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REPORT
OF THE
GOVERNOR OF OKLAHOMA.

GUTHRIE, OKLA., *June 30, 1896.*

SIR: I have the honor to submit the following report of the condition and progress of Oklahoma Territory for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1896:

GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

The development of the Territory in the year past has been equal to if not greater than that of other portions of the United States.

Nowhere has the year past been one marked for material progress. Oklahoma has, however, held its own and made some progress. The acreage of land in cultivation has steadily increased and has very nearly reached the proper ratio of farm land to pasture. The prospect for crops is good, and the ante-bellum declaration, "Cotton is king," seems applicable to Oklahoma. Oklahoma will shortly rank among the cotton States of the Union. The quality of the cotton, as shown by the World's Fair awards, is the best. Unless the present indications fail, the present cotton crop of Oklahoma will be by far the greatest ever gathered, and I predict for the coming year one of genuine prosperity.

The climate is delightful, except for a short period in midsummer. The spring, fall, and winter weather can not be excelled anywhere. The atmosphere is dry, but never sultry. The Territory is gaining considerable notoriety as a health resort for all persons affected with throat and lung troubles or rheumatism and all kindred diseases. Many wonderful cures have been effected. The growth of the Territory is solid and substantial, because it arises from the development of natural resources and is not due to borrowed capital to be paid back in future with interest added. The reduction of the distance to a first-class seaport by the deepening of the harbor at Galveston, Tex., and the consequent reduction of freight rates will prove a great factor in the development of Oklahoma, and has already materially affected prices of farm products.

POPULATION.

The people of the Territory are largely American by birth. Perhaps in few States are they more distinctly so. They are thrifty, industrious, and economical. There are many difficulties and discouragements connected with settling in a new country and tilling the virgin soil, but

the entire people of Oklahoma glory in the triumph they have achieved. The population has steadily increased since the last census in 1894, when it was 212,625. According to the returns made by the assessors for the year 1896, the population is now 275,587.

Included in this are six counties (marked with a star) that have not reported as yet. These are taken at the same figures as those reported two years ago.

While many of the homesteads were at the opening of the reservations taken by adventurers and speculators, this class has steadily relinquished their holdings to a substantial and permanent class of farmers, who are improving the country and in every way advancing the material, moral, and educational interests of the Territory.

Population by counties.

Beaver	*4,778	Logan	19,995
Blaine	6,415	Noble	*13,402
Canadian	12,837	Oklahoma	19,999
Cleveland	13,006	Payne	14,192
D	2,986	Pawnee	8,293
Day	611	Pottawatomie	17,300
G	5,296	Roger Mills	1,267
Garfield	16,092	Washita	5,404
Grant	*16,575	Woods	20,805
Greer	*8,500	Woodward	*7,487
Kay	*16,959	Reservations	12,500
Kingfisher	15,346		
Lincoln	16,542	Total	275,587

TAXABLE PROPERTY.

The following table shows the assessed valuation of the Territory for the years 1894, 1895, and 1896. In order to gain a correct understanding of this table it must be borne in mind that in 1895 the Territorial board of equalization, finding that the taxable property of the Territory had been assessed in many counties far below its real value as required by law, and finding great inequality in the different counties, assumed for a standard the county of Kingfisher and equalized all other counties by that standard. The result was a general rise in the taxable property of the Territory to \$39,275,189.21, as shown by the table. This action of the equalization board was attacked in the courts, but has been recently sustained by the supreme court. The case was, however, still pending when the equalization board met in June, 1896, and the board not desiring to permit the tax of 1896 to be called in question merely certified back the assessment as it had been returned by the counties. This is very much under the true value of the property, but for the reason stated the board permitted it to stand. There has been a steady and healthy increase in taxable property since the beginning, and the next few years will witness a very decided increase in the property of the Territory, both real and personal. The work of proving up has begun, and when patents for all the homesteads have been issued there will be a vastly increased showing in taxable property. The rate of Territorial tax is 4.6 mills on each dollar of valuation. To this must be added the county and common-school tax. On the whole, the taxes are much the same as in any new and growing community.

Taxable property by counties.

County.	1894.	1895.	1896.
Beaver	\$384, 288. 58	\$978, 104. 15	625, 168. 00
Blaine	260, 141. 00	451, 204. 80	273, 274. 00
Canadian	1, 889, 631. 57	8, 816, 650. 01	2, 525, 718. 23
Cleveland	1, 389, 008. 10	2, 045, 583. 52	1, 642, 055. 77
D	90, 757. 00	244, 192. 50	153, 276. 00
Day	151, 950. 58	344, 139. 00	189, 782. 38
G	147, 207. 00	327, 987. 40	284, 354. 00
Garfield	790, 617. 59	1, 379, 330. 69	961, 453. 16
Grant	808, 829. 22	1, 043, 620. 63	755, 814. 14
Kay	962, 997. 00	2, 803, 420. 04	2, 451, 068. 40
Kingfisher	1, 562, 038. 43	2, 039, 141. 70	1, 444, 892. 06
Lincoln	648, 734. 00	1, 084, 329. 45	814, 891. 50
Logan	2, 950, 619. 89	3, 889, 362. 03	2, 730, 512. 12
Noble	966, 563. 16	1, 518, 177. 35	902, 554. 53
Oklahoma	3, 279, 886. 25	4, 575, 520. 44	3, 342, 583. 64
Pawnee	185, 853. 00	1, 608, 781. 25	784, 669. 00
Payne	958, 077. 57	1, 385, 341. 70	989, 242. 01
Pottawatomie	658, 343. 00	1, 029, 746. 00	952, 084. 50
Roger Mills	256, 209. 00	345, 988. 65	264, 575. 00
Washita	193, 604. 00	395, 411. 90	287, 826. 00
Woods	682, 206. 78	1, 558, 758. 60	1, 065, 596. 80
Woodward	720, 378. 14	1, 410, 397. 40	703, 850. 12
Greer			670, 470. 00
Total	19, 937, 940. 86	39, 275, 189. 21	24, 815, 711. 36

RAILROADS AND TELEGRAPHS.

No new lines of railroad have been built during the year 1896, though several new lines have been surveyed and will be built in the near future. The four lines now in operation are doing a very profitable business; in fact, few lines in the United States are paying better. The increase of south-bound freight has been very marked. With deep water at Galveston, Tex., Oklahoma is placed more than 1,000 miles nearer an export point. Until recently freight rates to the Gulf have been such that exports and imports very largely went north and east, but recent cuts in rates to the Gulf have done much to turn the course of trade. Deep water at Galveston is a matter in which the people of Oklahoma are very much interested. The saving of freight will amount to millions annually, in addition to raising the price of agricultural and other products at home.

