

## NOTES AND DOCUMENTS

BIBLIOGRAPHY OF GEORGE E. FOSTER'S PUBLISHED WORKS ON THE  
CHEROKEE, IN THE J. B. MILAM HISTORICAL COLLECTION

A bibliography of the published works of George E. Foster, one of the early popular writers on Indian history in Oklahoma, is found in a leaflet in the historical collection owned by J. Bartley Milam, Principal Chief of the Cherokee Nation and a member of the Board of Directors of the Oklahoma Historical Society. Mr. Milam's collection is one of the most complete and finest on the history of the Cherokee, in this country, his interest in the history of Oklahoma and, particularly, in that of the Cherokee Nation, having continued over a long period of years. His collection assembled in his library at Claremore contains up into the thousands of both modern and rare out-of-print volumes on Cherokee history, some magazine articles (original prints) dating back to publication in England in the 1750's. The leaflet titled "Literary Introduction" is especially interesting to Oklahomans, in that it presents a resume of the works of George E. Foster, writer and lecturer, who did much in publicizing the Indian Territory in the 1880's, pointing to the development and advancement of the Cherokee people.

George Everett Foster was born on August 27, 1849, in Milford, New Hampshire, the son of John Everett and Sophie Phelps (Farley) Foster. He was educated at Milford High School, New London Literary and Scientific Institution, and Cornell University. A visitor to the Indian Territory and well known in the field of journalism, Mr. Foster worked on the staff of a number of newspapers, conducted a weekly newspaper in New Hampshire for about thirteen years, and managed a publishing house in Ithaca, New York. He was the writer of articles on Indian life and history in well-known newspapers and magazines, including *Frank Leslie's Illustrated Weekly Magazine of American History*, *Frank Leslie's Popular Monthly*, *Woman's Magazine*, and *Century*. His published books included: *Se-quo-yah, The American Cadmus and Modern Moses* (Philadelphia, 1885); *Literature of the Cherokees: Also Bibliography and Story of their Genesis* (Ithaca, N. Y.). The "Literary Introduction" in the Milam Historical Collection gives many other titles of his writings, published and in preparation.

His wife was Mary Lord Burritt, the daughter of the Reverend Charles David and Jerusha Webster (Lord) Burritt, of Skaneateles, New York. From her interest in literature, art, and music, Mrs. Foster gave much in assisting in her husband's work. She died in 1932, at Muscotah, Kansas, in the home of their son, the Reverend Jesse W. Foster. George Everett Foster died on April 23, 1917, and was buried in East Hampton Cemetery, Hampton, Virginia, where he and his wife had made their home during his last years.

## LITERARY INTRODUCTION.

GEORGE E. FOSTER, ITHACA, N. Y.

[P. O. Box 822.]

## PUBLISHED WORKS.

SE-QUO-YAH, THE AMERICAN CADMUS AND MODERN MOSES. Illustrated. 12mo.; pp 262. Philadelphia, 1885. Price \$1.50.  
 LITERATURE OF THE CHEROKEES; ALSO BIBLIOGRAPHY AND STORY OF THEIR GENESIS. 12mo., Cloth; pp. 110. Ithaca, N. Y. Price \$1.00.

In preparation: } History of Indian Territory.  
 } John Ridge; a Cherokee Romance.  
 } The Convention of the Flowers.

## EDITORIAL.

Reporter of Binghamton (N. Y.) *Times*. 1872-3.  
 Founder and Editor of: } Milford (N. H.) *Enterprise*. 1874-87.  
 } Wilton (N. H.) *Journal*. 1875-87.  
 Editorial Staff of Daily *Journal*, Ithaca, N. Y. 1887-88.  
 City and News Editor of *Democrat*, Ithaca, N. Y. 1889-9-

## SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

Boston (Mass.) Daily *Herald*. 1875-77.  
 Boston Daily *Globe*. 1885-87.  
 New York *Tribune*. 1888-90.  
 New York *Times*. 1890-91-  
 Chicago *Times*. 1891-  
 Chicago *Mail*. 1891-

## SERIAL STORY

NED, THE FARMER BOY. Ithaca *Democrat*. 1889.

*Boston Evening Transcript Specials* :—

Education Among the Cherokees. 1888.  
 Education Among the Arapahoes. 1888.  
 A Story of the Cherokees. July 23 and 25, 1889.

*Frank Leslie's Illustrated Weekly* :—

A Contrast. Illustrated. 1887. "Indian Progress."  
 A Zigzag Journey through the Indian Territory. (Illustrated with original lead pencil sketches.) Aug. 11, 1888.

*Frank Leslie's Popular Monthly* :—

Among the Cherokees. Illustrated. Feb., 1888.  
 Fishing Party in the Creek Nation. May, 1889.  
 Pottawatomie Traditions of Gen. W. H. Harrison. May, 1890.

*Magazine of American History* :—

Journalism Among the Cherokees. July, 1887

*Woman's Magazine* :—

A Rose of Long Ago. 1885.  
 Origin of First Cherokee Hymn. 1885.  
 Our Cherokee Sister. 1886.  
 About Women, by a Man. Oct., 1886.  
 About Women, by a Man. Nov., 1886.  
 Through the Cherokee Nation. 1888.  
 Robt. B. Thomas and his Almanac. 1888.

*The Century* :—

The Cherokee Emancipation Proclamation. Open Letter 1888.

