

THE MERKEL MAIL

VOL. 40—NO. 37

MERKEL, TEXAS, FRIDAY, DECEMBER 21, 1928.

On the "Broadway of America"

5c PER COPY

Ten Thousand Dollars Raised on Hotel Bonus

HAMLIN AND MERKEL ALL-STARS MATCHED FOR GAME ON CHRISTMAS DAY

FORMER COLLEGE MEN LINE UP TO PLAY GRID GAME

Contest to Be Staged on Local Field, with Proceeds Going to Boy Scouts and the Merkel Cemetery Association.

Hamlin all-star football players, under the leadership of Coach O. D. Rowland of Hamlin high school, will battle the Merkel all-stars on the local field Christmas day, beginning at 2:30 p. m.

Arrangements for the game were completed Wednesday afternoon, when Coach Rowland accepted the challenge of Merkel's all-stars, and added that he expected to bring over a team of "ball toters" that would make the local entry sorry they spoke. Rowland is a real football player himself and knows how to select and train a team. He is a graduate of Trinity University and one of the outstanding stars of its football team, and was chosen as all Texas conference guard for two years.

REAL GAME ASSURED.
The coming of Hamlin assures a real football game, according to former college players living in Merkel who have been "signed" to represent their home town in a game that is certain to be replete with thrills. Merkel boasts a number of gridiron stars of former years, all of whom will participate in the Christmas game. Hamlin likewise lays claim to notable players who are coming to Merkel determined to uphold the gridiron supremacy of the Jones county town. Local football fans are jubilant over the coming of Hamlin for the Christmas day game. With Coach Rowland at the helm, it assures a contest between real football players and will provide Merkel with high class entertainment for the universal holiday.

PROCEEDS TO LOCAL CAUSES.
In addition to enjoying high class entertainment, patrons of the game will be further rewarded by knowing that the proceeds go to the Merkel Boy Scout and the local cemetery fund. The price has been placed low enough to enable everyone to attend the game—50 cents for adults and 25 cents for school children.
If there is any doubt as to the ability of Merkel's entry in the big game, a glance at the line-up will convince the most skeptical. The players will elect a captain on the day of the game. Below are the men from whom the team will be chosen:

- BACKFIELD.**
Delbert Polly, weight 175. A. & M. Junior College.
Lester Tittle, weight 210. Simmons Junior College.
Roy Largent, weight 170. T.C.U.
Clesby Patterson, weight 165. Trinity.
Howard Laney, weight 170. M.H.S.
Buford Smith, weight 175. M.H.S.
George Woodrum, weight 140. Yale.
LINEMEN.
Dgan Murray, weight 185. A. & M. Junior College.
Royce McDonald, weight 190. Texas Tech.
Blanton McClain, weight 160. Sul Ross.
L. D. Toombs, weight 195. A.C.C.
Joe Bailey Toombs, weight 160. A. C. C.
Buster Haynes, weight 155. A.C.C.
W. L. Harkrider, weight 170. McMurry.
Audrey Wither, weight 195. M.H.S.
Tony Darden, weight 165. M.H.S.
Carlton Vick, weight 150. M.H.S.
J. C. Petty, weight 175. M. H.S.

Million Dollar Steer Deal.
Dec. 20.—Three of the largest cattle deals ever made in this section were consummated here when 90 head of three, four and five-year-old steers were sold at a price of just \$1,000,000.

Brin Sherman, Tex., Dec. 20.—Fire in Masonic temple at Sherman Monday night did damage amounting to several thousand dollars.

Constable Urges Use New License Numbers on Cars

Constable N. A. Dowell urges the automobile owners of the Merkel Precinct to buy their automobile license numbers at once and put them on their cars immediately.

Constable Dowell explains that this was not permissible last year, but the ruling has been changed so that the license for the new year can be made operative as soon as they are purchased.

Car owners in the Merkel precinct can purchase license numbers from L. R. Thompson, in the Chaney building, and Constable Dowell urges prompt action on the part of motorists in order to avoid the first of the year rush. Buy your new license number and put it on your car now in the advice of Constable Dowell.

County Tax Rolls to Remain in Merkel Remainder of Week

Tax payments have been liberal in Merkel this week, according to L. R. Thompson, who is looking after tax payments here this week for the county tax collector's office. The people of this precinct are showing their appreciation of having the tax rolls here, Mr. Thompson said. Property taxes may be paid at Mr. Thompson's office the remainder of this week, and he will serve the motorists of this precinct with automobile license plates until the first of the year.

HUDSPETH WELL EXTENDS FIELD

New Producer Estimated as Being Good for 135 Barrels; New Casinghead Plant.

Atkinson & Sandefer's No. 1 Hudspeth, which came in Thursday of last week, opening what oil men declare is the fourth field in this area, has settled down to a 135-barrel producer. The new strike is approximately two miles north of the Tiner pool and about the same distance west of the Shiner producing area. The new well has resulted in great activity, since it opens up new territory.

Phillips Petroleum company is to start construction of a \$175,000 casing head gasoline plant on the G. M. Sharp property in the next few days. The new plant will have a capacity of 8,000 gallons of gasoline per day and, according to an official of the company, if the present gas production of the Noodle Creek, Tiner and Shihnen pools is increased, the plant will probably be enlarged. Contract for unloading and hauling the construction material has been awarded to C. K. Russell of Merkel.
The Grisham-Huater corporation sold during the week an undivided half interest in the oil and gas rights under 57.3 acres of land in the E. C. Brown survey for a consideration based on \$1,000 per acre to J. S. Cosden & Co., Inc. The property is approximately half a mile from production and is entirely undeveloped.

W. L. Yandell Dies At Age of 77 Years

W. L. Yandell, age 77, a resident of Merkel for about nine years, died at his home in South Merkel Wednesday. Funeral services were held Thursday afternoon from the home, with Rev. Ira L. Parrack and Rev. W. G. Cypert officiating. Interment was in the local cemetery.

Before coming to Merkel Mr. Yandell lived for about three years at Abilene. He was well known and highly esteemed by a large circle of friends. Survivors are his wife, Mrs. Thana Yandell, and nine children, four boys and three girls. The boys are Tom and Selmar, O'Donnell; Jack Y., Burkett; Fred Y., Merkel. The girls are Mrs. L. R. Cockerell, Graham; Mrs. Lee Walker, Gomez; Mrs. J. M. Henry, Ranger; Mrs. O. L. Robinson, Trent, and Mrs. L. E. Montgomery, Berwyn, Ill.



Without appreciation, love and good will this old world wouldn't be worth living in.

If we had all the money in the world, without the confidence and esteem of our friends, life would be miserable.

To YOU, who have shown us so many kindnesses, we express our warmest thanks and appreciation.

To lend a helping hand to all progressive enterprises and movements in this community having for their purpose the greatest good to the greatest number is the ambition of every person connected with this newspaper.

THREE INJURED IN AUTO SMASH

Abilene People Narrowly Escape Death as Car Plunges Into Truck Near Merkel.

Mrs. Henry Payne, her son, Charles, and Miss Flossie McCoy, all of Abilene, are in the Merkel sanitarium suffering from serious injuries sustained in an automobile accident three miles east of Merkel about 10 o'clock Sunday night.

Mrs. Payne suffered the most serious injuries, her cheek bone being shattered, necessitating an operation, in addition to numberless body bruises. Miss McCoy suffered a shattered knee cap, which was broken in five pieces, and requiring an operation. The boy, who was driving the car, has a bad cut over the eye as well as body bruises.

All of the injured were traveling in a Ford touring car, returning to Abilene from a trip to Midland, when the car smashed into the rear end of a truck which was parked on the highway. The touring car was almost completely demolished, and it was said that Mrs. Payne was thrown through the windshield by the impact.

Reports from the hospital are to the effect that all of the injured will recover if complications do not develop.

MERKEL BOY MAY GET LONDON TRIP

An effort will be made to have one member of the Merkel Boy Scout troop selected to attend the scout jamboree in London, Eng., next August, according to Herbert Patterson, local scout leader.

The Chism Trail area, of which Merkel is a part, is entitled to have two boys make the trip, and the selections for this honor are on the basis of efficiency in scout work. It will be urged that the Merkel troop possess boys who fill every requirement.

Officials of Chism Trail area will make the selections, and at the proper time the claims of the Merkel troop will be forcibly presented. The boys to make the trip will not be chosen before early summer.

Merkel Fans Will See Port Arthur and Abilene Grid Battle

Merkel will be well represented at Abilene today when the Abilene Eagles and the Port Arthur Yellow Jacks clash for the high school football championship of the state.

Most of the Merkel fans have bought seats in the same section. The first quota of seats sent to Merkel was exhausted in a few hours and a messenger dispatched to Abilene for an additional supply. It is probable that a hundred or more people from here will witness the contest.

Like most people of this section, the Merkelites are boosting the Eagles to bring the championship to West Texas.

BADGES FOR SIX MERKEL SCOUTS

Local Boys Win Promotion and Stand Creditable Court of Honor Examinations.

With Ed Shumway, scout executive of the Chism Trail area in charge, a scout court of honor was held in connection with the Lions club meeting Tuesday at noon, six scouts of the Merkel troop receiving merit badges.

Howard Carson, Glen Enes, David Gamble and Jack West received tenderfoot badges, their first step toward intensive scouting, all having passed their tests with good grades. They are now eligible to the second class in scouting.

Isadore Meilinger was presented with his second class badge, which puts him in position to strive to become a first class scout.

EIGHTEEN MERIT BADGES.

Star Scout J. T. Darsey Jr. received merit badges in weather, scholarship and first aid. He has passed his tenderfoot, second class and first class examinations, and to date has received some eighteen merit badges.

Members of the Lions club were greatly interested in the progress being made by the Merkel boys in scouting, evidenced by their ready response to the questions propounded by Mr. Shumway regarding scout rules and customs. The scout executive was highly pleased with the work of the Merkel scouts, declaring that the six boys examined Tuesday stood very creditable examinations. He complimented J. T. Darsey by saying he was among the best scouts in the Chism Trail area, embracing seven counties.

Rev. T. C. Willett, pastor of the Methodist church, expressed his pleasure at being a guest of the Lions club, and declared his intention of transferring his membership from Rotan to the local club.

TRENT BOY SINGS.

Entertainment numbers consisted of two vocal solos by Melvin Howard of Trent, with Miss Christine Collins as accompanist, both of which were greatly enjoyed by the Lions. Mr. Howard has made rapid advancement as a singer under the tutelage of Miss Collins.

No meeting of the Lions club will be held next week, the meeting date falling on Christmas day. New Year's day will see the regular meetings resumed, with the attendance contest renewed and to continue for a period of eight weeks.

The program committee for the month of January is composed of Booth Warren, chairman; R. O. Anderson and J. J. Hutchison.

Coleman Youth Near Death From Explosion

Coleman, Tex., Dec. 20.—Hays Hemphill, 26, son of Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Hemphill of Coleman, was found late Tuesday night in a marshy place on the Hemphill ranch near here. He was unconscious from exposure the supposition being that he either fell or was thrown from his horse.

KEEPING UP WITH TEXAS

Ground has been broken for the new Baptist church edifice at Eastland.

A youth about 19, was instantly killed when struck by a truck near Tyler.

Dr. J. M. Estes, Abilene physician, was seriously injured in an automobile collision.

Contract has been awarded for the erection of a new postoffice building at Wellington.

John Samuel Dorsey, pioneer Panhandle cattleman, died at his home at Canadian.

Stockmen in the Stiles section are having their grass insured on account of the prairie fires.

Floyd county voters rejected a \$400,000 bond issue for paving highway through the county.

Robert Sparks, Vernon manager of Dent theatres, was fined \$20 for operating his theatre on Sunday.

Irvin Hall Laplante, division superintendent for Marland Oil Company, died at Midland early Monday.

The last concrete has been poured on Highway No. 30 from Stamford to a point four miles north of Anson.

Will Lanham, farmer living near Belton, was shot to death Wednesday. His 19-year-old son was arrested.

T. E. Jackson has been elected president of the State Fair of Texas, at Dallas, succeeding Harry A. Olmsted.

Posing as a customer, a lone bandit robbed a Piggly Wiggly store at Greenville while several people looked on.

Sweetwater High School has been granted admittance to membership in the Southern Association of Schools and Colleges.

McLennan county voters approved an issue of good road bonds amounting to \$4,791,500. The vote was 6,590 for and 1,273 against.

Turkey shipments from Rannels county during the Thanksgiving and Christmas marketing seasons will amount to 14 carloads.

Cranfill & Reynolds-Sun Oil Company's No. 1 J. G. Sharp, eastern Fisher county, is rated a 400-barrel producer by oil men.

An automobile was washed off the road into a swollen creek near Fort Worth during the heavy rain of Sunday night and Mrs. John Janack and her two small children drowned.

Two unmasked bandits forced the cashier and a customer into the vault of the First State Bank at Richland Springs and escaped with \$1,200 in cash.

