ENTERS THE MINISTRY

Young Baker, Who Was Tarred and Feather in Oklahoma

STORY OF A TERRIBLE NIGHT

Details of His Experience are Given for the First Time.

El Reno, O. T., Nov. 17.—Word reaches this city that young Slayton Baker, who is studying for the ministry at Fort Worth, is showing wonderful talent in that line and will undoubtedly make his mark in the future.

In this connection for the first time this week the story was told here in detail of this young man's experience at Cloud Chief, which is the only case of tarring and feathering recorded in Oklahoma history.

As the matter came up in a county seat contest and as it is not good for the health of either side to give details in a county seat fight, the real tar and feather episode at Cloud Chief some months ago is here for the first time written or printed:

The experience of a man who has been tarred and feathered is decidedly interesting and deadness has never been told before.

Without going into old details the men of Cloud Chief charged that young Slayton Baker, who was assistant county attorney for his father, county attorney, had sold out Cloud Chief by failing to file an appeal which would have staved off a county seat election.

Young Baker is 22 years old and is under-sized and slightly built.

On the night of the incident he took a young lady home, and started back down the street whistling. Presently he met four women, and as a gentlemen he tipped his hat. The same instant a rope shot out and a noose fell around his neck and he was pulled away. He was taken south of Cloud Chief, just to the edge of the town by the four men disguised as women and whom Baker recognized, although he would never divulge their names.

The hour was about 11 o'clock. His knees were fairly smacking together. The crowd drew up beneath some trees, the evident intention being to hang him. But first he was searched and in his pocket was found a telegram from his father ordering him to file the appeal. To the men, who had told him this was a discovery which was astonishing and they took the rope from around his neck.

Then one of them suggested tarring and feathering the young man. He was stripped perfectly naked, and a bucket of coal tar was produced and also a house painter's brush. Hardly a word was spoken, the victim himself keeping his mouth shut and bracing himself to stand the worst. He was brushed all over with the tar, from the top-knot to his big toes, the tar being put on thick and thoroughly. Then three pillows were produced and opened and the men took handfuls of feathers and spread them on the tar with their hands.

As soon as they had completed the job they told him to go. He ran. They left. A few minutes later young Baker returned and managed to find his coat and hat. Drawing his coat around him, he crept back to town and went into the hotel, causing the man there a big fright, for young Baker in his tar and feathers was a terrorizing sight. This was about midnight. He had friends and they were roused. The first job was to get the tar off. This was done by scraping him with case-knives. Even this was a poor means and the pain the young man suffered with the tar pulling at every individual hair on his body and the case-knives scraping into the epidermis, was terrible. After the case-knife treatment, which took a couple of hours, lye, water and soap were resorted and he was given a hard scrubbing, the great bulk of the tar being taken off in this way. A barber was called and the clippers run over his head, for his hair was so full of tar that it was hopeless. Somebody got him a suit of old clothes and just before daylight a consultation was held and it was agreed that the best thing for him to do was to leave town immediately. So he set out afoot for Mountain View across the prairie, with the sun peeping up in the east and closing a night which to him will probably be the most memorable in his whole life.

Young Baker did not remain in Oklahoma longer but went to Texas and entered a college to study for the ministry.

His father also left the territory and is conducting revivals in Texas.

REMEDY FOR RATION EVIL

Among the Indians Is Now Suggested.

Guthrie, O. T., Nov. 17.—The roseate view of the progress of Indian civilization is so generally the rule in official reports from the department of the interior that it is refreshing to find in the report of the commissioner of Indian affairs for the present year a chapter devoted to the "obstacles to self-support" which the government itself is throwing in the way of its red wards. The first of these obstacles is the solution of Commissioner Jones to the ration system.

It will surprise many readers to learn that, at the assessed day, about 6,000 of the 207,000 Indians in the United States are receiving a daily ration. Except for the Sioux, the kind and quantity are not fixed by treaty, but regulated by the department according to the condition of each tribe. The principal articles issued are beans, beef for its equivalent in bacon, flour, coffee, and sugar. It has been the policy of the Indian bureau of late years to reduce rations as far as possible, but it is confronted with the prospect of having to continue some such provision indefinitely unless the whole process is cut short. The cost of the rations to the government falls somewhat below $1,200,000 a year. About two-fifths of the Indians receiving daily rations belong to the great Sioux nation, who have a treaty with the government requiring the issue of subsistence to members of the tribe at the rate of 1½ pounds of beef, or 20 pounds of bacon to its place, 20 pounds of flour, 5 pounds of corn, 4 pounds of coffee, 4 pounds of sugar and 3 pounds of beans to every 100 rations. And this issue or as much thereof as may be necessary, is to be continued "until the Indians are able to support themselves." Under the present policy of the bureau, the Sioux ration has been cut down gradually, under the mollifying clause, "or as much thereof," and, but the bulk of the Indians seem to be born to get upon a self-supporting basis.

