
The regular quarterly and annual meeting of the Oklahoma Historical Society was held in the Director's room of the Historical building on Thursday, January 27, 1955. The meeting was called to order by President William S. Key, and the following Directors answered roll call:

Mr. H. B. Bass, Judge R. L. Bowman, Dr. B. B. Chapman, Judge Redmond S. Cole, Dr. Emma Estill-Harbour, Mr. Thomas J. Harrison, Judge Robert A. Hefner, Gen. Wm. S. Key, Mrs. Anna B. Korn, Mr. S. E. Lee, Mr. R. G. Miller, Mr. H. Milt Phillips, Col. George H. Shirk, Judge Baxter Taylor, Judge Edgar S. Vaught, Mrs. Jessie R. Moore and the Secretary, Miss Muriel H. Wright.

The following Directors were excused as having good and sufficient reason for being absent:

Mrs. Garfield Buell, Dr. E. E. Dale, Justice N. B. Johnson, Mr. R. M. Mountcastle and Dr. John W. Raley.

Judge Hefner moved that members be excused from attendance of this meeting of the Board of Directors. Motion seconded by Judge Bowman. There being no objections, the motion was approved.

Judge Taylor took the floor and stated that with some hesitancy, he wished to call attention of the continued absenteeism of several of the Board members. He contended that if any member cannot attend the quarterly meetings of the Board, he or she should resign even though excused: "The purpose of meeting here is to serve and some of the members have not been living up to their obligations. I merely make these statements for I want the Board to direct its attention to this absenteeism; all too frequently Directors are absent without good excuse."

General Key advised that following the last meeting he wrote four of the members who have been absent on several occasions, asking for their more active interest and support, and was delighted with the response he received. Mr. Lee had stated that he had his plans all made to be more active in the Historical Society; we are greatly pleased to have him present today. Dr. Raley did not understand definitely the date and like other professional men, is extremely busy. However, Dr. Raley says he will be more active in the future. These members are needed in the work here. Our old friend John Easley from Ardmore is again not with us today but we know that he will become more active on this Board. Mrs. Buell has not been an active member, but she has made material contributions in the work of this Society in the matter of the buildings at Fort Gibson. "So out of the four," General Key's remarks closed, "I know two who will become more active: Mr. Lee and Dr. Raley and I hope John Easley will too."

Judge Redmond S. Cole was recognized and stated that he was in Muskogee and talked to Mr. Mountcastle yesterday noon, who asked an explanation be presented to the Board for his absence today, because of pressing engagements in his office.

General Key then stated that unfortunately, two of our active members are no longer with us in life; our good friends Judge Edwards and Mr. W. J. Peterson.
Judge Taylor arose and said he wanted to call attention in a solemn way to the Board, of the recent death of three of its members:

"Since the annual meeting of the Board of Directors of the Oklahoma Historical Society, three of our members have passed from life. They are Dr. T. T. Montgomery of Durant, Hon. W. J. Peterson of Okmulgee, and Judge Thomas A. Edwards of Cordell.

"Dr. Montgomery became a member of this Board November 1, 1951. Mr. Peterson became a member April 23, 1936, and Judge Edwards served from February 2, 1926, nearly thirty years.

"These fine men, each in his community, stood in neighborly and public recognition of his superior merits and virtues as a fellow citizen and a neighbor. And to be truly a good citizen is one of the noblest attainments in American life. These three of our late and lamented brother members were good citizens in the highest sense and good men.

"At a later time and in proper manner, fitting memorial tributes to these noble men will appear in The Chronicles.

"We lament their passing; they were members that this Board of Directors will grievously miss.

"Their earthly pilgrimage has ended. To them we pay mournful homage; to them we bid a melancholy farewell."

At the conclusion of this eulogy, General Key asked that the Board stand for a minute in silent prayer as tribute to these departed Directors.

Judge Hefner moved that this eulogy by Judge Taylor be made a part of the permanent record of our Society. The motion was seconded by all Directors and passed unanimously.

Mr. Phillips then moved, seconded by Judge Hefner, that the Secretary read the minutes of the Executive Committee meeting held this month:

12 January 1955

MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

"A special meeting of the Executive Committee of the Oklahoma Historical Society met at the Oklahoma Club in Oklahoma City at 12 noon, January 12, 1955. The following members of the Committee were present:

Gen. W. S. Key
Judge Redmond Cole
Judge Baxter Taylor
Judge Robert A. Hefner
Judge Edgar S. Vaught
Mrs. Jessie Moore
Mr. R. G. Miller

Although not a member of the Committee, George H. Shirk attended and acted at the request of the President as temporary secretary.

