ATTEMPT BEING MADE TO GET GOV'T TRUCKS

C. S. Avery, Member of Federal Highway Council, Appeals for State Help.

RESOLUTION IN CONGRESS

South Measure Provides for Wide Distribution Rather Than Sale of Government Autos.

"Wire or write your congressmen and senators to help us," is the call of Cyrus S. Avery, Oklahoma member of the federal highway council, by which he calls attention to a joint resolution introduced in the United States senate September 4 by Senator Hoke Smith of Georgia relating to the distribution of army trucks and motor driven vehicles by the war department for road building purposes throughout the United States.

The executive committee of the American association of state highway officials which was in session at Washington on the 10th of this month was prepared and introduced the resolution and are urging its passage and Chairman Williams of the council is calling upon all state officers of the executive council to aid him in bringing pressure to bear upon the members of congress to act promptly and favorably upon the Smith resolution.

In his appeal for expressions upon the subject Avery says: "If you agree with us that the proceeds of the earlier counties will be better served by the distribution of these trucks originally provided in the postoffice appropriation act of February 28, 1919, than by selling them to speculators at greatly reduced prices as compared to their original cost to the United States, it will be well for you to immediately write or wire your congressman and senators and also have as many of your friends as are interested do the same. Time for action is short and it is manifestly to the best interest of the country as a whole that these trucks should be distributed for highway construction purposes."

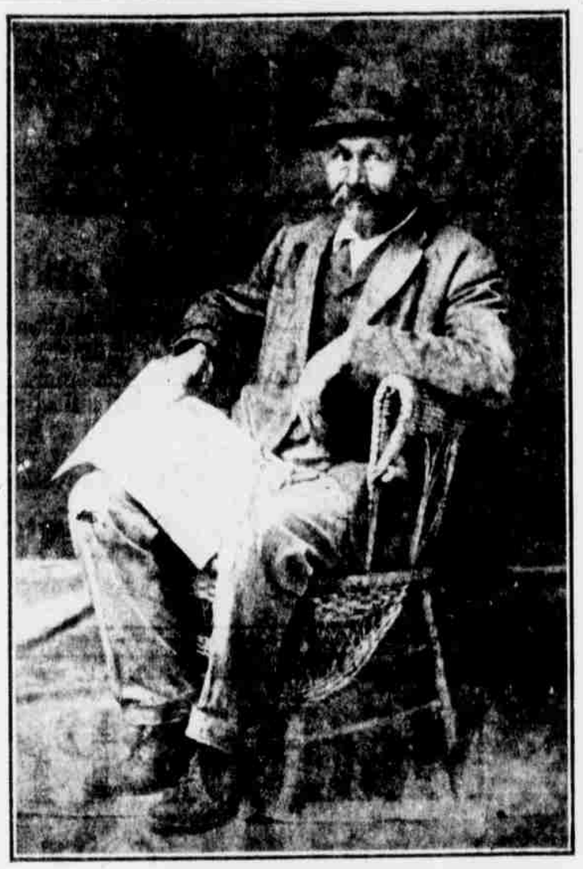
Following is the Smith resolution in full:

"Resolved, By the senate and house of representatives of the United States of America in congress assembled, That nothing contained in section five of the act entitled 'An act making appropriation for Sundry civil expense of the government for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1920, and for other purposes,' approved July 19, 1919, shall be construed as in any manner affecting the transfer free of charge of motor propelled vehicles and motor equipment and other war material, equipment and supplies not needed for the purposes of the war department, pursuant to section seven of the act entitled 'An act making appropriations for the service of the postoffice department for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1920, and for other purposes,' approved February 28, 1919, and it is the intent of congress that this shall mean all equipment and material which can be used in the construction and maintenance of roads, that the provisions of the act of July 16, 1918 (40 Stat. 454) prohibiting the expenditure of appropriations by any of the executive departments or other government establishments for the maintenance, repair or operation of motor-propelled or horse-drawn passenger carrying vehicles in the absence of specific statutory authority shall not apply to vehicles transferred, or hereafter to be transferred by the secretary of war to the secretary of agriculture, for use of that department, under the provisions of section seven of the said act of February 28, 1919, and that the secretary of war is authorized and empowered in his discretion to transfer free of charge to the postoffice department for use in the transmission of mails such motor vehicles and motor equipment pertaining to the military establishment as may or may hereafter be found to be surplus and no longer required for military purposes."

Navy Gets Seven.

The following men enlisted in the navy at the local recruiting station last week: E. H. Holliday, Duncan, Okla.; E. D. Carlisle, Cato, Mo.; Hal Hyde, 324 South Norfolk avenue, Tulsa; W. G. Abbott, Bush Head, Okla.; B. A. Bolerjack, Skiatook, Okla.; G. A. Halford, Foyil, Okla.; F. O. Mellner, Skiatook, Okla.

