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Watch for Our Great Special Booster Edition and See Who Are the Home Boosters

## ODD FELLOWS MEETING AT OKMULGEE ONE OF NOTE

Muskogee Man Is Grand Master and Brings the Next Grand Lodge Home.

Delegates and Visitors Made to Feel Welcome In the Old Creek Capital.

The third annual meeting of the consolidated Grand Lodge No. 35 of the G. U. O. O. of Oklahoma which met at Okmulgee July 24th and 25th was a marked success.

Grand Master J. E. Toombs was at all times in absolute control of the situation and was ever ready with his winsome courtesy to set at naught any question that seemed to threaten the peacefulness of the meeting.

It was due to his masterful tactics of conducting the meeting that all the

tive Lodges. Prof. F. J. Gordon of this city led in the speech making, followed by H. Gaston, Chickasha; Alex Ivery, McAlester; B. G. Smith, Oklahoma City; R. H. Claypool, Round Hill; Dr. J. E. White, Boey; Dr. J. M. White, Okmulgee; J. H. Napier, Eufaula; Prof. Austin, F. Cole, Wilburton; J. L. Logan, Luther; Rumpus, Wagoner; H. Childers, Colbert; Wm. Ezell, Haskell; and Dr. Serratt of Porter.

Prof. Cole of Wilburton was then elected Ass. Grand Secretary, and J. W. Lane of McAlester, made a short talk on the history of the order and was followed by Deputy Grand Master E. D. Jefferson of this city.

After the committees on the Grand Masters address and insurance were appointed Grand Master Toombs delivered his annual address which was full of valuable recommendations and information.

In his address Mr. Toombs told of the hardships he had born, the time and money he had spent to save the name of the order in this state when it was published in the newspapers that the Odd Fellows had no right to do business in Oklahoma, and showed how through his untiring efforts he had succeeded in saving the order from the threatened imperial

Reference was made to the conduct of Joshua Nichols of Guthrie in the G. M.'s address and for a time after Nichols had been permitted to reply to that part of the address touching his conduct in certain irregularities, it seemed that a strong feeling was about to be engendered against Nichols for irregularities as an Odd Fellow, but the Grand Master was too much of a diplomat for that and after the lashing and scolding thus openly administered in a Grand Lodge meeting the wayward brother was allowed to go free.

Among other things the Grand Master recommended in his address that the meeting of the Grand Lodge be changed from annual to bi-annual meetings; that the office of Grand Lecturer be abolished and that a special tax of 20c. per member be assessed in all local Lodges for Grand Lodge.

Each of his recommendations were acted upon favorably by the Grand Lodge, much to the advantage of the order in the future.

Grand Master Toombs closed his annual address with an interesting review of his 8 years service at the head of the Odd Fellows in this state and in a flow of easy eloquence he

begged to hand back to the brethren the same office they had entrusted to his keeping 8 years ago free from stain, untarnished, cleaned.

He expressed his determination not to be a candidate for Grand Master again, but offered himself to serve in any other capacity.

After the G. M.'s address other committees were appointed and the reports from committees already appointed heard.

This consumed nearly an hour and at the end of that time adjournment was taken for dinner.

The reports of the various depart-

Solo—Ruth and Naomi, Mrs. S. E. Knight.

Remarks by Grand Master, Rev. J. E. Toombs.

Pianists: Mrs. S. Whitfield, Mrs. M. D. Brookins.

Just before the Grand Master's remarks a pleasant surprise was sprung on the audience.

Miss Beatrice Johnson of this city had given a recital in Okmulgee on Monday night, July 24, and remained there until Wednesday. She attended the public meeting of the Odd Fellows Tuesday night and when her presence was discovered she was immediately interviewed and induced to sing. Now when one goes out expecting to see and hear a well trained vocalist or a prima donna he carries his musical intelligence with him and the performers very best efforts rarely exceed, if indeed it reaches his expectations. But if one should go out to a public Odd Fellow meeting not even dreaming of any musical treats aside from selections from the church choir and amid these surroundings should see and hear the famous Black Patti, great indeed would be his surprise and greater his appreciation.

So it was when Miss Johnson appeared and in a clear unfeigned voice sang "Coming Through the Rye."

While she sang, not a murmur was heard, but when she had finished the old familiar song the house literally roared with applause, and the encore continued until she returned to the rostrum and again held her audience spell-bound while she sang: "Mine, All Mine."

Prof. Johnson, her brother, accompanied her on the piano.

