

## OKLAHOMA NIGHT RIDERS ORGANIZED

Had Adopted Oath Employed By the Night Riders at Reelfoot Lake, Tennessee.

Oklahoma City, Okla., May 22.—An organization of night riders exists in McLain county. It has an active membership of at least thirty and has access to seventy other men who will become members at any time there is a necessity for a call. Frequent nocturnal meetings have been held and threatening letters scattered throughout the country. The night riders have traveled over the highways at night heavily armed and in large bodies.

This is the substance of the testimony of about forty witnesses before a justice of the peace at Curdy yesterday, examined by Benjamin Franklin, county attorney. As a result Barney Hawk, Charles Barnes, W. A. Wallace, W. M. Drake, M. M. Spencer, Samuel Spencer and J. L. Bledsoe are held for trial in the district court, charged with being members of the night riders' organization. Their bonds were fixed at \$3,000 each and in default they were placed in the county jail at Purcell tonight. Morton Rogers, the eighth man arraigned, was released.

D. Spencer, Albert Bacon and Matt Hanks were arrested today on warrants issued by the county attorney and more warrants remain to be served. Other warrants may be issued within a few days. One of the principal witnesses for the state today was F. T. Worley, a farmer near Curdy. He testified that he was solicited by Bledsoe and Barnes to become a member of the night rider organization. At that time they said the organization consisted of five members. They had adopted the oath employed by the night riders at Reelfoot Lake, Tenn., and held their meetings in a haystack on the farm owned by W. A. Wallace.

C. E. Bailey, another farmer, testified that he had been solicited to join the organization, which at that time was said to consist of eighteen men. It was shown that Edward Smith's residence had been burned after his tenant, against the injunction of the night riders, had moved from the farm. L. Green told how an armed body of men came to his house late at night and gave him warning not to rent twenty acres of his land to a son of W. A. Wallace. They then galloped along the road, shooting their revolvers.

## ATTORNEYS FILE BRIEFS IN WEBB & MADDOX CASE

The arguments in case 301, the state vs. Maddox & Webb were concluded in the county court this morning. Both the attorneys for the state and for the defendants filed briefs and the case was taken under advisement by Judge Frear until Wednesday morning May 26, at 9 o'clock. This is one of the many liquor cases pending in the county court and the decision will likely settle all of them by quashing them or will cause the case to be taken to the criminal court of appeals.

The case of Pearl Fennel was heard today, and will probably go to the jury this afternoon.

## ROBBERS SECURE \$2,675 FROM OTTAWA BANK.

Ottawa, Kans., May 22.—Robbers early today dynamited the safe of the Princeton State bank at Princeton, near here and escaped with \$2,675 in currency in a stolen livery rig. The citizens heard detonation, but were frightened away by the robbers.

## BODY OF DECEASED FINANCIER AT REST

Fairhaven, Mass., May 22.—Fairhaven, the birth place of Henry H. Rogers today paid a final tribute to the memory of the deceased financier. Sickness was totally suspended and all the public buildings draped in black. The body arrived from New York, last night, and this afternoon was interred in the Rogers' mausoleum at Riverside cemetery.

## SPECIAL MEETING OF CITY COUNCIL

Defer Action on Overlay Matter—No Protests Filed Against Report of Appraisers.

There was a call session of the city council at the city hall last night for the purpose of hearing protests against the assessment of the costs of grading, curbing and guttering parts of Canadian and Delaware avenues and to consider the acceptance of similar work of improvement on Canadian avenue between Fourth and Fifth streets, and to consider certificates for tax warrants to E. J. Overley for the pavement on Illinois avenue, Wilson street and Canadian avenue.

No protests against the assessment of benefits to the property for the cost of improvement on Delaware and Canadian avenues were received, and the council passed a resolution approving the report of the board of appraisers.

The work of curbing and guttering Canadian avenue from Fourth street to Fifth street was approved and accepted.

The matter of Overley's certificates was not clear to some of the council, and action was deferred on this matter until Monday night. It seems that there was an error in the wording of the bonds given Mr. Overley by the last council and he is asking the council to authorize the issuance of a valid issue. The mayor and council agreed to fully investigate the matter and prepare an ordinance for the meeting Monday night covering same.

## FAST GAME EXPECTED WITH BAXTER SPRINGS

Word was received this morning that Baxter Springs would come strong for the baseball game tomorrow with the locals. Several players familiar to Vinita fans will be in the lineup for the Baxter team, among whom will be Pike Mays and Rube Harland. The locals are taking a final workout this afternoon and promise a fast game. The lineup for the Vinita team for tomorrow will be: H. Raines, 2b; G. Marrs, ss; M. Raines, c; Brown, 2b; Hurst, 1b; Reamer, 1b; Wunderlich, rf; Lindsay, cf; Chouteau and Rogers, p; Dewes and McClure, utility.

## JOHN WISE ADDRESSES THE COMMERCIAL CLUB.

At the meeting of the Commercial club last evening, the subject of a fair association was taken up and a committee appointed to make a report at the next meeting. P. S. Cope and E. B. Thompson were taken in as new members. John Wise of Chelsea was present and made a pleasing address in which he congratulated Vinita on the improvements being made in the town. It was decided that no meeting would be held next Friday evening and the club voted to allow the Elks the use of their rooms on that evening. President W. B. Coley requested that all members meet at the club room Wednesday, May 26, at eleven o'clock sharp, for the purpose of meeting the Interstate Merchants association who will arrive in Vinita at 11:20.

