

This will be deposited in the Corner
Stone of the New Outlip Building
October 2nd, 1926.

At the urgent insistence of Mrs. Outlip, I am depositing in the corner stone of my new building many things that I deem of importance to the future ages, or rather that will be of interest to them. I only hope that these lines may last through the ages to give interest to those people who will then be living in a community and state that has been my state since 1889, more than thirty seven years ago. It shall always be my state.

Wewoka (which means Barking Waters in the Seminole Indian tongue) is the county seat of Seminole County, which at this time is highly important in the eyes of the world because of its great production of petroleum oil and gas. Wewoka was really founded, if that word may be used for that occasion, in 1866, soon after the great Civil war; when the Indians came back from their refuge in the north of their reservation. They were led by one Elisha J. Brown, a white man; and he builded him a home and started a small trading post on the present site of Wewoka. From that gradually grew up a settlement which came to be known as Wewoka. Later the settlement became the Capitol of the Seminole Nation. Council buildings were constructed and the governmental business conducted by the Indians from this place.

In 1895 a railroad was constructed through the settlement. It was then known as the Choctaw, Oklahoma and Gulf Railway- later it was purchased by the Rock Island lines. Wewoka then moved from its resting place on the south bank of Wewoka Creek to the south of the railway lines and the building of the town commenced.

In November 1902, the townsite company put on a sale of town lots which was conducted by means of a lottery, except that every one who paid in Forty dollars got in return a chance at the most valuable property of the town and in any event two lots on the townsite. That drawing took place in the front of the building that burned down on which the present building which will contain these statements now stands. People from all over the world, Africa, England, China and Canada, participated (mostly by proxy) in the drawing. It was successful.

Again the town begin to build and progress until the World War, when practically every young man of the town went away to the great war, and things were at a standstill. They came back, many of them, some never returned. They then entered into the spirit of their home town and began to push it forward.

Back as early as 1901, prospecting for oil on the townsite of Wewoka was commenced. It spasmodically progressed, without much success, except showing that proclaimed the proximity of oil, until in March, 1923, on St. Patrick's Day (the 17th) when what was known as the Faith discovery well brought a program of development with successful results that has lasted continuously and prosperously down to the present time, October 2nd, 1926, and holds in store many many more years of prosperity and development.

Statehood came to Oklahoma, composed of the Indian Territory, in which Wewoka was then located, and the Oklahoma Territory which adjoined the Seminole Nation on the West. Wewoka was made the county seat by the Constitutional convention. Later it had two hard fights to maintain that place of advantage, but was each time successful.

The last two or three years have seen the most decided progress and change in this town that has been witnessed in any community of the state or the west. I mean real progress and improvements.

From a small town of fifteen hundred population we have grown to a city of the first class with a population of at least five thousand. With it came all the necessary improvements: miles of substantial paving, fine new churches, an excellent, well constructed Court house; Hundreds and hundreds of new homes, many fine business properties. Streets that were but wastes a few years ago are now the center of a busy population. Bright lights shine of the night where a short time ago the bat and the owl roamed without molestation. The history of Wewoka is the history of the times, it stands for progress. May the future held in store for you the same progress, or may what we have done reflect for you and the coming ages a vaster, larger and more substantial progress, upon which the work of the men of this age has builded you a foundation.

The building in which the corner stone that contains these many memories is but an instance of the progress of the present time in this community. The present citizenship hopes to build bigger and better and add thousands and thousands as the years go by to the present population of the city. This, we realize, can be done only by the utmost unity of effort. We have that fine characteristic in the present citizenship. It has gone far and we hope will go much further.

I have just been informed by my builder that the corner stone will be laid and sealed up this afternoon, and therefore these statements are not as full or as elegant as I would have wished for. I am trying to give to those of you who will be here when all of us who are here at the present time will have ceased to be remembered. I will not even have time to correct or add to, which is a matter of regret.

Just to the north of my building is that of Col. W.S. Kow, a veteran of the World War, and an excellent citizen. He is now Warden of the State Penitentiary at McAlester, yet he calls this his home, and has builded much for the city. His building, too, is constructed along the lines most approved in construction at the present time and will go down, we hope, for countless centuries.

