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Lexington Mercantile Co.
THE QUALITY STORE

INDIANS ENRICHED BY OIL STRIKES

Oklahoma Lands Where Fortunes Are Made Daily Owned by Red Men.

From the New York Sun.

Always, it would seem, that when a new oil and gas field is brought in in Oklahoma it is the Indian land owner who reaps the benefit. The Cherokee, Creeks, Delawares and Osages owned the country where the first Oklahoma oil wells were discovered, then the Pawnees were enriched by the Cleveland field, the Otoes and Poncas by the Ponca City field.

The Creeks, or rather the Snake band of Creeks, the Sacs and Foxes, the Iowas and the Pawnees are being made wealthy by the developed Cushing field. The wildcatting that is being conducted from the Cushing field south toward Stroud and Chandler, west toward Guthrie and north toward the Cleveland oil field, is further enriching the Indians.

The former reservation of the Pawnees extended southward to

within a few miles of Cushing, joining the reservations of the Iowas and the Sacs and Foxes. In fact it was the Pawnee tribe, following the opening of old Oklahoma territory to white settlement in 1889, that threatened the last massacre of whites in what is now Oklahoma. In 1875 the Pawnees had been moved southward from Nebraska to their Oklahoma reservation, following a long period of wars with the Sioux and numerous raids on white settlers, including what is known as the Little Blue massacre, one of the bloodiest ever executed.

Among the Pawnees brought to Oklahoma in 1875 was George Shooter at least that is the name given him by the English, and although now more than 90 years old he still boasts of his prowess as a warrior against the Sioux, going back even to the terrific battles waged against the Pawnees by Red Cloud. In fact, Shooter claims to have been the scalper expert of his tribe in Nebraska.

Coming Oil King.
As evidence of the boasted

proress Shooter now possesses a string of 300 scalps, taken alike from red and white men. He claims that he took all the scalps himself. Some of the ghastly specimens he points to with unusual pride, being taken from Red Cloud's Sioux warriors, while others were obtained on raids. On the string hangs side by side the scalps of Sioux, Cheyenne, Omaha, Cherokee, Osage, Apache, Crow, Arapahoe, Iowa and white-trooper, trapper, emigrant, warrior and squaw, and occasionally, too, the scalp of a white child or papoose.

This string of scalps is greatly treasured by Shooter on his allotment on Camp Creek, and frequently by his order his squaws hang them on the tepee poles to air, thus keeping them free from mould. To the stranger passing the Shooter place the string of scalps flying in the breeze means nothing for only the expert can recognize these ghastly war trophies. Shooter claims to have participated, too, in the Sioux massacre, when Custer and his troopers were butchered, and says that some of his scalps were obtained in that fight.

Shooter's land allotment is within the Cushing-Cleveland oil belt, being twelve miles north of Cushing city, and he has leased it for oil and gas purposes. It is not unlikely that drilling will be started on his land within the near future, and this owner of 300 scalps may become wealthy as an oil king.

Shooter is always ready to display his trophies, to relate their history and to interpret the heraldic designs of the Pawnee tribe. There are many bands among the Pawnees, including the Chowees and the Ske-dees, and each band has an emblem some bird or animal, much like the custom of the European nations during the Dark Ages. Outside the tepees of the Pawnees was also carved the heraldic design of the family within—an eagle, an owl, wild turkey, panther, bear or other animal. The Pawnees, more than any other Oklahoma tribe, in fact, lay stress on these heraldic designs. Running Eagle, for years one of the tribe's principal chiefs, always claimed that his ancestors was the American eagle.

