

**State of the State**  
**Governor J. Howard Edmondson**  
**January 3, 1961**

Honorable President of the State Senate;  
Honorable Speaker of the House of Representatives;  
Members of the 28th Session of the Oklahoma Legislature:

Although Oklahoma has faced many political, economic and governmental problems during the past two years, I am able to reflect on this period with gratitude and a great deal of optimism, in my message to you on the "Condition of the State" as required by the Constitution.

As a result of the actions of your preceding session, the cooperation of other elected and appointed officials of the state, and the understanding of the people of Oklahoma, our state government has been able to make broad and sweeping accomplishments.

It is a thrilling review I present to you of an important era in Oklahoma ending an old decade and beginning a new one. It seems unlikely that any other similar period in the history of our state government has seen such an increase in government service and performance with no tax increases. And this was done in a time when spiraling state revenue had begun its levelling-out process.

The major portion of credit must go to the foresight of the 27th Session of the Legislature in the program it enacted, which was undoubtedly a precedent-setting feat in stretching state income.

Welfare consolidations resulted in \$4.3 millions in savings to the general revenue fund. Repeal of Prohibition brought in \$13 millions to the state coffers from a heretofore untapped source. Central Purchasing saved at least \$8 millions in state buying. The Merit System was established without extra appropriations. A \$10 million state office building program is underway with no general revenue fund appropriations necessary. And the way has been paved for Oklahoma to get \$90 million worth of super-highway construction through new Turnpikes, at no cost in state taxes.

Totalling all these, we have a \$125 million program for the state in financial gain, not to mention other benefits. And all without any increase in general revenue fund appropriations.

Perhaps even more important than this feat of budget stretching is the increased realization of the importance of state government on behalf of more and more Oklahomans.

This intensified interest and awareness is inevitably destined to bring forth a brighter, more genuinely rewarding future for all of Oklahoma.

This intensified interest and awareness is inevitably destined to bring forth a brighter, more genuinely rewarding future for all of Oklahoma.

So it is with pride and pleasure I present this detailed report of progress in the biennium that may well provide the springboard for Oklahoma's most fruitful decade:

## CENTRAL PURCHASING

One of the most outstanding examples of how to make state government income do more work is in the field of Central Purchasing. The need for a state central purchasing agency has been discussed by Oklahoma political leaders for many years. The 27th Session of the Legislature enacted it into law on July 6, 1959, or almost exactly a year and a half ago.

We have just completed our first full calendar year of Central Purchasing and I can say with considerable pride and commendation to you who helped enact it, the system has been a success even though we have only scratched the surface of its possibilities.

The first six months of the new law were spent in acquiring trained personnel, preparing specifications, acquainting institutions and departments with the operations and generally ironing out the kinks and perfecting the service.

The Board of Public Affairs, charged with the administration of the Central Purchasing law, was able to secure excellent, experienced buyers. The staff of eight buyers has a combined experience of 207 years in their respective, special fields, or an average of more than 26 years each.

In the first fiscal year of operation, Central Purchasing volume was \$55 millions. The director of the department tells me a conservative estimate of savings would be an average of 14 \_ %. This would mean that this amount of state purchasing has been bought for approximately \$8 millions less than would have been the case without the benefit of Central Purchasing.

Now, there naturally arises the question: Where is this \$8 millions in savings to the state? The savings, of course, remain in the departments and institutions requisitioning the purchase, since the Central Purchasing agency acts only as a buying service for other arms of state government. Perhaps some of the savings was used to buy long-needed additional materials or equipment, to give pay increases to some deserving state employees, or to return unused appropriations to the general fund. Almost surely it has been taken into consideration by agency comptrollers and budget planners in making their departmental and institutional budget requests. It is entirely possible, as has been suggested by some members of the legislature, that there is a need for more accountability of departmental savings resulting from the use of Central Purchasing.

In addition to the benefit to state agencies from pooling their buying resources for goods and services sought through bid by the Central Purchasing Agency, there have been at least 50 contracts now in operation a year for individual items such as tires, gasoline, office equipment and drugs, to mention a few. Approximately 3500 items are covered under the more than 50 contracts.

Let me mention just a few examples of savings brought about by the Central Purchasing law enacted by the legislature:

During 1960, approximately \$170,000 worth of tires was purchased through Central Purchasing contracts with a savings in excess of \$28,000, or 14 \_ % less than paid prior to Central Purchasing. Nearly three million gallons of gasoline were purchased at a saving of approximately two cents per gallon, or nearly \$60,000 on this one item.

One of our most dramatic areas of savings is the field of drugs for our various state hospitals and health units. More than \$60,000 was saved last year on tranquilizer

drugs alone. Through Central Purchasing the state was able to buy polio vaccine for 30 percent less than the year before, saving almost \$25,000.

An example of savings on specific, necessary brand items was on I. B. M. punch cards. A survey of agencies using these cards revealed the average volume amounted to more than \$51,000. Yet by negotiating a state contract from the same supplier, we were able to purchase the same quantity for less than \$41,000, a savings of 20%.

The Central Purchasing agency can save still more if it can persuade some of the larger institutions to put the volume of their non-appropriated fund purchases through the agency. It is hoped in the biennium ahead, this can be accomplished.

Although, there is still room to improve the system and expand its coverage, I feel sure most of you will agree that Central Purchasing has been a success.

### **CAPITOL OFFICE BUILDINGS**

Another example of stretching state income and effecting savings of millions of dollars to Oklahoma taxpayers is the work of the Capitol Improvement Authority, which was created by the 27th Legislature.

Work is already well underway on a contract awarded last month for the construction of two new five-story state office buildings north of the Capitol. These fully-air-conditioned buildings, completely modern and efficient in every respect, will be connected with an underground tunnel. Located off the tunnel, underground and between the two buildings, will be a cafeteria and a state auditorium, which can be converted later into a Civil Defense protective area.

These buildings will be completed and ready for occupancy in the spring or early summer of next year.

The important thing about these new structures which will improve the beauty and appearance of the entire Capitol campus and ultimately provide rent-free space to state agencies, is that no additional state appropriations are required from the general revenue fund.

The buildings are being financed through a bond issue purchased by the state with inactive funds. The bond issue is being paid off with revenue derived from agencies now paying outside rent and from federal rent available for state agencies carrying out cooperative federal programs.

