

The Philosophical  
Society of Texas

PROCEEDINGS

1939



Five college and university presidents were among those attending the Annual Banquet in the Hall of State. Shown at the head table under the medallion on the south wall are, left to right: Dr. Raymond T. McLain, president of Transylvania University; Dr. Homer T. Rainey, president of the University of Texas; Dr. Edgar Odell Lovett, president of the Rice Institute; Dr. Herman G. James, president of Ohio University; President G. B. Dealey; Dr. L. H. Hubbard, president of the Texas State College for Women, and Mr. George Waverley Briggs, President-elect.

PROCEEDINGS  
OF THE ANNUAL MEETING  
OF

*The Philosophical Society of Texas*

DALLAS  
DECEMBER 5, 1939

## The Philosophical Society of Texas

ON DECEMBER 5, 1939, the 102nd anniversary of the date of the founding of the Philosophical Society of Texas, members and invited guests met in the Court of the Six Flags in the Hall of State at Dallas to hold the annual meeting and banquet. The Society gathered in this ceremonial room on the invitation of the Dallas Historical Society, custodians of the Hall of State.

Because of the unusual character and perfection of the banquet, the directors ordered that recognition be accorded in these proceedings to all persons and groups responsible for its success. The banquet hall itself is one of the most stately and impressive. The banquet tables, their decoration and appointments and the service were all appropriate to the inherent beauty and grandeur of the setting. Members and their guests united enthusiastically in proclaiming the banquet, together with the Oration and program, one of the most memorable of occasions.

In museum cases beneath the six flags to which Texas has owed allegiance, the Dallas Historical Society had arranged a display of memorabilia relating to the Philosophical Society of Texas. The original Constitution, adopted on December 5, 1837, and signed by the members present at that first meeting;<sup>1</sup> a copy of the January

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<sup>1</sup>The Constitution is the property of Mr. George Sears, a grandson of Colonel W. Fairfax Gray, secretary of the Society in 1837. It was sent to the Hall of State by the San Jacinto Museum of History, where it has been deposited.



13, 1838, issue of the *Telegraph and Texas Register*, containing the first news story published regarding the Philosophical Society; and the brochure issued in 1936 announcing the re-establishment of the Society, were included in the display. Gold buttons of the Navy of the Republic of Texas, made from the original die by the Scoville Manufacturing Company of Waterbury, Connecticut, were favors for members.

The Philosophical Society of Texas was founded on December 5, 1837, by twenty-six of the leading men of the Republic of Texas. They met in the Capitol in Houston and perfected an organization dedicated to the collection and diffusion of knowledge. After an active existence of a little more than two years, the original society fell apart but without any formal dissolution. In connection with the observance of the Centennial of Texas a group of citizens reorganized the Philosophical Society of Texas on December 5, 1936. They had previously sought and received a charter from the State of Texas, in which the purposes are stated to be the perpetuation of the memory and spirit of the founders, the encouragement of literary, scientific and philosophical research and the fostering of the preservation of documents and materials of historical value.

Admission to membership in the Society is by invitation, following the proposal of and favorable vote upon a nominee by members of the Society. By-laws of the Society provide that not more than one hundred Active Members, not more than fifty Associate Members and not more than twenty-five Foreign Members may be elected and hold membership in the Society at any one time. Active and Associate Members must have

been born within, or must have resided within, the boundaries of the late Republic of Texas.

Members present at the meeting on December 5, 1939, were Mrs. Baker, Miss West, Messrs. Acheson, Black, Bodansky, Briggs, Castañeda, Cary, Dealey, DeGolyer, Gambrell, Graham, George A. Hill, Robert T. Hill, Hubbard, James, Kemp, Knott, Kurth, Locke, Lomax, Lovett, McGregor, McReynolds, Molyneaux, O'Donohoe, Owens, Potts, Rainey, Randall, Rhea, Schoffelmayer, Sellards, Scott, Stephens, Sumners, Vinson, Watkin, Webb, Whar-ton and Wrather.

Guests included Mrs. Charlotte Baker Paine, Colonel and Mrs. C. C. Walsh, Mrs. E. H. Cary, Mrs. John E. Owens, Mrs. Joseph E. Cockrell, the Rev. Dr. Paul J. Foik, Miss M. R. Kerr, Miss Beatrice McDermott, Mrs. John F. Knott, Mrs. J. H. Black, Mrs. Eugene P. Locke, Mrs. Alex W. Spence, Mr. and Mrs. William B. Ruggles, Mrs. Laurence H. Rhea, Mrs. Victor H. Schoffelmayer, Dr. J. J. Terrill, Mayor and Mrs. Woodall Rodgers, Miss Virginia Leddy, Mrs. George A. Hill, Jr., Mrs. L. W. Kemp, Mr. Ted Dealey, Mrs. C. S. Potts, Dr. A. C. Scott, Miss Virginia West, Mr. Paul Crume, Mrs. C. C. Wright, Mr. and Mrs. Theodore H. Barrett, Mr. and Mrs. Murrell L. Buckner, Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Moroney, Mrs. George Waverley Briggs, Mrs. W. E. Wrather, Mrs. E. DeGolyer, Mrs. I. K. Stephens, Mrs. H. B. Decherd, Mrs. Stuart M. McGregor, Mrs. Rice R. Jackson, Dr. Raymond T. McLain, Miss Edith Briggs, Mrs. Edward Randall, Mr. R. K. Harris.

Mr. G. B. Dealey, president of the Society, presided.

The invocation was given by Msgr. O'Donohoe.

## Introductory Remarks by the President

*Members of the Philosophical Society of Texas, Ladies and Gentlemen:*

ONE hundred and two years ago this evening the Philosophical Society of Texas came into being. It was founded by twenty-six of the men who created Texas out of their blood, their brains and their vision. They dedicated their society to the diffusion of knowledge.

The founders met in an insubstantial frame building that housed the newly-born Government of the Republic of Texas at Houston. We who revived the Philosophical Society meet with our guests tonight in the inner shrine of this marvelously beautiful Hall of State. Mirabeau B. Lamar, Sam Houston, Anson Jones, Ashbel Smith—could any of those stout-souled patriots have even dreamed that others to come after them would be able to create such a masterpiece of art within a short century of their meeting?

But it is peculiarly appropriate that we banquet here on this anniversary. One of our major aims in reviving the Philosophical Society is to honor and to perpetuate the memory of the men of the Republic. This magnificent building is the reverent expression of the people of Texas. It was erected to commemorate the deeds of the founders and of all others sharing in a century of truly Texian achievement.

At the place of each member of the Society there is a small gold button. The design of this button has

also been reproduced upon the seal of the Philosophical Society of Texas. These buttons, like the Society, hark back to a day when Texas was in the making. They have been cast from the original die cut by a Mr. Scoville, in Connecticut, for the Navy of the Republic of Texas. They have been presented to us by the Scoville Manufacturing Company of Waterbury, which is still in the button business at the same old stand.

Arranged in display cases over there are several exhibits which will interest all of you. These exhibits have been assembled by the Dallas Historical Society, which makes this building useful to the people of Texas.

One is the original constitution of this society. It is in the handwriting of its founder, President Lamar. The signatures of the other original twenty-five members are affixed to it.

In the same case will be found the statement of purpose adopted in 1837. It concludes with this ringing challenge: "Texas has her captains; let her have her wise men".

In the adjoining case will be found a copy of an issue of the *Telegraph and Texas Register* published at Houston. It contains the first news story that ever appeared about this Society. There may be found also some additional data regarding the original Society, as well as its revival in 1935 by a group of citizens of modern Texas. At the conclusion of our program you will want to study these at your leisure.

As we meet tonight upon this anniversary, amidst mementoes of what is often called the "Heroic Period"

of the History of Texas, we are reminded that *peace hath her victories no less renowned than war*, which is to say that while the Texas we are proud of was born upon the battlefield, it has become great through the arts of peace.

Mirabeau B. Lamar wrote a fervent appeal for education into the statement of purposes for this Society in 1837. Two years later he obtained legislation which later established our great system of free, public schools and the capstone of that system, the University of Texas.

