

The Holt County Sentinel.

46TH YEAR.

OREGON, MISSOURI, FRIDAY, DECEMBER 2, 1910.

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19 DECEMBER 10

SUN.	MON.	TUE.	WED.	THU.	FRI.	SAT.
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DEPUTY LOWE EXONERATED

The Coroner's Jury Justifies the Killing of Chas. West by Frank Lowe.

Frank Lowe, Sheriff McNulty's deputy who shot and fatally wounded Chas. Stivers-West in a gun fight, which resulted when Stivers resisted arrest at Napier Monday evening of last week, November 21, was completely exonerated Thursday by a coroner's jury, when the inquest was held over the body at Fortescue.

West died Wednesday morning, November 23, and the body was taken to Fortescue to the home of his uncle, Angelo Wake, section foreman at Fortescue. Coroner Wyman summoned the following as jurors: C. E. Rosling, David Bondine, Israel Cotton, George Carter, J. A. Williams and Joshua Koch. After the examination



CHARLES STIVERS WEST.

Lowe made the remark that he was hungry, and Stivers said they might go over to the restaurant and get a snack. This they did. Stivers hung his raincoat on the wall, and took out his revolver from a pocket in it and put it in his hip pocket, and took a seat on a stool. At this, Johnson said: "You are under arrest," covering him with his revolver. Stivers replied: "The hell I am," and slid from his stool and told Johnson to put up his revolver. Johnson believing he was going to surrender, lowered his pistol, and no sooner done Stivers drew his, began firing and a "trough house" followed in which Johnson was knocked down. Stivers took the restaurant man's gun away from him. As Johnson lay on the floor he threw up his arm to protect his face. Stivers fired at the prostrate man and shattered the bones of his arm which he may never be able to use again. Had he not thrown up his arm Johnson would probably have been killed.

When the shooting began Nowland, Johnson's restaurant clerk, got beneath one of the counters. He was unarmed. When Stivers fired at Johnson Lowe began to fire at Stivers. He shot five times and struck Stivers four times. The latter emptied his revolver of the four cartridges which remained after firing at Howard.

One of the cartridges penetrated the counter behind which Nowland was concealed. Immediately in front of Nowland was a large package of peanut candy. The bullet lodged in this. Its force was spent and Nowland was saved.

After emptying his own revolver, Stivers took the one which he had wrested from Johnson and fired one shot. He snapped it again but it would not shoot. By this time Lowe was out of ammunition. Stivers' weapons were also useless.

When others entered the restaurant a short time afterward, attracted by the shooting, all the principals were gone. The night was dark, but a search was instituted for Stivers and he was found on the railroad tracks, mortally wounded, but still in possession of the two revolvers.

While Stivers lived much of his life in Fortescue he is said to have taken to his erring ways while living in St. Joseph. The other members of the family are highly respected.

Following the inquest the body was taken to the Boyd cemetery, where it was buried.

His father was known as James West, at Forest City, and married a Miss Ogden. The father died many years ago, leaving the mother with two sons and a daughter—the daughter living in the state of Oregon. On the death of her husband, she made application for a pension, he being a civil war veteran. The pension at first was refused on account of there being no record at the war department, but it was afterwards learned that he enlisted under the name of James Stivers, and after a persistent effort she obtained her pension under the name of Stivers. She is held in high regard by her neighbors at Fortescue, who sympathize with her in her sorrow. Her son John is a plasterer by trade, and is married, and is regarded as a very industrious, hard-working young man and held in high esteem by all.

Several additional incidents of interest were brought out at the inquest, that we did not learn of at the time of the shooting. It appears West had struck his brother John, and had threatened to kill him. John ran into the Hill store at Fortescue; he closed the door and held it shut.

"If you don't open that door I will shoot through it," said the young brother. John then left the front door, ran through a rear door and Charles entered the store.

Yes Howard, a clerk, stepped out and tried to pacify the young man.

"I would just as lief kill you," Stivers is declared to have said. He was standing about four feet from Howard. He fired at the clerk and the latter's face was powder burned, but he was unhurt. However, two jars of pickles on a shelf were shattered.

Howard stood his ground. He was afraid to run for fear of being shot in the back. Stivers did not offer further violence but went to relatives in the town, bid them good-bye and said he was going to leave, never to return.

Before he left Howard, Stivers said: "I will kill you if you swear out a warrant."

