

SPECIAL MEETING
JUNE 2, 1921.

A special meeting of Chamber of Commerce members and directors was held in the auditorium on call at 11 A. M., Thursday, June 2nd, presided over by President Niles.

General Barrett addressed the meeting on the immediate necessity of prompt action following the disastrous race riot in this city, which started on the night of May 31st and continued through June 1st, resulting in the city being put under martial law by proclamation of the Governor and the mobilization here of several troops of National Guards.

As a result of the meeting, following the address of General Barrett, Judge Martin and others, an executive welfare committee was appointed to take charge of the general situation. Of this committee Judge L. J. Martin was named as chairman, with the following as members: Judge H. L. Standeven, Grant R. McCullough, Dr. S. G. Kennedy, C. F. Hopkins, Harry Tyrrell and Cyrus S. Avery. This committee was authorized to appoint such sub-committees as might be necessary in the rehabilitation work and in bringing Tulsa back to normalcy.

The meeting at 12 o'clock adjourned.

Alva J. Niles, presiding.
Clarence B. Douglas, Managing Director.

Prior to the above meeting President Niles gave to the press associations the following statement, which has had a splendid effect on the situation:

A minor arrest had been made and publicly announced, the defendant being a negro boy. Under bad advice and led by a group of negroes exhibiting a spirit

of lawlessness, a group of probably fifty negroes left the negro section of the city, came through the business section and marched on the court house. There was no occasion for their coming. The member of their race was not in jeopardy at all, but under the inflammatory action of lawless negro leaders demands were made of the sheriff and insults hurled at the white citizens attracted by the negro mob. The shooting began and the riot was on.

A bad psychological condition, occasioned by a spirit of unrest, and some unemployment, dove-tailed into the lawlessness which grew like a snowball and rapidly got beyond control of officials. The situation was quickly taken advantage of by some of the lawless element among the whites. Stores were broken open. People with no authority were quickly armed and the situation became desperate in the extreme and wholly out of control.

The deplorable event is the greatest wound Tulsa's civic pride has ever received and every right thinking man and woman in the city, black and white, is now doing everything possible to heal the wound as quickly as may be. Leading business men are in hourly conference and a movement is now being organized, not only for the succor, protection and alleviation of the sufferings of the negroes, but to formulate a plan of reparation in order that homes may be rebuilt and families as nearly as possible rehabilitated. The sympathy of the citizenship of Tulsa in a great wave has gone out to the unfortunate law abiding negroes who became victims of the action, and bad advice, of some of the lawless leaders, and as quickly as possible rehabilitation will take place and reparation made.

Tulsa feels intensely humiliated and standing in the shadow of this great tragedy pledges its every effort to wiping out the stain at the earliest possible moment and punishing those guilty of bringing the disgrace and disaster to this city.

A city which put three military units in the field with more than 7,000 men in the service, which contributed in excess of \$33,000,000 for war purposes and which established its reputation as a patriotic city during the recent war second to none on the American continent, can be depended upon to make proper resitution and to bring order out of chaos at the earliest possible moment.

OPEN MEETING
JUNE 3, 1921.

Because of the unsettled conditions following the race riot the regular open meeting of the Tulsa Chamber of Commerce arranged for Friday, June 3rd, in the grill room of the Tulsa Hotel, was taken up entirely by a discussion of conditions affecting the return to normalcy and present conditions.

After the meeting was called to order by President Niles Managing Director Douglas made a statement that this was the first of a series of meetings determined upon by the directors of the Chamber of Commerce, which would be held in the future the first Friday in each month at noon open to the entire membership to which they were invited to bring their guests and where matters of public interest to the city would be generally discussed, and that in deference to the tragedy through which the city has just passed detailed and local matters which it had been intended to take up would be deferred until some subsequent meeting and today's session would be given over entirely to hearing from the executive welfare committee and others on the present situation in Tulsa.

Addresses were made by Judge L. J. Martin, Merritt Glass, F. E. White, Rev. Harold Cooke, Police Commissioner Adkison, Director Shaw, Mayor Evans, John H. Miller, A. J. Gripe, Director Rosser, Horace Speed, C. H. Terwilliger and Clark Fields.

