

PRESTON J. SHAW.

ANADARKO, OKLAHOMA.

TERRITORIAL NOTES.

A commercial club has been organized at Kingfisher.

An electric light and ice plant will be built at Duncan.

The grand jury at Poteau last week returned 40 bills.

Pawnee is to have an electric light system owned by the city.

The officials of the Katy have laid out the terminals at Oklahoma City.

The plat of Wynewood has been approved by the secretary of the interior.

Grant Bowden, of Perry has returned home from the Philippines after an absence of two years.

The trial of J. Stewart Fife for the murder of his former partner at Savannah, Mo., is now on.

An expert, who has been inspecting around Cleo says there is plenty of oil and gas in that vicinity.

Ardmore's new ice plant will be completed in sixty days and will have a capacity of 60 tons per day.

Ex-Governor Jenkins is securing the right of way for the Santa Fe extension from Pawnee county to Newkirk.

Fort Gibson, I. T., was recently visited by fire which consumed six business houses entailing a loss to the owners of \$6,000.

The Bridgeport postoffice was robbed recently, but the burglars obtained only a little small change left in a cash drawer.

The Spaulding institution at Muskogee is very much elated over the prospect of securing an endowment fund of \$100,000.

Commissioner Wright of Muskogee has been named as commissioner of Indian affairs, the best paying position in the field.

Crocker Drog, a farmer youth of Medford, has been arrested by postal authorities on the charge of sending obscene matter through the mail.

J. M. Cotton, a colored waiter at the Lee Hotel, Oklahoma City, committed suicide by taking morphine. The reason was the desertion of his wife.

W. C. Harris, of Lawrence, Kansas, was arrested at Kingfisher for burglary. He had in his possession 155 yards of silks and satins worth about \$200.

Jack Carey, of Kansas City, is in jail at Hennessey upon a charge of stealing clothing from a store there. It is thought he is one of an organized gang.

The citizens of Blaine county are to celebrate the opening of the Cheyenne country on April 18 and 19. Governor Ferguson has consented to deliver an address.

C. F. Colcord has employed a surveyor to lay out the race track for his Oklahoma City park. The track will be the American racing association regulation with 600 feet to the stretch.

The drug stores and meat markets at Muskogee will close Sundays hereafter. The drug stores from 10:30 a. m. to 3 p. m., and the meat markets from 9 a. m. throughout the day.

Chandler has a population of 3,000. The city has also a pay roll of \$3,000. A dollar per capita per month paid out in wages ought to make a good city, and Chandler exemplifies the fact.

Comanche county overseers have advertised for bids for the construction of seventeen new bridges across the country roads. This would not seem to indicate that there was any lack of running streams in that county.

A committee representing the Oklahoma agriculturist association called on Governor Ferguson and requested him to set aside a part of the \$20,000 world's fair appropriation, for the purpose of employing a person in each county to collect a suitable display for the Oklahoma exhibit at the St. Louis fair.

The Congregational church at Anadarko has been dedicated.

The territorial board of railway assessors hold a meeting at Guthrie, April 1.

A rate-destroying war is being waged at El Reno between the Topeka and El Reno Telephone companies.

Chief Porter's commission is in Washington trying to have the leasing valuation of land placed at \$6.50 per acre.

Secretary Hitchcock has recommended a \$15,000 appropriation for the Whitaker's Orphan Home, at Pryor Creek.

The Oklahoma editors have asked Governor Ferguson to accompany them on their excursion to Hot Springs next month.

