

Special on Stack Covers

20x34-8 ounce
 16x30-8 ounce
 18x28-8 ounce
 18x30-8 ounce

**Largest Line in Leon
 Prices the Lowest**

18x36-8 ounce
 18x28-10 ounce
 18x30-10 ounce
 18x36-10 ounce

Our Sales Last Week.

R. E. Norman, of Davis City, buys a carriage; H. W. Norman, of Davis City, buys a Velie buggy; Clarence Airhart, of Grand River, buys a Velie buggy; John Cash, of Decatur, buys a Velie buggy; J. T. Rogers, of Davis City, buys a Velie Buggy.

2 Cars of Buggies To Arrive This Week.

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Leon

Lamoni

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DOWN IN OKLAHOMA

The Reporter Editor Spends a Week in Oklahoma and Indian Territory--What We Saw.

THE REPORTER editor had the pleasure of attending the annual meeting of the National Editorial Association held at Guthrie, Okla., June 7, 8 and 9, and will give our readers a brief description of the trip and impressions of the country traversed.

Leaving Leon on Monday afternoon, June 6th, we went to Des Moines to join the balance of the Iowa delegation, taking the Wabash for St. Louis the same evening, that city having been selected as the rendezvous of the party, the delegates leaving St. Louis at 1 o'clock Tuesday afternoon over the M. & T. Ry for Guthrie, traveling in two sections composed entirely of Pullman sleepers. The ride from St. Louis, following the Missouri river for more than 150 miles was a delightful one, the river on one side and most of the way the train running under towering bluffs of rock on the other, and during the entire distance the train was never out of sight of the river. Crops in Missouri were looking good, the wheat fields being especially fine. Supper was served at Sealsville and when we arose the next morning we were traveling through the southeastern part of Kansas, but soon passed into Indian Territory, the country having vastly changed in appearance during the night's ride. The northern part of the territory is fine rolling prairie but indications were on every hand showing it had been recently settled, the buildings being but small shacks and the improvements very meagre. Most of the land is used for grazing purposes but some corn was being put in. Soon we struck the oil fields and you could see oil derricks dotting the country in every direction. The oil industry has been a great boon to the country and many fortunes have been made. Just at this time however many wells have been capped as the Standard Oil Company has cut down the price of crude oil to the lowest in the history of the country and many well owners are refusing to sell their oil, the price being about fifty cents a barrel. The M. & T. road from Parsons, Kas., to Guthrie was only built last year and as there had been very heavy rains recently the trains could run only at a very slow pace and we arrived at Guthrie, the capital of Oklahoma, Wednesday evening at 7 o'clock, about seven hours late.

The citizens of Guthrie had made elaborate arrangements for the entertainment of their guests, the town being decorated with flags and bunting and bands playing. The town is only about 15,000 and as the hotel accommodations were limited the citizens threw open their fine homes and entertained many of the visiting editors. It was our good fortune to be assigned to the home of Dr. J. R. Hammill, a former Iowa man, who was at one time located at Marathon in the northern part of this state. He located at Guthrie some five or six years ago and has built up a fine practice as an eye and ear specialist, being assisted by his wife who is also a physician. During our three day stay at Guthrie, Dr. Hammill left nothing undone for our comfort, placing his carriage at our disposal and devoting many hours of his time to showing us over the city. He is certainly a genial whole-souled gentleman with whom it was a real pleasure to spend the hours which were not occupied in attending the meetings of the association.

The sessions of the association which were held at the fine new opera house were well attended, being addressed by prominent newspaper men from all parts of the United States, but as the business transacted was of interest only to members of the craft we will not burden our readers with a description of it.