BANKS AND BANKING.

There is no law requiring banks to report to the governor or any other Territorial official. In my message to the last legislature I urged the passage of a law requiring all banks doing business in the Territory to make reports to some Territorial officer, but no action was taken. This leaves me without power to require statements. I have, however, requested each one to report to me its condition June 30, 1896. Eighteen of the fifty-two doing business in the Territory have reported. The small number reporting causes me to hesitate in giving a summary. I think, however, that the correct summary of the condition of the banking business in the Territory may be ascertained by doubling the figures given. A summary of the banks reporting is given below.

Statement.

Number of banks in the Territory	52
Number reporting	18

Those reporting show :

Loans and discounts.....	\$519,630.96
Stocks, bonds, and warrants.....	92,591.12
Overdrafts.....	6,338.78
United States 4 per cent bonds.....	52,625.00
Due from United States Treasury.....	1,125.00
Real estate and fixtures.....	102,553.21
Due from banks.....	245,702.21
Cash in vault.....	252,152.24
Expenses.....	9,554.61
Total.....	<u>1,282,273.13</u>
Capital.....	397,614.00
Surplus.....	41,376.07
Undivided profits.....	42,259.11
Circulation.....	45,000.00
Deposits.....	733,964.12
Due other banks.....	22,059.83
Total.....	<u>1,282,273.13</u>

I observe that there is a very considerable decrease in deposits in the last year and an actual increase in the amount of cash on hand. There is a decrease in the amount of securities held, and also in loans and discounts.

The following is a list of the eighteen banks reporting: The People's Bank, of Edmond; The Capitol National Bank and Guthrie National Bank, of Guthrie; Bank of Hennessey, Hennessey; Bank of Mulhall, Mulhall; Bank of Santa Fe, Newkirk; First National Bank, Oklahoma City; State National Bank, Oklahoma City; First Bank of Okarche, Okarche; Bank of Pawnee, Pawnee; Arkansas Valley Bank, Pawnee; Exchange Bank, Perry; First State Bank, Perkins; The Walton Bank, Round Pond; Farmers and Merchants' Bank and Payne County Bank, Stillwater; Bank of Tecumseh, Tecumseh; Bank of Yukon, Yukon; Norman State Bank, Norman.

BUILDING AND LOAN ASSOCIATIONS.

The laws of the Territory authorize the organization of building and loan associations and provide for their management. These associations furnish an admirable opportunity for saving and investment. The regular weekly saving is made first and expenses must always come second. If the shareholder desires, he may borrow from the association and build a home, and at the end of four or five years own it and stop the payment of rent. The Guthrie Building and Loan Association is the oldest and has been organized for five years. It has now a capital stock of over \$40,000 paid up and has made 98 separate loans, and almost every loan means a new home built, a new home owned. The dividends have averaged for the five years 24 per cent per annum. The Norman Building and Loan Association has been organized but a short time, but is very prosperous. It has a paid-in capital stock of \$1,654 and undivided profits amounting to \$734.22. Pawnee has a prosperous association with a paid-up capital of \$8,000. There are several other associations not reporting. The organization of one of these associations will be found beneficial to the development of any city or town.

PUBLIC FINANCES.

The receipts and expenditures from the Territorial general fund have been very nearly equal. On June 30, 1895, as shown by last annual

report, there were general-fund warrants outstanding amounting to \$160,095. On June 30, 1896, there were general-fund warrants outstanding amounting to \$163,240.94, showing an increase in outstanding warrants of \$3,145.94 for the fiscal year. With the increase that must come in the taxable property of the Territory when the land titles are acquired by the people it will be a very easy matter to not only cover the expenditures of the Territory but to steadily reduce the outstanding indebtedness. The only other charge upon the Territory is \$48,000 in thirty-year 6 per cent bonds outstanding, the proceeds of which were used in erecting the college buildings. It will thus be readily seen that the total indebtedness of the Territory is considerably less than 1 per cent. of the taxable property.

Every effort has been made to reduce the expenses of the Territory to an absolute minimum and prevent the accumulation of a public debt and to reduce taxation. The warrants of the Territory have always been readily salable at a good figure for the reason that they are absolutely safe and bear 6 per cent interest. With economical administration the Territory will soon be entirely out of debt, with the exception of the bonds mentioned.

LEGISLATURE.

The Territory of Oklahoma has enjoyed the assembly of three legislatures. The first, and perhaps the most noted, gave so much attention to locating the capital that it had only ten days in which to pass a code of laws for the Territory, which can easily be imagined to have been somewhat incongruous, but as the laws were, in the main, taken from the statutes of different States, they were very good laws, saving their incongruity. Subsequent legislatures have, however, removed these conflicts or passed entirely new laws, so that now on most subjects the laws of Oklahoma are fully abreast with the best thought of the times and the particular needs of the people.

Strict laws against gambling are reasonably well enforced. Laws against Sabbath breaking are very strict and generally well observed, but not always used against violators as promptly as could be wished. However, I may say that the Sabbath is better observed in Oklahoma than in the majority of the States. The sale of liquor is regulated by license. There has been a steady decrease both in number of saloons and consumption of liquor since the opening of the Territory by half and perhaps more. According to the law none but men of good moral character can engage in the sale of liquor, but there is a growing tendency in modern society to find other employment for men noted for their moral and religious development.

The provision of the Oklahoma divorce law requiring three months' residence to entitle a plaintiff to enter suit for a divorce was happily changed by the last Congress, and Oklahoma was spared from hearing the nauseating scandals and passing on the demerits of the domestic infelicities of the States. The following is the text of the law referred to:

AN ACT making one year's residence in a Territory a prerequisite to obtaining a divorce there.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That no divorce shall be granted in any Territory for any cause unless the party applying for the divorce shall have resided continuously in the Territory for one year next preceding the application: *Provided,* That this act shall not affect any action duly commenced and pending at the date of the passage thereof.

Approved May 25, 1896.

COUNTIES.

For some time the receipts of the several counties did not equal their expenditures, and the result was a very considerable outstanding indebtedness in the form of county warrants. However, nearly all the counties have issued bonds and paid off these warrants.

