

DAILY DEMOCRAT

OKLAHOMA, THURSDAY, APRIL 23, 1925.

NUMBER FIFTEEN

Wewoka Will Give Program Over KFRU

Deterly & Sams, exclusive agents for Seminole county for the Etherical Radio company of Bristow, have arranged with Bristow Radio Broadcasting station, to give a program consisting of Wewoka people next Saturday afternoon, beginning at 1 o'clock.

The program Messrs Deterly & Sams have arranged is something entirely new, or at least a part of it. One of the main features of the entertainment will be a solo by Houston Miller of Wewoka, sang in Creek Indian language. Mr. Miller will also speak for a few minutes in Creek. This is the first time, so far as is known, that a speech has ever been delivered in that language; and no vocal number in the Creek language has ever been put on by any radio broadcasting station.

In addition to that feature, the Hon. C. Guy Cutlip, mayor of Wewoka, and president of the Wewoka chamber of commerce, will speak for a few minutes. Mr. Cutlip is a live-wire, a town-builder, a progressive citizen in every sense of the word, and you will no doubt enjoy hearing him tell of the wonderful Seminole county oil fields, the beautiful city of Wewoka, and the excellent citizenship that inhabits Seminole county. Don't miss hearing Mr. Cutlip's speech. He always makes a good one, whatever the occasion might be, but in this case he is expected, and no doubt will, make a "stem-winder."

Several other numbers will be on the program, which will likely include the Wewoka High School orchestra and Glee Club. Tune in on Bristow Saturday 1 p. m. and get the best program you ever heard; that's the only way Wewoka people know how to do things.

Deterly & Sams, who made arrangements with the Bristow station to broadcast this excellent program, are exclusive agents for the Etherical Radio company of Bristow. They have installed a great many radio's in this city and county, and are giving the radio fan people an excellent service.

OLD COURTHOUSE TO BE SOLD AT PUBLIC AUCTION

Elsewhere in this issue of the Capital-Democrat is an ordinance which provides for the sale of the old Seminole county courthouse. The old building was erected in 1897 by the United States Government as a council-house for the Indians; and a courthouse for Federal court. The old building has for several years been the property of the City of Wewoka, and the new courthouse is also on land owned by the city. The building will be sold at public auction and will be torn down or removed from its present site.

In commenting on the removal of the old court house building, Mayor C. Guy Cutlip had the following to say:

"And all the time the old court house was the spot around which much of the business was drawn to Wewoka. In times of session lawyers from all over the territory came here to practice. Men now high in the affairs of the nation were active practitioners in those days at this place."

Could the old walls talk and tell their stories much could be learned of the innermost workings of the human mind. They could recount to you countless impassioned pleas for the life, the liberty, or the property of the thousands of litigants who came within the enclosure. They could tell of the trick, the artifice; of the justice; the imposition; of the trials, griefs and afflictions of the early settlers of Seminole County.

But the old courthouse is to be moved away soon. No more will the silent walls reverberate to the pleas for the wicked, the just or the unjust. No more will they respond to the charge of the judge sending terror or hope to the accused. Silent and sombre, east aside for progress, alone with their history and memories.

Ambassador Price of England once upon a time visited in Wewoka, and was entertained in the old court room. Here Charles N. Haskell made his first speech as a candidate for the first governorship of the State of Oklahoma. Here came Robert L. Owendark, impassioned and good to look upon to address the people of the county on his sensational candidacy. Tom Gore beguiled the hours for the assembled throngs on more than one occasion and the great Henry Forman, a candidate for the Democratic nomination for senator the first race. He was later the presiding judge of the Criminal Court of Appeals of the state and one of the greatest jurists the state has produced. Bill Murray (the Sage of Tishomingo) spoke his advanced ideas of statecraft, and Robert L. Williams, Lee Cruce and many others spoke in the old court room.

The old court house was built three stories high so that the Masonic Fraternity might have a room for its sessions. The southern section was assigned to the White Lodge, and the northern half was allotted to the Freedmen Masonic Lodge.

In the south half of the upper story every masonic character in the Indian Territory and Oklahoma has been entertained at one time or other. Mr. Courtland L. Long was the First Master, and held that station for many years. He was succeeded by Andrew J. Brown, and again Mr. Long was commanded into service. An enlarged picture of Mr. Long hangs in the old Lodge Room today and it calls him "The Father of Wewoka Masonry." For many, many years, though the night might be dark and stormy, the little old man trudged from his home on South Wewoka Avenue, to discharge his obligations to the fraternity. Beside the picture which calls him "Father" is a burial scene, marking the last sad rites of the Masonic Brotherhood as his remains were laid to rest in Oaklawn Cemetery. He was in fact the patriarch of Wewoka. His vision compassed the great oil fields of the county today. He it was who first conceived the idea for drilling for oil on the townsite. As early as 1901 he had employed a drilling outfit and was seeking in the depths for the liquid gold. Success almost crowned his effort in 1907 but death removed him before there came a vindication of his vision. The old court house will soon be no more. To many of the fact is not unmixured with regret for there lingers many pleasant memories. Here the affairs of the town were discussed. Plans for promotion of its welfare has always emanated from the "District Court Room." In those trying days of early statehood it was an anchor indeed in the first county seat fight.

A small photograph of the building was used as Wewoka's emblem at that first stirring election. It was the one hope to pin our faith to, for it accomodated sufficient quarters for the county affairs on that memorable 8th of September 1908. Seminole and Konawa, were pressing us hard in those early days. Many votes were cast in our behalf because of this most striking advantage."