Wednesday evening the editors were entertained at a monster reception and

ball at the city hall which was attended by two thousand people. Thursday evening the Scottish Rite Masons entertained the editors at their magnificent new temple, one of the finest in the country which was erected at a cost of \$70,000, and as it is all paid for they are planning another big addition to it. When it was built five years ago they started without a cent in the treasury, and the fact that the indebtedness has all been wiped out in such a short time is an indication of the wonderful resources and enterprise of this new country. The actual work of the convention closed Friday afternoon and the delegates said farewell to Guthrie at 6:30 and started on a three day trip through Oklahoma and Indian Territory. The first stop was made Friday evening at Enid, arriving there at 9 o'clock where the citizens gave the party an enthusiastic reception at the opera house and the Elk club rooms and three hours were spent in a pleasant manner. We had expected to meet C. B. Jordan, a former well known citizen of Leon, now one of the leading real estate men of Enid, but the crowd was something fierce and during the short stay in that city we were unable to run across him. Leaving Enid at midnight we reached Snyder, Indian Ty., Saturday morning and had the privilege of viewing the destruction and ruin wrought by the terrible cyclone which visited that thriving little town of 1,500 a few weeks ago, over 200 houses being totally demolished and 113 persons killed outright. The town is located in a beautiful little valley surrounded by low mountains and although it suffered terribly is rapidly being rebuilt. Bob Pritchard, formerly of Princeton, Mo., well known in this vicinity, is a resident of Snyder and escaped injury during the storm by taking refuge in a cave. His residence and two story business block were destroyed but Bob is plugging away and is now rebuilding his business block. The cyclone performed many freaks, among others leaving but very little wreckage on the ground, most of the demolished buildings being scattered over the country for a distance of 25 to 50 miles.

From Snyder we proceeded to Lawton and here we found a real boom town. Three years ago the town site was simply a prairie, but today they have a city of over 10,000, modern business houses and residences, six banks, electric light and gas plants, an \$80,000 system of waterworks, a sewerage system costing \$53,000, a magnificent new court house and postoffice building in course of construction and many other improvements. The town site was sold by the government for \$483,000 and all of this money is being spent for public improvements.

From Lawton we had a pleasant run to Chickasha, where the citizens entertained the editors at a great barbecue, eight steers being roasted for the feast, and during the two hour stop in that city everything possible was done to entertain the visitors and impress upon them the fact that Chickasha is bound to be one of the best towns in the new country. Leaving Chickasha at 5 o'clock the run was made to Oklahoma City, the largest city in Oklahoma, having a population of about 30,000, and it is the equal of any northern city, having modern buildings, paved streets and an air of thrift and enterprise that is commendable. There is a great strife between Oklahoma City and Guthrie, the present capital of Oklahoma, and it looks as if Oklahoma City would win out in the fight for the capital if statehood is granted Oklahoma. Here we spent the evening at the Delmar summer garden where a banquet was served and other entertainment provided, which unfortunately was greatly hampered by a severe rain storm, the only place we encountered rain during the trip, although all parts of that country have had unusually heavy rains this spring, the streams being all badly swollen and railroad tracks in bad condition.

Leaving Oklahoma City Sunday morning at 8 o'clock our two trains made a rapid run to Bliss, Ind. Ty., where the

greatest attraction of the trip was scheduled, the buffalo hunt, Indian sports and cowboy exhibitions of rough riding, roping steers and other attractions had been provided at the famous 101 ranche owned by the three Miller brothers. The ranche comprises over 87,000 acres, Miller Bros. holding some 12,000 acres, the balance being leased from the Indians. The railroads all over the southern country had advertised cheap excursions to Bliss and there was assembled on the ranche the greatest crowd of people ever seen in the southwestern country, over 80,000 people being on the grounds. A ten tier grand-stand a mile and three-eighths in length had been built around the arena, but it was not near large enough to accommodate the enormous crowd, the structure being packed so that twice sections of it fell and a number of people were injured, none serious however, the worst being a man who had one of the small bones in his leg fractured. One of the leading features of the day, the hunting and killing of a buffalo in sight of the editors, was not pulled off as the authorities at Washington had issued an order prohibiting the killing of the buffalo, but Miller Bros. had received a tip that the order was to be issued, so the hunt took place the day before and one big buffalo weighing 2700 pounds was shot by a doctor from Chicago who was a guest at the Miller ranche, and after he put two bullets into the beast old Geronimo, the famous Indian chief who is a government prisoner, leaped from his horse and cut the buffalo's throat and skinned it. The buffalo was served to the editors for dinner Sunday and was very good eating. It would take columns to tell of all the exciting events of the afternoon at the ranche. There were hundreds of Indians in full dress, feathers and war paint, cowboys from hundreds of miles away, Col. Zach Mullah and his three daughters and other noted persons participating in the sports. The most exciting was the riding of the bucking horses, the roping and tying of wild steers, rough riding, etc., the like of which has never been seen before and will never again, as it was the last great gathering of the cowboys and Indians, celebrating the severance of the tribal relations. One act on the program which called forth the wildest cheers from the spectators, was the throwing of a steer by a negro from Texas named Pickett. The steer was turned loose and the negro chased it on horseback until he was close beside it when he slipped to the steer's back from his horse, hung his legs around its neck and secured a firm grip on its nose with his teeth, then dropped his feet to the ground and allowed himself to be dragged along until the steer was brought to a stop and then actually threw the steer to the ground holding his hands high in the air all time. He repeated the act three times before retiring. In the steer roping contests there were several accidents in which horses and riders were thrown over and over and several steers broke through the wire netting and charged into the crowds, but the cowboys were close after them and succeeded in preventing anyone from being injured. Miss Lucille Mullah gave a daring exhibition of horsemanship, and capped the climax by roping and tying a steer as neatly as any of the cowboys. It was a day that will always be remembered by all who witnessed the event. Some idea of the enormous crowd can be gained when it is remembered the work of loading the people on the excursion trains was commenced at 6 o'clock in the evening and at 8 o'clock the next morning all the excursionists had not yet been loaded, being compelled to remain waiting all night for their train.