Congress early discerned the danger of continuing a gratuitous issue of rations. In 1893, it enacted a law requiring all able-bodied male Indians, between the ages of eighteen and forty-five, in return for supplies and annuities issued to them to perform certain services for the common benefit, although the secretary of the Interior was authorized to exempt any particular tribe from its operations where he deemed this expedient. The most progress that seems to have been made under the law was an attempt to restrict the sugar, coffee, and tea ration to the old and infirm Indians, or to those who are willing to pay for it in labor. The rule has been almost a dead letter, however, the average agent being very lax in enforcing it. Beyond this, some to the department, it is true, for more civilized and reasonable methods of issuing the rations. The Indians are no longer allowed to have imitation buffalo-hunts and bull fights in order to slaughter their cattle, nor are they required to spend half their time going to and returning from a central issue station. Beef is now prepared in the same way as among the whites and issued cold, and sub-stations are planted at various points about a reservation convenient to the dwellings of the Indians.

Mr. Jones feels that it is difficult to point out a complete remedy for the pauperizing ration system as a whole, but believes that as a beginning the indiscriminate issue must stop at once. The old and helpless should be provided for, but the able-bodied should receive rations only for labor performed, "while those who have been educated in Indian schools should be made to depend entirely upon their own resources."

The second obstacle noted by Mr. Jones is the practice of paying annuities. More than $1,500,000 was sent out during the last year to disbursing officers for distribution among the Indian tribes. The per capita payments ranged in amount from $355 to 50 cents. As these cash payments are decreed by law or treaties, the Indian bureau had no alternative, yet the commissioner sees plainly the danger from the continuance of this practice. "Many of the annual payments, he says, "are too small to accomplish either good or harm, while others are so large as to be useful for good or powerful for evil. The latter, it is to be regretted, is the general result. Not having to earn the money distributed, the Indians do not appreciate its value. It either goes to the traders on account of debts contracted in anticipation of the payment, or is squandered, often for the purposes far remote from civilizing. The larger payments, especially, are demoralizing in the extreme. They degrade the Indians and corrupt the whites; they induce pauperism and scandal and crime; they nullify all the good effects of years of labor."

It is suggested as a means of remedying the evils described, first, to provide for the gradual extinction of the Indian trust funds now lying in the government treasury, which amount to $93,217,955.88, and draw interest at the rate of 4 and 5 per cent. This could be done by setting aside a sufficient sum to maintain the reservation schools, for, say twenty-one years and then dividing the balance per capita and paying it outright to the individual members of the tribes. The second suggestion is a corollary to this, the division of each tribe's lands among its members per capita. This is a heroic remedy, perhaps, but is not wholly new, and the commissioner sees that, if applied, its immediate result would be to relegate many of the Indians to a state of poverty; but, on the other hand, he perceives that the rule of the world is that man must work or starve, and that this might induce them to put forth some effort in their own behalf.

The third of the obstacles noted by the commissioner is the practice of leasing Indian allotments. The true idea of an allotment is to give the Indian a home, and personal ownership in soil from which he can get a living. In practice, however, the Indian receives his allotment of land and then is permitted to turn it over to the white for whatever rental they choose to pay him, and go on his aimless way. The first law permitting this was passed in 1891, and provided that when, by reason of "age or other disability," any allottee could not personally and with benefit to himself occupy or improve his land, it might be leased, under regulations prescribed by the secretary of the interior, for three years for farming or grazing, or ten years for mining purposes. In 1894 and 1897 some amendments were made in details not necessary to note here. Last session the law was changed again, the leases being limited to five years and to farming purposes only, and "inability" was added to "age and other disability" as a pretext. Had leases been confined to Indians incapacitated by physical disability or senile decrepitude, the commissioner thinks there would be little room for criticism; but "inability" opens the door for leasing in general and on some of the reservations the mass is the rule rather than the exception, while on others the practice is growing. Mr. Jones says:

"The effect of the general leasing of allotments is bad. Like the gratuitous issue of rations and the periodical distribution of money, it fosters indolence with its train of attendant vices. By taking away an incentive to labor it defeats the very object for which the allotment system was devised, which was, by giving the Indian something tangible that he could call his own, to incite him to personal effort on his own behalf.

