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STATE PRINTING SHOWS FRAUD

The Claims, It is Asserted, Were Unapproved by the State Board of Affairs.

Oklahoma City, Dec. 24.—Charges that illegal warrants to the amount of \$21,790.00 against the maintenance appropriation for the department of the state printer were drawn and paid between January 9, 1911, and November 21, 1912, are made in a report on the state printing fund, made public Monday by State Inspector and Examiner Fred Parkinson. The investigation of the fund was made by the state examiner and inspector at the written request of Governor Lee Cruce. The warrants, it is stated, were unapproved by the state board of affairs.

In his report of claims paid by State Auditor Leo Meyer, without approval of the state board of affairs, Examiner Parkinson sets forth that \$15,439.39 was for alleged expenses connected with the publication of the Oklahoma "Red Book." The "Red Book" is an historical work of Oklahoma, in two volumes, of which 2,000 were printed in paper binding and 1,000 in cloth binding. Warrants for the unapproved claims in connection with the publication of the "Red Book" were as follows:

Expenses incurred by the state printer and his assistants, \$7,939.39; Democrat Publishing company, Tulsa, Okla., \$4,500; Democrat Publishing company, Tulsa, Okla., \$3,000.

The other unapproved warrants were issued as follows: Leo Meyer, publishing notices of meetings of the state board of equalization, \$88.61; J. Edwards, printing public building bonds, \$94.45; Leader Printing company, Guthrie, Okla., printing 30,000 press bulletins and supplements hereto, \$612.10; Leader Printing company, Guthrie, Okla., for printing 3,500 constitutions, legislative printing and printer's reports, \$5,555.95; total, \$21,790.50.

Warrants Are Missing.
Of the state printer's accounts, the report sets forth that in the files of the state auditor's office he claims for \$500 cannot be found.

Of the Democrat Printing company's claims, the report says that \$2,500 worth of claims cannot be found in the files of the state auditor's office. The report it is stated that the second cost of publishing the Oklahoma "Red Book" was \$8,169.98, and of that amount \$15,439.39 was paid by State Auditor Leo Meyer, without the claims having been first approved by the board of public affairs.

Referring to a claim of \$2,130.50 against the Leader Printing company, the report says:

This claim appears to have been approved by R. J. Allen, chairman of the board of public affairs, however, the signature of approval is attached to the claim with a rubber stamp. The claim shows that it was approved on the ninth day of November, 1910; but it was sworn to on the fourteenth day of November, 1910 by L. C. Nix. The claim further shows that the CRA was checked and approved for the amount of \$2,130.50 by Giles W. Farris, at the time the claim purports to have been approved by R. J. Allen, chairman of the board of public affairs. Giles W. Farris was not authorized to approve claims against the state auditor prior to January 9, 1911. The records in the office of the board of public affairs do not show this claim to have been audited and approved on the ninth day of November, 1910, nor does the record show the claim ever was audited and allowed by the state board. The number on the claim is that same number given a claim of the Walton Lumber company which has no relation to the claim in question. The warrant issued in payment of said claims were not received on the warrant register; the register shows the said warrants to have been mailed. The order on the claim was not signed by the claimant.

Comment on Other Warrants.
The report then considers twenty warrants issued by State Auditor Leo Meyer, and makes comments as follows: Leader Printing company, \$612.10; on the claim is excessive for one month's printing of the bulletin for the reason the annual appropriation is only \$600, and was paid from the printing fund instead of the fund appropriated for the purpose.

Leader company, printing 3,500 constitutions. Said constitutions apparently were furnished in June, 1910, but the claim bears date of May 15, 1910, was sworn to November 15, 1911, and was approved by State Printer Giles W. Farris after January 9, 1911, but was audited and approved by the state auditor December 1, 1911. The gross discrepancies in the dates is evidence of the irregularity of the claim.

A warrant issued in favor of the Leader company, for which the report alleges, there is no requisition on file in the office of the board of affairs for goods furnished under the purported claim, is expected to be examined by Parkinson on the grounds that the claim bears date of June 9, 1910, was sworn to October 3, 1910, and was approved by Giles W. Farris, state printer, subsequent to January 9, 1911, and shows to have been audited by the state auditor November 17, 1911. Examiner Parkinson makes the comment, "The gross discrepancies in the dates is evidence of the irregularity of the claim."