Ben C. Richards and A. A. Cragg, both of Dallas, have been indicted on charges of forgery growing out of the trial of V. Ray Adams, charged with the killing of a Dallas bank clerk over an election bet.

Attorney General Claude Pollard has ruled that the state canvassing board is without jurisdiction to hear a contest of the election of Judge Augustus McCloskey of San Antonio as successor to Congressman Harry M. Wurzbach.

Judgement for the state, vesting in it title to about 520 acres of land in Hutchinson county and recovering ultimately \$900,000 as its share of oil taken from the property, has been rendered against the Phillips Petroleum Company.

Dr. M. Armstrong's Nephew is Injured

Dr. M. Armstrong returned Tuesday night from Houston, where he had gone to minister to his nephew John Ira McClain, who was slugged in the Bayou City about two weeks ago.

Dr. Armstrong says the boy, who is about 18 years old, was hit over the head with a heavy stick, the wound giving him considerable trouble. Dr. Armstrong brought him to Fort Worth and placed him under the care of his son in the Baptist hospital. At last reports he was recovering rapidly.

OUTLOOK BRIGHT IF \$2,500 MORE CAN BE SECURED

Only Small Amount Needed to Guarantee Erection and Operation of First Class Hotel in Merkel During New Year.

Merkel's prospects for a three-story brick hotel are growing brighter day by day.

A bonus of \$12,500 is required, and \$10,000 of this amount has been pledged.

R. O. Anderson, chairman of the hotel committee from the Lions club, said at the last meeting of the club that the project, under the bonus plan, was meeting with favor from Merkel people. Since that time nearly \$3,000 additional has been pledged.

Only \$2,500 remains to be pledged to give Merkel a modern hotel. Outside parties have made the proposition to build the hotel if given the \$12,500 bonus, and the encouragement already received leads the hotel committee to believe that the hotel project will soon become a reality.

There are numbers of persons interested in the hotel movement who have not yet been approached on the bonus plan, and it is believed that all of these will do their bit towards the consummation of a project that all admit means so much to the future of Merkel.

Assurance of a new modern hotel for Merkel would be a Christmas gift worth while.

MERKEL VISITOR ENDS OWN LIFE

Leonard O'Briant, age 28, who has been working as a section hand on the T. & P. railroad, was found in a dying condition about 8 o'clock Thursday morning in a bunk house at a local tourist camp, where he had been staying for about 30 days.

A 410-gauge single barrel shotgun was between his knees with his finger still on the trigger. Justice Peace W. Wheeler held an inquest, and rendered a verdict that death resulted from a gunshot wound, self inflicted.

W. R. Watson, a cousin of the dead man who had been staying with him at the tourist camp, said O'Briant's home was at Comstock, Texas.

The top of the head was blown off, according to those who viewed the body, but death did not occur for nearly two hours after the wound was inflicted.

The body is being held here by the Barrow Undertaking Co. pending advice from relatives.

W. H. Gilliam Dead; Had Been Resident of Merkel 26 Years

W. H. Gilliam, aged 83, long prominent resident of Merkel, who died Wednesday, was buried Thursday afternoon at Rose Hill cemetery.

Mr. Gilliam suffered a stroke of paralysis about two weeks ago while in the postoffice, and while able to return to his car parked across the street, was unable to drive it to his home. It was this attack that resulted in his death.

Deceased had been a resident of Merkel for 26 years and had extensive farming interests in this section. He was highly esteemed by all who knew him, and had given liberally of his means to charity and in aiding the poor.

Survivors are his wife and four daughters, Mrs. Grace Moore, Merkel; Mrs. Clara Leerstang, Winthrop, Ark.; Mrs. Lucy Phillips, Phoenix, Ariz.; Mrs. Mary Hancock, San Diego, Calif.

Tipton-Welch.
B. M. Tipton of Merkel and Miss Carrie Welch of Trent were married Thursday afternoon at the Baptist parsonage, Rev. Ira L. Parrack officiating. They will make their home in Merkel.

Christmas Program At Trent Methodist Church Sunday Eve

The following Christmas program will be rendered at the Trent Methodist church Sunday evening, Dec. 23, at 7 o'clock:

- Song—Joy to the world.
- Scripture reading—Lee Keyes.
- Prayer—Mr. Cozart.
- Song—Silent night.
- Reading—Virginia Clo McRee.
- Piano solo—Ida V. Estep.
- Vocal solo—Imogene Mangum.
- Reading—Hazel Wanda Williamson.
- Song by Junior class—Away in a Manger.
- Reading—Leonard Stribling.
- Piano solo—Lillian Grace Reeves.
- Story; Star of Bethlehem—Louise Watson.
- Vocal Duet—Mrs. Biggs and Miss Rawlings.
- Reading—Doreen Scott.
- Vocal Solo—Ruby Johnson.
- Reading—Oh, little town of Bethlehem.
- Benediction—Bro. Mangum.

Merkel Boy Scout Troop Meets Tonight

The Merkel Boy scout troop will have its regular weekly meeting at the Presbyterian church tonight at 7:45 o'clock, and all scouts are urged to be present, as this will be the last meeting before the week-end camping trip it is planned to make during the holidays. That is only one of the many pleasures in store for the boy who joins this wide-awake movement for boys.

Former Resident is Vistor to Merkel

J. P. Frederickson, for a number of years resident of Merkel, but now living in Phoenix, Ariz., is a visitor here this week attending to business matters and visiting the relatives. Mr. Frederickson has two sons and one daughter living here, Paul P., John F., and Mrs. E. A. Ciek; also two granddaughters, Mrs. J. Greenfield and Mrs. Bill Brown. He has numbers of friends in Merkel, all of whom are giving a most cordial welcome.

Take home a box of good candy, our candy is fresh—Hamm Drug Co.

C. L. Tucker Greet Friends in Merkel

C. L. Tucker, well known Merkelite, who has for the past year or two been living at Monahans, Texas, has been greeting old friends here this week and attending to business matters.

Mr. Tucker was formerly public weigher here and enjoys a wide acquaintance throughout this section. He says that he can observe considerable improvement in Merkel during the past year. He is in the oil business at Monahans.

Mrs. E. D. Coates, a sister; J. E. Tucker, a brother, and J. C. Tucker, his father, are residents of Merkel.

CLOSE CHRISTMAS DAY.

On account of Christmas Day and New Year's Day the undersigned banks will be closed all day on both days, Dec. 25, 1928, and Jan 1, 1929. Patrons will please take notice and make their arrangements in accordance.

F. & M. NATIONAL BANK.
FARMERS STATE BANK.

Try a Classified Ad in The Mail.

Practical Christmas Gift to J. S. Swann

J. S. Swann, president of the Farmers State Bank, has received a Christmas present of which he is especially proud. It is a fine tailor made suit, made in Los Angeles, and is a gift from J. Harry MacMillan, close friend of Mr. Swann by reason of an attachment that developed in the early days of the oil field near Merkel.

According to Mr. Swann, he was instrumental in helping Mr. MacMillan to secure some leases. The latter drilled a well, but no oil was encountered. The suit of clothes was a reminder of the pleasant association of the two men which grew out of the oil development around Merkel.

Christmas Egg.

J. M. Johnson of Merkel possesses a Buff Orpington hen of which he is particularly proud. In addition to being an excellent layer at all times, this hen evidently took cognizance of the near approach of Christmas and layed recently an egg that measured 8x6 1-2 inches.

Legal covers at Merkel Mail office.

A MESSAGE OF APPRECIATION

The candle of the year flickers and dies. Together we have swung once more "around the great circle" soon to find ourselves at a new starting-point.

You have been a good friend of this bank and we know of no better time than this to make grateful acknowledgement of your many favors. We thank you both for your personal loyalty, and for the active influence you have exerted, which has made so many friends of yours also friends of ours.

We desire to repay your kindness with a fuller measure of helpful service to aid you in all your undertakings. In this spirit we salute the CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS and the NEW YEAR with you and wish you happiness, good health and good fortune.

THE OLD RELIABLE

FARMERS & MERCHANTS NATIONAL BANK

MERKEL, TEXAS

J. T. Warren
Sam Butman Sr.
Booth Warren
Owen Ellis
Geo. T. Moore

G. F. West
Geo. L. Paxton
F. Y. Gaither
Wilbur Thomas
Rosie Laney

HERE'S TO YOU

- For your good health.
- For abundant wealth
- For love and friends
- And that's happiness.

EVERYBODY'S GARAGE

PHONE 72 MERKEL, TEXAS

1928

1929

The Most Cherished Gifts OF THE PASSING YEAR

Is the memory of the delightful relations we have enjoyed with those whom it has been our privilege to serve.

It is therefore a genuine pleasure to us to send out our greetings and best wishes for the holiday season.

May the New Year be good to you in bringing you the things you most desire.

We'll do what we can to make it a happy year for you.

Jones Dry Goods Co.



THIS IS SANTA'S Headquarters

WHY NOT

MAKE IT YOURS

XMAS GIFTS FOR ALL

Hamm Drug Co.

THE CASH DRUGGIST AFTER JANUARY 1st 1929

Brackeen Returns From New Chevrolet Showing at Dallas

A. H. Brackeen of the Brackeen-Hughes Chevrolet Co., who has just returned from Dallas, where he attended the advance showing of the new Chevrolet six cylinder car, was enthusiastic in his praise of Chevrolet's new product and of the public reception showered upon it at the Dallas showing.

"Thousands attended the Dallas showing daily, and I had the opportunity of noting the most genuine demonstration of crowd enthusiasm it has ever been my privilege to witness," he said. "If the public's preference for the new Chevrolet is to be indexed by what I observed from the Dallas crowds, I feel certain that 'The Outstanding Chevrolet of Chevrolet History is destined to go down in automotive history as one of the most sensational of all sales successes."

"Dallas visitors to the showing were outspoken in their admiration of the expensive 'big car' appearance of the new models. They were pleased with the new color combination and with the elegance of the fittings and upholstery. The feminine showgoers were especially enthusiastic over the appearance and comfort conveniences found in the new Chevrolet.

"The powerful engine with its 32 per cent horsepower, the product of four years intensive development by Chevrolet and General Motors, was one of the most popular exhibits at the showing. Crowds milled about the engine all day long, and were especially interested in learning that, although it develops more horsepower than its four cylinder predecessor, it can be operated with a fuel economy averaging better than 20 miles to the gallon.

Mr. Brackeen said that he will have the new models on display in his show rooms January 1, when deliveries are scheduled to begin. Fifteen huge Chevrolet factories throughout the country are now pushing production with all the speed possible within the limits of precision manufacturing, he said.

W. O. W. Circle.

Grove No. 563, W. O. W., met on December 7 with only a few members present, which was a disappointment to those regularly attending. All members are requested to be present the first Friday in January, Jan. 4, 1929, with great interest and pep, to start the New Year right with the motto: "Be present, be on time, with the determination to make the circle larger throughout the year of 1929."

All of the members of Grove No. 563 wish each and everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

BLACKSMITH WORK.

I have bought the Polly Blacksmith Shop and am prepared to do all kinds of Blacksmithing, Horseshoeing, Wood work and Acetylene Welding, with complete equipment. I am now installing a disc roller. I am prepared to give the very best of service and guarantee my work. I respectfully solicit the patronage of those in need of anything in my line.

J. H. MENGES & CO.

Wanted—To buy maize heads. \$17.50 per ton. Sam Swann

COMPERE NEWS

The box supper was enjoyed by a large crowd Friday night. The handsome sum of \$60.65 was raised. The proceeds will be used in buying playground equipment for the school. We wish to thank each and every one who contributed something and especially the merchants of Merkel who were so kind in donating packages. We certainly appreciate their cooperation.

The patrons of the school are invited to attend the Christmas box and Christmas program to be given Friday afternoon.

Thirty-nine boxes were brought to the box supper and everybody reported a good time. We want to thank all those that brought boxes, especially those that live out of this community. The boxes sold for \$46.05. The business men of Merkel also sent packages, which brought \$12.50 and we want to thank them also, as well as Mrs. R. D. Price for the nice cake.

Tilman Outlow has been very sick at the Baptist hospital at Abilene but is improving slowly.

Mr. Powell and wife and Grandma Harris of Anson spent the day with D. W. Ashby Sunday.

Mrs. S. S. Sherrill will spend Christmas with her mother.

Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Smith and

baby of Big Spring are coming to spend Christmas with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. C. N. Smith.

Raymond Adkins is still improving and will soon be able to start back to school. Every one hopes that he will be able to come to the Christmas tree and see old Santa.

This correspondent wishes you one and all a Merry and Happy Christmas.

BAPTIST ANNOUNCEMENTS.

All regular services Sunday and through the week. Pastor will speak Sunday morning on "The Unspeakable Gift." The Sunday evening service will be a Christmas service rendered by the choir.

