

Locke Named Choctaw Governor

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Transcribed by Doris Dykes

President Taft last week appointed Victor M. Locke, of Antlers, Okla., as principal chief of the Choctaw Nation to succeed Green McCurtain, deceased.

There have for some time been rumors that the president would make this appointment. D.C. McCurtain who was first appointed failed to qualify, pending the adjustment of a contract with McCurtain & Hill. Attorneys for the Choctaw nation, and meanwhile a campaign was waged among other candidate, Dick Locke, of Antlers, Ton Wall, of Poteau, G.W. Dukes, of Talihina, and Allen Wright of McAlester.

The appointment of Locke is victory for Republican State Chairman Jim Harris, who has all the time urged the appointment of Locke against the younger McCurtain. Harris only objection to McCurtain being that he is a democrat.

President Taft in a message to Mr. Harris stated that Governor Locke speaks the Choctaw language fluently and he believed would be closer to his tribesmen. Locke is three quarter blood Choctaw.

Governor Locke is familiarly known throughout Oklahoma as "Dickie." He is an aggressive young man and has been very active in republican politics as well as in Indian politics .He was elected delegate from the Choctaw ?? Nation convention in 1904; he served for awhile as district Indian agent: ? is Captain of a company of militia at Antlers and was campaign manager for Joe McNeal in this section of the state.