Another chapter in the report which will attract the attention of the curious is that on the who of our Indian population. At various periods, estimates and reports have been made, though no actual census was attempted by the government till 1890. To show how widely some of the old guesses varied, the following figures may be given:

Year.	Authority.	Number.
1759	George Croghan	18,000
1764	Colonel Bouquet	31,000
1768	Captain Hinrichs	22,000
1775	John Dodge	21,000
1789	Secretary of War	76,000
1791	Gilbert Imlay	[illegible]
1826	Messrs on Indian Affairs	471,000
1825	Secretary of War	129,000
1829	Secretary of War	312,000
1832	Samuel J. Drake	202,000
1834	Secretary of War	312,000
1836	Supt. of Indian Affairs	324,000
1837	Supt. of Indian Affairs	252,000

The census of 1890 showed 248,253. Thereafterward, until within comparatively recent years, the reports had varied within a rather wide range, from 250,137 up to 344,964. About 1897 the figures dropped to something short of a quarter million, and beyond about there till the present administration came in, when they rose in 1898 to 262,960, and are now set about 5,000 higher. As nearly as the facts can be learned, the Indians are not dying out, but rather increasing in number as the conditions of life surrounding them increase in comfort.

Attempt to Burn a Church

Guthrie, O. T., Nov. 17.—An attempt was made last Monday night to burn the Congregational church at El Reno. Rector Patzwald, coming by the church, saw a light as of fire burning in the building. Entering he found a pile of books with unconsumed table burning. He succeeded in extinguishing the blaze and so saving the church.

Man Named Black Killed.

Alva, O. T., Nov. 17.—Report has reached here that a man named Black has been shot and killed near Orion. No particulars are given.

IN PAYNE'S MEMORY

Original Oklahoma Boomer Is to be Remembered.

ANNIVERSARY OF DEATH

To be Observed by People of Blackwell Tomorrow.

Guthrie, O. T., Nov. 17.—Dave Payne, the original Oklahoma boomer, father of Oklahoma, who so many years ago used to outfit at Wichita and charge into Oklahoma in order to make a settlement and bring things to a crisis is to be remembered fittingly at last.

In recent years little has been heard of Payne except in a casual way. There has been talk of monuments but they have never materialized. The only thing Oklahoma has done to perpetuate his name is to name a county after him.

But now the story of his struggle is to be told again, and his name honored. The people of Blackwell have decided to observe next Monday, the anniversary of his death. This call has been issued at Blackwell:

"November 20th is the 10th anniversary of the death of Capt. David L. Payne, the man whose untiring energy and indomitable faith had more to do with the final opening of Oklahoma than any other single individual. Capt. Payne gave the best years and vitality of his life to the service of his country and his last energy and ambition to the cause of home-seekers in the west, yet death claimed him before the fruits of victory could be showered in his lap. He died in the harness as it were and was buried November 21, 1884, in Prairie Lawn cemetery at Wellington, Kansas.

"Now those of Blackwell and Kay county in full enjoyment of the fruits of Captain Payne's labor want to pay a tribute to his memory this sixteenth anniversary of his death and to do so the undersigned have raised money and purchased a flag which will be presented to Private Soldier Post of Blackwell, which in turn will present the same to Wellington Old Soldier Post to be erected on fitting occasions over the grave of that gallant battler for human rights.

"We have further designated Monday, November 19 a a memorial day in honor of Captain Payne, and have invited Hon. J. W. Forney of Bello Plaine, Kan., Hon. Sidney Clark of Oklahoma City, W. S. Wocks of Comanche, O. T., and all early friends and followers of Captain Payne to be present to testify to his work in the cause and to lend tribute to his memory. Rev. Craighead of this city has been asked to deliver a memorial address on the early historical associations, and the achievements and progress of a new commonwealth.

"We want this to be an occasion befitting the memory of such a man and we urge all who are interested in the early history of Oklahoma to be present on next Monday evening.

T. N. Athey, Wm. Fox, J. W. Wymer, A. J. Hunter, J. A. Savage, Lee Dyer, Foster Mer. Co., T. S. Chambers, Ed L. Reed, W. M. Vickery, J. M. Higgins, W. O. Anderson, A. W. West, H. Horne.

ROUGH RIDER RHOADES' PROTEST

Against High Salaried Missionaries Down in Cuba.

(Special Correspondence to Eagle.)