"The president called to the attention of the meeting that a member of the Board of Directors of long and faithful service Judge Thomas A. Edwards had passed away 6 January 1955. The meeting paused in his memory and all present expressed great regret at the announcement.

"Mr. Miller reported that the annual Historical Tour was planned for 29th and 30th April, with a night meeting in Muskogee on Thursday 28 April, and the tour to follow the Washington Irving route as far as
Oklahoma City from Ft. Gibson. First night stop at Stillwater, and the second night would include a banquet meeting at Oklahoma City. He reported detailed plans for his committee. It was moved, seconded and upon a vote adopted, that his report be approved, and that the Tour proceed as he had reported.

"The meeting then discussed the publication of The Chronicles of Oklahoma. All agreed that Miss Wright had done a great work in its publication. It was moved that Miss Wright be named Editor of The Chronicles of Oklahoma, to operate under the following policies:

a. Although Editor, and in charge of the publication department, her department would be like any other department of the Society, and would work under the supervision of the Executive Secretary; with the secretary reporting to the Board on all matters of cost, circulation and administrative details of the publication thereof.

b. That all matters of editorial content be under the supervision of the Publications Committee.

"The motion was seconded, and upon a vote was adopted unanimously.

"The president then appointed the following as members of the Publications Committee:

The Executive Secretary
R. G. Miller
E. E. Dale
Milt Phillips
George H. Shirk
Muriel H. Wright

"It was moved by Judge Taylor that Elmer Fraker, of Oklahoma City be employed as Executive Secretary of the Society, with duties to commence 1 March 1955, at an annual salary of $6500, payable monthly, and with any portion of such salary not payable out of appropriated funds to be paid out of the private funds of the Society. The motion was seconded by Judge Cole, and upon a vote was adopted unanimously.

"Mr. Fraker joined the meeting, and a discussion followed on the overall affairs of the Society.

"It was agreed that no announcement be made of the selection until a joint announcement be prepared by the Society and by Mr. Fraker.

"The president agreed to submit the action of the Committee to the Board for final adoption, but that in view of the urgency of the matter, that absent members of the Board be polled at once by telephone.

"The meeting adjourned.

George H. Shirk
Acting Secretary."

Mr. Phillips took the floor and made the motion that the Board of Directors approve and heartily commend the action of the Executive Committee in the selection of Mr. Fraker as Secretary of this Society. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Korn, Mr. Harrison and Judge Bowman, and carried unanimously.

Judge Taylor commented that for those who do not know Mr. Fraker, as he does: Mr. Fraker was reared in Oklahoma; he is a school man, teacher of history; he is State Adjutant of the American Legion and has been most diligent, active and loyal to those he serves. He is strong in
the American Legion; he knows the requirements of work before the Legislature; knows members of both the House and the Senate personally. Mr. Fraker can be of great service in obtaining proper appropriations for the Historical Society. He is a man of strength and character which give promise that he will run this Society with complete efficiency and satisfaction.

Mr. Phillips was recognized and stated: "So far as I know, there has never been a person elected to this Board who has not been an outstanding citizen, but I am wondering if the Board has or could develop a policy of selling the Society to our outstanding citizens who may be nominated for Directors. If some one I proposed to this Board should be elected, I would have no hesitancy in spending an afternoon or evening going over the opportunity afforded in sitting on this Board, also advising on some of the obligations he would have to assume in becoming a member. Then if that person realized the importance of his position in serving on this Board, you would have a member who would be diligent and active in his support. My suggestion is that every person elected on this Board be subject to final confirmation at a subsequent meeting when they can be present and willing to give us their pledge of service here. I know there is a fine person on the list I have recommended. If that person should be elected to this Board, I would like to have the opportunity to go to this person and have a good talk with her about the obligations and I would want her here at the next meeting and give to the Board her pledge of willingness to serve and if she could not, then it would be no reflection on her."

General Key suggested that all newly elected members be asked to accept the honor and responsibility which goes with the position.

Mr. Harrison noted that the Constitution says when we elect a new Director, he or she automatically assumes the responsibilities and duties of this Society.

