

Pulaski County Memories of '97

By Gary Knehans

County residents must have felt a strong sense of déjà vu with the arrival of yet another wet new year. Heavy precipitation this particular winter had already sent flood waters raging to a higher level of devastation. Several dispatches in the January 7th edition of the Rolla Herald illustrate the extent of flooding in the area, especially at its highest level on destruction on January 2nd.

The floods of Friday and Saturday on Big Piney, Little Piney, and the Gasconade rivers raised the waters at Arlington to within one foot of the rails over the railroad bridge. Monday night a train of loaded cars were placed on this bridge to keep it from being washed away.

The Gasconade river was higher last Monday evening, by a foot at Arlington, than known by the oldest inhabitant. It beat the floods of last winter by 14 inches.

The Frisco tracks between Newburg and Arlington, for a short distance, were about three feet under water Monday noon.

And from the January 9th edition of the Rolla New Era, there are more details of the flooding.

The Gasconade River broke the

high water record on Monday night last, being about 4 feet deep on the track east of Arlington. Nos. 1 and 2 forded it on Monday, the water coming almost into the cars. One passenger would not ride through on the cars, but got off and walked to Newburg. The company ran a freight train onto the bridge and kept it there to keep the bridge from washing away.

WAYNESVILLE ISOLATED

Waynesville, Mo., Jan. 6th—The Gasconade River is nearly two feet above all previous high water marks and has destroyed one of the new steel bridges recently purchased by the county at a cost of nearly \$4000. All mail communication with the railroad from this place has been impossible for several days past. The waters are now subsiding fast, leaving many farms almost wrecked and their owners ruined.

The Pulaski County bridge that the rampaging waters blew out was the one at Mc Cain's Ford south of Richland. For several days, residents of north county were separated from those south of the Gasconade. By this time, rising waters had already claimed several lives.

Five children by the name of Kimmerly were drowned on Saturday, Jan. 2, in Rock Creek, Pulaski county, near Plato. Their mother and grandfather, Thomas Wilson, were with them when the sad accident occurred. They attempted to cross the creek in a wagon, but the water was too deep. Mrs. Kimmerly held to two of the children until they were pawed down by the mules. The little baby floated down the stream some distance and lodged in some bushes where its cries could be heard for some time. Mrs. Kimmerly and Wilson got out, but all five children were drowned. Both mules were also drowned.

—Pulaski County Democrat article, reprinted in the Rolla Herald Jan. 21st, 1897.

Thomas Wilson, accompanied by his daughter, Mrs. Kimmerly, and her five children, attempted to ford Prairie creek, which was very high as a result of the recent rains. The team became unmanageable and soon lost their foothold. The wagon, weighted with its human freight, sank, throwing the entire party into the water. Mr. Wilson and Mrs. Kimmerly succeeded in getting to shore, but the children were

drowned. Three of the bodies have been recovered.

Dan Mc Lauthlin also lost his life by the flood. He was married and 30 years old. He undertook to ford the creek running through his farm, on horseback, the animal became unruly, and Mr. Mc Lauthlin became entangled in some way and was unable to extricate himself. Mr. Mc Lauthlin lived near Plato. Other narrow escapes are reported, but no more fatalities.

—Lebanon Republican, Jan. 15th, 1897.

The flooding for a while prevented several Dixon residents from returning home after the holidays. Under Dixon Items, the Rolla Herald reported on January 14th that Miss Della Miller had returned from Big Piney, where she had been spending the holidays with her parents. Miss Minnie Hopkins returned home from Newburg after a holiday visit with her parents. Villa Strickling was reported to have been visiting on Big Piney while Mrs. Mat King of Little Piney was said to be spending some time visiting Mrs. J. B. Spadling in Dixon.

Prompted perhaps by comments

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from these travelers, the editor of the Dixon Echo-Enterprise stated: "It would be very convenient for the citizens living on the east side of the Big Piney River to have a post-office located somewhere on that side. Relfe is seven miles east and Big Piney P. O. four miles west. High water frequently prevents people on that side from getting their mail for a week or more at a time.

The paper also reported that Manis Ruse had married Angie Burton on January 6th. Others who had tied the knot late in the old year were reported to have been Frank Rowden of Dixon and Cora Miller of St. Louis on December 23rd and a Mr. Stank to Anna Houk, both of Dixon, on December 31st.

From south county came the news that James Omer Hollaway and Martha E. Maze also became man and wife on New Year's Eve near Moab.

South county residents mourned the death of Pink Case, a son of Elder John Case of Big Piney, who succumbed to pneumonia. Pink died in Springfield. His remains were shipped to Arlington and buried in Wagon Ford Cemetery.

During the height of the flooding, Mary J. Pridemore of Richland sued the Springfield Traction Company for \$5000 damages for the death of her husband in last year's November 2nd street car accident in Springfield. Mrs. Pridemore alleged that the accident occurred due to

negligence on the part of the motor-man.

Also from Richland came news that the town paper, the Cyclone, had changed hands. The Lebanon Republican congratulated "Biff" Bradleyford for making the Cyclone the "neatest, biggest and best paper in Pulaski County," but soon changed its tune when "Biff" immediately launched a crusade against rampant rowdyism in Lebanon.

"Biff" also reported that some Richlander was braving January's cold and wet weather and raiding clothesline in this community.

Some Richlander evidently has a contract to supply a number of second-hand clothing stores with clothing, from the amount of it that has disappeared from Richland clotheslines during the past ten days. Raids have been made on the wearing apparel of Richland people, and now they are sorry they left their clothes on the line over night.

-Richland Cyclone article, reprinted in the Lebanon Republican, Jan. 15th, 1897.

Around February 12th, Elizabeth Mc Comb of Richland began a search for her husband, John, who had mysteriously disappeared. In January 31st, the couple started out for Richland from Buffalo. Mrs. Mc Comb took the hack for Lebanon, while her husband set out on horseback. The journey by horseback was only 3 days to Richland, but he had still not arrived 12 days

later. Foul play was suspected, as "family relations were pleasant" and the anxious woman could not account for her husband's disappearance.

Winter began to loosen its grip somewhat, and local farmers became more active.

Messrs. Freeman and Rigsby of Relfe were out to Dent county the early part of this week and bought 216 head of two and three year old steers...for \$27 per head. They are driving them to Audrain county, and passed through Rolla on Thursday last, with the drove.

-Rolla New Era, Feb. 20th, 1897.

The aforementioned Rigsby was most likely John C., who was a successful livestock dealer living on the Big Piney River.

Although the political wars of the previous election year had been fought and settled in November, skirmishing between the parties continued in '97. Local Republicans, whose candidate had won the presidency, began fighting among themselves for the spoils of victory.

J. A. Bradshaw, chairman of the Republican County Committee of Pulaski County, has called the County Committee to meet here tomorrow at 10 o'clock a. m. for the purpose of indorsing candidates for the various Post Offices in the county. Bradshaw is one of Filley's lieutenants and the call is in response to a circular sent out by Filley.

Judge W. H. Murphy of Crocker, a

Kerensite, is in the city, presumably on other business, and is denouncing Bradshaw's action for calling the committee for that purpose.

