

**MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE  
OKLAHOMA HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
JULY 26, 1951**

The meeting of the Board of Directors of the Oklahoma Historical Society was called to order in the Historical Building, Oklahoma City, at ten o'clock A.M. by General W. S. Key, President, presiding.

The Secretary called the roll which showed the following members present: Gen. W. S. Key, Dr. Estill-Harbour, Judge Baxter Taylor, Mrs. Jessie R. Moore, Judge Thomas A. Edwards, H. Milt Phillips, Col. George H. Shirk, Dr. I. N. McCash, Mr. George L. Bowman, Mr. Thomas J. Harrison, Mrs. Anna B. Korn, Mr. W. P. Peterson, Mr. R. M. Mountcastle, Judge Edgar S. Vaught and Dr. E. E. Dale.

The Secretary reported that letters of excuse had been received from Judge N. B. Johnson, Judge R. A. Hefner, Mr. Thomas G. Cook, Mrs. J. Garfield Buell, all of whom are out of the State, and Mr. N. G. Henthorne who stated that due to the pressure of business he was unable to attend.

Mr. George L. Bowman made the motion that the absentee members who had notified the Secretary be excused as having good and sufficient reasons for their absence. Dr. Harbour seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

The President introduced Mr. Ralph Hudson, State Librarian, who stated that he wished to cooperate with the Society in every way possible relating to the disposal of some of the county records which have been in the possession of the Historical Society for a number of years. Mr. Hudson further stated that it would be necessary to expend \$100.00 for the purpose of removing the records which are of no historical value, from the Historical Building. He pointed out that it would take perhaps two men as well as a supervisor which he would send from his office to do the work and he was ready to begin on Monday, July 30th.

Mr. R. M. Mountcastle made a motion that not more than \$100.00 be paid out of the private funds of the Society for defraying the expenses of the removal of these county records from the balcony of the Historical Building. Dr. I. N. McCash seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Mr. Hudson stated that he wished to offer to the Historical Society a microfilm reader for use in the Historical library. He said that the State Library was in possession of two readers and would be glad for the Historical Society to be made a loan of one of their readers. He also said that it had always been his practice to make duplicate microfilm copies of any material which was considered historically important for the Historical Society, and would continue doing so.

Dr. Emma Estill-Harbour made a motion that the Board authorize Dr. Evans to write a letter of thanks and appreciation to Mr. Hudson for his kindness and assistance to the Oklahoma Historical Society. Dr. I. N. McCash seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Gen. Key reported that since the last meeting, two very valuable members of the Board, two great citizens and two outstanding men, Mr. H. L. Muldrow of Norman, and Mr. Jim Biggerstaff of Wagoner had passed away. He asked the Board to rise for a moment of silent prayer, following which Dr. I. N. McCash presented a few words in prayer and memoriam.

Mr. R. M. Mountcastle made a motion to incorporate at a proper place in *The Chronicles* eulogies which would express the devotion each member

of the Board held for these beloved associates. The motion was seconded by Mr. Milt Phillips and unanimously passed.

The President brought before the Board the matter of the two important legislative bills of vital interest to the Society. Namely, House Bill No. 247, making appropriation for the collection and preservation of historical material, and House Bill No. 60, making an appropriation of \$1,000 annually for the biennium 1952-53, 1953-54 for the observance of Oklahoma Historical Day to be held at Salina, Oklahoma.

In line with the legislative appropriations, General Key pointed out that the Society had received the ten percent increase in salaries that had been requested by the Executive Committee.

The President stated that he wished to reiterate the desire and need for the Society to acquire as many more historical possessions and collections as possible, and he wished to urge each member of the Board to use their connections and influence in securing the historical documents and relics from the heirs and descendants of many of the first families of Oklahoma.

Gen. Key reported that a letter had been received from Mr. Fisher Muldrow, son of Mr. H. L. Muldrow, stating that he would make proper arrangements to meet with a representative of the Board for the purpose of presenting to the Society a collection of historical values possessed by his late father.

The Secretary called to the attention of the Board that in the past fifteen months a total of 4,476 articles and books had been received by the Society for placement in the library, museum, newspaper department, Indian archives division, and Confederate and Union Memorial Rooms. These run as follows: Museum receptions and collections—1,523; Library books added—696; larger collections comprising Whipple, Tompkins, Van Bibber, Hanratty, and a large number of original World War II posters and drawings by the art students of Oklahoma University, presented by Dr. O. B. Jacobsen—1,412; Books, pamphlets, etc. from material in balcony—461; bound books in newspaper department—484. Dr. Evans pointed out that this reveals that there is a constant stream of historical materials moving into the archives, the museum, the library, the newspaper department, and the Confederate and Union Memorial rooms. He said that this was no light matter, for one collection alone—The Whipple Papers, the tax value was rated at \$25,000.