Only five relatively small "General Fund" agencies are being considered for occupancy in the new buildings and each of them is now paying outside rent. Most of them have a requested additional needed space over their present usage but this will have to be approved by the legislature in the form of appropriations you make to these agencies. If it is not approved by the legislature, naturally this additional space can not be rented by them. There is sufficient other income to assure retirement of the bonds.

The legislature authorized a \$10 million bond issue and the Capitol Improvement Authority has been able to secure the land and contract for the buildings within this limit.

The legislature's decision to provide for the state to purchase these bonds was a wise one. More than \$7.5 millions will be saved in interest during the life of these bonds.

When these bonds are retired and the state takes full title to these buildings, in from 15 to 17 years, the state will be saving its present expenditure of a quarter of a million dollars a year in outside rent. By that time, the figure probably would have become much larger.

The greater portion of the cost of these state buildings is from federal funds that the state would not otherwise receive.

I have no hesitancy in stating to you that when these buildings and their parking and landscaping areas are complete, they will be a source of deep and patriotic pride to every member of this legislature, and indeed the citizenry of the state.

The vision of Oklahoma's lawmakers in providing for an easily accessible nucleus of state buildings at the seat of state government is a landmark of precedent and the envy of other states that have erected buildings in a scattered and hodge-podge manner. Its value is not only aesthetic, but efficient, coordinated and a convenient service to Oklahoma people.

### **WELFARE TRANSFERS**

At least \$2.5 millions was saved to the general revenue fund by the 27th Legislature by transferring the Crippled Children's Commission, a bona fide welfare agency, to the jurisdiction of the Oklahoma Department of Public Welfare. The Crippled Children's Commission had requested that amount in general revenue fund appropriations.

The transfer of the functions of the old commission to the Welfare Department became effective July 1, 1959.

Not only did the transfer relieve appropriations pressures, but it provided for an expanded and soundly financed program for crippled children in Oklahoma.

For instance, during the 1959-60 fiscal year, the first full year under the revised operation, payments of almost \$2 millions were made on behalf of 6,843 Oklahoma crippled children's cases - - and this without any appropriations whatsoever from the general revenue fund.

Another \$1.8 million was saved to the general revenue fund by action of the 27th Legislature in transferring the cost of administering the general assistance and surplus commodities program to the Welfare Department to be financed from sales tax revenue.

An important point concerning these transfers is that they did not curtail in any way the continuance of other services and functions already being administered by the Department of Public Welfare.

As a matter of fact the converse is true. Two general increases in assistance payments to recipients have been made by the Welfare Commission in the past two years.

On January 1, 1959, public assistance payments in the amount of \$7.9 millions were made on behalf of 119,056 cases. On December 1, 1960, payments in the amount of \$8.7 millions were made on behalf of 117,532 cases. This represented an increase during this administration of over \$800,000 per month. As you know, welfare payments are made from dedicated sales tax revenue and federal matching funds.

There were 1,524 fewer cases receiving public assistance on December 1, 1960 than on January 1, 1959. This was a result of a decrease in the old age assistance caseload due primarily to an increase in the number of persons covered under federal social security at age 65, and larger social security payments.

There was a substantial increase in the average payment per case of public assistance during this period. Average monthly payments for old age assistance increased from \$62.29 per case to \$66.70 per case; aid to dependent children from \$88.60

to \$110.81, aid to the blind from \$78.48 to \$85.14; and aid to the permanently and totally disable from \$70.10 per case to \$76.32.

Payments for medical care for recipients of Public Welfare increased from about \$1 million on January 1, 1959 to over \$1.2 million on December 1, 1960. The number of public welfare cases receiving medical care increased from 12,031 to 14,088 during this period. These medical assistance payments included payments for hospital services, physicians' services, nursing home service, and nursing care to clients in their own home.

Thus, the general growth of the previous welfare program has been accelerated at the same time that the general revenue fund was relieved of at least \$4.3 millions in normal expense by the two transfers to the Department. So, I feel safe in my conclusion that these two transfers made by the 27th Legislature were in the public interest and beneficial to all concerned.

### **REPEAL**

By an act of the 27th Legislature, the people of the State of Oklahoma were given the opportunity to once again vote on the question of the legalized sale of alcoholic beverages. As we all know, the people at the election in April voted to repeal the long standing constitutional ban on the sale of alcoholic beverages and to permit the package sale of wines and spirits. The 27th Legislature, acting in accordance with the results of this vote, then adopted a comprehensive Liquor Control Act which implemented the new constitutional provision, and which has since its inception resulted in over 13 million dollars in additional revenue.

Today you can see the effects of 15 months of legal liquor in the State of Oklahoma. During the first 14 months of repeal, the people of Oklahoma received almost 11.2 million dollars through excise taxes from the sale of alcoholic beverages. The people of Oklahoma, up to the first of December, received over 1.2 million dollars from sales taxes on alcoholic beverages sold within the state. Through the 29th of December, the State of Oklahoma received almost \$1,000,000 in fees for licenses issue by the Alcoholic Beverage Control Board. This last figure does not include the revenue received by cities and towns throughout the state from fees from local licenses.

Up to the first of July of this past year, the Alcoholic Beverage Control Board issued over 5000 licenses in all categories with over 3000 of these licenses still active. This last figure includes 766 retail licenses which were active on the first of July. In the enforcement of the licenses regulations, the Control Board, up to July 1st, had issued 91 citations resulting in 27 suspensions and 7 revocations of licenses.

As legal liquor has come in, the bootlegger has gone out. Figures complete to July 1st of this year show that out of 4200 bottles of liquor confiscated by agents of the Alcoholic Beverage Control Board, all but 514 had Oklahoma taxes paid on them. This indicates that what was once one of the major law enforcement problems of the state has greatly diminished. The bootlegging of today consists almost entirely of occasional illegal sales on Sunday. Due to good enforcement and bad economics, these remaining bootleggers are rapidly being forced out of business. In its enforcement activities under the Liquor Control Act, the agents of the Board have now destroyed 35 stills and they had investigated, on July 1st, 308 charges of bootlegging resulting in 274 arrests.

The law enacted by the 27th Legislature providing for the legal sale of alcoholic beverages has been of great benefit to our state. Our revenue has been increased by over 13 million dollars, and we have nearly eliminated what was formerly the most flagrant category of law violators. I want to take this opportunity to commend the members of the 27th Legislature for the wisdom and care they demonstrated in enacting this legislation.

