

NECROLOGIES

SARAH ELIZABETH CREEKMORE WALLACE
1866-1942

Sarah Elizabeth Creekmore Wallace was born in Yalobusha County, Mississippi, on July 15, 1866. Her father was Hiram Caswell Creekmore and her mother was Ann Eliza Wier, whose ancestors came from England and Ireland in 1795 and 1804, settling at Charleston, South Carolina, but migrating, before the war between the states, to Mississippi.

After the Civil War, Hiram Caswell Creekmore moved with his family from Mississippi to Texas, from the "South" to the "West", in order to get away from the chaotic conditions existing as a result of the war. Sarah Elizabeth was only a baby at this time. In those days there were no banks available and, as it was before the time of "greenback" money, Sarah Elizabeth's father carried his gold in a belt and her mother wore an underskirt padded with twenty-dollar gold pieces. The family boarded a Mississippi steamer and went to New Orleans where they stayed at the famous old St. Charles Hotel. They then crossed over by boat to Indianola, Texas, and from there moved to Lavaca County, Texas. The father leased a large plantation near Hallettsville and planted it in corn and cotton.

Their first year's crop was destroyed by hail and most of the second year's crop met the same fate. After he recovered from an attack of malaria, the father moved the family into Hallettsville, the county seat of Lavaca County, where he set up a blacksmith shop and built several business houses, including a saddle shop and a large woodwork establishment where plows, buggies, hacks, wagons and coffins were made. Nearly everything was home-made at that time. His account books contained the names of several Confederate officers who had moved to Texas after the war and had settled down to the peaceful pursuits of farming. In 1869 Hiram Creekmore built a hotel and planted evergreens and shade trees all around it, making it a "show place" of the community.

The family moved to Salado, Bell County, Texas, in 1873 so that the children could take advantage of Salado College, which was a great educational institution in Texas at that time. Eight years later they moved to Erath County, Texas, where they settled on an unimproved farm. There they planted an orchard and pecan grove, the latter bearing valuable crops to this day. Both parents were devoted Christians, having joined the Green's Creek Baptist Church in Erath County, and both are buried in the church yard near by. Five daughters and one son were born to Hiram Creekmore and Ann Eliza Wier, his wife. They were: born in Mississippi, Dovie Alice, on October 31, 1855, Ammie Gertrude, in October 1857, and Sarah Elizabeth, on July 15, 1866, and born in Hallettsville, Texas: on September 20, 1868, Nancy Ophelia, and on September 8, 1872, Maud Hiram, and Louis Herman, born in Erath County, Texas, on August 13, 1881.

Sarah Elizabeth Creekmore was married to Dr. William Thomas Wallace on May 11, 1885. To this union ten children were born, three dying in infancy, and those surviving: William Robert, Thomas Hiram, Jewel Creekmore, Herbert Calvin, Mary Josephine and Willard Grady.

Dr. Wallace's family moved to Oklahoma in 1869, settling at Wynnewood, where he practiced medicine until failing health compelled him to retire, and where he died September 14, 1914. His surviving wife, Sarah

Elizabeth, with her children to provide for, bravely took up the task of teaching, and with Milas Lasater taught a pay school at Wynnewood. Later she taught in the public schools at Wynnewood and Pauls Valley, Oklahoma.

Mrs. Wallace saw her seven children grow up to be useful men and women—influential citizens. She was not only a devoted mother, but a loyal friend, a consecrated Christian and an earnest worker in her church. She was a member of the Order of the Eastern Star, the D.A.R., and the U.D.C., and named the Sam Davis Chapter, U.D.C. at Pauls Valley, Oklahoma, and was its first president; she also belonged to the Parliamentary Law Club of Pauls Valley and took a great interest in civic affairs.

After the death of her husband, Sarah Elizabeth Creekmore Wallace moved to Oklahoma City, where she spent her remaining years studying and writing, surrounded by members of her family.

One proof of the unselfish constructive life which Sarah Elizabeth Creekmore Wallace lived was shown in her devotion to her oldest son, William Robert, at the time of the death of his young wife. William Robert married Charlotte Roche Walker on April 20, 1915. She died in 1920, leaving a two year old son, William Robert, Jr. At that time Sarah Elizabeth was fifty-four years of age and had reared seven children, the youngest then being fifteen years old. Nevertheless, the grandchild, William Robert, Jr., was taken into her home. He grew to manhood, surrounded by her loving care.

William Robert, Jr., was trained and inspired by all of the uplifting influences surrounding the family. He obtained a B. A. degree at Baylor University, Waco, Texas, and a degree in law at the University of Oklahoma. During World War II he became a special agent of the F.B.I. in California. Thus his success is a fruit of the efforts of his grandmother.