Our offering last Sunday for Simmons University amounted to \$438.00. We feel sure that other friends of Simmons who were not present will make it go to \$500.00

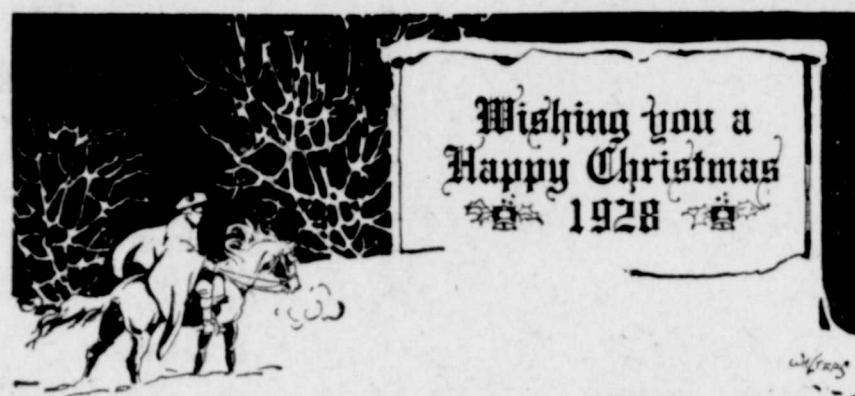
Come find a welcome in all services. Ira L. Parrack, pastor.

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F. & M. NATIONAL BANK. FARMERS STATE BANK.

Try a Classified Ad in the Mail



MERKEL THEATRE

Under New Management
SHOWING GOOD PICTURES IN A GOOD TOWN.

FRIDAY AND SATURDAY Tom Mix in "DEADWOOD COACH"

A William Fox Special—All the fun and thrills of a Wild West show in this greatest of all Mix pictures.

MONDAY AND TUESDAY CHRISTMAS SPECIAL "THE WEDDING MARCH"

with Fay Wray and Eric Von Stroheim—Should a person marry for money or How? See this picture and decide. Scenes in natural color.

WEDNESDAY AND THURSDAY "MANHATTAN COCKTAIL"

A Big Paramount Picture

NEW YEAR'S SPECIAL "THE FLEET'S IN" with Clara Bow

COMING "SHOW GIRL" with Alice White

AT CHRISTMAS TIME

May you and yours be blessed with everything good, and find a home of happiness that will grow happier and happier as the New Year progresses.

CITY DRUG STORE

Just a Friendly Word To Say

WE WISH YOU A MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR'S DAY

Not only do we wish this but we wish you many days of happiness and health and contentment for other days.

We are not unmindful of the fact that we owe much to the people who have patronized our business during the past year. And while we have endeavored from day to day to show our appreciation, we gladly embrace this opportunity to thank you again and assure you that we will continue to strive hard to merit your confidence and patronage.

Quality Bakery

The Real Christmas

Is the spirit of good fellowship which we carry in our hearts during this merry season. It does not depend so much on what we have as it does on our willingness to be happy and to help others to be happy.

Cherishing nothing but good will toward all the people of this community and section, this firm joins with all bearers of good tidings in wishing to every person a genuinely happy Christmas.

Crown Hardware Co.



MARINELLO SHOP

MOLLYE SHANNON

CORNELIUS
JEWELER
At Hamm Drug Co.
MERKEL, TEXAS
Bring us your Watch Troubles
Watches and Jewelry Repairing
Guaranteed.

THE MERKEL MAIL
Published Every Friday Morning
J.J. HUTCHISON, Editor

SUBSCRIPTION RATES
Taylor and Jones counties \$1.50
Anywhere else \$2.00
(In Advance)
TELEPHONE No. 61

Entered at the postoffice at Merkel, Texas, as second class mail.

NOTHING TO DO BUT WORK.

The presidential election and football have been the absorbing topics for the past few months. Millions of words have been written in the magazines and in the newspapers, with opposite viewpoints, on the election results and its effect upon the country. Among the most sensible editorials according to our way of thinking, is the view of the Sunset Magazine, which says:

"The election is over. A good man has won. The country is safe. It is always safe. There is no sense to the psychological depression that seems to accompany every presidential campaign. Unless there is at stake a really fundamental issue like free trade, secession, free silver, war or peace, there is no cause for the turmoil and excitement except the drumbeating of rival political parties. Let's keep that fact in mind for four years hence when the elephant and the donkey once more start their quadrennial rumpus. The show is not worth the time effort and loss of business.

"It's different with football. Even though half the huge crowd that packs the stadia for the big intercollegiate games has only a faint notion into the crisp November air, to make of what's going on, it's a fine thing to get millions of men and women out into the crisp November air, to make them walk long distances and to have them watch contests in which spirited both is competing for the glory of an institution, without the commercial incentive. America is tired of commercialism in its sport. That's probably the real reason for the immense popularity of collegiate football.

"The political football has been deflated; the pigskin oval suffering the same fate since Thanksgiving; the baseball bat is gathering dust; there is no heavyweight champion; the talking movies are getting to be as much of a bore as the silent ones; no one is preparing to fly across the Atlantic or the Pacific. Apparently there is nothing left to do—except to roll up our sleeves and buckle down to work."

Road expenditures during the present year, according to reliable estimates, average over \$11 for each man, woman and child in the United States or a combined total of \$1,360,026,000. Money wisely expended for approved types of pavements is soon returned in increased business for towns and cities, increased land values, and increased freight tonnage for the railroads.

It looks like that much needed hotel might be a Christmas or New Year's gift to Merkel.

A fire key rate of 34 cents early in the new year is a tribute to our city officials as well as to the efficiency of Merkel's fire department.

Gradually the Merkel oil field is being extended. A new well during the past week two miles from production means greater activity.

This is the season of good will. Nothing was ever gained by wearing a frown.

TEXAS SENATORS IN U. S. CONGRESS
(Copyright, 1928, by Alva O. Hearne)

SAM HOUSTON (1846-1859)

Served as a representative from Tennessee and as the first Senator from Texas. Sam Houston was born on March 2, 1793, near a spot known as "Timber Ridge Church," about 7 miles east of the old town of Lexington, in Rockridge County, Virginia. Upon the death of his father in 1806, and when 13 years old, Houston moved with his widowed mother from Virginia to Tennessee. Soon thereafter, he ran away and was adopted by the Cherokee Tribe of Indians. In 1813 he enlisted in the United States Army and served under General Andrew Jackson against the Creek Indians; was wounded in battle at Horseshoe Bend. Upon attracting the notice of General Jackson, Houston was promoted to the rank of Third Lieutenant. When, in 1814, the army was reduced, he was retained in the service. Two years later he was detailed as an agent to the Cherokee Indians and headed a delegation to the national capital at Washington. Houston resigned from the army in the year 1818, shortly after receiving his commission First Lieutenant; began the study of law in Nashville, and within six months was admitted to the bar and opened a law office at Lebanon, Tennessee. In 1819 he was elected District Attorney and returned to Nashville. Two years later he was appointed Adjutant General of Tennessee with the rank of Colonel, and within another twelve months was elected Major General of State troops.

Houston was first elected to the United States Congress as a Representative from Tennessee, in 1823, and was reelected in 1825. A controversy between Sam Houston and General William White at Nashville in 1826 on account of Houston's severe criticism of Mr. Erwin, an Adams Clay appointee as postmaster at Nashville, resulted in a duel in which General White fell with a wound in his thigh from the first shot Houston fired.

Houston was elected Governor of Tennessee in 1827 and was a candidate for a second term. While a candidate for reelection he married Miss Eliza Allen. Because of family troubles, Houston unexpectedly resigned the governorship before the expiration of his term and joined the Cherokee Indians in Arkansas. In 1833 he went to Texas on a mission from President Jackson to the Comanche Indians at San Antonio. The citizens of Nacogdoches invited Houston to remain in Texas. He was elected to the constitutional convention and made chairman of the committee to draft the Texas constitution. The Mexican Revolution in 1833 left Texas without a government. Houston joined a war party at Nacogdoches and was made Commander in Chief in East Texas. He later joined Austin at San Antonio; was elected Commander in Chief and moved his headquarters to Washington on the Brazos river. In 1836, he went to Goliad; sent Bowie to Bexar; went to Refugio. When superceded by a council Houston reported to the Governor. Upon the meeting of a convention he was reappointed Commander in Chief; went to Gonzales; retreated to the Colorado River; crossed Buffalo Bayou at Harrisburg. On April 21, 1836 Houston led the Texans against Santa Anna and his Mexican forces and completely routed them in the memorable battle San Jacinto; was wounded in that battle and went to New Orleans for treatment. He soon returned and was elected President of the Texas republic.

lic. In 1837 Houston announced to Congress an acknowledgement of Texas independence, but the United States Government declined annexation. Houston retired in 1838 and was succeeded by Lamar as President of the republic. He was elected as a member of the Texas House of Representatives in 1839, and the following year he married Miss Margaret Moffett Lea of Alabama; was reelected President, for the second term, in 1841, and renewed his proposal to Congress for the annexation of Texas. The Mexicans plundered San Antonio, and in 1843 annexation was again declined. Houston withdrew the Texas minister, but later returned him to the United States; his term as President ended in 1844, with Texas solvent. Upon annexation of Texas in 1845, Houston was elected as Senator to the United States and took his seat on March 30, 1846. He became a member of the Christian church in 1854; in 1856 he was spoken for President. The year following he was defeated for Governor of Texas. Houston delivered his last speech in the United States Senate on February 26, 1859; was elected Governor of Texas and inaugurated on December

21, 1859, but was deposed on March 18, 1861 upon his refusal to take the oath of allegiance to the Confederate States; he entered a vigorous protest and retired with his family to Independence, Texas. Died July 25, 1863 in Huntsville, Texas.

Faculty and Senior Class Photos Shown

Enlarged photographs of the faculty and Senior class of Merkel High school are on display in the windows of the West Texas Utilities company, and are attracting a great deal of attention.

The photographs, attractively grouped, are in a large frame. The entire arrangement is only a hint of what may be seen in the 1928-29 Merkel High Badger. The photographs are from the Rodden Studio of Merkel.

Speed Up Criminal Trial.
Austin, Dec. 20.—A statute to speed up criminal trials, especially by elimination of the severance feature, will be introduced in the Forty-first legislature at the instance of Texas district attorneys, it developed here.

Blair Items

The farmers are taking advantage of the hog killing weather at this writing.

Several families have moved out of the community and several new neighbors have moved in.

Mrs. Alice Helms and children of Winters visited her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Elie Brooks, the past week-end.

Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Melton of Blackwells spent several days the past week in the home of Aunt Mollie Wilson.

Miss Clara Phillips and Mr. Emitt

Morris were happily married Dec. 15th at Sweetwater.

Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Lackey are the proud parents of a fine baby girl. Mr. and Mrs. T. H. Spears and daughter motored to Abilene Sunday.

Merkel Woman's Sister Dies.
Elder W. G. Cypert and wife were called to Rochester Saturday night on account of the serious illness of Mrs. Cypert's sister, Mrs. H. L. Matheny, who died early Sunday morning. Funeral services were held at Rochester Monday and interment was in the cemetery at that place.

QUEEN

SHOWING THE PICK OF PICTURES

FRIDAY

FRED HUMES IN
"ONE GLORIOUS SCRAP"

And you will say it is, too, when you see it. Also the fourth chapter of "The Scarlet Arrow" and two reel comedy, "Pirates, Beware"

SATURDAY

KEN MAYNARD IN

"THE CANYON OF ADVENTURE"

Here is Ken at his most daring—best in a historic romance that has more hair-raising thrills than he ever gave you.

Also "The Scarlet Arrow" and two reel comedy, "The Taxi Scandal"

XMAS DAY SPECIAL

MONDAY—TUESDAY

We are very proud to present to you the great human drama of the backwoods.

"THE SHEPHERD OF THE HILLS"

Harold Bell Wright's greatest story. One of the most tender love stories ever told—and pictured in a way you will remember for weeks.

GREAT AUTHOR—GREAT STORY
GREATEST PICTURE

Also comedy, "Early to Bed" and International News

WEDNESDAY—THURSDAY

BILLIE DOVE IN
"THE LOVE MART"

See this glowing romance of flashing swords and ardent hearts in the days when Louisiana was young. You will want to see it twice.

Also "America's Pride" and Kinograms



STATE OF TEXAS OFFICIAL

HEADLIGHT CERTIFICATES

Are now being Issued by

MERKEL MOTOR CO.

And you are requested to come early to avoid the rush

We are arranging for one man to devote all his time to testing of Head Lights

This is your Service—USE IT.

MERKEL MOTOR CO.

Authorized Ford Dealers

DUNN BROS. CASH STORE

A FEW CHRISTMAS SUGGESTIONS.
NICE PORK HAM, Bakes better than turkey.

CROWN PORK ROAST.
FRUITS OF ALL KINDS.
EXTRA NICE APPLES, GRAPE FRUIT, ORANGES, BANANAS and GRAPES.
Also all kinds of NUTS and CANDY for the kiddies.