### **MERIT SYSTEM**

The last session of the Legislature enacted a Merit System for state employees providing in general that state job applicants would be hired on the basis of open, competitive examinations and that state employees could not be removed from their jobs except for cause.

No appropriations were made for the operation of the Administering agency, the Oklahoma Personnel Board. The program had been financed through pro rata cost sharing by participating agencies.

As of this date, there are 56 agencies within the Merit System of Personnel Administration, covering a total of 12,155 state employees. Three of these agencies are headed by elective officials who requested to be placed under the Merit System. They are State Treasurer, Secretary of State and State Examiner and Inspector.

Other state agencies under the system and the number of their employees covered are:

Employment Security Commission - 594, Department of Public Health - 426, Department of Public Welfare - 1,418, Secretary of State - 12, Office of Civil Defense - 11, State Banking Department - 13, Board of Cosmetology - 16, Division of the Budget - 29, State Reformatory - 92, Securities Commission - 4, Professional Engineers - 4, Historical Society - 16, Pardon and Parole Board - 13, Cerebral Palsy Institute - 38, Commissioners of the Land Office - 77, Will Rogers Memorial Commission - 2, Water Resources Board - 7, Department of Public Safety - 493, Training School for White Boys - 46, State Industrial Court - 10, War Veterans Commission - 26, War Veterans Home Facilities, Ardmore Division - 36, War Veterans Home Facilities, Sulphur Division - 133, Adjutant General's Department - 53, Oklahoma Liquefied Petroleum Gas - 6, Girls Town - 38.

Eastern Oklahoma T. B. Sanatorium - 138, Western Oklahoma T. B. Sanatorium - 180, Whitaker State Home - 71, Oklahoma General Hospital - 126, Department of Commerce and Industry - 21, Oklahoma State Library - 45, State Board of Agriculture - 307, Oklahoma Tax Commission - 622, State Board of Public Affairs - 49, State Agency for Surplus Property - 34, Capitol Maintenance – Building Superintendent - 105, State Highway Department - 3,100, Oklahoma State Penitentiary - 310, Training School for Negro Boys - 27, Consolidated Negro Institution (This includes Training School for Negro Girls) - 45, State Bureau of Investigation - 38, State Examiner and Inspector - 35, State Soil Conservation Board - 55.

State Treasurer - 18, Salary Administration Board - 4, Alcoholic Beverage Control Board - 38, Department of Mental Health - 6, Central State Griffin Memorial Hospital - 1,046, Eastern State Hospital - 767, Western State Hospital - 383, Taft State

Hospital - 223, Enid State School - 268, Pauls Valley State School - 182, Oklahoma Planning and Resources Board - 299.

There are approximately 35 state agencies not yet under the Merit System. Of this number, 21 are small agencies employing three or fewer persons. Ten are agencies headed by elective officials and four are quasi-state agencies receiving no state appropriations what-so-ever.

Although the system is new in Oklahoma, the Personnel Board has held expenses in line, in spite of extra organizational costs.

The National average cost per employee per year is \$19.64 for all 30 states with the merit system. Oklahoma's cost last year was \$10.68, or 47% below the national average. Only three states had lower costs than Oklahoma. Alabama was four cents per employee lower and Missouri was 40 cents per employee lower. Tennessee was \$1.45 lower but the administering agency in Tennessee does not include the cost of testing and printing.

I believe the merit system has brought more stability to government in Oklahoma in giving job security to competent state employees and creating a method for obtaining the best qualified employees possible in the future.

## **TURNPIKES**

Before discussing what has transpired this biennium on the new turnpikes authorized by the last session of the legislature, let me mention briefly the progress being made on our existing turnpikes. It is estimated that out-of-state traffic is paying 65% of the cost of Oklahoma's toll roads. And, of course, no tax money whatsoever is spent on them. We thus have 176 miles of super highways in the state over heavily - traveled routes at no expense to non-users. This has freed \$116 millions in construction cost alone - - not to mention maintenance and operating costs - - for use on free roads in Oklahoma. Our two present turnpikes have proven to be good investments for Oklahoma and both are well ahead of schedule in debt retirement.

Oklahoma's two operating turnpikes, the Turner Turnpike and the Will Rogers Turnpike, have both made outstanding progress during the past two years. Annual net revenue of the Turner Turnpike has increased from \$2,545,000 to \$3,054,000 a gain of 20 per cent. Annual net revenue of the Will Rogers Turnpike has increased from \$1,846,000 to \$2,306,000, a gain of 25%.

The Turner Turnpike which was financed by a \$38,000,000 bond issue has retired \$3,313,000 of its bonds and has reserves of \$4,082,000, leaving a net indebtedness of \$30,605,000. Interest coverage for the twelve-month period ended November 30, 1960, was 2.45 which is second only to the original Pennsylvania Turnpike.

The Will Rogers Turnpike, which was financed by a \$68,000,000 bond issue, has retired \$3,821,000 of its bonds and has reserves of \$7,115,000, leaving a net indebtedness of \$57,064,000. Interest coverage for the twelve-month period ended November 30, 1960 was 0.98. This was only \$41,000 short of meeting the annual interest requirements of \$2,347,000. It is now a matter of only a few months until the Will Rogers Turnpike is fully meeting its annual interest requirements.

The Southwestern and Eastern Turnpikes were authorized by HB 932 of the 1959 Legislature. This legislation authorized pledging of a sum not to exceed \$1,000,000 per year of the motor fuel tax on the motor fuel consumed on the Oklahoma Turnpikes as a guarantee of the bonds.

Applications for approval of the Act was made to the Supreme Court on August 29, 1959. After the necessary hearing, briefs, and other proceedings, the Supreme Court rendered its decision approving the Act on January 8, 1960. On February 12, 1960, the Authority employed Wilbur Smith and Associates of New Haven, Connecticut, to make the necessary traffic and revenue studies for the new turnpikes. On March 12, 1960, the Authority designated two investment banking firms to act as underwriters for the proposed revenue bond issues. On May 24, 1960, the Authority employed De Leuw, Cather & Company of Chicago, Illinois, to make the Civil Engineering and Cost Report on the Southwestern Turnpike, and on July 21, 1960, employed the same firm to make the Civil Engineering and Cost Report on the Eastern Turnpike.

The Civil Engineering and Cost Report on the Southwestern Turnpike was completed and submitted to the Authority on July 15, 1960. The Civil Engineering and Cost Report on the Eastern Turnpike was completed and submitted to the Authority on August 15, 1960. The Traffic and Revenue Report on the Southwestern Turnpike was completed and submitted to the Authority on July 30, 1960, and the Traffic and Revenue Report on the Eastern Turnpike was completed and submitted to the Authority on September 1, 1960.