Under the law as it now stands a county is prohibited by law from contracting any indebtedness in excess of 80 per cent of the tax levied for that particular purpose for that year unless there is money in the treasury to pay the same, and any officer violating this law is liable on his official bond for the entire amount of any indebtedness contracted in violation of this statute. No indebtedness in excess of 4 per cent of the assessed valuation of the property of any county is valid. The larger number of counties are now either on a cash basis or very nearly so. The work of the several county officers is now fairly well organized and the general management of county affairs is now better regulated than at first. I am persuaded, however, that a close inspection of officers by some Territorial official, and a better organized system of reports, would be an incentive to accurate, systematic work by county officers and would often save the public from loss.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

It is not extravagant to say that no State or Territory ever made such progress in developing its public school system as Oklahoma. From the very first it has been the pride of the people. Before the organization of the Territorial government, while as yet there was no law to aid the people, schools were kept by private subscription in almost every community. Neat schoolhouses have been erected in nearly every district, and regular terms of four to seven months' school are kept. No one need have any fears in coming to Oklahoma that excellent educational advantages for their children can not be secured either in the country or in the cities and villages. Not a few districts have availed themselves of the privileges extended by act of the Third legislative assembly authorizing two or more districts to establish and maintain a high school. All the cities, and most of the smaller towns, offer in addition to the regular common-school courses a high-school course free.

The design is to have these high schools to prepare the students for entrance into the university, the normal school, or agricultural and mechanical college, thus connecting all public schools and colleges and making one complete system of schools, from the lowest to the highest.

In districts where there are colored children separate schools are maintained for their instruction. This subject, while occasionally causing some friction, has, in the main, been dealt with in a fair and impartial manner and the rights and privileges of children maintained and respected.

One of the largest sources of revenue for the schools has been derived from the leasing of the school lands of the Territory. By act of Congress the sixteenth and thirty-sixth sections in each Congressional township are reserved for common schools, and section 13 of each township in the former Cherokee Outlet is reserved for colleges.

There has been apportioned among the several counties in ratio of their school population in the past year \$53,610.29, derived from leasing sections 16 and 36, the same being 61 cents per capita. There are in the Territory, according to the last returns, 88,093 children of school

age. On the whole, the work in the public schools of this Territory is such as compels the admiration of every thinking person.

Below is given a table showing the amount apportioned to each county out of the fund derived from leasing the school lands for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1896.

UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA.

The University of Oklahoma is located at Norman, the county seat of Cleveland County, in compliance with an act which provides that when \$10,000 in money and 40 acres of land be donated to the Territory for the purpose of founding a university the institution shall be located there. A fine pressed-brick building has been erected, and ample accommodations can now be furnished to students.

The University of Oklahoma is supported by a general tax of one-half mill upon each dollar of valuation on the assessment roll of the Territory. In addition to this support section 13 in each township in what is known as the Cherokee Outlet was reserved from settlement for university, normal school, and agricultural college purposes in the proclamation of the President of the United States opening those lands to settlement. The lands so reserved have been appropriated for the above purpose by act of Congress and have been leased for the benefit of the institutions named.

From these statements it will be seen that the purpose of the Territory is to furnish practically free to her young men and women instruction of the highest order. This conception will be carried into effect to the limit of the resources of the institution. Believing it to be just as much a part of the public-school system of the Territory as any high school in any community, it is the purpose of the management to unite with the public school system of the Territory in making its work articulate with the work of the graded and elementary schools, so that the course of study provided by the Territory may be continuous from the lowest grade in the public schools to the highest class in the university.

The collegiate courses of study are arranged along four lines: A classical course of study, leading to the degree of bachelor of arts; a philosophical course, leading to the degree of bachelor of philosophy; a course in which the physical sciences predominate, leading to the degree of bachelor of science, and a course in which work in the study of English is prominent, leading to the degree of bachelor of letters.

The library is well supplied with such books as are at all likely to be used by students, and is being added to constantly. The laboratories are well supplied with apparatus for elementary instruction.

At the annual conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church held at Guthrie in October, 1894, and presided over by Bishop John H. Vincent, action was taken which will do much toward solving the problem of combining secular and religious education to the advantage of both. It was proposed to build a hall or house adjoining the university campus, which will be used as a home for students from Methodist homes and for others whose parents desire them to be brought under Methodist influences.

Representatives of the conference secured a charter, and under its provisions a board of trustees selected by the conference organized by electing officers and appointing committees. The board of trustees has secured a fine tract of land, the gift of the citizens of Norman, and have accepted it under the agreement to erect a boarding hall to cost

not less than \$5,000. This tract of land consists of 5 acres, desirably located, and joins the university campus. Plans for the building have been adopted and \$3,000 have already been secured for the building fund. Building will begin as soon as financial conditions will permit.

It is desired to make the hall a pleasant Christian home where students can have rooms and boarding at reasonable rates, and the privilege of religious instruction according to the tenets of the Methodist Episcopal Church. At the same time students will have the advantage of a thorough education at the university without any additional expense for tuition, either to their parents or the church.

The Presbyterians have adopted practically the same course and will erect a hall in the near future.

The work of this institution has been very commendable in the past and gives great promise for the future.

NORMAL SCHOOL.

Among the Territorial institutions now fast bringing the people of Oklahoma to the front educationally the normal school for Oklahoma Territory is, perhaps from the nature of its work, growing very rapidly in popular favor and in general usefulness. A school essentially for the people, because most distinctly the training school for the teachers in the common schools, its increased attendance from year to year, in spite of hard times and pecuniary distress, shows plainly the great value the people attach to its work.

Its income is derived from a half-mill tax levied by the legislature and from the rental of lands given by the United States.

Tuition is absolutely free. The faculty now consists of a president and seven assistant teachers—four gentlemen and three ladies. Large additions were made in the past year to the library and to the laboratory—arms of the service absolutely necessary for successful work, since the true student is he who knows best how to investigate and who is most diligent in research.

The course of study, recently revised, compares favorably with that of similar institutions in the States, being arranged with special reference to the teaching of English and the various branches of psychology and pedagogy, while due attention is paid to the usual academic subjects, under a realizing sense of the fact, now universally accepted by the educational world, that the true function in a normal school is to teach the how rather than the what, though, under present conditions in Oklahoma, the latter must still receive a proper measure of attention. The diploma of the school will entitle the holder to teach, without further examination, in any school in the Territory. The coming year will see its first class graduated.

