

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD
OF DIRECTORS OF THE
OKLAHOMA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

October 22, 1945

The meeting of the Board of Directors of the Oklahoma Historical Society convened in the Historical Society Building, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma at 10:00 A. M., October 22, 1945, with the President, Judge Robert L. Williams, presiding.

It was agreed without objection that the meeting held to day should displace the regular meeting, Thursday, October 25.

The Secretary called the roll which showed the following members present: Judge Robert L. Williams, Judge Thomas H. Doyle, Dr. Emma Estill-Harbour, Judge Robert A. Hefner, Hon. J. B. Milam, Mrs. Anna B. Korn, Hon. R. M. Mountcastle, Judge Baxter Taylor, Mrs. Blanche Lucas, Mr. H. L. Muldrow, Mrs. John R. Williams, Hon. Thomas J. Harrison, and the Secretary.

Judge Thomas H. Doyle made the motion that absentee members be excused as having good and sufficient reasons for their absence. The motion was seconded and carried by unanimous vote.

Judge Taylor made the motion that the reading of the Minutes of the last meeting, held June 25, 1945, be passed subject to be called for consideration at the instance of any member of the Board. The motion seconded by Judge Robert A. Hefner and carried by unanimous vote.

Judge Williams read General Charles F. Barrett's resignation which is as follows:

To the President and Members of the Board of Directors of the State Historical Society:

Dear Friends:

I feel that the time has arrived because of my physical ailments for me to tender my resignation as a member of the Board, in order that you can fill my place with a more active worker.

I have delayed presenting this request for the reason that my present term expires this year and I hoped that I might be able to attend the few meetings that would occur before my successor would be chosen. My present health makes this doubtful and I have decided to take this method of closing my long official connection with the Board.

I have deeply appreciated the honor of serving as a member of the Board and of my association with the loyal and patriotic officers and members of the Society, but I feel that the Society will profit by replacement at this time by a younger and more active member and with an acknowledgment of my deep appreciation for the generous and tolerant treatment I have always received from Officers, Board members and employees, and a heartfelt wish for the continued growth and service of the Society, I am

Sincerely and fraternally yours,

Charles F. Barrett

Judge Thomas H. Doyle made the motion that General Barrett's resignation be accepted. Seconded by Hon. J. B. Milam, and carried by unanimous vote.

Mrs. Anna B. Korn submitted the name of Dr. I. N. McCash, President Emeritus of Phillips University, Enid, as his successor.

Dr. Emma Estil-Harbour submitted the name of Mrs. Virgil Browne, Oklahoma City.

Judge Thomas H. Doyle submitted the name of Mrs. A. P. Murrab, Oklahoma City.

The vote was taken by ballot and Dr. I. N. McCash was elected by a vote of majority of all members present.

Judge Williams stated he had received from Mrs. Garfield Buell, Tulsa, a copy of the Muskogee Indian Journal, October 27, 1881.

Motion was made by Dr. Emma Estil-Harbour that this copy of the Muskogee Indian Journal be placed on file in cases in the newspaper department and that four copies be microfilmed or photostated and a letter of appreciation be sent to Mrs. Buell. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Anna B. Korn and carried.

Mr. H. L. Muldrow read a letter from Judge Thomas A. Edwards and presented a masonic apron which Judge Edwards had sent. The letter is as follows:

Mr. H. L. Muldrow
Norman, Oklahoma
Dear Mr. Muldrow:

I had expected to be at the meeting of the Board of the Historical Society on the 22nd. But I have just received notice from the Court Clerk of Kiowa County that I have an important case set for hearing there on that date. I wish therefore you would present my excuse to the Society. But I do not intend to let anything keep me from attending future meetings.

I enclose a Masonic Apron worn by my grandfather, William W. Allison, a hundred years ago. If this is suitable, I want to present it to the Society through you. If it is not suitable do not present it. I shall not be offended in the least if you think it not suitable and I want you to feel free to withhold it as your judgement inclines.

Yours very truly,
Thomas A. Edwards

The motion was made by Judge Robert A. Hefner that this gift be accepted and a letter of appreciation be written to Judge Edwards. Seconded by Judge Buxter Taylor and carried.

The Secretary stated that written reports from the following staff members had been received: Miss Hazel E. Beaty, Librarian; Mrs. Edith Mitchell, Cataloguer; Mrs. Helen M. Gorman, Guide and Custodian of the Confederate Soldiers Memorial Hall; Mrs. Grace Ward, Guide and Custodian of the Union Soldiers Memorial Hall; Mrs. Louise Cook, Newspaper Department; Mrs. Rella Looney, Clerk-Archivist; Mrs. Annia R. Cubage, Museum; and Miss Muriel H. Wright, Assistant in Editorial & in Research work; and all of said reports had been mimeographed and sent to each Board member. The board members present complimented the reports.

Motion was made by Mrs. Anna B. Korn that the Secretary condense future reports for publication in the *Chronicles*. Hon. J. B. Milam seconded the motion and same carried.

