

THE MERKEL MAIL

VOL. 42—NO. 1.

MERKEL, TEXAS, FRIDAY, MARCH 20, 1931.

On the "Broadway of America"

5c PER COPY

SPLENDID WORK BRINGS CONTROL MENACING FIRE

Two Tanks and Warehouse of Sinclair Refining Company Razed; Abilene and Sweetwater Departments Respond.

Efficient work by three fire departments Monday morning headed a potentially devastating blaze which destroyed the local storage properties of the Sinclair Refining company with a loss approximated at \$3,500.

The company warehouse and two large storage tanks filled with gasoline and kerosene were razed, but the flames were prevented from reaching other storage tanks on adjacent property. 6,000 gallons of gasoline in one tank, and 5,000 gallons of kerosene in another burned without an explosion.

High flames and clouds of smoke heightened the fear that the fire would sweep all adjacent properties, but firemen killed the blaze in two hours and 10 minutes.

M. B. Moore, Sinclair agent here, said the fire started as office workers were filling an oil stove in the office of the warehouse about 8:15. It spread rapidly, and although the Merkel department prevented its spread to other buildings, and the water supply was plentiful, water pressure was insufficient to kill the flames, on account of the lack of a pump. The Abilene and Sweetwater fire departments were called, and a pumper from the former place gave pressure to extinguish the blaze shortly after 10 o'clock.

The Magnolia company's warehouse and two storage tanks, located only 30 feet east, were not damaged by the fire, and the Continental company's tanks—only 20 feet west—likewise were kept clear of the flames.

A Chevrolet truck standing in front of the Sinclair warehouse, belonging to Mr. Moore, the agent, was destroyed. Moore estimated the gasoline and kerosene loss, together with several barrels of oil in the warehouse, would total about \$1,500. The house and tanks were valued at round \$1,800. The loss is covered by insurance.

FINE WORK OF FIREBOYS.

Merkel citizens are proud of the heroic work of its volunteer fire-fighters under the able direction of Chief Dowell and his assistants. Their efforts, directed in just the proper channel.

(Continued on Page Five.)

Entry Blank LIONS YARD AND GARDEN CONTEST

Merkel, Texas

Please enter my name in the class checked.

Improving and beautifying the home grounds by proper planting of trees, shrubs, flowers, etc., better kept yards, and cleaner alleys and streets.

Class 1—Those who own their homes.

Class 2—Those who rent their homes.

Name _____

Address _____

Mail to _____

Mrs. Len Sublett, Chairman,

Yard and Garden Contest,

Merkel, Texas

City Election Comes Tuesday, April 7th

Formal announcement of the candidacy of W. O. Boney for the office of Mayor of Merkel appears elsewhere in this issue.

The annual city election, when a mayor, two aldermen and a city secretary will be chosen, is set for Tuesday, April 7.

Besides the announcement of Mr. Boney's candidacy, A. T. Sheppard has consented to the use of his name for re-election as alderman.

Friends have entered the name of Len Sublett as a candidate for the other place as alderman, suggesting his particular fitness as water commissioner.

The name of Miss Pauline Johnson, as a candidate for re-election to the office of city secretary, also appears in the regular announcement column.

When seen Thursday by a representative of The Mail, Mayor Sharp stated definitely that he did not intend to run again for mayor.

Radio Program.

Misses Maimie and Vera Walker will sing a program of classical numbers from 8 to 8:30 this Thursday evening; over KFYO, Abilene, assisted by Lynn McSpadden on the violin. The interested public is cordially invited to listen in.

TRENT CITIZENS TO HONOR GRAND CHAMP COWBOY

Certificate of Award From Rodeo Association of America to be Presented John Bowman in Celebration Wednesday.

Citizens of Trent will do honor to a favorite son next Wednesday afternoon, which has been declared a general holiday. On that occasion they will turn out to do honor to its world champion cowboy, John Bowman, when he will be presented with a certificate of award from the Rodeo Association of America as the 1930 All Around Grand Champion Cowboy. All stores will be closed from 1 till 5 that afternoon.

An invitation track meet and a roping and riding contest, sponsored by Bowman, will follow.

John Hadden, cowman and World War veteran, acting in behalf of the mayor of the town, will present the award.

The celebration is sponsored by the business houses of Trent. The business men will give a silver loving cup to the winning team in the track meet, and Bowman will present personally a gold medal to the high point man in the contests. Schools invited to participate, all of them class B, are Potosi, Lawn, Bradshaw, Hamby, Merkel, Blair, North Park, from Taylor county; Goodman, Noodle, Golan, from Jones county; Sweetwater junior high school, from Nolan county.

A parade of high school units, bearing school banners, from the rodeo grounds, at 3 o'clock in the afternoon will add color to the proceedings.

Bowman, who has won honors at all major rodeo events in the country for the last year, is to sail for England the first of May to spend three months there and on the continent in rodeos and roping contests. He will take part in a world-wide rodeo in London.

P. E. RAPE CLAIMED BY DEATH TUESDAY

Former Resident of this Community Passes Away at Divide Home After Long Illness.

P. E. Rape, age 57, a former resident of this community, passed away at his home near Divide at 7:25 Tuesday morning. He had suffered for a period of three years, the last two years being confined to his bed entirely. He became worse ten days before his death but was conscious to the end. All of the children were at his bedside when he died.

Funeral services were held at 3 p. m. Wednesday at Slater's Chapel. Rev. J. B. Hibbert, pastor of the Methodist church at Dora, assisted by Rev. W. F. Hardy, Baptist pastor at Dora, conducted the services at the chapel and members of W. O. W. Merkel camp, led by Rev. R. A. Walker, had charge of the services at the graveside. A large concourse of friends from Merkel, Abilene and Sweetwater attended the funeral.

Mr. Rape is survived by his wife and six children, one child having died in infancy in 1916: Mrs. A. B. Lewis, Divide; Mrs. Dee Bland, Merkel; Mrs. F. E. Sauze, Fort Worth; Mrs. W. A. Parks, Bomarton; Henry Rape, Dallas, and Oscar Rape, the Divide.

Pall bearers were: O. R. Artman, George Whitaker, R. E. Robertson, of the Divide, R. O. Anderson and J. C. White Merkel, and J. A. Bland, Sweetwater.

Among those who came from out-of-town for the funeral were: Elijah and Will Ware, Rising Star; Connie Hill and Mrs. Birdie Shrum, Lawton, Okla.; Mrs. Lizzie Adams, Anadarko, Okla.; Wesley Terry, Duncan, Okla.; Mrs. Ina McCune, Jeff Green and Miss Beulah Rape, Dallas, and Mrs. Chas. McCain, Merkel.

Mrs. C. L. Hawkins

Pneumonia claimed Mrs. Bessie Hawkins, age 22, wife of C. L. Hawkins, at 8:20 Saturday night and funeral services were held at 3 o'clock Sunday afternoon from the home of (Continued on Page Five.)

KEEPING UP WITH TEXAS

M. L. Mertz, 76, for 40 years president of the San Angelo National bank, died late Thursday of last week at a hospital in Galveston.

Fire early Tuesday morning wrecked the James W. Fannin school at Dallas, causing damage estimated at between \$35,000 and \$50,000.

T. M. Harris, negro, residing in Dallas, was killed by his own pistol as he and a pawnshop operator examined it as Harris borrowed money.

The first issue of the Kilgore Daily News came off the press Monday afternoon. Kilgore was without a paper when oil was first discovered there.

The house committee Tuesday reported favorably on a bill to appropriate \$502,000 to pay West Texans for losses incurred in extermination of the pink boll worm.

George W. Leats, 71, retired master mechanic for the T. & P. railway, died at his home in Fort Worth Wednesday night. He had been employed by the railroad 49 years.

Sixty-six men were rounded up on charges of gambling when six Texas rangers swooped down on Loma Linda, exclusive night club, about 20 miles outside of Houston Saturday.

Chief George B. Coff of Oklahoma City was elected president of the Southwestern Association of Fire Chiefs at the fourth annual convention held at Dallas. Houston was chosen for the 1931 convention city.

The grand jury of the 104th district court at Abilene Tuesday formally no-billed Mrs. Virginia Pigg, after investigating circumstances surrounding the shooting to death of her husband, M. I. Pigg, there, on Sunday, March 8.

John W. Brady, former Austin lawyer, now serving a three-year term in the Texas penitentiary, will be put in charge of the prison school at Harlem farm, near Sugarland, next week. He is now confined in the main prison at Huntsville.

The City National bank of Temple, Bell county depository, did not open for business Tuesday, its affairs being temporarily in the hands of national bank examiners, while a group of business men attempted to effect a reorganization.

Dan Shields, Sweetwater banker, has been recommended by R. B. Cregar of Brownsville, national republican committeeman, to be acting postmaster at Sweetwater, pending appointment of a successor to M. B. Howard, deceased.

Dr. A. E. Norton, 68, San Antonio dentist, was drowned and Mrs. Norton and their two sons were rescued by heroic efforts of two motorists and firemen when their sedan was swept by raging torrents of a creek in Alamo Heights, San Antonio, early Sunday.

At Bishop, center of a prosperous cotton-farming community 35 miles southwest of Corpus Christi, eleven inches of rain, most of which fell within a period of two hours, Monday inundated the Mexican section and overflowed highways and several miles of railway right-of-way.

Local Officers in Arrest of Two Men

Two young men, alleged to have passed a "cold" check on a local filling station Tuesday night, were taken in charge by Sweetwater officers Wednesday morning. One is being held in the Nolan county jail and the other was transferred to the Taylor county jail.

The check is drawn, officers say, on a fictitious construction company through a Dallas bank for the sum of \$12.85. The boys were traveling in a Ford Coupe, without license plates, it is reported. City Marshal Dickinson and Constable J. T. King worked on the case here.

Attend I. O. O. F. Grand Lodge.

L. L. Murray and J. D. Porter attended the sessions of the grand lodge, I. O. O. F., at Fort Worth this week, this being the ninety-first session of the state body. Mr. Porter was a delegate from the local Odd Fellows lodge.

PLAN OUTLINED FOR LIONS SECOND YARD AND GARDEN CONTEST

W. O. BONEY ENTERS RACE FOR MAYOR

At Present Serving City as Alderman, Submits Platform of Harmony and Economy.

Upon the earnest solicitation of many friends and tax-payers, W. O. Boney has consented to his announcement as a candidate for mayor.

Incident to his announcement, Mr. Boney let it be known that he was pledged to a program of rigid economy.

He indicated that he would oppose any further public improvements of any consequence which would operate to increase the city's obligations. "I believe," he said, "in public improvements as I believe in progress in every sound direction. But the citizenship today is burdened with debt and taxes that it sustains only with difficulty; and that the situation can be cured by the further use of credit for objects which in themselves are not only non-productive but are a constant charge to maintain, and which are not directly essential to the health or welfare of the community as a whole, seems to me utterly impossible."

He expressed a sincere desire that the approaching election might be kept entirely free from the realm of partisan politics. He insisted that what the city needs now, as never before, is honest, fair-minded frankness and absolute harmony between the mayor, the council and the citizens.

What everyone desires and what the city needs most of all is relief from excessive taxes. If elected, he promises to do the utmost during his term in office to bring about a material reduction in the existing tax rate. This, in his opinion, can only be attained by an intelligent administration of the city's affairs, practicing at all times those principles of integrity, economy and industry which should characterize the conduct of every good citizen.

Victim of Blood Poisoning.

J. W. Martin of View, who was brought to the Merkel sanitarium last Friday for treatment for blood poisoning, was reported Thursday morning as doing nicely.



SCRUBWOMEN.

One hot day, when the business depression was worst, I visited two of the largest corporations in the world.

I talked with the treasurer of one and with the chairman of the finance committee of the other—and these are men, I may tell you, in whose make-up sentimentality plays very little part.

They had been looking at red figures until their eye-balls burned. They were entirely unwilling to predict when their industries would improve. But each of them uttered the same fervent exclamation: "If only we can pull through without having to cut wages!"

When you stop to think about it, that is an astonishing phenomenon. Twenty-five years ago men in similar positions would have said immediately: "Business is off ten per cent; slash wages twenty per cent."

The same sort of executives who used to assume that the way to cure depression was by cutting wages, are now convinced that the way to cure it is not to cut.

That is one principal fact which makes the current depression different from its predecessors. That is progress.

History has a curious way of upsetting contemporary judgments. Many of the events which seem important to men and women while they are living, prove insignificant in the eyes of the ages. And some very little things later loom large.

Who was king of Spain in 1666? I do not remember. But I do recall that in 1666 an apple fell and hit Isaac Newton.

What was Warren Harding? Who were Calvin Coolidge and Herbert Hoover? Some future school-boy may be puzzled by those inquiries.

But unless I am very much mistaken every future history book will lay emphasis on two developments which have taken place under our very eyes.

They will tell that a boy named Lindbergh flew across the Atlantic Ocean.

And that a man named Ford announced that he would pay all workers, even scrubwomen, a minimum of five dollars a day.

The idea that high wages makes prosperity, that the key to good business lies not in the safe deposit boxes of millionaires, but is carried in the pocket of every worker—this is something entirely new.

It holds the hope of the future. Whatever else may have to be discarded, American business must not surrender that American ideal!

MERKEL 20 YEARS AGO

(From the Files of Merkel Mail, March 17, 1911.)

There was a good little crowd of our citizens who assembled at the depot Tuesday afternoon for a glimpse of ex-President Theodore Roosevelt as he passed through on his special. This popular citizen was on the rear of the platform, waved and greeted the crowd as the train slowed up for the city in clover.

PROHIBITION MEETING.

