

THE MERKEL MAIL

ALL THE AUTHENTIC OIL NEWS OF THE NOODLE CREEK FIELD

VOL. 38--NO. 33

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8 PAGES

NEGRO BRUTALLY KILLED; 3 CONFESS

The citizenship of this city was shocked and excited on last Sunday by a report that came from some seven miles southwest of the city that the body of a man had been found staked to the bottom of a tank on the above mentioned farm.

The discovery of the victim's body, afterwards positively identified as that of Robert Lamar, negro, was made by a number of boys of the community who had gone to the tank for a swim. They immediately spread the news, which came to Deputy Sheriff W. H. Laney, who, with Justice of the Peace W. W. Wheeler, immediately went to the scene.

The body of the murdered negro was brought to town by the Barrow Furniture Company, undertakers, and after investigation and examination identified it as that of Robert Lamar, negro, who had been missing since Sept. 18th.

Immediately local officers, the Sheriff and District Attorney went to work on the case and by Monday had arrested and secured confessions from Neal Gipson and Walter Beecher, negroes, as having taken part in the crime, which, it is stated, was committed by them and one "Curly" Melton and other negroes. Melton was arrested in Fort Worth Wednesday, and after going through a grilling examination by District Attorney Milburn S. Long, confessed to having taken part in the murder. He was brought to Abilene and placed in jail by Sheriff H. T. O'Bar.

The killing is said to have been brought about over the dispute and quarrel between Lamar and one of the four negroes implicated, one of whom has as yet not been apprehended, and happened about as follows:

Beecher and Lamar had had a sharp disagreement over a negro woman. The party of negroes (Continued on back page)

NOODLE CREEK OIL COMPANY TO DRILL

Mr. H. M. Rose, now of Sweetwater but for many years a citizen of Merkel, was here one day this week, and we learned that a drilling contract has been entered into by and between his mother and children and oil promoters from Colorado, Wichita Falls and Amarillo, who, it is stated, will organize what will be known as the "Noodle Creek Oil Company," to drill on 80 acres of their 160 acre farm.

According to Mr. Rose the farm is located two miles north of Trent, and two and a half miles south of the Winter well. The contract calls for spudding in the well within 30 days.

LOCAL LUMBER COMPANY ADDS RIG TIMBER STOCK

Mr. O. R. Dye, the very energetic and hustling manager of the Burton-Lingo Company of this city, informs us that his company will also handle in connection with their lumber and builders supply stock, a large supply of rig timbers for the trade in the development of the Noodle Creek oil field near this city.

They have already received several car loads, which are being unloaded on their site for this particular line, situated on the south side of the railroad just east of Swafford's feed and coal yard.

WINTER NO. 1 PRODUCTION HOLDING UP; NEW RIGS UP

The Phillips' Joe Winter No. 1 discovery well, in what has been named the "Noodle Creek Pool," and which has already become famous because of the fine quality of the oil flowing from it, and because of the fact that the well continues to hold up around 800 barrels after having been pronounced a 1000 barrel well when drilled in one month ago. It has already produced up to this writing more than 30,000 barrels of oil. The average daily flow of this well is therefore estimated at 800 barrels per day, making it one of the best if not the best discovery wells every brought in in wildcat territory in West Texas.

Considering the above facts, one need not wonder at the rapid and marvelous preparations and progress made in the field in just 30 days toward great development. Today, just five weeks since the discovery well shot oil over the top of the derrick, there are four wells drilling, all of them below 900 feet deep. They are the Midwest Thornton, the Mariand Mason, the Phillips Walling, offsets to the discovery well, and the Hurley Oil Company's Sears four miles east.

Besides the above, the Atlantic Oil Company has the rig up and are about ready to spud in on the E. Howell farm a mile south of the discovery well. On the J. W. Wheeler land two and a half miles northwest Johnson and Gibson have a rig up and almost ready to start drilling.

The World Oil Company, of Fort Worth are putting up a rig on the Boney, Clark and Stanford tract two miles north.

A rig is up on the Cranston tract eight miles north of Merkel near the Comper community, and drilling is expected to begin at once.

Contracts have been entered into and locations made for wells on the following:

On the Hamilton, Haynes and Tipton block three miles west of Merkel by Johnson and Gibson.

On the Largent land three miles north by Johnson and Gibson.

On the Huddleston farm near Mt. Pleasant, six miles southeast of Merkel by Hunter and Grisham.

On the Swann farm north of the producer, in Fisher county, by a California company.

The latest drilling block to be made up is that said to be entered into by Fred Burge, a well-known independent operator, of Fort Worth, and the citizens of the Butman community, including 3000 acres of the Butman land, comprising 6000 acres all together, which calls for spudding in a well in a short time. It will be remembered that some six years ago Buford and Brim drilled a well on the Butman ranch to a depth of 3,000 feet, it is said, which is reported to have made considerable gas and some oil showing.

This is only a part of the developments that are promised for immediate action in the Noodle Creek field near Merkel.

Mr. and Mrs. A. F. Morgan, of Greenville, were here first of the week, having made the trip to this city to visit friends and relatives, and, incidentally, to look after their property interests. While here they were guests of Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Derstine and other relatives. They will keep up with developments here by reading the Merkel Mail.

Misses Anna Lou and Dorris Russell are students at Draughon's Business College at Abilene.

COTTON PRICE SAYS "DIVERSIFY"

If conditions were ever right for a good oats and wheat crop they are at present. We have a wonderful season and a little moisture at the right time would mature a fine crop of these products. Every farmer should have a patch of fall oats and we should try to raise some wheat. There would be only the gamble of the price of the seed, and we have abundant evidence that these crops can be successfully grown here if the land is properly prepared.

In the opinion of the writer, who does not seek to qualify as a farm expert, it would be far more profitable for the farmer to read about diversification than to fill his mind full of the economic make-shifts to modify the law of supply and demand. In our opinion the "buy a bale and burn it" move is the biggest fool proposition that was ever made to a sensible people. And to limit the acreage by law is nearly as senseless. If you can limit the acreage you could as well limit the production of any commodity, as well as the sale of it.

The solution of the problem lies first with the farmer. If he is determined to plant all his land to cotton until the supply far exceeds the world's demands for that product, he can only hope to run his farm at a loss. If he will diversify the products of his farm so that it will bring a steady income then he will become the most independent business man on earth. Not only should he diversify but he should by cooperation erect large cotton warehouses so that he could hold his product and orderly market it.

The banker would then be glad to grant extensions of credit without too much hazard. There are four automobiles in Taylor county to one hog and we have an abundance of feed. Abernathy, a small town on the plains, has a fine slogan, "King Cotton and Queen Wheat; the cow and the hen make both ends meet".

We must follow some similar slogan or suffer financially. Talk diversification; practice diversification, and profit by diversification.

FARMER SELLS ACREAGE FOR \$150

Mr. E. C. Brown who owns a farm near the noted Phillips Joe Winter discovery well in the Noodle Creek Field, is also one of those to enjoy the great benefits thrust upon many of our citizens.

He sold just after the well came in 30 acres lease at \$40.00 per acre and later 60 acres at \$150.00 per acre. The last tract was sold to the Texas and Pacific Coal and Oil Company, the company that brought in the discovery well in the famous Ranger pool.

THE MARLAND CO. TO OFFSET THEIR WELL

The Lancaster rig company reports that they are building a rig that will go up as an offset to the Marland well. It is rumored that there will be in all fourteen offsets to the wells now drilling. Merkel will soon have as many derricks around her as she has windmills within her limits, and by the way, these windmills, being up the finest water in this part of the state.

FOR GOVERNOR



COL. HARVEY H. HAINES
of Houston
Republican Nominee
for Governor

COL. HAINES SPEAKS HERE TODAY AT 3 P.M.

Local Republicans are jubilant over the fact that today at three p.m. the citizens of Merkel and community will have the honor and pleasure of hearing Colonel H. H. Haines, of Houston, candidate for Governor of Texas, on the Republican ticket, in an address on the issues of the day and in the interest of his candidacy for Governor.

Harvey H. Haines, life-long Republican, well-known Texan, with a record of two years overseas service in the World War, is the Republican nominee for Governor of Texas. He is now engaged in a campaign that is carrying him to every part of Texas.

Colonel Haines is one of the best known men in Texas public and business life. He has been actively identified with the affairs of the Lone Star State since 1889. He has been a resident of Palestine, where he was employed by the International and Great Northern Railroad for many years, of Gainesville, where he was a leading figure in the grain business, and of Galveston and Houston. For many years he was the traffic manager for the Port of Galveston and, since the World War, he has been vice president and general manager of the Houston Chamber of Commerce.

It is expected that the candidate will speak on the streets of the city today, at three p.m., provided the weather will permit otherwise it is likely that the tabernacle will be used.

HALE ROYALTY BRINGS \$24,000

George E. Black, of Los Angeles, California, last week closed a deal for the purchase of one-half the royalty on 160 acres of the Hale farm one mile east of the Phillips Joe Winter discovery well, at \$150.00 per acre, a total of \$24,000.

The heirs of the above mentioned farm had some time previously sold to the Phillips Company the balance of their lease not in the original block, at \$60 per acre, or \$9,000.00.

Our good friend and excellent citizen, Mr. J. L. Barker, of Merkel, route four, has our thanks for three subscriptions to the Mail, which he sends to relatives.

Messrs. Hendricks & Buford report the sale of one acre of land adjoining the city limits on the south to Messrs. Tyler & Davis for \$500.

SECRETARY CALLS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE MEETING

A meeting of all members of the Chamber of Commerce is called for Tuesday evening at 7:30 in the basement of the Presbyterian Church.

