

# The Carlshad Current

TWENTY-THIRD YEAR.

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NUMBER 42.

## MOBBING OF FRANK

"LEGAL HANGING" MARKED BY CALM DISDAIN OF LAW AND ORDER WITH VICTIM GAME.

Seven-Hour Journey of Death Over Lonely Roads Fails to Break Prisoner's Stoicism or Force Confession or Denial of Crime; Last Words of Wife and Mother.

Atlanta, Ga., Aug. 22.—The first actual story of what transpired on the "death ride" of Leo M. Frank from Milledgeville to Marietta between midnight and dawn last Tuesday morning, became available to the Associated Press today. The recital did not come through second or third hands, but in a manner which seemed placed its authenticity beyond all question.

The "inside story" of the events which preceded the finding of Frank's lifeless body swaying from the limb of the biggest oak tree in the vicinity of "Bill" Frey's gin cleared up many phases of the tragic incident which heretofore have been veiled in mystery.

Victim Made no Confession. Points asserted by the narrator were:

First, Frank did not confess. He twice was asked if he had anything to say, but on each occasion replied: "No." Asked pointedly if he had killed the Phagan girl, he is said to have made no reply whatever.

Second, no attempt was made to force a confession. Frank's statement just prior to his death that he loved his wife and mother better than he did his life came unexpectedly and without questioning.

Third, Frank was not maltreated in any way prior to the actual lynching.

Fourth, Frank walked a distance of 200 yards from the automobile to the death tree without a faltering step, without a sigh or semblance of protest.

Mom Members Resent Maltreatment Charge.

Fifth, Frank was told from the start that he was to be "executed" as the courts had directed that he be, and effort was made by the so-called "vigilance committee" to see that the "legal hanging" as they termed the lynching was carried out in an orderly manner. Members of the "vigilance committee" are said to resent any intimation that Frank was "maltreated" while in their custody.

Seven automobiles were required to transport the "vigilance committee" from Marietta to Milledgeville. Only four returned, including the car in which Frank rode. All of the machines were small cars. There were probably twenty-eight men in the lynching party.

Arriving at the prison, four men entered Frank's room in the hospital ward, after overpowering the guards. The noise at the outer door had awakened the prisoner, but he was still lying in bed when his room was entered by the self-appointed executioners who wore hats well pulled down to meet the automobile goggles, which served as masks.

Prisoner Given no Time to Dress. "We want you to come with us," Frank was told.

There was neither surprise nor terror in the look he turned upon the four determined men. In silence, Frank arose and made as if to dress himself. He was still feeble from the loss of blood suffered in an attack by a fellow convict and awayed perhaps a little dizzily.

"Don't bother with the clothes; come just as you are," he was commanded.

Unresistingly Frank permitted himself to be handcuffed. Clad only in a sleeping garment, he walked into the prison corridor. When the party had reached the prison, the leader thought the progress was too slow. It was then Frank was picked up and carried down the concrete steps. It is strenuously denied that Frank was dragged or "bumped" down the steps, and it is also denied that one of the members of the party eloped carry him by the hair.

Seven Hour Journey of Death. For seven long hours Frank sat in the automobile which was carrying him to a death place of which he had no knowledge. It required this length of time to make the journey from Milledgeville to Marietta. There was but one delay—a puncture, which was quickly mended.

Frank's hatless, white clad figure, erect in the tonneau of the leading car, was in striking contrast to sombre hued men beside him. Although the roads were black and lonely the glaring electric headlights of the cars following kept the first car brilliantly illuminated. The highways were deserted, however, and there were no passers by to witness the tragic procession that sped steadily along in a race with the coming dawn.

Frank's Stoicism Unbroken. During all this long journey only two syllables left Frank's lips. Soon after he had been placed in the automobile Frank was told he was being taken to his place of execution.

"The courts of Georgia have sentenced you to be hanged, and they have never reversed that sentence. It has devolved upon us to carry out their decree."

