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WILSON CHOSEN FOR NEW SPEAKER

Murray Forces Completed in the Democratic Caucus Yesterday—Clark Defeated Jones.

Guthrie, Okla., Jan. 5.—Ben Wilson is the choice of the democratic caucus for speaker of the Oklahoma house of representatives, with Ben Harrison as speaker pro-tempore and Bert Tillotson as caucus chairman and as floor leader of the majority. Such is the result of yesterday's caucus. Representative Terrall of Hobart was placed in nomination by the Murrayites but withdrew making Wilson's election unanimous.

The selection of Wilson for the house of honor, is a distinct and decisive defeat for the Murray element of state democratic politics. With Wilson in the chair, the Murray influence will be of no avail in shaping legislation.

A committee of seven, Tillotson as chairman was named to submit a list of the employees needed to carry on the work of the house. In their report to the caucus last night the republicans were given two stenographers.

In the minority caucus yesterday, Ed. L. Clark of Pawnee was chosen as minority floor leader over "Gristmill" Jones of Oklahoma City, and Harry Beeler of Checotah receiving the like minority honor in the upper house. As chairman of the house caucus, Partridge of Cherokee secured the prize while Harper Cunningham of Logan county was given the same honor in the senate.

The Jones forces for the house minority leadership failed to develop and before the caucus was called Clark's selection was conceded.

STANDARD OIL CASE WILL BE RE-DOCKETED

By Associated Press
Chicago, Ill., Jan. 5.—United States district Attorney Sims today made the first comment on yesterday's decision of the supreme court in the twenty-nine million dollar fine case of the Standard Oil company. "The big case will be re-docketed within a few days," said he "and may be on trial within two weeks."

FAST PASSENGER TRAINS RUNS INTO OPEN SWITCH

Huntington, W. Va., Jan. 5.—The fast flying Virginian passenger train on the Chesapeake & Ohio railroad ran into an open switch early today at Caperton, seventy miles east of here. The train went hurtling into the side of the steep embankment. Thomas Edwards engineer and Peter Trent fireman, were instantly killed.

TROOPS REQUIRED TO QUELL RELIGIOUS RIOT IN INDIA

By Associated Press
Calcutta, India, Jan. 5.—The religious riots between the Mohammedans and Hindus have taken a more serious turn again, requiring the active intervention of the British troops, today, at Titaghur, who fired on the Hindu mob.

LIEUTENANT WARNS KING OF PLOT OF TRAITORS

By Associated Press
Lisbon, Portugal, Jan. 7.—During a banquet, given by the officers of the army in this city last night, at which King Emanuel was present, a lieutenant publicly warned his Majesty that a plot to dethrone him, was in the course of preparation, and that he was surrounded by spies and traitors. Extra guards are on duty around the royal palace today.

YOUTH OF NINETEEN CONVICTED OF MURDER

By Associated Press
Bridgeton, N. J., Jan. 6.—Walter Heller, nineteen years old, a Vineland youth charged, with two companions, with the murder of Heller's grandfather, William "Mad," was convicted of murder in the first degree today.

BILL HIGGINS APPOINTED TO BARTLESVILLE JOB

Washington, D. C., Jan. 5.—President Roosevelt turned down not only the state machine, but also Congressman-elect Creeger in making the appointment of postmaster for Bartlesville and yesterday sent to the senate the appointment of Wm. Higgins. He also named Frank V. Wright to be postmaster at Lawton.

FREIGHT DEPOT AT MUSKOGEE ROBBED

Blew Open Safe and Escaped With About \$2,000, More than Half of Which was Checks

Muskogee, Jan. 5.—Early yesterday morning, safe crackers entered the Frisco freight depot in this city and blowing open the safe, secured nearly \$2,000 in money and checks. The robbers were very skillfully executed, the men using nitroglycerine and an ordinary ten cent syringe to inject the explosive. No clue was left that would give the police a trace of the robbers.

The robbery was discovered about 6:30 yesterday morning by assistant Passenger Agent Carter, who went to the freight office for his cash box and tickets. As there is no safe in the passenger station, it is Carter's custom to place the office cash in the freight safe.