He says that there is no precedent for such action; that it is not within the scope of the authority of the committee, and that any action will be a farce and of no force. He will oppose every candidate that submits his cause to the Filley machine. A lively scramble is expected.

-Dated Richland, Mo., Feb. 12th, and appearing in the February 25th edition of the Rolla Herald.

Pulaski County law officials had to contend again with a Franks businessman over a shooting episode that took place in '96.

M. J. Edwards of Franks was turned over to Sheriff Wyrick last Saturday and again placed in jail. It will be remembered that last fall Edwards was accused of shooting at a widow lady who lived in his neighborhood. At a preliminary examination before Justice Mc Donald at this place, he was bound over to answer the charge at the March term of the circuit court. He gave bond for his appearance.

About three weeks ago his bondsmen became uneasy and turned Mr. Edwards over to the sheriff, who placed him in jail. About a week afterward, his bondsmen went on a new bond for him and he was set at liberty. Saturday they again turned him over to the sheriff, who placed him in jail, where he will doubtless remain until tried at the circuit



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court.

Mr. Edwards was compelled to give on a bond last fall to keep the peace. One day last week he went to the house of the widow whom he had tried to kill last fall, and who had moved to Knob View, and stoned her house, breaking out windows and hitting a woman of another family that lived in the same house. This is supposed to be the reason his bondsmen delivered him over to the sheriff the last time.

Edwards' life has been an eventful one. He claims to have been a member of Quantrell's band during the Civil War, having joined himself to that notorious leader's forces at the age of thirteen. He is a very nice looking man and seems to be a well-behaved citizen until he gets under the influence of whiskey.

-Waynesville Democrat article appearing in the March 4th, 1897, Rolla Herald.

More heavy rains deluged the area in early March. Harry Dotson, a driver for James Moss' livery in Dixon, barely escaped the floodwaters with his life.

(He) was taking Morris Henerick, a traveling man, to Arlington Thursday and while attempting to cross the Piney river near Arlington came near being drowned. The horse was drowned. It was with difficulty the man reached the river bank.

-Rolla Herald, Mar. 11th, 1897
But a Maries County resident was not as lucky.

A report came here last Friday to the effect that Tebe Hughes, of this county, had been drowned in the Roubidoux near Waynesville, the day before. He left that town about nightfall, we understand, and a short time thereafter his horse galloped up to a house near by, the animal and saddle being wet. Next morning, the owner not having shown up, the tracks were followed to the second ford of the creek this side of Waynesville, the stream being considerably swollen. Tebe was considerably under the influence of liquor when he left town, and it is supposed that he had either fallen off the horse or was thrown, and being in such a condition was unable to get out.

The body remained in the water until Tuesday of this week, when it was raised by the aid of dynamite. Sixty cents, a cheque for \$70, and a bottle of whisky were found in his pockets. This sad affair is a splendid temperance lecture.

-Maries County Gazette article, reprinted in the Rolla Herald on March 18th, 1897.

Residents in southern Pulaski County soon had another reason for mourning. This time, an untimely death prompted even statewide attention.

Representative Ross of Pulaski county received a telegram yesterday afternoon announcing the death of his wife. In granting leave of absence, Speaker Farris said: "Let the support of this House be with Mr. Ross in his trouble."

Mr. Ross left on the first train out for his home. The House adopted the following resolution:

"Whereas, the beloved wife of Hon. James N. Ross departed this life this day, March 5, 1897; therefore, be it

"Resolved, that we, the members of the House of Representatives, deeply commiserate with him in the loss of his bosom companion, and extend to him our sincere sympathy in this, the hour of his great sorrow and bereavement; and

"Resolved, that these resolutions be published in the official organ of the House and copies be furnished our respected colleagues."

-Jefferson City Tribune article reprinted in the Rolla Herald on March 11th, 1897.

Ross took the Missouri Pacific express number four out of Jefferson City, but it wrecked a few miles down the track at Bonnett's Mill. The accident delayed Ross for about a day in his unhappy journey back to Pulaski County. And there was still a further delay in St. Louis.

The ever busy and ubiquitous Judge W. H. Murphy of Crocker was selected to be part of the prosecuting team in the Lawson murder case scheduled for Phelps County Circuit Court in Rolla. That trial centered about the brutal murder of 10-year-old Frank Wade in southwest Phelps County the previous year. The state had charged Andy Lawson and his young son, Rackliff, with slashing the young victim's throat and throwing his body into a nearby pond. The indictment against the younger Lawson was nollied, but the trial went forth against the father. The evidence proved circumstantial, but appeared to be strongly against Andy Lawson. Judge Murphy closed for the state with a two-hour argument that was praised by many.

He confined himself to the testimony and crime, and added new laurels to those already won by his legal attainments. He made the case so clear against the defendant, Andy Lawson, that all who heard him are unable to understand how the jury can do otherwise than render a verdict of guilty. The case went to the jury at 3 o'clock yesterday afternoon.

-Rolla Herald March 25th, 1897.

Several members of the jury were not convinced of Lawson's guilt in the slaying, and a hung jury resulted. Yet, enough evidence was revealed during the trial for the state to indict Andy's mother, Mrs. Hamilton Lawson, and his brother, Jacob, as well as to decide to re-try Andy Lawson himself. More trials would follow.

Meanwhile, the wet weather continued to plague local farmers, who were beginning to wonder if they would be able to put in crops in their fields.

The farmers who reside near Piney and Gasconade inform us that the lowlands are in such condition as to



"Cave Cliff" Gasconade River. Between Waynesville and Richland, Mo. CAVE CLIFF on the Gasconade River between Waynesville and Richland. 1924 postcard.

make it impossible to cultivate them for some time, but they hope that a few days of sunshine will dry them out. The farmers are deserving of much sympathy for their hard knocks. Between the weather, the low prices of products, the gold standard, and more tariff, the outlook is not very encouraging for the restoration of that business confidence.

-Dixon Echo-Enterprise article, reprinted in the April 1st, 1897, edition of the Rolla Herald.

Near Newburg, high water eroded a culvert on the Frisco train line, delaying eastbound traffic for a short time. Dispatches from Newburg said the badly damaged roadbed would take about a week to repair.

The Mississippi and Missouri Rivers were reported still in flood stage in late April. The Missouri Section, Climate and Crop Service, Weather Bureau, reported that the temperature was much below normal and vegetation was making very slow advancement. Heavy frosts occurred on several dates and early strawberries were reported killed in southern counties of the state. By early May, however, the weather turned more favorable to plowing and planting.

The nicer weather didn't arrive soon enough for several residents, as a tremendous hailstorm struck southern Pulaski County and northern Texas County the second week in April.

Attorney W. H. Dodson came in from Plato Monday, and reports a very severe hail storm in his section on Thursday of last week. The hail fell Thursday evening, and on Friday morning balls of ice covered the ground, some of which measured 5 inches in circumference. A great deal of damage was done, especially to fruit trees, which were severely skinned by the hail. Mr. Dodson also says the rains of last week put the creeks so high in his section that a great loss was sustained by reason of fences being washed away.

-Houston Star article, reprinted in the Lebanon Republican on Apr. 16th, 1897.

