WORLD'S FAIR
by WARREN K. JORDAN

NORTHWEST COUNTRY
by VAL THIESSEN

ENTRY SOUTHWEST
by BILL BURCHARDT

RODEO
by CLEM McSPADDEN

COLORFUL TRAILS

OKLAHOMA SCRAPBOOK

INDIAN POWWOW
by CAROL K. RACHLIN

CALENDAR OF EVENTS
by KAREN ROBINSON

HEARTLAND OF SOONERLAND
by KENT RUTH

WILL ROGERS COUNTRY
by MAGGIE CULVER FRY

TRAIL OF THE FIVE TRIBES
by ERIC ALLEN

The emblem adopted by the Oklahoma World's Fair Commission is symbolic of the natural resources of Oklahoma that are emphasized at the state's exhibit at the New York World's Fair. The state colors, forest green and white, have been combined with blue, representing Oklahoma's growing water resources. The evergreen trees of southeastern Oklahoma are representative of the productivity of the Oklahoma soil, while the left half of the emblem depicts Oklahoma's water. The water currents indicate the availability of water for industrial use, while the small sailboats suggest the recreational potential of the state.
The State of Oklahoma has its Welcome Mat out in two places in 1964. You'll find it along every highway and street in the Sooner state, welcoming every vacationer and visitor with traditional Oklahoma hospitality...you'll find it, too, in the Oklahoma exhibit at the New York World's Fair.

For its exhibit at the New York World's Fair, Oklahoma has built a monument—not of stone and steel and glass, but of people and land and natural resources.

The Oklahoma World's Fair Commission has chosen a natural, outdoor setting for the Oklahoma exhibit, graphically emphasizing the water development and industrial potential, the recreational advantages and the warm, natural qualities of the Oklahoma people.

In so doing, the Oklahoma exhibit takes the form of the state itself, reproducing in detail the lakes and waterways, the trees and flowers and the natural beauties of Oklahoma.

A staff of energetic college men from Oklahoma demonstrate to Fair visitors the combination of southern hospitality and western vigor which characterizes citizens of the state. These "Sooner Guides" act as general hosts to visitors from all over the world, answering questions about the state and telling of the qualities which have made it, in the 57 years since statehood, one of the most progressive in America.

Throughout the landscaped Oklahoma site, emphasis is placed on Oklahoma's water development program, with a 100-foot-long topographic map of the state as focal point. Visitors may literally tour Oklahoma by means of perimeter walkways.
In this land where geography is infinitely varied, the people exhibit one common characteristic—a strong and confident individualism. Their religion is that of helping their neighbors. Men in this area grow tall and tanned; they speak with a vigorous idiom. In a word, the stamp of the frontier is still upon them; and no visitor to this region can fail to thrill at the bone-deep strength of these people.

This is a land of pleasure as well as accomplishment, and on the waters that are one of Oklahoma's growing resources, the people find relaxation and holiday fun. Your sport may be fishing in the crisp dawn, skiing in the sunlit afternoon, or boating in the shadows of evening. Whatever it is, you can find it in the lakes of Northwest Oklahoma.

Largest is Canton Lake, with its 109,000 acre feet of water. Great Salt Plains Lake, near Cherokee contains 46,700 feet, Fort Supply Reservoir 6000 feet, Lake Carl Etling 2000 feet.

The drawing boards of the U. S. Corps of Engineers show Lake Optima, a 96,000 acre lake to be built on the Beaver River in the Panhandle. More than eleven thousand farm ponds have been carved into the Oklahoma soil, and while the larger lakes are a traditional blue, these ponds are black or silver or garnet or brick red, depending on when and how you look at them, and the color of the soil in which they lie. Besides these, there is underground water. A major aquifer lies beneath the high plains of Northwest Oklahoma and the Panhandle.

What of the land itself? In its variety lies our reason for calling it a world. Everything is there, from sand dune to red-ribbed canyon, from rolling short grass to timbered land.

Suppose we start with a look at Great Salt Plains just east of Cherokee. This plain consists of some 33,000 acres of salt water outcropping. The water is evaporated by the sun, and the remaining salt shines with a white, almost eerie sheen. The Salt Fork River, which skirts the northern edge of the plains was dammed to create the reservoir. Along its eastern shore, the land rises to bluffs, beginning the pattern of variation that continues westward toward the panhandle.

On this land is a myriad of animal and bird life. Near the reservoir is a wildlife refuge. Each year seventeen kinds of ducks and six kinds of wild geese visit here. More than 250 kinds of birds have been sighted, including pelicans, egrets, and whooping cranes. As many as 200,000 mallards have wintered there.

North of Waynoka the sands of the Cimarron become dune country—a veritable sea of sand, shifting from day to day, providing the odd inversion of a desert in the middle of an oasis of growing things. Camels kept in the park are brought out for a Christmas pageant attended by thousands.

Seven miles south of Freedom, the master hand of nature has carved a cavern in alabaster—the world's largest gypsum cave. Inside the cave the sculptor's hand has grown whimsical, shaping an owl, a
The Northwest Country

turtle, a frog, and a capricious silhouette of the state of Texas. In the cool reaches of the cave, with the beauty of specially lit selenite crystal, you find yourself transported to a world of fantasy—and of history, for alabaster fills the jewelled tales of Egypt and the Bible lands as far back as one can read. Your visit should include a hamper of food, for after emerging from the cavern you will want to explore the rugged beauty of Cedar Canyon nearby, and the exercise will do wonders for the appetite.

Gypsum is also responsible for the Glass Mountains near Orienta, ledges and shards of isinglass, a translucent, silvery miracle of nature that peels like the layers of an onion. These mesas thrusting up at the sky, glistening in a thousand silver edges, erosion gashes savage and shining, lend the illusion that you have arrived on some strange, jeweled moon.
The description of the fantastic landscape of this Northwest country must include the canyon country and Chimney Rock. Here erosion has carved spires of red sandstone. The sun seems almost too bright. Above this rugged landscape, Chimney Rock juts into the sky like the remnant of a huge, Indian-ravaged cabin. You find yourself suddenly aware of the tremendous span of pioneer history that lies behind this gigantic chunk of cow country.

Any of the state parks in the region are worth a stay. There is Boiling Springs park, six miles from Woodward, with its ribbon of timberland. Wildlife is in abundance here, including turkey, deer, beaver, and Boy Scouts (who have a camp there.)

The ragged mesa land that surrounds the lake at Roman Nose park near Watonga is a western sight to see, and the lodge there is air-conditioned, with all the comforts—or you may rough it if you choose, in tent or trailer.

At the western tip of the Panhandle lies Black Mesa State Park, with its trout fishing lake, legends of outlaws and buried treasure, Kit Carson’s Fort Nichols, the still visible ruts of the Santa Fe Trail, volcanic outcroppings, and dinosaur tracks in a creek bed.

As we move west into the Panhandle, mesquite and yucca and curly buffalo grass begin to dominate the scene. Mirages shimmer on the upward sloping plains, and the sky grows overpoweringly large. The wind swoops unhampered.

Throughout these plains wild flowers bloom in profusion. There are antelope, wild turkeys and pheasants among the wildlife, but the great seas of buffalo that once rolled across these prairies have disappeared.

The A. & M. College at Goodwell dominates the culture and research of this Panhandle region, just as Northwestern State College with its ivied buildings dominates the eastern portion of the region. The No Man’s Land Museum at Goodwell gives a vivid history of the development of the Panhandle; the natural history museum at Alva’s State College is excellent.