She passed away in Oklahoma City, after a lingering illness, on October 7, 1942, at the age of 76 years, 2 months, and 22 days, and was laid to rest in the family burial ground at Pauls Valley, Oklahoma.

"Still in my heart thy loved remembrance burns,

"Still to my lips thy cherished name returns."

Pauls Valley, Oklahoma.

By Mrs. C. S. Bush

CHARLES WALTER BOARD

1869-1947*

Charles Walter Board was born near Johnstown, Bates County, Missouri, on August 13, 1869, son of Elizabeth (Raybourn) Board and Nehemiah Board.

His father's ancestors came from Virginia, settled in Kentucky and then moved to Missouri in 1866. His father was a farmer and a druggist. Charles Walter Board had three brothers and three sisters: (1) J. W. Board, a physician and rancher near Dexter, New Mexico, (2) A. W. Board, operated a telephone system and a ranch at Hope, New Mexico, (3) M. A. Board, a druggist at Okemah, Okfuskee County, Oklahoma, and three sisters: (1) Lucy, (2) Anna, and (3) Emma Board, who taught school and lived at Okemah.

Charles Walter Board received his educational training in the public schools of Bates County, Missouri and academic courses at Butler and

**Okfuskee County News*, Thursday, Sept. 25, 1947; *Daily Oklahoman*, Sunday, Sept. 21, 1947; *Makers of Government in Oklahoma*, by Harlow, 1930; *History of Oklahoma*, by Thoburn, Vol. IV, p. 1476, American Historical Society, Chicago and New York (1916); *Okmulgee Democrat*, Nov. 22, 1906.

Appleton in said State. In Missouri he became a farmer and for fourteen years combined farming and teaching.

In 1905 he located at Okfuskee in the Creek Nation of the Indian Territory. For a few years there he was a farmer and merchant and operated a well improved ranch. In 1906 he was elected from the Seventy-Third District to the Constitutional Convention to participate in framing a Constitution for the proposed State of Oklahoma. He was active in causing the creation of Okfuskee and Okmulgee Counties¹ and served on the following committees:—

1. Private Corporations
2. Salaries and Compensation of Public Officers
3. Convention Accounts and Expenses
4. Judicial Apportionment
5. Public Debt and Public Works,

and introduced the following propositions:—

19. Relating to Separate Schools
20. To Provide for a State Printery
213. Relating to Corporations
214. Relating to Election of all State Officers.

At the election held on September 17, 1907 to pass on the proposed Constitution, he was elected as Registrar of deeds of Okfuskee County and was re-elected in 1910. In 1912 he was elected State Senator from the Twenty-Second Senatorial District and was Chairman of the Committee on Privileges and Elections. In 1914 he was re-elected to the State Senate in the Fifth Legislature and was again Chairman of the Committee on Privileges and Elections and a member of the following committees:—

1. Ways and Means
2. Revenue and Taxation
3. Roads and Highways
4. Enrolled and Engrossed Bills
5. Irrigation and Drainage
6. Geological Survey
7. Legislative and Judicial Apportionment
8. Oil and gas,

and was also author of a bill establishing a system of cotton weighing and was a joint author of a bill providing for the payment of election inspectors.

At Butler, Missouri, in 1893, he was married to Miss Gertrude Raybourn and to that union came the following children: two sons, (1) Raymond Board, Boise City, Oklahoma, Speaker of the House of the present Legislature, and (2) Guy Board, Boise City, Oklahoma, and two daughters (1) Mary (Mrs. Gene Catlett), Houston, Texas, and (2) Gertrude (Mrs. Roy Parham), Okemah, Oklahoma.

He was a 32° Mason, Knight of Pythias, Odd Fellow, member of the local camp of Woodmen of the World, Okemah Lodge of Royal Neighbors, M.W.A.; K.P. and while he was a State Senator, during his second biennium, he was President of the State Senate and had served as Chairman of the Democratic Central Committee of Okfuskee County and was a member of the Presbyterian Church, an elder, and for thirty years had taught a class in its Sunday School.

Beginning in 1924 he became head of the Oil and Gas Division of the State School Land Division and served until during the year 1945 when of his own motion he retired.

¹ *Okmulgee Democrat*, Nov. 22, 1906.

Walter M. McElroy states "Mr. Board and I were boyhood friends in Missouri; I have known him for more than fifty years* * . He was a loyal friend, a conscientious and faithful employee of the State".

Tobe F. McKenzie, attorney for the School Land Department states: "He knew land values in Oklahoma as perhaps no other man better understood them; he has saved the state money that would run into an unbelievable amount by the careful administration of his duties and the store of such knowledge he possessed".

Miss Dollie Allen says "I worked with Mr. Board twenty-two years; he was one of the finest men I have known, devoted to his family and was a faithful and competent employe of the State in his careful administration of his duties of the office."

