

THE WILL ROGERS MEMORIAL COMMISSION
570 LEXINGTON AVENUE
NEW YORK, N. Y.

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Wickersham 2-3988

Executive Committee

Owen D. Young, Chairman
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Will H. Hays
Patrick J. Hurley
Jesse H. Jones
Ulric Bell
John W. Elwood, Secretary

JANUARY 18, 1938

MR. AMON G. CARTER
FORT WORTH STAR TELEGRAM
FORT WORTH, TEXAS

DEAR MR. CARTER:

I AM ENCLOSING HEREWITH THE FOLLOWING:

- (1) COPY OF A TELEGRAM RECEIVED BY MR. YOUNG THIS MORNING, A DUPLICATE OF WHICH WAS SENT TO ME, FROM E. W. MARLAND, GOVERNOR OF OKLAHOMA AND GENERAL ROY HOFFMAN, CHAIRMAN OKLAHOMA WILL ROGERS MEMORIAL COMMISSION.
- (2) COPY OF MY LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL OF THIS MESSAGE TO MR. JONES.
- (3) COPY OF A LETTER I HAVE JUST WRITTEN TO SECRETARY HURLEY.

VERY TRULY YOURS,

John W. Elwood
JOHN W. ELWOOD

RECEIVED
JAN 20 1938

THE WILL ROGERS MEMORIAL COMMISSION

COPY OF WIRE SENT TO MR. OWEN D. YOUNG AND TO MR. JOHN W. ELWOOD

JANUARY 18, 1938

HON OWEN D. YOUNG CHAIRMAN
WILL ROGERS MEMORIAL FUND 570 LEXINGTON AVENUE NYK

BUILDING COMMITTEE OF OKLAHOMA WILL ROGERS MEMORIAL COMMISSION IN MEETING AT OKLAHOMA CITY TODAY HAS JUST BEEN ADVISED THROUGH HON. PATRICK J. HURLEY THAT ALLOCATION OF FUNDS WERE MADE LAST SATURDAY DISTRIBUTING MONEYS RAISED IN NATION-WIDE WILL ROGERS FUND RAISING PROGRAM STOP THE OKLAHOMA COMMISSION VERY SERIOUSLY PROTESTS THE ALLOCATION AS ARRIVED AT AND DESIRES THAT MATTER BE HELD OPEN UNTIL CAN BE PROPERLY PRESENTED STOP OKLAHOMA COMMISSION HAS BEEN ADVISED BY LETTER FROM SEVERAL MEMBERS OF NATIONAL ORGANIZATION THAT PORTION OF FUNDS WOULD BE MADE AVAILABLE FOR USE OF OKLAHOMA COMMISSION IN CONSTRUCTING WILL ROGERS MEMORIAL AT CLAREMOE OKLAHOMA STOP ON JUNE TWELFTH 1937 JESSE H. JONES TREASURER NATIONAL WILL ROGERS MEMORIAL COMMISSION ADVISED US IN WRITING THAT AN AMOUNT IN EXCESS OF TWENTY THREE THOUSAND DOLLARS WAS BEING HELD AVAILABLE TO US ON DEMAND FOR SUCH PURPOSES AS WE SAW FIT STOP WE HAVE ACTED ACCORDINGLY AND PLEDGED THIS FUND AND ARE TODAY GIVING FINAL APPROVAL FOR PREPARATION OF PLANS AND CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT TO BE LET IMMEDIATELY EMBRACING THIS FUND STOP IN VIEW OF ALL CIRCUMSTANCES AND PAST HISTORY WE MOST EARNESTLY DESIRE THAT NO FURTHER OR DEFINITE ACTION BE TAKEN UNTIL MATTER IS MORE FULLY UNDERSTOOD BY ALL CONCERNED.

E. W. MARLAND GOVERNOR OF OKLAHOMA GENERAL ROY HOFFMAN
CHAIRMAN OKLAHOMA WILL ROGERS MEMORIAL COMMISSION.

THE WILL ROGERS MEMORIAL COMMISSION

JANUARY 18, 1938

HONORABLE JESSE H. JONES
RECONSTRUCTION FINANCE CORPORATION
WASHINGTON, D. C.

DEAR MR. JONES:

ENCLOSED HERewith PLEASE FIND COPY OF TELEGRAM WHICH WAS SENT TO MR. YOUNG, AN EXACT DUPLICATE OF WHICH WAS SENT TO ME, FROM E. W. MARLAND GOVERNOR OF OKLAHOMA AND GENERAL ROY HOFFMAN, CHAIRMAN OKLAHOMA WILL ROGERS MEMORIAL COMMISSION.

I DISCUSSED THE TELEGRAM WITH MR. HURLEY AND HE TOLD ME THAT YOU AND HE HAD HAD CONVERSATIONS WITH REFERENCE TO THE OKLAHOMA SITUATION.

MR. YOUNG IS AWAY UNTIL THE FIRST OF FEBRUARY, AS YOU KNOW. I SHALL NOT ACKNOWLEDGE RECEIPT OF THE TELEGRAMS UNTIL I HAVE THE BENEFIT OF YOUR ADVICE.

SINCERELY YOURS,

JOHN W. ELWOOD

CC: COL. JOSEPH M. HARTFIELD
MR. WILL H. HAYS
HON. PATRICK J. HURLEY
MR. AMON G. CARTER

JANUARY 18, 1938

HONORABLE PATRICK J. HURLEY
SHOREHAM BUILDING
WASHINGTON, D. C.

DEAR SECRETARY HURLEY:

THERE IS ATTACHED HERETO THE FOLLOWING:

(1) COPY OF TELEGRAM I READ TO YOU OVER THE TELEPHONE THIS MORNING.

(2) COPY OF MY LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL OF THIS TELEGRAM TO MR. JONES.

(3) COPY OF A LETTER FROM OSCAR LAWLER TO WILL HAYS DATED DECEMBER 18, 1937. THIS LETTER WAS READ BY MR. HAYS AT THE MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE HELD ON DECEMBER 20, 1937, BUT IT WAS NOT MADE A PART OF THE MINUTES.

THIS THOUGHT OCCURS TO ME: THAT IT MIGHT BE DESIRABLE FOR MR. HAYS TO GET FROM MRS. ROGERS AND WILL JR. A VERY DIRECT EXPRESSION OF THEIR OPINION ABOUT THE PROPOSED USE OF THE MONEY RAISED IN OKLAHOMA FOR A MUSEUM.

SINCERELY YOURS,

JOHN W. ELWOOD

P.S. MR. JONES HAS IN HIS WILL ROGERS FILE, EXTRACTS FROM THE MINUTES COVERING ALL REFERENCES TO THE OKLAHOMA AND CALIFORNIA SITUATIONS. I AM SURE MR. COSTELLO WILL BE GLAD TO SEND THEM TO YOU IF YOU WANT TO REVIEW THEM.