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GENERAL NEWS.

A Brief Summary of Happenings in the State, the Nation and the World.

STATE.

Georgetown.—During the past week, thirteen suits for divorce have been dismissed and two are continued. There are yet fifty suits for divorce on the civil docket.

Galveston.—According to lately published rate sheet, the boat lines have agreed to co-operate with the railroads in the raising of freight rates on August 10. All freight rates to Texas points will take on a ten and five per cent increase.

West.—James Sulak, Precinct Constable, is struck by south-bound train and instantly killed.

Victoria.—New York and Chicago capitalists have purchased an eighty-acre tract one mile north of Victoria and will have it surveyed into town lots. The price paid was \$10,000. The property was formerly owned by S. G. Reed of Dallas.

El Paso.—Reports brought from La Cinto by T. C. Harris to the effect that gold ore has been discovered in that section, which runs as high as \$60,000 to the ton.

Austin.—The following industries have been started during the past week: Laredo, \$15,000 brick works; Graham, \$10,000 ice factory; Markham, oil company; Gainesville, canning factory; Alvarado, \$7,000 cotton gin, \$5,000 oil company; San Antonio, \$20,000 oil company; Giddings, \$20,000 lumber company.

Dallas.—In the neighborhood of 25,000 visitors arrived in Dallas to attend the Elks Convention. The city has been decorated in a sumptuous manner and the royal purple is everywhere in evidence.

Navasota.—Sam Thomas is shot and killed by unknown parties near his home on Mustang Prairie. Shot-guns were used and two charges were fired into the body of the murdered man.

Eagle Pass.—J. A. Bonnet, United States Consul for many years at C. P. Diaz, tenders his resignation. J. A. Bonnet, Jr., his son, gets the appointment in his place.

Abilene.—Ira Montgomery, aged 22 years, is shot by his brother, John Montgomery. The injury to Montgomery, while serious, is not necessarily fatal.

Coleman.—The Republicans have organized in every section of the county. This is the first time in the history of this section that a party organization of that nature has been effected.

Greenville.—Ollie Taylor, 16 years old, accidentally shoots himself while hunting. His injuries proved fatal in the course of a few hours.

Georgetown.—The County Commissioners set the valuation of property for assessment at 80 per cent of its market valuation. The assessment on railroad property was slightly reduced.

Gonzales.—J. F. Neuman is awarded judgments for \$1,500 and \$2,000, respectively, against the Phoenix Fire Assurance Company and the Milwaukee Mechanics' Insurance Company. Suits were brought on claims amounting to \$7,000, which were disputed owing to some alleged irregularities in the keeping of Mr. Neuman's books while he was engaged in the business on which the insurance was written.

Temple.—Will T. Roach is shot and killed. The arrest of Ray G. Wilcox followed the shooting. The quarrel resulted over family difficulties.

Beaumont.—The mosquitoes have so increased in the coast country during the wet weather this summer that many cattle have been killed by the heavy swarms of this insect.

Dallas.—In spite of a hot fight put up by Detroit, Los Angeles secures the next convention of the B. P. O. E. At the business session of the Grand Lodge the following officers were elected for the ensuing year: The officers elected are:

Grand Exalted Ruler—Rush L. Holland, Colorado Springs, Colo.
Grand Esteemed Leading Knight—John G. Shea, Hartford, Conn.

Grand Esteemed Loyal Knight—A. M. MacElwee, Fort Worth, Tex.
Grand Esteemed Lecturing Knight—Warren G. Sayre, Wabash, Ind.
Grand Treasurer—Edward Leach, New York.

Grand Tiler—Charles L. Decker, Minnesota.
Grand Trustee—Alfred T. Holley, Hackensack, N. J.

Grand Secretary—Fred C. Robinson, Dubuque, Iowa.
Grand Inner Guard—A. M. Taylor, St. Augustine, Fla.

The officers were elected by acclamation with the exception of the Grand Loyal Knight, Charles E. Sweet of Dowagiac, Mich., being defeated by A. M. MacElwee of Fort Worth, Tex., and for Grand Inner Guard, A. M. Taylor of St. Augustine, Fla., winning from Thomas G. Phelan of Memphis, Tenn., and John J. Grooves of Port Chester, N. Y.

Houston.—Joe A. King, a well-known barber, is stabbed to death by a negro while assisting a friend in a fight with a couple of negroes in the Tenderloin District. The negro escaped and has not yet been apprehended.

Waco.—State Health Officer Brumby causes the arrest of a traveling man on the charge of washing his teeth and expectorating in a wash basin in the dressing room of a Pullman car. The charge was dismissed by Justice Boggess.

