

MINUTES OF THE QUARTERLY MEETING OF THE BOARD  
OF DIRECTORS OF THE OKLAHOMA HISTORICAL  
SOCIETY, THURSDAY, JANUARY 22, 1953, AT TEN  
O'CLOCK A.M., HISTORICAL BUILDING,  
OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLAHOMA.

The regular quarterly meeting of the Board of Directors of the Oklahoma Historical Society met in the Historical Building, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, January 22, 1953, with General W. S. Key, President, presiding.

The roll was called which disclosed that the following members were present: General William S. Key, Dr. Emma Estill-Harbour, Judge Baxter Taylor, W. J. Peteron, Thomas G. Cook, Dr. T. T. Montgomery, Dr. E. E. Dale, Henry B. Bass, R. M. Mountcastle, Dr. Berlin B. Chapman, Judge N. B. Johnson, Judge Edgar S. Vaught, H. Milt Phillips, Col. George H. Shirk, Dr. I. N. McCash, R. G. Miller, Thomas J. Harrison and Mrs. Frank Korn. Dr. Charles Evans, Secretary, was absent because of illness.

The President reported that Mrs. J. Garfield Buell, Judge Thomas A. Edwards, Mrs. Jessie R. Moore, Judge Redmond S. Cole and Judge Robert A. Hefner had sent letters of excuse for their non-attendance at the meeting.

Judge Baxter Taylor made the motion that the absentee members who had notified the President and Secretary be excused as having good and sufficient reasons for their absence. Judge Edgar S. Vaught seconded the motion which passed.

The President asked Col. George Shirk to report on the fencing of the Rose Hill Cemetery property near Hugo, Oklahoma, Col. Shirk being chairman of that committee. He reported that the contracts have been let; that the corners of the forty acres owned by the Society were surveyed by the County Surveyor; that the man with whom the contract had been made to fence the forty acres, had agreed to set the cornerstones free of charge; that new footings had been made and the slabs reset; and that the sum of \$35.00 had been agreed upon for a cattle guard. He also stated that a suit had been filed in the District Court of McCurtain County, with the Oklahoma Historical Society as plaintiff, against Mr. S. G. Story, et al., for the sum of \$2000.00, the value of the timber illegally cut by the defendants on the forty acres owned by the historical society. He stated that the defendants had signified a desire to settle this case but nothing had been done about it to date.

Dr. Emma Estill-Harbour made the motion that Colonel Shirk's report be accepted and that he be commended for the great interest he is taking in this matter. Mr. W. J. Peterson seconded the motion which passed.

President Key stated that at the October 1952 meeting of the Board a committee was appointed, composed of Col. George Shirk, Chairman, Henry B. Bass and R. G. Miller, to make a report to the Board on the physical needs of the Society. He advised that this committee spent considerable time in making an exhaustive survey of the building and of the needs of the various departments and submitted a four-page report covering its findings and recommendations. He read the recommendations of this committee, as follows:

(1) That the newspaper room requirements be submitted to the Legislature and every effort be made to secure an appropriation for \$21,000.00.

(2) The Legislative Committee of the Society work closely with the Board of Affairs in the two appropriations requested by it for the Society.

(3) That the needs of the auditorium repairs not be pressed to the detriment of the more primary needs of the Society.

(4) That the Secretary and the Microfilm Committee meet with the Oklahoma Press Association with a view to microfilming copies of certain metropolitan papers.

(5) That the Society procure at once a minimum of three Space Savers for the museum.

(6) That the Committee, on a continuing basis, work with the Board of Affairs and its staff towards the eventual completion of the East wing stack room.

(7) That no repairs to the fourth floor murals be undertaken at this time.

(8) That the Secretary be requested to submit a plan whereby a lounge room could be provided for the staff.

(9) That further study be undertaken to the recarpeting of the Union and Confederate rooms."

Judge Edgar S. Vaught made the motion that the recommendations of the committee be approved, and that the Space Savers recommended by said committee be purchased out of the regular funds of the Society. Dr. Emma Estill-Harbour seconded the motion which passed.

Mr. H. Milt Phillips stated that the Oklahoma Press Association has begun rather an extensive program for the microfilming of the newspapers at the State Library in the Capitol, where an excellent microfilming project is being carried out. He invited Colonel Shirk, Chairman of the Microfilming Committee of this Society, to meet with the Oklahoma Press Association at the Biltmore Hotel, January 24, that he might be advised relative to the microfilming of the newspapers of Oklahoma. Colonel Shirk accepted the invitation.

The President advised that the regular budget as submitted had been introduced in the Legislature and that he felt reasonably certain it will be passed, and that he hoped the members of the Legislative Committee, Mr. George A. Bowman, Chairman, and Directors H. Milt Phillips and Colonel George Shirk, will contact the Legislature relative to the Society's pending bill.

