HON. WALLACE FRY
PRINCIPAL SPEAKER
AT ANNUAL BANQUET

Hon. W. W. Fry of Mexico, Mo., will be the principal speaker at the annual banquet of the 19th Judicial Circuit Bar Association, to be held at College Inn of Hotel Edwin Long tonight (Thursday). Mr. Fry is the President of the Missouri Bar Association and is a lawyer of outstanding ability.

The 19th Judicial Circuit Bar Association will be called to order by President A. B. Holms at 2 p.m. o’clock, at Hotel Edwin Long today. The counties composing the circuit are Crawford, Dent, Texas, Pulaski, Phelps and Laclede. It is expected that there will be a good representation of lawyers and their wives from each of these counties.

The annual election of officers for the ensuing year will be held at the business session this afternoon.

Entertainment for Ladies

During the business session of the association all visiting ladies will be entertained at Colonial Village. This year’s meeting promises to be most enjoyable.

WAR VETERANS
MET AT LEBANON

The United Spanish War Veterans of Missouri held their thirty-fourth annual encampment at Lebanon, Mo., beginning last Sunday and continuing until Wednesday. Also the 18th annual convention of the ladies auxiliary of that group met at the same time.

According to the Lebanon Record it was expected that at least 2000 would be present. An extensive program was carried out. Those attending the encampment from Rolla were Mr. and Mrs. Thos. Bossert, Mr. and Mrs. Ben Vanders, Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Fry of Mexico, Mo., and Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Harrison.

Rolla Man, 96, Tells His
Drama of Civil War

Confederate Veteran Recalls
When Prisoners Tried Escape
In Coffins from Penitentiary

"They took the bodies from the coffins and climbed in to be hauled away to the cemetery," related Samuel A. Harrison, 96, who visited the site of the Alton penitentiary, June 7, where he had been confined with other Confederate prisoners 73 years ago, says the Alton Evening Telegram of Alton, Ill.

The aged little man, with his grandson, came all the way from his home near Rolla, Mo., to look again at the spot where he spent the most dramatic moments of his life. He had been brought to the Alton penitentiary in December, 1864, and had remained there until June 3, 1865, after an agreement of peace stillied the cannon of the Civil War.

Sam Harrison was a prisoner in the penitentiary when the dread smallpox epidemic killed off prisoners as fast as they could be buried. He reached this phase of the war vividly.

"Some of the prisoners," he recalled, "went to the prison basement, took the bodies of dead prisoners from the coffins, and got in the boxes themselves.

"An old man who, with a horse and hack, hauled the coffins to the cemetery, came the next day and we piled the coffins on the hack inside the prison. The old fellow hauled the coffins away and, when he got to the cemetery, the prisoners kicked the tops off the coffins and scared that old man to death.

"One night I helped carry 21 bodies outside the prison into the wagon. The men had died of the smallpox."

According to the Lebanon Record, Harrison says he was one of the least men to death. "Here," he said proudly, "you can feel the ball.

The reported felt the old man’s shoulder, above the right side of the chest. The lump was there.

"I was back here three years ago, and I wanted to come again," said Mr. Harrison. "I won’t be making many trips, and I wanted to see again the place where I was a prisoner of war."

He was taken, too, to the Confederate cemetery on the North Side, where many of his comrades in the ranks of the Confederacy are buried — men who died while in the prison.

On the penitentiary site, Mr. Harrison viewed what is left of the walls. He pointed to the spot where his cell had been, now a patch of ground overgrown with weeds.

He also pointed to the spot where Confederate paper money, taken from prisoners, was destroyed.

"There must have been $10,000 worth," he added.

He recalled the day of Lincoln’s death, when cannon at the penitentiary were fired in salute. The guns had been wadded with straw, and at the end of the day, the veteran recalled, "there was a whole strawstack in the prison yard."

Enlisted at 29

Mr. Harrison enlisted in the Confederate army at the age of 29, in 1862. That year, in the Battle of West Plains, in Missouri, he was wounded. He recovered, and before long was back in the army of the South.

He still carries a ball in his right shoulder.

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Were Doused in Well

He recalled the day when some guards, returning to duty, were a bit the worse off for confusion.
HONOR GRADUATE OF SHERIDAN SCHOOLS

The Sheridan Press, of Sheridan, Wyoming, in its issue of June 12th carried an account of the graduation exercises of Sheridan County rural and village schools. There were 107 eighth grade graduates to receive diplomas. Among the list of graduates we were pleased to note the name of Miss Jean Maher. Also we were more pleased to find that Miss Maher is an honor graduate ranking in the highest 10 per cent on scores made in the final examinations.