The friends of state-wide prohibition in each precinct of the county are urged to send representatives to a meeting to be held at Abilene, March 25, 1911, at 10 o'clock, for the purpose of completing organization for the adoption of the state-wide amendment. Let every precinct be represented.

A. H. Kirby, Chairman.

\$300,000 FIRE AT FORT WORTH SHOW.

About one thousand head of livestock were burned to death this morning in a fire which swept all mule and horse barns on the south side of Exchange avenue from the new Exchange building on Marine creek to the packing houses of Swift & Co. The hog and sheep sheds just west of Swift & Co.'s plant were swept clean by flames.

Miss Fannie Pearl Moore is visiting her aunt, Mrs. Ernest Kunze, in Fort Worth.

Sam Butman was a visitor to Abilene Monday and spent the entire day very pleasantly dividing the time between the moving picture show and the street cars.

Mr. and Mrs. John C. Hamm and family left Thursday for Boise, Idaho, where they will make their home. Merkel regrets to lose this good family and the wishes of their many friends will go with them to their new northwestern home.

Have you visited our millinery parlor yet? Miss O'Brian will take pleasure in showing you.

Merkel Dry Goods and Grocery Co.

Homer D. Wade, commercial secretary, publicist and otherwise ardent advocate and exponent of the interests of Stamford, was in our city last week.

Saturday evening Mrs. Lanier Brown entertained honoring Mrs. John Hamm with a tacky party. Tables were arranged for games of bridge and "42." A box of divinity fudge was given Mrs. W. H. Dickinson as first prize. Mrs. Fred Bigham was consoled with a doll, Mrs. John Hamm was given a pair of silk hose. Among those appearing in stunning and effective costumes were Mesdames L. D. Gaither, Fred Bigham, J. W. Daniel, W. H. Dickinson, W. R. Walker, Will Woodroof, N. C. Sinclair, J. C. Hamm, Miss Lucy Bean and the hostess.

Miss Agnes Hall was the charming hostess Saturday honoring Misses Genevieve Rust and Dorothy Lee Potter. Punch and nabiscos were served after games to Misses Eva Walters, Hattie Bell, Ruth Merritt, Bessie Touchstone, Faye Allen, Roxie Moon, Carol Rister, Mary and Jackie Jennings, the hostess and honorees.

Winners Named WTU Public Speaking Contest

Abilene, March 19.—Contrasting the arduous home-making tasks of thirty years ago with the convenient, economical and labor-saving appliances made possible through the widespread use of electric service, Miss B. Love of Anson, and Robert S. Cope, of Clarendon, Tuesday won the final events of their respective divisions in the second annual public speaking contest sponsored for its employees by the West Texas Utilities company in cooperation with the National Electric Light association. Both contests were held in the main dining room of the Abilene Club in the Wooten Hotel, the women's division at 4 o'clock in the afternoon, and the men's at 8 the same evening.

Miss Josephine Moore, of Matador, and Miss Gracia Swanson, of Ozona, placed second and third in the women's finals; H. B. Coggins, Abilene, and W. B. Steadman, Stamford, were second and third place winners in the men's event.

The subject discussed was the "Contribution of Electric Service to American Home Life—and Its Future Possibilities."

A banquet was prepared for all contestants, including those who had been eliminated in district preliminaries, judges and guests. P. W. Campbell, West Texas Utilities Company Traffic manager, acted as host, chairman and toastmaster.

Sam Braswell, publisher of the Clarendon News, addressed the group on the value and advantage of such contests, and stressed the thought that the interest being shown in its employees by the modern corporation is an indication of the healthy relation now existing between employer and employee. Wm. C. Edwards, director of the Texas Public Service Information bureau, Dallas, made a brief address.

Judges for the contest were Russell S. Stephens, Abilene Printing and stationery company; Wm. C. Edwards, Texas Public Service Information bureau, Dallas, and Robert C.



Restless CHILDREN

CHILDREN will fret, often for no apparent reason. But there's always Castoria! As harmless as the recipe on the wrapper, mild and bland as it tastes. But its gentle action soothes a youngster more surely than a more powerful medicine.

That's the beauty of this special children's remedy! It may be given the tiniest infant—as often as there is need. In cases of colic, diarrhea or similar disturbance, it is invaluable. A coated tongue calls for just a few drops to ward off constipation; so does any suggestion of bad breath. Whenever children don't eat well, don't rest well or have any little upset—this pure vegetable preparation is usually all that's needed.



666

LIQUID or TABLETS
Cure Colds, Headaches, Fever
666 SALVE
CURES BABY'S COLD

Wake Up Your Liver Bile —Without Calomel

And You'll Jump Out of Bed in the Morning Rarin' to Go

If you feel sour and sunk and the world looks punk, don't swallow a lot of salts, mineral water, oil, laxative candy or chewing gum and expect them to make you suddenly sweet and buoyant and full of sunshine.

For they can't do it. They only move the bowels and a mere movement doesn't get at the cause. The reason for your down-and-out feeling is your liver. It should pour out two pounds of liquid bile into your bowels daily.

Rankin, Independent Ice and Cold Storage company, Abilene.

Plan to Start Widening Of Highway in Tarrant

Arlington, Texas, March 19.—Work will be commenced about April 1 on widening the Dallas-Fort Worth Highway from the Dallas County line to Death's Crossing, one mile west of Arlington, it was announced here. The State Highway commission has recently set aside \$107,000 for this work.

The 4.29-mile stretch is the only part of the highway between Fort Worth and the county line that has not been widened. It will be widened from twenty-one to thirty-six feet with concrete and asphalt. It was pointed out that plans for the widening had been made since November but that the job had been held up on account of lack of funds.

Add-Ran Sisters Have Daughters in T. C. U.

Fort Worth, March 19.—Two sisters, who attended the primary grades in old Add-Ran college, each have a daughter graduating from Texas Christian this year. The sisters are Mrs. E. C. Blankenship and Mrs. G. W. Mercey, both of Fort Worth, and both Add-Ran students in Waco in 1894. The daughters are Miss Betty Mercey and Miss Bettie Blankenship, majoring in history and English, respectively, who will graduate from T. C. U. this year.

For Sale—Second hand Farmall tractor, with full equipment, in good condition; at a bargain. See Mrs. W. D. Hutcheson. Phone 179.

Saturday Special—Men's felt hats \$1.98—one day only. Brown's Bargain Store.



SOUR STOMACH

JUST a tasteless dose of Phillips' Milk of Magnesia in water. That is an alkali, effective, yet harmless. It has been the standard antacid for 50 years. One spoonful will neutralize at once many times its volume in acid. It is the right way, the quick, pleasant and efficient way to kill the excess acid. The stomach becomes sweet, the pain departs. You are happy again in five minutes.

But don't depend on crude methods, try the best way yet evolved in all the years of searching. That is Phillips' Milk of Magnesia.

Be sure to get the genuine Phillips' Milk of Magnesia, the kind that the physicians prescribe. "Milk of Magnesia" has been the U. S. Registered Trade Mark of The Charles H. Phillips Chemical Company and its predecessor Charles H. Phillips since 1875.



C. M. PRESLEY
Jeweler
Watches—Diamonds—Silverware
Abilene, Texas 209 Pine St.

United States Fifth In Military Strength

Paris, March 19.—The United States, cited as with 565,000 men in its regular army, national guard, Philippine scouts and other military formations, is ranked fifth among the nations in fighting strength in statistics compiled by the French weekly L'Illustration.

First rank is given to soviet Russia, with a military potentiality of 1,812,000 men.

England comes second with 780,000, including regulars, territorials and forces in India but not counting the dominions.

Italian forces are computed to number 773,000 men, including the fascist militia roughly estimated at 400,500.

France is put in fourth place with 583,000 men, including gendarmes, customs guards and forest rangers.

Sixth in general armament and fifth in Europe is ranked Germany, with 285,000 men—100,000 in the reichswehr or regular army, the rest in the police and other national forces.

CARD OF THANKS.

We wish to express our thanks and sincere appreciation to all those who sent flowers and to all those who were so kind and helpful to us in any way during the illness and death of our sister and aunt, Miss Intha E. Bird.

Mr. and Mrs. W. T. Bird and Family.

SPECIAL FOR MARCH.

Batteries! Batteries! Batteries! Insured and guaranteed for two full years.

13-plates, for light four-cylinder cars, \$6.95.

13-extra-heavy plates, for Model A Fords, \$7.95.

13-extra-heavy plates, for Chevrolet Sixes, \$7.95.

15-extra-heavy plates, for Buicks and other large cars, \$9.25.

Hi-Volt and Willard Batteries.

We are also offering special rates on all repair work. Come in and share in the savings.

BLUE FRONT MOTOR CO.
National Tire Store
J. J. Barroh, Manager.

Inaugurates Cafeteria Dining Car Service

Effective last Saturday, the Texas and Pacific railway inaugurated, for the first time in history, cafeteria dining car service.

The experiment is being made in connection with its 2-cent coach trains operating between Fort Worth and Big Spring.

It is said to be a help-yourself, pick your own table, popular price service.

"Cafeteria service on 2-cent coach trains makes railroad transportation the cheapest known means of travel," said Frank Jensen, general passenger agent, Dallas.

See Case Farm Type Tractors at Liberty Hardware Co.

more miles per dollar



BY MOTOR COACH

DECIDEDLY motor coach travel is the low cost way

ROUND TRIP EXCURSIONS

Fort Worth	\$ 7.10
Abilene	.70
El Paso	16.60
Dallas	8.35
Austin	14.00
Houston	17.20

TERMINAL
Ferrier's Service Station
Phone 210



WHAT'S AHEAD FOR THE COTTON FARMER—

That's a question every farmer must answer for himself. We sincerely believe that it's to your advantage to join the movement for raising better-staple cotton.

The condition of the average cotton farmer has grown more and more precarious for the past several years. Something must be done about it . . . and the man who can do the most to improve conditions is the farmer himself! The staple of our cotton must be improved.

We are heartily in accord with and unconditionally approve the plan originally worked out by the TEXAS CERTIFIED COTTONSEED BREEDERS' ASSOCIATION and furthered in our own county by the county agent and his co-workers.

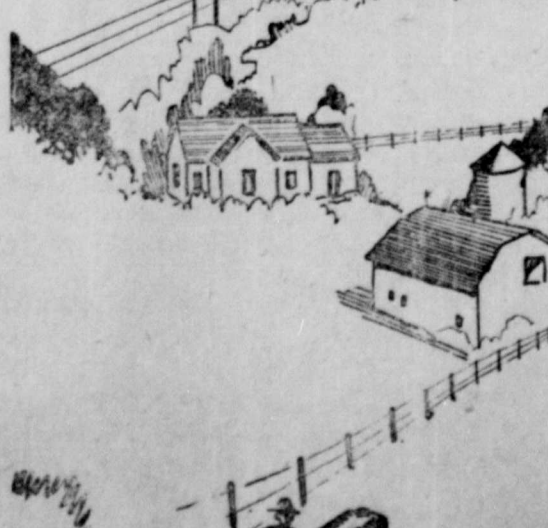
Three to six bushels of TEXAS STATE CERTIFIED COTTONSEED will plant your pedigreed seed block. The seed from your 1931 seed block will perhaps plant your entire crop in better-stapled cotton next year.

CO-OPERATE WITH YOUR NEIGHBORS—agree today to plant one of these seed blocks. Make yours an outstanding community in our county.



MEMBER FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM

In the Land of Opportunity



Pioneers in the dependable and widespread distribution of electric service, the West Texas Utilities Company has, in a comparatively short span of years, built here in central West Texas one of the major electric light and power systems of the Southwest.

Motivated by a sincere faith in the brilliant future of this rich West Texas empire, nearly fifty millions of dollars—a sum larger than the total gross revenue for the eight-year period—have been brought in from the outside and invested here in generating stations, transmission lines and other physical properties necessary to the production and distribution of electric and other utility services. Virtually all of this new money has been provided through the financing agencies of the Middle West Utilities System.

The earnest resolve to conduct itself in such manner as to merit the friendship and confidence of the people it serves, plus a constant effort to deliver more service at ever-decreasing rates have been ideals toward which this company has pointed since its inception.

Operating under a Texas charter, with its officers and employees seasoned West Texans—"living on the job"—a loyal band of 1,300 men and women strives always to render that type of utility service which has made transmission line service the accepted standard throughout the nation.

As a corporate entity, the West Texas Utilities Company was organized on January 1, 1923, for the purpose of producing and distributing electric and other utility services. Like many other West Texas institutions with but modest beginnings, its growth and development has paralleled that of the West Texas territory as a whole.

Today the company is rendering service to 59,000 customers—carrying the advantages of dependable, efficient and inexpensive electric power to 120 cities and towns, and to hundreds of rural communities, farms and ranches. Its over-all average rate for electricity per kilowatt-hour consumed is, today, more than sixty per cent LOWER than the net average rate charged throughout the territory before the organization of the West Texas Utilities Company.

West Texas Utilities Company



My Best Girl

By KATHLEEN NORRIS

TWELFTH INSTALLMENT.

Maggie Johnson, daughter of a letter-carrier, as a stock girl in The Mack, a San Francisco Five-and-Ten, falls in love with "Joe Grant," who also works there. His real name is Joseph Grant MacKenzie Merrill, son of the owner of the store. He wants to learn the business from the bottom. Because he fears that Maggie will be frightened by his wealth and social position, he does not reveal his true identity, even when he proposes to her.

Joe finally tells his father about Maggie. She is invited to a dinner at a fashionable restaurant, where she discovers that Joe is not a poor young man at all. She thinks that she has been deliberately tricked. She starts to leave in mortification when she sees her poorly dressed father and dowdy mother coming toward the dinner party.

