

The ARLINGTON JOURNAL, Arlington, Texas. 1897

In early 1897 George A. Byus took over "The Arlington Democrat" and renamed it "The Arlington Journal". One year subscription price: 50 cents. Two issues of this early newspaper, August 20 and August 27, 1897, have been microfilmed and are available for viewing at the main Arlington Public Library. Here are some of the highlights:

Friday August 20, 1897

The Argonaut

Baltimore, Md., Aug 20 – The Argonaut, submarine craft, was launched at noon yesterday at the yards of the Columbian Iron works, in the presence of a large crowd of interested spectators.

This vessel, which is the invention of a Baltimorean, Simon Lake, is, as far as intentions and appearances are concerned, one of the most unique ever constructed.

It is intended for commercial work, including the exploration of the bottoms of rivers, lakes, bays and even seas, and for wrecking work.

The cigar-shaped hull has two big iron wheels attached to it near the bow. The edge of the wheels are corrugated like those of a cog wheel.

A smaller wheel of a similar character is attached to the boat at the stern. The wheels are intended to enable the vessel to run along over the bottom of rivers and other bodies of water, the propeller supplying the necessary motive power.

The boat will be so arranged that divers can come in and go out of the vessel while she is on the bottom of rivers.

The Argonaut is thirty-six feet long and nine feet in diameter, built of steel and strongly ribbed to resist water pressure. She is propelled, when on the surface, by a gasoline engine of thirty horse power. She can also be propelled, while on the bottom, by the same engine, the air supply being obtained through a hose leading to the surface and supported by a float. She can be propelled along the bottom by an electric motor as well, taking current from a powerful storage battery.

Strong search lights are mounted on the bow and sides.

Her speed is estimated at eight miles an hour on the surface and about five miles an hour of the bottom.

???????????? have fuel carrying capacity ???????00 miles. The crew will ????? engineer ??? four divers. It is claimed that one man can handle her if necessary.

Friday August 20, 1897 The population of the United States is now 77,000,068: and money in circulation per capita is placed at \$22.53.

Friday August 20, 1897

BURNED IN MIDAIR

Awful Death of Wolfert, the Distinguished German Aeronaut

The Herald recently obtained a dispatch from Berlin giving in brief the news of the untimely death of **Dr. Wolfert**, the distinguished aeronaut. At the moment when the doctor seemed about to realize the dream of his life, death overtook him, and in a few seconds he and his prized balloon were burned to cinders. Dr. Wolfert got into the balloon a few minutes after seven o'clock in the evening, being accompanied by **Robert Knabe**, a young mechanic. The crowd, among which were several army officers, wished them good luck and then silently watched the cigar-shaped ship as it slowly mounted skyward. Excellently it seemed to move, and even those who were not experts saw that the screw was working splendidly and that the craft was heading for the northwest. For five minutes the watchers looked up admiringly, and then their admiration was suddenly changed to horror. Forth from the car of the balloon flashed a tongue of yellow flame; then a second later was heard a crash like a cannon shot, and at the same moment the entire balloon was enveloped in a mass of fire. Down the blazing machine fell with amazing swiftness, reaching at last the Ringbahnstrasse. A horrible sight it was, and, as the hundreds of onlookers rushed toward it, they found it still smoking and practically destroyed. In the ruins lay the bodies of Wolfert and Knabe. They were burned so badly it was impossible to recognize them.

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TRAIN WRECKERS

They Removed a Rail and Caused a Serious Wreck.

Denison, Tex., Aug. 14. – The Katy had one of the worst passenger wrecks yesterday morning she has had in this section for years, and it is one of the greatest wonders that there was no larger loss of life. It was one of those modern miracles for which there is no accounting.

Passenger train No. 34, via Dallas from Hillsboro to Denison, was coming north just a mile south of Caddo Mills, Hunt county, when suddenly the engine and coaches left the track, the latter turning over.