Industry in the Northwest region is varied. One of the most unusual is the U. S. Bureau of Mines helium plant, near Keyes. This twelve million dollar plant, built in 1959, became the world’s largest helium production plant. Wheat and cattle are the major crops; the waving seas of grain to be seen everywhere. This has been cattle and wheat country from the beginning, yet there are other industrial ventures of note.

At Southard a huge industrial complex processes gypsum into plaster, sheetrock, and related items. (Angie Debo once wrote that there is enough gypsum in Northwest Oklahoma to plaster the world.) Woodward manufactures quality western sportswear. There is oil and gas throughout the region, thus the manufacture of oilfield tools, and services, constitute a major industry.

An open sky, an open people, living in a varied land, this is Oklahoma Northwest.
by Bill Burchardt
LET'S say you're driving through Oklahoma on U. S. 66. By the time you enter southwestern Oklahoma you have already passed landmark after colorful landmark of America's heritage... Will Rogers Memorial... dramatic and fabulous Woolaroc, Gilcrease Institute, Philbrook Art Center... Red Fork, Glenpool, Drumright, and a dozen more oil rush boomtowns whose lurid pasts make the excitement of any gold rush town seem tepid.

Any single one of these oil booms produced more wealth than all the gold rushes in America combined. You may find yourself growing restless, for you've already passed the Chisholm Trail... historic Fort Reno... just ahead is Red Rock Canyon, Kickapoo Canyon, "sub-climate" formations which in the midst of western terrain, sustain the flora of New England.

Yonder to the left is Rock Mary, landmark on the California Trail of Captain Marcy who lead the westward trek of the '49'ers. Presently the temptation is going to become stronger than you can resist.

You're going to feel an irresistible urge to drift off this broad interstate "main street of America" and see the landmarks of heritage through which it passes. When you do, you'll be passing this way again, for you can't see them all in one trip.

You'll be following the Trail of the Plains Indians, and it covers many, many miles. It is marked with proud relics of a fierce and free people, America's horse Indians, making their last stand against the tide of 19th century civilization.

A few miles north, at Cheyenne, Oklahoma, you can see where General George Armstrong Custer fought his dress rehearsal for death—The Battle of the Washita—with exactly the same tactics as the Battle of Little Big Horn. Even the terrain is similar, the major difference being that here Custer won; but he exposed his hand. After the Battle of the Washita the Indians knew this glory-hunting General, and they destroyed him.

South of Cheyenne is Sandstone Creek, America's first upstream flood control project. The methods developed there, so successful in flood prevention, providing water in periods of low flow, clean clear water that makes for fine fishing and water sports, are now used throughout the west.

Major lakes southwest include Foss, Quartz Mountain, Fort Cobb, Spring Creek, Ellsworth, plus Lawtonka and the many fine lakes in the Wichita Mountains. A few visits to these water resorts will show why Oklahoma lakes now draw more tourists than such time-honored recreation spots as Yellowstone National Park and far-famed seashore resorts. The water is smooth and warm for swimming and water skiing. There are no sharks, no tides, no undertow. Fishing is good the year around.

As you travel southwest, the choices of what to see become a multitude. In this country the quarter horse is king. It was the home
Entry Southwest

of Peter McCue "greatest of the quarter horses" during the early years of this century.

On south is Quartz Mountain State Park with its comfortable lodge, and Devil's Canyon where Spanish Conquistadores led by Don Diego del Castillo sought gold, calling the region Serrania Humano.

Historic and huge Greer County was once part of Texas, "The Big Pasture," the Kiowa-Comanche-Apache lands, were opened by lottery just after the turn of the century.

There, in what is now Comanche County, are two of the most exciting places in America to visit; Fort Sill and the Wichita Mountain Wildlife Refuge. Fort Sill marks the place where the Indians of the plains began sadly to follow the "White Man's Road."

Here the great chieftains are buried, Geronimo, Quanah Parker, Satank, Satanta, Stumbling Bear.

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COLLEGES
Southwestern State College
Cameron State Agricultural College

LAKES
Ellsworth
Fort Cobb
Foss
Lake Lawtonka
Quartz Mt.
Spring Creek
Wichita Mt's Lakes

NATURAL WONDERS & HISTORIC SITES
Antelope Hills (Durham)
Battle of the Washita (Cheyenne)
Devil's Canyon (Altus)
Fort Sill & Museums (Lawton)
Great Plains Museum (Lawton)

Indian City (Anadarko)
American Indian Exposition (July 13-18) (Anadarko)
Indian Hall of Fame (Anadarko)
Red Rock Canyon (Hinton)
Quartz Mountain Park & Lodge (Altus)
Rock Mary (U.S. 66)
Southern Plains Museum (Anadarko)
Wichita Wildlife Refuge (Lawton)

INDUSTRY
Carpet
Concrete Products
Containers
Cottonseed Oil
Electronics
Food Processing
Garments
Grain Elevators

Granite Mining
Gypsum Mining
Haberdashery
Helicopters
Ladies Apparel Accessories
Leather Goods
Mobile Homes
Missiles
Oilfield Equipment
 Pipelines
Refining
Sheet Rock
Steel Fabrication

AGRICULTURE
Barley
Beef Cattle
Cotton
Dairy Cattle
Milo Maize
Oats
Peanuts
Quarter Horses
Wheat
Here is the “old post” authentically as it was in frontier days, the headquarters of the military greats, Sherman . . . Sheridan . . . Grierson . . . Belnap . . .

The priceless bonus at Fort Sill are five splendid museums, three of which are devoted to the world’s finest visual presentation of the story of artillery from ancient times to atomic missiles—in which this tremendous military installation specializes today.

Adjoining north is the great Refuge established by “Teddy” Roosevelt to preserve the wildlife of the plains, the bison, longhorn, antelope, deer, elk, the prairie dog, all roaming free along scenic drives through these 59,000 acres of plains and mountains. Plains in nearby Lawton, provide the most exact overview of the western plains as they were in the days of our nation’s wild western frontier.

Then on to Anadarko, where exists an exhibition unique. There is nothing like it anywhere else in the world. It is Indian City, recreating for you to examine in detail the way of life of the Plains Indians, the earth-covered village of the Pawnees, tepee camp of the Kiowas, stockade settlement of the Caddos, the wickiups of the Apaches, the grass wigwams of the Wichitas. Indian people are here in person to guide your tour, and to entertain you with authentic tribal songs and ceremonial dances.

In sharp contrast with these ancient ways, are striking new industries along the way. Anadarko’s Sequoyah Mills where Indian staffed looms weave modern carpet so successfully that in their first year of production they have had to triple anticipated production from two-million to six-million dollars.

To quote Chan Guffey’s Executive Journal, “The business world in Oklahoma is our most exciting arena. Towns have suddenly become cities and our cities, metropolitan areas. The changes now in progress are as dramatic as those of the years following the run of ’89. Big money is being made and re-invested. New leaders, new patterns of wealth are emerging.”

Helicopters being built in Frederick, missiles at Altus, industrial foundations, food processing from peanuts to beef, electronic industries, granite and gypsum building materials, oilfield equipment, garment plants, refineries, pipelines; Oklahoma Southwest is a busy place.

You find yourself confronted with such contradictions as the young Indian boy who speaks flawless Kiowa, performs the buffalo dance for a social gathering during the weekend, then makes straight A’s the following week in electronics, or in pre-med education, law, or other courses at the University.

The seeming contradiction of the tepees of Indian City with the comforts of modern Oklahoma living, the rugged and rocky terrain of the Quartz Mountains with the undulating green pastures of sweeping prairie and the cool blue depths of its many lakes, make Oklahoma Southwest a country of constant variety. It is an exciting place to visit, a profitable place to live, a pleasant place to play.

