

OFFICIAL MINUTES, ANNUAL MEETING,  
OKLAHOMA HISTORICAL SOCIETY,  
APRIL 26, 1956

The annual meeting of the Oklahoma Historical Society was held in the Auditorium of the Historical Society Building at 10:00 a. m. on Thursday April 26, 1956.

General W. S. Key, President, called the meeting to order with the following remarks: "I welcome you here and hope this will be the beginning of what will develop into a large, enthusiastic gathering each year. Although our Historical Society has grown to where we have a larger membership than ever before, there is still room for growth and expansion. This Historical Society Building is an ideal place for our annual meetings. It is to be hoped that in the future, with proper publicizing, meetings similar to this will be attended in such numbers that this auditorium will be overflowing.

"It is my desire, and the desire of all the members of our Board and staff, that every member of the Society feels that this is his organization. We want you to make suggestions at any time, to the end that the pooling of our wisdom will prove of great benefit to the Oklahoma Historical Society. It is our purpose to make the annual meeting a vital part of the Society's activities."

Mrs. Anna B. Korn, Chairman of the Program Committee, was introduced by General Key. She in turn presented the arranged entertainment program. The following is the program, as introduced by Mrs. Korn:

Musical Numbers by Arthur Bartow and Vannie Lou Miller, Students of the University of Oklahoma

"All Day on the Prairie"

"People Will Say We're in Love," from "Oklahoma"

"Out of My Dreams," from "Oklahoma"

"You'll Never Walk Alone," from "Carousel"

Following the musical numbers, the portrait of Joseph B. Thoburn, former Secretary of the Historical Society, was presented by Judge Edgar S. Vaught, Chairman of the Thoburn Memorial Committee.

In making the presentation, Judge Vaught said, "J. B. Thoburn was active in both church and civic affairs, helped organize several departments in our state government, and was the first person to become enough interested in preserving Oklahoma history to do something about it. He forgot J. B. Thoburn, but never forgot Oklahoma. He gave his life for this state, and it is fitting that we pay tribute at this time to such a distinguished Oklahoman. Dr. Thoburn was one of the men who helped get so much accomplished during our early years of development. It is a pleasure for me to make any contribution I can to the memory of this great man."

The portrait of Thoburn was painted by John Metcalf, Oklahoma City artist. Judge Vaught explained that the portrait was part of the Thoburn Memorial, the other being a monument that is to be erected in Rose Hill Cemetery, in Oklahoma City. At present Thoburn lies in an unmarked

grave, but under the chairmanship of Judge Vaught, sufficient funds were raised to erect a suitable monument and have the portrait painted. Judge Vaught commended Mr. John J. Hardin, owner of the Rose Hill Cemetery for furnishing a new site as a final resting place for Joseph B. Thoburn, and also for making a personal contribution towards the erection of a monument.

Mrs. Loma Weakly, of Muskogee, was then introduced by General Key. She presented to the Oklahoma Historical Society a Bible which had been the property of Mount Olivette White Shrine No. 1 and explained that the Bible had been used by the Mount Olivette Shrine for more than forty years. General Key accepted the Bible on behalf of the Society and expressed thanks to the Muskogee Shrine for turning this valuable gift to the Society.

A bookcase and approximately 250 books, to be known as the Korn Collection, were presented to the Oklahoma Historical Society by Mrs. Anna B. Korn. She also made a gift of a cabinet to house pieces of china and bric-a-brac to both the Confederate Memorial Hall and the Museum. General Key, on behalf of the Society, accepted these gifts and expressed words of appreciation for the long and loyal service Mrs. Korn has rendered to the State of Oklahoma, and particularly to the Historical Society.

It was pointed out by General Key that the Oklahoma Historical Society was caring for a rather large collection of General Raymond S. McLain's materials that would one day be placed in the War Memorial, which is proposed to be built north of the Historical Society Building. He said that the Historical Society would be custodians of these items and documents until such time as the War Memorial might be completed.

The Honorable William Franklin, Oklahoma City, was introduced by Mrs. Korn as the speaker of the day. In presenting Mr. Franklin, Mrs. Korn pointed out that he is the only living member of the delegation that went to Washington to plead for statehood for Oklahoma. She further stated that he was a member of the first state Senate, and that he not only knew Oklahoma history, but "had helped make it and lived it."

