

**State of the State  
Governor Robert Williams  
January 4, 1917**

To the Senate and House of Representatives of the State of Oklahoma:

Having assembled to consider the condition of the State, attention should be first drawn to those circumstances which mark the goodness of Him from whose favor they flow, and the thankfulness we owe for His bounty.

Another biennium having passed, we find ourselves blessed with peace and prosperity; our burdens, though lightened yet or income is sufficient for the reasonable public wants, and the produce of the year just passed great beyond example.

The Sixth Legislature having organized, it becomes my duty to communicate to you the condition of the commonwealth and recommend such matters as may be judged expedient.

FINANCIAL CONDITION.

STATE BONDS:

On March 6, 1908 (Chapter 7, Article 1, pp. 156-159 Session Laws 1907-9), the First Legislature passed an Act entitled:

“Providing for funding the outstanding warrants and other indebtedness of the State of Oklahoma, and the issuing of bonds therefore; providing for the payment of the same and making an appropriation therefore, and declaring an emergency.”

Section One authorized the funding of the outstanding legal warrant contract and appropriation indebtedness of obligations incurred, moneys expended and the expenditure of annual appropriations begun by the Territory of Oklahoma and subsequent indebtedness created by the State of Oklahoma, as thereafter enumerated to wit:

Indebtedness of the Territory of Oklahoma prior to Statehood, and annual appropriations beginning under Territorial government:

General Revenue .....	\$ 685,561.78
Central State Normal School .....	61,662.00
Northwestern State Normal School building fund.....	40,971.32
Northwestern State Normal .....	51,200.86
University .....	100,450.98
Southwestern State Normal School .....	42,873.56
Colored A. & M. University .....	31,923.39
Normal.....	18.08
Library, State .....	91.40
University Preparatory School.....	40,658.97
Agricultural and Mechanical College .....	25,000.00
Board of Education, State.....	389.80
Deaf and Dumb School .....	21,840.40
Penitentiary Contract.....	50,580.00
Care of Insane .....	73,500.00
Territorial Militia deficiency .....	1,500.00
Total .....	\$1,228,222.54

The foregoing amount plus interest constituted the outstanding warrant and contract indebtedness of the Territory of Oklahoma, which the State assumed by the terms of the Enabling Act.

The following State items were included in said indebtedness:

The payment of the mileage and per diem of the members and contingent expenses of the first State Legislature .....	\$100,000.00
For Salary of State Officers and contingent expenses with the beginning of Statehood.....	25,000.00
For salaries of Justices of the Supreme Court and contingent expenses of said Court until January 1, 1909 .....	<u>32,700.00</u>
Total.....	\$157,700.00

The total territorial indebtedness in the sum of \$1,228,222.54, and that of the state in the sum of \$157,700.00, with accrued interest constituting the \$1,460,000.00, which was taken up by said bond issue, in series running from ten to twenty years in ten equal installments; the first to become due on August 1, 1918 and the last, ten years after that date.

In 1913 funding bonds were issued to cover deficiencies theretofore accrued in the sum of \$2,907,000.00 in ten equal installments, the first to become due ten years after October 15, 1913, and the last twenty years from that date. The 1908 bond issue bears interest at the rate of four per cent and that of 1913, at four and one-half per cent; these two issues constitute all outstanding state indebtedness.

**PUBLIC BUILDING BONDS:**

Warrants, called public building bonds, were issued against the public building land and its proceeds derived from the sale of the same, in the sum of \$2,451,500.00, the same not being liabilities of the state, but resting for their security solely upon the lands and the proceeds thereof. The obligation of the State is merely that of trustee, to faithfully execute its trust. Of this issue \$372,500.00 has been paid, leaving outstanding the sum of \$2,000,079.00. These securities were issued by virtue of act of February 18<sup>th</sup>, 1910 (Session Laws, 1910, Chapter 76, p. 21), and the amendatory act of March 15<sup>th</sup>, 1911, (Session Laws, 1910-1911, chap. 89, pp. 184, 199).

Exhibit "A" hereto attached contains an itemized statement as to the said securities.

The following statement and estimate as to the resources securing said building warrants were made by the State Examiner and Inspector (See report State Examiner and Inspector, September 10, 1915, file No. 5030, Record No. R-122) to-wit:

**RESOURCES:**

Cash on hand, June 30, 1915 .....	\$	609,828.85
Deferred payments on notes now on hand that will not have matured.....	\$	1,971,748.40
Interest that will have accrued on notes now on hand .....	2,510,740.72	4,482,489.12
Initial payments that will have been received on the unsold lands.....		37,918.03
Deferred payments on notes that will have been received for unsold land (19 payments, allowing 1 year to complete sale).....		342,210.14
Interest that will have accrued on notes received for unsold land .....	521,870.53	901,998.70
Total.....		\$5,994,316.67

**LIABILITIES:**

Principal of Bonds and Warrants, (All outstanding June 30th, 1915) will have matured .....		2,153,000.00
Interest that will have accrued on Bonds and warrants .....	1, 254,225.00	3,407,225.00

Surplus, Cash that will have accrued .....	2,587,091.67
Total.....	\$5,994,316.67

Said surplus in the sum of \$2,587,091.67, as shown by said statement, has been reduced in the sum of \$750,000.00 that sum having been transferred by Act of the Fifth Legislature to be used in the construction of the State Capitol building, which leaves an officially estimated net surplus in the sum of \$1,837,091.67, excluding the lien on the State Capitol lands, and a pledge by the State to reimburse said fund in the sum of \$400,000.00.

Exhibit "B" hereto attached, embraces a statement of the property owned by the State under date of October 31<sup>st</sup>, 1916, under a system of accounts established by the State Examiner and Inspector under authority of law.

DEFICIENCIES.

PENITENTIARY AT McALESTER:

On April 5, 1916, on application and showing made by the State Board of Public Affairs, ex-officio Board of Control of the Penitentiaries, a deficiency in the sum of \$100,000.00 for the fiscal year closing June 30<sup>th</sup>, 1916, was consented to in writing and certified to in writing by me. Itemized statement of said claims will be furnished by said board.

The Warden of the Oklahoma Penitentiary at McAlester, under date of December 22, 1916, wrote the State Board of Affairs as follows:

"Our records show that available funds for the support and maintenance of the Penitentiary for the fiscal year ending June 30<sup>th</sup>, 1917, will have soon been exhausted. In fact, there will very probably not be funds sufficient to pay for more than the outstanding accounts at the present time. I therefore, suggest that you call this condition to the attention of his Honor, the Governor, and ask him to authorize a deficiency for the support and maintenance of this institution until such a time as the State Legislature, now about to convene, may see fit to make a deficiency appropriation for the balance of this fiscal year. This condition exists on account of several reasons, the principal ones I wish to call your attention to as follows:

"First: The fifth session of the Legislature made an appropriation of \$180,000 for the support and maintenance of the Penitentiary for the present fiscal year. This appropriation was made, as I understand it, on the basis of 1,100 population at 43.7 cents each per day. I find from the records that the population during the present fiscal year has averaged more than 1,400 population and that the average cost of support and maintenance at the time this appropriation was made instead of being 43.7 cents was actually 63.3 cents, so you will see that the estimate on which the present appropriation was made was in error, both as to cost per capita and the average number of inmates in attendance.

Second: The \$25,000 appropriated by the extra session of the Legislature in 1916 for the support and maintenance of convicts while at work on the public roads was exhausted on July 1<sup>st</sup>. Since that time this entire expense of maintaining these camps other than the small account received from the counties for the difference in the cost of food has been necessarily paid from this maintenance appropriation. While the Legislature provided that the counties should pay the difference in the cost of food, they did not take into consideration the fact that it requires three men, namely: One foreman, \$100 per month; one steward, \$60 per month, and one nightwatchman or guard, \$60 per month for each camp, and these camps have averaged about twenty-two men. Had these prisoners been in the walls or on our farm this guard hire would not have exceeded one-third of the amount it has cost on the roads. I also call your attention to the fact that a

greater percentage of escapes occur while the prisoners are away from the walls and out on the roads than occur while in the walls or on the prison farm. Our records show that it costs on an average of \$48.45 to return these escapes.

“Third: The cost of provisions, clothing, etc., has increased from 25 to 50 per cent since the appropriation was made in 1915.

“Fourth: Your Board, in order to make a saving by buying before dry goods, clothing, leather, etc., had made further increase which was inevitable, purchased almost enough of these items to last us during the present fiscal year. This was good business on your part, but it has caused our available funds to be exhausted, of course, sooner than they would have been otherwise.

ESTIMATE OF APPROPRIATION NECESSARY  
FOR THE SUPPORT AND MAINTENANCE  
FOR THE BALANCE OF THE  
FISCAL YEAR.

At prevailing prices I do not believe that these prisoners can be properly maintained for less than 65 cents per capita. This, you understand, means the entire support and maintenance, including all expense, food, clothing, medicine, guard hire, salaries of officials, reward and expense for the return of escapes, feed for teams and necessary repair of building and equipment. On this basis and an average population of 1,400, it will require \$169,225 for the six months remaining in the present fiscal year. I estimate that \$18,900 of this is already invested in clothing, shoe leather and dry goods, that will be used during the present fiscal year. \$169,225 less \$18,900 will leave \$140,325. This amount I feel will be necessary and I therefore recommend that a deficiency of \$140,325 be authorized by the Governor and that the Legislature be advised of said deficiency so that it may give said deficiency such consideration as it may deem necessary.”

The State Board of Public Affairs, under date of December 30, 1916, writes me as follows:

“We are transmitting you herewith letter from Sam L. Morley, Warden, State Penitentiary.

Upon receipt of this letter we checked the accounts of the Penitentiary and find that the statements set forth in Mr. Morley’s letter to be correct. We also find that he has expended from the maintenance fund, for the benefit of the road camps, \$43,953.31. This amount was for supplies, maintenance and support of the road camps, exclusive of the amount he expended for additional guard hire and the expense of returning the escaped convicts from the road camps.

“The statement made by the former Warden of 43.7-10 cents per day for maintaining the prisoners, to the last Legislature, was an error. We have checked this ourselves and find that the actual cost, when the former Warden made his statement, was 63.3-10 cents, as shown by Warden Morley’s letter, and we recommend that this matter be transmitted to the Legislature for their consideration.

“The matter of expenditure of \$18,900.00 for dry goods and leather, was made with the full knowledge of the Board that the market would advance, and these purchases were made to save the increased cost of this character of goods, which has advanced from 20 per cent to 50 per cent since purchases were made.

“Therefore, we recommend the appropriation of \$140,325.00, as suggested by Warden Morley’s letter.”

That the expenditures of the Penitentiary be made according to law, I consent to the deficiency to be created in writing as contemplated by Chapter 231, Session Laws

1915. I ask that the proper committee investigate this matter and verify as to errors as to conflict in reports as to the cost of maintenance.

This deficiency is in addition to the one certified to by me on April 5, 1916, hereinbefore referred to.

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION.

On May 20, 1916, Leslie T. Huffman, Secretary of the State Board of Education, advised me that the appropriation made for the per diem and expenses of said board was exhausted, and I found that a deficiency was necessary, and consented to the same in the sum of \$1,000.00. Claims covering the per diem and expenses of the members of said board, under said certificate, are as follows:

John N. Shepler, per diem and expenses, May 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 14, 17, 1916.....	\$ 68.95
F.B. Fite, per diem and expenses, June 19, 20, 21, 22, 1916.....	24.60
John N. Shepler, per diem and expenses, June 20, 21, 22, 1916.....	27.00
J.G. Ralls, per diem and expenses, May 10, 12, 14, 15, 16, 1916.....	42.35
Robert Campbell, per diem and expenses, June 19, 20, 21, 22, 1916.....	28.89
J.M. Sandlin, for per diem and expenses, June 17, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 1916 .....	35.96
Davis Hill, per diem and expenses, March 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 1916.....	46.07
Davis Hill, per diem and expenses, April 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28 1916.....	47.51
Davis Hill, per diem and expenses, May 14, 15, 16, 17, 1916.....	33.22
Davis Hill, per diem and expenses, June 18, 19, 21, 22, 1916.....	43.02
S.F. Parks, State Agent of Oklahoma State Home, expenses, May 4, 10, 28, 1915 .....	5.20
S.F. Parks, State Agent of Oklahoma Home, per diem, May 1, 4, 10, 20, 28, 31, 1915 .....	30.00
S.F. Parks, State Agent of Oklahoma State Home, expenses, June 3, 7, 17, 1915 .....	2.08
S.F. Parks, State Agent of Oklahoma State Home, per diem, June 3, 7, 8, 9, 19, 21, 26, 1915.....	<u>25.00</u>
	\$ 459.85

STATE UNIVERISTY.