The future of this school is bright with promise, and the people of the Territory are daily becoming more alive to its usefulness and power for good. Directly under the supervision of the Territorial superintendent of education, who is the president of the board of regents, necessarily it is in closest touch and sympathy with the public-school system. The president of the school is also ex officio a member of the Territorial board of education, and has it in his power to be of great service to the Territory in his peculiar line.

Besides the regular work, much is done by the president and professors, through public addresses and institute work, to elevate the tone of thought and serve the interests of education.

Sympathetic in their work and with close personal and professional

relations binding together the various presidents and professors, surely the people of Oklahoma, now in its seventh year only, have just cause to be proud of their agricultural and mechanical college, their university, and their normal school.

AGRICULTURAL AND MECHANICAL COLLEGE.

This college was opened for regular work December 14, 1891. The main college building was occupied in September, 1894. It is supported in the main by the United States. The college now receives from the United States from what is known as the Morrill fund \$22,000, which will be increased by \$1,000 annually until it becomes \$25,000. The college also receives one-third the rental derived from leasing section 13 in the former Cherokee Outlet. This will probably reach \$5,000 a year, though it has fallen below that figure in the year past.

In connection with the agricultural and mechanical college the United States maintains an experiment station, for which there is appropriated \$15,000 annually. The condition of this college is well set out in the college announcement for 1895-96, as follows:

The college and station are well equipped for work and the facilities for instruction and investigation are being steadily increased. The college building is substantially constructed, and has ten rooms suitable for class instruction or laboratories, a good assembly hall, and a library and reading room. The library now contains about 3,000 well-selected volumes, and this number will be largely increased during the college year. It is usually supplied with periodical publications. There is a well arranged and equipped chemical laboratory and a good collection of apparatus for illustration in the teaching of chemistry and physics. An unusually valuable mineralogical collection has recently been put in place. There are considerable botanical and entomological collections, which will be largely increased during the summer. There is a valuable collection of models for use in the study of zoology, physiology, botany, agriculture, horticulture, and veterinary science. The college is well supplied with microscopes and with maps, charts, etc., for illustration in various branches of study.

The college campus and experiment station occupy 200 acres of land, much of it of very fair quality. Experiments are in progress in soil culture, the growth of grain, forage, and other farm crops, and large plantations of orchards and small fruits, and of forest and shade trees have been made. In the station laboratories investigations along botanical, chemical, entomological, and physical lines are steadily being made. The work of the station is of great value to students of science as well as to those directly interested in agricultural and horticultural work.

There is no entrance, tuition, or incidental fee. Military drill is required of all male students. I can heartily commend the work of this college.

REFORM SCHOOL.

By act of the Third legislative assembly the governor was authorized to contract with any neighboring State for the correction and education of incorrigible youth. In pursuance of this act I at once communicated with the authorities of fifteen neighboring States. In nearly every case they reported that these schools were already full. In one case an offer was made to receive the incorrigible youth of the Territory, but the charges were such that it was deemed unwise to saddle so great an expense on the Territory. I trust that some provision may be made by the Territory for the care and reform of this class of children at an early date.

OTHER SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES.

Besides the Territorial colleges there are several denominational and private schools of considerable merit and doing good work. The Congregational Church has established at Kingfisher a college and now has in

attendance 125 students. The Catholics have several schools and colleges, of which St. Joseph's Retreat, at Guthrie, a school for girls, is perhaps best known. Several mission schools for Indians are maintained by this church. The Presbyterians and Methodists, as heretofore stated, have decided to establish halls near the university at Norman, where the special instruction of the church may be given and at the same time the students have the advantages of the universities.

Commercial colleges at Guthrie, Oklahoma City, and El Reno have been established and good courses in shorthand, typewriting, telegraphy, and bookkeeping are offered. The Oklahoma Commercial College, at Oklahoma City, reports an average attendance at the day session of 38. The Capital City Business College and the El Reno Business College are doing good work.

INSANE ASYLUM.

The insane of the Territory are provided for in a contract with the Oklahoma Sanitarium Company, whose asylum is located at Norman, Okla. The transfer of the insane from Oaklawn Retreat, at Jacksonville, Ill., where they were formerly confined, was completed on September 1, 1895. The asylum at Norman is a roomy, well-ventilated structure, supplied with all modern equipments, and has been able to care for these unfortunates in an eminently satisfactory manner.

By the terms of the contract the Territory pays \$25 per month for each patient. The total amount paid by the Territory to the company for the care of the insane for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1896, was \$30,253.54. There has been a great saving under this contract in the item of transportation. Seventy-seven patients were received from the Jacksonville asylum and 108 from the various counties of the Territory, making the total of 185 received at the asylum, of whom 116 were males and 69 females. Of this number 37 were discharged, 3 escaped, and 19 died, leaving 126 in the asylum at the close of the fiscal year. This death list may seem large, but the fact must be considered that 4 were in a moribund condition when received. Light labor is provided for those who are able to work, and regular hours for meals and sleep are enforced, religious services are held frequently, suitable literature to read is supplied, and amusements intended to divert the mind, but not excite it, are encouraged. The sanitarium employs 17 persons.

BOARD OF HEALTH.

Oklahoma is particularly free from fatal diseases, and I doubt if there is a healthier region in the United States. Its atmosphere is almost entirely free from germs of any kind and is at once dry, pure, and invigorating. Many persons afflicted with throat and lung trouble, rheumatism, and kindred afflictions have been permanently cured by residence in the Territory. Colds and coughs are almost unknown.

The salt water of the Cimarron and Canadian rivers furnishes bathing equal to the ocean, and in connection with the dry, pure atmosphere and even temperature at all times prevailing has effected many very remarkable cures. Many persons now afflicted by the cold, damp weather of other States would find relief and feel new life by even a short residence in Oklahoma.

I can not better set forth the health condition of the Territory than is done by Dr. C. D. Arnold, Territorial superintendent of health, in his report. He says:

During last autumn and the earlier part of the winter diphtheria, with a few isolated cases of scarlet fever, prevailed in several towns and rural districts of the Territory,

but with a very small mortality, especially from the latter; and particularly during the spring months measles existed in many counties, though fatalities from this disease were exceedingly rare. Otherwise than the above our Territory has been quite free from infectious diseases among the people. Ten thousand circulars were circulated among the people in the cities and small towns, instructing them, when either diphtheria or scarlet fever prevailed in their families or communities, what to do and how to prevent the infection from spreading. Over 1,000 letters, besides circulars, have been mailed to health officers in our Territory and in the States and to physicians inquiring concerning our medical law. Since December 1, 1894, I have been collecting in a limited way, in the absence of legal provisions therefor, information bearing on the kind and character of the prevailing diseases of our Territory, their virulence, fatality, and influence on age and sex, as compared with similar diseases east of the ninety-sixth meridian of longitude.