We take this method of thanking our friends and customers for their past favors and earnestly solicit a continuance of their patronage through the coming year.

DUNN BROS. CASH GROCERY & MARKET

The home of good meats Phone 77
Open for inspection at all times

NEW FEED MILL

We have recently installed a new Letz Mill and will grind your feed, both bundle and headed.

The mill will operate every day in the week, thus enabling us to give prompt service.

We invite you to see this mill in Operation.

DUNAGIN BROS.
Stith

**The Period of Universal Unselfishness
—CHRISTMAS TIME—**

We wish for our friends and patrons everywhere the best Christmas of their lives and a New Year rich in service, in happiness, and abounding in prosperity.

Mack Buzbee, Agent

CONTINENTAL OIL COMPANY

Phone 72

Merkel, Texas

Frank H. Demere Dead at Age 70 Years

Frank H. Demere, age 70 years, died Thursday night, Dec. 13, at 1 o'clock, at the home of his brother, P. R. Demere. Funeral services were held at the home, burial was in White church cemetery Friday afternoon, with Rev. T.C. Willett, Pastor of the Methodist church, officiating.

Dora Doings

We are sorry to report R. T. Ford is still confined to his bed. The singing was rained out last Sunday night.

Several are butchering pork for Xmas eating.

We will have a Christmas tree at Slater's chapel next Monday night.

The young folks as well as the grown-ups enjoyed a birthday party at Mr. and Mrs. John Burklow's Saturday night. It was Miss Jewel's birthday and she received a lot of nice useful presents. She goes away after Christmas to school at Canyon.

Mr. and Mrs. Albert Elliott of Merkel were here last Thursday calling on relatives and looking after business matters.

Supt. Dunagan and family will spend Christmas with his parents at Gilmer. Will also visit in Big Sandy before returning home.

Miss Fay Wilson science teacher, will spend the holidays with her folks at Cisco.

Mrs. Bessie Moore, Mrs. Pearl Armstrong and children were shopping in Sweetwater Thursday.

Lawrence Ussery of Sweetwater was visiting in this city Sunday and Monday.

Lem Dudley of Elm Grove was here on business Monday.

CLOSE CHRISTMAS DAY.

On account of Christmas Day and New Year's Day the undersigned banks will be closed all day on both days, Dec. 25, 1928, and Jan. 1, 1929. Patrons will please take notice and make their arrangements in accordance.

F. & M. NATIONAL BANK.
FARMERS STATE BANK.

Wanted—To buy maize heads. \$17.50 per ton. Sam Swann

A. C. C. Enrollment Reaches Capacity

Abilene Christian College will be unable to accommodate any more students after Christmas holidays than are enrolled now, it was announced by President Baxtell Baxter today. The president said, however, that he expected some students who are now enrolled not to return after the holidays and that because of this a number of new students would be allowed to enter.

The college will be dismissed December 21 for Christmas holidays and will resume work January 2. Meanwhile work will be rushed on the new buildings in Abilene Heights, A. C. C.'s new campus. Plans are being made to open school on the new campus in September, 1929.

Mrs. J. J. Stallings Is Visitor to Merkel

Mrs. J. J. Stallings, now of Fort Worth but formerly of Merkel, was greeting old friends here last weekend and looking after business interests in this section.

Mrs. Stallings has been away from Merkel seven years. She first located in this section with her husband 40 years ago, and still refers affectionately to Merkel as her home. Her husband, dead for several years, was at one time mayor of Merkel.

CANYON NEWS

Mr. and Mrs. George Crow and family have returned from Temple, where Mrs. Crow has been taking surgical treatment. We are glad to state she is in better health now.

Butman School P. T. A. Friday night was greatly enjoyed by all present. After the business session a program was rendered. An outstanding number on the program was a harmonica contest given by Odgar Mathews, Herman Dacy and Raymond Russom. Raymond was winner in the contest.

Mr. and Mrs. Richard Smith of Merkel spent Saturday night and Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. Rube Johnson.

We hope Old Santa has a pretty, snow-covered road to travel over, so he can bring all of the children lots and lots of pretty toys, and the Merkel Mail friends many gifts of love and appreciation; making for everyone the brightest and happiest Christmas of all.

TRENT METHODIST CHURCH. Sunday school 10 a. m. Preaching 11 a. m. by Rev. E. E. White. Quarterly conference. 7 p. m. Men's Bible class. 9:45 a. m. at Gafton Theatre. This class was organized last Sunday and had a splendid opening service. Boyd McKeonn of Abilene was with us and we will have different speakers until we are thoroughly organized. We trust all the men of

the town and surrounding country who are not attending Sunday school will join us in this great movement. The public invited to attend the Methodist church where there is always a welcome.

J. P. Watson, pastor.

Wanted—To buy maize heads. \$17.50 per ton. Sam Swann

Holiday Special!

\$14.00 Round Trip

TO

EL PASO

ON SALE DEC. 23-24-28-29 and 30
Return Limit, TEN days

OTHER

Attractive Holiday Rates in Effect to Texas and Louisiana Points

FOR FULL PARTICULARS



Reservation, Etc.

-See

J. C. Childress

Ticket Agent

JOINED BY EVERY EMPLOYEE

WE SEND YOU SINCERE, HEARTY—

GREETINGS AND GOOD WISHES

FOR CHRISTMAS AND 1929

Inspired by the spirit of good-will and friendliness of the Christmas season we greet you and give you our thanks for 1928 patronage. We will appreciate your 1929 business.

HIGHWAY SERVICE STATION

Phone No. 254

J. C. White, Prop.



= Gafton =

TRENT, TEXAS
Where Everybody Goes—Always a Good Show—Fine Music!

TODAY, FRIDAY, DEC. 21

LON CHANEY IN

"LAUGH, CLOWN, LAUGH"

An Imperishable Chaney Triumph—See it. Also Comedy and Chapter 4, Eagle of the Night, "Caught in the Flames."

SATURDAY, DEC. 22

TED WELLS, THE MAN'S MAN

In His Newest

"BEAUTY AND BULLETS"

With Duane Thompson. Also Comedy "The Cloud Buster" and News

Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday,

Dec. 24, 25, 26

THE PICTURE OF PICTURES

"THE KING OF KINGS"

You have heard enough about this picture to know that you must see it. Every member of the family will enjoy it immensely.

PRICES 25c and 50c

THURSDAY and FRIDAY, DEC. 27, 28

JOHN GILBERT IN

"MAN, WOMAN AND SIN"

Another great show with Jeanne Hagels

COMING SOON

"THE WEDDING MARCH"

OUR MOST PRICELESS ASSET



OUR FRIENDS



Some folks say business is one thing and friendship is another. But without friends we would have no joy in doing business.

We claim the friendship of our patrons. We would not have it otherwise.

So, as one friend to another, we send you cordial Christmas Greetings and the wish that 1929 will bring you the things you have long wished for.

J. T. DARSEY & CO.

Furniture and Stoves

WE GREET YOU

—and—

WE THANK YOU

We send greetings because we want you to have your full share of the season's merriments.

And we thank you because you have helped us to round out a good year.

If our wishes for you came true this will be a very happy Christmas and during the days of the New Year your highest ideals will be realized.

CLAY LUMBER CO.

B. H. Lancaster, Mgr.

THE BADGER WEEKLY

Published weekly by the students of Merkel High School and sponsored by the Junior Class of '29—Vera Baker sponsor.

The Staff:

Editor-in-Chief—J. T. Darsey Jr.
 Asst. Editor-in-Chief—Milton Case
 Sport Editor—J. D. Ashby.
 Humor Editor—Willie Harris.
 Society Editor—Dorice Brown.
 Miss. Editor—Frances Frederickson.
 Senior Reporter—Raymond Earthman.
 Junior Reporter—J. T. Darsey Jr.
 Sophomore Reporter—Louise Booth
 Freshman Reporter.
 Willie Evelyn Boaz.

PEP SQUAD VS. BADGERS.

Last Friday evening at 7:45 one of the most exciting ball games of the season was played between the Pep Squad and the Badgers. Although the Pep Squad had more in numbers, they had no sympathy for the good-looking Badgers, but put their whole heart into the game. The Badgers of course had to notice all the Marcells and newly set permanents of the opposing team, and as they didn't have their whole heart in the game, lost with a score of 9-6.

The school colors were carried out in the decorations, with purple and gold paper across the room and gold chrysanthemums at the center of the tables. The nut cups and place cards were of purple and gold.

Rev. R. A. Walker offered the invocation. Mr. R. A. Burgess acted as toastmaster and referee during the game. The high points of the game were:

1. Time out—Misses Collins and West.
2. Quarter ends—Mr. Duke.
3. A touchdown—Miss Tracey.
4. Intermission at end of half—Mr. Fitzgerald.
5. A field goal—Mrs. Brown and Miss Collins.
6. A Twenty-yard Penalty—Mr. Davis.
7. A long pass—Captain of team (J. E. Boaz).
8. Final Score—Members of team.

At the end of the game the announcement of the Badgers new captain was made. Orion Tittle lost to Fred Guitar by a vote of 6 to 8.

The following menu was attractively served in courses: Fruit Cocktail, Turkey, Dressing, Cranberry sauce, giblet Gravy, peas in Patties, fruit salad, hot Rolls, cherry pie and hot chocolate.

Those present included Rev. R. A. Walker, Messrs and Mesdames Fitzgerald, Burgess, Davis, Young, Mrs. Brown, Mr. Duke, Misses Tracey, Collins, Sloan, Martin and Baker; Messrs Patterson, Gamble, Church, Cannon, Case and Adcock.

Members of the football team: Max Swafford, William Sheppard, Horton Williams, Norman Sloan, Finnis Cade, Etyl Spurgeon, Alton Whiteaker, Lester Beene, Jeff Chancey, J. E. Boaz, Orion Tittle, J. D. Ashley, Fred Guitar, Willie Harris, Lee Darden, Carlos Montandon, Harold Leeton, Terrall Mashburn and John B. Hughes.

The hostesses were: the Pep Squad girls, as follows:

Louise Booth, Fannie Boaz, Vivian Burger, Verna Lee Beasley, Nadine Tippett, Missie Dye, Mattie Lou Largent, Hazel Leslie, Dahlia Watkin, Norma Shannon, Addie Fay Patterson, Enaloe Gilmore, Helen McCormick, Mildred Bird, Vera Richie, Oleta Moore, Ida Mae Derstine, Margaret Cannon, Mary E. Grimes, Nell Durham, Willie E. Boaz, Himalaya Swafford, Robin McLeod, Maxine Kesiter, Thelma Miller, Nina Montandon, Lola Shelton, Beth Hamm, Velma Walker, Dorice Brown.

PARTY FOR SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS AND FACULTY.

On last Thursday evening Mrs. R. A. Burgess and Mrs. Len Sublett entertained the board members and the Faculty of the Merkel school in Mrs. Sublett's home.

The Christmas tree and decorations added charm to the rooms where "42" was played.

After the games Misses Collins and Tracey, Mrs. Brown, and Mr. Duke entertained with music and readings.

In a unique contest, Miss Russell proved to be a student of geography.

Santa Claus entered and it was found that he had placed a surprise on the tree for each guest. Dignity was laid aside and all were "kids" once more with their whistles, tops, and dolls.

Dainty refreshments were served to Messrs. and Mesdames Adcock, Canon, Boney, Case, Church, Patterson, Brown, Young, Teaff, Anderson, Davis, Cookston; Messrs. Sublett, Burgess and Duke; Misses Russell, Pogue, West, Heizer, Guitar, Hays, Bridwell, Rodden, Coates, Sloan, Baker, Collins, Tracey, and Martin.

SAY, DIDJA' KNOW—

—That when you read this school will have been out two whole days?
 —That we won't have to return to school until December 31, 1928?
 —That there will be no Badger Weekly next week, but week after next there will be one bigger and better than before?
 —That Merkel, according to some of the dope, would do better against

Abilene than some of these class A schools are doing, in as much as Abilene defeated Anson 7 to 0 and Merkel lost to the Tigers by the small score of 6 to 0?—That soon after holidays the annual staff intends to arouse the old class spirit by having some contests to find the school favorites?—That we wish everybody a Merry Christmas and a Happy, New Year?—Editor.

JUNIOR—SENIOR XMAS TREE.

On last Wednesday afternoon the Juniors and Seniors enjoyed a very delightful Xmas tree. The Juniors were guests of the Seniors. Both classes drew names and gifts were exchanged, so that everyone received a present. Miss Lucy Tracey read, "Bird's Xmas Carol," by Kate Douglas Wiggin.

CHAPEL PROGRAM.

On Wednesday, Dec. 19, the entire school body enjoyed the following appropriate Christmas chapel program:

Reading—"Why the Chimes Rang," by Miss Lucy Tracey.
 "Silent Night," sung by Miss Mona Margaret Jones and Miss Boaz Sears, accompanied by Lynn McSpadden, violin, and Mrs. E. Yates Brown, piano.
 Christmas Talk, by Rev. R. A. Walker.

