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HISTORIC CONVENTION MEETS HERE

1907 Guthrie Session Gave State Constitution

PRIMARY CODE WAS DRAFTED BY DELEGATES

Constitutional Meeting Is Made Necessary By Act of Congress

Because of the fact that Oklahoma's population comes from every corner of the globe, and because thousands of those who have come here to make their fortunes do not know much of the history of Oklahoma, it is believed by "old timers" that perhaps many would not readily

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 24)

Delegate Urges Changes In State Constitution

Time has wrought changes that make imperative alterations in the state constitution to provide for needs of the appellate court system, delegates to the 1907 constitutional convention were told here Tuesday night.

The speaker was Judge Samuel W. Hayes of Oklahoma City, himself a delegate to the convention. Besides his comrades at that famous meeting, members of the Okmulgee County Bar association, hosts of the evening, were in the audience. The address was delivered at a banquet at the First Methodist Episcopal church.

Splitting the supreme court into divisions should be provided

in one amendment, Mr. Hayes said, and election of justices from larger districts or the state at large with methods of nomination and election to be decided by the legislature should be brought about in another.

Would Divide It

Mr. Hayes spoke as follows: "Mr. Toastmaster, Members of the Bar of Okmulgee County, Members of the Constitutional Convention of Oklahoma, Ladies and Gentlemen:

"I cannot commence the few remarks that I shall make to you upon the subject announced without expressing again for myself and my fellow delegates of

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 2)

FETE GREETING FOR DELEGATES MEETING HERE

Parade, Luncheon, Banquet, Reunion—All In Program

Awakening echoes of hot-blooded battles for statehood and recalling vividly the 27 years during which inhabitants of the Indian and Oklahoma territories vainly sought to gain recognition and be admitted to the status of free men with their own local self government, the city of Okmulgee was host Tues-

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 2)

As Famous Convention Met Again



Here are delegates to the 1907 constitutional convention as they gathered on the stage of the Hippodrome theater Tuesday to re-enact the convention in full view of the audience. President William H. Murray is seen, gavel in hand and a handful of popcorn before him. At his right is Judge R. L. Williams and next is O. H. P. Brewer of Muskogee, one of the best of the speakers of the day. Directly behind Brewer and standing is former Gov. Henry Johnston.

When Thousands Heard Speakers Over Radio



President Bill Murray of the constitutional convention is seen at the south side of the Creek Council House speaking over KVOO. Groped on the platform are some of the delegates and other noted visitors. Other speakers were A. L. Beckett of Okmulgee, J. S. Buchanan of the University of Oklahoma, and Judge O. H. P. Brewer of Muskogee.

DELEGATE URGES CONSTITUTION CHANGE

Two Amendments Sorely Needed By Supreme Court, Says Hayes

One Change Designed to Speed Work, Ex-Judge Tells Comrades Here at Reunion

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

the constitutional convention of Oklahoma our very great appreciation of this magnificent reception that has been accorded us by the people of this and adjoining counties today. I confess that when I received an invitation as a member of this convention to attend this occasion I was somewhat at a loss in trying to imagine how your committee would stimulate an interest in this event so as to secure the cooperation of the people of your community in this occasion. The interest I have seen manifested here today and the courtesies you have shown us is one of the prime events in my life in this state and I am sure that I can say that the same is similarly true of all the fellow delegates who have been so fortunate as to attend here today.

Addresses Bar

"We owe a great debt of gratitude to you for this entertainment you have so liberally given us. I also want to thank the members of the orchestra which has so entertainingly furnished us music during this banquet and express our appreciation to you.

My subject has been an-

nounced to you as "A Revision of the Judicial Appellate System of this State." I hope in the brief time that I have in which to attempt to engage your attention that I shall not become so technical, that I shall not enter into such a complexity of detail, as to become dull and uninteresting to you who have no direct interest in the courts of the state of Oklahoma. All of us, of course, have an indirect interest.

"As I understand, this is a banquet given by the bar, and I therefore felt in my mind that I would be justified in addressing you on a subject in which every member of the bar is tremendously and vitally interested. It was my good fortune to have been a member of the constitutional convention. I served upon the judiciary committee of that convention and participated in a small way in framing the provisions of the constitution that comprise your present judicial system in this state. The good people of this state honored me by electing me to the supreme court, where I served approximately seven years, whereupon I retired to private practice.

Law Must Be Swift

There are many features I might discuss with interest to members of the bar. As I suggested, I intend to concentrate the few remarks I have to make on one or two features of our

present system and regarded, I think, as essential. It is fundamental, no saying is more nearly true, than "justice delayed is justice abandoned." It is likewise true that the swiftness with which punishment for violation

of a law is administered is the greatest deterrent to its violation. A criminal does not fear punishment if he can indefinitely delay it. Any judicial system, therefore, that does not ac-

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 22)

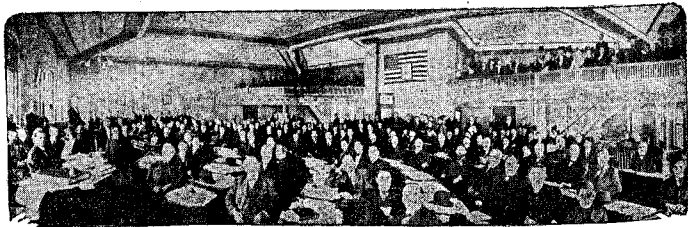
To the two-score members of the Oklahoma Constitutional Convention who assembled in Okmulgee for their first reunion, Okmulgee bids a hearty welcome to return again—and again.

James G. Lyons

Commerce Building

Okmulgee, Okla.

As Constitutional Convention Framed Document



Here is a scene of the Oklahoma Constitutional convention in session in Guthrie city hall in February, 1907. President Murray is seen standing at the speaker's table.

Here Is List of Convention Delegates

1. T. O. James, Democrat.
2. Fred C. Tracy, Democrat.
3. Edward R. Williams, Democrat.
4. Homer P. Covy, Republican.
5. E. O. McCance, Democrat.
6. George Norton Bily, Democrat.
7. John C. Major, Democrat.
8. George W. Wood, Democrat.
9. Delphus G. Harned, Democrat.
10. W. F. Hendricks, Democrat.
11. C. H. Pittman, Democrat.
12. J. A. Alderson, Democrat.
13. Charles L. Moore, Democrat.
14. Albert H. Ellis.
15. David S. Ross, Democrat.
16. J. F. King, Democrat.
17. Henry S. Johnston, Democrat.
18. D. M. Berry, Democrat.
19. E. G. Newell, Democrat.
20. J. E. Sater, Republican.
21. F. E. Houston, Republican.
22. Joe M. Sandlin, Democrat.
23. Henry L. Cloud, Republican.
24. W. L. Helton, Democrat.
25. Henry E. Asp, Republican.
26. William B. Jenkins, Republican.
27. W. T. S. Hunt, Democrat.
28. W. C. Hughes, Democrat.
29. John L. Mitch, Democrat.
30. S. M. Ramsey, Democrat.
31. James H. Maxey, Democrat.
32. Isaac B. Littleton, Democrat.
33. T. C. Wyatt, Democrat.
34. J. S. Buchanan, Democrat.
35. J. K. Norton, Democrat.
36. John J. Carney, Democrat.
37. Matthew J. Kane, Democrat.
38. Thad D. Rice, Democrat.
39. Charles C. Fisher, Democrat.
40. Henry Kelley, Democrat.
41. C. H. Bowers, Democrat.
42. H. O. Tener, Democrat.
43. David Hogg, Democrat.
44. W. S. Deering, Democrat.
45. John B. Harrison, Democrat.
46. F. E. Herring, Democrat.
47. B. E. Bryant, Democrat.
48. J. J. Savage, Democrat.
49. Luke Roberts, Democrat.
50. William J. Caudill, Democrat.
51. W. E. Banks, Democrat.
52. J. G. Tosh, Democrat.
53. William H. Edley, Democrat.
54. John M. Carr, Democrat.
55. G. M. Tucker, Democrat.
56. John Leahy and J. J. Quarles, Democrats.
57. Joseph J. Curl, Democrat.
58. Walter D. Humphrey, Democrat.
59. W. H. Korngay, Democrat.
60. Don P. Willis, Democrat.
61. J. W. Swartz, Democrat.
62. James R. Copeland, Democrat.
63. J. K. Hill, Democrat.
64. C. V. Rogers, Democrat.
65. J. Howard Langley, Democrat.
66. J. Turner Edmundson, Democrat.
67. J. H. N. Cobb, Republican.
68. Flowers Nelson, Democrat.
69. William T. Dalton, Democrat.
70. A. L. Hausam, Democrat.
71. James A. Harrie, Republican.
72. A. S. Wyley, Democrat.
73. Charles W. Board, Democrat.
74. W. A. Cain, Republican.
75. Phillip B. Hopkins, Republican.
76. Charles N. Haskell, Democrat.
77. O. H. P. Brewer, Democrat.
78. William N. Littlejohn, Democrat.
79. William B. Hudson, Republican.
80. Hammer G. Turner, Democrat.
81. J. A. Baker, Democrat.
82. E. F. Messenger, Democrat.
83. William C. Leidtko, Democrat.
84. C. O. Frye, Republican.
85. Samuel W. Hayes, Democrat.
86. Charles McClain, Democrat.
87. Carlton Weaver, Democrat.
88. Ben F. Harrison, Democrat.
89. James I. Wood, Democrat.
90. Peter Hanratty, Democrat.
91. Nell B. Gardner, Democrat.
92. Edwin T. Sorrels, Democrat.
93. Royal J. Allen, Democrat.
94. Millas Lassiter, Democrat.
95. Frank J. Stowe, Independent.
96. C. S. Leeper, Democrat.
97. Boone Williams, Democrat.
98. Albert G. Cochran, Democrat.
99. J. S. Jantimer, Democrat.
100. C. C. Mathis, Democrat.
101. Cham Jones, Democrat.
102. L. J. Akers, Democrat.
103. Walter A. Ledbetter, Democrat.
104. William H. Murray, Democrat.
105. James H. Chambers, Democrat.
106. J. C. Graham, Democrat.
107. George A. Henshaw, Democrat.
108. Robert L. Williams, Democrat.
109. Gabe E. Parker, Democrat.
110. E. F. Lee, Democrat.

VOTE IN FAVOR OF INCOME TAX

Delegates Also Asked Senators Be Named By Direct Vote

Delegates to the constitutional convention wanted a federal income tax and the election of senators by direct vote of the people.

They got both wishes—although not directly. Congress was told emphatically by the representatives of the budding state of its desire in two resolutions.

The income tax proposal was quickly put through the committee, but when it reached the floor of the convention considerable opposition developed. It was held by enemies of the proposition that the convention had no business suggesting congress what to do in federal matters. Supporters answered that they represented the people of the forthcoming state and had a right to speak to the general law-making body.

The proposal passed 54 to 14 delegates absent. One of the 12 Republican delegates opposed it. Later, the state legislature assisted in adding income tax amendment to the federal constitution.

Six Republican delegates all who opposed the tax that congress be named by direct vote was 96 to 18 absent.

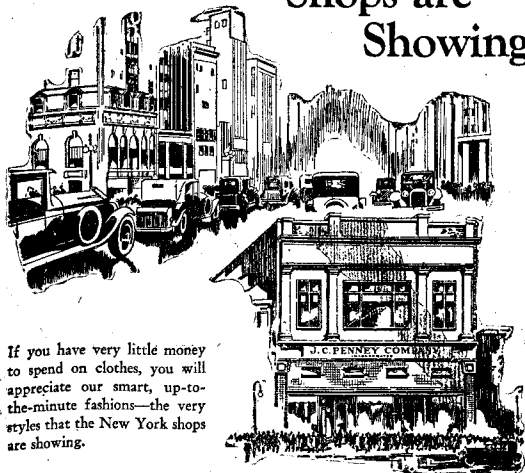
111. Freeman J. ...
Democrat.

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CONSTITUTION STUDIED OVER COUNTRY

Document's Unusual Features Attract Student's Attention

Many Colleges Devoting Special Hours to Its Perusal; What History Says of it

Many of those who are accustomed to hearing the statement: "There is something wrong with state government in Oklahoma," have come to look upon everything connected with that government in a dubious light.

Too much pessimism has warped the viewpoint of many. They would be surprised to know that the state constitution, which was framed by the constitutional convention of 1907, is regarded as one of the most remarkable of like documents of all the 48 states.

Studied Everywhere

Instructors in American government at leading universities have been holding special sessions, devoting all their time to the teaching the principles of the Oklahoma constitution. Here is what Joseph B. Thornburn says of it in his widely known "History of Oklahoma," published by the American Historical society: "The constitution framed by Oklahoma convention was, and is, in many ways, a remarkable document. As it was finally submitted to a vote of the people for ratification, it consisted of 24 articles and a schedule and contained no less than 845 sections, several of which contained several paragraphs each.

"It was generally regarded as one of the most radical instruments of its class that had yet been formulated and adopted, as well as one of the most comprehensive, containing about 45,000 words in all. It embodied much matter in detail that, in other and older states, was covered by statutory legislative enactments. One of its most important features was, and is, in Article IX, which deals with corporations in general and with the duties and powers of the state corporation commission. This commission is clothed with supreme authority in all matters which pertain to public service corporations.

Recognize 8-Hour Day

"The rights of the initiative and referendum were reserved to the people of the state, both in legislation and in constitutional changes, and to the people of the various municipalities in

the matter of various ordinances or charters.

"The 8-hour day was given constitutional recognition in a full public work and in the minds of Oklahomans. It was provided that the defense of contributory negligence should be a question of fact to be determined by the jury. Practically all state officers were elected. There were many other matters which would be regarded as decidedly novel in most of the conservative, older states.

"That the constitution may have gone too far in the matter of detail in some matters to be evidenced by the numerous and costly efforts that have since been made to have it amended or modified in some particulars is not to be regretted. It was to frame it were sincere and it represents their ideals as nearly as the same could be reduced to concrete form. At best, all state constitutions have been the result of compromise. Actual experimental application and administration of the basic law of Oklahoma have indicated that the provisions made by it for its modification are of a nature which, as a whole, it has been as satisfactory in its operation and effect as have those of any of the older states which have been on trial for much longer periods.

Change Counties

"The new state was divided by the constitutional convention into 75 counties, their boundaries defined and their county seats designated. Of these, 15 were identical in all particulars with the organizations existing in Oklahoma territory under the organic act. The names of seven other counties in Oklahoma territory were also preserved, territorial limits and areas, while the name of old Day county disappeared from the map. By division and recombination eight new counties were added in that part of the state which was formerly embraced in the territory of Oklahoma in addition to which the territory was constituted a county. That part of the state which had been included in the former Indian territory was divided into 40 counties. Among the limitations and restrictions which were imposed by the enabling act, the subject of counties—county lines, county seats and county names—was not included. This was asserted at the time that had the enabling act

provided that recording districts in the Indian territory should be considered as counties and be designated by number until after the adoption of the constitution, that court towns should be considered as county seats and that no changes in county lines, county seats or county names should be made by the constitutional convention, there would have been much less politics in the convention. As it was, the county seats or county names were all used in the manipulations and maneuvers which were being made for the control of the dominant party in the campaign for the nomination for state officers which was to follow. No less than eight counties were named for delegates sitting in the convention, a mark of distinction to which some of the personalities involved were scarcely entitled. But, after all, it was doubtless well that the convention did make counties and plenty of them, as Oklahoma has had remarkably free from county seat wrangles such as have been an unpleasant distinction to some other western states during the period of county organization.

"In addition, the constitution and the separate propositions relating to the prohibition of the liquor traffic, the constitutional convention also adopted a resolution to adopt the constitution of the United States, an ordinance accepting the provisions of the enabling act and an ordinance providing for the election of the adoption of the state constitution and the choice of state, district, county and township officers.

State Came Near Being Called Jefferson, Once Was Big Issue

Oklahoma came near being called Jefferson.

How would it sound? Okmulgee, Jefferson.

Or Tulsa, Jefferson. Odd, isn't it? Of course, it wouldn't have been so queer by now if it really had been named after the third president.

The whole thing came about along in 1900 when Rep. John A. Moon of Tennessee, an admirer of Jefferson, introduced a measure for the organization of the Indian territory using the name of Jefferson.

Congress virtually ignored the suggestion, but here in Oklahoma it was a serious matter.

WHY OKMULGEE HELD REUNION

First of Constitutional Conventions Was Held Here

Okmulgee was the logical place for holding a celebration in remembrance of the constitutional convention because it was in this city that the first convention for the writing of a constitution for the state's government was held.

In 1870, with a representative of the United States government here to preside, the representatives of the several Indian tribes met in Okmulgee and drafted the first constitution designed to embrace all of the tribes.

Annual meetings of the general council were held over a period of seven years, but the government was never recognized by the federal government, despite the fact that the Indians had been authorized by the United States to organize a government which would take in all of the Indian tribes.

It was under the authority of the treaties between the government and the Indians following the Civil War that the Okmulgee constitutional convention was held.

Constitutions for the government of the Indian tribes were first written at several other meetings and a number of these precedents of the Okmulgee convention, but there were no meetings of state-wide scope.

The issue was so overshadowed at that time by the statehood question, however, that it never reached the proportions of a large movement.

Again and again Rep. Moon attempted to substitute Jefferson for Okmulgee during the time when a series of bills all looking toward the formation of the state were being introduced in congress. He was always voted down or otherwise kept far.

Two thousand copies of a journal of the convention were printed, 0991, 53 2179.

Jagged Nerves Brought on Fight At Convention Between Delegates

Only Physical Combat of Session Saw Missiles Flying

Tense moments at the constitutional convention in Guthrie in 1906 and 1907 were as frequent almost as speeches before the convention, but only once did the feeling reach such a pitch that physical combat was provoked.

And during that one time, it was recalled here Tuesday by W. H. (Alfalfa Bill) Murray, president of the convention, ink bottles and paper weights flew through the air with the governor-to-be doing the hurling on one side, and a delegate from Wawoka doing the honors for his town.

The men involved were C. N. Haskell and J. A. Baker of Wawoka.

The question under discussion was article nine of the proposed constitution dealing with corporations. During the debate, Baker, who had set himself up as the watch-dog of the convention, forcing a detailed explanation of everything that was done, hinted rather broadly that Mr. Haskell was a liar. He accompanied the hint with an incident that struck Haskell's desk within a few inches of where Mr. Haskell's wife was seated.

Haskell returned in kind, heaving an iron paperweight at Mr. Baker, who ducked in time to prevent damage.

"I recall hearing about the incident," Mr. Murray said Tuesday, "but I did not see it because it happened on one of the two days during the entire session when I was not in attendance."

"If I had been there, I believe I could have prevented it because I had become used to torn nerves and high feelings, and watched the delegates like a hawk just to prevent such disorderly outbursts."

The only other time Mr. Murray was absent from the convention during a session was the day when federal deputy marshals served the delegates with federal court injunction. The court order had previously been served on Murray alone, in the belief that he would notify the delegates of it, thereby affecting complete service. But when this was not done, the federal officers, realizing they had been outdone, went to the convention hall and served the individual delegates.

"I had been watching for just some such stunt," said Mr.

Murray, "and I would have had the federal officers arrested for contempt of the constitutional convention, had I been in the chair that day. But the order was served and that was all there was to it."

COVEY LIKES HIS OKLAHOMA

Many Travel But This Delegate Prefers To Stay Here

Many of the delegates to the constitutional convention of 1906 and 1907 have been men of travel, changing their addresses in the state frequently, or leaving the state at times to live elsewhere.

Not so with M. P. Covey of Fargo, one of the "13 speculators," as the 12 Republican delegates were called, at the Guthrie assembly. He lived on a homestead near Fargo in 1901 when he was elected to the convention from the fourth constitutional district, and outside of having crossed the Rocky mountains eight times, he hasn't traveled from there since. He still has his farm.

Nor has Mr. Covey aspired to political office, other than to serve one term in the state legislature as representative from Ellis county.

He was born Feb. 3, 1871, at Kirksville, Mo. His parents moved with him to Cloud county, Kan., in 1873, and settled on a homestead near the present town of Miltonvale. There Mr. Covey grew to manhood and received his public school education. He attended the Kansas state normal school at Emporia, in 1888, taught school three years, then attended the Gem City Business college at Quincy, Ill., in 1892. He taught school, then, until he came to Oklahoma Territory in 1901 and settled on the homestead four and a half miles southwest of Fargo.

He remembers the constitutional convention at Guthrie as an assembly of fine, stalwart men, and he was sincerely sorry he could not attend the reunion here Tuesday.

In 1891 he was married to Miss Cora Lee of Miltonvale, Kan., and they have reared a family of five children, all of them members of the Methodist church.

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CONVENTION DEAD HONORED IN ADDRESS

JUDGE PAYS MEN TRIBUTE

Naming Famous Pioneers He Tells Something Of Each One

Tribute to the 25 veterans of the constitutional convention who have died since the convention adjourned was paid Tuesday by Judge R. L. Williams in address at the reunion.

Said Judge Williams: "Mr. Chairman, I believe we have had 25 members of the convention since this convention finally adjourned, and I feel that we ought not to leave here today until we have made mention of each one of them. I am going to mention each one of them so as to put their names in the record.

Before I begin, I want to pay tribute, not as a boyhood friend, but as a friend, to Milton Lasater. When I first knew him was when we were members of the constitutional convention. I knew him best after our labors' close. He was able enough to fill almost any position in the government. I told him I ought to be a nominee for office in the new state. He would fill any place within the gift of the sovereign people. He was kind, he was modest, he was retiring. He was the simple life, embodying all the simple virtues. He would stand for what he thought was right. He did not seek a fight, like Judge Brewer said I always did; but if his opponents commenced it, he would meet them vigorously. He deserves the highest praise from the lips of his fellowmen.

15 Years on Bench

"There is another member whose name comes easily to my memories, that is Judge Mattew J. Kane. He showed his promise in the convention. As a member of the supreme court of Oklahoma, from the time of its organization to his death, which was over 15 years, he entirely justified our faith in him. In addition to that, he was like Lasater, modest, kind, loving and living the simple life. He was a courageous man on the platform, level-headed, yet loyal to his convictions. I would not be true to myself if I did not pay him the highest tribute of which I am capable.

"Dr. Wyatt—you can go to the capitol of Tennessee, and retrace the house of the constitution, and you will see a picture

Attend Convention



Two former governors were photographed by a Times and Democrat staff cameraman during the constitutional convention reunion services in the Council House yard Tuesday. They are Henry S. Johnston, left, and Judge Robert J. Williams, right. Judge Williams is now federal judge for the eastern district of Oklahoma. Johnston is prominently mentioned as a Democratic candidate for the U. S. senate nomination.

of T. C. Wyatt on the wall. Go into the senate, and you will see a picture of T. C. Wyatt on the wall. He was a member of the legislature of that state when a governor of Dr. Buchanan was governor of the state of Tennessee. When he came to this country, his merit was recognized.

Gained Confidence

"In this connection, I want to mention Ramsey and Littleton. They were farmers. They did not send many lawyers to the convention from the west side. Henceforth, told me once that they didn't think a lawyer was any good, they didn't have but a few, and he confessed to me that he'd written so they would know how to vote on it, if it didn't have a few lawyers. That was the spirit of their law of the state. Most of their law was the John Harrison and Hughes, and Judge King and Charley Moore were in the con-

vention—just a few lawyers from that side of the state. Most of the lawyers came from the east side. So that accounted for so many farmers being there. Old man Ike Littleton and Sam Ramsay, they were the salt of the earth. I served on committees with them. The Republicans sought to balance me up with Henry Asp. I never represented great corporations like he did, but they were suspicious of me. I abided my time. So in time they came to me. "You are not the kind of man they would bring out things that would bring out things that you do if you didn't believe in fair play." So I served with these old fellows. Their first impressions disappeared. I had a lot of influence with them, I

came to know them well? I want their memory preserved.

