

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR QUARTERLY MEETING OF  
THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE OKLAHOMA  
HISTORICAL SOCIETY HELD IN THE  
HISTORICAL SOCIETY BUILDING  
JULY 29th, 1954**

The meeting of the Board of Directors was called to order by the President of the Society, General W. S. Key, who stated that because of the inability of Dr. Evans, the Secretary, to be present because of illness, he was asking Miss Muriel H. Wright to sit in on the meeting. He asked that Miss Wright call the roll and it was found that the following members were present: General W. S. Key, Mr. Henry B. Bass, Judge Redmond S. Cole, Dr. E. E. Dale, Mrs. Thomas J. Harrison, Mrs. Anna B. Korn, Mr. R. G. Miller, Mrs. Jessie R. Moore, Col. George H. Shirk, Judge Edgar S. Vaught, Judge Baxter Taylor, Justice N. B. Johnson and Mr. H. Milt Phillips. Mrs. Ethel P. Buell, Dr. Berlin B. Chapman, Judge Thomas A. Edwards, Mr. W. J. Peterson and Mr. R. M. Mountcastle were excused for good and sufficient reason.

General Key brought up for discussion Dr. Evans' resignation. He stated that he had talked with the Secretary and that he wanted to be released August 1, 1954. Therefore, he made the recommendation to the Board that this be done. He urged, however, that the Board keep Dr. Evans on special duty during the month of August and that his duty will be to continue the program he has undertaken of soliciting Life Time Memberships. The President proposed that at the end of August he be given 30 days final leave of absence. So he will leave the payroll as of the last day of September, but he will leave as Secretary the last day of July.

Judge Baxter Taylor made a motion that Dr. Evans' resignation be accepted and that he be released to do this particular work he has outlined during the month of August and that he be given September as a paid leave of absence.

Mr. Thomas J. Harrison offered a substitute motion. He stated that Dr. Evans has rendered a fine service to the Oklahoma Historical Society and suggested that they ask him to stay on until the first of January. Mrs. Korn seconded the motion and a written ballot was taken. The motion did not carry.

Judge Vaught made a motion that Dr. Evans be released effective July 31st, upon conditions set forth by the President and also that Dr. Evans be elected Secretary Emeritus for the rest of his life. The motion was seconded by Mr. Bass and carried unanimously.

Judge Baxter Taylor arose and read a resolution he wished to present as the sentiments of the Board and to be adopted by it relating to Secretary Evans' life and service to the Society. After its reading, it was adopted. It ran as follows:

**"DR. CHARLES EVANS ON HIS RETIREMENT  
FROM THE OKLAHOMA HISTORICAL SOCIETY SECRETARYSHIP."**

**"The press of the state has recently carried the information that Dr. Charles Evans is retiring at the end of this week as Secretary of the**

Oklahoma Historical Society. Thus he severs a close and beneficent relationship that has existed for ten years.

"When Dr. Evans assumed the responsibilities of directing the vital work of the Oklahoma Historical Society, it was near the close of a long toilsome era of this institution. Soon the old leaders passed from the scene, and the Society entered a new era.

"Dr. Evans has been the eyes, ears, the voice and directing mind of the Society under the authority of this Board in these critical and crucial ten years. A man of ripe scholarship and of broad learning and culture and able of speech, he gave new life and vitality to the Society. He opened its doors to public appreciation. He awakened and energized the public interest as never before in this great Institution's usefulness, its noble purposes, and its work of implanting in the hearts of the people the spiritual values that enrich the life of the State. More than any other person of this era, Dr. Evans made our Historical Society a cultural fountain whose waters irrigate and fruitify the patriotic and the spiritual of the rising generations. Of a cultured soul, of refined sensibilities, he has led the lifting of the Society to the high hills of achievement that it never before attained.

"When Dr. Evans goes out here he will leave his lasting touch, and the vibrance of a voice to encourage and inspire the people of our glorious commonwealth. To him this Board of Directors of the Oklahoma Historical Society offers their enduring gratitude, and may God be with him. This is our parting word and farewell."