Mr. Bass rose and stated he was one of the newer members of the Board, but is intensely interested in the Society and expects to devote the rest of his life in working in its behalf. He thinks the greatest weakness in the Society is the Board of Directors, by not being sufficiently interested in every phase of the Society. There are too many on the Board who are not interested enough to go to the meetings when they can, and Directors who cannot attend should automatically be dropped. He further stated that he thought Dr. McCash had the right idea: He reached the age when he could not be active and resigned, and the Board appointed him an inactive Honorary Director.

General Key introduced Mr. Elmer Fraker, the newly elected Secretary of this Society, who remarked, "I thank you for the confidence you have placed in me. As you know, like the politicians say 'I did not seek this position' but I am happy to accept it. I feel like it is an opportunity I am getting where one can make a real contribution to the State. I want to pay tribute to my predecessor, Dr. Evans, who spent a lot of time and work here, and I am sure if we look at the Society at the time he started and when he left, he accomplished quite a bit. I think we are all acquainted with this problem; many institutions such as this all lack more funds, more money, and I know as I go along in this new position, I will have to learn and will need the whole-hearted cooperation of the staff. So I am going to have to study and take some time and do not expect to make quick or rash decisions. I do know this: This institution is desperately in need of more finances. I have already done a little talking to men here and there who are acquainted with this situation, and all of them say 'you do not ask for enough money.' Before I sit down I would like to mention in talking with some leaders in the Legislature, it has been mentioned that there is some work to be done on the plans for a big
celebration, the Semi-Centennial of Oklahoma as a State and this thought has been given to me by some of the leaders: That the Oklahoma Historical Society can probably play a considerable part in their big 1967 celebration and also with certain other observances in the state; we can have much to do with plans and promotion although there is no plan to spend lots of money. They do not want to hire a group of people to put on this celebration. I would like to be permitted to write a letter to the Governor and the Speaker pro tem of the Senate and the Speaker of the House, in which I would offer our assistance in this Semi-Centennial project."

Judge Bowman stated the next order of business was the election of Board members to fill the vacancies caused by the expiration of terms, and moved that the following Directors: Gen. Wm. S. Key, Judge Edgar Vaught, Judge Robert A. Hefner, Justice N. B. Johnson and Judge Baxter Taylor whose terms expire today, be reelected for the ensuing term which he remembered to be five years. Motion was seconded by Dr. Harbour and carried unanimously.

Judge Hefner moved the adoption of the following Resolution: That on the election of new members to the Board, that the president direct a letter to the new members asking them to appear at the next meeting of the Board after their election (or the first meeting they can attend) and before they enter on the duties, they be asked the question as to their willingness to assume the responsibility and work for the best interests of this organization. This motion was seconded by Mrs. Moore and carried unanimously.

General Key stated there were three vacancies caused by the untimely death of three members and proposed to fill the vacancies in the interim by the regular election today. The names of those to be elected were submitted thirty days prior to this meeting and each of the Directors were furnished with a list of nominees.

Mr. Miller rose and asked if another name could be submitted at this time.

Several of the Directors referred to the motion of Judge Hefner in the last meeting and General Key asked the Secretary to read that portion of the Minutes of the October 28th meeting pertaining to this question:

"When an interim vacancy occurs on the Board, the attention of the Board be called to this at the next meeting after the vacancy occurs, and nominations to fill the interim vacancy be received at that meeting or any time thereafter until a period of thirty days before the next meeting; and it will be the duty of the Secretary to send to members of the Board the names of those who have been nominated and this information should be marked 'Confidential'."

Mr. Harrison moved we proceed to elect the new members.

General Key suggested that under the circumstances we should fill these three vacancies at this time, subject to their acceptance.

Judge Bowman moved that election be held to fill the three vacancies occurring at this time, subject to acceptance by those elected. Motion seconded by Mr. Harrison, Mr. Phillips and Mrs. Moore.

Judge Cole suggested that the foregoing motion be amended to provide that the first name receiving the highest number of votes be elected to fill the unexpired term of Dr. Montgomery; the second highest, to fill the unexpired term of Judge Edwards, and the third highest to fill the unexpired term of Mr. Peterson. Mrs. Moore seconded the amended motion and it carried unanimously.