END
Rugged individualism is a much admired American trait. Every so often we hear someone lament that rugged individualism no longer exists, but there is at least one stronghold in which it still flourishes.

When you see a professional cowboy compete in a rodeo sanctioned by the Rodeo Cowboy's Association you are seeing individualism in its purest form.

As a member of the RCA he is entitled to compete in any professional rodeo in the United States and Canada. He pays a cash entry fee for the right to compete, and is not subsidized in any way. He has no team doctor, or trainer to cure his aches, bruises or broken bones. As Jim Shoulders once said, “I just wire myself up and keep going.”

The bucking horse he draws doesn't know if he is a rookie or a seasoned pro. Nor does he know the color of the cowboy's skin or his religious affiliation. In a timed event, the stop watch runs the same for each contestant. A professional cowboy is his own boss. He belongs to a vanishing breed. He stands on his own feet and knows that when the chute gate flies open, he is on his own; just man vs. beast.

Oklahoma cowboys have led the way on the national level since the RCA point award system was first started in 1945. They have won forty-one World's Championships. Jim Shoulders leads the way with a total of sixteen titles and an unprecedented five All-Around Championships. The dean of Oklahoma cowboys, Everett Shaw, is next in line with six Steer Roping titles, the most any man has ever won. He has been among the top money winners in this event for fourteen of the past eighteen years.

Shoat Webster has four Steer Roping titles to his credit. He and the late Bob Crosby are the only men ever to win the All-Around title at the Pendleton Roundup for three consecutive years. Clark McEntire and Todd Whatley have each won three World's Championships.

Freckles Brown, perhaps the most popular of all Champions, astounded the Rodeo World in 1962 by winning the Bull Riding title at the tender age of forty. After cinching the title Freckles wound up second best with a Brahma Bull at a Portland rodeo and broke...
RODEO

his neck. In traction for a month, then a full length cast for three more months, he is back in the thick of things now, pulling the loose rope on the hump backs.

Tom Nesmith, All-Around Champion in 1962, is the first timed-event man since 1941 to turn the trick. The Combs brothers, Willard and Benny, are the only brothers in the history of rodeo who have both won Steer Wrestling titles. Ike Rude, Steer Roping winner of ten years ago, was sixty-four years old when he was crowned, the oldest cowboy ever to win a World's Championship.

Iron man Buck Rutherford, almost killed in a car wreck several years ago, refused to quit. Against the advice of medical specialists, he came on to join Shoulders and Whatley as a World Champion All-Around Cowboy.

The backbone of any sport is the seasoned veteran, like rodeo's Bob Wegner. Three times he has been runner-up for bull riding honors but had the misfortune to peak just when Jim Shoulders was riding his best. The Fedderson brothers, Don and Bill, both topflight contenders in Steer Wrestling and Bronc Riding, have been elected by fellow contestants to serve on the RCA's Board of Directors. Pat Scudder, who at one time or another has competed in and won every major event, now serves as Television Coordinator for the RCA. Tater Decker and Duane Hennigh are versatile hands. The most talented newcomer in many years is Barry Burk. As a teen-ager he was the American Junior Rodeo Association All-Around Champ five times. In 1963, in his rookie professional year, he was among the top fifteen Steer Wrestlers and qualified for the National Finals.

In 1963 there were twenty-four professional rodeos in Oklahoma plus the National Finals Steer Roping at Pawhuska. The sponsors of these Rodeos put up more than $75,500 prize money, which the contestants' entry fees swell to a total of more than $165,000. More than 270,000 fans attended these rodeos, a total greater than the number of fans who saw Big Red football at Owen Stadium.

Lenapah, in Nowata County, has its rodeos each year; the Jaycee International in June and the State Fair Rodeo in September. Tulsa's Johnny Lee Will's Stampede is a big and exciting rodeo. But regardless whether the site is a town of two-hundred or a metropolitan center of half a million, the action is great.

Jim Shoulders ............ Henryetta
Everett Shaw .............. Stonewall
Shoot Webster ........... Lenapah
Clark McEntire .......... Kiowa
Todd Whatley .......... Hugo
Freckles Brown .......... Laton
Tom Nesmith ............ Bethel
Willard & Benny Combs .. Checotah
Ike Rude ................. Woodward
Buck Rutherford ........ Lenapah
Bob Wegner .......... Ponca City
Don & Bill Fedderson ... El Reno
Pat Scudder ............ Blue Mound
Tater Decker .......... Clayton
Duane Hennigh .......... La Verne
Barry Burk .............. Wagoner

RODEO IN OKLAHOMA

Ardmore April 15-18
Guymon May 1-2
Tulsa May 12-17
Miami May 21-23
Harrah May 22-24
Duncan May 28
Oklahoma City June 3-6
Wagoner June 4-6
Hugo June 11-13
Yukon June 18-20
Claremore June 24-27
Chickasha June 24-27
Lenapah July 1-4
Hinton July 2-4
Mangum July 14-16
Enid July 16-18
Lawton Aug. 3-6
Broken Bow Aug. 5-8
Vinita Aug. 19-23
Woodward Sept. 2-5
McAlester Sept. 3-6
Elk City Sept. 7-9
Ponca City Sept. 10-12
Oklahoma City Sept. 26-Oct. 1

THE WESTERN TRAIL

A century ago a hunting party of Cheyennes, trailing the pronghorn antelope, would seek such a clear pebbled stream as this, with plentiful wood nearby, as a place to camp. When they left, it would look exactly like this. Unlike today's campers along western trails, the Indian left no litter. No smudging remains of fire, no empty cans, bottles, waste paper, trash, garbage, or junk. When the Indian campers departed, the remains of their fire were buried, even their tracks brushed out, leaving no trace. They would have left this pebbled stream as clean and beautiful as they found it. It costs an estimated five billion dollars per year to clean up the litter today's travelers leave behind. Many western trails pass through Oklahoma; the Chisholm Trail, the Jones and Plummer Trail, the Old Spanish Road, the Santa Fe Trail, the California Trail, the Butterfield Trail. You are cordially invited and urged to visit these historic landmarks of Western America. When you depart, please leave them as clean and sparkling as this ranch stream near Cheyenne, Oklahoma.

COLOR PHOTO BY BOB TAYLOR
YOUTH IN AGRICULTURE

Year after year, young Oklahomans walk off with a lion's share of awards and honors in national agricultural competition.

For example, during the past year two young 4-H Club members won $800 scholarships in National 4-H Club competition; they are Rudy O'Donley, of Jenks; and Mary Ann Hancock, of Chickasha. Eight won $500 scholarships; Miquelyn Tautfest, Tonkawa; Edwina Simmons, Tonkawa; Linda Mittlestet, Aline; Louis Boeckman, Okeene; Douglas Ringer, Edmond; Joe Lucas, Copan; Harold Deen Manning, Pauls Valley; and John Hancock, Chickasha.

Stephen Ford, Oklahoma Secretary of the Future Farmers of America, R rexford Tautfest, Marland, won this year's National FFA Competition in Livestock Farming. Charles Holmberg, Erick, is the National Winner in Crop Farming. Marvin Agan, Custer City, is regional winner in Farm Mechanics.

Sooner FFA'ers have now won the National Livestock Competition for three years in succession, actually as long as the award has been offered. Owasso this year won the Gold Award, Muskogee and Davenport the Silver Award, and Marlow the Bronze Award.