Express Messenger **W. H. Rawlins** was killed outright.

Thomas B. Murphy on engine 55, was pulling the train, and when the engine stopped out on the prairie it was still erect, and Murphy and his fireman uninjured.

The train at the time it left the track was on time to the minute, making the usual schedule time and moving as peacefully along as it ever did. Suddenly the rail on the east side of the track slipped and the entire train left the track. Luckily it was on almost level ground, and the dump was not sufficient to turn the train over on its side immediately, or the number of deaths would have been limited only to the number of the train crew and passengers.

When the train had stopped on the ground, the passengers were looked after and quiet was restored. Conductor E. P. Jones, who was in charge, went back to investigate the cause of the trouble.

There was no trouble in discerning exactly what had caused the train to go in the ditch. Some fiend had taken a wrench and removed the nuts from the fish plates at the joints, and pulled the spikes from the rails and placed all of them on the ends of the ties, placing the fish plates in such shape that the train would be bound to go in the ditch. The rail having no support of plates or spikes, slid off as soon as the train struck it. What the motive could have been in wrecking the train is beyond human ken. It certainly was not robbery, because the train rarely carries anything valuable in its cargo, and no attempt was made to take anything after it was stopped.

Friday August 20, 1897

His (sic) Throat Cut

Galveston, Tex., Aug 17. — Before daylight yesterday morning the residence of Mrs. Kate Gallagher, at No. 1222 Avenue L, was discovered on fire. After the flames were subdued the body of Mrs. Gallagher was found on a bed badly burned. Her throat had been cut with a razor. The jugular vein was severed. The face was blackened and shrivelled by the fire, but the hair was not burned away. The limbs and body were charred and blackened, but not consumed. Virgil Gallagher, aged 21, son of the dead woman, is under arrest.

Friday August 20, 1897 Ashtabula, O. – **Clayton Evans** of Lenox, aged 12, was accidentally shot and killed.

Friday August 20, 1897 Eldora, Iowa. – **Farmer Foosburg** was instantly killed at Gowrie by a team throwing him in a ditch. He leaves a large family in destitute circumstances.

Friday August 20, 1897 Ramsey, Ill. – **Miss Noi Hayes**, daughter of John Hayes, a retired farmer, was thrown from a buggy in a runaway and killed. She was a school teacher.

Friday August 20, 1897 Canton, Ill. – **Miss Mary Green** was killed instantly by the falling of a bridge over which she was driving.

Friday August 20, 1897 Shelbyville, Ind. – The **infant son of Mrs. David Cherry** was scalded to death by falling into a tub of boiling water.

Friday August 20, 1897 Rockford, Ill. – **Roy Snyder**, 17 years old, accidentally shot and killed himself while cleaning a revolver.

Friday August 20, 1897 Waukegan, Ill. – Special Telegram – **Mrs. H. Cahbisin**, an Armenian woman 22 years old, was so badly burned that she died late this afternoon. She was

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using a can of kerosene to start the kitchen fire.

Friday August 20, 1897 Crown Point, Ind. – **Mamie Handley**, aged 5, was burned to death at Rose Lawn, Newton county. She was playing near a burning brush pile, when she fell into the flames.

Friday August 20, 1897 Four men are charged with the wreck of the M. K. and T. passenger (train) at Cad(d)o Mills, of which mention is made in another column of this issue, and they are in jail.

Friday August 20, 1897 London. – A large number of British troops have been ordered to get ready to embark for the east. Their destination is supposed to be Egypt, but the war office refuses to furnish any information on the subject.

Friday August 20, 1897 United States **Senator James Z. George** of Mississippi died on the 14th inst. He was born in Monroe county, Georgia, in 1826. Served in the **Mexican war** under Jefferson Davis and took an active part in the **civil war** on the Southern side. He was one of the deepest thinkers of this century.