Every man or firm that subscribed to the support of the Chamber of Commerce automatically became a member of that body and that they may know just what has been done by the organization and what is in prospect to be done it is urged that every one be present at this meeting. We are facing an opportunity to double or triple the population of our town, but to do this we must place the burden on one man. Mr. Thompson has done everything possible for him to do until he has every business man upon his toes enthusiastically supporting him. He wants you to know what he has done towards attracting things worthwhile and he also wants the encouragement of your support not alone financially but actively. A new hotel is imperative and if we are to secure homes to house our increased population we should take steps to organize a Building & Loan Association. This can be handled in an exceptionally profitable way if conservatively managed and if properly presented the stock would no doubt be readily taken. Men will be at this meeting qualified to go into the details of the organization and advise as to the proper way of carrying it on. If you are not asleep at your post you will attend this meeting.

POLICE FORCE INCREASE NEEDED

With no thought of casting any reflection on our present peace officers, but rather introducing what we have to say by commending them for their efficiency and fine integrity, we wish to urge our people to prepare now for a large influx of strangers who will not be very much interested in law enforcement.

We have been especially noted as a law observing community, and those who were opposed to law and order have found this a very undesirable place to live. We must keep in mind the lesson of Borger and never allow the lawless element to tarry long here. The city should at once take steps to increase the night police and if the time ever comes when they feel that the task is too great for them we should have a number of citizens in reserve legally qualified to assist them in keeping this city a safe place in which to live.

We should consider ourselves humiliated if we felt compelled to call on state authorities outside of Taylor county for aid in enforcing the law. We have a fine sheriff's department and fine city officials but in addition to these we have a fine citizenry who would make it mighty uncomfortable for any set of law violators who might come here. We want the word passed down the line that the town of Merkel is the least desirable place on earth for a crook, and unless they wish to take a gamble with long odds against them they had better pass by on the other side.

Mr. B. C. Gaither returned to his home here after a visit with his daughter at Tuscola.

SUPPLY HOUSE ADVANTAGES HERE

Practically every field man for the big supply houses has indicated a preference for Merkel as an unloading and warehouse center. The T. and P. does not have as much ground as they should have at this point and Mr. Thompson has secured options on land both on the south and north of the right of way, which can be had at very reasonable rentals. He has been assured by the County Commissioner, the resident state highway engineer and the Federal engineer, that no objections would be offered to crossing the highway at either of the locations north of the right of way and adjoining and parallel to the highway.

The play of the big companies is northeast of Merkel and the haul will be nearer from this point. These considerations together with the advantages of sewerage, the best water in this part of the state, and good roads should make Merkel the center of the field industries. If the Sears well should prove a good one, and it is the opinion of those who affect to know that it will, then any industry located elsewhere than Merkel would realize their mistake.

Most of the recent drilling contracts apart from the offsets and the Howell well are nearer this point. The cost of hauling at this time is the same. We are almost certain to get most of them if the T. and P. remains neutral and if it is not it will be more to its hurt than to the injury of Merkel. Mr. Burke has assured the secretary of the local Chamber of Commerce that he is as willing for locations to be made at Merkel as any other point.

WILL OPEN NEW CAFE HERE NEXT WEEK

Mr. E. E. Davids of Fort Worth was here last week, and secured a lease on half the building now occupied by Messrs. Bob McDonald and Dean Higgins, barber shop, in the new Mellinger block. He returned to Fort Worth and purchased new and modern cafe fixtures and with his wife returned here Wednesday. He is now busy preparing to install the equipment, with the view of opening early next week a new cafe.

Mr. Davids operated the leading hotel in DeLeon during the boom days of the Desdemona field, and this writer had the pleasure of knowing him intimately, therefore can recommend him as a splendid citizen and live-wire hotel and cafe man.

We welcome him and his wife to our city. They have apartments at the Mrs. T. P. Pearce home at present.

NEW TAILOR SHOP OPEN FOR BUSINESS

Elliott Brothers announce that on next Saturday they will open a new and up-to-date Tailoring establishment in the Rainbolt building opposite the Merkel Mail office, which will be known as the Modern Cleaners and Tailors.

They have been delayed for some time in their opening on account of the non-arrival of machinery and equipment, which is now on hand and being installed. Their plant is new and according to experienced men is complete and the very latest in dry cleaning and tailoring.

Read their announcement in this issue of the Mail.

Sell those lots w
ad in the Mail.

To Our Patrons

Commencing September 1st. this Bank will

OPEN AT 8 O'CLOCK

and will be here to serve you from that time on.

Bring us your Cotton Checks we will supply you with plenty of change to pay your pickers.

Let Us Serve You

FARMERS STATE BANK

MERKEL

TEXAS

OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS.

J. S. Swann, President	Herbert Patterson,
R. O. Anderson, V. Pres.	Assistant Cashier
J. C. Mason, V. Pres.	
W. L. Diltz, Cashier	Dallas Scarbrough
	David Hendricks

—NOTICE—

I have a full line of 1927 wall paper samples of the very latest patterns. The styles have changed considerably and you should see these samples before papering your house. Prices are reasonable and 25 years of experience in wall paper will aid you in your selections. A post card to

box 536 will bring the samples at once. Painting and paper hanging appreciated and work guaranteed. Respectfully,
A. L. BRYANT & SON 1t
For Sale—Fall Seed Oats free of Johnson Grass. J. T. Warren. 1t
Try a Classified Ad in The Mail.

MR. HUGH McREE WEDS GEORGETOWN GIRL

The following account of the wedding of Mr. Hugh McRee formerly of Merkel, and Miss Winifred Ellyson of Georgetown was taken from the daily Austin American-Statesman of Sunday October 10.

The First Presbyterian church was the scene of one of the most beautiful weddings ever witnessed in Georgetown when on Wednesday evening, Sept. 29, at 8 o'clock, Miss Winifred Ellyson became the bride of Mr. Fitzhugh McRee. The Rev. Michael Mar Yosip, using the ring service, performed the impressive ceremony.

The altar of the church was banked with massive ferns and art baskets filled with queens' crown, providing a pleasing background for the bridal party.

Preceding the ceremony Miss Marilyn Mildred Vause, with Miss Grace Black at the piano, played the violin, obligato to Drdla's "Souvenir," creating the atmosphere of solemnity and beauty. Miss Vause accompanied by Miss Black, also played the wedding marches. Miss Elizabeth M. Ellyson, sister of the bride, sang "The Day of Golden Promise," by Bernard Hamblen, with Miss Vause at the piano.

After the wedding a reception was held at the Ellyson home on East Ninth, where many guests gathered to congratulate the happy young couple. After the congratulations had been received the doors of the dining room were thrown back, revealing a large beautifully decorated wedding cake, which was presided over by Mrs. Olin Crook of Austin. Mrs. O. G. Moore of Dallas was at the punch bowl, assisted by Miss Mabel McRee of Merkel. Miss Grace Hudson of Georgetown was in charge of the bride's book. The old custom of throwing the bride's bouquet caused much interest as it was caught by the maid of honor, Miss Elsie Ellyson.

Mr. and Mrs. McRee left in their car for a short wedding trip to San Antonio and other points south, returning to Austin, where they will make their future home.

Mrs. McRee is the attractive daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. John N. Ellyson Sr., and was born and reared in Georgetown. She was educated in the public schools and Southwestern University, where she was popular in school circles.

Mr. McRee is the son of Mr. and Mrs. J. L. McRee of Merkel, Texas, and received his degree from Texas University in 1924. At present he is instructor in civil engineering in the University of Texas, where a brilliant future is predicted for him by his friends. The esteem in which both young people are held was manifested by the many handsome wedding gifts which they received.

Miss Mabel McRee and Mr. Judson McRee of Merkel, sister and brother of the groom, were present for the ceremony.

NEWSPAPER BARGAIN DAYS ARE ANNOUNCED

This paper is glad to announce the arrival of fall bargain days on newspapers. The Abilene Morning News, a fine morning paper published right here at home, in our own county site, has announced the very low rate of \$4.70 per year for the daily and Sunday.

We are going to offer our subscribers and friends a combination rate for both the Reporter and Merkel Mail, one year each, at only \$5.50. The Merkel Mail costs you only 80c in this combination.

The regular price for the Abilene Morning News is \$7.00 per year; the regular price of the Merkel Mail is \$1.50 in the local territory and \$2.00 outside, a total of \$8.50 for both. During bargain days we will send both papers for one year for only \$5.50. You save \$3.00 by subscribing now.

If you want to buy or sell oil leases farms or city property, see W.O. Boney or T.L. Grimes if

Senior B.Y.P.U. Program

Subject: Stewardship.
Leader: Fannie Belle Boaz.
Introduction by leader.
Part 1, Are Southern Baptists Broke? by Floyd Dowell.
2. Stewardship as Taught in a Story, by Edith Baker.
3. The kind of Givers Paul Praised, by Bill Haynes.
4. Stewardship stated simply, by Helen Booth.
5. Stewardship of Substance, by Mae Lassiter.
6. Give God at Least the 10th, by Vennie Heizer.
7. A Denial of Covetousness, by Bob Mayfield.
8. Begin with the Tenth as a minimum, Mrs. Warren Smith.

METHODIST CHURCH

Preaching at the Methodist Church Sunday at 11 a.m. and 7:15 p.m. Special music at both services.

We hope that each member of the church will attend the service at 11 o'clock Sunday.

Visitors and strangers are invited to attend all our services.

Begin the Holy Sabbath with Bible reading and study, and attend Sunday school at 9:45, and encourage others by word and example to attend.