A committee of four from the Veterans of Foreign Wars were present and requested that the Board of Directors give them the opportunity of rendering service to the ex-service men of the Foreign Wars organization as had been afforded the American Legion and it appeared that the only available space was on the first or basement floor and that certain records which had been assembled by the WPA organization and placed on that floor which was that part of the floor desired by the Veterans and the Board

had no place to remove them and doubted its authority to destroy them but agreed that if the Board of Affairs and the Engineer would remove them that this space should be occupied by the Veterans of Foreign Wars. The space was in the southwest corner of the first or basement floor with an entrance to the west and an approach through the elevator with the understanding that a partition about twelve feet high, without any opening through the partition either way should be installed before this space was occupied by the Veterans and it was stated that such arrangement would be made and the Board accordingly agreed to same on motion of Judge Thomas H. Doyle, seconded by J. B. Milam, same being unanimously passed.

Hon. Thomas J. Harrison presented to the Board "History of Oklahoma Orinance Work", Pryor, Oklahoma, prepared by L. S. Livingston and G. R. Cantwell, Plant Manager of the DuPont Company and on motion the same was accepted with thanks, with direction that the Secretary should cause the parties donating same to be thanked therefor.

Mrs. Anna B. Korn presented miniature dolls of Martha and George Washington. These dolls are dressed in Colonial costume and were made by Mrs. Eva F. Warden, who was ninety-three years old and resided in Britton.

Dr. Emma Estil-Harbour made the motion that these dolls be accepted and a letter of thanks be written to Mrs. Warden's nearest kin. Seconded by Mrs. John R. Williams and carried.

Mrs. Anna B. Korn stated that she could secure five hundred copies of medical books for the library to be used by the library and on motion made and carried the President appointed a special committee to investigate and pass on and recommend the advisibility of adding such medical books to the Historical Library, to-wit: Judge Baxter Taylor, Chairman, Mrs. Blanche Lucas, Hon. George Bowman, Judge Robert A. Hefner and Mrs. Anna B. Korn.

The Secretary was directed to thank Mr. Wirt Franklin for the portrait of himself presented to the Historical Society and also to thank the donor of the portrait of Lt. Gen. Ray McLain and advise the respective parties that the same were accepted with appreciation.

On motion, the Board of Directors authorized by unanimous vote the President to request and secure the portraits of our present and past Oklahoma United States Senators.

The executor, J. H. Everest, of the Will of Nettie E. Jones, deceased, advised as follows with reference to the eighth clause in said Will:—

"EIGHTH. I have at present, a valuable collection of Indian Curios, and baskets and blankets, being one-half of a collection which was accumulated by my brother W. E. Wheeler, formerly of Telluride, Colorado, during his lifetime, and I hereby give and bequeath this collection of blankets, baskets and other Indian Curios, being the entire collection which I may own at the time of my death, to the Oklahoma Historical Society, provided the said Oklahoma Historical Society will agree in writing, to carefully preserve and keep the said collection, the same to be catalogued and known by such designation as will show that the collection was made by my late brother, William E. Wheeler, and donated by me to said Historical Society. If said Oklahoma Historical Society does not avail itself of this offer by the execution in writing, of the agreement above referred to, then this bequest shall be null and void and said property shall be disposed of as other personal property of my estate." * * * five Indian blankets or rugs, three small Indian throw rugs and five Indian baskets were left by Mrs. Jones * * *

I will be able to deliver these to you as executor, provided you comply with the provision of the Will which is that you agree "in writing to

carefully preserve and keep the said collection, the same to be catalogued and known by such designation as will show that the collection was made by my (her) late brother, William E. Wheeler and donated by me (her) to said Historical Society."; this you will find from reading paragraph 8 above quoted is a prerequisite to delivery of the bequest to you.

If you conclude you want the rugs and other articles, although they are in no sense Oklahoma relics all of them having been accumulated by Mr. William E. Wheeler in Western Colorado, and if you will send me a duly certified copy of your record showing such action this bequest can be executed by delivery.

Very truly yours,
J. H. Everest, Executor
of the Will and Estate of
Nettie E. Jones, Deceased

The Secretary was authorized to enter into the necessary agreement to comply with the provisions of said will and to advise the executor that same would be so executed and asked him to submit the form to be signed by him as Secretary.

The following list of applicants for membership was presented:

