

Youth urged to be pure, avoid intoxicants, tobacco

By Evelyn Ward

Sherman County Historical Society
September 14, 1905: The Home Life — The children must be taught right principles in the home. They should early in life be pledged to total abstinence from all intoxicants. The anti-tobacco pledge is just as essential, for the boys must be kept from the cigarette habit if they wish to be pure, clean men. Keep from the boys and girls all trashy books and papers. If the home life is what it should be, municipal life will take care of itself.

September 15, 1905: 100 Bushels on One Acre — The more Sherman County is farmed the more prolific is the soil. An example of the great success won on a single acre is the record of Oscar Edwards, who has just dug 100 bushels of fine potatoes from his patch and all this without irrigation.

Mr. Edwards brought a few samples to this office. Eighteen of them weighed fifteen pounds and would measure more than a peck. Mr. Edwards planted on the 20th of last April.

September 16, 1905: Was Stunned By A Meteor — A.S. Gafford of Voltaire Township will never forget the train of heavenly fire that caught him in its electric air and left him almost unconscious within the evening shadows of his own door.

And the terrific explosion that instantly followed will long remind him of the ancients' concept of an angry deity or possibly the crack of doom. But it was not the wrath of the heavens nor Gabriel's trumpet note but a frisking meteor that prostrated Mr. Gafford at about 9 o'clock Saturday night.

He had spent a strenuous day plowing fireguards and backfiring at home and fighting the prairie fire that started from the railroad and threatened to overrun a large stretch

today in history

of territory in the northeast part of this county.

The fire had been put out with difficulty during the day, and Mr. Gafford was resting at home from his sore labors. At about 9 o'clock he went out to see if there were any signs of fire. And just as he stepped from the house, the heavens turned as light as day.

He saw the approaching streak of light and turned toward the door, calling as he did to the rest of his family to come see the meteor. His hand had hardly reached the door knob when he sank down, overcome by an electric shock. He regained himself in a moment, but for half an hour he was pale as a ghost and his sight was very much affected, everything appearing to him in an ashen color.

Mr. Gafford, speaking of the phenomenon, said that the meteor appeared to be 25 yards long, its course lying from the northwest to the southeast. The nucleus was wildly bright, and as it shot by, it looked as big and bright as a headlight on a locomotive. The brilliancy diminished to the tail, displaying blue and yellow in beautiful tints.

It is estimated by Mr. Gafford that the explosion of the meteor happened about two miles east of his

house, but he was unable to find any fragments or violence to the earth in his search for souvenirs the next day. The material in the meteor was doubtless almost entirely burned when the explosion occurred.

Mr. Gafford was a telegraph operator years ago, and in speaking of his experience with electricity, said that only once before had he been so severely shocked, and that happened in a peculiar manner.

He was out in the rain and the ground was muddy along the telegraph poles. Boy-like, he crawled up a pole and got connections with the ground by having his brother hang onto his feet with one hand and sticking his thumb of his other hand in the mud.

The currents of electricity in "dots and dashes" could then be felt, and he could read the calls. The thunder storm was still in progress away to the east, and the lightning happened to strike the wires. Mr. Gafford concluded, "And then it was I got one of the biggest and closest calls that ever went over the wire."

September 17, 1905: Drowned In Lake Creek — Ralph Corley Goes to Bottom While in Swimming — For the second time in about three weeks — away out here on the plains of western Kansas,

where nature has been unkind in her distribution of lakes and rivers, the people of Goodland were shocked by the news that Ralph Corley had been drowned in Lake Creek on the J.A. Parker ranch in the southwest part of the county.

Corley was drowned in a deep hole in the creek while in swimming with Jotham Parker. His body was taken from the creek nearly four hours after he went down, without a cry of distress.

Whether the unfortunate young man was unable to swim or he was taken with cramps in the cold water is a mystery. His body was brought to town by J.A. Parker. An inquest was held by Coroner Gulick and burial made in the Goodland Cemetery.

After the day's work was over, Jotham Parker, a son of J.A. Parker, and Ralph Corley, an employee on the Parker ranch, went out for a swim in a deep hole in Lake creek not far from Mr. Parker's home. It was a little after 6 o'clock, and the water was cold.

