

# THE LEON REPORTER.

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THE LEON REPORTER, THURSDAY, JULY 13, 1911.

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## THE LEON CHAUTAUQUA, AUG. 4TH TO AUG. 10TH, 1911.

### BALLOONS WERE SEEN

Several of the Balloons Which Started from Kansas City on Monday Passed over this County.

There was considerable excitement among the early risers in Leon Tuesday morning, when two large balloons were seen several miles east of this city a few minutes after six o'clock. The balloons were apparently traveling south but in a few minutes a current of air caught them and carried them east. Many who heard of the balloons being seen were inclined to scoff at the reports, but later complete verification was made when it was learned that on Monday evening seven big balloons started from Kansas City under the auspices of the National Aero Club. Parties in Leon and east of Leon say they saw a couple of balloons pass over Leon going north about midnight Monday night. Two balloons passed over Humeston at 5:50 a. m., Tuesday morning, traveling south, and were so low that occupants of the balloons spoke to people in Humeston and asked what town it was. The balloons evidently passed over this part of the county during the night, traveling north, and then were caught by a current and drifted to the south again over the same course. The parties who saw the balloons here Tuesday morning say there were two of them not very far apart. Out southwest of High Point three balloons could be seen. One of them was quite low and at the home of Beattie Cunningham, seven miles southeast of High Point, one of them passed between his house and barn and was down very low. One of the balloons landed at Coal City, a small mining town near Centerville. Another landed at Fremont near Oskaloosa, while others passed over Ft. Madison, Keokuk, Muscatine and Davenport.

### Supreme Court Affirms Sentence of France Hamilton.

The supreme court last Thursday affirmed the case of State vs. France Hamilton, appealed from the Decatur district court, in which the defendant was sentenced to serve an indeterminate sentence of not to exceed eight years, having been convicted at the January, 1910 term of court of manslaughter for the killing of his cousin, Sam Hamilton, at Davis City. France came up to this city Friday from his home at Davis City, ready to go and commence serving his sentence, and was here again today, but the official papers from Des Moines have not yet been received by Clerk Mendenhall the only notice being the account in the daily papers. Mr. Hamilton says he expects to commence serving his sentence as quick as possible and hopes by good conduct to be paroled at an early date.

### Discontinues Dairy.

Harmon McKinley who has conducted the best dairy that Leon ever had, has found it necessary to discontinue the house delivery of milk and cream on account of being unable to secure the necessary milk to supply his customers, owing to the shortage of pasture on account of the dry weather. He will make the rounds of his customers on Saturday to collect the bottles and redeem all outstanding tickets. In order to accommodate the public he has arranged to leave milk and cream each day at the three Leon restaurants, S. E. Hefes, Wilber Miller and S. K. Carman, where parties can still secure the milk and cream, but if wanted in any great quantity it will be necessary to place your order in advance in order to be sure of getting it.

### Held Special Term of Court.

Judge Maxwell and reporter Hyland came to Leon Monday noon and a special term of court was held that afternoon, in order to secure an order for the guardian of John Moorhead to make his final report and turn Mr. Moorhead's property back to him, the supreme court having reversed the holding of Judge H. K. Evans that a permanent guardian should be appointed to care for his property. This case will be remembered, action having been commenced by Mr. Moorhead's daughters to have a guardian appointed for him, alleging that he was dissipating his property and was not in fit mental condition to care for same. The court also ordered the costs in the proceedings amounting to about \$690, to be taxed up to the plaintiffs, Mrs. Belle McGuire, Mrs. Kate Ridgeway and Miss Florence Moorhead.

### Notice of Bond Sale.

The County treasurer of Decatur county, Iowa, will receive bids at his office in Leon, Iowa, up to 8 o'clock p. m., July 13, 1911, on \$25,000 of refunding bonds. Said bonds to be in denominations of \$500 and \$1,000, to draw 4 1/2 per cent annual interest, and to run twenty years. The right is reserved to reject any or all bids.