Frank did not flinch. The wonderful stoicism which had marked his long confinement in prison and with which he had met all the reverses which had followed his many legal attempts for liberty did not desert him in the last hours of his life.

Had Nothing to Say. It was after the destination of his

captors had been disclosed that Frank was asked the question: "Is there anything you would like to say before your execution?" At first there was no reply. Then, slowly and perhaps painfully, the recently wounded man shook his head. "No."

The monosyllabic negative was scarcely audible above the throb of the engine. For a long time following this the only sound was that of the plunging automobiles. Then Frank was asked if he had killed the Phagan girl, and the captors say he made no reply. This question was not repeated until the journey's end, and again it is said there was no reply. The final interrogation was:

"Is there nothing you wish to say?"

"No."

These four questions were the sole conversation in the death car as it sped along the miles which were steadily bringing Frank nearer to Cobb county and to his death.

Walked to Death With Firm Step. As daylight approached the speed of the cars was increased. It was a full hour after dawn that the four cars drew up just below the gin house of the William Frey place and stopped at the edge of an oak thicket. The door of the leading car was opened and Frank was told to step out. He arose with the knowledge that death was near, but did not falter. The big tree which soon was to be his scaffold loomed large above the other oaks in the thicket, but Frank either did not see or attach any importance to it at first. He walked with firm step between two of his captors, his eyes upon the ground.

Last Thought of Wife and Mother. It was while the silent procession was progressing thus that suddenly Frank spoke:

"I love my wife and mother more than I do my life."

The words were uttered more to himself than for any dramatic effect upon his hearers, but evidently Frank had been pondering that last question as to whether or no he ought to say anything, and this was his answer.

A few moments later the noose had been placed, a handkerchief had been tied loosely about the eyes, there was a pull, a tautening of hempen rope, and Frank's life was fast ebbing away.

It was half an hour after the committee had completed its work that the dangling form was found, still warm.

VOLUNTEER WORKERS AROUSE INTEREST IN TAXPAYERS ASSOCIATION.

Santa Fe, N. M., August 26.—With every one of the fifty or more signers of the call an active worker in behalf of the new State Taxpayers' Association, to be organized here next Wednesday, September 1st, and with many others taking an active part in arousing interest the organization meeting is expected to be one of the largest and certainly one of the most important gatherings of citizens assembled in the state capital. Even the business men most active in inaugurating the tax league movement have been astonished by the universal interest shown in it. Almost every taxpayer who has been approached has expressed sympathy with the movement and instead of a charter membership of hundreds, as had been expected, it is more likely to prove a matter of thousands. So general and widespread is the interest that it has been found necessary to employ a temporary secretary to answer the inquiries coming to individual signers of the call for the meeting, published in last week's papers, and it is now thought probable that it will be possible to proceed at once with the organization of the county leagues, which are to form the basis of the permanent organization.

In addition to the New Mexico business men who are taking the lead in the organizing work, a number of noted taxation experts who have been attending the national tax association conference in San Francisco are expected to be present to address the meeting and to make suggestions as to methods of organization and conduct of the association which have proven successful in other states. Every taxpayer in New Mexico is entitled to attend and participate in the organization meeting and the actual attendance of organizers is expected to be large.

CARLSBAD PEOPLE ABROAD.

Chairman M. S. Groves, of the state corporation commission; Douglas Groves and T. J. Sanford left today for a fishing trip on the Pecos.—Santa Fe New Mexican.

The many friends of Messrs. Groves and Sanford in Carlshad will be glad to hear that they can take a few days off to fish on the Pecos and hope they will have good luck.

MORNING BRIDGE.

Mrs. C. M. Richards, entertained Wednesday forenoon with a morning bridge and luncheon honoring her friend, Mrs. Dimmitt, of El Paso. Four tables playing, Mrs. Jackson making high score received the prize, a pair of silk hose.

Mrs. Green returned to her home Tuesday after an absence of three months. She visited her daughters in Alamogordo and Denning.

Christian & Co. INSURANCE.