Spoke 7 Languages

"Old Brother Banks was a Baptist preacher, a good man, honest, kindly. B. E. Bryant represented the Washita district; he was the salt of the earth. I believe he was a member of the first legislature of this statehood, and old man Mitchell was the linguist of the convention. He spoke seven languages, and he was the peace-maker. When we got at war, you remember how he would arise in

member how he would arise in that kind way of his, and talk to the convention, and get them in a good humor. He was a Kentuckian. When I was governor, he held a place in the state auditor's office, and the state auditor wanted to put a fellow auditor in place of him, a little fellow from Kentucky in the school land department, and we had a little fuss. "You can put this fellow man Mitchell, and that is how it under you." It resulted in a compromise, and that is how it happened that old man Mitchell had a place in the land office. We compromised. I insisted, "You can take care of this man, he is not going to hold any of the office under me." (Laughter) we compromised. (Laughter)

"Now, Henry Asp was one of the most unflinching men in labor, a most diligent man, honorable, his word was good. He held his word in the government; I believe in the Jeffersonian theory of government. He lived in the Jeffersonian theory. We just disagreed like that (speaker crosses fingers). I agree with you as to being a man, and a lawyer and a citizen. That Henry Asp was a first-class lawyer, a first-class citizen, and a lovable friend and companion. He was loyal to his theory of government, and I pay high tribute to him today, as a man worthy to be on the honor roll.

Good Scrapper

"J. H. Cobb was a Methodist preacher, and as good a scrapper as I ever saw. He was a friendly and a lovable man. I don't think he ever came over to Washington or to Oklahoma City without hunting up his friends. I could understand why he carried his distrust, and I was elected with such a majority after I learned to know him.

"J. E. Slater—I didn't know him so well, but I vote, he was elected by a close vote, a close fight. He impressed me as being one of the finest kind of a man. He belonged to the minority. They didn't frame the constitution, we framed the constitution, but he created an impression on me that he was a fine citizen and a loyal friend. "W. J. Caudill was chairman

(CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE)

JUDGE IN TRIBUTE TO DEAD COMRADES

WILLIAMS HAS WARM PRAISE

Virtues of Each of His Old Comrades Are Extolled

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8)

of the committee on geological survey. (Laughs) He had been a member of the senate of Kentucky and wanted to put limits on the expenditures of the legislature. He was learned and wise. He is the author of that provision, which I helped to put in the constitution, that if the legislature increased expenditures, the increase would not take effect until the next one, so they couldn't increase expenses, and that became effective until the next legislature. That is a matter upon which there has been so much controversy in this recent legislature, it has been before the supreme court. I presume Caudill found his authority in Kentucky. We can give his mem-

ory credit. He was one of the most ardent prohibitionists; he was a great anti-smoker, against the use of tobacco as well as being a great prohibitionist. When we look back over these stirring times, when we think of the old man's sincerity, his fine influence simply by living, although it seemed he was trying to live on an idealized platform, for his high purpose and steadfastness, we have to look back to his memory with a great deal of gratitude and honor to him.

Cochran Crippled

"A. G. Cochran, from Hartshorne, was a cripple, he was lame when he walked the ways of his faith. After statehood, he was elected to a county office, district court clerk. He retired and died soon after. He was one of your quality men, a good sane man.

"J. I. Wood, Scipio, was elected county treasurer immediately after statehood. He held that office for two terms, five years, the long term after statehood, and then the short term. Then he was elected mayor of McAlester, and made city manager. He held office a number of years, practically every year after statehood until his death. He was an honorable citizen

under the new state government. You remember he was a level-headed participant in short debates. He impressed me as being a clear, straight thinker.

"H. G. Turner,—he came to the Creek country. I think he had a little Creek blood. He lived on his farm out east of Checteah, and died soon after statehood. He was a farmer delegate, level-headed and conscientious.

"Don P. Willis, born in the Ottawa country. He always contended that county should be named Quapaw county. The Quapaws were a peaceable tribe. They surrendered from time to time, pieces of their reservation, finally took that little part, with the white man continually encroaching on them. They had to move down into Kansas. I think we were unjust to the Quapaw tribe, as they are fading from the map. I want to say this here, I think we were unjust to them. Don Willis was a quiet, peaceable man, a fine citizen. His children are taking their prominent places in Cherokee county. He deserves a place as one of the honored men of the state.

We had a great fight over

woman suffrage in the convention. He was in favor of it. He had kind of promised the women we would enfranchise them, give them the franchise as to school elections. I will admit I was against them all down the line. I haven't changed my opinion yet. (Applause) I think it was a great mistake, taking them off the high pedestal of womanhood. They have surrendered far more than they have gained. They had 10 times as much influence as they have now, as the result of the ballot box will illustrate.

Hasn't Changed

"Chairman Murray: The chair doesn't wish to interrupt you, judge, but the suffrage amendment is not before the house. However, the chair rules that a bachelor can say anything along that line he wants to.

"Judge Williams (continuing): They called on me and wanted me to support their amendment. I knew that women make better clerks than men. If a man is elected to the office, he will draw the salary and hire a woman to do his work, but if you elect a woman, she will do the work. I knew that, and in addition to that, we could be re-

(CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE)

JUST BY WAY OF COMPARISON

You wouldn't look for a rose in a field of dandelions. You wouldn't expect to buy a portrait in a paint shop. You wouldn't seek a diamond at the five-and-ten.

And you wouldn't hope to find clothes of real class at a store where price is the only attraction.

Treasures of fashion are found only in stores that treasure the privilege of selecting individual things for individual preferences and personalities.

Yet there is little difference in price despite the world of difference in what the price buys.

Choose the right store and you will wear the right clothes.

Okmulgee's Outstanding Store

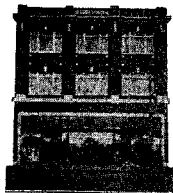
Fulfords

Ramsay-Fulford Dry Goods Co.

This organization has long been identified with the History of Oklahoma, as before Statehood our Mr. R. W. Ramsay was for many years in charge at the head of the Ramsay Bros. Dry Goods Co. at Guthrie, Okla.

One of the Pioneer Stores of the State

We Are Building with Oklahoma



Williams in Eulogy Of Convention Dead

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9)

sonably sure a man would vote for them, but a woman would not vote for a woman as a rule. We filed it so they could not run for county superintendent, but for any clerical office. That didn't suffice. I did my part, but couldn't turn them back. But I was going to tell them to put that provision in the constitution. He was in favor of it. Just a few days after we defeated woman suffrage in the convention, before they called up the school election provision, they held an election right in the building. I don't believe it was a school election, either, but some sort of a municipal election, but he was raising the issue, and they couldn't get the vote for the provision for the school election. They had irreconcilables, bring up some. They came down to the train for me, sent a sergeant-at-arms, but I got on the train and got away, but they finally found a majority.

"You're an Old Fool"

"Old Uncle Charlie McClain: I want to tell an incident of mine. Jim Hughes on the committee on taxation was supporting the measure that every citizen was to have a separate Union man and ex-Confederate soldier should be exempt. Old Uncle Charlie was against it. Uncle Charlie, he said he wouldn't support it, said he wasn't a pauper. We put it over him, three Confederates and six sons. Well, I believe was a Confederate soldier, and old Uncle Charlie, he stood out against it, and I remember just about noon, that day, he caught me by the shoulder. "Bob," he said, "you think I am a pauper?" "No," I said, "but I think you are a darned old fool." "You mean to insult me?" "No, but my grandfather was a soldier, like at Richmond; my father is a Confederate soldier. Now we have peace. That provision puts them both on the same footing." I told him, "I just showed you." "Bob," he said, "damn you, I am a fool." That same friendship between us lasted as long as he lived. I went word to him after he was elected governor, "tell me what job you want, and I will transfer the fellow holding it and give you what you want." The old fellow died, when I got an office. He was chairman of the committee on insurance. He was an honorable old fellow; he was courageous; he didn't know how to conceal or play the hypocrite, one of the

most open and frank old men you ever saw.

"Old Sen. Sorrels, afterwards elected senator, believe he served two terms, or possibly served the long term, and then moved over to Latimer county, and was elected county commissioner there. This just goes to show how the members of the convention were appreciated locally.

Fight Over Law

"David Hogg was a Kentuckian. I am sure Brother Ellis will be glad to speak in his memory. Before coming here he was a circuit clerk. After coming to this country he was county commissioner awhile, then moved to Dewey, Kay county, and represented the county in the Oklahoma council prior to statehood. He was a county officer in Day county after statehood. They had quite a controversy on about the stock law. I have forgotten which law. I have forgotten whether he was in public service, in every community in which he lived, whether in Kentucky, Texas or Oklahoma. Wherever he lived, he was preferred by his fellow citizens.

"J. C. Graham, an able lawyer, chairman of the committee on corporations. Afterwards member of the senate. I believe president pro-tem of the senate. He retired from office, but came back, and was a member of the legislature at that time. He died young, too young. Our country needs that kind of men.

"Cap Matthis was a Confederate soldier. As a boy, he headed an army, about 16 or 17 years old. After the war he educated himself. When he was a young man, 23 or 24, he settled on the western border of Arkansas. He was a citizen and lived all of his life there. After statehood, he was elected county clerk, held office two or three terms. Although he was a county clerk which man was county clerk of that district under the Indian government. That just goes to show they were preferred by the citizenship over their fellow-men.

"McCans from Woodward county very seldom or ever spoke. After statehood he was elected to the legislature and served a two or three terms. He was a member right after statehood. I think he died about 1916.

"D. S. Rose—Brother Kornegas will remember him. When we were debating the bill of rights, they were both members of that committee, and both

IN HISTORY



Here is the picture a number of school histories give of William H. Murray, president of the constitutional convention.

contributed to the learning that was written in that report.

"Remembers Others
"Now, it wouldn't be possible for us to pass over this occasion without mentioning J. A. Baker. He not only contributed to the learning embodied in the provisions of the constitution, but also to the fact that was engendered in our discussions. You remember about that. He was a Georgian, he was connected with his prominent families there. His family lives at Wewoka here.

"If there are any others who are dead—yes, Phil B. Hopkins and J. H. Maxey. Phil Hopkins was in the oil business, died in Texas. They brought him back to Muskogee to bury him. He was engaged in the oil business in the Texas field after statehood. He was a fine man and a fine citizen.

"Judge Maxey before he came to Oklahoma territory, settled just a few years before, was elected a member of the Missouri convention in 1875. He was circuit judge, and lived at West Plains—I don't remember the name of the county. He was circuit judge and a member of the constitutional convention in 1875. He was the only one of our members who had ever sat in a constitutional convention. He was what we called the dean of the body. He wasn't in good health, but attended our sessions constantly, and his advice was always good and listened to with respect.

"In Southern Army
"Littlejohn, old man Littlejohn. He died at Brassy in Adair or Sequoyah county, and I believe he served two terms, he served one term. He was a soldier of the Confederates, and he was one of the first postmasters. If you look up the reports, you will find he was appointed postmaster way back in the '70's. He was engaged in

mercantile business. He was a fine old citizen.

"C. V. Rogers was prominent in Cherokee politics before the convention. He was one of the officers after statehood. He was a fine man, a great and intelligent leader.

"C. H. Bowers and Henry Kelly were farmers of the same class as Ramsey. They were afraid of the lawyers on the west side, but weren't afraid of us on the east side. The farmers had such an appeal to them that lawyers didn't have much chance. We remember them all with pleasure and gratitude.

"C. O. Frye and Freeman McClure. Frye was prominent in the Cherokee country. He was a Cherokee, and died soon after statehood. I believe he belonged to the National Union party. McClure lived in McCurtain county. He was a mixed-blood, and descended from the old missionary to the Chickasaws.

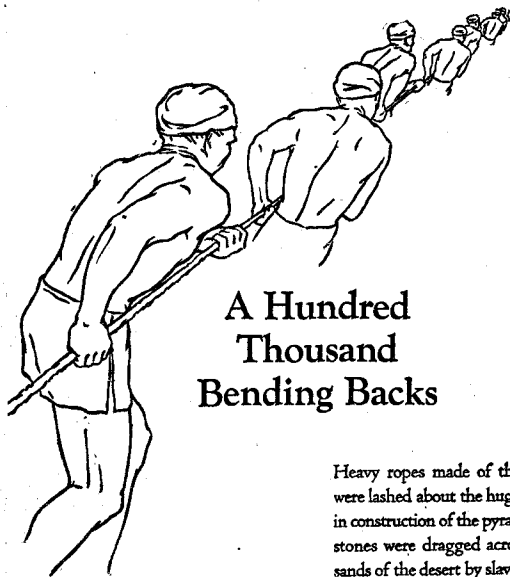
From Missouri

"H. O. Tomer represented the Dewey county district. I believe I think he came from the county. He moved from Pottawatomie, which he was elected to Pottawatomie county, and lived in Shawnee. He was elected to the legislature in Pottawatomie county, or wherever it was at the time of his death. I believe he was engaged in private business.

"Cy Leeper was engaged in the lumber business, engaged in the lumber business after statehood. He went east to the old Leeper. He belonged to the family prominent in Texas, the Leepers of Denison, Galveston and Fort Worth.

"J. J. Carl was one of the old ones of Bartlesville. On old ones account of the death of relative after statehood, he removed to Cleveland, Ohio, to look after the estate. I have been told to Philadelphia afterwards to Philadelphia. I am not sure about me. He will all agree with me. He was a prince among men, not as a connective as some, but as a connective. He help make a good connection. His situation, that would serve the country best, there was no better man.

"A. Hausman—after statehood he was elected county commissioner several terms. He was a respected citizen at the time of his death. J. P. Covey. I am not sure, but think he removed to New Braoka, where he died. He was a delegate from the Covetta district, and he well remembered. He was not sure that I have named all of them. He don't want to pass over. I wish we could call to our aid our beloved Milas Leaster in stating this in shape. It is making it and proper that we hold in this memorial to the departed loving memory of the constitutional convention."



A Hundred Thousand Bending Backs

Heavy ropes made of the date-palm were lashed about the huge stones used in construction of the pyramids and the stones were dragged across the thick sands of the desert by slaves. *A hundred thousand bending backs* produced the power that built the Great Pyramid. Body-breaking effort for the slaves, but an engineering triumph for the architects, for they successfully employed the greatest power source of their day—and squeezed from that source its last ounce of latent power.

Power has always been the measure of progress, from the crude methods of primitive times to the highly efficient electric power of today. This company, supply ample, economical electric power wherever it is needed, is assisting the community to a front rank in the progress of the twentieth century.

**PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY
OF OKLAHOMA**

SUPREME COURT CALLED HAYES

Prominent Delegate Was On Bench Seven Years

Judge Samuel W. Hayes of Oklahoma City, member of the first supreme court of the state of Oklahoma, believes the most important fact in his life to be that he was born and still lives. That's what he told editors of the Times and Democrat when they sought information regarding his life for this historical edition.

He was born in Huntsville, Madison county, Arkansas, in 1876. At the age of 22, in 1898, he came to Ryan, in what is now Jefferson county, and began teaching school. He taught for three years, until he was admitted to the bar. For two years he practiced law in Ryan, and then moved to Chickasha, where he found a partnership for law practice with E. L. Welborne, and he continued in this partnership at Chickasha until elected to his first state supreme court in 1907.

The election for adoption of the constitution which he helped write at Guthrie, and his own election to the supreme bench.

Kornegay Quit Politics After 1907 Convention

W. H. Kornegay of Vinita has held his own political job in his life, and that was as a Democratic delegate to the constitutional convention of Oklahoma in 1906 and 1907.

He has practiced law in Vinita since 1924, and is one of the most widely-known men of the Indian Territory.

He was born April 17, 1885, in Duplin county, N. C. Until he was 15 years of age, Mr. Kornegay spent his time in the public schools of Kennansville, N. C., the county seat, and working on his father's small farm. When he was 15, he went to Wakeforest college, from which he was graduated with the master of arts degree. He then took the summer course at the University of Virginia and the regular law course at Vanderbilt university, being graduated in June, 1899, as a full-fledged lawyer. It was the next year that he moved to Vinita, I. T., and opened his law office.

came on his thirty-second birthday, Sept. 17, 1907. He continued his service in the supreme court for seven years, having been reelected at expiration of his first term. He resigned from the bench to make the race for United States senator in 1918, but lost the nomination.

After this, he formed a law partnership in Oklahoma City with J. H. Cottingham, having already become one of the general solicitors for the Santa Fe railroad. Since that time he has continued to live in Oklahoma City, and at the present time is senior member of the firm of Hayes and Richardson. His partner is Judge D. A. Richards, former member of the court of criminal appeals of Oklahoma.

Wait 'Til You Hear This One From Mrs. Huff

The biggest hit of the Tuesday luncheon accorded the distinguished visitors at the civic clubs of Okmulgee was Mrs. I. L. Huff of Sapulpa. Mrs. Huff related her experiences among easterners, stressing the lack of knowledge of Oklahoma life held by people of New York at Washington.

Mrs. Huff had been harassed one day by silly questions concerning the wild west life of this state, when one woman remarked on the large size of the bag Mrs. Huff carried. "Yes," the Oklahoma replied, "we Oklahoma women aliped, "we Oklahoma women aliped. "We put them on the foot of the bed and ride them half an hour at night before we can go to sleep.

Still another: "Do the women in Oklahoma have their hair (hair) bobbed?"

Mrs. Huff: "Yes, those whom the Indians haven't scalped."

At a dinner attended by a member of the French legation in Washington. The Frenchman: "I suppose it embarrasses (embarrasses) the lady from Oklahoma to see you othah (other) ladies smoking cigarets."

Mrs. Huff: Not all all. I've chewed tobacco since I was 12 years old."

BOUGHT TERRITORY EARLY

The first measure providing for organization of a territorial government for what is now eastern Oklahoma was introduced in congress before the end of the Civil War.

MOORE NOTED FOR HIS WORK

Was One Delegate Who Got Everything He Went After

Winning his election to the constitutional convention at Enid, in Garfield county, in a hotbed of Republican politics, Charles L. Moore, now of Oklahoma City, became one of the outstanding figure in the convention. He is a Democrat.

Mr. Moore is pointed out as one delegate who succeeded in having written into the constitution every proposition which he fostered. As chairman of the committee on federal relations, Mr. Moore prepared a report that was accepted by the convention practically without change, although involving the most technical law points to be dealt with in the entire deliberation.

In addition to that work, for which the convention voted unanimously to present him with the pen with which the provision was signed by President Murray, Mr. Moore was a member who aided in preparing the reports of the following standing committees: Judiciary and judicial department; county and township organization, judicial apportionment, revision, style and arrangement and the legal advisory committee of the convention.

Mr. Moore was born in Illinois June 2, 1868. He was admitted to the bar in 1891 and married in Memphis, Mo., in 1898. He went to Enid in 1899. He was twice elected city attorney of Enid; was named president of the Garfield County Bar association; was twice assistant attorney general of the state, and went with W. A. Leebetter and Samuel W. Hayes to Washington where they presented President Roosevelt a copy of the new state constitution for his signature.

GARDNER GETS 2 STATE POSTS

Delegate Never Aspired To Public Office But Has Been Appointed

Nell B. Gardner, now of Sentinel, Okla., never aspired to public office, but since the constitutional convention of 1906-07 in which he represented a portion of the Choctaw Nation he has had two important state posts.

He was born in Independence, Henderson county, Tenn., Oct. 12, 1876. He was graduated from the Georgia Robertson Christian college in 1899. On Christmas Day, 1905, he was married at Snap, Ark., to Miss Ida A. Crutchfield. They moved to Stigler, Choctaw Nation, on Jan. 1, 1905, and there Mr. Gardner engaged in the mercantile business until the next year brought the campaign for constitutional delegates. He was elected from the 91st district, representing a part of the old Choctaw county of San Bose.

In the convention he was chairman of the homestead and exemption committee, a member of the county boundary and judicial committees, and attended every session of the convention.

Gov. C. N. Haskell appointed Mr. Gardner steward of the state hospital for the insane at Fort Supply. After Gov. Haskell's term expired, Mr. Gardner returned to Stigler and engaged in the ginning business until 1915. In that year Gov. R. L. Williams appointed him superintendent of the Oklahoma State Home for the dependent children at Picher and he served in that capacity under Governors Williams and Robertson, retiring in 1923.

He now owns and operates a string of cotton gins in Washita, Kiowa, Custer and Dewey counties. His home is in Sentinel, where Mrs. Gardner teaches in the public schools.

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SENATE ONCE TURNED DOWN GORE, OWEN

FIRST SOLONS WERE BARRED

Appointed By Haskell, Made Legal By Legislature

One of the first official acts of the first chief executive of Oklahoma was a futile one.

The act was the appointment, by Gov. Charles N. Haskell, of Robert J. Owen and Thomas P. Gore, the Democratic nominees, as senators to represent the new state at Washington. When these two men presented themselves in Washington, they were senators, however, they were rejected on the grounds that the governor had no authority to appoint them.

Thus it became one of the first duties of the first Oklahoma legislature to elect two United States senators.

When the legislature convened Dec. 2, 1902, in Guthrie, it turned immediately to this task and had before it the

names of the Democratic nominees, chosen in a Democratic primary election — Mr. Owen and Mr. Gore; and also the names of the Republican nominees chosen in convention—Charles G. Jones of Oklahoma City and Clarence E. Douglas of Muskogee.

The election gave Owen and Gore large majorities, and they finally became full-fledged senators.

INDIANS HAD REBELS, TOO

The picture of tribal life of the Indians seldom shows any of the colorful internal strife that frequently rose to trouble the chieftains especially of the Five tribes. Oshahars Harjo, who claimed legitimate succession to Opotheyohola as chief of the tribe was defeated for that office in the tribal election in 1887. He organized a revolution. Then F. S. Lyon, government agent, came to Oklahoma one day and found the two hostile factions encamped near the old council house here. Harjo had 300 armed followers; Lyon the "regulars" had 700. Lyon arranged a truce and called a peace conference. The government finally sent a commission here to settle the trouble. There was no violence.

BREWER NOTED IN TERRITORY

Cherokee Nation Accorded Delegate Honors And Education

Oliver H. P. Brewer, now county judge at Muskogee, veteran attorney and educator, was one of the most prominent men in the Cherokee Nation during its national life when, as now, it knew many men of brilliance and esteem.

This man, destined later to help guide the destinies of the nation and of the state of Oklahoma, was born in Webbers Falls, in what is now Muskogee county, but Cherokee Nation, and he was sent to the extremely modern Cherokee public schools during his early years. He was graduated also from the famous Cherokee Male seminary, which, with the female college, was known throughout the United States for its standards.

Mr. Brewer attained his de-

gree of bachelor of science at Arkansas university in 1893, and six years later was elected a member of the Cherokee senate. He served there through 1902, when he was elected a member of the Cherokee national board of education, of which he was president for six years.

While serving as president of the Cherokee board of education, Mr. Brewer went to the Sequoyah convention in Muskogee in 1905, and in 1908 he went to the Guthrie constitutional convention, where as chairman of the educational committee he steered the writing of the foundation on which Oklahoma's present splendid school system is based.

He had charge of the state's farm loan department until 1910, when he returned to his home to study law. He was admitted to the bar of the new state in 1913, and then President Woodrow Wilson named him postmaster at Muskogee. In this capacity he served until 1921.

Judge Brewer practiced law in Muskogee until 1925, when he was elected county judge for Muskogee county, which position he still holds, having been re-elected in 1928.

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Local Manager

The Phenomenal Rise of the Griffith Bros. Is Remarkable

Seven years ago, the brothers, R. E., L. C. and H. T. Griffith started in the moving picture industry with one theater in Fairfax, Oklahoma. Today they own and control sixty theaters in Oklahoma and Texas—every one looked upon with civic pride in their respective locality.

The Greater Movie Season Is on

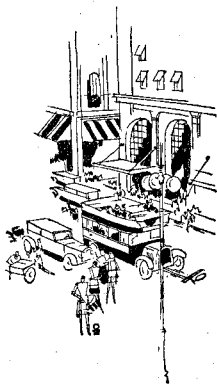
OKMULGEE'S EXCLUSIVE WOMEN'S AND CHILDREN'S SHOP

Bringing Fifth Avenue, New York, to Main Street, Okmulgee

FASHION will play a new role this autumn! More demure, quaint and modest will be her manner. She will make mysterious capital of Nature's precious gifts. She will play prim and proper to the hoiden of summer. She will suggest rather than reveal her charms—and recalling all her subtle arts of coquetry will prove anew that age-old truth, "a woman is most perfect when most womanly."