LIFE: Mrs. Edward P. Allen, Oklahoma City; Henry B. Bass, Enid.
ANNUAL: John H. Fenson, Cincinnati, Ohio; James Bigheart, Ralston; Mrs. Vergie E. Blaydes, Duncan; Sidney R. Bradley, Kansas City, Mo.; Herbert L. Branan, Oklahoma City; Don Burch, Tulsa; Ray C. Clark, Oswego, N. Y.; Earl Cross, Tulsa; Glen Edwin Davis, Longview, Texas; Florence Garwood, Blackwell; Fannie L. Glenn, Hugo; John William Goode, Mangum; Mrs. Harry C. Gore, Oklahoma City; Mrs. Bernice Gotthold, Oklahoma City; Oscar V. Hall, San Bernardino, Calif.; Brice E. Hammers, Guthrie; Dr. James J. Haves, Oklahoma City; Jewel Haynes, Oklahoma City; Lee Custer Hensley, Binghamton, N. Y.; Mrs. Josephine M. Jacobson, Chicago, Ill.; Hubert S. Judy, Sr., Woodward; Henry Kaiser, Oklahoma City; Franklin M. Kenyon, Enid; Mrs. R. E. Lee, Ft. Sill; John C. Lombard, Tulsa; Mrs. Anna Mackey, Durant; Dan M. Madrano, Tulsa; A. A. Morgensen, Snyder; William B. Nelson, Randlett; Annie J. Oldham, Cleveland, Ohio; John Howard Payne, Oklahoma City; Paul Peters, Oklahoma City; Mrs. Ora Reed, Muskogee; D. M. Scism, Oklahoma City; Reed Scott, DeQueen, Ark.; Mrs. Wilev Scott, Cherokee; Mrs. W. L. Shelden, Edmond; Harry E. Stege, Tulsa; A. C. Trumbo, Muskogee; Mrs. Sue Watkins, Oklahoma City; James O. Wheelchel, Tulsa; Uriel M. Wilkins, Temple; Harold A. Wilkinson, Crowell, Texas; Mrs. Opal Wingo, Vici.

The motion was made that the applicants be elected and received as members of the Society in the class as indicated in the list. The motion was seconded and carried by unanimous vote.

The President asked for reports from the "Standing Committees."

1. *Markers Committee*—Hon. J. B. Milam, Chairman—

Hon. J. B. Milam stated that the committee had plans for a more progressive drive to mark historical spots.

2. *Barracks Building Committee*—Hon. Thomas J. Harrison, Chairman—

Hon. Harrison stated that he went to Muskogee a few weeks ago and with Dr. Foreman drove to Ft. Gibson and the two made an inspection tour of the building and grounds of the old barracks and found them in good condition. He, also, stated that they visited with the custodian and his wife and found everything harmonious.

3. *Library Committee on Maps*—Mr. H. L. Muldrow, Chairman—

Mr. Muldrow stated money was available for the purchase of a glass case for maps in the library. He further stated that in January, 1943, a contract was let to the Pittsburgh Plate Glass Company, but a glass case could not be obtained because of no priority. Mr. Muldrow recommended the purchase of a case made of regular material or of plastic.

The President appointed Judge Robert A. Hefner and Judge Baxter Taylor as additional members on the Map committee.

The chair appointed a special committee to obtain a case for the Dennis Flynn Homestead flag to be placed in the '89ers section. Mrs. Anna B. Korn, Chairman, Mrs. John R. Williams and Judge Thomas H. Doyle members.

The President read the following paragraphs from a letter he had received from Mrs. Marie B. Owen, Director, Department of Archives and History, Montgomery, Alabama, May 11, 1942.

"If you will write to Mr. James Head, of the firm James Head, Inc., Birmingham, Ala., he will give you a full description with prices, etc., for your flag case. You would have to let him know how many flags you expect to exhibit and whether on flag staffs or to be flat in a smaller case. We are going to have ours on flag staffs to conform with the other display cases we have in the building. Of course, you could get in materials something cheaper if you so desired. Our cases have not yet been delivered to us but they are in course of construction. Mr. Head has had the order for all the display cases in our building and is a reliable man.

"I wish to congratulate Oklahoma upon the valor of its young son who assisted in replacing the flag over Corrigedor. None of us know how much heroic stuff there is in a man until the test comes."

Hon. J. B. Milam made the motion we proceed to acquire flag cases for our Flag room and to encase all flags that are worthy of preservation. Judge Robert A. Hefner seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

The President appointed the following committee to investigate for purchasing cases for the Flag room: Judge Baxter Taylor, Chairman, Judge Robert A. Hefner, Mrs. Blanche Lucas, Mr. H. L. Muldrow and Mrs. Anna B. Korn members.

The President stated that in the Minutes February, 1942, Dr. Foreman moved that the President be authorized to purchase a microfilm reader and apparatus of device, including camera, for making copies of material for use in microfilm reading, to be paid for out of the private funds of the Society.

Hon. J. B. Milam made the motion that Judge Williams be authorized to write and investigate and purchase the necessary equipment needed as indicated and in accordance with motion adopted on February 23, 1942. Mr. H. L. Muldrow seconded the motion and carried.

The President stated the Board of Directors had \$3200 invested in bonds, and other private funds were available to purchase the film and glass cases for the maps and flags as necessary equipment for the Historical Society.

The busts made by Dr. Jenkins and presented by him to the Memorial Association, Friday, October 19, were received by Dr. Evans, Secretary and in turn presented to the Board.

The President appointed a special committee composed of the Secretary, Mr. H. L. Muldrow, Judge Robert A. Hefner to make satisfactory provision for placing and protecting the gifts.

Judge Baxter Taylor suggested that the Society take steps to secure portraits of all eminent Oklahoma leaders of World War II.

The President read a paragraph from the book "Behind Walking Canes" in which three canes associated with prominent Indians of Oklahoma were given recognition.

There being no further business the motion was made that the meeting be adjourned subject to the call of the President.

Robert L. Williams, President,
presiding.

Charles Evans, Secretary.