At five minutes before midnight on April 6th, Stephen Green and Mrs. Kuykendell, as the Pulaski County Democrat identified them, entered the bonds of matrimony at the bride's home in Richland. The happy couple immediately boarded the train to honeymoon in Lebanon.

About a week later, Richland residents were shocked and saddened to hear of the mysterious death of one of their teenagers.

Willie Rowden, a young man 19 years of age, died very suddenly and mysteriously at Richland Wednesday. He and a young Wyrick started from the front of Brock's store to run a foot race around the square, one going one way and the other in the opposite direction. Before Rowden got around, he slowed up, finally caught hold of a wire fence, and before any one could reach him he fell, and died a few minutes afterward.

-Pulaski County Democrat article reprinted in the Rolla Herald on Apr. 22nd, 1897.

Rowden ironically had escaped death three months earlier in a fight with Milt and Millard Pridemore in Richland. The Cyclone then reported that the boys had become involved in a quarrel, and proceeded to settle it "the old fashioned way."

It seems that Rowden, on seeing that he had to fight both of the brothers, thought he would hasten matters by the use of a hatchet, and his unfortunate victim was Millard, who received a slight cut on the forehead. Millard slightly wounded Rowden on the head, and Milt drew his revolver and fired. After firing the shot, Milt dropped the pistol and ran, which ended the fight. Although Pridemore was within a few feet of Rowden, the shot missed him.

Another tragic event rocked south county in late April as well.

At 11 o'clock Monday evening, April 19th, a fire was discovered in the barn of W. J. Scales. the fire

was under such headway that nothing could be done. The barn was a large stock and grain barn lately erected. W. E. Lawson had two valuable mules and a horse burned; J. K. Giddens one mule, Jefferson Bray one mare, and F. M. Williams a horse—six head in all—all valuable animals. W. J. Scales lost 150 bushels of corn, W. E. Lawson 30 bushels of corn, half ton hay, set of harness and saddle. Loss \$1000. No insurance.

-Pulaski County Democrat article reprinted in the Rolla Herald on Apr. 29th, 1897.

There was a startling development in the Lawson murder trial in Rolla. The Herald reported a rumor that "little Rackliffe Lawson, son of Andy Lawson, who was tried at the last regular term of the Phelps Circuit Court, for the murder of little Frank Wade last summer in Spring Creek township, has made a full confession.

"He took a party of gentlemen to the place where Frank Wade's clothes were hid, and also graphically told how the boy lost his life. Rack's confession, we are told, does not relieve any of the Lawson family now in jail charged with the horrible crime, but merely tells how they kept the body in hiding until placed in the pond. Further developments are expected."

Economic recovery still was slow in coming to the Ozarks in '97, resulting in financial difficulties for several newspapers. Indicative of

this was the changing of hands at the Richland Cyclone for a second time in the span of a few months.

Sam Kellar last week resumed charge of the Richland Cyclone, and the first issue contained a write-up of "Biff" Bradleyford, who, Kellar states, beat everyone he could. This is a case of the pot calling the kettle black. If Bradleyford can beat more people than Kellar, he is entitled to glorification as a phenomenon.

-Lebanon Republican, Apr. 23rd, 1897.

Both newspapermen agreed, however, that one of the most important community issues of the day was the problem of fence gates that swung the wrong way. The editors thought that city officials should mandate the gates to swing in, as outwardly swinging gates obstructed pedestrian traffic when left open.

Meanwhile, the Dixon baseball team travelled to Rolla the middle of May to take on the School of Mines' team, but received a thorough thrashing, 37-to-13. The game was stopped at the end of the 7th inning as an act of sportsmanship.

In Waynesville, a local couple entered the bonds of matrimony. James Bostick and Miss Grace Black of this place were united in marriage last Saturday evening at 9 o'clock, Rev. G. L. Shockley officiating. The groom is the popular young clerk in one of our stores, and the bride is the accomplished daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Black, of

this place.

-Pulaski County Democrat article reprinted in the Rolla Herald on May 20th, 1897.

There was a daring robbery at the Richland postoffice, but the perpetrator profited little for his labor.

James E. Clark, hailing from Pennsylvania, arrived in Lebanon about 2 o'clock Monday afternoon, hunted up Sheriff Shamel and surrendered himself as a postoffice robber.

At 12 o'clock Sunday night he broke into the Richland postoffice and secured everything in sight, a lot of stamps, postal cards, some stamped envelopes and a bunch of keys belonging to the postmaster. He went in after money, and his failure to secure it seemed to discourage him so that he resolved to quit the business and take a rest.

A deputy marshall came up on Tuesday and took the prisoner to Springfield, where he will be held for trial in the United States court.

All the booty secured by Clark was recovered.

-Lebanon Republican, May 14th, 1897.

Deputy Brown went to Lebanon last night and returned this morning with James E. Clark, who is charged with burglarizing the postoffice at Richland, Mo. Clark was given a preliminary hearing before Commissioner Silsby this morning and in default of \$500 bond was sent to jail to await the sitting of the federal court. Clark

has served two terms in the penitentiary, one for robbing the postoffice at Newburg and another for rifling the mail sacks at Nichols Junction. There is strong evidence that he is guilty of the robbery at Richland.

-Springfield Leader-Democrat article, reprinted in the Lebanon Republican, May 14th, 1897.

The community of Richland this particular year fielded some of the best baseball players in the area. And in early June, Richland's second team defeated Lebanon 14-to-13.

The Lebanon boys charge their defeat to the wild decisions of the Richland umpire, who has evidently not seen a rule book for several years, and the boys say there was not a single book of rules in Richland.

-Lebanon Republican, June 4th, 1897.

A tragic event curtailed summer enjoyment for a rural county family in the middle part of June.

A very sad accident happened to Johnny Wheeler, the 13-year-old son of Wm. W. Wheeler, ex-County Judge of this county, on Thursday last, at Wheeler's mill. In some way the boy got his foot entangled in the belting, and his body was drawn into the machinery, and his head and limbs were crushed and mangled in a frightful manner, but death soon came to relieve his sufferings. The family of the deceased is tendered our sincere sympathy.