Mr. Miller submitted the name of Genevieve Seger, and stated further as a requisite for a Board member: Miss Seger is president of the Blaine
County Historical Society and there is no person who works more in the business of history than she. She and her father met us at Colony on the 1953 Historical Tour and in going back to her office, I mentioned the possibility of her name being offered at some time.

Mrs. Moore suggested that each vacancy should be filled by some one who lived in the same territory as the deceased and the new members elected from those territories.

The names of the nominees were read by the Secretary as follows:

Mr. Exall English, Lawton, Okla.
Mr. Fred Drummond, Hominy, Okla.
Dr. James D. Morrison, Durant, Okla.
Dr. L. Wayne Johnson, Stillwater, Okla.
Mr. Garland Godfrey, Durant, Okla.
Mrs. Frank Sewell, Oklahoma City (withdrawn)
Judge Hiner Dale, Gaymon, Okla.
Mrs. Willis C. Reed, Vinita, Okla.
Miss Genevieve Seger, Geary, Okla.

A written ballot was then taken and Mrs. Willis C. Reed was elected to serve out the unexpired term of Dr. T. T. Montgomery; Miss Genevieve Seger to fill out the unexpired term of Judge Edwards, and Mr. Exall English, to fill out the unexpired term of Mr. W. J. Peterson.

Since the last Board meeting, 23 Life Membership applications and 111 Annual Membership applications have been received as follows:

**LIFE MEMBERS:**

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<tr>
<th>Hon. Don E. Baldwin</th>
<th>Anadarko, Okla.</th>
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<td>Mr. Fred A. Chapman</td>
<td>Ardmore, Okla.</td>
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<td>Dr. L. L. Long</td>
<td>Beaver, Okla.</td>
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<td>Mrs. Ruth E. Jordan</td>
<td>Cloud Chief, Okla.</td>
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<td>Hon. J. M. Bullard</td>
<td>Duncan, Okla.</td>
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<td>Miss Mildred Dickens</td>
<td>Gage, Okla.</td>
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<td>Mr. John H. Bass</td>
<td>Oklahoma City, Okla.</td>
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<td>Mrs. Altha L. Bass</td>
<td>Norman, Okla.</td>
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<td>Mr. Luther T. Dulaney</td>
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<td>Mrs. Rosalie S. Georgia</td>
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<td>Mr. J. H. Hurst</td>
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<td>Mr. Earl E. James</td>
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<td>Mrs. Wendell Long</td>
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<td>Mr. Wm. T. Payne</td>
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<td>Mr. Lee Sorey</td>
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<td>Hon. Joe W. Curtis</td>
<td>Pauls Valley, Okla.</td>
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<td>Dr. Carl H. Guild, Jr.</td>
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<td>Mr. Charles F. Rogers</td>
<td>Wagoner, Okla.</td>
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<td>Mr. J. C. Phillips</td>
<td>Borger, Texas</td>
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<td>Mr. R. L. Grimes</td>
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<td>Mr. R. E. Bayless</td>
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<td>Mr. Randolph J. Warren</td>
<td>Panhandle, Texas</td>
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**ANNUAL MEMBERS:**

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<th>Mr. James Manford Carselowey</th>
<th>Adair, Okla.</th>
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<td>Mr. John M. Davis</td>
<td>Altus, Okla.</td>
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<td>Mr. Wm. Oscar Dobbs</td>
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<td>Mr. Thomas G. Thaggard</td>
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<td>Mr. James David Thomson</td>
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<td>Mr. William R. Williams</td>
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Minutes