W. R. McCarter.

Idlewise Club

Mrs. Bill Haynes proved a most charming hostess Tuesday afternoon in the many surprises she had prepared for the Idlewise Club members. Japanese was the motif predominate. Japanese lanterns in lovely effect also the tallies and table appointments were beautiful as well as typically Japanese.

Four games of Auction Bridge were enjoyed, after which they were served a delicious salad. Guests were Misses Vennie Heizer, Eleanor Harrison, Kathleen Sudderth, Alva Wheeler and Frances McMurry. Club members were Misses Lucy Tracy, Mary Cleo Booth, Evelyn and Ruby Hamm and Christine Collins. Mesdames Earl Baze, W.S.J. Brown, Roy Largent, Emmett Grimes, George White and the hostess.

I. O. O. F. NOTICE

The meeting night of the Merkel I. O. O. F. Lodge has been changed from Tuesday to Monday night. Roy Harrell, N. G.

Subscribe for the Merkel Mail



"BOOM DAYS"

NOW MORE THAN EVER BEFORE YOU NEED A

SAFETY DEPOSIT BOX

WE ONLY HAVE A FEW LEFT AND WOULD SUGGEST THAT YOU ARRANGE FOR YOURS TODAY.

THE OLD RELIABLE

FARMERS & MERCHANTS NAT'L BANK

MERKEL

TEXAS

'SINCE 1904'

"Our service is at YOUR service"

Intermediate League Program

Subject: Living up to Christ's Standards in my national life.
Leader: Louise Booth.
Song: Prayer
Scripture reading (1 Peter 2: 13-17; Romans 13:1-8)
Memory verse, J. T. Darsey Jr.
Part 1, Lola Riddle.

Part 2, W. A. Whitely.
Part 3, Thelma Leach.
Part 4, Nadine Tippet.
Part 5, Paul Causseaux.
Part 6, Lynn McSpadden.
Song: Benediction.

If you want to buy or sell oil leases farms or city property, see W.O. Boney or T.L. Grimes if

McDONALD & HIGGINS BARBER SHOP

We have complete

NEW EQUIPMENT

with a water softener. We are ready and willing to give you

SERVICE

to the best of our ability.

30 miles on a gallon

ECONOMY THAT
ONLY WHIPPET OWNERS ENJOY

Smoothness of course---and all the power and performance any light car can offer---PLUS the greatest gasoline economy the world has ever known ---that's the Whippet, America's safest and most popular light car. 55 miles an hour---turns in 34-foot circle---easiest car in America to park ---4-wheel brakes---stops in 51 feet front 40 miles an hour ---5 to 30 miles in 13 seconds

New reduced Whippet prices Sedan \$695; Coupe \$685; Touring \$645, f. o. b. factory. Prices and specifications subject to change without notice. The Willys Finance Plan offers unusually attractive credit terms. Willys-Overland, Inc., Toledo, Ohio.

Now only \$695 F.O.B. Factory

W OVERLAND Whippet

F. E. CHURCH, Agent
At Blue Front Service Station

40TH ANNUAL STATE FAIR

OF TEXAS

DALLAS, OCTOBER 9-24, 1926

EXCURSION RATES



VIA

Extremely Low Rates

For Trains Arriving Dallas Each Saturday, also Sunday Morning During Fair

IN THE NEW AUDITORIUM "PRINCESS FLAVIA"

CAST OF 200 CHORUS OF 100
ORCHESTRA OF 60
EVERY DAY THROUGHOUT THE FAIR

Magnificent Agricultural Displays

Poultry Show Horse Show Dog Show
Foot Ball Games, Etc., Etc.

Get a "Close-up" View of the Giant Locomotives of the T. & P. B.
way on Display at the State Fair Near Livestock and Poultry
Buildings

See T. & P. Railway Agent for Full Information
GEO. D. HUNTER, General Passenger Agent
DALLAS, TEXAS

Mrs. T. J. Coggin, of El Paso, was here this week for a visit with relatives and oil friends. Mr. and Mrs. Coggin were at one time among Merkel's most prominent and well known citizens, and their many friends were glad to meet her again. She was the guest of Mr. and Mrs. W. L. Barbee while in our city.

Try a Classified Ad in the Mail.

The many friends of John D. Coats, Jr., son of Mr. and Mrs. E. D. Coats, will be glad to know that he is now improving nicely following an operation removing his tonsils.

Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Cavett and daughter, Mary, of Abilene, were guests of Mr. and Mrs. N. H. Izard last Sunday. Mr. Cavett is an uncle of Mrs. Izard.

OLD TIMER SAYS OIL BOOM HAS RUINED A GOOD COTTON COUNTRY

A recent issue of the Western World, a weekly oil newspaper of Fort Worth, has the following from one of its staff correspondents, who has spent several days around the Noodle Creek oil area and in the cities and towns contiguous to it:

By P. J. MacIntosh
Staff Correspondent

Abilene, Oct. 8.—'This oil boom's raised hob with everything,' mourned an old timer sitting in front of one of Merkel's "general stores," as he shifted his quid, took unerring aim and drowned a luckless fly ten feet away. "A month ago everybody was poor and happy. Worms eatin' up the cotton, taxes goin' up, folks workin' from sunup till sundown and not a word of complaint. Now, since they've struck oil, everybody's rich and miserable. Farmer gets \$100,000 for his oil leases and twice as much more for his royalty, and stays awake nights worryin' because he didn't hold out for more. Boys all gone to town to buy wide pants and big cars. Women folks lovin' in silk stockin's and crepe de chine dresses. Can't get anybody to pick cotton. This oil's just plumb ruined a fine cotton country."

Whether or not such a pessimistic view as the foregoing is justified, it is a fact that the four counties of Jones, Fisher, Taylor and Nolan have been turned topsy-turvy through the discovery of oil by the Phillips Petroleum Company on the Joe Winter farm in the southwest corner of Jones county.

Practically all the available leases within a radius of five miles of the discovery well were taken long ago in the wild scramble for acreage that followed the bringing in of the discovery well, but the stories of lease sales at impressive figures continue to come in. It is no easy matter to separate fact from mere rumor, nor is it safe to discredit any story because it seems exaggerated—in fact, in some cases the story falls far short of the truth.

Beasley Case Cited

There is the case of R. M. Beasley, for example, who owns 360 acres about a mile south of the well on the road to Trent. When the Phillips Petroleum Co. was making up its original drilling block, Mr. Beasley refused to lease more than 80 acres, for which he received the prevailing price of \$1 per acre. Later on when the outlook for oil became more favorable, Mr. Beasley let a little more acreage go for \$20 per acre. Now he has sold 80 acres for \$312.50 per acre, or a total of \$25,000, the top price for acreage to date, and he still has some 60-odd acres and his one-eighth royalty left. All this before a single drop of oil has been found or even a derrick erected on his property.

The original block of acreage assembled by the Phillips Petroleum Company comprised about 3,800 acres, most of which they bought for \$1 per acre, a fair enough price for out-and-out wildcat stuff in condemned territory such as this was. Since the bringing in of the well, the company has bought up about 3,000 acres more, so that it is probable that its holdings within five miles of the well are now not far from 7,000 acres. They also have a block of about 6,000 acres some three or four miles southeast of Sweetwater. Their J. H. Walling No. 1, offsetting the discovery well to the south, has been spudded in and several locations have been made. Across the road, the Midwest and Maryland each have a derrick up and drilling operations in progress. That same road, by the way, is becoming a regular oil field "main drag". It is thronged with cars of every known and unknown make, from half the states of the Union, and is bordered by lines of hot dog and cold drink stands, all doing a roaring business. The best of order prevails and there has been none of the lawlessness and disorder which often accompanied new

oil strikes.

Everybody Gets Money

After listening to the tales of fortunes made by various lucky individuals through sales of acreage and royalty, it would almost seem as though the entire countryside had been enriched by oil. And these tales are facts, even though the figures may set the listener's head swimming. Take the case of W. F. Golladay, the owner of 106 acres which he had placed in the original Phillips block at \$1 per acre. He has sold one-half his royalty on his 106 acres for \$100 per acre, or a total of \$10,600! Another lucky man was J. M. Dunn, who owned 640 acres, half of which was leased to the Phillips Petroleum Company at the current figure of \$1 per acre. The day the well came in he sold 160 acres of his remaining 320 for \$7.50 per acre and now he has sold 110 acres more for \$100 per acre and still has a little left! But the farmers are not the only ones on whom Dame Fortune has smiled. Cy Hamm, a Merkel druggist, took a small flyer last July on 25 acres, for which he paid \$3.50 per acre. A few days ago he sold out for \$60 per acre, a pretty fair return on an outlay of less than \$100.

The well is still holding up to around 1,000 barrels daily and shows every evidence of being a long-lived producer of high-grade oil. Its successful completion has stimulated drilling for miles around; new wells are being started and tests already under way are speeding up and going ahead with renewed confidence. One drilling well which is receiving much attention is the G. H. Johnson test on the Sears farm, in the northern part of Nolan County, eight miles east of Sweetwater. This test is about 15 miles southwest of the new producer and is now drilling below 2,500 feet in formations which are said to log identically with the Joe Winters No. 1. It is stated that eleven wells

have been contracted to be drilled within a radius of a mile and a half of the new well, and it seems evident that as many as half a hundred tests may be under way in this area within the next sixty days. Derrick is up on the Sears block three miles to the East, and the Cosden interests will probably start rigging up within the next few days. The World Oil Company has secured valuable acreage on practically all sides of the discovery well and has made a location in the southeast corner of Section 15, Block 19, one and a half miles northeast of the new gusher. It is expected that drilling operations will be started just as soon as materials can be moved in.

