the story of LIFE

Keys from the past unlock doors to the future

Family Is Where Our Story Begins

Memories
Other Leading Men

& Women

Chief Claude Allen Cox
MEMO TO: Creek Indian Voter
FROM: Claude Allen Cox
SUBJECT: Creek Indian Chief Election
DATE: September 20, 1971

I, Claude Allen Cox, grandson of the late Samuel J. Haynes, full-blood Creek and the last presiding Creek Judge, 1896-1898, am asking for your vote for Creek Tribal Chief.

I am the son of Stella Haynes Cox, Creek, and Porter Cox. I am one-half Creek, born June 8, 1913, and have been a resident of Claremore for all of my 58 years. I come from a family of nine. My wife, Lilly Cox, is the daughter of the late Maxey Simms, full-blood Creek. I am a father and grandfather.

I have been employed by Public Service Company of Oklahoma for 31 years. I started as a Lineman's Helper, and am now Line Supervisor doing customer contact work. I have attended all the training programs of the company, including Management School and Leadership School.

I am a past member of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Union 785 for 20 years. I have served on many committees and was elected President of this Local in 1950, serving two, two-year terms. I served ten years on the Negotiating Committee.

Member of the Newton Indian United Methodist Church. I have been a member all my life, have taught Adult and Junior classes, served as Sunday School Superintendent, and on the Board of Trustees.

Member of the Oklahoma Indian Mission Conference of the United Methodist Church.
Member of the Northeast District Indian Mission Conference of the United Methodist Church.

Served on the Committee responsible for building an Indian $100,000 District Center located one mile east of Preston, Oklahoma.

Promoter of the 1969 $1,049,000, 100-unit, low-rent housing project known as the Creek Nation Indian Village, in Okmulgee. I have been elected to serve as Agent of this project.

Chairman of the Oakdale School project, which has been purchased by the Creek Tribe, now known as the Creek Indian Trading Post. It is for Indian Arts and Crafts, Education, and other activities.


Member of the Okmulgee Chamber of Commerce.

Holder of the Labor Union Management Certificate from the University of Oklahoma.

I am a candidate for Creek Tribal Chief because I have a great concern for Indians, both young and old. I believe that I can help my people. Strong leadership is needed in regard to: (1) Health, (2) Education, (3) Welfare, (4) Job Opportunities, (5) Housing, (6) Youth Center.

I know I am qualified to serve as Creek Indian Chief, and I have a strong desire to keep the Indian culture alive, to preserve the heritage of our noble race, and help Indians get dignified employment.

I will set up my office in Okmulgee, the Creek Capitol.

A ballot will be sent to you. It is important you vote and return the ballot immediately. For your vote to count, your ballot must be postmarked before 5:00 P.M. September 20th.

A vote for Claude Allen Cox will help me give us a better and brighter tomorrow.
tribes to mere social organizations completely under state domination.”

At the last ITC meeting in 1991, a farewell dinner was given for Chief Claude Cox, of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and the ITC for the past 20 years. That night, Choctaw Chief Hollis E. Roberts, Chickasaw Governor Bill Anoatubby, Seminol Chief Jerry Haney, Cherokee Chief Wilma P. Mankiller, and Sac and Fox Chief Elmer Manatowa were delighted to express their gratitude to Claude Cox for his assistance over the years. Certainly, the 300 friends who gathered to wish the long-time Chief farewell, “were visibly moved by his ever-present counsel.”

Another farewell in 1991 was bidden to W.E. (Dode) McIntosh, Chief of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation from 1961 to 1971. Chief McIntosh passed away August 28, 1991. Remarkably, McIntosh was the fourth member of his family to assume the position as Principal Chief of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. During his enture, he distinguished himself as an important Indian leader on both the national and state levels.