SUITS FILED IN THE DISTRICT COURT

Following suits have been filed in the court clerk's office this week, in district court:

E. J. Sinclair vs. Mary A. Sinclair, divorce; Janey Baker et al vs. R. T. Harber, quiet title; A. A. Covey vs. P. L. West, foreclosure; Wewoka Water company vs. Shaffer Oil and Refining company, breach of contract; First State Bank of Seminole vs. J. G. Reynolds, abstract of judgment; State of Oklahoma Bank Commissioner vs. J. D. Crump et al, suit on note; State of Oklahoma Bank Commissioner vs. C. L. Fraser, suit on note; Ella Zellars vs. A. B. Zellars, divorce; Jimmie Wolf vs. Willie Wolf, divorce; A. J. Fluke and C. M. Cole, receivers of Conservative Loan company vs. Shaffer Oil and Refining company, quiet title; W. A. Smith vs. Katie Smith, divorce; State of Oklahoma Bank Commissioner vs. A. C. Moody, suit on note; Oklahoma Cotton Growers Association vs. R. H. Chase, damages; C. B. Hyde vs. W. F. Varnum, ejectment; J. P. Mennick vs. Carter Oil company, cancellation; Thurston-Seran Hardware company vs. F. W. Fullerton, abstract of judgment; Daugherty-Nichols Construction company vs. Board of County Commissioners, suit on claim.

Advertisement For Bids For Trash Carrier

Bids will be accepted and a contract awarded by the City Commissioners for the carrying away and disposing of the trash and garbage of the city, on Saturday April 25th, 1925, at the hour of ten o'clock a. m. of said day at the city hall.

The commissioners reserve the right to accept or reject any and all bids, and the terms, route and requirement will be formulated and be subject to inspection or discussion at the time of letting the contract.

Bids must be in writing with full explanation of the equipment to carry garbage, and be on file with the city clerk before 9 o'clock of Saturday.

JOHN REMY,
Commissioner of Public Works.

CRISWELL HOLDS COURT OF INQUIRY

County Judge Thos. O. Criswell and Assistant County Attorney Homer H. Bishop, and J. R. Robertson, undersheriff, held a court of inquiry at Wolfe Wednesday.

County authorities went to that section of the county in response to requests of citizens there who complained that there were a few men who didn't like to make an honest living well, and were violating the federal prohibition laws. Officers, so it is said, secured some very valuable information while inquiring into conditions in that vicinity, and it is expected that some arrests will follow.

Officers report conditions as a whole there are good, that the people of that section of the county are good citizens and that only a few violators of the law live there. They speak very complimentary of the community as a whole.

The county attorney's office and the Sheriff's department are leaving nothing undone to stamp out the liquor traffic in Seminole county. The bootlegger doesn't ply his trade in this county very long until the sheriff has got his number. The county attorney prosecutes relentlessly. They are both making good.

George Davis Visitor To Wewoka Wednesday

George Davis, advertising manager of the Oklahoma Light & Power company, was in the city yesterday in the interest of his company, and while here paid this office a pleasant call. Mr. Davis has made an extensive tour of Oklahoma and has visited practically every town in the state served by his company.

DIC HOTEL.

VES UPTOWN; FIRST ONE ESTABLISHED IN 1867

PAGE FOUR

POST OFFICE MO

**E. J. Brown
First City
Postmaster**

**Seventh Move Places Office
In New Federal Building;
Long List of Postmasters**

Wewoka's post office, which before statehood was located at about the point where the highway 56 bridge crosses the creek northeast of town, has already been moved six times, and its seventh move into the new brick building on West Second street marks the end to its steady progress to up-town Wewoka.

E. J. Brown, of the Brown Trading Co., was the original postmaster of the office established in 1867. A stage coach brought the mail bags in those days. According to the early recollections of Wewoka's first citizens, a postmaster named Helm succeeded Brown, and in turn was replaced by Courtland L. Long.

Equipment Moved Often

Under Long the site of the post office was about 200 feet south of the original one, where the Billington Lumber Co., is now located. The building was occupied was moved farther up-town in 1902, and the post office was temporarily housed in the old Rock Island depot.

Later the Security State bank corner was the site, and still later the department was moved to the rear of that building, occupying the spot where Criswell's Insurance agency now stands.

From there the often-moved of Uncle Sam went to the building which now houses Hodges' Ready-to-Wear, and finally to the Youngblood building on South Wewoka avenue, where it has remained until the present time.

Accurate Record Unavailable

The succession of postmasters is not a matter of accurate record. However, except for the earlier ones, there are many Wewokans whose memory covers almost the entire period. After Long came L. W. Smith, in turn succeeded by Don R. Frazier, J. H. Barham, Horace Bradley, Elmer D. Orwig, C. M. Rodman and W. L. Thurston are the others, in order.

Nearly all of the living postmasters still live in or near Wewoka.

Postmaster



W. L. Thurston, above, although preceded by a large number of men as postmaster of Wewoka, is the only postmaster in this city ever to realize the ambition of all postal authorities—that of seeing his office moved into a new federal building.

Thurston, in addition to serving the city as postmaster, was instrumental in securing the new building and is a devout civic worker in Wewoka.

Personnel Of PO To Be Unchanged; 14 Now Employed

Postmaster W. L. Thurston's present staff of clerks and carriers will be unchanged in the new federal building, and with the addition of an extra janitor will consist of his first assistant, Sheldon Coley, five clerks, three city carriers and two rural carriers.

The clerks are Henry Moore, postal savings; Hazel Dyer, money orders; Ernest Sebastian, general delivery; Olin Stephenson, distribution; and W. B. Satterfield, dispatch.