One of the original members of this Society, a Phi Beta Kappa from Yale, lived long enough to become the Chairman of the Board of Regents and to preside over the first meeting of the faculty of the University of Texas in 1883. Like another distinguished gentleman who recently held that position, Dr. Ashbel Smith, lived in Galveston. As a youth in Galveston your President well remembers the familiar and honored figure of Ashbel Smith. A New Englander by birth who served as a colonel in the army of the Confederacy, he is affectionately remembered as "the Father of the University of Texas".

So much by way of saying that the interest of this Society and its members in the University of Texas is not new.

The University at Austin, Galveston and El Paso has been fortunate throughout its history in commanding the services and loyalties of many notable leaders in the field of education. None has served more brightly or to the greater honor of the institution than the gentleman whom the Society has the rare privilege of having as



its guest this evening. A Texan from his youth, an alumnus of famed old Austin College, and a former president of the Presbyterian Theological Seminary at Austin, he was called to the presidency of the University of Texas in 1916 at a time of the unforgettable crisis. From his lips and from one of the major actors in an heroic drama of our times, we are to hear tonight some chapters in the unpublished history of the University of Texas. Although he left us for a time after 1923 to become president of Western Reserve University, and since 1934 has resided in our neighboring State of New Mexico, Dr. Robert Ernest Vinson will always remain a Texian in our thinking. We welcome him back home tonight in fondness and sincerest admiration.

*I have the honor and privilege, ladies and gentlemen, to present Dr. Vinson, who will speak to the subject "Candid Portraits of Two Friends of Higher Education in Texas".*

CANDID PORTRAITS OF TWO FRIENDS OF  
HIGHER EDUCATION IN TEXAS

ROBERT E. VINSON

WHEN the suggestion was first made that I should prepare a paper to be presented at this annual meeting of the Texas Philosophical Society, its proponents expressed the opinion that the years 1916-1923 were of some significance in the life of the University of Texas and that some of the more intimate and personal details of those years, which have escaped other records, might not be without interest to the members and should be preserved in the archives of the Society. I have yielded to this importunity partly because of my many personal obligations to this group of friends for their support and confidence and partly, too, because of the feeling that the intimacy of the Society itself might make it proper to speak of matters, which in different circumstances could not be so fully disclosed. In the nature of the case, too, many things were said and done, during those years, which are known only to myself and as age advances I find myself impressed, increasingly, with the feeling that if I do not make some record of them they will not be recorded. Perhaps they are not worth recording, but still, such as they are, they did play their part in the decisions that were made and, therefore, those decisions cannot be appraised with complete accuracy unless and until some of these intimate details are revealed. I have held myself ready, through all the intervening years, to answer any call that might come to me to contribute to a better and fuller understanding of the recorded events of my ad-

ministration of the University, for I have an affection for it and an interest in it which the passage of time can neither efface nor diminish. Let me say further, in this preamble, that I am painfully aware of the personal pronoun in this paper. If I knew of any literary device by use of which this could be avoided I would certainly employ it. Lacking this I can only beg your indulgence.

After almost a score of years spent in other interests and activities, my years at the University of Texas seem marked in my memory by two conditions. One is the loyalty and whole-hearted support of the faculty and friends of the institution. This I can never forget. Whatever of importance and value came to the University out of those years, the credit for it lies there more than in any other thing. It was more than compensation for the pains and penalties experienced. It made the work a joyous undertaking. The other recollection that I have is that my administration was largely characterized by controversy. It presented more things to fight about, I think, than is usually the case even in the life of a state university. It began with a "bear fight", the struggle to maintain the freedom and integrity of the institution; it plunged from this immediately into service to the Nation during the World War, when all systematic and formal educational methods and processes were held in abeyance; before these could be readjusted in an orderly manner, there came a tremendous upsurge in the demands made upon it by increasing attendance; internal adaption of the organization to this larger task was required; the physical plant was absurdly inadequate; these were, in broad outline, the conditions that had to be met. Most of them were controversial

in nature or provided large room for difference of opinion both as to method and extent. They were, too, imperative and came so quickly, each upon the heels of the other, that decisions had to be made often upon the spur of the moment. The quiet shades of Academe were invaded and dispelled. Conscious as I am of their many imperfections and inadequacies, I am glad to have lived long enough to see that they were growing pains and that peace and constructive effort have come with greater maturity.

During all those years and throughout all those controversies there were two men whose support and loyalty have placed me under obligations which I can never hope to discharge. The University and the State rightly hold them in great esteem, for they were among the greatest benefactors of the University whom the State has produced. Long ago I determined that should the opportunity ever be offered me to pay a public tribute to their memory I would avail myself of it and thereby pay something of the debt I owe them. I propose tonight to speak with that intent. Those men were George W. Littlefield of Austin and George W. Brackenridge of San Antonio, both members of the Board of Regents for part of my term, but whether on or off the Board my confidants, advisers and helpers. Both were strong men, self-reliant, capable. Both grew up with the State of Texas, had far-sighted vision of and confidence in its progress and profited, materially, to an unusual degree from their shrewd judgments of its values. They were exact opposites. I trust it may not be indelicate for me to say now that their dislike of each other was profound. There was between them a personal antagonism

which I can only explain by saying that it had its roots in the Civil War and the period of reconstruction that followed. Each of them seemed to regard the other as the representative, if not the embodiment, of the principles which had once driven the Nation asunder. Any yielding of one to the other would have been regarded by both as a surrender of the principles for which they had stood and fought. It was not easy to know these men. They did not wear their hearts upon their sleeves. On the contrary, as seems to be the case with so many successful men, they surrounded themselves with protective devices, defense mechanisms, of various sorts, which tended to ward off all but the most persistent, and in consequence, they acquired a general reputation of being lacking in the finer and more agreeable qualities. But this was not the case. Once their defenses were penetrated one found in both of them a wealth of sentiment and richness of personality more than sufficient to compensate for the efforts expended in their discovery.

It fell to my fortunate lot to know them both well. I have said that they were opposites. One was primarily a man of thought, the other a man of action. One always wanted to know the explanation and meaning of things, the other the best method to do things. Mr. Brackenridge was by instinct a scholar. His mental companions were Charles Darwin, Alfred Russell Wallace, Thomas Henry Huxley, Herbert Spencer, John Tyndall, and curiously enough, Isaiah and Paul. He kept their writings by his bed and on his table. He read them and as he used to say "quarreled with them" every day. Any extended conversation with him would always



arrive, sooner or later at cosmogony, the origin and evolution of life and its destiny. This was the circle of his thoughts. In his later years he impressed me as laboring under a feeling of disappointment, if not frustration, as though life had played a trick upon him and had by some means kept him from the fulfillment of his most cherished desires. He was a good business man, but business was a side issue with him, apart from the world in which he really lived. And so he became an inglorious, if not an altogether mute, Herbert Spencer. Major Littlefield, on the other hand lived and died in the world and in the work that he loved. The men who were Mr. Brackenridge's familiars were but names to Major Littlefield, if that. He is rather to be classed with men who carve empires out of the wilderness, who make the desert to rejoice and blossom as the rose, who push against the horizon. Like the chief figure in *de Senectute* he was busy to the last, always conscious of the generations pressing up behind him, for whom he was making preparation. When Mr. Brackenridge spoke of the University of Texas he always emphasized the word *University*. Major Littlefield emphasized the word *Texas*. One was primarily concerned with the policies of the institution, the other with the people whom it served.

In all my experience with these men, the *University* was the one thing, the only interest, they had in common. But this mutual interest was so strong in each of them as to lead these two fundamentally antagonistic persons into a number of co-operative undertakings of which the *University* was the beneficiary. Looking back over my observation of them as fellow members of the Board of Regents, I do not now recall any instance in

which they opposed each other upon matters of policy before that body, which is, in itself, a good indication of their ability to disregard their personal differences and to look objectively upon the interest entrusted to their judgment. So much so was this the case that I finally reached the very comfortable conclusion that if they agreed then the thing must be right.

