MINUTES OF THE FIRST QUARTERLY MEETING OF
THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE OKLAHOMA
HISTORICAL SOCIETY, APRIL 28, 1955

The regular quarterly meeting of the Board of Directors of the Oklahoma Historical Society was held in the Directors' Room of the historical building on Thursday, April 28, 1955.

The meeting was called to order by President William S. Key. The following Directors were present: Mr. H. B. Bass, Judge George L. Bowman, Dr. B. B. Chapman, Judge Redmond S. Cole, Dr. Emma Estill-Harbour, Judge Robert A. Hefner, Justice N. B. Johnson, General William S. Key, Mrs. Anna B. Korn, Mr. R. G. Miller, Mrs. Jessie R. Moore, Mr. H. Milt Phillips, Mrs. Willis Reed, Colonel George H. Shirk, Miss Genevieve Seger, Judge Baxter Taylor, Judge Edgar S. Vaught, and Mr. Elmer L. Fraker, Administrative Secretary.

Mrs. Ethel P. Buell, Dr. E. E. Dale, Mr. John F. Easley, Mr. Exall English, Mr. R. M. Mountcastle, Dr. John W. Raley were excused for good and sufficient reason. Mr. T. J. Harrison and Mr. C. E. Lee were not present.

Then followed presentation by General Key of the newly elected members of the Board, “We are honored and happy to introduce in order of the appearance, Mrs. Willis Reed of Vinita, and Miss Genevieve Seger of Geary. On behalf of the Board and the Society, I welcome you. We have some members of the fair sex who have lent direction and assistance and made material contributions for the benefit of this Society, and we honor ourselves by your serving with us and hope you will assume your responsibilities and tell us what to do and help us to do it.”

Judge Baxter Taylor moved that the new Secretary be presented, motion seconded by Judge Bowman, whereupon General Key said, “Here is my old friend from the trenches, my confederate of the war, moved from one end of the building down to the other. He knows how to get work done and talk to people in a tactful way and knows how to advance the interests of the organization and knows enough about administrative matters to keep worries from going to the President, Vice Presidents and the Treasurer for a lot of decisions. Ladies and gentlemen, I am delighted to present the properly elected and duly qualified, hard-working Administrative Secretary, Mr. Elmer L. Fraker.”

It was then explained to the Board that the third new Board member, Mr. Exall English of Lawton, was at the present in Europe, which accounted for his absence at this meeting.

By letter Mr. John F. Easley indicated he would be unable to attend. General Key said he replied to him expressing the hope that he would be able to lend his presence to future meetings, but Mr. Easley wrote back: “Impairments of age have made it mandatory upon me that tender my resignation as a member of the Board of Directors of the Oklahoma Historical Society.

“I want to thank you personally for your considerations and I request that you pass my most sincere thanks to Judge Vaught, R. A. Hefner and Dick Miller for the kind words they said of me upon the occasion of my selection for membership to the Board."


"I feel as chipper as ever but my eyes have grown so bad that I cannot be useful in any organization.

"I thank you and all the full membership and I shall always appreciate having been given a place with you. I am at the instant service of the Board for any duty which I can perform.

"Love and respect for each one of you,

"Most sincerely,

"JOHN F. EASLEY."

A letter of resignation from Dr. John W. Raley, as follows, was presented:

"In checking my book, I find that again I'm going to have to apologize for not being able to attend the meeting of the Oklahoma Historical Society Thursday, the twenty-eighth; and the same thing will obtain in the July meeting and the October meeting, so I feel that it would be better to replace me on the Board with someone who can attend.

"It is not that I do not want to serve, but it so happens that I speak to about ten thousand Baptists in Texas at Midland the twenty-seventh and would not be able to get back in time for the meeting the twenty-eighth. I will be in Europe at the time of the summer meeting, and I will be in Houston to speak again to the Texas Baptist General Convention in October. It seems that I am so much a Baptist that I am unable to be very much of anything else. So, General, please have the Board take proper action to relieve me from further embarrassment and get someone who can be of benefit to you by attending the meetings.

"Mrs. Raley and I do plan to attend the dinner Saturday the thirtieth.

"Very truly yours,

"JOHN WESLEY Raley."