They explain that Maggie's sister, Liz, is at night court with her friend, who has been arrested for speeding.

NOW GO ON WITH THE STORY

"You'll say nothing and you'll do nothing," she said, in a voice that silenced all five of her hearers. "You've done enough, Joe Grant. We aren't your sort. We don't belong—here, in a room like this. And we do belong—there. I'm not much—you've been laughing at me all this time, and I guess anyone who understood what was going on would laugh at me!—but I wouldn't be anything, I wouldn't have a right even to try to be ideal—if I wouldn't stick to my own folks! I don't care—" Her eyes were blazing, her level, pitiless voice bored through him—"I don't care," said Maggie, trembling, "what you think of us! My father and mother belong to me, and my sister does, and I'm as glad, Joe," she ended passionately, tears spilling from her eyes now, but her mouth steady, "I'm as glad to be done with you as you are with me!" She turned to Mr. Merrill, who had sat with a fan of big bills, open in his fingers, watching her with a sort of breathless concentration. It was almost as if he were afraid that she would not dare say what she was so rapidly and furiously saying, and as if he liked to hear her.

She took three of the bills, folded them, shut them into her flat worn purse.

"That's thirty," she said to him with a nod. "I owe you thirty. Thank you. It won't be more than that. Don't—" and, with a glance of utter contempt toward Joe, she dropped her voice to confidence—a confidence that George Merrill, under the circumstances, found infinitely touching, between his humblest little employee and himself—"Don't let Joe follow us, Mr. Merrill," said Maggie. "I mean it. I'm never going to see him again. I'm done!"

Blindly, swiftly, hugging her ather tightly to her on one side, holding her mother's hand tight on the other, Maggie went with them from the room. She reclaimed her shabby coat and they three went through the foyer of the big hotel and out into the cool evening darkness together. Maggie signalled a taxicab, and they all got in.

"Now, it's all right, Ma," she said, in a breathless, light voice. "We'll get Liz out, and she'll stop running with Chess after this night's work, you'll see, and may pick up someone who's worth something."

"Oh, dearie, I feel so awful that Ma and me followed you! But I'm afraid you'll feel bad, Maggie," her father faltered.

The nightmare went on and on. They were in a horrible smelly wide place of benches and spittoons and harsh lights, and her mother was crying noisily, and Pop, pale and dishevelled and very quiet, was asking her, for God's sake, to stop. Maggie was pleading with a clerk, asking him to hurry a certain case, and good-naturedly enough, he did hurry it, and almost immediately a little door at the right opened, and Elizabeth and Chess Rivers and another girl and man came out.

The instant she saw her darling, pretty, independent sister frightened and tearful and white-faced, Maggie's heart seemed to turn liquid, and she ran across the courtroom and held out her arms, and Elizabeth caught her, and they cried together. And when the Judge looked down over his desk, disapproving of this confusion, Maggie, with her face wet and her lips trembling and her little arm linked tight in Elizabeth's, was looking imploringly up. A policeman, ranging

the prisoners, told Maggie to go back and sit down, but Maggie only burst out the more imploringly:

"Oh, please—please let my sister come home! She's never run with this kind of man before—she isn't like you think—my father and mother'll die if my sister has to go to jail."

Somebody rapped, and Maggie was silent, and the murmuring and glancing at papers went on between the Judge and the clerk. And then, quite suddenly, His Honour looked down again at Maggie, unsmilingly but very kindly, and Chess had to pay one hundred dollars bail, and nobody else had to pay anything at all, and the charge against Elizabeth Johnson was dismissed.

Dismissed!

They were blundering toward the hall and the street, between the almost empty brown wood benches, and the hinged brown wood gates, and the spittoons, under the harsh lights, when suddenly Joe Grant—only he wasn't Joe Grant any more!—came hurriedly in, with an important-looking sergeant of police, and came up to them. "Everything all right?" Joe said anxiously and quickly, looking keenly at Maggie.

"Thank you, yes. It was a mistake. We're just going home."

"Quite a family party," said Chess Rivers, sneeringly, coming up.

And then the nightmare began again—Maggie could never remember exactly how. Elizabeth turned on Chess and told him that never as long as she lived would she go out again with a man who was a bootlegger, and blamed it on the girls who went with him, and Chess said something quick and ugly about the Johnsons not being able to put on airs, with Maggie Johnson running around the way she did with a millionaire—Chess had recognized Joe that very first day, at the cottage, because he used to see Joe at the boxing matches.

Then Chess was lying on the dirty marble floor, with blood on his cheek, and Joe was looking quite tall and calm and proud, but a little breathless, with two policemen holding him. And as Chess, still shouting, got to his feet, Joe jerked loose and sent him spinning again, and that time the policeman gripped Joe again and walked him away, and a third policeman began to shove Chess roughly out of the room.

The clerk took the Johnsons out through the big greasy swinging door, and they were in the dark street again. All a nightmare. All a nightmare. And yet, as the endless night wore by, she began to be afraid she would never wake up.

They got home, somehow—partly walking, partly in a street car. And they sat in the kitchen, and Maggie made tea.

"Maggie, for goodness' sake, how did you feel when you learned that your friend was really Joe Merrill? I never will get that straight," said Liz.

"Oh, all right."

"Maggie, if you get him we're fixed for life," Liz said eagerly.

"I won't," she assured her sister.

"Maggie—why do you act so funny about it? As far as my shaming you tonight goes, why, I didn't do anything that all the girls of my crowd aren't doing every day!" Liz pleaded eagerly. "And if he makes that an excuse for breaking his engagement—"

"I'll sue him," said Ma heavily.

"Here in this kitchen he sat, last Sunday afternoon, and told me with his own mouth—"

"You don't have to sue him!" Liz said. "He's crazy about her. Isn't he, Maggie?"

"I wasn't listening, Ma. I'm sorry, Liz, but I'm going to bed."

"I'm going to sit up with Ma," said Elizabeth. Their topic was good for several more hours of exclamation, analysis, and debate.

Mrs. Johnson and her oldest daughter slept late the next morning. They reached the kitchen together at about ten o'clock, having had not more than five hours of rest, and began at once on the leisurely breakfast that Maggie, as usual, had left ready to heat. There were cups on the table, and coffee in the pot, and bread was sliced; there was a fat little bottle of cream, and Maggie had left half the mixture of an omelette waiting in a yellow bowl.

Elizabeth was the one who first found time to pick up the newspaper, and her involuntary horrified "Oh, God!" caused her mother, startled, to join her at the stove. They read it together.

It was there. Joseph Merrill's picture on the front page, was em-

bellished, in a rococo border, with a sketch representing two silhouetted youths fighting in a courtroom, with horrified women fleeing in every direction.

"It'll just about kill Maggie!" said Elizabeth, aghast.

"Go on readin', Liz."

"... young Merrill, who, as far as could be ascertained, has been masquerading, since his departure from college, as a day labourer, and who, according to reports, has acquired an enviable acquaintance with the city's underworld, was detained without bail and spent the night in the city jail. At an early hour this morning, efforts to reach his father at the country place at Elmingdale were met with th' continued on page four column three. . . . " Elizabeth read rapidly.

And suddenly, in their midst, was Pop. He had come home for his early Saturday lunch; he was as shocked as themselves.

"Where's Maggie?" he asked apprehensively. "Did she see the paper?"

"She's at the store, of course," Ma answered disapprovingly.

"The store was closed today. They're puttin' in the automat. She must—" Pa said vaguely—"she must of went out!"

"Maggie wouldn't never do anything—des'p'rit—" Elizabeth was beginning, when Maggie herself came in.

She came in quietly, through the kitchen door, and stood looking at them as if she were surprised to find them all there together. Her plain little new suit was brushed and trim—the homespun upon which Maggie's heart had been set for weeks before she really dared to spend the necessary dollars on it. Her cheeks were red, but her beautiful eyes looked tired and were set in delicate shadows.

"Fevven's sakes, where've you been? You had Ma and me worried," Elizabeth said.

"Well," Maggie expanded quietly, "I went to see Mr. Merrill."

"What'd you do that for?" demanded the mother.

"There was something I wanted to talk to her about, Ma," Maggie said wearily.

"What?" The question was shot, like a bullet.

"Joe," the girl said simply. And she sat down at the table and leaned her forehead wearily on her hand.

"You never had the gall to do that, Maggie Johnson," Elizabeth whispered, impressed.

"Oh, yes, I did. I told her where Joe was, and they sent over to the jail, and Joe came in while I was there. And him and his father and mother and me talked it all over."

"Maggie! It was the older sister. 'Don't he like you any more?'"

"He says he loves me," she said dully.

"Oh, Maggie—fevven's sake! Joe



On The Screen

—under the glare of powerful lights and the stress of "Picture Making" the beauty rendered by Gouraud's Oriental Cream stands the test. It gives an alluring, pearly appearance that will not rub off, streak or spot.

No "touching up" necessary as the skin retains the delightfully soft, seductive beauty under all conditions.

GOURAUD'S ORIENTAL CREAM

White, Pink, Peach and Oriental Tan Shades. Send 10c. for Trial Size. To Ferd T. Hopkins & Son, New York City.

Nature Thought of Everything

Nature thought of everything when the human body was made. When the body is about to become ill, nature planned danger signals to warn us. Thus, if our children grind their teeth when they sleep, or lack appetite, or suffer from abdominal pains, or itch about the nose and fingers, we should know that they may have contracted worms. Then, if we are wise, we buy a bottle of White's Cream Vermifuge and safely and surely expel the worms. Thus we avoid the danger of very serious trouble. White's Cream Vermifuge costs only 35c a bottle, and can be bought from

Merkel Drug Company.

Merrill!"

"And because he loves me," Maggie said deliberately, "he's going to sail this morning for Japan. He sees that he'd only hurt me and make it harder here."

Her shamed, hopeless voice died away.

"So I guess I'd better do these dishes," she said.

"He'll forget you before he's past the Heads!" her mother predicted, in the awful silence that followed.

"You can't depend on them rich people, dearie," her father, sorrowful and sympathetic, said timidly.

"Maggie, they just got him to say he'd do that so's to break it off!" Elizabeth said indignantly.

Maggie looked at them all apathetically. "I know all that. I know he loves me now, but that they're going to kill it, if they can. I know his ship pulls out in twenty minutes and that I'll never see him again," she said simply. "But—" she glanced from one to the other—"with things here like they are," she said, "and Ma like she is, and Pa like he is, and you like you are, Liz—what can I do? I've worked, I've tried to make myself look good, and I've gone to night school, and I've lived the ideal life—but it doesn't seem to work, for me. If Joe had been what I thought he was, we could have climbed up together. But he wasn't and I guess his mother's right—I guess the time is coming when he'll think of me as only a girl he knew whose mother wasn't very strong, and whose father was a postman, and whose sister ran with a bootlegger that got us all pretty nearly into jail!"

She did not cry, she spoke evenly and gently, almost without expression. But at the finish she reached up suddenly to the shelf above the sink, and snatched from its position the ideal leaflet, with its cryptic message: "The way to begin living the ideal life is—to begin."

Maggie looked at it a minute, and her face worked oddly. Then, quite quietly and composedly, she tore it into tiny scraps and fluttered them into the wet sink. And after that she walked slowly from the room, and they heard her bedroom door close behind her.

(Continued Next Week.)

5-12 per cent Federal Loans are Better Loans. Longer time, lower rates; plenty of money; never come due. W. Homer Shanks, Sec'y.-Treas., Citizens N. F. L. A. Farms, Ranches, Business Property for sale or exchange. Room 1, Penney Bldg., Abilene, Texas.

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GENUINE Bayer Aspirin, the kind doctors prescribe and millions of users have proven safe for more than thirty years, can easily be identified by the name Bayer and the word genuine as above.

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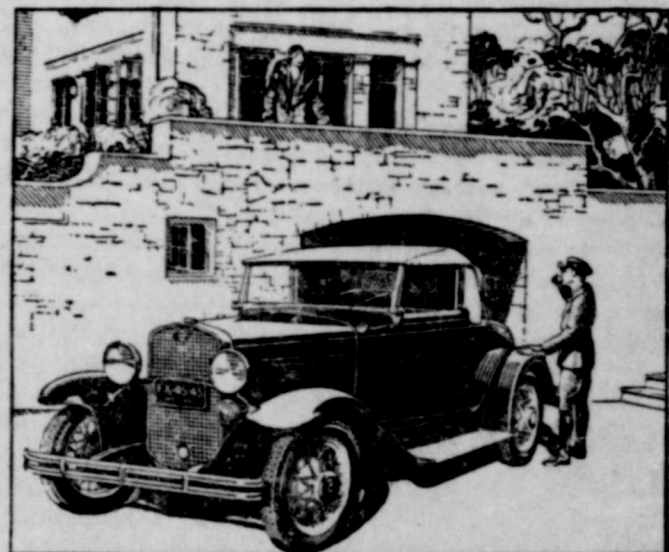
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NOTICE

Will pick up Custom Hatch Eggs every Wednesday and Saturday at West and Company and Liberty Hardware Co.
Trays Hold 112 and 170 Eggs.

F. P. KIRK

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Abilene, Texas

THE MERKEL MAIL

Published Every Friday Morning
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TELEPHONE No. 61

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Texas, as second class mail.

FORTY-ONE YEARS OLD.

Your favorite newspaper is forty-one years old today. It was on March 20, 1890, that Mary Jane Cox issued Vol. 1, No. 1, and by the turn of the calendar publication day for Vol. 42, No. 1, falls on the exact date of our forty-first birthday.