More particularly has this inquiry been conducted to ascertain the comparative observations and views of our physicians, who came originally mostly from the east of said meridian, relative to the climate of Oklahoma as a relief to persons suffering from bronchitis, asthma, and incipient consumption. So far these inquiries have been answered eminently satisfactorily. In the next biennial report I hope to present the results of these investigations.

PHARMACY AND DENTISTRY.

The Territorial board of pharmacy has under its control the registration of pharmacists and the regulation of the practice of pharmacy. It has always maintained a high standard of excellence and will admit none but competent and well-qualified applicants.

The board of dental examiners has been strict in its requirements for admission to the practice of the profession and has done much to relieve the Territory from incompetent and unqualified practitioners, thereby performing a service much appreciated by the long-suffering public.

THE PENITENTIARY.

No building has been provided for the convicts of the Territory and they are still confined in the Kansas State Penitentiary, at Lansing, Kans., under contract with the State, whereby the Territory pays 25 cents per day for each convict and pays transportation both of officers and prisoners. This has grown to be quite a heavy burden on the Territory.

The total number confined on June 30, 1895, was 74. Since then there have been additions and removals, leaving 128 prisoners on June 30, 1896.

The total cost to the Territory has been \$3,211.34 for transportation and \$15,403.84 for care and keeping. A very interesting table is given below, showing the number of prisoners confined, the offense committed, and term of sentence. From this it will be observed that the largest number of prisoners are in confinement for grand larceny and the next largest for burglary. Seventy are in confinement for crimes against property and 43 for crimes against the person. Ninety-five are in confinement for a term of five years or less, 23 for a term exceeding five years, and 10 are serving a life sentence. There is only one convict to every 2,148 of population, which, in view of the fact that the criminal laws are strictly enforced, makes a creditable showing for the Territory.

It is believed, however, that the present number of prisoners could be cared for more cheaply within the Territory, and no doubt provision will be made for a penitentiary at an early date.

Crimes and sentences of Oklahoma prisoners confined in Kansas State Penitentiary June 30, 1896.

Crime.	Sentence.														Total.						
	1 year.	1 year 1 day.	1 year 6 months.	2 years.	2 years 6 months.	2 years 8 months.	3 years.	4 years.	4 years 6 months.	5 years.	6 years.	7 years.	8 years.	9 years.		10 years.	12 years.	15 years.	20 years.	50 years.	Life.
Adultery.....		2																			2
Aiding prisoners to escape.....							2								2						4
Arson.....									1												1
Assault to commit rape.....							2				1										3
Assault to do bodily harm.....		1	1																		2
Assault with deadly weapon.....				1			1								1						3
Assault with intent to kill.....	1																				1
Attempted robbery.....					1																1
Bigamy.....				2					1												3
Burglary.....				4							1										5
Burglary, second degree.....	1	1		2		1	5		1		1										12
Burglary and larceny.....									1		1										1
Embezzlement.....	1	1		1					1												4
Escaping jail.....		3																			3
Forgery.....		2		1							1										4
Grand larceny.....	6	3	2	7			7	7	1	4		1									38
Incest.....									1												1
Manslaughter, first degree.....							3							1	2		1	3	1		11
Manslaughter, second degree.....				3				1													4
Manslaughter, third degree.....												1									1
Murder.....							1														3
Murder, first degree.....																					4
Murder, second degree.....																1					5
Perjury.....	1									1	1										1
Rape.....									1												3
Rape, second degree.....													1	1							2
Receiving stolen goods.....			1																		1
Robbery.....				1					1						1						5
Robbery, second degree.....							1												2		1
Total.....	10	13	4	22	1	1	18	12	1	13	2	4	1	1	7	2	2	3	1	10	128

PUBLIC BUILDINGS.

There are no public buildings belonging to the Territory save the three college buildings. The Territory is compelled to rent quarters for its officers at a very considerable expense. Section 33 in the Cherokee Outlet is reserved for the benefit of public buildings and will in time provide a very great help in this direction. Most counties have court-houses and the Territory is well supplied with commodious schoolhouses.

AGRICULTURE.

Agriculture comprises such a wide scope that as brief a report as this furnishes a meager synopsis of the great agricultural interests of the Territory. There is a great diversity in the crops of the Territory. Wheat, indian corn, cotton, castor beans, kaffir corn, oats, barley, saccharine, sorghum, and the great forage plants, alfalfa, clover, and timothy, in the eastern and central portions of the Territory are the principal products. Horticulture with its concomitants, within the short period of a little more than six years, rivals any of the States in the Union. One and one-half million fruit trees have been planted; several millions of smaller fruits have found a home to stay and are thriving under our peculiar climatic influences. It is not claiming too much to say that the Oklahoma peach has found its way into nearly all of the markets of the western world. It is recognized by the rich red cheek and the excellent flavor it possesses.

The Oklahoma watermelon and muskmelon are in demand in the principal markets. One small station alone shipped during the summer of 1895 about 100 car loads of this delicious fruit, which bids fair to be exceeded in 1896. Potato culture is of no mean importance and should not be lost sight of, as it, too, is of great commercial value. One hundred car loads of sweet potatoes is a low estimate of the surplus.

It has been said that the best stock country that can be found is the best grain country. If this be true, Oklahoma carries the banner. A conservative estimate gives Oklahoma for the year 1896 50,000,000 bushels of indian corn, and more than half that amount of kaffir corn, to say nothing of the great wheat, oat, and barley crops.

COTTON AND CASTOR BEANS.

Cotton, castor beans, flax, and peanuts are great money makers. It is thought that the weather for the last few weeks has been too humid, but with the sunny days that are to follow Oklahoma will market the greatest crop of cotton and castor beans ever produced. The cotton is of excellent quality, the best in fact, as shown by the awards at the World's Fair at Chicago. There is no higher tribute to the excellence of Oklahoma agricultural products than that paid by the awards at that great fair, where were collected the products of all nations. A list of awards is given below.

World's Columbian Exposition awards to Oklahoma

AGRICULTURAL EXHIBIT.

