in the world.

When he succeeds to the throne he will inherit all the huge fortune of the Romanoff family, which is estimated at no smaller a sum than forty million pounds. In addition to this, as ruler of the Russian people, he will enjoy an income of £2,000,000 a year, and have the absolute control of 500 estates employing 30,000 servants.

At present the child is the recipient of an allowance of £15,000 a year, a banking account having been opened for him soon after his birth, when, incidentally, his life was insured for half a million pounds.

Holding Back the Hudson.

"One of the greatest single pieces of jofferdam work ever undertaken in this country," says Popular Mechanics Magazine, "is now in the course of construction in New York harbor, where the Hudson river is being dammed preliminary to the building of three 1,050-foot steamship piers for the accommodation of the largest liners afloat. The dam is being extended between Forty-fourth and Forty-eighth street to hold back the river, inclose the shore line, and allow excavations to be made, and the piers built. When completed it will be approximately 800 feet long and will have cost about five hundred thousand dollars."

Auto Beats the Wink.

"What did you think of the motor car race, Pat?" "I didn't see it." "You didn't see it? Why, I saw you at the track." "Yes, I was at the track; but I had to wink just at the wrong time, and when I got thru the race was over."—Judge.

Seeking Knowledge.

"I wish there was some way of knowing all about the pronunciation of the queer names we encounter in the news." "Here is a list showing how every one of them is pronounced." "Yes. But what I want to know is how you pronounce the way that they are pronounced."

STOMACH TROUBLE FOR FIVE YEARS

Majority of Friends Thought Mr. Hughes Would Die, But One Helped Him to Recovery.

Pemercyton, Ky.—In interesting advices from this place, Mr. A. J. Hughes writes as follows: "I was down with stomach trouble for five (5) years, and would have sick headache so bad, at times, that I thought surely I would die."

I tried different treatments, but they did not seem to do me any good. I got so bad, I could not eat or sleep, and all my friends, except one, thought I would die. He advised me to try Theiford's Black-Draught, and quit

taking other medicines. I decided to take his advice, although I did not have any confidence in it.

I have now been taking Black-Draught for three months, and it has cured me—haven't had those awful sick headaches since I began using it.

I am so thankful for what Black-Draught has done for me." Theiford's Black-Draught has been found a very valuable medicine for derangements of the stomach and liver. It is composed of pure, vegetable herbs, contains no dangerous ingredients, and acts gently, yet surely. It can be freely used by young and old, and should be kept in every family chest.

Get a package today. Only a quarter.

A TWICE-TOLD TALE

One of Interest to Our Readers

Good news bears repeating, and when it is confirmed after a long lapse of time, even if we hesitated to believe it at first hearing, we feel secure in accepting its truth now. The following experience of a Merkel man is confirmed after three years.

D. J. Dodd, Elm St., Merkel, says: "For a long time I suffered day and night from kidney trouble. The first symptom was an inability to control the kidney secretions and my rest was broken at night. About three months ago Doan's Kidney Pills came to my notice and after using them, my kidneys and bladder were restored to their natural condition." (Statement given January 15th, 1912).

AFTER THREE YEARS, Mr. Dodd said: "Since using Doan's Kidney Pills, I have had no trouble from my kidneys. I know this medicine to be a good one."

Price 50c, at all dealers. Don't simply ask for a kidney remedy—get Doan's Kidney Pills—the same that Mr. Dodd had. Foster-Milburn Co., Props., Buffalo, N. Y.

A Word to the Borrower

IF you are a borrower of this paper, don't you think it is an injustice to the man who is paying for it? He may be looking for it at this very moment. Make it a regular visitor to your home. The subscription price is an investment that will repay you well.

Scientific American.

Say, You!



HOW about that printing job you're in need of?

Come in and see us about it at your first opportunity. Don't wait until the very last moment but give us a little time and we'll show you what high grade work we can turn out.