General Key read a letter which had been sent to him by Dr. I. N. McCash. He asked that it be included in the Notes and Documents for the *Chronicles*, which was approved by the Board.

Judge Vaught moved that Miss Muriel H. Wright be elected with full Secretary salary until such time as the Board elects a Secretary. The matter of selecting a Secretary to be decided by the Executive Committee. After discussion, the motion was seconded by Col. Shirk and carried.

General Key brought up the report of the State Examiner and Inspector and read a letter which had been received from Mr. R. W. Dugan, the Examiner. General Kay stated that in regard to the Revolving Fund, many brochures had been given in courtesy for the Society's benefit to members of the Legislature, the Executive Officers and the Exchanges and this had reduced the cash in the Revolving Fund by a small amount. He also stated that the last issue of the brochure, *A Brief Pictorial History of Oklahoma*, cost more than the 50 cents per copy for which it was sold. He called attention to Mr. Dugan's letter saying that all accounts were in splendid order. The members of the Board unanimously agreed these brochures had been of great help to the Society and the State throughout the Nation.

Mrs. Jessie R. Moore brought up the subject of the payment of Dr. Evans salary and the payment of the additional amount after August 1, 1954 to Miss Wright. It was moved by Col. Shirk that Dr. Evans would be paid his regular salary until he leaves and that the portion necessary to bring Miss Wright's salary up to the amount the Secretary received should be paid out of the Special Fund. The motion was seconded by Judge Vaught and carried unanimously. General Key stated that after the end of his month, Miss Wright will be acting Secretary and as such will approve all documents and vouchers.

It was decided that Miss Wright would act as Editor of the *Chronicles* and *News Letter* for the time being.

Mr. R. G. Miller stated that he thought the "News Letter" should be abolished. Judge Cole said he disagreed very strongly, saying the "News Letter" is a very part of the work, that it reached the people that are not reached in the *Chronicles*. Mr. Milt Phillips thought that the "News Letter" should be continued and stated that he read it carefully and turned it over to friends of his who read it.

Mrs. Jessie R. Moore taking up the matter of the Report of the House Committee stated that she was very disappointed in the recommended action not to do anything about the repair of the Murals. After a discussion it was decided that Dr. Jacobson should be called to meet with the Committee at some future date and go over with them the subject of this repair.

Judge Vaught moved that the Board approve the carrying out of the items which the House Committee had recommended as needing immediate attention and that the Committee assist the Acting Secretary in carrying out this. The monies to pay for these items were to be taken out of the Special Fund. Judge Taylor seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

The matter of the rearrangement of the Statuary Hall Section on the 3rd Floor and the placing of cases of flags offered by the American Legion was presented by Col. Shirk and after discussion, it was decided to pass upon this at a later date.

Mr. R. G. Miller was asked to give his views of the tour for next year. He recommended that it be made in April and that the tour be over the old Washington Irving Trail. He stated that New York State had promised to send a Pullman car loaded with tourists from New York to attend the tour. He thought that the big problem would be to interest Oklahomans in this tour. He suggested that outside help, persons along the route, be invited to meet with the Board to make plans. He said that some group had requested that he and Miss Wright be sent to New York to consult with the historians there about the Washington Irving Trail.

Judge Vaught moved that the matter of sending officials to New York be taken up at the January 1955 meeting. The motion was seconded by Dr. Harbour and carried.

Dr. Dale arose and said he wanted to make some comments. He felt that he had not been a very good Director these last few years and that he had been invited to Houston, Texas to do some lecturing there which would take him away from Oklahoma from September until June next year and that since he would not be able to attend the meetings of the Board, perhaps, he should resign. The Directors all stated that they would not hear of this. He also stated that he and Dr. James D. Morrison had been commissioned to write the biography of the late Judge R. L. Williams and he called upon everyone who might have Williams' letters or other material, to please send them into him.