Having drawn the portraits of these men, as I knew them, in broad and general strokes, let me proceed to fill in a few of the details which may go to illustrate some of their traits of character and to show the strength of their common love. I have time to mention only three out of a much larger number, for these, aside from serving the main purpose I have in mind, were after all of rather crucial importance in the life of the University. In the first of these the two men cooperated, in the second Major Littlefield was the chief actor, in the third Mr. Brackenridge played the leading role.

The members of this Society are familiar with the history of the veto that backfired, or proved to be a boomerang. In this the Governor undertook to veto the entire appropriation made by the Legislature for the expenses of University operation for the biennium 1917-1919, having failed to accomplish his objectives by other methods. My own first intimation of his intention in this direction came through a telephoned request from Major Littlefield to meet a committee of the Board of Regents in my office on the Saturday afternoon which was the last legal day for the Governor to approve or disapprove the bill. When the committee arrived it consisted of Major Littlefield and W. P. Allen, accom-

panied by John A. Lomax and John W. Brady, who had heard that something was in the wind and who had come along for to see and to observe. Major Littlefield was spokesman for the committee.<sup>1</sup> He stated that the Governor had the bill before him and that he intended to act upon it, one way or the other that same afternoon. The substance of their errand was that if I would resign the presidency of the University the bill would be approved, if not it would be vetoed in toto. As I now recall that meeting, Major Littlefield proceeded to emphasize the obvious results that would ensue upon the veto of the measure, but expressed no opinion as to the kind of action on my part that he would recommend. My first reaction to the proposal was that a pretty high value was being placed upon my decision and that I must have been far more of a thorn in the flesh of certain people than it had been possible for me to imagine, accompanied by quite a strong feeling of indignation at both the proposal itself and the fact that it had been timed in such a manner as to leave no opportunity for reflection or mature consideration. Just at that moment the ringing of the telephone interrupted the proceedings and the voice of Bishop Kinsolving came to my ears. "No matter how I know it, but I know what is going on," he said, "but don't you resign." That message had much to do with the decision then made. After some rather heated exchanges, I turned to Major Littlefield and asked him to put himself in my place and tell me frankly what sort of an answer he would make if he

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<sup>1</sup>Mr. John A. Lomax recalls that his presence in my office on the day the committee of the Board of Regents presented the Governor's contemplated action on the appropriation bill was due to a call either from me or from my office inviting him to attend. He also thinks that Mr. Dudley K. Woodward was present. I am glad to accept this correction.

were faced with the same alternative. His reply was immediate, direct, and I have always considered quite adequate and suitable. "I would tell him to go to hell," he said. That remark concluded the meeting, for while I told him that his language was somewhat out of line with my own customary forms of expression, I would authorize him to convey the substance of his statement to the Governor as my reply, leaving the exact verbiage to his own discretion. Within an hour word came that the appropriation had been vetoed and the bill filed with the Secretary of State, which, of course, made the action final.

There is no question but that the affairs of the University had reached a crisis, the implications of which still make me tremble. After the passage of more than a score of years, I still cannot find in myself any sense of complacency in the fundamental righteousness of that decision. I still do not know whether it was right or wrong. I only know that it was made under duress, in the heat of conflict when judgment is held in check and when one has nothing to depend upon for guidance except one's set and tendency, an automatic reaction rather than a considered decision. I had reason to feel that many others were equally concerned with the same question, for not a word reached me the next day either of sympathy, disapproval or approval, while for me the day passed in searching of heart and an almost frantic effort to find some way out. By the end of the day I had determined upon two courses of action. The first was to find out the exact nature of the veto message, whether it was all-inclusive or only partial and whether there was anything there upon which we might

rely. With this in mind I sent, the next morning, my secretary, Fritz Graff, to the office of the Secretary of State with instructions to take a copy of the bill and mark it exactly in accordance with the veto and to make also an accurate copy of the veto message itself. He returned in the course of the morning and pointed out the fact that one item in the bill had been approved, the salary of the professor of Applied Mathematics, and following that the veto message covered, as I recall, thirty-one pages of the bill, with the message itself written at the bottom of that page. But at the top of page thirty-two there was a recapitulation of the bill, making an appropriation for the University and its branches of something like \$3,000,000 for the biennium in question, and this recapitulation was untouched. Then, for the first time since Saturday, as the Germans say, "Dann ging mir ein Licht auf"; and I felt that at least we had a fighting chance for life. I had had some years of experience with the criticism of documents on the basis of internal evidence, and while I knew nothing at all about the law, I was confident that the veto message, in the light of the evidence contained within itself, was open to the interpretation that it was the intention of the Governor to veto only the itemization of the bill and to leave the entire sum to the University to be spent within the discretion of the Board of Regents. The marked copy of the bill together with a letter asking for a concurrence in that opinion was therefore immediately dispatched to the office of the Attorney General and I carried out my second course of action by driving over to San Antonio to spend the remainder of the day and the following night with Mr. Brackenridge.



The conference with him resulted in his agreement to underwrite the expenses of the University for the next biennium out of his own private funds, even to the extent of his entire fortune. But he suggested that Major Littlefield was deeply interested in the University and that perhaps he might like to join in this engagement, for a part, even as much as one-half of the amount involved. This proposal, as coming from Mr. Brackenridge, was immediately presented to Major Littlefield, who not only expressed a willingness to match Mr. Brackenridge dollar for dollar in the undertaking, but to take over the entire responsibility, if necessary. While it is history that by the end of the week we were in possession of the ruling of the Attorney General concurring in the opinion as above expressed as to the intention of the Governor and that legally the appropriation was still intact, and further that just a little later the Legislature in special session repassed the bill and it was signed by Governor Hobby, these facts in no way militate against the generosity of these two men.<sup>2</sup> In the course of my experience as a university executive I have had many occasions to be grateful for whole-hearted generosity, in some instances for sums larger in fact than the amount involved in this transaction, but among them all this one stands out as the superlative example of its kind. It was particularly valuable because it really defeated itself. It aroused public opinion. It

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<sup>2</sup>In making the above statements I had no intention of conveying the impression that my memory is accurate in such details as the number of pages included in the veto message. The published opinion of the Attorney General's office (*The Report of the Attorney General of Texas from September 1, 1916 to August 31, 1918, pages 122 to 131*) shows that the veto message, in fact, covered twenty-four pages of the bill, but the totals on page 27 were not so vetoed, the intervening pages being devoted to appropriations for the School of Mines and some other items that were not blue-penciled.

renewed hopes that had almost disappeared. It had tremendous weight in bringing about the final result of the struggle, that left the University both whole and free. If these two men had never done anything else than this, they would be deserving of undying memory and imperishable gratitude. Other men were the founders of the University. These men were, in their hearts, its saviors.

Next in chronological order I want to give some intimate details of the acquisition of the Wrenn Library. The formal history of that conspicuous event, written by Mr. Frederic Norcross, which came into my hands a few years ago is accurate, so far as it goes, because the things which I shall relate here were, in the nature of the case, unknown to him. My account must therefore be taken not in any sense as a criticism or correction of his, but purely as supplementary. The credit for the initiation of the movement to acquire this library belongs, of course and permanently, to Dr. R. H. Griffith of the University English staff and curator of the Wrenn collection. He came to me just after Christmas holidays with the story of a search he had made during that period. He had a list of some twenty-one English plays and had explored libraries of the North and East in vain for copies. Finally, in Chicago, Professor Baskerville of the University of Chicago suggested that he examine the collection of English and American literature which had been assembled by Mr. John H. Wrenn, then recently deceased. He did so and to his intense delight found in that collection nineteen, I believe, of the twenty-one plays for which he had been searching. Dr. Griffith became so enamored of the beauty of this

library that he spent the remainder of his vacation making a more detailed examination of it, coming finally to the conclusion that it was so complete and valuable that he must make every effort to acquire it for the University of Texas. He expressed the opinion that on account of the fact that it was part of Mr. Wrenn's undivided estate the heirs might be willing to sell it intact, rather than it should be dispersed, and he thought that it might be valued for this purpose at something like half a million dollars. I was greatly moved by his enthusiasm but the sum of money mentioned quickly brought me back to earth. With the financial condition of the University in mind his dream did not seem possible of realization.

