

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

January 29, 1948.

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., January 29, 1948, with the president, Judge Robert L. Williams, presiding.

The Secretary called the roll. The following members were present: Judge Robert L. Williams, Judge Thomas H. Doyle, Dr. Emma Estill Harbour, Judge Robert A. Hefner, General William S. Key, Hon. W. J. Peterson, Judge Baxter Taylor, Mrs. John R. Williams, and the Secretary.

Judge Thomas H. Doyle made the motion that absentee members be excused as having good and sufficient reasons for their absence. Judge Baxter Taylor seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Judge Robert L. Williams presented a picture, "The Birth of our Country," the gift of the West Publishing Company. Judge Thomas H. Doyle made the motion that the picture be appropriately framed and that the Secretary be directed to write a letter of thanks to the donor. Mrs. John R. Williams seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

The Secretary read the minutes of the last meeting of the Board of Directors which met on October 24, 1947.

Judge Robert A. Hefner made the motion that the regular meeting of April 1948 be postponed until May 26, 1948, to be then held, when the annual meeting is held in Guthrie, Oklahoma. Dr. Emma Estill Harbour seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

The Secretary presented a list of applications for membership, as follows:

LIFE: Mrs. Gertrude S. Phillips, Norman, Oklahoma.

ANNUAL: W. P. Atkinson, Oklahoma City; Arthur J. Black, Tulsa; Nelson M. Blake, Hyattsville, Md.; Mrs. James F. Blanton, Pauls Valley; L. Kenneth Cargile, Bartlesville; R. A. Clifford, Austin, Texas; Robert E. Cullison, Oklahoma City; Paul Cummings, Alva; Mrs. Orella R. Dameron, Tulsa; Mrs. Daniel Delly, Choctaw; Loyd E. Drake, Mutual; Paul Fesler, Oklahoma City; Gilbert C. Fite, Norman; M. W. Fulks, Hominy; Preston W. George, Altus; Mrs. J. J. Glaser, Alva; W. E. Harvey, Ada; Oscar Hatcher, Tulsa; Mrs. M. P. Hatchett, Ada; H. A. Hewett, Durant; Henry J. Holm, Chicago, Ill.; Bruce E. Holmes, Oklahoma City; Ralph P. Hron, Huntington, W. Va.; May Hessey, Cleveland; Irvin Hurst, Oklahoma City; N. A. Lago, Oklahoma City; H. B. Largent, Oklahoma City; Mrs. B. L. Logan, Tonkawa; George E. Millard, Whittier, Calif.; Daisy L. Moore, Ada; Mrs. Sue K. Morris, Soper; Mrs. Marion Mumford, Shidler; Irene M. Pollock, Quinton; Inez G. Schneider, Eufaula; Woodrow W. Staats, Bartlesville; Anna W. Stewart, Washington, D. C.; E. W. Snoddy, Alva; Mrs. Emma D. Thompson, Guthrie; Thomas Alfred Tripp, New York City; Mrs. A. Z. Yeary, Chickasha.

Dr. Emma Estill Harbour made the motion that the list of applicants be accepted in the class as indicated. Judge Robert A. Hefner seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

The President reported that the office of Colonel Chorpene of the U. S. Army Engineers, had advised that if there was any danger of Nathaniel Pryor's grave being inundated as a result of the Fort Gibson Dam, that his body would be disinterred and removed, possibly to the National Cemetery at Fort Gibson.

The President reported that Senator Elmer Thomas had advised that he is doing everything possible to secure for the State, for the benefit of the Oklahoma Historical Society, the office building used by General Sheridan at Fort Reno. Dr. Emma Estill Harbour made the motion that General William S. Key be appointed as a committee of one in the matter of securing the title to General Sheridan's office building at Fort Reno. Judge Robert A. Hefner seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

General William S. Key reported that a group of civic leaders of Oklahoma City wished to present to the Society a painting of Mr. Frank Buttram of this city, and made the motion that the painting be accepted. Dr. Emma Estill Harbour seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

The President called attention to the condition of the walls of the historical building and the ceiling of the Directors' room. Judge Thomas H. Doyle made the motion that a committee be appointed to take up with the Chairman of the Board of Affairs the matter of repairing the walls and ceilings of this building. Dr. Emma Estill Harbour seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

The President appointed Judge Robert A. Hefner, Chairman, General William S. Key and Judge Baxter Taylor to serve on the above mentioned committee.

General William S. Key read a letter addressed to the Board from Dr. Grant Foreman, calling attention to some very fine and rare maps of Oklahoma made in 1872, one set of which is supposed to be on file in the capitol building, and which Dr. Foreman believes should be secured and placed in the historical building for reference and safe keeping.

Mrs. John R. Williams made the motion that the Secretary be directed to make a search in the Capitol for the Maps of 1872 mentioned in Dr. Foreman's letter with a view of placing them in the historical building for safe keeping. Judge Baxter Taylor seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

A committee composed of General William S. Key, Judge Robert A. Hefner and Judge Baxter Taylor was appointed to act with the Secretary in the above matter. Miss Hazel Beaty, Librarian, and Mrs. Rella Looney, Archivist, of the staff, were directed to assist the committee.