In his address Mr. Franklin said that the history of Oklahoma is deeply rooted in the past of America and Western Europe. He held out the hope that this generation would in turn contribute to the future, as past generations had contributed to ours.

Interesting comments were given by him on the trip made by the Oklahoma delegation to Washington to make an appeal for Oklahoma's admittance to statehood. He said that the difficulties and obstacles were many, but that the arguments on behalf of statehood out-weighed them.

The speaker paid tribute to the character of the people that settled Oklahoma. He asserted that the proof of their worth had been shown by the great progress made in the fifty years of statehood.

In closing, Mr. Franklin declared that anyone who claimed that Christianity had failed did not understand the situation. He said it is not Christianity that has failed, but people who have failed to practice Christianity.

Among those in attendance who were introduced by General Key were: Mrs. Grant Foreman; W. D. McBee; Dr. Alfred Sears, of the University of Oklahoma history faculty; Dr. Leonard Logan, University of Oklahoma sociology faculty; and Frank D. Northup, one of the charter members of the Oklahoma Historical Society.

The Administrative Secretary, Elmer L. Fraker, was then called upon for his annual report. In presenting this report he stated that the Society,

as had already been mentioned, was now the largest it had ever been, and that the finances were in good condition. He emphasized that an all-out effort must be made to increase the facilities and staff of the Society, so that it might keep pace with the increasing demands made upon it by the people of the state.

The purposes of the annual Oklahoma Historical Society tours were discussed by R. G. Miller, Chairman of the Tour Committee. He said that the primary purpose of the tours is to help develop public interest in the State of Oklahoma and its heritage. He stated that much work needed to be done in erecting monuments and markers throughout the state at historic spots, but that the success of such a program depends on the interest of the people.

It was moved by Judge Edgar S. Vaught and seconded by Dr. Leonard Logan that the actions taken by the Board of Directors during the preceding year be approved and confirmed. The motion was put and unanimously carried.

Mrs. Virgil Brown, of Oklahoma City, a representative of the Oklahoma D. A. R., made a short talk in which she said that the Oklahoma D. A. R. had been designated as one of the organizations in the United States to have the honor of choosing a hero whose name and achievements are to be placed on a memorial at Valley Forge. She said General W. S. Key, President of the Oklahoma Historical Society, one of America's outstanding military men, had been the choice of this group. General Key replied, "I receive this honor with great humility."

The following members of the Board of Directors were present for the annual meeting: Henry B. Bass, Kelly Brown, Dr. B. B. Chapman, Judge Redmond S. Cole, Joe Curtis, Exall English, Dr. Wayne Johnson, Gen. W. S. Key, Mrs. Anna B. Korn, R. G. Miller, Dr. James D. Morrison, R. M. Mountcastle, H. Milt Phillips, Miss Genevieve Seger, George H. Shirk, Judge Baxter Taylor, and Judge Edgar S. Vaught.

The session was adjourned at 12:00 noon and the Board of Directors re-assembled at the Indian Grill for luncheon and the regular Board meeting.

—W. S. KEY, President

Elmer L. Fraker, Secretary

OFFICIAL MINUTES OF QUARTERLY MEETING, THE  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS, THE OKLAHOMA  
HISTORICAL SOCIETY, QUARTER  
ENDING APRIL 26, 1956

Members of the Board of Directors of the Oklahoma Historical Society met for luncheon at the Indian Grill, north of the State Capitol, at 12:00 noon on Thursday, April 26. Immediately following the luncheon Gen. W. S. Key, President of the Society, called the meeting to order.

The first order of business was roll call by the Secretary, with the following members answering present: Henry B. Bass, Kelly Brown, Dr. B. B. Chapman, Judge Redmond S. Cole, Joe Curtis, Exall English, Dr. Wayne Johnson, Gen. W. S. Key, Mrs. Anna B. Korn, R. G. Miller, Dr. James D. Morrison, R. M. Mountcastle, H. Milt Phillips, Miss Genevieve Seger, George H. Shirk, Judge Baxter Taylor, and Judge Edgar S. Vaught.