A motion prevailed appointing a committee consisting of Messrs. Shaw, Cooke and Chandler to confer immediately with the general executive welfare committee and ask that martial law and the troops be maintained in Tulsa for at least one more week.

A number of patriotic addresses were warmly applauded and the desire of the membership seemed to be to co-operate in every possible manner with the constituted authorities.

The meeting at 1:30 adjourned.

Alva J. Niles, Presiding.

Clarence B. Douglas, Managing Director.

OPEN MEETING
JUNE 10, 1921.

An open meeting of the Chamber of Commerce was held on June 10th, in order to give the membership an opportunity of listening to an address on economic conditions by Hon. Robert L. Owen, United States Senator from Oklahoma. The attendance packed the grill room of the Tulsa Hotel to capacity, and the meeting was presided over by President Niles.

SENATOR OWEN

Following the luncheon President Niles introduced C. B. Peters as the newest member of the organization and as an old friend of Senator Owen's and asked Mr. Peters to introduce the distinguished visitor.

In well chosen language Mr. Peters expressed his appreciation of the honor conferred upon him and presented Senator Owen to the audience.

The Senator discussed the economic conditions as affecting the people of the United States at this time explaining in detail the operation of the Federal Reserve Bank and criticising the members of the Federal Reserve Board for the manner in which they had restricted the credit of the country without regard to whether or not such credits were intended to curb profiteering and speculation or were necessary in the legitimate expansion of business. The Senator announced that he believed the Federal Reserve Board was now beginning to change the policy and he predicted a better economic condition within the next few months.

The speaker entered into a brief discussion of the oil situation, concluding with the statement that when the Federal Reserve Board permitted the

proper expansion of the industrial life of the nation through an extension of credits the demand for oil would in his judgment improve the market.

The Senator was warmly applauded at the close of his address, which was given close attention by the gentlemen present.

MAY BILLS

The president authorized the payment of the current bills in the amount of \$602.76, which had been previously approved by the auditing committee, as follows:

J. M. Crutchfield	\$ 6.74
Dawson Towel Supply	1.25
Field Stationery Co	6.00
Southwestern Tel. Co	18.00
Eureka Springs Co	4.00
Tulsa Tribune	6.20
Tulsa Book Store	26.50
Osage Cigar Co	27.00
American Engraving Co	10.80
Hotel Tulsa	135.50
Boston Flower Store	4.00
Tulsa Ice Co	6.40
Employer Pub. Co	300.00
Dickey-Ashby-Fountain	2.00
Western Bank Supply	4.35
Western Union	17.97
Dappert's Garage	<u>26.05</u>
Total	\$602.76

APPRECIATION

The following resolutions were offered by Director Greer and adopted by a rising vote:

"RESOLUTIONS

"WHEREAS, while the city of Tulsa was under martial law a meeting was called by President Niles of the Tulsa Chamber of Commerce for a conference with Adjutant General C. F. Barrett, in charge of the troops in this city, at which meeting, acting on the suggestion of General Barrett, an executive welfare committee was selected, and

"WHEREAS, that meeting selected as the welfare committee Messrs. L. J. Martin, H. C. Tyrrell, C. F. Hopkins, C. S. Avery, S. G. Kennedy, G. R. McCullough and H. L. Standeven, and

"WHEREAS, this committee in a most efficient manner took charge of the work of bringing order out of chaos and quickly perfected efficient organizations in every department of the work of rehabilitation, alleviation of suffering, reuniting of families and the proper protection of the lives and property of the citizens of Tulsa, and

"WHEREAS, said committee has been in practically continuous session from the hour of their organization up to the present time and has rendered to the city of Tulsa a distinct service, giving all of their time to this important matter to the exclusion of their personal affairs, and

"WHEREAS, in a manner not excelled under similar circumstances by any working organization in the history of the disasters of this country this committee has accomplished splendid results; therefore,

"BE IT RESOLVED by the Chamber of Commerce of Tulsa that the thanks of this organization are hereby extended to the Executive Committee of the Board of Public Welfare and that it is the earnest conviction of the officers and members of this organization that the citizenship of Tulsa, white and black, owe a lasting debt of gratitude to the splendid men who constitute this committee for the heroic and important work accomplished, and

"BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this organization tenders to this executive welfare committee, through the chairman, Hon. L. J. Martin, the active cooperation and support of each officer and member of the Tulsa Chamber of Commerce, and

"BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of these resolutions be given to the committee and a copy be given to the press of the city.