THE SPIRIT OF THE SQUARE DEAL

Members of United States Geological Survey Prohibited from Personal Interest in Mineral Properties.

The spirit of "square deal" which now prevails in most government business is illustrated by the manner in which the United States Geological Survey guards the data it obtains and also withholds information from private persons until reports embodying such material can be published and offered free of cost to rich and poor alike.

The law under which the United States Geological Survey was organized in 1879 expressly provides that the director and members of the survey shall have no personal or private interest in the lands or mineral wealth of the region under survey and shall execute no surveys or examinations for private parties or corporations. This was a wise provision; for on the one hand it insured that whatever advantages were to come from geologic work paid for by the people as a whole should be equally and simultaneously available to all, and, on the other hand, it removed from the geologist what would otherwise have been strong and frequent temptation to make his official work subordinate or contributory to his personal and material interests.

SENATORIAL PROBE LIFTS MORE SCANDAL

Former Financial Agent of State University Gives Testimony.

Oklahoma City, Dec. 22.—Before the senate investigating committee Monday, former financial agent W. W. Williams, of the State University, testified he lost his position with the state following his refusal to accept machinery, which the state board of public affairs had bought and authorized the payment of \$4,995 for, when he could have purchased similar electrical machinery for \$3,890.

The machinery was delivered on the tracks at Norman, Okla., and Williams refused to approve of it or approve of the payment for the machinery. Auditor Leo Meyer, upon approval of R. H. Wilson, paid for the machinery and later Williams was let go as financial agent.

Williams was removed in June, 1911, being succeeded first by Paris Perswell, who resigned when the board of education investigation brought out facts derogatory to his fitness. J. W. Lindsey was then appointed and according to Senator Geo. W. Barefoot, secured his appointment solely through Superintendent R. H. Wilson.

Pretty Christmas Wedding.

Bluejacket, Okla., Dec. 24.—A nice home wedding took place at the residence of W. S. Maloney on Sunday evening, December 22. Miss Nellie G. Maloney, the 19 year old daughter of W. S. Maloney, was united in marriage to A. B. Lenier, 26, of Valley View, Tex. The ceremony was performed by Rev. E. L. Russell of the Baptist church. Those present were Mr. and Mrs. J. N. McDonald, Mr. and Mrs. L. L. Roesbaum, Mr. and Mrs. W. L. Masters, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Harrison, Mr. and Mrs. D. W. Harrison, Mrs. Trueblood, Grandma Campbell, Mr. Charles Murdock of Muskogee, Miss Ethel Lenier of Valley View, Tex., the Misses Esther and Clara Wilson, Miss Fern Howell, Miss Josie Wheatley, Mrs. J. M. Hudson, Mrs. C. C. Young, Messrs. Earl Russell, Jas. Wheatley, Richard Wheatley, Earl Odell, and home folks. Many useful and pretty presents were made to the bride and groom and a bountiful supper was served. The young couple will make their home at Valley View Tex., during the coming year. After the wedding feast was served some fine piano and vocal music was rendered by Mrs. Harrison and Mrs. Rosebaum and Mrs. Lenier. Mrs. Lenier is noted as one of the very best sopranos in Craig county and she will be greatly missed at the Baptist church. The entire company wished the newly-weds all kinds of good luck in their future life.

Card of Thanks.

We want to thank our friends and neighbors for their loving kindness during the sickness and death of our darling sister and daughter, Rachel Leforce, and for the beautiful floral offering at the death.

MR. AND MRS. J. A. LEFORCE AND FAMILY.

Miss Lois Williams went to Afton last night for a few days visit with Miss Elizabeth Melton.

KAFFIR CORN DAY IN OKLAHOMA

December 26, 1912, will be newspaper kaffir corn day for Oklahoma. The power of the press will be manifest everywhere. The newspaper is the greatest educational factor in Oklahoma. It is educating along practical lines. It will bring more comforts to our homes and greater developments to our state. The newspapers, the railroads, the federal government, the business men and the farmers are all working together for grass, grain, livestock and cotton.

We are in the cotton belt. We always should raise some cotton. But a one-crop system never pays. We must have livestock. We have an excellent climate for all kinds of livestock.