*Souvenir of Journalism* :—

Infelicities of Rural Journalism. Illustrated. 1886.

Leaflet from the Historical Collection of  
 Hon. J. B. Milam, Claremore, Oklahoma.

VALUABLE MANUSCRIPTS ON OKLAHOMA INDIAN HISTORY IN THE  
BUREAU OF CATHOLIC INDIAN MISSIONS, WASHINGTON, D. C.

The following report to *The Chronicles*, from Doctor B. B. Chapman, Associate Professor of History, Oklahoma A. and M. College, who is on sabbatical leave to do research in Washington, D.C., will be of special interest to researchers in the field of Oklahoma Indian history:

Valuable, unused manuscripts on the history of the St. Louis School at Pawhuska, and the St. John's School at Hominy Creek are in the Bureau of Catholic Indian Missions, 2021 H. Street, N. W., Washington, D. C. These manuscripts are letters and reports made by persons connected with the schools. Their chief value is in showing problems of the early schools.

The manuscripts are in substantial cases and are well housed. The following periods and letters therefor are illustrative: 1865-74, 40 letters; 1885-86, 6 letters; 1887-88, 100 letters; 1890-91, 80 letters, 1891-93, 25 letters. The period for 1875-84 contains some material dealing with the administration of Agent Laban J. Miles, as well as with the schools. For 1890 there are about 40 letters dealing with the Sacred Heart School, and a half dozen dealing with the St. Elizabeth's School.

While these manuscripts are somewhat scanty, there are bits of interesting information. For instance, in 1890 one school was farming 50 acres. The papers are of sufficient importance to merit the attention of any searcher doing extensive work on the history of Catholic missions in Oklahoma.

These manuscripts are not public property. They should not, and will not, be available to persons who have not demonstrated an intense interest in the subject, as well as proficiency and honesty in research. With supplementary material available, a master's thesis could be written on the history of the St. Louis and St. John's Schools, or perhaps there is sufficient material for a thesis on one school. There is always the possibility of having records of this kind microfilmed, when owners are sufficiently assured that efficient and proper use will be made of them.

—B. B. Chapman.

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ORIGINAL LETTER WRITTEN BY THE "LOST CAPTAIN"  
OF OLD FORT GIBSON

The original of what is the second oldest letter now known, postmarked within the boundaries of Oklahoma, was written by J. L. Dawson, Assistant Quartermaster, at Cantonment Gibson, "Arkansas Territory," on November 1, 1828, addressed to Brig.-General Thomas S. Jesup, Quartermaster General, Washington City. The postmark of this letter was written and dated November 5, 1828. The romantic story of J. L. Dawson, titled "The Lost Captain," by Dr. James H. Gardner, appeared in *The Chronicles of Oklahoma*, Vol. XXI, No. 3 (September, 1943), pp. 217-49. This rare, original letter from the collection of Dr. Carroll Chase is as follows:

Cant Gibson, A. T.  
1st Nov. 1828

Sir.

The influence of this climate has so much impaired the state of my health during the last year, that a temporary removal to a more northern position is indespensably necessary for its restoration. My liver has been for a considerable length of time, very much inflamed and as I have been recommended to visit the North in the course of the ensuing year, as the means best calculated to produce a salutary change in its action, I will be very thankful if the interests of the Dept. will admit of my being furloughed for 6 months, commencing on the 1st April next.

The duties connected with my office at this Post, will be very limited in the next year as the Cant. is now very nearly as complete as it is proposed to make it, and if in your view of the subject my absence for a short period will not be attended with injury to the service in this quarter, I should be much pleased to receive from you the favor now solicited.

I have the Honor to be Sir  
very respectfully  
Your obt. Servt.  
J. L. Dawson  
Afst. QrMr  
U.S.A.

To (s)  
Brigd.Genl.Th.S.Jesup  
QrMr General  
Washington City

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“SENATORIAL DIRECT ELECTION COMMISSION OF THE  
STATE OF OKLAHOMA”

The move to secure an amendment to the Constitution of the United States to provide for the direct election of United States Senators by the vote of the people was given immediate attention by the State Legislature after the admission of Oklahoma on November 16, 1907. Soon after the First State Legislature convened at Guthrie on December 2, 1907, State Senator William D. Franklin of District 26 (Love and Marshall counties) introduced a joint resolution providing for the appointment of a legislative commission of eight members, to be known as the “Senatorial Direct Election Commission of the State of Oklahoma,” to urge Congress to call a convention of the States for the purpose of proposing amendments to the Constitution of the United States. The resolution further provided that the State of Oklahoma in this convention should propose particularly an amendment for the direct election of United States Senators. In his “Twenty-Second Special Message” to the Legislature, dated January 6, 1908, Governor Charles N. Haskell stated (*House Journal*, 1st State Legislature, p. 81):

Election of Senators.—The joint resolution introduced by Senator Franklin, with certain amendments, which he has submitted, is in my judgment the only practical way likely to lead to an amendment to the Constitution of the United States, authorizing the election of United States Senators by direct vote of the people of the State, the same as we elect the Governor and other State officials.

Sir

Cant Gibson N.Y.

1<sup>st</sup> Nov 1828.

The influence of this Climate has so much impaired the State of my Health during the last Year, that a temporary Removal to a more northern position is indispensably necessary for its restoration — My leave has been for a considerable length of time, very much protracted and as I have been recommended to visit the North in the course of the ensuing Year, as the means best calculated to produce a salutary Change in its action, I will be very thankful if the interests of the Dept. will admit of my being furloughed for 6 months, commencing on the 1<sup>st</sup> April next.