Absent members were Judge George L. Bowman, Dr. E. E. Dale, Thomas J. Harrison, Judge R. A. Hefner, Judge N. B. Johnson, Mrs. Jesse Moore, and Mrs. Willis C. Reed. Each of the absent members had notified the Secretary of their inability to be present.

This was the first meeting to be attended by newly elected member, Kelly Brown, of Muskogee. Mr. Brown had been presented by General Key to all those attending the annual Historical Society meeting, which had been held in the Society's auditorium prior to the meeting of the Board.

The first topic discussed was the necessity of amending the constitution and bylaws of the Oklahoma Historical Society, so as to bring them into conformity with present requirements. It was pointed out by General Key that, in order to amend the constitution or bylaws, the proposed amendments must be submitted to the entire membership of the Society at least ninety days in advance of the date of the meeting when such amendments would be voted upon. General Key then announced that the committee to study the need for amending the constitution and bylaws was composed of Judge Baxter Taylor, Col. George H. Shirk, Judge N. B. Johnson, Judge Edgar S. Vaught, and Judge Redmond S. Cole. This committee is to bring their findings to the Board of Directors at a future meeting.

Mr. R. G. Miller, Chairman of the annual Tour Committee, reported that details had been completed for retracing the Chisholm Trail on May 3, 4, and 5. He expressed disappointment that more people did not become interested in the tours, because they were exceedingly beneficial to those desiring to learn Oklahoma history at first-hand. Miss Genevieve Seger suggested that each Board member contact their friends and urge them to join the Tour. Mr. Milt Phillips observed that it was difficult for some people to get away for three days during the busy time of the year.

The Administrative Secretary reported that he and the President of the Society had appeared before a State Senate committee that was checking on the needs of various state organizations. He said that the Society's plans for expansion were outlined in general to the committee. He also said that the Society's representatives had indicated to the Senate committee that a considerably increased budget would be necessary to keep the Oklahoma Historical Society in a position to meet its responsibilities to the people of the State.

Mr. Fraker then told of another state legislative committee meeting, before which he and Mr. R. G. Miller appeared. He said that the questions

asked by members of this committee indicated that they were in sympathy with the Society's expanding its activities. The Secretary reported that he had told the committee that the reason the Historical Society did not expand its work was because of lack of funds. Mr. Miller, he said, had told the committee that much of the load of caring for the recording and preserving of history and historical spots in the state could be done by local groups. The two Society representatives also stated that some history projects were of such importance and magnitude that the Historical Society should be given the responsibility of caring for them.

The Secretary then reported on a recent trip he had taken to the site of old Ferdinandina. He also told of his recent visit to Winfield, Kansas, where he examined the artifacts and historical materials that had been collected from the site of Ferdinandina by the late Bert Moore. Mr. Fraker was accompanied on this trip by Miss Muriel Wright, Editor of the *Chronicles*. The Secretary stated that he had asked the widow of Mr. Moore to price these artifacts, and that she had done so. He further stated that he considered the amount asked by her to be a fair figure. Mr. Fraker then recommended that the Board of Directors authorize the purchase of the Bert Moore collection.

George Shirk moved that the Administrative Secretary's recommendation be approved and that the Executive Committee be empowered to purchase the Bert Moore Collection out of the private funds of the Society. The motion was seconded by Mr. Miller, Miss Seger, and Judge Vaught. President Key then appointed Judge Vaught and Colonel Shirk to assist the Secretary in consummating the purchase.

The Secretary reported that, as of that date, there were 770 life members in the Society and 1,590 annual members. He also stated that the finances of the Society were in splendid condition, and that all departments were living within their respective budgets.

Colonel Shirk, who had been chairman of the Rose Hill Cemetery Committee for some considerable time, suggested, since Dr. James D. Morrison, a member of the Board of Directors, lived much nearer the Rose Hill Cemetery than he did, that Dr. Morrison be named chairman of that Committee. He stated that Dr. Morrison had already been doing a major part of the work on the project of seeing that the Rose Hill Cemetery is cared for properly. Dr. Harbour moved that Colonel Shirk's suggestion be accepted and that the chairmanship of the Rose Hill Committee be conferred on Dr. Morrison. The motion was seconded by Mr. Curtis and adopted.