I remembered, however, that Major Littlefield had been contributing funds for some years to the department of history for the purchase of materials relating to the history of Texas and the South and, further, that he was inclined to take seriously the duty of the Board of Regents to provide for the State a University of the first class, as required by the Constitution. So on the general principle of "nothing attempted, nothing done," I went at once to see him and related, as best I could, Dr. Griffith's story. He expressed the opinion that if the library were as represented the University ought to secure it and then inquired whether there were sufficient funds on hand to enable us to purchase it. Being answered in the negative, he then asked where I expected to find the money. That question was so direct and pertinent that it sent shivers down my spine, but having gone so far I was determined to see it through, so I took my courage in hand and told him that I had

come to see him in the hope that he might find it possible to provide the necessary funds. His answer was, "But that's a lot of money, Doctor." I agreed to this but reminded him that he had always been urging me to make the University first class and that if this library were so beautiful and complete as Dr. Griffith had described it, its acquisition by the University would enable the institution to take a long step in the desired direction. It would give the University possession of a treasure so unique and valuable that scholars from all over the world would, sooner or later, be compelled to find their way to the University of Texas, and our own faculty and students would find in it materials for research of incomparable value. He was thoughtful for a moment and the room was filled with a sound of stillness, and then all tension was removed and all hopes revived when he said, "I don't know whether I have that much cash on hand or not." Picking up his telephone he called his bookkeeper in the bank and asked him to bring him at once a statement of his balance. In a few minutes a slip of paper was laid before him and he immediately wrote a check to my order for \$500,000 and handed it to me. Having done this, his enthusiasm began to mount until it was soon equal to my own, which was considerable, and he requested me to leave the next morning for Chicago and get the Wrenn Library and if the amount provided should prove to be insufficient for that purpose to let him know and the balance would be forthcoming.

The plan then formed was carried out. Mr. William H. Burges, then of Chicago and now of El Paso, gave invaluable assistance both in the examination of the collection and in the negotiations of purchase. The statement set forth upon the memorial tablet in the Library

that the University's possession of the collection was due to the combined generosity of Major Littlefield and the heirs of Mr. Wrenn is not only strictly correct but, to my mind is a beautiful comment upon Major Littlefield's generous spirit. He not only raised no objection to this combination but was heartily in favor of it. Before the purchase negotiations were completed the collection was examined and appraised by three men, expert in such matters. My recollection is that these appraisals ranged from approximately \$600,000 to more than \$800,000. The price actually paid was \$225,000, and for the first time on record, probably, a University declared a dividend and a college president surrendered money once in his possession, for upon my return to Austin I not only brought the Library but also a check to Major Littlefield for \$275,000.<sup>3</sup> There is no need for me here to relate further details of this lovely experience nor to comment upon the value of this piece of beneficence to the University. Suffice it to say that Major Littlefield, himself, throughout the remainder of his life experienced nothing but unalloyed pleasure from this gift and, when, later, opportunity came to secure the Garcia collection, he was one of the strongest supporters of that movement.

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<sup>3</sup>Since the address was delivered in Dallas, Dr. Griffith, at my request, has made some investigation of contemporary records. It appears, from these, that I have compressed the incidents of two, if not several, trips to Chicago while engaged in negotiations for the purchase of the Wrenn Library. One newspaper records that on the last of these I took with me to Chicago Major Littlefield's personal check for \$225,000. If this is correct, the account given in the address is somewhat more graphic than, but not materially inconsistent with, the facts. The incidents of my conversation with Major Littlefield and his generous response are too deeply etched in my memory to be forgotten. It was in line with this that he later paid for the decoration and furnishing of the room for the Library, in the cost of which he declined to permit Mr. Brackenridge to share.



I do not know the date of Major Littlefield's last will and testament in which he made provision for so many bequests to the University, but I do know that after the gift of the Wrenn Library he discussed with me, on many occasions, his contemplated benefactions to that institution and I gained the impression that that particular act really opened the fountains of his generosity.

I feel, further, that I ought to say that of all his gifts to the University that which lay closest to his own heart was the gate to the University campus. He talked about it more, and more feelingly, than about anything else. He gave much thought to the significance and symbolism of this monumental structure. It represented, in a sense, a life-long dream or hope or ambition and he went through much struggle to make it really represent his mind. It grew upon him, too. At first it was his purpose to make it a monument solely to the Confederacy, for to a degree unsurpassed by any man I have known, Major Littlefield lived and died in the firm conviction of the righteousness of that cause. It is therefore no small tribute to the qualities of his mind and heart that this life-long conviction came to be included in, if not supplanted by, another which grew out of his observation that the American Nation had finally emerged out of the World War as one whole, fused, as it were, in those new fires. He wanted to give physical expression to this thought. He considered that a university campus was the best place in the world to hold such a memorial to one, united, free nation. I can see him now as he talked about the symbolism of the gate, sitting squarely in his chair, his feet firmly planted

upon the floor, gesturing with a pencil in his hand. He talked not only about a memorial to one free nation, but about keeping the nation for the future, both one and free. "Education," he would say, "is the only way to do it. It will be a long and a hard fight but it is sure, and I want to build something on the campus of our University to be a permanent reminder to our boys and girls of Lamar's words that 'Cultivated mind is the guardian genius of democracy'." That was characteristic of him, even though that quotation is the only one I ever heard him make, for he always was opposed to short-cuts to either wealth or Utopia. He believed in the long way, the hard way. He always considered that the future is long enough to accomplish what ought to be accomplished and if brought about by the slow processes of education, it would be sound and sure. He often made me think of that philosophy to which Isaiah gave classic expression, "He that believeth shall not make haste." I do not know whether Major Littlefield gave any written expression of this in his instructions with reference to the gate, but that this is what he had in mind, I, for one, can have no doubt.

But, for fear lest I exhaust your patience and my time, I must hasten to conclude these reminiscences by some reference to the third instance of which I have spoken, in which Mr. Brackenridge played the leading part. This has to do with the expansion of the campus of the University from the original forty acres to its present proportions. To appreciate fully the significance of this movement, we ought to keep in the background of our minds a picture of conditions on the campus

immediately following the World War. Students began to arrive in unprecedented numbers. The faculty had to be enlarged to provide adequate instruction. But the physical plant was so unequal to the current demands as to make it little short of absurd to try to expand it or adapt it, under existing conditions, to its new task, not to speak at all of the future. Repeated efforts had been made to amend the Constitution so that the Legislature might make direct appropriations for buildings. These were without success. Then, I confess it, we tried the method of evading the Constitution, for which notable precedents existed, but the Legislative conscience was too sensitive for relief to be secured through this channel. And then, just when the case seemed hopeless, oil was discovered on University lands. That event gave the kaleidoscope a sudden turn and the future took on a much more roseate color. Many things then seemed possible, which, without that discovery, had been hopeless. So plans began to take shape to bring about the much desired but long delayed results.

Mr. Brackenridge was then the owner of five hundred acres of land, lying along the Colorado River in the vicinity of the Austin dam. In discussing our problems and plans with him, he said to me one day, "Why don't you undertake something really worth while for the future of the University. Give the Legislature and the people of Texas a shock. You have everything to gain and nothing to lose. Let's go after this thing in a really big way." He then offered to deed his five hundred acres to the University if the Board of Regents and the Legislature would accept them as the future and perma-

ment home of for the institution.<sup>4</sup> As the result of that conference and his offer, a paper was prepared for presentation to the Legislature, outlining the existing conditions of the University and giving some forecasts of its future expansion and needs. It drew such a picture of the place and function of the University in the life of the State, such a vision of its possible future, as only a man of Mr. Brackenridge's intellectual endowments was competent to see and to paint. It has always seemed to me that it is in cases like this that we experience one of the fundamental weaknesses of the democratic system, for, unfortunately, the decision of this matter lay in the power of lesser men.