In the discussion of personal interests Directors might have in enlarging the archives of the Society, Judge Baxter Taylor arose to say that he had recently visited his old home region in Jonesboro, Bristol and the TVA region of Eastern Tennessee. He said he had made a special journey to the three homes of the three presidents that Tennessee had given to America. He stood in the tailor shop where Andrew Jackson pegged the shoes of his neighbors up until they sent him to the legislature and then afterwards to Congress and the presidency. He visited the Hermitage and read the story of Andrew Jackson and looked upon the tomb of James R. Polk. He said he brought back some small gifts for the archives and library of the Society. One was "The Story of TVA" by John Gunther and a booklet entitled "Andrew Johnson—National Monument". Judge Taylor also presented a deed which was drawn up between the Cherokees and Hon. Richard Henderson giving large portions of the state of Kentucky and Tennessee to the great land company of Henderson et al. Judge Taylor said that he hoped to obtain more material of this sort and present it to the Society.

The President recognized Mrs. Jessie R. Moore who expressed the desire to hear from Dr. E. E. Dale relating to the archaeological explorations now

being carried on by the University of Oklahoma as well as the Smithsonian Institution and other organizations of like kind.

Dr. Dale reported that he had called at the Office of Anthropology but had found no one in at the time he called, so had written a letter to the professor in charge regarding the archaeological explorations, but had not yet received an answer. Dr. Dale said he hoped to be able to obtain a large collection of artifacts for the Historical Museum of the Society.

Dr. Evans reported the need of a modern system of indexing which would require the services of some typists in the library. He stated that it was imperative that this work be done in order to provide the efficient service necessary to aid the researchers who come to the library.

Judge Edgar S. Vaught made a motion that the matter of stenographic help be referred to the discretion of the Chairman of the Board and the Secretary. Col. George H. Shirk seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

The President stated that according to the By-Laws and Regulations of the Society, Section 4, Article V, "The absence of a member of the Board of Directors from three consecutive quarterly meetings of the Board of Directors shall operate to terminate the membership of such director from said Board."

Dr. Harbour made the motion that if by reason of the directors failure to attend meetings of the Board, and if any infractions of the By-Laws and Regulations of the Society had been made, a vacancy should be declared in their positions. Judge Thomas A. Edwards seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

The Board decided that election for the vacancies on the Board would be deferred until the next meeting of the Board in October.

Col. George H. Shirk revealed to the members of the Board a plan which he and the Secretary had advanced for the purpose of introducing and interesting the school children of Oklahoma in their state history. He stated that this proposed method was by means of a calendar in card form. For each day there would be depicted an historical event in Oklahoma's history.

Dr. Evans arose to say that he felt this calendar would be a fine medium for attracting the students in the schools to the interesting and glorious history of the State of Oklahoma. He pointed out that it had been his observation that the schools are not as well acquainted with *The Chronicles of Oklahoma* as to possess proper pride in their State history. He felt that this calendar would be a valuable contribution to the schools of the State.

Mr. W. J. Peterson made the motion that the Secretary be permitted to publish these calendars and that money be approved for their purchase. Mrs. Anna B. Korn seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

The Secretary reported the following list of applicants for membership: *LIFE*: Mrs. Clover Barrowman, Tulsa; Robert L. Butler, Sulphur; William D. Carr, Cushing; Wilton D. Johnson, Tahlequah; D. D. Kirkland, Oklahoma City; Arthur R. Lawrence, Lawton; John Jackson Lovell, Tulsa; James S. Mabon, Miami; Mrs. Mary E. Seaman.

*ANNUAL*: Pat Brogan, Oklahoma City; Nancy Bush, Fresno, Calif.; Mrs. C. E. Chamberlin, Pawhuska; Ruth Canady, Tulsa; Mrs. Chester Clark, Evanston, Ill.; Edgar Clemons, Oklahoma City; Mrs. Bernard M. Crisler, McAlester; Emma C. Dent, Kilgore, Texas; Mrs. John W. Foster, Champaign, Ill.; Mrs. J. L. Carretson, Norman; Mrs. O. R. Graham, Pryor; Mary James,

Oklahoma City; Mrs. L. K. McMurtry, Claremore; Edwin C. McReynolds, Norman; Mrs. Mary F. Marks, Berea, Ohio; Fred B. Phillips, Boise City; Mrs. B. M. Risinger, Sand Springs; D. T. Smith, Fort Worth, Texas; C. C. Stephens, Atoka; J. Lawrence Temple, Stillwater; Harry Weinberger, Tulsa; Mrs. Maude A. Wyche, Arlington, Va.

