

## ADOPT NEW RULES

### SCHOOL LAND LEASING BOARD MAKES NEW RULING

#### CONDITIONS FOR ASSIGNMENT OF LEASES

Plans by Which Leases are Collateral on Loans—The School Land Lessee, the Territory and Money Lender are Protected.

**GUTHRIE:** The following new ruling has been adopted by the territorial school land leasing board and is important to lessees everywhere:

Rule 29—Lessees of school lands may assign their leases as collateral security for a loan under the following conditions:

(a). The assignment to be executed in duplicate upon a special form provided by the department and signed by the lessee and also by his wife in case of a married man, and properly acknowledged before the notary public.

(b). One copy of the assignment accompanied by the lease must be filed in the office of the School Land department within fifteen days after the assignment is made, and a filing fee of one dollar (\$1) be paid therefor, the other copy to be retained by assignee. All assignments to be null and void unless so filed.

(c). Lessees to have sixty days after the maturity of the loan for redemption of assignment by paying the full amount of principal and interest to date.

(d). After redemption period has expired if the loan is not paid the case may be advertised for thirty days in a paper of general circulation in the county wherein the land is located and sold to the highest bidder, said advertisement to designate date, hour and place of sale, the place to be at the place of business of the assignee or the front door of the court house of the county wherein the land is located.

(e). The proceeds of the sale to be applied as follows: First, in payment of all past due rents and assessments due the territory; second, in payment of the cost of advertising and sale; third, in payment of loan and interests; the residue to go to the lessee making the assignment.

(f). In case of advertisement of the lease for sale a copy of said advertisement must be mailed the secretary of the school land board in a registered letter and received by him not less than twenty days before date of sale.

(g). Full report of the sale and proposed distribution of proceeds of sale must be submitted to the department under oath for approval before the sale will be ratified and a new lease executed to the purchaser, and no sale will be ratified if the price paid is not three-fourths of the appraised value of the improvements.

(h). When the canceled duplicate assignment or other satisfactory evidence of payment of the loan is presented to the department the assignment will be cancelled and released on the books of the department and the lease returned to the lessee.

**Indian Territory Murderer Arrested**  
**EAST ST. LOUIS:** Ben Garrett, 23 years old, was arrested at the national stock yards on the charge of having killed Mrs. Mary Cantatecos at Borden, I. T., on May 28. The arrest was made by detectives who recognized him from a description as he was trying to get a check cashed at the National Stock Yards bank on a bank at Borden. After he had been taken to the police station, he admitted his identity and confessed he had killed the woman, but he claimed that he did so in self defense.

## ALLOTMENTS OF LAND

### Regulations Governing Them Set Out From Washington

**MUSKOGEE:** The Dawes commission has received from the interior department regulations governing the allotment of lands by the Delaware-Cherokee citizens. Indian Agent Shoenfelt, who has been designated by President Roosevelt to appraise the improvements upon the surplus holdings of the Delawares, has also received a set of regulations relative to his part of the work.

The secretary's instructions to the commission provide that the Delawares shall be permitted to select their allotments in advance of the regular numbers and the same right is given them to contest proceedings as other citizens of the nation. They must have their rights of citizenship approved by the secretary of the interior. In case of any contest, however, the commission is to withhold from allotment the improved lands in question until the case is finally settled.

The Delawares are to be notified at once of the advantages thus given them, and if any member shall not, within ten days from the date of such notice, select the allotments which he and his family are lawfully entitled to the commission is authorized to locate the improvements of such citizens and designate his allotments.

Mr. Shoenfelt is instructed to make a personal inspection of the improvements of the Delaware surplus lands and, where necessary, require the affidavits of both the vendor and the vendee, where application has been made to sell such improvements. He and the commission are to work together in so far as the rights to citizenship and the possession of the improvements in question are concerned.

It is estimated that there are about 200,000 acres of improved lands in excess of what the Delawares are entitled to hold as allotments.

#### Came Near Drowning

**STROUD:** While driving from the Sac and Fox agency Mr. and Mrs. Blumenthal of Prague came near being drowned. Their horses stepped off the graded road and fell into a deep body of water. The horses were drowned, but the occupants of the vehicle escaped with their lives.

#### KANSAS MARRIAGE NO GOOD

**Cherokees Have to Wed Again to Save Rights of Their Children**

**BARTLESVILLE:** A wedding ceremony which, it is believed, is without precedent in the Indian Territory, took place at the Baptist parsonage here. Mr. and Mrs. John Crittendon, both Cherokee citizens, were married by the Rev. Mr. Brendel for the second time within two years, although there never had been a separation. While the ceremony was performed, the mother held in her arms her one-year-old infant.

Mr. and Mrs. Crittendon's first marriage was in Kansas, under the laws of that state. It was supposed that a Kansas marriage was good and valid to all intents and purposes until they applied a short time ago to the Dawes commission to have their child enrolled as a Cherokee citizen, when they were informed that a marriage under the territorial laws would be necessary before the babe could be considered a legitimate citizen. Rather than permit the infant to lose its allotment of land and also its pro rata of the tribal funds and appropriations, the father and mother decided to remarry, under a license issued in the Cherokee nation.

#### Summer Normal at Snyder

**SNYDER:** The Kiowa county summer normal commenced here with seventy-five teachers in attendance. The normal is in charge of County Superintendent W. P. Stewart, and will last four weeks.

## THREE DROWNED

### A CLOUDBURST AT MILL CREEK SWELLS THE STREAM

#### MANY ARE COMPELLED TO LEAVE HOME

**Pennington and Mill Creeks Are Higher Than Ever Before Known—Homes Are Washed Away—Frisco Track Washed Out**

**MILL CREEK:** During a heavy rain Friday night a cloudburst occurred one mile north of town, drowning three persons and doing great damage to crops. Three Mile creek, a small spring branch just west of town, became a raging torrent, one-half mile wide. Pennington and Mill creeks are higher than ever known, and have swept all before them. The persons drowned were Mrs. R. H. Wilson and baby, 2 years old, and Miss Fay Davis, daughter of W. E. Davis, engineer at the Lester gin.

The Wilson house stood near the creek bank, and was carried half a mile down stream. It is not known whether the occupants attempted to escape, as the flood occurred at 3 o'clock in the morning. The bodies of the women were found lodged in trees in Spring creek, and the child's body was found floating.

Many other families along the stream were compelled to leave their homes, among them being S. L. Martin, the Frisco agent. Water was two feet deep on the floor of the house, which is near the depot. The residence of Ben Reynolds was washed away.

About 200 feet of the Frisco railroad track was washed from the grade, but was soon repaired and traffic was resumed. All efforts to locate R. H. Wilson, the husband of the drowned woman, have been in vain. He left here two days before the flood for the Kansas wheat fields, and is now supposed to be somewhere in Oklahoma.

Fear is felt that many people in the lowlands did not escape, as the rise of the streams was so sudden.

#### FLOOD WAS SEVERE

**Hundreds of Miles of Fence Washed Away—Town Destroyed**

**MILL CREEK:** Reports coming in from all directions indicate that the flood of Friday was much worse than anticipated. No more lives are reported lost, but damage to crops has been quite severe in the Pennington and Blue bottoms, the river going over the tops of some of the houses. One man took refuge in a wagon, which he chained to a tree. The current was very swift, and the water went down almost as quickly as it came up. Hundreds of miles of fence have been washed away, and the little town of York, twenty miles northeast of here, is reported entirely lost.

#### Suing for Bonus

**SHAWNEE:** The sheriff and his deputies have just served 201 of the leading business men and property owners of this city with summons to either make answer to or default before July 6, a suit filed against them as guarantors of the payment of right of way bonus to the Missouri, Kansas & Texas railway, the sum of \$18,000 being yet unpaid. The bondsmen are individually responsible under its terms, and are worth many more times the amount. This suit is brought against more defendants than any other ever filed in Oklahoma, and it is now the intention to fight it to the supreme court.

#### Three Times Robbed

**MUSKOGEE:** The Phoenix clothing house was burglarized one night recently and \$205 and some clothing taken. This store has been robbed three times within a year.

## LIBERTY BELL AT THE FAIR

**Historic Relic Arrives at St. Louis to Remain During the Exposition**

**ST. LOUIS:** The historic Liberty bell has arrived from Philadelphia, in response to the petition of 30,000 public school children of this city, and will remain in the Pennsylvania building until the close of the fair.

Mayor John Weaver of Philadelphia and other city officials who accompanied the bell, were escorted to their hotel, where they were called upon by Mayor Wells, President Francis of the exposition and other officials. The entire party then proceeded to the Union station, where the bell had been placed on a specially prepared float, and accompanied by a squad of mounted police and a long line of military organizations, the famous old bell was taken to the exposition, where formal exercises were carried out.

The gates had been thrown open to the school children of the city, and the day had been proclaimed a holiday by Mayor Wells. It is estimated that over 50,000 school children formed a portion of the immense throngs that greeted the bell when it entered the grounds. The ceremonies were held in the plaza of St. Louis. A chorus of 1,000 high school pupils sang "Concord," after which Chairman Henry Clay of the joint special committee of councils of Philadelphia presented Liberty bell to the exposition.

#### MANY FARMS AT STAKE

**Date of the Burning of a Pest House an Important Matter**

**MUSKOGEE:** The Dawes commission has in hand the settling of an important case, which, when adjusted, will have a bearing on many more of a similar nature. In this particular case the right to ten fine farms in the Creek nation by the allottees is the point to be settled.

In the latter part of 1898 there was an epidemic of smallpox in the Creek nation and many deaths were the result. Pest houses were established all over the nation and the federal government, in conjunction with the Creek nation officials, made an effort, successfully, to stamp out the disease. In one of these pesthouses occurred the death of the ten parties to whom was allotted the farms in question. This was about the first of April, 1899. It is claimed that parties who died prior to that time were not entitled to allotment, and where deaths occurred after that the allotments went to the heirs of the deceased.

The ten allottees mentioned were all full-blood Indians, and were properly enrolled by the Dawes commission. The Creek nation since claims to have proof that the deaths of the parties in question occurred before the date mentioned. It is claimed that the pest house was burned about April 1, 1899. The date of the burning of this particular pesthouse is the important point in the question, for if it was burned before April 1, 1899, the Creek government will have won the case and the heirs of the allottees will have to vacate the valuable lands now held by them.

If these heirs or allottees lose in this case many others of a similar nature will likewise lose their allotment.

All the work of investigation has to be done through an interpreter, and the old records do not amount to much, as they were not properly kept.

Sheriff Carpenter of Logan county arrested John Gates, ex-city marshal of the negro town of Langston, for the murder of Councilman A. L. Yates. Gates and two other negroes were accused by Yates in his dying statement. The trouble grew out of the recent city election.

The third annual session of the B. T. U. was held in Enid last week.