

OFFICIAL MINUTES OF QUARTERLY MEETING, THE
BOARD OF DIRECTORS, THE OKLAHOMA HISTORICAL
SOCIETY, QUARTER ENDING APRIL 24, 1958

With General W. S. Key presiding, the Board of Directors of the Oklahoma Historical Society met in regular quarterly meeting at 12:00 noon on April 24, 1958. Before business of the Society was considered, luncheon was served to the members in the Board of Directors room.

When the meeting was called to order, the following members answered roll call: Mr. Henry B. Bass, Mrs. Edna Bowman, Mr. Kelly Brown, Judge J. G. Clift, Dr. E. E. Dale, Dr. Emma Estill-Harbour, Judge Robert A. Hefner, Dr. L. Wayne Johnson, Judge N. B. Johnson, General William S. Key, Mrs. Anna B. Korn, Mr. R. G. Miller, Mr. H. Milt Phillips, Miss Genevieve Seger, Mr. George Shirk, Judge Baxter Taylor, and Judge Edgar S. Vaught.

Members absent and excused by action of the board were: Dr. Berlin B. Chapman, Judge Redmond S. Cole, Mr. Joe Curtis, Mr. Exall English, Mr. Thomas J. Harrison, Dr. James B. Morrison, Mr. R. M. Mountcastle, and Mrs. Willis C. Reed.

It was reported by Mr. Brown that Mr. Mountcastle, who had been ill for several weeks was much improved and expected to be present at the next Board meeting.

A motion was made to dispense with the reading of the Minutes of the previous meeting. When put, the motion passed unanimously.

The Administrative Secretary announced the list of gifts that had been received by the Society during quarter and also the names of those who had applied for membership in the Society.

His report indicated that one new life membership application and twenty-six new annual member applications had been received. It was moved, seconded, and carried that the gifts and members be accepted.

A rare volume of Indian history was donated to the Society by Mr. J. William Mittendorf of Ruxton, Maryland, and presented by his friend General W. S. Key. A deer skin bearing the signatures of all of the officers of the First Oklahoma Infantry, who served on the Mexican border in 1916, was presented to the Society by Mr. Highlan Mitchell, also through General Key. Judge Hefner moved and Dr. Harbour seconded a motion to accept these two gifts and that appreciation be expressed to the donors.

Another special gift was presented to the Society through General Key, when he showed the Masonic apron that had been worn by former Board member, Hal Muldrow. The apron was the gift of his son Mr. Fisher Muldrow. Mr. Phillips moved to accept the gift of the apron from Fisher Muldrow, and stated that he felt it an honor to make such motion due to the fact that Mr. Hal Muldrow had been the one who signed Mr. Phillip's petition for Masonry. The motion was seconded by Mr. Miller and carried.

A request of Dr. John Morris, Professor of Geography at the University of Oklahoma, for the removal of certain maps from the library for the purpose of photographing them, was offered by Mr.

Fraker. Judge Vaught moved that the request of Dr. Morris be granted and Miss Seger seconded the motion, which was adopted.

Attention was called by Mr. Fraker to two exhibits on display in the Historical Society Building. One of these was the counterfeit money exhibit on display in two cases in the entrance lobby of the Historical Society Building. This had been prepared by Mr. Dale, Chief Curator of the Society in conjunction with the Oklahoma City Coin Club and the Secret Service. The other was the pamphlet collection which the Society recently purchased from the Lee Harkins Estate and was then on exhibit in the Editorial Room. The exhibit had been prepared by Miss Wright.

Mrs. Bowman presented to the Society a copy of "Kingfisher Panorama," a new book outline history of her home town that had been published in observance of the Oklahoma Semi-centennial year. A motion by Dr. Harbour and a second from Dr. Johnson that Mrs. Bowman's gift be accepted, was adopted.

The Treasurer's report was made by Col. George Shirk. He stated that \$6,190.00 had been received from all sources during the past three quarters. He pointed out that a number of purchases had been made including two electric water coolers, and the Lee Harkins pamphlet collection which alone cost \$1,610.00. He stated there is now a balance of \$1,047.00 in the Revolving Fund and that the Society also owns U. S. Government bonds amounting to \$24,500.00.