President Key stated that Mr. James Henry Stone of Kay County, Oklahoma, had presented a deed to a parcel of land in Kay County, Oklahoma on which stands a monument of a horse upon which Mr. Stone made the Run of September 16, 1893, described as follows: "20' square where the monument of the horse I rode in the race for claim September 16, 1893, on part of Northwest Quarter, Section 23, Township 25 North, Range 1 West Indian Meridian in Kay County, Oklahoma." He stated that in behalf of the Society he had expressed appreciation of this gift and invited Mr. Stone to visit the Society. Mr. Henry Bass offered to visit this tract of land soon and report thereon.

The President advised that on November 16, 1952, Mrs. Carolyn Thomas Foreman of Muskogee, Oklahoma, presented to the society a very fine collection to be known as "Rough Rider Collection," consisting of fine

scrap books and bound volumes containing original telegrams relating to the recruiting of Companies L and M of the Rough Riders in Indian Territory, newspaper clippings and magazine articles relative to the parts played by these two companies and others in the Spanish American War, etc., and an American Flag presented to "Miss Thomas" by men of Company L.

Dr. Emma Estill-Harbour made the motion that Mrs. Foreman be thanked for this very wonderful collection. Mr. Thomas J. Harrison seconded the motion which passed.

The Secretary reported that the following gifts had been received:

Five (5) pieces of script issued by the J. J. McAlester Mercantile Company, donor, John Michael Capps, five year old great-great grandson of J. J. McAlester; a walnut chair used by Gov. William C. Renfrow in the executive when he was territorial governor, donor, Renfrow A. Robertson, grandson of Governor Renfrow; a collection of pictorial envelopes, printed during the Spanish American War, donor, Mrs. Alva J. Niles; a large feather fan, donor, Mrs. R. A. Conkling; gifts received from Divonis Worten, M.D.: oil painting of the old Worten home in Kentucky, photograph Dr. Worten, framed photograph group of medical doctors, certificate of merit for fifty years practice of medicine, certificate of Pharmacy issued in 1898 to Dr. Worten, diploma issued to Dr. Worten when he finished medical school, two old histories of Kentucky.

The following pictures have been received:

Oil portraits of Joy Alexander and R. J. Cooper, the outstanding 4H boy and girl for 1953; oil portrait of Gen. Fred S. Forum, presented by his friends; photographs of W. J. Peterson and Thomas G. Cook to be hung in the Directors' room; a group picture of H. L. Muldrow and others; twenty oil pictures purchased by the Society.

It was also reported that the following gifts had been received by the Union Memorial Room during the quarter:

Program for memorial services for Gen. U. S. Grant, presented at Mattoon, Illinois, on August 8, 1885, given by Mrs. Jay Little, Muskogee, who attended the services; Grand Army of the Republic transfer and transcript of the army record of Nelson D. McGinley, Co. L, 15th Kansas Volunteer Cavalry Regiment; Newspaper clippings about Major B. F. Hackett, Union army veteran, presented by Mrs. S. B. Hackett, Norman; photograph of Leopold O'Breiter, Union army veteran and secretary of Grand Post #1, Grand Army of the Republic, presented by Pearl O'Breiter Cheek, Costa Mesa, California, his daughter.

Dr. Berlin B. Chapman made the motion that the above gifts be accepted and that a vote of thanks be extended to the donors. Mrs. Frank Korn seconded the motion which passed.

General Key asked for a report on the Fort Gibson project. Mr. R. M. Mountcastle, Chairman of that committee, reported that nothing had been done to date, but soon he would meet with members of the committee with a view to going forward, even though Mrs. J. Garfield Buell, who was standing the expense of reroofing the Barracks Building is out of the state and unable to meet with the committee.

The matter of the establishment by the legislature of "Oklahoma Historical Day," commemorating the anniversary of the birth of Jean Pierre Chouteau, was discussed. In view of conflicting opinions relative to the date of the establishment of the Chouteau Trading Post at the site of Salina, Mr. R. G. Miller made the motion that the President appoint a

committee of five members of the Board of Directors to study and obtain factual information concerning this matter. Dr. E. E. Dale seconded the motion which was adopted.

Mr. H. Milt Phillips made the motion that the Board of Directors request the special committee on correct historical facts concerning the Chouteau settlement, to prepare the historically correct data to be presented, jointly with the legislative committee, to the proper legislative committees for proper amendments to the statutes establishing Oklahoma Historical Day. Dr. E. E. Dale seconded the motion which passed.

