

NOTES AND DOCUMENTS

OKLAHOMA HISTORICAL MARKERS COMPLETED, 1950

Markers for commemorating fifty important historic sites in Oklahoma have been completed and are being placed at designated points on the highways, nearest the respective sites, in the state, under the direction of the Oklahoma Historical Society's Committee for Marking Historic Sites, of which Maj. Gen. Wm. S. Key is Chairman, in co-operation with the State Highway Department, Hon. H. E. Bailey, Director. Members of the Society's Committee are Dr. Grant Foreman, Dr. E. E. Dale, Col. George H. Shirk, Dr. Charles Evans, Muriel H. Wright. Mr. F. W. Arnold, Assistant Maintenance Engineer, State Highway, has had direct supervision of the Highway Department's work in this project. Special acknowledgment is due Dr. Morris L. Wardell, Department of History of The University of Oklahoma, for his interest and assistance in submitting a list of some 90 historic sites, with their locations and brief data, that should be commemorated and marked in the state.

The Twenty-second State Legislature appropriated the sum of \$10,000 for the biennium (\$5,000 for each of the fiscal years ending June 30, 1950, and June 30, 1951) for the erection of 100 historical markers over the state. Fifty sites were selected and the markers provided and placed in 1949;¹ the second fifty sites now being marked will complete this project provided for by the State Legislature.

Making up the final list, under the direction of the Society's Committee, as well as furnishing the historical data, writing the inscriptions for the markers and determining the locations for the plaques on the highways nearest the historic sites has been done in the Society's Editorial Department. The State Highway Department has had charge of all matters in letting the contract for manufacture of the metal plaques and the proper erection of these at the places designated on the highways, and will have the general care and oversight of the plaques in the future. The contract in both 1949 and 1950 for the manufacture of the plaques was let by the State Highway through competitive bidding to the Sewah Studios, Marietta, Ohio, which company offered the best prices and is well known for the manufacture of historical markers erected in many states.

Dedication programs for some of the 1950 markers are already being planned for early spring in different parts of the state. Very interesting programs were held recently for the dedication of the

¹A report on the 50 markers completed in 1949, under the auspices of the Historical Society and the State Highway Commission, was given in *The Chronicles of Oklahoma*, Vol. XXVII, No. 4 (Winter, 1949-50), pp. 420-24.

following 1949 markers:² "Choctaw Capitols," near Tuskahoma, August 26, program under the direction of Dr. Anna Lewis, head of the History Department, Oklahoma College for Women; "Atoka," at Atoka, October 28, under the auspices of the Pioneer Club, and on the same day in the afternoon for "Old Boggy Depot" on the grounds of the home of the late Rev. and Mrs. Allen Wright at the site of Old Boggy Depot, about 4½ miles southeast of the location of this marker on the Wapanucka Road, 9 miles west of Atoka. The dedication of the "Wheelock Mission" marker was held on November 19, at the Wheelock Mission Church (oldest church building in Oklahoma, 1846) about 2 miles northeast of Millerton, McCurtain County, under the direction of Mrs. Leila Black, Principal of Wheelock Academy.

In addition to the fifty markers provided in 1950 for the State project, two other markers have been provided by local subscription, approved by the Historical Society's Committee, as follows: "Original No Man's Land" erected on the Oklahoma-Texas line, at Texhoma, in Texas County; "First Hospital in Indian Territory" at the site in Tulsa.

