

Early Government

KATE BARNARD. That politics makes strange bedfellows was certainly true in the first administration of the young state of Oklahoma. In a nation where Native Americans had been scorned and segregated for decades, Indians and whites served in the same legislature, and both

were called “white.” An African-American man served in a color-conscious lawmaking body. At a time when women were denied the right to vote because of their sex, Kate Barnard was elected the state’s first Commissioner of Charities and Corrections.

Called “Kate” by virtually everyone who ever met her, Kate Barnard was a woman of enormous accomplishment. She was largely responsible for the inclusion of child labor laws and compulsory education provisions in the Oklahoma Constitution. In fact, England’s Ambassador Bryce called the State Constitution the “finest document of human liberty written since the Declaration of Independence.” He gave much credit for that to Kate.

The first woman to be elected to an Oklahoma state office, Kate was responsible for changes in the care of the mentally ill and for requiring sanitary conditions in jails. She was also solely responsible for the care of the state’s orphans.



*Governor Charles
Haskell*

GOVERNOR CHARLES N. HASKELL. The state’s first governor, Charles Haskell, was a colorful figure. Fatherless at age three, Haskell was reared by a school teacher and the teacher’s wife. At age seventeen, he was a certified teacher himself. By the time he moved to Muskogee in 1901 as a widower with three children, he had been a practicing attorney, and he had operated railroad and telephone plant construction businesses.

In March, 1907, Haskell became the publisher of the *New State Tribune*. Lillian Elizabeth Gallup became the second Mrs. Haskell and the first First Lady of Oklahoma.

Haskell's first official act as governor of the State of Oklahoma was to prevent Standard Oil Company from connecting a pipeline from Bartlesville into Kansas. He sent a wire to the Deputy County Attorney of Washington County. Then he sent the militia to *enforce* the order. Haskell's action gave the state government time to decide upon the necessary *regulations* for governing the pipeline industry before many pipelines entered the state.

The Oklahoma State Penitentiary was built at McAlester during Haskell's administration. The brickyard was built first, and then the prisoners began making bricks and used them to build the prison.

The Constitutional Convention and the first legislature had *established Jim Crowism* in Oklahoma. The second legislature added the "*Grandfather Clause*." The *grandfather clause* was a provision in the constitution which based a person's right to vote on whether his father and "grandfather" could vote. It had the effect of preventing African Americans from voting. When Republicans won three of the five congressional seats from Oklahoma, African-American voters were named by the Democratic leaders as the reason. A bill was prepared and passed by Oklahoma voters requiring registered voters to pass a literacy test. Election Board officials were unrestricted in making the test, and the only people who were exempt from the test were those whose ancestors were eligible to vote on January 1, 1866. Few African-Americans were eligible to vote on that date so the "*Grandfather Clause*" meant that African-Americans were denied the vote again.

MOVING THE STATE CAPITAL. Haskell's administration is best known for the removal of the state capital from Guthrie to Oklahoma City. The location of the capital had been a matter of dispute since territorial days. The night that the removal took place, many people were watching in an attempt to prevent its occurrence.

The *controversy* began with the Organic Act in 1890, when Territorial government was approved. Guthrie was named by that act as the meeting place of the first legislature. However, the act also stated that the lawmaking body and the governor should name a permanent location as soon as they found it necessary. Some *contending* cities were granted other prizes to satisfy their hopes for importance in the Territory and later the state.

Stillwater received the agricultural and mechanical college. Edmond was granted the normal school. Norman was given the university.

Dennis T. Flynn, Guthrie's first postmaster, was elected as congressional delegate. He saw to it that provisions preventing removal of the capital from Guthrie were attached to legislative appropriations bills. Such provisions were attached in 1892, 1894, and 1898. In 1900, Congress passed a bill preventing the Territorial legislature from providing funds for a permanent capitol building. In 1906, Bird McGuire of Pawnee was a delegate to Congress. He saw a provision attached to the Enabling Act naming Guthrie as temporary state capital until 1913.

Some members of the Constitutional Convention attempted to *incorporate* the capital location in the new constitution. Other members argued against it, and the proposal was dropped. Several proposals were made for "New Jerusalem" (places where people could make a new start) cities, including one made by William H. Murray in his opening remarks to the legislature as the Speaker of the House. Murray proposed that a neutral site be condemned or purchased and a city built around the state capital, to be paid for by sales of lots and with state-owned utilities and public services. The suggestion was discussed at various times by different groups, but no solid action was ever taken concerning it.