HANDKERCHIEF SHOWER FOR MISS BRIDWELL.

On Wednesday evening, Dec. 12, Miss Roberta Sloan entertained at the home of Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Boaz, with a delightful handkerchief shower for Miss Marthyl Bridwell, whose marriage to Mr. Frank Ford of Liberty Hill, takes place Dec. 26.

After several games of bridge Miss Sloan, assisted by Miss Fannie Bell Boaz, served very dainty refreshments of sandwiches and hot chocolate. Just at that time a special delivery letter, containing the handkerchiefs, arrived for Miss Bridwell. Those present were: Misses Vera Baker, Christine Collins, Iva Bragg, Melba West, Mary Cleo Booth, Marthyl Bridwell, Mrs. Jack Anderson and Mrs. Claude Young.

FRESHMAN NEWS.

The Christmas holidays are here! The Fish are all anxious for Santa Claus to hurry and bring them some candy and nuts.

On last Saturday evening Mr. A. V. Dye and Miss Ruby Lee Slater, accompanied by Misses Missie Dye and Hazel Leslie, went to Trent, where Mr. Dye and Miss Slater were happily married by Rev. Watson, pastor of the First Methodist church of Trent.

The Freshman class of Merkel high school is going to miss Ruby Lee very much, for she was such a sweet classmate. She always had a pleasant smile and everyone loved her. But we all hope her married life will be a happy and successful one.

SENIOR NEWS.

The Seniors have been in a very jovial spirit during the past weeks; (It isn't long till Santa comes, don't cha know).

William Sheppard certainly has a vivid imagination—'tis reported that he shaves twice a week.

The Senior class proved the true spirit of their brotherly love toward the Junior class last Wednesday by inviting them to a Christmas tree. It was hoped at first that if we furnished the tree they would furnish the presents. But no agreement could be reached on this basis, therefore we all played Santa Claus. The Juniors are a pretty bright bunch (at times); only day before yesterday, J. T. Darsey informed the physics class that astronomers figured the distance to Mars by guessing a quarter of the distance and multiplying that by four.

William: "You shoulda' been there last night."
 Ruskin: "Wild party, eh?"
 William: "Yes, we took a sail up Mulberry and such a night! There was a light whispering breeze; the sails were full and the moon was wonderful, it seemed to smile down upon us: It was full."

Ruskin: "Any drinks?"
 William: "Oh yes, I was full too!"
 Have you heard the latest one on the absent minded professor? Mr. Burgess hopped in his winter underwear last Monday—Class Reporter.

GIRLS' BASKETBALL TEAM.

The girls' basketball team has been organized and is preparing to begin practice soon. With Willie D. Frady

as captain and Melba West as coach, the team is expected to win many games this season. The team consists of: Willie D. Frady (captain), Tula Miller, Jess Higgins, Thelma Miller, Odell Hunter, Maxine Keister, Nina Lois Anderson, Beryl Hunter, Thelma Jones, Audrey Ferris, Marie Stanford and Ola Smith.

ABILENE—CLEBURNE.

The following saw the Abilene-Cleburne game Friday at Abilene: J. E. Boaz, John B. Hughes, Orion Tittle, J. D. Ashby, Fred Guitar, Horton Williams, Finis Cade, Norman Sloan, Max Swafford, Willie Harris, Etyl Spurgin.

Dignified Seniors Talking. Clyde—"Why do hens lay eggs?"
 Buster—"Because if she drops them she will break them."

Miss Baker to Plane Geometry class: "How do you measure the distance from a point to a line?"
 Max Swafford—"With a ruler."

Wesley—"I wish I had some traps."
 Leon—"What kind of traps and what do you want with them?"
 Wesley—"I want some Reindeer traps to catch old Santa."

ANNOUNCEMENT PARTY HONORING MISS BRIDWELL.

A smart social affair of the season was an unusually beautiful bridge luncheon given at the home of Mrs. M. H. Watson at 504, Ninth street Ballinger, honoring Miss Marthyle Bridwell, who is to become the bride of Mr. Frank Ford of Liberty Hill, on Dec. 26. The Christmas idea was favored in the decorations of the lovely rooms. The honoree, Miss Bridwell, and out of town guests, Misses Sloan, Baker and Elders, and Mesdames Anderson and Young, formed a receiving line and met the other guests as they entered. They were surprised to receive as they entered the following announcement of Miss Bridwell's approaching marriage: "Marthyle and Frank, Dec. 26."

from little Miss Zaldie Mildred Watson. The tables bore red tapers and place cards bearing a bride and groom. After the dainty luncheon served in courses, from which the guests received tiny wedding slippers as favors, bride was enjoyed. As honor guest Miss Bridwell received a beautiful brides' book.

Guests included: Misses Margaret Kink, Evelyn Shepherd, Ruth Holliday, Sudrie Strable and Marthyle Bridwell; Mesdames K. V. Northington, W. A. Bridwell, H. R. Woodie, T. C. Baker, R. Vancil, and Henry Jones of Ballinger, and Mrs. B. King of Brownwood, Mrs. Chas. Isler of Cleburne; Mrs. R. Brown, Des Moines Iowa; Miss Ruth Elders, Simmons University, Abilene; Mrs. Claude Young and Vera Baker of Abilene, and Miss Roberta Sloan and Mrs. Jack Anderson of Merkel.

SOPH NEWS.

The Sophomores held their class meeting December 11, the purpose being to discuss a Christmas tree. A motion was carried to have the tree Wednesday, December 19 after school hours. Several committees were appointed as follows:

To get the tree: La Dnyt Warren, Earl Wyatts, Joel Darsey, Byron Patterson, Selma Jones and Harold Leeton.

To decorate the tree: Vera Richie, Norman McKeane, Beth Hamm, Jess Higgins.

Louise Booth and Verna T. Beasley, were chosen to hold the names for gifts.

Program committee: Ola Smith, Margaret Turner, Harold Leeton, and Norman McKeane.

Wanted—To buy maize heads. \$17.50 per ton. Sam Swann

NOTICE—If you suffer with a Rupture ask to see our Trusses. Hamm Drug Company.

AUTO REPAIRS

It is a saving of money and possible loss of life to see that your car is in tip-top shape.

We specialize on repair work—all makes of cars. The price is as low as is consistent with good workmanship.

C. S. HIGGINS GARAGE

Back of Postoffice

HAVE YOU FORGOTTEN ANYONE?

Only 2 More Shopping Days Before Christmas
 REMEMBER THAT OUR

PRE-HOLIDAY SALE

Continues Through Monday, December 24th
 Scores of beautiful and useful gifts will be found here at money-saving prices these last two shopping days before Christmas.

CHRISTMAS-- The Pause Signal for the Whole Wide World!

How joyfully we obey the impulse of the Christmas signs all about us to pause for a moment to consider the the bright side of life. It is a joyous season—a beautiful custom.

At this season of the year we are thinking of our friends and customers, and to you we send this message.

May Abundant Christmas Joys Be Yours
 And The New Year Bring Fulfillment
 Of Every Bright Promise
 For Your Happiness And Prosperity.

After all, the greatest reward in business is the friends we are enabled to make. So it is in a spirit of friendship and good-will that we greet you and thank you cordially for your patronage and all favors of the past.

BARROW FURNITURE CO.

MERKEL, TEXAS

Christmas Time Is Riding Time

LET US SHOW YOU OUR GREAT VALUES IN

Good Used Cars

DODGES--CHEVROLETS
 CHRYSLERS--FORDS

Sedans, Coupes, Roadsters and Tourings
 All great values and at economy prices

ANY ONE OF OUR USED CAR OFFERINGS WILL
 MAKE THE WHOLE FAMILY HAPPY.



Maverick Motor Company

FRONT STREET

MERKEL, TEXAS

CLASSIFIED ADS

FOR SALE

FOR SALE—Old papers, 15 cents per bundle of 100. Apply Merkel Mail.

FOR SALE—Jersey heifers, heavy springers, the good kind. At my place at Noodle. T. C. Jinkens.

FOR SALE—One good work mule at a bargain. Maverick Motor Company.

O. K. USED CARS.

Three days' trial. If not satisfied can put car in on any new or used car for price paid.

1926 Ford Roadster (balloon)	\$135.00
1926 Ford (high pressure)	\$145.00
1925 Ford Coupe	\$150.00
1927 Ford Truck, cab stake body	\$200.00
1927 Chevrolet Sedan	\$465.00
1926 Chevrolet Touring	\$250.00
1925 Chevrolet Touring	\$200.00
1924 Dodge Sedan	\$250.00
1925 Ford Touring, a good one	\$100.00
1926 Chevrolet coupe, bargain	\$240.00

Other bargains in cheap cars as low as \$35.00.

These cars are in good condition ready to go. Other cheap cars.

BRACKEEN-HUGHES
CHEVROLET CO.

Home of O. K. Used Cars.

FOR SALE—Shetland ponies, S. A. Destine.

ELECTRIC OVEN for sale. Mrs. W. A. McSpadden, Phone 115.

FOR RENT

FOR RENT—Two furnished rooms with gas, first house north of Christian church. Mrs. Bradshaw.

FOR RENT—4 room house gas, water and lights. Mrs. Taylor Davis.

FOR RENT—Furnished bed rooms; all conveniences. Mrs. J. B. Ferrier Phone 137.

FOR RENT—Furnished bed room; all conveniences; front entrance. Mrs. J. E. Baze.

NEW THREE room apartment nicely furnished; gas, hot and cold water. Mrs. C. L. Boswell Phone 171W

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By its own TALK

and
The Talk
of the
thousands
who have
seen it

You'll be convinced this is

The One
Great
Talking
Picture

MADGE BELLAMY
LOUISE DRESSER
BARRY NORTON

in

"MOTHER
KNOWS
BEST"

The Fox
MOVIEPHONE

Translation of

Edna Ferber's
sensational novel

also

Fox Moviephone News

ALL WEEK
Starting
Monday, Dec. 24.

MAJESTIC

ABILENE

WANTED

WANTED—Good farm hand by the month; married man preferred. Apply J. D. Jones, Dora, Texas.

LOST AND FOUND

STRAYED—Black milk cow, 8 or 9 years old, from my place east of Merkel. Reward. Notify C. E. Jacobs or H. W. Hester.

LOST—Ladies' deerhide, hand stamped, laced purse. Return to Merkel Mail. L. V. Thornton, Blair, Texas.

CHURCH OF CHRIST.

Elder W. G. Cypert will preach at the North Side Church of Christ next Sunday and Sunday night, and the general public is cordially invited to attend all the services.

Salt Branch P. T. A.

The P. T. A. will meet at the school house Friday night. The school children will give a good Christmas program. Come and bring some one with you.

NOTICE.

The Senior class of 1928 will hold a reunion Saturday, Dec. 22 at 7:30 o'clock in the old Senior room of the High School Building. All members asked to be present and assist in a glorious old hot time.

Big Oil Land Deal.

Fort Worth, Dec. 20.—Final steps in the transfer of West Texas properties of the Henshaw Oil Corporation of San Angelo to the American Maracaibo were consummated in Fort Worth Tuesday.

The consideration in the transaction which has never been announced, is reported to be approximately \$2,500,000.

Try a Classified Ad in the Mail

Farm Bureau Elects Higgins of Merkel

J. W. Clark of Abilene was elected president and J. E. Higgins vice president of the Taylor county unit of the Texas Farm Bureau Cotton association at a meeting held in Abilene Tuesday. Other officers elected are: Clyde Daniels, secretary-treasurer, and the following directors: precinct 1, D. E. Varnell, Abilene precinct 2, D. I. Shelton, Merkel; precinct 3, C. P. Oliver, route 5, Abilene; precinct 4, E. W. Kelly, Guion.

J. W. Clark was selected delegate to the state convention to be held in Dallas January 23-25, with J. H. Herrington of Guion as alternate.

CARD OF THANKS.

We wish to thank all those who in any way assisted us during our recent sorrow. We shall never forget the kind words spoken or the touch of a loving hand in an hour like this. Also the beautiful floral offerings that reminded us so much of dewdrops from Heaven.

May God's blessings be with each and every one is our prayer.

Mrs. G. W. Cox and children.
Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Moore.
All Brothers and Sisters.

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

Sunday school at 10 a. m. Every teacher will expect every member of their classes present Sunday. Preaching service at 11 a. m. Special music at this service. A Christmas program at the evening service, beginning at 7 o'clock. Come be with us.

Wm. Elliott, supt.
R. A. Walker, pastor.

The total Indian population of Texas by the latest census was 2,109. The largest tribe is the Alabamas in Polk county.

Just received a nice assortment of pipes of all kind—Hamm Drug Co.

In Memory G. W. Cox Jr.