Captions with directional lines and place of erection of the fifty historical markers in the 1950 list, now being erected, are as follows, given in the order of their recorded numbers:

No.	Caption	Date in History	Location of Marker
1.	WICHITA AGENCY "Site 5 mi. N.E."	— (1859)	— In Caddo Co., on State Highway #9 at junction with U. S. #62, s.e. of Ft. Cobb.
2.	CHILOCCO INDIAN SCHOOL—	(1882)	— In Kay Co., on U.S. #77, 3 mi. south of state line.
3.	ROCK MARY "3.5 mi. Southwest"	— (1849)	— In Caddo Co., south side of U.S. #66, west of Bridgeport.
4.	CAMP RADZIMINSKI "Site 2 mi. West."	— (1858)	— In Kiowa Co., west side of U.S. #183, north of Mountain Park 2 or 3 miles.
5.	SACRED HEART MISSION	— (1876)	— In Pottawatomie Co., north side of State #39, due south of village of Sacred Heart.
6.	101 RANCH "Old Boundary line here."	— (1893)	— In Noble Co., on west side of U.S. #77, north of Marland.
7.	GUTHRIE "First Capital of Oklahoma"	— (1889)	— In Logan Co., on U.S. #77, at park south of downtown Guthrie.
8.	OSAGE AGENCY	— (1872)	— In Osage Co., on U.S. #60, north edge of Pawhuska.

² For other dedication programs for 1949 markers, see report in *The Chronicles*, Vol. XXVIII, No. 2 (Summer, 1950), pp. 208-09.

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| 9. PAWNEE AGENCY
"About 2 mi. East" | — (1874) | — In Pawnee Co., at junction of U.S. #64 and State #18, east side of Pawnee. |
| 10. SEGER COLONY
"4 mi. North" | — (1886) | — In Washita Co., on State #41, east side of road going north to Colony. |
| 11. CAMP COMANCHE
"Site near here" | — (1834) | — In Comanche Co., on U.S. #62, 2 miles south of Comanche Co. line. |
| 12. CAMP SUPPLY | — (1868) | — In Woodward Co., on side of U.S. #70, near entrance of Western State Hospital, Supply. |
| 13. CANTONMENT
"Site about 2 mi. N." | — (1879) | — In Blaine Co., north side of State #51, about 1.5 mi. west of Canton. |
| 14. FORT RENO | — (1874-1875) | — In Canadian Co., north side of U.S. #66, at entrance to Fort Reno. |
| 15. FORT SILL INDIAN SCHOOL | — (1871) | — In Comanche Co., on east side of U.S. #277, between Ft. Sill and Lawton. |
| 16. KINGFISHER | — (1889) | — In Kingfisher Co., on U.S. #81, corner of Post Office grounds, Kingfisher. |
| 17. RUN OF '89
WEST BOUNDARY | — (1889) | — In Canadian Co., on U.S. #66, about one mile west of El Reno. |
| 18. RUN OF '89
EAST BOUNDARY | — (1889) | — In Oklahoma Co., on U.S. #66, east of Arcadia, on Indian Meridian. |
| 19. "OKLAHOMA WAR CHIEF" | — (1884) | — In Kay Co., on west side of U.S. 177, north of Braman, near Santa Fe R.R. |
| 20. THE UNIVERSITY OF
OKLAHOMA | — (1890) | — In Cleveland Co., west side of U.S. #77, three blocks south of Boyd St., Norman. |
| 21. KEOKUK FALLS
"Ghost Town. Site 2 mi. E." | — (1891) | — In Pottawatomie Co., on State #99, about ½ mile north of Canadian R. bridge |
| 22. MEKASUKEY ACADEMY | — (1891) | — In Seminole Co., north side of State #59, about 4 miles s.e. of Seminole. |
| 23. OKLAHOMA A. AND M.
COLLEGE | — (1890) | — In Payne Co., on State #51, on college ground near Union Bldg., Stillwater. |
| 24. BLACK BEAVER
"Grave Near Anadarko" | — (1834) | — In Caddo Co., on U.S. #62, on Museum grounds east side of Anadarko. |