On July 19, 1916, on application of the President of the State University, a deficiency in the sum of \$13,500.00 for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 1916, for the medical department of said university, was consented to and certified to by me in writing. Also on the same date I certified to a deficiency in behalf of the State University, in the sum of \$19,792.00, as follows:

Furniture for old Science Hall .....	\$2,598.50
Alterations, old Science Hall building .....	15,151.50
For alterations and improvements in the library Building .....	<u>2,042.00</u>
Making a sum total of .....	\$19,792.00

These certificates were made with the understanding that these items would be paid out of the University appropriation so as to be able to make the purchases and improvements in an actual cash basis, and save the six per cent interest. When the deficiency appropriation for said items are made, it should be specifically provided that the same shall be available as to a part of the University appropriation for current expenses for the fiscal year closing June 30, 1917, or to pay such deficiencies, if the same have not been paid out of said regular appropriations.

Also on the same date, I certified to an additional deficiency in favor of the State University in the sum of \$16,000.00 for the year beginning July 1, 1916, for maintenance to be used in paying the salaries for teaching, administration and general expenses, operation and maintenance of plant and permanent improvements. I found that there was then in the state depository to the credit of the State University, the sum of about \$8,000.00 derived from fees and incidentals collected on account of the State University during the fiscal year ending June 30, 1916, and that there would probably be a like sum collected for the year beginning July 1, 1916, which would make a sum in cash available, amounting to \$16,000.00, but not usable on account of not having been specifically appropriated or made as a part of revolving fund provided for the State University. Appropriations when made should be to reimburse the regular appropriation.

SECRETARY OF STATE.

On August 19, 1916, on application, I approved a deficiency which covers expenditure made by the Secretary of State, as to the following items:

August 23rd, check, Claude Weaver.....	\$ 2,500.00
Sept. 7th, check, Claude Weaver .....	58.76
Sept. 12th, check, Western Bank Supply .....	8.44
Sept. 16th, check, Reliable Storage Co. ....	52.75
Sept. 24th, check, Underwood Typewriting Co.....	9.60
Sept. 24th, check, Underwood Typewriting Co.....	5.00
Sept. 24th, Oklahoma Paper Co.....	7.20
	<u>7.20</u>
	\$2,641.75

These items were paid by the Secretary of State out of his contingent fund. On request of mine, these pamphlets were published and mailed out as the law contemplated, the Secretary of State declined to make this expenditure out of his contingent fund until I certified to this deficiency; and so I report on this deficiency for your consideration for appropriation. In connection therewith, however, I desire to call your attention to the fact that the Fifth Legislature made the following appropriation for the Secretary of State's office for the fiscal year closing June 30, 1917:

Secretary of State .....	\$2,500.00
Assistant Secretary of State and Corporation Clerk .....	2,000.00
Corporation Record Clerk .....	1,500.00
Recording Clerk .....	1, 200.00
Stenographer and Assistant Recording Clerk.....	1,000.00
Printing .....	1,500.00
Contingent fund, postage, freight, express, telephone, books, special services, supplies and office furniture.....	6,000.00

(Session Laws, 1915, page 456.)

In the report made to the Governor of the State for the expenses of the fiscal year ending June 30<sup>th</sup>, 1916, by the Secretary of State, as required by Chapter 19, Session Laws 1913, from the Contingent fund appropriation for that fiscal year being the same sum as that made for the fiscal year closing June 30<sup>th</sup>, 1917, I find the following items of expenditure therefrom.

August 2, 1915, Carl Rogers, extra service .....	\$ 125.00
August 2, 1915, T. S Chamblin, extra service .....	75.00
August 2, 1915, Seth Ledbetter, extra service .....	5.00
Sept. 1, 1915, T. S. Chamblin, extra service .....	75.00
Sept. 1, 1915, Carl Rogers, extra service .....	125.00
Oct. 1, 1915, Carl Rogers, extra service.....	125.00
Oct. 1, 1915, T. S. Chamblin, extra service.....	75.00
Nov. 1, 1915, Carl Rogers, extra service.....	125.00
Nov. 1, 1915, T. S. Chamblin, extra service.....	75.00
Nov. 4, 1915, C. G. Adkins, extra service.....	125.00
Dec. 1, 1915, C. G. Adkins, extra service .....	125.00
Dec. 1, 1915, T. S. Chamblin, extra service .....	75.00
Dec. 1, 1915, Carl Rogers, extra service .....	125.00
Dec. 31, 1915, Carl Rogers, extra service .....	125.00
Dec. 31, 1915, T. S. Chamblin, extra service .....	75.00
Dec. 31, 1915, H. S. Ross, extra service .....	100.00
Feb. 1, 1916, Carl Rogers, extra service .....	125.00
Feb. 1, 1916, T. S. Chamblin, extra service .....	75.00
Feb. 1, 1916, Hoke S. Ross, extra service .....	100.00
March 1, 1916, Carl Rogers, extra service .....	125.00
March 1, 1916, H. S. Ross, extra service .....	100.00
March 1, 1916, T. S. Chamblin, extra service .....	75.00
April 1, 1916, Carl Rogers, extra service .....	125.00
April 1, 1916, T. S. Chamblin, extra service .....	75.00
April 1, 1916, H. S. Ross, extra service .....	100.00
May 1, 1916, Carl Rogers, extra service .....	125.00
May 1, 1916, H. S. Ross, extra service .....	100.00
May 1, 1916, T. S. Chamblin, extra service .....	75.00
June 1, 1916, Carl Rogers, extra service .....	125.00
June 1, 1916, H. S. Ross, extra service .....	100.00
June 1, 1916, T. S. Chamblin, extra service .....	75.00
July 1, 1916, Carl Rogers, extra service.....	125.00
July 1, 1916, T. S. Chamblin, extra service.....	75.00
July 1, 1916, H. S. Ross, extra service.....	100.00

And I also find:

June 24, 1916, Bessie Milhollan, salary.....	\$ 16.50
June 24, 1916, Julia Haswell, salary .....	7.50
June 24, 1916, Don McCafferty, salary .....	9.00
June 24, 1916, Leta McConaughy .....	13.50
June 24, 1916, M. Morris, salary.....	13.50
June 24, 1916, Florence Muratet, salary .....	13.50
June 24, 1916, Clara Parker, salary.....	18.00
June 24, 1916, Eva Selzer, salary .....	18.00
June 24, 1916, Nora Haldaby, salary .....	18.00
June 24, 1916, Kate Mosing, salary .....	18.00
June 24, 1916, R. M. Nyleen, salary .....	15.00
June 24, 1916, Jane Shaw, salary.....	16.50
June 24, 1916, Bernice Benton, salary .....	16.50
June 24, 1916, Willie Rose, salary.....	11.00
June 24, 1916, Gerald Mobley, salary.....	16.50

June 24, 1916, Margaret Chenault, salary ..... 4.50

The Act of March 31, 1913 (Session Laws 1913, pp. 221) provides that if such contingent fund has been expended for anything furnished, the quantity and price; and if there are any services rendered, the nature of such service rendered and time employed, and the particular occasion or cause, in brief, that rendered such necessary, should be set out in this report. The report of the Secretary of State failed to comply with the statute in that respect. I suggested that he might withdraw it and amend it, so as to have it comply with the statute. This he declined to do. For that reason, I ask you to investigate these items of expenditure to determine whether like items of expenditure should exist during the fiscal year closing June 30, 1917, in order to determine whether an appropriation to cover this certificate of deficiency, should be made to reimburse his regular contingent fund for the year closing June 30, 1917. I further suggest that you make this investigation also with a view toward determining how much contingent fund should be appropriated for the office of Secretary of State for the fiscal years comprising the next biennium.

#### HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT.

On October 10, 1916, the Commissioner of Highways reported in detail, and after examination I found that a deficiency in the sum of \$18,279.79 for the fiscal year closing June 30<sup>th</sup>, 1917, was necessary, and accordingly so certified; the appropriation to cover this deficiency to be made out of the funds in the State Treasury, placed there by the Highway Department. It appeared that more than that sum remained of the fund placed in the State Treasury by the said Highway Department, subject to the appropriation for its expenses. The items covered by this certificate will be presented for your consideration by the Highway Department.

#### HEATING CAPITOL BUILDING.

On September 26, 1916, the State Capitol Commission presented to me for my consideration the question of certifying to a deficiency to provide for the heating of the State Capitol building, not only to protect said building on account of freezing, but also that it might be properly heated when the Legislature convened at its sixth regular session in January, 1917, and upon investigation I found that the following was necessary to be purchased and installed to provide adequate heating for said purposes:

1 Springfield internal fired boiler, 225 H. P. complete with all furnace castings for coal fire with the necessary openings in the boiler from for the attachment of gas burners (but not including the burners). Furnish and erect the necessary smoke-stack and breaching for temporary use, install boiler on foundation ready for steam or water connection (not furnished by them) for the net sum of \$4, 633. Boiler to be covered with magnesia covering.

Rent, deliver and erect at the capitol site, 1,100 h. p. boiler complete with stack and necessary breaching for steam or water connections (not furnished by them) for \$1,200.00.

Boiler house and boxing in of pipes to main building; 1 sink with waste pipe to sewer, etc., \$2,613.00.

- A. Boiler house equipment, except piping, set, including foundations, \$3,717.00.
- D. Alternate to C—pipe work and pipe covering to piping in main building except for gas burners and gas piping connections to boiler and covering of steam pipes in boiler house, \$4,107.00.
- E. Gas burners and connections to boilers from gas company's pipe at boiler house wall, estimate cost, \$877.00.
- F. Covering all steam pipes in boiler house, estimated cost, \$229.00.



I accordingly certified to a deficiency in the sum of \$17,376.00. These items will be presented to you by the State Capitol Commission for consideration. It is to be noted that practically all of these items may be utilized in providing for the permanent heating of said Capitol building.

FURNISHING AND PREPARATION OF LEGISLATIVE HALLS.

On the 9<sup>th</sup> day of December, 1916, the State Board of Public Affairs submitted to me the question and necessity of certifying to a deficiency in order to put the Legislative halls and rooms in fit condition for its occupancy at its sixth regular session. On investigation I found that it was necessary to make the following outlays, expenditures or purchases:

Moving and repairing legislative furniture.....	\$150.00
2,500 yards of carpet at \$2.08.....	3,200.00
3,600 yards of paper for carpet, at 10c.....	360.00
11 desks for new members.....	115.50
11 chairs for new members.....	99.00
4 desks to replace broken ones.....	42.00
4 chairs to replace broken ones.....	36.00
48 No. 24 blue enamel inside steel cuspidors.....	42.00
122 No. 24 green enamel inside steel cuspidors.....	106.75
200 yards of coco matting for halls, 75c.....	150.00
2 cases of lamp globes.....	50.00
Incidental expenses to put rooms in order.....	<u>150.00</u>
	\$4,501.25

I accordingly certified to a deficiency in the sum of \$4,501.25. These items will be presented to you for your consideration through the Board of Affairs.

ADJUTANT GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT.