The following is the list of checks and amounts which were taken:
Muskogee Crushed Stone Co. \$ 27.08
Phoenix Transfer Co. 85.80
Muskogee Transfer Co. 29.84
Muskogee Cotton Oil Co. 764.68
Midland Mill & Elevator Co. 196.65
H. E. Ketchum 126.50
M. K. & T. draft 49.55

These checks are all executed in favor of Freight Agent Stebbins. Mr. Stebbins immediately notified all the banks of the robbery, furnished them lists of the checks and instructed that if any were presented that payment be stopped.

EXPERT REPORTS COUNTY TREASURER \$4,000 SHORT

By Associated Press
Independence, Kas., Jan. 6.—The expert, who has been at work on the books of F. E. Stubblefield, treasurer of Montgomery county, made his report today, showing an illegal shortage, of four thousand dollars. Stubblefield offered to make up the shortage, pending a further examination of the books.

MRS. HENRY HOLDERMAN PASSED AWAY LAST NIGHT

It is with the deepest regret that the many friends of Mrs. Henry Holderman learn of her death which came at six o'clock last evening.

Mrs. Holderman is the wife of Henry Holderman, formerly night policeman here and has many warm friends to mourn her death. Mrs. Holderman leaves a husband and five children, three girls and two boys. The remains will be laid to rest tomorrow at Chetopa, Kans.

WIDOW OF NIGHT RIDER VICTIM IN COURT ROOM

By Associated Press
Union City, Tenn., Jan. 5.—For the first time during the trial of the night riders, Mrs. Quentin Rankin, widow of the man for whose murder eight alleged night riders are now on trial, was in court today when the arguments began. Major Hal Holmes opened the argument for the state.

PROSPECTIVE SECRETARY OF NAVY AT AUGUSTA

By Associated Press
Augusta, Ga., Jan. 5.—Robert M. Thompson of New York who has been prominently mentioned as the probable secretary of navy in Taft's cabinet arrived here today.

FIRE DESTROYS BALDWIN THEATRE AT SPRINGFIELD

More Than \$250,000 Loss is Estimate of Early Morning Disaster--Colonial Hotel Suffered Great Damage But Was Not Destroyed--Explosion of Gas in Basement of Theatre Starts Disastrous Blaze--Chief of Fire Department the Only Person Injured.

By Associated Press
Springfield Mo., Jan. 6.—A fire broke out at 12:15 o'clock this morning in the Baldwin theatre and office building, completely destroying that structure and a number of other buildings in the business district, and badly damaged the Colonial hotel. The total loss is estimated at two hundred and fifty thousand dollars.

Fire Chief Kanada was the only person hurt and his injuries are not serious.

The fire was caused by an explosion of gas in the basement of the theatre. A strong wind fanned the flame, which spread to Dr. Nixon's office building, an adjoining \$35,000 structure which was completely gutted. The Colonial hotel, a steel building, also suffered the burning of most of the furnishings of the rooms on one side of the hotel. The loss to this building will exceed \$100,000. All of the hotel guests escaped uninjured.

At an early hour today the fire was still burning but under control.

NO COMPLAINT OF ANNIS AT DINNER

Hains Denies That He Told Brothers' Wife That He Had Threatened Annis' Life

By Associated Press
Flushing, N. Y., Jan. 6.—Thornton J. Hains, became slightly ill just before the court opened today but recovered quickly. The cross examination was resumed. Hains denied that at a dinner with Capt. Hains and his wife over a year ago that he had complained bitterly of Annis, because his manuscripts had been refused. The witness said he had learned from servants that Annis often visited the home of Capt. Hains.

MRS. BRANSON SELECTED AS CHIEF STENOGRAPHER

Guthrie, Ok., Jan. 7.—Mrs. Fred P. Branson of Muskogee, whom Speaker Murray forced to resign last season, was made assistant chief stenographer of the house yesterday. The house cheered when her appointment was announced. Branson will be here too, as a representative of the state committee.

Ross Lillard of Oklahoma City, who was forced out of the office of the secretary of state to avoid a scandal, was made law clerk.