Through the vicissitudes of prosperity and drouth, political storms and recurring eras of good feeling, it has been the earnest aim and ambition of the several editors of The Mail to keep pace with the rapid expansion of this vast western section, its growth from undeveloped pasture land to a prosperous agricultural kingdom, to be further enriched by boundless pools of liquid gold.

The present management dates from September 1, 1928, when we purchased The Mail from Tom Durham, who, by the way, has just returned to make Merkel his home.

We came here strangers, as one to another, but not as strangers to the frank friendliness and wide-open hospitality of these western folks, whom it has become our privilege to know even better and to hold in even higher respect as our acquaintance has ripened.

With pardonable pride, we trust, we are going to indulge in some shop talk. For a small town weekly, we are proud of The Mail. In it you will find not only chronicles of all the local news and social and church happenings, the first objective of the home newspaper, but residents of many years can find no greater pleasure than seeing again the pictures of "Twenty Years Ago." The younger element finds the serial story, "My Best Girl," just to their liking. For our loyal subscribers in neighboring communities, a corps of efficient correspondents supply a page of newsy letters each week. The Badger Weekly, edited by the Senior class of Merkel Public schools, brings school activities in all their interesting phases before our readers. Bruce Barton, one of the wisest known writers of this country, contributes "The Way of Life" for those of philosophical mind. A summary of Texas news is provided in the "Keeping Up With Texas" column and news of general nature is not lacking.

In conclusion, the publishers wish to express appreciation of the loyalty of our advertisers and patrons and of the co-operation of all the citizens of Merkel and surrounding sections who constitute our family of readers and we pledge a continuation of our best efforts for a "Bigger and Better Merkel."

Attend District Meet
Of Magnolia Agents

More than 50 towns were represented at the district conference of agents, salesmen supervisors and filling station operators of the Magnolia Petroleum company held at Abilene Tuesday. Chas. H. Jones, agent, Pete White, Ben Bird and Jimmy Toombs, were among those from Merkel present.

Lunch was served at the Wooten hotel, with plates for 140. Prominent officials of the company present were: J. C. Harris, division manager, Dallas; Chas. Nelson, fuel oil department; Sid Duncan, advertising manager; W. O. Garton, manager of the Fort Worth district; and C. F. Hudgins and C. W. Wofford, assistant managers.

"We are optimistic over the outlook for spring business, although gasoline prices are low," Harris said. "Reports at this meeting indicate a growing recovery in business throughout this part of the state."

Attend Meet of Oil
Belt Teachers Ass'n

Supt. Roger A. Burgess and nine teachers from the Merkel Public schools attended the meeting of the Oil Belt Teachers' association at Eastland last week. Those going were: Mrs. Holland Teaff, Misses Vennie Heitz and Opal Sloan, Mrs. R. B. Irvin, Misses Julia Martin, Helen Patterson, Lucy Tracy and Hazel Williams and Mr. Kiddle. About 1,000 teachers attended.

Supt. and Mrs. Burgess were present Friday evening at a banquet given at the Connelley hotel to honor State Superintendent Marrs.

Try a Classified Ad for Results

CHURCHES

WEEKLY SERMONETTE.

"I am giving to the readers of the Merkel Mail this week this fine sermon by Deacon W. W. Thornton. The thought he presents to you is one that has gripped my heart for a long time. Is it true, that the average preacher winks at the sins of his church members and thereby makes it easy for him to go on in sin?"

"Will the men who read this sermon write me a card and tell me your honest convictions? Sign your name, if you want to; if not, leave it off, but write me your heartfelt opinion."

J. T. King.

"My Pastor and Myself."
(By W. W. Thornton in Western Forum.)

I have a "crow to pick" with my pastor, and shall pick it right out in the open, let the feathers fall where they may.

It came to me in the course of the annual personal inventory, as I mused over the complacency into which I have drifted with respect to several things. I set out here, and take out on my preacher, only that small part of it for which I feel that he is at least partially responsible.

He has fed me on too soft a diet. My spiritual muscles have become flabby, and soft. He has preached too many sermons that I wholly agreed with. He has too often condemned my cantankerous conduct, and given me placatory preachments, instead of plastering my physiognomy with choice asortments of spiritual uppers.

John came, not with a feather duster, but with an axe, which he laid to the roots of the fruitless trees. Then he cast them into the fire. And notice where he started! Right at the top. With the tithers, the upper crust of Judean society. The self-complacent. The self-satisfied. The self-righteous. They were his meat. "Bring forth fruits. Do something. Help the poor, don't lie, don't steal, don't accuse folks falsely. Cut out humbuggery and hypocrisy."

My complaint is that my preacher has not told me the whole truth about my shortcomings. I have had my ease in Zion too long. He has allowed me to doze and to nod in the pew, when he should have had me awake and squirming, like a hop toad on a hot rock. I am a deacon, and several things in my church. Tolerant friends have said that I am a good man, and I had begun to believe them. That is dangerous. I know better. My preacher knows better, and still he has not told me.

A calm appraisal shows that I would grade 'way down the scale by New Testament standards. I never made a really sacrificial gift to any cause in my life. I wait to see what "the others" are going to do, and then give what I feel I must. Hypocrite is a hard word, and yet I must apply it. I set up standards for the other fellow; I judge him and condemn him for his failings but can't see my own. (That's a hypocrite, isn't it?) I sit with a vacant stare when calls are made for special causes that don't happen to meet with my own narrow approval; I am deaf when department workers plead for teachers; when ushers are needed, I pass the buck to others. I am looking for comfort, ease, entertainment. The shady spots on the old ship Zion intrigue me. And my preacher has let me rest! Why hasn't he told me that I am a whitened sepulcher—to flee from the wrath to come, to get the cross-ties out of my own eyes before I worry about the cinder in my brother's eye.

And I fear I am just a cross-section of the average church membership. I heard of a woman who had nagged and hen-pecked a meek man through a long, long married life. One day he lost his patience, and in a few minutes vented all the wrath and squared all the accounts of half a lifetime. Bruised, beaten, black-eyed, she dragged herself to his knees. "Honey, oh, honey," she said, "I do know you are the sweetest man." Maybe my preacher can find a moral in that story. I know that, for myself, what I need is a few whams to go along with my whims. Give them to me, preacher, from the tight spot in the Old Book, and maybe I shall yet become the man and the Christian I have sometimes imagined myself to be.

SUNDAY SCHOOL ATTENDANCE.
No report was received from the Nazarene Sunday School for last Sunday, the total attendance at the four reporting Sunday Schools being 644. The Methodist Sunday School had the largest attendance with 267 present.

LAYMEN'S SERVICE WILL OPEN
UNION REVIVAL.

The opening service of the union revival, to be held Sunday evening, beginning at 7:30, is to be in charge of laymen. The service will be at the Presbyterian church, where all of the services of the union revival will be held. After Sunday, services will be held twice daily, beginning at 10 a. m. and 7:45 p. m.

The local pastors will do the preaching and the singing will be in charge of Harry Barnett and Cyrus Pee. Mrs. C. W. Delmer is pianist.

For the laymen's service next Sunday night, Wm. M. Elliott will have charge. Talks will be made by L. L. Murray and S. M. Hunter. Special musical numbers will include "The Awakening Chorus" by a Men's chorus and a selection by the Methodist quartette, composed of Mr. and Mrs. Cyrus Pee, Miss Mary Pence and Mack Buzbee.

The men of the Men's Prayer service are sponsoring the union revival, with the co-operation of the local churches.

It is the plan of the Men's Prayer service to continue their Sunday afternoon meetings at 2 o'clock regularly throughout the revival and the meeting next Sunday afternoon is to be at the Baptist church.

while the number at the Baptist Sunday School was 237. Attendance at the other Sunday Schools was: Presbyterian, 71, and Church of Christ, 69.

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Sunday School at 10 a. m. Come on time so that we may attend church elsewhere. Pastor will be out of town for the 11 o'clock service and back here for the evening service, the beginning of the revival. This service will be in charge of the laymen and at the Presbyterian church. Let's work for and expect a great revival.

W. M. Elliott, Supt.
R. A. Walker, Pastor.

THE FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH.

The services at the Baptist church Sunday night will be in charge of our young people. They will bring a timely and needed lesson on Temperance, the subject being "The Good Old Days."

They will tell the origin of the "bootlegger," the "speakeasy" and "blind pig."

Our Male Quartette will sing.
Sunday School at 9:45. Our superintendent, W. J. Largent, is back and that means we will enlarge. Invite your friends and worship with us.
J. T. King, Pastor.

JUNIOR B. Y. P. U. PROGRAM.

Subject: "An Orphanage Built by Prayer."

"In Bristol, England," Madra Nixon.
"The Founder of the Orphanage," Murphy Dye.

"Muller Begins to Preach," Rose Mary Lassiter.
"Muller Goes to Bristol," Winston Polley.

"The Beginning of the Orphanage," Clara Frances Largent.
"Muller's Great Faith," Herman Carson.

"At Ashley Down," Mary Helen Lancaster.

B. T. S. PROGRAM.

Song.
Business and records.
Bible drill, Miss Dye.
Scripture reading, W. J. Largent.
Song.

Introduction, "Dangers of Intemperance," Miss Tracy.

"Dangers in our Personal Experiences," Mrs. Largent.

"Dangers to God's Temples," Captain Nixon.

"Dangers in Social Life," Mrs. Booth.

"The Secret of Overcoming Danger," Mrs. Dent Gibson.

BAPTIST CIRCLE.

The Blanch Rose Walker circle will meet with Mrs. Chas. West at 3 o'clock next Tuesday afternoon, March 24, for Bible study.

METHODIST NEWS NOTES.

Our presiding elder, Rev. E. E. White, called the pastors and families together Tuesday of this week for an all-day conference on spiritual life. The emphasis of our church, for this year, is on the spiritual awakening. The gathering proved a great success.

The local Epworth leaguers are to be thanked for the very fine program

SOCIETY

LUNCHEON FOR MERKEL CLASS.

(Abilene Reporter.)

Members of the Gleaners Class of the Merkel Methodist church were guests for a "covered" dish luncheon here Tuesday in the home of Mrs. L. R. Thompson, 1850 South Eighth street. Mrs. Thompson was teacher of the class when she lived in Merkel.

At the tea hour Mrs. Thompson served ices, and class guests were joined by Mrs. Gardner and Mrs. Brown from Merkel and Mrs. Burl Wheeler. Mrs. T. L. Grimes and Mrs. E. Church of Abilene, Mrs. C. K. Russell and Miss Anna Lou Russell of Merkel, were guests along with the following class members for the luncheon: Mesdames D. H. Vaughn, R. A. Burgess, R. O. Rodden, Eli Case, F. H. Latham, Elmer Lowe, W. M. Gambill, Bishop Hunter, E. L. Turner, J. L. Richardson, Frank Idings, Herbert Patterson, Tom Largent, D. Grimes, R. A. Vickers, R. R. Buford, Fred Guitar, T. J. Taylor and F. W. Buzbee.

GIRLS SCOUTS MEET.

On last Saturday morning the Girls Scouts met at six o'clock at the Methodist church and then went on a sunrise breakfast. They hiked from the church to Laney's pasture. Immediately after their arrival a business meeting was held. Sarah Sheppard called the meeting to order and the roll was called by Nell Hughes. Several new members were added to the roll. After the calling of the roll Jess Higgins was elected new patrol leader.

After the business meeting a camp fire was built and everyone enjoyed a breakfast of bacon, eggs, potatoes, etc.

The girls learned how to filter muddy water and to follow trails. After different activities were enjoyed Mrs. Jenkins, the Scout leader, read various rules from the Scout manual. They called another meeting on this Friday evening, March 20, at seven o'clock. All girls from eleven up are cordially invited to attend this meeting and to join the Girl Scouts.

Those enjoying the outing were: Jess Higgins, Audrey Farris, Duncan Briggs, Mildred Richardson, Sis Gam-

given at the church service hour Sunday evening.

Next Sunday is to be the first pretty Sunday for this year. We are going to celebrate with over 300 at Sunday School. We invite you to be one of that three hundred.

Don't forget the union meeting. What do we need more than the principles of Christ incarnate in every life? Get it on your heart and let us begin at the beginning of the meeting, not waiting until the last to become interested.

CHURCH OF CHRIST.

We invite you to attend church with us. We have new song books and have good singing at all services.

The program for the week is as follows: Bible study Lord's Day at 10 o'clock a. m., exhortation and communion service 11 to 12 o'clock, young peoples' service 6:30 p. m., ladies Bible study Tuesday at 2 p. m. and prayer service and Bible study Wednesday at 7:45 p. m.

In love, The Elders.

ble, Nell Hughes, Margaret Miller, Lena Mae Hokit, Eloise Mansell, De La Vergne Teague, Marion Delmer, Melba Lee Watts, Lovetta Cox, Ruth Davis, La Verne Holden, Lucille Campbell, Corinne Morrison, Billy Bernice Gambill, Hasseltine Farris, Floyd Wells, Billie Gardner, Sarah Sheppard, Jessie Margaret Berry, Rose Mary Lassiter, Mary Helen Lancaster, Melba Taylor, Clara B. White, Aline McAninch and Mrs. Jenkins.

BIRTHDAY PARTY.

Honoring her little granddaughter, Dorothy Nell Groene, on her fifth birthday, Mrs. H. F. Groene entertained ten little friends on Saturday, March fourteenth. Games made the hours pass happily for the little guests and at four a huge birthday cake topped with its five dainty candles was cut and served with cream and popcorn balls to Dorothy Nell Groene, Mary Joe Hutchins, Joe Earl Kimbrough, George Mac Owerj, Leon Buford, Frank Cheatem McFarland, Lon and Johnnie McDonald, Bettye Jane Diltz, Charlotte Overton, La Vaughn Vickers and Miss Dota Garrouette.