Governor Ferguson to Go to Washington to Save Them

SCHOOL LAND BOARD AUTHORIZES THIS

The Loss of Pending Cases Would Be a Hard Blow to the Territory—About 60,000 Acres of Land Involved—A Test Case Worrying the Officials

GUTHRIE: The school land board has authorized Governor Ferguson to go to Washington and take the necessary steps to save the territory the school lands in the new country selected in lieu of sections 13, 33, 16 and 36 reserved by the federal government in the Indian pastures. Nearly every quarter section of these indemnity lands has been settled upon by persons who claim that Oklahoma has no title to them, although most of the lands have been leased by the school land board. Nearly two hundred filings have been offered. The land offices reject all the filings, and a test case was carried to the United States general land office at Washington. The loss of these lands to Oklahoma would aggregate much money. There are about 375 quarter sections, or sixty thousand acres, and much of the land is the best in the new country. The lessees are embarrassed, as they do not know whether Oklahoma can win in the courts, and, naturally, hesitate to make improvements.

Another question before the school land board is whether it will be permitted longer to lease the lands occupied in part by the towns of Mountain View and Lowther. As these towns increased in size more land was needed and they spread out to adjacent school lands. A late ruling of the general land office holds that these lands can be leased only for agricultural purposes. The uncertainty of tenure is causing considerable anxiety to persons who have erected buildings. A general insurance agent told J. J. Houston, secretary of the school land board, several days ago, that if there was any probability of the leases being disturbed he would cancel all policies held by his company in Mountain View.

Governor Ferguson has not decided whether he will go to Washington, but has retained the firm of Britton & Gray at Washington, to look after Oklahoma's interests.

DECREASE MONEY ORDERS

A Bill Introduced Provides for Safe Way of Sending Money by Mail

WASHINGTON: The bill introduced in the senate by Mr. McMillan of Michigan to prevent robbing the mails, a safer and easier method of sending money by mail and to increase the postal revenues, has been introduced in the House by Mr. Gardner of Michigan. The bill was endorsed by the American newspaper Publishers Association. It provides that all paper money hereafter issued by the United States of the denomination of one, two and five dollars, except national bank notes, shall be of the form known as the post check, and shall be convertible thereof into a check to a named payee. These post checks will be exchangeable at any United States postoffice for current funds, after which the postmaster will cancel them and forward them to a depository designated by the postmaster general and shall receive credit therefor. This paper currency will have appropriate blank spaces in which the holder may write his name and postoffice address of a payee and wherein the payee may give receipt.

For Territory Miners

WASHINGTON: The senate committee on mining has made a favorable report on the house bill for the protection of miners in the territories, amending the bill so as to avoid the requirements for the use of shot fired in lighting fires, and inserting in its place a requirement that the dust in mines shall be settled by the use of water or carried out of the mine.

A Sort of Confidence Game

SOUTH McALESTER: Frank G. Stein and James Morressey have been bound over in the sum of \$700 on a charge of robbing the postoffice at Hollman the 10th instant. It develops that the two men were decoyed into the robbery by the United States officers through a confederate. The officers had hauled a safe to Holleman, put United States mail in it to make the offense aggravated and their confederates hired the team and guard for the dupes as they walked into the trap set for them.

J. D. Kyle, a young man of Oklahoma City, because he was discharged from service by the Grand Avenue livery entered the barn and with a knife played havoc with a number of rubber-tired vehicles, slashing curtains, marring wheels and like work. He was arrested on six counts and received a fine of \$100 each—in all \$600.

There have been 4,226 fourth class postoffices abolished during the last fiscal year as a result of the rural free delivery, and a saving in the commission paid postmasters of a little less than \$80,000.

Two Preachers Quarrel Over Differences and a Son of One Killed

ARDMORE: At Cumberland, I. T., Rev. Easley Lamar, a Holiness preacher, shot and killed Calvin Van Winkle, aged 24 years, a well-to-do citizen of Cumberland. In his church before services began, Lamar made the statement that no other Christian belief than that of the Holiness sect was of any value, and that those persons who clung to other Christian beliefs were sure of hell. William Van Winkle, father of the young man slain, is a strong Baptist. He became offended at the statement made by the preacher and invited him outside. Rev. Lamar followed the elder Van Winkle outside. Calvin Van Winkle heard the men quarreling, came to his father's rescue and was shot and killed. Several shots were exchanged between the elder Van Winkle and the Rev. Lamar, without damage. Lamar is under arrest.