As the decade of the 1990s began, the Inter-Tribal Council, directed by its new president, Chief Jerry Haney of the Seminole Nation, was confronted by many issues—such as the implementation of courts and law enforcement, continuing attacks on sovereignty, and enhanced development of the Five Tribes’ economies. Of particular interest to the ITC, however, was one very important development, the realignment of the Bureau of Indian Affairs. Determined not to participate “unless the tribal leadership of the Five Civilized Tribes was involved,” the Council was “very pleased when Gary Breshears of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and Greg Pyle, Assistant Chief of the Choctaw nation, were named to the National Advisory Task Force to realign the BIA.

With the hope for an effective reorganization of the BIA inspiring their efforts, the ITC, building on its outstanding forty years of service to the citizenry of the Five Civilized Tribes, remains dedicated to its democratic task.

The ITC may best be measured in the words of the former Area Director of the Muskogee Area Office, Virgil N. Harrington, who related:

"... The Inter-Tribal Council represents unity and strength in striving to accomplish everything possible for improvement of the social and economic conditions of the Indian people... its leaders are considered to be the most learned and experienced of any in the United States... this council wields much influence at the State and National levels in Indian Affairs."
Sam Haynes Camp house at New Town Church
Sam Haynes was the last Muscogee "Creek" Judge before Statehood.
Pictures of Church
God's Grace

Faith

Believe

Peace • Love • Hope
New Town Indian Church
1930 Okmulgee, OK.
Bishop H.H. Kavanaugh
He is shown holding an
Newtown Indian Methodist Church (now Newtown United Methodist Church), Okmulgee

Established around 1840 by Sam Checote and James McHenry. Photo courtesy of Mary Anne Kane
Indian Mission Conference Gathering 1919
The

INDIAN MISSION

OF

OKLAHOMA

MINUTES

Twentieth Annual Session

HELD AT

NEW TOWN CHURCH

Near Okmulgee, Okla.

1937 ↔ 1938
May 10-11, 1935

Okmulgee, Oklahoma

The annual meeting of the Oklahoma Historical Society convened May 10, 1935, at Okmulgee, Oklahoma, as per resolution of the Board of Directors, adopted at the meeting held January 24, 1935.

At 1:00 P. M., the delegates assembled at the Old Creek Council House for registration, after which they were taken on a trip that included the grave of Isparhecher, one of the most famous of the Creek Chiefs; New Town Indian Church and the High Springs Council Grounds.

At 8:00 P. M. an open meeting was held in the M. E. Church, South, with Judge Thomas H. Doyle, President, presiding. Invocation by Dr. M. L. Butler.

Appropriate historical addresses were given by Dr. Grant Foreman, Dr. E. E. Dale and Judge Baxter Taylor.

Dr. Emma Estill-Harbour, Vice President of the Society and head of the department of History of the Central State Teachers College, at Edmond, was introduced.

A reception for the visitors was held in the Old Creek Council House, sponsored by the local chapter of the D. A. R.

May 11th: the meeting was held in the Old Creek Council House, with Judge Thomas H. Doyle, President, presiding.

Prayer by Rev. W. M. Rader, pastor of the M. E. Church, South, of Okmulgee.
Address of welcome was given by Judge A. D. Cochran of Okmulgee.

Mr. E. K. Wood, Dean of the Junior College, Okmulgee, represented the Mayor.

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Sen. Harry O. Glasser, of Enid, responded in behalf of the Society.

A violin solo was rendered by Mr. George Clarke, accompanied by Merle Walker.

Judge R. L. Williams reported that Senate Bill No. 68, providing for the Ft. Gibson Stockade Commission, had been passed by the legislature and signed by the Governor; and moved that the Oklahoma Historical Society recommend for approval of the Governor Dr. Grant Foreman, of Muskogee, as a member of the Ft. Gibson Stockade Commission. Motion was seconded and unanimously carried.

Mr. George Rainey, of Enid, introduced Sen. Harry O. Glasser, who tendered an invitation to the Society to hold its annual meeting in 1936 in Enid.

The Secretary presented an invitation from the Chamber of Commerce, and the President of the Oklahoma College for Women to hold the next annual meeting of the Society at Chickasha.