Col. Shirk reported that he was very discouraged in his findings regarding the Jones Cemetery. However, he stated that the last time he saw it, it looked better than it has at any time. He had talked to Dr. James D. Morrison of Durant. Dr. Morrison has a history club and he has agreed that he and his club would assume the care of the Cemetery.

Col. Shirk recommended that the sum of \$125.00 be appropriated for the purpose of restoring the slabs, the cutting down of all trees inside the

walls that are not a part of the landscape, to clean and beautify it and burn and destroy all the junk and that the responsibility be turned over to Dr. Morrison and his club. Mr. Harrison seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Col. Shirk read the following statement regarding a flag which had been given to the Society:

"On March 17, 1909 Representative Dick T. Morgan, Second Congressional District, Oklahoma, my native state, appointed the undersigned as his secretary and in which capacity he served during the ensuing Congresses until his enlistment in 1917.

"On April 6, 1917, President Woodrow Wilson appeared before Congress assembled in the chamber of the House of Representatives and delivered his famous war message. Due to the tremendous demand for tickets and the limited space in the House galleries, only one ticket was allotted to each member of Congress. Mrs. Morgan being unable to attend, the ticket fell to the undersigned's fortunate lot and thus the opportunity to hear the witness the message, debate and vote.

"The flag of the United States always flies over the Capitol, and also over the House wing of the Capitol when the House is in session. The undersigned having a desire to possess the flag that flew over the House on this memorable day requested same of the Sergeant at Arms of the House, and the request was granted, and which flag is now presented to the Oklahoma Historical Society."

/s/ "Barritt Galloway"

After the presentation, Mr. Phillips moved that this flag be accepted and it be so recorded in the minutes. Motion was seconded by Mr. Miller and carried unanimously.

Mrs. Jessie R. Moore, Treasurer, read the financial report. Col. Shirk moved that the Treasurer's report be accepted. The motion was seconded by Mr. Bass and carried unanimously.

Justice N. B. Johnson then presented the following Resolution:

#### RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the City of Tulsa, Oklahoma, has called a bond election in the amount of Two and One-Quarter Million Dollars for the purpose of paying off outstanding obligations against the Gilcrease Museum which will keep the Museum in the State of Oklahoma, and

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors of the Oklahoma Historical Society is cognizant of the educational, cultural and historical values of said Museum to the people of this State and believe it would be to the best interest of the citizenship to keep said Museum in Oklahoma,

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Directors of the Oklahoma Historical Society at its regular quarterly meeting this 29th day of July, 1954, that said Board go on record as approving said action and commending Hon. L. C. Clark, Mayor of the City of Tulsa, and the City Commission for their efforts to keep said Gilcrease Museum in the State of Oklahoma.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution be mailed to the Mayor of the City of Tulsa, the Tulsa City Commission, the *Tulsa Daily World* and the *Tulsa Tribune*.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE  
OKLAHOMA HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

By /s/ MURIEL H. WRIGHT

Acting Secretary

Dated this 29th day of July, 1954.

Mr. Bass made a motion that the list of new members presented by the Secretary and also the list of gifts made this Society be accepted. This motion was seconded by Dr. Dale and carried unanimously.

*LIFE MEMBERS:*

Altus, Oklahoma: Mr. T. M. Robinson.  
Ardmore, Oklahoma: Mr. Ward S. Merrick.  
Bartlesville, Oklahoma: Mr. T. R. Cobb.  
Cushing, Oklahoma: Mr. Hugh R. Hughes.  
Hugo, Oklahoma: Mr. Oscar Gardner.  
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma: Mrs. Evelyn E. Borah, Mr. Ralph A. Borah,  
Mr. J. B. Rivers, Mr. T. Murray Robinson, Dr. Stanley Clark and  
Mr. Stanton L. Young.  
Ponca City, Oklahoma: Mr. Merl Philby Long.  
McAlester, Oklahoma: Mr. George A. Whiteacre.  
Sapulpa, Oklahoma: Mr. Charley F. Bartlett.  
Tonkawa, Oklahoma: Mr. Ralph W. Casey.  
Tulsa, Oklahoma: Cascia Hall Prep. School Library, Mrs. Minnie  
Kennedy Manion, Mrs. Norman M. Smith.  
Vinita, Oklahoma: Mrs. Jasper E. Smith.  
Deer Lodge, Montana: Mrs. Thelma Quast.  
Portsmouth, Ohio: Mr. John B. Fink.  
Dallas, Texas: Mr. W. Dow Hamm.