The Trust Indenture and supporting papers requisite to financing the turnpikes were completed by the Bond Underwriters and their Bond Counsel and application was made to the Supreme Court for their approval on October 1, 1960. All necessary hearings, briefs, and other proceedings before the Supreme Court have now been held and the case is awaiting their decision. It is hoped that we will be able to secure an early commitment from the Bond Underwriters for financing the turnpikes.

The Civil Engineering Reports, Traffic and Revenue Reports, and Trust Agreement as finally drafted cover a \$59,000,000 Southwestern Turnpike and a \$31,000,000 Eastern Turnpike.

These are estimated figures which include the total cost of construction of the turnpike, three year's interest during construction, and the total cost of construction of all access roads connecting the Turnpikes with State Highways. In other words, it should be made clear the Turnpike Authority, not the State Highway Department, will pay for all access roads.

The routes of the two proposed turnpikes are strategically located to funnel additional out-of-state traffic into Oklahoma that otherwise would plan to miss the state completely. The Southwestern Turnpike also will place Oklahoma businessmen in a competitive position with Dallas and Ft. Worth for the business of Southwest Texas, Southern New Mexico, and Southern Arizona. In the same manner, the Eastern Turnpike will place Oklahoma businessmen in a competitive position with Dallas and Ft. Worth for the business of Eastern Texas and the gulf port cities of Houston, Port Arthur and New Orleans.

I feel that construction of these two turnpikes will be a major step forward in the progressive development of Oklahoma as the industrial center of the Southwestern sector of the United States.



## HIGHWAYS

One of the highlights of Oklahoma's highway program during the past two years has been the completion of more than 80 miles on the Interstate System. This is 23% more than in the preceding biennium when 65 miles were completed.

This brings the total of Interstate highways constructed by the Highway Department to 145 miles. Added to the 176 miles of Turnpikes accepted on the Interstate network, Oklahoma now has approximately 321 miles completed of its authorized 796.5 miles.

It is estimated that it will cost \$373 millions to complete the remaining 475 miles on the Oklahoma portion of the Interstate network. Of this amount, \$233 millions will be needed for rural areas and \$140 millions for urban areas.

During the current biennium, the Highway Relocation Program in the state's reservoir construction areas of Oologah, Keystone and Eufaula progressed at a rapid rate. The problems arising from the Corps of Engineers' policy on "replacement in kind" were considerably resolved through the persistent efforts of the Highway Department, the Legislative sub-committee on highway finance, and Oklahoma's Congressional delegation. This combined work resulted in a reduction of over \$17 millions to the state in reservoir betterment cost estimates.

The relocation in the Oologah area is virtually complete while the state's share of work remaining at Eufaula is about \$14.5 millions and at Keystone is about \$5.8 millions.

The State Highway Department has cooperated fully with the Turnpike program enacted by the last session of the legislature. It should be pointed out that no state highways are being planned or are scheduled to be built solely to accommodate turnpikes. Every state highway planned in the cooperative program with the Turnpike Authority is one that was already programmed and due to be built anyway. The construction timetable was shifted by the Highway Department in some cases in order to give the state a chance to get approximately \$90 millions worth of four-lane highways without cost to taxpayers from appropriated funds.

Internally, the Highway Department has reviewed and improved inspection practices and policies, instituted a program of replacement of antiquated and worn-out equipment, and started a training program in each of the eight field divisions for department personnel.

Here are some significant statistics from the past biennium:

Contracts were awarded in the 1960 calendar year in the amount of \$45 millions.

As of November 30, 1960, state forces (Construction, Maintenance and Special Projects) projects under construction totaled \$3.6 millions.

As of November 30, 1960, state forces (Construction, Maintenance and Special Projects) complete projects in the amount of \$5.3 millions.

Total projects under contract as of November 30, 1960 equaled \$59.6 millions.

From January 1, 1959 through November 30, 1960 contracts in the amount of \$105.8 millions were completed.

During the past two years, 501 miles of highway have been constructed; 372 miles of two-lane, 124 miles of four-lane, and 5 miles of six-lane.

Much of the problem we have faced in the Highway construction program during the last two years has been due to:

1. The heavy expense of state funds necessitated by the relocation of highways in areas of lake construction by the Corps of Engineers.
2. Considerably less federal participating funds have been available due to lack of congressional appropriation. For instance, in 1958 there were \$56 millions available in federal funds for Oklahoma highway construction. In 1959 available funds dropped to \$40 millions and in 1960 they dropped to \$32 millions.

### EDUCATION

The education of our young people creates a never-ending problem of finance, and as I said in my message to the 27th legislature, it remains one to which we must apply our first concern. It is imperative that we continue to employ our highest imagination and muster our finest resources to attain this important goal of providing sound, lasting, quality educational training for young Oklahomans.

In reporting to you on the progress made in the field of education the past two years, I am happy to state it has been perhaps the most significant biennium in history in undergirding our common schools with a better financing program.

Let us make a quick comparison to show you the magnitude of the provisions made by the last session of the Legislature.

Appropriations for common schools were increased in 1955 by 3\_% over that made in 1953 and the appropriations in 1957 exceeded those of 1955 by 9\_%. Compare this to the actual appropriation made by the 27th Legislature in 1959 which exceeded the previous one by 16\_%. And the authorized program, if we are able to supplement it to implement the existing school code, will make the total appropriations to common schools for this biennium more than 30% greater than those of the previous period, according to figures of the Finance Division of the State Department of Education.

What have we been able to do with this more stable financing? For one thing, we have increased the salaries of our underpaid teachers by an average of \$300 a year more than they were receiving two years ago. The average salary of all teachers in Oklahoma for the current year is approximately \$4,950. Although this is a sizeable increase, it is still difficult to keep up with the national parade. Our annual teachers salaries, for instance, are now approximately \$375 below the national average. The personal income of all Oklahoma citizens trails the National average by \$380.

It should be pointed out here that Oklahoma has the best qualified teachers in the nation. Of the 21,530 teachers in the state, only 80 do not have a bachelor's degree or

better. This is 99.7% of our teachers, bringing us the Number One ranking in the United States.

In addition to much-needed increases in teacher salaries, school districts have received additional aid from the state for operational expenses.

