

REPORT OF GRAND JURY

Many Recommendations Made For the Betterment of the County's Affairs.

Report of the Grand Jury of and for Lafayette County, Missouri, August Term, 1912, Hon. John A. Rich, Judge of the Criminal Court of Lafayette County, Missouri.

Lexington, Missouri.

Sir:

We, the Grand Jury, duly empaneled, sworn and charged to inquire within and for the body of Lafayette County, Missouri, respectfully submit the following, our final report.

We visited, by committee, the poor farm of the County and found the house clean and in good condition, and upon questioning the inmates they said, without exception, that they were well cared for, had abundant nourishing food and were well satisfied with their home and surroundings, and all spoke highly of Mr. Kinkoad and his treatment of them; the only suggestion we have to make is that our opinion, present prices considered the price per day paid to Mr. Kinkoad for caring for these unfortunates is not sufficient, as the margin between the price paid and cost of maintenance is not sufficient to give him a just recompense for his work.

We find the barn on the poor farm in bad condition, and same should be rebuilt, or at least repaired before the winter season.

We have examined the several county offices, and find them kept in a fairly clean condition and the books kept in fairly good condition, and as neatly kept as it may be possible to keep them; we find that several volumes in the Recorder's Office need rebinding and should be attended to as regards binding.

We find that the office of the County Treasurer is not provided with protection of any kind from fire, and all books and papers in his custody are liable to loss in the event of fire, and recommend that a fire proof safe be furnished him.

We recommend that the County Court cause a door to be placed between the office of Prosecuting Attorney and the Grand Jury room; we note this has been recommended by former Grand Juries and has not been acted on, and we regard it as necessary, not only as a matter of convenience to the public officers, but it would greatly facilitate the work of every Grand Jury hereafter to have this change made.

The toilet rooms of the Court House are in bad condition and unsanitary, and should be repaired, fumigated and thoroughly cleaned at once.

We find some of the County Officers badly cramped for room, some others that office outside the Court House Buildings for the reason that no room is provided for them in the public buildings; we also find that a large part of the first floor of the Main building, generally called the lower court room, is not used for any purpose, others than an occasional public gathering, which could be accommodated up-stairs, and as a place to vote. We recommend that this lower room be remodeled into offices, a vault be built for the County Clerk adjoining the vault in the Collector's office, and the office of the County Clerk moved to the first floor of the Main Building where it would not only



WOODROW WILSON
Scholar and Statesman, Democratic Candidate for President.

have ample room, but would adjoin the County Court room, then the vacated Clerk's office and the remainder of the lower court room would provide ample office room for all county officers not now provided with offices.

A steel shutter should be placed on the window to the vault in the Sheriff's office. The doors of the Main Building are in bad condition, the ceiling of the porch on same building is in bad condition, and several of the offices should be redecorated.

The seats recently placed in the Court House yard have encouraged loafing, cause the sod to be destroyed, and are very unsightly, we recommend they be removed at once, and that the Court House yard be resodded where necessary, and placed in such condition that it will be an ornament to the City, and one of the beauty spots of the County and an indication of the prosperity and progress of our people, and when placed in that condition that it be kept that way.

One of the fire shutters on a window in the Probate Office is in a state of decay and should be repaired or replaced with a new one.

We have inspected the County Jail and find the prisoners as well cared for as is possible with the building and equipment furnished; repairs necessary to make the jail safe, as to holding prisoners and to prevent possible harm to officers by vicious criminals, would be too expensive, the value of the present building considered, to recommend, therefore no general repairs or alterations are recommended, but instead we report that in our opinion a new modern jail should

be erected, where sexes and races could be better separated, with room enough to keep first offenders and young prisoners from associating with hardened criminals, where possibility of escape would be reduced to the minimum, and personal safety assured those placed in charge of prisoners; we find two jail doors can only be closed with great difficulty, and they should be repaired; the bath tub provided for the jailer and his household is unsanitary, and should be taken out and replaced with modern appliances.

Respectfully submitted,
JOHN M. POAGE,
Foreman.

Shooting Scrape.

Friday afternoon about three o'clock a little excitement was created on Main street by a pair of colored brethren. Walter Hardman shot and wounded Stump Hayes. In the morning Hayes had cursed Hardman. Hayes then went home, armed himself and returns with the purpose of killing his tormentor. They meet on Main street and the shooting commences. Hardman's gun was not in the best of condition and failed to explode, the third time she popped, and the ball went through Hayes' hand. Before another shot could be fired Hayes was out of range.

Ida Gosewisch Kriegsk Dead.
Word has been received here that Ida Gosewisch, a former resident of this city, died in Verden, Germany, July 23, at the age of 53 years. Her death was due to pneumonia.

For Sale.

A few Poland Gilt bred for Fall litters.

A. P. YOUNG.

Criminal Court.

The following cases were disposed of Saturday:

In the case of the State vs. Sam Scott, charged with rape, the jury found the defendant not guilty.

William Hutchason enters plea of guilty to rape and is sentenced to five years in the penitentiary; paroled.

Sam Moore enters plea of guilty to larceny from person in night time and is sentenced to three years in the penitentiary.

John Knox enters plea of guilty to passing forged check and is sentenced to two years in the penitentiary; also enters plea of guilty to charge of rape and is sentenced to five years in the penitentiary.