No.	Caption	Date in History	Location of Marker
25.	CENTRAL STATE COLLEGE—	(1890)	—In Oklahoma Co., on U.S. #66, in parkway on Eastern Ave. at Edmond.
26.	TAHLEQUAH "Capital of Cherokee Nation"	— (1839)	—In Cherokee Co., on State #62, entering Tahlequah, east side.
27.	NEW SPRINGPLACE "Site about 3 mi. S."	— (1842)	—In Delaware Co., on State #33, about 3 mi. north of Oaks.
28.	WATIE AND RIDGE "Graves about 8 mi. East"	— (1839)	—In Delaware Co., on east side of State #10, about 3 ml. south of bridge over Lake of the Cherokees.
29.	PARK HILL PRESS "Site about 1 mi. E."	— (1837)	—In Cherokee Co., on U.S. #62, south of Tahlequah 3 miles.
30.	CABIN CREEK "Battlefield 8 mi. E."	— (1864)	—In Mayes Co., on east side of U.S. #69, north of Patton, about 1/2 mi.
31.	BATTLE OF HONEY SPRINGS "Site of Battle, 2 mi. E."	— (1863)	—In Muskogee Co., east side of U.S. #69, south of Oktaha, near Dirty Creek.
32.	WEBBERS FALLS "Settled in 1829"	— (1829)	—In Muskogee Co., on U.S. #64, west end of bridge at Webbers Falls.
33.	HILLSIDE MISSION "Near Here East"	— (1882)	—In Tulsa Co., east side of State #11, 4 miles north of Skiatook.
34.	CHOUTEAU'S POST "In this Vicinity"	— (1802)	—In Mayes Co., on State Highway at Salina.
35.	PLEASANT PORTER "Home and Grave Near Here"	—(1840-1907)	—In Tulsa Co., on U.S.#64, near Leonard.
36.	ALEXANDER POSEY "Birthplace 4 mi. S., 1873"	—(1873-1908)	—In McIntosh Co., on State #9, about 4 mi. west of Eufaula.
37.	NUYAKA MISSION "1.5 miles N.W."	— (1882)	—In Okmulgee Co., on U.S. #56, about 9 miles west of Okmulgee.
38.	UNION AGENCY "Established 1874"	— (1874)	—In Muskogee Co., on U.S. #64, near entrance VA facility, Okmulgee Ave., Muskogee.
39.	WHIPPLE SURVEY "Crossed Here"	— (1853)	—In Hughes Co., on U.S. #75, about 3 miles south of Calvin.
40.	OSAGE VILLAGE "Site in this Vicinity"	— (1834)	—In Pontotoc Co., on State #12, about 3 1/2 miles S.W. of Allen.

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| 41. EMAHAKA MISSION
"Near here N.E." | — (1894) | — In Seminole Co., at intersection of U.S. #270 and State #56, south of We-woka 5 miles. |
| 42. ARDMORE | — (1887) | — In Carter Co., on U.S. #77, north of Ardmore city limits. |
| 43. FORT McCULLOCH
"Earthworks 1.5 mi. S.E." | — (1862) | — In Bryan Co., on State #48, west of Kenefick. |
| 44. WAPANUCKA ACADEMY
"Site 2 mi. N.E." | — (1852) | — In Johnston Co., on State #7, at triangle west of Wapanucka. |
| 45. BURNEY INSTITUTE
"Site in Vicinity South" | — (1854) | — In Marshall Co., on State #199, about 1½ east of Lebanon. |
| 46. SPENCER ACADEMY
"Site 8 mi. North" | — (1841) | — In Choctaw Co., on U.S. #70, east side of Sawyer. |
| 47. GOODLAND MISSION
"2 miles West" | — (1848) | — In Choctaw Co., at junction of State #2 and #2A, south of Hugo. |
| 48. GOODWATER
CHOCTAW MISSION
"Site about 6 mi. S." | — (1837) | — In Choctaw Co., on U. S. #70, about 1 mile west of Kiamichi R. bridge. |
| 49. ROSE HILL
"Site 1 mi. South" | — (1843) | — In Choctaw Co., on U.S. #70, east of Hugo about 2½ miles. |
| 50. CAMP ARBUCKLE
"One Mile North" | — (1850) | — In McClain Co., north side of State #59, 1 mile west of Byars.
—M.H.W. |