Friday August 20, 1897

LOCAL NOTES

A close observer will notice that several typographical errors appear in our paper. They come about in this way: Doing all the work ourselves, job work, hustling for local news, etc., makes it necessary for us to work very fast, and as we never take proofs of anything unless it is an advertisement we think we are doing pretty well to not make more mistakes than we do. However, we hope the reading public will overlook such little errors and as long as no one is hurt by the appearance of such all will be well. In a short while we will begin to read proof on everything as well as make other improvements.

Friday August 20, 1897 The Katy had a bad wreck last Saturday morning near Denison of passenger train No. 34, via Dallas from Hillsborro to Denison. **W. H. Rawlins**, expressman, was killed and several badly wounded. It is supposed that some one had removed the nuts from the fish plates and pulled the spikes so as to wreck the train, but for what purpose no one can tell.

Friday August 20, 1897

THE NEWS FROM TARRANT'S CAPITOL

Fort Worth, Tex., Aug. 20. – Sheriff Sterling P. Clark returned from the Indian Territory on Tuesday, where he made an important capture. It will be recalled that on the night of the 21st of June last, **R. M. Gully** was shot near his home between Euless and Grapevine. Gully lingered until June 28, when he died. The grand jury indicted Dave Allison for this murder. When Mr. Clark arrived he had Allison and (j)ailed him. It is expected that a habeas corpus hearing looking to bail will soon result, when the full facts surrounding the killing will be judicially developed.

Friday August 20, 1897 **Mrs. George Dunham**, of Galveston, attempted to settle a difficulty between her father and a number of men and was shot dead by her father. He is in jail and charged with murder.

Friday August 20, 1897 A battle between Negroes and a deputy sheriff and his party occurred near Little Rock, Ark., on the 14th inst. in which **three Negroes were killed**, several wounded and the sheriff badly wounded and one of his men killed. The sheriff was trying to arrest one of the Negroes who was wanted for murder.

Friday August 20, 1897 **Fred Loski** was instantly killed by the explosion of a boiler at Koel's gin near Huntsville on the 14th inst.

Friday August 20, 1897 **Mrs. G. W. Casey** died at the home of T. Lawing near Johnson Station Saturday morning and was buried at that place Sunday. Mrs. Casey had left her home

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at Mansfield to stay with the family of Mr. Lawing and being afflicted with consumption she soon gave up and her peaceful spirit took its flight to the unknown world. The sorrowing friends and bereaved relatives have our sympathy.

Friday August 20, 1897 The death of Express Messenger **Will Rawlins** in a wreck near Sherman recently was deeply regretted here where he was so well known, he having married Miss Lollie Martin of this place. His cousins, the Misses Spruance, attended the funeral at Dallas.

Friday August 20, 1897 CITY OFFICIALS

Mayor, W. O. Bledsoe.

Marshal, W. M. Douglass.

City Att'y and Secretary, Jo Burney

Aldermen—

W. C. Weeks, J. W. Hammack.

R. W. Collins, L. P. Boatwright.

J. P. Mason, George Lampie

J. W. Litton, Tom Spruance.

SECRET SOCIETIES.

K. of P.

Meets Tuesday nights of each week.

F. T. Lee, C. C. B. F. Sawyer, K. of R. and S.

F. and A. M.

Meets Saturday night on or before full moon of each month.

J. L. Carter, W. M.

L. P. Boatwright, S. W.

J. P. Jones, J. W.

A. L. McLane, Secretary.

FRATERNAL UNION.

Meets second and fourth Monday Night.

J. R. Goode, F. M. L. P. Boatwright, Sec.

WOODMEN OF THE WORLD

Meets second and fourth Friday Nights in each month. B. F. Sawyer, C. C.

P. B. McNatt, Clerk.

Friday August 27, 1897

TEXAS and PACIFIC TIME TABLE

West--

East—

No. 7, 4:40 a. m. No. 6, 7:30 a. m.

“ 3, 7:30 a. m. “ 8, 8:40 a. m.