OVER 65 YEARS EXPERIENCE

PATENTS

TRADE MARKS DESIGNS COPYRIGHTS &c. Anyone sending a sketch and description may quickly ascertain our opinion free whether an invention is probably patentable. Communications strictly confidential. HANDBOOK on Patents sent free. Oldest agency for securing patents. Patents taken through Munn & Co. receive special notice, without charge, in the Scientific American. A handsomely illustrated weekly. Largest circulation of any scientific journal. Terms, \$3 a year; four months, \$1. Sold by all newsdealers. Munn & Co. 364 Broadway, New York. Branch Office, 65 F. St., Washington, D. C.

**"ZUDORA" or "THE TWENTY MILLION DOLLAR MYSTERY" --- 12th Installment, Read It**

**SYNOPSIS.**

Zudora is left an orphan at an early age. Her father is killed in a gold mine. Zudora and the fortune from the mine, which grows to be worth \$30,000,000, are left in the guardianship of Frank Keene, Zudora's mother's brother, who has set himself up as a Hindu mystic and is known as Hassam Ali. He decides that Zudora must die before she can have a chance to come into possession of her money, so that it may be left to him, the next of kin. Hassam Ali sees an obstacle in his scheme in the person of John Storm, a young lawyer, for whom Zudora has taken a fancy, and he commands the girl to put the man out of her mind. Zudora insists that if she cannot marry Storm she will marry no one.

sweetheart will be rich one of these days, Storm. Did you know that every penny of the western gold mine has gone to the Orient with absconding trustees?"

"What are you talking about?" demanded John.

"Why, the Zudora gold mine, rated among the richest in the world, kept hidden from Zudora by her uncle for years."

Storm was dumfounded. "And she never told me the slightest word about it?"

"For fear old Hassam Ali would stick a knife into your back, my boy."

"I understand now! That devil was giving Zudora these chances to lure her to her death. Good heavens! And that girl kept her secret! But who controls this diamond mine. It is illegally done. How are we to get at it?"

"Cable the superintendent that you are the attorney for the rightful owner of the mine and demand a full inventory of the property and its output."

"A bully idea! And now I'll take this whopping good news to the girl herself. She's all the time talking about the evil star, but this looks as if it were on the wane. Luck! I should rather say it was luck!"

Zudora was overjoyed when she learned that the mine itself had been discovered. Gently Storm chided her in regard to the gold.

"I did not tell you because I did not want you involved, John. And, more than that, I was afraid I might lose you."

"Lose me?"

"Yes. I was afraid that so much money would frighten you away."

Storm laughed. "The only way you can frighten me is to tell me that you don't love me."

"Well, then, I shall never be able to frighten you," she smiled back at him.

"And now," said Storm, "I'm off to send that cable before those crooks can get the benefit of the find. Oh, we'll come out on top. You wait."

"I'm going to, John. I'm going to wait until there are no more clouds anywhere. Then I'll marry you."

"That's a bargain! Goodbye, and may your cable bring good luck to us all."

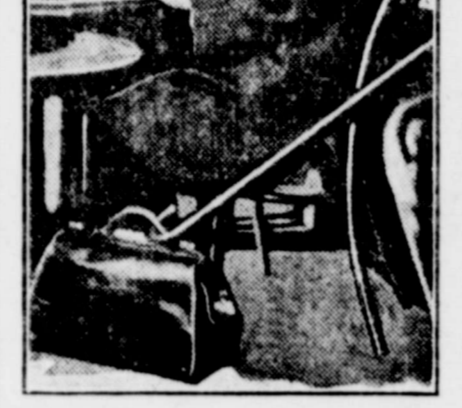
There appeared a story in one of the Sunday newspapers about the Zudora

newspapers is the devil to pay. The girl is sure to see. If not she, Storm. It's going to be a big game now, instead of a little one," Bruce declared.

"All the more excitement in pulling the wool over the eyes of the law. This man Howard may be an honest man," said madame.

"In that case, good night to Mr. Howard, and we'll put a man in his place who will not bother us with questions so long as he gets his rake-off," said Radcliffe.

When Harry Howard received the cable directing him to bring the month's find to New York he frowned. There



Baird Neatly Fished the Valise From Under the Table.

was another cable at hand, and this one astonished him greatly upon its arrival. For years he had been sending the small but valuable output to those he believed the rightful owner, and here was a contestant, and this contestant seemed to be a legitimate one. It was a mixup that disturbed him greatly.