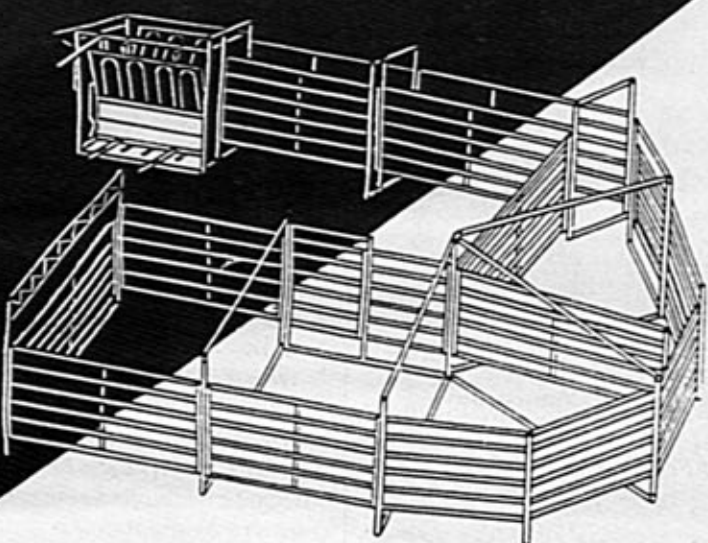
-Dixon Echo-Enterprise article

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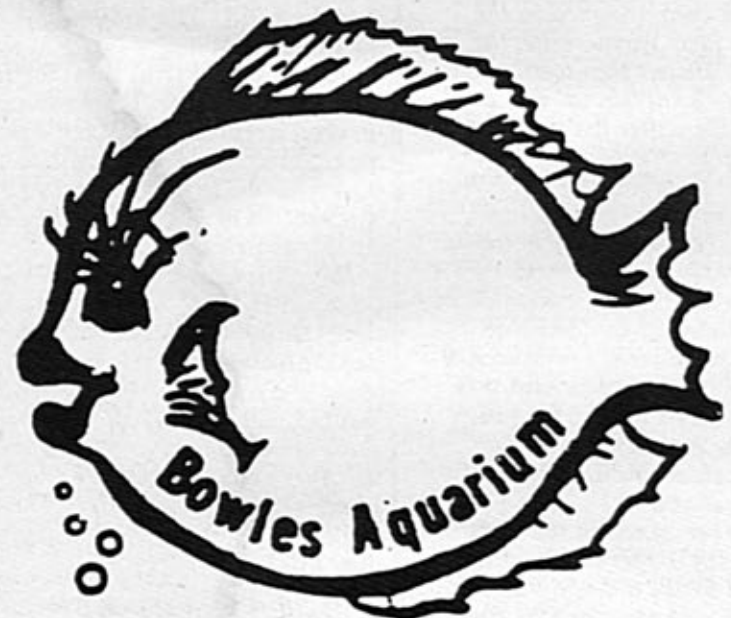
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reprinted in the Rolla Herald on June 17th, 1897.

Still another sensational development in the Lawson murder case took place in late June, and there was a very unusual medical procedure performed in Dixon.

The body of Frank Wade, the victim of a sensational and cold-blooded murder committed last August in the southwestern part of the county, will be exhumed this week. Drs. Carpenter, Johnson, and Wilson will examine the body to determine the cause of death.

-Rolla Herald, June 24th, 1897.

Dr. Wilson, of Rolla, performed successfully a surgical operation on the hand of Mr. Isaac Murphy on Thursday, who for the past year has been suffering with a bad sore on his hand, which was malignant and refused to heal. The doctor administered chloroform and the old gentleman bore it well, and is doing well. Mr. Murphy is one of Dixon's oldest citizens.

-Dixon Echo-Enterprise article reprinted in the Rolla Herald on June 24th, 1897.

Extreme naivete, a bone-jarring journey, and a chance encounter helped a Pulaski County woman win the immediate release of her husband from prison.

John L. Malden, of Pulaski county, was set free by the governor on application of prominent citizens, but the papers asking for his release might yet be on file in the executive pigeon holes awaiting their turn for consideration had it not (been for the actions of his) wife.

The woman drove over from Pulaski county with her four small children in a mover's wagon, 75 miles or more, and reached Jefferson City Sunday evening. She camped for the night near the prison where her husband was confined, and visited him next day. The next evening black clouds came up in the sky, and the mother feared to trust her little brood to the elements another night. So, taking the youngest in her arms and the others trailing behind in mournful procession, she sought the executive mansion, believing in her ignorance, that it was a shelter for the unfortunate.

Mrs. Stephens was sitting on the broad portico, enjoying the breeze, when the melancholy group came in sight. Her motherly instincts were aroused at once, and she received them kindly. What the woman said to Mrs. Stephens, and what Mrs. Stephens said to the governor no one else knows, but the unfortunates slept that night under a roof that has sheltered few of such, and the next day John Malden's sentence was cut in such a way that he went forth free once more.

Malden cut the keeper of a blind tiger while drunk and after receiving insults. He is ordinarily a quiet citizen, and Judge Bland, who tried him, said that a job had been put up on him.

-Lebanon Republican, June 25th, 1897.

In July, a financial fight broke out between the Pulaski County Bank in Richland and members of the county court. After reviewing all submitted bids, court members had decided to place county funds in the Rolla State Bank. The board of Pulaski County Bank, where the funds had previously been placed, decided to fight the court's decision on several fronts.

Robert Meriwether, cashier of Rolla State Bank, was here Wednesday trying to get possession of the county money, but it seems as if the Pulaski County Bank is determined to keep the money and deprive the County Court of the right to terminate or enter into another contract.

-Report from a Waynesville correspondent to the Dixon Echo-Enterprise, reprinted in the Rolla Herald on July 15th, 1897.

Pulaski County's Judge W. H. Murphy and other attorneys for the state went to court in late July to press forward in the Lawson murder case, which was becoming more sensational with each passing moment. During this second trial, the state advanced several theories for the killing. Perhaps Frank Wade was accidentally killed while he and the youngest Lawson boy, Rackliff, got into a fight. Rack's father, Andy, and grandmother, Martha, concealed the victim's body, later slashing the boy's throat and throwing the body in a pond to divert suspicion.

Another possibility, said state attorneys, was that the Lawsons harbored bitter feelings against the Wades because of a previous incident and encouraged their younger boys to assault Frank Wade. Then, while he was unconscious, a razor was secured and Mrs. Lawson slashed the victim's throat.

The persons charged with the crime are Mrs. Martha Lawson and her two sons, Andy and Jacob. Mrs. Lawson is in her 55th year. Andrew Lawson is about 38 years old. Jacob Lawson is between 28 and 30, perhaps older.

...The State is represented by Prosecuting Attorney Thos. M. Jones and Judge W. H. Murphy. The defense (is represented) by ex-Senator James B. Harrison and Hon. Frank H. Farris.

...The testimony for the State was concluded Monday noon, and many startling disclosures were made. The two principal witnesses for the State were Millard Wade, brother of the murdered boy, and who was with him at the Lawson place on that fatal Sunday; and Martin Harris, a brother-in-law of Jacob Lawson and Doc. Lawson.

Millard Wade gave a clear and concise statement of the events which transpired at the Lawson house that day. His testimony was remarkably strong for the State in showing who were at the house and what they did and how they acted.

Martin Harris is the only person who testified that he saw the crime committed. He was on the stand several hours and underwent a most

trying cross-examination. In his direct testimony he swore that he stepped out of the house, and on returning he looked up on the point of a hill near by and saw Frank Wade and Rack and Johnny Lawson up there playing. Andy Lawson, little Rack's father, was standing behind a tree near by watching them. About an hour after that he again went out behind the smoke-house, and on looking up at the same point of the hill where he had seen the boys playing he saw Mrs. Lawson, Andy Lawson and Jacob Lawson standing. He then saw Andy Lawson reach in his hip pocket and hand his mother something. Mrs. Lawson then stepped to one side eight or ten steps and knelt down. Harris then saw little Frank Wade lying on the ground. Mrs. Lawson, he says, made two quick cuts at the child's throat, and then returned to where her two sons were standing, handing Andy Lawson the instrument used. Jacob Lawson and his mother then picked up the child and deposited it behind a log a short distance away.