Young Parker, who had gone swimming in the hole frequently,

told his companion how deep the water was and about the lay of the bed. He was first to take a plunge, swimming out into the middle and back.

Corley followed the example, reaching the middle and had turned to come back, when he seemed to be unable to maintain himself. He disappeared, and at the moment he came up, Parker threw out to him one end of his trousers, but somehow Corley couldn't get hold of that life string.

He went down, and when he emerged again, Parker reached out a hand to help. Corley grabbed hold of one of his fingers and drew his companion under with him, when Parker jerked loose.

He was never seen again until just after 10 o'clock when a party of men on a raft succeeded in drawing his lifeless body from the pond. This is the substance of the testimony given at the coroner's inquest.

The jury — composed of R.A. Kent, Jack Detmer, Thomas Cole, Harley Hogeboom, William Trachsel and C.H. O'Brien — brought in a verdict saying that

Ralph Corley met death by drowning.

Young Corley was 21 years of age and spent most of his boyhood days in Goodland. Eleven years ago, when his foster mother Grandma Corley died, he left Goodland and went west.

Having no home, he roamed like children do that have no heart ties for a parental roof. A few years ago, he landed in Nebraska, where he had relatives.

About two months ago, he came to Goodland from Liberty, Neb., and had been employed by Mr. Parker less than two weeks when the end came.

The deceased is reported to have had \$250 from the sale of a little house which he owned in Goodland, willed to him by Mrs. Corley, but \$160 only has been accounted for, which was on deposit at the First National Bank.

From weekly issues of The Goodland News, provided by the Sherman County Historical Society. Since the paper was published weekly, some items were arbitrarily assigned a date.

Notice of budget hearing

The governing body of Sherman County will meet on the 30th day of September, 2005, at 8:30 a.m. at the Sherman County Courthouse (Commissioner's Room) for hearing and answering objections of taxpayers relating to the proposed use of all funds and the amount of ad valorem tax.

Detailed budget information is available at the Sherman County Courthouse and will be available at this hearing.

BUDGET SUMMARY

Proposed Budget 2006 Expenditures and the Amount of 2005 Ad Valorem Tax establish the maximum limits of the 2006 budget. Est Tax Rate is subject to change depending on the final assessed valuation.

FUND	2004		2005		Proposed Budget 2006		
	Prior Year Actual Expenditures	Actual Tax Rate*	Current Year Est. of Expenditures	Actual Tax Rate*	Expenditures	Amount of 2005 Ad Valorem Tax	Est. Tax Rate*
General	1,534,943	13.850	1,734,628	12.978	2,087,974	553,880	8.923
Road	1,337,316	15.286	1,404,000	14.949	1,693,500	1,021,508	16.456
Noxious Weed	65,318	0.786	65,328	0.994	81,710	34,006	0.548
Health	240,211	0.471	271,799	0.473	265,455	27,123	0.437
Conservation District	19,000	0.304	19,922	0.306	21,000	18,993	0.306
Extension Council	109,944	1.744	109,199	1.716	14,250		
Election Board	39,164	0.294	37,756	0.603	99,225	89,078	1.435
Comm. Coll. Tuition	35,454	0.561	35,200	0.543	18,000	9,482	0.153
County Home Maint.	20,000		20,000	0.432	20,000	7,961	0.128
Historical Society	12,285	0.200	12,134	0.194	15,000	13,830	0.223
Appraiser's Cost	125,961	1.856	131,250	1.908	142,700	120,359	1.939
Program for Elderly	58,420	0.918	58,936	0.954	61,553	53,156	0.856
Free Fair	25,976	0.407	25,212	0.403	30,000	27,520	0.443
Parks-Soldier's Mem	24,372	0.394	22,514	0.231	30,450	26,512	0.427
Cemetery	50,000	0.775	48,941	0.755	56,500	51,543	0.830
Parks-Interlocal Rec	31,870	0.500	29,390	0.480	34,300	29,566	0.476
Library	14,859	0.238	15,000	0.232	15,000	13,274	0.214
County Hosp. Maint.	269,000	4.155	324,796	5.173	372,000	337,743	5.441
Employee Benefits	821,855	14.057	868,350	12.888	1,070,050	680,316	10.960
Tort Liability	11,450	0.061	12,500	0.170	14,000	12,259	0.197
Bond & Interest	110,693	1.816	111,800	1.792	142,600	72,658	1.170
No-Fund Warrants	12,760						
Auto Admin	41,171		48,670		48,650		
Register of Deeds Technology	6,451		25,000				
Health Care Svcs	275,534		217,950		470,814		
Health C. O.							
Noxious Weed C.O.	8,856						
Pros. Attorney Div.	2,744		5,500		15,605		
Pros. Attorney Training	2,139		4,500		5,186		
Special Alcohol	8,831		10,000		12,000		
Special Parks & Rec.	2,251		3,500		4,000		
Special Prairie Dog	21,301		24,624		30,076		
Tourism & Convention	76,767		80,000		90,000		
911 Fund	13,097		137,000		105,399		
Economic Development	83,034		76,100		176,771		
Sheriff Reward							
Sheriff's Commissary	7,201		12,500		23,529		
Waste Disposal	851,635		1,558,383		1,342,953		
Co. Attorney Drug Seizure			1,000		1,776		
Sheriff Drug Seizure	2,513		2,000				
Federal Drug Seizure	3						
Special Machinery	84,258		115,000				
Microloans	84,000						
Landfill Project	50,059						
Landfill Excavation							
Landfill Post Closure							
Capital Improvement							
Totals	6,592,696	58.673	7,680,382	58.174	8,612,026	3,200,767	51.562
Less: Transfers	360,491		574,000		412,700		
Net Expenditure	6,232,205		7,106,382		8,199,326		
Total Tax Levied	3,280,040		3,332,359				
Assessed Valuation	55,904,885		57,283,196		62,075,173		