The American Farmer degree was conferred this year on seventeen young Oklahomans (the maximum number possible); Billy Gene Beach, Muskogee; George Bowden, Mulhall; Austin Bynum, Eldorado; Raymond Coker, Perry; Mike Combs, Kingfisher; Jon Ford, Helena; Glenn Holderread, Cushing; Glen Just, Collinsville; Robert Klinger, Ponca City; Herbert Kordis, Cashion; Jim Kragh, Waynoka; James Miller, Custer City; Larry Murphy, Lambert; Bill Sporleder, Davenport; Darrell Vanpool, Miami; Jesse White, Union City, and Gary Wilson, Lawton. Official delegates to this year's national were Stephen Armbruster, Burlington, and Ladd Hudgins, Clinton. Three Oklahomans were chosen for the National FFA band; Don Johnston, Custer City; Thomas Dickey, Owasso; and Ronnie Wayland, Arnett.

FFA Sweetheart for the year is Dianne Freeman, of Fletcher. Dianne has been active in 4-H Club since she was a small girl, has won many awards with her 4-H projects, participates in rodeo, sings in her highschool trio and mixed quartet, and won the Masonic Outstanding Student Award during National Education Week.

OUR AUTHORS THIS ISSUE

VAL THIESSEN's newest novel MY BROTHER CAIN has just been released and he is hard at work on the next. His short stories and articles have appeared in The Saturday Evening Post and virtually every other major periodical. Much in demand as a lecturer on the subject of writing, Val has frequently been a speaker on the University of Oklahoma Professional Writers' Short Course. He is an Associate Professor of English at Oklahoma City University.

CLEM McSPADDEN is as famous a name in rodeo as any of the tophand riders he writes about. He is featured each year on nation-wide TV as the announcer of the National Rodeo Finals, the Pendleton Roundup, Cheyenne's Frontier Days and many other top rodeos around the nation. His two most recent television appearances have been with Tom Harmon on ABC-TV's WIDE WORLD OF SPORTS. Clem McSpadden is as well informed on the subject of rodeo in America as any living man.

CAROL RACHLIN, alumna of Chevy Chase College, graduate in Anthropology and of the American Anthropological Association for the Advancement of Science. This learned lady's warm-hearted personality has won for her an unnumbered host of friends, which accounts for the authority and understanding with which she writes of Indian people and their ceremonials.
KENT RUTH'S travel column is a widely read regular feature in the Sunday Oklahoman. His OKLAHOMA: A GUIDE TO THE SOONER STATE, prepared in conjunction with the staff of the O.U. Press, is the nation’s standard reference work on the subject. Equally popular are his books COLORADO VACATIONS, and HOW TO ENJOY YOUR WESTERN VACATIONS. His most recent book is GREAT DAY IN THE WEST, compendium of the forts, posts, and rendezvous of the American Frontier.

MAGGIE CULVER FRY's charming book of Indian poetry THE WITCH DEER has become a collector's item. She has authored some of our most treasured Oklahoma Today features: GARDEN OF THE WILD, Spring '58; MEMORIES OF LYNN RIGGS, Winter '59; INDIAN ELOQUENCE, Winter '60; FIVE DAY PICNIC, (first published in American Mercury) Fall, '62; THE ETERNAL FIRE, Winter '63. No one knows the innermost soul of Oklahoma, and can translate it into words, more effectively than she.

ERIC ALLEN says, "I grewed up barfoot in Sequoyah County, went west atop a two-wheeled trailer with Steinbeck's Okies, got homesick, com back and went to puttin' words on paper." He has published six novels, two translated in Spain and Norway, also published in Australia and England. His setting and subject is Indian Territory. Eric writes for Holiday, which will publish his OZARKS SHUNPIKE TOUR this fall, also for the Ford Times, and King Features Syndicate.

We ran onto these verses by Oklahoma's Poet Laureate Emeritus Bess Truitt, of Enid. They are humorous, and a joy, and in fact a perceiving commentary on the thrift of our pioneer Oklahoma forebears.

AUNT KATE'S REQUEST
by
Bess Truitt

Aunt Kate was sick,
She was feeling low;
The stitch in her side
Made words come slow.

She fixed her eyes
On great niece Ann,
"Come nigh me gal
While yet ye can
Soon I'll be gone

Now hearken well
Don't lay me away
In a shroud they sell.

Take my old silk
And cut out the back
Give it to Jane
For to line her sacque

I never was one
To waste good cloth,
I've kept it clean
And free from moth."

"Why Auntie dear,
What would uncle say
To greet you thus
On the judgment day?"

"He'll understand
I'll take the chance
For I buried him
Without his pants."

THE BOOMTOWN TRAIL

The Saturday Evening Post ran an article a few years ago titled OKLAHOMA: THE STATE THAT STRUCK IT RICH. It was an apt title. Oklahoma struck it rich in 1897 when a shot of nitro blew in the Johnstone wildcat, in a bend of the Caney River, Coo-wees-coo-ee District, Cherokee Nation, Indian Territory. You can see that well today, in Johnstone Park, Bartlesville. It is featured in a recent novel for young folks, THE MYSTERY OF THE OLD OIL WELL by Dorothy French. Drumright, Whizbang, Wildhorse, Bowlegs, Hogshooter, Maud, Konawa, Roxana, Three Sands, Wewoka, Oilton the names of the old boomtowns spark and ignite recollection of tales romantic and lively. Some of the old boomtowns faded when the oil played out. Others are more vigorous than ever.

The oil booms continue. An oilfield discovered in 1928 made Oklahoma City a boomtown during the early 30's, while the rest of America was in the pit of the depression. Kingfisher is a boomtown today, hardly able to keep up with its own growth. The rig pictured here is drilling in Washita County, south of Cordell.

COLOR PHOTO BY BOB TAYLOR
It's summer in Oklahoma. Listen to the music of the dance bells. North to south, east to west, Indian social gatherings are held every weekend from Memorial Day to Labor Day. The ancient trailways and wagon roads have been replaced by paved highways and turnpikes. The horse has given his burden to the ranch wagon, the pick-up, the camper truck, and the sedan. The shadows of jet planes are cast across the pavement, as modern Indians travel over the state to celebrate their ancient traditions.

Most of the 57 tribes now living in Oklahoma have some kind of summer get-togethers. The Five Civilized Tribes of the east hold summer outings, but they are different in character from the powwows of the central and western areas. The heart of the "powwow circuit" is between Tulsa in the northeast and Walters in the southwest.

This huge area is now the home of many tribes. The village hunting tribes from the Mississippi region include the Osage, Ponca, Quapah, and the Pawnee from Nebraska. The Woodland groups reached Oklahoma from the Great Lakes region. Among them are the Iowa, Sac-Fox, and Kickapoo. The horse riding nations of the Great Plains, the Cheyenne, Arapaho, Kiowa and Comanche have always had a foothold here. The village dwellers, the Caddo and Wichita, came from Texas and Kansas.

The summer gatherings of these groups are all similar, and yet they are all different. At all powwows the people camp. They spend three days living in the outdoors like their ancestors. Now the wickiup, the tepee, and the great earth lodges of the past have been replaced by the nylon tent, the canvas "A" tent of the U. S. Army, the mail order teepee, or the camper truck. Occasionally some tradition-loving family brings out a "real tepee" which has been carefully stowed away for a momentous occasion.

A powwow camp looks very much like a fishing camp on Lake Texoma.
POWWOW

The portable ice box, the transistor radio, the aluminum cots and chairs, and the plastic dishes are all part of a modern camp. But it is an Indian camp. In front of the modern tent stands an ancient style grass arbor, to protect the people from the hot summer sun. Great brass kettles hang from triangular stands over the wood cooking fires, or stand on metal grates over trenched fires. Here and there women are drying meat on lines, while children run about playing "Cowboy and Indian." Gay tribal costumes hang from the tent poles and arbors in anticipation of the group dances common to all powwows.