G. W. Cox, Jr., was reared in Taylor county, near Merkel. He departed this life Dec. 12, 1928, leaving a wife and four children to mourn his untimely death. The children are Loreta, Ellwood, Harold and Geraldine. He dearly loved his home and was an affectionate, kind and loving father. He was devoted to his friends and was well beloved by all who knew him.

He had been in ill health for several months and for some time there had been little hope of his ever being any better. And yet it was such a shock to those who were so near and dear to him.

The funeral was held at the Methodist church in the presence of a great concourse of people who had come to pay their last respects to their friend and neighbor. His memory shall ever be cherished in the hearts of his friends for his kindness as a neighbor.

And may the fragrance of his short Christian life go with the wife and little children as they journey along life's pathway. And remember that God in His wisdom never makes any mistakes.

Our dear one is only laid away to rest in peace until the dawn of that bright and happy day we are taught to believe will some time come when we shall meet again; where there will be no more parting, no heartaches, or death. It seems I can hear the

Master say "Beyond this darkness lies the perfect day."
—Written by one who loved him.

JUNIOR LEAGUE PROGRAM.

Song.
Prayer.
Roll Call.
Scripture, Matthew 2:11, by leader, Kennedy Whiteley.

Solo—Mollie Frank Touchstone.
The Lesson Story—Odell Hunter.
Prayer.

Those Who Come—Mildred Richardson.

How to Present Our Gifts—Neal Durham.

Selecting Our Gifts—Imogene Middleton.

Piano Duet—Lois Whiteley and Alice Church.

Reading—Marie Stanford.

The Junior League extends a cordial invitation to the parents and friends of all the members for the Christmas program.

Get a roast or steak from our choice Home Fed Baby Beef. Chickens and Turkeys dressed to order. Fresh Oysters and Cat Fish. Quality Market Phone No. 2

The Texas Committee on the Relation of Electricity to Agriculture has established 21 experimental electrified farms in Texas.

Adding machine rolls at Merkel Mail office.

MAY THE CHRISTMAS OF 1928

BE A FORERUNNER FOR
A HAPPY NEW
YEAR IN
1929

We feel that we have made progress with our business during the past year. But whatever we have accomplished, we have done so because of the loyalty of our patrons.

We cannot get away from the thought that our patrons have made it possible for us to go forward with this business and it is therefore our greatest pleasure to remember you with kindly greetings and every good wish we know to send.

HAMILTON & CASE

GROCERYMEN

CHRISTMAS IS NEAR

And a Nice

BOUQUET OF FLOWERS

Will Make a Wonderful Gift

Give your orders to Mrs. F. C. M'FARLAND, your home agent. You are welcome at our place when in Abilene.

UNIVERSITY FLORIST

1204 Ambler Street Phone 7458
On Simmons University Campus
O. L. DOWDY

THE SPIRIT OF THE YULETIDE SEASON

Brings to us renewed appreciation of happy associations with our many old patrons and pleasant anticipation of constantly enlarging our usefulness to then and to the new ones we are proud to claim.

MAY YOUR HOLIDAYS BE FILLED WITH HAPPINESS

Bringing you to a realization of your fondest hopes.

And as you face another year, may you do so confident of victory in the things you desire to achieve for the happiness and well-being of yourself and others.

W. O. BONEY

Real Estate, Farm Loans
Fire Insurance

DIAMONDS T.C. WILSON WATCHES JEWELER

TELEPHONE 6
118 Chestnut Street

ABILENE, TEXAS.

PROFESSIONAL

M. ARMSTRONG, M. D.
Office Over Farmers State Bank.
Res. Phone 12. Office 195.
Local Surg. on T. & P. For Last 10 Years.
Furnish Drugs From Office.

Dr's. Grimes & Sadler
PHYSICIANS & SURGEONS
HOSPITAL FACILITIES
—X-RAY—
PHONE DR. GRIMES PHONE DR. SADLER
Res. 165 Of. 163 Res. 136 Of. 163

PAULINE JOHNSON
Successor to
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Insurance—Notary Public
In New City Hall—Front St.
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W. W. WHEELER
Real Estate, Fire, Accident and
Tornado Insurance Agent.
Notary Public.
Office over Crown Hardware Co.

—PILES CURED—
No Knife No Pain No Detention from Work
DR. E. E. COCKRELL
Rectal and Skin Specialist
of Abilene, Texas
Phone No. 359 Alexander Bldg

Lee R. York

LAWYER

Civil Practice in all Courts. Special attention to land titles and probate matters.

711 and 712 Mims Building

ABILENE, TEXAS

H. P. HULSEY, D. C.

CHIROPRACTOR

Merkel, Teas Phone 51
In Boney Building on Front St.

Dr. Chas. E. Harrison

Practice Limited to
The Eye and its Errors of Refraction
Eyes Examined and Glasses Fitted
PHONE 2020
209 Clinton Bldg. Over Brooks D.G.
ABILENE, TEXAS

FREE! FREE!
One Large 8x10 Enlargement with each \$5.00 worth of Kodak Finishing

RODDEN'S STUDIO
Roll Developed 10c; Prints 3,4,5c
—ONE DAY SERVICE—
All Work Strictly Guaranteed

J. T. (Tom) COATS

WATER WELL DRILLER

My Work As Good As The Best.

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Merkel, -:- Texas

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Water well Driller,
all work guaranteed
first-class.

Merkel, Texas

Phone 164w P. O. Box 224

Full Set Teeth \$17.50

No Better Plate Made at Any Price
22-k Gold used in all Crown and
Bridge work at \$4.50 and Up
Gold Fillings \$1.50 and Up.
I Cure Those Old Bad Gums.



DR. HOUGHTON

All Work Guaranteed
25 Years Experience
SOUTH SIDE DENTIST
116 1-2 Chestnut St. Abilene

Dr. W. A. BUCKNER

Dentist
Office, Farmers State Bank Bldg.
Phone, Office 195



JUNIOR LEAGUE ENTERTAINED.

The Junior League was entertained with a Christmas party on Monday afternoon at the Methodist church. Games were played and presents were distributed to all. Afterward a plate of delicious candy was passed to Bessylee, Francis Marie Billie Estel and Bonnie Church, Opal Huskey, Vivian and Pauline Lasater, Louise and Jephtha Kerr, Marie and Jack Swafford, Lois and Kennedy Whiteley, Cullen Tittle, Mildred Richardson, Duncan Briggs, Wilbur and Donald Willett, Odell and Wanda Hunter, Billie Bernice and Bud Gamble, Bertie Mae Leslie, Alice Church, Eloise Manscill, Ouida Mae and Gene Hulsey, Mary Grace Dunn, Imogene Middleton, Florence Rider, Jack Patterson, George Hicks, Richmond Buford, Nell Hughes, Neal Durham, Billie Mae Cobb and the hostess, Miss Cora Lee Hulsey.

ANNUAL BANQUET.

The annual Christmas feast of T. E. L. class members and members of the Business Men's Bible class proved one gala affair for approximately sixty guests on Tuesday evening of last week in the basement of the church. Christmas decorations were used in a profusion of color and light and tables carried centers of cut flowers.

L. B. Scott was a gracious master of ceremonies, Rev. Ira L. Parrack delivered the invocation and Rev. Sam Morris of Simmons University was the principal speaker of the evening. Musical numbers by Miss Mona Margaret Jones and Mrs. E. Yates Brown and readings by Miss Lucy Tracey added much to the entertainment of the evening. A sumptuous dinner of three courses was served and place cards covered a guest list of sixty names.

CHRISTMAS CAROLS.

Any one wishing to have Christmas carols sung to them on Christmas eve is requested to place a lighted candle in a conspicuous front window.

STUDIO RECITAL.

Miss Christine Collins entertained pupils from her voice and piano classes with a studio tea on Wednesday afternoon in the Fine Arts Studio in the High school during the afternoon hour from four to six. An impromptu program in which only the pupils participated was most complimentary to the teacher and pupils. An appreciative audience enthusiastically applauded each number. Yuletide decorations were tastefully arranged about the studio and at tea time a dainty sandwich plate, with punch, carried a miniature lighted candle as a final tribute to the Christmas season. Approximately thirty guest and pupils were in attendance.

SURPRISE BIRTHDAY PARTY.

Miss Opal Patterson graciously complimented Bessie Westenhover on Wednesday evening, Dec. 12, with a surprise birthday party. Christmas decorations were in evidence throughout the entertaining rooms where games of progressive 42 interspersed with victrola and piano numbers were much enjoyed. A presentation of dainty and useful gifts was made to the honoree. A most delectable sandwich plate was served to Misses Bessie Westenhover, Anna Lou Russel, Stella Wilson, Imogene Hays, Edith Baker, Opal Patterson, Mrs. Claude Dye Menss, Harold Leeton, Byron Patterson and Fred Baker.

REV. WHITE TO PREACH SUNDAY

New Presiding Elder Will Occupy Pulpit at Merkel Methodist Church Sunday Night.

Rev. E. E. White, new presiding elder, will fill the pulpit at the Methodist church next Sunday evening, services beginning promptly at 7 o'clock.

It will be the first visit of the new presiding elder to the Merkel church; Pastor Willett and the entire church official family urges every member to make an effort to be present. Rev. White is an able preacher, having filled some of the most important charges in Texas Methodism.

At the close of the service Sunday night, Rev. White will hold the first quarterly conference, and every official of the church is expected to be present.

Old Santa Claus is expected at the church Monday night (Christmas eve), at 7 o'clock. The church will be beautifully decorated, and a Christmas tree will be provided, on which it is expected there will be a present for every member of the school.

The pastor will preach at the morning hour. Sermon subject, "The Eternal Child in the Midst." Pastor Willett says, "Let us make the public worship of our Savior a part of our celebration of his birth."

Santa Claus Letters

Dear Santa:

I have been a good boy. I want a 22 rifle and a car with a motor and also a little airplane. Good-bye, Santa.

Robert Lee Lawns.

Dear Santa Claus:

I want a gun, an aeroplane, a pair of gloves, a steam shovel and a book called.

Sonny Boy.

Dear Santa Claus:

I will be a good little boy if you will remember me with a nice assortment of fruits and candies, also a dump truck with rubber tires, a gun and a ball.

May I ask that you visit all the kiddies and be as liberal as you can with them.

Your little friend, W. O. Boswell.

Personal Mention

Mrs. J. J. Hutchison left Sunday for a visit with her daughter Mrs. William McCorkille in Fort Worth. Mr. Hutchison will join her for the holidays.

Mrs. V. P. Touchstone has returned from a week-end in Fort Worth and Dallas where she attended the state convention of the Southwestern Life Insurance Co.

Mr. and Mrs. George Cagle, Wayne Flanniken and C. J. Glover Jr. will make a holiday visit to Waco.

Misses Iva Bragg and Christine Collins will leave Sunday for Clarksville, Texas for the holidays.

Sterling Sheppard, son of Mr. and Mrs. A. T. Sheppard, who is attending S. M. U. at Dallas, will return Friday to spend the holidays with his parents.

E. Yates Brown, manager of the Boston Bargain store, returned Tuesday night from Dallas, where he had gone to make additional Christmas purchases.

Enjoyable Meeting Tuesday Eve Wesleyan Brotherhood Club

The Wesleyan Brotherhood club of the Methodist and Presbyterian churches met Tuesday night in one of the most enjoyable social gatherings of the year. It had been designated ladies' night, and the wives and sweethearts of the members were present in large numbers.

Many unique and original amusement features were introduced, in which the ladies played a prominent part. In fact, ministers and all present joined in the fun-making, marking Tuesday evening's meeting one of the most enjoyable in the history of the club. Ladies of the Philathea class served popcorn balls and hot chocolate.

Song selections were rendered by Misses Mona Margaret Jones and Boog Sears, with Melba West as accompanist.

Interesting addresses were made by Rev. R. A. Walker and Rev. T. C. Willett.

Amusement features galore were introduced, including sack races, hoop races, going down to Jerusalem, and others that created no end of merry-making.

The Brotherhood meets twice each month and is growing constantly in popularity as well as spreading good fellowship to all who attend the meetings.

Compulsory School Attendance Becomes Effective on Dec. 31

At a special meeting of the board of trustees of the Merkel Independent School District, Monday, December 31, was fixed as the date for the beginning of the compulsory attendance period.

Beginning with that date the law requires that all children living within the Merkel school district who are eight years old and under fourteen must attend school for one hundred school days, beginning with Dec. 31.

There are a few exceptions made to this law which the superintendent will be glad to explain to interested persons.

Failure to put children of these ages in school subjects the parents to a fine of from \$5.00 to \$10.00 for each day's absence.

At this meeting the board also accepted the resignation of Miss Marthyle Bridwell and elected Mrs. Melvin Davis to succeed her. Miss Bridwell is to be married soon. Mrs. Davis has her B. A. degree from Simmons University and has two years of successful teaching experience at Rio Hondo.

MERKEL SCHOOLS GIVEN TWO FLAGS

Merkel schools are the owners of two large American flags, coming as Christmas gifts from Parramore Post No. 57, American Legion, at Abilene. The flags were presented to Superintendent Burgess Tuesday by Vice Commander Dent Gibson.