Among the season's high-points: Low-placed fullness, high-placed waistline. Form-fitting bodice with Directoire influence. Velvet, opaque, transparent or printed. Costume jewelry with marcasite leading. Short front—long back hemlines. And as always, fashions of metropolitan sophistication for women of limited income.

Smart society women on Fifth Avenue are choosing from exactly the same models we shall show to you.



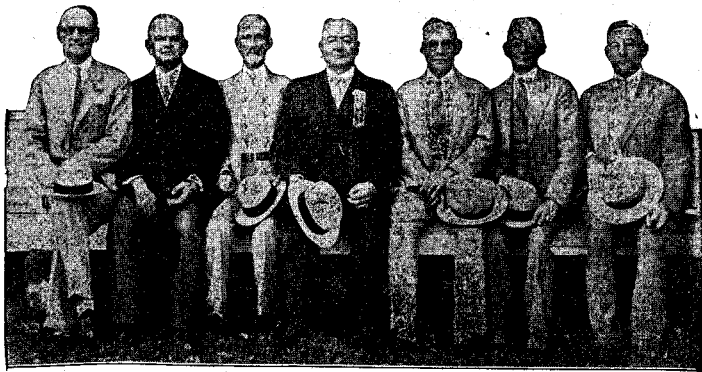
The fashions being shown are replicas of models exhibited at the early season openings of high-class couturiers of New York and Paris.

116 EAST
MAIN

Siegels

OKMULGEE
OKLAHOMA

Here Are All of Okmulgee's Living Ex-Mayors



All the living ex-mayors of Okmulgee participated as a group Tuesday in the constitutional day reunion parade. The above photograph, the only one ever taken of the ex-mayors in a group, shows them seated at their station at the start of the parade. In the photograph, life to right, are Dr. W. O. Mitchener, H. E. P. Stanford, G. W. Mahrey, Mark Moroney, O. K. Peck, Orlando Swain and W. C. McAdoo. The seven are just half of the total number of ex-mayors, death having removed the others.

RECORDS OF CONVENTION AREN'T FILED

Murray Waiting Until They Can be Put in Correct Form

Period After Session Was Too Busy to Have Delegates Correct Errors in Transcription

All of the original records of the Oklahoma constitutional convention now repose in the Oklahoma state historical society offices in Oklahoma City under an arrangement whereby W. H. (Alfalfa Bill) Murray, president of the convention, may retain possession of them irregularly as he so desires, he said here Tuesday.

The records have never been filed with the secretary of state at Oklahoma City, Mr. Murray said, because of the fact that they have never been corrected, and that corrections would be impossible if they were placed on file.

He hopes in the near future to see the state legislature pro-

vide enough money to carry out the work of correcting them, so that they be so filed.

When the constitutional convention completed its work and adjourned, there were busy days for every political leader in Oklahoma. There was not time to send the transcripts of the speeches to the men who delivered the speeches so that errors in reporting could be ironed out. So the entire batch of papers was put in a trunk in the Tishomingo home of Mr. Murray, and reposed there for years until he turned them over to a custodian who had the confidence of himself and the historical society, for safe keeping. This custodian died several years ago in Kansas, and his widow wrote to Mr. Murray telling him she had found the package of papers in her husband's effects. They were returned to him and he placed them in the custody of the historical society under

an arrangement whereby he may take them again to have them corrected and place them on record in the office of the secretary of state at the capitol building.

INDIAN PASTOR WAS DELEGATE

H. L. Cloud Served Also in Office; Politics Is Republican

H. L. Cloud, now living at Francis, was one of the Indian Territory delegates to the constitutional convention at Guthrie in 1906.

He is a full-blood Cherokee minister, born on Fourteen-Mile creek, near Tahlequah, and reared as an orphan boy in the Cherokee orphan home, where he received as good an education as any boy receives today in public schools.

He began teaching school at

an early age, at Stony Point, and at the age of 19 entered the ministry. As a minister of the Methodist Episcopal church he has been pastor of congregations at Pryor Creek, Tahlequah, Lehigh, Poteau, Hennessey and Britton.

He went with the last delegation from Lincoln county seeking an opportunity for statehood, and was elected to the Guthrie constitutional convention from the twenty-third district, embracing Lincoln county.

In 1922 H. L. Cloud was elected representative from Kingfisher county, and in 1924 he was elected to the legislature from Oklahoma county. He moved to Francis in 1926 as a pastor.

He also is associated with the Francis Bridge company and the Konowa Bridge company. He is married and has four children living, one of them, a son, Riley H. Cloud, working for Kilpatrick Bros. in Oklahoma City. His three girls are at home. Rev. Mr. Cloud is and always has been a Republican, interested in political, moral and religious affairs.

BRYAN ADVISED CONSTITUTION FRAMERS

Urged That Campaign Expense Be Paid Out of Public Funds

Commoner Argued That Poor Would Be Nearly Excluded From Office Otherwise

William Jennings Bryan advised the Oklahoma constitutional convention to provide in the state's organic law that campaign expenses should be borne by the community rather than by the individual candidates or their parties.

Mr. Bryan was invited to address the convention, but finding himself unable to do so, he wrote instead a lengthy letter of advice, most of which was followed. Said he of campaign costs:

"The cost of elections should, as far as possible, be thrown upon the community rather than upon the candidates or the parties. If the candidates have to bear the expenses, the poor will be excluded from office holding, not to speak of the temptation which large campaign expenses represent to the officer to reimburse himself at the cost of the public. If the expense of the campaign falls upon the parties, there is a danger that corporations or individuals specially interested in legislation will finance the campaign in return for promises of favors. While corporations should be absolutely prohibited from contributing to campaign funds and while the public should be advised before election of all individual contributions above a small minimum, it would be easier to enforce such a law if candidates and parties were as far as possible relieved from the necessity of making large expenditures.

"The cost of printing the ballot has already been assumed by the public and it is worth considering whether the bringing of a voter to the polls should also be provided for by the public or the expenditure of money by the party for that purpose be prohibited. It is possible that the end might be reached by the publication of the names of the voters, who, without reasonable excuse, absent themselves from the polls on election day."

Henry S. Johnston made the first speech before the constitutional convention, Nov. 20, 1906.

THIS DELEGATE KNOWS HISTORY

He Ought to, Buchanan Has Taught It 35 Years

For 35 years James Shannon Buchanan, now affectionately known to thousands Oklahoma university alumni as "Daddy Duck," has taught history in Oklahoma.

Little did he dream when he came to the Oklahoma Territory in 1884, this stalwart son of Tennessee, that he would be one of the men to help write the constitution of a great state which in a brief 22 years has achieved so much that she shines among the constellation of states in the union.

He was born in Jackson, Tenn., in 1844, and at the age of 30 became professor of history in the Central State Teachers college at Edmond. He remained there but a year, going to Oklahoma university in 1895 as professor of history, which position he holds to this day.

He was dean of the college of arts and sciences from 1903 to 1923; was president of the great university from 1923 to 1925, and now is not only still holding his chief but also is vice president of the Oklahoma university.

The fact that he was one of the delegates to the Guthrie constitutional convention, his keen insight for finer points of history, his knack of seeing and relating the interesting phases of every-day romance, made him especially fitted for his address in Okmulgee Tuesday on history.

FIRST LEGISLATORS LARGELY DEMOCRATS

Democrats gained an overwhelming majority in the first legislature as they did in the election of members of the constitutional convention.

All state officers were members of the Democratic party. Out of a total of 44 senators, 39 were Democrats. Of 109 members of the house of representatives, 92 were Democrats.

SPEAKS HERE



Dr. J. S. Buchanan of the University of Oklahoma and one of the foremost students of Oklahoma history, was one of the principal speakers at the Constitutional convention reunion here Tuesday.

SHARP TONGUE COSTS TRIBUTE

Fruett's Criticism of Convention Changes Name of County

Creek county came near being named Moman county.

The constitutional convention had a number of members who were admirers of Moman Pruett of Oklahoma City, brilliant lawyer. His first name had been that of his mother and the suggestion was that she be so honored.

The plan was put through and the name "Moman" stamped on Creek county, but when it was reported that Mr. Pruett had spoken some harsh criticism of the convention, the plan was altered and the county named after the Creek Indian tribe, it is related in a history of the convention written by A. H. Ellis, its second vice president.

DISTRICT MEN GAVE TO FUND

When Convention Found Its Money Dwindling, They Helped Out

When President Murray of the constitutional convention in 1907 found it necessary to appeal to the people for funds with which to pay the clerical employees of the convention he found many contributors in what is now the Okmulgee District.

Those living in this section at that time are listed in the journal of the convention together with their contributions as follows:

J. A. Harris, Wagoner, \$20; W. B. Hudson, Henryetta, \$20; J. H. N. Cobb, Sapulpa, \$20; J. A. Baker, Wetvoks, \$20; H. E. Cochran, Hartshorne, \$20; F. E. W. Board, Okfuskee, \$20; F. G. Hopkins, Muskogee, \$10; S. P. Overstreet, Prague, \$10; G. G. Baker, Beggs, \$10; R. B. Barker, Beggs, \$10; H. H. Barker, Beggs, \$10; J. T. Cole, Beggs, \$10; W. H. Cole, Beggs, \$10; L. M. Cole, Beggs, \$10; A. H. Culp, Beggs, \$10; R. H. Crawford, Beggs, \$10; Albert Fwart, Beggs, \$5; H. Grayson, Eufaula, \$5; H. George, Beggs, \$2; H. Garwood, Beggs, \$1; C. Henin, Beggs, \$1; J. C. Harris, Beggs, \$1; A. J. Hummel, Beggs, \$1; James B. Kelley, Beggs, \$1; James B. Kepley, Beggs, \$1; C. C. Kenfil, Beggs, \$1; H. A. Kissinger, Beggs, \$1; Ben Morrison, Beggs, \$1; Thomas C. Owen, Muskogee, \$10; O. K. Peck, \$1; T. A. Pendleton, Beggs, \$1; W. M. Pascoe, Beggs, \$1; W. E. Robinson, Beggs, \$2; J. E. Robinson, Beggs, \$1; T. E. Richardson, Beggs, \$1; Dr. M. Ryan, Beggs, \$1; G. W. Stiles, Beggs, \$1; G. A. Stiles, Beggs, \$1; C. Wall, Beggs, 60c.

MURRAY ADJOURNED CONVENTION NOV. 16

The constitutional convention did not pass into history until Oklahoma became a state.

President William H. Murray proclaimed the convention adjourned sine die Nov. 16, 1907. It was at the noon hour and immediately the governor and state officers took oath to and the people to the constitution.

HOW HASKELL, MURRAY ROSE TO POWER

Became Prominent in Battle Waged at Earlier Convention

Suddenly Found Their Names Well Known All Over Territories; Election Victories Followed

How the Sequoyah constitutional convention at Muskogee in 1905 laid the groundwork for the successful effort two years later for Oklahoma and Indian territories to gain statehood, was told here Tuesday by W. H. (Alfalfa Bill) Murray, president of the constitutional convention.

The Sequoyah convention's greatest contribution to statehood, the Ssee of Tishomingo said, was to bring the Indian side of the old territory into the foreground to such an extent that members of congress were convinced that they had self-governing ability. While there was little hope that the convention itself would succeed to the point of obtaining single statehood for Indian territory, it was at once apparent to those attending it that its deliberations would be of first importance.

Used Their Heads

The convention was organized with Pleasant Porter, chief of the Creeks, as its president. The other tribal heads were vice president, with C. M. Haskell the moving spirit. One of the leading speakers, taking the vice presidency for the Creek tribe while its own chieflain served as president, was Mr. Murray, becoming vice-president as the representative of the Choctaw chieflain.

And so in the course of government of a system of the state, the convention came to the task of mapping out the county lines.

It was in this task that the two outstanding leaders of the constitutional convention were made prominent. While there was a committee of considerable size entrusted with the county-mapping task, the real work was taken over by Haskell and Murray, and as their first move, they drew a tentative map, placing the apportionment of virtually no one at all in order to get delegations to come in from the various counties and sections of the territory. As soon as the

tentative map was published, delegations commenced to throng to the city to point out to the committee why the county lines should not remain where they were first placed.

How Scheme Worked
The delegations received a stock answer: "File your request in writing."

When the requests had been filed, the delegates were there called to present their cases in person. Haskell and Murray also took sides in the hearings—Haskell would favor the delegation's stand while Murray would oppose it, and when this proceeding got too monotonous, they would change about and Murray would favor the cases presented by a few delegations while Haskell opposed them.

This the delegations were put on record, and placed under obligation either to Mr. Murray or to Mr. Haskell. Though all these efforts came to naught, the names of Haskell and Murray had become household words in Indian territory political circles and their names had been kept continually before the public.

So it was that after delegates had been elected to the constitutional convention at Guthrie in 1907, the pre-convention campaign started to determine who should be in the saddle when the meeting started. Haskell had asked Murray to keep the names of Haskell and Murray and to identify them politically as soon after the elections as possible.

Elected Overwhelmingly

In scanning the list of delegates, Murray was startled to find that 34 of the delegates would favor either Haskell or himself for president of the convention, and that 20 of them were former union men from his own side of the country who would favor him. That meant, but one thing to Murray. He was to be the president of the constitutional convention. His words at the time, identified the men and mailed it to Haskell. Haskell looked it over and sent for Murray to come to Muskogee post-haste. On arriving, Haskell announced that the election of Murray as president was cut and dried; Charley Looney, a Muskogee newspaperman, was asked to see that his name was properly broadcast in the state press, and Haskell set out for Guthrie to make

the necessary preliminary arrangements.

As the result, when the first vote was counted at Guthrie, Murray had a total vote of 52, a definite majority and only two less than what he had originally counted on. And so he took the chair.

Haskell, needless to say, became a dominant figure and the two divided the lion's share of power in the convention.

On Lincoln's birthday 1907 the constitutional convention stood with heads bowed in honor of the dead president.

CREDIT PURCHASE TURNED OUT HIGH

The state constitutional convention began its deliberations at Guthrie with \$25,000 provided for its expenses. This amount was soon exhausted and in the purchase of supplies, officers of the meeting were forced to pay much higher prices because of the risk that the bills might never be paid. The printing of the constitution could have been obtained for 15 cents a copy if the convention had been in funds. On credit, the job cost 27 cents.

Once More, Bill Murray Calls Historic Convention to Meet

President of 1907 Session Summons His Comrades To Reunion in Okmulgee in Unique Message

Constitutional Convention Call To all delegates who were elected and participated in the constitutional convention at Guthrie and which wrote the Oklahoma state constitution: Whereas, the delegates selected by the people of the original 13 colonies completed the work of constructing the greatest charter of human rights, the Constitution of the United States, and adjourned on the seventeenth day of September, 1787, and

Whereas, on the seventeenth day of September, 1907, the people of the Territory of Oklahoma and the Indian Territory by their ballots approved and adopted the constitution framed by their chosen delegates in convention assembled at Guthrie, Okla., and

Whereas, the citizens of Okmulgee, Okla., the capital of the state, the national government and the meeting place of the first constitutional convention ever convened to draft a constitution for a state-wide government in what is now Oklahoma (said constitution having been drafted in the year 1870, but never adopted), have decreed Tuesday, the seventeenth day of September, 1929, as a day upon which to celebrate and commemorate the 142nd anniversary of the national constitution and the twenty-second anniversary of the adoption of our state constitution, and have designated the delegates selected by the people and who drafted our state constitution an invitation to meet in reunion in said city

on said date to participate in said celebration.

Now, therefore, beaving in mind that the proposed celebration is for high and laudable purposes and that the participation of delegates to the constitutional convention therein is meet and proper and that a reunion of the delegates now living is desirable and that much good may result therefrom, I do hereby, wholly without authority but trusting that my summons will be unanimously obeyed, call upon the delegates who served in the Guthrie constitutional convention to assemble and convene at the city of Okmulgee, Okla., on the seventeenth day of September, 1929, at the hour of 9 o'clock A. M. of said day, then and there to renew the lasting and tender bonds of confidence and friendship created by our long service together; to again dedicate our lives to the service of our state and nation; to pay fitting tribute to our fellow delegates who have departed this life; to share the hospitality of these splendid citizens of Okmulgee, and add them in all possible ways to inculcate a deeper love for and loyalty to the constitution of our nation and our state; and such other business as the delegates there assembled may deem fit and proper.

Done at Tishomingo, Okla., this sixth day of September, 1929.
(Signed)
WILLIAM H. MURRAY,
President of the Convention.
Attest: W. B. Hudson,
Acting Secretary.

MANY HONORED IN NAMES OF COUNTIES

Selection of Many Arouses Controversy in Convention

Former Presidents, Indian Tribes, Rivers, Members of Meeting Are Paid Tribute

Many persons were honored when the constitutional convention selected names for counties of the new state.

In some cases, controversy arose over the selection of a name and in many cases the delegates compromised with some other appellation. The origin of the various names is given in a history of the convention written by A. H. Ellis, its second vice president, as follows:

Adair, in honor of a prominent Cherokee family by that name.

Altalfa, so named because of the large acreage of alfalfa grown in its territory.

Atoka, after the town of Atoka, county seat.

Beaver, after Beaver creek which flows through it.

Beckham, after Ex-Gov. Beckham of Kentucky.

Blaine, after James G. Blaine, Byran, after William Jennings Bryan.

Caddo, after the Caddo Indians.

Canadian, after the Canadian river flowing through it.

Carter, after W. B. Carter of the Chickasaw Indian tribe.

Cherokee, after the Cherokee tribe of Indians.

Choctaw, after the Choctaw Indian tribe.

Cimarron, after the Cimarron river running through it.

Cleveland, after Grover Cleveland, former president of the United States.

Coal, from the coal that underlies a large part of the county.

Comanche, after the Comanche Indians.

Craig, after Frank Craig, banker at McAlester.

Creek, after the Creek Indian tribe.

Custer, after Gen. Custer, who was killed in a battle with the Sioux Indians on the Little Big Horn river.

Delaware, after the Delaware Indian tribe.

Dewey, after Admiral Dewey of the United States navy.

Ellis, after Albert H. Ellis, second vice president of the convention.

Garfield, after former president James A. Garfield.

Garvin, after Samuel J. Garvin of the Chickasaw Indian tribe.

Grady, after Henry W. Grady, noted Southern orator.

Grant, after former President Grant.

Green, after a former state official of Texas.

Harper, after Oscar G. Harper, minute clerk in the convention.

Haskell, after Delegate Charles N. Haskell, first governor of Oklahoma.

Hughes, after W. C. Hughes, a delegate in the convention.

Jackson, after "Stonewall" Jackson, Confederate general.

Jefferson, after Thomas Jefferson.

Johnson, after D. H. Johnson, governor of the Chickasaw nation.

Kingfisher, after Kingfisher creek running through it.

Key, formerly named "K" by congress. The people of the county simply added two more letters.

Kiowa, after the Kiowa Indians.

Lattimer, after John S. Lattimer, a convention delegate.

Leflore, after Capt. Charles Leflore of the Choctaw tribe.

Lincoln, after President Lincoln.

Logan, after Gen. John A. Logan of Illinois.

Love, after Robert H. Love, a leader of the Chickasaw nation.

McCain, after Charles M. McCain, a convention delegate.

McCurain, after Green McCurtain, governor of the Choctaw nation.

McIntosh, after a noted Creek Indian family.

Major, after John C. Major, a delegate in the convention.

Marshall, after John Marshall, chief justice of the supreme court.

Maves, after Samuel H. Maves, noted Cherokee Indian.

Murray, after William H. Murray, president of the constitutional convention.

Muskogee, after the city of Muskogee, county seat.

Noble, after John W. Noble, secretary of the interior in Cleveland's cabinet.

Nowata, after the city of Nowata, county seat.

Okfuskee, an Indian name, the origin of which is uncertain.

Oklahoma, after Oklahoma City, state capital.

Okmulgee, after city of Okmulgee, county seat.

Osage, after the Osage Indian tribe.

Ottawa, after the Ottawa Indian tribe.

Pawnee, after the Pawnee Indian tribe.

Payne, after Capt. David L. Payne.

Pittsburg, after Pittsburgh, Penn., then spelled without the "h."

Pontotoc, after Pontotoc, an Indian chief.

Pottawatomie, after the Pottawatomie Indians.

Pushmataha, after Pushmataha, a noted Choctaw chief.

Rogers, after Clem Rogers, delegate in the convention.

Seminole, after the Seminole Indian tribe.

Sequoyah, after Sequoyah, a Cherokee Indian who invented the Cherokee alphabet.

Stephens, after Congressman Stephens of Texas.

Texas, so named because a majority of its inhabitants were from Texas.

Tillman, after Ben R. Tillman, senator from South Carolina.

Tulsa, after the city of Tulsa, county seat.

Wagoner, after the city of Wagoner, county seat.

Washington, after President Washington.

Washita, after the Washita river, which crosses it.

Woods, after Sam Woods, a lawyer of Kansas, who was murdered in a county seat war in Stevens county, Kan.

Woodward, after the city of Woodward, county seat.

REUNION COVERED WELL IN PAPERS

No event in recent months with all the important conventions and other meetings that have been held at Okmulgee has drawn the attention of the press of the state as did the reunion of the constitutional convention Tuesday.

Tulsa, Oklahoma City and Muskogee newspapers had one or more representatives here to write special articles on the celebration, while the Associated Press and other wire associations had reporters on the scene to serve other newspapers in the state and elsewhere.

The morning after the convention, the exchange desk of the Okmulgee Daily Times and Democrat was a mass of stories concerning the celebration.

THIS DELEGATE FRIEND OF MANY

Boone Williams Widely Known Even Before Convention

One of the Democratic delegates to the Guthrie constitutional convention who has made his mark in the state since that convention, and who prior to 1907 was a man of wide acquaintance and some import in the Choctaw Nation, is Boone Williams, formerly of the Choctaw Nation and now a resident of Tulsa.

Mr. Williams could not attend the reunion here Tuesday because he is now in a hospital at the point of death.

He was born Oct. 9, 1872, in Rienzi, Miss., and arrived in the Indian Territory, at Lehigh, in 1893. Five years later, in 1898, he organized the Bank of Lehigh and a short time later organized the Citizens Bank & Trust Co. of Okmulgee.

He was president of the Segregated Coal Lands organization of the Choctaw Nation, and was president of the first and largest association of that nation. During all this time he was ardent advocate of single statehood, and thought the Indian Territory ought to be a state unto itself.

He was active in organization of the first mining company of the Miami zinc field, and organized one of the first oil companies of the Indian Territory. He was one of the Democratic party's caucus in its first call for a party organization and has occupied every position the Democratic state central committee has to offer.

Boone Williams was elected constitutional convention delegate from ninety-seventh district, and was active at Guthrie.

After statehood, Mr. Williams was a member of the first state capital commission, and later warden of the state reformatory at Granite.

He is a member of several Masonic bodies, and of the Knights of Pythias. For a number of years he was secretary of the McAlester Chamber of Commerce and when he went to a hospital recently, he was engaged in the investment business in Tulsa.

STATE INVASION BEGAN 40 YEARS AGO

First Colony of Whites Entered Black Hills Region; Promptly Ejected

The white man's invasion of the Oklahoma country is a colorful story where hardship, bloodshed and romance play the leading roles. It dates, really, from 1879, just 40 years ago, when J. C. Sears, an attorney for the M. K. & T. railroad, which was laying a line through the virgin country to tap untold fortunes in the Southwest, announced there were 14,000,000 acres of land here subject to homestead entry.

History records this announcement as the original "discovery" of the unassigned lands in the new empire and the announcement attracted more than passing interest.

Colony Booted Out

Charles C. Carpenter, a man who had "pushed" the Black Hills region three years before and who was therefore skilled in pioneering on a new frontier, organized a colony to settle in the new country and crossed the border with his people on May 7, 1879. Gen. Wesley Merritt in command of troops here, promptly kicked the colony out.

David L. Payne was the next leader of the boomers. Again and again he and his followers were warned out of the new territory by presidential proclamation, but they always returned, to be quickly ejected by the troops. It was over Payne's

frequent ejection that great agitation arose over opening the new land to settlement. Payne died in Kansas in 1884, and his chief lieutenant, William L. Couch, led another expedition into what is now Payne county, in the following year. He was forced out, and tried again later in the year with no success. Oklahoma was being carefully guarded against settlement by the United States army.