But it was a noble fight. The plan was looked upon as visionary and grandiose. I recall one member of the House of Representatives who made a short but very effective speech against the bill. He arose in his place and said: "Mr. Speaker, just what sort of an institution is this for which we are asked to provide a campus? Is it a university or a goat ranch?" I wonder what his answer would be to his question if he were living today. On the other hand, there were men who saw the vision and who made such an effort to bring about its realization, that if they did not accomplish it, they at least put themselves in a position to demand and secure something like an adequate compromise. As I recall, it was Lee Satterwhite, representative from Amarillo,

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<sup>4</sup>There was a general belief around the University that at the time Mr. Brackenridge offered to deed the 500 acres for the future home of the institution the University had already, for some years, been in possession of the land. My recollection is that Mr. Brackenridge had made provision in his will (dated I think in 1913) bequeathing the land to the University and, in anticipation of this eventual ownership, had permitted the University to make use of some of the land for certain purposes. At the time he made me the offer referred to I had no doubt that the title was still in his possession and subject to his control.

who led the fight in the House. After the tumult had gone on for some days, he finally came to me and reported that he thought the bill to move the University would be defeated, but that if I would take a map of the city of Austin and mark on it the boundaries of the campus that would appear to me to be adequate, around the forty acres, he would introduce it at the proper time and he thought that he could secure its adoption. So the map was marked and the thing was done in that way. It was a compromise, made with regret, the sacrifice of a golden dream, but there it is.

I stood by the grave of each of these men and committed their bodies to the ground, "earth to earth, ashes to ashes, dust to dust." In each case I felt that "a prince and a great man had fallen that day in Israel".

*President Dealey:* I have the honor to announce tonight the election to membership of the following distinguished Texans:

Edward Christian Henry	Laura Lettie Krey
Bantell	Ernest L. Kurth
Meyer Bodansky	Eugene Perry Locke
Edgar A. DeWitt	James Wooten McClendon
A. Caswell Ellis	Charles Tilford McCormick
Gibb Gilchrist	Charles Francis O'Donnell
Malcolm K. Graham	Homer Price Rainey
Leon Green	James Fred Rippy
J. Evetts Haley	John Elijah Rosser
William Pettus Hobby	Jefferson Davis Sandefer
Louis Herman Hubbard	Elias Howard Sellards
Herman Gerlach James	John W. Spies
Jesse Holman Jones	

It is a matter of regret that the Society was unable to accept the invitation of some of our Austin members to hold this meeting in that city. The directors felt that, in view of the very crowded schedule of events there in connection with the inauguration of President Rainey, it would be unfair to burden the Austin members with this additional responsibility. I would recommend, however, to the incoming directors that the next annual meeting be held in Austin, in line with a policy of rotating the annual meetings among the various cities of the State.

Committees appointed by my predecessor in office, President Lovett, have filed with the directors resolutions on the deaths of Mrs. Percy V. Pennybacker, Colonel E. M. House and Judge Frank C. Dillard, who

died during 1938. Another committee has filed a resolution on the death of Judge James T. Montgomery in May, last. Without objection, these resolutions will be published in the Proceedings of this meeting.

The report of the nominating committee was then read and adopted.

Your committee on nominations moves the election of the following officers and directors for the term ending December 5, 1940:

*For President*, GEORGE WAVERLEY BRIGGS  
*For First Vice President*, DR. WILLIAM J. BATTLE  
*For Second Vice President*, W. L. CLAYTON  
*For Third Vice President*, DR. HENRY COHEN  
*For Fourth Vice President*, MSGR. J. G. O'DONOHUE  
*For Fifth Vice President*, HARRY B. WEISER  
*For Recording Secretary*, MISS JULIA IDESON  
*For Corresponding Secretary*, SAM ACHESON  
*For Treasurer*, JOHN E. OWENS  
*For Librarian*, DR. WILLIAM E. WRATHER

*For Directors:*

G. B. DEALEY	HERBERT P. GAMBRELL
GEORGE WAVERLEY BRIGGS	W. A. RHEA
GEORGE A. HILL, JR.	DR. UMPHREY LEE
DR. EDGAR ODELL LOVETT	DR. DAVID LEFKOWITZ
DR. CHARLES S. POTTS	K. H. AYNESWORTH

SAM ACHESON,  
 JOHN E. OWENS,  
 CHARLES S. POTTS, *Chairman,*  
*Committee.*

President Dealey then presented Mr. Briggs.

*Mr. Briggs:* My heart is profoundly stirred by this evidence of your favor and your trust.

I would account it a signal privilege in the life of any man, and certainly it is a rare distinction in my own, to be elevated through the magnanimous consideration of indulgent friends, to the high plane of succession to the illustrious names that have graced the Presidency of this Society.

Accordingly, as I humbly arise to make due acknowledgment of this mark of your preferment, my first impulse, if not, indeed, the only impulse to which, at the moment, I feel competent to respond at all, is to express grateful appreciation of your confidence and esteem and to voice the earnest assurance that my aspiration and my effort shall be modestly to wear the honors and worthily to fulfill the responsibilities which, in balanced measure, the dignity and the duty of the office confer.

I may say, moreover, and I am sure with propriety, that I share with you a robust and ardent pride in the Philosophical Society of Texas. I glory in its lineage, in its legends, in its legacies to posterity, in the superior quality of its membership and in its ideals, ambitions and aims. With you, I rejoice in the fruitful opportunities which it has already utilized and improved for the diffusion of a wider, deeper and more liberal understanding of the animating and sustaining philosophy by which the economy and the culture of our State and national life have been made to grow, to flourish and to expand into the richest civilization of the modern world. With you, confidently, and with the unostentatious courage of a resolute, simple trust, I am eager to embrace the opportunities of the future for its greater enrichment. And, likewise, with you, I adhere firmly, unalterably,



to the belief that the freedom to enjoy the great heritage from the past, and the greater acquisitions which the unfolding of the future is sure to hold, is complemented and made secure only by ready, swift and indomitable purpose to cherish, to defend and to support that sublime privilege—in all circumstances, under all conditions and against all foes, regardless of whence they come!

Only in devotion to such a faith can we perform our duty to the past, or fulfill our responsibility to the future. Only in devotion to such faith does love of country become unaffected and sincere; and let us never forget that, where love of country is perfunctory, superficial, or evanescent, a sacred sentiment is absent from the human heart, a vital element of virtue is wanting, and religion and culture and honor—and all, indeed, that life holds of essential good—are bereft of a conspicuous witness to their moral sway.

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At the request of President Dealey, Mr. Briggs took the chair, and, after expressing the Society's appreciation of the work of all the committees and its gratitude to Doctor Vinson for the inspiration of his masterful address, adjourned the meeting.

BY-LAWS OF THE SOCIETY

On May 7, 1936, the incorporators adopted the following By-Laws, which reproduce in spirit and effect the By-Laws of the original Society:

*Section I.* The annual meetings of the Society shall be held in the city of Dallas, Texas, or at such other places in the State of Texas as the Board of Directors may select from time to time. The annual meetings shall be held on the fifth day of December—such date being the day on which the Society was founded in 1937. The Society shall meet in called meetings at such other times and places as the Board of Directors may decide. The Recording Secretary shall notify in writing all members of the Society at least ten days before the time set for such meetings.

*Section II.* There shall be three classes of memberships in the Society. (1) Active members, the number of which shall not at any time exceed one hundred; (2) Associate members, the number of which shall not at any time exceed fifty; (3) Foreign members, the number of which shall not at any time exceed twenty-five. To be an active or associate member a person must reside in, have been born in, or have at some time resided in, the geographical boundaries of the late Republic of Texas. All other members shall be foreign members. Vacancies in active membership may be filled from the associate memberships only. Neither associate members nor foreign members shall have voting powers.

*Section III.* Three members in good standing may nominate a person or persons for membership in the Society, such nominations to be made on forms to be supplied for that purpose and filed with the Recording Secretary of the Society, nor later than one month before the annual meetings in any year. From the nominations so made, the Board of Directors shall recommend to the Society the candidates for membership whom they believe to be qualified for membership. Members shall be elected by ballot by the Society from such lists of nominations and recommendations at its annual meeting. A favorable vote of at least three-fourths of the active members present shall be necessary to the election of any member.