Consolidation of school districts has not been as rapid in the past two years as some earlier like periods. About 100 school districts were consolidated, bringing the number down to 1,274 districts. Of this number, 700 are grade schools only. Of the remaining 574 districts offering high school work, approximately 125 of them qualify for only three high school teachers.

While the number of districts has been decreasing, school enrollment has been growing between 8,000 and 10,000 per year.

Significant strides have been made in improving the quality of education. For instance, the State Superintendent of Public Instruction reports to me that 70% of the children in junior and senior high school are now enrolled in schools that have some type of guidance and counselling program.

Last April, the State Board of Education, raised the requirements for high school graduation for the first time since statehood and I am told it has been received enthusiastically by professional school people. Beginning with the graduating class of 1962, pupils will now have to have a minimum of 18 units, instead of 16, to receive a high school diploma. More important in that same action was the requirement that 16 of these units must be in "solid" subjects. School people have told me that some students have been able to graduate in the past with as low as 11 or 12 "solid" units.

When we consider the high percentage of our high school graduates who attend college, the emphasis on improving and adequately financing education at all levels is increasingly apparent.

In 1960 there were 27,000 high school graduates in Oklahoma and over 50% of these are already enrolled in college. This is the highest average in the south and southwest, and among the highest in the U. S.

Enrollment in state supported colleges has increased by 10% in the past two years to its present level of nearly 45,000.

In 1957, appropriations for higher education were \$43 millions. The 1959 Legislature appropriated \$50 millions for operations this biennium plus a \$2 million supplemental for the previous biennium. In addition another \$1 million was appropriated for matching funds to build the OU Medical Research building and the Kellogg Center of Continuing Education. This total of \$53 millions in actual appropriations represented an increase of more than 20%.

Faculty salaries in our colleges have been increased by an average of \$500 per year and on some campuses up to \$800. Average faculty salaries at the two major campuses are now \$7,000 a year, \$6,200 at the 4-year colleges and \$5,600 at the 2-year colleges.

I want to commend the work done by the Legislative Council interim committee on higher education as well as the Governor's Commission on Higher Education. These two groups spend thousands of man hours studying and working on the problems of higher education and came forth with a report, most of which was approved by the Legislative Council Executive Committee. The Board of Regents for Higher Education has launched on a bold new program of improving quality while stretching the

appropriated dollars. A new Chancellor has been selected who believe in the recommendations of the Legislative Council. One of his first statements after the announcement of his appointment was to the effect that while more funds are needed for higher education, that a still better job can and must be done to stretch present income as far as possible.

With this attitude on the part of professional leadership in higher education and with the tremendously increased public awareness of the whole scope of education in Oklahoma, I foresee a bright future indeed for the education of our young people.

## **COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY**

During 1959, 46 new industries were established in Oklahoma, adding 1,600 new industrial jobs, and having a total investment of more than \$30,000,000. Also, in 1959, 53 existing industries had expansion programs announced, started or completed, adding 2, 150 jobs and \$36,500,000 in investments. In addition, 27 governmental, service, and agricultural operations of an industrial nature, new and expanded, added 2,200 jobs and more than \$37,000,000 in investments.

For 1960, the figures are 53 new industries, with 3,600 jobs and \$77,500,000 invested; 37 expansions, with 1,200 jobs and \$18,500,000 invested; 19 governmental and other operations, with 1,350 jobs and \$11,250,000 invested or pledged.

This totals up to 12,100 new jobs, and \$210,750,000 invested or pledged during the past two years. Much of this industrial growth has been influenced directly by the Department of Commerce and Industry. All of it has been influenced at least partially, or indirectly by the department.

This industrial growth is almost solely responsible for the economic growth of the state in the past two years. With declines continuing in oil and farm job opportunities, industrial growth is the only thing left on which to base our future economic growth.

More than 15 existing industries in Oklahoma have been given direct assistance by the department, receiving free, such services as plant layout, management and production advice, marketing assistance, product development, and other services. This assistance, planned particularly for small manufacturers or those just getting started, is available for any firm which requests it.

The Department, as state planning agency, has administered more than \$480,000 in local and federal funds for city planning. The program includes 43 different studies for 26 separate communities, plus metropolitan planning projects for Enid and Lawton.

During the past two years, the department has administered a small business research program, with \$80,000, provided by two federal grants, going through the department to the research organizations of the University of Oklahoma, Oklahoma State University, and the University of Tulsa for 9 specific studies of problems affecting small businessmen in Oklahoma.

In seeking new industry for Oklahoma, the department, in the past two years, has sent out 193 personalized brochures, for 13 different types of industry, with information specifically related to each prospect. Department staff members visited personally with some 50 industrial prospects, and, working closely with local chamber managers and other development people, have been instrumental in helping to locate several new plants in the state.

The traffic section of the department, created just over two years ago, has solved or given assistance on freight rate problems for several Oklahoma industries, the help in one case being responsible for the continued operation of a refinery which otherwise would have closed. The department has been instrumental in achieving rate reductions on builders hardware, steel billets, hay, asphalt, lumber, and other commodities.

To help communities with their development efforts, the department has assisted in the organization of 23 new industrial development foundations during the past two years, and is currently working with 18 more communities which are forming new foundations. Other aid to communities includes the organizing and sponsoring of conferences and seminars relating to specific development activities.

### **OKLAHOMA EMPLOYMENT SECURITY COMMISSION**

Although there are 850,000 persons employed in the state today, unemployment is high. Helping to cushion the impact of layoffs in some plants and also because of seasonal factors, the Oklahoma Employment Security Commission is paying unemployment insurance to some 22,000 persons each week. The average check is \$26. This helps the jobless worker pay his grocery bill and provide a few other necessities until he can return to work.

Our unemployment insurance program is vital to our economy as a stabilizer. These payments keep merchants from having to close when temporary shutdowns hit a community, and money paid jobless persons is spent over and over.

The weekly wage of nearly 400,000 Oklahomans covered by the Employment Security Act has risen from \$80.25 in 1958 to \$84.25 in 1960.

Through efficient service in offices at 24 cities, the state employment service without charge has placed workers on 275,000 non-farm jobs and 180,000 farm jobs during the last two years.