Upon the suggestion of General Key, a resolution was unanimously adopted thanking Judge Vaught for the leadership he had furnished in carrying to completion the project of securing funds for the erection of the Joseph B. Thoburn Memorial and the painting of Thoburn's portrait.

Before adjourning, General Key briefly discussed the plans that were being made for constructing the Raymond S. McLain War Memorial on the Oklahoma Historical Society grounds. He explained that it was proposed to erect this memorial north of the Historical Society Building, and that it would conform to the present building in style of architecture. He further stated that it was planned to have sufficient office space in the Memorial Building so that all organizations now occupying space in the Historical Society Building would be able to remove to the new structure. When this is done, he said, the Historical Society would be in possession of all the space in the Historical Society Building.

It being determined there was no further business to be brought before the Board, Judge Baxter Taylor moved and Dr. Wayne Johnson seconded that the meeting be adjourned. The motion was unanimously adopted.

—W. S. KEY, President

Elmer L. Fraker, Secretary

**GIFTS PRESENTED****LIBRARY:**

**Additions to the J. B. Fink collection:** More than 200 historic items and pictures, including considerable material on the history of railroads.

Donors Mr. and Mrs. John B. Fink, Oklahoma City

***Seeds of the Nation*, by Marion Richardson DuMars**

Donor: Marion Richardson DuMars, Topeka, Kansas

***Ford Fund Finagling*, by Hon B. Carroll Reece**

Donor: Frank Kirkpatrick, Commuantator, The American Way, (TAW)

***Twenty-Five Years of Peace and Prosperity*, by John W. McCormack**

Donor: Dominican Republic

**Technical paper No. 17, U. S. Dept. of Commerce;** "Kansas-Missouri Floods of June-July, 1951 and March 1-June 30, 1955;" Report of the Office of Defense Production, July 1, 1954-Feb. 28, 1955; Publications of the Industrial College of the Armed Forces: "Single Manager Plan," by Robert C. Lanphier, Jr.; "Wage Stabilization in Theory and Practice," by David J. McDonald; "Problems in Research and Development," by Dr. Stanley Livingston; "Communications and Human Relations," William Oncken, Jr.

Donor: Col. George H. Shirk, Oklahoma City

**Addition to the Pugsley collection:** Picture taken at the dedication of the first Masonic Temple in Guthrie.

Donor: Mr. Frank Pugsley, Oklahoma City

**Book case and approximately 250 books, to be known as the Korn Collection.**

Donor: Mrs. Anna B. Korn, Oklahoma City

**MUSEUM**

**Seven pieces of Chinese Nationalist money**

Donor: R. F. Remmers, Oklahoma City

**A \$20.00 Confederate bill**

Donor: Orville Don Harper, Oklahoma City

**Jefferson Guard sword**

Donor: Frank C. Pugsley, Oklahoma City

**Wagon bows from a wagon used in the Run of 1889**

Donor: Mrs. C. E. Parks, Cincinnati, Ohio

**Designer Fashion Magazine, Feb. 1909**

Donors: Mrs. Olive Kelly, Alhambra, California  
Mrs. Alice Mauk, Oklahoma City

**Certificate of membership in Payne's Oklahoma Colony issued to Edward S. Wilcox Jan. 3, 1885**

Donor: W. R. Stinson, Oklahoma City

**Wooden shoe last**

Donor: Melton Johnson, Glencoe, Oklahoma

**Large framed picture of street scene in Stroud, 1906**

Donor: Bert J. and May Warren Nance, Picher, Oklahoma

Picture of Whitaker Orphans Home at Pryor

Donor: Anna Wright Ludlow Estate, secured through Miss Muriel Wright

China cabinet to house historic pieces of china and bric-a-brac

Donor: Mrs. Anna B. Korn, Oklahoma City

Bible used in first White Shrine in Oklahoma

Donor: Mount Olivette White Shrine No. 1, Muskogee

ARCHIVES:

"Work Sheet of Census of Restricted Choctaw Indians made in 1939"

Donor: J. B. Wright, McAlester, Oklahoma

CONFEDERATE MEMORIAL HALL:

Large scrapbook, suitable for clippings of historical value

Donor: Mrs. D. W. Keating, Oklahoma City

Picture light for the General R. A. Sneed case

Donor: Chapter 1181, United Daughters of Confederacy, Oklahoma City

Confederate Battle Flag, was the property of John Wheeler Dickey, of Rexton, Texas, who served in Col. Roger Qu. Mills' Regiment, C. S. A.; reunion souvenirs; Dictionary of the Choctaw Language, compiled by Byington, printed by Government Printing Office, 1915.