Judge Hefner moved that the resignations of Mr. Easley and Dr. Raley be accepted with regret; motion seconded by Dr. Harbour and Judge Taylor and carried unanimously.

General Key then read a letter from the State Veterans Department, Mr. Don Davis, Director, requesting that the veterans' groups occupying space in the Historical Building not be required to pay the regular fee for the use of the auditorium.

Judge Taylor moved that the request be granted. Judge Vaught seconded the motion with the suggestion that the exception be made to them for the June meeting only. It was then suggested by the Secretary, Elmer L. Fraker, that such groups pay $5.00 for extra janitor service. Judge Taylor moved that his motion show an exception from charges except to pay the janitor's fee of $5.00. Mr. Milt Phillips commented: 'If we let all groups of people have it, we would be letting the bars down and we should not be asked to carry that responsibility.'

General Key suggested we make the rule to apply only to those four organizations in the Historical Building. The motion was amended and seconded to grant as sufficient the payment of a $5.00 janitor fee by the organizations now occupying space in the Historical Building.

A motion was made by Dr. Harbour that the reading of the Minutes of the last meeting be dispensed with. The motion was seconded by Judge Hefner, put and carried.
Secretary Fraker asked for an amendment of the Minutes of January 27th inasmuch as at the time Colonel Shirk made a motion for increase in rate from $2.00 to $3.00 per year on subscriptions to The Chronicles of Oklahoma, he was interrupted before the motion was acted upon, and the Minutes should show the motion was adopted. General Key instructed that the Minutes be changed to show this adoption and the Minutes were approved as amended.

Secretary Fraker then presented the list of new applications for membership as follows:

**LIFE MEMBERS:**

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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>City, State</th>
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<tr>
<td>Mr. Orie Alva Maddox</td>
<td>Buffalo, Oklahoma</td>
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<td>Mr. Jack Ramsey Parr</td>
<td>Edmond, Okla.</td>
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<td>Dr. Bruce R. Hinson</td>
<td>Enid, Okla.</td>
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<td>Mr. Charles Wood Jennings</td>
<td>Muskogee, Okla.</td>
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<td>Mr. Herbert E. Newton</td>
<td>Norman, Okla.</td>
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<td>Miss Dorothy Jane Neuberger</td>
<td>Oklahoma City, Okla.</td>
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<td>Mr. Ralph Adair</td>
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<td>Mrs. A. E. Albrecht</td>
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<td>Mr. G. R. Anthony</td>
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<td>Mr. Richard H. Cloyd</td>
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<td>Mr. Elmer L. Fraker</td>
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<td>Mr. Edward L. Gaylord</td>
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<td>Mr. W. Ross Johnston</td>
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<td>Mr. D. A. McGee</td>
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<td>Mr. Oscar Monrad</td>
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<td>Mr. Rex R. Moore, Jr.</td>
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<td>Dr. Powell E. Fry</td>
<td>Stillwater, Okla.</td>
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<td>Dr. Howard L. Puckett</td>
<td>Tulsa, Okla.</td>
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<td>Mr. O. E. Carter</td>
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<td>Mr. Glade R. Kirkpatrick</td>
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<td>Mr. Richard Kelvin Lane</td>
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<td>Mr. T. N. Lumly</td>
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**ANNUAL MEMBERS:**

