

... guest,
... awful pest,
... brother with right good cheer—
... a prosperous and Happy New Year.”

... year has been a hoodoo beyond doubt in some ways
... it has not. Rains were scarce at the wanted times,
... when they were not expected, exacting a list of our men
... women that has saddened the hearts of many. The figure “13”
... seems enough within itself to prove that old father time has dealt us
... a little misery. Without any cause whatever, crops have been short
... and money at times has been much shorter. But now we see the
... architect of the Universe coming over the horizon leading the new
... child named “1914” and presently he will kick the Quack, 1913, into
... space and present us with a brand new year—one full of bright prom-
... ises, such as we have not had for years. We welcome the new-comer
... with out-stretched arms and at the same time place our stamp of
... disapproval for any other hoodoos upon the brow of the unlucky
... “thirteen” with all the force and vigor known to a West Texas News-
... paper man.

COMING DEAD-SHOT-SURE GO
New Year Edition
THE MERKEL MA

ON OR ABOUT JANUARY 2nd.

Who's Who And What's What
IN MERKEL AND MERKEL COUNTRY
You'll Miss It If You Don't Hit It

The management desires to make this the most interesting issue of the year and to this end asks the assistance of every friend, reader and advertiser. Our paper reflects our town and country and conditions and every good citizen should take his home paper and then be a helper all of the year round to make it a credit to the town and country and a contributor to our mutual progress and prosperity

AND PERSONAL

McLaughlin, one of the
... of the Trent country,
... Merkel this week. Mr.
... ghlin is now making his
... n El Paso and stopped off
... to visit his parents and
... Mrs. C. C. Johnson and
... s. He left Friday for
... here he will spend the
... after which he will re-
... ent for a short visit and
... home at the border

Hogue-Hamilton Co. have the
... st values in merchandise to be
... found in Merkel. The prices are
... right, come in and see.

Show every night Xmas week
Free Rexall scissors at Rust &
Cauley's. Read about them
... eir page ad of this issue.

spring stock of low cuts in
... and misses slippers will
... be here, and to make room
... will clear out all the very best
... es we have at \$1.00 for your
... ice. All sizes until sold out.
... gue Hamilton Co.

Nice line of dolls for Christmas
... Plain Price Store.

Oscar Rhode of Houston
... esday morning to
... rests in this
... to visit



W. D. WOODROOF
wishes you a Merry Christmas.

LOCAL AND PERSONAL

Every baby wants a doll. And
... the prettiest best line to select
... from can be found at the Elite.
... All mothers should come in and
... see our line.

Show every night Xmas week
Get your brother or father a
Christmas box of cigars at the
Elite.

Elder and Mrs. W. G. Cypert
visited the family of Henry
Owens of the Trent country this
week. Mrs. Owens is reported
to be very low at the present and
her relatives and friends hold
very little hope for her recovery.

You can get the best values in
shoes ever sold at Hogue Ham-
ilton Co.

Mesdames C. M. and G. B.
McCauley of Abilene were here
Saturday visiting Mrs. E. M.
Rust and doing some Xmas
shopping.

Freeman Rogers of Abilene
visited relatives in our city
Sunday.

The best hot drinks in Merkel
can be had at Grimes Drug
Store. Try them.

G. E. Comegy made a business
trip to Clyde Monday.

**Almost anything you can
imagine for Christmas at
McClains Drug Store.**

Miss Verda Clemmer of Clyde
returned to her home Monday
after spending a few days with
her sister, Mrs. G. A. Collins.

Gold rings are always
valued by their actual weight. Come
and see the lines at Rust &
Cauley's and pay only what
the ring is actually worth. All
prices absolutely guaranteed.

Strahan who is teaching
Trent schools was here
visiting her aunt Mrs.
Cust.

Johnson of Trent was in
Clyde on business.

Our Plans For The New Year

Promise many improvements for our plant and paper
and in turn we promise you that we will publish ever
week during the New Year a clean, newsy, readab.
paper which will interest every member of the family
old and young. We will be glad to have your nam
on our list as a regular and dependable friend an
reader.

NOW IS THE TIME TO SUBSCRIBL

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Our subscription is on a strictly cash basis to every-
body—all dollars look alike to us. It is the only way
to run a paper or any other business and our sub-
scribers like our plan. Our subscription price but little
more than pays for the blank paper and we make our
money out of our advertisers. You get the benefit
and can save money if you will read our paper and
watch the opportunities to make your dollars go as
far as possible

Special Clubbing Offers

- The Mail And Star-Telegram \$3.75
- This is the biggest and best bargain in reading matter
in the state but you will have to give us your order
before the 1st, the end of bargain days. Dont miss it.
- The Mail And Semi-Weekly News \$1.75
- The Mail And Semi-Weekly Record \$1.7
- The Mail And Semi-Weekly Report
- The Mail And Farm