R. E. McLAUGHLIN, County Auditor.

### TO GET AFTER EGG DEALERS

Notice Sent to All Parts of State Recites it is Unlawful for Merchant to Sell Bad Eggs.

The sale of bad eggs is a violation of the state pure food law, according to Commissioner Barney of the dairy and food department, and all dealers will be held accountable for any trafficking in eggs which are not fresh. In many parts of the state there is ignorance of the law and the ruling of the dairy and food department relative to the sale of eggs.

As a warning and instruction to dealers the commissioner has prepared a notice which is being sent out to all parts of the state.

It follows: "Iowa pure food law, section 8, part eighth, defines food as adulterated and prohibits its sale, 'if it consists of the whole or any part of a diseased, filthy, decomposed or putrid animal or vegetable substance.' The commissioner holds that this article includes bad eggs.

"It is therefore unlawful for the farmer to sell bad eggs to the merchant.

"It is also unlawful for the merchant to sell bad eggs to his patrons, or to jobbers.

"In the interest of fair dealing and the enforcement of the law, this department urges all farmers, dealers and jobbers to give the widest publicity to this circular, and to assist in the enforcement of the statute by voluntary compliance with the same. By so doing, not only will it not be necessary for the penalties to be enforced, but the financial interest of all who sell or handle eggs will be advanced. On account of numerous complaints coming to this department of violations of this law, we have asked all inspectors to see that it is enforced."

### Masonic Lodge Presented with Gavel Made of Wood Grown on Mt. Vernon.

Grand River Lodge No. 78, A. F. & A. M. of this city, has received a gavel made from wood grown on Mt. Vernon, George Washington's home, presented to it by Congressman H. M. Towner. Accompanying the gavel was the following letter:

Washington, D. C. June 26, 1911. W. W. Sell, Master Grand River Lodge No. 78, A. F. & A. M., Leon Iowa.

Dear Sir and Brother:— I am sending you under separate cover by this mail a gavel made from wood grown on Mt. Vernon, the home of Washington. These are highly prized because of their association with perhaps our most distinguished American mason. His loyalty for and devotion to masonry are part of our country's history and should increase the loyalty and pride of every loyal mason. It is a very great source of gratification to realize that the order has included among its number the men who have contributed most to our country's honor and service in the interest of that larger brotherhood for which our order stands. I desire to present this gavel with my compliments and sincere good wishes to Grand River Lodge, No. 78, and to wish for its officers and brethren continued prosperity and the fullest exemplification of all the principles for which our order stands.

With fraternal greetings I am Very truly yours, H. M. Towner.

Aldredge Won.

Before a crowd estimated at 2000 people, James H. Aldredge, the big wrestler, of Leon, Iowa, defeated Billy Rhoades, of Missouri, who was secured to meet him, considered the best 160 pound man in the state, in forty-two minutes of the hottest wrestling ever seen in this part of the county. Aldredge seemed to stand the heat much better than his opponent. At no time did it seem that Aldredge was in danger.

An effort may be made to get some of the best wrestlers in the country here this fall or winter to meet Aldredge. \$1000 could be raised to meet some big wrestler here, or for a match with Champin Gotch, of Humboldt, Iowa, double that amount could be raised, for there were many people here who saw him wrestle Gotch several years ago.

I. S. Daniels, of Ridgeway referred the match.—Ridgeway Journal.

### Burned Meadow and Hay.

Last Saturday W. H. Elwell went out to the farm of J. B. Snyder east of Leon after a load of hay. His grandson Roy Elwell accompanied him, and while Mr. Elwell was loading the hay the boy ignited a match on the other side of the stack, and burned his fingers. He threw the match to the ground and the dry grass flashed up and before Mr. Elwell could get around the stack it was beyond control, and about three acres of meadow which had not been cut or eight or nine tons of hay were burned. Fortunately the wind was right to drive the fire away from Mr. Snyder's house and barn, or they would have been burned as he was in Leon at the time.