There had always been something mysterious about the present owners. He had never seen any one of them, only their accredited agent, who invariably presented a lettered heart when he came to claim the diamonds. And now they wanted him in New York. Was there any sinister purpose behind this command? Henry Howard was an honest man, and before many weeks he was going to pay for his honesty.

He sent two cablegrams, one to the present company and one to John Storm. The first read, "Will come to New York." The second read, "Arrive New York 10th. Will give accounting of Zudora mine." Then he booked his passage and sailed from Cape Town to Liverpool.

Storm was elated over his cable. He informed Zudora, and they visited Detective Hunt. And while they and Hunt were talking over the affair Baird came in, looking rather dejected and carrying a cane. At first he had had some difficulty in looking Storm or Zudora in the eyes, remembering how at the instigation of the real Hassam Ali he had attempted the young lawyer's life. But these days he was able to look with serenity into the eyes of all mankind.

"Hello, Baird!" cried Hunt. "You're just the man I want for a stunt."

"I'm always ready for that."

Zudora looked at him gratefully. Somehow his eyes always puzzled her. It always seemed that somewhere she had known these eyes intimately. The four of them left the office together and later separated in front of a florist's shop.

"Now," said Hunt, "a little work for you, Friend Baird."

"I'm with you. If there's any excitement in it."

"There'll be some. I want to keep a watch on that garage and junk shop where they nearly got you that night. Something strange about that junk shop. People go in there and don't come out again. There's some kind of a tunnel, and between you and me and the gate post this tunnel leads to the marble home of Mme. Du Val."

"I never heard anything about a tunnel," said Baird honestly.

"Or you saw but one of the facets of this clever diamond woman. In that day you were using her; consequently she did not tell you any of her secrets. Now you watch the hut and I'll watch the marble palace, and then we'll compare notes as to whom we see enter or leave the hut and the palace."

But when they compared notes they had nothing that was important.

About four weeks later, however, they were rewarded. Baird saw Bruce enter the hut and disappear, and Detective Hunt saw Bruce come out of the villa without apparently having entered it. Hunt proceeded to follow his man back to town. Bruce had an office in one of the downtown skyscrapers. The door had no business announcement, such as is usually found upon office doors. There was merely a number, and below that in small letters the word "private." Private, Hunt was sure this office was. He hung about in the shadow until Bruce left, when he set about calmly to pick the lock. He was rather curious to see what kind of an office this was. He found many interesting documents, but nothing incriminating. Suddenly Hunt heard footsteps. He

was going to be interesting. Bruce had put one over. Evidently Howard's boat had beat a day from the trip, as he had been scheduled to arrive the following morning.

"You have the gems?" asked Bruce.

"I have."

"You pulled them through the customs?"

"I did. But that does not mean that I intended to keep their arrival a secret from the United States government."

"Oh!" was the noncommittal utterance of Bruce.

"Now, Mr. Bruce," went on Howard, "there is another claimant to this mine."

"And with not a foot to stand on," said Bruce triumphantly.

"Well, that remains to be seen."

"What do you mean?"

"Why, that this middle has got to be thrashed out. I'm honest, Mr. Bruce. Detective Hunt grinned from behind his shutter.

"Nobody accused you of not being honest," said Bruce indignantly. "We'll go right now and get the facts as our side know them, and you'll realize that it will take a long sledge in court to pry this mine out of our hands. Come along. Are the gems in that valise?"

"In a false bottom."

"Ah!"

Detective Hunt did not like the sound of that ejaculation. He was mighty glad that he had detailed Baird to keep an eye on the garage. Bruce meant to play some trick on Howard. There was nothing for Hunt to do but trust to Baird's watchfulness.

Sure enough, half an hour later, Baird saw Bruce and the stranger enter the hut, and almost immediately two rough looking men and another whom Baird recognized as Gyp the gun man came into view. Baird remained in his hiding place. It was going to be a long wait, and he wanted the men to reappear before he left. He wanted Gyp's status in this affair.