The whole camp is kept in motion by the stimulation of a loud speaker system which blares over the grounds from Friday evening until Sunday night, roaring out recorded Indian music, announcements, and instructions for the campers.

A typical powwow starts with an Indian-costumed social dance on Friday evening, lasting from 8 P.M. until 11 P.M. After the evening performance, the dancers change into their "white man's clothes," and sit around the fire in the center of the dance ring. The drummers sing one of the current favorite round dance songs:

"Just one more kiss
Until you come back.
Hold me tight in this
Beautiful moonlight.
Good-bye, sweetheart, good-bye."

War dance, snake dance, buffalo dance, Indian two-step, and tribal specialty dances occupy the rest of the performance. Until midnight the people dance and sing, until sunrise they visit. Friends from Carlisle, Haskell and Chilocco will meet and relive in memory the experiences of their school years. Tribal affairs are discussed. Sports, national politics, hair dressing, cooking, child care, and courting fill the hours of the night.

Sunday morning, in many powwow camps, an inter-denominational church service will be held. The Indians in Oklahoma are principally Baptists, Methodists, or Catholics, although other Christian groups are represented among the Indian population. To all Indians, regardless of their formal religion, the love of God is paramount in their lives. More often than their white friends, the Indians stop to thank God for the blessings they have received in their lives.

Sunday afternoon is given to specials. Individual families give away blankets, dress fabrics, money, shawls, and other goods in honor of young members of the families. The giveaway ceremony, now practiced around the powwow circuit, originated among the Plains Indians as a type of social security. A family in its productive years would give away in honor of its young people, to the poor, to the old, and to visitors. In this way the less productive members of the baseball game, followed by foot races, children's dances, or perhaps a greased pig race. There will be fun for all, and the children will be kept out from underfoot.

Noon-time, and rest. For a while the loud speaker is quiet. Then there is an afternoon call for the grown-ups to play hand game. This game is an Indian version of Button - Button - Who's - Got - the - Button. Two teams play, and the winning team receives a prize. Dancing and singing go with the game.

In the evening, the formal dancing performance is repeated. Saturday evening everyone comes forth in his very best Indian clothes. You see buckskin dresses, silk appliqued skirts worn with gay satin blouses, war bonnets, colored head roaches, the gay-colored feathered pinwheels of the war dancers, and the bright satin shirts of the straight dancers. The world bursts into color, as the drumbeat sends the dancers rhythmically around the ring. The drummers sing the following song:

"Give me five minutes more,
Only five minutes more,
Let me stay, let me stay,
In your arms."

On through the night the young people will dance and sing, until the sun comes out of the east to chase them back to their camps and to sleep.

Early Saturday morning the loud speaker calls the campers to come for rations. The tribal powwow committee always provides sugar, coffee, lard, flour, and beef or chicken for the Indian campers during the three days of the gathering.

The loud speaker calls again, this time for the children. There is to be a...
POWOWWOW

groups were provided for, the visitors remembered, and the young taught to be generous, so that when they grew old others would think of them.

Today, a family gives away to the old, to the poor, and to visitors, as in the past. They also give away to friends who have helped them throughout the year, and to friends they wish to honor.

Sunday evening there is another social dance, but now the crowd has thinned out. Monday is a work day, and like other workers the Indians must return to their jobs. Camps are broken, and the people wind their way back over the highways toward home.

An Oklahoma summer has about twenty-four powwows, each different from the other. Many of these differences can be traced back to the traditions of the various tribal groups and their historical development.

On the 4th of July, the Kiowa Indians of the Great Plains hold their annual Gourd Dance Ceremony in the park at Carnegie. The Gourd Dance Society were the camp police in the old days when the Kiwas roamed the plains. After World War II the Society was revived. Today the Gourd Dance Society is a men's social group. The dance is held at the same time as the Sun Dance of buffalo hunting days.

The weekend after the Fourth of July is the time of the Pawnee powwow, called the Pawnee Homecoming. This powwow is held at the same time as the Sun Dance of buffalo hunting days.

The exact dates of the powwows vary a little from year to year. As many as could be obtained are listed at the conclusion of this article. For the very latest information on powwows, tune in the Indians for Indians program, WNAD, the University of Oklahoma, Norman, each Saturday at 11:35 A.M.

INDIAN POWWOWS

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<td>Carnegie</td>
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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

NORMAN: April 16-25; 75th Anniversary Celebration. The re-ennactment of the first Santa Fe train at noon on April 22, followed by a luncheon for 800 at which Will Rogers, Jr., will speak on “Heritage and Promise of Oklahoma”. The Committee of Seventy-Five, 115 East Gray, Norman, will answer your requests for information.

GUTHRIE: April 20-22; 89'er Days. Rodeo, mammoth parade, all the carnival atmosphere of a venerable and fun-filled celebration, marking the “Run” into old Oklahoma.

GUYNON: May 1-2; Pioneer Days; This celebration is in honor of the pioneers of No. McLean Land, and marks the anniversary of the passage of the Organic Act of 1850 which made the Panhandle a part of Oklahoma Territory. Parade, rodeo, fun for all, and all reminiscent of the wild western frontier.

KINGFISHER: April 15-18; Diamond Jubilee. Old-time Chautauqua performances, parade, street dancing, plus a gigantic re-enactment of the Run of '89. Old-time fiddlers' contest, riding clubs, bands, Indian powwow, rodeo. A gala festival in an historic town.

McALESTER: May 10-17; Project '74, A Decade for Progress. An eight-day celebration to highlight and explore opportunities for progress in the coming decade, in space industry, electronics, water resources, manufacturing, agriculture. A new departure in celebrations that looks most interesting.

COLOR PHOTO BY PAUL E. LEFEBRE

TRAIL OF THE FIVE CIVILIZED TRIBES

Seminoles, Choctaw, Creek, Chickasaw, and Cherokee, these woodlands tribes of the Atlantic seaboard, in philosophy and thought, in the creative arts, in the art of democratic government, in many aspects of culture, were more advanced that the Europeans who came to drive them out. They moved west in sadness, cruelly driven. Here in these forests and western wilderness to found great “Nations,” to rise in riches and power of spirit to become the very bone and sinew of this forty-sixth state. These brilliant tribesmen and women have become our statesmen, jurists, teachers, ministers, historians . . . and they have yet more to teach us of the good and abundant life. Without those people there could have been no Oklahoma as we know it. The historic marker here tells its own story. You will find these markers throughout the state. Look for them as you drive, for they tell the stories of the many colored threads and beads of history woven into the infinitely varied fabric of Oklahoma.

COLOR PHOTO BY PAUL E. LEFEBRE
HIS Heartland—if our “outlying” brethren will forgive our saying so—is an Oklahoma in miniature. It contains almost forty percent of the state’s population, including eight of the 15 most populous cities and three of the top five (Oklahoma City, Norman, Enid). Stretching from Kansas to Texas, it is also representative geographically. In the main, it includes the double tier of counties served by two north-south trunk highways, US 81 on the west and US 77 (I-35) on the east. Rail passengers traverse the same routes via Rock Island and Santa Fe streamliners. This means that it embraces a fascinating cross-section of the attractions the Sooner State has to offer, traditional and new-fangled.

As natives, most of us find the scene so familiar we fail to sort and catalogue those attractions, at least consciously. It takes a visitor to do that for us.