The duties connected with my office at this Post, will be very limited in the next Year as the Post is now very nearly as complete as it is proposed to make it, and of in your view of the prospect my absence for a short period will not be attended with injury to the Service in the Quarter I should be much pleased to receive from you the formal order directed —

I have the honor to be

very respectfully

Your obt Servant

J. L. Dawson

Capt 9<sup>th</sup> Regt

U. S. A.

H. J. / Brig. Gen. 1<sup>th</sup> 5<sup>th</sup> Regt  
9<sup>th</sup> Regt Cavalry  
Washington City

(From the collection of Dr. Carroll Chase)  
Original letter from J. L. Dawson, Assistant Quartermaster, Cantonment Gibson— "The Lost Captain."

I sincerely hope that you will pass Senator Franklin's amended joint resolution as the earliest possible date. . . .

The resolution passed by the Legislature and approved on January 9, 1908 (*Oklahoma Session Laws, 1907-1908, pp. 776-78*) was as follows:

J. R. No. 9

RELATING TO THE CALLING OF A CONVENTION OF THE STATES TO PROPOSE AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES PROVIDING FOR THE ELECTION OF UNITED STATES SENATORS BY THE DIRECT VOTE OF THE PEOPLE, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES, AND PROVIDING FOR THE APPOINTMENT OF A SENATORIAL DIRECT ELECTION COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA.

Whereas, a large number of state legislatures have, at various times, adopted memorials and resolutions in favor of the election of United States Senators by direct vote of the people of the respective States; and

Whereas, the National House of Representatives has, on several different occasions, in recent years, adopted resolutions in favor of the proposed change in the method of electing United States Senators, which were not adopted by the Senate, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIONS of the State of Oklahoma

Section 1. That the Legislature of the State of Oklahoma, in accordance with the provisions of Article V. of the Constitution of the United States, desires to join with other States of the Union to respectfully request that a convention of the several States be called for the purpose of proposing amendments to the Constitution of the United States, and hereby apply to and request the Congress of the United States to call such Convention, and to provide for submitting to the several states the amendments so proposed for ratification by the legislatures thereof, or by convention therein, as one or the other mode of ratification may be proposed by Congress.

Sec. 2. That at said convention the State of Oklahoma will propose among other amendments, that section 3 of article 1 of the Constitution of the United States shall be amended to read as follows:

"The Senate of the United States shall be composed of two senators from each state, chosen by the electors thereof, as the governor is chosen for six years; and each senator shall have one vote. They shall be divided as equally as may be into three classes, so that one third may be chosen every second year; and if vacancies happen by resignation or otherwise the governor may make temporary appointments until the next regular election in such state. No person shall be a Senator who shall not have attained the age of thirty years, and been nine years a citizen of the United States, and who shall not, when elected, be an elector of the state for which he shall be chosen. The vice president of the United States shall be President of the Senate, but shall have no vote unless they be equally divided. The Senate shall choose their own officers, and also a president pro tempore, in the absence of the Vice President, or when he shall exercise the office of President of the United States."

Sec. 3. A legislative commission is hereby created to be composed of the Governor, and eight members, to be appointed by him, not more than four of whom shall belong to the same political party, to be known as the Senatorial Direct Election Commission of the State of Oklahoma. It shall be the duty of said Legislative Commission to urge action by the legislatures of the several states and by the Congress of the United States

to the end that a Convention may be called as provided in section one hereof. The members of said commission shall receive no compensation.

Sec. 4. That the Governor of the State of Oklahoma is hereby directed forthwith to transmit certified copies of this joint resolution and application to both House of the United States Congress to the Governor of each state in the Union, and to each of our Representatives and Senators in Congress.

Approved January 9, 1908.

On January 11, Governor Haskell appointed the following members to the newly created Senatorial Direct Election Commission: C. B. Douglas, Muskogee; Thomas H. Doyle, Perry; Jno. Threadgill, Oklahoma City; George H. Evans, Chickasha; Thompson B. Ferguson, Watonga; Jesse J. Dunn, Alva; D. L. Sleeper, Tulsa; J. J. Quarles, Fairfax. Governor Haskell was elected Chairman, and Thomas H. Doyle, Vice-President, of the Commission (later, William H. Murray served as a member). With this move, Oklahoma was in the van for election of United States senators by direct vote, Judge Doyle leading out in the work that finally resulted in the ratification of the 17th Amendment to the Constitution of the United States, certified by the Secretary of State at Washington on May 13, 1913.

The first duty of the First State Legislature after its organization in 1907 had been the election of the two United States senators from Oklahoma. Since Robert L. Owen, a citizen of the Cherokee Nation, and Thomas P. Gore, of Lawton, had been chosen as the nominees of the Democratic Party in the state primary election, they were duly elected as Oklahoma's first United States senators by the First State Legislature in which the Democratic members were in the majority.