Meanwhile Bruce and Howard arrived at Mme. Du Val's through the tunnel. This tunnel did not particularly reassure the superintendent of the Zudora diamond mine. Why all this bother to enter his employer's house? Were they smuggling the gems, then, and this tunnel was for madame's go-betweens? He did not like the business at all. He was more than ever inclined to the opinion that he had been long the dupe of these people.

But Mme. Du Val impressed him. The beauty of her home and its luxurious furnishings rather upset his preconceived ideas. This woman was al-



There Lay a Handful of Uncut Diamonds.

ready rich. Why all this mummer? He took a dislike to Radcliffe immediately. The other individuals he met he rather ignored. But he is duty bound to turn over his present consignments of diamonds. The other claimant must establish proofs. That was all there was to it.

While madame engaged his attention Bruce signaled to Radcliffe, and they strolled out into the conservatory.

"That man," whispered Bruce, "is thinking of going to the other side. Hassam Ali's niece has tumbled to the fact that this mine is really hers. You already knew that she held that gold mine in Montana, worth a king's ransom. Well, I've faked stuff to make her believe that a landslide has destroyed the mine and that the trustees have absconded with the funds. This was done with the idea of making Zudora and Storm hike out to Montana to investigate. Once there there was a mighty slim chance of their ever coming back. But, oddly enough, they have accepted the fake as truth and have made no effort to go out there. I'll write another anonymous note advising them that it would pay to investigate the report. But meantime there's this man Howard to take care of. We'll warn him, and if he does not fall in with us—why, he must be pushed off the board."

"I'll take care of that end of it," agreed Radcliffe. "We're running too smoothly to let a fool cog us up. Trust me."

They returned to the salon, and a quarter of an hour later Bruce and Howard departed.

Gyp and his two companions then entered the salon and were given a small bag with the best of the gems. They were to be out at once in case Howard jumped the traces. Gyp and his companions returned to the old garage or junk hut. The moment they left the hut for the street Baird followed. He had an inkling that they were going to the diamond cutter's with the Howard collection, and he

determined that the game should never get that far.

The three crooks finally went into a saloon, as Baird had a suspicion they would. He strolled in and took the table next to them. Under the table he saw the little valise. And while the three were busily engaged in the pleasant pastime of shaking dice for the drinks Baird neatly fished the valise from under the table with the crook of his cane. Then he left the saloon, and



Mme. Du Val's Rage Was Terrible.

once outside he lay to it as fast as his legs could go.

There was a fine racket in that saloon when the crooks discovered their loss. Each accused the other of carelessness. Gyp, more than the other two, appreciated the thunderbolt that had fallen at his feet. Radcliffe would kill him out of hand. In terror he collapsed on the table. His companions dragged him from the saloon, and the three started out on the hopeless task of hunting for a man with an ivory crook to his cane.

That evening Howard found a note which filled him with consternation. It was an open threat from his employers. He was walking on thin ice. But he was an old hand at warfare. He had lived too many years in Africa to be really afraid of threats. He merely slipped an automatic into his pocket and went about his affairs calmly.

That same evening Zudora and Storm were greeted with a tremendous surprise.

Mrs. Ramsey, with whom Zudora was living, knocked to say that a Mr. Baird was anxious to see Zudora.

"Send him right up!"

Baird was greeted cordially. He put the valise on the table, opened it, lifted the false bottom, and there lay a handful of uncut diamonds, a comfortable fortune for any reasonable person.

"What has happened?" demanded Zudora, greatly excited.

Briefly Baird recounted his adventure, and when he had done the girl seized Storm and began to waltz him around the room. But these uncut stones could not be kept in the house, nor could they take them and sell them or deposit them in a safety box at a bank. What to do with them now they had them? Until the mine was indubitably proved to be Zudora's legally they had no right to them. Morally they had, of course. Then Mrs. Ramsey made a suggestion.

"Why not hide them in yonder flower-pot?"

They congratulated Mrs. Ramsey upon her happy thought. After the stones were hidden Baird took his departure.