Outstanding Indebtedness, January 1,	2003	2004	2005
	G.O. Bonds	485,000	395,000
Other	70,000	0	0
Revenue Bonds			0
Lease Pur Princ	362,779	241,087	201,417
Total	917,779	636,087	501,417

Other District Funds	2004		2005		Proposed Budget 2006		
	Prior Year Actual Expenditures	Actual Tax Rate*	Current Year Est. of Expenditures	Actual Tax Rate*	Expenditures	Amount of 2005 Ad Valorem Tax	Est. Tax Rate*
WASTEWATER DISPOSAL DISTRICT NO. 1							
General	115,440		0		0		

Outstanding Indebtedness, January 1,	2003	2004	2005
	G.O. Bonds	0	0
Other	0	0	0
Revenue Bonds	0	0	0
Lease Pur Princ	0	0	0
Total	0	0	0

RURAL FIRE DISTRICT NO. 1	2004		2005		Proposed Budget 2006		
	Prior Year Actual Expenditures	Actual Tax Rate*	Current Year Est. of Expenditures	Actual Tax Rate*	Expenditures	Amount of 2005 Ad Valorem Tax	Est. Tax Rate*
General	158,774		133,967		193,950	108,220	2.904
Spill Control Fund	0		0		0		
Special Fund	498		600		600		
Capital Outlay Fund	0		100,000		241,492		
Totals	159,272	5.164	234,567	3.491	436,042	108,220	2.904
Less: Transfers	85,000						
Net Expenditure	74,272		234,567		436,042		
Total Tax Levied	168,377						
Assessed Valuation	32,604,016		32,402,624		37,268,563		

Outstanding Indebtedness, January 1,	2003	2004	2005
	G.O. Bonds	0	0
Other	0	0	0
Revenue Bonds	0	0	0
Lease Pur Princ	0	0	0
Total	0	0	0

*Tax rates are expressed in mills

Clerk

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The AARP Driver Safety Program and Mr. Good Rinse of Goodland are sponsoring the AARP Driver Safety Program class, to be held at 2431 Walnut, Goodland on September 27 and 28, 2005, 1 to 5 p.m. AARP developed this 8-hour classroom refresher to help drivers to improve their skills and prevent crashes. It covers age-related physical changes in perception and reaction time, rules of the road and local driving problems. AARP volunteer instructor, Don Kiehl will be presenting this course through a combination of group discussion and videotape. For more information or to register, please call either Marie Edwards, 785-899-3323 or Don Kiehl, 785-890-6638.