DOGS ARE NEW ELEMENT OF DANGER IN REFUGEES

By Associated Press
Messina, Jan. 6.—Dogs now constitute the greatest element of danger to the refugees. These animals are starving and often rabid from suffering. They gnaw the corpses like hyenas and frequently attack the refugees themselves. Many people are shooting all vagrant dogs at sight.

COMMITTEE WILL RESUME PRISON INVESTIGATION

By Associated Press
Topeka, Kans., Jan. 6.—The committee appointed by Governor Hoch left for Lansing today to resume the penitentiary investigation. The Oklahoma committee agreed to return Thursday.

PECULIAR AFFAIR OCCURS AT STIGLER

Thos. H. Owen Goes to Assist Haskell County Prosecutor in Sixty Liquor Cases

Muskogee, Jan. 7.—Special Prosecutor Thomas H. Owen, who represents the state in the liquor prosecutions, received an urgent request yesterday from R. E. Lozier, state dispensary agent, to proceed to Stigler, Ok., today to assist the county prosecutor there in the prosecution of liquor cases.

MAY EXTEND TIME FOR PAYMENT OF TAXES

Guthrie, Ok., Jan. 7.—In the house and senate yesterday afternoon bills were introduced extending the time when taxes are to be paid for the half year, before the penalty can be added, from January 15 to March 15. It is expected that the bill will be enacted into a law and the county treasurers of the state so notified.

TULSA CHARTER APPROVED BY GOVERNOR HASKELL

Guthrie, Ok., Jan. 7.—Governor Haskell yesterday approved the Tulsa city charter, the first adopted in the state providing for a commission form of government. The charter was adopted by the people of Tulsa last July and has been in the governor's hands since that time.

PROSECUTION ASKS VERDICT OF FIRST DEGREE MURDER

By Associated Press
Mobile, Ala., Jan. 7.—The state prosecution asks for a verdict of first degree murder for both women.

HAINS SAYS HE NEVER INQUIRED FOR ANNIS

By Associated Press
Flushing, N. Y., Jan. 5.—Testifying in his own defense today, Thornton J. Hains declared that the only person he pointed his revolver at, was Mr. Roberts and that he never saw Funke or Andrews, until he saw them on the boat. He denied he had asked any of the club members on the dock for Annis.

SHOCKS CONTINUE IN SOUTH ITALY

Intensity of Shocks Gradually Decreasing—Piteous Scenes Enacted in Camps of Refugees.

By Associated Press
Messina, Jan. 5.—The earth shocks are continuing here, although they are diminishing in intensity. At night, especially, are they frequently felt.

The fires in the city are also being gradually extinguished. Thirty thousand dollars worth of rations were distributed yesterday.

Reggio is practically deserted, except for troops, as is also Villa San Giovanni. Numerous persons, still living, were taken today from beneath the ruins, while the voices of others could be distinctly heard appealing for aid.

In the camps of the refugees many piteous scenes are enacted. Many persons threw themselves on their knees, begging for bread, while a five minutes' walk beyond were orange groves rich with ripe fruit.

CITY EDITOR OF PHOENIX WEDS SOCIETY EDITOR

Muskogee, Jan. 5.—Quietly slipping away from all but a few of their most intimate friends, Mr. George C. Morgenstern, city editor of the Phoenix, and Miss Margaret Hays Blackman, society editor of the Phoenix, were married yesterday morning at the Catholic church in this city.

Among the small circle of immediate friends who witnessed the ceremony were Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Offield, Mr. and Mrs. Clarence B. Douglas, Mrs. Sharp, and Mr. Fred Scherubel.

Immediately after the ceremony Mr. and Mrs. Morgenstern left for a week's honeymoon at the Wauhela club.

SHOCKS CONTINUE AT RATE OF ONE PER HOUR

By Associated Press
Messina, Jan. 7.—The earthquake shocks are still continuing here at a rate of one per hour.

Rome, Jan. 7.—A special train left here this morning for Civitavecchia, with an American relief party, headed by Ambassador Griscomb, on board.