Gyp and his frightened companions after having hunted fruitlessly for the man with the ivory headed cane finally concluded that the best thing they could do would be to go to Mme. Du



The First Individual to Disappear Was Howard.

Val's and throw themselves upon her mercy. She needed them. They had that much in their favor.

When they blurted out the cost of their carelessness Mme. Du Val's rage was terrible. She seized a bronze statuette and rushed upon the whining gun man, and Radcliffe's interference doubtless saved him from a broken head. It took half an hour to pacify the woman. Gyp and his friends were happy to escape with nothing more serious than curses. She ordered them out of the house.

"I'll wager Hunt is back of this coup," said Radcliffe. "You see, we've got to act quickly, and I think that Munn game is the best we can use. Get Zudora in this private asylum and it will take ten Sherlock Holmeses to get her out."

"Very well. We will make the arrangements at once. Zudora must be put away. That will relieve the pressure against us."

Dr. Munn received them, a smirk on his face. Visitors of this character always meant "patients." He never inquired into his clients' motives. Terse-ly he was given his lines.

"It must be accomplished at once," said Mme. Du Val.

"Leave it to me, madame. How long will your patient remain here?"

"Forever, if you can make that possible."

"Many of my patients are afflicted with strange illnesses, and generally they die. But it is very expensive."

"Will \$10,000 cover these expenses?"

"Amplly, madame."

The first individual to disappear from the haunts of men was Howard, the diamond mine superintendent.

The second to vanish was Zudora. Bruce and Radcliffe accomplished the feat dexterously by means of a ladder to Zudora's window. She was half asleep when they fell upon her, bound and gagged her. They searched in vain for the diamonds, which they were confident Zudora had hidden in this room somewhere. They even lifted the plant out of the flower pot, but fortunately did not examine the dirt carefully. They flung it to the floor, where later John found the stones scattered about.

Radcliffe wrapped a blanket about the girl and took her out of the win-



Radcliffe Wrapped a Blanket About the Girl.

dow and deposited her inside the waiting taxicab. A moment later they were bowling away at a furious rate, and by midnight Zudora was confronted with the terrible knowledge that she was an inmate of one of those dreadful houses she had often heard and read about—a private insane asylum!

And in the very next room paced the man who wanted to be loyal to interests—Henry Howard!

[TO BE CONTINUED.]

**Amazing Aversions.** Vincent, the great painter, would swoon upon going suddenly into a room where roses were blooming, even though he did not see them. Valtaid tells us of an army officer who was frequently thrown into violent convulsions by coming in contact with the little flower known as the pink. This same authority also tells of the case of a lady forty-six years of age, hale and hearty, who if present when linsed was being boiled for any purpose would be seized with violent fits of coughing, swelling of the face and partial loss of reason for the ensuing twenty-four hours.

Writing of these peculiar antipathies and aversions, Montaigne remarks that he has known men of undoubted courage who would much rather face a shower of cannon balls than look at an apple. In Zimmerman's writings there is an account of a lady who could not bear to touch either silk or satin and would almost faint if by accident she should happen to touch the velvety skin of a peach. Boyle records the case of a man who would faint upon hearing the "swish" of a broom across the floor and of another with a natural abhorrence of honey. Hippocrates of old tells of one Nicanor, who would always swoon at hearing the sound of a flute.—Pearson's.

**Tough Silk Grass.** The best fish line is made in Honduras of "silk grass," one plant of which has from fifty to a hundred leaves up to nine feet long. The fiber is so strong that the native drivers of ox teams in the mahogany camps brand their bull whips from it, preferring it to leather. Experiments are now under way to see if it can be cultivated profitably.

**Double Dose.** "Did that dressmaker give you wife a good fit with her new gown?"

"Yes, and she gave me another with its bill."—London Standard.

**Wasted a Bargain.** Panhandler—Say, pal, could you give a guy a nickel for a bed?

Hard Hearted Party—Let's see the bed.—Buffalo Express.

**CHAPTER XII. Bag of Diamonds.**

TRoubles never come singly, is a saying as old as the hills. One morning came the bolt from the blue. The gold mine, with its millions, was no more. A terrific landslide had wiped it out of existence, at the least buried it under thousands of feet of rock and rubble. On top of this figuratively the trustees had absconded with the reserve, and Zudora was at the beginning of things again. There was, then, nothing but this diamond mine, of which she knew nothing except that it existed and that some one else was profiting by its output.