Thus ended the first day of the session.

Wednesday was the final day. Promptly at 9 o'clock the sounds of the gavel was heard and the waiting

efficient to break down the popularity of their opponent who was easily elected by a vote that nearly equalled all the votes cast for both Lane and Buchanan.

Mr. Jefferson is the only negro in Oklahoma who, in spite of the Grand father clause, is holding an elective office and at that under a democratic administration. That he is a determined fighter was amply and effectively demonstrated when the demonstrators took the office from him and gave it to a white man.

Instead of submitting to what seemed the inevitable this negro with his knowledge of the law entered the



REV. J. E. TOOMBS  
Past G. M. who was elected Endowment Secretary without opposition.

courts and under the very law which sought to rob him not only of his office but of his franchise, he wrenched it from their hands, re-seated himself as Justice of the peace and is today holding court for the peace of Agency township, Muskogee County, Oklahoma.

So it happened that the Odd Fellows have at the steering wheel a man who has the grit the push and ability to do things.

Following are the names of the officers elected:

D. G. M.—E. D. Jefferson, Muskogee.

Deputy G. M.—C. A. Buchanan, Guthrie.

G. Secretary.—J. S. Dawson, El Reno.

Grand Treasurer.—Dr. J. E. White, Okmulgee.

Endowment Secretary.—Rev. J. E. Toombs, Guthrie.

Endowment Treasurer.—Wm. McKee, Tulsa.

Grand Auditors.—Dr. A. C. Jackson, Guthrie, J. W. Pottas, McAlester and F. J. Gordon, Muskogee.

The next Grand Lodge meeting will be held in Muskogee.

One could hardly think of the success of this Grand Lodge meeting without recalling the generous hospitality extended the delegates and visitors by the good people of Okmulgee. The doors of every colored home in the town was thrown wide open and the guests made welcome to everything.

### Robbers Blew Up Bank

The Bank of Taft was blown up Tuesday night by yeggmen in an attempt to get the money kept there, but the timely appearance of young Stout Ham on the scene with a good rifle which he used to good advantage, frightened the men away. Mr. Colter, of this city, president of the bank, speaks very highly of Ham and others at Taft who helped to save the money.

### Agents Wanted

Both men and women, to sell lots in North View Addition for high-class colored residences. This is close to street car. City water, natural gas, etc., and will sell fast. Long time, easy terms, liberal commission to agents. If you are willing to step lively and take orders for these lots call at office, room 402, Estes bldg. for further particulars and we will show you how you can make all the money you want.

NORTH VIEW REALTY CO.

### From Conway, Ark.

Mrs. Carry J. Holland went up to Grays Rock Tuesday to a Sunday School convention of the C. M. E. church.

There was a union meeting at Plumerville last Saturday and Sunday. Those attending report a good time.

Mr. O. C. Rich is preparing to attend the grand lodge P. and A. M. at Pine Bluff next week.

M. L. Hunt who is teaching in District No. 90 had the misfortune to get his buggy torn to pieces last week. He had left the horse standing while he went into the house of Mr. Theo. Hunting's. Mr. Hunting's little son had gotten into the buggy to wait the return of the teacher, when in some way the horse became frightened and ran away with the above result. The child escaped with a few bruises.

Among those who went from here to the union last Saturday were: W. B. Harrison and little daughter, Rozzie, Rev. W. H. Hunt and wife, daughter Miss Annette, and this scribe.

The grand sessions of the various secret orders have been very much in evidence the last few weeks. The Odd Fellows and Ruths will be holding forth this week, beginning Tuesday morning, the 1st of August. The K. of P.'s have closed their annual meeting last Friday.

All readers of the Cimeter here hail its coming gladly each week.

Watch for Conway news next week.

Mrs. S. E. Dozier is in Hot Springs this week attending the Grand Lodge of the Household of Ruth.

Mr. M. K. Dozier and Seben Benton were in Little Rock peddling chickens last week.

Mr. S. B. Lyons, Galley Lyons, Loney Hutcherson, James and Samuel Fortune and Leroy Cowan were at the Miss Maltbas Sunday. One of the young men had to leave before he got ready.

The following are on the sick list: Mrs. J. Chandler, Mr. James Hill and Mrs. Annie Cowans and Mr. John Richard.

Mr. John Chandler called on his best girl Sunday. Heard she enjoyed it fine.

Mr. John Miller, James Mattison and R. A. Laneton are attending the Grand Lodge at Hot Springs this week.