Towns Are Frantic

In the meantime, Trent and Merkel, the two little cotton towns nearest the new field, are making frantic preparations for the business they fell sure is coming their way. Trent, the smaller of the two and nearest the center of excitement, naturally feels that it will receive the most benefit, and is going right out after it. It has voted to incorporate, a Chamber of Commerce is to be organized and a waterworks system provided. The Phillips Petroleum Company has already secured 80 acres as a site for its warehouses, supply depots, etc., and with other concerns negotiating for locations for various enterprises, the citizens of Trent feel that an era of prosperity is upon them and they will no longer have to depend upon the cotton which has been their mainstay in the past. A gigantic sign stretched across the main street has emblazoned upon it the name "TRENT OIL FIELD," and they refuse to recognize the scene of Texas' latest oil strike by any other cognomen!

Merkel, some five or six miles to the east of Trent, on the highway to Abilene, feels that it has a distinct advantage over Trent, inasmuch as it is a larger place,

has five cotton gins, a sewage system, a Chamber of Commerce named streets, a weekly newspaper and last year shipped out 17,500 bales of cotton. Real Estate sales are booming, a new hotel is to be built, and there is not a vacant dwelling in town. The only sour note in the chorus of optimism which is being raised around the towns of Merkel and Trent comes from those who like our friend quoted in our opening paragraph, see a fine cotton country being ruined by oil. However, such complaints are few and far between, the only real effect the discovery of oil having on the cotton situation being to make cotton pickers hard to get, and they are certainly not to be had in this vicinity for love or money. Time was when the prevailing price of cotton pickers (\$1.00 per 100 pounds and board, or \$1.25 per 100 "and board yourself") was not to be sneezed at, but with the lure of higher wages being offered by the oil fields, the farmers are gazing sadly at their unpicked cotton.

Abilene will probably become the executive center for most of the larger companies operating in the new field, and some fifteen companies have already installed offices there. The Midwest Exploration Company has a suite of seven rooms in a local office building, with a staff of sixteen men. President H. C. Bretschneider, with a party of officials representing the Midwest, was here last week and expressed himself as highly pleased with Abilene's facilities. Roxana Petroleum, Mid-Continent Oil & Gas and Sinclair are among those of the larger companies which have located district offices here and it is probable that a number of others will follow suit in the near future.

Is your subscription
expire to the Mail,
label on this paper

NOW DRIVE THE CAR/

Only those who have driven a Dodge Brothers Special Sedan—or any Dodge Brothers car BUILT RECENTLY—can fully appreciate all that Dodge Brothers have accomplished during the past few months.

So swiftly has improvement followed improvement, that today the car, to all intents and purposes, is a different and incomparably finer vehicle.

The announcement of smart new body lines and attractive color combinations first attracted general favor. But since then, improvements even more fundamental have been accomplished mechanically.

Drive the car NOW! Observe its impressive new silence, smoothness and elasticity of performance, and you will then begin to realize just how vital and varied these and other later improvements actually are.

Touring Car.....	\$921.00
Coupe.....	972.00
Sedan.....	1031.00
Special Sedan.....	1091.00
Delivered	

MERKEL GARAGE

Phone 123

Front Street

Ross Ferries

H. L. Propst

DODGE BROTHERS MOTOR CARS

Have More Money For Gasoline—

Every car, no matter how much it cost in the first place, costs money to keep. There must be a few dollars for this and a few more for that; and, in many cases what is left goes into the gas tank.

Now you don't have to pay a great deal of money for a battery, for a really good battery, such as an Exide. The long dependable service you get from this famous battery makes its cost low in the long run.

But you don't have to wait until the battery wears out to cash in on the low cost of Exide. You do that at the counter when you pay for it. For the first as well as the final, cost is low.

EVERYBODY'S GARAGE

"A Complete Service"

Front Street

Phone 28

The Merkel Mail

Published on Friday Morning by
The Merkel Mail Printing Co.
Thos. Durham, Editor-Mgr.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES
Taylor and Jones counties \$1.50
Anywhere else\$2.00
IN ADVANCE

TELEPHONE No. 61
Entered at the postoffice at Mer-
kel, Texas as second class mail.

From the school board of the Mt. Pleasant school we learn that for some time parties have been breaking into the school building and doing considerable damage in the way of mutilating the furniture, etc., and the citizenship of the community declares that same must stop. Steps are being taken to prosecute and bring to justice the guilty parties, a clue having been obtained as to who they are.

The county and local officials are to be especially commended for their excellent and rapid work in ferreting out and placing under arrest the negroes who murdered one of their number southwest of Merkel recently. The body of the victim was discovered Sunday morning and before night Monday the perpetrators of the crime were in the hands of the law. This sort of work will not only deter crime, but will bring to the notice of our people the efficiency of our sheriff's department as well as that of our local officials.

In our columns we have mentioned the Sheriff's Department in well deserved and merited terms, but we feel that we should especially mention our deputy sheriff, W. H. Laney, as a man who is not only a credit to the department, but to his community as well. No one who knows Mr. Laney doubts his courage or integrity. He would enforce the law without fear or favor and he has shown that he is especially adapted to that kind of work.

However, he is inadequately paid and the city and county as well as individuals should take some measures to pay him to give all his time to this work. He cannot afford to take it unless measurably compensated for the hazards of the task.

Farmers are holding off leases to secure drilling contracts. It seems to be the consensus of opinion among the farmers in different localities to withhold leasing their lands unless they can secure drilling contracts. They want the country drilled and proved a field and are of the opinion that if they checker-board leases these blocks cannot be secured. When we consider the low price of farm products and the lack of cooperation in stabilizing prices, it would appear that they are justified in cooperating in securing these drilling contracts.

MEETING OF POULTRYMEN AT ABILENE MONDAY, 18th

A meeting of Poultrymen will be held at the Chamber of Commerce, Abilene, at six o'clock p.m., Monday, Oct. 18th, to be followed by Luncheon.

J. R. Masterson, county agent, has issued an invitation to five Poultrymen of Merkel territory to meet with the Abilene Chamber of Commerce on the above date and hour, and has requested that you notify the secretary of the Merkel Chamber of Commerce that you will be present. Considering the price of cotton the time seems opportune to discuss other means of revenue.

Mr. and Mrs. L. P. Jones, who have been here for a visit with old friends and relatives, left first of the week for their home at Sierra Blanco, accompanied by Mr. J. C. Moore, father of Mrs. Jones, who recently sold his home here, and will make his home with his daughter.

Dawson Fancy Egg Coal—just right size lumps. Expecting car next week. Swafford, phone 44.

MERKEL CITIZENS ARE WORKING HARMONIOUSLY

So far as the Mail has been able to discover, Merkel people are working with the Chamber of Commerce to bring about a larger and better town.

The small town critic is happily absent or discretionally quiet. He knows if he exists that it takes less ability to criticize than to do anything else, and he also knows that the things put in motion for the good of Merkel will succeed. If any critic should show his face give him a hearing only after he has assured you that he has gone to the executive committee and the secretary of the Chamber of Commerce and offered his criticism first to them. They invite constructive criticism and are too big to be offended by it. They also invite the advice and cooperation of every good citizen as they feel too incapable to carry on without it. Let us every one work together and with that sort of an effort no reasonable accomplishment is impossible or even improbable.

ANOTHER PIONEER PASSES TO ETERNITY

Mr. G. W. Cox, 79, for more than 37 years one of the substantial and well known citizens of the Merkel community, after failing in health for more than a year and following a two weeks recent severe illness and two operations in an Abilene Sanitarium, died in that city on last Friday afternoon at 5:30 o'clock.

His remains were brought to this city late that afternoon by the Barrow Furniture Company, undertakers, where it rested at the old family home three miles south of the city until Saturday afternoon, when the funeral was conducted at the Methodist church by the pastor, Rev. W. R. McCarter, assisted by Elder W. G. Cyfert, with burial immediately after in Rose Hill cemetery.

Mr. Cox came to this community some 37 years ago, from East Texas, making the trip with his family in a covered wagon. For many years he was engaged in the cattle and farming business, and by hard work and good management accumulated considerable farm land, bank stock and other property. He was preceded to the grave by his good wife several years ago, and leaves several children and grandchildren as well as many good friends to mourn his departure.

Among his sons and daughters are: Walter Cox, Lamesa; Arthur of California; L. W. William, Floyd, Jime and Jake of Merkel; and Mrs. C. R. Tittle, Trent; Mrs. Burt Chambliss, Trent; and Mrs. Ira Moore of Merkel.

The passing of this pioneer citizen is a distinct loss to this community.

MRS. J. J. STALLINGS LEASES 214 ACRES

Mrs. J. J. Stallings, now of Fort Worth, wife of one of Merkel's former Mayors and best citizens, now deceased, who owns a fine farm just west of the city some three miles, located on the south side of the railroad, leased 214 acres this week through her agent, Mr. G. W. Boyce, at \$22.50 per acre.

This tract of land is four miles airline south of the Phillips discovery well, and will be about two miles southeast of the proposed test on the Hamilton, Haynes, and Tipton tract by Johnson & Gibson, of Abilene.

LOCAL BAKER BUYS BUSINESS LOT HERE

Mr. A. A. McGehee, Merkel's enterprising and very capable bakery man, has purchased from Mr. Geo. Woodrum a lot 50x50 just west of the latter's new drive-in filling station, and at some future date may build on same, we are informed.

See us before you buy your groceries, Yellow Yams \$1.50 bu. Apples \$1.50 bu. Patton's Grocery.