Detective Hunt had agencies throughout the world on the lookout for a mine registered under the name of



"I was afraid I might lose you."

ignorance, but as yet nothing had turned up. Hunt was in his office one day busy with clippings about diamond news when a name struck his eye: "A rich strike at the Zudora in South Africa. Owners are highly enthusiastic." Hunt snatched up his hat and hurried off to John Storm's office. Here was something tangible.

"That's Trainor's mine, I'll wager my hat," said the detective jubilantly. "Ever see such luck? If I hadn't been idling, looking over the news of the day on diamonds just to see what might be tried in the smuggling line we might have gone on until the end of time before we'd have landed with a thousand miles of the place. Your



Mme. Du Val Simply Tolerated Him.

find. The mine had been paying, but not largely. The description of the mine was well done. One saw the Kafirs in breech cloths digging in the bluish clay, the white men on guard to make sure that none of the natives hid a stone. Suddenly one blazing hot afternoon one of the Kafirs came running over to the nearest watcher. He exhibited a stone of several carats, a real find. The watcher placed it in a bag suspended from his neck and gave the signal to quit work for the day. The Kafirs dropped their tools and fled away under escort of the watchers. There followed a little sketch of how a crooked Kafir was caught with a gem hidden in his ear. The African was promptly arrested and marched off to jail.

Henry Howard, the superintendent, was seated at his desk when the head watcher came in with the find. It weighed three carats and was of the purest white. A stone of this quality meant more. Howard immediately cabled the supposed owners. The next day the strike traveled up and down the region.

Bruce, the smuggler himself, received the cable, and he hastened away to acquaint Mme. Du Val with what had happened. Mme. Du Val and several others were in the Grecian salon when he arrived through the secret passage. He was greeted effusively. Mme. Du Val looked extremely beautiful to him at that moment. There were times when he wished his friend Radcliffe in the nether regions. The woman puzzled him. She was rich. Her home was one of the most beautiful in or about New York, yet she played a crooked game. She was evidently one of those women who played the game for the sport of it, for the blind hazards, the excitement. The morals of her engagements never bothered her. He had watched Radcliffe for some time and gathered no little satisfaction from the fact that Mme. Du Val simply tolerated him because he was a redoubtable schemer, brave and shrewd.

"Well, what's to be done?" inquired Radcliffe.

"Send for Howard to bring the diamonds here. We will have to see that man personally. That story in the

ready rich. Why all this mummer? He took a dislike to Radcliffe immediately. The other individuals he met he rather ignored. But he is duty bound to turn over his present consignments of diamonds. The other claimant must establish proofs. That was all there was to it.

While madame engaged his attention Bruce signaled to Radcliffe, and they strolled out into the conservatory.

"That man," whispered Bruce, "is thinking of going to the other side. Hassam Ali's niece has tumbled to the fact that this mine is really hers. You already knew that she held that gold mine in Montana, worth a king's ransom. Well, I've faked stuff to make her believe that a landslide has destroyed the mine and that the trustees have absconded with the funds. This was done with the idea of making Zudora and Storm hike out to Montana to investigate. Once there there was a mighty slim chance of their ever coming back. But, oddly enough, they have accepted the fake as truth and have made no effort to go out there. I'll write another anonymous note advising them that it would pay to investigate the report. But meantime there's this man Howard to take care of. We'll warn him, and if he does not fall in with us—why, he must be pushed off the board."

"I'll take care of that end of it," agreed Radcliffe. "We're running too smoothly to let a fool cog us up. Trust me."

They returned to the salon, and a quarter of an hour later Bruce and Howard departed.

Gyp and his two companions then entered the salon and were given a small bag with the best of the gems. They were to be out at once in case Howard jumped the traces. Gyp and his companions returned to the old garage or junk hut. The moment they left the hut for the street Baird followed. He had an inkling that they were going to the diamond cutter's with the Howard collection, and he

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**NOODLE**

Dewey Hayhurst has returned to his home in Wichita Falls.