AD INTERIM REPORT ON SITE OF THE BATTLE
OF ROUND MOUNTAIN

The compilation of photostats of original documents and manuscript and printed materials arranged as an exhibit under the direction of Dr. Berlin B. Chapman, Professor of History in Oklahoma A. and M. College, to establish the site of the Battle of Round Mountain (1861) is now being read by State historians and those interested in this controversial point in Oklahoma history. This exhibit contains material secured in field research by Mr. John Melton, of Stillwater, who first became interested in the possible Twin Mound site in Payne County, and also includes the article, "The Site of the Battle of Round Mountain, 1861," by Angie Debo, published in *The Chronicles* for summer, 1949 (Vol. XXVII, No. 2).

Notes on the life of John T. Cox, Indian Agent, who left documentary evidence in the form of a map drawn by him about 1864, showing this Civil War battle to have occurred in the region of Key-

stone, in Pawnee County, have been received from Dean Trickett, of Tulsa. Mr. Trickett has made a special study of the Civil War period in the Indian Territory, and has in preparation an extended biography of John T. Cox, to be published in *The Chronicles*. The brief notes from Mr. Trickett are as follows:

JOHN T. COX

A map of the "Retreat of the Loyal Indians from the Indian Country under A-poth-yo-ho-lo in the Winter of 1861," which John T. Cox, Special Indian Agent, enclosed in a letter to W. G. Coffin, Superintendent of Indian Affairs, on March 18, 1864, is the only contemporary document so far discovered that definitely locates the site of the so-called "Battle of Round Mountain."

The maker of this remarkable map was himself a remarkable man. Born in Ohio and educated in the schools and seminaries of Ohio and Indiana, Mr. Cox was one of those restless and versatile men (no longer developed in our present age of specialization) who apparently could turn his hand to anything. In Indiana, for instance, he was at one time superintendent of schools, editor and publisher of a newspaper, secretary of a railroad company, and proprietor of a drug store.

In 1857 he removed to Kansas, where he surveyed and laid out the town of Ottumwa, in Coffey County, and engaged in the mercantile business. During his spare time he served a term as county surveyor, laid out the townsites of five additional towns, acted as committee clerk during two sessions of the Kansas Territorial Legislature, and did the penwork for the engraver of the Great Seal of the State of Kansas.

In the summer of 1861 Mr. Cox enlisted in the Union Army at Fort Lincoln, in Bourbon County, Kansas. He was taken sick, however, after a month's service and sent home, supposedly to die, but eventually recovered. During the spring of 1862 he assisted in the organization of the First and Second Regiments, Indian Home Guards, and was again mustered into service. Afterward he was engaged in mapping the country through which the army passed and was present at the Battle of Prairie Grove, where he mapped the battlefield for *Harper's Weekly*. In December 1862 he was commissioned First Lieutenant, Company A, Second Indian Home Guards, and in March 1863 was made Quartermaster of the First Regiment.

The First was a Creek and Seminole (with the exception of line officers), recruited from among Opothleyoholo's follows. The Second Regiment was originally composed of Osages, Quapaws, and refugees from other tribes, but most of them deserted (went "buffalo hunting") in the summer of 1862, and the regiment was filled up largely with Cherokees, many of whom had been with Opothleyoholo in his last two battles. Among them was Capt. James McDaniel, at whose invitation Opothleyoholo moved into the Cherokee country after the engagement at Round Mountain.

After a service of some six months as Quartermaster of the First Regiment, Mr. Cox was appointed Special Agent in the Indian Service. He remained, however, in close contact with his old comrades, as he was stationed at Fort Gibson, where the Indian regiments were quartered, until late in the spring of 1864, when he was transferred to Kansas. Shortly afterward he resigned from the Indian Service to become President of the Republican State Convention.