Internet tonight!
899-2338

Personal Property Auction For Larry Arehart and Others

Date: Saturday, September 17, 2005

Time: 10 a.m. CT (Doors open at 8 a.m. day of sale)

Auction Location: T-N-T & Jones Auction Facility, 200 N. Franklin, Colby, Kan. Preview sale items between 5-7 p.m. CT Friday, September 16, 2005.

ANTIQUES

1930s Poster Bed and matching Vanity; 1920s Wicker 3 cushion set; 1920s Wicker rocker; 1920s Grocery Store cart; 1900s Wardrobe; Shoe lathel Large Mosler Safe & Lock Co safe (dated March 22, 1881); Silver mirror and brush set; Foreign Japanese money; HO Train Set w/extra pieces; 1900 Empire Style Sofa; 1940's End table; Assorted Fostoria pieces Assorted pieces of Coin Glass in (Red, Amber, Green, Blue, Crystal); Several kerosene lamps; Assorted Silver pieces

HOUSEHOLD

2-Wing back Chairs; Ethan Allen Rocking Chair; Ethan Allen Early American China Hutch; Blue early American Sofa; Floral Love seat; 2-rocker / recliners; 3 piece wicker patio set; Computer Desk; King size Bedroom set, Triple Dresser, Nite Stand, Chest of Drawers, Bookcase Headboard; Ethan Allen Round Maple Table W/4-chairs; 6-drawer chest Merry Moo Moo's Collection; Franklin Mint "Victorian Wedding Party" set; Miller Lite & Coors Lite assorted pictures; Oak school teachers desk; Metal cabinets; Floor polisher; Stools; 2 Swamp coolers

GUNS will sell @ 1:30 pm ct

GUNS

Hi-Standard Model H-D Military Pistol - 22 cal long rifle w/clip; Mauser Model 98 - 1940 chrome plated rifle (no bolt/trigger); Marlin Model 806 with scope - 22 cal w/clip; Remington Model 550-1 rifle - 22 short/long rifle; Benjamin BB air rifle gun - 100 shot; Marlin 30-30 Model 336 - lever action; Riverside Arms Co Model 520 - 16 gauge shotgun; Ammo boxes

BLACK POWDER GUNS

2 - Matching dueling pistols - 50 cal; Derringer pistol - 50 cal; Hex barrel long rifle - 50 cal; Shot bag; Powder horn

Terms of Sale: Driver License required. Complete payment is due the day of the auction by cash or certified check. Personal or company checks are accepted if accompanied by bank letter guaranteeing the funds. Nothing removed until settled for. Not responsible for injury, accident or theft. All items sell to the highest bidder "as is, where is". Information and descriptions are believed to be accurate but not guaranteed. Announcements sale day take precedence over printed material. TNT Auction, LLC are agents only.

Tom Harrison, Auctioneer-Broker
 (785) 443-0136 Mobile
Tom Simpson, Auctioneer
 (785) 443-0137 Mobile

TRAINS

1930s Lionel train set, Coal loader #397, Whistle tender car - #2466WX, Engine - #2025, Engine - #2020, Log car with logs - #3461, Cattle car - #3656, Baby Ruth candy car - #2454, Sunoco oil tanker car - #6465, Cattle stock yard - #6656, Auto refrigerated milk car - #3462, Caboose car - #2257, Signal light

(ALL THE ABOVE WITH BOXES)

Mar 1930s train sets with track and accessories; Mar Derrick #412; Mar Search light tower #436; Mar Girder bridge; 2 - American Flyer 3/16" scale train accessories - in box; American Flyer water tower; American Flyer Mistic railroad station; Lionel Trainmaster transformer - Type ZW - 250 watts; Many more train cars, switching units and track

SHOP & GARDEN

Tradesman 14" Chop saw; Toro Snow Blower; Lighting System II Like New Tiller; JD Self Propelled Mower model #14SB; 15 amp Generator; Aluminum Pickup Tool box; Aluminum Extension Ladder



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Check our web site for late additions and details about our upcoming auctions: www.tntjonesauction.com

Lunch will be served.

Bob Jones, Auctioneer
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