Grasses and grains for their development, and finishing can be raised upon every farm. The dependable grass is the big creeping, hardy Bermuda. The sure grain crop is kaffir corn.

For the handling of our livestock we have two as thoroughly equipped packing houses as there are in the United States with a capacity for preparing meats for all of our trade and beyond. Yet we are still sending many thousands of dollars annually into other states for livestock.

The domain of Oklahoma is honey-combed with railroads, equipped to carry stock to the packing centers and distribute the fresh or cured meats to consumers. This is a business proposition. In it we all have an interest. What is to hinder our becoming the wealthiest agricultural state in the union? The time is now opportune. "There comes a time in the tide of men, if taken at its flood leads on to fortune."

The Kaffir Corn Special.

The Rock Island system has taken the initiative of the best movement in all of Oklahoma's history. Other roads will follow. The present season will be one of a general campaign for livestock and dependable crops. From November 25 to December 10, the Rock Island Kaffir Corn Special ran over 1736 miles of its track, stopped at one hundred towns and addressed 23268 people.

The special was manned with about 25 lecturers and helpers each one an expert in his line.

The federal government furnished a goodly number of the lecturers. The state agent of the Farmers' Cooperative Demonstration Work, Hon. W. D. Bentley of Yukon, Okla., Prof. H. M. Cottrell, agricultural commissioner of the Rock Island lines and John Fields, editor of the Farm Journal are the boomerangs of this movement.

These men never undertake to do a thing unless it is desirable. They have been planning this movement for a long time. Having put their hand to the plow they will never look back. It has cost \$5,000 and more, but it will bring the best returns of money ever spent for Oklahoma agriculture. There is reason in it. Grass, grain, livestock, cotton and general prosperity.

From an agricultural standpoint our greatest need is grass. For twenty years we have been experimenting with grass of all kinds. We have but one which has stood the test. It is the big, creeping, hardy Bermuda grass.

Alfalfa is the best forage plant known, but it is an aristocrat, demanding our very best soil. Bermuda will grow upon all types of soil. Alkali spots, rocky hillsides, gullies, old worn-out cotton plantations, sandy soil which blow, overflow lands not suitable for other crops.

It should be set upon the poorer portions of the farm reserving the better for alfalfa, kaffir corn and cotton. The better the land the better the grass.

It is relished by all kinds of stock. It is the cheapest and best stock food in Oklahoma. For further particulars in regard to varieties, time and manner of setting or winter killing, write F. A. Mitchell, Chandler, Okla., enclosing a stamp for reply. He is a government man whose business it is to answer every inquiry in regard to agricultural matters.

Kaffir corn is the surest grain for Oklahoma. Yet it requires skill to produce it. The seed-bed should be as good for that as for any other crops. There isn't any seed requiring greater care than kaffir corn. It should be black-bull white variety. It should be carefully selected in the field, tied together in bundles of about

STATE TEACHERS IN CONVENTION

Five Thousand Expected to Attend Big Educational Convention—First Session Today.

Oklahoma City, Dec. 26.—Teachers from all part of the state, representing the great public school system of Oklahoma, arrived in this city Christmas day to be here early for the convention of the Oklahoma State Education association, which will be in session the last three days of the week. The hotels began to fill up early in the afternoon and many arrived on the late night trains. It is expected that hundreds will reach the city early Thursday morning and that there will be at least 5,000 teachers attending the convention.

Headquarters will be opened at the Lee-Huckins hotel Thursday morning and there all the teachers will register. A bureau of information with a local committee in charge also will be maintained in the lobby of the Lee-Huckins.

The opening session is scheduled for Thursday afternoon at the auditorium, where all the main sessions will be held. The high school auditorium will be the scene of numerous departmental meetings during the three days of the session, but all the assemblies will be held at the auditorium. At the opening session there will be music by the state university glee club, after which Rev. J. H. O. Smith will deliver the invocation. Frank J. Wicoff will welcome the teachers on behalf of the people of the city, and Prof. W. A. Brandenburg on behalf of the teachers of the county. Edmund D. Murdaugh will make a response.

The day's program is as follows: First General Session Convention Hall. Music, University glee club. Invocation, Dr. J. H. O. Smith, Oklahoma City.