I. S. Osborne has sold section 13, the east section of the Lower Greene farm, to Mr. Poteet, who has just received the new Bull Tractor for use on the farm which attracted considerable notice while being run around town yesterday. The farm has 100 acres irrigated and since the cementing of the big canal is one of the best tracts in the lower valley. The tractor will do all kinds of work that can be done with a team and many kinds that cannot, for it can be used in threshing, plowing, hauling or any and all uses on the farm. The tractor is all steel and iron and is run by gasoline.

## Christian Ca. INSURANCE. DISTRICT COURT NOTES

District court will convene Monday, September 6, at Carlshad. The most important case, no doubt, will be the state against Felix Miller, charged with the murder of Chas. M. Acroy. The following is the list of grand jurors as drawn a few weeks ago:

- Myron Clark.
- Claud Wright.
- W. R. Rose.
- W. H. Allen.
- J. S. Boyd.
- L. H. Mudgett.
- H. C. Cook.
- J. M. Musick.
- W. T. Gistler.
- N. Schuster.
- Milton Smith.
- W. H. Beasley.
- N. T. Murray.
- E. G. Eloppe.
- W. A. Ward.
- W. J. Chance.
- W. H. Hill.
- M. A. Corbin.
- J. N. Marshall.
- W. A. Marshall.
- D. N. Abernathy.
- C. N. Daugherty.
- T. H. Bradshaw.
- O. N. Trotter.
- J. N. Dunaway.
- A. F. Liggett.
- R. I. McCulley.

## PETTIT JURY.

- S. W. Gilbert, Artesia.
- J. R. Ham, Artesia.
- Tom Larremore, Hope.
- Ray Boddy, Carlshad.
- W. P. Mudgett, Carlshad.
- R. B. Kishbough, Artesia.

## GERMANS MASSED 600 CANNON UPON KOVNO.

London, Eng., Aug. 23.—Refugees who have reached Petrograd from Kovno, Russian Poland, say that an enormous amount of artillery was employed by the Germans in their successful assault on that fortress, from this source by Reuter's correspondent at Petrograd, the Germans concentrated 600 guns on the first fort which they captured. The batteries formed a great arc of guns, one row behind another.

Three Zeppelins and more than 30 aeroplanes flew over the fortress dropping bombs.

## LARGEST RANCH SALE

RANCH IS SOLD FOR HALF MILLION DOLLARS.

L. F. D. interests part with one of its finest holdings in the County of Chaves. Six Townships of Land and Some 4,000 Head of Cattle are Included in the Largest Deal of the Year.

One of the biggest land and cattle deals negotiated in thirty years was consummated at noon today, when C. L. Ballard, G. D. Armstrong and Ben Baker bought the Four Lakes ranch, consisting of six townships and about 4,000 head of cattle. The consideration was in the neighborhood of \$500,000 and the deal was negotiated through M. W. Hodges, livestock commission man.

The Four Lakes ranch has been one of the principal possessions of the L. F. D. company for years, and is known over the southwest as one of the biggest and best ranches in the state. There are more than 138,000 acres in the pastures and the water supply is excellent.

The ranch is situated in eastern Chaves county about fifty miles east of Roswell. The sale includes all the equipment of the ranch and all the cattle with which it is stocked. The transaction is not only of local interest, but because of the prominence of the purchasers and the L. F. D. company, which is selling, it is of interest all over the southwest. The new company will take possession October 20.

It is said that this is the largest deal of the kind in Chaves county in thirty years.—Roswell News.

## GREAT PLAINS CROWD

A RECORD BREAKER.

Largest Load of Seed Alfalfa Ever Threshed on Earth.

I. S. Osborne Wednesday morning threshed a load of seed alfalfa which yielded 1,224 pounds and he was offered \$185 for the seed immediately after it came from the machine.