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<th>Name</th>
<th>City, State</th>
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<tr>
<td>Rev. Elzie Periman</td>
<td>Alex, Okla.</td>
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<td>Mrs. John R. Bourne</td>
<td>Anadarko, Okla.</td>
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<td>Mr. Wallace C. Kidd</td>
<td>Ardmore, Okla.</td>
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<td>Mrs. Gordon R. Love</td>
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<td>Mr. Ernest L. (Mike) Massad</td>
<td>Blackwell, Okla.</td>
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<td>Mr. Hugh W. McGill</td>
<td>Chickasha, Okla.</td>
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<td>Dr. H. E. Williams</td>
<td>Claremore, Okla.</td>
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<td>Mr. Orville E. Enfield</td>
<td>Clinton, Okla.</td>
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<td>Mrs. Betty Miller Armor</td>
<td>Claremore, Okla.</td>
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<td>Mrs. Ethelynde H. Roberson</td>
<td>Covington, Okla.</td>
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<td>Mrs. John Denbow</td>
<td>Duncan, Okla.</td>
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<td>Mr. Harry Bartlett</td>
<td>Durant, Okla.</td>
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<td>Mrs. Maggie Culver Fry</td>
<td>Edmond, Okla.</td>
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<td>Mr. Leroy Brandon</td>
<td>Enid, Okla.</td>
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<td>Mr. R. K. Arnold</td>
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<td>Prof. R. W. Frazier</td>
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<td>Mr. Clarence A. Brown</td>
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<td>Mr. John C. Junker</td>
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<td>Mr. Milford Bendiner</td>
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<td>Mr. Everett J. Crews</td>
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<td>Dr. A. F. Dougan</td>
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Mrs. Gwen Hendrickson  Enid, Okla.
Dr. Frederick A. Hudson  "
Mr. L. L. Lovell  "
Mr. Glenn Butts  Fairland, Okla.
Mr. Robert B. Byrn, Jr. Frederick, Okla.
Mr. Rhinehardt H. Weisel  "
Miss Genevieve Seger  Geary, Okla.
Mr. Neatha H. Seger  "
Mr. Uriah H. Warner  "
Mrs. J. Henry Shields  Guymon, Okla.
Mr. David Watkins  Hobart, Okla.
Mrs. Alma Lea Hartman  Hooker, Okla.
Mr. Eddie B. Tucker  Jet, Okla.
Mrs. Maude N. Dana  Krebs, Okla.
Dr. Ivan L. Clark  Kingfisher, Okla.
Dr. Luther D. Coggins  "
Dr. C. M. Hodgson  "
Mr. Steven A. King  "
Mr. Fred R. Harris  "
Dr. Grant H. Neuteboom  "
Mr. Arnold E. Newcombe  "
Dr. Donald A. Norris, Jr.  "
Mr. Columbus E. Price  "
Mr. Raymond Thomson  "
Mr. Buster Wyatt  "
Mr. William H. Power  Lawton, Okla.
Mr. C. A. Ambrister  McAlester, Okla.
Mr. Charles A. Clark  Muskogee, Okla.
Rev. Erdon R. Craven  "
Mr. Jack B. Boyer  Newkirk, Okla.
Miss Nina Naomi Leach  Norman, Okla.
Mr. Melvin W. Barnes  Oklahoma City, Okla.
Mr. B. B. Bass  "
Mrs. Celia M. Beezley  "
Dr. Johnny S. Blue  "
Mr. Byrne A. Bowman  "
Mr. Thomas L. Gibson, Jr.  "
Mr. C. E. Grady  "
Mr. Norman F. Hall  "
Mr. Simon P. Hughes  "
Mr. H. T. Lawrence  "
Mr. Wayne H. Lewis  "
Mrs. Frederick A. Litchfield  "
Mr. Wm. H. Lowry  "
Mr. Louis C. Mersfelder  "
Mr. John J. Mullane  "
Mr. Clarence Nisbitt  "
Mrs. Juanita H. Ogle  "
Mr. Charles R. Paine  "
Mr. Richard Pierce  "
Mr. John R. Riley  "
Mrs. Agnes K. Schaefer  "
Mr. Roger H. Swan  "
Mr. Richard G. Taft  "
Mr. Frank O. Williams  "
Dr. Andrew M. Young, III  "
Mr. George H. Beaulieu  Pawhuska, Okla.
Judge Thurman S. Hurst  Pawnee, Okla.
Miss Violet May Fellows  Ponca City, Okla.
Mrs. Albert Dostalik  Prague, Okla.
Dr. Donald Beeson  Pryor, Okla.
Dr. Robert A. Lindsey
Mr. R. L. Kimbrel
Mrs. Alta Hollister Speakman
Mr. Orvis H. Lowry
Mrs. Raymond Harber
Mr. Henry E. Harris
Mr. Frank Seay
Mr. Gerald B. Siler
Mr. Robert E. Cunningham
Mr. Leonard G. Herron
Mr. Thomas A. Higgins
Mr. M. C. Kratz
Dr. Taylor B. Scott
Mr. Wesley K. Wyatt
Dr. J. L. Wharton
Dr. William T. Parten
Mr. George K. Tousley
Mrs. Willis C. Reed
Mr. Wilbur C. Roman
Mr. Duke Ligon
Dr. John L. Day
Miss Ruby Ballard Ludwig
Capt. Jack M. Greathouse
Mr. Will Rogers, Jr.
Miss Cleo K. Sumter
Mr. Vern E. Thompson
Mrs. Ola M. Neves
Mr. Gaspare Joseph Signorelli
Mr. Walter Hart Blumenthal
Mrs. May Belle Amerson Berry
Mr. A. V. Slagle
Miss Marianne Spencer