Gov. Landon Relaxes Prior To Campaign

Estes Park, Colo., Aug. 14 (AP)—Gov. Alf M. Landon, determined to be in tinton condition

—Weather has been so
this part of the state
the chickens have b
cerved, reports Kof
fifteen miles north
here, who states that
his hens appeared Bait
the yard with a few
little chicks following
The hen stole her nest
an old shed.

PROGRESS REPLACES ROMANCE OF PIONEER INDIAN DAYS AT WEWOKA, ONE OF STATE'S OLDEST CITIES

WEWOKA, Okla., Jan. 21.—(Special.)—At a time when the wild Comanche hunted the big game on the site of the state, Wewoka was a thriving trading post in the Indian Territory. It was the transfer point or horse relay for the soldiers and traders between old Fort Gibson and Fort Smith during the war between the north and south in the Seminole Indians were divided in their loyalty. Many of them joined and fought in the northern army and many went with the south. As a result of this the families of the soldier went either north to Kansas or south into Texas, and remained there during the war. Another result to the Seminole tribal government was the election of two principal chiefs of the tribe. John Juniper, one of the strongest of their chiefs, had fought with the south. John Chupco, an excellent man and fitting warrior who had gone with the northern forces, was elected one of the chiefs. He represented the northern branch and Juniper was already chief of the Seminoles and he continued on, and the Seminoles had two chiefs for many years after the Civil war.

White Man Was Leader.

Those Seminoles who went north camped in Kansas until after the war was over. When they returned to their homes in the Seminole nation representative of the federal government, E. J. Brown. Brown was perhaps the first white man among the Seminoles in Oklahoma. He was a Moses who conducted them back from their sojourn in Kansas to their future homes in the Seminole nation.

Brown located at and upon the present site of Wewoka. On the highest point of the townsite he built a home, dug a well and planted many walnut trees. The old well is still to be seen and the trees, since 1868 when they were planted, have grown into

magnificent large trees one and a half to two feet in thickness. Strange to say the site selected by Brown for his early home in the Seminole was a corner lot, the northeast corner lot of block 49. From this nucleus has grown the present little city of Wewoka, with its waterworks and electric lights, its graded streets and sewer systems, its excellent churches and schools, many fine residences and business blocks.

The postoffice was established in 1884 by C. L. Long, who was for many years the manager and joint owner of the Wewoka Trading company.

Point on Old Trail.

Brown established a little store at Wewoka in 1868 and soon after the government established an agency for the Seminoles. In 1869 came a Mr. Helm, who purchased the trading post of Brown, and enlarged the stock. Soon after came C. L. Long and entered into partnership with Helm. From that time until his death, except for a little while in 1893, Wewoka was the home of Long.

He was soon after able to get a trail from Fort Gibson to Fort Sill established, and as the old trail ran through just north of Wewoka creek, the government established an army post, where the troops received fresh mounts, and where in the past many of the celebrities of the national army have encamped. Just a short time prior to the assignment of General Custer to the fatal regions of the northwest, he was at Wewoka. Many of the Indians and old negroes can still tell about the "Yellow Hair" one, and what a magnificent specimen of manhood he was.

Long maintained the trading post at Wewoka, and in the early nineties John F. Brown, the last of the Seminole chiefs, and the ablest, together with his brother-in-law, Jackson, joined forces with Long, and established what has ever since been known as the Wewoka Trading company.

Trail Was Shortened.

Wewoka was the place where those days located on the south bank of Wewoka creek, just where the water poured over some pleasant rocky hills. A small bridge crossed the creek at this place and was maintained for many years. Caesar Bowles, an old Seminole negro, kept the bridge. Wewoka was named from the murmur of the water as it poured down over the little falls at the toll bridge. Wewoka in the Seminole language means "barking water."

Through the efforts of the Brown and Long the Seminole tribe got tribal funds at the time of payments. This was probably the only instance of its kind in the history of the Indian tribes of the United States, that the funds were sent in bulk to the

tribal authorities and by them paid out to the members of the tribe. It limited confidence with the government had in Governor John H. Brown, brother of Jackson Brown, treasurer of the tribe and paid out the funds.

In the course of the years that followed the Wewoka Trading company printed and issued its own money, as the Indians called it "chokadees." This paper money was printed in denominations of 5, 10, 15, 20 and 25 cents, \$1, \$5, \$10 and \$20 and printed some place in manufactured and was used in the Indians between payments and was subject to be re-stored operated by the general trading company. This company in carried everything to sell in a general machine. From a hairpin to a threshing machine were very much in demand.

Railway Built.

Then came the Choctaw, Oklahoma & Gulf railroad in 1895 (now the Rock Island) and the trading company built an imposing structure on the south side of the railroad. To this they added a large brick building in 1901. These buildings they fitted with heat and all modern conveniences. These buildings they fitted with iron safe vaults to protect the money they were forced to keep on hand. They soon afterward established a bank, which they conducted until steathead came.

Many times in the olden days when a shipment of money came to make the payments to the Seminoles, armed guards gathered at the little depot to carry the money to its place in the vaults. It was not unusual for a shipment of \$100,000 to arrive, and it was an imposing sight to witness when the gray filled with money bags started its run from the depot to the trading company vaults. Drawn by the strongest and fastest horses the up Wewoka avenue with at least five or six "light horsemen" with Winchester and carbines on their hands ready for an attack. The vaults were unlocked and carried into the vaults "light horsemen" until the payment had been made. Much of the money was in gold and silver and in the many years that this custom existed the attempt was ever made to "hold up" the trading company.

In the middle nineties the "Christy men" held up the store. They took some money to eat, lined up the employees, including Long and Jackson Brown, disarmed them and forced them to march about for a mile and a half north of Wewoka, where they were admonished to not attempt a capture. The vaults were turned loose.