...The defense placed little Rack Lawson on the stand Tuesday, and he swore directly opposite to what he did last March. He now swears that he and Frank Wade went swimming in the pond and Frank was drowned. This frightened him and he grabbed up his own and Frank Wade's clothes and did not stop to dress until he reached the place where Frank's clothing was recently found. After hiding Frank Wade's clothing, he then dressed himself and returned to the house, reaching there just as dinner was about over.

-Rolla Herald, July 29th, 1897.

Previous testimony revealed that after the Wade boy's death, Andy Lawson had travelled to a neighbor's house, borrowed a saddle, and the next day, rode a



horse to Scale's store, 12 miles away in Pulaski County, to purchase clothing.

After closing arguments by both sides, the case went to the jury to decide the guilt or innocence of Martha Lawson in the Wade boy's death.

The jury was out only about nine hours, and at nine o'clock Thursday morning rendered a verdict of not guilty.

For so grave a crime this quick decision only strengthens the opinion expressed by many people, that the carelessness and indifference displayed by some of the jury during the trial, an acquitting verdict could be expected. This verdict releases Mrs. Lawson from ever again being tried for the death of Frank Wade, but it does not satisfy the people of her innocence.

Mrs. Lawson's two sons, Andy and Jake, will be tried at the September term of the Phelps Circuit Court, for this same crime.

-Rolla Herald, Aug. 5th, 1897.

Although many in Pulaski County followed the latest twists and turns of the Lawson trial in Rolla, few were diverted from their efforts to enjoy the summer as much as possible.

Messrs. Woodford Filley, of Waynesville, and John Rayl, of Crocker, while making a tour of the neighboring towns, passed through this place and stopped off on a visit to their friend, Walter Duncan, a few days last week. They went from here to Hon. J. H. Ross' on Big Piney, where they expected to put in a day or two hunting and fishing.

Miss Lucy Ballard, of Waynesville, is spending the summer with her sister, Mrs. Thomas Hamilton, of Spring Creek.

-Under Relfe Items in the Rolla Herald, July 29th, 1897.

Frank Stanzel (from whom

Frank's Switch received its name) was no longer a Pulaski County resident by 1897, having been promoted to the position of Superintendent of Masonry on the St. Louis & San Francisco. Now residing in Rolla, Stanzel was re-appointed in the summer of '97 to the superintendent's position. His happiness, however, was short-lived.

Edward A. Stanzel, son of Frank Stanzel of this city, died last Friday evening, August 20th, after a short illness, aged 18 years, 4 months and 20 days. Ed. was a good boy, industrious and honest, and his untimely death is a severe shock to his parents and brothers and sisters. The remains were buried in the family lot at Franks Sunday morning.

-Rolla Herald, Aug. 26th, 1897.

Ed was buried near another brother, Frank Joseph "Little Joe," who was killed the night of May 2nd, 1892, trying to hop a train in Rolla. He was 10 years old at the time.

The month of August witnessed a 180-degree turn in weather fortunes. Nature's spigot was abruptly shut off, giving great cause for concern by local farmers, whose crops were not as advanced as usual due to rain-delayed spring planting.

But places like Bartlett's Mill in Waynesville continued to provide cool comfort and relaxation during this prolonged dry spell, attracting visitors from surrounding areas.

A fishing party from Lebanon who had been camping at Bartlett's Mill for nine days, spread their tent by the pellucid waters of the Roubidoux in the edge of Waynesville Tuesday evening...

They report a successful outing, both in point of enjoyment and in the amount of fish and game taken. The party had wagons, tent, camp stools, frying pans, dishes, a colored cook, and all of those conveniences which go to make a "camping out" as pleasant as possible. For their evening diversion they brought along a mandolin and guitar, the ladies playing upon these instruments. That the members of the party enjoyed their outing is vouched for by those who saw them in camp Tuesday evening.

-Pulaski County Democrat article, reprinted in the Lebanon Republican on Aug. 20th, 1897.

September was a month of reckoning for several men awaiting trial on various charges in Pulaski County.

The fall term of the Pulaski county Circuit Court closed at Waynesville Saturday last. Convictions were had in the following cases: Jas. Prewitt, two years; Dennis Lewis, horse-stealing, four years; Harry Lloyd, burglary, three years; Ed. Lucas, grand larceny, two years. In the Prewitt case, bond was given and an appeal taken.

-Rolla Herald, Sept. 16th, 1897.

The furor over county depository funds reached a crescendo in

September.

At the May term of the County Court of this (Pulaski) county, the Pulaski County Bank, of this city, made the highest and best bid for the county funds, and the court rejected its bid. The court refused to readvertise, but gave the County Treasurer an option on the county funds. The treasurer solicited bids from banks in adjoining counties and banks in the City of St. Louis. The Pulaski County Bank issued an injunction against the court and treasurer, enjoining them from transferring the money to any other county. The case was tried in the Circuit Court, before Judge Woodside, who to-day decided that the court had the right to reject any or all bids. There being no depository, the funds came into the custody of the treasurer, who had the right to place the funds where it suited him best. This decision is far reaching in its nature, and will materially interfere with the workings of the state depository law, designed to earn revenue for the counties and give an added security to the funds.

-September 11th, 1897, dispatch with a Richland, Missouri, dateline, published in the Rolla Herald on Sept. 16th, 1897.

But the editor of the Pulaski County Democrat took exception to this account of the county's depository battle.

If the devil himself had come to earth to make a report of Judge Woodside's decision on the Bank's

injunction suit against the County Treasurer and County Court, he could hardly have done a more evil work than that which has been done by those who have sent out reports to the press of the decision. These reports have been published quite extensively throughout the state. They seem to have originated at Richland. We do not know who sent them out, but the face of the reports shows that he is in thorough sympathy with the bank, and has managed to suppress a great deal of truth to show his love for a corporation that cares little for the interest of the taxpayers of this county.

There are strong evidences that the banks of this county entered into a combination before any bidding was done for the depository. If the money must be let within the county, this may be done every time, for banks are thoroughly familiar with that modern principle of corporations that combination is more profitable than competition.

The County Court rejected all bids because the bids were too low and showed evidences of a combination. In this, the Court did right. Money which last year was worth 6-and-5/8ths per cent. suddenly toppled down to 2 per cent., and when the Court readvertised, money went down uniformly one-half per cent. at each bank excepting the Bank of Richland, which made no bid. And then talk about no combination.

One report says Judge Woodside's decision endangers the County

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depository law. The depository law under any other construction than that given it by Judge Woodside is not worth the white paper it is printed on, and the sooner it is wiped from the statute books the better it will be for the people. The people ought to be grateful to any Judge who would knock out a law that would permit the banks to combine in order to beat the people.

Another report says the decision will enable the Judges of the County Court to reject all bids and then enter into a combine with the County Treasurer to rob the county of all the interest. This assumes that all the Judges of the County Courts and all County Treasurers are rascals, but the people could reach such a combination as this when election comes around, but how can they reach a combination of the banks? And if the two evils existed, which would the people prefer, one they could reach and correct, or one that is entirely beyond their power to control?

We believe the County Court did right. We believe Judge Woodside has interpreted the law correctly, and we do not believe, as the *Cyclone* does, that the law ought to be so amended as to give the banks in each county a monopoly of the County's funds at any rate they may bid for them, no matter how low this rate may be.