Other men who have builded much in Wewoka the present year should have especially mentioned, as descendants may have information, should these lines ever be read in the future:

W.F. Parker, George Sheritt: these two men have done much to build up the city of Wewoka. J.A. Ligon, John W. Sartin: they too have done much.

At this time the Magnolia Petroleum Company, one of the great oil producing companies of the present times has its central divisional offices in Wewoka, with hundreds of thousands of dollars worth of supplies and equipment. The Prairie Oil and Gas Company, the pioneer oil producing concern of the Mid-continent fields, also has its divisional headquarters in Wewoka. Other companies are likewise quartered here. It produces great business for the business men of the city. Hundreds of thousands and more-millions of dollars, are being made by reason of the development for oil at this time in Wewoka and its vicinity. The great trucks go chugging by with their heavy oil field materials. As I write the noise from the street rolls up in great volume, proclaiming the activity of the business life of this community.

No where in the state is there such activity in the business world as is to be found in Seminole County. This now mostly comes from oil, but we realize that the prosperity of all times comes from agriculture and we have the possibilities for that in this county, and hope that the future years will justify this brazen boastfulness. Fertile fields throughout this county will no doubt in the future make it one of the important agricultural counties of the state.

In the government of the city I was its first Mayor, after it came to be a city of the first class operating under a charter signed by the Governor of the state, Hon. M.H. Trapp. It pays no salary. Myself, as its Mayor, Mr. Don Cambell, Commissioner of Finance and Mr. W.F. Parker, the Commissioner of public works, have complete supervision. We draw no salaries but employ those who do the work of the city, giving of our time that needed to insure the best possible government. Ours is a supervisory office. We have tried to build a city, and have succeeded surprisngly. Many things of importance to a community we have been allowed by the fine citizenship to do. We have constructed a great reservoir for the cities water that is of the utmost importance to any community. We have provided adequate fire protection, installed a complete water and sewer system. We have been able to hold the expenses of the city government at a minimum. Practically it is self supporting. We have hired no men that were not needed, this accounts for its financial standing at this time.

Newoka is an historical spot in Oklahoma. Here was the remount station in the early days where the troopers changed their mounts and rested going from Ft. Sill to Fort Gibson, early day far flung army posts of the frontier. Here the renowned George Custer, later massacred by the Souix Indians in South Dakota, sojourned for a time. Likewise many other of the notables of a half and quarter century ago. It was at this place the Seminole Indians came and selected their allotments when this vast domain was checkered out into 60, 120 and 240 acres allotments. Of these the Indians chose, or were chosen for. This was the center of the Seminole Government and to-day the old whipping tree of the Seminoles stands at the Southwest corner of the court house; now a great pecan tree throwing its branches far above the imposing building and a protecting manner, and as though still offering an assistance to the administration and enforcement of the laws. The old execution tree where the Indians were shot to death for major crimes, rests to day in the historical society rooms in the State Capitol, but it stood almost upon the spot where this corner stone now rests.

In this age the women wear bobbed hair for the first time in history. They also have discarded the long skirts of the past and use a very short garment that comes to just about the knee. Rouge, paints and powders are used in abundance, never before witnessed in this country. A freedom of the toilet is also experienced. It is not unusual to see a girl or a more mature woman, for that matter, stop in the streets or some other public place, and paint and powder. They carry little powder puffs, and one is lost without it, and even on occasion borrow from her companion, if she has misplaced her own. The liberty of the boys and girls to us who were of a different school is also noticeable. While a quarter of a century ago, if a young man placed his hands on the arm or back or person of a girl friend, she was looked askance at, but more often the girl herself would have chastised her companion. But to-day it is not uncommon for a young man to stand and hold the arm or hand of his companion, or even place his arm about her shoulders, or slap her upon the back in aboyish frankness and comradeship. Yet I find that the young men of the day are just as considerate of their girl friends welfare as we of another time, and the girls are just as nice

This is the most enlightened age we have ever known. With education and enlightenment comes better people. Therefore it develops that the present and the coming generations ~~will~~ are better and will be better as education and enlightenment prospers.