Invasion Strip

From 1885 to 1899, the boomers cast their eyes toward "No Man's Land," the unclaimed strip of western lands which had been ceded by Texas to the United States, and left unattached to any state or territory. A swarm of settlers came across into this vast plain wilderness, and when, in 1886, two coal mines were opened in the west-end part of what is now Cimarron county, the town of Mineral City was laid out. In 1887, No Man's Land was the home of some 6000 souls.

It was here, then, that the first government by the white man was set up in the land that is now Oklahoma.

There being no law in No Man's Land, cattle and horse thieves made their ingress along with the more respectable settlers and soon they had increased to such numbers, and

their depredations were so great that the settlers organized vigilante committees to deal summarily with persons caught stealing livestock or committing other depredations. These committees applied stern measures; it meant a man's life to be caught pilfering cattle. A wave of terror spread over the desperadoes when the vigilantes started work and orderliness increased.

Settled Disputes

Too frequent and heated disputes were arising from day to day over land claims. As there was no government to allot the land, or record the settlements, there were no land titles. So the settlers organized a board to pass on the varying claims and settle the continually-arising disputes over claims and boundaries. A set of rules was adopted to guide the board and it met in the town of Beaver, then the metropolis of No Man's Land.

The vigilante system and the claim board constituted at best, a makeshift government, and the people of the country were beginning to demand the formation of a regular territorial government for the area. So in 1886, the claim board called an election to choose delegates to a convention which should take up the matter of territory government and act as it saw best.

The convention gathered at Beaver March 4, 1887, and organized the Territory of Cimarron, divided the No Man's Land into five counties, constituted itself as a legislative body and set to work with vigor to pass a raft of laws. It named O. G. Chase as delegate to congress.

Meantime, a rival faction was holding a similar convention at Rothwell, went on record favoring attachment of the territory to Kansas for judicial purposes, outlined a territory government, and named John Dale as the delegate to congress.

Congress Acts

Chase presented himself in Washington at the next session as the delegate and seemed almost to be recognized as such when the rival delegate, Dale, came on the scene. With the dispute, the matter was referred to a committee, and this early-day territorial government was pigeon-holed by congress.

The towns of Rothwell and Beaver entered a bitter rivalry for the capital of the Cimarron country, and several persons were slain in the row. It was this bitter fight, principally, that brought the matter of territory government in Oklahoma so forcibly before congress that congress had to act soon afterwards.

HOTTEST DEBATE WAS OVER BOUNDARIES

Many Members Fought Bitterly To Prevent Dividing Counties

People of Big Counties Wanted to Have Their Territory Split; Days Of Argument

Terrific struggles were expected to take place on the floor of a constitutional convention. None of them approached the ferocity of the debate on the part of the committee on county boundaries.

Division of new counties was one of the paramount questions before the convention. Members argued for places on the floor. It finally was made that 21 members from the territory and four from the state task faced the

committee. People of the large squares in the West that passed for counties were insistent that their divisions be broken up. They were opposed by business men, lawyers and others of the county seats, but the sentiment generally was in favor of forming new counties.

Faced Big Task

Beaver county had an area of 9,050 square miles. It was 26 miles one way and 170 miles the other. It could have held the state of Connecticut with ease. Woodward, Woods, Comanche and Freer also were proportioned like miniature nations.

After long sessions, the committee finally reported to the convention Dec. 18. The oratory flood broke loose in the afternoon of Dec. 19. Through-

out the afternoon and far into the night the parliamentarians sparred, fumed and orated. The next morning, the convention resolved itself into a committee of the whole and everything that did not pertain to counties and their boundaries was swept aside.

Far Into Night

That night the fight continued unabated. Vote after vote was taken and amendments were offered by both sides. Many of the delegates were pledged to oppose tampering with county lines and they carried out their consultants' wishes ably. Through it all, the original committee stood like a Grecian phalanx, resisting all onslaughts, voting as a unit for acceptance of their report. In the early hours of the morning of Dec. 21, the committee of the whole, by a narrow margin, voted adoption of the report of the county boundaries committee with minor amendments.

The next morning the convention voted upon the report

of the committee of the whole, adopting the report of the committee on county boundaries. The vote this time was 90 for and 12 against with 10 absent, the enemies of the report acceding to the wishes of the majority.

MEMBERS INSPIRED BY TWO STATESMEN

The likenesses of Thomas Jefferson and William Jennings Bryan looked down from the walls of the city hall at Guthrie on the constitutional convention.

That fact was due to the thoughtfulness of Charles N. Haskell. It was such a weighty matter that the committee as a whole solemnly passed judgment upon it, approving it unanimously.

In his resolution, Mr. Haskell termed Jefferson, "the father of government," and Bryan, "the savior of honest principles."

Judge Hayes Urges Bar To Aid Two Amendments

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3)

compleish swift administration of the law by the courts of this state is a defective system. If our present system results in great delay in the decisions of our civil cases and of our criminal cases, it does not meet adequately the demands of a government such as ours is.

"What I shall say may be taken by some as a criticism of or in opposition to or in negation of the praise that has been so abundantly bestowed on the constitutional convention, but not so. While the constitution of the United States has been pronounced as the most perfect document ever devised for the administration of government, it soon required amendment and at the present time has almost a score of amendments. The election of the president of the United States occurs today without amendment by a method entirely outside the intention of the framers of the constitution of the United States. So I mean no reflection upon our constitution or upon those who framed it when I suggest to you that its present form and condition is deficient.

Docket Cluttered

In addition to the swiftness with which justice should be administered, the system, as far as practicable, should provide a machinery that will enable justice to be administered impartially and without partisan influence or political influence.

"With this brief statement of fundamental principles that I believe should govern in the framing of a revision of our appellate judicial system, I shall address myself for a moment to the situation in our appellate court system and primarily I shall address myself to that of the supreme court of the state.

"At the time of the formation of our constitution and the admission of the state into the union, we had on the docket of the appellate court of Indian Territory 350 cases and approximately the same number on the docket of the territorial supreme court, making approximately 700 cases that came to the Oklahoma supreme court at the time of statehood. As one of the members of our supreme court, I felt that within a reasonable length of time we would be able to catch up with the docket and be able to take care of current cases with only that reasonable time expiring for our lawyers to perfect your appeals. However, it soon became evident

to us that we could not do this and the suggestion was made that a criminal court of appeals was essential—not for the reason alone that there were too many cases for the supreme court to handle but for other reasons also. It was then thought this would relieve the situation, but although we worked, trying to Sundays and nights, to get the docket and catch up with the docket of this state in that condition which I have described as essential to the proper administration of justice, we were unable to do it. It was then thought that if we could secure temporary relief and once catch up with the docket that we could keep abreast with the current cases. As a result, upon the recommendation of the bar association, the supreme court commission was appointed. That first commission consisted of six members—two divisions of three members each. It is true that we all knew that under the constitution, a commission could not be created that would have power to decide cases and render judgment. Its functions could be only ministerial. This necessarily impaired the efficiency of the commission. No one considered it a permanent remedy. We were not looking for permanent relief. We thought temporary relief would be sufficient.

Famed Men Named

Although the members of the commission would be without any judicial power and have a standing scarcely higher than that of a law clerk, we felt that they would accomplish a great service for the state, and an earnest appeal was made to the patriotic and the self-sacrificing disposition of men of great ability, with the result that a membership of the first commission there were such men as Judge C. B. Ames of Oklahoma City, Judge J. F. Sharp of Purcell, and Judge Malcolm Ross—men of outstanding and exceptional ability as lawyers. They knew that their services upon that commission could not be of a permanent character and of any official dignity, but they rendered a great service by helping decide the great volume of cases and remedying the situation then existing.

"But the volume of litigation, as everything else about this state, exceeded our expectation. We had not anticipated the growth of our state. The constitutional convention believed that in due time the Indian litigation would pass and then the volume would diminish.

"Do you realize, you members

of the constitutional convention, that at the time we assembled in Guthrie there was only one automobile in Guthrie, not over two or three in Oklahoma City, not a half dozen miles of paved road in the state? Since that time has come the industrial revolution. The combustible engine and the automobile and oil have not only revolutionized industry, but have almost revolutionized government. Our commerce has been revolutionized by the factor of oil. Our wars have been revolutionized. Today oil is more important in warfare than gunpowder and Oklahoma has become the most important unit in producing this great factor in our section of the world. The influences that have grown out from it, the litigation that has resulted, has been tremendous, and as we sit here tonight if we expect it to diminish we are entertaining a vain hope. It will increase.

System Defective

"But day by day, week by week, those in charge of administering the appellate court of this state and the legislature have hoped and expected that litigation would diminish. We have continued from time to time this commission system and it has become a permanent system. But it is very defective. It operates injuriously to this state and to any state which

makes it a permanent tribunal, because it is a tribunal without power—a tribunal without direct responsibility—a tribunal that because of this situation does not have and cannot command the respect that any court administering justice should command. It is a system we have grafted upon the trunk of our judicial system and it has become a kind of parasite.

"The result has been a deterioration in our standards of ability of the men who seek judicial positions in this state. We have had some able members, but I do not believe I have to say with apology and I believe I will not be considered disrespectful when I say that the condition in this state has a tendency to lessen the standard of ability of the members of our appellate court system. You cannot expect a laborer to move a mountain with a wheelbarrow. He must have a powerful engine. You cannot expect our appellate court to have a deficient system and perform respect for the court and impair the administration of justice. It is high time and it should become the duty of the bar of this state to recognize this situation and make it one of its aims to secure a remedy for it. You can get this result if the bar goes

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 24)

It WAS A Privilege

For Okmulgee to be the host to the distinguished members of Oklahoma's Constitutional Convention in their first reunion. It is our sincere hope that we may be again so honored by that history-making body.

W. C. Newman

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Judge Hayes Urges Bar To Aid Two Amendments

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 22)

about it—and if we don't get it the bar is responsible.

"I have had some little experience in attempting to get legislation through a committee. Four legislative sessions are short. The members of the legislature are largely unacquainted with the various departments of the state government. They have so little time that before they can become expert it is time to go home. Necessarily the men who are charged with the responsibility of modifying our judicial system, have to be enlightened upon the subject, informed on the subject, and their attention brought to its important aspects. You can't do it by passing resolutions. You can't do it by suggesting the need of it. You can only do it by a committee who will go to the legislature and put in ample time to impress upon the members the serious importance of it and the practicability of some certain plan.

Worked for Increase

"I remember when we made an effort to increase the salaries of judges. They were getting around \$4,000 a year and because of the high cost of living it was insufficient to pay their actual living expenses in Oklahoma City or any large city of this state. The bar passed a resolution attempting to secure an increase. They appointed a committee and honored me with the responsibility of serving on that committee. If it had merely presented the bar resolution, the legislation would never have been passed. That committee pursued day by day, week by week, the passage of that bill and it went through without difficulty, almost unanimously. Other necessary revision, in my judgment, can be accomplished in the same way.

"I cannot take the time to discuss in great detail the conditions that obtain, but I want to make some suggestions as to how we may remedy them.

"In order to decide and dispose of cases, it is necessary that the working efficiency of our supreme court be increased. This can be done in two ways. One is by increasing the number of members. But under our present system, every member of the court must participate in every case. A majority is necessary to decide. Therefore, if there were 15 members, in deciding a case all 15 must spend their time upon that case and

pass upon it by a vote of the majority.

"If the nine members were divided into three divisions and the unanimous decision of the members of a division accepted as the judgment of the court, then you would save three times the efficiency you have at present.

Must Be Practicable

There are different ways of solving the problem and of course we lawyers are naturally prone to think of different ways and each of us has a way we think best. But the remedy must be practicable.

It is difficult to secure it by constitutional amendment. The public mind is opposed to constitutional amendments. I have several ideas that would appeal to me more and that I would rather have adopted than the one I think can be adopted. Popular government is necessarily based upon public opinion and the reluctance of the public mind to change the constitution is because it cannot understand what you are going to do.

"Any change we make to get the desired result must be as simple as possible, so the public will understand it and accept it. I therefore suggest for your consideration and hope that you will reach a like conclusion that the simplest way is to enable the court to divide into divisions.

"Our legislature can increase the membership of the court. There does not have to be a constitutional amendment to any that. It can be increased to any number the legislature deems advisable. Have three divisions of the supreme court, working concurrently, disposing of business concurrently. The legislature can increase the number of members to 13 or 12 or whatever number they deem necessary. Then where there is a case conflict of opinion as to a case to be decided, the case can be decided by the entire court on decided by the entire court on decided. This can be accomplished very simply and the people can be made to understand.

Court in Politics

"All of our courts agree that we should remove our courts from politics. We tell our judges they must stay out of politics, but they can't get into office any other way except through politics. For this we are responsible; the courts are not responsible. We do not realize what a tremendous amount of time it takes to get into office. Some member of the supreme court runs every two years. Nine

(CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE)

THE PREACHING OF JOHN—John preached, saying, There cometh one mightier than I after me, the object of whose shoes I am not worthy to stoop down and unlace. I indeed have baptized you with water; but he shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost—Mark 1:7, 8.

"Jesus Thy Name I love,
All other names above."

Give Us Loyalty!

Missouri is a grand old state, a state to be proud of. So is Arkansas, so is Ohio, and Kansas and Texas and all the rest of the 47 from which the cosmopolitan population of Oklahoma is derived.

But so is Oklahoma. That fact, however, is something yet to be thoroughly learned by thousands of good Oklahomans.

You can ask any number of Oklahomans, "What is your state?" Ten to one the reply will refer to one of the other 47.

Loyalty to Oklahoma and pride in this vigorous young commonwealth that has risen from the lowliest among the states to first rank is deserved. Yet while the eyes of the nation are on Oklahoma and thousands of young men long to come here to this land of plenty, other thousands in Oklahoma are looking elsewhere, longing to go "back home."

It takes something like a constitutional convention reunion, bringing together the ranks of the grayed pioneers who did their honest best in making Oklahoma a good state, to vividly illustrate to Oklahomans that this new land is something of which they can be proud and which has a right to demand their loyalty.

Oklahomans need to be taught the heroic background of their state. They need examples like the stirring meetings of veterans to bring forcibly to their attention something inspiring concerning the state in which they live.

For years, state patriotism in the youth of the commonwealth was wholly neglected. The writer has spent all his public school days in Oklahoma and never was given a glance inside an Oklahoma history until he entered a class in American government at an out-state university. And there the head of the department saw fit to devote special periods to the study of the constitution of Oklahoma, a distinction that was not even accorded the constitution of the school's own state!

Too much time has been given toward deriding the government of Oklahoma. It has produced a seed of contempt for the fine men and laws that guide our ship of state. Under the nourishment of wide publicity that has been given the state's unhappy succession of governmental scandals, the seed has grown into a mature weed. It is ugly. It is revolting. It is up to the state itself to lay it low.

Let Oklahomans be taught a pride in their state that will cause their chests to swell and bring the shout, "I'm an Oklahoman!"

Let them be reminded that no state can present a history more glow in heroism or is more deserving of their respect, admiration—their love.

Change in Court System Needed, Says Judge Hayes

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 24)

months or a year before election time they have to begin to get ready for the primary. They have to visit around over the state calling upon first this one and then that one. Half the time the court is disturbed by members of the supreme court getting ready for reelection. We are responsible, for we have saddled this system upon our courts.

"My suggestion is this: I believe that at the present time our judicial districts are too small; that to elect our appellate court justices from small districts possibly is defective and injurious. A man with an automobile and paved roads can now become acquainted over the entire state as easily as he could in one district at the time of election. Let me call your attention to the situation in regard to the legislature of your state. The salaries of the members of the house and the senate are about the same. But little difference in honor. But it is easier for the stronger party to be elected in a wider range of territory than against the fellow of lesser ability in the small district, and you frequently get stronger men from the larger districts.

"Let the election of judges be from the state at large or fix large districts. Then provide that they shall be nominated and elected from such districts or the state at large as the legislature may provide.

Can't Be Appointed

"At first you will demur to that suggestion but in my judgment it will be feasible. If you move the court out of politics by the constitutional amendment, the people will fear it, it will be too difficult. If you require the endorsement of the bar, as in some states, you will have people going around saying the bar is running it, the corporation lawyers, and the people will be afraid of it.

"I do not believe at this time that this state will accept a system of appointing our judges. I am question very much if in our system the public mind will accept the public will appointment. The public will always demand elections.

A system of intermediate appellate courts has been suggested, but to my mind this system would result in even greater delay in the final disposition of your cases. I am inclined to favor one appeal and the case is disposed of, but fix it so it can be disposed of promptly by adequate judges. Remove the

political factor as nearly as you can in the selection of judges.

"You can't get the best lawyers to go upon the court and if you could they would not make the best judges. But if you can get a man of mediocre ability, get a man of conditions that have a tendency to bias him, a man of a reasonable amount of experience, you can make a good judge. You have seen some judges start out, and you some judges very mediocre, thought they were very good, but after a number of years, after the bench with keener minds, contacted with a desire to establish a reputation for prestige, they become some of our best judges.

Litigation Won't Lessen

"The volume of litigation will not diminish. Industry is going forward by leaps and bounds. We will not have passed through the oil industry before we have a manufacturing industry. Let me call your attention to the South, which is only recently receiving a great influx of manufacturing from New England. The only reason we don't have it in Oklahoma is that our people are so absorbed in this great oil industry that we haven't the time to spare for the labor and capital to spare for the development of the manufacturing industry. To meet that situation, to prepare for that situation, that we have an adequate appellate court system that can efficiently administer justice. This is our duty, our burden, our responsibility. The time is ripe. We can accomplish it. We should not for one moment try to shirk or avoid it.

Bryant's Death Recalls Travel In Early Days

Incidents in the life of B. E. Bryant, convention delegate who died July 11, 1916, are illustrations of the difficulty in traveling from one section of the country to another in the early days.

Mr. Bryant, born in LaRue county, Ky., March 24, 1864, decided in the fall of 1877 to move to Texas. He did, but it required 49 days of arduous travel.

He lived in Grayson county, Texas, until 1892, when he made the run into the Cheyenne and Arapahoe country.

AIDED REUNION



Just two days before the reunion, death took W. E. Kendall, Okmulgee merchant, and one of the most tireless committee workers. He was head of the committee on finance for the celebration.

COUNTY OWES MUCH TO CARR

Boundaries Committee-man Created Tillman At Convention

John Carr, twice mayor of Enid, where he now lives, was born and received his education in Gallatin, Sumner county, Tenn.

He removed with his family to Kansas in 1893, and at the opening of the Cherokee Strip made the run, procuring a good claim near Blackwell. Later he went to Frederick, in what was Comanche county, and engaged in the hardware business. This was in 1902.

He was elected to the constitutional convention from the 54th district, and was on six committees, including the county boundaries group. As a member of this latter committee he created and named Tillman county, and made Frederick its county seat. He was twice mayor of Frederick in Enid, and removed to Enid in 1915.



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HAUSAM ONCE WAS OFFICER

**Delegate Saw Stirring
Times; Died From
Infection**

A. L. Hausam of Coweta, Democratic constitutional convention delegate in those trying days of pre-statehood for Oklahoma, died on Dec. 29, 1924, in a Tulsa hospital following an illness caused by an infected tooth.

Mr. Hausam was widely known, having served as a peace officer with Bill Tighman and others of the territorial days. He was a county commissioner for Wagoner county twice.

He was born Oct. 19, 1856, in Wilkes Barre, Pa., and when 11 years old removed with his father to Missouri, where he spent his boyhood and received his education. In 1899 he made the run into what is now old Oklahoma, and settled on a claim near Guthrie. In 1901 he was married to Miss Dora Phenis and five children were born. Before statehood he moved from Guthrie to Coweta, buying a fine farm, and for almost a quarter century he lived there.

HE BATTLED FOR DRY LAW

**William S. Dearing, Min-
ister, Aided in Fight
For Constitution**

William S. Dearing, teacher and minister of the gospel, Democratic party worker, served a term in the fourth legislature after statehood, but that, in addition to being a constitutional convention delegate, was enough politics for him.

Mr. Dearing was born a few days after the close of the Civil War, on Oct. 8, 1865, to be exact, at Harrison, Ark. He was educated in his native state, and there prepared for teaching. He taught various schools for 13 years.

It was in 1887 that he came to the Indian Territory, settling near Tahlequah, and in 1888 he was married to Miss Sarah Lamb of that city. He continued to live near Tahlequah until the opening of the Chayenne and Arapahoe country, when he came to what is now

Custer county, settled on a fine farm and started teaching again.

In 1898 Mr. Dearing entered business at Independence, afterward moving to Thomas when two railroads came through there. He continued in business until his retirement in 1923. He since has continued his home in Thomas, however, and has devoted his time to preaching.

For 35 years Mr. Dearing has been a minister of the Methodist Episcopal church. South, and he was prevented from attending the reunion in Okmulgee Sept. 17 because he was conducting a revival. He made a great success in business, and is now the owner of many thousands of dollars worth of the valuable wheat lands around Thomas.

In 1905, in what was a strongly Republican district, Mr. Dearing was elected the Democratic constitutional delegate from the 44th district over Judge Gilbreath, the Republican.

STATE KNOWS JIM HARRIS

**One of Republican Dele-
gates Gains Fame
Nationally**

James A. Harris isn't widely known at all, but Jim Harris, or Big Jim Harris of Wagoner, for 25 years a member of the Republican Central committee of Oklahoma, is known to almost every man and woman in the state.

Jim Harris was born July 25, 1870, on a farm about six miles west of Henry, in Marshall county, Ill. He moved with his family to Atoka, Indian Territory, in July 1883, at the age of 13, and lived at Atoka for 19 years. He received most of his education in the public schools of Marshall county, Ill., and at Atoka. When he got to Wagoner, I. T., he had attained the age of 22, arriving there in March, and at the age of 23, that same summer, he was already in Republican politics.

In 1908 Jim Harris was easily elected a member of the Oklahoma constitutional convention, and was one of the "13 spectators" at the Guthrie assembly when the constitution was written.

Harris was chairman of the state Republican central committee for eight years and was the Oklahoma member of the national Republican central committee for eight years also. He was one of the delegates at large to the 1908 Republican national committee.

Langley's Little Girl Toddled About Floor During Convention

J. Howard Langley, attorney of Pryor who was elected one of the constitutional convention delegates, has a real sense of humor. In furnishing the Times-Democrat with some details of his life for this special edition, at request of the editors, Mr. Langley said:

"I was born near Southwest City, Mo., July 8, 1867. Went with my parents to Indian Territory (an eight-mile move) in 1882, and aided parents two years in improving a 200-acre farm in what is now the northern part of Delaware county, Oklahoma. Returned to Missouri, worked on a farm, attended and taught school, attending Southwest City high school, Drury college at Springfield and Scarritt college at Neosho.

"I went to Adair, I. T., (now Mayes county) in 1891, and clerked in a general store. I was married in 1894, took a correspondence law course and was admitted to the bar at Vinita in 1897 under the reign of Judge John R. Thomas. Opened a law shop in Pryor in

1898, and I have, as the full-blood Indian would say, 'practiced at the law' ever since, and am still at it when I get a chance. My constitutional-delegateship is the only office-holding I ever did or tried to do, or ever tried to get to do.

"My picture of the constitutional convention is mental; 111 fine, earnest, honest men—plus myself—seriously engaged in serious business. I wondered then, and many times since, just how much they were intensified in their wholesome efforts by the presence of my six-year-old girl toddling over the convention floor, as she did every day. She was the convention's child.

Seats in the constitutional convention were assigned by lot—that is the Democratic seats. The Republicans were awarded a block of seats and told to settle seating among themselves.

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ALFALFA BILL HID CONSTITUTION AWAY

Conspiracy to Defeat It Charged in Public Letter

Vitriolic Message Penned By President to Explain Why He Kept Copy With Him

In the torrid documents from the pen of "Alfalfa Bill" Murray as president of the constitutional convention, there is a vitriolic fervor that makes the pages live today, long after they have passed into history.

Mr. Murray found his facility pen, which had served him well as a newspaper editor, working well the day he picked up to address the people of the territories regarding what he termed a conspiracy to defeat much "of the work of the convention."

The address was delivered in Guthrie May 9, 1907, after a blunder had come from all sections of the state-to-be demanding that he file a copy of the constitution with the secretary of the territory. It had been engrossed, but had not been printed. He had been withholding it for some time. There, however, were copies of it available.