Oklahoma was admitted in 1907, the odd numbered year, and the regular election followed the next summer, 1908. For this reason, the first terms for United States Senator were of unequal length. The "long term" would expire on March 3, 1913; the "short term," on March 3, 1909. To decide which of the two senators should hold these terms, lots were drawn. Senator Gore had the "short term," and was re-elected by the Second State Legislature for the term 1909-15. In the election of 1914, the people of Oklahoma voted for United States Senator for the first time under the 17th Amendment. Senator Gore was again the Democratic nominee and was elected for his third term (1915-21), the first Senator from Oklahoma elected by direct vote of the people. He was elected for his fourth term (1931-37) as the Democratic nominee in 1930. Senator Robert L. Owen drew the lot for the "long term" in 1907. He was re-elected as the Democratic nominee by the Fourth State Legislature in 1913, for the six year term as Senator from Oklahoma, ending March 3, 1919. In 1918, he was again the Democratic nominee and was elected by direct vote for his third term as United States Senator (1919-25).

(M.H.W.)

## LIFE OF JUDGE ROBERT LEE WILLIAMS, 1868-1948

By special request of Doctor Fred S. Clinton, of Tulsa, the following factual statement on the life of Judge Robert Lee Williams is presented here:

Born at Brundridge, Ala., Dec. 20, 1868; son of Jonathan and Sarah Julia (Paul) Williams; M.A. Southern University Alabama, (now Birmingham Southern College, Greensboro, Ala.) 1894, L.L.D., 1913; L.L.D., Tulsa University, 1934; Admitted to the bar, 1894. Began practice in Troy, Ala.; went to Atoka, I.T. 1896 and six months later to Durant. City Attorney, Durant 1899; member Ind. Ter. Democratic Comm. 1902-04; Dem. Nat. Comm. 1904-08; member Oklahoma Constitutional Convention 1906-07; Chief Justice Supreme Court of Okla. 1907-08; reelected for term 1909-15; resigned March 10, 1914; Governor of Oklahoma, term 1915-19. U. S. Judge Eastern District of Okla. 1919-1937; became U.S. Circuit Judge Tenth Circuit, April 26, 1937; retired March 31, 1939, but continued to serve. Member, a director and President of the Oklahoma Historical Society; the American Bar Association, Alpha Tau Omega (Ala. Beta Beta Chapter). He was unmarried, a Methodist, a 32 degree Mason, and author of *Constitution and Enabling Act of Oklahoma, Annotated*.<sup>1</sup> (Died April 10, 1948. Interment Highland Park Cemetery, Durant, Oklahoma.)

The Oklahoma Capitol Building, the University Hospital, and the Historical Building each will serve as a living monument and lasting memorial to Judge Williams' rugged honesty and perseverance. He had the valuable aid and cooperation of Mr. Edward P. Boyd of the staff of Supervising Architect of the U.S. Treasury, as superintendent of construction of the Capitol.<sup>2</sup> The Judge was instrumental in planning and securing the locations and funds to build the University Hospital<sup>3</sup> and Historical Building.

Oklahoma has lost a most distinguished and useful citizen; an able jurist and a learned and fearless judge.

—Fred S. Clinton, M.D., F.A.C.S.

<sup>1</sup> *Who's Who in America*, 1940-41 (Chicago: The A.N. Marquis Company), p. 2779.

<sup>2</sup> *Oklahoma: A History of the State and Its People* by Joseph B. Thoburn and Muriel H. Wright (New York: Lewis Historical Publishing Company, Inc., 1929), Vol. II, pp. 654-59.

<sup>3</sup> "University of Oklahoma Medical School Crisis Averted" by Fred S. Clinton, M.D., F.A.C.S., *The Chronicles of Oklahoma*, Vol. XXV, No. 4 (Winter, 1947-48), p. 342.



## MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE OKLAHOMA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

May 26, 1948

Guthrie, Oklahoma

The annual meeting of the Oklahoma Historical Society convened May 26, 1948, in Constitution Hall, Guthrie, Oklahoma.

Following registration of members and visitors, Dr. Emma Estill-Harbour, First Vice-President, due to the death of Judge Robert L. Williams, President of the Society, since the last quarterly meeting in January 1948, called the meeting to order.

The Chairman introduced Hon. L. G. Flesner, Secretary-Manager of the Chamber of Commerce of Guthrie, who, in the absence of Hon. Noel Datin, President, gave the address of welcome, which was responded to by Hon. Robert A. Hefner.

The Secretary called the roll which showed the following Board members present: Dr. Emma Estill-Harbour, Hon. George L. Bowman, Mrs. J. Garfield Buell, Judge Harry Campbell, Judge Robert A. Hefner, Mrs. Frank Korn, Mrs. Blanche Lucas, Dr. I. N. McCash, Hon. J. B. Milam, Hon. H. L. Muldrow, Judge Baxter Taylor, Mrs. John R. Williams and Dr. Charles Evans, the Secretary.

Hon. George L. Bowman made the motion that absentee members be excused as having good and sufficient reasons for their absence. The motion was seconded by Judge Robert A. Hefner and passed unanimously.

The Staff members present were: Mrs. O. J. Cook, Miss Muriel H. Wright, Miss Hazel Beaty, Mrs. C. E. Cook, Mrs. Edith Mitchell and Mrs. Rella Looney.

The Secretary presented the following list of applicants for membership:

LIFE: W. E. Green, Tulsa; Mrs. S. A. Hammack, Clinton; Ray McNaughton, Miami; Dr. Joseph Sigall, Tulsa.