Stivers then started down the track toward Napier. In the meantime Sheriff McNulty notified his deputies, Frank Lowe and Johnson, the latter the owner of the Napier restaurant. They started up the railroad toward Napier, when they met Stivers a short distance from Napier, and they asked him the distance to Fortescue, when Stivers told them, and on being informed that if they were going west, they had better go back to Napier and hop a train, and they would be foolish to pay fare.

The suggestion was taken by the deputies, and on getting to Napier,

The Banker and the Farmer.

We do not know of any two classes of citizens that are more dependent on each other than the country bankers and the farmers in the country tributary thereto. The banker is dependent on the farmer for the bulk of his deposits. The farmer, speaking of farmers as a class, is dependent on the banker for financial aid in conducting many of his farm operations, as for example, the purchase of live stock for feeding.

We know of no other class who can be more helpful to each other. The banker cannot advise the farmer as to the mechanical operations of his farm. The farmer knows more about that than the banker does. He has forgotten more than the banker ever knew about farming. The banker, however, can encourage the farmer in many lines of work. He can be useful to the farmer in advising him about investments. Many a farmer has invested in some far-distant, get-rich-quick scheme, or in stocks and bonds; whereas, if he had simply asked his banker about the present and prospective value of the stocks and bonds, the farmer would have been saved from very serious loss.

There ought to be entire confidence between the farmer and his banker. The judgment of the banker on many things which interest the farmer is better than his own. This is particularly true of things that are far away; while on things under the farmers' immediate observation, the judgment of the farmer may be better than that of the banker.

There ought to be a most cordial and hearty co-operation between these two classes of people. The farmers often need to be inoculated with new ideas, just as the land sometimes needs to be inoculated to grow alfalfa. It is in this inoculation with new, well-thought-out plans and ideas that the banker gives the farmer his greatest help. The main thing, however, is the maintenance of mutual confidence, which can only be maintained by absolutely fair dealing.

Statements recently issued by the banks of Holt county make a gratifying exhibit, and as compared with the statements made in June last there appears to be a total gain of \$110,000, giving proof of the substantial growth of the business of our county. The banks everywhere are recognized both as measures of present trade conditions and barometers by which the business of the future may, to a considerable degree, be forecasted. In the remarkable strength shown by Holt county banks there is, therefore, great reason for satisfaction. It proves the growth and increased wealth of the county, which makes for the prosperity of every inhabitant of Holt.

In this connection we might refer briefly to the annual report of the nation's comptroller of currency. The only item in that report which need be cited here is that of the deposits and the depositors in the savings banks of the country. The deposits amounted to a grand total of \$4,070,400,000 on June 30, 1910. In 1896 the deposits in the savings banks of the country were \$1,935,000,000, which is less than a half of the amount this year. In Holt county, in 1896, the total deposits in the banks were \$476,597, which is four times less than the amount on deposit in our banks November 10, 1910. Now let us see how these savings are divided. The number of depositors according to the comptroller's report, in the savings banks in 1896 was 5,000,000. The number in 1910 is 9,000,000, the exact figures for this year being 9,142,709. Thus it will be seen that the number of persons having savings accounts has increased more than three times as fast since 1896.

The statements as published in the various papers of our county, a total deposit of \$1,715,034 is shown, which is a gain of \$110,369 over that of June last. The statements make the following exhibit:

Zook & Roecker	\$ 223,058
Citizens	93,080
Forest City	106,361
Home, Forest City	12,673
Exchange, Mound City	66,701
Bank of Mound City	142,035
Holt County Bank	161,448
Farmers', Maitland	233,114
People's, Maitland	209,654
Heaton, Craig	244,314
Farmers' and Merchants', Craig	69,021
People's, Corning	21,635
Bank of Corning	36,092
Bank of Bigelow	44,027
Bank of Forbes	51,221
Total, November 1, 1910	\$1,715,034

Total, June, 1910..... 1,904,665
Total, February, 1910..... 1,843,700
Total, August, 1907..... 1,746,054
From these totals it will be seen that the deposits for November, 1910, are the third largest in the history of banking in Holt county.

In the total amount of deposits, the cities of our county take the following rank:

Maitland	\$412,768
Mound City	370,184
Oregon	316,738
Craig	313,335
Forest City	119,034
Corning	57,727
Forbes	51,221
Bigelow	44,027

What's the matter with Holt? She's all right.

Christmas Shopping.

"Avoid the Christmas rush." That is a time-worn warning, recurring annually, and so accustomed have we grown to it that it has lost its significance. We read it without stopping to think what it means. But usually a few weeks or days later when struggling in the congested aisle of a store in quest of the inevitable Christmas presents, we are reminded of it and think rather bitterly of ourselves for not taking heed.