DOUBLE BIRTHDAY PARTY.

Mesdames Mathews, Bryan and Parker and Miss Thelma Mathews were joint hostesses on last Saturday in entertaining a number of little guests in the home of Mrs. R. H. Mathews, honoring little Miss Pearl Mathews and Bobbie Faye Bryan on their birthdays.

Games were played and at the refreshment hour cake, hot chocolate and all day suckers were served to Mary Nell and Willie Sue Morgan, Dortha Sue and Mildred Bird, Tresie Parker, Wanda, Maurine, Stacy and Freddie Nell Huddleston, Avalene Mathews, Jack H., Harold Morgan, Byron J. Bryan, Herman Daniels and the honorees.

New Schedule Brings
Eastbound P. M. Train

Changes in schedule on the Texas and Pacific railway, effective last Sunday, provide for an eastbound afternoon train, leaving here at 3:47. This is a new train, No. 4, taking the place of Nos. 10 and 2, which were taken off and which latter trains formerly departed at 7:03 a. m. and 11:23 a. m. Eastbound No. 6, leaving here at 2:05 a. m., remains unchanged.

Westbound train, formerly departing at 3:18 p. m., now leaves at 2:47 p. m., while No. 7, which is a combination of Nos. 7 and 5, departs at 3:57 a. m.

Two trains do not stop here, the Sunshine Special and the Texan, but their schedules remain unchanged, departing from Abilene at 6:25 p. m. and 9:05 a. m., respectively.

Demonstration Club Meets.

The Salt Branch Demonstration club met Friday, March 6, with Misses Marie Pinckley and Gladys Petty as co-hostesses. The program was on the care of clothes, with various members taking part and ending with a round table talk. Refreshments were served to 12 members and 4 visitors. Owing to illness, Miss Chambers was not present, but she will be at the meeting on March 20, when rug-making will be discussed.

See Case Farm Type Tractors at Liberty Hardware Co.

Application Must be
Made Before Mar. 27

Change is made this year in taking college entrance examinations in that the student must apply for the subjects in which he wishes to take the examination before March 27. Those interested should write Supt. Roger A. Burgess, Merkel, before March 27 and state to him just what subjects each wishes to take at this examination. The examinations themselves will be given on April 28, 29 and 30, but those who are to take these must apply before March 27.

These examinations are for pupils from unaffiliated schools who next year may want to enter college or some affiliated high school. Credits received on this examination are acceptable in any high school or college in the state whether they are presented this next year or later. The questions are sent out from the state department and papers are sent to Austin for grading. All that the Merkel school does is to allow the pupil to take the examination and then send the papers on to Austin.

Examination may be taken in any or all of the following subjects, the exact schedule will be announced later: English one, two, three or four units, Biology, Chemistry, Physics, General Science, Physiology, Physiography, Ancient History, Modern History, American History, English History, Civics, Economics, Algebra I or II, Plane Geometry, Advanced Arithmetic, Spanish I or II, New Testament and Old Testament.

Most all of the affiliated high schools of the state require entrance examination before they will admit pupils coming from short-term schools. Merkel requires such an examination for entrance from these schools. This college entrance examination is the fairest method of admission for the questions are made out at Austin where the papers are also graded.

A Quick Drying
VARNISH
that wears

YOU may now revarnish your floors in the evening and use them the next morning, for LOWE BROTHERS new Quick-Drying NEPTUNE FLOOR VARNISH dries dust-free in an hour—to recoat in five hours. It is of good body, flows out perfectly and levels off smoothly. Its hard, durable surface is not easily marred. Hot or cold water will not affect it or impair its beauty. Inquire about this new varnish.

Burton-Lingo
Company
Merkel, Texas

IMPROVED SERVICE

VIA



No. 3	No. 7	No. 1	No. 16	No. 6	No. 4
8:55 am	2:00 am	6:30 pm	Lv. St. Louis	Ar. 8:20 am	7:00 am
2:40 pm	8:10 am	11:05 pm	Lv. Memphis	Ar. 7:00 am	12:50 pm
12:01 pm	11:59 pm	9:30 pm	Lv. New Orleans	Ar. 7:40 am	6:50 pm
11:40 pm	2:50 pm	7:10 am	Lv. Shreveport	Ar. 10:25 pm	3:00 pm
7:40 am	9:10 pm	12:30 pm	Lv. Dallas	Ar. 2:20 pm	8:30 pm
9:15 am	10:20 pm	1:55 pm	Lv. Ft. Worth	Ar. 1:15 pm	7:00 am
2:47 pm	3:57 am		Lv. MERKEL	Ar. 2:05 am	3:47 pm
5:20 pm	7:10 am	9:15 pm	Ar. Big Spring	Lv. 6:35 am	11:45 pm
	7:30 am	9:25 pm	Lv. Big Spring	Ar. 6:25 am	11:30 pm
	4:30 pm	7:45 am	Ar. El Paso mt	Lv. 8:45 am	1:00 pm
	6:45 pm	9:40 am	Lv. El Paso mt	Ar. 7:55 pm	12:20 pm
	5:00 pm	8:25 am	Ar. Los Ang pt	Lv. 6:15 pm	11:00 am

TWO-CENT per mile coach rates between Ft. Worth, Big Spring and intermediate points apply on Trains Nos. 3 and 4.

FOR PARTICULARS CONSULT
TICKET AGENT



FOR SALE

FOR SALE—Cornish Game eggs, \$1.00 per setting. Robert H. Hicks at Liberty Hardware Co.

FOR SALE—Farmalls and equipment; also McCormick-Deering implements, cream separators, milking machines and feed grinders. We trade for and sell horses and mules. See Harry Barnett, Adams and Leverett, Merkel and Abilene.

BIG BOLL RUSSELL cotton seed for sale, culled and sacked; just planted one year; price \$1.00 per bushel. See Comer Haynes.

MAIZE DELIVERED—Will haul maize for you and put it in your barn. See me for prices. T. C. Jenkins, one half mile south of town. Phone 9018R2.

FOR SALE—C. C. Farm Type Case tractors; will trade for saleable stock or merchandise; also have combines, threshers, binders and farm machinery of all kinds. Liberty Hardware Company.

FOR SALE—Two saddle ponies and one work horse. Liberty Hardware Company.

FIRST YEAR Qualla cotton seed, culled and sacked; \$1.00 per bushel. Bryan Dunagan, Route 1, Merkel, Texas.

FOR SALE—Used tires. I have a few used tires at a bargain, various sizes. See Hamm.

FOR SALE—Four or five work horses and mules; cash or approved notes. See Dr. Armstrong.

FOR SALE—Three or four good milk cows; fresh in about ten days; will take good note or money. See Dave Hendricks at Farmers State Bank.

FOR SALE—Second hand Farmall tractor, with full equipment; in good condition; at a bargain. See Mrs. W. D. Hutcheson. Phone 179.

WANTED

SEWING MACHINES and rocking chairs repaired; all kinds of upholstery. See J. T. Darsey.

HAVE YOUR PLANTING SEED culled; 8 cents per bushel, or will take cash in payment. Bryan Dunagan, Route 1, Merkel, Texas.

WANTED—Number One Bronze turkey tom. Address Mrs. Roy Harrell, Route 4, Merkel, Texas, Phone No. 9012F3.

FOR RENT

FARM FOR RENT—100 acres, 3 room house, good water, close to school; in Noodle community. For particulars see Sid Criswell.

LOST AND FOUND

LOST—Sheaffer fountain pen. Reward. E. L. Turner, Jr.

LEGAL NOTICE.

THE STATE OF TEXAS
To the Sheriff or any Constable of Taylor County—Greetings:

You are hereby commanded to summon Verna Mae McDougal by making publication of this Citation once in each week for four consecutive weeks previous to the return day hereof, in some newspaper published in your County, if there be a newspaper published therein, but if not, then in the nearest County where a newspaper is published, to appear at the next regular term of the 42nd District Court of Taylor County, to be holden at the Court House thereof, in Abilene, Texas, on the third Monday in April A. D. 1931, the same being the 20th day of April A. D. 1931, then and there to answer a petition filed in said Court on the 10th day of March A. D. 1931, in a suit, numbered on the docket of said Court No. 8792-A, wherein Chick (Lennie) McDougal, is Plaintiff, and Vera Mae McDougal, is Defendant, and a brief statement of plaintiff's cause of action, being as follows: Plaintiff and defendant were married on or about July 8th, 1927, and separated on or about December 1st, 1927; plaintiff sues for a divorce on the grounds of three years abandonment, all of which is fully alleged in his original petition. Herein fail not but have before said Court, at its next regular term, this writ with your return thereon, showing how you have executed the same.

Given under my hand and seal of

said Court, at office in Abilene, Texas, on this 10th day of March A. D. 1931.
Belle Wellborn, Clerk,
District Court Taylor County, Texas.
(Seal) By Zola McKee, Deputy.

ANNOUNCEMENTS
POLITICAL

For Mayor:
W. O. BONEY.
For Alderman (Two to be elected):
A. T. SHEPPARD (Re-election):
LEN SUBLETT.
For City Secretary:
MRS. FLOYD DOWELL.
MISS PAULINE JOHNSON (Re-election.)

Ft. Worth Livestock

Fort Worth, Texas, March 19.—Yearlings and calves sold on a higher market Wednesday, the former showing an advance of 25c and the latter gaining 25c to 50c. Steers, cows and bulls remained quothably unchanged. Receipts were close to 1,700 head of cattle and 600 calves.

Prices paid for beef steers ranged from \$5 to \$6.50. A car of cows went at \$4.35. Yearlings reached \$8. Good Brahma calves notched \$7.50. Stocker calves brought up to \$7.50.

Rail hogs cleared at an advance of 5c to 10c and truckers closed 30c to 40c up, a top of \$7.75 being posted in the rail division and \$7.80 in the truck house. Only 600 head were available.

Fairly active trading developed in the sheephouse with receipts reaching 5,500 head. Good lambs went at \$7, 2-year-old wethers were taken at \$5.50 and aged wethers made \$4.

Cattle Movement.

On Monday Malone Brothers shipped a car of cows to the Fort Worth market.

Yard and Garden

(Continued from Page One.)
rick's Day. The program centered around the patron saint of old Ireland, with small flags in the prevailing tone as plate favors.

After the club singing, led by Mr. Brown, with Miss Christine Collins at the piano, the invocation was given by Rev. R. A. Walker.

"A Toast to the Irishman" was cleverly given by Miss Lucy Tracy and members were requested to respond with an Irish joke. Humor ran high as each Lion regaled his fellow-members with witty jests characteristic of the sons of Old Erin.

Especially enjoyable were popular songs by Miss Ray Denison, with Miss Collins accompanist. Miss Denison is a gifted tap dancer also and her numbers combining song and dance were generously applauded.

S. D. Gamble is to be toastmaster, assisted by Chas. H. Jones, at the next luncheon, which will be Tuesday, April 7.

Disastrous Fire

(Continued from Page One)
nels, prevented any spread of the fire and with three streams of water they kept the tanks cool, preventing any serious disaster along the line of explosions. The water supply was plentiful, but, without a pumper of their own, it was impossible to make any headway with the flames.

The city as a whole joins the department in expressing appreciation of the splendid aid from the Abilene and Sweetwater departments, who responded with speed and who fought fire like demons.

Led by Chief M. T. Daniels and Assistant Chief Ray Roe, those from the Abilene department included O. R. Jarrell, mechanic, Morgan Turner, H. L. Jinkens, driver, B. O. Williams, V. E. Kelsey, Amos Counts and A. C. Abbott. The Sweetwater contingent included Zac Taylor, chief, and George Outlaw, Guy E. Morris, Lowell Taylor, Alex Blair and Lloyd Rogers.

Two highway patrol men, who rendered needed assistance, were Officers Keffer of Abilene and Draper of San Angelo.

When the last spark had been extinguished and Merkel was again safe from the fire hazard, the visiting firemen were invited to partake of an 11 o'clock breakfast as guests of the city of Merkel.

Doing Jury Service.

Those from Merkel summoned the past week for jury service in Judge W. R. Chapman's 104th district court included G. B. Neill, W. M. Elliott, Roy Harrell, J. H. Clark, W. C. Hunter, D. D. Coats, Will F. Butman, R. J. Miller, H. H. Toombs, H. C. West, W. F. Golladay and S. A. Bankston.

Second sheets at Merkel Mail office.

Merkel Farmers
Make Cottonseed
Program Plans

Farmers of the Merkel section in a meeting at the Lions hall Wednesday night completed arrangements for their certified cottonseed program. County Agent C. Metz Heald was in charge of the session, which was attended by about 50 farmers.

The Merkel group voted unanimously in favor of Russell Big Boll as the standard seed to be used in plot planting for production of next year's seed. D. I. Shelton was named chairman of the committee to carry on the solicitations for further plot pledges. Other members of the committee are: Sam Swann, A. J. Canon and Bryan Dunagin.

Besides Heald, speakers were A. E. Gaddy of the Texas Certified Cottonseed Growers association, and H. H. Anderson of the Abilene office of the Texas Cotton Cooperative association.

Planting of state certified maize seed is also being urged and A. J. Canon advised the editor of The Mail that 1,000 pounds of certified maize seed would be on hand at the Farm Bureau gin Friday morning.

Chisholm Trail Area
Jamboree May 8 and 9

Plans for the annual jamboree for Boy Scouts of the seven-county Chisholm Trail area were laid Monday night when the executive board of the area council met at the Hilton hotel, Abilene. James P. Stinson of Abilene, area president, was in charge.