ANNUAL: Harvey G. Albright, Madill; Mrs. Lena R. Banks, Lawton; W. G. Beasley, Holdenville; Judge Tom R. Blaine, Enid; Paul Boone, Stillwater; Seldon D. Butcher, Oklahoma City; Mrs. Ed Cofer, Shawnee; Don Cameron, Oklahoma City; Edward N. Campbell, Oklahoma City; Alice Carlson, Stillwater; Margaretta W. Compton, Wewoka; Daniel Coodey, Muskogee; John H. Crawford, Sr., Tulsa; Martha K. Crawford, Sapulpa; Arthur S. Davenport, Oklahoma City; Dr. Oscar W. Davison, Durant; Dr. John L. Day, Fort Supply; Mrs. Joe A. Driskill, Oklahoma City; Mrs. L. R. Emerson, Oklahoma City; George E. Fay, Joplin, Mo.; Mrs. L. Fountain, Paris, Texas; Rev. Herbert Eugene Gatti, Guthrie; Gus Hanson, Oklahoma City; Mrs. J. Eben Hart, Oklahoma City; Mrs. R. M. Hensy, Shawnee; Ida V. Hieronymus, Atlanta, Ill.; J. A. Kendall, Oklahoma City; John Klapp, Tecumseh; Mrs. O. W. Largent, Denver, Colo.; Prof. George E. Lewis, Stillwater; Josephine Lewis, Shawnee; E. D. Lusk, Tulsa; John A. McReynolds, Oklahoma City; Dr. Norbert R. Mahnken, Stillwater; Col. E. G. Matthews, Oklahoma City; N. Webster Moore, Jr., Bristow; Mrs. Nellie Moore, Edmond; Jerry B. Newby, Oklahoma City; Lloyd Noble, Ardmore; Carol O'Keefe, West Newton, Mass.; Pat Owen, Oklahoma City; Lena Peyton, Oklahoma City; Mrs. Ruth Rogers Pickens, Lilburn, Ga.; B. M.

Risinger, Sand Springs; Mrs. B. M. Risinger, Sand Springs; V. W. Russell, Oklahoma City; L. P. Sanford, Pampa, Texas; Dr. O. S. Somerville, Bartlesville; Harold W. Straughn, Stillwater; H. L. Sweet, Okmulgee; Ralph Taylor, Bartlesville; Mrs. Loren G. Thomas, Des Moines, Iowa; Edwin A. Walker, Madill; Mrs. Ida C. Walker, Broken Arrow; Creekmore Wallace, Oklahoma City.

Hon. George L. Bowman made the motion that each be elected and received as members of the Society in the class as indicated in the list. Hon. Robert A. Hefner seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

Dr. I. N. McCash presented two checks for \$25.00 each for Life Memberships in the Oklahoma Historical Society for Mrs. C. H. Kimes and Mrs. Daisy Thomas, both of Enid, Oklahoma, and \$1.00 for an annual membership in the Society for Miss Martha Louise Lincoln of Enid, and made a motion that they be received as members of this Society. Mrs. J. Garfield Buell seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Hon. George A. Bowman made the motion that the reading of the Minutes of the quarterly meeting of January 29, 1948, be omitted. Mrs. J. Garfield Buell seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

The President stated that due to error in omission of the name of Dr. I. N. McCash in the printing of the last Committee List she was placing Dr. McCash on the following committees: Committee on Library and Museum, Committee on Exercises Observing Historical Dates and Events and Committee for Placing Busts of Governors.

The President appointed General William S. Key, Hon. Hal Muldrow, Hon. Robert A. Hefner, Hon. George A. Bowman and Hon. R. M. Mountcastle on the Legislative and Appropriation Committee which must report to the State Budget Officer after July 1, 1948.

Hon. Baxter Taylor made his report as Chairman of the Art Committee, calling attention to the portraits hanging in the Art Gallery on the fourth floor of the historical building and suggesting that some regulations be made relative to the selection of portraits given to the Society.

Mrs. Frank Korn made the motion that the hall parallel to the portrait gallery be used in addition to the present art gallery and that the steel engravings now hanging on the walls thereof be placed in books, portraits to be hung on the walls in their stead. Hon. H. L. Muldrow seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Mr. Paul Cope, Director of the State Veterans Department was introduced. He stated that his group of employees is housed in the southeast corner of the basement of the historical society building along with the Department of Oklahoma Veterans of Foreign Wars; that they wish to install, at their expense, accoustical tile on the ceiling of that room, together with flourescent lighting; that the State Board of Public Affairs is in favor of said installation, and if agreeable with the Directors of the Historical Society they wish to make said improvements.

Hon. Baxter Taylor made the motion that Mr. Cope be granted the above request with the provision that such installations shall become a permanent addition to this building. Hon. George A. Bowman made the motion that Dr. Charles Evans, the Secretary, be made a member of that committee in the place of Judge Robert L. Williams, and that said committee confer with Mr. Cope, with power to act. Hon. Baxter Taylor withdrew his motion. Hon. Robert A. Hefner seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

The Secretary reported that Mrs. Anzelle B. McCuen who was elected to the position of Chief Clerk of the Historical Society at the annual meeting held in Pryor, Oklahoma, on May 26, 1947, has not taken that place; that she has been excused several times during the year.

Hon. H. L. Muldrow made the motion that the position of the elected member. Mrs. Anzelle B. McCuen, as Chief Clerk, who heretofore has not qualified, shall be set aside and vacated and the present clerk pro tempore be continued. Hon. Baxter Taylor seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

The Secretary reported that there is need for a railing to protect the rare painting by Alfred W. Miller, presented by the late Gov. E. W. Marland, now valued at \$25,000, and that a suitable railing will cost \$120.00.