"ADOPTED, this Tenth day of June, 1921.

"Open Meeting, Tulsa Chamber of Commerce,

"Alva J. Niles, President. Clarence B. Douglas, Managing Director."

After the adoption of the above, Hon. L. J. Martin, representing the Public Welfare Committee, expressed the appreciation of the committee for the loyal support which had been given to the organization.

PUBLICITY FOR TULSA

Director Hale introduced two globe trotters who are making a tour of the world on Tulsa made tired, the product of the U. S. Compression Inner tube company, and announced that following the meeting it was the desire of the travelers

to have a photograph of the members and officers of the Chamber of Commerce taken in front of the hotel as an evidence of their visit to this city.

EXPORT DEPARTMENT

President Niles announced a Department of Foreign Relations and Export, and named as members of the committee having charge of this matter J. Burr Gibbons, chairman, Floyd J. Thompson, M. C. Hale, R. E. Alexander and W. D. Moffett.

President Niles took occasion to announce to all the gentlemen present that the Chamber of Commerce desired the membership of every reputable citizen of Tulsa and that those gentlemen present who were not members were especially invited to send in their applications at once.

The meeting at 1:35 adjourned.

Alva J. Niles, presiding.

Clarence B. Douglas, Managing Director.

SPECIAL DIRECTORS' MEETING JUNE 15, 1921.

A special meeting of the directors of the Chamber of Commerce was called by President Niles to meet in the city auditorium at 2 PM, Wednesday, June 15th, practically all of the directors who were in the city being present.

The object of the meeting was to consider the resignation of the Executive Committee of the Board of Public Welfare, which had been appointed at a meeting over which President Niles presided on June 2, 1921. The following letter of resignation was read:

"Tulsa, Oklahoma, June 15, 1921.

"Alva J. Niles, President, Chamber of Commerce, Tulsa, Oklahoma.

"Dear Sir:

"The undersigned committee, appointed at a public meeting over which you presided, and which was called at the request of Adjutant General Charles F. Barrett while the city of Tulsa was under martial law, June 2nd, and appointed at his suggestion as a Welfare Committee for the city of Tulsa, desires to tender you the resignation of the members of the committee and to make the following statement.

"This committee immediately went into action following its selection by the meeting referred to and to the best of the ability of each of its members has discharged the duties assigned the members in bringing order out of chaos, in protecting the city during the trying times immediately following the riot, in securing aid and succor for the indigent and dependent, in reuniting families, in establishing hospital facilities, in policing the burned district and in rehabilitating this city and bringing it back to normal.

"Under the provisions of a resolution adopted yesterday by the Honorable Mayor and members of the City Council, an official committee has been named charged with the duty of taking up the work of reconstruction in the burned area and at said meeting the authority conferred on this committee by the meeting was somewhat adversely criticised as well as some of the actions of the committee.

"Since our organization this committee has had the approval and endorsement of practically every city organization in Tulsa by formal resolutions; has been approved by more than one thousand individuals in signed statements and by the Ministerial Alliance and has had the hearty co-operation of practically the entire citizenship of Tulsa. We feel that we have accomplished for the

city the things necessary to be accomplished during the crisis through which we have just passed, but do not feel, under the circumstances, that we can continue to act in our former capacity owing to the action taken by the city administration, and for these reasons as above stated we herewith tender our resignation.

"EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE BOARD OF PUBLIC WELFARE

"(Signed) L. J. Martin, Cyrus S. Avery, H. C. Tyrrell, G. R. McCullough,
H. L. Standeven, C. F. Hopkins."

There was considerable discussion as to just what the attitude of the Board of Public Welfare should be following action by the meeting, and after this discussion, on motion of Director Hurley seconded by Director Rosser, the resignation was accepted.

President Niles then presented to Chairman Martin of the board the following letter of appreciation:

"June 15, 1921.