For Sale—75 tons of hay. Wm. Biggs, Leon, Iowa.

### LEON BOY MAKING GOOD

Lewis B. Jackson is prospering as a Lawyer and Oil Producer at Sapulpa, Oklahoma.

In the Sapulpa, Okla., Daily Star of last Thursday we find the following flattering notice of a former well known young man, Lewis B. Jackson, who was born and raised in this city, and practiced law here for several years in partnership with C. W. Hoffman. He removed to Sapulpa six years ago, and has been wonderfully successful, both in the practice of his profession and in financial investments and is now rated as one of the leading citizens of that thriving city.

An advocate he is and well endowed with all essentials of the legal crowd; As a public prosecutor in days gone by.

His work wrought havoc in the minds of those

Who sought to trifle with the statute laws;

His legal deeds do well attest his fame.

Whilst private worth adds value to his name.

In olden days the dispensers of legal lore clung rather closely to their reports and retorts and seldom bothered themselves about affairs commercial. The present age has been a wonderful change in this respect and some of the country's greatest leaders in the various fields of industrial endeavor are men of legal training. Mr. Jackson, lawyer and oil producer of Sapulpa, is one of the many members of the bar who has found time in the midst of his legal affairs to devote himself successfully to industrial and financial development. He is largely interested in the oil fields of this section, is vice president of the American National bank of this city, and is taking an active part in building up that institution. Mr. Jackson is a native of Leon, Iowa, where he was born in 1875. He was educated at Leon High School, Drake University and the Iowa law college and was admitted to the bar in 1900. He began practice in Iowa and came to Sapulpa in 1905 and during his career has tried civil suits of every description besides assisting in the trial of thirty-two murder cases. He was the first county attorney of Creek county and during that time tried nineteen murder cases, losing but three. Mr. Jackson also served a term as city attorney of Sapulpa. He is a son of W. C. Jackson, deceased, former county auditor of Decatur county, Iowa, and Elizabeth (Beal) Jackson. He married Miss Pearl A. Burk, of Blytheville, Mo., and has three children, two sons and one daughter. Mr. Jackson is affiliated with the Masons, Odd Fellows, and Elks.

### Locates at St. Joe.

Dr. R. H. Robinson, youngest son of Dr. J. H. Robinson, of Davis City, has graduated from the Kansas City Dental College, and taken the state examination before the dental boards of the states of Kansas and Missouri. He has decided to locate in St. Joe, and will open the Model Dental Parlors in that city, of which he will be manager. Dr. Robinson was highly complimented by the dental board before whom he took his examination at Kansas City, especially on the practical work in demonstrating before the board, and we predict that he will at once take rank among the leading dentists of St. Joe. He is a fine young man and his many friends in this vicinity wish him unbounded success in his profession.

### Getting the Flies.

Last week Charlie Coen, of Stewart's furniture store, put out a new kind of a fly trap in front of their store. It was just a square frame, covered with screen wire, with a cone shaped bottom, but it soon attracted great attention, for it did not take long to catch several thousand of flies. Then somebody down the street made one, and a big crowd gathered around it watching the flies swarm into it. And then the idea took hold and nearly every store in Leon made a fly trap and the fly population is being decreased by a million or two every day. It's a great idea and beats sticky paper, fly poison and other traps all to pieces.

### Clarinda Doctors are Dead Ones.

A citizen of Leon called at the Reporter office the other day and asked to see a Clarinda paper, saying he wanted to secure the name of a doctor in that city. We gave him a copy of the Clarinda Journal, one of the best papers in southern Iowa, and he carefully scanned its well filled advertising columns, and then exclaimed, "Well, I'll be darned, the doctors of Clarinda must be dead ones for the only ones that advertise in that city are a firm of horse doctors and a Chicago specialist who visits Clarinda one day a month."

Try our Royal Deodorized Gasoline. High gravity test. 20 cents per gallon. Wm. Crichton & Son.

### W. A. BROWN MAKES GOOD.

Is High Man in Getting Business for the Inter-State.