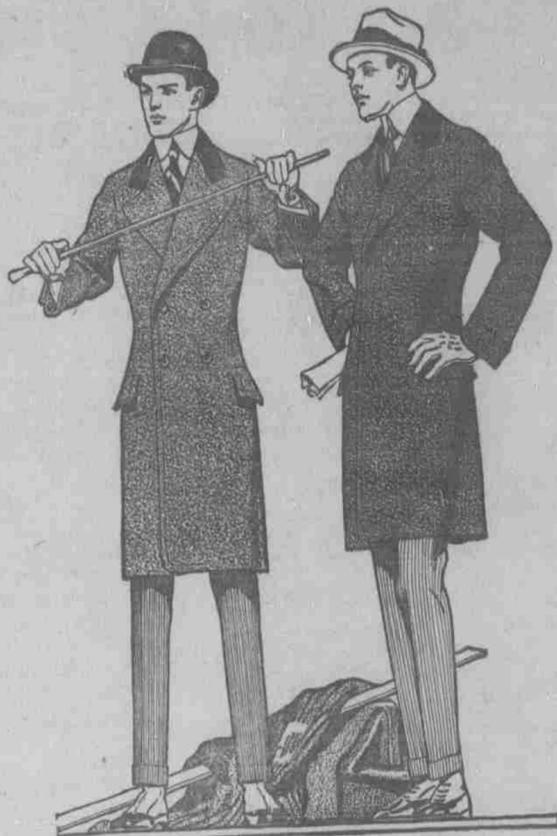
Shooter denies personal knowledge of the threatened uprising of the Pawnees against the white settlers in Oklahoma during the winter of 1889-90, but it became so serious at that time, nevertheless, that the citizens of Stillwater and vicinity built a blockhouse just outside the town limits of Stillwater as a place of safety for the women and children in case the Pawnee did get warlike.

Curley Chief and several other warriors were advocating the uprising, declaring the whites intended to drive the Indians away from their Oklahoma lands. The first year in Oklahoma had been a hard one on the new settlers and in a majority of instances men of the families were away from home, having gone to Kansas and other States where they could get work during the winter. This left only the women and children at home and many of them were at the mercy of the Indians. The blockhouse was therefore, erected and a stockade.

Ghost Dance Fight.

The Pawnees held a big ghost dance, during which it was expected the Indians would decide whether or not they would attack the settlers. The advocates of war believed this dance would encourage all the warriors to join with them. Mat Duhr, the veteran newspaper man, who has spent many years among the Indians, was sent by the whites to learn if possible what the Indians intended doing.

Duhr remained all night in a corner very near where the



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By the Million at JONES'



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Winter is a gloomy season for the sick and afflicted. Their comfort should be considered and everything supplied which may hasten their recovery.

Science has devised many aids which minister to the comfort of the sick, and more of them would be used if people knew about them. We carry a complete line of

HOT WATER BOTTLES, ICE BAGS, RUBBER SHEETING, BED PANS, AIR CUSHIONS, SICK FEEDERS, MEDICINE GLASSES, MEDICINE DROPPERS, ETC.

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DRUGGISTS

Mrs. Laurence G. Peak went to Kansas City Tuesday for a few days' visit.

Mrs. Margaret McIntyre went to St. Louis Tuesday for a visit with her son, Matthew McIntyre.

Arthur Kriehn returned to Kansas City Monday after a visit here with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Kriehn.

Miss Margaret Warder returned Tuesday from a visit in Sedalia.

Pawnees were dancing, attending to learn what the Indians were saying. The weather was extremely cold and Duhr almost froze, but he did not dare leave the crib until daylight. The cooler heads among the Pawnees, headed by Rickaree Tom, finally talked the Indians out of making an attack.

After building the blockhouse and stockade, arrangements were made to send up skyrocketts to alarm the settlers and call them to the stockade in case the Pawnees started on the war-path. All of this country is now included in the Cushing and Cleveland oil fields and is rapidly becoming one of the wealthiest sections of the entire State.

John Bray and Leroy Clark spent Sunday in Kansas City.

Dr. R. L. Britt went to Kansas City Tuesday morning to spend the day on business.

Mrs. I. G. Neele went to Kansas City Tuesday to spend the day.

Mrs. Fannie Stonestreet went to Kansas City Tuesday for a brief visit.

Mr. and Mrs. Z. A. Wright went to Kansas City Tuesday morning for a few days' visit.

H. C. Chiles went to Kansas City Wednesday to spend the day on business.

Sheriff William H. Waddell delivered the election supplies through the county Wednesday, for the election to be held in Lafayette county Dec. 9, 1915.