The editors were fortunate in getting away on the first two trains and after an all night's ride, took breakfast Monday morning at Cleveland in the heart of the oil regions. Here three oil wells were shot after breakfast had been served and it was a great sight to see the oil pouring in a great stream nearly a hundred feet above the ground. In

shooting the wells from 60 to 100 quarts of nitroglycerine were used. From Cleveland we proceeded to Tulsa, stopping before that city was reached to see the famous Booher gas well, the second strongest gas well in the world. It was turned on full force and the roar of the escaping gas could be heard for many miles. At Tulsa the citizens served the editors dinner in the fine new hotel which is being built there. Here we met Allie Mervin, a well known Leon boy who is employed as pharmacist in the Sells drug store, one of the leading stores of the city, and we enjoyed an hour's ride over the city with him. It is one of the most progressive cities we visited, numbering about 8,000 and every street is crowded with material being used in the erection of new buildings.

From Tulsa we went to Muskogee, the leading city of Indian Territory, where elaborate entertainment was provided. Here we met L. B. Jackson, formerly of Leon, who is now a practicing attorney at Sapulpa, about 90 miles from Muskogee, but was in that city trying an important law suit. Mr. Jackson's many friends here will be pleased to hear that he is building up a fine practice at Sapulpa and is greatly in love with that country. We also met Earl Bellis, another old Leon boy, who runs as news agent from Muskogee to Fayetteville, Ark. From Muskogee we left the editorial party which was going to Texas, then to California and Portland, and made a quick run back to Leon, arriving Tuesday afternoon.

As to the future of Oklahoma and Indian Territory, there is no question but what it is bright. The land is very productive and good crops are raised there, wheat, corn, alfalfa and cotton, and while of course there is some cheap land there, the good land is selling at high prices. We saw farms which were held at \$100 per acre and in our opinion land as high there as it will ever be. Parts of the country are very rough and will never be fit for anything but grazing purposes and if it is broken up into small farms we believe the country will suffer for it can never be farmed successfully. The one cry of the whole country is for statehood, and it was the unanimous opinion of the visiting editors that they are entitled to it. The country is settled to a large degree by progressive farmers from the northern states, the cities and towns are enterprising and up-to-date. Oklahoma and Indian territory have a combined population of more than 1,500,000. They are certainly better entitled to statehood than many of the present western states which have already been admitted. Statehood will mean much to them, for until they have it the country is at a great disadvantage in regard to building roads, bridges and making many necessary public improvements. If the congressmen at Washington could make a personal inspection of the country they do not think they would hesitate a minute in granting the request of the people that they be added as another star in the flag. They have the country, the people, and all that is necessary to make it the garden spot of Eden is that the resources of the country be developed, and nothing will assist in the development as much as statehood.

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 is, in its torments, like dying of consumption. The progress of consumption, from the beginning to the very end, is a long torture, both to victim and friends. "When I had consumption in its first stage," writes Wm. Myers, of Cearloss, Md., "after trying different medicines and a good doctor, in vain, I at last took Dr. King's New Discovery, which quickly and perfectly cured me." Prompt relief and sure cure for coughs, colds, sore throat, bronchitis, etc. Positively prevents pneumonia. Guaranteed at L. P. Van Warden's drug store, price 50c and \$1.00 a bottle. Trial bottle free.

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The North-Western Line.

One of the most interesting series of articles on the subject of the great railways of the country that has appeared recently is that from the pen of Frank H. Spearman recently published in the Saturday Evening Post, and which has since been printed in book form by Scribners. The chapter descriptive of the Chicago & North-Western Ry. has been published by the passenger department of that line in pamphlet form for general distribution and will be sent to any address on receipt of 2c for postage. W. B. Kniskern, P. T. M., Chicago.

\$12.25 to Niagara Falls and return.
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