### **AGRICULTURE**

The picture of agriculture in Oklahoma is at once both bright and dark. In 1960, the agricultural industry grossed approximately 660 million dollars. This great production, the greatest ever in the history of our state, kept agriculture at the top of the list of the state's industries. But these past two years have greatly increased the demand for services upon the State Department of Agriculture. For example, in order to maintain Oklahoma's rightful position as a livestock producing state, it has been necessary for the Department to increase by 150% its testing for Bang's and other livestock diseases. It is anticipated that an even greater demand will be made upon the Department in the future.

The Department's division of Brand Registry and Investigation, which was established by the last Legislature, located 440 cattle which had been reported as strayed, stolen, or dead. As a result of this division's activities, 50 persons were arrested and charged with larceny.

The State Department of Agriculture last year tested over 225 thousand chickens and 47 thousand turkeys in state breeding flocks. To correlate the many thousands of tests made on seed, fertilizer, pesticides, dairy products, and food, the Department established, on July 1st, the Division of Chemistry.

One of the outstanding advances made by the Department of Agriculture is due to the transfer by the 27th Legislature of Forestry Division to the Department. While

protecting more land, the Forestry Division has been able to greatly reduce the economic losses suffered by our state due to forest fires. Since the transfer, there have been 387 fewer fires and over 62,600 fewer acres destroyed by fires. By the change in fire control methods, which was a result of the 27th Legislature's action in transferring the Forestry Division to the Department of Agriculture, the Department has been able to save the state over \$175,000 dollars worth of one of its great natural resources.

### **SOIL CONSERVATION**

Great progress has been made in the field of soil and water conservation in the past two years. With the aid and assistance of the State Soil Conservation Board, the eighty-seven soil conservation districts in Oklahoma have added more than 3,000,000 acres of land the past two years to the total area on which conservation measures are being applied.

A very important part of the overall soil and water conservation program in Oklahoma is the upstream flood prevention program. On January 1, 1959 there were on file with the State Soil Conservation Board sixty applications for assistance. On January 1, 1961 there were seventy-eight such applications on file. During the current biennium, plans have been or will be completed on sixteen watersheds so that construction can begin, with planning under way on another four watersheds. The planning of this number of watersheds was made possible by the appropriation by the 27th Legislature of funds with which to accelerate the planning. Prior to that time an average of only four watersheds a year were being planned. To complete the construction of the twenty watersheds planned or under planning this biennium, the Federal Government will spend some \$23,000,000 over the next eight to ten years. During this same period, nine other watersheds have been under construction with more than 90 flood prevention dams being built at a cost of \$2,750,000 paid by the Federal Government. In addition, over one hundred dams have been built in the Washita River Watershed with more than \$4,000,000 being spent. The great progress in construction has been helped tremendously by the Small Watershed Flood Control Fund supplied by the State. During the last fiscal year Oklahoma received one-sixth of the total national appropriation for construction for upstream flood prevention.

### **WATER RESOURCES**

The State of Oklahoma through the combined efforts of federal agencies and the Oklahoma Water Resources Board has with the guidance of the Legislature embarked on a far-reaching program for the development of water resources.

Data secured by the Ground Water branch of the United States Geological Survey in co-operation with the Oklahoma Water Resources Board has been of great value to the farmers, cities, and industries of the state as a guide for their development of water supplies. As an example, there were 50 irrigation wells in Caddo County in 1953, and in 1960 there were 528 wells. In 1959, the state had over 307,000 acres of land under irrigation.

Perhaps the most noticeable and spectacular progress in the field of water resources is the construction of many lakes and reservoirs within the state. There are three projects under construction by the Corps of Engineers in Oklahoma. Eufaula Dam and Reservoir located on the Canadian River 12 miles east of Eufaula, in McIntosh

County. Normal surface area will be 48,000 acres. Normal storage will be 2,378,000 acre-feet. The dam is 112 feet above the present stream bed. It is scheduled for completion in 1965. Keystone Dam and Reservoir is located on the Arkansas River about 15 miles west of Tulsa in Tulsa County. Normal surface area will be 20,500 acres. Normal storage will be 465,000 acre-feet. The dam is 121 feet above the present stream bed. It is scheduled for completion in 1965.

Oologah Dam and Reservoir is located on the Verdigris River about 2 miles southeast of Oologah in Robers County. Normal surface area will be 5,850 acres. Normal storage will be 58,000 acre-feet. The dam is 129 feet above the present stream bed. It is scheduled for completion in 1962.

The Bureau of Reclamation has completed the Fort Cobb Dam and Reservoir located on Cobb Creek, a tributary of the Washita River in Caddo County. It was constructed for irrigation, flood control, municipal and industrial water supply. At the top of the conservation pool the surface area is 4,092 acres and the capacity is about 80,000 acre-feet. Shoreline at normal level will be approximately 43 miles. The maximum height of the dam is 101 feet above the original stream bed. Construction was essentially completed by the fall of 1959.

The Bureau of Reclamation has under construction the Foss Dam and Reservoir located on the Washita River 15 miles west of Clinton. It is being constructed for irrigation, municipal and industrial water supply and flood control. At the top of the conservation pool the surface area will be 8,000 acres and the storage capacity will be about 250,000 acre-feet. Shoreline at normal level will be approximately 48 miles. The maximum height of the dam is 134 feet above the original stream bed. Construction is scheduled for completion in 1961.

The reservoirs and lakes mentioned above are indicative of the great potential the state has in this field. As an example of further development, it should be noted that in southeastern Oklahoma alone the water supply storage planned in the Corps of Engineer's and Oklahoma City's Southeastern development will give a net yield of over 3 billion gallons a day, a quantity of water sufficient to supply the needs of 50 cities the size of Oklahoma City.

## **PLANNING AND RESOURCES**

Our state parks rank seventh nationally in total attendance, and second in total income. The impact of recreation and park usage is evidenced by the fact that more than 8,000,000 visitor days per year were counted in our parks and recreation areas last year, a four per cent increase over the previous year.

During the past two years five new recreational areas have been acquired, and \$400,000 has been spent on capital improvements. Capital improvements now under construction are valued at \$200,000.

The Oklahoma park lodge program has gained national recognition. With respect to the lodges, all bond payments are now current, as well as the reserve and contingency funds. The annual payment due June 30, 1961, is being deposited periodically and will be complete prior to June 30.

Oklahoma Today magazine has achieved a circulation of 22,000 copies per issue and, by Audit Bureau of Circulation figures, each issue is now being read by well over 100,000 persons in every state of the Union, and in 58 foreign nations. Major articles

from Oklahoma Today have been reprinted in Life Magazine, and used as reference material by many national publications including the Saturday Evening Post. The magazine is creating a positive and favorable picture of Oklahoma as a pleasant place to live, a fine location for business and industry, a state with a colorful historic heritage and beautifully scenic terrain - - American's Newest Vacationland.