"THE METEOR" DITCHED

The Frisco's New Fast Train Left the Track on Its Inital Trip

DENVER, TEXAS: The Frisco's handsome new train "The Meteor" left the track near Francis, I. T., on its first trip seriously injuring four passengers: The injured: William Atkins, Kansas City, left arm wrenched and cut, Mrs. Mand Kivett, Gun City, Mo., hip sprained, Mrs. M. A. McGowan, St. Joseph, internally injured, S. F. Dutton, superintendent of Harvey eating house, Kansas City, thrown through window and badly cut.

The accident occurred at a curve where the track skirts a high embankment and approaches a trestle. All of the cars except the baggage and combination coaches left the track. The day coaches, chair cars, sleeper and cafe car left the rails, were dragged into a clay embankment and stopped seventy feet from the trestle. The engineer and fireman were thrown off their feet and the engine was bumping along on the ties, and was stopped by automatic brakes. The cause of the accident is problematical.

APPEAL TO GOVERNMENT

Indians Don't Want Their Relief Fund Scraped

VINTA: The anokolous condition of the Indian appealing to his ancient enemy, the government for protection against his own people exists in the Cherokee nation, where a petition is being circulated asking the government to take the payment of the recent appropriation for the relief of the destitute fullbloods out of the hands of the tribal authorities.

When the interior department recently authorized the appropriation of \$30,000 for the relief of the fullbloods whose crops were destroyed by the drought it was understood that the payments were to be made through the Indian agent at Muskogee.

A clause, however, was inserted in the bill making the money payable in Cherokee national warrants, a most elastic medium of exchange. This would result in those for whom the money was intended, getting about one-third of the amount issued to them, and in the warrant speculators gobbling the balance.

The progressive element among the Indians have petitioned the department to stop the payment, pending the receipt of their formal protest. Indian Inspector J. George Wright has held up the measure and is investigating the charge of the complicity between the warrant buyers and the tribal authorities.

Couldn't Pay So Killed Himself

HOBART: A man by the name of Redin, a teamster living in the Hill addition, cut his throat after swallowing a large quantity of laudanum. A Cordell banker came to collect a note he held against Redin and took Deputy Austin to serve a warrant on him. Redin said: "I'll take this water in the house and then come out and settle." Redin entered the house and slashed his throat with a razor after taking the laudanum.

General Miles' retirement from the regular army is looked for in the not far distant future.

Shawnee is enlarging its sewerage system.

The Odd Fellows are to construct a fine lodge building at Elmore.

There are now on file in the El Reno land office 1,132 contest cases.

A company has been organized at Chandler to erect a \$20,000 hotel.

The Odd Fellows are preparing to construct a fine lodge hall at Elmore.

The insurance rates in the Indian Territory have been raised 25 per cent, occasioned by the great amount of losses during the past year.

The first mineral claim has been proved up at the Lawton land office. The patent for it was issued to L. J. Hamilton. It is a cement claim.

Alfred Graves, an aged man, was found in a ravine near Horner, I. T., with his throat cut. Graves had been missing since February 17.

C. M. Campbell, of Ardmore, has been appointed United States clerk for the southern district of the Indian Territory by Federal Judge Townsend.

United States Attorney Issued Injunctions Regarding Contests on Claims

GUTHRIE: United States Attorney Horace Speed issued the following statement to the various government land officials of the territory relative to affidavits filed in contest matters and relinquishments:

"I beg to call your attention to the necessity for statements of facts in all affidavits for contests, and in all assertions as to bad faith and want of residence upon lands whether in contests or in testimony given in contest cases.