In Christmas shopping it is the early bird that catches the worm. The early shopper finds stores packed with the most attractive holiday goods, which he has ample time to examine, whereas, later in the season the stock has not only diminished, but often has suffered somewhat from excess of handling.

One who puts off Christmas buying to the last minute not only has a narrowed field of choice, but must also endure not a little discomfort and sometimes real hardship resulting from the crush that is always bound to mark the last few days before the holidays. Locomotion is difficult, and deliberation in the choice of goods impossible. The tremendous crush of Christmas week could be avoided if shoppers more frequently anticipated the season by a few weeks, and made their purchases at a time when the holiday goods and the shopping facilities were at their best.

The spirit of Christian charity, always more manifest as the Christmas season approaches, should prompt us to give some heed to the class of people to whom the joys of the holidays are always tempered by a great rush of dispiriting, nerve-trying work. The men and women who assist in the sale and delivery of holiday goods receive at best too little consideration from the shopping public.

Wall Street's Anxiety.

Wall Street was determined to defeat Rooseveltism. It exerted every influence it could possibly bring to bear on the voters of the country to defeat those candidates who stood for the Roosevelt principles and policies. It did not succeed in defeating so many progressive Republicans as it did in electing Democrats. Now Wall Street is having visions of free trade and is correspondingly anxious.

In undertaking to defeat Rooseveltism, Wall Street asserted that it was fighting for the protection of its right to conduct business without necessary limitations and unwarranted interference. In other words, Wall Street went into the campaign to insure its privilege of conducting business as it pleased. It has failed not only to gain this insurance, but even to preserve its business interests if its fears are well founded. Wall Street believes that only under a high protective tariff can this country prosper. Wall Street's anxiety is genuine, it is real.

To Be Given a Trial.

A limited parcels post for rural free delivery routes will be recommended by Postmaster General Hitchcock in his forthcoming annual report. As a preliminary step in the development of such a service, Mr. Hitchcock will ask congress to authorize the delivery on rural routes of parcels weighing as high as 11 pounds, which is the weight limit for the international parcel post. A rural parcel post, if successful probably would lead the department to attempt a more general system.

—We enjoyed a splendid chat with Esquire Lacey, of Maitland, on Saturday. He had come down to be sworn in as J. P. of Clay township, this term will round out his 8 years in the office in that township, and before his removal there he had served 10 years in Hickory township. He is now 76 years old and enjoying excellent health. We are always glad to meet him.

—John Hibbard, our recorder elect, has purchased the Frank Kleffer property; consideration, \$3,000.

What Will Congress Do?

These are busy days for the program builders at Washington. According to the dispatches, the congressional mill will do a lot of working overtime this winter if it is to grind and even a tiny fraction of the ambitious things which are expected of it.

President Taft is reported to have put into the advance drafts of his forthcoming message a beautiful list of things he would like to see written into law. He still has his federal incorporation law lying untouched in congress. Then there is his long-desired anti-injunction measure. Furthermore he wants some ship subsidy legislation. He is also vitally interested in a number of army measures.

If the supreme court brings in its decisions in the Tobacco and Standard Oil cases, the administration would like to have the Sherman anti-trust law brought down to date in conformity with the views of the highest court. There also is some tinkering that the administration is said to want on the railroad rate bill, if it can get a report from the special commission which is investigating the question of governmental control of the stock and bond issues by railroads.

Senator Heyburn and the committee on manufactures are expected to urge some "cold storage" legislation.

The Republican leaders are said to be anxious for a reappointment bill to prevent the Democrats from taking advantage of the decennial opportunity for gerrymandering.

Such trifles as \$1,000,000,000 or so of appropriation bills have not been accorded the dignity of a place on this program.

From all of this the lay citizen might expect that the Sixty-first congress had a year or two of life ahead of it. Instead, it will have only till March 3 next in which to work out these miracles.

It all sounds well enough in the advance announcements. But when the mill actually gets down to work, with a big membership of defeated congressmen on the Republican side of the chamber and with anything but harmony visible on the horizon, the nation's lawmakers can account themselves fortunate if they get their appropriation bills through in time. For the other legislation there seems not the slightest hope.

Tolstoi.

The literary world is just now mourning over the death of the great Russian writer and philosopher, Tolstoi. Not only was he considered the greatest living man of letters, but the consensus of opinion is that he will rank along with the great men of other ages.