Walter Calnese enters plea of guilty to passing forged check and is sentenced to two years in the penitentiary; also enters plea of guilty to charge of rape and is sentenced to five years in the penitentiary.

Sylvester Basey enters plea of guilty to carrying concealed weapons and is fined \$100.00.

The boy scouts of Lexington are always on the alert to assist in every commendable undertaking, but one thing it appears they have overlooked. On driving about the city many of the streets present a back woods appearance on account of the luxuriant growth of weeds. The chief scout, no doubt, will grasp this opportunity to contribute to the city beautiful, and will call out his battalion and make a charge upon the obnoxious enemies.

Mrs. Chas. Keith and two daughters, Misses Nadine and Aileen, went to Kansas City yesterday for a few days' visit.

LEXINGTON PARK ASSOCIATION

Formed to Acquire "Goose Pond" for Public Play Ground.

A Lexington Park Association was formed Wednesday with E. J. McGrew, president; Col. Sandford Sellers, vice-president; W. J. Bandon, secretary; Walter B. Waddell, treasurer, and E. N. Hopkins, Jas. R. Moorehead and Walter B. Waddell, trustees.

The purpose of this association is one of the most commendable ever undertaken for the betterment of Lexington, that of acquiring "Goose Pond" and some of the land adjacent for a public play ground. "Goose Pond" has long been an eye sore to the people of Lexington, lying as it does on the Main street of the city, where the travel is heavy, and where more visitors pass than any place in town, it has been a problem to generations what to do with the unsightly hole. But, as in every other problem in the beautification and permanent improvement of Lexington, a solution has come, and it is generally to the credit of her citizens that they respond liberally when convinced that it is the proper thing to do.

This association will secure all the land in "Goose Pond," the land adjacent, provide for the sewerage, the grading its beautification, and then turn the same over to the Lexington School Board for a public play ground. Several thousand dollars will be needed to do all this, and a canvass of the town will be made, so that everyone will have an opportunity to contribute to the realization of this

magnificent plan for a centrally located play ground, and the eradication of this unsightly and unhealthy hole.

Oscar Proctor Drowned.

Oscar Proctor, son of Jerry Proctor, a former resident of this county, but now living in Kansas City, was drowned Sunday afternoon in Nebraska. He is survived by his wife, who was formerly Miss Ella Warren, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. R. F. Warren of Higginsville. The funeral was held in Kansas City Tuesday, and the body was brought to Lexington Wednesday morning and buried directly from the train.

The following spent yesterday in Higginsville at the county fair: Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Sydnor, Mr. and Mrs. John Sturgis, Misses Anna and Nell Murrs and Miss Laura Abbot, C. A. Keith, Miss Carrie Loomis, Mrs. Claude Marquis, Misses Mary and Mattie Marquis, Misses Kathryn and Ruth Ashurst, Miss Laura Winkler, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Clapp, G. M. Long, George Weis, Clyde, Matthew and Wilford Kenney, Louis Gruber, Mr. and Mrs. T. A. Walker, W. M. Deweese and daughter, Miss Atha, J. G. Worthington, and daughter, Miss Katherine, and Miss Clifflie Dillingham.

Mr. and Mrs. F. L. Davis returned yesterday to St. Louis after a visit with Mrs. Davis' father, Dr. G. W. Bates. Barrett Bates accompanied them home for a visit.

Mrs. W. J. Bandon and two children, Wm. and Margaret, went to Kansas City yesterday for a few days' visit.

Notice to Parents and Guardians

Provisions of Compulsory Attendance Law

Article 6, chapter 106, R. S. 1909 and Session Acts, 1911.

(To be posted by the District Clerk 10 days before school opens.)

1. Every child between 8 and 14 years old must attend some day school at least three-fourths of the term each year.
2. Every child between 14 and 16 years old, when not regularly employed, must attend some school day at least three-fourths of the term each year.
3. No child can be excused on promise to attend; he must attend the first three-fourths of the term before being excused under this law.
4. Courts having jurisdiction (Justice of the Peace in rural districts and in cities having less than 50,000 population) may excuse children from attending school for following reasons: (1) Parents cannot supply proper clothing; (2) child is mentally or physically unable to attend; (3) no public school in two and a half miles of the home; (4) child has completed the common school course.
5. No child under 14 can be employed except at agricultural pursuits and in domestic service unless excused for one of the four reasons, or has statement from teacher that he has already attended three-fourths of the term for that school year; no child between 14 and 16 can be legally employed without an employment certificate issued by the school authorities.
6. It is the duty of attendance officers and district clerks to notify parents and guardians when children fail to comply with the provisions of the law.
7. The secretary or clerk of board must furnish principal or teacher at beginning of term with copy of enumeration. The principal or teacher must compare the list with enrollment and report at the end of each week during the first month, and as often as necessary after that, the names of non-attendants.
8. The clerk or secretary of board must report to the County Superintendent on or before the end of each of the first three quarters of the school term the names of parents or guardians of non-attendants.
9. The penalty for non-attendance falls on parent or guardian, and is a fine of not more than \$25 or imprisonment for 10 days or both.
10. For illegal employment of a child, the employer is subject to a fine of one hundred dollars and costs and imprisonment for one year.
11. Every school board shall publish this synopsis in newspaper of the district or post it in at least five public places ten days before school opens each year.