The first-timer, for example, will probably lean to the “traditionalist” viewpoint. Having boned up a bit on Oklahoma history, he’s likely to watch for the sweep of unbroken grass that recalls the dramatic "runs" of 1889 and subsequent years, to hunt up storied oil boom towns and once important frontier military posts . . . and to find himself wishing we’d hurry up and finish the National Cowboy Hall of Fame.

If he’s a repeater, and has already sampled these traditional Sooner lures, he may be more inclined to focus his attention on the “new” Oklahoma. On such space-age manifestations of progress as landscaped industrial parks, sprawling air depots and flight centers, push-button refineries, glass-walled laboratories, and that $4 million monument to man’s faith in his own perfectability, the University of Oklahoma’s Kellogg Center for Continuing Education.

Either way, he’ll get a blending of the old and the new.

*At Fort Reno, northwest of El Reno, it’s easy to recall the turbulent 1880’s when soldiers there rode herd on Cheyennes and Arapahoes. Today the old buildings are used by Oklahoma researchers to up-grade the cattle industry.

*At Ponca City, we can visit the $300,000 Pioneer Woman Monument and the nearby museum. Yet the town itself is a monument to the oil industry, virtually surrounded as it is by the most modern of refineries and laboratories.

*At Ardmore, we can visit both the city’s first house (the 700 Ranch house) and its latest research institution (the Samuel Roberts Noble Foundation, doing basic work in bio-chemistry and agriculture).

*At Hennessey, tall steel drilling rigs, clusters of oil well supply houses, and gleamingly new separation plants provide the surface trappings of a mid-20th century oil boom. Yet the town rises beside the storied Chisholm Trail, over which an estimated ten million cattle passed in the quarter-century following 1865. The town, laid out in 1889, is named for Pat Hennessey whose wagon train was burned by Indians there on July 4, 1874.
Heartland of Soonerland

At Oklahoma City, we can entertain house guests by dropping off the children at Frontier City (for old-time fun on the gun-fighter's circuit), then visit Municipal Auditorium for a play or concert, then drive out to Fair Park for the art exhibit or the planetarium show.

There is a similar ambivalence to all of Oklahoma's Heartland.

Take agriculture. It runs the gamut from fertile wheat lands on the north to the cotton-peanut-broomcorn fields to the south (Maysville and Lindsay are among the country's principal broomcorn producing and marketing centers.) Along the way are such local specialties as pecans (Pauls Valley), watermelons (Rush Springs), and honey (Minco).

For an added dimension of importance there are such internationally known names as Failing (oil field equipment) in Enid, and Halliburton (oil well servicing) in Duncan.

The star petroleum performers—at least for out-of-staters—are the 17 wells now producing on the capitol grounds in Oklahoma City. Particularly the "whip-stocked" well which draws oil from directly beneath the Capitol itself. Some 5,000 visitors a month come to gape, enviously, at these unusual state money-makers. (Latest figure on their total 27-year contribution to the state's coffers: $7,785,112.23.)

Take culture and education. The University of Oklahoma is at Norman, Oklahoma State University at Stillwater, Central State at Edmond, Langston University, Oklahoma City University, Phillips University at Enid, Bethany Peniel, and Oklahoma Christian College in Oklahoma City.

A total of eight universites and colleges all within a radius little more than 50 miles, helps to account for this area's post-World War II surge to pre-eminence in the electric/electronic manufacturing field.

Wherever one goes in this Oklahoma Heartland he finds this fascinating intertwining of the old and the new. How do you go about seeing all of the area? That's simple, you take off a summer and start driving.

US 81 is the latter-day Chisholm Trail and the Oklahoma Historical Society has dotted it liberally with markers indicating old landmarks, early day campsites and battle grounds. (Jesse Chisholm himself is buried on the bank of the North Canadian some six miles northeast of Geary.) Trace out all these...
historic spots and you’ll find an easy one-day’s drive lapping over into two or three.

US 77 offers its share of history, and throws in a generous amount of scenery for good measure. The Arbuckle Mountains are exceptional, geologically. Here rock formations, buried deep underground elsewhere, are up-tilted and exposed to the ready view of student and tourist alike.

This Heartland includes all the drama surrounding the state’s two biggest runs: the April 22, 1889, opening of “Old Oklahoma” and the Cherokee Outlet opening on September 16, 1893. Intimately associated with the former is the fascinating story of Guthrie, capital of Oklahoma from 1890 until 1910 when (according to the excellent series of locally erected markers) that honor was “stolen” by Oklahoma City. Guthrie’s Scottish Rite Temple is the world’s largest devoted exclusively to Masonic uses.

US 77 has its frontier heritage, too. The famed 101 Ranch southwest of Ponca City, from which the Miller brothers launched their world famous Wild West show. Only fifty miles down the road, the little town of Mulhall, was once the headquarters of the state’s second big showman/rancher outfit: the spread of Zack Mulhall. From his rodeo show emerged two famed entertainment figures; his daughter Lucille, starred as the world’s first “cowgirl,” and the world-loved Will Rogers.

And so it goes. Our space is gone and we haven’t even mentioned such a “traditional” lure as the old Fort Arbuckle ruins near Davis, such modern attractions as the highly respected Oklahoma Medical Research Foundation facility in Oklahoma City, the scenic and recreational charms of Platt National Park at nearby Sulphur, the state’s long-time spas at Lake Murray and Lake Texoma, both offering state parks and other water-oriented resort facilities.

But you get the picture. Whether you’re seeking frontier heritage, industrial potential or modern fun and recreation, you’ll find them in the Heartland of Soonerland.

END
EGEND, and fact more incredible than legend, are the lures that make the Will Rogers country so inviting. This is a land where tragedy became triumph. It was here the first Indians of the Removal came. Tricked, betrayed, and driven from their southern and eastern homes, these people came in sadness and bereavement. Along the way they left those they loved, a child, a grandparent, a wife, a mother, a father, buried in shallow graves dug, literally, with bare hands.

Hardly a family was wholly spared. Before they were fully settled the guns of the Civil War were belching fury at Cabin Creek and Caving Banks. Then outlaws sought this frontier to escape the white man's law. It was a country hard won.

Yet now, pass through these quiet by-ways, crisply cold in winter, bright with bird songs and blossoming trees in spring, lazily shaded in summer, smoky and redolent in autumn, and you will sense in the very air the love and pride our people have for this northeast area made famous around the world by Oklahoma's favorite son, Will Rogers.

North of Claremore, east of the Will Rogers Turnpike near Vinita with its long frontier heritage, and brightly business-like Miami, is the Lake o' the Cherokees, Grand Lake; fifty-thousand acres of water fun, an unforgettable setting for an outing.

Grove, Ottawa, Fairland, Ketchum, Wyandotte, and Jay, it is a land of comfortable and pleasant lake resort towns. Just to the south are the two Spavinaws, jewel lakes in an Ozark-like setting.

Here are historical landmarks ... the Moravian Mission, New Spring Place, old Fort Wayne, the grave of Cherokee Major John Ridge, and by his side his nephew Confederate Brig. Gen. Stand Watie.

Another giant lake is nearby, $32 million Markham Ferry. A bit to the south, a famous name is Chouteau. The first Oklahoma Chouteau was fur trader Jean Pierre, who established a trading post at the confluence of the Grand and Neosho. The most recent Oklahoma Chouteau is Yvonne, internationally famed ballerina.