Matanzas, Cuba, No. 12.—A few days ago I noticed in the Philadelphia Record an appeal to the people for contributions to support missions in Cuba. No doubt there are such appeals everywhere and I can imagine from past experiences devoted ministers going among their congregations asking that they give of their means to help save a poor benighted soul in a heathen land. Perhaps telling the same old story of how even a penny invested in a tract may save some one to the glory of Christ and the benefit of the church. These brethren are no doubt sincere but are wofully ignorant of their subject. In my childhood and youth I was taught to believe that all missionaries were apostles of the Lord who gave their whole life in his work without compensation, happy in the thought that they were doing their Master's will and looking for their reward in the world to come. The idea of them receiving a salary was not to be entertained for a minute. Many a person upon a small salary has cheerfully contributed from his means to the end that these good people might not suffer for the necessities of life. I have learned a few things since coming to Cuba and one of them is that all missionaries are not simply supported but draw a large salary as well which enables them to live in the best houses and dress in the height of fashion with, in many cases, servants to wait upon them.

A year ago my attention was called to two young ladies upon the street whose dress and bearing proclaimed them American. They were both clad in silk dresses with expensive hats and bore themselves with the air of queens looking neither to the right nor to the left while the swish-swish of their dresses could be plainly heard across the narrow street. Upon inquiry I found that they were missionaries sent here by the Methodist church. This was surprising but knowing the goodness of certain persons for sending out missionary boxes concluded that their dresses had been given them. Months afterward I became acquainted with them and found that each had several such dresses. That was my first delusion. My second was when I learned that each of these girls received $600 per month salary and $300 additional for current expenses. The minister in charge here lives better than any of the government employees, having a large house with several servants I do not know what his pay is, but it looks to me as though instead of being the poor, hard-working apostle with no thought of self that in this instance he has given much thought or at least time, to the "loaves and fishes." The Methodists are trying to build a church here, but are stopped for want of funds, no doubt as the begging will go on until it is completed and many a person whose salary is under $600 will be asked to contribute 10 cents weekly to the building fund while in the cities girls on salaries of less than $5 per week are steadily contributing their mite so that other girls who are fortunate enough to be missionaries may have silks and satins and thus uphold the glory of the Lord.

I have mentioned here the Methodist church, not meaning that they are different from the others but because at present they are the only one to establish a mission in Matanzas. Most of the churches are established in Havana, where no doubt they send appeal after appeal to the people at home for money to help save the dear little children whose parents are unable to support them nor buy them clothing, sending in support of the truth of their assertions photos of children playing naked in the streets. The children do play naked in the streets but not for lack of clothes, but because they like it, and would feel as much abused if compelled to wear clothes as the average American youngster would if not allowed to run barefoot. Another reason for their nakedness is that it saves the mother much work from darning, patching and laundrying. Being a Baptist I have especially taken an interest in that denomination's work at Havana and learn that their missionaries also receive large salaries, more than most people ever expect to get, yet periodically go back to the states and tell of their sacrifices for the Lord and his work usually giving lectures and begging for contributions for the poor and orphaned. Now I have not written this article in a spirit of criticism, but it is simply a statement of facts that can be substantiated by any one who cares to do so. Many people who are actually struggling for a living are constantly being asked to give to these causes and believing it to be their duty give the money that is so much needed at home. Even during the hard times of a few years ago the different missions, overlooking the fact that every town and even village contained at least one family where a little money expended in the right way would have been of more benefit than going to pay the salaries of people who receive in one month more money than some families have in a whole year.

Believing that "charity begins at home" and knowing that there is little information is to be obtained upon this subject and that many people believe that their contributions actually go to the relief of the heathen, who would otherwise look nearer home for charitable subjects I have written plain statements of facts that have been under my observation for months that they may know in giving just what becomes of their money. I do not mean to insinuate that those seeking contributions are dishonest, but are themselves deceived by the reports of the missionaries. I shall always take with several grains of allowance the statements of returned missionaries, who state that they have given their time to the Lord until I have received positive assurance that they received less than $100 per month.

J. D. RHOADES.

Box 26, Matanzas, Cuba.

THEY CANNOT CATCH THEM

No Money for Indian Territory Deputies and Rogues Get Free.

Oklahoma City, O. T., Nov. 17.—The following notices which have been issued by United States Marshal Leo E. Bennett of the Northern district of the Indian Territory, show the utter impossibility of apprehending certain classes of criminals for crimes committed in the Indian Territory, because of the alleged failure of congress to provide for the payment of proper fees to deputy marshals:

"To all deputies of the Northern district.

"You are hereby instructed and ordered to at once forward to this office every commissioner's warrant in your hands for persons charged with the following offenses: Criminal assault, assault to rob, abduction, embezzlement, false imprisonment, seduction, larceny, false pretense, fraud, receiving stolen property, selling, removing or disposing of mortgaged property, bribery, forgery, malfeasance, extortion, obstructing process, riot, slander, libel, disturbing the peace, cutting fences, etc., illegal voting, assault and battery, assault, gaming, malicious mischief, permitting gaming, injury to property, maiming.