Bills were proposed but went unpassed, naming various cities as the permanent capital of the state. Finally, an election was set for June 14, 1910, to name the capital site. Oklahoma City, Guthrie, and Shawnee were the choices offered to the citizens. They were to vote on whether they wanted a permanent location named and, if so, what that location was to be. Although not specifically stated in the *proclamation*, the people believed the permanent site would become effective in 1913, according to the Enabling Act.

Before the governor signed the *proclamation* announcing the election, he changed the date from Tuesday, June 14, to Saturday, June 11. This meant that the results would become known on a Sunday, when business offices were closed.

Guthrie ran ads with pictures of the attractive office building its citizens had erected, captioned "temporary capitol building." The ad advised people to vote against the bill on June 11 and save their tax money.

Oklahoma City launched a *vigorous* campaign funded by businesses and organizations in that city and advertised the growth and progress the area had made since statehood.

Governor Haskell had gone home to Muskogee to cast his vote and was

en route back to Guthrie when *conclusive* results of the election caught up with him at Tulsa. Of the 135,000 votes counted, almost 100,000 were for Oklahoma City. The governor arranged for a special train to Oklahoma City and contacted his secretary, W. B. Anthony, to meet him there with Secretary of State Bill Cross and the state seal.

With the help of the governor's chief clerk, Paul Nesbitt, and two other employees of the governor's office, Earl Keys and Porter Spaulding, the state seal and the state recording book were removed from the vault and spirited out of the building through a watchful crowd of self-appointed "guards." The articles were concealed in a bundle of laundry which Anthony claimed to have left in the governor's office earlier.

Here, the story becomes unclear. Several legends survive concerning the transporting of the seal to Oklahoma City. Some say it was sent in a limousine that was waiting outside the Guthrie office building. Others say an African-American man riding a mule carried it into the city. Still others claim it went by train. However it was done, it was done successfully. No real records were kept on the subject, for obvious reasons.

The seal was delivered to Oklahoma City in the early hours of Sunday morning, almost at the same time as the arrival of the governor's train. Governor Haskell's first act after securing a room at the hotel was to dictate a *proclamation* declaring Oklahoma City the official state capital. By virtue of use and a hand-scrawled sign in the lobby, the Lee-Huckins Hotel became the temporary state capitol in the new location.

Shock was expressed statewide at the immediate removal of the state office. (Other state officials remained in Guthrie until the question was settled more securely.) Lawsuits were filed, and on November 15, the State Supreme Court ruled that the petition for election had contained a fatal error. It had not begun with the question, "Shall it be adopted." The



Secretary of State Bill Cross and Governor Charles Haskell at the new Governor's office in the Lee-Huckins Hotel in Oklahoma City after the state capital was moved from Guthrie.

election, therefore, was void.

The governor called a special session of the legislature to meet at the Lee-Huckins Hotel on November 28 to consider the capital location matter. He appealed to the governing body in the name of the people, pointing out that they had made their wishes known through a public election. The legislature ratified Oklahoma City as the new capital on December 16, 1910, after a twenty-year fight for relocation.



*Governor Haskell's
Inaugural Parade in
Guthrie on November
16, 1907.*

HASKELL'S LUCK. Charles N. Haskell was a forceful governor, called heavy-handed by some, a strong leader by others. Whatever else he might have been, however, he was daring, and luck seemed to ride with him. He was indicted (formally accused) by the federal government in 1909 as president of two companies that had invested in Creek lands. Creek agreements allowed persons with rights of occupancy to purchase one business lot and one residence lot at half of their appraised value. By the use of “dummy” purchasers — that is, people located on the lots who were not actually interested in them but who were being backed by com-

panies — speculators were able to buy a great deal of property for half its real value.

The case was widely publicized because of the governor's involvement, but it was delayed in court until September 27, 1910. By that time, the Eighth Circuit Court of Appeals had handed down the *Lonabaugh Decision*, which limited prosecutors' time for gathering evidence. Because of this, most of the evidence gathered in Haskell's case was voided, and the suit dismissed.

After his term ended, the governor returned to Muskogee where he was active in state politics for awhile. Then he went on to New York in 1917 to organize a small oil company. By 1924 he had organized several companies and had become a millionaire. His luck ran out in the business world, however, and he lost his fortune before the Great Depression. He *subsequently* went to Mexico where he promoted a toll road from the United States to Mexico City. That road and his work spawned the tourist business which developed in Mexico during the 1930s.