Donor: G. M. Robinson, Oklahoma City

China cabinet to house objects d'art pertaining to period of Confederacy

Donor: Mrs. Anna B. Korn, Oklahoma City

UNION MEMORIAL HALL:

Photograph of James Luman, Quartermaster Sergeant, Company F, 12th Tennessee Cavalry

Donor: Mrs. Jessy Sullivan, Sapulpa, Oklahoma

The names of new members of the Society are as follows:

LIFE MEMBERS:

Mayor Ab Jolly	Ardmore, Okla.
Mr. C. O. Doggett	Cherokee, Okla.
Mr. Alfred Reed, Jr.	Grove, Okla.
Mr. G. W. Athey	Enid, Okla.
Mr. T. T. Eason	"
Mr. George A. Hutchinson	"
Mr. and Mrs. R. M. Knox	"
Mr. Kenneth H. Martin	"
Mr. Lloyd W. McKnight	"
Mr. Gary Munger	"
Mr. David J. Oven, Jr.	"
Mr. and Mrs. Wm. S. Schwab, Jr.	"
Mr. Ray Elbert Williams	"
Miss Moita Davis	Lexington, Okla.
Hon. Richard L. Disney	Norman, Okla.
Mr. H. G. Gilmore	"
Dr. Charles M. O'Brien	"
Mr. Paul W. Updegraff	"

Dr. Clarence E. Bates	Oklahoma City, Okla.
Mrs. Genevieve Cullen Bates	"
Mr. Frank Finney	"
Mr. C. E. Grady, Jr.	"
Mr. M. B. Fagan	"
Mr. C. E. Grady	"
Mr. Clyde H. Hale	"
Judge Albert C. Hunt	"
Mr. John S. Metcalf	"
Mr. Ray Mullinix	"
Mr. W. Beverly Osborne	"
Dr. Charles E. Martin	Perry, Okla.
Mr. George A. Everett	Sand Springs, Okla.
Dr. Frank J. Gasperlich, Sr.	"
Dr. L. Wayne Johnson	Stillwater, Okla.
Mr. Leo H. Gorton	Tulsa, Okla.
Mr. Robert E. Snider	"
Dr. Claude B. Knight	Wewoka, Okla.
Mr. Baptiste B. Shunatona	"
Mr. Dale O. Johnson	Culver, Indiana
Mr. Doyle S. Crain	Dallas, Texas

## ANNUAL MEMBERS:

Mr. Kenneth Floyd Campbell	Ada, Okla.
Mr. Gus Hadwiger	Alva, Okla.
Miss Barbara Doerr	Anadarko, Okla.
Mr. Robert H. Watford	"
Mrs. Paul Stewart	Antlers, Okla.
Dr. Tillman L. Witherspoon	"
Mrs. Jennie M. Smith	Ardmore, Okla.
Mrs. T. H. Tate	"
Mr. Tom L. Wilkes, Sr.	"
Mrs. Stella Higdon	Avant, Okla.
Dr. Harry M. Roark	Blackwell, Okla.
Mrs. Alice E. Ragsdale	Chandler, Okla.
Mrs. Kit C. Farwell	Chickasha, Okla.
Mrs. A. R. Ash	Cordell, Okla.
Mrs. Douglas J. Walker	Davis, Okla.
Mr. Guy Pierce	Durant, Okla.
Mr. Lindsay W. Phillips	"
Mrs. Starr Otto Doyel	Edmond, Okla.
Mrs. R. A. Bachler	El Reno, Okla.
Mrs. Floyd E. Field	Enid, Okla.
Dr. A. M. Gibson	"
Mr. Donis B. Lovell	"
Mrs. Leola B. Meinhardt	"
Mr. Henry J. Miller	"
Mrs. Gretchen McGuinn	Hallett, Okla.
Mrs. David Ward	Heavener, Okla.
Mrs. Lorenzo Eales	Hobart, Okla.
Mrs. Susie Isabel Herwig	Holdenville, Okla.
Mrs. Elizabeth Putnam Fleming	Hugo, Okla.
Miss Juanita Adams	Lawton, Okla.
Mr. J. Allen Anderson	Mangum, Okla.
Dr. J. B. Hollis	"
Miss Mary Estelle Posso	Miami, Okla.
Mrs. Carl Rundell	"
Mr. Bobby P. Boyd	Milburn, Okla.
Mrs. Bertha B. Edwards	Muskogee, Okla.