Pryor, Okla.
Sapulpa, Okla.
Sayre, Okla.
Seminole, Okla.
Stillwater, Okla.
Tulsa, Okla.
Vici, Okla.
Vinita, Okla.
Wewoka, Okla.
Woodward, Okla.
Phoenix, Arizona
Fayetteville, Ark.
Beverly Hills, Calif.
Lawrence, Kans.
Joplin, Mo.
Springfield, Mo.
Brooklyn, N. Y.
Philadelphia, Penn.
Dallas, Texas
Henrietta, Texas
Wichita Falls, Texas

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

**LIBRARY:**


Pioneer and Peacemaker—Story of Firestone, donor: Harvey S. Firestone, Jr.


The Horse in Blackfoot Indian Culture (Ewers), donor: U. S. Bureau of Ethnology.

The Story of the 180 Infantry Regiment, donor: George A. Fisher.

Secretary Stimson, donor: Rutgers College.

Cherokee Nation, Constitution and Laws, 1808-1850, 1839-1867, 1875, 1881, 1884, 1892, Cherokee & English Language, donor: unknown.

6 volumes.

The Link—Company publication containing historical article “Marking Trail in Washington, Old Trail Series,” donor: Mr. Jack Leach of Carter Oil Company, 10 volumes.
Minutes

Report of Meeting of Inter-tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes held in Muskogee, January 6, 1955, donor: Justice N. B. Johnson, 2 volumes.

Geology & Mineral Resources of Okfuskee County, including maps, sub-surface cross section, etc., composing 8 volumes, donor: Oklahoma Geological Survey.


Manuscript—Tribute to Dr. Thomas T. Montgomery, Durant, Okla. donor: Dr. Charles Evans.


Numerous publications have also been received from the University of Kentucky, The American Museum of Natural History, Smithsonian Institution, Bureau of Ethnology, New York State Historical Association, University of Kansas, State Historical Society of Wisconsin, etc.

MUSEUM:

General Key directed that the record show acceptance of the gifts and that letters of thanks be sent to the donors; and that the applications for memberships be accepted and applicants admitted to membership in the Society.

Rough Rider's Hat Band.
Donor: Mrs. Carolyn Foreman, Muskogee.

Spanish American War Nurse's Uniform.
Donor: Miss Bertha Bishop, Guthrie, Okla.

Plaster "Death Mask of Napoleon."
Donor: Mr. Claude Hensley, Oklahoma City, Okla.

32 Pictures of Oklahoma Territory.
Donor: Dr. H. H. Heuston, Boulder, Colo.

47 Pictures of Indian Territory.
Donor: Mrs. Carolyn Foreman, Muskogee, Okla.

Osage Warrior Troop.
Donor: Mr. Frank Finney, Oklahoma City.

Picture of First bridge, first depot, first post office at Oklahoma City.
Donor: Mrs. Mary Crow, Chickasha, Okla.
Secretary Fraker was called upon for additional comments on his quarterly report. He stated that the Society's budget had passed both houses of the Legislature, and all it needs now is the Governor's signature. He further reported the bill provides for an increase of $9,110.00 over the previous appropriation. Judge Vaught commented that the Secretary had earned his salary already.

Secretary Fraker stated he had requested an amendment to Senate Bill No. 167 now in the Legislature, which appropriates funds for the State Board of Affairs, to increase their request by $7,500.00 to give the Historical Society $5,600.00 for the stacks to take care of the newspapers which are piled up, and $2,500.00 to improve the grounds by building a parking lot. The Secretary pointed out this request would not likely be approved because most appropriation bills had already been set.