Mr. D. S. Jackson
Mr. Harold B. Fell
Mrs. Lile Sturtevant
Mr. J. Willis Mitchell
Mr. C. V. Word
Mr. Enns Orven Hahn
Mr. Hubert R. Harris
Mr. Cap Duncan
Mr. Robert Stiles
Mr. and Mrs. Robert L. LeBus
Mrs. Louise B. Walker
Mr. Donald B. Darrah
Mr. D. C. Custer
Mr. Irby B. Cate
Mrs. John Allen Phillips II
Rev. Fr. J. W. Kerns
Mr. Douglas McKeever
Mr. David Hooten
Mr. Virgil Jumper
Miss Doris Riley Garrett
Hon. Hugh M. Sandlin
Mrs. W. S. Damron
Mr. J. N. Smith
Mrs. Lowell S. Turner
Miss Mary Caroline Bodinot
Mr. Glen Austin Dill
Mr. Ralph Brownell Shead
Mrs. Virgil Artman
Mrs. Floy Young Shafer
Mr. Harvey M. Black
Mr. Kenneth A. Butler
Miss Nell Carl
Mr. Glen W. Clark
Mr. Wm. N. Dale
Daughters of '89ers
Dr. Wm. Vernon Davis
Mr. E. E. Devibiss
Mr. Robert Jay Dwyer
Mr. Wm. H. Foster
Mrs. Eula E. Fullerton
Mrs. Mary A. Gormley
Mr. H. B. Groh
Miss Marie Hazelton
Mrs. Ruth B. Hysa
Mr. Dave Kerr
Mr. Edward Thomas Little
Mr. Alan M. Miller
Mr. George Miskovsky
Mr. Phillips B. Noah
Mr. Ralph L. Reece
Miss Julia Margaret Roberts
Miss Mary Agnes Thompson
Mr. Charles J. Townsend
Mr. Leon S. Tyson
Miss Grace Louisa Westrope
Dr. C. Jack Young
Mrs. Alta C. Jones
Mrs. Edward McKim
Mr. Henry H. Montgomery

Anadarko, Okla.
Ardmore, Okla.
Arnett, Okla.
Bartlesville, Okla.
Bethany, Okla.
Boswell, Okla.
Broken Bow, Okla.
Catoosa, Okla.
Chouteau, Okla.
Claremore, Okla.
Clintondale, Okla.
Cushing, Okla.
Duncan, Okla.
Durant, Okla.
El Reno, Okla.
Enid, Okla.
Idabel, Okla.
Healdton, Okla.
Holdenville, Okla.
Konawa, Okla.
Lookeba, Okla.
McAlester, Okla.
Muskogee, Okla.
Mutual, Okla.
Norman, Okla.
Nowata, Okla.
Oklahoma City, Okla.

Ponca City, Okla.
Prague, Okla.
Purcell, Okla.
Mrs. Frances Baker
Mr. Ulys Webb
Mr. Harry H. Craig
Dr. C. E. Calhoun
Hon. J. H. Arrington
Mr. E. B. Ward
Mr. Ralph Anthls
Mr. Karl J. Andrews
Mr. Rex D. Cleveland
Mr. C. M. Bailey
Mrs. Laurella Moore Duncan
Mr. Raymond W. Eastman
Mr. H. G. Jenkins
Mr. James Lane Neal
Miss Carol Elaine Scott
Mr. C. Lloyd Towers
Miss Catherine Warner
Mrs. Clayton N. Winn
Mrs. Claire Williams
Mrs. E. C. Harris
Mr. Sam M. Johnson
Mr. Eugene Bly
Mrs. Helen H. Johnson
Mrs. Mary E. Bowlin
Mr. W. J. Hummingbird
Mrs. Stuart Maker
Lt. Comdr. Jay Smith
Mr. Wilburn Dillon, Jr.
Mr. and Mrs. Henry Giles
Mr. John Temple Waggoner
Mr. William H. Russell
Mr. Earl A. Reynolds
Mr. Alton Adair
Miss Susan Leech
Mr. Reuben R. Powell
Judge Claude McColloch
The Central African Archives
Mrs. C. C. Casey
Mr. John D. Robbins
Mr. A. J. Fogaley
Mrs. Ida M. Cooley
Col. Erle F. Cress

Mrs. Francis Baker
Quapaw, Okla.
Mr. Ulys Webb
Skiatook, Okla.
Mr. Harry H. Craig
Shawnee, Okla.
Dr. C. E. Calhoun
Sand Springs, Okla.
Hon. J. H. Arrington
Stillwater, Okla.
Mr. E. B. Ward

Mrs. Laurella Moore Duncan
 Sapulpa, Okla.
Mr. Raymond W. Eastman

Mr. H. G. Jenkins

Mr. James Lane Neal

Miss Carol Elaine Scott

Mr. C. Lloyd Towers

Miss Catherine Warner

Mrs. Clayton N. Winn

Mrs. Claire Williams
Wetumka, Okla.
Mrs. E. C. Harris
Mobile, Alabama
Mr. Sam M. Johnson
Phoenix, Arizona
Mr. Eugene Bly
Fort Smith, Ark.
Mrs. Helen H. Johnson

Mrs. Mary E. Bowlin

Mr. W. J. Hummingbird

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Judge Claude McColloch

The Central African Archives

Mrs. C. C. Casey

Mr. John D. Robbins

Mr. A. J. Fogaley

Mrs. Ida M. Cooley

Col. Erle F. Cress

Also, the following gifts have been presented to the Library and the Museum:

LIBRARY:

Annual Reports:
School of American Research of the Archaeological Institute of America.
University of Kentucky Libraries, 1953-54.
State Historical Society of Wisconsin, 1953-54.
University of Indiana, 1953.
Anthropological Papers of the University of Alaska, 1953.
Donor: University of Alaska, College, Alaska.
Minutes

Donor: A & M College, Stillwater, Okla.