Dr. I. N. McCash made the motion that a suitable railing be purchased for the sum of \$120.00 for the protection of this valuable painting. Mrs. Blanche Lucas seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

The Secretary reported relative to the popularity of the Auditorium of the Historical Building by various organizations, especially music teachers; that the janitors of said building are necessarily called upon to clean, open and close the room and building for each group using it and that said janitors should be permitted to receive the sum of \$5.00 for their services from those they serve.

Hon. Harry Campbell made the motion that said janitors be directed to ask not more than \$5.00 for said extra work. Mrs. John R. Williams seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

The Secretary reported that Mr. James E. Serven of Santa Ana, California, had offered to pay the Historical Society the sum of \$500.00 for a Colt percussion revolver that is in the Museum. Judge Robert A. Hefner made the motion that the matter be referred to a committee for investigation, to be reported at the July quarterly meeting of the Board of Directors. Mrs. J. Garfield Buell seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

The President appointed Judge Robert A. Hefner, Mrs. J. Garfield Buell and Dr. Charles Evans, the Secretary, on said Committee.

The Secretary reported that a committee, including Mrs. C. E. Cook, Curator of the Museum, was appointed at the July 1947 meeting of the Board of Directors, to secure samples and prices of literature and post-cards to sell to people coming to the Historical Society, and that Mrs. Cook has reported as follows:

Artvue Albums containing 10 different pictures and one on the cover can be purchased:

1000 for \$165.00, and sell for \$250.00  
 2000 for \$290.00, and sell for \$500.00  
 4000 for \$500.00, and sell for \$1000.00

Also a booklet to include 24 pages and cover, containing pictures of historic places in Oklahoma, together with a short history of each, can be purchased:

1000 for \$227.80  
 2000 for \$323.65  
 3000 for \$416.65

the price of cuts to be determined and added.

Mrs. Frank Korn made the motion that the above figures be accepted and that a Committee be appointed to take care of the matter and that the Chief Clerk be designated to handle the money received from the sale of the albums and booklets. Hon. George A. Bowman seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

The President introduced Mr. C. A. Bassler, Vice-President of the Payne County Historical Society, who invited the Oklahoma Historical Society to hold its next annual meeting at Stillwater, Oklahoma, in 1949.

Mrs. Blanche Lucas made the motion that the Board accept Mr. Bassler's invitation to hold its annual meeting in Stillwater in 1949. Hon. Baxter

Taylor seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

The President called attention to a request received from the Oklahoma Natural Gas Company to run a pipe line down the border of the R. M. Jones Cemetery in the southeastern part of Oklahoma.

Dr. I. N. McCash made the motion that this matter be referred to the Robert M. Jones Cemetery Committee of which Hon. H. L. Muldrow is chairman. Hon. Robert A. Hefner seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Hon. George A. Bowman made the motion that nominations for the vacancy of Director on the Board of the Historical Society be made at this time, to be elected at the quarterly meeting to be held in July 1948. Mrs. John R. Williams seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Mrs. John R. Williams nominated Hon. Milt Phillips, Editor of the *Seminole Producer*, for the position of Director of the Oklahoma Historical Society.

Mrs. J. Garfield Buell nominated Judge Redmond S. Cole, an attorney of Tulsa, Oklahoma, for the position of Director of the Oklahoma Historical Society.

Dr. Angie Debo nominated Dr. Berlin B. Chapman of the History Department of the Oklahoma Agricultural and Mechanical College, Stillwater, Oklahoma, for the position of Director of the Oklahoma Historical Society.

Hon. George A. Bowman nominated State Senator James Rinehart of El Reno, Oklahoma, for the position of Director of the Oklahoma Historical Society.

Mrs. Frank Korn made a motion that a committee be appointed to propose some amendments to the Constitution of the Oklahoma Historical Society. Judge Baxter Taylor seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Hon. H. L. Muldrow presented a "Souvenir of the Fall Reunion, Indian Consistory & Coordinate Bodies, A. A. S. R., Valley of McAlester-Orient of Oklahoma November 4, 5, 6 & 7, 1935," in which is a picture of the Will Rogers Memorial Class of April 16, 1908, Will Rogers' picture standing out quite prominently. Hon. Baxter Taylor made the motion that said booklet be accepted and that Mr. Muldrow be thanked for the same. Mrs. Frank Korn seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Hon. H. L. Muldrow then presented for Hon. W. Mark Sexson, father of the Order of the Rainbow, all of the proceedings of the Grand Chapter of the Supreme Assembly of the Order of the Rainbow from its incipency down to the present, to be added to the Masonic material already in the library of the Historical Society.

Dr. I. N. McCash made the motion that a letter of acknowledgment and thanks be written by the Secretary to Mr. Sexson for the above gift and that he be elected an Honorary Life Member of this Society. Mrs. J. Garfield Buell seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Hon. H. L. Muldrow then presented as the gift of Hon. Charles H. Bunting, a unique collection of Masonic Jewels which has an intrinsic as well as historical value. Hon. Robert A. Hefner made the motion that said Jewels be accepted and that a letter of acknowledgment and thanks be written by the Secretary to Hon. Charles H. Bunting for said gift. Hon. Baxter Taylor seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

At this point the First Vice-President, Dr. Emma Estill-Harbour, presiding, stated that she had read carefully the Constitution and By-Laws of the Oklahoma Historical Society and that she held that she was elevated, through the death of President Robert L. Williams, to the presidency of

the Society until January 1950. She stated that she recognized her responsibilities and that her health and powers assured her of the ability to discharge the obligations with fidelity and, she hoped with honor to this Society. She further stated that she would rely upon each member of the Board and the Secretary to give her assistance for which she would be duly grateful; that she recognized the honorable service which Judge Robert L. Williams, past President, had rendered and she would be true to all the principles that had actuated him in his service to the Society.