The old money vaults stand today in the trading company building, unused and untenanted, a home for the

This winter, Lawton men have been quietly making a new survey of the district. It is reported, and plans for a new attempt to remove the old sand beds are being made. So far, nothing definite has been given out, but numerous prospect holes are being dug along the banks of the creek.

At one time many years ago, it is said that a company was organized to mine the gold, and that a bank and machinery house was built and machinery installed. There were no profits, however, and work was soon discontinued.

—C. W. Shannon of the Oklahoma

rats and vermin. Silent they stand as though mourning the loss of their ancient friends and the activity of the past of which they were the feet in thickness, in their day of proof and burglar proof.

So, in those days when Oklahoma City was a prairie dog town, and where the buffalo pawed out his wallows and where giant buildings stand today, with untold wealth in its midst being paid out to the members of the Seminole tribe, and no one dreamed of the civilization that came, and of the changes that were in store.

Tranquilly those old men pursued their way, dreaming perhaps of the day when wealth would allow them to again take up their abode in more civilized places, but never dreaming of the civilization and its luxuries was coming to them. Many are the bits of unwritten history that the Wewoka townsite might tell.

Changes Seen.

It was the capital of the Seminole nation, it heard the old Indian voice speaking in their councils, it saw the law violators as they were stripped to the waist and whipped or flogged by the tribal law; it saw the surveyors come into allotments; it saw the tribesmen as they came to select their allotment of time, the cording of statehood, and the many changes of modern Oklahoma has gone through, and today Wewoka stands as one of the most progressive little towns in the entire state.

It witnessed the soldiers of the white man as they fell into ranks and went to the World War. Wewoka furnished two companies of volunteers at the outbreak of the war. The tribal government has long fallen into disuse, and the old men of the tribe do not meet in council. The builders of history of a decade or two ago have been supplanted by the followers of the picture show. The old men are seldom seen of late, and it is but a short time until the last of the old guard will have passed away.

Atoka Farmers to Raise Peanuts.

ATOKA, Jan. 21.—Farmers in the McGhee valley, Atoka county, are planning to raise the peanut business on a big scale, says a local paper. The county agent, One thousand acres of peanuts will be planted this spring, he says, the crop substituting cotton and cotton

Weather Deceives Old Hen at Vinita

VINITA, Jan. 19.—(Special.)—Weather has been a mild in this part of the state that even the chickens have been deceived, reports Roy Costley, fifteen miles northwest of here, who states that one of his hens appeared fatigued in the yard with a troupe of nine little chicks following her. The hen stole her nest away in an old shed.

Jan 22 1922

Old Scenes Change In Oil Boom

Indian Trading Post Is
Changed Into Modern
Wewoka Hotel.

WEWOKA, Feb. 8.—(Special).—With the advent of oil in the old Indian Territory towns, progress brings changes in historic places. Wewoka is witnessing such things at this time. The Wewoka Trading company, one of the first established in the western portion of the Indian Territory had maintained its lead as a mercantile establishment. Large buildings were erected by Governor Brown, last elected chief of the Seminoles, and his associates. Those buildings long resounded to the tramp and scurry of countless Indian customers.

But today see a transition. The large second story of the brick portion of the building has been remodeled into a hotel. Where once the fullblood sought his wares, steamheated, well furnished, electric lighted rooms await tired traveler or the restles all man. Convenient baths, with hot or cold water ready to the touch are found where once the native Indian and his kindred those events which have long since become history to the state.

NON COTTON CROP



WEWOKA, OKLA.

A Substantial City Now—
These Street Scenes Show
Progress

A Substantial City in Spite of the Most AMAZING OIL BOOM

A resume of the
progress of the year
1923 is about as fol-
lows:

Two hundred new residences.
Scores of new business additions.
Three new townsite additions.
Excellent hotel facilities.

Gas for domestic use in abundance.

Oklahoma Central Gas & Electric Power Co.

Thirty-three blocks of paved streets.

Twenty-two all well supply houses, with gigantic stocks of goods.

Twelve new lumber yards, equipped to supply any and all ventures.

New municipal buildings—city hall and fire departments.

An up-to-date fire department.

A new sanitary sewage for business & its sanitary department.

An increase of over half a million in bank deposits.

Three modern, up-to-date picture shows and vaudeville.

Four miles of added tracings in the Rock Island railway yards.

A population of 4,300 people.

Three million dollars in added taxable property.

Two new school buildings.

And many other items of progress naturally overlooked in the marshaling of new scenes. And so it goes. Based on a real foundation, Wewoka will progress in the future more than in the past. Its days of prosperity has just begun.

READ ABOUT WEWOKA—WE WANT SUBSTANTIAL CITIZENS

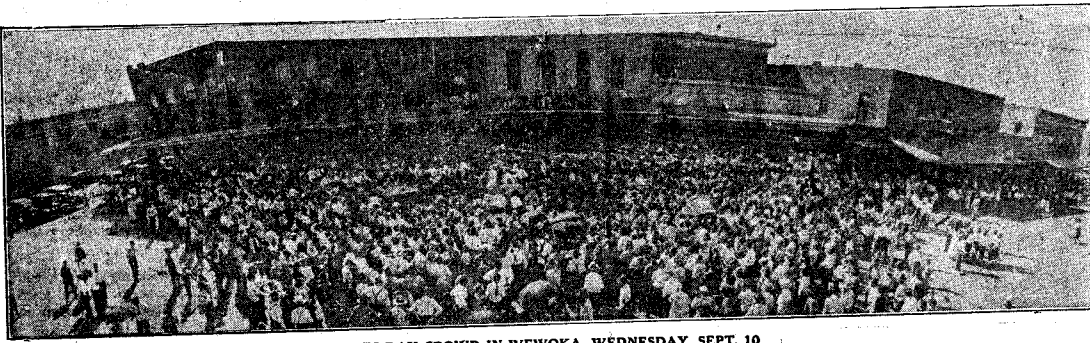
In reviewing the prosperity past and to come, one must of necessity dwell upon the town of Wewoka, the county seat of Seminole county the town which 1923 made.