Another thing that that is in transition at this time, and will not doubt have changed much if ever those lines are read by the coming centuries, is that of the church. To-day we find it slipping. Hundreds of cults are springing up and branching off from the established churches of the times. This means that the church is weakened. In every instance the dissatisfaction and differences of opinion among the different denominations, is purely on immaterial points of worship, construction of their bible, and really elementary matters. The great groundwork of the church, the building up of civilization, the moral development and the circumscription of mans desires, of course is expressed in each denomination. But we find them branching off because one faction believes that Foreign Missions should receive their funds direct from the hands of the resident church and not through a board; or find one where a difference of opinion as to baptism has caused a split in the ranks; or again one believes that our present day of the week, Saturday, is in reality the Sabbath day, and they keep that day when the day set down our Sunday as the sabbath; or again we find one church branching off from its foundation because it does not believe that musical instruments should be heard in the church building; however the member may be on an instrument in her home; or again we find one going off because of a difference of opinion as to the church letter. Some hold that a church letter is immaterial because the Lord knows best, and the qualifications of the member really rests with him and his God; therefore they split up and form a church of their own; thereby weakening the great religious fabric of the country to a point that has become more than noticable at this time, and will no doubt having a bearing upon the future in which you who read will live. This is a matter of deep regret to all, whether they be of the membership of some church or not. I am a member of no church and have never felt any urge in that direction. Yet I too, look with regret upon this breaking up of an agency that has worked for the very best there is in mankind. Breaking up simply because of differences of opinion about matters of no importance. There has got to be a reorganization, let us hope that it comes soon. The human family is so built that restrictions, either mental or governmental, must be placed upon it, and the churches have been and should be now the agency calculated to do the greatest good along that line. It is not given us of today to look into the future, but we hope that at least the education and enlightenment we find in the land will in a measure keep the human family in due bounds where the church has been such a great agency in so doing in the past.

The political situation of the government at this time is becoming alarming also. Our government is based upon an intelligent vote. A great majority of people in all times and in this time are not intelligent. Yet they all vote. The result of that is the selection of mediocre material for government positions. Men who are capable and honest are deterred from asking for public office because of the fact that the pettyfogger goes before the common people preaching a doctrine that will be a panacea for all their ills and garners in the votes where he who is honest and intelligently presenting the issues of the day can not get any support from the unintelligent voter. Things are coming to a crises rapidly. Just at the time in the state a political campaign is going forward between the two great parties of the present with a difference of policies only in matters that are utterly immaterial to the proper administration of the states affairs. So it goes, and we hope the future will profit better in this matter than we.

The schools of the land are better than ever before. They are raised on a better foundation. This holds out hopes for the future more than any thing else of the present. Where a while back half of the population of the United States was illiterate, today it has diminished to a negligible per centage. That means those who could read and write. As time goes on I believe that it will mean more than reading and writing. It will build for a better understanding and indicate into those things that are of utmost importance to a race of people or a government. A study of the reasons for morals, a study for the reasons for government; these when taught and understood will do much to better mankind. The schools of the country are doing more along this line than any other agency at the present. Our schools are free schools, where the poorest may go and be taught. We have had free text books, but such things are always hedged about by so much chance of graft that one doubts the feasibility of such procedure or law. What should be engendered into the human mind is the DESIRE to become better educated, a desire to know more things that are worth while. That is approaching at this time in the land and it holds a great candle for the betterment of the future.

Having touched, simply touched, upon those things that are of general interest to us, and therefore we conclude will be for you of the future, I want to close by a few references to my family and myself, and you may take it is egotistical if you desire, I will not be there to suffer the embarrassment of the occasion.

I am 45 years of age. My wife and I were married on March 22nd, 1903, and aside from the family quarrels and misunderstandings that come to all, we have had a pleasant and prosperous married life. We have one child, Maxine, now twenty years of age. A wonderfully fine, sweet girl. Refined and ladylike in every way. A monument I am forced to confess to her mother's excellent attention, and I am not taking away from the girl's natural qualifications by this remark either.

Starting as we did poor we have always enjoyed much of this life, and I think we have lived to its best. We have travelled, we have had the comforts and conveniences, and have now perhaps reached that stage in life where we have a competence. We have given to our family and friends the laughs and the cries incident to life. We have harvested much, know sorrow, with its tears, and shared in the joys of our friends. We haven't built much of a fortune and didn't care to do so, but we have plenty. We have never indulged our daughter, and she would not have been indulged to excess if we had been so selfish as to have wished it. We have tried to be just ordinary good, neighborly people. Putting into life the best we had and taking out of it very much of the affection, love and respect of our neighbors and friends.