Hon. George A. Bowman made the motion that the business meeting be adjourned and that a memorial for Judge Robert L. Williams be held immediately thereafter. Mrs. Blanche Lucas seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Dr. Emma Estill-Harbour, the President, said: "At this time we are going to have a memorial service for our wartime Governor. It was during his administration the capitol was built and it was with pride that he said the granite was all from Oklahoma. He was on the committee that succeeded in getting the Historical Society Building. He was on the committee that went to select a style for our building. He was a fine President and we shall miss him.

'Dear friends, in solemn memory  
We are gathered here today  
To give a kindly loving thought  
To dear friends passed away.

Altho' a place is vacant  
That never can be filled  
And friends we loved have left us  
A friendly voice is stilled.

Tho time may change from year to year  
Our lives from day to day  
The memory of the friends we knew  
Will never pass away.'

At this time we will be glad for any tribute you wish to pay to Judge Williams."

For brevity only excerpts from the remarks of each speaker is given.

Mrs. J. Garfield Buell suggested a few minutes of silent prayer.

Silent prayer.

Mrs. Frank Korn in a splendid tribute said among other remarks: "He was a man of visions and a man of verities. A man to make visions, granted to him realities and how? By untiring and never failing persistence, that if a great object was to be gained, it was worthy of long sustained, undaunted endeavor using all that was in accord with him, converting to his view all that first opposed him, he then in harmony achieved success.

"Every point of difference that lay in the accomplishment of a desired end, he met squarely and settled judicially in open court so far as he was concerned in it. As Browning would say—'he was a fighter for what he conceived to be right.' Robert Lee Williams marched resolutely up life's highway to earn successive distinctions as a practicing lawyer, a district judge, a member of the Constitutional Convention, third Governor of Oklahoma, Justice of the Supreme Court, a high party leader, a Circuit Judge and last, President of the Historical Society which always held a special place in his heart."

Judge Baxter Taylor set forth his love and tribute in substance as follows:

"I met Judge Robert L. Williams when as a young man I came out from Tennessee and pitched tent in the little town of Atoka. The Constitution of Oklahoma was to be made. His fellow citizens of the Durant region presented him to the Constitutional Convention as their spokesman and representative. I can see him now as he appeared at that time, stalwart, rugged, unvarnished as a piece of gold from a gold mine, but alert, persistent and profoundly able. He stood in that Constitution Hall like a mountain of granite in his ideals of honor and integrity. I recall that after they had written the Constitution questions were raised as to the leadership and direction of men who made this Constitution. Robert L. Williams, among his peers and among the people of the new State, ranked as one of the chief molders among those who gave us our fundamental charter of government. As he was then a leader so he continued through more than forty years a towering figure in the annals of the State. He was my friend and I gave him profound admiration and love."

Judge Redmond S. Cole said: "May I add just one word to the thought that my good friend, Judge Taylor, has just given us. The first time I ever met Governor Bob Williams to really know the man I went alone to talk to him about the proposition of making an appointment of a friend of mine to an official position. He listened and then said, 'Is he honest?'"

Judge Harry Campbell then said: "I want to speak a word in memory of Judge Williams. I first met Judge Williams in Durant in 1900 at the time of the Democratic General Election when he was elected President of the National Committee. I have known him intimately through the years. I knew him when he was elected to the State Constitutional Convention, when he was elected to the Supreme Court of Oklahoma and when he was Governor, but more intimately since he was appointed Federal Judge of the Eastern District of Oklahoma. Down through the years I practiced law in Judge Williams' court, and while he was domineering in a great number of ways and was impatient at delays he was a man of unusual honor and ability and I have never known him to be accused of any irregularity."

Mrs. Blanche Lucas: "My friendship with Judge Williams began during the Constitutional Convention and has continued through the years and I honor his memory."

Dr. I. N. McCash: "I came to Oklahoma in 1916. Judge Robert L. Williams was Governor. I became the President of a little church college that had no power to offer certificates in teaching. He came and delivered our commencement address. Our friendship began then. As the years went by every teachers' college and all institutions of higher learning in the State, save one, were against allowing Phillips University and other church colleges to be accredited with the power of offering certificates to teachers without standing an examination which they possessed. Governor Williams said that was not right, and then Dr. Charles Evans of Henry Kendall College went to the Legislature with a Bill to give equal credit where equal work was done. In the very last afternoon of the session we found the Bill pigeon-holed. Dr. Evans discovered this and went to the Committee on Education and demanded its being brought to the Floor for passage or rejection. The Senator, Hon. F. E. Tucker, who championed the Bill in the Senate was told that Governor Williams was for it. He said, 'Ask the Governor to come now to the Floor of the Senate,' and in a few minutes he appeared, and in a little while the Bill was passed; Governor Williams signed it and the church colleges of Oklahoma have a right to say, as I have often said, that this law was the Declaration of Independence of the church colleges of Oklahoma."