Sleeping quietly on the banks of Wewoka creek, a town of some two thousand people dwelt with its history, its Indian lore and its expectation of the discovery of oil. Twenty years had seen the intermittent development for oil, and a citizenship had grown weary in the waiting. Crop failures for four consecutive years had left its weight to a growing dependency.

Then came Smith's discovery well in 1913 just a mile and a half southeast of town, on March 17th, 1913. An awakening took place. Those who had awakened that morning wondering where they would get the necessary cash to tide their indebtedness for the time being, were filled with hope. Leases began to move at big prices, smiles began to appear on faces that had been clouded by doubt. The well continued to increase in volume, oil sets were begun, prices took on additional strength, new people flocked into town. Where there had but recently been quiet and a sleepy carelessness, the hum of industry, trading, buying, selling took its place. New buildings came into demand, new homes were necessary, new additions to the town sold at the offering. Thousands of visitors thronged the streets, looking for locations, offering high rents, clamoring for a place to open their respective businesses.

But the people of Wewoka kept their balance. No false pretense, no holding up of the public. A substantial citizenship intended to build a little city. They were not looking for the "boom oil town." What they desired was real progress, an abiding fighting citizenship, builders for the future. And it all came about.

History of the town 1923, 1924, 1925, 1926, 1927, 1928, 1929, 1930, 1931, 1932, 1933, 1934, 1935, 1936, 1937, 1938, 1939, 1940, 1941, 1942, 1943, 1944, 1945, 1946, 1947, 1948, 1949, 1950, 1951, 1952, 1953, 1954, 1955, 1956, 1957, 1958, 1959, 1960, 1961, 1962, 1963, 1964, 1965, 1966, 1967, 1968, 1969, 1970, 1971, 1972, 1973, 1974, 1975, 1976, 1977, 1978, 1979, 1980, 1981, 1982, 1983, 1984, 1985, 1986, 1987, 1988, 1989, 1990, 1991, 1992, 1993, 1994, 1995, 1996, 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025, 2026, 2027, 2028, 2029, 2030, 2031, 2032, 2033, 2034, 2035, 2036, 2037, 2038, 2039, 2040, 2041, 2042, 2043, 2044, 2045, 2046, 2047, 2048, 2049, 2050, 2051, 2052, 2053, 2054, 2055, 2056, 2057, 2058, 2059, 2060, 2061, 2062, 2063, 2064, 2065, 2066, 2067, 2068, 2069, 2070, 2071, 2072, 2073, 2074, 2075, 2076, 2077, 2078, 2079, 2080, 2081, 2082, 2083, 2084, 2085, 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SALES DAY CROWD IN WEWOKA, WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 10

WEWOKA the best business town in Oklahoma "WATCH US"

"A bigger, better Wewoka," is our motto, and "The best business town in Oklahoma. Watch us!" is the slogan of the Wewoka Commercial Club, and it is because every citizen, young and old, believes this and boosts for it that this city has made and will continue to make remarkable progress. If you investigate you will come to Wewoka. Ask us.

Wewoka, whose history is rich in Indian lore and legend, as capital and trading center of the Seminole Nation, is today one of the most prosperous cities of Oklahoma.

In the early days when few "pale faces" were permitted within the borders of Indian Territory, Wewoka was the trading center for the Indians. Here the members of the Seminole Nation got their supplies, held their councils and made their treaties. The death of John P. Brown, former governor of the Seminoles, at his home in Sasawka, Tuesday, October 21, recalls to the early settlers the negotiations of those early days between the Indian tribes and the government, and the opening of the territory some years later to the pale faces. The story of Governor Brown's administration as Principal Chief of the Seminole Nation is the story of the pioneer days of the state before Oklahoma City and most of the other towns of the state were thought of. Yet Wewoka, "bathing waters," was an active trading center at that time.

It was Governor Brown who was chiefly responsible for getting the Rock Island railroad through Wewoka, as well as the Indian Territory. He, his brother A. J. Brown, and C. L. Long, the triumvirate that was most largely responsible in founding Wewoka, the capital of the Seminole Nation. The townsite was laid out by A. J. Brown, Thomas McGehee, Thomas Factor, Dorsey Fife, and W. L. Joseph, all Seminoles, who were appointed by their chief as a commission for this work. This was in 1897.

Though the Seminoles as a tribal organization has ceased to exist, Wewoka remains, as the county seat of Seminole county, to be a government seat and the trading center for this part of Oklahoma. When white men were first admitted to this town in 1902, Wewoka was a small, dilapidated appearing trading post. Few and humble were the dwellings, small and badly kept, as compared with the tidy modern stores here today, were the frame shacks that served as the base of supplies for the people of this territory.

In order to convey the real estate to white buyers who came to the town and county in 1902, the Wewoka Realty & Trust Co. was formed. This company still exists, but now merely for convenience in clearing land titles.

Such is a brief part of the history of the founding of Wewoka. The town of that day does not resemble Wewoka today. The front store buildings have given way to modern brick one and two-story structures. The few small and scattered residences of those days have been in most instances replaced by more stately homes, and homes have greatly multiplied.

The old territorial Indian council house is one of the few old landmarks remaining. In the past ten years alone, Wewoka has grown from a town of 1,000 inhabitants to a city of 2,500 population.