A dinner at 6:30 preceded the business session. Putnam, Merkel, Tuscola, Stamford, Winters, Potosi and Abilene council members attended. Those from Merkel attending were: Herbert Patterson, Roger A. Burgess, T. G. Bragg and Rev. R. A. Walker.

A part of the business program touching upon finances was led by W. R. Lence of Abilene, council finance chairman.

The annual jamboree will be staged May 8 and 9 at the area camp near Lake Abilene. The program is to be worked out by Ed Shunway, area executive.

Obituary

(Continued from Page One)
her father-in-law, A. N. Hawkins. Interment was in Rose Hill cemetery. The couple were married in Abilene about eight years ago and had lived in or near Merkel most of the time since.

Mrs. Hawkins was a member of the Missionary Baptist church. Besides her husband, she is survived by three small children, one boy, age 6, and two girls, 3 years and 15 months, respectively.

To the husband and these small children the sincere sympathy of the entire community is extended.

Mr. Hawkins and his children have gone to visit one of his sisters in Menard county, but will return here in a few weeks to continue to make their home in Merkel.

Miss Intha Bird

Funeral rites for Miss Intha Bird, Abilene nurse, who died at her home there Wednesday of last week, were held at 1:20 Friday afternoon from the residence. Dr. E. B. Surface, pastor of the Central Presbyterian church, Abilene, of which Miss Bird was a member, and the Rev. Willis P. Gerhart, rector of the Heavenly Rest Episcopal church, conducted the services, with interment in the Midway cemetery.

Bedridden for the past two years, Miss Bird's condition took a turn for the worse three weeks ago and during the last four days relatives attending her bedside were aware of the approach of death. She, too, shared their knowledge, remaining conscious until two hours before the passing.

In the hope of finding relief, Miss Bird, accompanied by her sister, Mrs. Lindsay, made an airplane trip to Houston last September, where she remained three weeks under the care of the Rev. Raymond Richey, Houston minister and faith healer. She made the air journey lying on a cot built into the fuselage of the plane. The return trip was by train.

She is survived by three sisters, Mrs. Lindsey and Mrs. L. E. Nolan of Abilene and Mrs. W. L. Gardner of Omaha, Neb., and two brothers, W. R. Bird of Merkel and Harrison Bird of the Mulberry community.

Active pall bearers, all nephews of Miss Bird were Tillery Bird, Spencer Bird, Lawrence Bird, Lafayette Bird, Stacey Bird, and Noel Arwine. Honorary pallbearers were: Gordon Weir, T. S. Laakford and Judge Richards.

Personal Mention

Mrs. Austin Fitts of Abilene was a visitor with Merkel friends Tuesday. Paul Causseaux is here from San Antonio to spend several days with his mother.

Miss Frances Anderson from T. C. U. spent the week-end here with her parents.

Mrs. O. W. Little of Decatur was the guest of Mr. and Mrs. George Caple the first of the week.

Mrs. C. W. Escue had as her guest the first part of the week her sister, Mrs. Carl Faith, from Decatur.

Sterling Sheppard was home from Southern Methodist university for a week-end visit with his parents.

Mr. and Mrs. Dick Cyper and baby girl of Port Arthur are guests of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. G. Cyper.

Mrs. A. A. McGehee has as her guests her mother, Mrs. D. T. Petree, and her sister, Mrs. Grady Petree, of View.

Friends enjoyed a week-end visit from Miss Roberta Sloan, who is teaching this year in the Dallas schools.

Misses Oneda and Zada Bell spent the week-end visiting Miss Venice Bell at Warner Memorial university, Eastland.

Miss Ethelda Yeats was home from Weatherford college to spend the week-end with her parents, Rev. and Mrs. E. L. Yeats.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank McFarland and Frank, Jr., left Sunday for Medina, Tenn., on receipt of word that his mother was very ill.

Mrs. J. T. King, accompanied by Miss Mary and Howard from Simmons university, has gone to Del Rio to visit a daughter there.

G. E. Jones of Abilene, owner of Jones Dry Goods, Mrs. Boggs and Miss Alice Bigham, also of Abilene, were Merkel visitors Monday.

Tom Price, formerly connected with the West Texas Utilities here and now owner of an ice plant at Baird, Texas, was a visitor here Monday.

Mrs. A. M. Daugherty and F. A. Polley are in Fort Worth attending the sessions of the grand lodge of Rebekahs. Mrs. Polley is a delegate from the Merkel Rebekah lodge.

Mrs. Doss Sheppard and daughter, Miss Marian, of Dallas were week-end guests of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. S. W. Sheppard. They were accompanied by Mrs. Graham of Dallas.

Week-end guests of Mr. and Mrs. George Caple were her parents, Mr. and Mrs. E. T. Smith and two daughters of Waco, and her sister, Mr. E. H. Cobb and husband from Amarillo.

Week-end guests of Mr. and Mrs. Len Sublett were her two sisters, Mrs. Ralph Stuart and son, R. A. Jr., of Lamesa, and Mrs. Earl Thornton and husband and children from Abilene.

Miss Alice L. Reed, accompanied by her mother, Mrs. O. W. Reed, attended the Oil Belt Teachers' association meeting at Eastland last Friday and Saturday. They visited in the home of Mrs. Sue Steele while there.

Mr. and Mrs. O. W. Reed, their daughter, Miss Alice, and little son, Jack, spent last Thursday night with Mr. Reed's cousin, Mr. Guy Tidwell, at Desdemona. Mr. Reed and son remained there until Mrs. Reed and daughter returned for them Saturday evening after the close of the Oil Belt Teachers' association meeting at Eastland.

Mr. and Mrs. Tomas Durham and family have removed to Merkel to make their home here again. Mr. Durham having just recently disposed of his paper, the Crane City News. Miss Doris Durham, a daughter, who is teaching physical education in the Crane City High school, remains there to continue her school duties. It will be interesting to Merkel folks to know that Miss Hattie Marie Harris, a former Merkel girl, is also teaching at Crane City.

Record of Births.

Girl, to Mr. and Mrs. Tom Seymour, residing in Mt. Pleasant community, Saturday, March 14, 1931.

Girl, named Neta Merle, to Mr. and Mrs. A. A. Betterton, Saturday, March 14, 1931.

Girl, to Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Daniels, residing north of Stith, Tuesday, March 17, 1931.

Trent Quartette On Radio.

The Trent Quartette, composed of Nathan Wood, Royce Dowdy, Ben Quattlebaum and Joe Nalley, assisted by the Yoakum sisters, will render a program over KFYO, Abilene, Friday night from 7 to 7:30 o'clock, and at the same period each Friday thereafter.

More than 2000 women dentists are practicing in the United States.

Texas stands seventh among the states in lumber production.

Read Merkel Mail Want Ads.

Delmer Named Head
Young Men's Class

Twenty-one members were present at the monthly meeting of the Young Men's Business class at the Methodist church Tuesday night. C. W. Delmer, the president, presided, and Castle Ellis, assistant secretary, kept the records.

Election of officers resulted in the re-election of C. W. Delmer a president and C. V. Shelton as vice-president and Castle Ellis was elected secretary-treasurer.

Several games were arranged by the entertainment committee of which Dee Grimes is chairman, assisted by F. Y. Gaither and Wren Durham. One of the chief features was an impromptu duet by two of Merkel's most "famed" (might be "framed") vocalists, Herbert Patterson and Rev. E. L. Yeats, under the direction of Cyrus Pee.

The next monthly meeting is to be held at Tom Largent's and a chicken barbecue is on the program.

SPECIAL OFFER.

Semi-Weekly Farm News and Merkel Mail for one year for \$2.00.

Doing Nicely After
Amputation of Leg

Reports from the West Texas Baptist sanitarium, Abilene, at noon Thursday were to the effect that J. M. Ashby, whose right leg was amputated at 9 o'clock that morning, got along fine and was doing as well as could be expected.

The amputation was made necessary by a gangrenous trouble in his right foot. A spinal anaesthetic was used.

Moody to Represent
East Texas Oil Men

Austin, March 19.—Former Governor Dan Moody will represent the East Texas Lease, Royalty and Producers' association in opposition to East Texas oil field proration at the hearing ordered by the state railroad commission March 24 to determine if a proration order shall issue.

Governor Moody appeared for a number of individual owners at a former hearing when the commission deferred action on the East Texas field.

See Case Farm Type Tractors at Liberty Hardware Co.

WOOD GROCERY—WOOD GROCERY—WOOD GROCERY

Quality Groceries

AT

Cheap Prices

IT IS TO YOUR INTEREST TO BUY
GROCERIES WHERE YOU
CAN SAVE MONEY.

HERE IS A LIST OF A FEW ITEMS
TO ASSURE YOU OUR PRICES
ARE RIGHT.

BANANAS, golden brown, green
tip, per dozen 15c

COFFEE, Maxwell House, 3 lb.
can 92c

COFFEE, Cabinet Brand, 5 lb. can 99c

PEACHES, dried, 10 lb. box,
choice \$1.10

PRUNES, dried, 10 lb. box 90c

SYRUP, pure cane, large can 65c

LARD, 8 lb. compound 89c

MACARONI or SPAGHETTI,
5 boxes 25c

SOAP, White Naptha, full size
bars, 15 bars 50c

EVERYTHING IN THE STORE IS
IN PROPORTION.

THIS IS NOT A SPECIAL BUT AN
EVERYDAY PRICE.

YOU WILL ALWAYS FIND OUR
PRICES RIGHT EVERYDAY IN
THE WEEK.

WOOD
GROCERY

MERKEL

WOOD GROCERY—WOOD GROCERY—WOOD GROCERY

The Satisfaction

Of wearing Clean, Well-Pressed Clothes will repay you
many times for the small cost of having them done at

BLAKE'S DRY CLEANERS

Rural Community Correspondence

TRENT NEWS AND PERSONALS

Mr. Joe Stewart with his family are moving here from Sylvester. Mr. Stewart is taking Bill Neill's place at the Hamner garage. Mr. Neill and his family having moved last week to Hamlin.

Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Murdock and children of Big Spring visited in the homes of Carl and Marvin Murdock last Sunday.

Miss Florence Sherman visited in Hamlin last week-end.

Mrs. M. L. Jones is visiting her daughter, Mrs. Murry Rogers of Colorado this week.

Mr. and Mrs. Roger Williams and little son, Walter Grimes, have returned from Lamesa, where they moved a few months ago, and will make their home here again.

Mr. Ewel Bone of Hamlin was the week-end guest in the home of Mr. and Mrs. C. T. Beckham.

Mr. Jim Armour of Del Rio was the week-end guest of his parents.

Mrs. L. E. Adrian visited friends in Abilene last Tuesday.

Mr. Walter Smith of Lamesa spent last Friday with his parents here en route to Austin on business.

Mrs. Jim Williamson, Leamon, McLeod and Twyman Collins of Merkel spent a very enjoyable day last Thursday as guests of Mrs. E. D. Massey of Hamlin.

Mr. and Mrs. Algine Steen and children, Dorothy Jo and Willadean Strawn spent Sunday visiting Mr. Steen's parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. Y. Steen.

Mr. and Mrs. C. T. Beckham, accompanied by Mrs. J. B. Winn and little son, J. B., spent the first part of the week visiting at Hermleigh and Lamesa.

Mr. and Mrs. G. C. Foster of Canyon were guests of Mr. and Mrs. John Strawn last Saturday.

Miss Maurine Smith was the guest of friends in Abilene last Monday.

Mr. and Mrs. Pierce Bonner of Clyde visited friends and relatives here last Sunday.

Miss Pete Smith spent last week visiting relatives in Abilene.

Mrs. J. T. Skillern of Merkel was the guest of her daughter, Mrs. Fenton Boyd, last Monday.

Mr. W. J. Reynolds, who underwent an operation recently at the West Texas hospital, was reported improving and was able to be moved to his daughter's home near Blair.

Miss Thelma Tittsworth of Rankin came Sunday for a visit with relatives and friends.

Mr. Bill Nalley of Iraan was the week-end guest of relatives.

Mr. and Mrs. John Hadden and children visited Mr. Hadden's parents in Oklahoma last week.

Jack Bowers, who is in school at Abilene, spent Monday night with his parents.

Mrs. J. C. Churchwell is recovering from an attack of the "flu."

ST. PATRICK'S PARTY IN SMITH HOME.

Friday evening, March 13, Misses Maurine Smith and Virgie Strawn were hostesses in the Smith home to a gayly appointed bridge and "42" party, entertaining faculty members and friends.

The St. Patrick's Day motif was carried out in the table appointments with clever green hats as score pads and tally cards.

After a most enjoyable evening of bridge and "42" a dainty refreshment plate, carrying out the table appointments, delicious cakes, cut in heart, spade, diamond and club shapes, iced with green, were served with minf jello and coffee.

The guest list included: Messrs. and Mesdames Alex Williamson, T. G. Hamner, Leslie Beasley, Ross B. Jenkins, Le Roy Reaves, Rodo Archer, Mr. Stribling, Mr. Louie McRae, Mrs. O. L. Reaves and Misses Mary Sheppard, Nona Burgess and Helen Robbe.

HOME ECONOMICS NEWS.

On last Friday the Home Economics class transformed their dining room into a banquet room. The table was decorated in green and white colors and twenty-five covers were marked by St. Patrick place cards. Mr. and Mrs. Weems and son of A. C. C. and the faculty, Mesdames Burks, Estep, Margum and Coach Payne of Pluvant were honor guests.

VISIT COOKING SCHOOL AT ABILENE.

The members of the Home Economics class were guests at the cooking school given in Abilene by Mrs. Ida Chitwood on Thursday afternoon of last week.

In addition to the receipts, Mrs.

