

**The Giddings News**

October 30, 1931

**BASTROP SHERIFF  
CONVICTED**

Sheriff Townsend of Bastrop was convicted this week by a district court in Austin and given a 2-year term in the penitentiary. He was charged with collecting a \$3.40 witness fee, which the state claimed he did not earn. He has some other cases against him. This is the first conviction on similar grand jury indictments of several county officers including the sheriffs of Lee County, Burleson County and Bell County. These cases are set for trial Nov. 30. Sheriff Townsend had been a peace officer 38 years.