At around the same time, former Waynesville resident J. E. Mc

Donald sent postcards to friends from Wichita, Kansas, informing them he was headed for the Klondike in search of gold. The editor of the *Rolla Herald* referred to his destination as the "country of golden icicles."

News came of the death of Nancy J. Wilson, who died at her home five miles south of Waynesville on September 23rd. Her obituary in the *Rolla Herald* stated that she was born July 15th, 1831, and was the daughter of P. N. and Martha Bradford, early pioneer settlers of Pulaski County.

She was first married to Easton Yowell in 1847 and birthed four sons—L. L. and J. E. Yowell of Phelps County, W. J. Yowell of Texas County, and P. N. Yowell of Wilson, Indian Territory.

A few years after the death of Easton Yowell, Nancy married J. H. Wilson, also of Phelps County. This marriage produced four sons and two daughters—Robert E. and M. B. Wilson of Texas County, T. J. and Sallie M. Wilson of Pulaski County, and M. E. Wilson (who married Samuel Mc Clure of Phelps County), and Lewis D. Wilson, who died in infancy.

She was buried in the Bradford Cemetery two miles south of Waynesville.

The summer had been a glorious one on the baseball diamonds for Richland's first team, as they were undefeated going into late Septem-

ber. But they had their hands full when they took the field against Lebanon's second nine. The ballgame was nip-and-tuck until the seventh inning, when Lebanon got the measure of Richland's pitcher and pulled away for a 29-to-19 win. The fall of darkness prevented further hurt feelings by the Richland boys, who were said to be discouraged by experiencing their first loss of the season.

About a week later, Lebanon walloped Waynesville 26-to-3. The *Lebanon Republican* called it a "burlesque game," with the game curtailed at the end of the seventh inning.

"The visiting pitcher was a pretty good twirler, but received no support at all," the paper added. "The Lebanon boys did not exert themselves. There was no need of it."

The Richland postoffice robber James E. Clark entered a guilty plea when his day of court came in Springfield, but then said he wanted to substitute a not guilty plea and go to trial. His mind was changed again when Clark was confronted with the evidence collected against him.

He was sentenced to three years in the state pen.

The fascination that boys had for trains in the late 19th century is comparable to the love of the automobile by today's teenagers. Train-hopping apparently was a

special thrill, but sometimes led to deadly results and claims that railroad employees treated all teenage boys with suspicion, whether their fares were paid or not.

That grim fact was tragically proven on October 8th.

About 1 o'clock last Friday afternoon Robert Ellis, a 17-year-old boy of Richland, was found on the railroad track just east of the Washington avenue crossing, with his body cut in two at the hip joints.


He was removed to Billings & Day's office, where he died at 5:30 o'clock, in the presence of his mother, brother and uncle, who arrived on the 3:32 train, in response to a telegram.

Before he died he stated that he was pushed from a flat car.

Young Ellis and Adrian Wrinkle were in Lebanon and boarded a freight train bound east just before 1 o'clock.

A farmer boy who stood near the spot where the Ellis boy was killed gave out a statement that he saw a brakeman push the victim from the car. To investigate this a coroner's jury was impaneled Saturday evening, and it has been in (session) until Wednesday night, when it adjourned to the 25th. Some eight or ten witnesses, including the crew of the freight train, have been examined. No verdict was arrived at.


The uncle of the boy killed is



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prosecuting in the case and will push the matter to find out whether the brakeman killed young Ellis. It is stated that he will sue for damages, also.

-*Lebanon Republican*, Oct. 15th, 1897.

Ellis was the son of Camden County's Circuit Clerk and Recorder of Deeds from 1883-1887.

By October, many parts of the state, including Pulaski County, had not received any appreciable precipitation for almost two months.

As one of the effects of the drouth which has prevailed for some weeks, the Gasconade river, along the Black farm, is dry for a distance of two hundred yards. This is the first time, so the "old inhabitant" says, that the river has gone dry since 1882. That year, the river is said to have been dry at several points.

-*Richland Cyclone* article, reprinted in the *Lebanon Republican* on Oct. 8th, 1897.

During the memorable drought of 1881, no rain fell in many parts of the state for sixty-four days. It's been almost that long now since some localities have been sprinkled from above.

The *Jefferson City Tribune* says it is a common sight nowadays to see a woman wade out into the Missouri river to get buckets of water. The drouth and the low stage of water in the Big Muddy have caused this.

Old river men at Boonville say that the Missouri river is lower than

they have known it for 30 or 40 years. But for quicksands, horse-men could ride across the stream.

-*Dixon Echo-Enterprise*, Oct. 16, 1897.

Despite these bone dry conditions, Pulaski Countians had not forgotten the perennial problem of flooded streams. Plans were being pushed for a bridge to span the Gasconade River at Fish Dam Ford south of Dixon.

The completion of the bridge at Fish Dam Ford must very materially increase the trade of Dixon from that direction as well as offer additional facilities to the people who live on the opposite side of the river. To say that the longest way is the shortest way to Waynesville, will not go, for every body knows that people will not travel around by the Crocker and Waynesville bridge during high water if we have a bridge at Fish Dam Ford.

-*Dixon Echo-Enterprise*, Oct. 16, 1897.

The county already was moving in this direction. Official notice was given that a contract would be awarded on November 3rd at the south door of the courthouse in Waynesville to the "lowest and best bidder the building of an iron or steel bridge across the Gasconade river at Fish Dam Ford, in said county. The river at this ford is 210 feet wide at low water level and 280 feet wide on top of the banks."

The bidders were asked to submit

bids for a one-span bridge, as well as a bridge of more than one span.

At the same time, the county court said it would award a contract for the rebuilding of the bridge at Mc Cain Ford over the Gasconade south of Richland, with "the wreckage of the old bridge to be used as far as possible in the new one." The rebuilt structure was to be of three-span steel design, 120 feet to the span, and to be "set on tubular piers and stone abutments, the bridge having 14-foot roadway."

Circuit Court in Waynesville convened for a special term in October.

The case of the State vs. P. W. Williams, grand larceny, was tried by a jury and Williams was found guilty and sentenced to two years in the penitentiary. Motion for a new trial was made and overruled. The case will be appealed. Williams is now out on bond.

The chief ground upon which Pleas Williams' attorneys hope for a reversal of a verdict is certain language used by Judge Murphy in his speech before the jury concerning matters not of record. Mr. Murphy referred to the fact that Williams and Shelton had been indicted for the same offense and they asked for a severance so that each might swear the other out of the trouble. We hardly think that this will effect a reversal of the judgement rendered, as the jury knew from the reading of the indictment that they

were indicted for the same offense.

Attorney Arthur Murphy, of Crocker, tells the latest one out, the truthfulness of which is not in doubt, for Arthur is truthful, and in this case is corroborated by others. At the recent term of the Pulaski county circuit court, there was a full grown docket, which, of course, not only kept the local bar on the jump, but brought forth a number of brilliant lawyers from outside towns. One of the jurors, a particular friend of Murphy's, was serving his country for the first time, and of course realized how important he was to it. As court progressed and the lawyers bitterly contested case after case, Murphy's former playmate, who had never before been in a courthouse, concluded that not only the jury but the Court, litigants and general public were being outraged; so, addressing the Court he said that he had discovered in every little case that had come before the jury or the judge the lawyers had to meddle and take sides; that several good cases had been ruined by them already; that the time was coming when the court house doors would have to be locked against lawyers; and that if he was to be told what to do by them, he was going home!