Chitwood brought many helpful hints and practical household ideas to the class. Those attending were Mildred Steadman, Nathalie Walker, Ada Mae Reneau, Mary Jo Howell, Asa McLeod, Victorine Bishop, Jo Ella McLeod, Marie Adams, Lena Bright, Mollie McLeod, Thelma Nalley, Francis Jones, Sarah Julia Johnson, Helen Bright, and Miss Nona Burgess, teacher, and Mrs. Ross B. Jenkins.

CLUB HOSTESSES.

Misses Sarah Julia Johnson and Nona Burgess were hostesses Tuesday to members of the Home Economics club when the St. Patrick theme was featured in refreshments served at the tea hour.

BLAIR ITEMS

Mr. Reynolds, who was brought from the Baptist sanitarium, Abilene, Friday to the home of his daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Carl Hughes, is getting along as nicely as could be expected.

Out-of-town relatives, who attended the bedside of Mr. Reynolds during the week-end, were John Reynolds, Dripping Springs, Mr. and Mrs. Reed, Trent, and Mr. John Hughes and daughter, Nell, of Merkel.

Uncle Tom Melton is on the sick list at this writing.

Mr. and Mrs. John Soules of Big Spring spent the latter part of the past week with their daughter, Mr. and Mrs. John Latimer.

Mr. and Mrs. Will Matthews enjoyed a visit from friends of Dallas Saturday.

Otis Moore of Port Arthur is visiting his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Zeb Moore, for an indefinite time.

Clyde Deavers and family and Monta J. Moore attended services at Nubia Sunday.

Howard Brown and family visited home folks at White Church Sunday. Herman Dean made a business trip to Abilene Monday.

Mr. and Mrs. Ira Cavette and sons of Claytonville visited the latter's sister, Mr. and Mrs. Marcina Dean, Thursday.

Hodges Happenings.

The farmers of this community have been making good use of this pretty weather and several have almost all of their land put up.

Mr. and Mrs. Max Hudson entertained the young folks with a musical Saturday night and all reported a nice time.

Mr. and Mrs. Edgar Jones and son, Mereal, of Abilene spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Walker.

Mrs. C. E. Thomas and family of the Warren community were guests at the T. M. Walsh home Saturday night.

Mr. H. E. Bruton and family visited Mr. and Mrs. Jimmie Hopkins at Abilene Friday.

Mr. and Mrs. Cady Stevenson and son, C. E., spent the day at Hawley Sunday visiting relatives.

Mrs. Rex Holder of Tye visited her sister, Mrs. H. E. Bruton, last week. Several from this community attended the funeral of Miss Intha Bird at Midway cemetery Friday.

Mrs. Lucy Ford of Stith spent the day with Mrs. T. M. Walsh one day last week.

CARD OF THANKS.

We wish to thank our many friends for their kindness shown us during the death of our infant daughter and granddaughter. May the richest of blessings rest upon each of you.

Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Perry.

Mr. and Mrs. E. P. Perry and Family.

Mr. and Mrs. N. C. Bush and Family.

Adding machine rolls at Merkel Mail office.

If you have any visitors, Phone 29 or 61.

Shiloh Happenings

Rev. O. B. Tatum filled his regular appointment Saturday night and Sunday and Sunday night.

Mr. and Mrs. Lovell Rutledge and family, Mrs. B. L. James and Miss Florence, and Mr. and Mrs. Orvin Robinson were visitors in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Hardie Rutledge Sunday.

Rev. O. B. Tatum took dinner with Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Grayson Sunday. Mr. and Mrs. Tom Greene and Mr. J. H. Grayson went to Lamesa Tuesday.

Mrs. Bill Grayson has been visiting with Mrs. H. A. Deavers for several days.

A large crowd attended singing Sunday evening. We surely enjoyed having the visitors from Blair, Merkel and Noodle and will be glad to have them out to our Wednesday night singing.

The play, "The Old Maids Club," sponsored by the P. T. A., went over big and we wish to thank the Merkel Quartette and the musicians from Trent for their help. We were proud to see so many out from each place.

On last Saturday night Mrs. Carl Bonneau gave a farewell party in honor of Mr. and Mrs. Roy Beech, who were moving to Henderson, Texas.

Games were played and afterward the hostess served sandwiches, fruit salad, cake and coffee to Messrs. and Mesdames Hoyt Barnes, Fleming of Midland, Charlie Murphy, N. F. Anderson, B. C. Hamner, Roy Beech, Tom Greene, C. W. Seago, and Messrs. Cunningham, Carl Bonneau and Carl, Jr. A delightful time was had by all, everyone expressing best wishes for a happy journey and good luck in the new home for Mr. and Mrs. Beech.

Monday afternoon Mrs. Carl Bonneau invited the ladies of the Bridge club to help in giving Mrs. Beech a handkerchief shower. Besides a wonderful display of pretty handkerchiefs the honoree also received a cake tray and a set of ice tea glasses from the P. T. A.

On last Wednesday evening Mrs. B. C. Hamner entertained the Happy-Go-Lucky Bridge club. At the culmination of the games, sandwiches, fruit salad, cake and coffee were served to Mesdames Cummins, Anderson, Beech, Smith, Murphy, Greene, Seago and the hostess.

UNION RIDGE NEWS

Mr. and Mrs. E. M. Dean and family were recent guests of Mr. and Mrs. Garvin of Salt Branch.

Misses Margaret Dean and Bernice Clark were Friday night guests of Mr. and Mrs. West of Merkel.

Mr. and Mrs. Lee Ponder entertained the young folks with a party Saturday night. Those attending report a very pleasant time.

Mr. and Mrs. M. L. Douglas were guests of Mr. and Mrs. H. B. Finch of Golan Tuesday.

Everyone is urged to remember that next Sunday is church day. We are sure that Brother Sherill will fill his appointment if the weather is permissible. Church at 11 o'clock, Sunday School at 10. Come and bring some one with you.

The eighth grade was glad to have one of their most popular members, Mr. Paul Pannell, back in school Tuesday.

There has been a great deal of sickness in our community, especially among the school children.

Miss Floy Wells of Merkel accompanied Miss Margaret Dean to Salt Branch Sunday.

For Sale—Second hand Farmall tractor, with full equipment, in good condition; at a bargain. See Mrs. W. D. Hutcheson. Phone 179.

Saturday Special—Men's felt Hats \$1.98—one day only. Brown's Bargain Store.

White Church News

Our school is progressing nicely. Rev. Marvin Williams filled his regular appointment here Sunday and Sunday night.

W. C. Hunter is doing jury service in Abilene this week.

Miss Alice Reid attended institute in Eastland last week-end. She was accompanied by her parents, Mr. and Mrs. O. W. Reid, and Jack.

Mr. and Mrs. Vance McLean attended church here Sunday night.

Mr. and Mrs. Cliff Perry of Dora visited her mother, Mrs. H. West, Sunday and also attended preaching.

Mr. W. A. Harrison is working on the Sayles ranch this week.

Mrs. P. R. Demere is better at this writing.

Mr. and Mrs. Howard Brown of Blair, who have been visiting in our community, attended preaching Sunday.

A number of our pupils have been absent from school on account of colds.

FOR SALE—A real bargain in a Rumley Oil Pull Tractor, 12-20; used one season. See W. S. J. Brown.

Car of oats and mixed feed, also a car of hulls and meal expected Friday or Saturday. Buy from car and save money.

J. M. Garrett.

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GRAIN CROP
from loss by
Hail
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Merkel, Texas
Old Line Company
Only

Butman School News

The following names are on the honor roll at the Butman school for the past term:

Fourth grade—Aulton Pruitt, 93; Wade Ensminger, 91; Willie Joe Hunter, 90.

Third grade—Edith Butman, 93; Loneta Blackburn, 92; Vivian Turner, 92; Bernice Lewis, 91; J. N. Harrison, 90.

Second grade—Marvin Pruitt, 96; Maudie Turner, 93; Opal Mae Hicks, 91; Melba Hunter, 91.

First grade—Opal Lillian Russom, 98; Nelle Vonne Butman, 98; Mary Francis Lewis, 97; Banning Butman, 92.

Miss Novis J. Whiteaker, teacher. Sixth grade—Lucy Fay Rossom, 93.

Seventh grade—Mabel Butman, 91; Lillian Maynard, 92.

Eighth grade—Leonard Lewis, 90. Miss Elna Hale, principal.

FIFTH SUNDAY SINGING.

I take this method of calling your attention to our Fifth Sunday Singing convention meeting at Zion Chap-

el, one mile east of Comper. All singers are invited and asked to bring books, if you have them, and do not forget your dinner. Bring it along; also come early, as we want to start singing not later than 10:30 and earlier, if we can.

I am asking Mr. Will Spurgeon to select about two men to help him have everything ready, and see that all arrangements are made.

It has been suggested that our convention and the Fisher county convention meet at Trent in joint session the fifth Sunday in June. If you favor this joint session, please meet us Sunday week at Zion's Chapel and tell us so; if you oppose it, come and vote against it. It is my aim and purpose to serve you according to your wishes and as nearly as possible please you in every way. Your pleasure in this matter is mine also. So come along, all you singers. Be on time at 10:30.

Yours for a big singing day,
Tom Spears, President.

See Case Farm Type Tractors at Liberty Hardware Co.

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Like Tea . . . the best Gasoline
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EVEN the Japanese maiden who laboriously picks the tea leaves knows that before you sip the delicate beverage from your cup, leaves of another type of tea must be added, for the best teas invariably are blended.

When the tea merchant takes a quantity of Japanese tea, a bit of China tea, and a touch of Ceylonese, then blends them according to the dictates of his expert knowledge, he parallels the making of CONOCO Gasoline. For this is a blended gasoline. It is blended because this is the only method which brings together in one fuel the desirable properties of several types of gasoline. No one type of gasoline can contain them all.



CONOCO refiners use: Natural Gasoline, for quick starting; Straight-run Gasoline, for power and long mileage; Cracked Gasoline, for its anti-knock properties.

There is no secret formula covering the elements which compose this triple-test gasoline. The secret is in the knowledge behind the blending. Knowing how makes one tea blend better than all others...and knowing how places one gasoline in a distinct quality class. Experience the performance advantages of CONOCO Balanced-Blend Gasoline. You'll find it wherever the CONOCO Red Triangle is displayed.

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THE BALANCED - BLEND GASOLINE

BABY CHICKS AND CUSTOM HATCHING

Now is the time to place your order for your BABY CHICKS. We will book your order now or any time in the future and arrange our hatches to give you the exact chicks you order right when you want them.

Custom Hatching is better—just a few cents per egg. Bring your eggs any time. Trays hold 112 to 120 eggs.

MERKEL HATCHERY

Phone 42

Same Location

THE BADGER WEEKLY

Published weekly by the students of Merkel High School and sponsored by the Senior Class of '31—Hazel Williams, sponsor.

The Staff:

Editor-in-Chief—Ola Ellen Smith. Miscellaneous Editor—Margarette Turner.
Assistant Editor—Audrey Farris. Joke Editors—Elvis Richardson
Sports Editor—Fred A. Baker. Society Editor—Lona Bryan.

THE DRAMATIC CLUB.

Miss Tracy's studio was the setting for a lovely Saint Patrick's party last Friday evening. Misses Madeline Murray, Marie Stanford, Lona Bryan and Margaret Miller and Messrs. H. C. Toombs, Ross Ferrier and Benny Sheppard were hostesses and hosts. Partners were chosen in a very clever manner. The guests afterwards participated in a contest. Mr. B. P. Middleton then gave a discussion concerning climax from the book "How to See a Play." The guests of the evening revealed how much they knew about cakes, as a unique cake contest was held.

Misses Lou Largent, Beth Hamm and Vera Richie, accompanied by Miss Thelma McAninch at the piano, sang two lovely Irish songs. Another clever contest was held. Mr. Gerald Derrick then discussed "The End of the Play," the last chapter of the book "How to See a Play." After this another contest was held.

The guests then went to the Grammar School auditorium, where "The Man Upstairs," a one-act play, was given.

The scene was in the Ruggles apartment. Cephas Wozencraft and Ola Smith played the parts of Mr. and Mrs. Ruggles; Gwendolyn Vickers and Marshall Stalls, the parts of Mr. and Mrs. Frishie; and Elsie Lasater played the part of Mary, the cook. The characters of the play are to be commended for the splendid way they put the play on. The clever comedy furnished much entertainment for the club.

The hosts and hostesses then served a lovely St. Patrick's menu consisting of sandwiches, olives, lemonade and mints.

The house was called to order by the president, Elvis Richardson. A brief business meeting was then held.

Guests of the club for the evening were: Mr. and Mrs. Irvin, Misses Hazel Williams and Julia Martin; and sponsor of the club, Miss Lucy Tracy. The following members were present: Fred Baker, Willie E. Boaz, Lona Bryan, Margaret Canon, Lois Clark, Paul Collins, Gerald Derrick, Ida Mae Derrstine, Ross Ferrier, Mary E. Grimes, Beth Hamm, Velma Lee Holden, Mattilou Largent, Elsie Lassater, Thelma McAninch, B. P. Middleton, Margaret Miller, Madeline Murray, Elvis Richardson, Norma Patton, Vera Richie, Inez Robbins, Benny Sheppard, Ola Smith, Marshall Stalls, Marie Stanford, H. C. Toombs, Margarette Turner, E. L. Turner, Gwendolyn Vickers and Cephas Wozencraft.

Can't you see this game is going to be fine?

Come on Thursday and bring your dime.

ELIMINATION SPELLING CONTESTS.