Introduction of President-elect W. E. Gill, Tahlequah. Addresses of welcome, Frank J. Wicoff, president Chamber of Commerce; A. A. Brandenburg, superintendent Oklahoma city schools. Response to addresses of welcome, Edmund D. Murdaugh, president of Durant state normal.

President's annual address, W. E. Gill, president Northeastern normal, Tahlequah. Address, "Facts vs. Opinions," Dr. W. H. Elson, Cleveland, Ohio. Second General Session, Convention Hall. Music, Oklahoma City high school. Address, W. H. Bruce, president of Denton state normal, Denton, Texas. Address, Dr. W. H. Elson, Cleveland, Ohio.

Music, Oklahoma City high school. Address, W. H. Bruce, president of Denton state normal, Denton, Texas. Address, Dr. W. H. Elson, Cleveland, Ohio.

Lee Taylor received a violent fall from a horse in front of the post office building last evening about six o'clock which will result in his death during the course of today. The accident came as a terrible climax to the quiet peace that had pervaded the city during the day and threw a gloom over the merriment that was in full swing on the streets. Mr. Taylor was coming down Wilson street and intending to turn the corner leading west on Canadian avenue in a fast gallop when the horse fell throwing its rider several feet from it. Taylor struck on his head fracturing the bones above the temple and splitting the scalp down into the base of the skull. He was apparently lifeless when taken up and has never regained consciousness.

He was carried to the office of Dr. F. L. Hughson where an operation was performed, but all efforts proved futile and hopes of saving his life were soon abandoned. He is alive at the time of this writing but is not expected to survive the day.

Mr. Taylor is the son of Mr. and Mrs. R. L. Taylor living a mile and a half northwest of this city and has a number of brothers and sisters living in this city.

He died shortly after one o'clock this afternoon. The funeral arrangements are unknown.

Mrs. T. A. Chandler and daughter Miss Norma Chandler went to Muskogee this morning. Miss Chandler is a student in the Muskogee high school.

DONT WANT CABINET JOB

Prefers Senate, But Believes State Entitled to Cabinet Honor.

Muskogee, Okla., Dec. 25.—Writing to his friend and business associate, Fred Rains, secretary of the Muskogee Realty company, Senator Robert L. Owen denies with emphasis the rumor sent out from Washington last week to the effect that he was making vigorous personal efforts to secure appointment at the hands of President-elect Wilson to the cabinet portfolio of secretary of the interior department. The letter made public by Mr. Rains today, sets forth the belief of Senator Owen that Oklahoma is entitled to recognition in the next cabinet and particularizes the post of secretary of interior, but he makes it clear that he would not accept such preferment in any circumstances for the reasons that he considers his voice and vote in the senate of infinitely more importance to the party and the nation.

Close friends of Senator Owen have been branding as maliciously false and unfounded the stories which have been sent broadcast with the very evident purpose of misrepresenting him and misinterpreting his motives. The senator's letter, setting forth his views on the matter, is as follows:

"Washington, D. C., Dec. 20, 1912. "Mr. Fred Rains, Muskogee, Okla. "My Dear Rains: Answering your letter as to the reports recently published that I might accept a cabinet position, or that I had made any endorsements for places in Mr. Wilson's cabinet, I reply that I have not the slightest idea of becoming a member of Mr. Wilson's cabinet and would not, under any circumstances, consider leaving the senate of the United States for a cabinet position. There are matters of great national importance in which I am profoundly interested and which I will have an opportunity to serve in the senate.

"I have never said or written a word to Mr. Wilson with regard to a place in his cabinet for anyone. I hope to see the Oklahoma delegation a unit in asking for the position of secretary of the interior for the state of Oklahoma, and I believe that if they cooperate cordially they have a good chance to have our state recognized in this way.

"Yours hastily, (Signed) "ROBT. L. OWEN."

The owner of No. 399 was awarded the beautiful doll at Brooks book store, Tuesday night.

The fire department was called to the home of Dan Bridgeman on North Second street Tuesday evening to extinguish a burning flue. Practically no damage was done.

The Good Fellows had about \$20 left over from buying Christmas presents for the needy in Vinita and today invested it in coal which was delivered to some families that were in need of fuel.

TAYLOR FALLS FROM HORSE; WILL DIE

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