Renascence or Decline of Central Europe, The Sudeten-German-Czech Problem, 1953. Donor: Dr. Walter Belcher.

Industrial Britain, by Duncan Crow, 1954.
Donor: British Information Service.


Series in Anthropology #4, 1954.
Donor: University of Colorado, Boulder, Colo.

Nominating speech of ex-governor Henry S. Johnston, on William H. Murray for President of the United States.

Tribute to Mary Alice Hearrell Murray: Alice, Crossing the Bar, (died August 28, 1933), by Wm. H. Murray.

Tribute to Mary Alice Hearrell Murray: Alice, Crossing the Bar, House Resolution No. 25.
Donor: Mr. Phil Davis, Aspermont, Texas


New York Tribune, dated September 21, 1881, devoted to the report on death of President James A. Garfield.
Donor: Dr. Emma Estill-Harbour, Edmond, Okla.

"Information Respecting the Historical Condition and Prospects of the Indian Tribes of the United States." by Henry Rowe Schoolcraft and David I. Bushnell.

"Seth Eastman, the Master Painter of North American Indians." Donor: Mr. Jerome Hill James, Reference Library, St. Paul, Minn.


Donor: The Louisiana Historical Society, Baton Rouge, La.


Year Book of the Society of Indiana Pioneers, 1954.
Donor: Society of Indiana Pioneers, Indianapolis, Ind.


Donor: University of California, Berkeley & Los Angeles.

United States Flag with 46 stars. Donor: Capt. Lloyd Roedel, Fort Holabird, Baltimore, Md.

Uniform coat and vest worn by a Chaplain in the Union Army.

Bronze bust and oil portrait of Rear Admiral J. J. Clark.
Donor: Memorial Association, presented by Thos. A. Nicholson.

Brochure, "The Whitebead Church," and a copy of Report #584 House of Representatives, 74th Congress.
Donor: Mrs. Jessir R. Moore, Wayne, Okla.

Plaque commemorating the opening of the Cherokee Strip.
Donor: Mrs. Mary Elizabeth Thach, presented to the Historical Society by Gov. Johnston Murray.

Photostat of Belle Starr reward poster.
Donor: Carl W. Breihan, 4930 Mattis Road, St. Louis, Mo.

Photograph of Allen Wright, Jr.
Donor: J. B. Wright, 1020 So. 9th St. McAlester, Okla.

Five color transparencies of Wm. H. Murray at A & M College.
Donor: Dr. B. B. Chapman, Stillwater, Okla.

Photograph of Mac Q. Williamson and students and A & M students.
Donor: Dr. B. B. Chapman, Stillwater, Okla.

Framed oil portrait of Joseph Huckins.

Dr. Harbour moved that all membership applications and gifts be accepted and the donors thanked for their contributions. Motion seconded by Judge Bowman and Judge Taylor and carried unanimously.

Mrs. Jessie R. Moore, the Treasurer, then read the quarterly and annual financial reports, which were received with enthusiasm and commendation. Judge Bowman moved that the reports be approved and accepted. Motion seconded by Judge Hefner and carried unanimously.

Colonel Shirk then took the floor and presented the following Resolution:

"Be it Resolved by the Board of Directors that Muriel H. Wright be commended for her untiring effort and faithful service to the Society in the capacity of Secretary of the Society for the interim term between the tenure of Dr. Charles Evans and Mr. Fraker. (September 1, 1954 to March 1, 1955)

"Serving in the double capacity as Secretary and Editor of The Chronicles, she performed the duties of both responsibilities with great distinction and credit to the State of Oklahoma and the Oklahoma Historical Society."

The Resolution was accepted with enthusiasm and applause for Miss Wright. Acceptance seconded by Dr. Chapman and Judge Hefner.