-*Pulaski County Democrat*, Oct. 22nd, 1897.

Young Murphy, incidentally, was married a few days preceeding the Williams' trial. He and Cora Hoops

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were joined in matrimony October 12th at Fayetteville, Arkansas.

The bride and groom are popular young people and have hosts of friends here who will wish them joy unconfined and prosperity unbounded. The groom is the talented junior member of the law firm of Murphy and Murphy at Crocker, Mo., and the bride is the accomplished sister of Mr. J. L. Hoops, a successful merchant of Crocker. The E. E. congratulates the popular young wedded couple and wishes that their lives may be a continual feast of love and may prosperity always attend them.

-Dixon Echo-Enterprise, Oct. 16th, 1897.

E. Keeswetter and Tina Mitchel of the Tavern were married October 13th by Reverend J. A. Bradshaw of Richland.

While traveling home from the Williams' trial, Uncle Bill Skaggs and his sister, Mrs. Lusetta Martin, were injured when the team drawing their wagon became unmanageable and ran away. The rig turned over and pinned Uncle Bill and his sister underneath. Lusetta was more seriously injured and had to be confined to bed to recuperate.

Despite a costly train accident, a scheduled circus arrived on time in Dixon the morning of October 14th. Circus goers, especially Dixon males of all ages, were happy that damages in the wreck were limited to several horses and a badly bruised elephant.

How the old married men did enjoy the feats of Miss La Pearl on the trapeze. They all pronounced her "charming" physically and artistically.

-Dixon Echo-Enterprise, Oct. 16th, 1897.

Another death was recorded at Moab. Susie Jane, wife of Amos Franklin Deer, died on October 24th at the age of 22, leaving a husband and two young children to mourn her passing. She was the daughter of William Madison and Mary Martha Whitaker of Relfe.

Despite a dying statement from the victim and an eyewitness account, the Lebanon coroner's jury investigating the death of Robert Ellis concluded on November 1st that he was not pushed to his death by a Frisco brakeman. Instead, they said, he apparently fell while carelessly riding on top of one of the cars.

A young son of former county sheriff Tom Imboden, Scott, found himself on the other end of the law after a shooting incident in Rolla.

Monday night about 10:30 o'clock, Will Van Wormer and young Imboden of Dixon, after spending a few hours drinking in a saloon, got into an argument while standing on the railroad track near 7th street crossing as to which was the best man with the gloves at boxing. One word brought on another, and although one or two other parties were present, blows were passed between the two young men, and a

shot fired from a pistol in young Imboden's hands. Van Wormer looked at his antagonist and remarked: "Now you think you have played h—l," and walked away. He did not say he was shot and those present did not think so either and all separated. About 11 o'clock Van Wormer was found sitting on the steps of the New Era book store in a dazed condition and almost chilled by the wind from the north. When aroused he said he was hurt: a terrible pain was in his right side. He was taken home and examined, when the bullet wound was found. The ball entered his right side over the hip, and ranged upward, stopping just below the skin about an inch from the spinal column. The doctors say he is seriously injured, and the chances for his recovery very slight.

-Rolla Herald, Nov. 25th, 1897.

Van Wormer apparently had a reputation in Rolla for confrontation. Earlier in the year, the night of April 11th, he was said to have disturbed religious worship at the Rolla Christian Church. So charged, he pleaded guilty, and was fined one dollar and costs.

Double tragedy struck a prominent Pulaski County family in November.

Wilkes Rigsby, son of J. C. Rigsby, a former well-known citizen of this county but now residing in Pulaski county, died Tuesday.

-Marion County Gazette article, reprinted in the Rolla Herald on

Nov. 25th, 1897.

Lyman Rigsby, son of John Rigsby, the prominent stock dealer, is very sick with brain fever. His disease seems to affect him in the same manner as that from which his brother Wilks died a few days ago. He fell near the same spot where his brother fell.

-Pulaski County Democrat article, reprinted in the Rolla Herald on Dec. 2nd, 1897.

The south county area again found itself mourning a loss, the result of a fatal accident.

Mrs. Thos. Renick nee Martha Ormsby, youngest daughter of Thos. Ormsby of Big Piney, died lately from a terrible accident on the 10th inst. While standing near the fire place her clothes caught on fire and in an instant her entire apparel were in flames. After two weeks of intense suffering, she died on Monday last and was buried in the Duncan cemetery on the following day. This, with the death of her father, is quite a shock to the family and entire community.

-Written by the Spring Creek correspondent of the Dixon Echo-Enterprise and reprinted in the Rolla Herald on Dec. 2nd, 1897.

Law officials in Dixon moved quickly after a daring robbery of the post office there on November 25th and arrested Irvin Mc Alester as the suspected perpetrator. He was whisked off to Rolla for a hearing before the U. S. Commissioner.



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The boldest robbery that was ever committed in this town was committed this morning between the hours of 1 and 5. Thieves entered the post office and endeavored to blow open the safe, but, as the safe is an old fashioned one, and works on the outside with a key, they failed in their attempt. They then took \$8 in money, about \$25 worth of postage stamps, all the extra lock-box keys and tore open all letters and packages in the office. Whether or not they received anything of value from them is not known. They also entered the grocery store of W. L. Wade, the blacksmith shops of S. Schneider and Wright. From the grocery store they took about \$10 worth of groceries, and from the blacksmith shops took a lot of tools, a gun, and one pistol.

-Dec. 2nd, 1897, Rolla Herald article with a Nov. 25th Dixon dateline.

Meanwhile, the wheels of justice began moving against the son of former Sheriff Imboden. The ex-lawmen felt compelled to take Scott to Rolla to face possible charges resulting from the late November shooting of Will Van Wormer. Imagine what thoughts passed through the mind of Imboden, who had made so many similar trips in the company of outlaws he had pursued and captured only a few years earlier.

Scott Imboden, the young man who shot Will Van Wormer Monday night, Nov. 22, came to Rolla the evening of the 24th with his father, Thos. Imboden, and gave himself up. He was afterward released on \$1,000 bond. Young Van Wormer yesterday was pronounced in a critical condition, indications of blood poisoning having set in. The wound is of a more serious nature than at first supposed.

-Rolla Herald, Dec. 2nd, 1897.

The Lawson murder case heated up again in early December. Once more, Crocker's Judge W. H. Murphy assisted the prosecution efforts against Andy and Jake Lawson. With all the sensational local press coverage in the case, defense attorneys expressed concern that their clients would not get a fair trial.

The rather pertinent question asked each jurymen by the attorneys for the two Lawsons now on trial for the murder of little Frank Wade, as to whether they read the newspapers, and if so, would they permit the carpings of said newspapers to interfere with their rendering a just verdict, was a step almost relative to asking them if the jury would render a verdict in behalf of the defendants irrespective of the testimony. In connection with this, we may be permitted to say that attorneys more often influence juries from rendering a just verdict than do newspapers.

-Rolla Herald, Dec. 9th, 1897.