Miss Dale Asbury, an employe in the Oil and Gas Division of the School Land Department states "He was considerate, kind, thorough in the administration of the duties of his office and saved the State thousands of dollars".

One of his favorite quotations as supplied by Tobe McKenzie was:

"On the plains of hesitation
Bleach the bones of countless millions
Who, at the dawn of Victory,
Sat down to rest, and, resting,
Died".

He died of a heart attack Saturday, Sept. 20, 1947, while preparing his Sunday School lesson for the class at the Presbyterian Church. Funeral services were held in the Presbyterian Church at Okemah on Sept. 22, 1947 at 2:30 P.M. with interment in Highland Cemetery at Okemah.

Durant, Oklahoma.

By Robert L. Williams

CARLTON WEAVER

1881-1947

Carlton Weaver, born August 25, 1881, at Mount Vernon, Texas, was the son of Henry Hamilton and Letitia (English) Weaver, and died August 17, 1947, at his home near Wilburton, Oklahoma.

His grandparents on his father's side, were William A. and Amelia Weaver, both of the State of Tennessee; both of them died several years before Carlton's birth; his mother was the daughter of Campbell English, early Texas settler who held land grants and a Notary Public Commission under Governor Sam Houston.

He attended the public school at Mount Vernon, Texas. In 1889 he came to Pauls Valley, Indian Territory, and in 1900 moved to Ada, Indian Territory, where he entered the newspaper business in 1902, acquiring an interest in the Ada Weekly News; and in 1903, with his brother, Otis Weaver, as an associate, he founded the Ada Daily News.

To further his education, he enrolled as a student in the University of Kentucky in 1904; in 1905-06, he was a student at the University of Oklahoma, where he was President of his class, and organizer of the first Democratic Club at the University, serving as President of that body.

He married Amanda James Haynes, Ada, Oklahoma, on April 28, 1908, who died in 1933. No children were born to this union. In 1936 he married Dovie Kennedy, Wilburton, Oklahoma, and in 1938, a daughter, Mollie Letitia, came to this union, who, with Mrs. Weaver, survives.

He was elected a delegate to the Constitutional Convention, 1906-07, from District No. 87, Ada, one of the youngest members of the Convention and served on the following committees: Invitations; Geological Survey; Public Health and Sanitation; Insurance; Privileges and Elections.

He was interested in perpetuating the history of the Constitutional Convention and in 1929 when the first re-union of the members of the Constitutional Convention since their adjournment in 1907 was held in the City of Okmulgee, William H. Murray presiding over the convention appointed him one of the members of the committee which was to get in touch with relatives of deceased members and the living members of the convention in order that adequate historical facts about them could be gathered and presented to the State Historical Society. It was pointed out at the convention that Judge Robert L. Williams had already assembled such information and that Judge Williams should be made a member of the committee, which was done.

In 1930, he was elected to the Oklahoma House of Representatives from Latimer County and made Speaker of the House of the session of 1932-33. He was appointed and acted in that capacity without having served in the previous session.

He promoted the building of Latimer County Game Reserve in 1926 and the building of State Highway No. 2 in 1927-31, led in the development of Lake Carlton in 1932 situated near the City of Wilburton. He also helped establish Robbers Cave State Park in 1935.

He was serving as Latimer County Food Administrator in the early days of World War I, and then enlisted in the United States Army October 13, 1918, and was assigned as a Private to Company B, 308th Battalion, Tank Corps, and received his discharge December 29, 1918.

In World War II he served as Chairman of the Latimer County Selective Service Board for the duration and three years as Chairman of Latimer County War Finance, and was active in Red Cross work.

He was interested in youth organizations and assisted in the Boy Scout movement in Wilburton, serving as Chairman of the first local membership committee in 1926, and aided in the establishment of a permanent Boy Scout Camp at Robbers Cave near Wilburton in the same year.

He was a member of the Baptist Church and to that denomination he rendered a service in 1940 when he organized the "Log Fire Revivals," which were intended as religious retreats for men only.

Perhaps Mr. Weaver will be best known to Oklahoma history as a newspaper man. After his experience with the Ada Daily News, he purchased the Latimer County Democrat, Wilburton, Oklahoma. In 1915, the name of this publication was changed to Latimer County News-Democrat, and he published this paper, with the exception of short intervals, until his retirement in 1943.

He served as President of the Wilburton State Bank from 1933 to 1939, and he retired from all business in 1943 and took up his residence on his ranch near Wilburton.

In addition to his wife, Mrs. Weaver, and his daughter, Mollie Letitia, he is survived by three sisters, Mrs. Mabel Warren, Mrs. Lulu Harris and Mrs. Lois Shelby. His brother, Jack Weaver, of Madill, Oklahoma, also survives him.