"You are further instructed and ordered not to accept hereafter from any commissioner any warrant for any of the above offenses, advising such commissioner of your instructions from this office."

To the different United States commissioners in the Northern district he sent the following:

"You are advised that all deputies of this district have been instructed as above.

"I also enclose for your information a copy of a ruling made by the controller under date of October 12, 1900, from which you will realize the utter hopelessness of endeavoring to obtain service of warrants in the class of cases heretofore enumerated. The deputies will continue to receive from you all warrants in cases where the United States statutes provide a penalty. This includes warrants for murder, manslaughter, assault to kill where only one of the parties is an Indian or both parties are not Indians of the same tribe or nation, aggravated assault, bigamy, illegal cohabitation, kidnapping, introduction or sale of intoxicating liquors, robbery, timber depredations, burglary, all postoffice robberies, larcenies or embezzlement, arson, obstructing railways or throwing stones or missiles at railway trains, etc., perjury, conspiracy to commit offense against the United States, disturbing religious worships, and certain classes of frauds such as against federal officers, certain classes of malicious mischief the punishment for which is provided for by the United States laws, bribery in which the United States laws provide a penalty, forgery the same, and obstructing the process of the United States."

LOCKED SCHOOL CHILDREN IN

Ulysses Unger Effects a Dramatic Abduction in Canadian County

Guthrie, O. T., Nov. 17.—The upheard of proceeding of a man taking two children from a school and locking the rest in took place in Oklahoma this week.

Last Tuesday morning, says the El El Reno News, two children, Vliss Unger, aged 8, and Edna Unger aged 6, who were attending school at the Jensen school house and who have been living for some time with their mother and their uncle, Thomas Watkins of this county, were forcibly taken from the school room by their father, Ulysses Unger, and taken by him to Oklahoma City. Mr. and Mrs. Unger, with their children, five in number, formerly lived in Springfield, Mo. Some time since, Mrs. Unger left him and came to live with her brother, Thomas Watkins, bringing all the children with her and giving as the reason for her action, the failure of her husband to support her and the children and for a further reason his ill treatment of them. Recently Unger came to Oklahoma City and Monday he drove over from there to El Reno. Tuesday he made inquiries concerning his wife and the Jensen school house. He drove to the school house and in attempted disguise entered. His children recognized him and ran screaming from him, as report says, but with impaled threats to kill everyone still, caught the children, took the key from the inside of the school house door and went out and closed and locked the door from the outside, got into the waiting buggy and drove rapidly away. The alarm was soon given and the uncle of the girls came to town to have a warrant sworn out for abduction, but there never having been any court decree giving the mother the custody of the children, no criminal action would lie, but a writ of habeas corpus was issued and the matter of the custody of the children will be brought up in the court and the rights of the parties determined under this writ.

TO TRY TO REPEAL IT

Cattlemen Said to be Moving Against Kiowa Opening.

THEY MAY ASK CONGRESS

To Repeal the Law Opening Country to Settlement.

El Reno, Nov. 17.—Some concern is felt and not without reason that a fight will be made at the coming short session of congress to repeal the law opening the Kiowa and Comanche country. The delay in the matter of allotting, the objection made in Washington by the Indians to allotment, the impractical reservation of 480,000 acres of land in a body, all these are very apt to be turned into arguments by the powerful cattlemen against opening up the land.

Some such movement is in contemplation, and while it would be without precedent, in land legislation, yet it is not impossible. The cattlemen will find two powerful factors fighting them every step in the road. These are Dennis Flynn and the Rock Island railroad.

Touching on the matter the News here says: The report is being circulated and is evidently not without foundation that the cattlemen expect to put forth every influence that money can buy to have the law repealed opening the Kiowa and Comanche country to settlement. If they undertake it they will make the fight of their lives and will not put any limit on the money to be expended for the accomplishment of their purpose. On the other hand the Rock Island railroad and all the great influence it will be able to bring to bear will be on hand to fight the efforts of the cattlement and the interests of the people and of the railroad are identical and they should unite their energies to the end that any efforts along the suggested line by the cattlemen be emphatically squelched.

HAS THE SCRATCHING HABIT

Independent Voter in Oklahoma Is Rampant.

Guthrie, O. T., Nov. 17.—That encourager of the independent voter, the Australian ballot, has turned Oklahomans into political scratchers. The extent of scratching does not show in totals and only partly in results. The only way to determine whether scratching is general is to be present personally and watch the count of the ballots themselves as the judges of election read them. And reports from all sections of the territory show that the election just passed was pre-eminently a scratching election.

Several thousand of Flynn's majority was a scratched one, that is Democrats and Populists, more frequently, marked Flynn's name and then went back to their party tickets.