The Treasurer stated that the Special Fund had not as yet been transferred to the State Treasurer, and that to do so would necessitate selling the bonds and losing approximately \$800.00 in interest. He recommended that due to this fact the matter of transferring the funds to the State Treasury be held in abeyance until further information and directives are received from the Attorney General. Judge Vaught moved that the Treasurer's recommendations be concurred in by the Board. This motion was seconded by Judge Taylor and un-animously adopted.

The report from the microfilming department was made by Mr. Phillips, chairman of the microfilm committee. He stated that \$15,000.00 was the original amount appropriated for operating the microfilm department during the present fiscal year. He said that out of this amount it had been necessary to purchase all equipment for setting up the project. This had made the cost run rather high for the first year.

Mr. Phillips pointed out that the Board had previously provided \$1,500.00 additional from the Special Fund and that the Board had also approved transferred funds from other departments to the amount of \$2,500.00. To these amounts have been added \$6,100.00 from the Governor's contingency fund. This was \$1,100.00 more than the Governor had originally promised. He reported that in excess of half a million pages had already been microfilmed and that the department was processing more than 4,000 pages per day. Mr. Phillips said that the Society is receiving about 350,000 new pages of newspapers per year.

President Key then called upon Chairman Shirk to report on the work of the Historic Sites Committee. Colonel Shirk stated that two meetings of the Committee had been held and that the work of the Committee was getting well under way, through the listing of between 500 and 600 sites that might be marked, repaired, and some acquired. He said that Miss Wright had done the work in compiling and listing the sites by counties, to be checked and that Mrs. Rella Looney had

spent considerable time in making the stencils for mimeographing the outline. He said that Mr. Dale, Chief Curator, had made preliminary surveys of some sites.

A report was made by Mr. Miller on the forthcoming Historical Society Tour. Mr. Miller stated that more than 100 people had indicated their intention of making the tour. He said the tourists will spend both nights of the trip at the Quartz Mountain Lodge.

It was moved by Mr. Miller and seconded by Miss Seger that the Society place on sale the miniature flag collection, which includes the fourteen flags that have flown over Oklahoma, and that these be accepted on consignment with the price to the Society being \$1.40, and that the original purchase consist of 100 sets. This motion was seconded by Miss Seger and carried when presented.

Information was requested by Dr. Johnson as to the progress made on repairing and restoring the old stage coach. Mr. Fraker stated that Mr. John Frizzell was the only person he knew of who was capable of doing the work in a proper manner, and that Mr. Frizzell had been ill. Col. Shirk said that the \$300.00 authorized for expenditure on repairing the stage coach would probably prove inadequate and that it would be advisable to spend a larger sum for this purpose.

General Key reminded the board that it was time for the election of new officers and he was presiding as President for the last time. He called Judge R. A. Hefner, chairman of the nominating committee, for his report. Before beginning his report, Judge Hefner said that he wished to take the opportunity of expressing the love and affection of the entire Board of Directors for General Key and said that all were most appreciative for the untiring and devoted service General Key had given to the Society during the ten years he had served as president, and during the previous years in which he had been a member of the Board.

It was stated by Judge Hefner that the nominating committee had appointed Mr. Miller as secretary and that a survey had been made among the members of the board to ascertain whom each would prefer for President. Mr. Miller read the report of the committee which showed that the larger number of board members had indicated Col. Shirk as their preference, with Mr. Phillips receiving the next number of votes.

Mr. Phillips moved that the report of the nominating committee be adopted and that Mr. George Shirk be elected by acclamation to the office of President of the Oklahoma Historical Society. Miss Seger seconded the motion which was adopted unanimously.

Dr. Harbour moved that General Key be elected President Emeritus of the Society and Mrs. Korn seconded the motion. This motion was unanimously adopted.

Upon assuming the chair as newly elected President, Colonel Shirk said that he took cognizance of the fact that many fine people had occupied the chair as President of the Oklahoma Historical Society and he would use his very best efforts to fill the position to which he had been elected in such a manner as to carry on the tradition of his predecessors and to reflect credit to the Oklahoma Historical Society.