Mr. Fraker then called the Board's attention to letters he had received from Mr. J. R. Williamson, President of the "Pioneers of Oklahoma" at Muskogee, Oklahoma wanting a protest made to the dam overflow at Salina. Judge Vaught thought we should not mix with it. General Key suggested the Secretary write to Mr. Williamson and thank him for the interest in preserving the history of our state and this Society's progress, but that we do not feel disposed to take action because of the political questions involved.

Secretary Fraker then read a letter from Mr. Carl E. Reubin, President of the Tishomingo Chamber of Commerce, inviting all Board members to attend the centennial celebration at Tishomingo on June 24 and 25. The Secretary was instructed to write a letter to the Governor of the Chickasaw Nation and to the Chamber of Commerce accepting their invitation.

The Secretary then brought up the matter of budgeting the special funds, suggesting that the Board at its July meeting budget the funds appropriated by the state and also the special funds at the July meeting. He submitted such proposed budgets for study by the Board. After some discussion by Mrs. Moore, the Treasurer and others of the Board, Judge Cole moved that the Secretary's suggestions of considering the budgets at the next meeting be approved; motion seconded by Judge Hefner and carried unanimously.

General Key then reported the death of Doctor Fred S. Clinton a former Board member, whereupon Judge Cole presented the following Resolution:

"RESOLVED, Whereas, in the death of Dr. Fred S. Clinton, of Tulsa, on Monday, April 25, 1955, the Oklahoma Historical Society has sustained a personal loss. He was at all times interested in the work of the Society, serving for a time as a Director. He contributed many articles of historical value to The Chronicles of Oklahoma. In his passing the State has lost a worthy citizen.

"NOW, THEREFORE, be it Resolved, that the Directors of the Oklahoma Historical Society, assembled in Oklahoma City this 28th day of April, 1955, express our grief at the loss of a worthy member and citizen of Oklahoma, and

"BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this body extend to his widow and friends, our regret over his passing."

Judge Vaught moved this Resolution be adopted, motion seconded by Judge Taylor and passed unanimously.

General Key read greetings from Dr. I. N. McCash, an honorary member of the Board, who expressed wishes for a successful historical tour of the historical sites.
A report was then made by the Picture Committee on the offer of Mrs. Roy Hoffman to present many of the historical records of General Roy Hoffman, including pictures, etc., to the Society. Judge Taylor moved that such records be accepted. Motion seconded by Judge Heizer and passed unanimously. Judge Cole moved that the report of the Committee be accepted, motion seconded by Mr. Milt Phillips and passed unanimously.

General Key, a member of the committee appointed by the Governor to provide a memorial of suitable character to commemorate the memory of General Raymond S. McLain, advised that funds had been requested to provide such memorial; either by an annex to the historical building or a separate building on donated property. He stated that in the meantime, Mrs. McLain had offered to make available all of the General's military records and memoranda which is considerable in size. General Key voiced the opinion that the Society should take care of such materials until the completion of the memorial. Judge Taylor moved that we accept the proposition as stated. Mrs. Korn seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

Mr. Milt Phillips stated, "The State of Oklahoma, the Veterans and other military organizations are certainly interested because to us, General McLain exemplified the Oklahoma fighting soldier in type, and I want to put a suggestion in the form of a motion." Secretary Fraker said he agreed wholeheartedly with the suggestion. The resolution, seconded by Judge Taylor and unanimously approved, follows:

"BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the Oklahoma Historical Society compliment the preliminary plans of the Special Commission appointed by Governor Raymond Gary to plan and erect a fitting Memorial to the late and distinguished Oklahoma soldier and civic leader, General Raymond S. McLain; and

"BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Oklahoma Historical Society pledge its wholehearted support to the proposal for a General McLain Memorial which will be useful, fitting and will commemorate both General McLain, the state's outstanding citizen-soldier, and each and every Oklahoma citizen, man or woman who has given of their life's blood for our great Nation in time of war; and

"BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Oklahoma Historical Society pledge the support of the Society, both by its membership and of its physical facilities, if this General McLain Memorial should require such physical facilities, to the successful conclusion of a fitting Memorial to our State's distinguished General McLain and to all of the distinguished men and women who have served so valiantly in war, the Nation of which Oklahoma is the 46th State."

General Key then called for a report of the House Committee, of which Colonel Shirk is chairman, who stated the auditorium had been renovated and the work accepted by the committee and paid for. Colonel Shirk voiced the opinion that the improvements were well worth the cost.