It is of peculiar interest that upon his death in a country where the death of the so-called great, is often very sudden and accompanied by a severe explosion, that thousands of peasants from all parts of the country with faces streaming with tears filed

past the bier of the man who had spent the best part of his life in an effort to better their condition. And although he died under the ban of the church, he is generally admitted of having been the broadest, most sincere and most religious man which his country has ever produced. The fight of his life has been for religious and civic freedom, and unlike many who make such a fight he literally "practiced what he preached." Although from a wealthy and powerful family he for years believed that every man should "earn his bread by the sweat of his brow." In a country where freedom of speech is unknown he spoke as his conscience dictated, and although constantly under suspicion, his greatness of personality, saved him from punishment other than governmental and religious persecution.

But it is his theories regarding work, agriculture, and the peasantry that are of especial interest. In a country where the farming class are heavily taxed and oppressed, and where the farm lands are almost entirely in the hands of the aristocracy, he asserted that the man on the farm had a right to a share of what he produced and that no man had a right to live from the labor of another. Accordingly, even though an aristocrat by birth, and a writer of international fame, he lived in a simple, little cottage, devoid of all ornaments, wore the plainest of coarse clothes, and each day, despite his prodigious literary efforts spent a part of his time in the field working alongside of his simple neighbors and literally earning his daily keep with his hands.

Undoubtedly Russia of all countries most needed such a man, yet there is need and plenty of room in other countries for the same kind.

The Black and Gold Wins.

Double honors fell to the University of Missouri last week, when the 12 judges of the Agricultural Students' contests, held annually in connection with Chicago's International Live Stock Exposition, made known their official figures. Missouri not only won the team trophy, but it has the extra honor of corraling the first four places on the honor list.

Four of five scholarships offered by J. Ogden Armour for the highest individual scores go to the Missouri University. These will be awarded to worthy and needy students. A bronze cup offered by "Jackknife Ben" Chon for the college whose student made the highest individual score in the contest also is the property of the university.

The Missouri students beat all opponents at judging horses, cattle and hogs and were second in the score for judging sheep. Texas Agricultural students won the sheep-judging contest.

The annual struggle between Missouri and Kansas on the gridiron at Kansas City resulted in a tie, the score being 5 to 5. Witnesses to the game claim that Missouri is entitled to the victory.

of eleven witnesses, among whom were Drs. F. E. Bullock and J. L. Minton, who testified that they believed either of the four wounds inflicted might cause death, they believed that the ball that entered the lower part of the abdomen caused death by hemorrhage.

The verdict of the jury was that Stivers' death was caused by revolver shots in the hands of Frank Lowe, deputy sheriff; that the shots were fired by reason of resisting arrest, and were therefore fully justifiable. The state was represented by Prosecutor Alkire, and the defense by Sheriff McNulty. The evidence also showed that Stivers was a desperate character.

"It was evident that Stivers was determined not to be taken alive," Dr. Bullock is quoted as saying; he had spent a term in the penitentiary and did not propose to be taken back. There was not a streak of yellow in him. He was a bad man, but one of those who fight in the open.

When young Stivers came into the world, it was Dr. Bullock who was in attendance—when his light went out after the tragic occurrence at Napier, it was Dr. Bullock who attended him.

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"If you don't open that door I will shoot through it," said the young brother. John then left the front door, ran through a rear door and Charles entered the store.

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Our little city feasted to her complete satisfaction Thursday last and the day was so fine that she spent the afternoon out of doors and worked up a splendid appetite for the "leavings" for supper. It was one of the days of the year when "dinner" was served at the old fashioned noon hour. The afternoon holiday was also enjoyed to the full limit because the weather was perfect, with the air just fresh enough to make everyone want to be out of doors. Nearly everybody went somewhere—except to work. Business was practically suspended while people gave thanks for the good things of life. In the morning crowds went to the churches.

What the Offices Cost.

The highest election expense account filed so far was by John Hibbard, the Republican candidate for recorder of deeds, who succeeded in being elected to office, with Howard Teare, the successful Democratic candidate for collector, a close second. The expense accounts filed with the county clerk by the successful candidates were:

Frank Gaskill	\$36 00
Phil. Schlottzauer	17 50
H. B. Lawrence	35 00
H. S. Teare	90 00
F. L. Zeller	81 90
E. A. Dunham	68 24
H. E. Wright	35 00
D. W. Porter	50 00
Jno. M. Hibbard	93 00

Truly Thankful.

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