Mr. John F. Bender	Norman, Okla.
Mrs. Edith Copeland	"
Dr. O. R. Gregg	"
Dr. Stanley M. Kemler	"
Miss Edith Mahier	"
Mr. Robert N. Taylor	"
Mrs. V. C. Thompson	"
Mr. Sam R. West	"
Mr. W. E. Roberts	Nowata, Okla.
Miss Vivian Keen Chowning	Okemah, Okla.
Mr. Clyde Fletcher Ross	"
Mr. Bob Carey	Oklahoma City, Okla.
Mr. David P. Delorme	"
Mrs. Raymond Everest	"
Mr. T. F. Hall	"
Mrs. Walker C. Hay	"
Mr. Billy P. McCarty	"
Mr. Ellis L. Masonhall	"
Dr. Rob Roy MacGregor	"
Mrs. Mary E. Newbern	"
Mr. Kenneth B. Oglvie	"
Mr. Gail R. Palmer, Jr.	"
Prof. Acton Porter	"
Mrs. Bess Grace Rogers	"
Mrs. Pearl R. Scales	"
Mr. James S. Twyford	"
Mr. Charles H. Whitford	"
Mrs. Mercedes Sherman Wood	"
Miss Doris A. Youngs	"
Mr. Frank D. Zeliff	"
Mr. Charles M. Hirt, Jr.	Pawhuska, Okla.
Mr. J. Val Connell	Perry, Okla.
Mr. Luther D. Strawhun	Pryor, Okla.
Mr. Creekmore Wallace	"
Mrs. Leonard H. Crowder	Seminole, Okla.
Mr. James P. Epling	Skiatook, Okla.
Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Hardy	Soper, Okla.
Mrs. Pearl Souadress Gist	Spiro, Okla.
Mr. R. Morton House	Stillwater, Okla.
Mr. Charles A. Burbage	Tahlequah, Okla.
Mrs. Blanche Genivee Mikesell	Texhoma, Okla.
Mr. Samuel A. Boorstin	Tulsa, Okla.
Mr. Armon H. Bost	"
Mr. John W. Collins	"
Mr. O. F. Dickenson	"
Mr. R. T. Douglass	"
Mr. Brummett Echohawk	"
Mrs. Neal Harris	"
Mrs. Beulah Hull	"
Mr. George C. Pendleton, Jr.	"
Mr. Frank Settle	"
Mr. Arthur R. Shoemaker	"
Mrs. Robert Summers	"
Miss Mary Louise Whiteley	"
Mr. C. N. Price	Vinita, Okla.
Mr. Neil Akin	Westville, Okla.
Mr. Glenn O. Wallace	Wewoka, Okla.
Mr. Harry W. Readnour	Wynnewood, Okla.
Mrs. T. B. Lunsford	Lincoln, Ark.
Mr. Bruce Ramsey	Winthrop, Ark.

Miss Colleen Moss	Burbank, Calif.
Miss Edna H. Fowler	Los Angeles, Calif.
Mrs. Mabel S. Freeman	Buhl, Idaho
Mrs. John Woodrick	Chicago, Ill.
Mrs. E. P. Hirt	St. Clair Shores, Mich.
Mr. Gerald S. Pierce	University, Miss.
Mr. E. V. Green	Southwest City, Mo.
Mr. George Calvin Carter	Manchester, N. H.
Mr. David Coxe Cooke	Valley Stream, N. Y.
Mrs. T. N. Hawkins	Albuquerque, N. M.
Mr. Frank A. Sinon	Harrisburg, Pa.
Mrs. Morris Schwartz	Austin, Texas
Mrs. Grady Lewis	Washington, D. C.
Mrs. Armintha K. Hamilton	Wenatchee, Washington