And here is what Mr. Murray wrote:

TO THE CITIZENS OF THE PROPOSED STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

"You have read the numerous criticisms by the Republican and corporate press of the state and the carpetbag Republicans as to the effect that the constitution is hidden away in my possession; that none can see a copy; that since the convention adjourning to the 5th of August, it intends to reconvene and change the constitution, with the further criticism that the constitution copy is deposited with Mr. Filson, secretary of the territory of Oklahoma. These statements are made for the purpose of deception. Scientists tell us that the cuttlefish, when pursued by its enemies, emits a dark fluid, the ink, until one is unable to tell of its whereabouts. The resolutions adopted at Oklahoma City are but expressions of political ink fish trying to muddy the water and deceive the public as to what they are. One cannot tell whether they are for the constitution or against it, or whether they want statehood or not from their declarations and actions because they have muddied the water so that their own

party, the rank and file of whom desire statehood, cannot tell where they stand.

"No Authority"

"Relative to the question upon which they seek to deceive the public as to who should be the custodian of the constitution, I desire to call the public's attention to this fact: Frank Frantz, as governor of Oklahoma, has no authority to call this election. His sole authority is derived from the election ordinance adopted by the constitutional convention. As governor of Oklahoma territory, Secretary Filson is his custodian of records, but as officer of the proposed state of Oklahoma, authorized and created by the convention, Secretary John N. Young and myself are the custodians at this time. Mr. Filson has no more authority or right to the constitution than has a private citizen. If this be not true of what use has Gov. Frantz for the election ordinance? He demands the original engrossed copy, and refuses to accept certified copy, and yet enforces laws enacted by congress without such engrossed copies. But a short while ago, Judge Burford, recognized the first election ordinance (now repealed) passed by the convention as a legitimate act and it was never filed with Filson or Frantz. If Gov. Frantz is sincere in his statements that he will abide by the actions of the courts, why should he not accept the ordinance as they were accepted by Judge Burford and as they have been recognized by every court issuing injunctions against the convention? Certified copies from the proper custodian of laws or other records are the basis of evidence in courts. Their contention is that a part of the conspiracy to defeat the right of the people to vote on the constitution.

"Not an Officer"

"The same Republican press is aware that the ordinance should remain in the hands of the convention or subject to its control until the same shall have been voted on at the polls on a date fixed by the convention. To make it subject to the convention's order it must remain in the hands of the custodian or officers of the convention. As stated before, Mr. Filson is not an officer of the proposed state of Oklahoma, but of the territory only.

"It is my purpose to turn

over to Mr. Frantz, not as governor, but as supreme election officer, a certified copy of the ordinances to enable him to know his powers, duties and responsibilities and to submit and deliver to him one of the original, engrossed, copies of the constitution, but both he and Filson refused it.

"The public will remember that they failed in an effort to enjoin the convention from dividing counties, both in the supreme and district courts, but at last secured one out of the probate court of Woods county, and no doubt when they fall in justice of the peace of some remote precinct, and Frantz will obey his orders because he desires to be tied up.

"Charges Carpetbagging."

"Gov. Frantz states that in all events he will obey all orders of the courts, which means that he will never issue a proclamation for an election, because suits will be continually filed until election day. In this situation, what is my duty? Should I, on behalf of the sovereign people of the commonwealth, exercise authority vested in me, by their duly accredited delegates in convention and as officers of the state, to file these suits have the secret support of the carpetbaggers and corporation representatives, doubtless giving them their financial aid, but seek to deny any responsibility therefor.

"On the day I called upon Gov. Frantz in an effort to prevail upon him to call an election, Dave Mulvane, national Republican committeeman from Kansas, was in conference with him and other Republican leaders and Guthrie, which means that the conspiracy was not confined within the borders of Oklahoma.

"Section 4 of the enabling act contains this language: 'It shall be the duties of the president of the United States, within 20 days of the receipt of the certificate of the result of said election and the statement of votes cast thereon, and a COPY of said constitution, articles, propositions, and ordinances, to issue a proclamation announcing the result of said election; and thereupon the proposed state of Oklahoma shall be deemed admitted by congress into the union.'

"Not Good Enough."

"While only a COPY of the constitution is necessary for the president to ADMIT the new state into the union, Gov. Frantz will not even call the election unless he has in his

possession the ORIGINAL constitution.

"What is sufficient for the president is not good enough for Gov. Frantz.

"Each and all of the seven original engrossed copies of the constitution as signed by the officers and members of the convention, have the attestation of Charles H. Filson, as secretary of the territory of Oklahoma, under the great seal of said territory, and then Mr. Filson and Gov. Frantz claim they know nothing of such documents except from Murray. It is possible that Secretary Filson indiscriminately signs his name and "dabs" the territorial seal on every sheet of paper he sees, and if so he is a proper custodian for such records.

"We deeply appreciate the action of Judge Dickerson and Sulzberger because, although Republicans and federal office holders, and they would lose their positions by statehood, are for a fair opportunity be given the people to vote on this constitution.

"Howls, Misrepresentations"

"The constitution will be printed in a short while, complete in form, containing the resolution adopting the constitution of the United States; the ordinance accepting the terms and conditions of the enabling act; the constitution containing the county boundary provision, and the schedule signed by the officers and delegates with the certificate of myself and the secretary that the same is a true and correct and literal copy of the constitution as engrossed on parchment and the same followed by the question of prohibition separately submitted to a vote of the people, together with the ordinance providing for the ratification or rejection of the constitution.

"Because the constitutional convention saw the difficulties that confronted us, and realizing that a conspiracy had been formed by the carpetbag office holders and Republican politicians to prevent an election, and because they forestalled those conspiracy and outwitted those composing it, is because of the howls and misrepresentations by the mass meeting at Oklahoma City.

"We adjourned the convention until the 5th day of August, unless sooner convened by an order of the convention, in order to give the convention legal authority to reconvene in the event it might be made necessary by reason of injunction suits. It was not done with a view to meeting unless made

(CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE)

Boys Who Served as Pages



Here are seven of the nine pages who, after their appointment by President Murray, served members of the Oklahoma constitutional convention at Guthrie in 1906 and 1907. Two more pages, one of them solely for the 13 Republican members, were later named. The seven shown here could not all be identified by members of the convention in reunion here Tuesday.

Those identified include: Owen Watts of Muskogee, on left in rear row. In the front row William E. L. Durant of Durant is the left one; Guy Brinsidine of Guthrie is the right front one. The front row center, page is Edwin Galt of Ardmore, now a multi-millionaire because of his oil holdings.

Murray Kept Engrossed Copy Of State Document With Him

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 28)

necessary and should we have made the mistake to have adjourned finally and turned the constitution and ordinance over to Filson, containing the clause that the election should be held upon the 6th day of August, then statehood would have been but a dream, without legal authority in the convention or elsewhere that election. The cardate of that election. The cardate of those knew this and are simply angry because we outwitted them. It is well known that Secretary Filson is opposed to the constitution and will use every power to defeat it, and I believe, to defeat an election thereon. He is entitled to the constitution under the terms of the enabling act when the election shall have been held, only then.

Cowardly?

"Dennis Flynn says that we were cowardly because we did not turn the constitution over to the secretary, in other words to Dennis wanted us to put our fingers on a block and give him a hatchet with instructions to

strike and because we refused he says we are cowardly.

"The statement that these delegates intend that these constitution is absurd. Its friends who made it are the last class of citizens who would change its provisions, and the howls of misrepresentations of the Republican press and politicians are but the outgrowth of their knowledge that we knew of their conspiracy and forestalled their actions.

"The constitution as engrossed on parchment will at all times be found in my office as custodian for the convention and for Mr. Frantz, for the inspection of members of all parties, and who can secure copies.

"The people of this state are entitled to a fair opportunity to express themselves upon this constitution and say by their vote whether they want to adopt or defeat it. At a great sacrifice and expense the officers and delegates to the convention have and will continue in an effort to carry the constitution to the people, giving them this fair opportunity, and when they have had this opportunity, thus to express them-

selves, we will be satisfied. We simply say to the public, be patient and trust to our efforts. We have not deceived you in the past and will not in the future, and we further ask that you assist us in defeating the combined efforts of the corporations, carpetbaggers and selfish politicians to defeat an effort to hold an election and permit a vote upon it. If you ratify it by your votes, thereby showing to the president, that you desire it, he, brave American citizen that he is, will rise above the selfish partisan clamor of politicians and issue the proclamation, giving you the boon and blessing of statehood and local self government.

Vote Delayed

"The class who formed this conspiracy well know this and if they believed for a moment their own statements that Roosevelt would turn down the constitution, the quicker a vote could be had on it, the better they would be satisfied. That there is a conspiracy I have not a particle of doubt, and that some Oklahoma judges formed a part of that conspiracy I also have not a particle of doubt. Just which of them the public can know by their decisions which they will be called upon to make in the suits now filed and which will be

LONG HAS HELD STATE OFFICES

Ben F. Harrison Now Is Oklahoma Budget Officer

Ben F. Harrison, present state budget officer for Oklahoma, was a gentleman farmer of Calvin until he was elected a constitutional convention delegate in 1906, and since then he has been in state office almost without interruption.

He was born in the Choctaw Nation, in 1875. His father was a member of the Choctaw Nation and his mother a citizen of the Chickasaw Nation, so that Ben Harrison can justly say he is an original Oklahoman.

Young Harrison attended the once-famous Wapanucka institute, near the site of the present town of that name, and later was graduated from Trinity college, now Duke university, in North Carolina. This was in 1897.

Mr. Harrison, a college graduate with a love for the soil, lived on his farm near Calvin until he was elected as a Democratic member of the constitutional convention in 1906.

Since then, in addition to having been elected to and serving in five sessions of the Oklahoma state legislature, he was secretary of state from 1911 to 1915, and has been state budget officer since 1923.

filed before the election is finally held.

"The efforts of the people to free themselves from the selfish designing gang of carpetbaggers is not new to many of the citizens of Oklahoma. Well do we remember when Richard Coke, of Texas, made that wonderful canvass against E. J. Davis, and after the people had given him an overwhelming majority, how he had to summon the citizenship of the state with their squirrel rifles and dislodge the gang of Davis officers who held possession of the statehouse, and that may be necessary before the honest citizens of Oklahoma, and I include in that the rank and file of all political parties, will be able to come into possession of their own and secure what is theirs by inherent right of citizenship, by their vote as intended by the act of congress and the proclamation of the president admitting the state.

CONVENTION STORY IN HISTORIES DRAB

Brief Summary of That Pupils Of Grades Get About Big Event

High School Texts Cover It More Fully, but Lore Surrounding Historical Gathering Lacking

Oklmulgee county school pupils, attending the historic constitutional convention reunion here last week, got a touch of color for their Oklahoma history that the textbooks do not give. Indeed, as the work of one of the most important gatherings in this state's history, it is written in the textbooks, the luster so truly a part of it is entirely missing. Virtually no details at all are recorded about the meeting, the authors being content to pass it by with the dates of the session and the ultimate accomplishment.

The pupil, entering Okmulgee his first instruction in Oklahoma history from "Elementary History of Oklahoma," by Hatcher and Montgomery. While the book touches at some length, the struggle that the territories, both Indian and Oklahoma, went through to attain statehood, it gives but passing mention to the constitutional convention. Of it, the volume says: "Only Slightly 'Covered'"

"The constitutional convention met at Guthrie, Nov. 30, 1906. William H. Murray of Tishomingo was elected president of the convention. With the exception of Christmas holidays the convention was in continuous session until the last of April, 1907. It adjourned subject to call of President Murray. It was reconvened in July, modified some parts of the proposed constitution and adopted an ordinance providing for an election to be held on Sept. 17, 1907."

That is all the instruction the pupils get on the constitutional convention then, until he enters high school, and takes in hand the textbook now in use, "A History of Oklahoma," by Buchanan and Dale.

Here the information he collects then concerning this important event:

"The work of laying out the districts from which delegates were to be chosen was finished during the summer of 1906, and an election for delegates to the constitutional convention was called by Gov. Evans for Nov. 3. Naturally there were many candidates. They came from al-

most every walk of life and made their campaigns on various issues. Some favored prohibition for the entire state; others opposed it; some took up the question of railroads, corporations, education, or local problems, while some made campaigns upon strict party lines as Democrats or Republicans.

Republicans Lose Out

"The result of the election was astounding. It was generally agreed that Indian territory, settled largely by southerners, would be Democratic, but Oklahoma was somewhat doubtful. The delegates to congress had always been Republican, except for two years when Democrats and Populists had fused to elect Mr. J. Y. Callahan. But when the votes were counted in the election for the constitutional convention, it was found that the Republicans had elected only 12, the Democrats 93. One Democrat had been elected as an independent. With such a vast majority the Democratic party clearly had to assume full responsibility for the provisions of the constitution to be made, while the little band of Republicans, who came to be called "The Twelve Apostles," could do but little.

"The convention met at Guthrie on Nov. 30. It was composed of a varied group of men representing many professions and various lines of work. There was, of course, a large number of lawyers, but there were also many farmers, stockmen, and business men, together with editors, ministers and teachers. In the body were a number of mixed Indians and intermarried citizens who had long political experience in the tribal affairs of their peoples. Prominent among these was William H. Murray of Tishomingo, an intermarried citizen of the Chickasaw tribe, who for years had been private secretary to the governor of the Chickasaw nation and knew intimately the affairs of the Chickasaw people. Another prominent Indian member was Gabe Parker, who with the assistance of Dr. A. Grant Evans, later president of the state university, designed the Great Seal of Oklahoma.

Sets to Work

"The convention first set to work to form a permanent organization by choosing officers. William H. Murray was chosen president, Peter Hanratty, vice-

president, John M. Young of Lawton, secretary, William A. Durant, sergeant at arms, and the Rev. Frank Naylor of Pawnee, chaplain. Committees were appointed and the convention set to work in earnest at the task of making a state constitution.

"The convention was for the most part composed of young men. Mr. Murray, the president was only 35 years of age, and Charles N. Haskell, who became one of the chief leaders, was only 25.

"It was a group of earnest, industrious, progressive men, natives of many parts of the United States, who were eager to make for this new state a constitution that would contain the best features of the constitutions of all states of the union. "It soon became evident that the convention was to be largely dominated by that group of Indian territory statesmen who had made the "Constitution of Sequoyah" the preceding year. Some of these were Indians or intermarried citizens, but all Five Civilized Tribes. Here many notes. The first of tribal government; they had learned valuable lessons in political organization and statecraft in the hard school of Indian politics.

Prohibition an Issue

"The task before the body was a weighty one. Not only was a constitution to be framed but Indian territory was to be divided and county seats named. It was also thought best to adjust county lines in Oklahoma, since several counties there were far too large for the convenience of the inhabitants. Great labor had to be expended on the task of laying out the divisions, in fixing county seat towns. Seventy-five counties were formed in the new state. It seems that the work was well done for there have been but few changes in the county boundaries since Oklahoma entered statehood.

"We cannot feel with the work of the constitutional convention in detail. It is enough to say that it was in session until March 15, 1907, when it adjourned for a time; it was again in session from April 16 to April 17, 1907, and again from July 10, 1907, to July 24, 1907. Gov. Frantz issued a proclamation fixing Sept. 17 as the date for an election to vote upon the ratification of a constitution, and also to vote for state and county officers who were nominated by primary elections.

"The question of prohibition caused much discussion. Under the terms of the enabling act the Indian territory portion of the new state had to have pro-

CHEROKEE PACT ONE OF FIRST

Constitutions Written by Other Tribes at Later Dates

One of the earliest constitutions written in what is now Oklahoma was the constitution of the United Cherokees, drawn up in 1839 after the Cherokees of the eastern part of the state and those of the western area had decided to come together for the formation of the Cherokee nation.

The Western Oklahoma Cherokees had met at Tahlequese four years previously to draw up their own set of laws, and so far as is now known by historians, the Tahlequese constitution was the first ever written in the state.

The Choctaws made two constitutions, but the dates are not definite.

Other Indian constitutions and dates were: Chickasaw, 1867; Creeks, 1867; and Seminoles, 1867. The Okmulgee constitution then was written to embrace all of the civilized tribes in 1870.

The Sequoyah constitution, written to embrace the state of Sequoyah, what is now the Eastern half of Oklahoma, was held at Muskogee in 1906. The state of Sequoyah was not recognized by the United States congress.

In 1906-07, the Oklahoma constitutional convention was held at Guthrie.

hibition for 21 years; many people wished to extend this to include the entire state. However, the convention was afraid to put this into the constitution for fear it might cause the whole document to fail of ratification. It was therefore decided to submit this matter to the people at this election as a separate proposition, and allow them to vote as to whether or not the provision providing for statewide prohibition should be placed in the constitution."

By the passage of a resolution the constitutional convention, shortly after its opening, voted to prohibit smoking.

The constitutional convention voted that all its printed matter bear the union label.

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THE new fall mode, as presented by Knights, is capturing the fancy of Okmulgee women. And little wonder. For this season, as always, we have collected a most striking display of genuinely smart, individual feminine attire.

We are more than certain that you will like the new fashions,

and we cordially invite you to see them without the slightest obligation to buy. With its flaring lines, the introduction of unusual colors, its subtle new silhouettes, the fall mode is swayed by charm. Our collection definitely reflects the high points of the recent Paris openings.

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"Smart Shop for Women"

SOME OF THOSE WHOSE TIRELESS WORK



A. L. BECKETT



E. P. (TEX) JONES



E. W. COWDEN



SEN. T. T. BLAKELY



PERRY ADKINS

Behind the success of every enterprise there are men; good, stalwart citizens who work tirelessly to put across the objective which is set by civic planners.

It was certainly the case with the state-wide gathering here Tuesday, Sept. 17, for the first reunion of the delegates to the Sequoyah constitutional convention of 1905 and the Guthrie constitutional convention of 1907, on the twenty-second anniversary of the adoption of the Oklahoma constitution, and the 14th anniversary of completion of the United States constitution.

There was Judge A. L. Beckett, student of Oklahoma history, personal friend of a ma-

ajority of the delegates to those early-day conventions, and on-looker at both the Sequoyah and Guthrie assemblies. He was so prominent as an onlooker at both of them that President William H. Murray of the Guthrie convention, writing a short time ago about the historic gathering, incorrectly mentioned Judge Beckett as one of the chief delegates to the constitutional convention.

Although he attempted to avoid the honor and glory, he was thrust into the limelight of the reunion as general chairman, by vote of the citizens' committee, which included civic workers, city officials, newspapermen and school chiefs.

Mayor Dan C. Kenan, who acted as temporary chairman of the citizens' committee until it was named, was the man who officially welcomed the constitutional convention delegates to the city which was that day the scene of the greatest parade ever held here and host on one of the most momentous occasions of recent state history.

As chairman of the committee on invitations, E. P. (Tex) Jones, oil man, spent much time and money, sparing no efforts to make his share of the work a success. He sent out engraved invitations to more than 800 dignitaries of the state and nation, urging them to come here. Mr. Jones' work was of necessity done early in the preparation of the great day, and was skillfully done, as was attested

by the response of those invited.

Elmer C. Croom, newspaperman and secretary of the constitutional convention reunion, was "loaned" to the citizens' committee by the Okmulgee Times and Democrat. He spent every hour for two weeks preparing publicity for the occasion, and broadcasting facts about the gigantic celebration so that everyone in the state and this section of the United States would know about the Constitution Day reunion.

To Harold S. Foster, manager of the Okmulgee Chamber of Commerce, goes much credit for success of the celebration. The facilities of his office and his own great amount of talent became tools in the hands of the citizens who worked for achievement of the goal, that of bringing the delegates here and with them many notables for a day of real enjoyment, to be remembered in the state's annals.

Perry Adkins came into the picture rather late in the two weeks which the citizens' committee had to prepare for the great constitutional convention reunion, but he came with a snap and vim when Sen. T. T. Blakely of the arrangements committee called on him to act as marshal for the grand procession. He worked out formations for that, and it was largely due to him that the 3-mile parade got off without mishap.

State Senator T. T. Blakely, probably because of his glibness, and partially because he boasted about the giant success of a

parade he staged here in 1915, was named chairman of the arrangements committee for the reunion. How well he did his job, with able assistance of the men he named on his committee, was judged by the success of the reunion. He was here, there, everywhere: broadcasting news of the reunion over station KVOO, procuring floats and novelties for the parade, and setting the stage behind Alexander Johnston's program.

And to Alexander Johnston, himself a pioneer citizen of this section, although a young man, goes more credit than he generally has been handed. Working behind the scenes most of the time, never obtrusive, Mr. Johnston, with his vast store of knowledge and experience gained as an attorney and in the oil business, worked out a program which proved a great hit.

Never at any time did Mr. Johnston's committee run into stumps in carrying out its program; so thoroughly had the chairman worked out the details and mapped the day's schedule.

The one man who probably traveled more miles, did more talking and procured the largest number of separate hits for the big parade, as well as doing everything humanly possible to aid the other committees, was E. W. Cowden, who established his station laundry in Okmulgee long before the Sequoyah convention, and who long ago established a reputation as a "working fool" for civic betterment.

Mr. Cowden heard of the orig-

MADE GLORIOUS SUCCESS OF REUNION



DAN C. KENAN



J. R. HOLMES



HAROLD POSTTR



ROBERT L. BAUGH JR.

final railroad conductor running into this city; he found him, and got him a railroad train for the parade. The train had no motive power, and he found and supplied that. There was a dearth of conveyances, and he knocked that obstacle into a cocked hat.

Joe R. Holmes had the biggest section in the parade which passed through the city streets to open the reunion celebration. He is superintendent of Okmulgee city schools, and he had about 2,500 school children in that parade, including students from Muskogee, Bristow, Henryetta, a majority of the country's rural schools, and elsewhere.

Mr. Holmes was "in on" the task from the first. He traveled to other cities seeking aid of schools and citizens, and he spent much time on the project,

primarily because it was of such historical interest to the students of Oklahoma.

In the background, saying little but working hard, and more especially after the untimely death of V. E. Kendall, the finance committee chairman, was the treasurer of the reunion committee, Robert L. (Bob) Baugh Jr., secretary of the Retail Merchants association, held that post.

As usual, it was the treasurer's task to carefully oversee expenditures and see that corners were cut where possible. The money was wisely and judiciously handled, the committee members agreed, by Treasurer Baugh.

There were, of course, many others who aided to the utmost. Members of the Business and Professional Women's club, volunteering to work, were given

the task of enrolling the delegates and registering the distinguished visitors who arrived that day to mark another milestone in the history of Okmulgee.

Miss Edna Risor, superior court reporter; Miss Fayette Warner, district court reporter; Mrs. Nell Wetmore Bracken, secretary for Hiatt & Hannigan, were the three members of the B. & P. W. club who did more than their share of the work by taking notes on the proceedings and later transcribing them so that the speeches and proceedings might be given to students.

On the various committees headed by the men mentioned in this brief tribute were many good citizens who worked as hard as the chairmen, but space forbids mentioning all of them, of course. They did not expect it; they did their parts because of their love for the city.



ELMER C. CROOM

FARMERS OUTNUMBERED OTHER MEMBERS

Farmers far outnumbered members of any other occupation among the delegates to the constitutional convention. Lawyers were second.

Contrary to the present day when lawyers, editors and oil men probably would make up the majority of a body of similar nature the editor-members of the convention numbered only three, while of the oil men there were only two. There were 28 lawyers and 42 farmers. Mem-

bers of other occupations were divided as follows: Merchants, 8, ministers, 8, real estate agents, 4, physicians, 2, teachers, 7, bankers, 7 and ratners, 1.

The figures are given by Albert H. Ellis, second vice-president of the constitutional convention, in his history of the convention.

"Physically they were all in the prime of life and it is a remarkable fact that there were

no deaths of delegates from the time of their first meeting, Nov. 20, 1906, up to the time of the admission of the state into the union. The delegates were from almost every state, only one was of foreign birth." Mr. Ellis wrote.

Democrats of the 57th district presented President Murray with a gavel upon the opening of the constitutional convention.