However, eliminating congressional matter from the question the cutting and slashing on the county tickets and on the legislative candidates was something wonderful to behold.

Another feature of the election which is just coming to light is that there was, in spite of the enormous vote cast, still quite a stay-at-home contingent, who did not materially affect the result. In the southern part of Oklahoma Neff lost many votes by Democrats remaining in their cotton fields and refusing to go to the polls. It also develops that in the Strip Flynn lost many votes from Republican or Populist farmers who considered him elected any way and having no other interest in the ticket, than to see him elected did not attend to the important matter of suffrage.

On the matter of the magnitude of scratching the Mulhall Enterprise gives this illustration: "In our own individual precinct—that of Mulhall township and city—do we have a correct conception of the amount of scratching of the Republican ticket done. Nothing can be disguised by the ballot. Like murder, it will out. The returns of the vote in Mulhall tell clearly how the vote was cast. Republicans took a very careful poll of the precinct before election, and this poll showed a party vote of over 150. Out of this 150 there were just 12 straight Republican ballots cast. Further, out of these 150 Republicans a total of nearly 40 remained away from the polls, enough to have elected Chris Johnson treasurer and half enough to have elected Mr. Randolph county superintendent. Taking this same ratio of stay-at-home-Republicans in Mulhall as a basis for the territory and we readily see how changed the result would be. We cannot believe the per cent was so great all over the country, but we are already in possession of reports that indicate this to be the case. In Bismarck, we are reliably informed, out of a total of 72 Republican voters 28 remained away from the polls. In Lawrie, out of a total Republican vote of 57 over 15 remained away, and in Spring Creek, where there are 37 Republicans brave and true, 20 came out and voted and scratched a little. And so on over the whole country. Why, we have learned of enough Republicans who remained away from the polls to have elected nearly every Republican candidate. Now, there is no spirit of complaint in this. It is a statement of cold facts as they exist, and a problem which confronts Republicans today, it cannot be laughed off."

A great many ballots were thrown out as mutilated which they undoubtedly were, but unintentionally by the voters, and Colonel Harris of Enid has made protests against the Australian ballot system in his paper.

The Hennessey Clipper gives an illustration of how some of the ballots were spoiled in that city saying: "It seems that no matter how simple a ballot might be devised there would be mistakes made in voting it. Quite a number of them occurred in the election this week. A number of ballots both county and territorial were voted without a mark of any kind upon them. A large number voted for the probate judge only. These were meant to be straight party tickets, but the voting party made a mistake and placed the stamp in the square opposite the candidate for probate judge instead of in the square surrounding the device of his party. One man not choosing to vote for Neff, folded up his territorial ballot and stuck it in his pocket, intending to take it home. Another, wishing to vote for Flynn, folded his territorial ballot and cutting out Flynn's name, handed that to the receiver to place in the ballot box. Others when they came down the line to the last question, voted for and against them. Some said laid pencils instead of the stamps provided and one or two signed their tickets at the bottom of the page or turned them over and placed their signatures on the back. The law is simple enough, but can be made complicated very easily."

The Blackwell Sun thinks Neff lost many votes by ignorance of his judges in refusing to count badly marked ballots. It says: "Many voters stamped Judge Neff's name in both places. Under the law this should have been counted as one vote for Neff, but we have it from sources of authority that in most cases such votes were thrown out as a 'mutilated ballot.' In Owens township nine such ballots and in Tonkawa sixteen were not counted. In both cases the election boards were favorable to Neff but simply misunderstood their right and duty to count such votes."

The loss of the territorial council and the mix-up in the counties has a tendency to make the Republicans of the territory look soberly upon the result as a lesson urging further organization of their forces. On this line the Medford Patriot says: "That Flynn ran ahead of his ticket in most of the counties is evident by the returns of votes cast; though the mixed vote on county officers leaves some doubt. The Patriot is not of those claim that Oklahoma is safely Republican on a straight party vote. It must be remembered that about 3,000 votes were cast in the territory for Tucker, Socialist, and Allen, middle-of-the-road Populist, both of which may be counted against the Republican party on a complete fusion. Republicans should not sit down and fold their hands complacently over Mr. Flynn's re-election. There were many Democrats and Populists voted for him and not a Republican vote cast against him. An effort should be made at once to shape matters for the campaign two years hence; and above all else the warring elements in the party should subside and get together."

STATEHOOD CONVENTION CALL

For South McAlester on December Tenth, Next.

Ardmore, I. T., Nov. 17.—The following is the text of the call now issued jointly in Oklahoma and the Indian Territory for a single statehood convention, to be composed of delegates from both territories. The original copy of this call is signed by large numbers of the leading citizens of both territories, who authorized the use of their names for that purpose. The call should be read carefully by every one so that the purpose may be fully understood.