In his letter to Superintendent Coffin about the retreat of the Loyal Indians, Mr. Cox spoke of "the facilities within my reach for obtaining facts

connected with that remarkable exodus." It should be evident that this was no idle boast.

The following letter which is self explanatory has also been received from Dr. Berlin B. Chapman, who is President of the Payne County Historical Society:

Stillwater, Oklahoma
November 19, 1950

Miss Muriel H. Wright
Associate Editor
Chronicles of Oklahoma
Dear Miss Wright:

At its regular meeting on Sunday, November 19, 1950, the Payne County Historical Society voted unanimously to request that a State marker be placed near the Twin Mounds in eastern Payne County showing the site of the Battle of Round Mountains, the first battle of the Civil War in present Oklahoma; and the society drew up the following summary of its case, with the request that it be published in the *Chronicles of Oklahoma*.

**THE CASE FOR THE TWIN MOUNDS AS THE SITE OF
THE BATTLE OF ROUND MOUNTAINS**

This battle occurred when a body of Union Creeks moving north out of their country were intercepted by Confederates at some point north of the Red Fork (Cimarron). It was designated in contemporary accounts as the Battle of Red Fork or the Battle of Round Mountains. (Twenty-two years later the "s" was lost in publishing *War of the Rebellion: . . . Official Records*.)

The question is: At what place north of the Cimarron? Let us sum up the evidence for the Twin Mounds.

1. They formed a recognized landmark. They appear as two conspicuous round elevations on maps at least as early as 1849.

2. All contemporary accounts show that the Union Indians withdrew to the extreme western edge of Creek settlement before they began their exodus. It is undisputed that the Confederate-dominated Creek government was in control of the eastern part of their country.

3. The official reports of Col. Douglas H. Cooper and other Confederate officers give no indication of the locality except that it was north of the Cimarron; but their description of the terrain exactly fits the Twin Mounds site.

4. A sworn statement made in 1868 by Confederate Creek leaders who were present at the battle, traces with circumstantial detail a route that leads unmistakably to the Twin Mounds.

5. The reminiscences of Captain June Peak, a white man present at the battle, published in the *Dallas Morning News* in 1923 show great confusion as to events, but fix the place at the approximate Twin Mounds location.

6. There is an unbroken neighborhood tradition dating from the coming of the Pawnees to that vicinity in 1876, only fifteen years after the battle, and continuing through cowboy occupation and white settlement that the Twin Mounds marked the battle site.

7. The debris of the battlefield and the abandoned camp was once very impressive: "many pieces of broken wagons, metal tires used on wagons, metal harness buckles, pieces of broken dishes. . . bones apparently of human beings. . . ." Even now after more than half a century of cultivation, smaller fragments of such articles are constantly exposed by the plow.

The sole piece of evidence against the Twin Mounds location is found in a report by Special Indian Agent John T. Cox dated March 18, 1864, at Fort Gibson. He enclosed a sketch map of the campaign, giving an erroneous date for the battle and locating it just north of the mouth of the Cimarron. So far as is known, he had had no connection with any military movements, and almost certainly had not even been in the Indian Territory at the time. One cannot accept this unsupported bit of evidence in view of the following facts:

1. There are numerous hills north of the mouth of the Cimarron but early-day maps as well as modern topographic maps show no conspicuous "Round Mountains" serving as a recognized landmark.

2. A journey through the heart of the Creek country to the mouth of the Cimarron cannot be characterized as "a far western route" or "out west," as contemporary accounts characterize the Creek exodus.

3. Cox's map incorrectly dated and drawn at second hand does not balance the sworn statement drawn up by the Southern Creek leaders who fought in the battle.

4. There is no battlefield tradition connected with the site at the mouth of the Cimarron, though it was near an important Creek settlement, and Creeks continued to live there throughout the tribal period.