The Industrial Review, a health and accident insurance paper of Philadelphia, prints a picture of W. A. Brown formerly of Leon, and declares him the best business getter in the field for the Interstate. Many who knew Mr. Brown here will be pleased to hear of his success and will read the item with interest, which is as follows: "W. A. Brown, of Lincoln, Neb., has not been an insurance worker for a very long time. He is a splendid example of the success that can be gained in the accident and health field by men of energy who wish to better their condition. Up to two years ago Mr. Brown was manager of a hotel in an Iowa town of about 7,000 population. At that time he became associated with the 'Inter-State,' and was given some territory in Iowa, which he handled so capably that he was later given the Nebraska territory. Mr. Brown has thus far captured all the prizes and premiums offered by the association for high production. His 'pace' is a strong one, and he doesn't seem to be losing any flesh over it either."

### Another Trail South Proposed.

A short time ago Uncle Bob Bowsher wrote a letter to a friend at Princeton, Mo., suggesting that the Princeton Commercial Club take up the matter of establishing a trail from Princeton to Leon, where it would connect with the Waubesa and Inter-State Trails. The Princeton boosters have taken hold and have also interested the boosters of Trenton, Mo., who want the trail to extend to that city. The Princeton Post of last week says:

For months past, Southern Iowa people have been busy making good roads, or trails, through some county, connecting the larger towns. Leon is on one of these trails and they now contemplate extending it south through Mercer County to Trenton. It is a good plan, and our enterprising farmers along the route will no doubt be ready to do their part.

The Trenton Republican-Tribune says of it:

A move to put Trenton on the map as terminal of an interstate trail, that is, a road graded and developed to a high state of efficiency, may have the backing of the commercial club in a few weeks. Time enough for investigation of the project is being allowed, however, before the club binds itself to an agreement.

Secretary C. J. Bain a short time ago, received a letter from boosters at Leon, Ia., asking the co-operation of the commercial club here in agitating a trail, to lead from Leon through Pleasanton, Goshen, and Modena to the capital of Grundy county. Support along the line was promised.

Trenton is not so situated as to get on a cross-state or interstate pike, and the Leon project looks as feasible as any that could be made. Leon is already on three important trails, the Inter-state trail now in course of completion between Des Moines and St. Joseph; a cross-state pike from Nebraska City to Keokuk; and another from Hatfield, Mo., to Leon. The magnificent condition of the highway between Trenton and Chillicothe already means practically that the road would extend twenty-five miles further south than contemplated by the Iowans at very little expense.

Maintenance of long stretches of public highway has become a big factor in development of inland districts of the central west of late years. The Inter-state trail from Des Moines to St. Joseph has struck nearer this vicinity than any other. Bethany, Albany, Stanberry and King City and other towns to the west have enthused wonderfully over the road and are boosting it every day of the week.

Farmers along the roads who contribute to its building and maintenance are given numbers or names as along city streets, and the location of any dweller along the route is a matter of ease. Markers are placed at all the corners directing drivers to the nearest towns.

The commercial club considered the proposition carefully at a meeting last night but decided to investigate the matter more thoroughly, learning what was required here, before promising support. The distance to Leon is about fifty miles, a little west of north.

### Grand River Boosters Coming Friday.

The first annual sociability run of the Grand River Booster's Club will take place on Friday of this week. Ten autos filled with boosters will arrive at Leon about 3:35 Friday afternoon, and will remain in Leon three-quarters of an hour. Leon will gladly give them a cordial welcome.

### Roy—Craft.

C. W. Roy, a railroad man from Chicago, and Miss Zina Craft, of Van Wert, were married by Squire Adkins, Saturday. They will make their home in Chicago.—Osceola Sentinel.

### PRINCETON'S BIG FIRE

Twenty-Three Buildings, Over Five Blocks, Destroyed by Fourth of July Fire. Loss \$100,000.

### THE LOSS.

As Estimated by Owners.