Miss Maher is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Don Maher of Sheridan, who formerly lived in Rolla. Mrs. Maher is a sister of Otto and Walter Haas, who reside east of Rolla.

We are indebted to Mrs. Bert Brooks, formerly Miss Fannie Maher, of Rolla, now of Manchester, Wyoming, for sending us the Sheridan Press. Mrs. Brooks is an aunt of Miss Jean Maher.

HAS BEEN ELECTED TO EXECUTIVE BOARD

Mrs. M. E. Holmes, who has just completed a very successful two year's term as president of the Amandine Club, has been elected treasurer and member of the executive board of the Cathlyn Schuyler Chapter of the Daughters of American Revolution.

The above "mem" was taken from the Alfred "&"n., published at Alfred, New York in its issue of June 9, 1938. Mrs. Holmes is best pleasantly remembered in Rolla. Her friends are greatly pleased to see her honored. Dean Major Holmes was head of the Ceramics Dept. at the School of Mines several years ago. He is now with the Alfred University at Alfred, New York.

NOTICE

Change of Office Hours: 8 to 12 a.m. and by appointment.

one 63. — S. L. Baysinger, M.

veteran, daring escapes such as he described were not made often. The usual escape was death.

"We had an island across the river," he said, "where they buried a lot of 'em — smallpox island it was called."

History Was Made

While Samuel Harrison was in prison, history was being made outside the walls. Abraham Lincoln was assassinated.

Harrison was captured at Rolla, Mo., when he attempted to return there to his home near the village. He was with one of two detachments under General Price of the Confederate army when Price was making his famous raids in Missouri. The two detachments were separated from the body of the army and there was nothing left for the scattered groups of Confederates to do but give up.

"Besides," Harrison commented, "I was kind of tired of the war, anyway."

Harrison gave himself up and remained four or five weeks as a prisoner at Rolla. From Rolla he was taken to St. Louis where he remained about a month. Word was received that the captured group would be exchanged for northern prisoners at Richmond, Va., but there was not enough prisoners to exchange so Harrison with the others, was taken to Alton.

Guards Were Tough

"Those German, guards at St. Louis were tough," commented the old man, whose contact with the younger generation is reflected in his speech. "I was tired and my nerves gave way and when they marched me to the boat that brought us to Alton I could hardly stand up. Every time I'd falter, the guard would stick me with a bayonet. When I got to Alton, my boots were full of blood."

"Here they searched us for knives and guns and money — mostly money.

"The guards at the Alton penitentiary were not so bad. I remember how Jim Bozoon (one of the Alton's prisoners) used to run to his daddy's store, buy a dime's worth of whiskey and give it to the guards after some of the prisoners threw him a silver dollar from the wall — the prisoners got the whiskey, I guess, after the guards had a few nips."

steady them.

He told how rain prevented a prison break. Prisoners had tunneled under the wall. On the day set for the escape, heavy rain fell and an outside guard sank thru the soft ground into the tunnel, and the plans of the prisoners were revealed and frustrated.

Mr. Harrison is a man of amazin' galgility for one of his age. His hearing is excellent, his sight good. He stepped out of the automobile as briskly as would one of half his 96 years.

The drive from Rolla to Alton was made in three and a half hours. The party left the Missouri town at 5 a.m. and the aged war veteran stood the trip so well he was looking forward eagerly to a busy day in Alton.

After visiting the penitentiary plat, and the Confederate cemetery, he was to visit relatives at East Alton, then attend a luncheon of the Kiwanis Club at noon.

Mr. Harrison is 96 years old last April 10, lives on a farm with a step-grandson, about 20 miles south of Rolla.

Guest of Kiwanans

He planned to visit Alton last Friday, the 73rd anniversary of his release from the prison, and Confederate Memorial Day; but deferred his visit until today so he could be a guest of the Kiwanis Club. At Alton, the Missouri party was met by H. F. Otstot, secretary of the Retail Merchants Association, and a member of the Kiwanis Club.

Mr. Harrison told a reporter he recently attended the funeral of the last Union soldier in Kent County, Mo.

He was asked about his politics.

"My politics? Why, I'm a Democrat. I cast my first vote for Horace Greeley."

He is a great-nephew of William Henry Harrison.

O. E. S. TO MEET

There will be a regular meeting of the Order of Eastern Star Tuesday evening June 26, 8 p.m. at the Masonic Hall.