Mr. R. G. Miller called attention to the 1953 annual spring Historical tour, to be held June 4, 5, and 6, and reported the proposed itinerary. The caravan will depart Oklahoma City 7:00 A. M., Thursday, to visit Anadarko, Colony, Cordell, Lugert, Mangum, and Elk City, where the first night will be spent. On Friday, Cheyenne, the site of the Battle of the Washita, Boise City, Fort Nichols, the old Santa Fe Trail, and Guymon, for the night stop and the annual Society meeting, are scheduled. Saturday's stops will include Goodwell and the Panhandle A. and M. museum, Forgan, Ft. Supply, Woodward, Watonga and the Chisholm grave, and return to Oklahoma City. Mr. Miller suggested that Col. Shirk be named to designate the historical markers to be visited.

Judge Baxter Taylor made the motion that a committee composed of Mr. Miller, Col. Shirk, Dr. E. E. Dale and Judge Thomas A. Edwards be appointed to make the tour arrangements. Mr. Thomas J. Harrison seconded the motion which passed.

Mrs. Frank Korn reported that the Oklahoma Memorial Association and the Oklahoma Historical Society are working together on the plans for the observance of the Fiftieth Anniversary of statehood; that a state meeting was held on November 17, 1952 in the auditorium of this historical building, with a large attendance, at which time General Key, President of the Oklahoma Historical Society, and Mr. Puterbaugh, President of the Oklahoma Memorial Association, were called upon to make the plans for the celebration.

President Key then stated that the terms of five members of the Board of Directors of the Oklahoma Historical Society would expire in January 1953. He read from the Constitution and By-Laws, as follows:

"Section 4B. The absence of a member of the Board of Directors from three consecutive regular quarterly meetings of the Board of Directors shall operate to terminate the membership of such director from said board, provided that the attendance of such member at special board meetings during such period shall operate to prevent termination of membership; and provided further, that a written statement from such member that he was reasonably prevented from attending such board meeting may prevent the termination of such membership on such board." He then stated that Mr. N. G. Henthorne, of Tulsa, Oklahoma, had been unable to participate on the Board, so, under the above regulations, his position was vacated.

Judge Baxter Taylor made a motion that Mr. W. J. Peterson, Mr. Thomas G. Cook, Dr. T. T. Montgomery and Mrs. Garfield Buell, Directors whose terms had expired, be reelected for a term of five years. Mrs. Frank Korn seconded the motion which passed.

Dr. E. E. Dale nominated Dr. John Wesley Raley, President of Oklahoma Baptist University, Shawnee, Oklahoma, to succeed Mr. N. G. Henthorne of Tulsa. Dr. T. T. Montgomery seconded the nomination of Dr. Raley. Judge Baxter Taylor made a motion that the rules be suspended and that Dr. John Wesley Raley, President of Oklahoma Baptist

University at Shawnee, Oklahoma, be elected as a Director of the Oklahoma Historical Society. Mr. Thomas J. Harrison seconded the motion which passed.

Dr. E. E. Dale advised that he would be in Australia until the latter part of 1953 and asked to be excused at the meetings of the Board held during his absence. Judge Edgar S. Vaught made a motion that Dr. Dale's absence from any Board meeting for the next nine months be excused. Mr. W. J. Peterson seconded the motion which passed.

The following applicants for membership were presented:

**LIFE:** Edward P. Allen, Oklahoma City; Mrs. Wynema Posey Blaine, Phoenix, Ariz.; Coyne H. Campbell, Oklahoma City; Mrs. Amelia W. Capshaw, Norman; E. Evans Chambers, Enid; Mrs. Hugh B. Hodges, Tulsa; Robert D. Looney, Oklahoma City; B. H. May, Oklahoma City; Mrs. Velma Nieberding, Miami; Pearl E. Pemberton, Oklahoma City; H. Milt Phillips, Seminole; Tom R. Phillips, Holdenville; Glen E. Robberson, Oklahoma City; George H. Rule, Oklahoma City; Elmer J. Sark, Bartlesville; Mrs. Leonard W. Schaefer, Alva; Mrs. Emily C. Scott, West Vancouver, B. C.; Richard D. Stone, Waurika; C. A. Vammen, Oaks; Frank L. Van Eaton, San Francisco, Calif.; M. Anita White, Tulsa.