ANNOUNCING THE OPENING

**SATURDAY,
OCTOBER 16**

—of—

THE MODERN DRY CLEANERS

WE CLEAN THE FINEST OF SILKS

Also take order for Made-to-Measure Clothes

We Invite Your Inspection of our plant

"Service and Satisfaction" our motto. Call No. 3

THE MODERN DRY CLEANERS

New Realty Dealers Open Office Here

Messrs Davis and Tyler, the former from Royce City, Texas, and the latter from Abilene, have this week opened a real estate and oil lease office in the Dowell Auto Top Shop on Front street, where they will conduct their business for the present. Read their announcement in this paper.

FOR SALE—Used safe, in good condition. Cash or terms. Write Box 2, Abilene Texas.

RETAIL MERCHANTS ASSN. IN CONNECTION WITH C of C

After some of the more important things are accomplished Mr. Thompson expects to have a representative of the Retail Merchants Association of Texas here who is an expert in organizations of this kind, and will come without expense to any one here.

Merkel has long needed such an organization and if our secretary takes it up it will be thoroughly organized and made profitable to those whom it will affect.

Mr. S. L. Grayson reports that his sister, Mrs. Caswell, who resides at Chillicothe, and who was recently operated on for appendicitis, is getting along nicely for one of her age undergoing such a serious operation.

Mr. B. W. Horn and son, Leon, of Waco, were here this week looking after their farm of 160 acres in the Stith community. They also intimated that they were interested in the development of oil near this city. They will keep posted regarding the matter by reading the Mail.

GARAGE ANNOUNCEMENT

I wish to announce to my friends and customers that I have leased to Messrs. Stewart & Brown, of Menard, Texas, the Mechanical and Repair department of the Corner Garage. These gentlemen come well recommended as first class citizens and mechanics, and I therefore recommend them to my customers and friends, and sincerely trust you will give them a trial when in need of anything in their line. They announce that work turned out by them will be first class and guaranteed to stand up.

I am now personally in charge of front end, and am prepared to give you the best of service in the Gas and Oil department. I can also make it to your interest to see me for Tires, Tubes and Auto Accessories.

We welcome the oil men coming to our city; we appreciate the trade of everyone.

The Corner Garage

Paint, Paper, Canvas

Let us supply your Paint and Paper wants.

We carry a complete line of Paper and Canvas. We are headquarters for the Sherwin-Williams line of Paints and Varnishes, there is no better and no cheaper paint on the market.

New shipment of rugs just arrived. Our Rug stock is now complete. Come see the new designs in rugs.

New arrivals in Floor Lamps. A very large shipment of Floor Lamps just arrived, all styles, all moderately priced. Come and see them.

Our prices have not advanced, infact we are offering furniture now at the lowest price we have had in many years.

BARROW FURNITURE CO.

IT'S A PLEASURE

to know your watch is "Right on the Dot." We fix it that way.

...WRIST WATCHES A SPECIALTY...

J. S. PENNEY

Watchmaker and Jeweler
Merkel Drug Co.

M. E. Missionary Society

At the Missionary Society last Monday afternoon there was a splendid lesson from the study book. On next Monday there will be a program from the Voice.

Following is the program:

1. Hymn.
2. Bible lesson: If Jesus came today would we as women recognize our debt to Him? John 20: 10-18, Mrs. McCarter.
3. Prayer.
4. The crisis in Brazil, Mrs. Ellis.
5. Daily vacation Bible schools in Mexico, Mrs. Rainbolt.
6. Mountain work, Mrs. Brown.
7. Noon hour prayer pledged to Bennett Memorial, Mrs. Butman.
8. Bulletin Missionary News, Mrs. Armstrong.

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Sunday school at 10 a.m.
Preaching at 11 a.m. and 7:15 p.m. Junior Christian Endeavor at the 11 o'clock hour.

Senior Christian Endeavor at 6:00 p.m.
Choir practice Wednesday at 8 p.m.

We cordially invite the public to worship with us.

Chas. H. Little.

Dawson Fancy Egg Coal—just right size lumps. Expecting car next week. Swafford, phone 44.

Try a Classified Ad in The Mail.

BAPTIST ANNOUNCEMENTS

Last Sunday was a good day with increased attendance at all services; also a fine spirit to work for the Lord. The pastor is greatly encouraged in the work. We have been delighted to welcome into our membership the new members that have been coming in recently. There are others who ought to come; some more for baptism and others by letter or on statement. This is no time for a soldier of the cross to be taking a furlough. The battle is on between right and wrong. Are you in your place? Gideon's army won a victory because "Every man stood in his place round about the camp". Christ's army will win if His people will line up for Him and with Him in the present struggle.

Sunday will be State Mission Day in all Sunday Schools in the Southern Baptist Convention. A free will offering will be placed in a special envelope supplied for the day. There will be an interesting and instructive program by members of the school.

At the 11 o'clock hour we will begin our offering for the Fall round up. We gave \$600.00 in the spring campaign and set our aim \$750.00 this fall. The pastor hopes to see this amount raised so we can go immediately into our campaign to finish the church. Let every member of the church begin now to pray "Lord what wilt thou have me to do".

NO ADVANCE IN PRICES

AT
MELLINGER'S



ECONOMY!

**Hart Schaffner & Marx
TWO-TROUSERS
SUITS**

When it comes to keeping within the restrictions of your clothing budget Two-Trousers Suits certainly answer that apparently difficult problem. Ours surely do, for here are quality Suits in the newest modes and patterns, popularly priced.

WHILE our town has recently been thrown into what promises to be real Oil Boom Conditions, this store made its fall and winter purchases long before the coming of the oil boom and is therefore prepared to meet low price of cotton which is now affecting the farming class of this section.

There are several reasons why we can do this: First, we purchased our goods at right prices; second, we do not have to pay advanced rent prices, and then we have the largest and best selection of dry goods we have ever shown in the city; all of which makes it unnecessary for this store to advance the price of a single item.

Therefore, we are in a position to save the farmers and their families of this section money when they buy here.

Likewise, to the oil man and new comer, who has probably been used to what is known as OIL FIELD PRICES, we can make it doubly interesting to you in saving your dollars when trading with us.

**HIGH QUALITY GOODS at the
LOWEST POSSIBLE PRICES**

Max Mellinger



THE treasure hunt for Women's Footwear that is strikingly individual is on! But the thrilling search eventually finds its stopping place at Mellinger's. Of popular interest are two inviting groups at extremely low prices.



Florsheim Shoes

FOOTWEAR that will withstand the hardships of fall and winter service—Footwear that is as new as today's news—Footwear that is sold on a volume-short-profit basis—such is the Footwear this store offers.

NOTICE!

Now that
You are
Busy gathering
Your crops,
If we
Can be
Of service
To you
In any
Way, call
159. We
Will be
Glad to
Run errands
For you.

Magnolia Filling Station

O. H. JONES, Agent

If we will pray as we ought we will come to a great hour Sunday morning and will reach our goal at that service.

All B.Y.P.U.'s meet at 6:30.
Evening song service begins at 7:15.

Preaching by the pastor and special music at the evening hour. Come find a place to work and worship with us.

Ira L. Parrack, pastor.

Adult B.Y.P.U. Program

Subject: "Stewardship".
Scripture lesson, Luke 16:1-12
Leader, Mrs. Hicks.
Introduction by leader.

1. Are Southern Baptists broke? Mrs. Polley.
2. Stewardship as taught in a story, Mrs. Hartley.
3. The kind of givers Paul Praised, Mrs. J. W. Wheeler.
4. Stewardship stated simply, Mrs. A. M. Jones.
5. Stewardship of substance, Mrs. J. S. Swann.
6. Give God at least the tenth, Mrs. General Jones.
7. A denial of covetousness, Mrs. Polley.
8. Begin with the tenth as a minimum, Mrs. Jno. Rister.

Try a Classified Ad in the Mail.

**Are You
"Toxic?"**

It Is Well, Then, to Learn the Importance of Good Elimination.

FUNCTIONAL inactivity of the kidneys permits a retention of waste poisons in the blood. Symptoms of this toxic condition are a dull, languid feeling, drowsy headaches and, sometimes, toxic backache and dizziness. That the kidneys are not functioning as they should is often shown by scanty or burning passage of secretions. Many readers have learned the value of Doan's Pills, stimulant diuretic to the kidneys, in this condition. Users everywhere endorse Doan's. Ask your neighbor!

DOAN'S PILLS
60c
Stimulant Diuretic to the Kidneys
Foster-Milburn Co., Mfg. Chem., Buffalo, N. Y.

FIDELIS CLASS MEETING

The Fidelis Class of the Baptist church held a social and business meeting on Tuesday night at which time plans were made for the future enlargement of the class, and the beautification of the Sunday school room.

This is a class for young ladies and is taught by Mrs. Sam Swann. She is assisted by the following officers: president, Mrs. Earl Baze; 1st vice president, Mrs. W. W. Haynes; 2nd vice president, Miss Mary Cleo Booth; 3rd vice president, Miss Boswell; secretary and treasurer, Miss Kathleen Sudderth.

The class has grown rapidly during the last month, and the enthusiasm of its members is unbounded. If you are a stranger in Merkel visit our class and you will be assured of a warm welcome. We shall expect you next Sunday.

**Elder Cypert to Preach
at Noodle Next Sunday**

Elder W. G. Cypert requests this paper to announce that on next Sunday morning and evening he will preach at Noodle. He and the members of the Noodle church very cordially invite all who will to attend either or both services.

W. O. Boney represents the San Antonio Joint Stock and Land Bank. See him for 6% money.

Elder Cypert Marries Couple

Elder W. G. Cypert, in his usual appropriate and happy manner, pronounced the words that made man and wife Mr. J. B. Adams and Miss Mattie Rider, the ceremony taking place at the home of the minister.