The faculty and student body of the schools are proud of the gift. One of the flags goes to the Grammar school and the other to the High school. They will occupy prominent places at both schools.

Christmas Tree at Methodist Church

There will be a Christmas tree at the Methodist church Christmas eve, to which all are cordially invited. A short program will be rendered, as follows:

"Silent Night"—Mary Jo Russel, Lynn McSpadden accompanying with violin obligato.

Reading—"Jolly Santa Claus," by Comora Hughes.

Solo—Roy Largent.

"Why We Have a Xmas Tree"—Rev. T. C. Willett.

Song—"Oh, Xmas Tree," by eleven children.

MARCELLING and PERMANENT WAVING

Mrs. Lorene Wagner, recently of Denver, an expert Marcel operator, is with us and ready to give you the Marcel particularly adapted to your features.



Permanent Waving \$8.00 MODERN MARINELLO SHOP Mrs. Billy Sheppard At Merkel Drug Co.

WE WISH YOU

SUCCESS AND HAPPINESS

FOR CHRISTMAS and the NEW YEAR

and we embrace this opportunity to tell you that we appreciate the confidence you have placed in us by entrusting your business to us.

We express the hope that we have merited a continuation of your favors.

MOTORISTS ARCADE SERVICE

Phone 56

E. E. Leslie, Prop.

GREETINGS FOLKS!

May Everybody at Your House Get This Message From Our House.

The greatest enjoyment comes to us at Christmas time, as at other times, when we make others happy. So that is what we want to do for our friends. We want you to be happy and we send this message of Christmas Greetings, filled with the merry heart-throb of the yuletide season.

WE WISH YOU HAPPINESS AND GOOD CHEER

And wish to assure you that you have helped in the past to make us happy. We feel that we owe much to those who have helped this business to grow and we know of no better time to give expression of our appreciation to you than here at the Christmas time.

THOMPSON & BOSWELL

Every Kind of Insurance.

L. R. Thompson

C. L. Boswell

TO OUR FRIENDS

As Christmas nears, the days of good cheer and gladness, we are reminded of the many good things the year 1928 has brought to us, for all of which we are grateful. But we are most grateful to you, our loyal friends,—the host of good fellows who have made the year mean so much to us.

We thank you for every favor. We wish for you the Merriest Christmas ever, and a happy and prosperous New Year.

QUALITY MARKET

Dry Cleaning Service!

It is not too late to have your wearing apparel dry cleaned and pressed for the holidays. A telephone call will bring our driver. MERRY XMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL.

CITY DRY CLEANERS

Phone 189

"Sudden Service"

Kent Street

CHRISTMAS GREETINGS

AND A HAPPY AND PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR TO ALL FROM

FARM BUREAU GIN

"Where Ginning is an Art and Service a Pleasure."

A. J. Cannon, Manager

LET US DO YOUR COLLECTING WESTERN COLLECTING AGENCY

P. O. Box 2

Merkel, Texas

Phone 103

WHAT'S DOING In West Texas

Building permits in Lamesa have totaled \$300,000.00 this year with every prospect of continuing. Brick brick veneer, and stucco houses have held the majority in the residential district with frame buildings in the minority.

Plans for three and possibly four more stories being added to the Graham hotel at Pecos by the first of the year are being completed. Ball room, room garden, banquet hall, club rooms and one hundred and twenty-six guest rooms have been planned.

A bond election for \$100,000.00 was carried by a vote of 297 to 91 in Robert Lee. This will go to building a highway for the Mitchell county line between Robert Lee and Colorado City to the Tom Green county line, between Robert Lee and San Angelo. The road will probably be designated as a state highway.

Shamrock's new creamery will have a capacity of 400 gallons of ice cream daily and will be able to turn out 700 pounds of butter at one churning. Refrigeration machinery, cold storage rooms, pasteurizers, mixing vats, freezer shipping containers and other equipment has been provided.

Much improvement is being done on the Booker street system. A. L. Clar, recently appointed street commissioner has been dragging the different streets following rains. The dip between the Booker hotel and the Quick Service Station put in to replace the culvert has been completed.

Forty meters a day are being set out in Post since the acquisition by that city of a natural gas system. The gas company will have its new permanent office home completed for occupancy by the close of the month.

Another block has been added to the contract for paving at Happy. This will make five and one half blocks of brick street when it is completed. Rainy weather has retarded the work for a short time.

Wellington has decided that "the streets here won't be dirty now" with the purchase of a street sweeper and

a motor mainainer which will be used in the near future following the purchase. The price of the sweeper is \$6,500, and the motor maintainer which will be used on dirt roads an additional \$3,000.

From the progress made on the water system of Eden it is certain that in a short time the town will have adequate water for any emergency. Blasting is being done on the well, ditches being dug, and eight inch and six inch pipes are being laid.

That Stevenville faces a prosperous 1929 is the consensus of opinion since the voting of a \$115,000 bond for improvement to be expended. \$25,000 from the water department will also be spent for this purpose. Many inquiries about land values in the town have been received recently.

The records at Lubbock show that with twenty-three permits issued during the past month, residences topped the list with \$112,500 worth. The months total was \$151,000 bringing the years total to \$3,188,169.

Arthur Haley of Muleshoe recently

shipped one thousand head of cattle from his VVN ranch near that place. Several pens of calves were sent to the feed pens, ten cars going to Amarillo, one to Altus, Oklahoma, and four to Canadian Texas.

The past few weeks have witnessed a decided improvement of the railroad property in Fabens. A new chimney has been added to one building, new desks installed in the station, fixtures replaced by new ones, and others added. A new telegraph desk and instrument have been installed.

This is to notify you that our store will be headquarters for reasonable Xmas Gifts. Boston Bargain Store.

Read the advertisements in this paper. There's a message in every one of them that may enable you to save money. At least you will know where to find what you want without doing a lot of hunting and asking questions, and you also know the merchants appreciate your patronage because they solicit your business and make special offers.

WHEN MOST OF US ARE HAPPY

As we shall be at the Merry Christmas time, we do not forget our less cheerful friends and associates—

But lay our plans for a bigger and better, a more useful and more prosperous New Year of SERVICE.

MAGNOLIA FILLING STATION

Ben F. Bird, Retail Agent

GREETING YOU WITH WORLDS OF GOOD WISHES

May it be the Merriest Christmas you and yours have ever spent and may the New Year open to you new opportunities, greater happiness better health and more wealth than you have ever experienced before.

This is the wish we send to, our friends and patrons and in the same message we include our heart-felt thanks for your favors of the past and express the hope that we may continue to serve you in the year ahead.

LIBERTY HARDWARE COMPANY

MERKEL

TRENT

TO OLD FRIENDS TRIED AND TRUE And Many New Ones Too

We embrace the opportunity which Christmas offers to give expression of feelings of appreciation we have for the old friends, tried and true and to the new ones it has been our pleasure to make in the year past. We thank each of you for favors of the past and assure you that as we look to the New Year we do so with the expectation of taking advantage of every opportunity to serve and please you.

We shall enter the New Year with renewed vigor and aggressiveness, more determined than ever to merit your patronage. We expect to work with you in the spirit of co-operation, not only to the end that our business dealings may be pleasant but that our city and community may be made greater, more prosperous and attractive.

May the most wholesome enjoyment the season affords be with you now and on and on and on.

The Farmers State Bank

GUARANTY FUND WILL BE DIVIDED

Creditors of Closed State Banks to Get Pro Rata Dividend, Says High Court.

Austin, Texas, Dec. 20.—Creditors in closed State banks will be paid a pro rata of the guaranty fund remaining. This was the view of the supreme court when it refused to hold that the bank first failing would have its depositors paid in full. By adopting on opinion by judge C.A. Leddy of the commission of appeals, the court refused to grant a mandamus against the State Banking Board, instituted by Edwin Lacy and others to force payment in full of creditors of a State bank which closed at Longview. The claims of non-interest bearing depositors in that bank would almost wipe out the guaranty balance of \$93,186.

Nine State banks were closed with depositors or depositors having claims aggregating \$1,438,147. These creditors now share alike in the fund. The court further held in the opinion of the banking board had made the assessment it could before the guaranty fund law was repealed in 1927, therefore, only the balance is available for distribution in payment to depositors. This has been held intact by the board of the decision in this case. After the usual motion for rehearing was denied, the board will pay off pro rata basis and the guaranty fund will have passed into history.

The date of closing and the name of the State banks, together with amount of depositors' claims are as follows:

- Sept. 29, 1926, Commercial Guaranty Bank, Longview, \$421,952; Oct. 1926, Commercial State Bank, Cleburne, \$137,329; Nov. 3, 1926, Altoga State Bank, Altoga, \$31,908; Nov. 16, 1926, Farmers' & Merchants' State Bank, Mount Calm, \$62,975; Nov. 26, 1926, Guaranty State Bank, Trinidad, \$71,665; Dec. 2, 1926, Farmers' State Bank, Kemp, \$43,910; Dec. 14, 1926, Guaranty State Bank, Genter, \$101,826; Jan. 3, 1927, Addison State Bank, Addison, \$35,530, and Jan. 7, 1927, First State Bank, Belton, \$109,180.

Had the Longview bank won its

"King of Kings" is Christmas Attraction Gafton Theatre, Trent

Cecil B. De Mille's highly renowned picture, "The King of Kings," which packed the Aldine Theatre, Philadelphia for nine weeks, will be on view at the Gafton Theatre Trent Dec. 24, 25 and 26. Outside of New York and Los Angeles, Philadelphia was one of the few cities of the United States to be favored with an early presentation of this "picture of pictures" as many in New York styled Mr. De Mille's famous production.

With eighteen stars, 500 principals, and a supporting cast of 5,000 persons "The King of Kings," devotes its story to the last year and a half of the ministry of the Man of Nazareth. All the characters of the New Testament live and move in this remarkable picture. In the cast are H. B. Warner, Dorothy Cumming, Ernest Torrence, Joseph Schildkraut, Jacqueline Logan, Rudolph Schildkraut, Victor Varconi, Majel Coleman, Montagu Love, William Boyd, George Siegmann, Theodore Kosloff, Kenneth Thomson, Julia Faye, Sam De Grasse, Alan Brooks, M. Moore, Muriel McCormac, and others.

case and its depositors been paid in full there would have remained \$71,235 to pay claims of the other eight banks, aggregating \$1,013,714.

Quits Pastorate to Work for Simmons

Abilene, Texas, Dec. 20.—The Rev. Sam Morris, for the last two years pastor of the First Baptist Church of Weatherford, has resigned to take the position of field representative for Simmons University. Mr. Morris will aid by organizing the alumni and by speaking over the country in promoting the \$1,500,000 program which was initiated last spring.

The Rev. Morris was graduated from Simmons in 1926. While in school he was a star debater, an all-conference tackle in football and an honor student.

Bargains: We have connections with oil companies, oil brokers and investors in real estate. It will pay you to list your holdings with us. Thompson and Boswell

NEW RAIL LINE FOR WEST TEXAS

Austin, Dec. 20.—West Texas is to have another new railroad. Charter of the Yates and West Texas Railroad was filed with the Secretary of State here after its approval by Joe Brown, Assistant Attorney General.

The line will operate between Rankin, in Upton County, to Sheffield, in Pecos County, via Iraan. Its distance will be 30 miles.

The corporation's capital stock is given as \$1,000,000, 5 per cent of which has been paid in, \$250,000 preferred and \$750,000 common stock.

Officials of the company are: Ira G. Yates, San Angelo, chairman of board; W. A. Moncrief, Fort Worth, president; Toddie L. Wynne, Athens, vice president and council, and these board members, who are also incorporators: L. L. Farr, Sand Springs, Okla.; Dr. Emil Ott, San Angelo; M. M. Doan, Tulsa; Lee L. Leventritt, Tulsa; Julius Livingston, Tulsa, and J. M. Gillett, Tulsa.

The incorporation papers cite that Yates owns one share, Moncrief 24, while Leventritt and Livingston are the largest stockholders, owing 44 shares each.

The new line, if authority to build is granted by the Interstate Commerce Commission, will tap the Yates old pool, of which the president of the road was founder. Yates, formerly a struggling rancher, has become many times a millionaire.

Headquarters of the company will be established at Rankin, now on the Orient Railroad. The Railroad Commission Friday had not received the application of the railroad. A similar petition will be filed with the Interstate Commerce Commission, after which it is expected the State Commission will be requested to hold a hearing.

This is to notify you that our store will be headquarters for reasonable Xmas Gifts, Boston Bargain Store.

Wanted—To buy maize heads. \$17.50 per ton. Sam Swann

Adding Machine paper—Typewriter paper and ribbons—Loose leaf ledgers and all kind of office supplies —Hamm Drug Co.