OIL FIELDS AND BOOM TOWNS. While politicians worried about moving the state capital, oil producers were worrying about moving the state's oil. The oil industry moved into the state at the turn of the *century*, and in 1905, the famous Glenn Pool was discovered on the Ida Glenn farm, some ten miles south of Tulsa. Bob Galbreath and Frank Chesley drilled the first three wells there. The first, at a depth of 1,481 feet, produced eighty-five barrels per day. The second well, drilled nearby, produced 700 barrels per day. The third, also close by, produced 2,000 barrels a day. Soon there were 125 wells in the area, producing some 55,000 barrels of oil daily. Galbreath and Chesley owned twenty-four of them.

The greatest problem of the big producers was transportation. While oil from other areas was bringing more than \$2 a barrel, prices at Glenn Pool ranged from 25 cents to 40 cents per barrel because of the problem of getting the oil out of the field. Many large producers built storage tanks to hold their petroleum until the problem could be solved. Small wildcatters (independent oil producers), however, had little time or money and sold their oil for any price they could get. At an average drilling cost of \$5,000 per well, a producer had to sell a lot of 45-cent oil to recover his expenses.

By statehood, the first pipelines had opened, and in October, 1907, the first Glenn Pool oil reached the refineries in Port Arthur, Texas. The

Glenn Pool brought several large companies into Oklahoma, such as the Texas Company (Texaco), Gulf Oil Company, and Standard Oil of New Jersey. The state had also experienced enough problems with the oil industry that it declined to try to make enough laws to handle the situation. Instead, the State Constitution created the Corporation Commission to govern the industry.

Boom towns sprang up in every oil field, creating law *enforcement* problems. Where a small village, or no town at all, had existed before, suddenly thousands of people came. Many were speculators and investors, and some were small business people who followed the oil booms, supplying customers with products and services. Several, however, were drifters following the fields and looking for work or excitement. Others were gamblers who followed the fields looking for a game. Some were confidence artists (dishonest persons) following the fields looking for “pigeons” (someone to steal from). These elements often clashed, resulting in fights and sometimes in deaths.

Early Oklahoma oil producers could not sell their product for very much money until pipelines were built to transport the oil inexpensively to refineries.



When a field was drilled out, the drillers began to leave and so did everyone else. The boom towns soon became ghost towns or returned to the size of small villages. Kiefer and Cushing were two such boom towns.

The Oklahoma oil fields were still booming when the United States declared war on Germany in 1917. During World War I, oil was one of the state's major contri-

butions to the war effort.

1908 ELECTIONS. The first United States senators from Oklahoma were Robert L. Owen and Thomas P. Gore. Republican Bird McGuire

and Democrats Scott Farris, Charles Carter, Elmer Fulton, and James Davenport were elected congressional representatives. Because statehood did not come in a regular election year, the congressmen had to be re-elected in 1908. Farris, Carter, and McGuire were reelected, but Davenport was replaced by Republican Charles E. Creager. Fulton was beaten by Republican Dick T. Morgan.

GOVERNOR LEE CRUCE. The governor's race was also run in less than four years, and Haskell's term of office was up in January, 1911. He was succeeded by Lee Cruce of Ardmore, who adhered to the "spoils system" of government, appointing many of his friends and relatives to fill government offices.

Cruce's first legislature, the state's third, created the Highway Department but failed to appropriate the funds necessary to run it. They also created the Supreme Court Commission, an agency to help the State Supreme Court handle all the lawsuits concerning mineral rights and titles to Indian lands which had arisen from the oil boom.

The third legislature created a State Board of Education, and *controversy* over that board resulted in the state's second special session of the legislature. Cruce appointed the board members but later became dissatisfied with their work. He removed several and named others for appointment.

Some who were removed sought a court order to overturn the removal, denying that the governor had such power. The court order was not issued, but Governor Cruce called a special session of the legislature to settle the matter. The legislature refused to confirm appointments of anyone involved in the *controversy* and asked the governor for new appointments.

Governor Cruce used the militia to *enforce* the law several times. On April 14, 1914, he declared martial law to prevent a horse race from taking place at the Tulsa Jockey Club's annual racing meet. Four times in 1912 and 1913 he used the militia to stop prizefights in McAlester, Dewey, Sapulpa, and Oklahoma City.