Kenedy.—Twelve bales of cotton have already been ginned, and the crop in the Kenedy district is reported to be exceptionally heavy.

DOMESTIC.

Cleveland, Ohio.—A city ordinance is passed which forbids the sale or discharge of fireworks except by the city authorities. Hereafter the city will have control of all fireworks exhibitions, both on the Fourth of July or any other festive occasion.

Tulsa, Okla.—Fire started by lightning entirely destroys two tanks and three oil rigs belonging to the Prairie Oil Gas Company at Glenn Pool. The loss is estimated at \$25,000.

Chicago, Ill.—Carrie Nation gains access to the Pompeian room at the Auditorium Annex and delivers a violent lecture to the assembled guests on the sin of intemperance. The guests commenced to scatter, but Carrie was arrested before she could get really too strenuous.

Louisville, Ky.—The police have unearthed what is thought to be a somewhat novel and startling attempt to defraud the Adams Express Company out of \$10,000. A package handed in to the company at a valuation of \$10,000 by the junior member of a prominent real estate firm explodes while in the express safe. On being examined it was found to contain a mixture of explosives which were subject to spontaneous combustion. The package was addressed to the sender's private residence, and was said to contain a valuable formula for preserving wood. The sender is under arrest.

New York.—In the face of what promises to be one of the most prosperous years during the decade the stock market is throwing off its lethargy, and many large transactions are being made daily in all lines of domestic stocks.

Leavenworth, Kan.—An attempt is made to assassinate Warden B. M. McLaughry of the Federal prison by means of a bomb, which was thrown under his wagon while he was driving through the streets of the city.

Memphis, Tenn.—The weekly summary of the cotton crop condition by the Commercial Appeal shows that the present state of the crop is such that with normal conditions a bumper yield may be expected.

Oyster Bay, L. I.—President Roosevelt and Secretary Root have a private conference in connection with the present condition of Venezuela. No hint has been dropped to indicate what course of action will be pursued.

St. Louis, Mo.—Max Martini, a Hungarian mechanic, kills his wife and commits suicide owing to an altercation with his better half on the purchase of a 75-cent dress. Martini had lately impressed upon his wife the stern necessity of economy owing to the purchase of a new home on the installment plan. The heavy outlay of 75 cents was too much for his stringent sense of economics and he

pulled a six-shooter and blew out the woman's brains after a short argument. The only redeeming feature of the affair is that he had the grace to put an end to his own life immediately afterward.

Columbus, Ohio.—The National Prohibition Convention adopts the water wagon as their emblem, and arriving delegates are met at the depots by a profusely decorated water wagon drawn by four milk white horses. Charles E. Jones of Chicago, National Chairman, calls the convention to order. There are seventeen names on the list of aspirants for the Presidential nomination, and the convention is a lively one. It is stated that woman suffrage will be endorsed by the convention.

St. Louis, Mo.—In a head-on collision on the St. Louis, Iron Mountain and Southern Railway the Memphis express is wrecked. Engineer Donohue was killed and Fireman Bruske sustained a broken leg. Many passengers were bruised and injured.

Advance of Freight Rates

The Southwestern Traffic Association, composed of the general freight agents of the railroads operating in the southwest, last week gave notice to the Interstate Commerce Commission of an advance of 5 to 10 cents per hundred pounds on all commodities shipped from another state into Texas. The rate does not apply to interstate shipments between other states than Texas, and hence the motive behind the move is not clearly revealed. Of course the first object is to extort more money from the public, but just why they tax it all against Texas is not apparent. Oklahoma, for instance, gets a 2-cent passenger fare, while Texas pays 3 cents, and yet no advance is made in freights in Oklahoma to make up the difference. Not that we think such an advance should have been made. On the contrary, we think conditions do not warrant any advance anywhere, and we believe that a strong protest should go up from every state in the southwest, and if it is not made effective before the railroads and the Interstate Commerce Commission, should be carried to the ballot box.

There is a strong suspicion that the motive for charging all the advance made by the southwestern roads to Texas is to punish this state for the intangible assets tax and to warn the public against any further anti-railroad legislation. If this is the motive the game will prove a boomerang. The people of Texas have been not only good, but very good, to the railroads. They have given them millions of acres of their best land as bonuses and have never yet made them bear their share of the support of the government, and in no instance has any unjust burden been placed upon them. If any injustice had been done them the people of Texas are fair and honest and an appeal to their judgment and sense of fairness would correct the evil. But this imposition of more tribute against the already overburdened and long-suffering producer of the state's wealth will never frighten him into submission to railroad dictation of the laws which shall govern Texas.—National Co-Operator.



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