Exhibitor.	Address.	Exhibit.
Group 1:		
C. G. Jones.....	Oklahoma City.....	Flour.
Do.....do.....	Wheat.
Oklahoma Territory.....	Cleveland County.....	Corn, oats, buckwheat, grass and peanuts.
Group 3:		
Oklahoma Territory.....	Guthrie.....	Red sorghum.
Group 5:		
A. J. Seay.....	Kingfisher.....	Squashes.
Group 9:		
Oklahoma Territory.....	Guthrie.....	Cotton.

Never were the prospects for cotton better than at present, and there is every reason to believe that Oklahoma will make a creditable showing in the list of cotton-producing States or Territories.

Guthrie, it is estimated, will market 12,000 bales, while Oklahoma City, Shawnee, and Norman will each market nearly that much.

There is every reason to believe that the ruling prices will be from 7 to 8 cents per pound. The average crop will be one-half bale per acre. This places the value of the crop at from \$17.50 to \$20 per acre.

The principal cost in raising cotton is the picking, which, if the farmer can not do it all himself, he can have it done at about 50 cents per 100 pounds. At this busy season the farmer often calls the whole family to his assistance, the work being of such a character that any person can do it, though some work much faster than others. It is simply wonderful how much money this article brings into the country. A conservative estimate given me by a farmer from a township east of this point places the acreage of cotton in that township at 8,000, with a probable average yield of one-half bale, which would mean \$148,000 for that township alone.

Native grasses are more promising than in the year 1895, when Oklahoma hay found a market in the great States of Illinois, Indiana, and Ohio as well as in the mountain States. The climate and cheap grass give the farmer advantages not found elsewhere.

FRUIT GROWING.

Perhaps there is no industry to which the climate and soil of Oklahoma is better adapted than fruit growing. The peach crop is very heavy, and has been a source of great revenue to the people. Not only has there been a great quantity, but the quality is the very best, the fruit being large and delicious. Grapes grow to perfection and bid fair to rival any other grape in the market. Pears, plums, apricots, and all kinds of small fruits do well. Apples are not so successful, and do not keep very well in this climate. All kinds of berries are a success and are particularly well flavored.

STOCK RAISING.

No better evidence of the natural adaption of Oklahoma to stock raising need be produced than the fact that it was once the great feeding ground of the vast herds of buffalo and deer that roamed the plains. The Cherokees were granted the privilege of hunting their buffalo in the strip of land lying west of their nation, hence the term "Cherokee Strip." In the western part of the Territory the grass cures on the ground in the fall and keeps almost as bright as hay all winter. Upon this stock will feed and keep in good condition.

Water is everywhere abundant, and even salt is distributed up and down such rivers as the Salt Fork, Cimarron, and Canadian. There are fertile valleys where corn, kaffir corn, and other grain may be raised in abundance. While the western portion of the Territory seems specially adapted and endowed by nature for cattle raising, the eastern portion is equally well adapted to raising hogs, and the people of that section have not been slow to recognize that fact.

Corn can be raised at a minimum price, and mast furnishes a valuable supplement as feed. Some of the finest hogs found in the market come from this section.

MINERALS.

There has been no definite development of mineral resources in the year past, and very little attention has been given to the subject. Coal and oil in different localities have been talked of, but very little has been done to ascertain their extent or value. Each year makes it more certain that building stone of excellent quality is to be had in abundance in many places. One of the most beautiful and easily worked and enduring is a red sandstone, soft at first but hardening with exposure each year. Perhaps both gold and silver in paying quantities may be found in the Wichita Mountains. There are certainly some indications in that direction.

INDIANS.

The progress of the Indian in the ways of the white man is never very rapid. On the reservation almost no progress can be made. He is almost as far removed from any actual contact with white men as in time past. The history of the development of races proves that they do not change their ways except from stern necessity. So the Indian only changes the mode of his life with a complete change of environment.

I can but repeat what I have said in all former reports—that immediate allotment in severalty is the best solution of the problem of Indian civilization.

SOCIAL AND RELIGIOUS CONDITIONS.

The advance along social and religious lines the past year has been commensurate with the development of the Territory, and in many cases the improvement is very marked. The social and moral condition of the people is far above what one would infer from many of the telegrams found in the press. The people of the Territory are, as a whole, peaceable and law abiding and are seeking to build homes for themselves and their children. The intense struggle necessary to overcome the natural difficulties incident to the settlement of a new country has developed a hardihood in the people that will greatly aid them in accomplishing the greatest purposes and fulfilling the hopes of the most sanguine. As the Revolutionary fathers were fitted by contest with primeval conditions to found a great Republic in the midst of monarchy and by contest and contact with nature to restore to man his natural rights, so the people of Oklahoma are now being trained by subduing natural conditions and overcoming natural difficulties to found here, a century later, a great State, constructed in the light of the experience of a century of State building, a State which, when it shall have been admitted to the noble sisterhood, will do honor to the best Government, the proudest nation of the coming century.

It is a privilege and responsibility appreciated by the people of Oklahoma to be thus present at the laying of the corner stone of a great Commonwealth, aye, to have fashioned with their own hands the foundation stones, and it will be their pride to build well the superstructure. The Oklahoman may not be able at all times to present an immaculate shirt front, but I dare say in his behalf that within his bosom will be found a heart whose purposes are as true and as benevolent as any in all the nation. Almost every organization here, in spite of the rapidity of change, is still controlled by its original charter members.

The various home mission boards of the churches have been early on the field and labored faithfully and efficiently, but there is need for still larger work along this line.

The various fraternities are well represented in the Territory, as will be seen from a list of those reporting; and there are several well-known lodges with a large membership that have not reported.

Society in general has not yet divided into exclusive sets and rings, and it is devoutly to be hoped it never will. It is not from the "holier-than-thou" that the true statesmen of the Republic will arise.

Presbyterians (Reported by T. D. Duncan, clerk).

Organizations	44
Membership	1, 480
Church buildings	24
Value of church property	\$35, 000
New organizations	3
Colored church	1
Young People's Society of Christian Endeavor	35
Sunday schools	47
Missionary appropriation	\$16, 000
Contributions to benevolence	\$13, 788
Preachers	27
Sunday-school missionaries	6

Congregational (Reported by Rev. C. N. Queen).