Yet another giant lake, Sequoyah, is bordered by beautiful Sequoyah State Park and Lodge, which has everything; air strip, golf course, convention hall, museum, amusement park, rodeo, restaurant, boat excursions, heated and air-conditioned fishing docks, hayrides, riding horses, shetland ponies, buffalo herd, stagecoach, rental bicycles, nursery, baby sitters. . . .

Near the historic resort town of Wagoner is the site of old Koweta Mission. In Will Rogers' town—Claremore—is the lovely Will Rogers Memorial which preserves and displays to more than half a million visitors each year the mementos of Will's life, his Broadway shows, motion pictures, his world travels as America's beloved ambassador of good will.

In Claremore, too, is the Lynn Riggs Memorial Museum. From
Will Rogers Country

Lynn’s “Green Grow the Lilacs” came the record breaking musical “Oklahoma!” The Museum houses the original “Surrey with the Fringe on Top” and much other memorabilia of this famous playwright. Oklahoma Military Academy is at Claremore. So is the fabulous Davis Gun Collection—the world’s largest private collection of firearms. And just north, another giant lake, Oologah, twenty thousand acres of water with a rocky, rugged and beautiful shoreline.

Catoosa will become the Port of Catoosa soon, a reality that once seemed like an Arabian nights dream, with water access through the Arkansas River Navigation Project to the Mississippi, the Gulf of Mexico, the oceans beyond, and the seven seas.

Nearby Lenapah is a legend in rodeo. It has produced five world champion rodeo riders, more than any other town in the world; Fred Lowery, “Nowata Slim” Richardson, Everett Shaw, Shoat Webster, and Buck Rutherford.

At Nellie Johnstone park in Bartlesville you’ll see Oklahoma’s first commercial oil well. Bartlesville was named All-America City by Look magazine in 1963, and here is located the headquarters of the giant of energy, the Phillips Petroleum Company, one of the nation’s largest corporations.

North in Osage County, another giant lake, Hulah. South is Woolaroc, America’s most colorful museum. Indian and western history is presented here so dramatically that you cannot fail to feel the very surge of America’s western expansion. Along the drive through the timber and pastures between the ranch

**COLLEGES**
- Northeastern Okla. A&M College
- Oklahoma Military Academy
- Benedictine Heights College
- University of Tulsa

**LAKES**
- Fort Gibson Lake
- Grand Lake O’The Cherokees
- Hulah
- Keystone
- Markham Ferry
- Oologah
- Pawhuska
- Spavinaw

**NATURAL WONDERS & HISTORIC SITES**
- Bitting Springs Mill (Tahlequah)
- Cabin Creek (Mayes County)
- Caving Banks (Muskogee)
- Davis Gun Collection (Claremore)
- Dripping Springs (Flint)
- First Oil Well (Bartlesville)
- Fort Gibson
- Fort Wayne (Delaware County)
- Gilleo rease Institute (Tulsa)
- John Ridge Grave (Near Grove)
- Koweta Mission (Coweta)
- Lynn Riggs Museum (Claremore)
- New Spring Place (Delaware County)
- Osage Hills State Park (Pawhuska)
- Osage Tribal Museum (Pawhuska)
- Pawnee Bill Ranch (Pawnee)
- Philbrook Art Center (Tulsa)
- Sequoyah Recreation Area (Wagoner)
- Stand Watie Grave (Polsom Cemetery—near Grove)
- Will Rogers Memorial (Claremore)
- Woolaroc Ranch & Museum (Bartlesville)

**INDUSTRY**
- Air-conditioning
- Aircraft Manufacture & Maintenance
- Aluminum Fabrication
- Boats
- Cement
- Chemicals
- Containers
- Electric power
- Electronics
- Fabricated Steel
- Game Ranching
- Glass
- Gypsum
- Hardware & Millwork
- Luggage
- Machinery
- Machine Tools

**MINING**
- Oil
- Paraffin
- Plastics
- Pottery
- Printing
- Research facilities
- Sensitive & Operational Instruments
- Sporting Goods
- Submersible Pumps
- Textiles
- Tires
- Trailers
- Ventilation Devices

**AGRICULTURE**
- Beef Cattle
- Corn
- Dairy Cattle
- Hogs
- Poultry
- Prairie Hay
- Soybeans
gate to the museum you’ll see the wildlife of the west, in its native habitat.

Pawhuska is the “Cattle Capital” of the Osage Nation, one and a quarter million acres of nutritious bluestem grassland, Brahmas, Herefords, Angus, and oil, have made this home of the Osage people a land of wealth.

The Osage Museum on Agency Hill, Indian ceremonial dances, rodeos, the classic Ben Johnson Memorial Steer Roping, event upon exciting event keeps Pawhuska lively. The very first Boy Scout Troop in America was organized in Pawhuska in 1909.

Osage Hills State Park with its rocky terrain, sparkling streams and limpid pools is a restful place to rent a rustic cabin and escape the world’s tumult for awhile.

Southwest is the city of Cleveland, and another giant lake in the making; Keystone will soon cover fifty-five thousand acres with its blue depths.

At Pawnee, on Blue Hawk Peak, is the palatial mansion of Wild West showman “Pawnee Bill,” Major Gordon W. Lillie. Now a part of Pawnee Bill State Park, the mansion is open to visitors, exhibiting the fabulous collection of Pawnee Bill’s show days in his home, where he entertained great and famous persons from everywhere.

Tulsa “The City Beautiful,” its name from the Creek Talsi, is the “Oil Capital of the World.” It is headquarters for more than 850 oil companies and petroleum allied industries, and host to the International Petroleum Exhibition. The turn-of-the-century oil booms at Red Fork and Glenpool, near Tulsa, were among our most fabulous.

Two positive “musts” in Tulsa are the Gilcrease Institute of American History and Art, and the Philbrook Art Center. The Gilcrease Institute without doubt houses the most exciting collection of Americana in the nation. It must be seen to be believed.

The Philbrook Art Center, itself a spectacle of Italian Renaissance beauty, displays Italian and early English paintings, Chinese art, American Indian painting, basketry, and prehistoric Indian culture—again you’ll have to see it to believe it.

When you visit the Will Rogers country advise anyone expecting you further along the route that you may arrive late. For you’re likely to stay longer than you planned to stay in this land Will Rogers loved. These mellow, rolling woodlands with their quiet Indian ways, their relics of the Old West, contain a complete digest of America in miniature.

You’ll linger, and savour, and leave reluctantly. Then driving at night through the darkness along the wide, meandering Arkansas River, a darkness sapphire-studded with the myriad brilliant lights of the huge oil refineries along the river, sparkling, winking, stabbing the dark, making stars in the water, you’re apt to wonder what Will might think if he were to see it now? It is an interesting question. He’d have to see it to believe it.
Trail of the Five Tribes

by Eric Allen
HERE'S a bloom on the land today in Southeastern and South Central Oklahoma, and it isn't all sparked by the warm spring winds or the expansive colors of flowering redbud and dogwood trees. A great transition has come, and it has appeared without much fanfare.

This land of water development, scenery, recreation and pioneer and Indian lore would be difficult to match in any other area in the United States.

Ranches with Angus and Whiteface cattle grazing, oil pools and modern cities, river bottom farms and lumber milling centers now cover this area which was once used by writers as the locale for outlawry, "tobacco road" type characters, and whiskey stills. Today's picture is all-inclusive, from the Cherokee country down across the pine-clad summits of the Ouachitas; lumber mills at Idabel; tourists at Lake Texoma; the historic former Chickasaw Nation capital at Tishomingo; the ranch, oil, glass, and cement manufacturing city of Ada; a fruit, vegetable poultry and dairy region around the steel and feed milling city of Shawnee.