"Hon. L. J. Martin, Chairman, Executive Committee Board of Public Welfare, and Messrs. H. C. Tyrrell, C. F. Hopkins, G. R. McCullough, S. G. Kennedy, C. S. Avery, H. L. Standeven, members of the Committee.

"Gentlemen:

"I have this day received your resignation as members of the Executive Committee of the Board of Public Welfare of Tulsa, a position which you were selected to fill on June 2, 1921, at a meeting of representative citizens over which I presided and which was called at the request of Adjutant General Barrett while the city of Tulsa was under martial law.

"There is nothing left for me to do but accept your resignation, but I want to take this opportunity to convey to you and to each of you a word of thanks for the splendid services you have performed for this community. To my certain knowledge each of you has practically abandoned your private business and for the past two weeks, early and late, has given of your splendid ability and of your time in bringing about order where chaos reigned supreme. You have accomplished the greatest results in a given length of time, in my judgment, of any similar body of men organized following a crisis in any American municipality.

"I am quite sure I express the sentiment of this entire community when I say to you that you have placed Tulsa and its citizenship under lasting obligations for the splendid patriotic and unselfish services you have performed.

"Again thanking you for your loyalty to the destinies of this city and for your time and effort, I am

"Very truly yours,
"(Signed) Alva J. Niles, President."

Announcement was made by Messrs. McGullough, Martin, Avery and others that the former members of the Board of Public Welfare, as citizens of Tulsa, would continue their efforts to co-operate with the Red Cross organization in every manner possible to bring to a successful conclusion the splendid work the Red Cross is now doing following the race riot in this city on May 31st and June 1st.

The meeting at 2:30 PM adjourned.

Alva J. Niles, Presiding.

Clarence B. Douglas, Managing Director.

DIRECTORS' MEETING JUNE 17, 1921.

The directors' meeting of this date was presided over by President Niles, those present being Vice president Shaw, directors Avery, Abbott, Carr, Greer, Hale, Hartman, Harwell, Hopkins, Insull, Kennedy, Mason and Rosser, the presidents of the civic clubs of the city, Glen Condon, J. C. Halliburton, City Commissioner Newblock and J. Burr Gibbons.

DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN COMMERCE

Announcement was made of the creation of the Department of Foreign Commerce by order of President Niles, with J. Burr Gibbons as chairman.

BORDER IN CHARGE

The statement was made by the Managing Director that G. A. Border would be in charge of his desk during his vacation, which would begin the 18th of the present month.

RACE RIOT

The directors were advised that the next issue of The Tulsa Spirit would contain an editorial on the race riot to be used in giving proper information to the newspapers of the North and East which have adversely commented on the situation in Tulsa, without the facts at hand.

Announcement was made of the resignation of the Tulsa Welfare Board and of the appointment of a new committee by the city administration.

JUNIOR CHAMBER CONVENTION

The annual convention of the Junior Chamber of Commerce of the United States, in Dallas, was referred to with a statement that a strong delegation was in attendance from this city and was trying to bring the convention to this city in 1922.

AUTO CLUB SECRETARY RESIGNS

The directors were advised of the resignation of E. Bee Guthrey as secretary of the Automobile Club of Oklahoma and regret was expressed that such a valuable man should sever his connection with that organization.

ROAD WORK PROGRESSING

A road report from Inspector Shaw showed that the work is progressing nicely on the various hard surfaced roads in Tulsa County.

NOTICE TO MOVE QUARTERS

A communication, signed by the Mayor, the City Attorney and the City Auditor, was read asking the Chamber of Commerce to vacate the present quarters in the city hall and this provoked considerable discussion which was entered into by Messrs. Avery, Cooke, Hutchinson, Kennedy, Hartman, Shaw, Greer, the president and others, with the net result that a motion prevailed requesting a conference with the city administration at 3 PM on this date, the invitation for the meeting to be extended through Commissioner Newblock.

Dr. Kennedy, in discussing the situation, said if it became necessary for the Chamber of Commerce to move their quarters he would furnish rooms in the new Kennedy office building and up to a period of six months there would be no charge for rent. Director Kennedy's statement was received with vigorous applause by the gentlemen present.

After a brief address by Glen Condon and the introduction of Mr. Halliburton, the meeting at 1:30 adjourned.