HOW STATE GOT ITS NAME

History records that the name "Oklahoma" was suggested to the house committee on Indian Affairs in the Forty-first congress by Col. Elias C. Boudinot, of the Cherokee nation, out of deference to the clause in the Choctaw-Chickasaw treaty of 1866 which specified that the proposed inter-tribal commonwealth, should be called "The Territory of Oklahoma."

Primary Code Was Drafted By Delegates

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

understand just what constitutional convention was held at Guthrie in 1906 and 1907, and why.

The constitutional convention was authorized and directed by congress of the United States.

Had 11 Constitutions

Prior to that time, Oklahoma, or what is now Oklahoma, had had just 11 different constitutions, some of them providing for a single government over what is Oklahoma now, others providing for "single statehood," or statehood for Indian Territory alone, or Oklahoma Territory alone.

These various proposed constitutions were from time to time presented to the congress, as was the famous Sequoyah constitution written in Muskogee in 1905, which called for a single state to be made of the territory owned by the nations composing the Five Civilized Tribes. This constitution was submitted to congress, but was rejected, principally through filibustering.

Pass Enabling Act

Congress finally determined to permit statehood for Indian Territory and Oklahoma Territory together. A proclaimed "enabling act" was passed by the congress, setting forth just how the territories could acquire statehood.

The enabling act provided for districting Oklahoma and Indian territories into constitutional convention districts and provided for popular election of 112 delegates to represent districts in writing a constitution to govern the proposed state.

It was under authority of this enabling act that the elections were held, some of the elections, notably that at Weleetka, requiring as much as seven days and nights of wrangling before the delegate was selected to represent the district in framing a constitution.

Election Called

There was no other way for statehood; every constitution previously presented to the congress had been rejected or tabled, and it was only in such a convention that one could be written to be approved first by the people of the territories in an election, and then by the president of the United States. The president was designated legislative authority, by congress, to approve the constitution if it pleased him.

The constitution was written during 1906, and the early

months of 1907, and then, as provided in the enabling act, Gov. Frank Frantz of Oklahoma Territory was to call an election to see if the people would adopt it. He declined to do this, both he and his secretary of state, Filson, declaring they would call no election until they were in possession of the original, signed and engrossed copy of the constitution written on parchment.

Carries

William H. (Alfalfa Bill) Murray, president of the convention, refused to surrender the parchment copy, pointing out that a certified copy was good enough for President Roosevelt, under the enabling act, and should be good enough for Gov. Frantz. Still Frantz refused to call the election, and Murray refused to adjourn the constitutional convention.

Mr. Murray by virtue of his office as president of the convention, called upon people of the territories to go to the polls Aug. 8, 1907, and vote on the constitution. Gov. Frantz then "saw the handwriting on the wall," and called the election for Sept. 17, 1907, when it was held. The constitution carried by a huge majority.

It was not until the morning of Nov. 16 that President Roosevelt, using a pen made with a golden point and a staff made of an Oklahoma eagle's feather, signed the acceptance of the Oklahoma constitution and statehood was here, several weeks after the state and county officers, also elected Sept. 17, had taken office and were functioning, although had President Roosevelt refused to accept the constitution, their actions would not have been legal.

Hudson Tireless As Committeeman

W. B. Hudson of Henryetta was one of the most active Republican members of the constitutional convention.

The Okmulgee county man was a tireless worker on no less than seven committees. They were the deficiency appropriation, immigration, municipal corporations, crimes and punishment, mines and mining, oil and gas, banks and banking and county and township, organizations committees.

He has been prominently engaged in business in the county for years. During the reunion he spoke in favor of giving the reunion to Okmulgee next year and was appointed to the committee which will decide the time and place of the next meeting.



Smiling? Why not? Like many men, he has learned that his last year's suit can be made like new again . . . the Phoenix way. Get on to this better cleaning method. Get to know Phoenix service. You'll marvel at its thoroughness. Phoenix customers are smiling, satisfied customers. Call 16 now. We will call in a jiffy.

**PHOENIX
TAILORS**

3 PHONES—10

HOT FIGHT IN DELEGATES' ELECTIONS

Charges Flew Thick and Fast In Campaigns for 112 Seats

Platform Drawn Up for Use of Democrats in Fight; Surprise at Big Democrat Majority

Charges that the territories had been gerrymandered by the Republicans were hurled freely during the campaign for election of delegates to the 1907 constitutional convention.

Oklahoma and Indian Territories were divided into 35 districts each by the governor, chief justice of the Oklahoma territory, secretary of state, two judges of the United States courts for the Indian Territory and the superintendent of the Five Civilized Tribes. Each district was permitted to elect a representative, with the exception of the Osage nation, which was allowed two under the terms of the enabling act.

Campaign Bitter

In dividing the state, the Democrats charged the Republicans had arranged the districts to the disadvantage of the Democrats party, which was supposed to be in the minority.

Republicans freely spread the talk that President Roosevelt would refuse to issue the proclamation of statehood if the Democrats wrote a constitution unfavorable to him. It was urged that to insure the birth of the new commonwealth, the Republicans, working in harmony with the national administration, be given a majority in the constitutional convention.

Democrats Win

The election was held Nov. 6, 1904. Returns showed 93 Democrats had been elected, 12 Republicans and one independent. The Democratic candidates, to a large extent, were guided by a platform which was drawn up in Oklahoma City by the Democratic territorial committee. The following suggestions, as outlined in the history of the convention written by A. H. Ellis, second vice president of the body, were the outcome:

1. We endorse and sanction the principles of democracy as declared by Jefferson, sustained by Jackson and interpreted by their greatest living exponent, William J. Bryan.

2. We favor laws providing for special schools, separate teachers and separate waiting rooms for the negro race.

3. We favor the establishment

of a public printing plant, in which all state printing shall be done, including the textbooks to be used in our public schools, which said textbooks shall be manufactured and sold by the state to the school children at actual cost, or upon a referendum vote by the district, said books may be purchased by the district and distributed to the children free of charge, thereby delivering our people from the iniquitous grasp of the book trust.

To Regulate Corporations

4. We are in favor of a corporation and state railway commission elected by the people of the state at large, with full power to require all corporations transacting business within the state to make full, complete and regular reports upon all their business transactions and to keep their books and papers open for inspection by the proper officers of the state, and a failure to do so, or to answer official process, shall work a cancellation of the license of a foreign corporation and forfeit the charter of a domestic corporation; that these corporations, in the transaction of their business with the people, shall be subject to such reasonable rules and regulations as may be fixed by said commission. All foreign corporations dealing with citizens of the state should be considered as doing business with the state.

5. We are not the enemies of railroads, but their friends in all transactions. We are proud of their efficiency as a method of transportation, and rejoice in their mechanical and scientific development, and we pledge ourselves to defend their rights and redress their wrongs. Yet we shall not shut our eyes to facts, nor consent to railroad rule in state or nation. We pledge ourselves to oppose by strict laws and severe punishment rebates and discrimination of all kinds and the corrupting power and influence of railroad passes in conventions, legislatures, courts and other public offices. We believe that the giving of a railroad pass to public officers should stand before the law in the same attitude as the giving of any other bribe, to the end that government of the state may remain in the people.

Favor Direct Election

6. We endorse the plan of legislation known as the initiative and referendum, and agree with

Hon. William J. Bryan when he says, "the principle of the initiative and referendum is democratic. It will not be opposed by any Democrat who indorses the declaration of Jefferson that the people are capable of self-government." We pledge our members of the constitutional convention for the insertion of such a provision in the constitution, to the end that the rule of the lobbyist may pass. In this connection, we are in favor of a mandatory primary system for the nomination of all public officials and an amendment to the constitution of the United States providing for the nomination and election of United States Senators by direct vote of the people.

7. We favor a constitutional provision excepting agreements and arrangements between farmers of the state, in relation to their products, while in the hands of the original producers, from all legislation on the subject of trusts and combinations in restraint of trade, or agreements to fix prices.

To Protect Employes

8. We favor a just and reasonable fellow servant law, which shall fully protect all employes in whatsoever capacity engaged.

9. We favor the establishment of a legal bureau of the state for the publication of the statutes and court reports and for the purpose of advising the legislative branch of the government on matters of legal concern, to the end that members of the legislature may be supplied with a competent advisor, paid by the state and responsible only to the people of the state.

10. We favor a constitutional provision making a maximum of eight hours a legal work day on all public work.

11. We favor the establishment of a bureau of labor and agriculture whose duty shall be to gather and publish information of interest to these two great departments.

12. We favor the employment of convict labor on the public highways, to the end that the good roads movement may be fostered and assisted.

Hits Injunction

13. We favor liberal homestead and other exemption laws and the relief from general taxation of personal property to the heads of the families to the value of \$250, and we favor the taxing of all other taxable property at its actual cash value.

14. We are opposed to government by injunction whereby the rights of the people are restricted and transferred arbi-

trarily into the hands of un-fitted judges.

15. A private monopoly is indefensible and we favor stringent laws and regulations which will add us as a people to protect ourselves from the rapacity of the trust which mercilessly absorbs our earnings and productions and unscrupulously resorts to bribery and coercion to thwart us in our efforts for relief.

16. We favor the establishment and maintenance of a system of inspection, at state expense, of all mines, factories and railroads, where the lives and health of employes is hazarded, and we insist that the position of such inspectors be filled by men schooled by practical experience in their respective craft.

17. We favor the establishment of a state board of arbitration to adjust disputes between employers and employes, also a law preventing child labor in mill and mine, and we are opposed to the relaxation of the Chinese immigration law and condemn the present administration for winking at its violation; also we favor the establishment of a state board of charities which will have supervision and right of inspection over all state eleemosynary institutions maintained by the state.

18. We favor constitutional provision for the election of all state officers, including judges of the supreme court and all members of the railroad or other corporation commission by all voters of the state and condemn as un-American, unprecedented and unconscionable the scheme of the Republican party to elect state officers by districts or a portion of the voters.

19. We are opposed by the cool lands falling into the hands of private monopolies and favor a system by which the coal lands may be acquired by the state for the benefit of the public school fund and the general public who are consumers of the coal, to the end that the Indians may receive just and fair compensation for their property and the public protected from extortion and injustice.

20. We favor the removal of all restrictions upon Indian allotments except the homestead and a just and reasonable limitation upon the amount of said lands to be purchased by an individual to the end that these lands may become the homes of the actual farmer and settler. We are opposed to these lands falling into the hands of corporations, speculators and grafters.

We favor municipal ownership and control of all public utilities.

HEADED CORPS OF ATTORNEYS

W. A. Ledbetter Impor- tant Figure in Work of Convention

The work of W. A. Ledbetter, dean of the law corps of the constitutional convention, in settling points of law for the delegates, received high praise. Members of the convention recall the fight for a two-cent railroad fare provision to be incorporated in the constitution. The clause was reported out by the committee on railroads and public service corporations. Immediately nearly every lawyer in the convention joined a debate declaring the move unconstitutional, conflicting with federal acts.

While the debate was waxing warm, Mr. Ledbetter sat quietly, hurriedly scratching with his pen and when the smoke of battle had died down with the 2-cent fare widely and out of breath in the corner, he arose and read a substitute provision, which was adopted by the convention and which was regarded as worth thousands of dollars to the people of the state.

Mr. Ledbetter was long an advocate of single statehood and had many friends on the east side of the state, traveling widely from his home at Ardmore.

First Governor Of Oklahoma Was Northern Yankee

There really isn't much to be told of Eastern Oklahomans about Charles N. Haskell, popularly known as Charley Haskell or Gov. Haskell.

The citizens of Oklahoma know much about the first governor of the 46th state. They probably do not know that he was born in the little village of Leipsic, Ohio (now West Leipsic), on March 13, 1860, but many of them know all about him since he came to Muskogee April 18, 1901, and plunged into the work of building the state.

He built the old Cherokee Central railroad, now the Okmulgee-Fayetteville branch of the Frisco; he built the Missouri, Oklahoma & Gulf, now the Kansas, Oklahoma & Gulf railroad; he built the Midland Valley; he built the Interurban line from Muskogee, to old Fort Gibson, which was designated

by the Seouogh convention as capital city of the proposed state of Seouyah.

Mr. Haskell was a corporation lawyer, a railroad builder, a Yankee from the North, he was everything. In fact, except what most people thought he would have to be to become governor of Oklahoma. Yet he made himself so popular in the constitutional convention, to which he was elected from Muskogee in 1906, that he had little trouble beating Lee Cruise and the anti-constitutionists for governor.

Since then Mr. Haskell has been chiefly in the oil business. He spent much time in New York; was in Mexico for years, and engaged in the oil boom in south Arkansas.

He now is general counsel for the Investors Utility corporation of Marlin, Texas. This concern is headed by L. E. Haskell as president and treasurer; C. J. Haskell as manager, and Claude Williford as secretary.

JENKINS ONE OF 'APOSTLES'

Well Known Men De- feated By Delegate to Win His Place

W. D. Jenkins of Guthrie was another of those "13 apostles" as the 23 Republican members of the state constitutional convention were called.

Born in Andrew county, Mo., in 1856, on a farm, Jenkins moved with his family to Northeast Kansas in 1859, and attended schools in Doniphan county, at Troy, then the St. Joseph business college.

He went to Guthrie in 1892, held a claim for a while in the strip, but lived in Guthrie most of the time. His father was a Welshman of Virginia-Ohio stock, his mother Dutch-English.

On both sides of his family traces his ancestry to participants in the Revolutionary War. After the battle of statehood was over, Mr. Jenkins was married to Miss Jennine Brown of Mulhall. They have no children.

In his fight for constitutional delegate, Mr. Jenkins defeated, among other Republican who sought the nomination, Attorney General Cottingham, former Gov. Jenkins, and Judge Chapel, now of the supreme court of this state. He won the O. O. P. nomination and defeated his friend and neighbor, J. C. Jamison, who ran against him on the Democratic ticket.

HE CARRIED G. O. P. AREA

George M. Berry Swept District 18 As Democrat

George M. Berry was born in Whitley county, Kentucky, Dec. 7, 1858, and came to Pawnee agency, Indian territory, in 1879 when just a boy. He attended school in Lawrence, Kan., in 1879, returning to the agency the following year, and worked on a ranch from that time until the opening of old Oklahoma in 1889. He located at Guthrie then for a short time, and later

proved up a claim in Lincoln county, but returned to Pawnee in 1893 when the Cherokee strip opened, and has continued to reside there since.

He has been identified with the First National bank of that place, assisting in its organization as the Bank of Pawnee in 1894; has engaged in farming and stock raising, and has been interested in and had holdings in oil in the state since its first discovery in Pawnee county.

He was elected delegate to the constitutional convention from the eighteenth district, normally a largely Republican, carrying every precinct except three.

Mr. Berry married Miss Nellie Dewis at Perth, Kan., in 1887, and they have reared a family of nine children, all living except one daughter, Mrs. C. A. Holden of Tulsa, who died in 1923.

106 N. Morton



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One of our friends said he never noticed an invitation in our ads to "Come In."

If we didn't say it, we meant it.

There is a cordial invitation for everyone to come in -- to borrow -- to save -- to see how we conduct our business.

If we haven't said "Come In" before, we say it now
"Come In"

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FIRST LAW PASSED BENEFITED SCHOOLS

BANK GUARANTY ALSO ADOPTED

Original Session Held By Legislature Lasted For Six Months

The first law enacted for Oklahoma after the first legislature met in Guthrie on Dec. 2, 1907, was one which provided for the transfer of the \$5,000,000 fund provided in the enabling act, for the benefit of state schools here.

This first session of Oklahoma lawmakers lasted for nearly six months, and devoted a large part of its time to re-ordinating old territorial laws to fit the new state. One of the laws passed was the state bank deposit guaranty law, and under its terms, money accumulated from state banks until recently, when it was knocked out by court decision, in the state treasury in a fund for which there was no legal disposition.

An action is pending in the state supreme court now to determine whether the funds shall be paid back to the state banks that contributed the money, or revert to the general fund in the state treasury.

Other laws were enacted. One provided the manner for enforcement of prohibition, and, as one historian records it, "provision for state dispensaries for the sale of alcoholic liquors for purposes not prohibited."

One of the most important acts, however, was the passage of a general election law. Provision was made for the establishment of several state institutions, educational and penal.

CONVENTION PAID ITS WORKERS WELL

The constitutional convention paid its employes fairly good wages.

But the present generation would never have accepted the job.

Here's the scale of wages: Postmaster, mail carrier and three committee stenographers, \$4 a day.

Pages, \$2 a day. Secretary to the president, \$4 a day.

Official reporters and stenographers, \$6 a day.

75 COUNTIES FORMED BY 1907 CONVENTION

Oklahoma consisted of 75 counties when the constitutional convention finished its work.

The convention parceled 33 counties out of the Indian territory and 10 new ones out of the western part of the state. Fifty of them were named while 25 of them retain the names they bore before the convention met.

Thirteen of the states in the Indian territory still have the names assigned to them by the Sequoyah convention, when it was at one time proposed to form a state of Sequoyah.

Some of the counties in the west were practically empires before the convention began its work. One, Beaver county, in the panhandle, was split into three counties, the other two being Cimarron and Texas.

PRIMARY LAWS WERE UNUSUAL

New Features Written In to Oklahoma's Bill Of Rights

As Oklahoma's constitution is outstanding in many ways, so it is unusual in its bill of rights. Many of the practices which Oklahomaans take for granted in connection with its courts and administration of their government are wholly different from those in other states because of the work of the committee on bill of rights.

The 6-man jury in county court were provided in the bill. It also made it possible for three-fourths of a jury to deal with civil cases and petty criminal cases.

The bill also provided that no person can be transferred out of the state for an offense committed within the state nor shall he be taken from the state without his consent or through law processes.

Right of trial by jury for alleged contempt of court when the act of contempt occurs within the courtroom was written into the bill. It also provided a hearing when the act occurred even in court.

The committee also inserted in the bill a provision that state funds shall never be appropriated for the use of any church.

BOARD FRIEND TO THIS CITY

Delegate Mixed In Hot Fight to Win Way To Convention

One of the two Okmulgee delegates in the constitutional convention at Guthrie in 1906 and 1907 was a Democrat, the other was one of the "13 spectators," as the overwhelmed Republican delegates were called.

W. B. Hudson of Henryetta was the Republican; Charles M. Board of Okemah, then of Okfuskee, was the Democrat delegate, the man who laid out the county boundaries of Okmulgee and Okfuskee counties, and the man who so balanced Okmulgee county that Okmulgee city never would lose her place as county seat. But that's another story, elsewhere in this edition. Suffice it to say here that Mr. Board put the county lines so that the city of Okmulgee, with Henryetta in one end, Beggs in the opposite end and Morris in the east side, would always remain that way.

Mr. Board was born in Bates county, Missouri, in 1859, just at the close of the terrible civil struggle which engulfed Missouri. He was educated in the

public schools of Missouri, which became a state about the time he started to school. He also attended an academy, and got higher education there. He attended schools in Appleton and Butler.

Until 1905, Mr. Board farmed and taught school in Missouri. Then two years before statehood he came to what is now Okfuskee county, and taught school in Okemah. Then he moved to Okfuskee and entered the mercantile business. While there, he was elected a constitutional delegate from the district embracing the present Okfuskee and Okmulgee counties. It was a promising battle, but by a deal with the Okmulgee candidates, which withdrew, he won his race handily.

After statehood, Mr. Board was elected county registrar for two terms, in Okfuskee county, and was elected to the state senate for two more terms from Okfuskee county. He now is oil and gas agent for the state school land department.

Mr. Board was married, back in Bates county, Missouri, to Miss Gertrude Raybourn, who has four children, two sons and two daughters. They are Raymond Board, Guy Board, Gertrude Board and Mrs. Eugene M. Catlett of Okemah.

The Democrats of the 74th and 84th district presented a bouquet of chrysanthemums to President Murray shortly after his election at the constitutional convention.

State's Grandfather Clause Ruled Out By Supreme Court

Oklahoma once had a law with a grandfather clause.

It was one of the early statutes adopted after the state was formed and was modeled somewhat after those fostered by states of the confederacy, intended to nullify the effects of the fifteenth amendment which gave the negro the franchise.

Ruled Out

The law until June 1915, when the United States supreme court ruled it out. Pioneers attending the constitutional convention reunion last highest tribunal when Chief Justice White, himself a Confederate veteran, read the decision.

The law provided that every elector, before he could be registered, be able to read and write any section of this constitution of the state. Those who

were to be exempted were lineal descendants of those who were permitted to vote prior to Jan. 1, 1866. Thus negroes, if they could read and write, would be permitted the privilege of the franchise, but, of course, most of them could not.

Supreme Test

Chief Justice White announced the decision that granting the suffrage to anyone who could vote or whose ancestors could vote prior to 1866 was not valid because otherwise the fifteenth amendment would be rendered inapplicable by a more form of expression, embodying no exercise of judgment and resting upon no discernible reasons other than to disregard the prohibition of the amendment. The law had been put forward as a literacy test for voters.

Those Olden Days Before You Had Gas

You lived at one time in a home where you had no gas service, didn't you?

Remember the old coal and wood fires, with all their work and dirt and worry?

With natural gas, the turn of a valve and the touch of a match bring you instant heat in whatever degree you desire it—clean, efficient, economical—no work, no dirt, no worry.

Only one family in ten in the United States enjoys the blessings of natural gas service.

The entire Oklahoma Natural organization is dedicated to the task of providing consumers with a really good gas service.

The Oklahoma Natural has been serving Okmulgee since 1907.

Oklahoma Natural Gas Corporation

Our Motto: "100 Percent Service and Courteous Treatment to All."

OKMULGEE ACCLAIMS GREATEST PARADE

Procession 3 Miles Long Depicts Oklahoma History

Thousands on Sidewalks
See Other Thousands
In Line of March of
Gigantic Pageant

The "pageant of time" which Okmulgee staged for the delegates to the Sequoyah and Guthrie constitutional convention in the morning of their reunion in this city Sept. 17, anniversary of adoption of the present state constitution, was the largest parade and witnessed by more people than any ever held in the city. It is asserted.

Cafes, drug stores and merchants generally reported they did a business Tuesday that bespoke the attendance of tens of thousands of persons from other cities gathered to see the parade and pay homage to the builders of the state.

Cowboys in Lead

The parade was one thing on which half a dozen Okmulgee men spent plenty of time and some money. State Senator T. B. Blakely was chairman of the arrangements committee, which had this in charge, and he appointed several assistants, chief among them E. W. Cowden and Perry Adkins, the latter marshal of the parade. Mr. Cowden did most of the rounding-up of floats and sections for the parade, and Marshal Adkins arranged them.

The head of the parade was a cowboy dressed in the "rodeo" best clothes of the frontier steer nurse, mounted on a dapper pony and carrying the American flag 20 yards in front of the procession.

Immediately behind him came the Muskogee high school band, dressed in white, under guidance of Antonio Goetz. This band preceded the band of cowboys, arranged by Eugene M. Hickman, former county commissioner and "father" of the Arkansas highway and state highway 27. Mr. Hickman not only persuaded Sid White of Okemah to bring a dozen cowboys and cowgirls with him, he furnished horses and riders for a score more men and women.

2,500 Students

Immediately behind the horse back troupe came the Boy Scouts of this area council, headed by Executive John Wycha. He had several troops of boys in the parade, in addition to other troops which were working with the police and firemen to handle the vast crowds which lined

For Governor?



M. E. Trapp, former governor who attended the historic constitutional convention here Tuesday was prominently mentioned by leading Democrats as a candidate for the Democratic nomination for governor to succeed Gov. Hoffman. He declined to affirm that he was a candidate, but made no denial that he would be.

Sixth street from Okmulgee avenue to Delaware avenue, and Seventh street from Delaware avenue to the Council House square.

The schools of Okmulgee, Sapulpa, Muskogee, rural schools, behind the Boy Scouts. The students, more than 2,500 of them, had been formed by City Suppl. Joe R. Holmes on North Alabama avenue and side-streets leading into it.

For about two weeks the city public schools had made careful preparation for the pageantry they were to present in their traditional Day parade. Nothing was overlooked to remind the people along the way of the importance of the United States constitution, which was completed Sept. 17, 1787, and of the Oklahoma constitution which was adopted by vote of the people Sept. 17, 1907.

Schools Had Big Part

Roosevelt school portrayed graphically the aboriginal Oklahoma, in all his glory and beauty, simplicity of setting and carefree abandon of life, in-

dians and their families were there represented true to aboriginal life in the western plains.