The young people enjoyed a singing at the home of B. N. Wheeler Sunday night.

Mrs. W. L. Barclay returned to her home at Matador Monday afternoon after a weeks visit with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. L. Barclay.

Mr. and Mrs. Jim Hill of Hamilton are visiting the latter's brother, T. E. Goode and family.

Mr. and Mrs. A. C. Sosebee entertained the young folks Saturday night.

Misses Stella, Mabel and brother, Leldon Goode of Abilene spent the week-end with homefolks.

Bill Winters spent Friday in Abilene.

The Noodle first team played Shiloh's first team Saturday afternoon. The score being 24 to 14 in favor of Noodle.

The people of this community are having their grain threshed. Wheat and oats are turning out fairly well.

Everybody was certainly glad to see the rain for it was surely needed.

Crops are looking fine now.

Miss Helen Thompson of Sinclair is spending this week with her sister, Mrs. A. C. Sosebee.

Mr. and Mrs. Otto Sosebee of Paducah are visiting friends and relatives of this place.

Miss Minnie Parker of Anson spent a few days last week with Mrs. A. C. Sosebee.

Miss Bertha Ely and brother, Lucious, motored to Abilene Monday.

Misses Lettye and Beulah Jones of Shiloh spent Sunday in our community.

Several young people attended singing at Shiloh Sunday afternoon.

Misses Willie and Mollie Hardy and Rosa Wheeler of Shiloh were the guests of Mrs. Chas. Seago Sunday.

Miss Arminta Wheeler spent Friday afternoon with Mrs. Howard in the Shiloh community.

**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 derive 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. It is taken internally and made in Toledo, Ohio, by F. J. Cheney & Co. Testimonials free. Sold by druggists. Price 75c. Take Hall's Family Pills for constipation.—adv

**SHILOH**

Rev. G. W. Scott filled his appointment at Newman Saturday night and Sunday.

Singing was well attended Sunday afternoon.

Henry Wheeler of Colorado City is visiting relatives in this community this week.

A number of Shiloh people are attending court in Anson this week.

Some young folks from Noodle motored to Mr. and Mrs. Jones Saturday afternoon.

Miss Cora Scott of Trent spent Monday with Miss Lydia Beavers.

Mr. and Mrs. Ubric Wheeler, Mr. and Mrs. Wilner Grayson and Mr. and Mrs. Roger Grayson were visiting Mr. and Mrs. Edgar Wheeler of the Noodle community Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Will Barnes were visiting relatives near Anson Saturday night and Sunday.

There was a singing at Mr. Mayberry's Sunday night.

Mrs. McDonald is on the sick list this week.

Mr. and Mrs. Bennett were Trent visitors Saturday.

Miss Gladys Mangrem returned to her home at Abilene Saturday

**Here's The Reveille Calling You To A Multitude of MONEY-SAVING OPPORTUNITIES**

**Sonorous, Penetrating--Like the Bay of a Bugle on a Still Frosty Morning--So This Message is Ringing Through Merkel, Throughout Taylor County and Vicinity--An Economy Call---Inviting the Entire Populace to This**

**Sensational Forced Cash=Raising Sale**

PARTEN DRY GOODS COMPANY'S ENTIRE STOCK AND STORE IS NOW IN POSSESSION OF THE

**Clifford J. Halpern Sales Co., Inc., of San Antonio Who Are Conducting This Great Event Which Starts Saturday, July 3, at 9 a. m.**

Eleven days of the most fearless slaughter of prices this county ever knew. Parten Dry Goods Company's entire stock of New, Seasonable and Most Wanted Merchandise will be sacrificed, slaughtered beyond belief. It's a case where we must raise ten thousand dollars in a very short time.

We know that it is a stupendous undertaking to raise such a large amount in a short time of eleven days, but nevertheless we are going to do it. Just watch us. Something is going to happen in Merkel. We are going to cut loose. It will mean a prodigious record smashing, shattering of prices that will never be forgotten. A sacrifice utterly without a precedent.