Organizations.....	91
Membership.....	2,222
Church buildings.....	55
Value of church property.....	\$50,000
New churches organized last year.....	23
Preachers.....	49
Colored church.....	1
Young People's Society of Christian Endeavor.....	33
Membership Young People's Society of Christian Endeavor.....	1,022
Sunday schools.....	91
Membership.....	4,433
Missionary appropriation.....	\$10,000
Collected and expended on field.....	\$13,886
Benevolent contributions.....	\$790
Grants to build churches since 1889.....	\$22,000
Parsonage loans since 1889.....	\$8,000
Expended by Home Missionary Society since 1889.....	\$70,000
One college—students.....	125
Indian mission.....	1

Methodist Episcopal Church.

Number of churches.....	46
Value.....	\$47,700
Parsonages.....	18
Value.....	\$6,880
Paid for building and improvements during year.....	\$6,381
Paid on old indebtedness.....	\$2,782.75
Members.....	5,405

Methodist Episcopal Church South (Reported by J. M. Gross).

Members.....	3,000
Societies.....	90
Churches.....	25
Value of churches.....	\$25,000
Number of parsonages.....	10
Value of parsonages.....	\$5,000
Number of Sunday schools.....	50
Scholars.....	2,000
Epworth Leagues.....	15
Members.....	300
Missionary money appropriated for support of pastors.....	\$3,100
Appropriated for church building.....	\$1,650

Christian Church (Reported by W. A. Humphrey).

Number of organizations.....	70
Membership.....	4,300
Church buildings.....	12
Value of buildings.....	\$27,000
Number of churches organized during the last year.....	4
Preachers.....	50
Colored preacher.....	1
Colored churches.....	2
Young People's Society of Christian Endeavor organizations.....	14
Sunday schools.....	25
Money expended for missionary purposes.....	\$492.95
C. W. B. M. organizations.....	7

Baptist (Reported by Rev. L. L. Holt).

Churches:	
White.....	110
Colored.....	80
Membership:	
White.....	3,200
Colored.....	3,500
Ministers:	
White.....	65
Colored.....	100
Membership of Sunday schools.....	8,000

Sunday schools (Reported by F. L. Wenner, general secretary).

Schools	700
Officers and teachers	4,900
Scholars	28,000
Per cent of population attending Sunday school	10
Per cent of children attending Sunday school	27

Episcopal (Reported by Bishop F. K. Brooke).

Organized missions	11
Other regular stations	11
Church buildings	7
Parsonages	5
Clergy	9
Communicants	350
Value of church property	\$20,000
Chapter St. Andrew's Brotherhood	1
Daughters of the King	2
Children in Sunday school	130

Catholic (Reported by Bishop Theo. Maerschaert).

Churches	24
Chapels	5
Stations visited	73
Priests	18
Membership	10,000
New residences for priests	3
Academies	4
College for boys	1
Schools for boys and girls	4
Schools for colored	2
Convents	4
Monastery	1
School and church property	\$60,000

Young People's Society of Christian Endeavor.

Societies	142
Members	4,328
Junior societies	20
Members	737
Total membership	5,065
New societies	60
New members added during the year	1,000

Lodges and camps reporting.

Name.	Number of members.	New members.	Number of organizations.	Value of property.	New lodges.
Ancient Order United Workmen	900	353	31		10
Knights of Pythias	715	225	16	\$6,000	4
Odd Fellows	1,477	386	59	31,200	9
Woodmen of the World	241	84	10		1
Grand Army of the Republic	1,213	447	60	836	22
Confederate Veterans	240		5		

MILITIA.

Oklahoma has six companies of militia, located at Guthrie, Oklahoma City, El Reno, Alva, Ponca City, and Pawnee. A full line of staff officers has been appointed. Owing to the very low apportionment of the national fund made to Oklahoma by the Secretary of War, some of these companies have not as yet been fully equipped, and I sincerely hope that a sufficient allotment may be made the coming year to enable the Territory to maintain a force at least in proportion to its population.

There has as yet been no occasion to call the militia into active service. Disturbances of any character in the Territory are very rare, but disturbances, like fire, are best controlled by being always prepared to act promptly.

STATEHOOD.

This question has been so much and so ably discussed, both by the press and in the halls of Congress, that it is unnecessary for me to enter into a discussion of the question, but I beg to express my firm conviction that the best interests of the whole people will be subserved by the early admission of Oklahoma and Indian territories into the Union as one State. United they would make one strong and prosperous commonwealth; divided, two small states with double the expense of state government.

INDIAN RESERVATIONS.

The situation in the matter of Indian reservations remains unchanged since the report last year. The Wichita, Kiowa, Comanche, and Apache Indian reservations have not as yet been opened to settlement. I can not refrain from urging, as I have done heretofore, that these reservations be at once opened to settlement. They embrace some of the finest lands in Oklahoma Territory, and would be capable of supporting a large population. The Indians on their allotments can make but a very limited use of the unallotted land. It is, in my opinion, subversive of the very best purpose of allotments to withhold the residue of unallotted lands from settlement. The Indians learn more of the ways of civilization and modern agriculture from contact with white neighbors than in any other way. To put an Indian on an allotment in the midst of an Indian reservation and expect him to farm is indulging a hope not justified by the actual results. The attention of the Government to this question is most earnestly solicited and the earliest possible action advised.

SCHOOL LANDS.

The sixteenth and thirty-sixth sections of school lands in Oklahoma are reserved for the use and benefit of common schools.

In March, 1891, Congress authorized the governor to lease the school lands for a term not to exceed three years. Under this act very nearly all the school lands in eastern Oklahoma were leased at good prices. In May, 1894, the leasing of these lands was transferred from the control of the governor to a board composed of the governor, secretary, and superintendent of public instruction.

During the past year the principal work of the office has been renewing leases at the expiration of their several terms and looking after collections, transfers, and cancellations. This has made the volume of work large and has kept a force of three to five clerks busily engaged, and even then it was found very difficult to be prompt with the work. Nearly all the work of the office has been done by correspondence, which often amounts to several hundred letters a day. Just before the beginning of the fiscal year the Post-Office Department ruled that the board was not entitled to use the penalty envelopes that had been used up to that date. This has added largely to the expense of the office.