Mr. J. P. Simmons, of Waco, was here first of the week to look after some town property he owns here, and incidentally to get an inside look at the oil development here.

Counter Charge Pads for sale
at The Merkel Mail Office.

Renew your subscription to
the Merkel Mail before it expires

**Announcing the Opening of
Davis & Tyler Realty Company**

Located in N. A. Dowell Paint Shop, Front St.
If you want to buy or sell Leases, Royalties, Farms, Ranches or City Property—

SEE US

At The COZY

Friday and Saturday, October 15 and 16
Universal Presents PETE MORRISON

—IN—
"CHASING TROUBLE" a Blue Streak Western with

William Desmond and Eileen Sedgwick in
"STRINGS OF STEEL"
Final Chapter "Love and Victory."

—ALSO—

Fox Comedy "Officer of the Day."

MONDAY and TUESDAY, Oct. 18-19, Rudolph Zuker and Jesse L. Laskey present

"THE ENCHANTED HILL"
With Jack Holt, Florence Vidor, Noah Beery and Mary Brian, from the novel by Peter B. Kyne. With Universal Comedy

"OH BUSTER"
Also "Sleepy Time Gal Review" a vaudeville with 18 people.

WEDNESDAY and THURSDAY, Oct. 20-21, Carl Laemmle Presents REGINALD DENNY

—IN—

"WHAT HAPPENED TO JONES"
George Broadhurst's laughing stage success. A Universal Jewel, with Educational Comedy "In Blunderland." Also International News No. 69.

Secure your Merchants Theatre Tickets at Carson's Cash and Carry Grocery. The Quality Bakery, Blue Front Service Station and Garage, Schindler's Variety Store

for Economical Transportation



Performance proved beyond all doubt!

Out on the curves and straightaways of the General Motors Proving Grounds—over rough and rutted roads, through blistering heat and bitter cold, through rain and slush and mud and snow, Chevrolet performance is proved before it is enjoyed by owners!

Here testers drive, night and day, until the speedometers register 20-30-40,000 miles and more! Here during the long, steady grind—every mile of which is driven under observation—materials and designs are constantly analyzed and checked; performance, wear and repairs are tabulated! Here the collective genius and experience of Chevrolet and General Motors engineers is utilized to assure buyers an investment of utmost soundness and satisfaction when they purchase a Chevrolet!

See us now! Arrange to drive the smoothest Chevrolet in Chevrolet history.

Small down payment and convenient terms. Ask about our 6% Purchase Certificate Plan.

Touring Roadster	\$510
Coach or Coupe	\$645
Four-door Sedan	\$735
Landau	\$765
1/2-Ton Truck Chassis Only	\$375
1-Ton Truck Chassis Only	\$495

All prices f.o.b. Flint, Mich.

Lowe Chevrolet Co.

Phone 17 MERKEL, TEX.

QUALITY AT LOW COST

COMPERE ITEMS

By Alma Stout

Health of this community is very good at present.

Oil is the main topic of interest here. The new derrick is up on the Cranston place and drilling is expected to begin in a few days.

The party at Mrs. Ola Spurgin's was enjoyed by a large crowd Saturday night.

Mr. A. M. Stout and family and Mr. John Hester and family visited at Mr. Stout's Sunday.

Miss Floy McKinney visited her sister Mrs. Pearl Allred Sunday.

Little Robert E. Spurgin was on the sick list last week.

Mrs. McKinney had as visitors Saturday night and Sunday her three brothers from Waco.

Mr. Matt Randolph was a visitor in this community Tuesday.

Mr. and Mrs. O. Bingham spent Sunday with Mrs. Bingham's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Merritt.

Mr. and Mrs. Will Spurgin and baby and Mr. Jim Spurgin and family visited at Mrs. Allred's Sunday.

Miss Clea Vessels from Abilene is spending the week with Mrs. S. A. Hobbs and Miss Ella Hobbs.

Mr. Howard Williams, who has been visiting Mr. Allred and family returned to his home at Princeton last Wednesday.

Mrs. Tom Keener, who spent a week with Mr. Stout and family, returned to his home at Coppel last Wednesday.

Mr. Dewey Ramsey will preach at the Presbyterian church next Sunday. A cordial invitation is extended to all to attend.

Family Reunion at the Home of Mr. and Mrs. W.P. Mashburn

(By one who was present)
On last Sunday, Oct. 10th, the home of Mr. and Mrs. W. P. Mashburn of the Stith community was the scene of a merry

ABSTRACTS OF TITLE

for prompt and accurate service

call on

SECURITY ABSTRACT CO.

Abilene, Texas

Second floor of Court House

Phone 2378

R. W. GRIMSLEY, Manager

gathering in honor of Mr. and Mrs. Mashburn's son and family, Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Mashburn of Colton, California.

All of the children and grandchildren as well as a host of relatives and friends were present. They brought well filled baskets and spread a bountiful dinner at one o'clock, picnic style, and was enjoyed by seventy-six guests.

The children present were Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Mashburn and four children of Colton, California, Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Mashburn and two children, Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Church and five children, Mr. and Mrs. Willie Mashburn and two children, Mr. and Mrs. Sam Mashburn and child, Mr. and Mrs. Carl Mashburn and two children, Mr. and Mrs. Wesley Mashburn and five children.

Among the guests were Mrs. Etta (grandma) Mashburn and Mrs. Mark Estes of Merkel, Mr. and Mrs. Billy Garrison and little daughter of Breckenridge, Mr. and Mrs. Mark Goodyear of Anson, Mr. and Mrs. Ed Spurgin and family of Comper, Mr. and Mrs. Durwood Blake and little son of Rule, Texas, Mrs. Jake Webb of Colton, California, Mr. and Mrs. Amos Williams and family, Mr. and Mrs. Bob Mashburn and family, Mr. and Mrs. Earl Mashburn and family, Mr. J. W. Mashburn, Mr. Paul Mashburn and sons, Mr. R. P. Peterson and family. During the afternoon Mrs. Massey and Miss Myrtle Massey, Mrs. Wilson and daughters came in.

Some fine string music was enjoyed, and kodaking was indulged in by some. It was a day long to be remembered and treasured in the hearts of those present as one of the most enjoyable days ever spent.

Renew your subscription to the Merkel Mail before it expires

PILES CURED

NO KNIFE NO PAIN NO DETENTION FROM WORK

Dr. E. E. COCKERELL

RECTAL AND SKIN SPECIALIST
of AbileneWill be at the Stephens Hotel in Merkel on Monday,
Oct. 11 from 12 a. m. to 5 p. m.

Phone No. 359 Abilene, Texas

NOTICE!

This is announcing the opening of our new tire house in Merkel, Saturday, October 9. We can give you more miles for less money. In comprehensive tests, covering over 1,000,000 miles and including tires representing fully 75% of all those used in the United States, Michelin gave 36% more miles than the average.

These results are confirmed by the experience of countless Michelin users. Michelin tires today are the finest achievement of the tire industry. That is why Michelin sales are growing many times more rapidly than the tire industry as a whole and why over 25,000 tire builders are now kept busy in Michelin factories trying to supply the great world-wide demand for Michelin tires and tubes. If you are not yet using Michelin you owe it to yourself to try them.

MICHELIN

30 x 3 Fabric	\$ 9.45
30 x 3 1-2 Regular Cord	11.00
30 x 3 1-8 Oversize	12.95
31 x 4 Oversize Cord	15.50
31 x 4 Oversize Cord	17.50
32 x 4 Regular Cord	18.00
32 x 4 Oversize Cord	19.75
33 x 4 Oversize Cord	21.00
34 x 4 Oversize Cord	22.00

Michelin Comfort Balloons

29 x 4.40	\$13.45
30 x 4.95	19.25
30 x 5.25	20.50
31 x 5.25	22.00
30 x 5.77	26.25
32 x 5.77	27.50
33 x 6.00	27.00
32 x 6.20	30.50

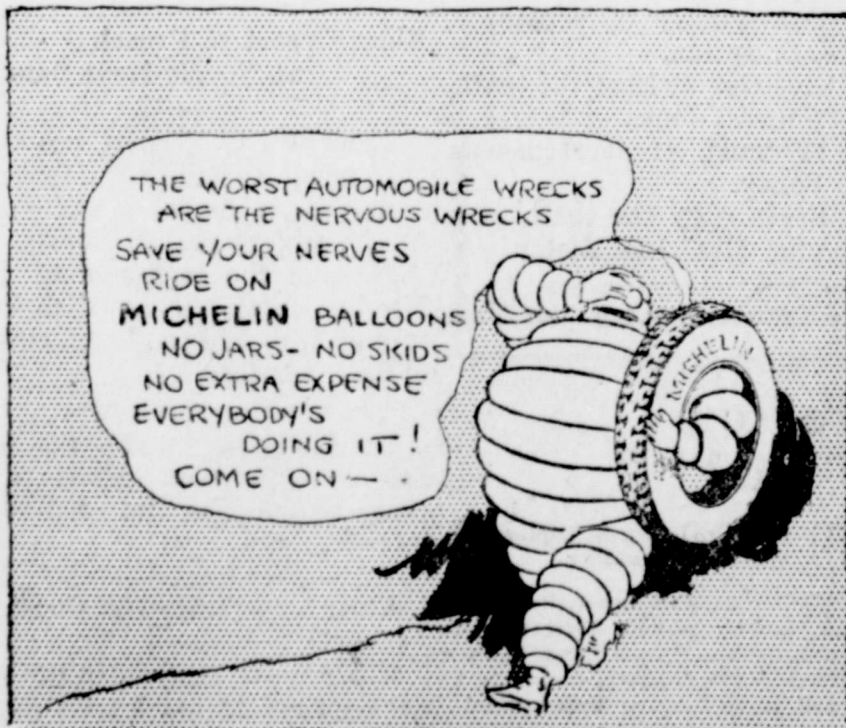
EXTRA SPECIAL

30 x 3 1-2 RED TUBE

\$1.45

CUSTOM CORDS—Six Ply Heavy Duty Oversize

31 x 4	\$11.95
32 x 4	12.65
33 x 4	13.45



SPECIAL

30x3 1-2 Oversize Custom Cord \$7.25
29x4.40 Terrell Balloon \$8.75

CRANE

New Low Air Pressure Tire Fully Guaranteed

30 x 3 1-2 Regular	\$ 8.50
30 x 3 1-2 Oversize	9.50
30 x 3 1-2 SS	11.75
31 x 4 Oversize	13.70
32 x 4 Oversize	16.95
33 x 4 Oversize	17.95
33 x 4 1-2 Oversize	22.60
34 x 4 1-2 Oversize	32.40