I hope that the future will progress as much in lines that are worth while to mankind as have the years that I have been upon this earth. It has been the age of achievement. We have given you the base, may we hope you build well upon it.

It is strange to type this out for those I know will be hundreds of years in the morning; but the same sunlight, the same skies, the same rivers and seas and mountains, that have been so pleasant to us in this day will be just as splendid to you in yours. The earth will give of its treasures and the mind will give of its genius. It would be great if one could come back and see; but we cannot, and that is well. Good-bye.

October Second, 1926.

TO THE PEOPLE OF FUTURE AGES:

If these lines are permitted to last for their eyes and not fade away, the many enclosures will be interesting and historical.

The old building constructed by the Wewoka Trading Comapny in 1902 burned to the ground in a disastrous fire on October 28th, 1925. On its site the present building was constructed by myself. Have enclosed a historical sketch typewritten which am of the opinion will not stand the ravages of time as well as this ink. But the laying of this stone came without warning and I am forced by time to make collection less elaborate than otherwise. am also enclosing kodak films and kodak pictures of my wife, Amo B. Cutlip, who has labored at my side giving encouragement when my spirits were down; also of our daughter, Maxine Cutlip, who is now 20 years of age. This composes my family and fate has willed it that they cannot be present at the depositing of these papers although the idea was that of Mrs. Cutlip. Maxine having been threatened with lung trouble, they are in Colorado Springs, Colorado, where I will go immediately after depositing these mementoes. Maxine has totally recovered however.

This building was commenced in April, 1926 and completed in October of same year. It is of the very latest design and best construction of this period,--practically fire proof.

Wewoka is now a city of 5,000 people situated in a county where petroleum oil is being now produced in the greatest abundance of any spot in the world. The city is very prosperous. Three years ago it was a village of 1500 people. Today everything is smart and up-to-date. All conveniences of these times are afforded its citizenship. I was and am the first Mayor of Wewoka and with Don Campbell and W. F. Parker have helped materially in making it one of the prettiest and most lovable cities of Oklahoma.

We have a prosperous and industrious cicizenship and hope to build a city of many more thousands. Those of you who read this will think of these times as that of wild Indians and desperadoes, -- nothing of the kind. There are no Wild Indians and Oklahoma's population is the most enlightened, progressive and cosmopolitan of any state and Wewoka

ranks well up in the lead of other cities of the state.

It is a peculiar feeling I have, sitting here indicting these lines in my office with the sun shine gleaming in, the orchestra playing in the cafe below and all of life about me, and yet I am writing for those who have decades upon decades yet to be born and see the same sunlight that is playing into my windows. I have done considerable writing in my life and took much pleasure in it because of the fact, perhaps, that others criticized or praised, but these lines, if their destination be reached, will give forth no praises or criticism that my long since vanished remains will have knowledge about.

I have been fortunate in my life and believe that one gets out of life just what they put in it. I have tried to put sunshine and good fellowship, love for my family and provide for them in keeping with their station in life and the times in which we live. It is a fine family. We feel we have the respect and love of our neighbors, which is life. There are some of course whom one would rather not have the respect or affection of, all the ages will provide such people. We hope they will decrease as the ages roll by. The trend of these times is toward a breaking away from the Puritanical ideas of the past. There is a liberty never before witnessed between the boys and the girls. Yet it brings us no harm that I can see. People are healthier, happier, and more long lived than in any age before us. I believe that with the coming years will come more wisdom and consequently less sorrow. That ignorance is the base of most trouble and that most trouble is not really such, but a mental condition. We have lived in an age that has given the world the most in every line. May we hope that what we have given will be the basis for greater progress in your time and I feel sure it will. The possibilities of the human mind has barely been scratched at this time and as the ages roll by, I am sure of a mental development that will mean progress that those of today could not comprehend.

I wish I could enclose a list of my many old friends who have labored with me so faithfully in building up the community and city from the really pioneer days, but time and space forbids. For those who may read these lines in the years to come allow the Cutlip family and Wewoka citizenship to wish everything good and pleasant. May the progress that comes to you be as advantageous as ours has been to us.