NOTICE, SU
We order for our paid-inad
papers at cost and save for
never lose an opportuni
friends and readers

THE ME
HOMER L. F

CHRISTMAS

BEST DRY G
YEARS OF E

I wish to thank the people who have made it possible for me to stay in Merkel. My 14th year in Merkel, 1914, will complete my 14th year in Merkel. I have shared the good as well as the bad years with you. As we have had five years of bad crops, I wish the next few years may be extremely good. Now as has been our custom a number of years, we have put on a December Clean-up Sale, which is now in full sway, notwithstanding the bad weather we have sold more than we thought we could, for such weather, both wet and cold, but our customers know when we put on a Clean-up Sale the prices are sure cut. We wish to again thank you for your liberal patronage in the past and wish you still to be our friends and customers. Yours for honest dealing

J. P. SHARP & SON

LOCAL AND PERSONAL

Dainty comb and brush sets record books for the baby. McClains Drdg Store.

E. W. Dennis spent Saturday and Sunday with his son Tom Dennis of Abilene.

If you are in need of a prescription filled call on us. It is our specialty. Grimes Drug Store.

See W. H. Laney at the meat market for cotton seed hulls.

Everything ready for your Christmas buying at McClain's Drug Store.

Miss Nelma Gibson spent Saturday and Sunday with her sister Miss Winnie Gibson of Abilene.

Toys and dolls at McClains

Mrs. Will McGarr and little daughter of Galveston who have been guests of Mesdames H. F. Groene and Claude Comegy have returned to their home.

Every baby wants a doll. And the prettiest best line to select from can be found at the Elite. All mothers should come in and see our line.

ets at

POULTRY INDUSTRY

The Merkel country as well as being one of the best farming and stock raising countries in the state is now fast gaining recognition as a leader in the poultry raising industry.

During the past two years the industry has grown by leaps and bounds until the ranks of chicken raisers in Merkel country is getting to be crammed with wide awake farmers and town citizens who are quick to grasp the gains to be secured from the mighty hen and her eggs.

Among some of the most prominent poultry raisers of our town and country are Messrs. O. W. Williams, city alderman; Joe Higgins, farmer, C. E. Cordell, farmer, H. P. Wilkins, farmer, R. A. Ellis, carpenter, T. O. Mobley farmer, G. F. Holland, who has taken to raising poultry almost exclusively, R. L. Bland, merchant, T. M. Pribble retired farmer, W. C. Mathis farmer, Will Curb farmer, A. J. Hartley farmer, Chas. Orr, farmer, Thos. Douglass painter, W. R. Walker hotel proprietor, F. Sears stockman, J. C. and G. E. Comegy, merchants, J. T. Warren banker, Robert Hicks, clerk, O. M. Sharp, merchant. Among ladies who have entered the ranks of poultry raisers are Mesdames Joe Higgins, J. Ben Campbell, W. E. Douglass, and J. P. Sharp and Miss Maggie Foster.

These good people are quick to see the advantage derived from raising better poultry and are fast making our country noted by their efforts in this direction. It is the request of President Cordell of the Merkel Poultry Association that every person who is interested attend the next meeting the second Saturday in January at the City Hall in Merkel.

Miss Clara Moore visited Miss Edna Jones of Sweetwater Sunday.

Read the prices in the Cash Grocery ad.

Miss Yvonne Murphy of Abilene was here Sunday visiting her sister Miss Mattie Murphy a teacher in the Merkel schools.

Holiday Box Stationery at McClain's Drug Store.

The center of Merkel is clearly defined by the position of Grimes Drug Store. Come and see us as never in a handy place.

Read Jim Black's Cash Grocery ad. in this issue of the Mail.

Judge J. A. Bullock of Tyler was in our city the first of the week looking after business matters and calling on his old time friend and acquaintance, C. D. Mims.

Toys! Toys! Toys! More Toys at McClains Drug Store.

Miss Bessie Medlin of Abilene visited here Saturday.

Cannon crackers and candles of all description at Elite.

Penny Postals.

Miss Lucie Peek went to Abilene Saturday to spend the week end with her aunt Mrs. Ch...

Manicure and ... at McClain's Drug Store.

LOCAL AND PERSONAL

More than \$1250 new Jewelry, latest styles in anything you want. Cheap only at McClains Drug Store.

Mrs. Rush Buford is visiting her brother, Tom Swafford at Cedar Gap. She was accompanied by her husband.

Everything new at McClain's

Mrs. Sam Butman left Friday night for El Paso where he will visit her parents M. Mrs. Vaughan. Enroute she will visit her daughter Sloan of Big Springs.

The largest line of fire works can be found at the Elite has ever been brought to Merkel. Get your boy some roman candles and let him celebrate.

Mrs. Jno. R. Daniel of Abilene Saturday visited her sister Mrs. ...