Mrs. Anna B. Korn made a motion that all the applicants be received and accepted as member of the Oklahoma Historical Society. Mr. George L. Bowman seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Mr. R. M. Mountcastle read a letter from Dr. Grant Foreman to the Board of Directors in which Dr. Foreman submitted a list of stenographic reports of the Councils which were held by the Cherokee Commission and the several Indian tribes with which that Commission conducted negotiations. These reports are to be found in the Office of the National Archives at Washington, D. C., and Dr. Foreman suggested that these reports be microfilmed for the Society's archives.

General W. S. Key appointed a committee composed of Judge Edgar S. Vaught, Chairman, Col. George H. Shirk, Milt Phillips and Dr. E. E. Dale to look into the matter of microfilming this material as suggested by Dr. Foreman. In connection with this, Col. Shirk advised that microfilming had now become not only accessible in all phases of business, science and history, but could be obtained without much expense. He stated that he believed the Society should take a new and decided angle of interest in setting up a broad and permanent film division.

Gen. Key appointed Col. Shirk as a committee of one to gather all material and facts and figures concerning the matter and present it at a future meeting of the Board.

The Secretary reported that the following list of gifts and pictures had been received:

**GIFTS:** Kymograph, Phlebotomy knife, pocket case of Tieman's instruments, presented by Dr. Lea A. Riely; miniature cannon, presented by Harlan Dupree and P. T. Holcomb; War bonnet, presented by Jimmie and Howard Gardner; six documents pertaining to Oklahoma Territory, presented by Leo S. Cade. *The Newland (Newlon) Family*, by Robt. E. & Leon L. Newland, presented by L. L. Newland; Genealogical Records, vol. II, by D.A.R. Mary Little Deer Chapter, Moline, Illinois; Oklahoma History and Geography Maps, ed. by James C. Rutherford & John W. Morris and William H. Innerarity; Poems of Otis Joslyn of Oklahoma, presented by Otis Joslyn; The Kindness Club—Membership lists, 1940-51, letters, 3 scrap books, presented by Mr. & Mrs. Charles H. Lamb; Song—*My Choice*, by Anna V. Grant McLain; four volumes of speeches made 1946-1950 by Lt. Gen. Raymond S. McLain.

**PICTURES:** Last Regiment parade, 1st Territorial Infantry, Company L, 1st Territorial Infantry, presented by Frank D. Northup; First Kingfisher Townsite Board, C. H. Cade and others, presented by Leo S. Cade; Attocknie, Monument "Battle of the Washita," Statue of Will Rogers, Canadian County Court House, Custer County Court House, Picking cotton near Cordell in 1924, Old Stage Coach, Half Dugg-Out, Bruce Poolaw, First Washita County officers, Pioneer home near Cloud Chief in 1892, purchased from Ia J. Smith, Cordell; four photographs of Indian drawings in John Day Canyon, presented by Mrs. Jane Erickson through Mrs. Jessie R. Moore; Plains Indian girl, Chief Three Bears and Wife, Chief Red Cloud, Pawnee Bill, Comanche Woman and Baby, Indian Camp at Craterville, Chief Eagle Feather, Chief Geronimo, Ruling His Son, Pawnee Indian Dance, Buffaloes at Pawnee Bill's Ranch, Quanah Parker's Monument, Building at Ft. Sill, Marker, End of the Sante Fe Trail, presented by the Economy Company.

Dr. Emma Estill-Harbour made a motion that the gifts be accepted and a vote of thanks be extended to the donors. Mr. George L. Bowman seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Mrs. Anna B. Korn presented as a gift from Mr. J. A. Mann of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma's forty-seventh birthday cake which depicts the history of Oklahoma. Mrs. Jessie R. Moore made a motion that his cake be accepted and thanks and appreciation extended to Mr. Mann for his gift. This motion was seconded by Mr. George L. Bowman and passed unanimously.

Judge Baxter Taylor made the motion that the meeting adjourn. Mr. Thomas J. Harrison seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

W. S. KEY  
President

Charles Evans  
Secretary