More advanced Indian life was also shown on the Roosevelt school float. This carried Indians and tepees set up, portraying the simple but beautiful home life of the Indians who populated the country.

The Horace Mann school float portrayed the coming of the first white men into Oklahoma; the Spanish under Coronado, who came in search of the famed Seven Cities of Cibola and the fountain of youth. It was venturers who brought the horse and the cross to the red man of the plains out of Mexico, which they had conquered.

Traced History

Webster school, carrying out the traditional idea that the French were right behind the Spanish in coming to this country, portrayed the French as explorers, traders, trappers and hunters who came to help civilize the country and reap rich reward off the forests and to reap rich reward off the forests and plains.

McKinley school showed the

French-Spanish treaty for domain which embraced what is now Oklahoma, and this added another chapter to the history which was being unfolded step by step before the eyes of the awed thousands along the packed line of march, Tuesday.

Emerson school showed the Civil War period in Oklahoma, when the Indians were divided by sentiment, the Cherokees principally going with the Southland and furnishing Stand Watie and his Indian troops Confederacy in that war, as did the Chickasaws and many others.

Lee and Franklin schools combined to portray the coming of the real pioneer to Oklahoma; the man with the plow and the squirrel rifle, the cattle and the sheep, who sought to carve real homes for themselves out of the wilderness, that they might work and live in peace, and rear their children by the light of a true God and the western stars.

Council House Depleted

Wilson school portrayed statehood, with all its budding promise to those who had dared the wilderness to make their homes in the twin territories.

Cherokee school had float

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 45)

Leading with the
LEADER
We want every one in Okmulgee to see and hear the
SEASON'S RADIO SENSATION
AT WATER-KENT
SCREEN-GRID
RADIO
See It Today—Sure
Brownie's Battery
12 S. Seminole Shop Phone 2121

Minority Still Against Woman Suffrage

Pittman Attacks Movement at Reunion as He Did Eloquently in Days of Yore

C. H. Pittman of Oklahoma City, who led the fight against woman suffrage in the constitutional convention at Guthrie and who believes yet that a terrible mistake was made in giving the ballot to women, has emphatic but polite views on the subject.

He was selected by President Murray to lead the fight against woman suffrage at Guthrie, and did so at a time selected by Mr. Murray because of its aptness.

Story Not Told

The story of the suffrage fight is one that has not been well told in the convention journal, but there was not much fight for suffrage, which is probably the big reason why it was not made a part of the Oklahoma constitution.

It is related that President Murray and Mr. Pittman, pitted against Robert L. Owen's lobbyists in the suffrage fight, saw opportunity to graphically portray the disadvantages of woman suffrage. They saw in the offering a school election.

Now, in territorial days women were privileged to vote in school elections, and Guthrie was having such an election. Mr. Murray forced the report on woman suffrage to be delayed until that election.

Election Surprised

In the voting, 152 votes were cast in favor of the proposal, whatever it was the school district was voting on. The bone of contention was not important, but the vote totals were. Of the 152 votes against the proposal, 151 were cast by negro women and only seven by white women.

"Gentlemen, here's a result of woman suffrage that you would do well to consider. Now we are going to vote on Mr. Pittman's minority report against suffrage, and if there are any of you who want this state to be run by negroes, you had better vote for suffrage." President Murray told the convention.

Woman suffrage lost by a handsome majority.

In the reunion of constitutional delegates here Sept. 17, twenty-second anniversary of adoption of the state constitution, Mr. Pittman was again recalled upon for his minority report on suffrage. Here is what he told the delegates in reunion assembled:

Still "Agin" It

"We have a good deal of serious discussion equally proper and right. To call upon me now for a report upon woman's suffrage intercepts the ridiculous. You men well remember, some

Visitor Here



Though he asserted that he was giving no thought to things political, former U. S. Sen. Harrel's appearance in Okmulgee during the constitutional convention Tuesday gave rise to reports that he is looking over the situation and may become a candidate for the Republican nomination for senator. He attended the constitutional convention reunion session Tuesday afternoon at the Hippodrome.

of you, my position upon that subject. It would be probably futile for me at this time to attempt to use either the words, phrases or similitudes then used.

"I want to say to you, however, that after 22 years, I stand today towards woman's suffrage as I stood then. I opposed it then. I have never come to love it, never come to respect it. I have heard the song of the siren during that 22 years and I have seen the bleaching bones of politicians upon their sandy shores.

I have seen the Amazon tread forth in all her glory leading the politician at her heels like ladies once led Fido. I have seen them ply their shears of Delilah and have seen the waking Sampson struggling again to even nose, shorn of strength. I predicted then that it wouldn't add to the glory of womanhood. I say today that it has not done so.

No Benefit

"I said then that those women who ascended in politics would do so not by the enlargement of their moral efforts

but by their appointments, and I still say so. I said then that to take women from the pedestal upon which she was placed, where we honored, respected, protected and defended her, where we fought, bled and died for her and to place her upon the political rostrum where she became so many more votes, degraded her to a common level, and I say so yet.

"I have not yet been able to see one single iota of benefit derived from woman suffrage. I do not believe that it has done more than add to the number of our ballots; it has changed no issue, it has wrought no reform, it has brought no sweeping change, except possibly to bring to the surface, to aid in bringing to the surface, the foam of the sea. I know that I am out of order. I was then. I am yet. I expect to go to my grave with the same conviction unless the future shall unfold some change."

State Is Given History Lesson By Celebration

Oklahomans perhaps have received no better lesson in the history of their state than was given them last week when the pioneers who wrote the fundamental law of the commonwealth gathered here for a reunion.

Every person in the state was given opportunity to read about it. The publicity committee in connection with the committee on arrangements for the convention here saw that every publication in Oklahoma printed stories of the event.

All of the stories were reminiscent in character. They recounted bits of history that are not generally known.

BUXTON'S

CUT RATE DRUG STORE

111 W. MAIN

PHONE

14

Okmulgee's Only
CUT RATE DRUG STORE

STATE SCHOOLS BEGAN IN HUMBLE WAY

CLASSES HELD IN RESIDENCES

Territorial Government Saw Beginning of Public System

Oklahoma's school system, which has grown to the extent that there is scarcely a crossroads in the state without its imposing brick schoolhouse, had its beginning in the small private subscription schools in 1889 — some of them argue enough to boast a one-room schoolhouse, but most of them conducted in the front parlor of somebody's home.

When the country was opened to white settlement in 1889, it was futile even to attempt the organization of public schools until an organic law had been provided. Thus it was that the early day families, not wishing to neglect the education of their children, set up these private subscription schools wherever a few of them settled, and there wasn't a small town in existence but what had at least one of them.

System Quickly Formed

When the territorial government was set up a year after the opening of the country, the organic act provided for the establishment of a public school system and set aside \$50,000 for it until such time as more funds could be raised by taxation in the local communities.

Under this law, two sections of each township were reserved for the benefit of the public schools of the commonwealth. Immediately after the new territorial government began functioning, the organization of the school system was begun. It was patterned after the school system in Nebraska, for congress had adopted the provisions of the Nebraska school law bodily to guide the Oklahoma territory in forming a system.

J. H. Lawhead of Kingfisher county, who had been state superintendent of public instruction in Kansas before coming into Oklahoma territory, was selected as territorial superintendent of schools, placed the school system in operation. He died before his term expired, and he was succeeded by the Rev. J. H. Parker of Kingfisher. Mr. Parker, history records, was one of the founders of Kingfisher college, a Con-

gregational institution, and was its president for several years. At the suggestion of Gov. Steele, an educational conference met in Edmond in June, 1890. A committee of teachers was named to draft a school law to be presented to the territorial legislature for action. The committee worked three weeks at Oklahoma City on the law, and the first territorial assembly enacted the necessary parts of it. The University of Oklahoma was established at Norman, the A. and M. college at Stillwater, and the normal school at Edmond.

These became hotbeds for these newly-founded institutions. When able men were found to direct the work of the A. and M. college, they soon left in disgust because of the petty political intrigues and machinations of book sellers and the like. The state university was more fortunate. Dr. David B. Boyd was chosen as head of this institution and was able to steer clear of petty influences, and for this reason remained in office until 1908.

The Northwestern state normal school was established at Alva in 1887. The assembly, in 1891, provided for the establishment of two more schools. The Southwestern State normal, which was located at Weatherford after a bitter fight, and the University Preparatory school, at Tonkawa.

The territory's school lands, of which there were thousands upon thousands of acres, began to present a real problem. The policy was to hold

the lands in public ownership until after statehood, but settlers were setting up homes on them, and they became known as squatters. The governor took the matter up with the secretary of interior and an effort was made to obtain passage of a law by congress authorizing the leasing of the other session, however, it failed. At the other session, however, it was passed and the school lands began to produce revenue, and were thus brought under the close supervision of officials.

The leasing revenues were divided among the counties proportion up in every community within a year after settlement. Sometimes funds were scarce; at these times, the community would pitch in and build a school as best it could. Sometimes these buildings were log houses, some time flimsy houses built on sod piled layer upon layer. But always they were the best school obtainable under the circumstances.

These, then, were the schools from which sprang Oklahoma's present educational system, one that ranks high among those of the nation.

MISTLETOE NAMED FLOWER OF STATE

The mistletoe, so abundant in the woods of Oklahoma, was officially adopted as the state flower by the territorial legislature of 1891, and has been recognized as such ever since.

Johnston, Much Investigated, Prober Himself in Old Days

Henry S. Johnston, the butt of many charges and innuendoes during his stormy career as governor of Oklahoma, was himself an investigator when veiled charges were made against members of the constitutional convention.

The accusations followed the stormy county boundary debate and consisted of statements of and out of the delegates that some of them more than patriotic duty had prompted the votes of a number of them in the creation of new counties.

An investigation was demanded by the victims of the charges in April, 1907, a few days after the report of the committee on boundaries had been adopted.

The convention worked fast and on the next day a committee had been formed to investigate the charges. On the body were J. F. King, Charles H. Pittman, Samuel W. Hayes, and Joel M. Sandin.

News of the investigation was broadcast over the state and anyone having any accusations to make was invited to appear before the committee. No one called 20 persons, but none was willing to offer any evidence tending to besmirch the reputation of any delegate. Instead of trying to find evidence to mitigate the charges, the committee reported clean bills for all the delegates.

BUSINESS PAYS G. A. HENSHAW

Delegate Makes Mark in Insurance and Law in Oklahoma

The years have smiled kindly on George A. Henshaw, one of the state's foremost attorneys and prominent Oklahoma City man, president of the Transcontinental Life Insurance company and associate of other notable citizens.

He has become comfortably wealthy, and his three sons have made their marks in Texas oil.

Judge Henshaw was a thriving attorney in Madill when he was elected a delegate to the constitutional convention in Guthrie and helped write Oklahoma's famous constitution. He was born in Stoneport, Ill., in 1871, and practiced law there six years before coming to Oklahoma territory in 1900 on account of his wife's health.

They drove around over North Texas and the southern part of Oklahoma territory for six months before they decided to locate at Madill, where Mr. Henshaw practiced law for six years.

When statehood finally came in 1907, he was appointed assistant attorney general, and counsel for the corporation commission. In the election of 1910 he was made a member of that commission, and served on it until 1917.

Practicing law in Oklahoma City until 1925, he became federal receiver for the Oklahoma Railway company, operating interurbans, street railways and buses throughout that district of the state. He served in this capacity for three years.

In 1925 he organized the Transcontinental Life Insurance company and old life law reserve corporation in Oklahoma with Scott Ferris, former Sen. Harold, George A. Henshaw Jr., W. V. Harris, Hubert Bolen and others. He was elected president of that company and still retains the position. His office is in the Hightower building, Oklahoma City.

Because of his many opportunities, he probably has become acquainted with more notable personages in Oklahoma than a majority of the constitutional convention delegates.

DRAMATIC 5 MINUTES 'MADE' OKMULGEE

County Seat Choice Destined To Turn on Short, Tense Space

Selection of Board to Be Convention Was Lucky Stroke for City

The fact that Okmulgee is the county seat of Okmulgee county is due to several things. They all happened within the space of five minutes on a memorable day late in 1906—Nov. 7, when this city played host to a political convention that proved more stubborn than the national Democratic meeting in 1924 when Al Smith and W. G. McAdoo locked horns over the presidency.

But let's go back into history.

Looked Republican

When congress passed the enabling act to provide the manner by which Oklahoma and Indian territories were to become a state, this whole section of the country was galvanized. It was the thing that had been upmost in human interest around here for years. Many previous attempts to gain statehood had failed. At last it was to come about.

So Tamm Eiche, head of the Dawes commission, under congressional designation, headed the work of dividing the territory into districts for the selection of delegates to the constitutional convention to be held in Guthrie, Nov. 20, 1906. In obtaining passage of the enabling act the leaders of congress—which was Republican at the time—had been assured that the admission of Oklahoma as a state would add another Republican state to the Union, and it was this assurance that brought about passage of the enabling act.

It had appeared fairly certain that the western part of the old Oklahoma territory, would be Democratic, but it was also expected that the Indian country would go heavily enough Republican to offset the western Democratic advantage.

Gerrymandered

But the powers in charge were running no risks, and in the mapping of the Indian territory, the country was gerrymandered—that is, the lines mandating that the lines were laid so the Republican center of population would be converted into as many conventional delegates as possible, without being overriden by equally large Democratic centers.

And so the district in which

Okmulgee was located bore a close resemblance to a shoe-string, extending in a long, narrow strip down past Okfuskee. This district was duly divided into districts, and local delegates were chosen for a convention to be held in Okmulgee, Nov. 6, 1906, to select the district's delegates to the state constitutional convention.

It was the first early into politics for most of the residents of this county, but what they lacked in political acumen was more than made up for in vim and vigor.

Johnson Candidate

S. L. Johnson, a leading citizen in Okmulgee at that time, came out as a candidate for delegate to the constitutional convention.

The whole town of Okmulgee and adjacent territory threw solid support to him. His board of strategy comprised Joe C. Stone, now a Muskogee attorney and former president of the State Bar association, W. W. Witten, who was to be floor manager for Johnson at the convention, F. F. Lamb, still an Okmulgee attorney, and Charlie Rogers.

Beggs put forward the name of P. I. Brown of that town, and from far down the way at Okfuskee came the name of C. W. Board, a bright young storekeeper. Later on, the name of George Griffin, ten early-day Okmulgee drayman was entered, but he really didn't figure in the picture.

The campaign grew hot, and finally came the day of the Okmulgee convention. Brown's name was placed in nomination, and later followed that of Johnson. Board was nominated and then Griffin. When the balloting started, it was apparent that a real fight was underway. Griffin was quickly eliminated, but the other three candidates settled down at each other's throats to fight it out.

Deadlocked

Those radio fans who remember the historic Democratic convention at Madison Square Garden and the regular chanting of "Alabama casts 24 votes for Oscar W. Underwood," will remember the almost identical chant in the Okmulgee convention when, roll call upon roll call, a man named Peavler cast the ballot of his country delegation, three for Brown and two for Johnson. As the balloting progressed into the night, the

delegations grew more determined. Not a vote was switched either way. It was a 3-way deadlock with no delegate able to get within grasp of a majority. Johnson and Brown were running about even and Board was bringing up the rear.

They balloted until 3 a. m. on the morning of Nov. 7, when a recess was taken in the hope that the atmosphere would clear. When the session reconvened a few hours later, the first ballot showed that not a man had changed his mind. This kept up all morning and about noon, Board, convinced that no agreement could be reached, arose speech, and in a friendly, pacifying speech, announced that he would withdraw so that the issue between Johnson and Brown might be decided. The convention was electrified. Nerves had long since been worn to a frazzle, and the announcement had the effect of bringing an instant's calm to the uproarious meeting.

Instantly, Witten, floor manager for the Johnson group, was on his feet addressing Chairman W. E. Throckmorton, who by this time was all but worn out.

How Board Won

"I move we adjourn until 2 p. m.," Witten shouted, and instantly pandemonium broke loose. One of Witten's aides shouted a second and before a vote could be taken or announced the delegates were stampeding for the doors.

This quick move unduly kept the election from going to P. I. Brown on the next ballot. During the recess, Witten and his board of strategy, went to Board and proposed that he hold his delegates in line, so that, when the convention reassembled, Johnson could withdraw and throw his support to Board for a final showdown. Board agreed.

When 2 p. m. came, the convention met and Johnson withdrew from the race. His delegates immediately switched to Board and the man from Okfuskee was elected as delegate from this district to the constitutional convention.

Having gained the place through the support of the Okmulgee delegation, and against the bitter opposition of the Beggs faction, Board naturally was friendly to this city in the constitutional convention. Before he left for Guthrie, Witten, Stone, Lamb and Rogers held a conference with him and told him that Charles N. Haskell of Muskogee obviously would be the big gun at the convention, and for him (Board) to make

friends with Haskell immediately on going to Guthrie. This Board did, and thereby wielded a considerable influence that he would not otherwise have enjoyed.

Beggs Fights

The strategy of Okmulgee electing the Okfuskee man as delegate bore fruits months later when the constitutional convention decided that it should lay out the county lines instead of leaving the task for the state legislature, as many had suggested. When the lines were being drawn for Okmulgee county, Okmulgee was designated county seat through the influence of Board, and against the terrific opposition of Beggs, Henryetta, Morris and Wetumka, which had at first been included within the county line. Had Brown been chosen delegate, observers say there is no doubt but what the county seat would have been Beggs.

To pacify the cities that had lost their fights for the county seat, the convention wrote into the constitution a provision that a vote of 60 percent of the electors in any county was sufficient to move the county seat, after 10 years, providing the county seat were taken further from the center of the county. It was also provided that only one such vote could be taken within a 10-year period. But by that that time the county seat was established in Okmulgee, and the battle was over.

The fact that the constitutional convention, instead of the state legislature, established the county lines prevented possible open warfare and bloodshed. In the view of the early day settlers here who recall the bitter feeling that arose when the county lines were being drawn. As it was, there was actual bloodshed in many places and they recall that several persons were killed in the fight to determine whether Chewah or Eufaula should be the county seat of McIntosh county.

PROMINENT MEN ASKED TO SPEAK

The following are some of the prominent men of the time who were invited to address the constitutional convention: O. B. Colquitt, Col. W. H. Moore, president of the good road association; W. J. Bryan, W. J. Bailey, John Sharpe Williams, R. M. Le Follette, Henry Weterson, Gov. T. C. W. Beckham, Bob Taylor and President Roosevelt.

SEQUOYAH CONVENTION WASN'T IN VAIN

Many of Provisions Embodied In Early Work Rule Oklahoma

People of Indian Territory Voted Six to One To Adopt Constitution Formed By Session

The Sequoyah convention held at Muskogee in 1905 was one of the most important fore-runners of the final act or statehood for Oklahoma, and was the final gesture of the die-hard single-statehood advocates who thought the Indian Territory, as it was erroneously called, ought to be a separate state and not combined with Oklahoma Territory.

Several states, including Montana, California, North Dakota and South Dakota, had written their own constitutions voluntarily and submitted them to congress successfully, so that they became states without any enabling act granting the citizens authority to hold such conventions and prepare for statehood.

Nations Hold Meeting

There were many in the Five Nations who thought they also could voluntarily become a state, although this had been unsuccessfully tried before. There were others who felt defeat awaited them in the end.

Nevertheless, the Five Civilized Tribes, actually five separate and distinct nations, just as Germany, France, Bolivia and Italy are separate nations now, decided to hold the constitutional convention. The nations were divided into two recording districts, and delegates elected from each in the spring of 1905.

This gave the convention 132 delegates. Each principal chief of the Cherokee, Chickasaw and Seminole nations was to be at the convention and the governor of the Chickasaws, (the only tribe calling its principal chief a governor) was to be with them. Gov. Douglas H. Johnston of the Chickasaws could not attend, so his son, John Johnston, was elected as his personal representative.

Mr. Murray, with principal chiefs of the Cherokee, Chickasaw and Seminole nations, was elected vice president of the convention at Muskogee. Pleasant Porter, principal chief of the Creeks, was elected president, so Charles N. Haskell of Muskogee, Creek Nation, was

elected vice president in his stead.

Chose Name "Sequoyah"

W. W. Hastings of Tahlequah was chosen to preside over all committee meetings, a big general committee was named and the convention adjourned, leaving the work to Mr. Hastings' committee. The convention had been called to order Aug. 22, 1905, and it was scheduled to last only a short time. It convened in the Turner opera house at Muskogee, and was then known as the Muskogee convention.

The committee wrote the constitution, selected the name Sequoyah for the state to be made of the Five Nations territory, and selected Fort Gibson, Cherokee town on the line between Creek and Cherokee nations, as the state capital city of Sequoyah for a period of six years.

The convention re-assembled, and adopted the constitution, writing it on parchment, the delegates signing it. An election was called for Nov. 7, 1905, and on Sept. 8 the constitutional convention adjourned. When election day came there were more votes cast for there against adoption of the constitution in any state prior to its admission to the American Union.

Carries 6 to 1

The totals were 55,273 votes for the constitution, 9,073 votes against it. The Muskogee constitution, now known as the Sequoyah constitution, had carried by about six to one.

A committee was named to carry this constitution and plea for statehood to congress, but congress rejected it, because it was too apparently a Democratic state, and the Republicans then controlled national affairs. It is the belief of those who believe, however, that had Oklahoma Territory at the same time applied for separate statehood, there would have been no difficulty, and there would have been two states here with the same number of delegates as Sequoyah, the present state as Sequoyah, the one half as Oklahoma.

Officers of the constitutional convention, in addition to those already named, included Alex. Posey as secretary, E. H. Doyle stenographer, D. F. Dickey as sergeant-at-arms.

The men who wrote the Sequoyah constitution later dom-

LAW AND STOCK, HIS BUSINESS

T. J. Leahy Learned His Books In Office Of Attorney

Timothy John Leahy of Tulsa, pioneer attorney of Oklahoma, really was a pioneer, because as early as 1834 he had been in the Osage reservation, and he settled there in 1831.

He was born May 6, 1868, in Osage Mission, Kan., now St. Paul, Kan., and was graduated from Kansas Normal college at Fort Scott in 1889. This man, who later was to be one of the constitutional convention delegates from the Osage Nation in 1906 and 1907, taught school in Oklahoma Territory until 1892, when he was admitted to the bar at Stillwater.

He learned his law, not in a law school where he had not money enough to go, but by borrowing the midnight oil and spending his summers in the offices of attorneys who permitted him to study their books. He began his practice in Pawhuska in November, 1892, and lived there until 1922, when he moved to Tulsa, where he lives now.

He gained much experience in those trying days of the Guthrie convention, where he and J. J. Quarles of Fairfax represented the Osage Nation. Judge Leahy still maintains a law office in Pawhuska as well as the one in Tulsa. He is associated with C. S. McElies of Pawhuska, F. W. Maxey and C. A. Holden of Tulsa. In addition to his law practice, Leahy has interested himself extensively in the breeding of the Hereford cattle and Poland-China hogs. He has been active in co-operative marketing for livestock and agricultural products, and was a director in the National Live-

stock Producers association of Chicago.

He was married Sept. 25, 1895 to Miss Bertha Rogers of Pawhuska, first chief justice of the Osage Tribal Court. She is one-eighth Osage and one-eighth Cherokee, closely related to many prominent citizens of these two nations. They have four children, Thomas Rogers Leahy and Mrs. H. H. Mundy of Pawhuska, Mrs. R. T. Edwards and Edward A. Leahy of Tulsa.

YOUNG LAWYER WAS DELEGATE

William C. Leidtko Long In Practice in Oklahoma

Some of the spirit of the Texas pioneers was in the veins of Eufaula's delegate to the constitutional convention in Guthrie 22 years ago. It ran in the blood of William C. Leidtko who wanted to fight for the best possible constitution.

As a young lawyer he came to McAlester, I. T., in 1904, 22 years after he had been born in Chesfield, Texas. He didn't remain in McAlester long, but moved to Eufaula, and there was elected delegate to that stirring convention.

Spring seemed to have some effect on the young attorney, however. He had moved from McAlester to Eufaula in June, 1904, and he returned to McAlester in May, 1909. There he was appointed, by order of Gov. Lee Cross, judge of the superior court for Pittsburg county.