CHARTERS GRANTED TO TWO VINITA COMPANIES

Guthrie, Jan. 5.—Charters were granted yesterday to the following companies of Vinita:
Eastern Improvement company, with \$5,000 capital; incorporators, T. A. Chandler, J. S. Thomason and O. L. Rider.
Horse Creek Mining company, with \$900 capital; incorporators, J. W. Orr, T. T. Wimer and E. L. Orr.

PORTER SAILS FOR PANAMA

Muskogee, Okla., Jan. 6.—G. A. Porter, former U. S. marshal, has accepted the position of chief of the Panama police, and sailed yesterday from New York for the canal zone. A telegram to this effect was received here yesterday by Clarence McKoy. The position pays \$6,000 per annum.

MAY NOT EFFECT GRITTS CASE

Washington, Jan. 6.—Attorneys say the court of claims decision may not effect Gritts case which is brought on the single point of whether congress could extend the restrictions twenty-five years on full bloods.

GOVERNMENT WINS "TOO LATE SUIT"

Unanimous Decision of Court of Claims Upholds Legislation for Too Late Children

Washington, D. C., Jan. 5.—The United States court of claims, four or five justices sitting, decided unanimously yesterday for the government in the case of David Muskrat and Henry Dyck against the United States. This case is best known under the popular title, "The Too Late Case." The action involved the validity of the act of congress of April 29, 1906 as amended June 24, 1906.

The court attested the validity of the case holding that congress acted within its powers in legislating to allow 5,760 Cherokee infants born since the passage of the Cherokee agreement act in 1902, to participate in allotments and distribution of funds.

The action of the court in this controversy is locally interpreted as foreshadowing a favorable decision involving the constitutionality of the McCumber act.

Counsel for plaintiffs in the Muskrat Dyck case were Daniel Henderson, John Hemphill and Frank Bondnot.

INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS BY ODD FELLOWS LODGE

Vinita Lodge No. 18, I. O. O. F., installed the following officers last night: J. E. Underwood, N. G.; John R. Fisher, V. G.; Geo. E. Davis, Sec.; F. J. Barrett, Treas.; A. G. McCullough, Trustee; T. W. Cook, Cond.; H. L. Willis, Ward; C. T. Herod, Chap.; R. P. Messenger, I. G.; H. R. Allen, O. G.; Frank Taylor, R. S. S.; S. W. Bond, L. S. S.; J. H. Wortman, R. S. N. G.; R. H. Lightfoot, L. S. N. G.; A. G. McCullough, R. S. V. G.; B. G. Williams, L. S. V. G. After the installation a luncheon was served the members by the Noble Grand and Vice Grand. The lodge enters the new year in a prosperous condition and an active membership of 100.

DELIGHTFUL CARD PARTY AT MRS. EWING HALSELL'S

Mrs. Ewing Halsell delightfully entertained a crowd of young people of Vinita last night with a card party. The beautiful Halsell home on Foreman street was artistically decorated for the occasion. There were eleven tables and forty-four players. The first prize, a beautiful piece of cut glass was won by Miss Mabel Bay. In a cut with Addis A. Brown, Robert Ironsides won the gentlemen's favor, a pretty whisk broom, with a sterling silver handle.

PREPARING TO BUILD SEVERAL NEW COTTAGES

J. S. Smith is preparing to build a nice residence on the lot recently purchased of F. M. Smith, south of the latter's home on South Gunter street. Lee Barrett contemplates erecting two cottages on the opposite side of the street. The property owners along those blocks are preparing to put in gutting, which will add much to the appearance of that part of Gunter street between Illinois and Canadian avenues.

PROSECUTION ASKS VERDICT OF FIRST DEGREE MURDER

By Associated Press
Mobile, Pa., Jan. 6.—The fate of Mrs. M. Florence Erb and her sister, Mrs. Catherine Beisel, charged with the murder of Captain J. Clayton Erb, was placed in the hands of the jury today. The prosecution asks for a verdict of first degree murder for both women.

PROHIBITION LAW UPHOLD

By Associated Press
Mobile, Ala., Jan. 7.—The state prohibition law was upheld here today, when a liquor license was refused in the probate court.