He was laid to rest Wednesday morning, August 20, 1947 in Robbers Cave State Park near Wilburton.

Oklahoma City, Okla.

—By Charles Evans

DAVID DANIEL BRUNSON

1873-1947

David Daniel Brunson was born in Rome, Georgia, November 29, 1873. In 1876 the family came to Texas, locating near Breckenridge and it was there on the cattle ranch and farm that Mr. Brunson was reared and spent his youth. The parents again moved, this time settling at Amity, Arkansas, in which place, at the high school, he obtained his literary education. He chose law for a profession and entered the Cumberland University at Lebanon, Tennessee, completing his course in the month of February 1900, and receiving his degree of LL.B. In August 1901, he located at Coalgate and began his legal career.

His father was Daniel T. Brunson, born in Lee County, Ga. in 1840 and settled at Rock Creek, now Rosboro, Arkansas. After the Civil War he passed his life on the farm and the ranch, but during that great civil strife he was a member of the Fourth Georgia Infantry Regiment, having fought in twenty-three battles of the war and being present with the command when it surrendered at Appomattox.

Daniel T. Brunson was the son of Almarine Brunson, a planter of Georgia and passed his boyhood and early manhood in acquiring an excellent education. The father married Eliza Woodard and all of their seven children lived to years of maturity. For his companion through life, Daniel Brunson chose Sarah Frances Cheves, a daughter of Frank Cheves, a merchant and farmer in Georgia. By this union fifteen children were born, and a remarkable feature of this family was the fact that there were three sets of twins. Those of this family surviving are: Frank A., of Rosboro, Arkansas; L. C. of Midland, Texas; David D. and Mary E., twins, the latter wife of L. C. Herring of Amity, Arkansas; and Annie, who married Claude Herring of Amity, Arkansas; Thomas and Susie, twins, the former a graduate in civil engineering from the University of Arkansas and a resident of Rosboro and the latter a teacher in the Coalgate schools; Ida is also a teacher at Coalgate, Oklahoma; Eula, the youngest, resides in Rosboro with the parents.

David D. Brunson was admitted to the bar at Lebanon, Tennessee and at Murfreesboro, Arkansas, and tried his first case at Amity. He was admitted before Judge Wm. H. Clayton of the United States courts of the Central District of the Indian Territory and was identified with general practice at Coalgate and other points in his judicial district. Soon after his advent at Coalgate he formed a partnership with George A. Foochee, the style of the law firm being Foochee and Brunson.

As a citizen, Brunson took a warm, personal interest in achieving Statehood and identified himself early with the Democratic party of the Indian Territory. He was a delegate to every Democratic convention of the state and a member of the platform committee in the convention of 1908, at Tulsa. He spoke on the political issues in the campaign preliminary to the first state election and added his mite to the influence which secured the adoption of the constitution. He was identified with the question of public education in Coalgate and when serving as city attorney, drafted the ordinance submitting the proposition as to whether the city schools should be organized under a separate system, which prevailed. The question was submitted in May and a nine months school was held the same year. He was Mayor of Coalgate when the water-works system was installed, as well as when the school houses were built.

As a firm Foshee and Brunson were local attorneys of the Rock Island Railroad Co., and the Oklahoma Central Railroad Company, at Coalgate and for the First National Bank of Coalgate as well as for like institutions at Tupelo. Brunson was also attorney for the Murrow Indian Orphan's Home of Coal County. He was appointed to the Oklahoma Supreme Court Commission in 1914 where he served until the death of George A. Foshee at which time he resigned and returned to the practice of law at Coalgate, Oklahoma. He took an active interest in business affairs and at one time was President of the Burk-Brunson-Calloway Oil Company and interested in the Black Eagle Mining Company and several coal mine operating companies. In 1928 he moved to Ada, Oklahoma and practiced law there until July 1946 when he moved to Oklahoma City where he engaged in the general practice of law until his death on March 10, 1947. He was one of the principal parties and attorneys in the litigation of oil rights to the oil produced from the bed of the Red River. He was preceded in death by his wife. He was survived by three sons and one daughter and three grandchildren: David Daniel Brunson, Jr. (an attorney) with his wife and son, David Daniel Brunson III, live in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma; William T. Brunson, an attorney with his wife and son Wm. T. Brunson, Jr. live in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma; Robert L. Brunson, an instructor at Henderson State Teacher's College, Arkadelphia, Arkansas lives at Arkadelphia, Arkansas; Mary Harvey Brunson, with her husband and daughter, Pamela live at Belfast, Maine.¹

By Robert L. Williams

Durant, Oklahoma.

¹ *A History of the State of Oklahoma*, by Luther B. Hill, A.B., Vol. II, illustrated, The Lewis Publishing Company, Chicago and New York, 1909, p. 227.