It will be a sale where your pennies and nickels will positively do the work of quarters; a sale where your dollars will do double duty; a sale that provides one of those rare opportunities where you can spend, save; buy and economize

**COST HAS BEEN OF ALMOST SECONDARY CONSIDERATION IN PREPARATION OF THIS GREAT CASH-RAISING SALE**

The inducements that we offer in the way of phenomenally low prices are so overwhelming strong that no one can overlook this opportunity without absolute loss of money-saving chances

**CLOSED---This Store Was Closed all Day Thursday and Friday to Arrange and Mark This Mammoth Stock That We May be Able to Handle the Tremendous Crowds That Are Bound to Attend This GREAT MONEY-SAVING SALE**

**THE GREATEST PRICE REDUCTIONS WILL BE IN FORCE THROUGHOUT THE STORE EVERYTHING ON SALE. NOTHING RESERVED. EVERY ARTICLE, EVERY GARMENT WILL BE MARKED IN PLAIN FIGURES. ALL SALE PRICES MARKED IN BLUE PENCIL**

TO THE ENTERPRISING MEN OF FAMILIES, TO THE ENTERPRISING HOUSEWIVES, OUR HONEST ADVICE IS

**COME TO THIS GREAT MONEY-RAISING SALE SATURDAY, JULY 3, OR ANY Time During This, the Greatest Bargain Carnival Ever Held in Taylor County**

Look for Our Four-Page Posters. They are now being distributed throughout the entire county. Note the wonderful offerings. Read every item, every line. Every item means money saved in your pockets. Get posted. Come here. It will pay you well

**COME--GET HERE EARLY**  
Be here when the doors open Saturday, July 3, and grasp the opportunity this great sale affords you. **COME--EVERYBODY COME**

**Come Saturday, Come With the Crowds Prepared to get the Biggest Bargains Ever Obtained**

**Parten Dry Goods Co.**

MERKEL, TEXAS : : : C. J. HALPERN, Sales Manager

**COME SATURDAY - COME** and make us prove to you that the bargains and all we claim for this great event are true, genuine and straight forward to the letter. **COME AND BE CONVINCED**

after a three weeks visit with friends in this community.

Floyd Grayson and sister, Mrs. May Seago, were Merkel visitors Saturday afternoon.

Mr. and Mrs. Beavers took dinner with Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Grayson Sunday.

**The Mail Order Ten Commandments**

The following ten commandments are offered for the guidance of catalogue house patrons:

I. You shall sell your farm products for cash whenever you can, but not to us. We do not buy from you.

II. You shall believe our state-

ments and buy all you need from us, because we want to be good to you although we are not personally acquainted with you.

III. You shall send the money in advance to give us a good chance to get the goods from the factory with your money; meanwhile you will have to wait patiently for weeks as that is our business methods.

IV. You shall apply to your nearest city to aid you in building good roads so that you can conveniently get the goods from the depot, for we do not build country roads.

V. You shall buy church bells

and church fixtures from us and forward the money in advance for this is our business methods, and you shall collect from the business men in your city as much money as you can for the benefit of the churches for it is against our rules to donate any money for country churches.

VI. You shall buy your tools from us and be your own mechanic in order to drive the mechanics from your vicinity, for we wish it so.

VII. You shall induce your neighbor to buy everything from us, as we have room for more money--the less money you have

in your community the sooner we can put your local merchant out of business and charge you any price we please.

VIII. You shall look often at the beautiful pictures in our catalogue so that your wishes will increase and so you will send in big orders although you are not in immediate need of the goods, otherwise you might have some money left to buy some necessary goods from your local merchant.

IX. You shall have the mechanic who repairs the goods you buy from us book the bills so you send the money for his labor to us for new goods, otherwise he

will not notice our influence.

X. You shall in case of sickness or need apply to your local dealer for aid and credit, as we do not know you, nor care to.—Mineola, (Texas) Monitor.

**Help for Those Who Have Stomach Trouble**

After doctoring for about twelve years for a bad stomach trouble, and spending nearly five hundred dollars for medicine and doctors fees, I purchased my wife one box of Chamberlain's 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.