Wewoka is a young man's town. Even the older men and the old settlers of the community, though maybe old in years, have caught the spirit of youth and are as enthusiastic in boosting for their home town as those who are truly young in the matter of years. They are proud of

Wewoka and they have reasons for their pride.

Wewoka as a trading center relies on its prosperity as an agricultural community. Its banks, one national and two state, have combined deposits of more than \$700,000, which proves that the wealth of the town and tributary territory is well distributed and not monopolized by a fortunate few.

Cotton is the leading staple and wealth producer of Wewoka's trade territory, yet the land of the Seminoles is fertile and diverse of crops has nothing on Seminole county. The diversity here is of such extent that the supplies of foodstuffs were to be cut off from the outer world for a long period, the farmers of the county could raise the food and even the materials for the clothes to care for the entire population. And the menu would show variety, too. With corn, wheat, peanuts, pecans, sweet potatoes, peaches, apples, plums, and all varieties of garden vegetables thriving here, and the choice livestock of the county, the housewives could supply the family larder plentifully and well.

This year, for instance, one household of the community is recorded as having put up 800 quarts of canned fruit, 200 pounds of jelly, 400 pounds of dried fruits, 50 gallons of vinegar, and 100 gallons of grape juice. Another woman has stored from this season's crop 400 quarts of canned fruit, 44 quarts of vegetables, 100 quarts of jelly, and 30 quarts of brined vegetables. And there are hundreds of such records in the community.

The products of the county are of fine quality, too. This year at the Muskogee free state fair, the exhibit from Seminole county, as the county seat of Seminole county, to be a government seat and the trading center for this part of Oklahoma. When white men were first admitted to this town in 1902, Wewoka was a small, dilapidated appearing trading post. Few and humble were the dwellings, small and badly kept, as compared with the tidy modern stores here today, were the frame shacks that served as the base of supplies for the people of this territory.

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No oil "boom" has struck Wewoka or Seminole county. Yet the possibilities for big producing wells in the county and near this city was foreseen many years ago. Oil has already been discovered here. This was done in 1902 when the first well was drilled. At that time the lack of pipe lines and refineries and the high cost of transportation of the crude oil hampered development. In 1907 the Wewoka Trading Co. brought in a well at the depth of 1,650 feet that flowed 144 barrels a day for 18 months. This well was located within the townsite of Wewoka. Tanks were built for the oil from this well, but it was later plugged by state authority. The Wewoka Oil & Gas Co. drilled north of the trading

became an oil center as the possibilities of the field here, according to geologists, are better than perhaps any other place in the state.

Besides the economic wealth in natural resources, agriculture and livestock Wewoka has wealth in spirit. Given natural resources and all the facilities a town must have, no community progresses to the limit of its possibilities without this spirit of co-operation and team work. One of the leading citizens of this city stated that there was a time when no one thought especially of their own welfare. That has been changed in the past few years. Today no city in the state with a population of 2,500

has been spent on a good roads system that traverses the county from north to south, and from east to west and links it with the main traveled highways of adjoining counties. No state or federal aid has yet been used though the county was allotted \$33,000 by the department of the interior through the activity of the Wewoka Commercial Club, has been raised to \$50,000 and the government has loaned the use of three big trucks for road work here.

A little more than a year ago the roads of Seminole county were almost impassable. H. D. Mahaffey did not have to get converted to the cause of good roads and a good roads program—he already had. He had been a member of the state highway board for many years and he knows so much of this relation that he was selected as publicity manager for the \$50,000 loan. He also has had a bid from Kansas City to help them organize and put across the Missouri state good roads program.

That is partly the reason why such a program has been effectively started in Seminole county which has provided four graded and graded roads across the county in all directions, and makes it possible to drive an automobile the entire distance without shifting gears or hard surface twenty miles and travel the rest of the road of the Postal Highway in Seminole county. This will provide all-year-round highway for light or heavy traffic. Yet of all counties on this highway between Oklahoma City and Arkansas, Seminole is the most difficult for good roads building because of its topography. In one instance it cost \$4,800 to grade and surface 247 feet of the Sand Creek road north of Wewoka.

Trades Day is another big feature that has been put across by the Wewoka Commercial Club. The popularity of this day is shown by the photograph on this page. Trades Day brings thousands to the city from all parts of the county and from other counties. It is an enthusiastic and happy crowd, too. The spirit of rivalry makes it so.

The merchants of Wewoka give coupons to cash customers or to customers paying on account, one coupon being given for eight or ten cents worth of goods or paid on account. At the end of sixty days the coupon stubs are placed in a big barrel for the prize drawings. A girl, blindfolded, dips her hand into the barrel and draws a numbered coupon stub. The number is called and the holder is awarded a prize for free. Other prizes range from a gasoline lantern to a farm wagon are given to the lucky number holders. Trades Day has proved to be an excellent method of trade extension, drawing many interested customers from a wide territory. It is made a gala day in the city with band music and other forms of entertainment and amusement.

The merchants are alive to progressive methods of advertising themselves and their city. This is shown through the large patronage given the Wewoka (National) Democrat, a new, progressive weekly published and edited by Jesse L. Day. This paper is given the credit of being the best weekly paper in the state, and enjoys a larger circulation than any other weekly in Oklahoma. Mr. Day, as editor of the paper, is one of the most enthusiastic and active boosters of Wewoka and the community.

Another proof that Wewoka's citizens are progressive is found in the civic improvements that are now being carried out and which will be completed at an early date. Waterworks extensions and improvements to cost \$55,000 are to be built immediately. The bonds to finance this work have been approved and sold. A city hall, to cost \$30,000 is to be built. This money also having been provided by a bond issue.