W. F. Buren, four buildings, loss \$30,000; insurance about half.

J. E. Fuller, lumber yard buildings and stock, loss \$15,000; insurance \$9,000.

James Wilcox, loss on grocery stock \$2,000; insurance \$1,300.

Mrs. Martha Ballew and Mrs. Maggie Lindsey, loss on building \$10,000; insurance \$7,000.

Dr. E. Johnson, loss on office fixtures, etc. \$500; no insurance.

Eli Mullinax, loss on store building occupied by Pat Maggart \$5,000; insurance \$3,000.

Loss on store building occupied by Geo. Mullinax \$8,000; insurance \$5,000. Loss on residence \$7,000; insurance \$2,500.

Loss on two tenant houses \$3,000; insurance \$1,600. Loss on barn \$300; no insurance. Loss on other buildings \$500; no insurance.

Farmers bank, loss on fixtures \$1,800; insurance, \$2,000.

Mercer county, probate office, loss on fixtures and supplies \$500; no insurance.

Alley & Lambert, insurance office, loss on fixtures \$300; insured.

Pat Maggart, loss on restaurant stock and fixtures \$700; covered by insurance.

Princeton Telephone Company loss on building and plant \$3,000; partly insured.

Miss McGee, household goods in telephone office, loss partly covered by insurance.

E. B. Bailey, loss on building \$12,000; insurance \$9,000. Loss on stock \$6,000; insurance \$4,200.

George Mullinax, loss on stock \$9,000; insurance \$9,500.

G. M. Bristow, loss on barn \$500; no insurance. Residence also damaged.

H. W. Moss, loss on meat market, \$400; no insurance.

J. H. Davenport, loss on household goods \$100; no insurance.

P. Stacy, loss on residence and household goods \$1,300; insurance \$1,000.

Thomas Gillespie, loss on hotel fixtures \$2,500; no insurance.

Dr. E. W. Stacy, loss on office fixtures and supplies \$1,500; insurance \$500.

E. R. Casteel, loss on Farmers Store building \$3,000; insurance \$2,000. Loss on stock \$2,000; insurance \$3,500.

Kelley & Casteel, loss on drug stock \$8,000; insurance \$4,000.

Bane & Foley, loss on building and livery stock \$3,500; insurance \$1,000.

Frank Solel, slight loss on blacksmith shop.

Thad George, loss \$100.

Mrs. Mary Moore, loss on household goods \$50; no insurance.

Olin Pritchard, loss on household goods \$1,000; insurance \$1,000.

J. D. Dykes, loss on house and contents \$3,000; insurance \$1,400.

Dr. Jennie Hiron, loss on dental office fixtures and supplies \$500; insurance \$500.

Mercer county, M. C. Wolf's office, loss on fixtures slight.

Til Wilcox, loss on barber shop, \$1,000, insurance \$500.

Clyde Rouse, loss on feed, etc. in barn, \$150.

Miss Ora Baker, loss on household goods probably \$150.

The Famous, loss on stock \$12,000; insurance \$4,000.

Princeton people and thousands of visitors to our Fourth of July celebration were forced to stand idly by, Tuesday evening, and see almost half of the business houses and a number of residences, warehouses and other buildings consumed by flames because the water supply gave out. It was the worst fire in the history of the city, twenty-three buildings in all being destroyed, covering a space of almost six blocks.

The north side of the square, a block of two story brick buildings; the Lindsey and Mullinax block next to it on the west, a block of three big two story brick buildings and a big frame lumber yard; a big brick building north of the square, the fine residence of Eli Mullinax, on Hickland street and two of his houses on north of it, the J. D. Dykes residence, the Princeton telephone building, the P. Stacy residence north of it and a number of barns and warehouses are in ruins. The streets in that vicinity are covered with debris and only huge piles of brick and burned walls are left to mark the spot of busy stores, offices, hotel, bank, barber shop and other business. The total loss is more than \$100,000.