Unrest was a key word for Cruce's term of office. *Controversy* grew, and the fourth legislature launched an *extensive* investigation of many



Governor Lee Cruce



Oklahoma's Capitol building was completed in 1917 without the traditional "dome" on top.

state officials. The state's first impeachment proceedings were held when State Auditor Leo Meyer, Insurance Commissioner Perry Ballard, and State Printer Giles Ferris were charged with crimes against the state. Meyer and Ballard resigned, but Ferris was convicted of approving illegal claims against state funds. He was removed from office.

Because of growing controversies surrounding the governor's appointees and because of mounting *dissension* between the governor and many of the Democratic legislators, there was talk of impeaching the governor. In fact, the motion to impeach was defeated by only one vote. The Office of the State Printer was *abolished*, and new election laws were passed. Other impeachments were filed, but no convictions were obtained.

GOVERNOR ROBERT L. WILLIAMS. Although investigations of state officers continued into the term of Robert L. Williams, the state's third governor, Williams managed to maintain peaceful control of the legislature. Resigning his office as State Supreme Court Justice to serve as governor, he dictated most of the bills passed by the fifth legislature and kept most of the executive powers of the state concentrated in the governor's office.

During Williams's term of office, a new Highway Department was *established*. The Prison Board and the Board of Trustees for the hospitals for the insane were *abolished*. The State Board of Public Affairs replaced

the two extinct councils, and the governor appointed its members.

THE CAPITOL BUILDING. Construction of the new capitol building had begun during Cruce's administration in June, 1914, and was completed in time for the legislature to meet in its new chambers during the 1917 session. The original plans for the capitol building had included a dome, for which there was not enough money appropriated, and the legislature agreed to postpone adding it. Many Oklahomans feel that the dome should never be added and that the uniqueness which its absence provides is a reflection of the streamlined attitudes and ideas of today's Oklahomans. Others feel that the absence of the dome reflects a "second-class" attitude and that the dome should be added to demonstrate that Oklahoma is a first-class state. During the Frank Keating administration, construction on a dome was begun, and the new dome was dedicated on November 16, 2002. Most of the funding was from private sources, but additional funds from the legislature had to be used to pay the final costs.

THE "GRANDFATHER CLAUSE" came under attack during Williams's administration, and the U.S. Supreme Court declared it unconstitutional because of the Fifteenth Amendment which gave all citizens of the United States the right to vote. The decision was handed down in the case of *Guinn vs. United States* in 1915. Several election officials were indicted by federal grand juries, convicted, and sent to prison for enforcing the clause.

Shortly after leaving the governor's office, Williams was appointed by the President to serve as United States District Judge of Oklahoma's Eastern District. He served until 1937.

GERMAN-AMERICAN PROBLEMS. War had raged in Europe since 1914 when the United States joined the Allies in the fighting and declared war on Germany on April 16, 1917. The war had a *profound* effect on the lives of all Americans, especially on a group of German-Americans who lived in north-central Oklahoma. Mostly farmers, many of this group spoke only German. As with other *ethnic* groups, they tended to live together in communities and to form their closest ties with one another. A number of them were Mennonites whose religious beliefs kept them from serving in the military.

Some of the Oklahoma Germans still had families in Germany and supported the German effort in conversation and in print. As far as most

of these people were concerned, however, the war was a European conflict. They believed the United States should not be involved. Prior to 1917, German-Americans formed organizations supporting neutrality. As American sentiment rose against Germany and thus against German-Americans, they also worked to convince their fellow Americans of their loyalty to their adopted country. After President Woodrow Wilson's declaration of war, any further attempts to defend Germany publicly became treasonous.

As war sentiments grew, civil liberties for German-Americans shrank. Many towns passed *sedition* (resistance against the government) laws so harsh that even chance remarks could result in a jail term. Reportedly, some local officials were not inclined to allow either state or national constitutions to slow them in their prosecution of violators.

Some city councils went as far as passing laws forbidding the speaking of the German language within the city limits. This imposed a particular hardship on older German-Americans who had never learned to speak English. In Major County, signs were posted on the doors of German churches, declaring "God Almighty understands the American language. Address him only in that tongue." Several German-American citizens were tarred and feathered, some beaten, and a few jailed on various charges of *sedition*.