*ANNUAL MEMBERS:*

Blackwell, Oklahoma: Miss S. Temperance Pryor.  
Cushing, Oklahoma: Mr. Earnest Dooley.  
Drumright, Oklahoma: Mr. A. C. Kelly, Sr.  
Enid, Oklahoma: Mr. David S. Russell.  
Guymon, Oklahoma: Mr. T. F. Wright.  
Hortshorne, Oklahoma: Mrs. B. O. Patterson.  
Hinton, Oklahoma: Mrs. Joe McFarland.  
Hobart, Oklahoma: Mrs. E. M. Watkins.  
Miami, Oklahoma: Mrs. Ermina V. Campbell, Mr. Guy Jennison.  
Muskogee, Oklahoma: Marie L. Hayes, Mr. Vaud T. Travis, Jr.  
Norman, Oklahoma: Mrs. Christine A. Virgin.  
Nowata, Oklahoma: Mrs. T. R. McSpadden.  
Okemah, Oklahoma: Mrs. Glenn Estes Dill, Sr.  
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma: Miss Zaide E. Carter, Mrs. Ople D. Evans.  
Mrs. Bertha E. Hines, Mrs. Naomi M. Howard, Mrs. Cordia Mc-  
Laughlin, Mr. Leon J. Tyson, Miss Jeanette True.  
Pauls Valley, Oklahoma: Mr. Calvin L. Barton.  
Perry, Oklahoma: Mr. Paul W. Cress.  
Ponca City, Oklahoma: Fr. Elmer C. Robnett.  
Pryor, Oklahoma: Mr. Homer L. Ramsey, Mr. Byron Smith.  
Purcell, Oklahoma: Dr. W. C. McCurdy, Miss Nancy Williams.  
Sallisaw, Oklahoma: Mr. Bert Cotton, Mr. Wm. P. Danford.  
Shawnee, Oklahoma: Mr. J. Ralph Graves.  
Smithville, Oklahoma: Mr. Coleman J. Ward.  
Spiro, Oklahoma: Mrs. L. S. Moore.  
Stillwater, Oklahoma: Mrs. Talley W. Shockey.  
Tahlequah, Oklahoma: Miss Lorena L. Travis

Tonkawa, Oklahoma: Mr. V. R. Easterling, Mrs. J. O. Casey.  
 Tulsa, Oklahoma: Mrs. Grace M. Brown, Mr. Virgil Fly, Mr. Victor C. Hurt, Mrs. Virginia Mayo Ownby, Mrs. F. M. Pinney, Mr. George W. Reed, Jr., Mr. Paul Spencer Reed, Mrs. Dema E. Smith.  
 Vinita, Oklahoma: Mr. Vernon Haggerton.  
 Weatherford, Oklahoma: Prof. H. H. Risinger.  
 Wewoka, Oklahoma: Mr. Henry Duncan Moore.  
 Los Angeles, California: Mrs. J. C. Richards.  
 LaJunta, Colorado: Mr. Guy Turrentine.  
 Michigan City, Indiana: Mr. Charles North.  
 Cherokee, Iowa: Mr. W. D. Frankforter.  
 Gulfport, Mississippi: Col. Taylor W. Foreman.  
 Trenton, New Jersey: Mr. L. L. Beans.  
 Washington, D. C.: Miss Lydia Vacin.