*Section IV.* The membership fee for admission to the Society shall be ten dollars, payable at the time of acceptance of membership in the

Society. There shall be no further dues payable by any member of the Society. The Board of Directors may by a majority vote fix an assessment on all members, but it shall never exceed five dollars in any one year.

*Section V.* The officers of the Society shall be a President, five Vice Presidents, one Recording Secretary, one Corresponding Secretary, a Treasurer, a Librarian, and ten Directors, who shall be elected by a majority of the members present at the annual meeting; which officers, at the time of their being balloted for, shall be active members of the Society. They shall hold office for one year or until their successors shall be elected.

*Section VI.* It shall be the duty of the President to preside at all the meetings of the Society; to see that all its decrees and ordinances are faithfully executed; to lay before the Society all communications that may have been made to him; and to submit to the Society all communications that may have been made to him; and to submit to the Society such business and matters as he shall deem deserving its attention: In case of a vacancy occurring in any office, he shall fill the same by appointment, till the next annual meeting. He may suspend until the next annual meeting any officer who shall have conducted himself improperly in office.

*Section VII.* In case of the death, sickness, or inactivity of the President, his duties shall devolve on the Vice Presidents in the order of their rank.

*Section VIII.* The Recording Secretary shall keep a book in which he shall record the by-laws of the Society, a list of the members and their addresses, a journal of the proceedings of the Society, and copies of such communications as may be ordered by the Society to be recorded.

*Section IX.* The Corresponding Secretary shall be charged with all the correspondence of the Society; and he shall keep copies of the same.

*Section X.* The Treasurer shall have charge of the moneys belonging to the Society, which he shall pay out to the order of the President; or in compliance with an express order only of the Society. His accounts shall be rendered at the annual meeting, and be at all times subject to the inspection of any officer of the Society.

*Section XI.* The Librarian shall have charge of all books, papers and other personal property acquired by the Society, under such regulations as may be made by the Board of Directors.

*Section XII.* The officers of the Society shall be *ex-officio* a committee of publication, to act in conformity with such regulations as may hereafter be passed by the Board of Directors.

*Section XIII.* Members may be expelled for improper conduct by vote of a majority of the members present at an annual meeting.

*Section XIV.* Ten per cent of the active members of the Society who are in good standing shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

*Section XV.* These by-laws may be amended by a majority of vote of the members at any annual meeting of this Society, or at any meeting called for that purpose.

## OFFICERS OF THE SOCIETY

for the Year 1940

*President*

GEORGE WAVERLEY BRIGGS

*First Vice President*

WILLIAM J. BATTLE

*Second Vice President*

WILLIAM L. CLAYTON

*Third Vice President*

HENRY COHEN

*Fourth Vice President*

JAMES G. O'DONOHUE

*Fifth Vice President*

HARRY BOWYER WEISER

*Recording Secretary*

MISS JULIA IDESON

*Corresponding Secretary*

SAM ACHESON

*Treasurer*

JOHN E. OWENS

*Librarian*

WILLIAM EMBREY WRATHER

## DIRECTORS

G. B. Dealey

George Waverley Briggs

George A. Hill, Jr.

Edgar Odell Lovett

Charles S. Potts

Herbert P. Gambrell

W. A. Rhea

Umphrey Lee

David Lefkowitz

K. H. Aynesworth

## MEMBERS OF THE SOCIETY

- ACHESON, SAMUEL HANNA, editorial writer, *The News* . . . *Dallas*
- AYNESWORTH, KENNETH HAZEN, former president, Texas Surgical Society; regent, University of Texas . . . . . *Waco*
- BAKER, JAMES ADDISON, senior member, Baker, Botts, Andrews and Wharton . . . . . *Houston*
- BAKER, KARLE WILSON (Mrs Thomas E.), past president, Texas Institute of Letters . . . . . *Nacogdoches*
- BANTEL, EDWARD CHRISTIAN HENRY, professor of civil engineering, University of Texas . . . . . *Austin*
- BARKER, EUGENE CAMPBELL, former president, Mississippi Valley Historical Association; Distinguished Professor of American History, University of Texas . . . . . *Austin*
- BATTLE, WILLIAM JAMES, former president, Texas Fine Arts Association; professor of Classical Languages, University of Texas . *Austin*
- BIZZELL, WILLIAM BENNETT, president, University of Oklahoma . . . . . *Norman*
- BLACK, JAMES HARVEY, former president, American Society of Clinical Microscopists, and of the American Association for the Study of Allergy; professor of clinical medicine, Baylor University Medical School . . . . . *Dallas*
- BLAFFER, ROBERT LEE, chairman of the board, Humble Oil & Refining Company . . . . . *Houston*
- BODANSKY, MEYER, professor of pathological chemistry, the University of Texas Medical School . . . . . *Galveston*
- BOLTON, HERBERT EUGENE, former president, American Historical Association; professor of American history, University of California . . . . . *Berkeley*
- BRIGGS, GEORGE WAVERLEY, vice president, First National Bank . *Dallas*
- BROGAN, ALBERT PERLEY, dean of the Graduate School, University of Texas . . . . . *Austin*
- BURGES, RICHARD FENNER, former president, International Irrigation Congress . . . . . *El Paso*
- BURGES, WILLIAM HENRY, former president, Texas Bar Association . . . . . *El Paso*

- BURLESON, EMMA KYLE, chairman, Texas State Library and Historical Commission . . . . . *Austin*
- CALDWELL, CLIFTON. M., banker . . . . . *Abilene*
- CASTANEDA, CARLOS EDUARDO, historiographer, Texas Knights of Columbus Historical Commission; director of Latin-American libraries, University of Texas . . . . . *Austin*
- CARY, EDWARD HENRY, former president, American Medical Association . . . . . *Dallas*
- CHANDLER, ASA CRAWFORD, professor of biology, the Rice Institute . . . . . *Houston*
- CLARK, JOSEPH LYNN, former president, Texas Commission on Interracial Co-operation; professor of history, Sam Houston State Teachers College . . . . . *Huntsville*
- CLAYTON, WILLIAM L., member of Anderson, Clayton and Company, cotton factors . . . . . *Houston*
- COHEN, HENRY, rabbi, Temple Beth-El . . . . . *Galveston*
- CONNER, A. B., director, Texas Agricultural Experiment Station, Agricultural and Mechanical College of Texas . . . . . *College Station*
- CRANE, MARTIN McNULTY, former Attorney General of Texas . *Dallas*
- DEALEY, GEORGE BANNERMAN, chairman of the board, *The News* . . . . . *Dallas*
- DEGOLYER, EVERETTE LEE, former president, American Association of Petroleum Geologists, and of the American Institute of Mining and Metallurgical Engineers; Distinguished Professor of Geology, University of Texas . . . . . *Austin and Dallas*
- DEWITT, EDGAR A. . . . . *Dallas*
- DOBIE, J. FRANK, secretary, Texas Folk-Lore Society; professor of English, University of Texas . . . . . *Austin*
- ELLIS, A. CASWELL, director of Cleveland College, Western Reserve University; formerly director of extension, University of Texas . . . . . *Cleveland, O.*
- FARISH, WILLIAM STAMPS, former president, American Petroleum Institute; president, Standard Oil Company of New Jersey . . . . . *Houston and New York*