Sequoyah County, current scene of the boom in river navigation, is an appropriate starting point from which to view the change.

Sallisaw, used by John Steinbeck as the opening locale of his novel, The Grapes of Wrath, has experienced phenomenal industrial and civic growth. In addition to ultra-modern homes, schools and churches the area is one of the major gateways to the beautiful Cookson Hills and Lake Tenkiller. Tourists swarm the area for float trips on the meandering Illinois River and to enjoy the fishing, water skiing, hunting and scenic wonders. Paradoxically, the exciting, tangy flavor of the old frontier is still retained. Out on the far-flung hills and valleys this flavor is intensified in scores of historic sites which tell the dramatic stories of the Indian Removal and the white man's westward push.

Fine roads lead the tourist to every historic and scenic site. In the eastern section you can stand on a high escarpment above the Arkansas and visualize the country as it was when Sam Houston camped on this river with Chiefs of the Cherokees. His beautiful Cherokee wife Tiana was first buried here just above the old steamboat landing. Later she was removed to the National Cemetery at Fort Gibson.

North, in the timbered hills threaded by State 101 out of Sallisaw, is the last log cabin home of Sequoyah, inventor of the Cherokee alphabet. The tiny cabin, on a rise above the banks of picturesque Skin Bayou, is preserved inside a native stone memorial building. Blooming dogwood and redbud trees splash a breathtaking array of color along greening forest paths where the backwoods genius walked.

Sequoyah's salt spring still trickles cheerfully. From the summit of nearby Eagle Mountain the old Cherokee burial ground of Bellefonte is visible, and beyond is a panoramic view of the country where a well-beaten horse and foot trace was established by Indians traveling to and from Tahlequah shortly after their exodus from Georgia.
Trail of the Five Tribes

over the Trail of Tears. Southward, in the rugged
hills, can be seen the steep, boulder-lined route of the
first military road established in 1824 between Fort
Smith and Fort Gibson.

Westward across rolling ranchlands is the largest
project in the development of the Arkansas River
Basin. This is vast Eufaula Dam, a flood control,
hydro-electric and water supply project with a lake
open to all featuring some of the finest recreational
facilities from the Great Lakes to the Gulf of Mexico.

In 1962 Eufaula was chosen as the most progressive
city of its size in the state. Its transition from a quiet
little cotton and corn farming center to one of the
booming recreational and industrial spots in the na-
tion has been profound.

The same is true of the central city of this area,
the growing, meat packing, cottonseed oil producing,
aircraft and boat equipment manufacturing center of
McAlester, where James J. McAlester set up a tent
store in 1870 at the crossing of the California Trail
and the Texas Road.

Within easy driving distance of McAlester is Wil-
brton, seat of Eastern Oklahoma A. & M. College.
Surrounding Latimer County offers a wealth of in-
terest, including the beautiful San Bois Mountains
and Robber's Cave State Park. The park recrea-
tional area includes a lake, horseback and foot trails, a
natural stone corral in the face of a towering moun-
tain where outlaws once hid their mounts from hard
riding posses, and the tremendous maw of the cave
on the crest of the hill from which a panoramic view
of picturesque hills and valleys may be enjoyed.

Latimer County is filled with prosperous cattle
ranches and spreads where fast-traveling quarter-
horses and Appaloosas are bred.

In adjoining Le Flore County is Lake Wister, mecca
for bass fishermen. Poteau, the county seat city at the
foot of Cavanal, “the world’s highest hill,” is
rapidly becoming industrialized. Southward are the
mountains that dwarf all others in the state, the mas-
sume Latimer County offers a
wealth of in-
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Mountains
Robber's Cave State Park
(Arkansas)

LAKES

Atoka
Clayton
Eufaula
Greenleaf
Heyburn
McAlester
Shawnee
Sportsman's
Tenkiller
Wister

Washington

The focal point of a drive through the Ouachitas
is Beaver's Bend State Park, a 1,300 acre wonderland
of tumbling, crystal-clear waters along Mountain Fork
River at the edge of the Kiamichi Range. Located
near the quaint little town of Broken Bow, the park
has a central restaurant, youth camps, cabins for
tourists and fishermen, facilities for swimming and
boating. In the surrounding forests you can feel un-
spoiled nature engulf your senses with the pleasant
murmur and sough of wind through the tall pines.

Westward along Red River is an interesting belt
of contrasts, cotton farms, purebred cattle, and
dairies. Here you pass through the Raymond Gary
Recreation Area near the ruins of Fort Towson, a
prominent military outpost in the old Choctaw Na-
tion in pioneer times. Northward is the pretty little
logging and lumber town of Antlers. Still northward
is the old Choctaw Council House at Tuskaahoma.
This historic building is one of the best preserved
structures of the period still standing in the state.

In the center of Choctaw County is the thriving
farm and ranch city of Hugo, famous as a circus

The same is true of the central city of this area,
the growing, meat packing, cottonseed oil producing,
aircraft and boat equipment manufacturing center of
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on the crest of the hill from which a panoramic view

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aircraft and boat equipment manufacturing center of
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The same is true of the central city of this area,
winter headquarters. The rich black soil around Durant in Bryan County now boosts the city's economy with top grade peanuts. A city of lively traffic and neon lights at night, Durant nevertheless maintains the air of a leisurely community, possibly because of so many gardens and magnolia trees and fine old turn-of-the-century mansions.

Tishomingo, where Chickasaw Indians, broad hatted cattlemen, agricultural experts from Oklahoma State University and tourists mingle, is a lake resort city. Sharing an imposing hilltop site with the courthouse is a tiny log cabin in which the first Chickasaw councils were held a century and a quarter ago. The cabin was removed from its original site on Pennington Creek, a rippling, swift-traveling stream which runs through the fantastic boulder formations of nearby Devil's Den Park.

Northward is the central area of Oklahoma's famed limestone cattle country, an undulating land of little and big bluestem and Indian switch-grass where some of the finest beef in the nation is grown. In the area is the vast Hereford ranch recently purchased by Winthrop Rockefeller from former Oklahoma Governor Roy J. Turner, and the historic Horseshoe Ranch which was established by Texas cattlemen in the 1880's when the Chickasaw Nation was untamed land. On the Penner Ranch near Mill Creek, another huge and historic cattle spread, is the log cabin home of the Indian, Cyrus Harris, first governor of the Chickasaw Nation West.

Shawnee, a prosperous town on the old Sac and Fox Indian land, is known in sports circles as the home of the all-time great athlete Jim Thorpe.

Okmulgee, former capital of the Creek Nation, is a city of oil refining and glass manufacturing, where cotton, and millions of pounds of pecans are harvested annually.

Muskogee, once regulated by the marshals of Hanging Judge Parker's famous court is, today a diversified manufacturing center busily engaged in the manufacture of rocket fuel, derricks, winches, glass and paper containers.

Tahlequah, capital of the Cherokee Nation, can boast an intriguing history dating back to 1839. The first newspaper in Oklahoma was established there. Located in the beautiful Cherokee Hills near eastern Oklahoma's finest lakes, arts and crafts fairs and annual celebrations of Cherokee tribesmen draw tourists nationwide. Within a few minutes' driving distance is Sequoyah State Park, located on Fort Gibson Lake where tourists may enjoy the unique experience of a trip on the Fort Gibson Queen, a sightseeing excursion boat.

This is the blooming land, blooming with industrial opportunity upon the advent of water transportation, blooming with redbud and dogwood along lovely and quiet wilderness trails from Tahlequah to Little Dixie - trails that once were part of the infamous Trail of Tears, the trail of the Five Civilized tribes. END