The planning board's promotion division functions on an appropriation of \$82,500 annually, less than half of the amount available to each of her adjacent sister states. The division distributed more than 500,000 copies of Oklahoma folders and booklets during the past two years, participated in 10 travel expositions in other states, and provided continuous information service to all publicity media.

With respect to the boat and water safety law, there were 47,000 boats registered during the first year of the legislation, and titles to motors were issued to 36,000 owners. Total income the first year of operations was \$177,000. Of this amount, \$42,000 was transferred to the magazine Oklahoma Today.

### OKLAHOMA TAX COMMISSION

In the fiscal year 1959-60 the Oklahoma Tax Commission collected \$261,716,000, or approximately 86% of the total state collections of \$303,800,000.

A comparison follows of the total collections for the last two fiscal years:

	<u>1958-59</u>	Increase Decrease * Over <u>1957-58</u>	<u>1959-60</u>	Increase Decrease * Over <u>1958-59</u>
Taxes	\$206,272,024.	6,988,826.	\$222,468,187.	\$16,196,162.
Licenses, Fees & Permits	\$36,719,343.	1,630,109.	38,954,597.	2,235,254.
Misc.	9,306.	361.	10,258.	951.
Special Accounts	293,273.	845. *	283,036.	10,237.
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$243,293,948.</b>	<b>8,618,451.</b>	<b>\$261,716,079.</b>	<b>\$18,422,131.</b>



Included in the increase for the fiscal year ending 1960 was the newly created alcoholic beverage tax amounting to \$8,252,365. Other taxes indicated an increase with the exception of the gross production tax.

Although the increase each year in total collections over the previous year is largely attributable to the continuing general rise in economic conditions, it may also be attributed to a constant improvement in the administration of the various tax laws by the Tax Commission.

Additional tax, penalty and interest collected as a result of field audits, office audits and delinquent tax amounted to \$7,276,807. in the fiscal year 1959-60.

An improved system of comparing social security numbers on income tax and information returns, which was accomplished by electronic accounting machines, together with an overall stepped-up enforcement program, was reflected in the total additional tax, penalty and interest collected by the Income Tax Division in the 1959-60 fiscal year which amounted to \$2,188,776 as compared with \$910,922 in the fiscal year 1957-58.

The General Enforcement Division, which maintains a field enforcement effort applicable to all taxes, collected \$2,534,408 in additional tax, penalty and interest in 1959-60.

### **SECURITIES COMMISSION**

In the past 18 months, we have all been able to observe the effectiveness of the new Oklahoma Securities Act, and the vigorous manner in which it is being administered. Many of you will recall that this act was prepared by the Insurance Committee of the State Legislative Council, primarily as a result of their investigation of the Selected Investments situation, and was subsequently enacted by the 27th Legislature. Those of you who helped pass this Act may be quite proud of your accomplishment.

This act created a new Commission, which oversees the operations of the department, while the actual administration of the act is accomplished by an Administrator and his staff.

The qualification examination and surety bond now required of all securities agents and dealers has established in the eyes of the public, the responsibility of these persons. The Commission is taking every possible action to enlighten and protect the public of Oklahoma in their securities dealings.

The securities industry supports through the payment of fees and charges, the operations of the Commission. As a result, the Commission is more than self-supporting.

### **OKLAHOMA NATIONAL GUARD**

The highlight of the past two years in the Oklahoma National Guard was the complete reorganization of the 45th Infantry Division to the Pentomic concept. No community lost a unit as such, however, some of the full-time personnel were required to move to other communities. The Guard now has units in 78 communities in 56 counties.

Armory drill pay provided by the federal government for the state's 9,300 guardsmen totaled \$2,796,139 in 1960 plus \$1,064,151 for active duty training, \$294,666 for guardsmen attending service schools, and \$3,298,542 for full-time employees. Total federal funds for 1960, including payrolls, were \$12,536,663.

The state military department maintains 120 buildings, with \$7,811,796 in construction since World War II. From now until the end of fiscal year 1963, federal spending for guardsmen will total \$28,951,239. Federal equipment issued to state guardsmen totals more than 15 million dollars.

If state units would reach full strength the potential would be even greater. This year Army National Guard units did well in recruiting, and now have reached full state authorized strength, the first time since reorganization after the Korean War. Also, it is contemplated that the Guard will train at Fort Chaffee in Arkansas this year, thereby providing a better opportunity for Oklahomans to see their troops at a considerable savings of federal funds.

One of the big problems facing the Division this year is the enactment of the Reserve Officer Personnel Act (ROPA) by Congress, whereby the Division will lose many of its older key officers, who will be phased out of the Division by this Act. The main source of officers for the Division comes from our own State Officer Candidate School (OCS), conducted here in Oklahoma City by our own people. The State OCS program has graduated 125 officers since it was organized in 1957, and has retained 76 per cent of them.

The Oklahoma Air National Guard consists of 1800 airmen and officers based at Oklahoma City and Tulsa. The jet fighters of Oklahoma City's units will be converted to long-range transports, such as Tulsa operates, in the near future. The federal government has invested \$4,210,894 in facilities for the Air National Guard in these two cities.

### **DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY**

Oklahoma's Department of Public Safety has made great progress in the past two years in the field of traffic safety, its primary function. In spite of the fact that the Department is undermanned, both in civilian and uniformed personnel, it is going about its business in a determined and commendable fashion.

Since becoming Governor two years ago, it has been my privilege to visit a number of other states and to see many organizations similar to our Department of Public Safety. If the citizens of Oklahoma has been afforded this opportunity for comparison, I am sure that they would be, as I am, justly proud of our highway patrol.

The patrol has at present 281 troopers, which is 58 below its authorized strength. This is about half the number of men recommended for it by both the National Safety Council and the International Association of Chiefs of Police. Yet, in spite of this, Oklahoma has shown a constant reduction in fatalities over a two-year period.

There has been great progress in the department's long range training and in-service training programs.

The department's safety education program has moved ahead in great strides. During the past year it has doubled its contact with schools and civic clubs. This is most important as it is universally agreed that the basic problem behind traffic accidents is driver attitude, and it is the function of safety education to develop the proper attitude among our drivers. The work done in this field will be reflected in the future as a result of the state's high school driver-education and adult driver-training programs.