The Second Legislature (Session Laws 1909, p. 463, Section 1, Article 6,) is as follows:

“The Commissioners of the Land Office are hereby authorized and directed to make and enter into a lease for 10 year periods not to exceed 5 periods with the Adjutant General of the National Guard of this State, the following described land and premises, to wit: The South half of the Northwest quarter of Section 16, township 14 north, range 4 East I. M., in Lincoln county, State of Oklahoma, at an annual rental, payable annually, of not to exceed 5 percent of the appraised value, to be used as a camp and maneuver ground for the national guard of the state, and said rental shall be paid to said common school fund out of the general fund of the state not otherwise appropriated; provided, that the lessees now occupying such tracts of lands, shall receive and be paid the full value of their improvements, preference right and lease hold interest.”

As to the South half and the Northwest quarter of said Section 16, Township 4, Range 4 East, Lincoln county, as a maneuvering ground for the National Guard, under the provisions of said transfer, by J. D. Norton, the original lessee, but it has been suggested that the Act itself is sufficient to operate as a transfer. I call this question to the attention of the Legislature. I am further advised that no rental has ever been paid on the Northwest Quarter since 1912, and that on the South half there is a small balance of rental due for 1912, and all of the rental for 1913 and 1914 are still due. The rentals for 1915 and 1916 appear to have been paid. The statements below will give the rentals for each year up to and including 1919, and the interest that will be due May 1<sup>st</sup> on all back payments. Statements now due and which will fall due up to 1919 are as follows:

NW _.	
1913 rent.....	\$ 180.00
Interest.....	66.00
1914 rent.....	180.00
Interest.....	48.00

1915 rent.....	180.00
Interest.....	30.00
1916 rent.....	144.00
Interest.....	9.60
1917 rent.....	144.00
1918 rent.....	144.00
1919 rent.....	<u>144.00</u>
Total .....	\$ 1,269.60

I respectfully recommend for your consideration the advisability of making an appropriation to pay the rental to the Commissioners of the Land Office to become a part of the income from the trust fund under their management. There appears to be due to the Commissioners of the Land Office as rental on the Northwest Quarter, including interest to May 1, 1917, the sum of \$837.60. On October 1, 1917, there will be due said Commissioners as rental for that year, the sum of \$144.00.

The Adjutant General advises me that he has attempted to take care of the rent on the South Half by subletting it to the care-taker of the rifle range, but has been successful in collecting the rent, only for 1915 and 1916, which was paid to the Commissioners of the Land Office. The rent on the said South Half for the years 1912, 1913, 1914, including interest to May 1, 1917, amounts to \$398.28. On October 1<sup>st</sup>, 1917, the 1917 rent of \$162.00 will be due. It is possible that the 1917 rent can be taken care of by sub-renting, but it is advisable to have an appropriation to cover same in order that the Commissioners of the Land Office may be promptly reimbursed if the sub-letting arrangement should not materialize.

These facts, as to this matter, will be presented to you by the Adjutant General.

During the month of May, 1913, in connection with the Officer's School at Guthrie, a bill was incurred with the A. T. & S. F. Railway Company for transportation issued to officers upon requests of Adjutant General Canton, in the sum of \$114.58.

A similar bill was made with the St. Louis & San Francisco Railway Company in the sum of \$51.87.

The Missouri, Kansas & Texas Railway Company has a claim in the sum of \$5.44 for freight on Quartermaster's property shipped from Lansing, Kansas, to Captain Walter Veach on December 4, 1912, this property being shipped to Oklahoma after maneuvers at Fort Riley.

These claims appear to be valid and regular (See Session, 1913, Section 36 and 38, Chapter 134, pp. 362-363). The items in detail will be furnished by the Adjutant General.

I respectfully recommend for your consideration, the advisability of making appropriation to cover these claims with interest at the rate of 6 per cent per annum.

In account No. 7, Adjutant General's Department, known as "Troops Called Out Fund," there remains a balance of only about \$750.00, the original amount being \$3,000.00. The same was depleted on account of the necessity of furnishing transportation to new recruits and such enlisted men as were disqualified on physical examinations during the mobilization ordered under the call of the President on the 19<sup>th</sup> day of June, 1916. In view of the likelihood that the troops will be returned to their home state prior to July 1, 1917, it appears that this appropriation should be supplemented in the sum of \$1,500.00 to meet the emergencies and the necessities that will arise when said troops are mustered out of the federal service and returned to their homes. When the troops are returned, the War Department will probably order a survey of all unserviceable property in the hands of the state, as well as property that has been lost. The expense of

such survey must be borne by the state, and this requested additional or deficiency appropriation, should be made so as to cover that item also.

CONFEDERATE HOME.

On March 23, 1916, a deficiency certificate was certified to for the Confederate Home, in the sum of \$4,550.00, for the construction of a sewage and ceptic tank and equipment for said home. This was done on application of the State Board of Public Affairs. An itemized statement of said claim will be furnished you by said Board. Further, I have certified to an additional deficiency in four of said homes in the sum of \$662.21 for maintenance. These items will be furnished you in detail by the Board of Affairs.

I recommend that appropriations be made to cover these deficiencies.

FEEBLE MINDED INSTITUTE.

The State Board of Affairs, under date of December 30, 1916, writes me as follows:

“Enid does not have a deficiency at this time, but two new dormitories were completed last July and the increase is about 140 inmates.

This additional increase and the character of the children that are committed to that institution, creates a necessity for extra help, and there are several more children of the same character that will be committed there between now and the first day of July, 1917.

“The appropriation that was made for the year 1916-1917, was \$45,000.00 for maintenance and salaries. This appropriation is not sufficient to take care of the Institution, since the number of inmates has increased as they have at this time; and figuring on the same cost per capita for the increased help and increased inmates, it will be necessary to make an additional appropriation to carry them until the first day of July, of \$15,000.00.”

For fear that you may not be able to pass on this question before a deficiency actually arises, I hereby consent in writing for the deficiency in this sum for the Feeble Minded Institute for the fiscal year closing June 30, 1917, and submit the same to you for your consideration.

STATE CAPITOL BUILDING.

The following is a statement of the several appropriations made for State Capitol Construction purposes, with expenditures therefrom to December 28, 1916, as shown by report from the Auditor’s office:

	Amt Appropriated.	Amt Expended.	Amt Unexpended Bal.
House Bill 72—Laws 1913, balances from sundry funds .....	\$ 318,287.19		
Oklahoma City bond .....	100,000.00		
Interest on bond money .....	6,667.72		
Balance due under Senate Joint Resolution No. 7 .....	53,578.50		
Total .....	\$ 478,533.41	\$ 478,527.22	\$ 6.19
H.B. 72 and S.B 398, General Revenue appropriation .....	250,000.00	57,293.40	192,706.60
House Joint Resolution 28, 1915 .....	15,000.00		15,000.00
Senate Bill 442, laws 1915 .....	750,000.00	712,972.99	37,027.01
Senate Bill 17, laws 1916, appropriation to pay special taxes.....	<u>6,432.29</u>	<u>6,432.29</u>	
Total .....	\$ 1,499,965.70	\$ 1,252,225.90	\$ 244,739.80

Section 8 of Chapter 22, Session Laws 1913, purported to appropriate unexpended balances in sundry funds, aggregating \$252,224.40. However, some of the items, representing special trust funds, were never transferred to the Capitol Building

Funds, such as Condemnation Section items, arising from the condemnation of school and public building lands. By House Joint Resolution No. 26, passed by the 1915 Legislature such items were authorized and directed to be withdrawn from the Treasury by the Commissioners of the Land Office, and this leaves a deficiency in the \$1,500,000.00 appropriation for the Capitol in the sum of \$1,035.00.

(Session Laws 1915, page 717; Session Laws 1913, p. 584.)

Also Resolution No. 28, passed by the Fifth Legislature in regular session (Session Laws 1915, p. 718) authorizes the Capitol Commission to construct additional piers at a cost not to exceed \$15,000.00, but I do not construe this Resolution to amount to an appropriation, so it will be necessary for the Legislature to appropriate at this session, the sum of \$15,000.00 to cover the amount authorized by said Resolution 28, and also the additional sum of \$1,035.00, the sum the original capitol appropriation was depleted by virtue of said House Joint Resolution No. 26. Said Resolution being in words and figures as follows:

“Whereas, there is no in the Treasury of this state, the following funds: Condemnation section 33 fund, \$2,707.57; condemnation school land fund, \$21,620.73, making the total sum of \$24,328.30, and which is a trust fund, and by virtue of section 32 of article 6 of the Constitution, is subject to the management and control of the School Land Commissioners;

“Now in order that said funds may be loaned under the provisions of section 6 of article 11 of the Constitution of this State;

“Be it resolved, that the Treasurer of this State is hereby ordered and directed to pay out said funds on vouchers drawn by and under the direction of the Commissioners of the Land Office through the intervention of the Office of the State Auditor, said vouchers to show the purposes for which said funds are drawn.”

It seems to me that said condemnation section 33 fund items, in the sum of \$2,707.57, was subject to an appropriation to be used for the construction of the State Capitol building and that it can still be made available for such purposes.

The amount of contract with James Stewart & Company, Inc., is \$1,253,500.00. Amount expended by Commission in completion of the building to the mezzanine floor, where contractors were to take hold, \$174,283.71; total, \$1,427,783.71. Extras, as shown by sheet 1 attached to report of the Capitol Commission, filed with the Sixth Legislature, \$91,184.68, less credits or rebates, as shown by credit sheet No. 1, filed with the same report, \$10,035.82, leaving \$81,148.86. Add this to \$1,427,783.71 and you have \$1,508,932.57, the cost of the Capitol Building proper as now contracted.

Out of the sums appropriated for the capitol building proper, it was provided by the Act of the Legislature that the architects' fees, expense of the Capitol Commission, and all such incidental expenditures should be paid out of that appropriation. The total architects' fees contracted for, including plans and supervision by the architects, is \$75,000.00; the expenses of the Superintendent, Edward P. Boyd, the Treasury Architect, who has acted as Superintendent, including what has already been paid, and his salary; based up to July 1, 1917, will be \$12,044.00; miscellaneous construction expenses, as shown by report of the Capitol Commission, on file with you, \$14,742.39. J. S. Wiley, boiler, \$4,633.00, item therein contained, is included in deficiency certificate made on September 26<sup>th</sup>, 1916. When this item is appropriated, it should be provided—“To reimburse the original capitol appropriation in that sum and to be available for payment for the construction of the same.” J. S. Wiley, rent on boiler, \$1,200.00 is a like item and is likewise contained in the same deficiency certificate. I mention this, to guard against a duplicate appropriation. Salary of Capitol Commissioners, office employees and clerical

help, \$27,930.56. This sum is itemized in report of the Commissioners, on file with the Legislature. Office supplies, furniture and fixtures--\$2,754.77; telephone, telegraph, freight, express and drayage--\$1,964.20; traveling expenses, railroad fare, hotel bills and miscellaneous expenses, taxes, auto supplies and premium on bonds, and employees of the Capitol Commissioners, \$13,292.88, total \$153,561.80. All of these items have been or are to be paid out of the appropriation for the construction of the capitol building. This was authorized by the act originally creating the Capitol Commission and providing for the construction of the building.

The Capitol Commission in the construction of this building, was limited in amount to \$1,500,000.00, plus the additional \$15,000.00 authorized by resolution of the Fifth Legislature. This limitation was restricted to the construction of the building proper. The Attorney General June 21, 1915, wrote as follows:

“Receipt is acknowledged of your letter of June 21<sup>st</sup>, referring to your letter of June 9<sup>th</sup>, and to the opinion by Mr. Matson of this office on the 10<sup>th</sup>. You now ask whether certain items mentioned in your letter of this date should be included within the limits of the sum of one and one-half million dollars which the legislature by the acts of 1913 and 1915 provided should be the cost of the capitol building proper.