Nominations for the office of Vice President were called for and Judge Clift placed the name of H. Milt Phillips in nomination. Mr. Bass moved that the nominations cease and that Mr. Phillips be

elected by acclamation. Dr. Harbour seconded the motion which received the unanimous vote of the board .

When nominations were called for the office of Second Vice President Judge Vaught nominated the incumbent, Judge Baxter Taylor. Mr. Brown made a motion that the nominations cease and that Judge Taylor be elected by acclamation. The motion was seconded by Dr. Dale and unanimously adopted when put.

When nominations were called for the office of Treasurer the names of Miss Genevieve Seger, Mr. Joe Curtis, and Mrs. George L. Bowman were presented. Dr. Harbour nominated Miss Seger; Mr. Bass, Mr. Joe Curtis; and Mr. Brown, Mrs. Bowman.

The chair appointed Mr. Bass and Mr. Phillips to serve as a committee to count the votes for Treasurer. When the votes were counted Mr. Phillips reported that no candidate had received the majority and that Miss Seger and Mrs. Bowman had been given the highest number of votes.

Colonel Shirk stated that it would be necessary to vote on the two having received the highest number of votes. When this vote was taken, the tally showed that Mrs. Bowman had been elected as Treasurer of the Society.

It was called to the attention of the board by Mr. Fraker that in view of the fact that the biography of Judge Williams by Dr. Dale and Dr. Morrison had been published in book form recently at considerable cost to both of the authors, he would like to recommend that permission be given for placing a circular advertising the book in some of the outgoing mail from the office. No objection to this suggestion was indicated.

Dr. Harbour moved that the Society buy the Lee Harkins picture collection. It had been stated by President Shirk that he thought this collection could be purchased for less than \$300.00. Miss Seger seconded the motion which was adopted.

Colonel Shirk announced that at its last meeting the executive committee had nominated Mrs. Dorothy Williams as Librarian for the Oklahoma Historical Society and that this nomination was now before the Board. Dr. Dale commented briefly on the fine qualities and qualifications of Mrs. Williams for the position of Librarian. Judge Johnson made a motion that Mrs. Dorothy Williams be employed as Librarian, which was seconded by Mr. Brown and unanimously adopted when put.

It being ascertained that no further business was to come before the Society, it was moved by Mr. Bass, seconded by Judge Vaught, and adopted by the board that the meeting adjourn.

W. S. Key, President

Elmer L. Fraker Administrative Secretary

GIFTS PRESENTED:

LIBRARY:

"Map of Kaw Reservation, Allotments, 1903"

Donor: Frank F. Finney, Oklahoma City

The Oklahoma Physician and *Davis Magazine of Medicine*

Donor: Mrs. F. P. Davis, Oklahoma City

Taxation and Revenue: Current Tax Problems, Dr. Seymour E. Harris;

The Material Resources of the USSR and the Soviet Satellites, Dr. Demitri B. Shimkin; *Basic Research and the Scientific Method*, Dr. Alan T. Waterman; *Research and Development in Biochemistry*, Dr. Walter C. Hess.

Donor: Colonel George H. Shirk

Probate Records and Wills of Oklahoma County, John H. Porter and Edith Smith; "Historical Map of Ireland."

Donor: Mrs. M. B. Biggerstaff, Oklahoma City.

MUSESUM:

Telephone, wall type. first one installed at Ft. Gibson.

Donor: R. M. Mountcastle, Muskogee

Gun 38 cap and ball.

Donor: D. Ivan Fritts, Ontario, Oregon

Document, photostat biography of Hugh Mercer.

Donor: Oklahoma University

Bugle, used in the Spanish American War.

Donor: Mrs. Carolyn Foreman, Muskogee

Gun, 38 special S. & W. made in Spain.

Donor: Robert F. Rose, Norman

Medals, complete of Oklahoma Semi-Centennial Medals.

Donor: P. K. Anderson, Hobart

Opera Shawl, worn by Ellen Hurff Onley, an '89er.

Donor: Mrs. Lila J. Seal, Los Angeles, California

Eight Newspapers, placed in Union Room.

Pictures

Two pictures of El Reno Land Opening.

Donor: John Brothers, Bayfield, Colorado

Horse Drawn Buses at El Reno in 1901.