## TULSA GRAND JURY DID NOT REPORT INDICTMENTS

Rumor That Jury Had Reached Partial Decision Has No Foundation—Asks Judge Marshall for More Instructions—Holds Jury Could Not Indict for Forgery—Law Bearing Upon Prosecutions Explained

Tulsa, Okla., May 22.—Although it was rumored last night that the grand jury that is reinvestigating the Muskogee town lot frauds, had reached a partial decision, late yesterday and would return indictments today against two of the men formerly involved in the alleged frauds, there was no intimation this morning that the jurors were ready to make any report. The examination of witnesses was continued.

Tulsa, Okla., May 22.—Keenest anticipation greeted the announcement last evening at 4:30 that the grand jury investigating the alleged land fraud conspiracy cases against Governor Haskell and other Muskogee citizens had a communication to deliver to Judge Marshall, in the federal court room.

The judge was immediately notified of the jury's request and hastened to the court room to receive the communication.

Following his appearance, Foreman Strain and the grand jury was ushered into his presence, and while the interest was aroused to keenest pitch.

## COUNTY ATTORNEY CONFESSES GUILT

Virgil Biggers of Pottawatomie County Implicates Others in Confession On Stand.

Shawnee, Okla., May 22.—Confessing his guilt and implicating others, Virgil Biggers, recently suspended as county attorney of Pottawatomie county, testified as a state witness in the bribery case on trial here, in which the district judge, W. N. Maben, is defendant. Maben and Biggers were indicted several weeks ago following charges by the Rev. Mr. Bulgin, an evangelist, who charged county officials with accepting bribes from bootleggers and gamblers of Shawnee.

Mr. Bulgin charged that in the past year \$125,000 had been paid for protection. Biggers told on the stand yesterday, a startling story of the compact. He said Judge Maben, himself and others met the bootleggers in conference, agreed upon terms and later accepted money brought to them by the county commissioner, Robert Hagar. The specific bribe mentioned is said to have been \$800, \$300 of which Biggers said he kept, giving Judge Maben \$400 and Robert Hagar \$100 for passing the money. This sum was delivered to Hagar in an envelope by Oat Johnson and L. B. Howell, jointists, also state witnesses Biggers said.

Following the testimony of Biggers, Johnson took the stand and reiterated the story of the conference and the passage of money. Hagar is yet to be called. He has made a statement to Attorney General West conforming with the evidence produced yesterday. It is said. The last witness yesterday was John Rogers, a gambler and jointist. He said he had paid for protection and was afterwards prosecuted, four indictments being returned against him in one week for selling liquor. Rogers went to Attorney General West and volunteered to give the necessary evidence to obtain the indictments.

The state is represented by Attorney General West and the state prohibitory law enforcement attorney, Mr. Caldwell, assisted by B. B. Blakeney. The defense has a strong array of lawyers. Their theory is that there is a combination to convict Judge Maben and that Blakeney, a personal enemy of the defendant, is responsible for the prosecution.

Judge Maben declined to make a statement regarding the charges.

## FINANCIAL TROUBLES IS CAUSE OF SUICIDE

Muskogee, Okla., May 22.—J. W. Carter, aged fifty, formerly superintendent of the Metropolitan street railway system at Kansas City, committed suicide in a room in the Commercial hotel at Council Hill, Okla., last night by shooting himself in the head. Carter left a note assigning financial troubles and the fact that he was growing blind as the motive.

## FURTHER PLANS TO ENTERTAIN ELKS

Arrangements Made For Street Decoration—Assurance From Other Towns of Attendance.

The Elks of the city met again this morning to further preparations for the installation exercises next Friday. All of the committees are busy with their work and everything points to a grand success. A contract has been made with the Oklahoma Decorating company, for the decoration of the streets of the city in the colors and emblems of the B. P. O. E.

Many of the merchants and business men of the city have also arranged for the decoration of their stores. Present indications are that Vinita will be dressed in gala attire as never before.

There will be at least two splendid bands, and in the evening these bands will give a concert on the streets for the benefit of the public. A special train will leave Sapulpa shortly after noon on the 28th and will bring the delegations from Sapulpa, Tulsa and Bartlesville, the latter joining the special at Tulsa. A letter from the Monett lodge says they will be well represented. The other towns in this district will send delegations.

## OKLAHOMA REPORT READY FOR PUBLIC

Now Contains 950 Pages of Well Edited Opinions of Supreme Court And is Handsome Book.

Guthrie, Okla., May 22.—Volume 20 of the Oklahoma Reports, containing the opinions of the supreme court delivered during the first five months of statehood, is now out and ready for distribution. It is a handsome book of 350 pages, well edited and indexed. The price charged for Oklahoma State Reports contrasts strikingly with the prices prevailing during territorial days—just one half as much, notwithstanding the new volumes contain 25 per cent more matter.

The office of state reporter is a busy one these days. Proof reading is in progress on the session laws 1909, and volume 21 of the supreme court reports, while the reporter is compiling decisions for volume 22 of the latter and volume 1 of the Oklahoma criminal reports. The great volume of opinions being handed down by the two higher courts keeps the reporting department on the jump. Enough opinions have accumulated to fill almost two volumes for the criminal court of appeals and four for the supreme court. Reporter Parker hopes, within a few months to catch up with the heavy output. However, the work of putting into print the law of the state is necessarily a slow process. It requires infinite pains and patience. After the weeks of careful work required for the compilation of a volume, then some sixty days must be allowed for printing and proof reading.

Col. James T. Rogers, father of Chas. B. Rogers, is visiting his son for a few days, from his home in Indiana. Col. Rogers is a veteran of the Civil war and one of the oldest and most prominent lawyers of southern Indiana.

# CHILDREN'S WEEK

Beginning TUESDAY the 25th

Ending MONDAY the 31st

--a six days' sale and special display of everything needed in boys' and girls' apparel for the last day of school and vacation time.

See Monday Evening's "Chieftain" For Particulars



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