Plans have been completed to pipe the entire city for natural gas service. The distributing company which will furnish this cheap and convenient fuel has been organized and is ready to proceed with the work of laying the gas mains and turning the stores and homes with this service.

The main streets of the city are to be paved this fall, and contracts for this work will be let soon.

There are not a dozen neat houses in the city. Nearly everyone in Wewoka owns the home in which they live. Need for more homes is apparent, however, as many homes are now housing more than one family. This need is to be supplied rapidly.

Automobiles are popular among the people of Wewoka. Three years ago there was but one garage in the city. Today there are four and another large, modern brick garage is to be built this fall.

The churches of the city, of all denominations, enjoy large memberships and good support to carry on the work of guarding and enhancing the moral and spiritual welfare of the people of the community. Strong ministers head each denomination and the interest in the work of the church in the community is shown through the membership, attendance, and the work of the several church clubs and organizations.

Wewoka has public schools that classify and compare well with those of any other city of the state. The attendance, including the high school, has enjoyed a big increase this year. The present enrollment in the schools is 325, and this will be increased to more than 400 when the young people now out to help with the cotton and other crops return to their studies before the end of the first semester. The high school enrollment is at present 73 students, several of whom come from other towns of the county, and several from other counties of the state. The high school is unique in its attendance, its enrollment, its numbering the freshmen, and the seniors, the juniors.

Athletics is encouraged in the high school and good track, basketball and football teams represent Wewoka in contest. In four games of football played this season, the Wewoka eleven has won. They defeated Holdenville by a score of 84 to 6; Wetumka, 20 to 6; Seminole, 46 to 6, and Okemah 2 to 0. McAlister and Wewoka are still on the schedule. "But we're not afraid of any of them," says Principal City Riggin, coach of the team.

The high school is a member of the state high school athletic association, and this year, for the first time, a number of the state debating league. W. W. Lile, superintendent of the city schools, has served in that capacity the past three years. He is a graduate of Columbia University, New York, with the degree of Master of Arts. The faculty of the school is at all times chosen with a regard alone for their ability and qualifications as instructors.

The same enthusiasm for their city is apparent among the boys and girls of the schools as among their parents. Every drive for the Red Cross or other worthy purposes during and following the war has been heartily supported by the young people of the city. It is this spirit that has won for Wewoka two big prizes in the War Savings Club. The War Savings Club of Wewoka has won the government stamps, winning a prize of \$120 for owning the most stamps in the county per capita for enrollment and another \$100 prize for being highest in the county.

It is the spirit of the young people to make Wewoka have a better showing than other towns in the county that fosters this earnest effort and active participation of the boys and girls in this matter. It is any wonder that Wewoka, with such a spirit dominant among young and old has never failed to go over the top!

WEWOKA NEEDS:

Grain Elevator
Dairy
Poultry
Ice Plant

Bottling Works
Concrete Block Factory
Potato Curing Plant
Additional Residences

New business enterprises will receive a hearty welcome and the co-operation and support of her citizenry and business interests.



Five miles of "built" road. This was impossible 18 months ago. Its speed limit now. Try it going to Wewoka.

company's well, and got a 135-barrel producer. Not satisfied they drilled deeper, but struck salt water. A 106,000-foot gasser was struck by C. L. Long in 1914, and in 1915 the Penn-West Oil Co. struck a 153,000-foot gas pocket at a depth of 3,015 feet. This well later started to flow oil at the rate of forty barrels daily and is still producing.

A well is now being drilled in Section 31, township 8 range 8, one and one-half miles south of the Wewoka Trading Co.'s well. It is at a depth of 1,200 feet. Five miles due north of the city, in Section 19, township 9 range 8, Rebold and Peers of Oklahoma have a rig up and will drill a deep test well to 4,000 feet as soon as they can get the machinery on the ground. Twelve miles east of the city, the Gladys Bell No. 1 at a depth of 1,950 feet struck a 32,000-foot to 38,000-foot gasser, and the Gladys Bell No. 2 has been shut down at 2,750 feet while the company builds tanks. One mile west of the city the Bison Refining Co. of Quay have a rig on the ground to be set up for drilling operations. B. B. Shaffer has leased 3,000 acres from Jackson brothers in Section 33, township 7, range 7, south of Wewoka and will begin to drill soon.

This city, say oil experts, is bound to

WEWOKA COMMERCIAL CLUB

H. D. Mahaffey, Manager
Wewoka, Oklahoma

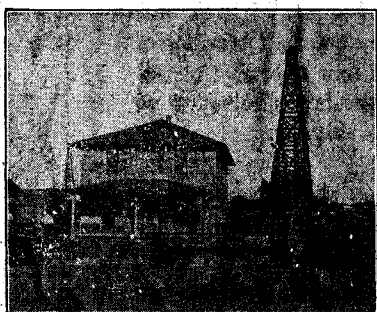
Good roads in Seminole country near Wewoka.

On the Postal highway near Wewoka, Seminole county.



A bird's-eye view of the Wewoka oil field taken from the R. H. Smith gasoline plant in 33-8-8

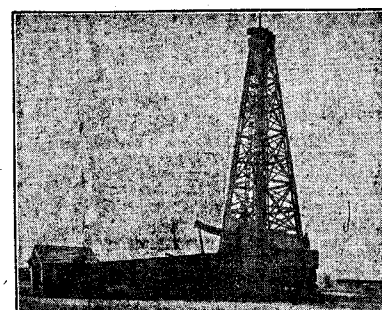
Seminole County Offers the Greatest Possibilities to the Practical Oil Man for a Safe Investment in His Chosen Field Than Any Other Spot in the United States at This Time



R. H. Smith office in Wewoka oil field, with discovery Well Near by.

W E W O K A

the County Seat of Seminole County
Welcomes an Investigation of Those
Great Opportunities, and Through
Its Commercial Club, Offers Every
Assistance and Conservative
Help to the Prospective
Investor



Discovery well in Wewoka oil field, R. H. Smith No. 1 in 33-8-8.