The work of threshing, or more properly, the hulling, was done by the Nymeyer brothers, with Ora as boss, sons of John Nymeyer. The machine is run by a J. I. Case traction engine and the Birdsall huller. The load was built by Mr. Osborne's expert Mexican loader, Cito Santacruz, who is famous for putting up fancy loads. While the load of dry alfalfa in the straw was not weighed, it was probably about 5,000 pounds and was cut on an acre and a half of the tract adjoining Carlshad on the south. The straw, after the seed is threshed out, has been contracted to an alfalfa mill at \$6 per ton and will net \$4 for it will take \$2 per ton to bale and put it on the car. This crop of alfalfa will almost pay for the land it grows on and in fact will buy four acres of land just as good for the land is plenty of good alfalfa land still for sale at \$50 per acre in the raw and in fact much can be bought for less, farther down the valley. Farmers who want cheap lands should come to Carlshad and buy at from \$30 to \$50 per acre, land with water right and land that will produce alfalfa seed as well as any other.

## EVENING OF MUSIC.

The following is the program to be rendered by the M. E. Chorus Choir next Sunday evening at the Methodist church:

1. Hymn 382, Processional.
2. Prayer, Rev. J. T. Redmon.
3. Quartet, "Come Unto Me".
4. Hymn 461, four verses.
5. "Sing My Tongue", from Cantata.
6. Scripture reading, Rev. J. T. Redmon.
7. "Tis Finished," from Cantata.
8. Vocal duet, Mrs. Bunch and Mr. Butler.
9. "Come Unto Me," Anthem.
10. "Not Unto Us," Anthem.
11. Hymn 123, all stand.
12. "Thine, O Lord," Anthem.
13. "The Lains of Peace", Mr. Butler.
14. Remarks, Rev. J. T. Redmon.
15. Offertory.
16. "Blessed are They," Anthem.
17. "Hail, Holy Cross," from Cantata.
18. Hymn, 564, all stand.
19. Dismissal.

Jim Andrews, one of the old time cowmen of the Pecos country, came in Tuesday evening with Bill Hudson and they spent Wednesday in Carlshad. Bill said he came to pay his taxes, but as that is the excuse he gives every time he comes it should be taken with a grain of allowance. Mr. Andrews said he did not want to know he would associate with Bill, but as he was detected in the act it is taken as an excuse to get their names in the paper at the same time.

## 25 DYING DAILY OF STARVATION IN MEXICO CITY.

School Teachers Among Those Appealing for Sustenance. Lower Classes Suffer Worst.

Mexico City, Mex., Aug. 13. (By courier to Vera Cruz, Aug. 16; via New Orleans, Aug. 23.) Deaths by starvation continue in this city, and most conservative estimates place them at 25 a day.

A visit to the various hospitals by a representative of the American Red Cross disclosed that for the first three days of August 20 deaths from starvation were reported. This number did not include the many who died in the streets from lack of food. Yesterday six certificates attributed starvation as the cause.

During the month of July, 1,856 deaths were registered in Mexico City. According to Chas. J. O'Connor, of the American Red Cross, 5 per cent of the deaths occurring in Mexico City are due to starvation.

Notwithstanding the fact that the authorities here may be actuated by sincere motives to relieve the distress, their work up to now has been of little or no effect. School teachers, government employes, and even employes of the central charity organization were among those who have made applications to the Red Cross for assistance.

Such supplies as were brought in by General Gonzales when Carranza forces reoccupied the capital on August 2, are nearly exhausted. The situation is such that only large supplies of provisions from outside the capital can prevent an increase in the number of deaths from starvation and allay the misery among the lower classes and even the middle classes.

A comparison of prices during July, 1914, and July this year shows the following increases. Corn, 2,400 per cent; bones, 2,300; rice, 1,400; sugar, 940; flour, 900. The increase in the price of corn, the only absolutely essential staple for the Mexican people, has made it prohibitive to the poor and many cases have been discovered of entire families who have been compelled to live on herbs.