“ 9, 11:05 a. m. “ 2, 9:30 a. m.

“ 11, 3:45 p. m. “ 10, 11:05 a. m.

“ 1 7:10 p. m. “ 4, 5:49 p. m.

“ 5 9:01 p. m. “ 12, 8:10 p. m.

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NEWS TOLD IN PARAGRAPHS.

Minor Happenings of the Past Week.

EVENTS OF LAST SEVEN DAYS.

Political, Religious, Social and Criminal Doings of the Whole World Carefully Condensed for Our Readers—The Accident Record.

Jacksonville, Ill. – A Chicago & Alton north-bound train struck a wagon driven by **B. M. Berry**, killing him instantly. He was 19 years old.

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Ann Arbor, Mich. – **George Beckwith**, of Chelsea, was drowned in the river near Delhi. There were marks on his face, and foul play is suspected.

Lacon, Ill. – **Charles L. Gring**, 16 years old, in stealing a ride to his home at Streator on an Alton train, fell off at Varna and was horribly mutilated. Death followed in an hour.

Savanna, Ill. – **Peter Byrnes**, 219 West Huron street, Chicago, had both legs cut off by a St. Paul freight in the yards while attempting to steal a ride to Chicago. He died soon after.

Manitowoc, Wis. – **Christian Froehlich**, while at work near the Wisconsin Central coal docks, accidentally fell into the river and was drowned. He was 41 years old. In his trunk there was \$465.

English, Ind. – **Fritz Lane**, of Wickliffe, Ind., is dead from a wound received in a knife duel fought with Jesse Bradley. Lane died within five hours. Bradley cannot live.

Friday August 27, 1897

Hanged by a Mob

Williamsburg, Ky., Aug. 23 – **Elianny Sullivan**, who assaulted Sarah Lawson, his sister-in-law, was **hanged by a mob**. His body was found hanging from the frame work of the county road bridge, across the Cumberland river. The rope used was a small halter, which had been spliced. Sullivan's feet were only about two feet from the floor of the bridge and he had choked to death. The work was done so quietly that no one but officers who had charge of the prisoner were aware of the occurrence until this morning.

Friday August 27, 1897

BURNED TO DEATH

Albany, Tex., Aug. 23. – **A Mexican woman**, wife of a Mexican sheep herder by the name of Dimingo **Lusano**, working on the L. H. Mack & Co. ranch, sixteen miles west from this place, was burned to death most horribly Friday afternoon. Her clothes caught from a fire in the yard used in cooking. Upon discovering her perilous condition she attempted to run for help, but was so blinded from smoke and flames that she lost her bearings and only reached the home of C. W. Zogg, where she attempted to go for help, after her clothing had been entirely burned off and her body was almost cooked. She died in great agony a few hours later. Diseased (six) leaves a baby only a few weeks old.

Friday August 27, 1897

FOUND DEAD

A White Mans's Decomposed Found on a Branch

Rosebud, Tex., Aug. 23. – Saturday night about dark a runner came in from the Rountree ranch, about five miles south of here, and reported to the officers that a dead man had been found near Mr. J. W. Joe's residence on a branch running through his little ??????? all that could be learned. Justice Flood and Constable Owens repaired to the scene and returned about 12 o'clock without learning anything more than the deceased was one **R. F. Seegar**, a laborer, who had been living in the community for the last year or two, working on the farms for first one and then another. Justice Flood returned again yesterday morning with a physician for the purpose of making an examination and thoroughly investigating, and if possible, find the cause of the death. After examining the body the best he could the doctor was inclined in the opinion that death was caused from gunshot wounds or knife stabs, it being impossible to tell which, as the body was so much decomposed, it having lain there for six days, it is presumed as about 2 o'clock last Monday was the last seen of him alive by any one.