The most difficult problem with which the board has had to contend has been the question of preference rights of lessees upon renewal of

their leases. These lessees have, during the term of their leases, made valuable improvements necessary to put the land in cultivation, and nearly all have built houses, dug wells, fenced, planted fruit trees, plowed the land, and improved the tracts generally, with a view to making a home on the land. By the terms of the original leases the lessees were given the privilege, on renewal, of taking the land at the highest rental offered by any responsible bidder, in case he so elects; otherwise to remove his improvements at once and give possession. But the difficulty is that most improvements on a farm are either immovable or very nearly valueless when removed. This caused the board to cast about for some plan of leasing by which both the interest of the lessee and of the school fund could be protected and justice done to both. Clearly the school fund is entitled to the commercial rental value of the land, and it seems equally just that the tenant should have the benefit of his improvements. Any system which permits the tenant to lease the land for less than it is worth robs the school fund, and any system that compels a tenant to pay an enhanced value on the land on account of his improvements seems equally unjust to the tenant. Bearing in mind these general principles, the board has had both the improvements and the rental value of the land appraised. The land was then offered for lease. Any person desiring to lease any tract at a price in excess of the appraised rental value and who would pay the lessee the appraised value of his improvements would be permitted to file a bid. If the lessee desired to take the land at the price offered by this applicant he could do so; otherwise he could simply claim the appraised value of the improvements or remove them.

If no such bid were received the lessee could take the land at the appraised value, or if the lessee fail or refuse to lease, then the tract in question was advertised for lease to the highest bidder without reserve. It is believed that this plan offers the best solution of the problem and will probably be pursued so long as the land remains in the hands of the present board. However, the legislature may at any time make such rules and regulations as seem just and proper.

I have dealt thus at length upon this subject because it affects most intimately the whole people, and most particularly and especially over three thousand families of lessees, and is, so far as I know, an entirely new problem, demanding the creation of a set of rules and regulations to meet the contingency.

The net proceeds from leasing school, college, and public building lands for the fiscal year were \$79,214.55. This was somewhat below what was anticipated, but collections have been very difficult the past year and many losses from nonpayment of notes will be inevitable.

Receipts and expenditures for the year ending June 30, 1896.

Cash on hand June 30, 1895	\$21, 327. 85	
Cash received from June 30, 1895, to June 30, 1896	79, 214. 55	
		\$100, 542. 20
Expenses for the year	7, 072. 42	
Turned over to Territorial treasurer	71, 180. 55	
Returned to lessees	401. 25	
Cash on hand	21, 887. 98	
		100, 542. 20

440 REPORT OF THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.

Statement showing receipts and net proceeds of each fund for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1896.

COMMON SCHOOLS.

Cash received.....		\$59,768.94
Expenses.....	\$5,057.64	
Returned to lessees.....	323.75	
Net proceeds.....	54,387.55	59,768.94

COLLEGES.

Cash received.....		9,880.44
Expenses.....	1,007.67	
Returned to lessees.....	52.50	
Net proceeds.....	8,820.27	9,880.44

PUBLIC BUILDINGS.

Cash received.....		9,564.97
Expenses.....	1,007.11	
Returned to lessees.....	25.00	
Net proceeds.....	8,532.86	9,564.97

Total net proceeds 71,740.68

Net proceeds from leasing school land.

Fiscal year ending—		
June 30, 1891.....		\$4,536.82
June 30, 1892.....		21,346.13
June 30, 1893.....		19,164.67
June 30, 1894.....		46,586.29
June 30, 1895.....		88,627.97
June 30, 1896.....		71,740.68
Total net receipts.....		252,002.56

Notes on hand.

Due.	Num-ber.	Amount.	Due.	Num-ber.	Amount.
College:			Common schools:		
December 15, 1894.....	6	\$280.00	January 1, 1892.....	20	\$1,001.32
December 15, 1895.....	65	2,262.38	April 1, 1892.....	16	465.40
October 1, 1896.....	33	831.75	December 15, 1892.....	21	845.15
December 15, 1896.....	378	15,005.82	January 1, 1893.....	31	1,832.10
October 1, 1897.....	63	1,565.50	April 1, 1893.....	22	631.65
December 15, 1897.....	189	8,214.27	Miscellaneous.....	13	291.00
October 1, 1898.....	32	796.75	December 15, 1893.....	99	2,873.55
December 15, 1898.....	26	2,342.00	January 1, 1894.....	40	1,899.75
December 15, 1899.....	28	2,342.00	April 1, 1894.....	20	608.40
Total.....		33,640.47	December 15, 1894.....	209	12,179.93
Public buildings:			October 1, 1895.....	96	1,913.07
December 15, 1894.....	8	264.33	December 15, 1895.....	682	25,697.95
December 15, 1895.....	65	2,897.84	October 1, 1896.....	1,221	36,724.54
October 1, 1896.....	35	991.50	December 15, 1896.....	939	44,672.98
December 15, 1896.....	381	15,862.45	October 1, 1897.....	596	16,337.23
October 1, 1897.....	627	1,724.50	December 15, 1897.....	192	10,487.26
December 15, 1897.....	177	7,671.97	October 1, 1898.....	114	3,405.08
October 1, 1898.....	29	878.00	December 15, 1898.....	49	6,091.75
December 15, 1898.....	31	2,242.00	October 1, 1899.....	1	40.00
December 15, 1899.....	31	2,242.00	December 15, 1899.....	45	5,931.75
Total.....		34,774.59	Total.....		178,909.86

RECAPITULATION.

Common schools.....	\$173,909.86
Colleges.....	33,640.47
Public buildings.....	34,774.59
Total.....	242,324.92

Apportionment of funds derived from leasing school lands for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1896.

County.	School children.	Amount apportioned to each county.	County.	School children.	Amount apportioned to each county.
Beaver	1,027	\$636.74	Logan	8,466	\$5,248.92
Blaine	2,779	1,722.98	Oklahoma	7,116	4,411.92
Canadian	4,797	2,974.14	Noble	2,860	1,773.20
Cleveland	5,055	3,134.10	Pawnee	2,964	1,837.68
D	693	429.66	Payne	5,405	3,351.10
Day	227	140.74	Pottawatomie	5,516	3,419.92
G	1,638	1,015.56	Roger Mills	735	455.70
Garfield	4,943	3,064.66	Washita	2,090	1,295.80
Grant	4,271	2,648.02	Woods	7,052	4,372.24
Greer	2,457	515.97	Woodward	1,004	622.48
Kay	5,033	3,120.46			
Kingfisher	6,410	3,974.20	Total	88,093	53,610.29
Lincoln	5,555	3,444.10			

I beg to express confidence in the resources of Oklahoma and in the ability of its inhabitants to make of it a substantial State worthy of a prominent place in the American Union.

I am, dear sir, your most obedient servant,

WILLIAM C. RENFROW, *Governor.*

Hon. DAVID R. FRANCIS,

Secretary of the Interior, Washington, D. C.