Alva J. Niles, presiding.
Clarence B. Douglas, Managing Director.

RECONCILED

A joint session of the directors of the Chamber of Commerce and members of the City Administration was held in the legislative room at the City Hall, at 3 PM, June 17th.

Matters affecting the important interests of the city were gone into in detail and as a result of the diplomatic and inspiring addresses made a spirit of get-together, pull-together-stay-together developed with pledges of active co-operation from the Chamber of Commerce to the City Administration and from the City Administration to the Chamber of Commerce, and the order from the City Administration to the Chamber of Commerce requesting the use of the Chamber of Commerce rooms in the City Hall was withdrawn by the City Administration, and all is peace and harmony as it should be between the city fathers and the city building organization of Tulsa.

DIRECTORS' MEETING JUNE 24, 1921.

The Directors' meeting of this date was presided over by President Niles, those present being G. S. Avery, L. E. Abbott, Mark E. Carr, Frank E. Greer, T. J. Hartman, Lee Levering, I. G. Rosser, presidents of the civic clubs, City Commissioner O. A. Steiner and members of the City's Reconstruction Committee.

HUMPHREY URGES UNION STATION

A letter was read from Judge W. D. Humphrey urging that the proposition of a union station for Tulsa be presented to the Corporation Commission. Mr. Humphrey tendered his services to the Chamber of Commerce to present this to the Corporation Commission. Due to the fact that the City Commission's Reconstruction Committee is working on a plan for a union station the letter was referred to Mr. Fred Kitchen, secretary of the committee.

PRESIDENTS OF CIVIC CLUBS INVITED

On the suggestion of President Niles Director T. J. Hartman moved that the presidents of the civic clubs be invited to attend the directors' luncheons and that they be allowed to participate in the discussion of all subjects.

EXPOSITION BOOSTED

President Niles announced that Mr. C. A. Mayo offered to build part of the grand stand at the Tulsa Live Stock and Industrial Exposition. Mr. Mayo proposes to build two sections of the grand stand providing sufficient funds can be obtained to cover the cost of this improvement and addition. In effect this offer amounts to advancing approximately \$20,000 with which to construct these grand stand sections.

RECONSTRUCTION COMMITTEE

S. R. Lewis, chairman of the City's Reconstruction Committee, was introduced and he told of the work the committee was planning and announced the various sub-committees.

ROAD WORK DELAYED BY RAIN

Inspector Gene Shaw in his weekly report stated that the five crews in the county laid only 2340 feet of concrete road, due to the incessant rain.

REAL ESTATE MEN TO CONVENTION

President M. J. Glass of the Real Estate Exchange announced that the members of the Tulsa Real Estate Exchange would leave on a special train, July 10th, for the national convention at Chicago. He asked that the Chamber of Commerce furnish some Tulsa literature for distribution on this trip. On motion of Director C. S. Avery the president and the secretary were empowered to publish suitable literature for the realty men.

E. FRED JOHNSON HONORED

Mr. E. Fred Johnson, president of the Tulsa Junior Chamber of Commerce, was elected first vice president of the United States Junior Chamber of Commerce at the second annual convention at Dallas, June 16th, 17th and 18th.

After the introduction of Mrs. Lilah D. Lindsey, president of the Civic League, the meeting was adjourned at 1:15.

Alva J. Niles, presiding,

C. A. Border, secretary.

OPEN MEETING JULY 1, 1921.

President Niles called the attention of the meeting to the death of Mr. John O. Mitchell and appointed the following committee - Directors Frank H. Greer, D. B. Mason and Mark E. Carr to draw up suitable resolutions.

After the introduction of guests President Niles spoke of the improved condition of Director R. M. McFarlin and prophesied that Mr. McFarlin would be back in Tulsa in a very short time. On resolution of the Board of Directors the following telegram was sent to Mr. McFarlin:

"July 1, 1921.

"R. M. McFarlin, John Hopkins Hospital, Baltimore, Md.

"The Tulsa Chamber of Commerce in a large open meeting of the membership today directed the undersigned committee to send you a telegram of congratulations on the report of your rapid recovery and to express the sincere good will of the membership to you with the fond hope that you will soon be your old self again with many years before you of usefulness to others and of joy to yourself.