In reporting on the Wapanucka Academy Memorial project, Colonel Shirk advised that a group of local citizens desired to perpetuate the memory and history of old Wapanucka Academy by clearing the site of the Academy gray-yard, and making provision for the care of the grave of Mary Greenleaf, who is buried in the cemetery. He stated that a committee from the Oklahoma Historical Society had met with the local group, and that negotiations with the land-owner had resulted in a conveyance to the Society of a tract one-half acre in size, containing the cemetery, to be cared for by the local committee. He moved that the committee continue to work with the local sponsors in their completion of the Memorial and
that one certain deed of conveyance to the State of Oklahoma be accepted for the use and purpose of the Oklahoma Historical Society, covering real estate in Johnston County which deed is recorded in Book 69 of Deeds at page 422, described:

A tract of land in the NE$\frac{1}{4}$ of the SW$\frac{1}{4}$ of the SE$\frac{1}{4}$ of the NW$\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 9, Township 2 South, Range 8 East, described; Beginning at a point 563.2 feet west and 456.2 feet north of the center quarter corner of said section; thence west 147.6 feet; thence north 147.6 feet; thence east 147.6 feet thence south 147.6 feet to the point of beginning, containing one-half acre, together with the road easement thereto from F. A. Gillespie and Sons Company, of Tulsa, Oklahoma.

The motion was seconded by Judge Taylor and upon vote, passed unanimously.

General Key then presented a letter from Bacone College at Muskogee, Oklahoma, with reference to the dinner and entertainment on Thursday night, the first evening of the historical tour, and further stated the tour would be climaxed with a dinner at the Oklahoma Club at 7 p.m. on Saturday, April 30, when the guests of the Society would be the New York visitors and the principal speaker would be Major General Patrick Hurley. The president urged all directors to attend.

Dr. Wilhelm, president of Oklahoma A & M College advised he and his wife would attend the dinner; Dr. George Cross president of the University of Oklahoma wrote that he would be unable to attend and expressed his regrets, as did Dr. Pontius of Tulsa University.

Judge Vaught suggested the exercise of great care in the selection of successors to resigning Directors, that the Society needed people on the Board who are willing to work, giving some time and attention to attending the meetings of the Board. Mr. Milt Phillips reminded the Board of the action at a previous meeting and stated they must select men or women who would become active members.

President Key called upon Mr. R. G. Miller for some comments on the Tour which began the evening of April 28th, and who responded with a short report on the trip.

At this time, Miss Wright, Mr. Henry Bass and Colonel George Shirk welcomed the 15 New York visitors who were:

Mrs. Logan Billingsley, Chairman, New York Delegation, Westchester County Historical Society, Katonah, N.Y.

Mr. Logan Billingsley, Katonah, N.Y.

Mrs. Ora Billingsley, Katonah, N.Y.

Miss Greta Cornell, Curator, Ossining Historical Museum, Ossining, N.Y.

Mrs. Ralph Daros, Somers Historical Society, Somers, N.Y.

Mr. Byron Evans, and Mrs. Byron Evans, Orlando, Florida and Katonah, N.Y.

Mr. Elliott Baldwin Hunt, President, Westchester County Historical Society and Official Representative of Westchester County, Ossining, N.Y.

Mrs. Elliott Baldwin Hunt, Ossining, N.Y.

Mr. Sidney Levine, 277 Broadway, New York City.
Mr. Paule Masse and Mrs. Paul Masse, Croton Falls, N.Y.

Miss Maureen McKernan, Representative of Westchester County Publishers, Editor "Know your Westchester" Reporter Dispatch, White Plains, N.Y.

Mrs. Alice M. Runyon, Associate Director, Sleepy Hollow Restorations, Inc., Irvington-on-Hudson, N.Y.

Mrs. Charles Ward, Official Representative of the Town of Somers, Shenorock, N.Y.

There being no further business, motion to adjourn was made by Colonel Shirk, seconded by all Directors and carried unanimously at 11:45 a.m. Directors and guests met for luncheon at the Oklahoma City Chamber of Commerce Directors' meeting in the Skirvin Hotel at 12:30 a.m.

W. S. KEY, President

ELMER L. FRAKER, Secretary