**ANNUAL:** Edward A. Abernethy, Altus; Rhoda E. Allen, Okmulgee; Jerry B. Allford, Norman; Myron E. Andrews, Washington, D. C.; Thomas Atkins, Weatherford; Virginia Austin, Newkirk; Guy L. Berry, Jr., Sapulpa; H. D. Binns, Coalgate; Floyd Bolds, Tulsa; Mrs. Emma Bradley, Oklahoma City; Frank L. Bradley, Talihina; Blanche C. Brennan, Tulsa; John F. Burton, Oklahoma City; Letha Campbell, Muskogee; W. A. Chapman, Olustee; W. C. Chestnut, Miami; Ralph O. Clark, Oklahoma City; Kenneth C. Cramer, Cleveland, Ohio; Minnie Dawson, Wanette; Hollis Faulkenberry, Coalgate; Julian Fields, Enid; Lavern Fishel, Coalgate; R. Gordon Gray, Tulsa; Henry Green, Coalgate; Luther Gregory, Ketchum; Charles E. Grounds, Seminole; Mrs. C. I. Hannis, Tulsa; Thomas J. Hartman, Catoosa; Casper A. Hicks, Holdenville; George Hill, Coalgate; Joan Hill, Tulsa; Roy M. Hunter, Tulsa; Cecil James, Pittsburg; Howard R. Jarrell, Tulsa; Ed. Jones, Coalgate; Albert G. Kulp, Tulsa; Bertha M. Levy, Oklahoma City; Floyd Landon, Coalgate; J. R. Lawrence, Tulsa; A. C. Lisle, Jr., Oklahoma City; John O. Littleton, Santa Fe, N. Mex.; Gladys Ludwig, Oklahoma City; H. G. McDonald, Frederick; Mrs. A. Marvin McInnis, Oklahoma City; H. K. Maxwell, Okemah; J. S. Maytubby, Clarita; J. J. Miller, Coalgate; W. O. Millican, Jr., Ft. Worth, Texas; John W. Morris, Norman; Mrs. G. A. Moyer, Gags; Sarah Clarke Paris, Chelsea; Mary Lou Parks, Tulsa; Helen Jean Poulton, Stillwater; Donald E. Powers, Washington, D. C.; Thelma Hall Quast, Deer Lodge, Mont.; Mrs. George Clark Rogers, Jefferson City, Tenn.; McLain Rogers, Clinton; Mrs. W. C. Seago, Oklahoma City; Horace H. Shelton, Austin, Tex.; J. D. Smith, Coalgate; A. R. Sugg, Ada; J. C. Taliaferro, Seminole; Noel Thomason, Coalgate; Ralph Trotter, Mathis, Texas; Lee Wade, Coalgate; Ralph Alden Waggoner, Okemah; Riley Wilson, Coalgate; Ferris T. Wolf, Lawrence, Kans.; Mrs. Claude Wright, Tulsa.

Judge Baxter Taylor made a motion that each be elected and admitted as members of the Society in the class as indicated in the list. Mr. W. J. Peterson seconded the motion which passed.

President Key called attention to a letter recommending that a portrait of Joseph Huckins be accepted. Dr. Harbour made the motion that this matter be referred to the Committee composed of Judge Edgar S. Vaught, Judge Baxter Taylor and Judge Robert A. Hefner. Dr. E. E. Dale seconded the motion which passed.

Colonel George Shirk reported on the Worcester Cemetery project, in Cherokee County, Oklahoma, stating that a fee title had been given to the Oklahoma Historical Society by the county commissioners of Cherokee County, to this cemetery; and that Mr. Carter of Muskogee, Oklahoma, who owns the adjoining land has agreed to give twenty-six feet adjoining said cemetery for a roadway; that the county has agreed to build the road, but the society will have to build a cattle guard. He stated that Mr. Henry Bass and he will visit the cemetery soon to meet with the local committee, relative to cleaning the cemetery, resetting the stones, painting the old iron fence, etc. He said that he believed the Board of County Commissioners of Cherokee County should be extended a vote of thanks for giving the society a fee title to Worcester Cemetery. He reminded the Board that Mr. Bass was giving the funds to do the work, and stated that he felt the Society should erect a nice sign at the site.

Mr. Thomas G. Cook made a motion that the County Commissioners of Cherokee County, Oklahoma, be thanked for giving to this society a fee title to Worcester Cemetery. Mr. R. M. Mountcastle seconded the motion which passed.

Mr. R. G. Miller presented to the members of the Board a pamphlet, "Questions Oklahoma Answers," compiled by Mr. Miller, containing answers to a great many questions about the state of Oklahoma. It was unanimously agreed that this pamphlet was much needed in this state.

Judge N. B. Johnson stated that many questions were asked about the Indian people of Oklahoma, and that he felt a brochure should be published dealing exclusively with the Indians of Oklahoma, there being some three or four hundred thousands of Indians in Oklahoma. Dr. E. E. Dale suggested that the Secretary put out a Brochure on Oklahoma Indians, stating that he felt Miss Muriel H. Wright, Associate Editor, could do a wonderful piece of work on this brochure. Mr. Miller stated that that matter was being considered for the next brochure.

Judge N. B. Johnson stated that the entire Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes objects to the changing of the State Flag as recently proposed.

Dr. Emma Estill Harbour made a motion to adjourn. Mr. W. J. Peterson seconded the motion which passed.

WM. S. KEY, President

CHARLES EVANS, Secretary