



Wednesday, October 01, 2008

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Sept. 22, 1907



By World's own Service 9/22/1997

Stories of two killings rated top play in the Tulsa World of Sept. 22, 1907. On the left were the latest developments in one of the more infamous events in Tulsa history. U.S. Judge Lawrence had denied bail to deputy marshals Clarence Wilson and Frank McGlothin, who had just been indicted by a federal grand jury on a charge of murder in the death of the Rev. Sylvester Morris, an itinerate preacher who lived at 412-1/2 N. Cheyenne Ave. but who ministered mostly to a country flock. Wilson and McGlothin mistook the aged Methodist preacher for a bootlegger. Morris was driving along the road just north of the Frisco tracks just outside the city limits when he was hailed by the officers, who ordered him to stop. They repeated

the warning and Morris, probably thinking they were highwaymen, whipped up his horses and attempted to escape. The officers fired seven shots. Two of the shots took effect, one passing through his body and killing him. His horse continued the journey home with the dead body in

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the buggy.

The deputies turned themselves in and were held for grand jury action. Judge Lawrence had earlier freed them on bail of \$2,500 each but said he had not realized the seriousness of the evidence at the time.



The trial of the deputies, who were eventually acquitted, caused a furor in Tulsa for more than two years. On the right was a story on the killing of state Sen. William Goebels of Kentucky. He was shot at the Kentucky statehouse, and a woman identified the killer as a friend of John Sanford, the son of an attorney Goebels had killed in a fight some years ago as a result of a political quarrel. In Tulsa, population 7,298, "Pussyfoot" Johnson, assisted by deputies Joe Lathim and Joe Perry, raided the gambling joint of Dick Borden over the mercantile store of Democratic Committeeman Tate Brady.

Borden had posted sentries to look out for the officers, but the sleuths, coming up the rear alley, slipped past the first sentry and were hammering at the inner door before the gamblers were aware of their presence.

The place was going full blast, and the entrance of the officers threw a bombshell into the camp. Rushes were made for the exits, but the gamblers were calmly ordered back by the officers. In their wild hurry to escape, the gamblers forgot to see the banker, and the officers corralled \$158.70. The money would assist the U.S. government sinking fund. Gamblers arrested in the raid and released on \$20 bail each were Charles Kilgaris, Joseph Blocks, H.C. Black, Harry Clark, H.B. White, E. Velton, H. Brown and Harry Davis.

A full-fledged opium joint, with six residents of this city calmly enjoying the blissful dreams given by the pipe, was raided by federal agents and city police officers late last night. The joint was located in the City National Bank Building over Holloways Meat Market. The officers crept quietly up the stairs and, one by one, they gazed over the transom into the room. Lounging on the floor inhaling the opium were Frank Johnson, Ben Sloan, J.A. Mount, George Verdant, Tom O'Connell and E. Haley. Before they were aware of the officers' presence, they were in tow to the police station.

The weather forecast for Oklahoma and Indian Territory was fair and warmer.

Attorney Charles E. Bush went to Jennings yesterday to meet Mrs. Bush and the couple's son, who were returning from spending the summer in Colorado. Mr. and Mrs. Bush were formerly of Stillwater but had taken up their residence in this city.

C.C. Kiefer, of Kiefer, who was here for an operation on his nose by Dr. W.A. Cook, was able to return home yesterday.

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Dodge Ball

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2. Fair ride closed after malfunction
3. Updated: Fire causes \$1 million in damage to Tulsa business
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5. Stabbing at apartment leaves three hospitalized
6. City erects new signs
7. Ex-teacher pleads guilty to peeping Tom charge
8. US Senate to vote on rescue plan Wednesday
9. Body of missing Del City woman found
10. UPDATED: Muskogee bookkeeper charged with embezzlement

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