Friday, March 13, was an important day—for the people who are to represent M. H. S. in spelling at the

meeting of the Interscholastic league in Abilene. Miss Williams held the elimination spelling contest for Juniors and Seniors. Nell Hughes and Walderine Huskey won first place in Junior spelling. Nell Hughes did not miss a word in the tryout. Audrey Farris and Velma Lee Holden won first in Senior spelling. The substitutes were also chosen to go to Abilene in case the other spellers could not be there to spell. They were Lucille Campbell and Vivian Lasater, Junior; and Maurine White and Elsie Lasater, Seniors.

THREE QUALITIES ESSENTIAL TO SUCCESS.

Success is made from three qualities: honesty, cleanness and bravery.

The man who tries to be a success must have honesty. He could not be depended upon to do any work of any kind if he does not do it in the right way, and above all he should be honest. The world is full of men who could manage to do the work by some way or other, but that is not what the men of today are looking for. They are looking for a man who does his work well and is honest in doing it. Would you trust in your business a man who is not honest? Surely not. Then a man who intends to be a success must be an honest and upright man.

Cleanness is required of a successful man. In factories where women work, the men of the firm should be clean. They should not only be clean outside, but also in the minds. We do not object to men's dressing neatly, but we do object to their unclean ways. Is the unclean man ever a success? No, he is not; for if he has unclean ways he has some unclean plans.

If you have honesty and cleanness and not bravery, there is not much hope for success. When we meet the battles and problems of life, we need bravery. If you slack and say "I can not," there is not much hope for you. But if you put your shoulder to the "wheel," and say, "I can," then you

are on the road to success. I believe the man who is honest, clean and brave is a successful man.

—Carroll King.

SAY, DID YOU KNOW—

—That David is M. E.'s "inspiration" and M. E. is David's "temptation?"

—That some of the girls wore shirts and skirts to the Dramatic club party?

—That "Gertrude" has no consideration for Mary E. and is all time running out of gas?

—That Thelma won't roll her hose 'cause someone said it wasn't nice?

—That Fred and Cecil like white trousers?

—That Ida has a new "crush?"

—That the faculty defeated the Senior girls?

—That Mildred has lost one of her rings? We wonder why!

—That the Junior girls can build pyramids?

—That a certain boy in Abilene has Sis' M. H. S. pin?

—That Margarette T. is going to win extempore speaking contest?

—That Nell D. is going to school in Merkel?

—That David went to Fort Worth this last week-end?

—That we are now having the contest for the most popular boy?

—That the Juniors are selling candy?

—That Cecil likes to fuss?

—That nearly every girl in High school has a pair of tennis shoes?

—That Marie knows Hamlet's soliloquy?

—That Ola Ellen is representing Merkel High school in Senior girls' declamation?

—That the Juniors are selling candy?

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Mr. Riddle: "Why all of my shirts have collars."

Audrey: "Let's play tennis this evening."

Jess: "Why the net is broken."

Audrey: "That's all right. It always did get in my way."

See Case Farm Type Tractors at Liberty Hardware Co.

Complete line of office supplies at Mail office.

Nine-Tenths Preventable

Nine-tenths of all the diseases of the American people can be traced directly to constipation, doctors say. Constipation throws into the system poisons which taint and weaken every organ of the body and make them easy victims for any germs which attack them. Prevent constipation and you will avoid nine-tenths of all diseases, with their consequent pain and financial losses. Herbine, the good old vegetable cathartic, will relieve constipation in a natural, easy and pleasant way. For sale by

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General practice, with special attention to obstetrics and diseases of children.

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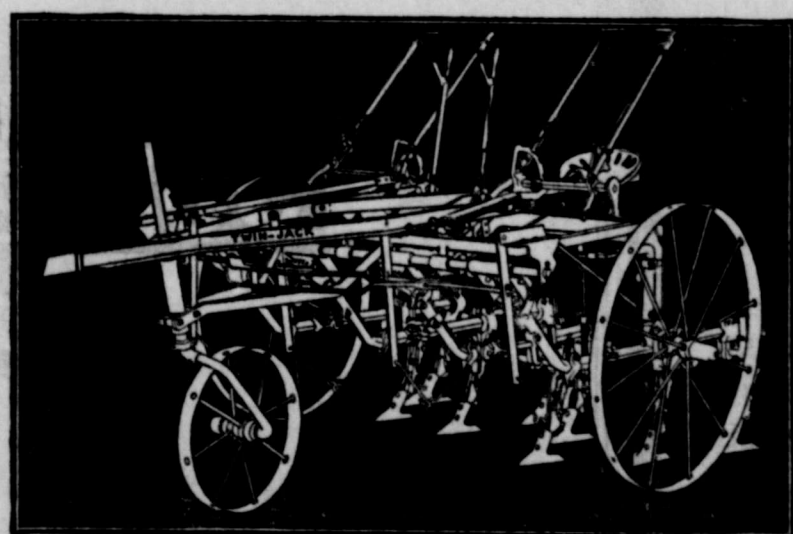
Will Trade—Sell—or Loan Money on your Car. You keep car—pay back in ezy monthly payments. Some good bargains in Fords and Chevrolets—Repossessions. Terms.

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AVERY TWIN-JACK CULTIVATOR



Easy on both man and team

Avery engineers did a big job in eliminating strain on the operator and lightening the work of the team when they designed the famous Jack Rabbit Cultivator. In the Twin-Jack they have repeated their success, this time in a two-row cultivator that is simple to operate—and easy on both man and team.

The Twin-Jack is sturdy, durable, flexible, easy to handle and comfortable to ride. It has a strong, rigid main frame that will not twist or sag under the hardest conditions. The frame is in perfect balance at all times, with the result that manipulation requires

but minimum effort, the horses are spared sore shoulders, and more ground is covered per day with less fatigue.

Each pair of gangs is controlled by two independent levers, the inside lever raising or lowering the pair simultaneously, when desired. By means of an easy pressure on the stirrups the wheels may be angled to right or to left.

We will be glad to explain the many efficient, time-saving features of the Twin-Jack—or demonstrate at your convenience. There is no obligation.

There is a full line of famous Avery walking, riding and tractor plows, tillage implements and Champion harvesting and haying machines

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DOESN'T RING THE DOOR BELL

It descends upon you unannounced. No time then to look up your insurance policies and make sure they are effective and adequate.

We will go over your fire risks and existing policies. Perhaps we can help you eliminate unnecessary hazards. We know we can give you dependable, economical insurance protection.

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Farm Loans and all kinds of Insurance

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EVERY CHICK HATCHED GUARANTEED FREE FROM DISEASE

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FACULTY VS. SENIORS.

On Thursday, March 12, the Seniors and the faculty gave a short chapel program. Mr. Riddle gave the High school a talk about the game that was to be played. He said that the Seniors had, they thought, the world by the tail on a downhill grade; that although the Seniors had won the beauty contest, they could not win the game; that Miss Tracy and Miss Martin were equal to Hack Wilson and Babe Ruth; that the faculty had an airtight infield; and that the faculty would borrow two Freshmen to complete their team.

Mr. Irvin, the business manager, and the other faculty members also made short talks.

The Seniors replied by reading the poem, "The Faculty," composed by the Senior girls.

On Thursday the game was played. The faculty won. The great event of the year is past. The Seniors went down in defeat for the first time this year. The victors were the High school faculty.

There have been many benefit games of various kinds during the past year, but none can compare with the one last Thursday. In spite of the one-sided score, the fans received full value on all paid admissions.

The high points of the game were a three base hit by Jess Higgins with a runner on base, a peg by Mr. DuBose to nail a runner that was stealing second,

Red-Head Double for Nancy Carroll Found

After city after city, the country over, had conducted contests to find a double for Nancy Carroll, the girl who is really the twin image of the red-headed star of "Stolen Heaven," the attraction at the Palace theatre, Sweetwater, Sunday and Monday, was discovered in the line of extras at the Paramount New York studio during filming of the star's latest success, "Stolen Heaven."

"Why, you look like me!"

"And you look like me!"

The first speaker was Nancy Carroll. The other was Mae Slattery, a former Follies girl and screen extra when Miss Carroll noticed among the fifty odd extras on the Paramount studio set.

Miss Slattery has the same color hair and eyes, the same cast of features, almost the identical expression of Miss Carroll. Moreover she is about the same height and build as the star.

As a result of Miss Carroll's discovery, Miss Slattery was used as a "stand-in" on the "Stolen Heaven" set. As a "stand-in," Miss Slattery had to stand before the cameras while cameramen adjusted lenses and electricians arranged lighting effects before filming began on scenes for the picture. "Standing-in" is often an exhausting bit of work, and, moreover, it requires almost an exact double of the star so that technicians can estimate the lighting and focusing qualities before the star player comes on the set.

The use of "stand-ins" is a new system recently introduced in moving picture studios to speed up production and preserve the freshness of the leading actors. Such work often leads to important supporting and featured roles in the films.

After making arrangements to bring Miss Slattery into the picture, "Stolen Heaven," Miss Carroll remarked, "She would have a good old Irish name like Slattery to have a face like mine."

THE MERKEL HOME LAUNDRY.

In the springtime when the housewife would like to be planning for her flower garden and beautifying the yard, it will help a lot if you will let us do the washing and ironing for her and then she can devote those two extra days to more pleasing tasks. We call for and deliver. We have pleased hundreds of customers and want you on our list of patrons. Thank you. THE MERKEL HOME LAUNDRY. Mrs. Jay, Manager.

Car of oats and mixed feed, also a car of hulls and meal expected Friday or Saturday. Buy from car and save money.

J. M. Garrett.

FOR SALE—A real bargain in a Rumley Oil Pull Tractor, 12-20; used one season. See W. S. J. Brown.

See Case Farm Type Tractors at Liberty Hardware Co.

Saturday Special—Men's felt Hats \$1.98—one day only. Brown's Bargain Store.

Typewriting and carbon paper at Mail office.



"Nerves"

DO they harass you by day and keep you awake at night?

Don't neglect them. They'll ruin your charm and beauty, alienate your friends, interfere with your success.

When you're nervous, take Dr. Miles' Nerve. It's the prescription of a successful Nerve Specialist, put up in convenient form.

Dr. Miles' Nerve is now made in two forms—Liquid and Effervescent Tablet. Both have the same soothing effect on the nerves.

\$1.00 at your drug store

DR MILES' NERVINE Liquid

Famous Bronc Buster Of By-Gone Days Dies

Julesburg, Colo., March 19.—Thad Sowder, famous cowboy and bronc rider of a quarter century ago, died here Friday night after a short illness.

Mr. Sowder won the Denver Festival in 1900 and 1901 and his name was engraved on a belt still in Denver awaiting his third victory. But in 1902 the champion went to Europe with Buffalo Bill Cody and did not compete for final ownership. For two years Mr. Sowder rode horses before Europe's royalty. Then he returned to the United States and continued his conquest of unruly horses.

Spectators at the Cheyenne, Wyo., Festival began to get their thrills from Thad Sowder back in 1899. He was new to the big crowds in those days. His opponent picked a bad horse for him to ride in 1899. It was the famous outlaw, 7-XL. His twists and jumps had unseated the very best of riders. Mr. Sowder rode the horse and proclaimed him "busted."

Theodore Roosevelt saw Mr. Sowder ride at Cheyenne and said he had seen "a marvelous exhibition of rough riding that makes the blood run cold one minute and at fever heat the next by uncontrolled enthusiasm."

In Mr. Sowder's prime King Edward took him by the hand and congratulated him upon the new chivalry of the day when the champion of the world was riding bronchos over Europe with Colonel Cody.

In Mr. Sowder's later years it was Steamboat of whom he spoke with respect. He seemed to have a place in his heart for the world's greatest bucking horse, who died bucking. Mr. Sowder rode him twice, a feat accomplished by no other man. Mr. Sowder lived in the West from the time his parents brought him from Kentucky when he was 9 years old and settled on a homestead twenty miles northwest of Julesburg. From the time he was 16 he followed the work of breaking horses. Eventually, its terrific strain broke him. He suffered a stroke of paralysis.

Brady Prize Calf Brings \$2 Pound

Fort Worth, March 19.—Brady, champion Hereford and champion club calf of the 1931 Southwestern Exposition and Fat Stock Show, owned by Miss Pauline Roberts, 15-year-old Brady school girl, brought the highest price at the auction of champions when it was sold to the Texas and Pacific railroad for \$2 a pound. The road will serve it on its dining cars.

College Pride, champion steer of the show, an Aberdeen-Angus owned by the Texas Agricultural and Mechanical college, was sold to T. B. Baker of the Baker hotels for \$1.05 a pound. It will be served in the dining room of the Texas.

The champion fine wool club lamb, owned by Cecil Moore of Eldorado, was sold to Montgomery Ward and company, for \$2.50 a pound.

FOR SALE—A real bargain in a Rumley Oil Pull Tractor, 12-20; used one season. See W. S. J. Brown.

Texas showed mineral production in 1929 valued at \$438,706,584. Petroleum contributed \$323,540,667 of the total.

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WE APPRECIATE YOUR PATRONAGE AND GOOD WILL

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WE PAY CASH

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Merkel, Texas

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YOUR VALIANT AND UNTIRING EFFORTS ARE
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WE ARE DOING

Business as Usual PHONE 288

WE ARE PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE

THAT WORK IS TO START IMMEDIATELY ON REPLACING OUR STORAGE TANKS AND REBUILDING OUR WAREHOUSE.

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MERKEL, TEXAS

LEST YOU FORGET

WE DO



When you are in need of job work, think twice before you send it out of town. If you will have the Merkel Mail do your work, you will get some of this money back.

THIS IS SOMETHING FOR
YOU TO THINK ABOUT

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The Merkel Mail