Dr. Fred S. Clinton: "Judge was my friend. I don't know how long I knew him. I knew him ever since he came to the State. He took an

important part in the making of the Constitution and he had an important part in interpreting the Constitution and other laws. When he was the Governor of the State he helped to establish the Standard Medical School. He was a great benefactor of the Medical Fraternity in Oklahoma."

Hon. George A. Bowman: "I want to say just a word with reference to Judge Williams that has not been pointed out. I knew him when I came to the Oklahoma Territory part of the State in 1899 but the thing that has impressed me about Judge Williams was the fact that we would not have had the historical building of the State if it had not been for him. When he came to be Governor the Historical Society was in a room in Oklahoma City and then in the Capitol and it was through his influence that the legislature appropriated money for the erection of the historical building. Judge Williams was Governor from 1915 to 1919 and in the Fall of 1914 when running for Governor of Oklahoma he got out these little buttons which were to be worn on the coat; and on the bottom of it it says 'Our Bob'. I want to give this to Dr. Evans for the historical society."

Dr. Charles Evans: "While I am on my feet may I say to you that I met Robert L. Williams 43 years ago. Never in my life have I met such a remarkable and singular character. The substance of what Dr. McCash said that he was always for the minority, was the very root of his being. Judge Williams was a really religious man. He loved all that pertained to the origin and growth of this State. His brother-in-law, Mr. Paul Walker of Washington, D. C., sent me a few lines from a plaque that was hanging in his room at the time of his death. May I be given the privilege of reading it?"

#### 'BUILD ME ANEW—EACH HOUR, EACH DAY

Keep building me anew, each hour, each year, God.

Fashion my way and will toward better things. Mark plainly the ways of error before me, so that I may not go their routes.

Stimulate my mind to see and my heart to feel.

Take the various phases of my nature and spread them clearly before me—as though a pictured book, so that I may recognize my weakness as well as my gifts of strength.

Keep walking around with me, God. Keep talking to me, so that your Palship may grow in fondness and beauty to me.

Cleanse my mind and heart so that people may see what worth there is in me, as I see the loveliness of formation in the rocks and flowers that play like pals with the crystal streams that ripple among the mountain bases.

Build me anew—each hour, each day.

Tear down that which I have faultily constructed and lead me to new locations—there to start all over again.

I know that I am made of the elements that mingle in the soil of the earth, and that sometime I shall return to the play of their atoms but I am also convinced that you have breathed into this frame of mine an immortal soul, whose journey has just begun.

Keep me simple, God. Attract my mind to simple things—those which are easiest understood.

And mingle me with the great crowd, so that what little influence I may possess may spread deepest and farthest, helping, uplifting the largest number.

With the sun of your love, God, kill every germ of conceit and self-interest within me.

Develop these shoulders of mine so that I may be strong to give a lift to those less strong and fortunate than I.

Build me anew—each hour, each day.”

Hon. Robert A. Hefner: “My tribute to Judge Williams in a word is the service he performed in preserving our State’s history. No man has rendered a greater service.”

Hon. H. L. Muldrow: “I suspect I knew Bob Williams as long as anybody here. Long ago, in the Indian Territory times, I met him. There have been times when I liked him very much—there have been other times when I despised him. Bob Williams was a man who did things. Whether he was right or wrong he was loyal to his convictions.”

Miss Muriel H. Wright: “As a member of the Staff I would like to make a statement with reference to Judge Williams. It wasn’t my privilege to have known him so long as these good friends of his. In my work with *The Chronicles* I could always depend on Judge Williams in its planning and publication. I wish to say that in the Summer issue all of the articles were approved by him. It will also include a sketch of his life by Dr. Evans, making this number a memorial to Judge Williams.”

Mr. Flesner of the Guthrie Chamber of Commerce then announced that the room on the second floor of Constitutional Hall in which the Constitution was drawn was open and all were invited to visit it.

At this time, a motion was made by Judge Harry Campbell that adjournment be made, after which all members would repair to the Ione Hotel for a banquet given in honor of the Society by the Chamber of Commerce of the City of Guthrie. The motion was seconded by Hon. J. E. Milam and was carried.

The proceedings of the banquet and excursions about the City are revealed in the following program:

**“LUNCHEON, Ione Hotel**

Sponsored by Guthrie Chamber of Commerce

Master of Ceremonies .....Mayor C. E. Barnes,  
Guthrie, Oklahoma

12:15 Music .....Anne Mary Bentley  
Your Song For Paradise by S. B. Brown

Introduction of Officers, Members of Staff, and Members of  
Historical Society.

Music .....Anne Mary Bentley  
The Pipers Song by Paderewski

Address .....Hon. Baxter Taylor  
Member of the Board of Directors”

At the conclusion of the program the President, Dr. Emma Estill-Harbour extended thanks and deep appreciation to Mayor C. E. Barnes, Hon. L. G. Flesner, Secretary-Manager, and the Committees of the Guthrie Chamber of Commerce, that had given the Society such a splendid banquet and means of excursion to the historic spots about the City. The Co-operative Publishing Company was also thanked for the beautiful corsages for the lady members of the Board of Directors and the members of the Staff of the Society and boutonnières for the gentlemen of the Board of Directors.

It was the expression of all that it was one of the best annual meetings the Society had ever had.

**EMMA ESTILL-HARBOUR, *President***

**CHARLES EVANS, *Secretary***