"In some contest affidavits before me, and in a number of other cases, persons have made affidavits for contests charging that the entryman did not file for homestead purposes but for speculation or speculative purposes. I would suggest that the office requires that the affidavits be made more specific as to the facts of the speculation—what the speculation was.

"Again, the affidavit charges that the entryman is now offering his relinquishment for sale in violation of law. I would suggest that it be required that the affidavit show the names and post-office addresses of the persons to whom the relinquishment has been offered for sale.

"Again, affidavits are made purporting to be before notaries public, without any date or fixed place where the affidavit is made. I would suggest that in all proper cases of affidavit made before notaries public be refused unless full and explicit, both as to time and place where made. Several of the affidavits shown me are undated, and the notary's seal and notary's name appear in wholly different ink from that of the affiant, leaving the suggestion that the notary filled up a blank and turned it over to some one else to make the affidavit.

"Again, I find affidavits received and filed with numerous interlineations and erasures. I would suggest that no affidavit be received for such purpose which has alterations and erasures of written matter, and none where the erasures are printed matter unless such erasures are noted in the handwritings of the affiant as made before he makes the affidavit, or else in the handwriting of the notary.

"I would respectfully request in every case where your office receives a contest affidavit which you consider embodies perjury, or manipulation or any other violation of the United States statutes that you send a copy of that with a statement of the facts to this office, so that a special agent of the general land office, and the force in this office can properly investigate and prosecute the offense."

MURDER IN FIRST DEGREE

Verdict Against Frank Ellis Who Killed Ferris Clayton

GUTHRIE: Frank Ellis has been convicted of murder in first degree. The jury recommended that the prisoner be sentenced to ninety-nine years in the penitentiary at hard labor. The attorneys for Ellis will ask for a new trial, and if that is refused by Judge Burwell, will appeal the case to the Oklahoma supreme court.

Ellis was indicted last fall for the murder of Ferris Clayton, a young stranger in this city, while Ellis was a member of the police force. The evidence showed that Ellis had been drinking and that he had acted unreasonable several times during the evening before he met Clayton. While at a lunch counter near the Santa Fe tracks, Ellis, seemingly without provocation, shot Clayton, the ball entering the heart region causing almost instant death.

A strong plea of insanity was made by Ellis's attorneys and in a hearing before Judge Burford Ellis was found to be sane. Affidavits were introduced from Ellis's family in which it was stated that members of his family had been insane.

Better Waterworks and More Trees

BLACKWELL: The city council decided to do away with the stand-pipe system of waterworks and adopt the direct pressure system. The capacity of the pressure system was ordered doubled. A resolution requiring all residents to plant shade trees was also passed.

POLICE AFTER WINE ROOMS

Oklahoma City Police Experience Difficulty in Ousting Wine Rooms

OKLAHOMA CITY: In the police court Fannie Stoneking was tried on the charge of conducting an assignation house and wine room over Jennings' saloon on Harvey street, between Main street and Grand avenue. The court assessed a fine of ten dollars. Attorney McMechan who conducted the defense, stated that the case would be appealed and it was arranged that the woman should furnish an appeal bond of \$100 but before leaving the court room she became gay and, turning toward the court and policemen said: "If you policemen or any of you need money to get supper with, I will let you have it." The court immediately ordered her committed to jail unless a cash bond was produced immediately. The woman wilted and the bond was furnished. The police are determined to break up the wine rooms and assignation houses but experience the usual difficulty in securing the absolute proof necessary to secure conviction.

Stewart Fife, who was held at Savannah, Mo., for the murder of Frank W. Richardson, has been acquitted.