To You

WHOSE FRIENDLY BUSINESS HAS HELPED TO MAKE OURS SUCCESSFUL



We extend the Season's Greetings and wish you all of the joys the Christmas holidays afford and a New Year brimful of cheer and prosperity.

Accept our thanks for patronage and your loyalty to our business.

If we have merited a continuation of your favors we assure you that during 1929 we will give you the very best at our command.



Sam Swann Gin

MAY CHRISTMAS BRING YOU UNBOUNDED JOY

And The New Year See The Fulfillment of Your Fondest Dreams



That is the wish we send to our friends and patrons and along with the wish we want to give a right hearty "thank you" for your favors of the past year.

Already we are looking forward to plans for 1929 to make our service more worthy of your every trust and to have you feel that you may look to us for every requirement in our line.

S. M. HUNTER
Exide SERVICE BATTERIES STATION

Phone 72 Merkel, Texas



MAKE IT AN ELECTRICAL GIFT



Why not give an Electrical Gift this Christmas?

They are not only beautiful but are useful as well as economical.



The ones that we show in this ad are only a few of the many that we have on display at our show room.



Remember that Electrical Gifts are labor savers and you can buy them from us for a small payment down and easy monthly terms can be arranged. Call at our office and let us have the pleasure of showing you through our Gift Department.



West Texas Utilities Company

West Texas Utilities Supplying Power to 107 Communities

Abilene, Texas.—Extending from the clay banks of the Red, 50 years ago the hunting ground of the Kiowa Indians, to the salty waters of the Pecos, in the land of the sombrero, run the great copper highways of the West Texas Utilities Company.

Following the trail of the buffalo, over which half a century ago redskin and pioneer fought for supremacy, today are modern power lines supplying 107 prosperous cities, towns, communities with the greatest of all civilizers—electricity.

The war cry of the Indian has given way to the hum of industry, and where formerly indolence reigned today is the hustle and bustle of commerce. These copper highways form a network of transmission lines covering approximately 2,000 miles.

It is the magic hand of electric power which has turned this once wild country into one of the most highly civilized sections of the United States. Virtually every known use to which electricity is put can be found today in West Texas. From the great flood lights illuminating modern air ports to the humble home of the day laborer, the electrical energy is being utilized.

On the great plains of West Texas electricity is used in shearing sheep, while at the same time current from these highlines, a hundred or more miles away, is driving electric drills through the chalky way to oil pools beneath or it is furnishing power to pump the liquid gold from the lease to storage tanks in Texas and Oklahoma.

Several years ago the West Texas Utilities Company was furnishing public utility service in only seven of the larger towns, and the gross investment in its properties of all kinds was rather small. Since that time large amounts, all new capital and most of it brought in from outside financial centers, have been expended by this company.

Wherever these copper highways were extended they carried a new civilization, a new hope and a higher standard of civic pride. The rural communities perhaps appreciated electric power more than city dwellers, for they had no look upon it as a matter of course. It is especially true of the scores of communities that

are located miles from the nearest railroad. Before the advent of electricity their work was done by almost primitive methods.

The evolution of the rural community with the aid of electric power was somewhat like that of the cocoon into a butterfly; following electrification came good roads, beautiful parks, chambers of commerce and city zoning. Druggery fled before the new labor saving electrical machinery and appliances. These profited most.

Of the 107 communities now receiving electric service from the West Texas Utilities company, 48 had no service and 20 had limited or part time service prior to being served by this company.

Golden Jubilee For Breckenridge Masons

Breckenridge, Dec. 20.—Fraternal fellowship brushed elbows at a banquet at Breckenridge Friday night when Master Masons gathered around turkey laden tables in the Masonic Temple where they celebrated 50 years of activity.

Breckenridge Lodge, 492, A. F. & A. M., was organized Dec. 14, 1878. The chief speaker on the golden jubilee program was Judge J. E. Hickman of this lodge, chief justice of the Eastland Court of Civil Appeals. Judge W. C. Veale, district deputy grand master, served as toastmaster.

New Sweetwater Hospital.

Sweetwater Dec. 20.—Announcement has been made here of the purchase of a lot on Elm Street for \$15,000 as the site for a new hospital to be built by Sweetwater doctors and citizens.

Boiling Oil Fatal.

Port Arthur, Dec. 20.—Boiling oil which shot from a fractionating tower in the pressure department of the Texas Refining Company here took one man's life and burned seven others, two seriously.

Wanted—To buy maize heads. \$17.50 per ton. Sam Swann

Heal Those Sore Gums

Even after pyorrhea has affected your stomach, kidneys and your general health, Leto's Pyorrhea Remedy, used as directed, can save you. Dentists recommend it. Druggists return money if it fails. Hamm Drug Co. Adv.

Legislator Predicts Defeat For Bonds

Austin, Dec. 20.—Predicting failure of the proposed state bond issue for highways, A. H. King, Throckmorton, has prepared a bill to be introduced in the House of the Forty-first Legislature which would empower the highway department to close gaps in important roads, regardless of whether the counties in which they occur can or will finance their part of the work.

King, a legislator for 10 years declared he did not think the Legislature would submit the \$225,000,000 "and upward" bond issue, but if it did, he believes the project would be voted down at the polls. A three-cent gasoline tax would be sufficient to finance his plan, King said. He opposed the proposed law to license automobile drivers, declaring that in sparsely settled territory, such as his own, the law would be a nuisance.

Bursting Bottles at Fire.

Dallas, Dec. 20.—Flavoring extract bottles, popping and throwing shattered glass in all directions hampered firemen here Friday as they battled to extinguish a fire in a building occupied by the Maury-Cole Company.

Pioneer Ranchman Dead.

Lubbock, Dec. 20.—W. A. Adams, 72 of tatum, N. M. pioneer ranchman of Eastern New Mexico, died in a local sanitarium early Friday following an illness of five months.

This is to notify you that our store will be headquarters for reasonable Xmas Gifts. Boston Bargain Store.

One of the important developments in the electrical field of Texas is the electrification of oil fields.

Tate-Lax

(Sweet or Bitter)

For Rheumatism, Neuralgia, Headache, Constipation, Stomach, Liver and Kidney Disorders

Satisfaction Guaranteed by

Hamm Drug Company

The Dr. N. F. Tate Medicine Co., Waco, Texas

TO YOU WHOSE INTEREST WE HAVE STRIVEN EARNESTLY TO SERVE

We come in this season of great joy and happiness to express our warm appreciation for your patronage and for the friendly interest you have manifested in this business. In the spirit of the season we cordially wish you—

CHRISTMAS HAPPINESS

And enough, we hope, to last you throughout the New Year. We assure you that during 1929 we will be found working earnestly to express our appreciation in a tangible way.

J. H. McDonald Grocery

Christmas Greetings



TIES

Silks or Knitted; plain or designs.



BELTS

Genuine Leather; all the colors



SHIRTS

Madras, broadcloth in all styles



SWEATERS

Pullover as well as jacket styles.



NECKERCHIEFS

Linen, plain or colored borders

Three Shopping Days And Then Xmas

And they are going to be mighty shopping days at this store. The savings made on purchases here during the next three days will mean a real Christmas gift to your pocketbook. Never before have we had a greater assortment of Christmas merchandise—gift articles of standard makes—and the price is far below what you would ordinarily be expected to pay at this time of the year

ANNIVERSARY SALE PRICES THROUGHOUT THE STORE

Look over the items listed here, select your Christmas needs, and then come here and expect to pay about half the price you have been paying for similar goods during the Christmas season. These low prices prevail throughout the store.

THE STORE OF CHRISTMAS BARGAINS



PAJAMAS

Regular or middy; all materials.



JACKETS

House Coats in wool and trimmed



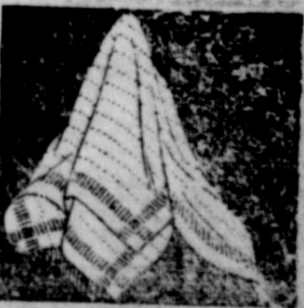
HOSE

Wool, lisle, silk, plain, patterned.



MUFFLERS

Silks and wools; plain or patterns



BATHROBES

Terry cloth or in blanket style

Ladies' Beautiful Furs

The gift that is always appreciated. Our showing is complete and the prices exceedingly low.

MAX MELLINGER

Three Members Ill; Bet Jury Dismissed

Dallas, Dec. 20.—Unable to reach a verdict and with three of their number ill with influenza, the jury which for 12 days heard testimony in the murder trial of V. Ray Adams, Bartlett farmer, was discharged by district judge Pippen. Adams was charged with the slaying of Orville L. Mathews Dallas banker.

The foreman told the court that nine jurors stood for acquittal and three for conviction and that there was no hope of an agreement.

"If three of your number were not ill, I would order a further deliberation," Judge Pippen said, "but under the circumstances I am going to discharge the jury if it is agreeable with the defendant."

"It is agreeable," Adams told the court.

District attorney McGray said he was undetermined when the central Texas farmer would be brought to trial again.

Snyder Short Line Rumor.

Snyder, Dec. 20.—The announced application of the Roscoe, Snyder and Pacific railroad to rehabilitate its financial background for the purpose of adjusting capital structure to more nearly accord with the capitalizable assets, brings the rumor in rail and banking circles that the Texas and Pacific is to acquire controlling interest in this short line that operates between Roscoe and Fluvanna, a distance of 49 miles.

Airport as Gift.

Fort Stockton, Dec. 20.—The city of Fort Stockton, through the efforts of the Chamber of Commerce, has received a gift of 70 acres from Chester A. Shewalter of Flint, Mich., to be used as a municipal airport.

Turkeys at \$62.50 Each.

San Saba, Dec. 20.—Mrs. T. A. Garrett of Richland Springs, raiser of Bronze turkeys, this morning sold to A. & P. Company clip turkeys for \$500, or \$62.50 per head. Mrs. Garrett has raised 700 turkeys this season. These are fine brooder birds and the flock will be sold for from \$8,000 to \$10,000.

Your favorite cigar is always moist when you buy it at—Hamm Drug Co.

Ellis Crop Forecast Near 120,000 Bales

Waxahachie, Dec. 20.—Already leading the world in county production and a few hundred ahead of the 1927 total, Ellis County's phenomenal yield of 114,594 bales prior to Dec. 1 was still the subject of much speculation Saturday. Estimates as high as 120,000 for the season are now being made.

Ginning last year prior to Dec. 1 totaled 110,492.

At the beginning of the Fall, Ellis County production was guessed at from 80,000 to 100,000 bales, but the total, even this far, has astounded everyone, crop observers declare.

Try a Classified Ad for Results

Fight on Leasing State U. Oil Lands

Austin, Dec. 20.—With the recent announced by J. R. Robison, State Land Commissioner, putting on the market for lease nearly 1,500,000 acres of University lands in West Texas, it has developed here that a fight will begin as soon as the Forty-first legislature convenes to eliminate this wholesale selling process in the interest of the State University, oil conservation and stabilization of prices. Only the legislature can do it, Robison disclosed, in the same breath admitting that the sale at this time is inopportune, but that under the law he has no choice.

Try a Classified Ad in The Mail

WHATEVER YOU NEED TO MAKE YOU HAPPY

That is just what we wish for you for a

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR



Together with our thanks for patronage of the past, this is our holiday message to you.



SEARS VARIETY STORE

"The Home of Bargains"



All Portraits

made until December 23rd, will be ready for delivery Xmas Eve.

It's time now to think of a very personal gift for those you love. There's nothing so distinctive as your portrait.



RODDEN STUDIO

"Photographs Tell the Story"

KINDEST THOUGHTS

And Wishes Sincere for
A MERRY CHRISTMAS
and
A HAPPY NEW YEAR



We thank you, dear friends, wherever you may be today, for your support and patronage to this business during the past year.

Depend upon us to serve you even better the coming year, if such is possible.

MAGNOLIA PETROLEUM CO.

Charles H. Jones, Agent

WE WISH FOR YOU

All You Could Wish For Yourself

Could Anyone Wish You More?

Burton-Lingo ties

DAPPER DAN



Christmas Greetings

Says Dapper Dan: "To ev'ry friend
"And ev'ry stranger, too
"The season's greetings I extend;
"To you and you and you!"

Here's wishing everybody in Merkel a Merry, Merry Christmas! Here's hoping Santa Claus will not overlook a single little boy or girl in town, and that all the grown-ups will have just as much fun on the Great Day as the kiddies!

MODERN DRY CLEANERS

Phone 3

Across from Postoffice

Dapper Dan will dye to please you!

Forced to Sleep in Chair—Gas So Bad

"Nights I sat up in a chair, I had such stomach gas. I took Adlerika and nothing I eat hurts me now. I sleep fine."—Mrs. Glenn Butler.

Even the FIRST spoonful of Adlerika relieves gas on the stomach and removes astonishing amounts of old waste matter from the system. Makes you enjoy your meals and sleep better. No matter what you have tried for your stomach and bowels. Adlerika will surprise you. Merkel Drug Co.