"Frank H. Greer, D. B. Mason, Mark E. Carr."

John W. Shartel, vice president and general manager of the Oklahoma Railway Company, addressed the meeting on interurban railways. Mr. Shartel discussed the interurban question from three angles; as an influence on city building, as an investment and how to build and finance interurbans.

After the adjournment of the open meeting a meeting of the Board of Directors was called. President Niles read a resolution from Mr. Kitchen, secretary of the Reconstruction Committee. After discussion the resolution was changed, omitting the recommendation of any particular location for the union station and terminal and the resolution was then passed on motion of Director I. G. Rosser.

R E S O L U T I O N

"WHEREAS, the City of Tulsa, Oklahoma, has become one of the important shipping and traffic points of the entire Nation, and

"WHEREAS, the City of Tulsa is splendidly served by four railroads, two interurban lines and one street railway system, and

"WHEREAS, there exists in this City the necessity for a Union Station and joint terminal, both for railroads and interurban systems, and

"WHEREAS, the recent fire in the northeast portion of the City has made available a thoroughly feasible and practicable site for the Union Station and joint terminal,

"NOW THEREFORE, Be it Resolved, that it is the unanimous sentiment of the Chamber of Commerce and Federation of Allied Interests of Tulsa, Oklahoma, that the railroads and interurbans of the City of Tulsa immediately take steps looking toward the erection of a Union Station and railroad and interurban terminal,

"Be It Further Resolved, that the Chamber of Commerce and Federation of Allied Interests of Tulsa, Oklahoma, unanimously endorses this proposed project, and strenuously urges the management of the railroads and interurbans to co-operate with each other and with the City of Tulsa in bringing about the erection of the proposed Union Station and terminal, and

"Be It Further Resolved, that the Chamber of Commerce and Federation of Allied Interests of Tulsa, Oklahoma, by unanimous vote, pledges its unqualified support and backing to this proposed project, which it believes will inure to the benefit of the City of Tulsa, and to the various railroads and interurban systems.

"Be It Further Resolved, that a copy of this resolution be furnished the Mayor and City Commissioners of the City of Tulsa, the Chairman and the Corporation Commissioners of the State of Oklahoma, the General Manager of each of the railroads and of the interurban systems, and the General Manager of the Tulsa Street Railway, of Tulsa.

"Passed by unanimous vote, in open meeting, this 1st day of July, 1921.

"Alva J. Niles, President.

"Attest, C. A. Border, Secretary."

E. Bee Guthrey, secretary of the Albert Pike Highway Association, read a resolution regarding the awarding of the contract for the paving of the Tulsa-Keystone road. On motion of Director C. S. Avery, seconded by Director Frank H. Greer, the resolution was passed as follows:

"July 1, 1921.

"The Honorable Commissioner of Highways,

"Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

"Dear Sir:- The Tulsa Chamber of Commerce was the original sponsor for and initiated in Tulsa County the movement for our present hard surfaced highway system, which is under construction. We are much pleased with our limited knowledge of concrete highways and regret that the movement has been hindered by economic and industrial restrictions in the past.

"While we have full confidence in our Highway Department, we venture to remind you that this county is more deeply concerned in prompt and vigorous execution of contracts than they are in the saving of a few cents per yard in cost of construction, and are fearful of delays in event contracts should be awarded to bidders of unknown skill and ability.

"The contractors now building the Sand Springs-Keystone road are meeting with public approval by their record as road builders and we trust that you can see your way clear to allow them to finish this job rather than halt the work by changing contractors and causing the delays incident thereto.

"Insofar as this body reflects the community sentiment we admit a deep concern and indulge the hope that nothing will happen to delay the completion of this piece of highway during the present road season.

"Very respectfully yours,

"BOARD OF DIRECTORS TULSA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

"By Alva J. Niles, President

"C. A. Border, Secretary."

(This resolution was taken by Mr. Gene Shaw, Chamber of Commerce Highway Inspector, to the Commissioner of Highways at Oklahoma City, July 2nd.)

The meeting adjourned.

Alva J. Niles, Presiding.

C. A. Border, Secretary.