Judge Thomas A. Edwards moved that the invitation to hold the annual meeting of the Society at Enid, in 1936, be accepted. Motion was seconded and unanimously carried.

Judge R. L. Williams moved that we express the regrets of the Society that its annual meeting cannot be held at two places, and that Chickasha be invited to renew its invitation for 1937. Motion was seconded and carried.

Mr. George Rainey, President of the Cherokee Strip Historical Society, expressed the thanks of that organization for accepting its invitation to hold the annual meeting of the Society in 1936 in Enid.

George Riley Hall, editor of the Henryetta Free-Lance, recited an original poem, and by request also recited his poem entitled "The Land of the Mistletoe."

Miss Eula Fullerton, of the faculty of the Northeastern State Teachers College, at Tahlequah, told of the work being done to preserve the history of the Cherokee Nation, especially in the the way of collecting old letters and journals.

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Judge Orlando Swain, Secretary of the Creek Indian Memorial Association, presented the following students from the Manual Training Department of the Okmulgee High School:

Kenneth Dickerson, who presented a gavel to Judge Thomas H. Doyle; James
Southern whoa presented a cane to Judge R. L. Williams; and J. C. Johnson, Jr., who presented a book rack to Dr. Grant Foreman.

The wood, from which these articles were made, was salvaged from an old Indian district court house of the Okmulgee District of the Creek Nation, built in 1885.

Dr. Grant Foreman presented the manuscripts of historical papers written by students of the Okmulgee High School, and made special mention of the one written by Mace Davis on Chitto Harjo.

Judge R. L. Williams moved that the article on Chitto Harjo, by Mace Davis, be published in Chronicles of Oklahoma. Motion was seconded and carried.

Judge R. L. Williams moved that the other papers be published in Chronicles as far as practical, subject to the approval of the committee on publication. Motion was seconded and carried.

Judge R. L. Williams moved that we thank the citizens of Okmulgee, the Superintendent of Schools and teachers and the Creek Indian Memorial Association for the manner in which they had taken part in the annual meeting of the Historical Society. Motion was seconded and carried.

Upon motion of Judge Baxter Taylor, the meeting stood adjourned.

Buffet luncheon was served to the visitors by the Y. W. C. A. girls.

Judge Thomas H. Doyle, President, Presiding.

Dan W. Peery, Secretary.

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GROUND - BREAKING CEREMONIES

FOR

CREEK NATION INDIAN VILLAGE CORP.

Housing Project

SUNDAY, JUNE 22, 1969—3:00 P. M.

Okmulgee, Oklahoma

HON. ED EDMONDSON, Guest Speaker

Sponsors Are

NEWTOWN INDIAN METHODIST CHURCH
Rev. Samuel Chupco, Pastor
Okmulgee, Oklahoma

and

THE CREEK NATION
W. E. "Dodie" McIntosh, Chief
MEMBERS OF THE CORPORATION

CLAUDE COX President
SAMUEL CHUPCO Vice-President
SOLOMON KELLY Sec-Treas.

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SAMUEL MILLER
JESS FREEMAN

THELMA DERRISAW
JUANITA DUNSON
REV. W. E. HANCOCK

PROGRAM

MASTER of CEREMONIES .......... Claude Cox
CREEK SONG ...................................
PRAYER ..................................
PLEDGE of ALLEGIANCE ............
WELCOME ............................... Mayor Frank Priegel
RESPONSE ................................... Hudgens-Thompson & Ball
CREEK SONG ...................................
INTRODUCTION .................. Of Distinguished Guests
REMARKS ..................... By Bruce Kirton
Director of Federal Housing Administration, Tulsa
REMARKS ........................... Hon. William F. McKinney
Reg. Director Multi-Family Housing, Fort Worth, Texas.
GROUND BREAKING PRAYER ........ Rev. Chupco
BENEDICTION ....................... Rev. Woodrow Haney
GROUND BREAKING CEREMONY.