General Key stated that Miss Wright's compensation as Editor would remain at $300.00, and any difference over the present appropriated amount and the $300.00 would be made up out of the special fund account until the new budget is approved and appropriated.

Judge Bowman moved that the Editor's salary be increased to $300.00 until the first of July. Motion seconded by Colonel Shirk. Vote taken and motion approved.
General Key then called for a report on Committees.

Colonel Shirk, as Chairman of the House Committee, stated the objectives as follows:

1st: Renovation of the drapes, rugs and seats in the Auditorium.

2nd: Bookcases for the Library; cases with doors and locks to stand along the walls.

3rd: New piano for the Auditorium.

Colonel Shirk moved that the piano be purchased and that the rental of the Auditorium be raised to $17.50, and as a part of the same motion, that the other matters—renovation of seats, drapes and rugs in the Auditorium—be held pending until the Committee meets with Mr. Fraker, the new Secretary. Motion seconded by Dr. Harbour and carried unanimously.

Mr. Phillips commented that the Auditorium in its present condition needs renovation. He further stated that something should be done now if we are going to present the Oklahoma Historical Society before Oklahomans as it should be. He further suggested that the carpet and drapes be done first and Mr. Fraker and the Committee go into the other expense later.

Judge Vaught moved that the drapes, carpets and chairs be renovated and the expense paid for out of the special funds. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

Colonel Shirk then reported on the condition of Rose Hill Cemetery and the needed repairs there now taken in charge by the history student organization of Southeastern State College through the interest and supervision of Dr. James D. Morrison of the History Department at Southeastern State College.

Colonel Shirk then brought up the subject of increasing the rate of subscriptions to The Chronicles from $2 to $3 annually and moved that the increase be made. The motion was seconded and upon a vote was adopted.

At this point the meeting was honored by a visit from the Governor, Hon. Raymond Gary.

Governor Gary was greeted by General Key and Judge Taylor and was asked to address the Board of Directors. Governor Gary expressed his appreciation of the work this Society is doing and indicated his desire to cooperate with the secretary, staff and Board of Directors in every way possible. He further stated that Oklahoma has a wonderful history and we should all exert every effort to preserve this great heritage.

The Governor then proceeded around the table to meet and shake hands with each member of the Board, Secretary and clerk who were present.

Mr. R. G. Miller then presented the matter of the Historical Tour to be held in April. On these tours, he said, the people are taken to see the things they read and study about. This new Tour is going to be a re-run of the trails found by Washington Irving on his Tour on the Prairies in 1832. All dates of the Historical Tour this year are April 29th and 30th, Friday and Saturday. This will only take two days and Governor Gary has been invited to find the time to go along.

The plan of the Tour is to leave Oklahoma City on the afternoon of Thursday, April 28th by chartered buses. Private automobiles of course, are welcome but experience in the past has been if the group can keep together, traveling in buses, the caravan can leave on time and arrive on time, at the same place and no one is misplaced or overlooked.
Mr. Miller then discussed the itinerary of the trip which will end up in Oklahoma City on Saturday, April 30th; there will be a banquet in Oklahoma City, the entertainment to be furnished by a theatrical group of Oklahoma City that will present a most interesting skit, tentatively entitled "Flashback of Oklahoma History." The Frisco Railroad has received reservations for a full 13-bedroom Pullman car from the New York people coming down to join this Historical Tour. Among them is the wife of Sir Hubert Wilkins, the noted explorer and it is possible Sir Hubert will be able to come, also. There are four Historical Societies of Westchester County, New York to be represented.

At the last meeting of the Board in October, 1954, approval was given Miss Wright to accompany Mr. Miller, Colonel Shirk and other members of the Board to New York and meet with the people on Saturday, March 26th, from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m.; 400 reservations have already been made for that meeting in New York.

There will be a detailed report of the April Historical Tour and of the cost of the trip for a Press Release in a few days, to be sent out to all the members of the Historical Society.

Dr. Harbour suggested that the visitors on the Historical Tour from New York be guests of this Society at the banquet in Oklahoma City on April 30th. Judge Taylor seconded this motion which carried unanimously.

Colonel Shirk moved for adjournment of the Board meeting which was seconded by Judge Vaught and carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 12:20 p.m.

WILLIAM S. KEY, President

MURIEL H. WRIGHT, Secretary