In the fall of 1918, three Oklahoma towns changed their names because of their German origins. Korn became Corn. Kiel became Loyal. Bismark became Wright in honor of the first McCurtain County soldier to give his life in the war.

Anti-German sentiment extended long after the war was over, and in 1919, the State Legislature passed a law forbidding public school classes to be taught in any language except English prior to the ninth grade. This law remained on the books for thirty years.

THE GREEN CORN REBELLION. While German-Americans in Oklahoma were being harassed for what was interpreted as their lack of patriotism, other Oklahomans were being encouraged to defy the draft. Socialism had gained a foothold in the state shortly after statehood, and by 1914, Oklahoma was the strongest socialist state in the nation. Most members of the Socialist Party were peaceful people, not given to radicalism. In other words, they were much like their neighbors who belonged to other political parties. With the advent of the war in Europe and the probability of future American involvement, socialism became less popu-

lar. The party began to decline in 1914, and within ten years, it had all but disappeared.

In eastern Oklahoma, however, many tenant farmers and laborers had enrolled in the Working Class Union (WCU), a socialist-related organization. Both the WCU and the Socialist Party were opposed to the draft. Early in 1916, the WCU took a radical turn and began following H.H. “Rube” Munson, a member of the Industrial Workers of the World (IWW). The IWW had supported ending the draft and the wage system. More importantly, it had advocated the use of violence to achieve its goals. Dedicated members of the WCU in eastern Oklahoma put that philosophy to work.

The organization became more and more violent. Some barns and houses were burned, and beatings occurred. In some areas, tenant farmers who did not belong to the union were threatened and intimidated into joining. A notice was posted in McIntosh County, stating, “Notice. W.C.U. is called the Working Class union. We hereby notified you to come in and join our lodge in sight of 30 days. If not, we have got a way to make you join. Take warning. The W.C.U.” (sic)

The Oklahoma State Capitol was finally “complete” in 2002 with the addition of a dome. The dome was dedicated on November 16, 2002 with a performance by Oklahoma native and country music star Vince Gill and American Indian dancers in traditional dress.



Union organizers began advocating the overthrow of the government, citing the war as the cause of the farmers' problems and the draft as a threat. They urged farmers to rebel against the draft, calling the World



Crowds gather to see soldiers off to war during World War I.

War a “rich man’s war, poor man’s fight.”

In addition, members were told that thousands of men from other parts of the country were ready to fight for the working man’s cause and that, after the overthrow of the United States Government, money which had belonged to the rich would be divided among those who had

worked for wages. Many farmers, miners, and other wage-earners attended secret meetings where they took an oath to resist the draft and to stand together. They vowed to use “any means necessary to secure the aims of the union to better the condition of the working class.”

Socialists had advocated reform through election and other legal means. The WCU was now advocating open rebellion, and a date was actually set for the beginning of the revolt which would result in the overthrow of the government. Members were told that three million people would be a part of the revolt in all parts of the United States and that those people were armed and ready to begin. Local men prepared for the insurrection, collecting guns and *ammunition* and hiding them. They made plans to burn bridges, destroy railroad trestles, and cut telephone lines. They planned to march on Washington, D.C., with their three million compatriots, and to force government officials to give in. The rebellion was to begin at midnight on August 2, 1917.

Word of the plans had leaked. Local law officers in Seminole, Hughes, Cleveland, and Pottawatomie counties, along with two federal secret service agents, were working to determine the identities of the movement leaders and to locate local meeting places. Seminole County Sheriff Frank Grall and his deputy, Bill Cross, were ambushed on their way to

observe a meeting. Cross was injured. The two men fled to Wewoka, but the encounter forced the beginning of the revolution a few hours ahead of schedule. Word of the ambush spread, and citizens organized to protect themselves, their property, and their country.

Posses were recruited and the countryside was scoured for “radicals.” After several *skirmishes* and three deaths, several hundred men were captured. Nearly 400 were held at the McAlester Penitentiary awaiting trial. The state corrections institution was one of the few places large enough to hold them. The men soon learned that they were allied with only a handful of sympathizers in Texas and Arkansas. There had been no three-million-man army.

