

## **Mrs. Bayse Got Life Sentence**

The Choctaw Herald October 28, 1914 – transcribed by Ron Henson

Mrs. Bayse received a sentence for life in the penitentiary at the hands of the jury at 8:30 this (Friday) morning. The arguments in the case were finished at 9 o'clock last night, and the court passed its instructions to the jury.

It is understood that on the first ballot taken by the jury as to the guilt or innocence of the accused, was unanimous that she was guilty of administering strychnine to her little 10 year old son. The second ballot was taken as to the sentence to be meted out to her, and the vote stood 11 for life sentence and one for death. No other ballot was taken, the juror having cast a ballot for the death sentence coming over to the other eleven without any argument.

The verdict was read in the court this morning, Mrs. Bayse being at the dock at the time. It is said that when the jury pronounced her guilty she exhibited some signs of nervousness, but when the verdict of life imprisonment was read out she brightened up as if a load had been lifted from her.

Mrs. Bayse is 49 years old and she looks the part for which she has been convicted by twelve good and true men – her peers.

The testimony of the other son, whom she endeavored to have take a capsule at the same time the younger one took the deadly poison, was very strong against her, as was also the evidence given by Dr. DeBarr. The testimony of these two alone would have sufficient to convict.

From expressions of those who attended the trial and heard all the evidence and the arguments in the case, the verdict is satisfactory and nothing but conviction could have been the result.

Those who heard the arguments are praising County Attorney Warren for the masterly speech he made last night, as the closing argument in the case, and he is very glad the verdict was such a one as was rendered.