To the people of Oklahoma and Indian Territories.

It is the judgment of a large proportion of the people of the two territories that the amalgamation of the two territories into one state or territory is inevitable.

The people of Oklahoma feel that they have the necessary population and wealth and ought to be admitted without delay.

The people of the Indian Territory feel that they have the necessary population and wealth to entitle them to an organization of some kind and a representative at Washington, that the interests of the non-citizen element may be cared for, and preparation made for self-government, in view of the fact that the affairs of the Indian governments are now undergoing preparations for final settlement and dissolution.

The reason for invoking organized government for the Indian Territory are too numerous to mention. Oklahoma has asked for statehood and the Indian Territory for territorial government; and both have been told to wait; that although each has the requisite population and wealth, the area is too small.

The people of the Indian Territory are now ready. The combined population of the two territories is 700,000, their taxable wealth $65,000,000, which is more people and more wealth than was possessed by any state when admitted into the federal union, and is more wealth and more people than several states of the Union now possess. The number of children of school age in the two territories is greater than the population of one or two states now in the Union. The soil is rich, the climate is good, the water is pure, the mineral is inexhaustible, the people are industrious. The people of the Indian Territory want schools; they want laws; they want roads and bridges; they want to open mines and develop industries; they want that better civilization which these things will bring. They want the treaties carried out in good faith and every Indian citizen of the five tribes made a citizen of the United States.

Let the settlement of the Indian nation go on, but amalgamate the two territories into a state of the Union, that the United States citizen may have a government to look to for the redress of his wrongs.

We, the undersigned citizens of the two territories, invite all male citizens of the two territories, without regard to race, political affiliation, or religious belief, who favor single statehood, to meet in mass convention in accordance with the suggestions hereinafter made, and elect delegates and alternates to attend a convention to be held at South McAlester, Indian Territory, on the 10th day of December, 1900, at 2 p. m., for the purpose of discussing the subject of single statehood and to take such steps as may in the wisdom of the convention be necessary to bring about the desired end. Send wide-awake, public-spirited men as delegates and alternates.

The apportionment for Indian Territory is as follows: One delegate and one alternate for each postoffice, and one delegate and one alternate for each 100 population or major part thereof in every town and city of the Indian Territory.

The apportionment for Oklahoma is as follows: There having been 70,000 votes cast for delegate to congress at the election held on November 6, 1900, the apportionment for Oklahoma is based upon one delegate for each 500 votes so cast, which gives to the counties the following representation: Beaver, 2; Blaine, 4; Canadian, 10; Cleveland, 12; Custer, 6; Day, 2; Dewey, 4; Garfield, 16; Grant, 14; Greer, 10; Kay, 20; Kingfisher, 10; Lincoln, 12; Logan, 20; Noble, 11; Oklahoma, 18; Pawnee, 11; Payne, 21; Pottawatomie, 17; Roger Mills, 4; Washita, 8; Woods, 20; Woodward, 7.

Call Valets of each county of Oklahoma are requested to meet in their respective county seats on Monday, December 3, 1900, at 2 o'clock p. m., to elect delegates and the number of alternates.

The mass meeting for the purpose of electing delegates and alternates to be held at 1 p. m. on the 1st day of December, 1900. A list of the delegates and alternates selected should be mailed to W. B. Bradford, at Ardmore, I. T., in time to reach him on or before the 5th day of December, and late mailed to W. B. Bradford, South McAlester, I. T., in time to reach that point on December 6, so that the roll of delegates can be prepared for the convention.

We, the undersigned citizens of the Indian Territory, earnestly request all persons favorable to single statehood to take an active part in the selection of delegates, and that all newspapers will publish this call and discuss the matter fully, and serve notice of the time of holding the mass meeting.

Signed: D. C. Lewis, C. G. Jones, E. E. Brown, Cooper Brown, Silvern Douglas, C. B. Ames, N. H. Hyward, J. E. Allen, Gr. L. Jones, Samuel Murphy, D. D. Leach, R. B. Bradford, Roy V. McKinney, J. P. Harris, G. D. Monger, Harry Gilstrap.

STEVENS GETS INTO IT

His Candidacy for Speaker Formally Announced.

C. G. JONES HIS OPPONENT

Lively Contest for the Place Is Expected.

Guthrie, O. T., Nov. 17.—Judge Walter C. Stevens of Hennessey, has entered the race for speaker of the territorial house. His name has been mentioned before, but without authority, as Judge Stevens has hesitated to take on the burdens of a contest.