Crane Balloon, Oversize

29 x 4.40	\$11.25
30 x 5.25, Six Ply	16.85
31 x 5.25, Six Ply	19.50
30 x 5.77, Six Ply	22.00
33 x 6.00, Six Ply	33.25
33 x 6.75 Oversize	31.00

Pioneer Cords

12,000 Mile Factory Guarantee

30 x 3	\$ 6.85
30 x 3 1-2 Regular	6.90
30 x 3 1-8 Oversize	8.25

30 x 5 Heavy Duty Truck	\$32.50
33 x 5 Heavy Duty Truck	34.50

MICHELIN SALES AND SERVICE

WHOLESALE AND RETAIL

North Front Street, Second Door from West Hardware Co.

Telephone 83 -:- Merkel, Texas

NOTICE

IF YOU WANT A WELL DRILLED I WILL APPRECIATE YOUR WORK. I AM RUNNING MY DRILL NOW.

See me or Phone No. 7

J. T. COATS

PROFESSIONAL

T. C. WILSON

...JEWELER...

116 Chestnut Street Abilene

W. T. PATTERSON

Oil Leases, Real Estate and Investments

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DR. R. I. GRIMES

Physician and Surgeon

Hours 10 to 12 a.m. 2 to 5 p.m.
Phones 105-163 Res. 165

DR. S. W. JOHNSON.

Surgeon Dentist

Office over Farmers State Bank
Office Phone 806

PAULINE JOHNSON

Successor to

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Insurance—Notary Public
Over West Company—Front St.
Merkel —:— Texas

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Telephone 177 Abilene, Tex

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Practice limited to Refracting

Eyes Examined—Glasses Fitted
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—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

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CONTRACTOR & BUILDER

Plans & Specifications furnished
Address P. O. Box 38 Merkel

SPECIAL

Complete ELGIN Watches

\$11.00 and Up

Also a good value in

DIAMOND RINGS

From \$15.00 Up

PRESLEY'S

Jewelry & Gift Shop

Expert Repairing
209 Pine St. Abilene, Texas

CLASSIFIED ADS

FOR SALE

FOR SALE—A good secondhand 3-burner oil water heater, cheap. West Texas Utilities Co. 1t

FOR SALE—Teams, tools and feed, all equipments to run 170 acre farm. Will rent the farm to the purchaser of outfit. See T.W. Collins on farm near Stith. 1tp

FOR SALE—Fall Seed Oats free of Johnson Grass. J. T. Warren. 1t

FOR SALE—'24 model one-ton Ford truck. New rear wheels, casings and tubes. Casings, tubes and wheels only been run 400 miles. All for \$175.00. See Dowell's Auto Top Shop. tf

FOR SALE—9-room residence on Oak street at \$5,000.00. See owner, J. F. Abernathy. 8t2p

FOR SALE—One second hand four burner oil stove with oven. Call 165. tf

FOR SALE—Hotel furniture for twenty-five rooms complete. It's good as new at bargain prices. Write or phone McMurry Motor Co. Graham, Texas, P. O. Box No. 637. 1t4

FOR SALE—50 head high bred fresh and springer Jersey Cows and Heifers. All good colors and ages. L. H. Harrison, Jr., Albany, Texas. 1t3p

Dawson Fancy Egg Coal—just right size lumps. Expecting car next week. Swafford, phone 44.

FOR SALE—4-burner oil stove in good condition. Sie Hamm. 1p

FOR SALE—Farm lands, ranches, homes in the city, residence lots, business lots, brick houses, leases and royalties. Everything in the Real Estate line, just as cheap as they can be had. Good lots from \$150 up. Come to see me. I might have just what you want. E. D. COATS. 1t

FOR RENT

FOR RENT—Furnished, bedroom, 2 blocks from town, all modern conveniences with place for fire. Mrs. Geo. Woodrum. tf

FOR RENT—Nicely furnished bedroom. Large front room with heater, closet and access to bath room. Mrs. Jas. H. West, phone No 145. 1t

BARGAINS

OUTINGS, CRETONNE, MEN'S, WOMEN'S AND CHILDREN'S HOSE.
R. A. TARBUTTON.

Len Sublett

Water well Driller,
all work guaranteed
first-class.

Merkel, Texas

Phone 164w P. O. Box 224

LET SIGNS HELP

Sell Those Lots, That House or
Rent Your Rooms.

— SEE —

RISTER the SIGN MAN

At Dowell's Auto Top Shop

LIGHT Housekeeping rooms for rent, unfurnished. Miss Pauline Johnson. 1t

BED ROOMS—Four nice, new single beds to let. See Mrs. H. L. Propst. Phone 216. 1t

FOR RENT—160 acres land near Stith, the B. W. Horn place. Write 1828 Sanger Ave., Waco, Texas. 15t2p

ROOMS for rent. See J. A. Williams, 1 block west of tabernacle. 15t2p

FOR RENT—One room with stove, one or more beds furnished. 2 blocks north of tabernacle. Mrs. R. L. Bradshaw. 1tp

FOR RENT—2 nice south rooms unfurnished. See F. E. Church at Blue Front Service Station or phone 120. tf

WANTED

HELP WANTED—Woman for hotel kitchen work. Woodrum Hotel. 1tp

We have buyers for royalties in large or small tracts. Davis & Tyler. 1t

WANTED—Man with car to sell complete line quality auto tires and tubes. Exclusive territory. Experience not necessary. Salary \$300.00 per month. Milestone Rubber Co., East Liverpool, O. 1p

COMPLETE fountain with combination etc all complete. Also want property there for other property, Abilene or any other place, for trade. Williams Real Estate, 1658 Orange street, Abilene, Texas.

If you want to buy or sell oil leases farms or city property, see W.O. Boney or T.L. Grimes tf

WANTED—To rent 75 to 175 acres of good land on halves and pick cotton rest of fall. D. A. York, % M. G. King, city. 8t2p

WHO wants a reliable man around place of business as porter or handy man, superintendent or any light work, Address "Dad" care Merkel Mail. 8t2p

We have a buyer for a good farm in fee. What have you? Davis & Tyler. 1t

LOST AND FOUND

LOST—A diamond ear screw. Finder please return to Merkel Mail office and receive reward. 1t

FOUND—A ladies coat between the Cash Tailor Shop and the Section House. Owner can get same by paying for this ad and calling at Cash Tailor Shop 1t

W. O. Boney can make you a loan from 5 years to 33 years at 6% interest. tf

Call 61 to place a want ad in the Mail or give us a news item.

Don't Overlook

that subscription. If you are in arrears remember that we can always find good use for

the MONEY

WARREN NEWS

By Rose Ellington

The farmers are all busy picking cotton.

Health of this community is very good at present.

Mr. and Mrs. Emmett Patterson spent Sunday night with his parents of Merkel.

Mr. and Mrs. Ted Kelso and little daughter, Margaret, visited Mr. and Mrs. Therman McCoy Sunday.

Mrs. G. E. Ellington and Rose and Lorene Ellington spent Sunday with her sister, Mrs. R. H. Williams of Abilene.

Mr. and Mrs. Noil Harvell visited her parents Sunday of the Salt Branch community.

Miss Cordie Ellington spent Saturday night with Miss Lottie Gressett.

Mr. and Mrs. Howard Tarvin and family visited Mr. and Mrs. E. C. Tarvin a while Sunday.

Mrs. Emmett Patterson visited her mother, Mrs. Finck, of Hodges, who has been real sick the past few days.

Mrs. Arthur McCoy's parents of Hawley spent Sunday with her.

Mr. and Mrs. Bill Harvell and Claudene Harvell spent Saturday night and Sunday in Clyde.

Miss Helen McCormick visited Miss Vera Jones Sunday.

Miss Ruth Chancey spent Sunday with Miss Alzine Sampter.

Mr. and Mrs. Floyd McCoy and Mrs. Ester Cannon visited Mrs. Barbara McCoy Sunday.

Several around Warren attend the party at Mr. and Mrs. Ed Spurgin's Saturday night, and all reported a nice time.

REAL ESTATE, FARM LOANS FIRE INSURANCE

After a Fire--

you'll find no satisfaction in figuring up the amount of insurance you should have had. But there is a lot of satisfaction in knowing that your property as it stands today is fully covered by dependable fire insurance.

Our fire insurance policies are dependable.