“We have re-examined the different acts and different opinions rendered by this office concerning the construction of the state capitol, and without referring in detail to the same we conclude as follows:

“It was the intention of the legislature to provide a building for the state capitol which should cost and into which there should be expended the sum of \$1,500,000.00, and it is our opinion that this amount was to be expended on the building itself.

“In the Act of March 18, 1915, Session Laws, 1915, Section 3, page 296, provision is made for the appointment of a practical builder, fixing his salary in the sum of three hundred dollars per month, and it is our opinion that this amount and the amount paid for the services of this official is not included within the sum of \$1,500,000.00 for the construction of the building.

“Provision is also made by the said act for the contracting of additional services by architects, and which we conclude was not intended to be a part of the \$1,500,000.00.

“In other words, it is our opinion that the overhead charges, such as architects’ fees for superintendent of construction, salaries of the capitol commissioners, secretary to the commission, quarters and incidentals to quarters, is separate and apart from the \$1,500,000.00.

“By House Joint Resolution No. 28, page 718, Session Laws, 1915, the capitol commission was authorized to construct piers at a cost not to exceed fifteen thousand dollars, sufficiently strong to carry a high dome.

“We conclude that this is an appropriation in addition to the \$1,500,000.00 and no part of the said sum of \$1,500,000.00, and increases the amount to be expended for the building proper to the sum of \$1,515,000.00, but the \$15,000.00 so appropriated by House Joint Resolution No. 28 cannot be used for any purpose except for the construction of piers sufficiently strong to carry a high dome.

We concluded after this advice from the chief law officer of the state that the items contained in the \$153,561.80 sum as hereinbefore enumerated, were not intended to be a part of the amount prescribed as a limit for the construction of the building proper.

On account of such limitation we had not felt at liberty to have all of the sub-basement of the building placed in condition to be used. Portions of the sub-basement

only have been placed in condition to be used. The south half of the east wing has been placed in condition to be used by the Highway Department, for offices and work room. It was contemplated that the south half of the west wing should be used as a storeroom for the Oklahoma National Guard, but this could not be done within the limitation as to expenditures of money, and for that reason the matter has been deferred. I recommend a sufficient appropriation to place the south half of the basement in the west wing in condition to be used as a store room for the militia National Guard Department. The Capitol Commission will secure estimates from the architects' superintendent and also the contractor and submit the same for your consideration as a guide in the amount to be appropriated, if, in your judgment, you should determine to make such appropriation.

#### CLAIM FOR CELLS IN THE STATE PENITENTIARY AT MCALESTER.

It has been brought to my attention that, under the first state administration, the total contract price for the work of installing the cells in said penitentiary, was \$4,785.00, which consisted of one contract with one item for \$4,085.00, and another item for \$700.00, making a total of \$4,785.00.

The Pauly Jail Building Company claims that the \$700.00 item has never been paid and is due on the Central Locking device which operates all doors in the rotunda from a central cage; that this could not be installed until the building was completed, and that when it was completed, the appropriation under which the contract was made, had expired. Messrs. Vaught & Brewer, attorneys of this city, represent the Pauly Jail Building Company, and presented this claim to the State Board of Public Affairs, but there is no fund or appropriation out of which it may be paid. They also claim that another item in the sum of \$408.50 is due on the original contract for receiving cells placed in the basement of the administration building at the State Penitentiary at McAlester; that these cells could not be placed until they were ordered in by the prison authorities or proper Board, and that when they were placed, and the company presented claims for payment, the appropriation under which that contract was made, had expired.

I ask that you investigate these claims; and if you find such to be legal, just and valid claim against the State to that extent, whatever that may be up to the amount claimed, to make an appropriation therefore.

#### CLAIM OF FORMER PRESIDENT OF THE WOMEN'S COLLEGE AT CHICKASHA.

A claim is presented by J. A. Moore, former President of the Women's College at Chickasha, for unpaid salary, in the sum of about \$600.00. I ask that you investigate this claim and determine as to its validity and justness, and if you find that it is a valid and just claim against the State, to that extent, make an appropriation to discharge the same.

#### HOSPITAL FOR THE INSANE AT VINITA.

The State Board of Public Affairs writes me as follows:

"The Legislature of 1915, under Chapter 170, Senate Bill 369, made an appropriation which reads as follows:

"Section 1. There is hereby appropriated out of any money in the State Treasury not otherwise appropriated, the sum of \$50,000.00 for the erection of a fire proof building for the East Oklahoma Hospital for the Insane, located at Vinita, Oklahoma, approved March 1915.

"We constructed this building in keeping with the appropriation, but you will note there was no appropriation made for equipment and other supplies to take care of the increased number of inmates. Before this building could be used, it was necessary to buy equipment and do other things necessary so that the building could be used. We furnish you herewith an itemized list of expenditures.

“The power plant being inadequate to supply power for the additional new building, it was necessary for us to purchase a new boiler which we did, together with furniture equipment and other supplies as per list.

“Since the new building was completed July 1<sup>st</sup>, they have received 92 additional inmates, which will have to be provided for. Had the Legislature appropriated sufficient money or made their bill read ‘Equipment for the new Building’ same could have been used without using the support and maintenance fund. We purchased supplies and equipment as per list enclosed, and paid for same out of the support and maintenance fund.

“We recommend that an appropriation be made in the sum of \$15,000.00 to reimburse the support and maintenance fund, in order to carry the institution up to July 1<sup>st</sup>, 1917.

“In 1915, the institution at Vinita was short of teams to cultivate their land. The penitentiary at that time had a surplus and they loaned the institution at Vinita ten mules and harness. In 1916, the surplus teams the penitentiary had were sent to the different counties for road working purposes, and the State purchased the farm at Aylesworth, which makes it necessary that the ten mules at Vinita be returned to McAlester to be used on the farm.

“It therefore becomes necessary that an appropriation be made to purchase ten mules and harness for the institution at Vinita, and we recommend that an appropriation be made in the sum of \$2,500.00 to purchase the ten mules and harness.”

I consent in writing to this as a deficiency, and recommend that appropriation be made to reimburse the support and maintenance fund.

#### COUNTY REGISTRARS.

The Extraordinary Session of the Fifth Legislature, in creating the office of County Registrar, made no provision for any compensation for him. The Act of February 26<sup>th</sup>, 1916, passed the same Session (Chapter 32, p. 88) provided that the County Registrar of each county should furnish to the Secretary of State a complete list of the names and post-office addresses of all legal voters in his county. This was a burden on these County Registrars. I requested that these lists be sent in that the initiative publicity pamphlets might be mailed out to the voters of the state as contemplated by law, with the understanding that I would recommend to the Legislature an appropriation for them, for the work actually performed, and I so recommend.

#### SOUTHEASTERN STATE NORMAL.

The Fifth Legislature (Chap. 217, p. 444) under the head of Ed. S. Bennett, made appropriation for electric current furnished Southeastern State Normal, Durant, 1911 and 1912, Ed. S. Bennett being then Superintendent of the light plant owned by said city.

When this appropriation reached me I was under the impression that other towns and cities in the state had furnished the normal schools and the preparatory schools and the subordinate agricultural schools free lighting. Since then I have ascertained that such was not the fact. There is no other town or city where such institutions are located, that had a municipal lighting plant, but it has been the practice of such towns to furnish free water for such schools. The City of Durant has furnished free water to the Southeastern Normal. That being so, the Superintendent of the municipal light plant was entitled to have an appropriation made to cover the light items for the years 1911 and 1912. Since then the City of Durant has passed the following resolution, which I will have filed in the Secretary of State's office as a permanent record:

“Whereas, the City of Durant, Oklahoma, has a claim against the State of Oklahoma, in the sum of Fourteen Hundred (\$1,400.00) Dollars, which was



allowed by the Fifth Legislature of the State (Chap. 217, p. 444) under the head of Ed. S. Bennett, for electric current furnished Southeastern State Normal, Durant, 1911 and 1912, Ed. S. Bennett being then Superintendent of the Municipal Light Plant, owned by said City, and said item of appropriation having been disallowed by the Governor;

“Now, Therefore, Be it resolved by the City of Durant that; If the Legislature of said State will appropriate said item for the benefit of the Southeastern State Normal to be used for any purpose incidental to said institution and at the same time re-appropriate the unused portion of the appropriation for maintenance and otherwise for said institution for the biennium comprising the years 1916 and 1917, that the City of Durant hereby agrees to lease all further claim against the State for said Fourteen Hundred (\$1,400.00) Dollars, and authorizes the Mayor and City Clerk, after said appropriation has been made and used for the purposes herein indicated, to execute proper release in favor of the State of the consideration of One (\$1.00) Dollar.

“Passed and approved by the Mayor and City Council of the City of Durant, Oklahoma, this 26<sup>th</sup> day of December, 1916.”

I accordingly recommend that this appropriation be made for the sum of \$1,400.00, the first half with interest at six per cent per annum from the 1<sup>st</sup> day of July, A. D. 1912, and the other half at the rate of six per cent per annum, from the 1<sup>st</sup> day of July 1913, the principal sum and interest to be available for any improvement or purpose incidental to the Southeastern State Normal.

As this is practically a grant and donation for the benefit of said school by said city, I recommend that the State appropriate an additional \$1,400.00 to duplicate this donation, arising from the lighting claim. During the last year citizens of Durant purchased a tract of ground and caused it to be added to the original twenty acre site for the Southeastern State Normal, so as to enlarge the athletic grounds, for which the sum of \$500.00 was paid, and this tract of land has been donated to the state. I recommend also that the Legislature appropriates \$500.00 to duplicate that sum. I will recapitulate:

\$700.00 for light for the fiscal year 1911, with interest from June 1, 1912 to Jan. 1, 1917, \$192.50,	
Total.....	\$ 892.50
\$700.00 for light the fiscal year 1912, with interest from June 1 1913 to January 1, 1917, \$150.50,	
Total.....	850.50
Duplicate appropriation as to principal sum of.....	1,400.00
Duplicate appropriation for the land granted.....	<u>500.00</u>
Total.....	\$ 3,643.00

Provided that no part of this appropriation shall be available to reimburse the city of Durant or any of the donors or any of the grantors of said fund or of said land, or that furnished the money to buy said land, but that said appropriations shall be available for equipment, improvements or any purpose incidental to Southeastern State Normal School.

I recommend that appropriation in said sum of \$3,643.00 be accordingly made, and thus encourage the local enterprising and benevolent public spirit that characterizes the foregoing contribution for the benefit of this school.

Of the appropriation made for support and maintenance of the Southeastern State Normal for the fiscal year closing June 30, 1916, there was unexpended the sum of \$2772.20. This was occasioned on account of the new President not being able to assume his duties until about the middle of June, just a few days before the closing of that fiscal

year. The Acting President, after the election of the new President, left these funds to be expended by the new President for incidentals and equipment necessary for the school, intended in the making of the appropriations. Contracts for the expenditure of this fund for the necessary things, could not be well made before June 30, 1916.

I accordingly recommend that the said sum of \$2772.20 be made available, appropriated by joint resolution, for equipment and incidental purposes of said school.

SUMMER NORMAL—UNEXPENDED BALANCES

Of the appropriations made by Senate Bill 389, of the Fifth Legislature (Session Laws, 1915, p. 134.) unexpended balances of such appropriation remain to-wit:

Northwestern Normal.....	\$ 1075.00
Central State Normal.....	1214.71
Northeastern State Normal .....	1320.00
Southwestern State Normal .....	1377.29
East Central State Normal .....	800.00
Southeastern State Normal .....	861.00

These sums were saved from the expenses of the 1915 summer normals for that year, but are needed to aid the 1917 summer normals. Accordingly, I recommend that such unexpended balance be by joint resolution, made available for such purpose.

STATE INSTITUTIONS

Hereto attached as Exhibit "B1," is report from the State Board of Public Affairs, under date of December 15<sup>th</sup>, 1916; also attached as Exhibit "C", is a supplemental report from the same Board. Exhibit "B1" contains reports from the Penitentiary at Granite, insane asylums at Norman, Supply and Vinita, Feeble Minded Institute at Enid, Colored Deaf, and Blind Institute at Taft, School for Blind at Muskogee, State Orphanage at Pryor and Training School for Boys at Pauls Valley; also recommendations as to the Central State Normal at Edmond, College for Women at Chickasha, Northwestern State Normal at Alva, East Central State Normal at Ada, Southeastern Normal at Durant, Southwestern Normal at Weatherford, Northeast Normal at Tahlequah, School for Deaf at Sulphur, State Orphanage at Pryor, Boys Training School at Pauls Valley, Feeble Minded Institute at Enid, Colored Agricultural and Mechanical College at Langston, School for Blind and Muskogee, School of Mines at Wilburton, East University Preparatory School at Claremore, University Preparatory School at Tonkawa, State University at Norman, Colored Deaf, Blind and Orphans Institute at Taft, and the Insane Asylums at Supply, Vinita and Norman, the Confederate Home at Ardmore, and State Penitentiary at Granite.

Exhibit "C" refers to the Penitentiary at McAlester, which contains the report of the Warden and recommendations thereon. Attached as Exhibit "D" are reports and recommendations from the State Board of Education, as to the institutions under their jurisdiction. These reports and recommendations are incorporated as a part of this message, as they relate to the conditions of the affairs of the State.

Hereto attached is Exhibit "E" which is a communication from the President of the A. & M. College at Stillwater, submitting estimates and recommendations as to appropriations for the next biennium.

COMPARISON OF APPROPRIATIONS

Out of the revenues raised by taxation, the appropriations made by the Fifth Legislature for the fiscal year closing June 30<sup>th</sup>, 1916, are as follows:

State Departments .....	\$ 1,424,899.67
State Institutions .....	1,830,051.94
Miscellaneous .....	79,185.59

Additional appropriations made for the same period out of the trust funds for the support of the State Institutions 1916,

S.E.I.....	\$ 386,300.00
New College Fund .....	264,883.33
Total.....	\$ 3,985,320.53

Appropriations made by the Fifth Legislature out of the funds arising from taxation for fiscal year closing June 30<sup>th</sup>, 1917, are as follows:

State Departments .....	\$ 1,252,953.47
State Institutions .....	1,956,009.34

Appropriations made for the same period out of the trust funds for the support of the State Institutions,

S.E.I.....	\$ 165,700.00
New College Fund .....	191,816.69
Total.....	\$ 3,566,479.50

I recapitulate the appropriations recommended by the several Boards or Heads, for the fiscal years ending June 30<sup>th</sup>, 1918 and June 30<sup>th</sup>, 1919, for the following institutions:

	1917-18	1918-19
University of Oklahoma, Norman.....	\$400,000.00	365,000.00
Oklahoma College for Women, Chickasha.....	150,000.00	50,000.00
School of Mines and Metalurgy, Wilburton.....	23,980.00	23,980.00
East Central State Normal, Ada.....	46,593.66	43,655.36
Northwestern State Normal, Alva.....	50,200.00	47,100.00
Southeastern State Normal, Durant.....	46,593.00	43,655.00
Central State Normal, Edmond.....	80,000.00	80,000.00
Northeastern State Normal, Tahlequah.....	57,000.00	37,000.00
Southwestern State Normal, Weatherford.....	54,093.00	46,593.00

(Summer Schools.)

	1917-18	1918-19
Central State Normal, Edmond.....	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00
East Central State Normal, Ada.....	5,000.00	5,000.00
Northwestern State Normal, Alva.....	5,000.00	5,000.00
Northeastern State Normal, Tahlequah.....	5,000.00	5,000.00
Southwestern State Normal, Weatherford.....	5,000.00	5,000.00
Southeastern State Normal, Durant.....	5,000.00	5,000.00
Eastern University Preparatory School, Claremore .....	30,000.00	30,000.00
University Preparatory School, Tonkawa .....	94,701.16	50,750.00
School for the Blind, Muskogee .....	39,142.24	84,142.24
School for the Deaf, Sulphur .....	61,850.00	76,650.00
State Orphan's Home, Pryor.....	75,208.00	52,568.00
State Training School for Boys, Pauls Valley.....	65,100.00	42,700.00
Institution for Feeble-Minded, Enid.....	113,000.00	88,000.00
Colored Institute for Deaf, Blind and Orphans, Taft.....	86,656.00	50,656.00
Colored A. & M. University, Langston.....	50,497.00	41,497.00
Total.....	\$1,559,614.06	1,288,946.60

The foregoing appropriations are for institutions under the jurisdiction of the State Board of Education.

	1917-18	1918-19
Hospital for insane, at Supply.....	\$134,000.00	99,000.00
Confederate Home, at Ardmore.....	32,500.00	22,500.00
Oklahoma Hospital, at Norman.....	329,218.75	172,536.00
East Oklahoma Hospital for Insane, At Vinita.....	178,397.00	142,000.00
Penitentiary at Granite.....	220,400.00	94,500.00
Penitentiary at McAlester.....	<u>649,500.00</u>	<u>332,000.00</u>
Total.....	\$1,544,015.75	862,536.00

The foregoing institutions are under the jurisdiction of the Board of Affairs, only.

A. & M. College, Stillwater.....	\$453,348.00	\$303,348.00
Medical College and Hospital.....	100,000.00	100,000.00

The total appropriations recommended by the several Boards or Heads, for the fiscal year closing June 30<sup>th</sup>, 1918, aggregate \$3,656,977.81; for the fiscal year closing June 30, 1919, \$2,554,830.60. For each year add \$1,500,000.00 for expense of state government, and you would have right around \$5,000,000.00 appropriated for the year closing June 30, 1918, and \$4,000,000.00 for the year closing June 30, 1919, if appropriations are made in accordance with the said recommendations.

#### CASH BASIS.

As to all current expenses, the State is now on a cash basis and has funds in the State Treasury, or available through levied taxes, to continue the same on such basis, including the reasonable expense of this Legislature. It is essential that such condition continue to exist. During the first six months of the year 1914, interest was paid by the State on outstanding warrants, because the funds were not in the Treasury to pay the same when presented, in the sum of \$60,062.45; from January 1, 1916, to July 1, 1916, the sum of \$7,313.69 was paid by the State on account of funds not being in the State Treasury to pay the same when presented. Since July 1, 1916, the State has been altogether on a cash basis.

#### ESTIMATED REVENUE.

The estimated income for the fiscal year ending June 30<sup>th</sup>, 1917, other than ad valorem taxes, was \$2,110,259.54. The total assessed valuation by counties and the amount of taxes charged to each for the same period, aggregate \$2,497,623.44, making the sum total of \$4,607,882.98, and it is estimated that, after all current expenses for said period have been met, there will be a surplus of at least \$300,000.00.

It is earnestly desired by me that the ad valorem assessments shall not exceed two mills. In addition will be one-fourth of a mill for highways, and one-fourth of a mill for common schools, aggregating one-half of a mill to be apportioned back to the counties. It is my earnest desire that the appropriations to be made and the fixed charges to be made on the tax-payers shall be kept with a single purpose of keeping it within these limits.

#### UNION VETERANS AND SPANISH WAR VETERANS HOME.

The Grand Army of the Republic of the Department of Oklahoma, at its Twenty-sixth annual Encampment, held at Tulsa, Oklahoma, in May, 1916, passed the following resolutions:

“Whereas, Many of our comrades in this State, and the widows of some, have answered the last roll call, have reached an age where they can no longer care for themselves and have no relatives or friends upon whom they can depend, and

Whereas, it has been the policy in our neighboring States of the Nation, to build and maintain homes for such soldiers and their wives and widows, and

Whereas, our own State has provided for the Confederate veterans and their wives and widows, now, therefore,

Be it Resolved, that we respectively ask of the Governor and the next Legislature, that provisions be made for the erection and maintenance of a home for Union Veterans and Spanish War Veterans, and their wives and widows, and

Be it further Resolved, that a Legislative Committee of three each from the members of the G. A. R. and the Spanish-American war veterans, to be appointed to prepare a bill and urge its passage at the next session of the Legislature.”

(See Annual Journal, page 37)

I most respectfully recommend that provision be made for the establishment and maintenance of such Home, and that adequate appropriation be made for the continuance and support of the same.

I suggest that you consider the advisability of converting one of the existing State Institutions into such home.

#### CONFEDERATE HOME.

At the regular Fifth Session of the Legislature of this State, by joint resolution, the trustees of the Confederate Home authorized to sell a certain tract of land belonging to the Home, which was located in the City of Ardmore, but not contiguous to the Home. This has been done, and the money converted into the Treasury. The Home needs more land immediately contiguous, on which farming and agriculture may be carried on, to aid in its support. I accordingly recommend that you authorize the State Board of Public Affairs to purchase the thirty acres of land on which the Home is located, and appropriate the sum of \$3,000.00 to be expended for such purpose. I further recommend for your consideration an appropriation in the sum of \$72,000.00 annually during the next biennium, to be used as pensions for Confederate soldiers.

#### STATE HOME FOR THE AGED, INFIRM AND INDIGENT.

It is equally as high a duty for the State to look after its unfortunate, the infirm, the sick, afflicted and down and out, as much so as it is essential to educate the mind. The question of the care of the poor all through Anglo Saxon government and development has been a matter of local or municipal concern, but in modern development and efficiency in some states it is also being done through State agencies. In Massachusetts the matter of caring for the poor is of municipal or township concern, yet Massachusetts has a State Home for the aged, poor and infirm. In New York, it is a matter of municipal or county concern, yet New York has a State Home for the aged, poor and infirm. Through the agency of the State, a State Home can be maintained with adequate hospital facilities and other necessary facilities, at a less per capita cost as a rule, than by counties, except where large cities are located in such counties. It should be provided that hereafter the counties are prohibited from maintaining poor farms, but permit the counties to make their allowance or give their assistance to the needy poor, where it is not necessary to take charge of them. But when a person is dependent in such a town, that he or she must be entirely provided for and maintained, let the county send that poor person to the State Home; a charge against said county to be provided. This plan is in accord with the modern plan of efficiency and humane treatment.

I recommend that you consider the advisability of establishing such a Home and of converting some State institution that is already existing into such a Home. The State

can have its farm and its hospital and all the agencies to make such a Home a success without so much expense per capita as is occasioned by counties.

#### WEST OKLAHOMA ORPHANS' HOME.

The State Home or Orphanage, now located at Pryor, is full to its capacity. An orphans' home, in its work, is local in its nature. The office of this Home is not only to gather up dependent orphans and maintain them, but also to find a home for them among the citizenship of the State, when practical, and this can only be done in an efficient and practical way within a certain limited area adjacent to such Home. My observation is that this Home has never been in touch with the distant parts of the State, like the Northwest and the Southwest part of the State.

I recommend that you consider the advisability of converting some of the existing State institutions on the west side of the State that are not reasonably needed for the purpose for which they were originally intended, into an orphanage, to be known as the West Oklahoma State Home.

#### TITLE SCHOOL OF MINES.

On file in the Secretary of State's Office are certain instruments relative to the title of the School of Mines. One dated October 18, 1909, by J. W. Allen and W. C. Allen, wife and husband, conveying to the State of Oklahoma, for the consideration of \$500.00, the west half of the southwest quarter of the southwest quarter of Section 8, Township 5 North, Range 19 East. Another from J. Poe and his wife, Audra A. Poe, made on December 31, 1908, wherein it conditioned that there shall be erected and maintained a school of Mines and Metallurgy on these lands by the State of Oklahoma, and the failure by said State to erect and maintain perpetually a school of mines and metallurgy thereon, then in that event, said lands and all improvements, fixtures and appurtenances thereunto belonging, shall revert to C. O. Moore, W. H. Royce and E. F. Lester, who are therein named as trustees.

#### LAW ENFORCEMENT.

##### PROHIBITION AND GAMBLING LAWS.

The question of the enforcement of the laws, as to the violation of the prohibition and gambling laws of the State, is one that calls for the best of attention. Grave difficulties are encountered under the existing laws providing for such enforcement.

On April 25<sup>th</sup>, 1915, which was four months after the beginning of this administration, the following instructions were given to the Attorney General:

“As to the enforcement of the prohibitory and gambling laws, you are hereby directed when such matters come to your attention, to make investigation, and to aid the local prosecuting attorneys in the enforcement of the same; and when you deem it necessary, in order for the faithful and proper enforcement of the laws, to appear in the county and district courts, for the purpose of enforcing the prohibitory and gambling laws of the State, you are hereby so authorized and directed, and this shall be ample authority for your appearance for such purposes.”

This authorization has never been revoked. Under this direction, together with other specific directions, the Attorney General's office has held investigations before grand juries in the district courts of Payne, Creek, Tulsa, Nowata, Rogers, Seminole, Jefferson, and other counties, and aided in the prosecution in many criminal cases.

In the efforts made on the part of the Attorney General's office to vindicate such laws, it has been conclusively demonstrated that the present machinery provided for the removal of county and municipal officers, for failure to enforce the prohibitory and gambling laws of the State, is inadequate, especially in counties where the sentiment is against the enforcement of the prohibition and gambling laws.

I most respectfully recommend for your consideration the lodging with the Supreme Court, original concurrent jurisdiction with the district and other courts having such original jurisdiction.

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT.

FEDERAL AID ROAD ACT.

On December 20, 1916, the Secretary of Agriculture wrote as follows:

“The Department has carefully considered the question whether the State of Oklahoma has, under its laws, a highway department within the meaning of that term as used in the Federal Aid Road Act. It appears that provision is made, by Chapter 173 of the Laws of 1915, for the creation of a Department of Highways, with authority to supervise all matters relating to State roads and highways, including the establishment of a State road system; prepare standard plans and specifications for the construction of roads and bridges, to be furnished without cost to any road official in the State; establish standards for the construction and maintenance of highways and bridges in the various counties, and perform certain other duties of an advisory nature. It is also authorized to co-operate with the Federal government in matters pertaining to the improvement of public highways, and all funds appropriated by Congress for the improvement of the public highways of the State are to be expended under the supervision of the Commissioner of Highways, who is made, by the statute, the executive head of the department.

While the Department of Highways seems to have supervision over the establishment of a system of State roads, it apparently lacks authority to select particular projects for improvement and to control the construction work. It is essential, among other things, that the State highway department have authority to agree with the Secretary of Agriculture upon the roads to be constructed under the Act and to exercise direct supervision over their construction. The department is, therefore, inclined to the view that, in the absence of legislation conferring additional authority upon the Department of Highways in these particulars, it will be impossible to undertake co-operation with the State of Oklahoma under the provisions of the Act. In this connection it is suggested that it would seem desirable to give the Department of Highways exclusive authority to let the contracts for the construction of roads to be built in co-operation with the Federal Government since this would seem to facilitate its control over the work.

As it appears from your letter of July 24 last, that the State Legislature meets next month, it may be well to let you know at this time, in order that you may consider the advisability of appropriate recommendations in the matter, that it is the view of the Department, that each State assenting to the provisions of the Act obligates itself to provide funds for construction purposes sufficient at least to meet the total apportionment which will be made to it from the Federal appropriation for the full five-year period, and also to make adequate provision for the proper maintenance of the roads as required by the Act. It may be that the Legislature will feel restricted by constitutional provisions or custom from making appropriations for so long a period in advance, but it should at least, in assenting to the Act, pledge the faith of the State to carry out its share of the program of co-operative highway construction which has been authorized by Congress.”

I respectfully recommend that the State, by proper joint resolution or Act, assent tot the terms and conditions of the Federal Aid Road Act, and pledge the faith of the State

to carry out its share of the program of cooperative highway construction, which has been authorized by Congress by said Act.

The said Act for federal aid in the construction of post roads, provides an appropriation available to the State of Oklahoma for the fiscal year ending June 30<sup>th</sup>, 1917, in an amount of \$118,250.00, and for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1918, in the sum of \$236,500. The Act provides that the Department of Agriculture of the United States is authorized to retain, for administrative purposes, an amount equal to three per cent of the entire appropriation, which reduces the fund available for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1917, to the amount of \$114,702.50, and for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1918, to the amount of \$229,405.00. The total sum being available for the biennium ending June 30, 1918 amounts to \$344,107.50. This federal fund for the purpose of aiding in the construction of roads within this state can only be procured through the State Highway Department, and an equal amount has to be furnished to meet such amount as the federal government supplies out of this fund to aid in road construction.

I respectfully recommend for your consideration, the appropriation of the sum of \$344,107.50, to be expended through the Highway Department of this state under the supervision of the State Board of Public Affairs, in connection with the federal government in building roads in and through the State. I suggest that a part of this appropriation, to-wit: \$114,702.50 be made immediately available, and that the \$229,405.00 be made available after July 1, 1917. The net amount of said appropriation under said federal aid act apportioned to this state for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1919, is \$344,107.50.

Attention is directed to the fact that the employes and help for the Highway Department, other than the offices of Commissioner of Highways, State Engineer, Assistant State Engineer, and one stenographer, have not been specifically provided for by statute, the additional necessary help being provided by a lump appropriation. In my judgment, as far as practicable, the necessary help should be provided by statute, and the salaries fixed by statute. I accordingly recommend the following additional help for said department:

- 1 Chief Clerk at a salary of \$125.00 per month.
- 1 Chief Bookkeeper at a salary of \$125.00 per month.
- 1 additional stenographer at a salary of \$83.33 per month.
- 2 additional stenographers, each at a salary of \$75.00 per month.
- 1 Enforcement Officer and Clerk at a salary of \$100.00 per month.
- 2 additional clerks, each at a salary of \$83.33 per month.
- 1 Draughtsman and designer at a salary of \$100.00 per month.

The automobile tags for 1917 will be manufactured and furnished by the Oklahoma State Penitentiary at McAlester, but it will be necessary to make an appropriation to cover the cost of these tags, so that the Highway Department may pay the Penitentiary Department for the same. In addition, I recommend that you make reasonable appropriation for contingent and incidental expenses for the Highway Department.

The total vehicle tax collected between the dates from July 1, 1915, the date on which such provision became effective, to October 1, 1916, was \$656,688.63; amount disbursed to various counties representing 90 per cent of total Motor Vehicle tax collected \$591,019.77, so the total amount earned by the Department of Highways and credited to the State general fund from July 1, 1915 to October 1, 1916, was \$65,668.86. The total amount expended during such period by said department was \$34,505.37, leaving an excess earned by it during said period of \$31,163.49, which is available to be apportioned to bear the expenses of this department.



### PRISONERS—WHERE SENTENCED.

Attention is called to the fact that the reformatory at Granite is a penitentiary just as much so as the prison at McAlester. Frequently prisoners are sentenced from counties on the inside of the State, to be confined at Granite and vice versa. This occasions unnecessary expense in the transportation of prisoners. It is respectfully recommended that a statute be provided so that the Judge will be required to sentence the prisoner to the nearest penitentiary.

### SERIAL BONDS.

Under Section 26, Article 10 of the Constitution indebtedness may be created for a period of twenty-five years. Under this provision, the indebtedness may be evidenced by serial bonds maturing in amounts annually or at periods.

The Fifth Legislature of this State, in extraordinary session, (see Session Laws 1916, Chapter 22, page 30) with reference to bonds issued for the purpose of building bridges and roads, provided that they should be payable in equal annual installments, the first of which not more than one year, and the last, not more than twenty-five years from date of issuance. Such provision should be made to extend to all county, township and municipal bonds. Such bonds are more marketable and bring the higher premium in the financial markets. In addition, no sinking funds accumulate to bear less interest than the bonds, or to be liable to be dissipated. I respectfully recommend that provision be made to require all county, township and municipal bonds to be issued in the serial form.

### TOWNSHIP BONDS.

The question as to the validity of the township bonds has arisen on account of two distinct methods of government in townships in force in this state, the contention being made that in many instances the townships had been improperly abolished. In order to obviate these questions and remove all possible doubt as to the validity of township bonds, I suggest that statute be enacted providing that wherever the electors, by granting of authority of the Constitution and Statute of this state, vote and issue bonds in townships, under the person or boards at that time acting under color of authority, and without contest and possession of office and exercising the powers and performing the duty conferred by law on a board of township directors, whether such board be county commissioners acting for and on behalf of the township, or be a board composed of trustees and treasurer, that such elections are valid, and that the bonds issued pursuant thereto shall be incontestable, as to the point that they were not issued by the proper board. The Fifth Legislature in extraordinary session (see Session Laws 1916, Chapter 21) omitted to obviate this objection. The title of the act reads:

“An Act entitled an act, validating the issuance and sale of township bonds, and declaring an emergency.”

The contention has been made that the title is not broad enough to cover the future bond issues; that the title covers bonds theretofore issued, and not those to be issued in the future. I suggest that a comprehensive act be passed to remove this matter from the realm of doubt, so that such township bonds may be passed on as valid, and bring their highest price in the financial markets.

### FUNDING OF COUNTY AND MUNICIPAL INDEBTEDNESS TO BE CONTINUED.

The practice in this state of issuing funding bonds to cover deficiencies by counties, townships, and other municipalities, should be discontinued. By repeal of such authority, county, township and municipal officers would have placed upon them the double necessity of keeping the county, township or other municipality within the budget or tax levy. Then, if they did not, the necessity would arise the next year, to levy a tax to cover the deficiency and the taxpayer thus early apprised of the fact of the deficiency occurring the year before. Under the present practice, these deficiencies are covered up by

funding bonds, and the busy taxpayer is frequently not aware of the fact that the county, township and municipal governments are running behind, and thereby causing to be placed mortgages upon such sub-divisions.

I recommend that such provision be repealed.

TAXES ON STATE CAPITOL LANDS.

As to lots one (1) to twenty-six (26) block five, Culbertson's East Highland addition, I find there are due as special taxes, the sum of \$860.71. (See report of audit of records showing paving and sewer taxes on State Capitol property by State Examiner and Inspector, November 27<sup>th</sup>, 1916, file No. 4101-2, Record No. R-155.)

As to sewer taxes on lots (1) to twenty-six (26), block five (5), above referred to:

Amount of principal installment .....	\$ 369.37
Amount of interest certified on principal installment .....	98.26
Delinquent interest at 8 per cent, 12-31-16 .....	91.94
Penalty at 18 per cent to 12-31-16 .....	<u>301.14</u>
Total .....	\$ 860.71

I recommend that appropriation be made, by joint resolution, so as to stop this penalty. The fact that the sewer tax has not been paid on this land only recently came to my attention. The warranty of the grantors would not cover a special tax and the state will have to bear the same.

The Fifth Legislature, at the extraordinary session (see House Journal 1916, page 67, Senate Journal, page 73), made an appropriation to cover the paving taxes, including penalty on lots one (1) to twenty (20), Winan's Highland Terrace addition to Oklahoma City, including all payments due to July 1, 1917. I am advised that the amount of the principal installment of paving taxes due July 1, 1917, will be \$521.88: amount of interest on same, \$143.29; total necessary to pay 1917 paving taxes July 1, 1917, \$665.17; amount of principal installment for 1918, \$521.88; amount of interest on same, \$107.59; total necessary to pay 1918 paving tax July 1, 1918, \$629.47.

I recommend that an appropriation be made to cover these paving taxes so as to prevent penalties ensuing.

REVOLVING FUNDS

The Fifth Legislature, in extraordinary session, created revolving funds for the penitentiaries at McAlester and Granite. (Session Laws of Oklahoma, 1916, Chapter 37, p. 98, Chapter 40, p. 110).

These acts were passed after special recommendations made as to such matters, and are now in successful operation. (House Journal Extraordinary Session Fifth Legislature, p. 44; Senate Journal Extraordinary Session, p. 45.)

The Attorney General under date of June 7, 1916, construed both acts and held the same valid. (See opinion of Attorney General to the State Examiner and Inspector March 29, 1916; opinion of Attorney General to the Governor, June 7, 1916.)

When an amount is set aside as a revolving fund and thus impressed with a trust, it may be utilized in carrying on of such business, otherwise the proceeds from the sales therefrom, as for instance, dairy products, farm products of the different industries of the stat must be converted into the State Treasury and cannot be drawn out except by act of the legislature. At the Women's College at Chickasha, a dormitory is being maintained. It is essential that a revolving fund be established for said dormitory purposes, that the proceeds derived therefrom may be utilized in the conducting of that dormitory business. The same applies to the hospital, maintained by the Medical Department of the State University in Oklahoma City, and the laboratory of the Chemical Department of the State University at Norman, and the dairying plants, farming and livestock enterprises carried

on by the A. & M. College at Stillwater. The State Home at Pryor, the Institute for Feeble Minded at Enid, the Insane Hospitals at Norman, Vinita and Supply; the Boy's Training School at Pauls Valley; School for the Deaf at Sulphur, Blind at Muskogee, and the Colored Orphans' Home, and Deaf and Blind Institute at Taft, and other institutions where enterprises are carried on where products are sold and the proceeds thereof are relied upon for maintenance and carrying on the business. To my mind, the only way that such enterprise can be carried on legally is by means of a revolving fund, otherwise the proceeds of the sales must be converted into the State Treasury and drawn out only by separated acts of the legislature.

I recommend for your consideration, the question of providing revolving funds for institutions where industries are intended to be carried on.

#### DORMITORIES.

A boy's and girls' dormitory is at the A. & M. College at Stillwater, and a girls' dormitory at the Women's College at Chickasha. It has been recommended that an additional dormitory be provided at Chickasha. Free dormitories cannot be provided for every boy and girl in the state. To furnish free dormitories to a few at the expense of the taxpayers would be a discrimination. The theory of maintaining dormitories at the expense of the taxpayers can only be justified on the ground that these dormitories are intended for girls who have no high school facilities at home, but have to go away from home to have such advantages and on account of their tender age, their parents prefer them to be in dormitories where they can be under supervision that they could not otherwise have. The being so, a rental should be charged for each inmate so as to make the net aggregate equal to six per cent on the state's investment. To guarantee that this shall be paid, a general statute ought to be passed on this subject, providing that this dormitory rent shall be taken out of the annual appropriation for the institution and converted into the Treasury, as interest on the dormitory investment. This general statute should also provide that the dormitory capacity in state dormitories should be apportioned to the counties in accordance with their population, same to be applied for under the rules and regulations to be provided. It should be further provided that those should have first opportunity at the dormitory space who resided at places where they did not have high school advantages.

#### GEOLOGICAL DEPARTMENT.

The head of the State Geological Department asks for the following appropriations for the biennium beginning July 1, 1917:

	Year ending June 30, 1916	Year ending June 30, 1919
Office and incidental expenses .....	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00
Printing .....	3,000.00	3,000.00
Field work.....	7,800.00	7,800.00
Salary of clerk and stenographers.....	1,680.00	1,680.00
Salary of director.....	2,500.00	2,500.00
Salary of assistant director.....	1,500.00	1,500.00
Salary of chemist.....	1,200.00	1,200.00
Salary of laborer.....	800.00	800.00
Salary of draftsman .....	1,200.00	1,200.00
Contingent expenses, postage, telephone, telegraph, freight and express .....	<u>3,000.00</u>	<u>3,000.00</u>
	\$ 24,680.00	\$ 24,680.00

This is an increase over the outgoing biennium of over \$4,000.00. However, I recommend that the appropriation be made as requested by him. The great development

that is going on in oil and gas and other minerals in this state renders that department one of the most important ones, and I do not regard his request as being unreasonable, and therefore recommend that the appropriation be made as requested by him.

The Fifth Legislature appropriated for the outgoing biennium \$2,500.00 for each year for compiling, publishing and distribution of records of dry holes. The purpose of this appropriation was not called to my attention, and I was not sufficiently informed about the matter and when the general appropriation bill came to me for consideration, I disapproved every item about which I had doubt. I resolved every doubt in favor of the tax-payer. Had I had the information that came to me some six or eight months later, I would have approved this appropriation. I now respectfully recommend for your consideration, the advisability of making such appropriation, but that the printing and distributing of the same to be put in the hands of the Geological Department of the State.

I recommended to the Fifth Legislature, the consideration of the question of devising ways and means of creating a marketing system through the Board of Agriculture. I so recommend again. (See House Journal, Regular Session, Fifth Legislature, Oklahoma 1915, p. 236; Senate Journal page 146.)

#### HOME OWNERSHIP FUND.

The Fifth Legislature enacted what is known as the Home Ownership Law. I recommend, for your consideration, the question of amending this law so as to permit the borrowers to pay off any part of said loan at any annual interest period, and that the rate of interest be reduced to five per cent, making it the same as the first mortgage securities and the common school fund.

#### COMMISSIONERS OF THE LAND OFFICE.

The title and legal business of that Department has grown beyond expectation. Two Assistant Attorney Generals have been giving their entire time toward the legal work and title work of that Department, but were unable to keep up with such work. On December 29<sup>th</sup>, the Commissioners of The Land Office unanimously passed the following resolution:

“Whereas, the Sixth and Seventh Attorney Generals have given all of their entire time toward the title and legal work of the Commissioners of the Land Office but because of the increased volume of business arising in said Department, and which has yielded a revenue to the state through the examination of titles by the Attorney General’s Department, and which has been converted into the State Treasury for examining abstracts for the calendar year, 1916, amounting to \$15,215.00, being the sum of \$1267.50 per month, whilst the salaries of said two assistants per month amounts to only \$425.00.

Now, Therefore, We, the Commissioners of the Land Office, in order that the title and legal work of said department may be more expeditiously done and kept nearer up to date, ask the Attorney General to put on an extra man as Assistant in the Legal and Title work for the Commissioners of the Land Office, the same to be paid out of his contingent or incidental fund.”

It will be observed that the revenue brought in by virtue of these two Assistants has been three times the outlay for salaries paid by the tax-payers.

I therefore recommend that you create an additional Special Assistant Attorney General’s office to aid the Sixth and Seventh Assistants in the work for the School Land Department. It may be urged that the Attorney General has several Assistants, but it must be remembered that the Eighth Assistant is the Pardon and Parole Office, and when that office was created the office of Pardon and Parole Officer in the Governor’s Office was abolished. It must be further borne in mind that when the Sixth and Seventh Assistant Attorney Generals were created, that three places consisting of two title examiners and a

protest clerk, were abolished in the School Land Department. At that time these two assistants were equal to the legal and title demands of that Department. Now the volume of business has increased so that an additional assistant is necessary, and for that reason, the recommendation is made.

#### NORMAL SCHOOLS.

There appears to be a tendency to convert the normal schools into colleges. The purpose of the normal schools is to educate teachers and prepare them for work as teachers and that is what the land grant and trust fund were created for. Provision should be made to confine the attendance at normal schools to such purpose, other than to provide a training and kindergarten normal school of that district, including the summer term, unless department, to train the teachers. The theory of having six normal schools in the State, is with a view of meeting the needed training of teachers by districts. That being so, the districts should be created by legislative act for each normal school and persons residing in such districts should be required to attend the a transfer is granted by the State Board of Education. By this means the State will avoid the unnecessary expense occasioned by the activities of the different normal school Presidents sometimes invading the other's territory, seeking students from such territory of other normal schools, to show greater enrollment.

Normal schools should be equipped to meet the needs of their districts and duplication in the equipment and buildings will then be avoided. This conduces to a complete normal school system, educated by normal school districts, with a finishing, when desired, in the Department of Education at the State University at Norman, or at the A. & M. College at Stillwater.

#### SUMMER NORMAL.

By Act of May 22, 1913 (Session Laws 1913, Article 11), normal institutes and teachers' training courses are provided to be held by the county superintendents of public instruction, annually in their respective counties, for term of not less than two weeks nor more than four weeks, ending on the last Friday of June, July or August.

Section 2 of said Act provides that where such county superintendent deems it to be to the best interest of the schools of the county, the county normal institute may be dispensed with, and there shall be substituted in lieu thereof, a teachers training course of not less than two weeks and not more than four weeks in which special training shall be given for the teachers of such county, by persons specially prepared for such instruction.

Section 5 provides that:

“To defray the expenses of such institute session, the county superintendents of public instruction shall require the payment of a uniform fee of not less than one dollar, nor more than three dollars, by each person entering said institute and enrolling; they shall further require the payment of a fee of two dollars by each applicant for a teachers' certificate; and in addition to such sum, the county commissioners shall, upon recommendation of the county superintendent of public instruction, allow a sufficient sum, not to exceed two hundred dollars for each institute to be paid out of any funds of the county not otherwise appropriated.”

At each of the six normal schools of the State a summer normal and training course is conducted for the benefit of the teachers of the State. The summer term is pre-eminently a teachers' term, just as every other term of a normal school should be, and in the great majority of the counties of the state, the county normal courses have been discontinued, and the teachers taken this work at the courses maintained at the several normal schools. It appears to me that it would be wise and best to repeal that part of Section 5, which authorized and directs the county commissioners to allow a sum not to

exceed \$200.00 for each institute to be paid out of the county funds not otherwise appropriated, and to make a direct state appropriation for the maintenance of the summer normals at the several normal schools. With the normal schools districted and ample provision made for the maintenance of the summer normals for the attendance of teachers where they can have proper training courses, the object for which normal schools were founded, will be attained.

At the same time the appropriation from the county treasurer to maintain county normals, being eliminated, we can have concentrated efficiency in the summer normal work at the various normal schools of the state, with very little additional cost to the taxpayers.

I respectfully recommend for your consideration, the advisability of making such provision.

#### TERRACE WALL AND GROUNDS AT STATE CAPITOL.

It will be necessary to improve and terrace the Capitol Grounds. To accomplish this, terrace walls out of granite must be constructed. Every cent, reasonably possible should be saved in doing this. Every dollar saved in making this improvement is needed for building additions to eleemosynary or educational institutions. If we save sums of money by using convict labor in the building of these terraces and terrace walls, we will have that money saved, available to construct buildings at the eleemosynary and educational institutions, which will give other labor employment. Mr. S. A. Douglass of the Capitol Commission and M. L. Cunningham, State Engineer, have made investigation and report to me that the quarries at the State Penitentiary at Granite are available for getting out stone to build the terrace wall at the Capitol Building, in sufficient quantity of uniform and suitable color to make or finish the entire wall, and enough more of lighter color to finish the trimming the area of walls as to match the granite used in the Building proper. The Penitentiary at Granite is equipped and is being equipped for such work. The plant there gets out crushed granite for concrete and road work, and granite for building the east wing of the penitentiary, and the walls around the penitentiary, which are in process of construction.

I respectfully recommend that you consider the question as to constructing such terrace walls on the Capitol by means of convict labor and utilization of the granite from the State quarries at Granite, Oklahoma, for the purpose of building these granite walls. Every dollar that we are able to save in this improvement by using convict labor, can be utilized in constructing buildings at the eleemosynary and educational institutions, which are badly needed. The state finances are not now in condition to permit appropriations for constructing all the buildings needed and required at these various state, eleemosynary and educational institutions. So every dollar saved by utilization of convict labor, will be needed in building other institutions where other labor must be employed. In addition we will be evolving the plan for the ultimate purpose of putting the penal institutions in this state, in such condition, that the state will be able to pay the convicts when they labor, a partial compensation for their work, and enable them to accumulate something upon which to come back again, after their discharge to support their families or those dependent while confined.

#### CAPITOL COMMISSION EXPENSES.

Hereinbefore I have called you attention to the necessity for a deficiency appropriation in the sum of \$153,561.80 to replenish the appropriation for the construction of the Capitol Building. That covered items up to the 29th day of December. It appears to me that it would be advisable to make a straight appropriation for the expense of the Capitol Commission and its incidentals, and to discontinue the practice of paying such expenses out of the appropriation for the Capitol Building proper. It appears

now certain that the Capitol Building will be completed and delivered to the State by July 1, 1917. When that is done, the term and tenure of the Capitol Commission ceases by operation of law, but until that time the Commissioners draw per diem and expenses when called into service. I have called the Commission in session to keep them here available and on duty to inspect the construction of the building, perform all necessary duties, and also await the meeting of the Legislature to give the Legislature or any of its committees, desired information. For that reason, I recommend the an appropriation, say in the sum of \$5,000.00 be made to meet the expenses of the Capitol Commission to be available to reimburse the original Capitol appropriation for any expenses or incidentals drawn on that fund for the Capitol Commission after December 28th, 1916.

#### RENT APPROPRIATION DISCONTINUED.

On account of the completion of the Capitol Building, July 1, 1917, no appropriation is necessary for rents for state offices. All that is obviated and saved to the state.

#### TAXATION. INCOME TAX.

The Fifth Legislature (Session Laws 1915, Chap. 164) enacted an income tax statute which provided that, on or before the first day of March of each year, each person liable for an income tax under said provisions, should file with the State Auditor a sworn return of his net income for the year ending December 31, last preceding, upon blanks to be prescribed and furnished by the State Auditor; and, further, that, upon failure, refusal or neglect to make such return as required, should be punished by a penalty of \$100.00. The Act further empowers the Auditor to prescribe and promulgate rules and regulations to carry out the provisions of the Act.

This Act should empower the Auditor to examine persons, under oath, after notice, as to their incomes and examine papers and other witnesses deemed expedient as to such matter.

Income taxes are not in force in half of the States of the Union, and it is insisted that the present graduated rate has had the effect of causing persons with large incomes to take up their residence in States where no income taxes are levied, or, at least, where they are, very low rates prevail.

I respectfully recommend for you consideration the advisability of amending the tax law, to provide definite machinery and procedure for ascertaining who are liable for such income taxes, and also to consider the advisability of reducing the graduated maximum rate.

I also recommend for you attention, that the revenue laws be amended, so as no to tax stocks of foreign corporations owned by residents of this state, when taxed in the place of the domicile of such corporation.

#### ROBBERY BY MEANS OF FIRE ARMS AND EXPLOSIVES.

On account of the agency of the modern high power automobile, the criminal has been enabled to swoop down upon communities in this Sate, hold up citizens and rob banks and other places and burglarize such places at night, fire arms, nitro glycerine and high explosives being used to accomplish such ends, to such an extent that it becomes a menace to the state.

I recommend that the maximum punishment for a conviction in such instance be fixed by law at imprisonment for life or death by electrocution, to be left to the determination of the jury, the minimum punishment to remain as it now is.

Further, it is respectfully recommended that the same appropriation be made for offering rewards, as has been made for the biennium closing June 30, 1917, and that, in addition thereto, an appropriation of \$5,000.00 be made to be available on warrants

drawn by the Governor, by which he may employ secret service men to apprehend such criminals.

#### FISH AND GAME.

During 1915 and 1916, earnest efforts have been made through the Department to enforce the fish and game laws. We feel warranted in saying that marked progress has been made in that respect.

Two fish hatcheries have been located and established through that department, one at Medicine Park. This consists of twenty acres of land in fee owned by the State, and forty acres on the military reservation, use for that purpose being granted by the federal government. This hatchery will consist of sixteen ponds, and will be ready for the distribution of fish during the fall and winter of 1917. The other hatchery is located on the Blue River, near Armstrong. This hatchery consists of sixty acres owned in fee by the state; fourteen ponds completed. It is contemplated and expected that between 200,000 and 300,000 fish will be available to be distributed from that hatchery during the fall and winter of 1917. These hatcheries were not located until after the places had been inspected and approved by the Superintendent of the federal fish hatchery at Neosho, Mo as suitable and proper sites; he having been assigned by the Bureau of Fisheries at Washington, for that purpose, on my request. It is the purpose of the game and fish department in the early spring to inaugurate a campaign to get the farmers in the State to prepare ponds and artificial lakes for the propagation of fish, with the assurance that the State will be ready to supply and distribute to them fish for such purposes under rules and regulations which should be prescribed by law. In addition, the Fish and Game Department will be ready then to distribute fish in the streams over the State to propagate fish and replenish these waters where, in many instances, they have become almost depleted.

I recommend also that the sum of \$2,000.00 be appropriated from the fish and game fund, as available to offer rewards for the apprehension of game and fish violations.

#### STATE HOSPITAL

The Medical Department of the State University, is now located in rented quarters. The University Hospital is rented at an annual rental of \$6,000.00 (House Journal, Extraordinary Session, 1916, p. 169, Senate Journal, p. 184) and the Emergency Hospital from Oklahoma City, at an annual rental of \$1,800.00, making in all \$7,800.00. The Medical College is now in the B-Class, and in order for it to be in the A-Class, which is the class desired, it is necessary for the State or College to own its own building or hospital.

I quote the following editorial from the Journal of the Oklahoma State Medical Association, January, 1917. No. 1, Vol. 10:

“Among the important items Governor Williams will suggest to the Legislature, is an appropriation of \$200,000.00 for the purpose of building a state hospital to be controlled by the Medical Department of the State University. It is said that a part of the fund will be used for building, the remainder for equipment. Incidental to the appropriation is contingent an offer of Oklahoma City to deed to the University the University Emergency Hospital, a modern structure already in occupancy and use.

Governor Williams takes the view, and in that he has the hearty agreement of all thinking persons, that an important part of a university is its ability to train people in all proper branches of endeavor, that medical education is one of the important functions of the state and its university, that if we are to have a medical department, it should be the best our energy, brain and money can create, and that



we should not take a secondary place in medical education, any more than in legal, agricultural or other education.

We should not forget the plight of the graduates of our school in certain events or what the State owes the graduate in the way of standard, efficient education and training.

The grading of the medical schools has been a slow and laborious process, and has finally come to the point that the term 'Class A, B', etc., is a positive fixing of class, observed and respected by practically all the State Boards of Examiners of the Union, in fact, the class is nearly definitely recognized and specifically mentioned in many state laws, if not mentioned in name, other description is given, which means the same.

Oklahoma has long been assigned to 'Class B', an assignment not relished by high-spirited, finely equipped members of our profession and the proposal to build a state hospital for the school is a definite move to get out of that class. One of the requirements for a college to enter class 'A' is that the school should directly control and operate a hospital of not less than one hundred beds. If this appropriation passes, our University will have such a hospital, and in that achievement will have overcome the greatest obstacle, in fact, the only real one left to meet.

"It should be understood that this proposed hospital will not be for the benefit of any particular locality, but for the good of all the people of the State. As has been aptly pointed out by Governor Williams, it will be an important investment—an investment that will pay priceless dividends through the preservation of the health of our citizenship; through the development and the practical application of means looking to the prevention of disease, and through the tremendous conservation of energy and of life itself by taking care of our indigent sick.

Oklahoma City has a number of hospitals, with great capacity, equipment and ability, but the institutions are not heavily endowed and are in the creative state, more or less. The City of Oklahoma itself, willing and ambitious to excel in all things, has a great bonded indebtedness to care for; necessary extensions in all directions must be made, so far as their local improvements call for, and looking at it from that standpoint, the people should hardly expect them to carry all the burden or maintenance of an institution which will be maintained for the double purpose of caring for the needy poor who will be referred to it for treatment from any section of the state, and at the same time maintained as a center of constantly growing worth and necessity for the higher medical education of our youth.

The clinical advantages of such an institution to our student body cannot be overestimated, on the other hand, the very great advantage accruing to our indigent and worthy sick, cannot be estimated. As the matter now stands, they are treated by every system imaginable, by the competent and incompetent, mostly the latter.

The medical profession should know that Oklahoma appropriates, compared to other states, a very small sum of money per capita, for support of education. We have lately had the enviable distinction of being pointed out as the worst example of a state failing to give her university the support deserved--in the comparative lists we stand at the very bottom. With this we should not forget that of the sums appropriated, the lion's share goes to work along other lines than medical education.

We cannot conceive of a more favorable time for the advancement of healthy conditions than that immediately before us. The state administration is unequivocally committed to it, and considers the establishment of a strong medical department of the State University, the first fundamental step in that direction. Would the people--not to say the medical profession--of Michigan be willing to give up Ann Arbor? Would Massachusetts do away with Harvard? Would the people of Maryland be willing to see Johns Hopkins destroyed. At this moment we have the opportunity to lay the foundation of an institution such as these. We have but to stretch forth our hands and grasp it. Up, therefore, each one, and to his whole duty in this undertaking which means much for the future weal of our commonwealth."

In accordance with the recommendations of the State Board of Education, I submit for your consideration, the advisability of appropriating \$200,000.00 to provide permanent quarters and adequate hospital facilities for the medical Department of the State University, conditioned that Oklahoma City will grant to the State, the Emergency Hospital and the land upon which it is located for a nominal but valid consideration. This \$200,000.00 may be appropriated one-half to be available for the fiscal year closing June 30, 1918, and the other half for the fiscal year closing June 30th, 1919. The first half can be used for the construction of building and hospital, and the other half be utilized for equipment and laboratory. This hospital building should be built on state land now owned by the State, located in the City. With such a hospital and with such a laboratory, together with that of the Emergency Hospital, the Medical Department of the State University would have a plant worth \$300,000.00. The Medical School would be recognized everywhere as being in the First Class, and on an equal footing with Tulane, Johns Hopkins, University of Chicago, Columbia and the other great schools of our country.

I recommend this for you consideration.

#### HOME FOR INCORRIGIBLE GIRLS.

The State owns no institution or home at the present time for wayward white girls. Such charges are now being taken care of under contract. That is not satisfactory. The State ought to own such an institution and control it. I therefore recommend that suitable provision be made for the establishment of such institution and suggest the consideration of the question of converting some of the present state institutions that may be found not necessary, into such a home, so that such building may be utilized for such purpose without placing additional charges upon the tax-payers, other than the question of maintenance.

I recommend that you consider this matter.

#### TRAINING SCHOOL FOR NEGRO BOYS AND NEGRO GIRLS.

The Fifth Legislature provided for the location of Training school for Negro Boys at McAlester. The question arises as to whether or not it is best for the State to keep them there. The building that was built for them, is needed for the convicts known as trusties at the McAlester Penitentiary. I herewith attach as Exhibit "F", report from J. H. Lilley, Superintendent.

The State Board of Affairs, under date of January 2nd, writes as follows:

"We have recommended that an appropriation be made in the sum of \$25,000.00, for building, and support and maintenance for the negro boys to be moved to Taft, as we believe that is the proper place for them."

Said Board has also recommended that provision be made to prepare a place at Taft (where the other eleemosynary institutions for the negroes are located), for a training

school for the incorrigible negro girls. The State Board of Public Affairs thinks that efficiency and economy will be brought about by this arrangement; that the boys can be used to cultivate the farm attached to the institution for the negro orphans and deaf and blind. This view is reached, both with a view of getting efficiency and economy. The fixed charges for superintendent and supervisor will also be proportionately less.

#### ELECTIONS.

Our primary election laws should be overhauled, and a system adopted by which the voters may be permitted to express their choice in such a way that the party nominee shall be the choice of the majority of such voters.

In the course of this session you shall receive all the aid which the law contemplates I shall give in the dispatch of the public business, and all the information necessary for your deliberation, which is available at my hands.

From time to time I shall communicate to you, information and recommendations as matters may arise and the occasion requires.

R.L. WILLIAMS  
The Governor of the State of Oklahoma.

## **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.