After three years on the bench, Judge Leidtko resigned to enter the private practice of law, and he practiced in that section of the new state until February, 1917, when he moved to Tulsa. He went to Tulsa as a consultant attorney in Oklahoma for the Grey oil company and Gulf Pipeline company of Oklahoma, which positions he still occupies.

He was married November 11, 1911, to Miss Mabel Claire Witt. Two children, John Hugh and William C. Jr., have been born to Judge and Mrs. Leidtko. Needless to say, this Texas attorney is a Democrat.

The pens with which President Murray subscribed the various provisions of the constitution were presented to their authors.

inated the Oklahoma constitutional convention at Guthrie, Oklahoma Territory delegates, and constitution of Oklahoma embodied practically every line and phrase of the Sequoyah constitution. In the present one, so Muskogee actually governs Oklahoma today,

COUNTY FIGHT NEARLY RUINED SESSION

Two Delegates Worked 72 Hours Without Sleep to Solve Problem

Every Town With Over 50 Inhabitants Wanted To Be Capital of County; Trouble Loomed

When W. H. (Alfalfa Bill) Murray looks at the map of Oklahoma, he rubs his eyes and utters a long sigh.

For the thing that looms up over everything else is the maze of county boundary lines—and who could forget the sleepless nights and days during the week before Christmas in 1906 when those lines were being drawn. He tells the story himself:

Faced Defeat

"One of the first jobs the constitutional convention tackled was the job of altering the Oklahoma territory county lines, and establishing county lines in Indian territory. We had to get this work done in order to lay out the system of county government. The arrangement was to adjourn for the Christmas holidays, and a bitter fight was brewing over the county map. Every town in the Indian territory that contained more than 50 persons wanted to be a county seat. The delegates were in a stew—many of them had seen defeat looming through inability to give county seat honors to their home towns, and so the adjournment date approached.

"Finally, one day, I went to Charlie Haskell and told him that he and I would have to get to work on the problem as the committee was progressing very slowly and the whole thing had to be finished before the holidays. He didn't want to be put on the county committee, but I insisted. When I explained that the disgruntled delegates were sparring for time so that they could start a campaign of criticism of the convention during the Christmas recess, he agreed the appointment and I put him on the committee. Then we went to work and laid out the counties. Once the lines were established, the county seat problem was settled because the town nearest the center of the county got the honor—at least until the people could vote on it.

Said He Was Drunk

"For three days and three nights I didn't sleep, and ate just enough to keep us alive. During the mornings when we went to breakfast was the only time we took to rest. On the third morning, when I had been

almost 72 hours without sleep, I fell asleep at the breakfast table.

"One of the delegates who failed to get a county seat located where he wanted it, saw me there nodding and went out on the street and told everyone that I was drunk.

"But we got the county lines drawn before the Christmas holidays, and the constitutional convention was saved from possible defeat."

MURRAY EXPLAINS POLITICAL CREED

What kind of a politician is "Alfalfa Bill" Murray?

He is a Democrat, of course, but let him explain:

"There are two ways to manage politics. One is to promise everybody that comes along everything and the other is to promise none anything. The last one I have followed. I belong to that class of men who believe that there is such a thing as honesty and integrity in politics. I believe the quicker the people of this country believe that and understand it, the quicker they will conduct campaigns on the broad basis of honesty and public policy and not on the basis of misrepresentation, and the quicker will honesty and good men come into politics and try to steer aright the ship of state."

CONVENTION COSTS KEPT TO MINIMUM

In these times, when the people of the United States have become tired to the expression "A billion-dollar congress," and the people of the individual states are used to hearing of their legislature running well into eight figures, it is refreshing to hark back to the days of the Oklahoma constitutional convention.

W. H. Murray, president of the convention, submitted to the legislature of the state tables showing the grand total of all indebtedness incurred during the convention at \$80,153.08. True, the convention did not appropriate money for the operation of the state, but the work of framing the constitution proved in itself a stupendous task, one which required that the convention be in session off and on from Nov. 20, 1906, to Nov. 10, 1907.

FREE PASS EVIL HIT BY DELEGATES

For years before the constitutional convention the use of free passes on railroads by officials of the territories had been an important political issue.

Promises often were made in political platforms and in campaign speeches to do away with the free pass evil but nothing ever came of them.

It remained for the constitutional convention to take action on the issue. When the convention sitting as a committee of the whole had before it the form of the oath of office to be taken by the delegates it amended it with the following:

"And I further swear (or affirm) that I will not receive, use or travel upon any free pass or of office."

Forfeiture of office was the penalty provided for violation of the oath.

AIR OF UNCERTAINTY SEIZED CONVENTION

Throughout the last half of the sessions of the constitutional convention in 1907, there was an air of uncertainty, a feeling that all its work was to be in vain.

Stories were afloat that President Roosevelt intended to ignore the constitution, thereby defeating statehood. The matter so perturbed the delegates that a committee was appointed to wait upon the chief executive and, if possible, ascertain his views.

The president did not commit himself, but the committee members were able to gather enough information from other sources that they offered some valuable suggestions in formation of the constitution.

The report of the investigators did not serve to hearten the convention to any considerable degree and it was not until Mr. Roosevelt issued his proclamation that the uneasiness was set at rest.

Those who formed the committee were W. A. Ledbetter, Samuel W. Hayes and Charles L. Moore.

Work of Convention Cost Murray \$4,000, He Has Never Been Paid

Never did a more earnest, sincere group of men gather, than met at Guthrie in 1906 to frame a constitution that would bring Oklahoma into statehood, in the view of W. H. Murray, president of the constitutional convention.

The delegates had just arrived at Guthrie when they pitched into the heroic task the six were called upon to perform, and most of them labored night and day for months, with little thought of their own welfare or health. They knew that the people wanted statehood, and that their own hard work would expedite it. So they pitched in. The original \$250,000 appropriation was gone in almost no time at all, and the convention, in addition to its other overburdening problems had to face the problem of financing its own way. But the task did not deter it. A call was sent out for financial assistance, and a small amount was raised by subscription. When the end of the financial rope was reached, W. H. Murray, president of the convention, addressed the delegates, telling them that they would continue work if they were willing to pay their own expenses.

He further asserted that he would pay from his own pocket, the salaries of the clerks and other employees of the convention, provided the convention, gave him the absolute power to hire and fire those employees. This authority was granted.

As for the other expenses, the president contracted for work that had to be done, such as printing and other items, explaining the situation to the person doing the work, and suggesting that the first legislature would undoubtedly foot the bill. So the work was done at a risk of no payment at all, and was backed with only the faith of the contractor who accepted the job, that the first legislature would pay.

In order to meet the labor bill, Mr. Murray executed a personal note for \$4000, upon which he paid interest for a year before finally retiring it. He never received a dollar of the money in return, and he never permitted the legislature to act on it while he was speaker, and as it was never brought up in subsequent sessions.

Mr. Murray told the details of this financing when he was here Tuesday.

Reunion Parade Longest Ever Held Here, Belief

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 40)

which was emblematic of modern Oklahoma, showing the products of her factories, mines, fields, and her workshops. It was realistic in its showing of the great natural wealth and resources of the state.

There were two high school floats. One of these portrayed the old Creek National Council House, and showed the cordial relations among Indians of the Five Civilized Tribes who dwell on the eastern side of what is now a single great state. The other float was a masterpiece.

On this second float was Miss Indian Territory and Mister Oklahoma Territory, being united in marriage by statehood. It was the students' conception of the union of two frontier sections into one common tie by the affixing of President Roosevelt's signature to the acceptance of Oklahoma's constitution that sixteenth day of November, 1907, when Oklahoma was born.

Pioneers Next

When the school children with their dozens of friends and their gaudy presentations had passed by on Sixth street, the caravan of motor cars in which the constitutional convention delegates were waiting on Okmulgee avenue turned east and joined the grand procession. There were several former senators in the parade, including Henry S. Johnston of Perry, Robert L. Williams of Muskogee, Charles N. Haskell of Martin, Texas, and Muskogee. Martin Edward Trapp of Muskogee, former governor, did not arrive in time to be in the parade.

The delegates and distinguished visitors, riding in automobiles piloted by members of the state legislature and by prominent Okmulgee citizens, was directed in front of the Bristow band, which came here for the parade and proved one of the best in the procession.

The Quarter-Century club rode in the parade in an old tally-ho dug up from Hal Griffin's livery stable.

There was a farm wagon in which also rode several citizens who have lived in Okmulgee for periods of from 40 to 49 years. "Uncle Ed" Grisdorn was the only half-century citizen in the parade.

Evolution of Travel

There were men there dressed as the Yankee Carpenters had been, to represent that hated and loathed class of northern politicians who came down here to receive appointments, at federal pork barrels, to positions of trust in the territorial days. Members of the old Dawes Com-

mission, which spoiled the end of Indian national government through allotment of lands, were in the same section.

Industrial floats, floats representing the various civic clubs and commercial institutions, along behind the lengthy train of automobiles displayed by various dealers of the city, ranging from the original automobiles which came before state-rickish roadsters and snappy sedans.

Behind the automobiles came the Oklahoma national guard unit in Okmulgee. This company K of the 173rd Infantry, was commanded by Lieut. Robert E. Humphreys in the absence of its captain, Elmer C. Croom, who was publicly agent and secretary for the reunion committee. The guard unit drew

march, proudly smiling and waving to their scores of friends along the route.

Leading the last section was an Indian "drag," a couple of poles hooked to the flanks of a raw-boned Indian pony. The poles dragged the ground, and on them was a tepee, clothing, cooking utensils and the family man.

Behind this came the buckboard, and the old stage-coach, and then the railroad locomotive, followed closely by a Buick automobile built in 1905, and then the modern, high-powered automobiles, followed in turn by two airplanes with spinning propellers.

Airplanes, Too

The locomotive and small car which it drew were furnished by the Henryetta Salvation Army. The Army there built "old 97" and put it on an automobile chassis. Out of the stack-motive there poured a stream of painted car behind the locomotive sat E. L. (Buck) Workman, Mr. Workman, still a conductor

airplanes in regular army formations flew from both the Garland and Spartan schools. One of the Spartan ships was flown by Malcolm Blakely of this city, son of Sen. and Mrs. T. T. Blakely, and another carried as a passenger, and Archie Selford, son of Mrs. Jabez Selford of this city. These airplanes stunted most of the time, loop-throats, barrel rolls and wing rolls being the main forte of the flyers.

Winslow Ward of the Ward Funeral home, had for his seat of glory the driver's box of an old hearse used in 1900, drawn by two mules and in striking contrast to his new invalid coach and ambulance.

And a Callope

Tom Winford, "the village blacksmith," had several peanut thrashers in the parade, denoting the difference between the old method of picking peanuts by hand, and the modern threshing method which has come to this county with advent of the Better Farm Bureau and John M. White as a modern agricultural agent.

There were numerous displays of this sort. Industries of the city spared no pains to make the occasion a huge success.

In the extreme rear, where every boy knows it ought to be for the sole purpose of telling that the parade is over in three-honored style, came the steam callope of the John Francis shows, and immediately in front of it were the rest of the "specials" and freak floats.

In the line of march, scores of union labor delegates who were assembled in Okmulgee for the annual state convention of the Oklahoma Federation of Labor, were marching and adding their strength to the gigantic line of march.

The state champion drill team of the Woman's Benefit association, resplendent in white uniforms, was seen.

INDIAN CONVENTION

The convention representatives of all the Indian tribes in this section of the country which met in Okmulgee in 1870 was called because of the fact of the Indian tribes that the government was about to force upon the Indians, an inter-tribal government and an arrangement which they did not want. The delegates, representing 10 tribes, met here Sept. 27, 1870, with Enoch Hoag of the central superintendency as president of the council. Invitations to attend territory sessions were extended to more than half a dozen other tribes. Eight years of negotiations failed to produce an agreement of a tribal government due to the fact that one of the smaller of the Five tribes refused to agree to a plan of government based on the size of the tribes.



One of the outstanding features of the Constitutional Day parade here Tuesday was the appearance of the Muskogee band marching in the first section of the parade. It was brought to Okmulgee in specially chartered busses.

aplace all along the line of march, the militiamen never breaking the cadence of their band, swinging smartly along behind their officer, rifles up and span, air military and proud.

Former Mayors Ride

The only state flag of Oklahoma carried in that parade was in the float of the Business and Professional Women of Okmulgee. The jaunty, dark-blue flag, with its Indian shield and peace pipe, belongs to Mrs. Izora Grounds, city librarian, who loaned it to the business girls.

Former mayors of the city of Okmulgee, together with several old-time physicians and surgeons who practiced their professions in this country when horses were safer to ride and there was no other travel unless by buckboard, were in the grand

on the Frisco between Tulsa and Ada, wore the same uniform he was wearing in July of 1900, when he was conductor in charge of the first passenger train that came into Okmulgee. Mr. Workman was another "find" of the hard-working pioneer laundry business to make the parade a success.

One of the airplanes in this pageant of progress belonged to the Garland Aviation school, which has a school branch on Burke airport at Okmulgee, and other belonged to the Spartan Aircraft company of Tulsa, one of the three or four Oklahoma Overhead, while the parade formed and while it was winding its way down the streets,

HE CAME HERE 44 YEARS AGO

Few Delegates Earlier
In State Than
Fred Tracey

Few delegates to the constitutional convention, if any, were earlier settlers in the territories which later became Oklahoma, than Fred C. Tracey of Beaver. He has been at Beaver since 1885 or 44 years.

Mr. Tracey was a member of the famous committee on county boundaries at the convention. He also has a number of county and city offices, including clerk of the probate court of Beaver county, county clerk, postmaster and various city offices. He was county clerk six years before statehood. By profession he is a merchant.

One fact that has struck Mr. Tracey as outstanding in connection with the convention is that no member of the 15 who made up the committee on county boundaries has ever been charged with any corruption or irregular practice in connection with the work of the committee, in spite of the bitter debate then centered about that work.

Mr. Tracey was born at Springfield, Ill., Jan. 17, 1868. He has a wife and two daughters.

Williams Holds High Positions In Government

United States District Judge Robert L. Williams of Muskogee is one of the most widely known and respected men in the state.

He was the first chief justice of the state supreme court, and as such had the trying task of setting a precedent in construction of the constitution which he helped to write at Guthrie in 1906 and 1907.

Stepping from the state supreme court into the governor's chair, Gov. Williams served during the World War as chief executive of Oklahoma. He left the governor's chair to become federal judge.

Judge Williams was born on Bear creek, near Brundage, Ala., Dec. 30, 1858. This was in Pike county.

He came to the Indian Territory in 1886, landing in Atoka, Okla., on the morning of Aug. 24.

Carlton Weaver Came to State in Box Car and Made Fortune

With one exception Carlton Weaver was the youngest member of the Oklahoma constitutional convention at Guthrie in 1906 and 1907, but there probably wasn't a man in the convention who had less thought of such things when he first came to the territory than did Weaver when, at the age of 17, he ran away from his Texas home to "make his fortune" in the wild Indian country.

That he has made that fortune is attested by his ownership of the Latimer County News-Democrat, its only newspaper in his county; extensive land holdings in Latimer county and a large cattle ranch north of Wilburton.

Born in Mount Vernon, Texas, Aug. 25, 1881, young Weaver got his primary education there before he decided 17 years was enough for one spot. He rode "six poor pullmans," commonly known as box cars, to Pauls Valley and there, for a solid year, worked at hard physical labor.

He went to Ada in 1900 and, after working a year as clerk in a general store, acquired the Ada Weekly News. Two years later he launched the Ada Evening News, which publication he managed until he entered university in Kentucky. Then he attended Oklahoma university, but during the summer he was encouraged to make the race for constitutional delegate on the Democratic ticket, and did so.

He won the race against three other Democrats with a plurality of 168 votes more than all his opponents combined. He was "licked to death" to meet, on the convention floor, Dr. James S. Buchanan of the university, his history professor of the previous year, who also had been elected a delegate.

William G. Ledike of Eucla was a few months younger than Carlton Weaver, and the two young delegates had not much to say, except that Weaver made a vigorous demand for the recall to be inserted in the constitution. At the reunion Tuesday in Okmulgee, Judge R. L. Williams said he, in his older years, had come to the same conclusion; that the recall proviso should have been placed in the constitution, and the people given power to elect state officers instead of having the state legislature impeach them.

Following the constitutional convention, Weaver returned to Ada, where he was married to Miss Amanda James Haynes of that city, and within a short time he was seen in the pub-

licating business. Since 1914 he has been the owner and publisher of the only paper in his county, the Latimer County News-Democrat. Recently he tendered the Boy Scouts a large tract of land at Robbers' Cave as a permanent camp site. He is highly interested in Boy Scout work and in game conservation, having promoted the establishment of a large state game preserve in Latimer county.

WATTS CHOSEN AS FIRST PAGE

As Boy, He Wrote Letter
To Murray And Got
Job Promise

Owen Watts, chief page at the constitutional convention in Guthrie, was born at Muldrow, now Sequoyia county, in 1895, and 15 years later moved to Wagoner, so that his education was obtained in both those cities and in Sallisaw, where he lived for a short time before his family moved to Wagoner in 1919.

A child of 12 years, Watts at his father's instance wrote a letter to William H. Murray, prior to opening of the Guthrie convention, asking for appointment as page at that assembly. Mr. Murray replied that if he had the good fortune to be elected president of the assembly, he would name young Owen Watts a page. When the convention opened, Watts was right on the job, and no sooner had Mr. Murray been made president than he named the lad first page.

After the convention, and prior to moving to Muskogee in 1923, young Watts completed his education as far as college goes, but attending the University of Michigan for six years, and there he obtained his Bachelor of Arts and Doctor of Law degrees.

He served three years in the army during the World War, and resigned his major's commission in the infantry at expiration. He has kept up his job, however, and now holds the rank of Lieutenant-colonel in the organized reserve corps of the infantry. He was with the Ninth division during the war. In 1921 he was married to Miss Ione Bernice Brown of Ann Arbor, Mich., and they have one girl, born in 1924.

J. A. BAKER WELL KNOWN

Wewoka Man Took Up
Life of Farmer After
Session; Died in 1925

Jesse Albert Baker, who went from Wewoka to the constitutional convention in Guthrie in 1906 and 1907, was an attorney there for many years, and one of the most widely-known men of what is now Seminole county. Mr. Baker, who died at Wewoka July 26, 1925, had practiced law in Wewoka prior to attending the convention, and engaged both in the practice of law and farming at Wewoka after the convention.

He was born in Bartow county, Georgia, May 9, 1852. He received an education in public and private schools of Georgia, and came to Wewoka in the opening of the twentieth century.

Surviving Mr. Baker are his wife, Mrs. Jeannie B. Baker; daughters, Mrs. J. V. Thomas of Akron, Ohio, and Mrs. Lucy B. Cole of Wewoka; a son, George M. Baker.

Ellis Is Author Of History Book

From long before statehood, A. H. Ellis of Hayward has been helping to guide the destinies of the Indian country.

When territorial government came to Oklahoma, he was a member of the fourth territorial legislature in 1897. Later he was elected a delegate to the constitutional convention.

Mr. Ellis was born in Shelby county, Ind., Dec. 17, 1851. He came to Oklahoma territory from Kansas on Sept. 16, 1883, and took an active part in public affairs. After his service in the fourth territorial legislature as a representative of Garfield county, he was chosen as a delegate to the constitutional convention and was elected second vice president.

When the convention was laying out the territorial lines on the state map, it named Ellis county after Mr. Ellis.

He was elected a member of the first state legislature, and subsequently selected him as speaker pro tem.

Mr. Ellis is the author of "History of the Constitutional Convention," said to be the only book of its kind in print. He has just completed another volume, "Land Titles in the United States," which is still on the press.

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Okmulgee Daily Democrat

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Read Today's News
Today
In the Democrat

FAMOUS PIONEERS OF OKLAHOMA TROOP TO CITY

TODAY

Build Up State Judiciary Says Murray at Reunion

EX-GOVERNORS, OTHER NOTED, HERE FOR DAY

Hall of Fame Moved to Okmulgee; Thousands See Visitors

By ARCHIE WHIZBANG
Big news today. In Okmulgee, Okla., the drafting of the state's constitution has been celebrated. The sturdy minds who compiled one of the strongest sets of fundamental laws of all the states were together once more. Twenty-three years ago, they faced a big task. But they had taken 'this writer's' advice and knew how to THINK.

How much good it would do that state today if its leaders would really THINK and come to realize the value of a fleet of a million or so AIRPLANES. They should quit spending money on roads and be ready to repel an able army of Japanese who could anchor a fleet in the Red river 200 miles away and send a couple of billion planes ahead to destroy Okmulgee.

Forty years ago Oklahomans feared a shortage of gunpowder. Twenty years ago they were afraid of a shortage of money. Now they fear the short skirt. But everything 'has' always turned out for the best, so DON'T SELL OKMULGEE SHORT.

America is fortunate in having women. It would be a pitiful nation without women. Columbus made his mistake in not taking women along. The pilgrim fathers had the right idea.

OKLAHOMA'S FLAG ATTRACTS ATTENTION

Okahoma's new state flag was an object of curiosity in the parade last Tuesday. Not everyone knew what it represented. And they may be excused because it was the only one in Okmulgee. It was the only one at the city library after visiting coming the city for one.

Alfalfa Bill Suggests Changes in Speech Before Delegates

Okahoma's greatest problem today is the improvement of its judiciary, to the end that state laws shall be interpreted as the constitution intended that they should be. W. H. Murray, president of the constitutional convention reunion, said here Tuesday.

"The way to maintain a government of law," he said, "is neither to permit a mixture of the executive and the legislative, nor the appointment of the executive should sit as a member of the legislature. By this method alone can we preserve our government of law."

"In the early history of this republic, there happened to be a great and zealous patriot, a man with a great mind, with looking toward the successful administration of the government, and the right exercise of the national power—sitting on the bench for many years, defining the constitution and the law so that when he retired from the bench, there was a long list of uniform and consistent decisions to guide our judges in the future. It is this uniform, consistent, able line of reasonings, which mark John Marshall as one of the greatest jurists known to civilized men.

"But regretful to say, when we organized our state judiciary, it was impossible to secure such a judiciary as in the early history of our national government. We did the next best thing in electing R. L. Williams and Sam Hays to the bench. As I saw then, the work of the constitutional convention was in danger unless we elected

KNOW HIM?



Know this man:

He is William H. Murray of Tishomingo, otherwise known as Alfalfa Bill Murray or Cocklebur Bill Murray, and he was president of the Okahoma Constitutional convention at Guthrie in 1906 and 1907. He is ordinarily referred to as the father of Okahoma, because of his untiring efforts to have a real constitution written and adopted, despite those who opposed to retain their lucrative appointments under "prolonged administration" from Washington under territorial laws.

to the supreme bench men who could construe the constitution of its makers.

"But alas! The people seeming to forget to follow sensible and safe leadership, have now truly moved to Okmulgee on that historic day when this city became the center of all eyes and bright spot of a world.

Some of the most famous men of Okahoma dropped their other pursuits to come here Tuesday, Sept. 17, and mingle once more for an auspicious gathering as ever has been held in a Southwestern state.

There was Charles N. Haskell, who built the Kansas, Okahoma Gulf railroad; the Midland Valley railroad; the old Cherokee Central railroad which now is the Okmulgee-Tytestown branch of the Frisco. It built interurban street car lines, helped make the Arkansas river, navigable and thus cut down freight rates on the railroads.

There was R. L. Williams, now federal judge of the Eastern Okahoma district, first chief justice of the state supreme court, war-time governor. Martin Edward Trapp, Johnston and Mr. Haskell made day.

Names to conjure with in the history of Okahoma were bandied about the city and the owners thereof scanned by the assembled thousands. William H. Murray, O. H. P. Brewer, Dr. James S. Buchanan, Samuel W. Hays, Ben F. Harrison, C. W. Board, W. W. Hastings, and others who have made their mark doggedly fighting for advancement of Okahoma, were here that day, casting aside the cares of state or private business for the grand reunion with their fellows of the frontier councils, legislatures and assemblies.

The Okahoma Hall of Fame truly was moved to Okmulgee on that historic day when this city became the center of all eyes and bright spot of a world.