W. O. BONEY

MERKEL, TEXAS

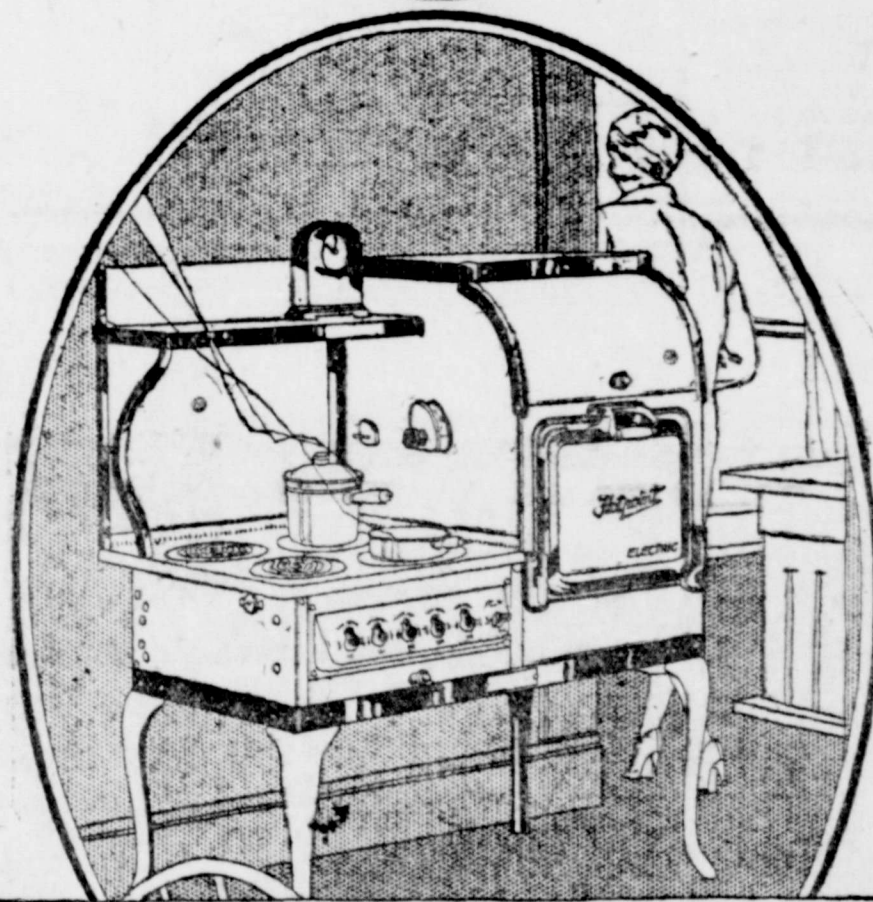
Consult your Insurance Agent as you would your lawyer.

USE the classified ads for sale, for rent, wanted, etc. New subscribers and strangers read the classified ads every week to secure various items. tf

FARM & RANCH LOANS

At 6, 6½ and 7 per cent interest payable once a year. Terms 5, 10, 20 or 33 years, the best contract ever offered the borrower. NO RED TAPE. See me if you want a loan. V. E. MUIR, Abilene, Texas. 1Jan27

* American Telephone & Telegraph Co. Bell System *
* 148th Dividend *
* The regular quarterly dividend of Two Dollars and Twenty-Five Cents (\$2.25) *
* per share will be paid on Friday, October 15, 1926, to *
* stockholders of record at the *
* close of business on Monday, *
* September 20, 1926. *
* H. BLAIR-SMITH, Treas. *



Electric Cookery Is Easier



Hotpoint Automatic Electric Timer. Set the hands for the time cooking should start and stop. Then forget it.



Hotpoint Automatic Electric Heat Control and Thermometer. It maintains an exact oven heat, as desired, all through cooking.

No Need to Watch a Hotpoint Super-Automatic

TEDIOUS hours of watching it in the oven, set the time and temperature controls and at dinner time the food will be ready to serve—scientifically cooked to perfection.

Hotpoint
SUPER-AUTOMATIC
ELECTRIC RANGES

Come in and let us tell you about the many other advantages of the Hotpoint Electric Range.

West Texas Utilities Company

NEGRO BRUTALLY KILLED NEAR HERE SEPT. 18TH; THREE CONFESS CRIME

(Continued from front page)
lured Lamar away from a cotton picker's house, with the promise of a crap game.

Walked to His Death

While the game was in progress, Beecher, who had been hiding, came up and covered Lamar with a gun. They knocked him in the head and handcuffed him. For two miles they walked him over the rough ground, the negro pleading every step to be spared.

According to statements made by the prisoners, Lamar begged them to whip him, and let him go. "Don't do that," warned one of the party. "He might come back and get us. The only way to settle this thing is to put this fellow away."

During the two-mile walk toward the tank where Lamar was drowned, various methods of killing the captive were discussed by his abductors. It was first suggested that he be tied to a railroad track. Objection to this method was raised with the statement that the rope would be left as evidence. Objection was made to shooting on the grounds that the bullet wounds would point to murder.

Drowning was finally agreed upon.

Held Him Down

Lamar was taken to the bank of the tank, which is situated in a remote place, and after being slugged was pitched in. He was not dead, and one of the negroes pulled off his shoes, waded

out into the tank, and turning Lamar's face downward, stood on him until he ceased to struggle.

Stakes were then gathered, and the body was staked down. It was discovered Sunday by a gang of boys who went to the tank for a swim.

Officers characterized the murder as the most brutal that has been perpetrated in Taylor county in recent years.

With only the decomposed body of Lamar, and his rotting clothes, as a clue, Sheriff O'Bar and deputies Meeks and Whaley, and Felix Raines, assisted by Milburn Long, district attorney, solved the mystery of the murder, obtaining three confessions in the case.

WIFE AND HUSBAND BOTH ILL WITH GAS

"For years I had gas on the stomach. The first dose of Adlerika helped. I now sleep well and all gas is gone. It also helped my husband." (signed) Mrs. B. Brinkley. ONE spoonful Adlerika removes GAS and often brings astonishing relief to the stomach. Stops that full, bloated feeling. Brings out old, waste matter you never thought was in your system. This excellent intestinal evacuant is wonderful for constipation. Merkel Drug Co. in Trent by R. B. Johnson.

Mr. S. S. Harris, formerly manager for a local lumber company in this city, but now auditor and general superintendent for the A. B. Spencer Lumber Company, with headquarters at Fort Stockton, was here this week to look after some town property he has owned here for some years. He was delighted with our prospects for great development in oil, and stated that he still has a warm place in his heart for Merkel and her good people, many of whom he was well acquainted with. He will keep posted on developments here through the Mail, which he had us send him for the next year.

The Advertised Article

Is one in which the merchant himself has implicit faith—else he would not advertise it. You are safe in patronizing the merchants whose ads appear in this paper because their goods are up-to-date and never shopworn.



A BIG DRESS SALE

We have on sale a big assortment of
Wool, Flannel and Jersey

DRESSES

Priced at \$4.95--\$5.75--\$6.95

Another lot of Suiting and Gingham \$1.95 to \$3.95
Dresses, priced

One lot of carried over skirts, good
material, can easily be made over
into Tom Boy Skirts, priced \$1.98

Ladies' and Children's Hats--Special \$1.95 to \$4.95
Priced. See the special lots. Priced

BRAGG DRY GOODS CO.

"The Place Most People Trade."



Build Now!

MERKEL never saw such a demand for homes and business houses. There are none of either to be had. The only way they can be supplied is by building them. And any person building either homes or business property in Merkel will not only find same to prove a big investment, but an addition and help to the city in general.

This yard is prepared to serve your every need in the building line. Our stock is large and complete. We can furnish you plans and specifications on any kind of building you may desire to erect.

If you are planning to build, come in and figure with us, look over our house building plans. We always appreciate your business.

Burton-Lingo Co.

STATEMENT OF OWNERSHIP

Statement of the Ownership, management, circulation, etc., required by the act of Congress of August 24, 1912, of The Merkel Mail published weekly at Merkel, Texas for October, 1926.

State of Texas, County of Taylor, SS.

Before me, a Notary Public in and for the State and county aforesaid, personally appeared Thos. Durham, who, having been duly sworn according to law, deposes and says that he is the Publisher, owner, manager of the Merkel Mail and that the following is, to the best of his knowledge and belief, a true statement of the ownership, management (and if a daily paper, the circulation), etc., of the aforesaid publication for the date shown in the above caption, required by the Act of August 24, 1912, embodied in section 411, postal laws and regulations, printed on the reverse of this form, to wit:

1. That the names and addresses of the publisher, editor, managing editor, and business managers are: Publisher, Thos. Durham, Merkel, Texas; Editor, Thos. Durham, Merkel, Texas; Managing Editor, Thos. Durham, Merkel, Texas; Business Managers, Thos. Durham, Merkel, Texas.

3. That the known bondholders, mortgagees, and other security holders owning or holding 1 per cent or more of total amount of bonds, mortgages, or other securities are: Walter Jackson, Abilene, Texas.

THOS. DURHAM.
Sworn to and subscribed before me this 8th day of October, 1926.
R. O. Anderson,
(Seal) Notary Public.

Buy your groceries where you get service with a smile. Patton Grocery. 1t

Is your subscription about to expire to the Mail. Look at the label on this paper and see.

SORE GUMS-PYORRHEA: foul breath, loose teeth or sore gums are disgusting to behold, all will agree. Leto's Pyorrhea Remedy is highly recommended by leading dentists and won't wait you. Druggists return money if it fails. HAMM DRUG CO. 1t

Make Your Appointment—

What Could Be Cheaper or Better?

12 Portraits for 12 people at Christmas

Are you playing square and keeping a kodak record of the children as they grow up? They will appreciate it.

RODDEN STUDIO

Merkel, Texas

TOM'S COMEDIANS In The Big Tent

WEEK STARTING

Monday, Oct. 18

Auspices of

131st Field Artillery