5. One may search in vain for any debris of battlefield or camp in the area of the mouth of the Cimarron.

6. Finally one cannot reconcile the movements of the Northern Creeks after the battle with this location. They proceeded to the Arkansas, crossed it, and "moved down" to a well-known Cherokee settlement in the Big Bend of that river. There was certainly a Cherokee settlement at the bend of the Arkansas near the present Cleveland, which was "up" not "down" the river from the mouth of the Cimarron. And the Indians living near the mouth of the Cimarron were not Cherokees, but Creeks.

The importance of the Battle of Round Mountains has long been known; only the location was uncertain. In a letter of October 26, 1948, to Mr. John H. Melton, Member of the Board of Directors of the Payne County Historical Society, Dr. Grant Foreman said: "I am satisfied, from my own investigation, from yours, and the evidence assembled by you, that you have correctly located the site of this battle."

Attention is called to the article by Dr. Angle Debo, "The Site of the Battle of Round Mountain, 1861," *Chronicles of Oklahoma* (Summer 1949), pp. 187-206. This article summarizes the best sources available and lists them in the footnotes.

On December 27, 1949, the Payne County Historical Society submitted to the Oklahoma Historical Society a manuscript volume of 67 pages of evidence concerning the site of the battle and urged it to secure supplementary evidence for the volume wherever possible. The case for the Twin Mounds as the site of the battle remains as stated in this letter.¹ The volume eventually will be bound and placed in the Oklahoma Historical Society.

Respectfully submitted by the Payne County Historical Society.
By B. B. Chapman, President

¹ On Dec. 13, 1950, an editorial in the *Tulsa Daily World* said: "Identification of the site of the first battle of the Civil War in Oklahoma has been made. It was between the Union Creeks and Confederate forces; the date was late in 1861. The battle was at Round Mountain, in the eastern part of Payne county, just north of the Cimarron river." See also, "This Makes It Official," *ibid.*, Dec. 24, 1950, Magazine Section, p. 2.

RECORDS OF THE WAR OF 1812, GIFT TO THE
HISTORICAL SOCIETY LIBRARY

A recent gift to the Library, *Messages from the President of the United States. . . Thirteenth Congress, 1813*, includes records of the War of 1812 found in no other published source. This rare volume was accompanied by the following interesting notes from the donor, Nina Nicol, Oklahoma City writer and member of National League of American Pen Women:

Historians interested in the War of 1812 will find much of interest in this volume, with its compilation of official data and official letters which include President Madison's address to both Houses of Congress at the commencement of the 13th Congress, and ends with interchange of letters between the Commander of the British Squadron off New London to Commander Stephen Decatur, commanding the United States squadron. Many letters and documents concerning impounding American ships and men, and the retaliatory measures taken by both sides in case of the prisoners of war make this collection excellent research material.

Two lists are included: one, a list of a hundred American Prisoners of War discharged at Halifax, Nova Scotia, including the names of the prize ships on which they were taken. The other, a Navy Department list of the Naval Forces of the United States on March 4, 1814. This list includes names, types, location and Commander of each vessel.

To those particularly interested in the history of the Brig "Enterprise" and Captain Perry's victory on Lake Erie, various letters and documents are included, together with the report of her Senior Officer, Edward McCall, to the Chairman of the Committee of the Senate on Naval Affairs, giving details of the famous battle.

President Madison's message also relates the story of the Creek war under Major General Jackson's command, and the relations of other tribes during that period are scattered throughout the collection.

The famous printer Roger Weightmen printed these documents at Washington City, by order of the Senate.

THE 100TH MERIDIAN SURVEY PROBLEM AND OLD GREER COUNTY

The story of Old Greer County and the establishment of the 100th Meridian are classic in their impact and importance in Oklahoma history through a period of 100 years. The Editorial Department has received a most interesting reprint: Berlin B. Chapman's "The Claim of Texas to Greer County" that appeared in *The Southwestern Historical Quarterly*, Vol. LIII, Numbers 1, 2, 4 (July, 1949—April, 1950). This study is a real contribution to southwestern history, with its review of the Greer County case and the several surveys made in establishing the 100th Meridian or western boundary of Oklahoma from the time of the miscalculation in Captain George B. McClellan's astronomical observation for the survey by the Marcy Red River Expedition in 1852.