His chief opponent will be C. G. Jones of Oklahoma City. Mr. Jones is an organizer from Organizatonville, and his friends are zealous in his behalf. He will make a hard fight.

In announcing formally the candidacy of Judge Stevens, his home paper, the Hennessey Clipper, says: "Considerable pressure has been brought to bear since the election upon Judge Walter C. Stevens, representative of this district in the next legislature, to allow his name to be used as a candidate for speaker of the house. In an interview with Mr. Stevens this morning relative to this matter, he informed us that after consulting with a number of his friends from different parts of the territory he had decided to enter the field.

"Mr. Stevens, as an attorney, has won a place among the best in the territory. He was a member of the last legislature, and was a valued member of several of the most important committees. His knowledge of the members of that body, a majority of whom have been returned this year, would be of great value to him in his appointments of committees, and in securing stability and harmony among the members. A man pleasant in his personality, a master in executive ability, respected and admired among his colleagues, Mr. Stevens as speaker will get more and better work out of that body than any man in the territory."

COMMON VIEW OF STATEHOOD

El Reno News Tells How Hard It Will Come.

Guthrie, O. T., Nov. 17.—A common view in regard to immediate statehood is that which is taken by the El Reno News. It is unfavorable. The News says: "The chances for statehood for Oklahoma were materially lessened by the election. The majority of Flynn is too small and the Democratic majority in the council too large to encourage Oklahoma to hope for statehood. Without discussing the matter from the standpoint of the justice of Oklahoma's demand, we are bound to admit that politics does now, always has, and probably always will, materially influence congress in the matter of granting statehood to territories. This is not a fact peculiar to any political party but applies equally to all. Delegate Flynn is determined in his proposed efforts to secure statehood for the territory. But he goes to a Republican congress, handicapped by the fact that the territorial council is Democratic and Flynn himself was returned by reduced majorities. When congress asks Mr. Flynn whether the state of Oklahoma will send up two Republican senators, he will answer that he was returned as delegate and the response will be that he was returned by a decreased majority in the face of the fact that he had so recently secured the passage of the free homes bill and saved the people of Oklahoma $5,000,000. The only possible chance for statehood was saved when Flynn was re-elected and this chance is so slim that nothing but his energy and determination brings it within the range of possibilities.

FOOTPADS AT WORK

J. H. Magner of Near Newkirk Is Held Up on a Bridge.

Guthrie, O. T., Nov. 17.—J. H. Magner, who lives two miles north and three miles east of Newkirk, was held up on the Chikaska bridge just east of Blackwell by two men last Monday evening shortly after 7 o'clock, and relieved of $9 in cash. The Times-Record says: Mr. Magner is a marble cutter by trade and came over Monday to collect business. The two men who held him up were standing one on each side of the bridge and he did not pay any particular attention to them until, as he got near them they both started for the center of the bridge and one of them caught one of the lines with his right hand and both held revolvers in his face and demanded his money.

SPARK IN POWDER CAN

Three Prizmmer Brothers Injured, Barned and House Burned.

Guthrie, O. T., Nov. 17.—According to the Enterprise, news has reached Perry of a very sad accident that occurred at the home of E. E. Prizmmer, in Lowe township, on Monday last. It seems that E. E. Prizmmer had his two brothers, George and Charles, were engaged in loading some shells in the house of the former, when from some cause a cap was exploded and a spark therefrom ignited the powder in the can causing a terrific explosion. All of the men were seriously burned about the face and eyes and the house was destroyed by fire, entailing a loss of several hundred dollars. The injured parties are doing nicely, but it is not known yet whether the eyesight of either of them is permanently injured.

RABBIT WITH SEVEN HORNS

Strange Freak Exhibited by Rev. McWilliams at Alva.

Guthrie, O. T., Nov. 17.—Rev. McWilliams exhibited in Alva one day last week a curiosity in the form of a rabbit shot from which protruded seven horns. Mr. McWilliams' son caught the rabbit alive and kept it quite a time but it was finally killed. The Alva Courier says it was quite a freak of nature and excited quite a lot of comment. The horns were from one to two and a half inches long and had a solid foundation in the bones of the skull. The specimen will be kept as a freak difficult of explanation.

Wheelbarrow Bet Is Paid.

Guthrie, O. T., Nov. 17.—At Hennessey Mr. Wisely paid an election bet by wheeling Mr. Geiger in a wheelbarrow from one place to another, the rider ringing an auction bell the while. Both are old men and Democrats.

Will Appoint Three Carriers.

Enid, O. T., Nov. 17.—Five out of the seven men taking civil service examinations for mail carriers passed. Postmaster Dunkle will select three men this week.