**GIFTS RECEIVED.** Union Memorial Room: 2 Canteens, Swords and cases, Powder Horn, Sash and framed photograph of Captain C. P. Sweet, received from Mrs. Darwin A. Sweet, Shawnee, Oklahoma.

Museum. Items and pictures: Valuable addition to the Owen Collection given by Dorothea Owen includes four pieces of glassware and two china cups and saucers that were owned by George Washington and were used at Mount Vernon; a cup and saucer that was owned by Thomas Jefferson and used at Monticello; two large ornamental tortoise shell combs and one silver comb; five feather fans, one antique black lace fan; embroidered silk under sleeves for a Chinese Mandarin coat; silk embroidered Chinese Woman's skirt; a black silk shawl embroidered in colors, a white silk shawl embroidered in white, a white silk shawl embroidered in colors; a lace collar of Irish crochet, a Brussels lace collar, a beautiful Venetian lace collar, a Battenburg collar, a large Irish Crochet collar; fifteen feather hair ornaments, some of which are beautiful Bird of Paradise feathers; two squares of antique applique and three blouses made by the San Blas Indians of Central America; six small wooden figures brought from France at the close of World War I by Capt. Burgoyne Hamilton.

Mr. Coleman J. Ward presented two horse shoes and a hymn book.

Mrs. Edith Ross Simpson presented a certificate of membership in the Payne Colony issued to M. D. Moore, signed by W. L. Couch.

Mrs. Sam Smith presented a scrap book.

A white orandle cap 152 years old, ribbon belt worn in 1836 by Susan Jane Hedden on her wedding dress, book "The Finished Scholar" by Wm. H. Murray. 1876 Diary of B. W. Abbott, Etna, Maine, 1857 diary, 1860 diary, 1864 diary, 1861 diary, presented by Mrs. Myrtle Creason.

A Hnsey-woolsey drape and a paisley shawl, both very old, presented by Ruth Copley Tracy and Naomi Copley Nelson.

Mrs. Eva Gillhouse presented picture of Frank Eaton braiding his hair. Frank Eaton and Rolla Goodnight, Frank Eaton, B. G. Woodruff, George Maledon, Texas Tom, Frank Eaton and Chief Brown; Frank Eaton and Jasper Exendine, Ed Webster and Frank Eaton at the old Headquarters Ranch House in the Cherokee Nation.

The following were presented by Mrs. Myrtle Creason: baby picture of Carter Kent Pendell, Mary Brown Joslyn, Mary F. Brown Joslyn, Lewis Brown, Mary F. Brown, Susan B. Anthony, Burl Nash, Confederate Veteran, Knox Beall, 7 hunting scenes taken in the west.

Mrs. Frank Buttram presented a water color picture of the Indian Thunderbird and this has been framed.

Items Received in Library:

Mr. John W. Hinkle, Stillwater Oklahoma, through Mr. Thomas J. Harrison of Pryor Oklahoma, presented the following items:

*The Oklahoma Club Woman*, Vol. 1 July 1910 numbers 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6  
Vol. 1 Jan. 1911 numbers 7-9  
Vol. 1 Nov. 1911 number 1

*Miscellany—University of Tulsa* 1930, Vol. 1 number 2  
by the Literary Students of the University of Tulsa.

*Poems of a High School Student* by Elmer LeRoy Baker, 1925

*Home-Spun Poems* by P. M. Eyler, 1939

*The Cow and Her Brother* by Freeman E. Miller (Read before the Oklahoma Livestock Association, Woodward, Okla., February 12-14, 1901) Original poem.

*Calling the Roll at Hennessey*. Original poem by Freeman E. Miller (Read before the Oklahoma Editorial Association, November 15-16, 1897).

There being no further business, a motion was made by Col. Shirk and seconded by Dr. Harbour that the meeting of the Board of Directors be adjourned. This passed unanimously.

/ s/ W. S. KEY, *President*

/s/ CHARLES EVANS, *Secretary*