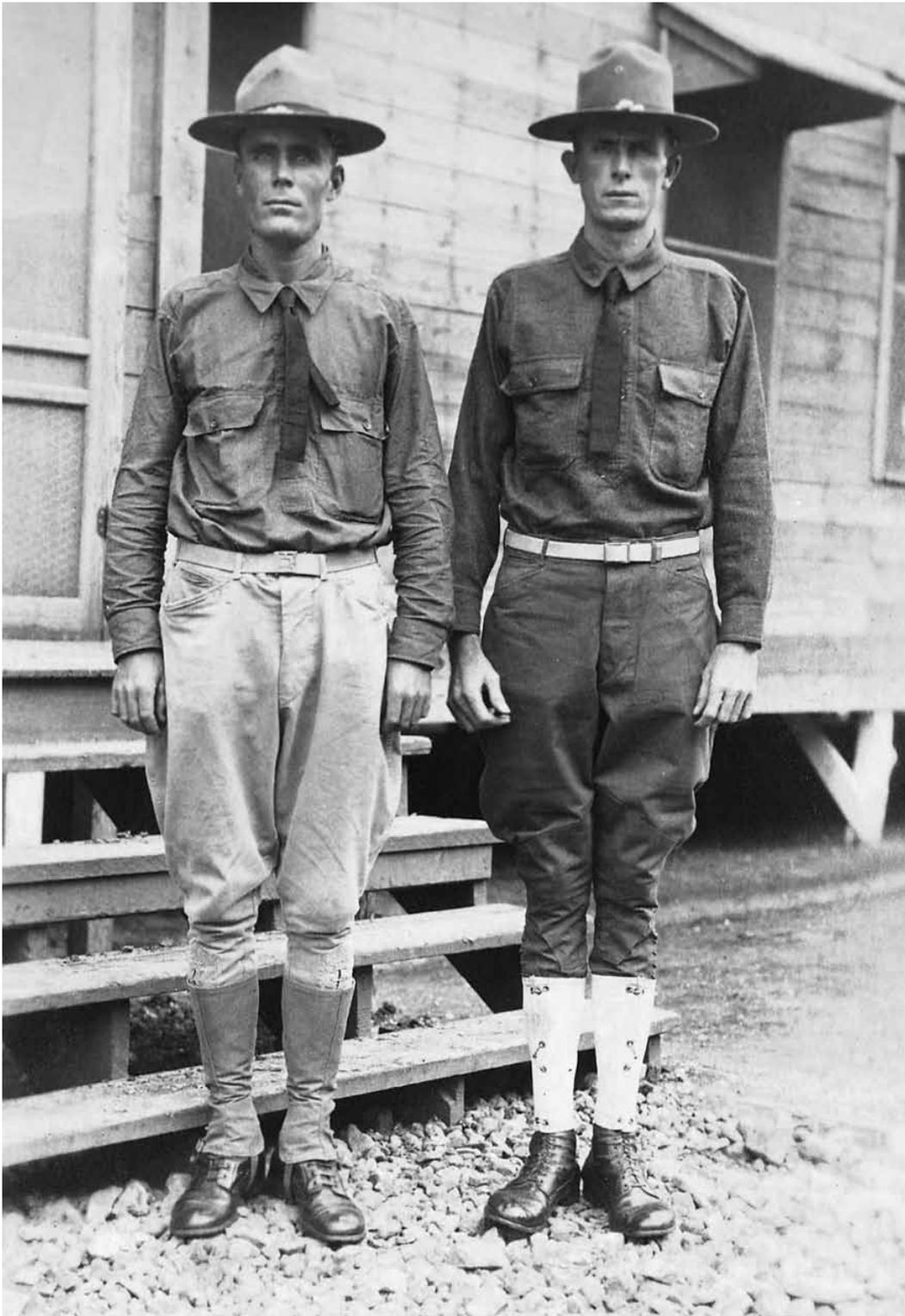
The charisma of the union leaders and organizers quickly wore off, and the members began to realize what they had done. They had been tricked into insurrection against the United States Government — treason. Law officials also realized what had happened, and the courts dealt with most of the defendants mercifully. Most prison sentences were suspended, and the men were sent home to their families. Once they returned home, however, many were without jobs and even without homes. Their former employers had dismissed them or refused to allow them to farm the lands they had been renting.

All the defendants were tried for *sedition*, conspiracy, or resisting the draft, and a few of the leaders and more *vigorous* rebels received prison sentences. No sentence exceeding ten years was imposed.