Miss H. Shelle Davis of Conway, is visiting relatives and friends out east this week.

Reporter is away from home.  
August 1, 1911.

### LODGE DIRECTORY.

Muskogee Chapter No. 5, Order of Eastern Star; meeting first and third Thursdays of each month at 2:30 o'clock.

MRS. M. A. TWIN  
MRS. MOTEN, Sec.

Trinity Lodge No. 1, A. M.; meetings first and third day night of each month.

A. W. TAV, W.  
W. H. TWINE, Secy.

Muskogee Lodge No. 14 K. of P. meets 2nd and 4th Monday in each month at Bailey's hall, S. 3rd street.

D. RICHARDSON, O. C.  
W. L. WADE, K. of R. & S.

Central Creek Lodge No. 4402 meets at their hall on N. 4th street the first and third Tuesday nights of each month. All Odd Fellows of their respective lodges in good standing are respectfully invited to attend these meetings.

E. N. GUILROY, N. G.  
E. D. JEFFERSON P. S.

Money to loan on household goods and personal property. Can repay loan in installments.

R. T. COLTER CO.  
(110 N. 4th St.)



MRS. FLORENCE BANKS.

Wife of Dr. L. M. Banks, a prominent dentist of this city who has received a commission from Gov. Crouce sending her as a delegate to the National Negro Educational Convention which meets at Denver this month. This is a signal honor for Mrs. Banks.

Among the speakers to appear there is William T. Lewis, assistant U. S. attorney general.

business of the Grand Lodge was completed in two days and the delegates returned to their homes at least 24 hours earlier than they had planned. The morning session began at nine o'clock and the Grand Master proceeded at once to business. A committee on credentials was appointed after which about an hour was spent in short speeches from delegates telling of the conditions of their respective



MISS BEATRICE JOHNSON

The nightingale of Muskogee who captured the citizens of Okmulgee by her singing at a public meeting of the Odd Fellows and at a musical recital there.

ments showed a slight increase of business over that of last year. The Endowment department showed \$1,000 more business for 1911 over that of 1910.

The Endowment Treasurers report showed that he had received \$4,544.45 and had paid out \$4,535.70, leaving a balance of \$509.75. A resolution making a special endowment assessment of \$1.00 for each member of the craft to be paid not later than the 1st of December was passed as was also another increasing the endowment to \$300.00.

This practically disposed of the first days work.

Tuesday evening an interesting program was rendered which was enjoyed by a full and appreciative audience, as follows:

Literary Program 8 p. m.

Master of Ceremony, J. T. Supplies.  
Music—Make Your Life a Song, by the choir.

Prayer, Rev. H. Jones.

Music—Come With Singing, by the choir.

Welcome from the Order, Rev. P. Pruitt.

Response—Welcome from the Business and Professional Men, Hon. J. H. Stephens.

Response, J. W. Pettus.

Quartette—Mrs. S. E. Knighton, Mrs. S. Whitfield, W. A. Foster, Dr. J. M. White.

Address—Fraternal Unity, Dr. O. A. Williams.

Music—As You Go, by the choir.

Welcome from the H. of R., Mrs. J. H. Neal.

Response, Mrs. H. M. S. Jones.

delegates filed in eager to complete the days work.

During the morning session a committee was received from the Household of Ruth bearing a message of good will and God speed.

In the afternoon the Grand Lodge met in joint session with the Household of Ruth with Mrs. E. Wade of this city, presiding as Most Noble District Governor. Quite a fight was occasioned in this meeting by a resolution introduced by Dr. Conrad of Guthrie which admits all women over 40 years into the Endowment department although the general law prohibits it, provided they are already members a good standing in Local Lodges and can pass satisfactory physical examination within 30 days from the setting of the Grand Lodge.

This resolution was vigorously opposed by J. W. Sharp of this city and others, but after one or two amendments it was finally passed.

Immediately after adjournment of this joint session a ten minutes recess was taken during which time "dope" was made for the pending election. The candidates for Grand Master were Rev. Buchanan of Guthrie, J. J. Lane of McAlester, and Justice E. D. Jefferson, of this city. It was rumored prior to election that Mr. Sharp of this city would run for the office but when he was put in nomination he gracefully declined and made a strong speech for E. D. Jefferson who had already been nominated, in a flowery speech by Prof. F. J. Gordon.

Rev. Buchanan and Lane fought well but their forces were not suf-



JUSTICE E. D. JEFFERSON  
Who was elected D. G. M. with two strong men opposing him.