General William S. Key made the motion that the Board extend its sympathy to Dr. Grant Foreman in his illness and wish him a speedy recovery and that it appreciates his efforts in looking after and aiding in the transfer of the tribal records to the historical society. Dr. Emma Estill Harbour seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

General William S. Key made the motion that since there were no petitions filed for positions as Directors of the historical society in the place of Judge Thomas H. Doyle, Hon. W. J. Peterson, Hon. Thomas G. Cook, Hon. Edward C. Lawson, and Mrs. J. Garfield Buell, whose terms expire in 1948, that the rules be suspended pursuant to the Constitution and By-

laws of the Society and each of these be elected to succeed himself or herself. Judge Baxter Taylor seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Judge Thomas H. Doyle moved that since Section 3 of Article 3 of the Constitution and By-Laws of the Oklahoma Historical Society, provides in part as follows: "on each even-numbered year, the Board of Directors shall convene for the purpose of electing a president, two vice-presidents, a secretary and a treasurer for a term of two years, or until their successors shall have been chosen and qualified, such election to be by ballot," therefore that the rule requiring "such election to be by ballot," be suspended and that the Board proceed to the election of the present staff of officers by viva voce, which motion was seconded by Judge Baxter Taylor and unanimously adopted.

Judge Thomas H. Doyle thereupon further moved that the present staff of employees of the society be re-elected and continued in office for the ensuing term of two years, with the exception that the present status of the position of Chief Clerk shall remain in status quo until further orders, which motion was seconded by Judge Baxter Taylor and unanimously adopted.

The Secretary read a list of gifts that were received during the quarter: Three gold watches; framed miniature of Robert L. Owen; Proficiency Certificates received by Robert L. Owen when a student; original Marriage Certificate of Capt. and Mrs. George B. Hester; copy of marriage certificate of Robert Owen and Narcissa Chisholm; Autograph Album owned by Narcissa Chisholm Owen; Framed Certificate-Senator Owen's membership in the Oklahoma Memorial Association; Framed Certificate-Senator Owen's membership in the Hall of Fame, all presented by Mrs. Dorothea O. Whittemore.

Leather Wallet containing documents and letters of the late Gen. F. M. Canton. Presented by Mrs. F. M. Canton.

A Gun. Presented by Ben Ellis III.

A Fluting Iron. Presented by Mrs. C. F. Trader.

Invasion Money. Presented by George Sherwood.

Invasion Money. Presented by Sgt. James F. Choate.

Norden Bomb Sight. Presented by Flight Officer Thomas G. Kugler.

Box of Flags used in World War II. Presented by the Adjutant General's Office.

PICTURES

Dr. A. C. Scott, oil portrait. Presented by The Men's Dinner Club.

Dr. Charles Evans, oil portrait. Presented by The Oklahoma Memorial Association.

Boss Neff. Presented by Mrs. Neff's family.

Early Day Oklahoma, oil painting. Presented by Robert Pearson, artist.

Crayon Sketch of Negro Servant. Presented by Mrs. Dorothea O. Whittemore.

Crayon Sketch of a house. Presented by Mrs. Dorothea O. Whittemore.

Two photographs of the Cemetery at Pearl Harbor. Presented by W. H. Williams.

Photograph of Gen. F. M. Canton. Presented by Mrs. F. M. Canton.

Hon. W. J. Peterson made the motion that these gifts be accepted and the donors thanked. Mrs. John R. Williams seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Dr. Emma Estill Harbour made the motion that a separate case for the Owen Collection be purchased from the Alexander Drug Company for the sum of \$240.00. Judge Baxter Taylor seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

The Secretary called attention to the annual meeting to be held at Guthrie, Oklahoma, in May 1948, and suggested that a committee be appointed to assist him in making up the program for the Society. Judge Thomas H. Doyle made the motion that Judge Baxter Taylor be invited to make the address. General William S. Key seconded the motion which passed unanimously, the committee to consist of the President and other members of the executive committee and other members of the Board that may be present.

General William S. Key made the motion that a letter of sympathy be written to the family of the late Admiral Marc Mitscher and that they be asked to place his portrait in the historical building, along with other mementoes, to be preserved and identified with the history of this State. Dr. Emma Estill Harbour seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

The President presented a statement for the premium on the Treasurer's Bond, in the amount of \$22.50. Dr. Emma Estill Harbour made the motion that the account be paid out of the private funds. Judge Robert A. Hefner seconded the motion which passed unanimously, and draft for payment of same has been accordingly drawn and delivered to the Secretary.

Judge Robert L. Williams, the President, called attention to a book entitled "Alexander Hamilton," by Nathan Schachner. Judge Baxter Taylor made the motion that the Society buy a copy of said book. Mrs. John R. Williams seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Judge Robert A. Hefner made the motion that the Board invite the Sons of the American Revolution to hold their annual meeting in the Auditorium of the historical building. Judge Baxter Taylor seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

The Secretary reported that Mr. Ralph Hudson, Librarian of the State Library in the State Capitol, had recently purchased a Microfilm Machine and had offered the use of it to the historical society at any time. Judge Robert A. Hefner made the motion that Mr. Hudson be thanked for his offer. Dr. Emma Estill Harbour seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

The Secretary reported that the historical societies all over America have bulletins or postcards to give or sell to visitors. Mrs. John R. Williams made the motion that the Secretary be instructed to investigate as to the cost of bulletins or postcards for this Society. Dr. Emma Estill Harbour seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

General William S. Key made the motion that the Society accept a portrait of Bishop Eugene J. McGuinness which the Catholics desire to present to this Society. Dr. Emma Estill Harbour seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

The President appointed Judge Thomas H. Doyle, General William S. Key and the Secretary on a committee to make arrangements to secure the portrait of Bishop McGuinness.

Dr. Emma Estill Harbour made the motion that the Board express to Bishop Francis C. Kelly its hope that his health will improve. Judge Baxter Taylor seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Judge Robert A. Hefner made the motion that a letter of sympathy be written to Hon. J. B. Milam on account of the death of his sister. Dr. Emma Estill Harbour seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Judge Baxter Taylor made the motion that the meeting stand adjourned subject to the call of the President. General William S. Key seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

ROBERT L. WILLIAMS, *President*
Presiding.

CHARLES EVANS, *Secretary*: