

## NOTES AND DOCUMENTS

## ANNUAL INDEX TO THE CHRONICLES, 1960

The Index to *The Chronicles of Oklahoma*, Volume XXXVIII, 1960, compiled by Mrs. Rella Looney, Archivist, is now ready for free distribution to those who receive the magazine. Orders for the Index should be sent to Administrative Secretary, Oklahoma Historical Society, Historical Building, Oklahoma City 5, Oklahoma.

## ACEE BLUE EAGLE'S BIRTHPLACE

The summer number (1960) of *The Chronicles of Oklahoma* (Vol. XXXVIII, No. 2) made special mention (page 205) of the Museum exhibit of original paintings and other items of art by the late Acee Blue Eagle, noted American Indian Artist, on display during the summer months in the Historical Building. The exhibit was in the nature of a memorial to Blue Eagle, one item of which was a handsome, pen-text scroll giving a brief review of the life of the artist, the first sentence of which states that he was "born near Anadarko of Creek-Pawnee ancestry, a descendant of that noted Creek Chief, William McIntosh."

Soon after the publication of the text of the memorial scroll in *The Chronicles* last summer, word began coming in to the Editorial Office that several who had known Acee Blue Eagle were disturbed over the statement that he was born at Anadarko, the truth of the matter being that his birthplace was Hitchita, an old village in the northwestern part of McIntosh County, Oklahoma, this county bearing the name of the noted McIntosh family, of which the artist was a member. In passing, it should be said here that the statement in the memorial scroll giving Anadarko as the artist's birthplace was based upon records on his life, a tape recording made by him one time and his own statement to any number of persons sometime before his death on June 18, 1959. He died in the Veterans' Hospital at Muskogee, and is buried on the estate grounds of Thomas Gilcrease adjacent to the Gilcrease Institute of American History and Art at Tulsa where much of his work is on exhibit. A biography from an interview with Blue Eagle in 1955, written by Orpha Russell, on file in the Gilcrease Institute states in part:

Acee Blue Eagle... was born in the old Oklahoma Territory north of Anadarko, August 17, 1907.





Blue Eagle lacks only 1/16 (Scotch) being a full blood Indian. He is 5/8 Creek, 1/8 Pawnee, 1/8 Choctaw, and 1/16 Cherokee. Tracing Indian symbols in the sandy hills near Anadarko marked the first steps of Blue Eagle in his fantastic climb from the obscure role of an Indian youngster to international fame as an Indian artist. His phenomenal rise to fame, however is far from accidental...

The last statement above sheds light on why Acee chose Anadarko, widely known for its colorful American Indian history and entertainment, for his birthplace rather than the obscure village of Hitchita over in the old Creek Nation. In his build-up before the public, it seems that he avoided the drab and took on the colorful. Also, while he was Creek Indian and part Scot with some Irish, he became "a blood brother" and descendant of the other tribes mentioned above as well as part Wichita who live near Anadarko!

The first written communication on the matter of Acee Blue Eagle's birthplace was a letter handed the Editor, addressed to Mr. Elmer L. Fraker, Administrative Secretary, Oklahoma Historical Society, from Mr. Marcel Lefebvre of Okmulgee, dated September 20, 1960, in which Mr. Lefebvre says:

Dear Mr. Fraker:

This is in compliance with your request when I phoned you Sunday from my son's home in Oklahoma City, and not intended as any reflection on the integrity of any member of *The Chronicles* staff. However, as student of Creek Indian history, and my devout faith in the OKLAHOMA HISTORICAL SOCIETY'S archives for research I feel compelled to call your attention to an error in the beautifully executed Memorial Scroll honoring the late Acee Blue Eagle.

We who were close to Acee know only too well that he adopted Anadarko as his birthplace for obvious reasons. And it is not my intention to destroy the colorful legend he so successfully built around himself. He did a wonderful job and he deserves the recognition given him.

However, history is supposed to be founded on facts, not legends. Acee Blue Eagle is going down in history as one of America's most beloved Indians. Why, then, should not his true birthplace, his parentage, and his school bagging be recorded properly for posterity?

The Editor of *The Chronicles* deeply appreciates Mr. Lefebvre's kindness in contributing his manuscript and other materials about Acee Blue Eagle that reveal much on the life of this noted American Indian who won recognition for his talents in today's world:<sup>1</sup>

#### ACEE BLUE EAGLE

By Marcel Lefebvre

When Acee Blue Eagle died last summer (1959), he had reached the pinnacle of fame in his world of art and entertainment. To the world at large, he ranked among the top Indian artists of America.

<sup>1</sup> This manuscript by Mr. Marcel Lefebvre was editorially adapted and published in *Indian Life*, the magazine of the Inter-Tribal Indian Ceremonial, Gallup, New Mexico, Edward S. Merry, Editor, August, 1960 (Vol. 39 No. 1).

To those who knew him intimately from childhood, Acee remained an enigmatic individual constantly searching for new horizons.

Like so many American teenagers, Acee Blue Eagle was unable to settle down on one subject. His boyhood friends remember him as a quiet boy who had little to say to anyone, and shunned sports activities like a cat sidesteps water.

To his relatives he appeared to be wasting most of his time sketching animals in sand with a sharp stick.—The boy was mixed up, they thought, and unsure of himself. But one thing became quite obvious to everybody around him; he was strictly an individualist. And as his uncle Newman McIntosh said, "Acee always appeared to be drifting, never able to settle down and we thought he was wasting his time.—But I guess he knew what he wanted all the time. He could have done much worse with his life".

That Acee achieved fame is a matter of record. What is not generally known, is that internal revolutionary turmoil constantly tormented the young Indian while he was searching for some degree of success and recognition.

That fabulous career began the moment twin baby boys were born to Solomon McIntosh and his wife Mattie Odum McIntosh in the village of Hitchita, Okmulgee County, Oklahoma in 1908.

One of the twins died four days after birth. The other one, a bouncing boy of sound body and lung, was named after his grandfather Alex C. McIntosh, of the distinguished Scott-Creek family.

Depending on which side of the divided Creek tribe one might be, the name McIntosh either meant HERO or TRAITOR.

Chief Wm. McIntosh was executed by members of his tribe in Alabama because they believed he had sold them out to the white man's government.

On the otherhand, his half brother Rolly was acclaimed a hero and elected chief by his people for having delivered them safely over the trail of tears to Indian Territory, far-far away beyond the reach of President Andrew Jackson's murderous guns and tyranny.

Rolly McIntosh was Acee's great great-grandfather. And higher up on the paternal family tree we find the first Scotchman who gave his name to members of the Creeks tribe. He was a Tory, Capt. Wm. McIntosh of the Revolutionary war era who drifted down south in Georgia and Alabama to settle down. He met and married a beautiful Creek (Indian girl) and raised a family. The William branded as a traitor, and Rolly acclaimed as a hero were sons of this union. Thus begins the mixed Scott-Creek blood that flowed in Acee's veins.

Farther up the McIntosh family tree we find that Tory Capt. William's father was Lt. Benjamin, and his father was none other than Brigadier Wm. McIntosh of the British Army, who became famous in the Jacobite Uprising in Scotland, 1715.

With such an array of Scotch military blood blending with that of close-to-nature and freedom-loving Indian blood, Acee just couldn't help being the dreamer of fine things, and command attention wherever he went. To these inherent qualities George Elliot had this to say, "Breed is stronger than posture."

The characteristics of both races clashed more and more as young A. C. McIntosh grew from boyhood to manhood.

When he entered Chilocow Indian School in 1915, young Alex was seeking desperately to find himself. His classmates recall that he tried everything in the book; power-house, shoe-shop, poetry, bakery-carpentry, and many others until he landed in the paint shop.

Here he discovered a natural talent for blending colors, and just as suddenly remembered the birds and animals he used to sketch in the sand as a little boy. And like a lilly bursting into full bloom, the artist in him came out in flashing colors.

He soon became very proficient in his new-found interest, and loved it. Chilcox's official seal was designed by Acee during this period, and is affixed to all the school's documents and letters to this day.

Art alone, however, was not enough to entirely satisfy this insatiable youth. He wanted to be out in the open where people could see him perform, so he decided to join the band as a trombonist. But he soon gave that up, too. But the music master saw where the tall handsome young man would shine, and like H. He gave A. C. a baton and was rewarded by having produced the school's most colorful drum major leading the band on parade.

During this period of serious endeavor, Alex must have admired Spanish paintings somewhere. Or perhaps, a dark-eyed Senorita caught his fancy, nobody knows. Anyhow, the young Creek Indian decided to become a Spaniard. And the signature Alex C. McIntosh suddenly vanished from his work.

The ghosts of his adventurous Scottish ancestors must have yelled in agony when they read the new signature: ANTONIO CORTEZ McIntosh, of Spanish blood.

Antonio Cortez was short lived, too. The centuries-old Indian tradition of soft deer skin moccasins and bright colored feathers returned in full force to push the Scot and Spaniard out of the picture forever. They were replaced by a befeathered Indian chief who suddenly appeared on the scene bearing a real Indian name: ACEE BLUE EAGLE.

A colorful name that fitted the individual like a kid-glove. And by this time (in the early 1930's) the youthful twentieth century McIntosh had discovered a second talent, the ability to entertain by telling stories. This new discovery was destined to carry him to the height of fame.

Acee's soft and easy manner in a mixed crowd made his presence desired in all circles of society. Even among European Royalty. Acee was at ease and made many friends. Wherever he went he left impressive memories. Especially among children.

He once appeared in full feather costume before a vast audience in Macon, Georgia, where few Indians had set foot since the trail of tears.

He held the hundreds of boys and girls of that audience enchanted with his animated Indian tales and graphic anecdotes. He was delighted with the reception and said so, in English and Creek. He told the vast crowd that everything was fine, "In Creek," he said, "we say HITHLI-MAH-HEY!" He asked the children to say this with him and the auditorium exploded with loud HITHLI-MAH-HEYS, one after the other. Weeks following that performance, shrill voices could still be heard all over Algeon yelling "HITHLI-MAH-HEY!"

That's how contagious Acee's personality became once he found solid ground to work on. The ground he had so desperately sought through the years.

American Naturalist Henry Thoreau would have admired Acee, for he must have had such a character in mind when he wrote "If you have built castles in the air, your work need not be lost; there is where they should be. Now put foundations under them."

Acee found the footing, then built the foundations upon which his dreams materialized.

For one who had such a slow and indecisive beginning in life, Acee Blue Eagle (nee Alex C. McIntosh) achieved a measure of success enjoyed by few men.

Once he discovered that he could talk as well as paint, he became an invaluable asset to his race. One that will be cherished by American Indians for all time.

Through him the Indian became better known throughout the world. As an ambassador of understanding between the red and white races, Acee Blue Eagle had no peer.

It is altogether fitting that this study on the subject of Acee Blue Eagle's birthplace close with Mr. Lefebvre's interesting letter to *The Chronicles*:

February 3, 1961

Marcel H. Wright, Editor,  
The CHRONICLES OF OKLAHOMA,  
Oklahoma Historical Society,  
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

Dear Miss Wright:

My trip to Hitchita yesterday was even more fruitful than previous visits. The fictionalized publicity given Acee Blue Eagle has left the townspeople exasperated and wondering why such distortion of the truth is accepted for the record.

One need but enter Cook's general store and ask, "Does anybody here remember Acee Blue Eagle, when and where he was born?" Ready information comes from all directions. And, especially from the old timers. They remember when twin boys were born in the McIntosh household. How midwife Gerlie Minick attended Mattie Odum McIntosh pending the arrival of a medical doctor from a distant town. And that one of the twins died a few days after birth.

No less than Mr. O. I. Lackey, member of the State Board of Regents, remembers the incident vividly. He was a young boy at the time, perhaps 9 to 10 years of age, and a wonderful source of information. He volunteered to accompany me to the old McIntosh 3 room for pictures. The house is now occupied by a Mrs. Lippert, and is in fairly good repair.

Mr. Lackey mentioned the old spring and swimming hole Acee used to tell me about, and had frequently expressed his desire to take me over there to show me where he grew up. (Sorry I didn't go).

Mattie's nephew, Martin Odum, is State Representative from McIntosh County.

I hope this will give you the added information you need for the forthcoming summer issue. I will have the pictures in the mail for you just as soon as the negatives are processed.

With my kindest regards, I am

Sincerely,  
Marcel Lefebvre

QUARTERLY STAFF REPORT  
OKLAHOMA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

January 18, 1951

*Administration:* The Administrative Secretary's activities during the past quarter have been largely confined to the usual duties of administration and supervision. We had the pleasure of again attending the annual meeting of the Southern Historical Association. This was made convenient this year because the sessions were held in Tulsa November 10 through 12th. Our attendance was on short, however, due to the fact we had been scheduled to appear on educational TV Channel 13 in Oklahoma City on the 11th.

Talks have been made to the Norman Lions Club and the Robert E. Lee Chapter of the Oklahoma Division, United Daughters of the Confederacy. The Administrative Secretary, represented the Oklahoma Historical Society at the inaugural of Dr. Garland Godfrey as President of Central State College on October 23. We took part in the ground breaking ceremonies, on December 12, of the two new office buildings for the State of Oklahoma. We attended a meeting of the Executive Committee and one of the Legislative Committee. As secretary of the Oklahoma Civil War Centennial Commission, we have attended the monthly meetings of that group.

The annual staff Christmas party was held on the afternoon of December 22. Colonel George Shirk, President of the Oklahoma Historical Society, was a guest at the occasion. The highlight of the party was when President Shirk presented a Certificate of Commendation to Mrs. Edith Mitchell, who had recently retired from the staff after thirty years of service in the Society's library.

*The Chronicles of Oklahoma:* Following report is set forth as an example of the detailed work required in editing articles for *The Chronicles*. Not only must the editor use a great deal of persistence and tact in order to get worthwhile contributions to *The Chronicles*, but must also give careful editing to most articles so as to fit them into the standards of publication.

Here is the example: An article recently contributed on "Charles Radziminiski" was written by a member of this family, who is a Lieutenant Colonel in the Medical Corps and Chief of the Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation at the Veterans Administration Hospital in Marion, Indiana. The article in final manuscript for publication covered two years in its production. To begin with, the author, Colonel Stephen P. Radziminiski wrote a letter to the Editor asking if there were any historical notes on a Lieutenant Charles Radziminiski who served



in the United States Army in Oklahoma before the Civil War. The Editor replied in a letter telling of the naming of Camp Radzimirski in Kiowa County, Oklahoma. In this letter the Editor asked if the Doctor could supply any information on the life of the Lieutenant, or better still would he contribute a biography for possible publication in *The Chronicles*.

At first the Doctor demurred at writing an article, but did become so interested in the life of Lieutenant Radzimirski that he made a special visit to the camp site named after the Lieutenant and read histories and original records concerning his distant kinsman. After having done this much study and research, the Doctor decided to comply with the Editor's request and prepare an article along lines and style suggested by the Editor. This is only one example of work in editing *The Chronicles* that occurs in various forms and details.

The Editor, Miss Muriel H. Wright, has made field trips in the Poteau vicinity, on research on Civil War battle sites. She also spent eight days in December at the National Archives in Washington, D.C. Here she made special studies in the building program under the treaty of 1830 with the Choctaws, examined many records concerning the Civil War in Oklahoma and innumerable other records bearing on Oklahoma history.

Miss Wright took her annual vacation on a tour to southwest Texas and the Gulf Coast. While on this vacation she visited many historical places and monuments in the Texas coast region.

Programs on which Miss Wright has appeared during the quarter include talks to Payne County Historical Society and the Oklahoma history class of Dr. Chapman at Oklahoma State. She also spoke to the United Daughters of the Confederacy in Stillwater. While there she was on a radio program sponsored by the University. Using the topic "These One Hundred Years" she appeared before the Hypatia Club at Cushing. She also was a participant in the Southern Plains Archaeological Conference held at the University of Oklahoma in Norman, and was present at the Southern Historical Association meeting at Tulsa in November.

Miss Wright reports that the winter issue of *The Chronicles* has fewer pages than recent issues, due to the necessity of keeping the publication within budgetary limitations. This reduction in size will in no way detract from the high standards of content and appearance that have come to mark *The Chronicles*.

*Library:* The bulk of work done in the library during the past quarter, says Mrs. Dorothy Williams, has been in cataloging, filing, indexing and cross-indexing material in the vertical

files. The Library staff has catalogued 75 books, added 549 cards to the card catalogue, and placed 441 cards in the Oklahoma biographical file. In addition to this, hundreds of unclassified clippings in the Fred Barde collection have been mended and filed and 105 additional folders of material have been added to this collection.

There have been 306 researchers and genealogists working in the library during the past three months and materials have been furnished for all these patrons. The Library staff has answered a steady stream of requests for books on the Civil War—hardly a day goes by without having at least one researcher working on this subject.

Several requests for back issues of *The Chronicles of Oklahoma* have been made which the Library has been unable to fill. The Library is now completely out of even the bound volumes of Volume I, IV, V, VI, and VIII.

On November 10th and 11th the Librarian attended the Southern Historical Association meeting held in Tulsa.

The main efforts of the Library staff during the next three months will be directed toward cataloguing, indexing, and filing the manuscript collections in the Library. There is a tremendous reserve of excellent material here but it is impossible to use it unless it is correctly classified and cross-indexed. Several boxes of maps, pamphlets, and miscellaneous documents have been brought up from the "canyon" and these will also have to be catalogued.

*Newspaper Library:* Work in the newspaper department has been highly systematized. Each morning Mrs. Louise Cook sorts, checks, and stacks numerically the daily and weekly newspapers. Mr. Nealy Tilly assists her in this work. There are fifty-four daily papers and over two hundred weeklies. Cards and letters are sent to publishers when missing issues occur. Mrs. Cook sends three request cards to the weeklies and three request letters to the dailies, before marking the permanent file with a missing paper.

Dailies are scheduled to be microfilmed every two months, three months, four months, and six months. This makes a microfilm schedule wherein six dailies are microfilmed every two months, five dailies every three months, seven dailies every four months, and sixteen dailies every six months. The weekly schedule is set on a yearly basis. The large weeklies, which include four papers, are microfilmed each year. There are twelve weeklies that are microfilmed on a schedule of one and one-half years, fourteen weeklies microfilmed on a schedule of two years, forty-six for three years, and approximately sixteen weeklies on a four year schedule.

This schedule means that due to the various sizes of the papers, weeklies and dailies, it takes between 1,000 and 1,200 single pages to fill one microfilm roll. All abandoned papers, that is, those that have ceased publication, are also microfilmed. Current papers in a county are microfilmed through 1917 or 1918. This requires a typed list of all papers listed by towns of publication in each county. Name of papers, dates of publication, title changes and merging of all papers are recorded by Mrs. Cook. When this work is finished a complete chronology of every paper in the county, which includes ghost towns as well as established cities and smaller towns which printed a newspaper, is furnished. When this information on the county newspapers has been typed, microfilming is ready to begin for a particular county. With the help of the janitors all books in the county are arranged alphabetically for the processor.

Accurate records of microfilming are kept by master roll numbers and county numbers. The microfilming work started with master roll No. 1 and at this time is master roll No. 2,063. After the microfilm roll has been processed, Mrs. Cook pastes the correct label on each box which is then filed in the permanent microfilm file case. Prior to receiving the finished microfilm roll she has copied, from the microfilm operator's work sheet, each completed roll of microfilm. This is placed in the record book, giving name of paper, date of beginning, and ending of roll, missing, and available papers and name of county. The labels are then typed for the microfilm boxes and index cards are prepared and filed.

No researchers or readers are permitted to take microfilm boxes out of the file. Mrs. Cook supervises the threading of microfilm into the readers and filing the microfilm boxes. Mr. Tilly, who helps with filing of papers each morning, stays in the newspaper department such times as Mrs. Cook may be off duty.

The registration book in the newspaper department shows one hundred researchers used the facilities during the past three months. Researchers came from Arkansas, California, Washington, D.C., as well as from Oklahoma. Students from the School of Journalism at the University of Oklahoma come to the newspaper department for much of the information they use in writing papers for their class work.

*Archives:* Mrs. Bella Looney, who has been giving almost one hundred per cent of her time to preparing the Cumulative Index for *The Chronicles*, for volumes I-XXXV (1921-1957), reports that she has completed 1,600 pages of typed index. She is at present reading copy and should be finished with this work within the next two weeks. After the copy reading has

been done, the material will be ready for the printers. By late spring, the long awaited Cumulative Index for *The Chronicles of Oklahoma* should be published.

Mrs. Looney says that she has been fortunate in that researchers in the Archives have been few during the past quarter. Otherwise, she says she would not be so nearly through with her work on compiling this Index.

*Field Service and Museums:* During the past quarter, the reorganization program in the museum was carried forward with the installation of one new exhibit. This exhibit is the first in the early historic period and deals with the visit of the Coronado expedition to Oklahoma. While this display is not complete in its present form, it will remain as is until the museum is able to acquire such items that will give it a more satisfactory balance and interpretation.

A temporary exhibit of current interest dealing with the Oklahoma Legislature was installed in the large south case on the third floor. This exhibit supplants the temporary exhibit of *Seven Blue Eagle* paintings, which was dismantled and returned to storage.

While on annual leave, the chief curator, Mr. Bill Dale, attended the three-day meeting of the Oklahoma-Kansas Numismatic convention and placed five exhibits of Oklahoma "numismata" on display. These exhibits dealt with scrip and currency of the Five Civilized Tribes, Indian trading post and early day merchants tokens, Oklahoma bank scrip and clearing house certificates circulated during the panic of 1907, State semi-centennial medals, and the Tulsa centennial of the petroleum industry medals. This exhibit won first prize in the historical classification and the sweepstakes award for the best exhibit in the show.

Repair work on the Society's properties at Fort Gibson was begun and to date all properties have been surveyed as to boundaries, and, on each corner, boundary indicators have been installed. Preliminary estimates and bids have been received on the cost of a fence to enclose the lot on which the old bake oven and powder magazine are situated. It is expected that completion of all work will be carried out in the early spring as weather permits. Mr. Dale points out that it should be noted that the grave stone of Chief Justice Martin is in need of repair which should be undertaken when work is resumed on the other sites.

Contracted work on the old Chief's house near Swink has been completed and is apparently satisfactory. The cost of this work came to one hundred and forty some dollars less than

the contracted price. This was due to the generosity of Dierks Lumber Company, who donated more of the material than had been anticipated.

The granite monolith marker to be placed at Fort Cobb has been completed and the necessary easement for a permanent site has been acquired and duly recorded. Final installation of this marker is expected within a short while.

The location for an on-site marker relative to Old Keokuk Falls has been selected and the manufacture of the marker completed. Installation will be carried out in the immediate future.

In company with other staff members of the Historical Society, the chief curator was privileged to attend one day of the sessions of the Southern Historical Association held this year at Tulsa, Oklahoma.

*Museums:* Now that the Civil War Centennial Commemoration is in progress, many writers and researchers are involved in work relative to that period of United States history. Josephine Cobb, a specialist in Civil War iconography, recently contacted Mrs. Jeanne Cook regarding pictures of the Civil War period. In her letter she said she did not expect to receive many tin types and daguerreotypes from Oklahoma. Much to her surprise, Mrs. Cook was able to send her a two page list of materials of that type on file in the photograph section of the Oklahoma Historical Society museums.

Mrs. Cook reports that Dr. William Sturtevant of the Smithsonian Institute spent two days of research in the museums, making a study of the Creek Nation material in the Alice Robertson collection. He took several pictures of this collection.

Along with several other staff members Mrs. Cook attended the Southern Historical Association meeting in Tulsa.

During the last week of her vacation she went to the general convention of the United Daughters of the Confederacy, which was held in Richmond, Virginia. She was present at the dedication of the Jefferson Davis Prayer Chapel. It was built at a cost of \$40,000.00 by the UDC. Mrs. Cook was honored to be one of the three UDC members seated in the Chapel during the dedication.

While in attendance at the convention Mrs. Cook met General U. S. Grant, III, who was guest speaker at the opening program. He is Chairman of the National Civil War Centennial Commission. Mrs. Cook spent a day in Washington and visited the Smithsonian Institution. There she examined

a buffalo hide tepee that had been put on display. She says it does not compare in quality with the Cheyenne tepee in the Oklahoma Historical Society museum. While visiting the Wax Museum she was informed that it is planned to place a figure of General Stand Watie, noted Cherokee in the Civil War, in one of the displays.

*Confederate Room:* Mrs. Helen Gorman of the Confederate museum reports that she has received a booklet, "The Last Battle in the War Between the States," that was fought near Brownsville, Texas, on May 13, 1865. This addition to the collection of books in the Confederate Room was given by Miss Muriel Wright. Another pamphlet, "National Battlefield Park," published in Richmond, Virginia, which is a Confederate calendar that was in current copies of *Life* and *Saturday Evening Post*, has been placed on display by Mrs. Gorman.

In addition to visitors from throughout the United States several have come from foreign countries. These were from Iran, Australia, India, Pakistan, and Turkey.

Mrs. Gorman attended the eighteenth General Convention of the UDC which was recently held in Richmond. She visited the Jefferson Davis Prayer Chapel and was on a tour of battlefields in that region. She was elected secretary of the Past General Officers Club, an organization from oldest members who have served the organization as general officers.

At present the Confederate Museum in the Historical Society is featuring current issues of *Life*, *Saturday Evening Post*, *Civil War Times*, *Atlanta Century*, and *Look* which are publishing articles of the Civil War Centennial period. Mrs. Gorman was recently appointed as chairman of a committee of general organization of the United Daughters of the Confederacy which gives her a personal vote and a place on the general program. When the religious service of the Oklahoma Civil War Centennial Commission was held in the auditorium of the Oklahoma Historical Society on Sunday, January 8, Mrs. Gorman was on hand to conduct visitors through the Confederate Room. She had several special displays on exhibit.

*Union Room:* It is reported by Miss Katherine Ringland that a song book compiled under the direction of Dr. B. B. Chapman of Oklahoma State University, and a member of the Board of Directors of the Oklahoma Historical Society, has been added to publications being distributed from the Union Room. The song book was sponsored by the Oklahoma Division Daughters of Confederacy and Department of Oklahoma Women's Relief Corps Auxiliary to the Grand Army of the Republic. The objective of the song book is to "promote a

true understanding of American history 1861-65." The title of this book is "Chosen Songs of the Civil War."

Accessions to the Union Room have been a rare photograph of the casket of President Lincoln when he lay in state in the state capital in Springfield, Illinois, May 2-4, 1865. There have also been given to the Union Room a number of beautiful badges, that were made for national G. A. R. conventions. These were done in bronze and are from a collection by Captain R. H. McWhorter, Department Commander of the Kansas G. A. R., 1927-28. These were given by the daughter of Captain McWhorter, Mrs. Nellie Stump, State President of the Women's Relief Corps, Oklahoma City. There is at present on display an interesting letter written by G. B. Morris to his family October 9, 1861, in Mason City, Missouri, telling of a battle in Lexington Missouri.

Miss Ringland was present in the Union Room on Sunday, January 8, to assist visitors who had been participating in the religious service that was conducted in the Oklahoma Historical Society auditorium on that date by the Oklahoma Civil War Centennial Commission.

Elmer L. Praker  
Administrative Secretary