The department has stepped up its enforcement activities to the point where there are now 76,000 more license drivers in the State than they were two years ago.

For the past year, the total number of fatalities in Oklahoma is slightly greater than the 642 persons who died in 1959 but I would like to point out that there is still a substantial reduction in the number of traffic deaths in the rural areas of the state, the area for which the department and its patrol bears primary responsibility.

You are aware of the accelerated enforcement program because in your travels about the State you are seeing more patrol cars on the road than ever before.

In fact, as the result of these concentrated efforts by the Oklahoma Department of Public Safety, Oklahoma now ranks eight in the nation in the reduction of traffic deaths over the past two years, an accomplishment which I consider to be outstanding, especially when it has been done despite a lack of both adequate personnel and finances.

### **MENTAL HEALTH**

There has been a steady decline in the average daily resident population of our mental hospitals since 1953, in spite of an increasing number of geriatric infirm cases. During this period, there has been a reduction of 880 resident patients. During the past year there has been a 2.2% reduction in the population of all hospitals (with Central State Griffin Memorial Hospital showing a reduction of 4%.)

Both total admissions to the hospitals and live separations from the hospitals continue to increase indicating that despite decreased resident populations were giving services to more individuals than ever before. If we compare fiscal 1960 with fiscal 1950, we find an increase of 10% in admissions and a 78% increase in separations. This would seem to indicate that proportionally more money is being spent to treat patients and less to house, feed and clothe patients.

The increase of senile and infirm patients in our institutions is bringing added strains on already limited staffs and facilities. Difficulty in finding suitable space for this type of patient, additional demands for nursing care and increased medical surgical care add to the burden of giving adequate care and reduce funds available for treatment of other patients.

Improvements in the water system at Taft, for which \$20,000 was appropriated in the last session of the legislature, have almost been completed.

At Pauls Valley State School, a new 84 bed cottage has been opened and progress on new cottages is ahead of schedule.

Preliminary program planning for the new institution at Sand Springs has been completed and development of a master plan is beginning. Construction should begin within a year. Plans call for the development of facilities for the treatment, training and rehabilitation of patients which are not available in our present institutions at this time. The nineteen northeast counties have been designated as the area to be served by this institution. Patients requiring specialized facilities of this institution can be transferred there from other institutions.

In collaboration with the University of Oklahoma and various hospitals, active training programs for the training of psychiatrists, psychologists, social workers and nurses are being carried out.

The Southern Regional Educational Board has spent \$8,175.00 to send various staff members to various places about the country to learn new techniques and observe programs in other states.

## **PUBLIC HEALTH**

One of the major advances made during the biennium which will have far reaching influence on the health progress in Oklahoma during the sixties, was the approval by the people of the state of a new constitutional amendment, allowing counties by referendum vote to levy taxes to support local health programs. Already five counties have taken advantage of this legislation and have voted favorably on a special levy or public health. Several other counties are in the process of considering similar legislation.

Hospitals and other health facilities have continued to grow in number and size during the last two years. More than twenty hospitals were completed or are now in the construction stage. This will raise the number of hospital beds in the state more than 700. The total cost of these facilities has been more than \$13 millions.

Through the stimulation provided by grants-in-aid to cities and towns, major improvements have been made in sewage collection and treatment facilities in 38 cities and towns. The total cost of these improvements has been more than \$7 million.

Safeguard against some of the potent viral diseases, such as influenza and polio, have been increased thorough the improvement of a virus section in the state laboratories. This is the only place in the state where certain diagnostic tests for viral diseases can be made.

New services and programs against rheumatic heart disease were initiated during the last two years. These include the use of a new technique for detecting carriers and cases of strep infection.

One of the programs initiated during the biennium is concerned with day care facilities for children. Preliminary studies reveal more than 400 facilities caring for more than 8,000 children. The success of this program is due primarily to the cooperative effort of many of our state agencies, including the Governor's Committee on Children and Youth, proprietors and staffs of day care facilities, and a large number of private citizens.

In cooperation with nursing home operators and the Department of Public Welfare, a great improvement in services and care for senior citizens in nursing homes has been stimulated through a recently inaugurated certification program. During the biennium a glaucoma unit and an arthritis and rheumatism unit were established to provide additional services for our older citizens.

A trailer truck has been equipped and staffed so that a number of tests can be quickly made for some of the more important and common chronic diseases such as diabetes, obesity, tuberculosis, certain lung and heart disorders.

At the beginning of this biennium a geriatrics center was established in cooperation with the University of Oklahoma Medical School. This Center was developed (1) to study the emotional problems of the aging and to promote better mental health among this aging population in the state and (2) to establish a geriatrics information center, listing resources available throughout the state to handle problems which arise among the aged. This information is available to physicians, to hospitals, to voluntary governmental agencies, to nursing home operators and to others who desire such information.

Dental health programs have made good progress and now over 720,000 of our population are benefiting from dental health protection by the fluoridation of municipal water supplies.

## **About Digitizing the Governors' State of the State Addresses**

Section 9, Article 6 of the Constitution of Oklahoma provides as follows:

“At every session of the Legislature, and immediately upon its organization, the Governor shall communicate by message, delivered to joint session of the two houses, upon the condition of the State; and shall recommend such matters to the Legislature as he shall judge expedient.”

From statehood in 1907 to present, the state of the state addresses of Oklahoma's Governors have been recorded in pamphlets, booklets, and Senate Journals. One could not foresee the toll that time would take on the earliest of these documents. When these items first arrived at the Oklahoma State Archives, the leather bindings had dried considerably, cracking the spines significantly. Due to the acidity in the paper, many pages have darkened with age. Some of the more brittle pamphlets crumble at the slightest touch.

Thus when we decided to digitize these materials, we faced two challenges: the safety of the original documents and ease of viewing/reading for patrons. Our primary objective was that the unique and historic qualities of the documents should be reflected in the website. However, older fonts would not digitize clearly when scanned and even using a flatbed scanner could cause the bindings to worsen. An image of each page would increase download time considerably and any hand-written remarks or crooked pages could be lost. We decided to retype each document with every period, comma, and misspelled word to maintain the integrity of the document while placing some unique images of the documents online. Patrons can download the addresses quicker and view them clearer as well as save, print, and zoom with the Adobe Acrobat Reader. We have learned much from our efforts and we hope that our patrons are better served in their research on the state of the state addresses of Oklahoma's Governors.