## BIG CROWD, MUCH AMUSEMENT AND TWICE AS MANY FROM CARLSBAD AS FROM ANY OTHER POINT.

When the Current stated last week that there would be forty cars going to Lovington to carry people to the barbecue and picnic it was after considerable inquiry and investigation and the facts proved the accuracy of the prediction for, by actual count by Mr. Linn it was found that at least 291 people from Carlshad attended the "blow out". This number exceeded by at least twice as many as attended from any other one point and with the best band in New Mexico, made quite a showing at the Plains town celebration. The event was scheduled for Thursday, Friday and Saturday and it was Wednesday afternoon that a large number departed to be on hand Thursday morning and according to the Leader an extract from which follows the Carlshad Fireman's Band was on deck at an early hour.

The Leader says: "Our little city was aroused this morning by the music of the Carlshad band, and our picnic and barbecue opened in real earnest. Many people were on hand and by a telephone message sent in many more are expected. More cars from Roswell, and 7 were heard to have been on their way from El Paso."

Lovington is a typical western Plains town and contains two rows of wooden buildings of many and diverse shapes and sizes in which business of all kinds is represented the most important of which is the People's Store presided over by Messrs. Hollifield, Caudel and other obliging people. The bank on the opposite corner is also a very conspicuous structure and is the greatest financial institution of the Plains, but, with such men as Oscar Thompson, president, Jeff D. Hart, vice president, J. S. Eaves, cashier and C. L. Creighton, assistant cashier it could not well be otherwise.

The boxing contest arranged for Friday afternoon, proved a first class disappointment, on account of the decision being so rank. It was generally admitted that "Dutch" Crozier won the fight, but the decision was given Connolly because it was stated the referee had money bet on the contest. However, it is of small consequence, for nearly all such contests in this section are hardly worth the time to witness.

The roping and calf branding which with other events was pulled off each day, was won by Pete Beal, of Plains, Texas. Hawk Modlin, winning second and Milt Good of Leno, Texas, third and Quince Leatherman, of Carlshad, fourth.

In the goat roping, which was a feature of each day and the time of each roping averaged for the three days resulted in John Murrain, of Lakewood, winning first; Dick Dillard, of Shafter Lake, Texas, second; Clay McGonagill, third; and Chas. Miller fourth.

It was impossible to get the results in the pony races or any of the other features, every one connected with the affair, being too busy to talk to a newspaper man.

The barbecue was well arranged, but poorly served, hundreds being unable to get a piece of meat on account of the mismanagement of the distribution which was lacking in competent waiters. This is a feature that should be remedied in the event of another barbecue, for it is a serious mistake to furnish a number of good heaves and other carcasses and have the meat carried off in large quantities by some, while others do not even get a taste. The number of people however, being more than was expected, made it difficult to manage the barbecue satisfactory to all. The crowd was estimated by many at 4,000 there having been at one time about 400 autos in and around the town, besides hundreds camped in wagons near town. The only arrests were a couple of Roswell "boot-leggers" who were taken in the afternoon of the second day. Judge Grantham was called upon for a speech the second day and addressed the old soldiers and others in his usual happy fashion. There was to have been more speaking but on account of the fact that it was impossible to hold the people for any length of time at any one point this feature was abandoned.

Nearly all who came in autos, either departed for home after one day or went to the ranches of friends to put in the night, the hotel accommodations being insufficient for less than one twenty-fifth of the crowd, there being but one small hotel in the place.

Considering the fact that no printed program was to be found the people enjoyed themselves amazingly. There was considerable visiting, for many were heard to say: "We met for the first time in forty years" or, "I have not seen this man since he and I were boys". The picnic was a success if for no other reason than the meeting of old friends, who, in the course of time become widely separated. Then, to those who have never seen the Plains country it is a revelation, for, in many places, it would seem to the visitor that he was moving about in an old settled portion of the eastern part of Texas, for Indian and kaffir corn is sowing and heading, fruit trees in immense orchards all look healthy, and in fact the indications show that the plains of this county will soon be among the great farming sections of the West.

(Continued on last page.)