- GAMBRELL, HERBERT PICKENS, associate professor of history, Southern Methodist University . . . . . *Dallas*
- GEISER, SAMUEL WOOD, professor of biology, Southern Methodist University . . . . . *Dallas*
- GILCHRIST, GIBB, dean, School of Engineering, Agricultural and Mechanical College of Texas . . . . . *College Station*
- GRAHAM, MALCOLM KINTNER . . . . . *Graham*
- GREEN, LEON, chairman, executive committee, American Institute of Criminal Law and Criminology; dean of the School of Law, Northwestern University . . . . . *Chicago, Ill.*
- HACKETT, CHARLES WILSON, professor of Latin American history, University of Texas . . . . . *Austin*
- HALEY, J. EVETTS, formerly field secretary, Panhandle Plains Historical Society . . . . . *Houston*
- HARPER, HENRY WINSTON, dean-emeritus of the Graduate School, University of Texas . . . . . *Austin*
- HILL, GEORGE ALFRED, JR., president Houston Oil Company of Texas; president, San Jacinto Museum of History Association . *Houston*
- HILL, ROBERT THOMAS, former president, Texas Geographical Society . . . . . *Dallas*
- HOBBY, WILLIAM PETTUS, former Governor of Texas; publisher, *The Post* . . . . . *Houston*
- HOCKADAY, ELA, president, the Hockaday School . . . . *Dallas*
- HOGG, IMA . . . . . 2940 Lazy Lane, *Houston*
- HOUSTON, ANDREW JACKSON, brigadier general, retired, Texas National Guard . . . . . *LaPorte*
- HUBBARD, LOUIS HERMAN, president, Texas State College for Women . . . . . *Denton*
- HUTCHESON, JOSEPH CHAPPELL, JR., United States circuit judge, Federal Building . . . . . *Houston*
- IDESON, JULIA BEDFORD, librarian, Houston Public Library . *Houston*
- JAMES, HERMAN GERLACH, president, Ohio University; former director, Municipal Research and Reference, University of Texas . . . . . *Athens, O.*



- JENNINGS, HERBERT SPENCER, former president, American Society of Zoölogists . . . The Johns Hopkins University, *Baltimore, Md.*
- JONES, CLIFFORD BARTLETT, president, Texas Technological College . . . . . *Lubbock*
- JONES, HOWARD MUMFORD, professor of English, Harvard University . . . . . *Cambridge, Mass.*
- JONES, JESSE HOLMAN, Director Reconstruction Finance Corporation, Administrator Federal Loan Agency . . . *Houston and Washington*
- KEMP, LOUIS WILTZ, former chairman, Advistory Board of Texas Historians, Texas Centennial Commission . . . . . *Houston*
- KENNERLEY, THOMAS MARTIN, United States District Judge - *Houston*
- KNOTT, JOHN FRANCIS, staff cartoonist, *The News* . . . . *Dallas*
- KREY, LAURA LETTIE, novelist . . . . . *Minneapolis, Minn.*
- KURTH, ERNEST L., former director, Texas Rural Communities; former member, Texas Planning Board . . . . . *Lufkin*
- LAMAR, LUCIUS MIRABEAU, lawyer . . . . . *Houston*
- LEE, UMPHREY, president, Southern Methodist University . . *Dallas*
- LEFKOWITZ, DAVID, former president, Central Conference of American Rabbis; rabbi, Temple Emanu-El . . . . . *Dallas*
- LOCKE, EUGENE PERRY, senior member, Locke, Locke, Stroud and Randolph . . . . . *Dallas*
- LOMAX, JOHN AVERY, honorary curator of folk songs, The Library of Congress . . . . . *Dallas*
- LOVETT, EDGAR ODELL, president, The Rice Institute . . . *Houston*
- MARSH, FRANK BURR, professor of ancient history, University of Texas . . . . . *Austin*
- MCCLENDON, JAMES WOOTEN, chief justice, Court of Civil Appeals for the 3rd Judicial District; former president, National Conference of Judicial Council Representatives . . . . . *Austin*
- MCCORMICK, CHARLES TILFORD, professor of law, Northwestern University . . . . . *Chicago, Ill.*
- MCGINNIS, JOHN HATHAWAY, editor, *the Southwest Review*; professor of English, Southern Methodist University . . . *Dallas*
- MCGREGOR, STUART MALCOLM, editor, *The Texas Almanac* . . *Dallas*

- McREYNOLDS, JOHN OLIVER, former president, Pan American Medical Association . . . . . Dallas
- MOLYNEAUX, PETER, editor, *The Texas Weekly*; trustee, Carnegie Endowment for International Peace . . . . . Dallas
- O'DONNELL, CHARLES FRANCIS, president, Southwestern Life Insurance Company . . . . . Dallas
- O'DONOHUE, MSGR. JOSEPH GRUNDY, secretary, Texas Knights of Columbus Historical Commission; pastor, St. Patrick's Church. . . . . Fort Worth
- OWENS, JOHN ELZY, vice president, Republic National Bank . Dallas
- PIERCE, GEORGE WASHINGTON, chairman of Division of Physical Sciences, Harvard University . . . . . Cambridge, Mass.
- POTTS, CHARLES SHIRLEY, dean of the School of Law, Southern Methodist University . . . . . Dallas
- PURYEAR, CHARLES, dean-emeritus of the Graduate School, Agricultural and Mechanical College of Texas . . . . . College Station
- QUIN, CLINTON SIMON, Bishop of Texas . . . . . Houston
- RAINEY, HOMER PRICE, president, the University of Texas; former director, American Youth Commission . . . . . Austin
- RAMSDELL, CHARLES WILLIAM, former president, Mississippi Valley Historical Association, and of the Southern Historical Association; professor of American history, University of Texas . Austin
- RANDALL, EDWARD, president of the Rosenberg Library, and of the Galveston County Medical Society . . . . . Galveston
- RHEA, LAWRENCE JOSEPH, professor in the School of Medicine, McGill University . . . . . Montreal
- RHEA, WILLIAM ALEXANDER, professor of law, Southern Methodist University . . . . . Dallas
- RIPPY, JAMES FRED, professor of history, the University of Chicago. . . . . Chicago
- ROSSER, JOHN ELIJAH, former secretary, the University of Texas. . . . . Dallas
- SANDEFER, JEFFERSON DAVIS, president, Hardin-Simmons University; former president, Baptist General Convention of Texas . Abilene
- SCHOFFELMAYER, VICTOR HUMBERT, agricultural editor, *The News*. . . . . Dallas

- SCOTT, ELMER, executive secretary, Dallas Civic Federation; former president, Texas Conference for Social Welfare . . . Dallas
- SEARS, GEORGE DUBOSE, lawyer . . . Houston
- SELLARDS, ELIAS HOWARD, director, Bureau of Economic Geology, the University of Texas . . . Austin
- SMITH, THOMAS VERNOR, professor of philosophy, The University of Chicago; Member of Congress . . . Chicago and Washington
- SMITHER, HARRIET WINGFIELD, archivist, Texas State Library . Austin
- STEPHENS, IRA KENDRICK, professor of philosophy, Southern Methodist University . . . Dallas
- SPIES, JOHN W., dean of the School of Medicine, the University of Texas; former director, Tata Memorial Hospital, Bombay, India. . . Galveston
- SUMNERS, HATTON WILLIAM, Member of Congress . . . Dallas and Washington
- TRUETT, GEORGE WASHINGTON, former president, Baptist World Alliance; pastor, First Baptist Church . . . Dallas
- VINSON, ROBERT ERNEST, former president, University of Texas, and of Western Reserve University . . . Lordsburg, N. M.
- WATKIN, WILLIAM WARD, professor of architecture, The Rice Institute . . . Houston
- WEBB, WALTER PRESCOTT, professor of history, University of Texas. . . Austin
- WEISER, HARRY BOWYER, professor of chemistry, and dean, The Rice Institute . . . Houston
- WEST, ELIZABETH HOWARD, librarian, Texas Technological College. . . Lubbock
- WIESS, HARRY CAROTHERS, president, Humble Oil and Refining Company . . . Houston
- WHARTON, CLARENCE RAY, member, Baker, Botts, Andrews, & Wharton . . . Houston
- WRATHER, WILLIAM EMERY, former president, American Society of Economic Geologists, and of the Texas State Historical Association. . . Dallas
- YOUNG, STARK, author . . . New York, N. Y.

DECEASED MEMBERS

BENEDICT, HARRY YANDELL, formerly president, University of Texas (Austin) d. May 10, 1937.

CULLINAN, JOSEPH STEPHEN, formerly president, The Texas Company (Houston) d. March 11, 1937.

DEALEY, JAMES QUAYLE, formerly president, The American Sociological Society; formerly editor-in-chief of *The News* (Dallas) d. January 22, 1937.