When R. H. Smith brought in his discovery well in March of this year Wewoka was a town of 2,500 people. Its population has doubled within the last 30 days, and every day and week sees new faces in the business world of Wewoka. While town property values have increased, good bargains can still be obtained. Investments in town property is a safe investment. All the modern conveniences, electric power, water in abundance, sewers, free mail delivery, abundant supply of gas, streets being paved in every portion of the city, extension of the water system to accommodate the growing population, enlargement of the electric power plant. These are the many things that Wewoka is pushing to the front for the accommodation of its increasing citizenship.

Wewoka simply invites your investigation, then let your judgment do the work. If we can assist you in any way, ours is the pleasure. We have paid employees for that purpose and they are yours while in Wewoka.

The time of speculation as to the oil and gas resources of Seminole county has past. It is now a settled fact. When R. H. Smith of Philadelphia brought in his wonderful well in 33-8-8 on March 17, 1923, there was approximately 300,000 square miles of undeveloped oil territory in the country surrounding Wewoka, into the depths of which no drill had ever reached 3,000 feet. When that well began to flow oil in great quantities the wise ones were still skeptical. It is a freak, they said. But the great drills raced to the depths in offsets, and on July 7 the Producers and Refiners brought in its offset to the north with 2,500-barrel production. The next few days saw Smith in with a west offset, easily good for 3,000. One after another the great wells came in. Not a dry hole, and not a drop of salt water. Today, with three wells, Smith's daily production is 7,900 barrels, and the other operators in the Wewoka field are in almost as great a proportion. With seven wells the daily production is 15,000 barrels. Every day witnesses the extension of the field in every direction. This particular field of Seminole county is some three miles southeast of Wewoka. Every facility to make it convenient for the operator has, and is being, employed by Wewoka's commercial body.

Far to the north in section 15 and 21-10-8 Cosden, J. I. Cromwell and Holmes & Jarvis have extensive producers in a field as yet practically untouched. The possibilities of this section of the county can only be judged by the fact that Gardner Petroleum company has a producer from the 1,900-foot sand in 34-11-8 of high gravity oil, in 17-9-8, due north of Wewoka six miles. Dr. Rood found gas at 1,900 feet and oil in good quantities at 3,200.

Ossenbeck, in his test in 10-8-7, four and a half miles northwest of Wewoka, has a 300-barrel producer at 3,200 feet with 19 feet of sand, and is now drilling black shale with every indication of another producing sand right under the bit. Ramsey, on the very townsite of Wewoka, finds three distinct and paying sands, the deepest of which was found at 3,220 feet and which he expects to drill into with the expectation of correlating with the Smith producing sands in 33-8-8, four miles to the southeast.

Smith has 12,000,000 feet of gas in his test in 23-7-7 to the southwest of Wewoka about six miles, and every indication is that this will be an oil producer when deepened. Township 7, range 7, is destined to open one of the greatest fields of the entire state. In every portion of Seminole county the prospects for production are promising.

Wewoka Commercial Club invites the oil man's investigation. We will make your work pleasant in these parts, if we can. It is our business to make you feel at home and render such assistance and furnish such information as you may desire.

Recognizing the great promise of Seminole county practically every supply and tool, rig and reel company of the country have chosen sites in Wewoka and are erecting buildings and getting their supplies on the ground. That their work might be lightened and their convenience bettered Wewoka Commercial club has purchased a right of way and induced the Rock Island Railway to extend a spur to the very doorways of the various companies.

But Seminole county is not alone rich in oil and gas. No finer or more fertile farm lands can be found in the state. Productive to the highest degree, these lands may be had at reasonable figures. Corn, cotton, wheat, oats, broom corn, rye and fruits of all kinds; these are raised in abundance. With excellent climatic conditions, poultry, hogs and cattle are at their best. Excellent pastures, prairie hay and the bottom lands rank with the finest alfalfa. These are only some of the great agricultural resources of this wonder county.

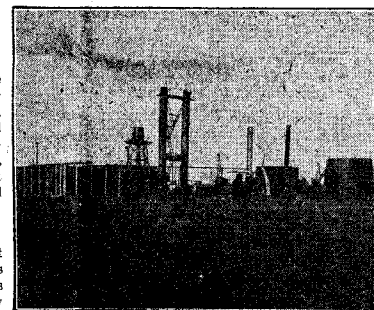
Wewoka, with its wonderful schools, excellent churches, fine residences and modern conveniences, is not alone. Other beautiful towns of the county boast as good, and throughout the rural districts of the county most excellent school facilities are to be found. Good dirt roads to every part of the county will be found.

Wewoka Commercial Club invites you to visit Seminole county and view its wonderful resources. If your judgment dictates an investment we will be pleased and welcome you into the ranks of the far-sighted; if not, we will be glad for your visit and invite you to return again.

Our Commercial Club and its secretary are at the command of the visitor and prospective investor. It is our duty to convenience you. At least you will not regret a visit to Wewoka. You will derive an inspiration from its thronging streets and its busy men. You will get the fever and want to join its busy rush. In the utmost friendship we welcome you and extend our assistance, if needed.



Loading rack of R. H. Smith near Rock Island main line at Wewoka.



R. H. Smith gasoline plant in 33-8-8.

Wewoka Commercial Club