The fire started at about 4:30 that evening, at a time when the up-town was deserted. Many of the business houses were locked up and the merchants and clerks were at the city park taking in the celebration. How the fire started is a mystery and its origin will probably never be known. Several people seemed to have discovered the fire at about the same time. Smoke was then coming from

the windows in the second story of the Bailey building at the east corner of the north side block. Roy Miller and Mart Ormsby were on the street. They hastily climbed the outside stairway and broke in the door. Dense clouds of smoke filled the rooms and the fire appeared to be in the room at the northwest corner of the building. Whether it started there or in the room below and was coming up the stairway there can not be said. The smoke was thick and they were forced to beat a hasty retreat. Nothing was taken out of the upper rooms.

Both the Bailey store and the Wilcox barber shop in the lower rooms of the building were locked up. No fire of any kind had been in the building for several days.

The whistle of the power house gave the alarm and when the crowd of people at the park saw the huge clouds of black smoke boiling up from the city there was a general rush. The program at the speakers stand was over and most of the crowd was watching a ball game at the east end of the park.

### People Crowd the Streets.

Onto the square the people poured in droves. Buggies, wagons, teams, automobiles and people gathered there in a great mass. The thermometer at that time registered 108, and the great heat from the burning buildings made it almost unbearable on the streets. A number of women fainted during the excitement. Possibly a dozen men were overcome by heat while at work. The doctors' offices were full and every physician in the city was busy. Davy Davis, son of Charles Davis living west of town, fell while carrying goods from a building and received a broken arm.

While brave men climbed to the tops of buildings to fight the flames hundreds began to carry goods from the doomed structures. In this work the town people were aided by those from the country. Farmers fought with the fire boys in an attempt to check the flames and they worked side by side with the town people, in saving thousands of dollars worth of merchandise. Truly, our visitors were not shirkers and Princeton was greatly aided by them.

### Fire Gets a Good Start.

The park is quite a distance from the square, and when the people arrived the Bailey building was burning in all parts. The Mullinax building, adjoining it on the west, quickly caught and the work of the fire fighters was turned to it. A number of men quickly climbed to the top of the Buren building and with two lines of hose, poured streams of water into the Mullinax building. In a few moments the fire began to show the effect of the firemen's work and began to die down. Put just at this time a cry of disappointment went up from the men at the nozzles. The supply of water was given out and the firemen were left with empty hose in their hands. The flames flared up again, igniting the roof and windows of the Buren building and the fire fighters were forced to retreat.

It was then seen that the block was doomed. All attention was turned to the next block and an attempt made to prevent the flames crossing the street to it.

### Try to Save Lindsey Block.

Long strips of carpet were secured from the dry goods stores. These were soaked with water and hung down from the Lindsey building. Abe Trent was on hand with a wagon tank of water, and men used this and hundreds of buckets carried from nearby wells. The windows and woodwork of the Lindsey building were kept wet for a time but at last the men were forced away by the heat. Flames leaped across the street and ignited the building.

It was then thought to try and check the flames by dynamiting the building. Quantities of the explosive were secured and the people were warned away, but this work was given up for fear of destroying the two vaults, filled with valuables in the building.

The three brick buildings in this block were licked up by the greedy flames and the Fuller lumber yard adjoining them to the west was a roaring furnace. The big frame building was well stocked with lumber and here the flames grew the hottest. While a good breeze was blowing from the south, the heat several times ignited the Don Cain building on the west side of the square across the street south of the lumber yard. It was thought for a time that the west side was doomed. Windows in the Cain building were shattered by the heat and the wooden casings were ablaze. Men from inside the building, however, succeeded in extinguishing these flames.

The Eli Mullinax residence stood some seventy-five feet across a street to the west of the lumber yard, but the distance and heroic work of a bucket brigade failed to prevent the flames from crossing to it. The big two story frame building was quickly destroyed.

Bucket Brigade Checks Flames. The Sheets opera house on west was next in line. Men climbed to the roof of this building and poured hundreds of buckets of water over it.

(Continued on Page 3.)