OKLAHOMANS IN WORLD WAR I. The first military units called from Oklahoma to serve a national cause were Oklahoma Territory’s Troop D and Troops L and M from Indian Territory. These men served in the 1st United States *Volunteer* Cavalry commanded by Colonel Leonard Wood and Lt. Colonel Theodore Roosevelt in the Spanish-American War



A boom town built up around the Whizzbang-Osage oil field in eastern Oklahoma.



World War I soldiers.

Texas-Oklahoma Division).

College campuses emptied of young men and filled again with high school boys, training as radio operators and other *supplementary* personnel. Wiley Post, a young farm boy who would later become America's foremost pilot, trained in communications at the University of Oklahoma campus. The war ended before his training was complete.

of 1898. At home, these troops were part of the Territorial Guard.

After statehood, the Territorial Guard became the Oklahoma National Guard, and guardsmen were called to active duty in 1916 to serve under General John J. Pershing to protect the U.S.-Mexican border. The bandit Pancho Villa had been making raids across the border into Texas and New Mexico.

The Oklahoma National Guard had been activated several times prior to the Mexican incident, but only for state and local duty. Those who served in Mexico returned home just in time for World War I. Oklahoma's guardsmen shipped out with the 36th Infantry, the 42nd Infantry (known as the Rainbow Division), and the 90th Infantry Division (also called the

A major *artillery* training center was set up at Camp Doniphan near Fort Sill, and soldiers not only from Oklahoma but also from many other states were trained there. Aviators were trained at Fort Sill as well.

The first Oklahomans to arrive in France were those in the 36th Infantry Division. They were taken to another training camp where they learned about trench warfare. They joined with Texans in putting on an exhibition football game for the visiting Queen of Belgium.

On October 10, 1917, the 36th Division engaged in its first battle in Europe at St. Etienne, France. They moved the line of defense forward twenty-one kilometers (16.8 miles) and took 549 prisoners. Oklahoman Lee Gilstrap was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross on his sixteenth birthday for his bravery in battle.

When the war ended on November 11, 1918 — at the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month — 90,527 Oklahomans, including 5,000 African-Americans, had served their country's cause. Of these, 4,154 were wounded in battle, 502 were missing in action, 1,064 were killed, and 502 died of disease. More than 200 of these men were decorated for gallantry. Three were among the fifty-five men nationwide to receive the Congressional Medal of Honor — George Price Hayes of Okarche, Samuel H. Sampler of Martha, and Harold L. Turner of Seminole. Choctaw Indian Joseph Oklahombi was the war's most decorated soldier. He was also one of the most modest heroes. He helped to capture more enemy prisoners than any other soldier except for Sergeant Alvin York of Tennessee. When Sergeant York returned from overseas, he was met with much acclaim, but when Joseph Oklahombi returned, he was met only by two crooks who wanted to steal his land from him.

The disease which killed most of the 502 men in Europe was the Spanish Influenza, which also caused great problems at home. One of the worst *epidemics* in history, the disease ran rampant across Europe and the United States. In Oklahoma alone, more than 125,000 cases were reported while more than a third of the state's doctors and nurses were serving overseas. The State Health Commission closed all public gathering places of all kinds, even funerals, limiting them to a maximum of 12 participants. The death rate from the *epidemic* reached 7,000 in the state.

While the men were away fighting the war, the women were at home running things. They worked in munitions factories, in stores, on streetcars and on railroads. They operated farm machinery, practiced animal husbandry, and became salespeople and engineers. Women's *suffrage*,



Joseph Oklahombi

or voting rights, became an issue. In 1918, at the close of the war, Oklahoma voters passed a state constitutional amendment giving Oklahoma's women the right to vote, two years before the national amendment was adopted.

In the same election, James B. A. Robertson was elected governor, defeating William H. Murray for the Democratic *nomination*. He then defeated Republican candidate Horace G. McKeever and Socialist candidate Patrick S. Nagle.

Oklahoma's fighting men arrived home in June, 1919, seven months after the end of the war. Great jubilation was demonstrated statewide as victory parades were held in many cities.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Discuss the removal of the capital from its first site as the state capital to the new site in Oklahoma City (include the role played by Charles N. Haskell and the different legends about the transporting of the seal).
2. Tell about the problems and the growth of the oil industry in Oklahoma.
3. What was the Green Corn Rebellion?
4. Explain why you think a governor should call out the militia to stop horse races and prize fights.
5. Identify Joseph Oklahombi and tell what he accomplished.
6. Explain whether you think the capitol dome should have been built and tell why.