A Protege of Mrs. Nation Rawhide Topeka's Executive

TOPEKA, KANS.: Miss Blanche Boise, a protege of Mrs. Nation, horsewhipped Mayor Parker in his office at the City Building. Three times she slashed the mayor and then he sprang at her, gripped her by the throat, choked her, tore the rawhide out of her hand and pushed her into the hall. As Miss Boise was thrust out of the office by Mayor Parker she exclaimed: "Thank God, I've done it. I've horsewhipped you and now I'm going to horsewhip the governor. Before beginning her horsewhipping Miss Boise gave the mayor a severe scolding and accused him of being responsible for the fact that joints are running openly in Topeka and for the murder which was recently committed in Roy Daniels' saloon. She then pulled the horsewhip from the folds of her dress and before the mayor knew what had happened she struck him three times across the head and shoulders. Miss Boise is a nurse by profession. She is about 35 years of age and quite handsome.

Charged With Crime of Incest

GUTHRIE: Under Sheriff Mahoney acting on a bench warrant issued by the court placed under arrest Miss Minnie Wetzel, the young woman who has been indicted with her uncle, John Tressler, on the serious charge of incest. The two are charged with living together for several months past as man and wife.

PLAN TO CATCH THIEVES

A Farmers' Organization Will Attempt to Use Telephone and Rural Mail System

ATCHISON, KANS.: There is a movement on foot among the farmers in this section of Missouri and Kansas to utilize the rural mail route service and the rural telephones in capturing thieves.

During the past ten years an organization of farmers called the Protective association, has existed in western Missouri and eastern Kansas and it now has fully 50,000 members. W. S. Connor of East Atchison, is the president, and W. H. Smith of Atchison, is the secretary. The purpose of this organization is solely to capture thieves who steal from farmers and it now proposes to thoroughly try the efficacy of the rural mail route and the rural telephone. When there is a theft of horses or chickens or other property from a farmer, the victim will go to the nearest rural telephone and notify all the other farmers on the line, also calling up the sheriff or other officer at the nearest town. The officer will have cards printed at once, and sent to all the rural mail carriers in that section with instructions to tack up the cards along their routes. Cards will also be addressed to the members of the Protective association along the route, as their names will be in the hands of every member and officer.

So many rural telephones are being constructed in this section that it will be almost impossible for a thief to get out of the country with plunder if the present scheme is put into effective operation. Under the plan proposed hundreds of farmers would, within a few hours be watching for the thief if he committed his theft in the night. Within six or seven hours the rural mail carriers would be delivering cards giving a description of the thief and the property stolen. By means of the rural telephones a posse of the Protective association could be in pursuit of the thief half an hour after the theft was discovered.

CHOCTAW INDIANS OBJECT

The Appraised Value of Land Condemned for Railroads Considered Too Low

SOUTH McALESTER: Governor Dukes of the Choctaw nation, on behalf of his tribe, has brought suit against the Fort Smith & Western railway restraining it from condemning the Indian lands for the right of way through the territory. Under the government permit a board of appraisers was to set the value of the lands condemned. Recently its report was filed with the Indian department fixing the value at \$50 a mile. Governor Dukes in his petition asked for \$140 a mile. The road enters the Choctaw nation near Fort Smith and extends directly through into Oklahoma.

Miss Farr Wins Case

SOUTH McALESTER: The supreme court of Arkansas affirmed the judgment of the lower court for \$5,000 in favor of Miss Kate Farr, against the Missouri Pacific Railway company. Miss Farr had her ankle broken in getting off the train at Knoxville, the station having been called out and the train stopped before the depot platform was reached, for which injuries she sued for damages with the above result.

Wolcott May be Hitchcock's Successor

WASHINGTON: It is understood that Ex-Senator Edward O. Wolcott of Colorado, is being considered by the president as the possible successor of Secretary Hitchcock, who it is understood, will soon retire from the cabinet. Mr. Wolcott was considered for the interior portfolio at the time of Mr. McKinley's second inauguration, when it was thought probable Secretary Hitchcock would retire. At that time, it was also understood, he was willing to accept the honor.

The altitude at Newkirk above the sea level is 1,110 feet, of Oklahoma City 1,300, of Perry 871, of Guthrie 933, and of Bush Springs 1,245.