Jackson Barnett, Richest Indian of State, Is a Unique Character



Jack Barnett, Creek Fullblood.

HENRYETTA, Sept. 20.—Born back in the market days of aboriginal customing near Fort Gibson in the old Indian territory was a little Indian baronet of full blood Creek parentage, christened Jackson Barnett. He was no different from other Indian babies, not dowered by the emoluments arising from the industrial life of the white brother to be, nor the worldly wisdom of the North American continent, and yet again by another turn of fate unable to handle and carry his great fortune as would have been his mode if left to his own desires and inclinations, and which would have probably been the circumstance had not life's wheel of fortune contained for him a defective cog. Jackson Barnett, although a full grown man in years and physical makeup, is in the eyes of our Uncle Samuel, an innocent child, therefore a government ward, though more fortunate than other children of less riches and property holdings, for Jackson Barnett in addition to having the government at Washington as his personal guardian, also enjoys a special guardian in the person of one of Henryetta's most staunch and substantial citizens who sees that he has all the comforts of life plentifully besprinkled with the luxuries and who guards with jealous care the ever increasing dollars from this poor Indian's rich estate. As if the entire United States assisted by this personal guardian were not enough protection of accounts there is also a valet to look after his personal comfort and vanities, a cook to prepare his table delicacies and a housekeeper who presiding over his a-la-mode home (part of a short distance from Henryetta on a picturesque elevation overlooking some of the richest oil producing properties in all Oklahoma).

When the United States offered him an education through its established Indian schools Jackson Barnett would have none of it. Instead of the narrow confines of the school room, there in the hot brain and body over the rudiments of the pale faces reading, writing and arithmetic, he preferred the wild expanse of Nature's college in the woodland and prairies, and harking back to the life and traditions of his forefathers, he became an expert with bow and arrow in quest of game, and from spearing good English with one and only accomplishment, unless an inborn trait of taking care of himself in a "clinch" may be called an accomplishment, for although he cannot read nor write no "cypher," Jackson Barnett is no fool in barter and trade, albeit a whirlwind spender of money when given his quarterly allowance therefore a ward.

But about the money fortune of this simple child of the forest. When the government gave each Indian an allotment of 160 acres of land as a reward for removal Jackson Barnett's quarter section was located in what has become the great oil and gas fields of southwest Oklahoma.

Failure of appearances this homestead was no better nor worse than those other allotments made the Indians as a home and farm, and as a home Jackson Barnett lived on it. It was his home, but as a farm in his hands it amounted to a cipher, for Jackson Barnett was a hunter not a farmer.

Then came the discovery of oil in Oklahoma, and the white man, searching out over the state for "prospects," found his trail leading to the homestead allotment of Jackson Barnett, uneducated and untutored Creek Indian hunter. An oil lease was obtained from the government and a well drilled. Oil was found and another well drilled, more oil, still another well and yet more oil, and Jackson Barnett, the ignorant Indian, began to grow fabulously rich on royalties from oil. Then it was that Uncle Sam stretched forth a protecting arm in the person of a special guardian for this Indian ward, the wealthiest Indian in the United States, if not on the North American continent.

During the six years since oil was first discovered on Jackson Barnett's land there wings from the field more than $4,000,000 have been made, one-eighth of which is paid him in royalties, his income being at the time in excess of $10,000 per month.

When the United States entered the world war and issued its call for financial aid Jackson Barnett was one of the first in Oklahoma county to show his patriotism in the purchase of Liberty bonds and to liberal contributions to other war aids. As each successive bond issue was put upon the market he became a heavy purchaser and today upwards more than $1,000,000 in government Liberty loan bonds. His actual fortune is said to be in excess of $2,000,000.

Explaining the cause of retaining himself his special guardian has sought his desire to meet the different congregations of Henryetta to create, now, the first and last and only Indian church in the Indian Territory, dedicated the Indian Baptist church with a choice of the ministry of the tribe as a shepherd. Jackson Barnett is a member of the church and a liberal contributor to its support. Being a full blood Indian, nominally a Creek, Jackson Barnett is not a member of the Creek Indian delegation now in Washington, representing the Creek Nation in the matter of the Creek Indian claims against the United States government, which claims are now in the hands of the department of justice for adjustment.

Jackson Barnett is a unique character, a strange character, a character of his own, and yet he is a man, a human being, and he has his ambitions, his desires, his hopes, his fears, his loves, his hates, his likes and his dislikes, and he is a man who, if he knew how, would be a good man, a man who would be a good citizen, a man who would be a good neighbor, a man who would be a good friend, a man who would be a good husband, a man who would be a good father, a man who would be a good son, a man who would be a good brother