The state began testimony Friday closing on Monday at noon, reserving the privilege of rebuttal. The

testimony with a few exceptions was about the same as that which was introduced in the first trial of Andy Lawson and in the trial of his mother. The strongest witness for the state is Martin Harris, who has told the story of the crime over and over again.

The attorneys for the defendants are making a grand fight to undo the state; and if they succeed in saving their clients, it will be a great victory for them.

-Rolla Herald, Dec. 16th, 1897.

While the merits of the case were being debated, good news came for one Pulaski County family, but bad news arrived for another clan.

Will Van Wormer is reported out of danger and improving rapidly from the gun shot wound inflicted upon him by Scott Imboden several weeks ago.

Lyman Rigsby, son of J. C. Rigsby, living on Big Piney, died the first of this week. This is the second misfortune that has befallen the family recently and they have the sympathy of every one.

-Rolla Herald Dec. 9th, 1897.

And then came news from the Lawson murder trial, in which Crocker's Judge Murphy had spent considerable time and effort!

"The Lawsons have all been acquitted of the charge of murdering little Frank Wade, and it is now in order for them to bring suit against the State for false imprison-

ment and defamation of character," stated the Rolla Herald in the Local Gleanings section of its Dec. 23rd edition.

Whether the editor of that paper ever considered the substantial role he had played in spreading those "defamatory" accusations, it's hard to say. But, the following statement later in the same column seems to indicate C. M. McCrae did not equate his statements with those of the prosecution, even though they were as defamatory in nature:

"The estimated costs in the cases of Andy, Rack, and Jake Lawson are placed at \$6000. The costs in the Martha Lawson case was \$1900. Pretty expensive to pay out so much money and then have the guilty ones escape punishment."

The editor of the Dixon Echo-Enterprise seemed more sympathetically disposed toward the Lawson family, stating, "Andy Lawson was acquitted of murder by the Phelps county jury, which is another surprise to the good people of Phelps."

There may have been some Lawson family relatives living in the Dixon area at the time.

The county observed a picture-perfect holiday season. There was snow on the ground on Christmas Day, with expectations for a "green Easter" as a result.

An attempt by a Camden county man to make it a greener new year

backfired on December 28th.

Mr. Dave Gorman, a Camden county farmer, came to this city Tuesday to have his account at the Pulaski County Bank balanced. Among other checks delivered to him was one for \$100, drawn in favor of Mr. Marshall Hammer, also of Camden county.

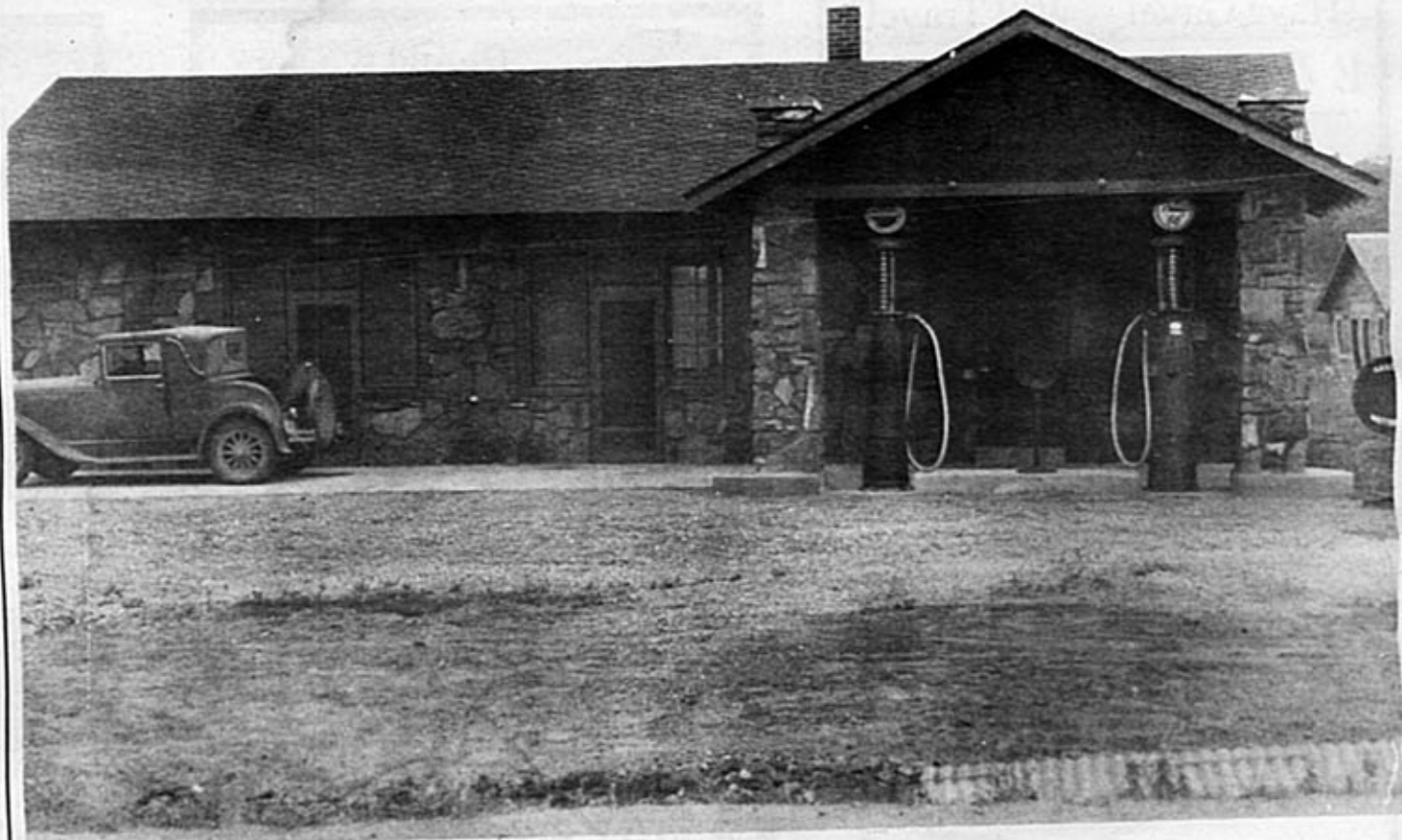
About a month ago, Mr. Gorman wrote the check referred to, giving it to Hammer in payment for labor. At that time the face of the check called for but six dollars, and when it came forth as a demand for one hundred dollars, there was surprise and consternation.

The check was cashed at the Bank of Lebanon, and had been sent here for collection. As soon as the alteration was discovered, the officers were notified.

Hammer—who has just about reached his majority—was arrested at Lebanon yesterday. In his pocket was found \$2.65, and in his boot \$60.

-Richland Cyclone article, re-printed in the Lebanon Republican on Dec. 31st, 1897.

So ended 1897 in Pulaski County. As residents prepared resolutions for the new year and awaited what 1898 would bring, many placed on their lists a wish for more normal weather and a chance to recover from the double disasters of flood and drought.



ROUBIDOUX GARDENS in Waynesville, currently the home of Dye Shelter Insurance, was constructed in 1930 by Mart Ballew and Warren Wyrick. Courtesy of Maxine Farnham.