In the preparation of his study, Doctor Chapman makes acknowledgment to Arthur D. Kidder, of the U. S. General Land Office, who is serving as Commissioner of the Colorado and New Mexico Boundary pending in the U. S. Supreme Court. In a letter to Doctor Chapman, dated November 7, 1950, Mr. Kidder complimented him for his Greer County article: "You performed a fine piece of research, and its presentation is a model of excellence."

Mr. Kidder's letter to Doctor Chapman, now placed on file for permanent preservation in the Oklahoma Historical Society, gives an explanation of the problems of "time observation" in determining longitude that is particularly enlightening in reviewing the history from the first survey of the 100th Meridian by Captain McClellan in 1852. Excerpts from Mr. Kidder's letter follow:

"The layman scarcely appreciates the precision that is required in the 'time observation' for an accurate determination of longitude. For instance, the difference, expressed in the time interval, between the determination by Dr. Pritchett and that of my own is only 0.07 of a second; that of the old initial monument, only 3.5 seconds, the latter based upon the moon's transit, calculated in terms of Greenwich time.

"Another point—very few, excepting those well versed in geodesy, understand the difference between the astronomical position and the geodetic. The astronomical observation depends upon the element of gravity just as it is at the observing station. This element involves a variable, sometimes quite large, but more frequently quite small in the prairie states. The variable can be eliminated by the geodetic methods. At the 100th Meridian on Red River, expressed in time interval, it is about 0.18 of a second. When reduced to angular measure, that is about $0^{\circ}00'02.7''$, a pretty small angle, which can be measured only with instruments of greatest refinement.

"With many years devoted to important boundary surveys I conclude that three elements are most essential: competent jurisdiction; due qualification of the engineer; substantial monumentation. The unusual case of Greer County grew out of the failure to exercise the jurisdiction of a duly constituted joint survey, and ultimate approval of the survey. The monumentation was poor, but the line could be identified. Its direction was grossly in error, but it straightened out to a fair meridian customary in the surveys of that period."

—M.H.W.

PAYNE COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

At the November meeting of the Payne County Historical Society in Stillwater, the activities of William Jennings Bryan in Oklahoma history were discussed by Doctor Norbert R. Mahnken, of the History Department, Oklahoma A. and M. College. Doctor Mahnken's interesting study will appear in an early issue of the *Nebraska Magazine of History*.

The Payne County Historical Society through the inspiration and leadership of its President, Berlin B. Chapman, Professor of History, Oklahoma A. and M. College, is most co-operative with the Oklahoma Historical Society in arousing interest and pride in State history. Doctor Chapman's activity, and that of John Melton, member of the Payne County organization, in his researches to establish the site of the "Battle of Round Mountain" (1861), were presented for their outstanding accomplishment, in a discussion of "The College and the History of the Local Area," by Muriel H. Wright, Associate Editor of *The Chronicles*, who appeared on the program of the Oklahoma Association of College Professors in its annual meeting held at Stillwater, December 9. Doctor Anna Lewis, of the History Department, Oklahoma College for Women, had led on the program with presentation of her paper "The Vitalization of History Teaching" which was followed by interesting comments from those in attendance during the panel discussion. The Association's program, with Doctor Thomas A. Houston, of the History Department in Southeastern State College presiding, had for its subject "Stimulating an Interest in the Field of History." The Payne County Historical Society's activity and membership—almost 100% membership in the Oklahoma Historical Society, contribution of articles for publication in *The Chronicles*, and fine interest of County pioneers, young people and Boy Scouts—offered an inspiration for vitalizing local history in the work of teachers and civic leaders, as the foundation of a deep appreciation of the American way of life among all citizens of this country.