DILLARD, FRANK CLIFFORD, formerly lawyer (Sherman) d. September 25, 1938.

HOUSE, EDWARD MANDELL (Houston and New York) d. March 28, 1938.

MONTGOMERY, JAMES T., formerly lawyer (Wichita Falls) d. May 19, 1939.

PENNYBACKER, MRS. PERCY V. (Austin) d. February 4, 1938.

WHEELER, WILLIAM MORTON, formerly professor, Harvard University (Cambridge) d. April 20, 1937.

## NECROLOGY

### MRS. PERCY V. PENNYBACKER

**M**EMBERS of the Philosophical Society of Texas wish to express their deep regret over the death of Mrs. Percy V. Pennybacker. At the same time they desire to honor her memory, however inadequately, by this brief acknowledgment of the achievements and meaning of her life.

Mrs. Pennybacker was born in Petersburg, Va., shortly after the Civil War. As a small child she was taken by her parents to Leavenworth, Kansas. After graduation from the Classical High School of Leavenworth, she entered the Sam Houston State Teachers College at Huntsville and ever afterward made her home in Texas. She was married in 1884 to Percy V. Pennybacker, then principal of the schools of Tyler. As an instructor in the same schools she was at the outset of a teaching career which ceased only with life itself.

Although Mrs. Pennybacker's classroom teaching spanned only fourteen years and her subsequent activities ramified into many and varied fields, she remained always and primarily an educator. Through her *Texas History*, the pioneer classroom text on that subject, she first led the people of Texas to a widespread appreciation of their past. It was peculiarly fitting that one of her final public services should have been as a member of the Texas Centennial Commission.

Mrs. Pennybacker will always be remembered as an outstanding leader of organized activities among American women, particularly in relation to the democratiza-

tion and expansion of the women's clubs of the United States during the first two decades of the present century. She rose to the highest positions within the Texas Federation of Women's Clubs and the General Federation of Women's Clubs. She was long an activating force in such organizations as the Young Women's Christian Association and the League of Women Voters. During the World War she served on the Food Administration for Texas and in the War Camp Community Service. Afterward she labored in the cause of peace and international justice as an advocate of the League of Nations.

In later years Mrs. Pennybacker gave much of her energy and experience to the furtherance of adult education. She was long a trustee of the Chautauqua Institution in New York State and from 1917 until her death in 1938 she was president of the Chautauqua Woman's Club. The influence of her life and work spread far beyond the borders of her home State; in the course of a long and distinguished life she became truly a citizen of the world.

PETER MOLYNEAUX,  
G. B. DEALEY,  
W. A. RHEA,  
*Committee.*

## EDWARD MANDELL HOUSE

THE members of the Philosophical Society of Texas, moved by a sense of irreparable loss occasioned by the death of their fellow member, Edward Mandell House, on the 28th day of March, 1938, and in appreciation of his great services to his country and to the world, do set forth this expression of their sentiments to be a part of the permanent records of the Society.

A native Texan, born at Houston in the twenty-second year of Texas independence and the twelfth year of statehood, Colonel House became a great American, the most distinguished private citizen of his time, and one of the true servants of mankind.

He was a man of simple tastes, unassuming and self-effacing, whose abiding intent was to merit rather than to obtain worldly honors.

He never aspired to public office, yet his years were devoted to the service of his country and of humanity in a manner and to a degree that have imprinted his name ineffaceably on the scroll of world history.

At the outbreak of the World War in 1914, he was among the first of our countrymen to recognize its full portent for the future of mankind, and from the very outset he labored patiently and with untiring zeal to further the cause of a peace of justice, established firmly through the universal acceptance of the supremacy of law in a world of interdependent nations.

In this cause, and as the personal representative of the President of the United States, Woodrow Wilson, he

spent the period from 1914 to 1917 interviewing statesmen and rulers of the warring countries, in a persistent endeavor to discover common ground and to find a practicable basis upon which a better world order might be set up and an enduring peace attained as the outcome of the war.

After the United States entered the war, he represented this country on the Supreme War Council, but his thought was ever of the settlement that should follow and his concern was that it should be of such a character as to justify the immense sacrifices of men of all countries in the conflict. With the authority of President Wilson, he began almost immediately to prepare for peace by organizing a corps of scholars and experts to make a thorough survey of all the problems involved in the establishment of a just and lasting settlement.

He represented the United States at the signing of the armistice and later as an American Commissioner at the Peace Conference.

It is for history to appraise finally the value of Colonel House's labors for the establishment of a world order of justice and security for all the peoples of the earth, the strong and the weak alike, as the essential basis of lasting peace. We are now in the midst of another world war, and this circumstance alone constitutes a superficial presumption that his labor was in vain. But the cause to which he devoted his life is stronger today than ever before, and the will to a just settlement of the world's problems and to a lasting peace now encompasses millions of men in all countries,



whereas it motivated only a small group in 1914. The present war is a tragic refutation of the so-called realists and practical statesmen at Versailles rather than a defeat of the cause for which Colonel House and President Wilson labored, and that cause remains today the hope of civilization.

The members of the Philosophical Society of Texas, in annual meeting assembled on this 5th day of December, 1939, do adopt these sentiments as a joint expression in memory of Colonel House, and they do hereby direct that as such they be incorporated in the permanent records of the Society.

PETER MOLYNEAUX,  
G. B. DEALEY,  
W. A. RHEA,  
*Committee.*

## FRANK CLIFFORD DILLARD

**W**HEN Frank Clifford Dillard died at his home in Sherman on September 25, 1938, Texas lost a distinguished citizen and the Bar a great advocate. Mr. Dillard was born in Auburn, Alabama, and received his education at the Alabama Polytechnic Institute. In 1883 he came to Texas and entered the practice of his profession at Sherman where, except for seven years, he was to reside until his death.

In 1907 he was called by the Harriman interests to Chicago to handle intricate legal problems connected with interstate commerce, a subject upon which he was an authority. From 1912 until 1914 he was vice president and general counsel of the Chicago, Rock Island and Pacific Railway Company.

On his return to Texas he resumed practice as a member of the firm of Head, Dillard, Maxey, Freeman and McReynolds. He was a life member of the Texas Bar Association and served it with distinction as president in 1898-99. He was a member of the American Bar Association, a delegate to the Universal Congress of Lawyers and Jurists, St. Louis, 1904, and was a member of the American International Law Association, the American Law Institute and the Methodist Church. In 1894 he was married to Miss Mary S. Rountree at Sherman.

PETER MOLYNEAUX,  
G. B. DEALEY,  
W. A. RHEA,  
*Committee.*

## JAMES TALIAFERRO MONTGOMERY

**J**AMES TALIAFERRO MONTGOMERY, a distinguished member of the Texas Bar, died at his home in Wichita Falls on May 18, 1939, at the age of seventy-eight.

A son of Dr. Jacob Montgomery, a pioneer physician who served in both the War with Mexico and the War Between the States, Judge Montgomery was born at Houston, Mississippi, on March 2, 1861. He came to Texas in 1883, soon after being graduated in law by the University of Mississippi; and for fifty-six years his career was a part of the story of the West. As a practitioner of law at Seymour, 1883 to 1894, and at Wichita Falls after 1894, he helped lay the foundations of law and order in that region and watched, even as he helped to effect, the transition from pioneer to modern conditions of Society.

His public service included terms as county attorney of Baylor County, city attorney of Wichita Falls, and judge of the Supreme Court Commission of Appeals. But it was in the practice of the law that he found both his vocation and his avocation. With a breadth of comprehension, deep understanding of the letter and the spirit of the law, he combined broad human sympathy and a love of justice that was almost an obsession.

"His ideal of conduct," remarked a Wichita Falls newspaper at the time of his death, "guided him not only in his profession, but as a citizen and as a neighbor. His was a useful life in every way . . . he exerted his wholesome influence quietly but forcefully in many

spheres of activity. He was an exemplar of the kind of service that enriches and blesses.”

GEO. A. HILL, JR.,

C. R. WHARTON,

HERBERT P. GAMBRELL,  
*Committee.*