Friday August 27, 1897

Triple Shooting

Nashville, Tenn., Aug. 23 – **J. B. Rich**, a young white man, shot and killed his wife last night at the home of her mother, in east Nashville. He then killed his brother-in-law, shooting him twice. Then he left the house and while in the yard shot himself twice, inflicting wounds

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from which he is every moment expected to die.

The pistol used was a 45-caliber revolver.

Rich a week ago filed a bill for divorce against his wife, alleging infidelity. Yesterday he was arrested charged with kidnapping one of the children, and it is supposed the arrest enraged him and caused him to go to the home of his mother-in-law.

At a few minutes after 9 o'clock last night J. B. Rich came to the house of his mother-in-law and found his wife and her brother, Lee Porter, in one of the rooms. The door was partly open and he shot Porter through the door as he was sitting down. Mrs. Rich immediately tried to close the door, but Rich kept it open and shot her in the breast. He then shot Porter again, hitting him in the head. **Mrs. Rich** and **Lee Porter** died instantly. Rich immediately left the house and on the steps (s)hot himself in the breast. After falling he again shot himself. He used an army and navy pistol, 45-caliber, and fired five times in all. Rich was carried to the city hospital and is (s)till alive, but his death is considered as certain.

Saturday Rich drove to the house where his wife was talking with child he had taken from her some days ago. The wife heard the child's cries and went out to her. Rich became enraged, caught her by the throat and slashed her with a buggy whip.

Saturday night about 11 o'clock he returned to the house and tried to kick in the door. Policemen were called in and the officers had been looking for him all day and the policeman who was on guard at the house had only ????????? ????????? before Rich came. ????? 27 and Porter 24.

The double tragedy and the attempt at suicide occurred in about ten minutes time.

Friday August 27, 1897 Just as soon as The Journal was started at 50 cents a year Fort Worth started another morning paper and distributes it free to those who will not kick at its price. The name of the new newspaper is the **Bazoo**, B. H. Wind, editor, and D. H. Bladdar, publisher. We wish the Bazoo a big circulation, as it is free, but must pause long enough to say that judging from its connections—Wind and Bladdar—the sheet is ready to “bust” any moment.

Friday August 27, 1897 **PRESIDENT BORDA KILLED** (*excerpt*)
He Was Assassinated as He Was Leaving a Cathedral.

Montevideo, Aug. 26.—During a national fete which was held here yesterday **President Idivate Borda** was shot and killed by an assassin. The weapon used by the assassin was a revolver. Senor Idovate (*sic*) Borda was elected president of Uruguay for the term extending from March 1894 to 1898. The fete at which he was assassinated was being held in celebration of the independence of Uruguay, which was achieved on August 25, 1825.

Friday August 27, 1897 **All is Quiet Now** (*excerpt*)

Cleburne, Tex., Aug. 23.—Everything was quiet among the colored population yesterday and aside from those who are hiding from the officers there is no uneasiness whatever.

Saturday all kind of stories were afloat. One negro said the night before at least 100 white men surrounded his house and that they all had shotguns, but did not harm him.

Another, whose imagination was equally as diseased, said that they came to his house and one of them tacked a notice on the door, driving the tacks with the but(t) of his six-shooter.

Friday August 27, 1897 **THE STRIKE** (*excerpt*)
Workers and Strikers Have a Conflict and Three are Wounded.

Pittsburg, Pa., Aug. 23.—Religious services were held in the strikers' several camps yesterday and all were largely attended, but notwithstanding the religious air pervading the camps, a conflict between workers and strikers took place in the afternoon, in which three strikers were badly hurt, but none in a serious condition. Five men of the men working for the New York and Cleveland Gas Coal company went to a boarding house a half mile from Oak Hill tittle where a number of strikers are quartered, for the purpose of persuading the strikers to go to work. The meeting was a stormy one and resulted in Antonio Padosowsky being shot near the heart. Girgnon Parmilio was shot in the eye and Bastiste Dalmeace was cut with a razor. The injured men are all strikers. This was the only disturbance recorded at the camps yesterday.