Donor: John Brothers, Bayfield, Colorado

Picture of pen work.

Donor: D. A. Wisner, Oklahoma City

Large framed photograph of Governor T. B. Ferguson.

Donors: Mrs. Walter Ferguson and son Benton

Pipe Line Ware House; Construction of Oklahoma Natural Gas Pipeline 1920 (two pictures); Two booklets of train pictures.

Donor: John B. Fink, Oklahoma City

Cowboys Eating Noon Meal; Cowboys at a Watering Hole; Cowboys and Cattle.

Donor: Claude Hensley, Oklahoma City

Four pictures of early day Guthrie; a home in Guthrie.

Donor: Fred Smith, Guthrie

First Bridge at Tulsa; Cattle Near Tulsa; Savings Banks—Battlefield near Tulsa; Main Street of Tulsa 1893; Tulsa's Oldest House; Tulsa's First School Room.

Donor: Mrs. C. E. Cook

House of Representatives—Third Territorial Legislature, 1896.

Donor: Witt Memorial Museum, San Antonio, Texas

Large Framed picture of Wm. F. Semple.

Donor: Mrs. Wm. F. Semple

Whitaker Orphans Home and Mr. and Mrs. Whitaker on placard;
Ka-Be-Nah-Gwey-Wence, a Chippewa on placard.

Donor: Riley Thompson, Cloquet, Minnesota

Color photograph of Choctaw Council House; Old Fort Washita (two pictures); Old Chickasaw Capitol at Tishomingo.

Donor: J. S. Richardson, Talihina

Ellen Hurff Olney; Lila J. Shultz Seal; Hardware Store in Guthrie; Shawnee; Indian Territory School Teachers; Louise Olney and sisters; John D. Shultz Home in Guthrie; Interior of Kerr Store at Ada; Group of early day teachers.

Donor: Mrs. Lila J. Seal, Los Angeles, California

Two beautiful, water color paintings by Lee Tso Toke, son of Monroe. purchased by the Society.

NEW LIFE MEMBER

Cass, Early R.

Tulsa, Oklahoma

NEW ANNUAL MEMBERS

Price, Henry

Addington, Oklahoma

Heisler, Bert E.

Anadarko, "

Proffitt, John W.

Bartlesville, "

Meadows, Joe

Caddo, "

Romick, Phillip Albert

Claremore, "

Lewis, Zula

Cleveland, "

Melzel, Harry

Cushing, "

Leach, William O.

Duncan, "

Dale, William J.

Edmond, "

Payne, J. B.

Enid, "

Turner, Reuben Riley

Fame, "

Allen, Mrs. C. B.

Madill, "

Eaton, Floyd

Mountain View, "

Gunter, Vivian

Muldrow, "

Brown, Mrs. Victor J.

Muskogee, Oklahoma

Finley, Mrs. James H.

" "

Kramer, Beth

" "

Wells, Albert Charles

" "

Morris, F. C.

Norman, Oklahoma

Barfoot, L. H.

Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

Bucher, Mrs. Edward

" " "

Callahan, Mrs. R. O.

" " "

Fisher, George A.

" " "

Henderson, Mrs. L. H.

" " "

McPherren, Maud A.

" " "

Riley, Harris D., Jr., Dr.

" " "

Walker, Lillian

" " "

Smith, Mrs. P. U.

Sayre, Oklahoma

Osborn, Donald Gene

Shawnee, "

Sims, Gary D.

Tahlequah, "

Almen, William H.

Tulsa, Oklahoma

Daly, Ed. G.

" "

Cordell, David O.

" "

Childress, Celeste A.

" "

McLemore, Mrs. Grace

" "

Leecraft, Donald Stowe

" "

Rushmore, Helen

" "

Driskill, Frank
Withall, Vera L.
Burchett, Floyd Gerald
Hall, Mrs. Myra Thresa
Brothers, John
Thompson, Riley
Teter, Mrs. Martha B.
Dippel, H. W.

Waurika, Oklahoma
Altadena, California
Long Beach, "
San Francisco, "
Bayfield, Colorado
Cloquet, Minnesota
Dallas, Texas
Needville, "