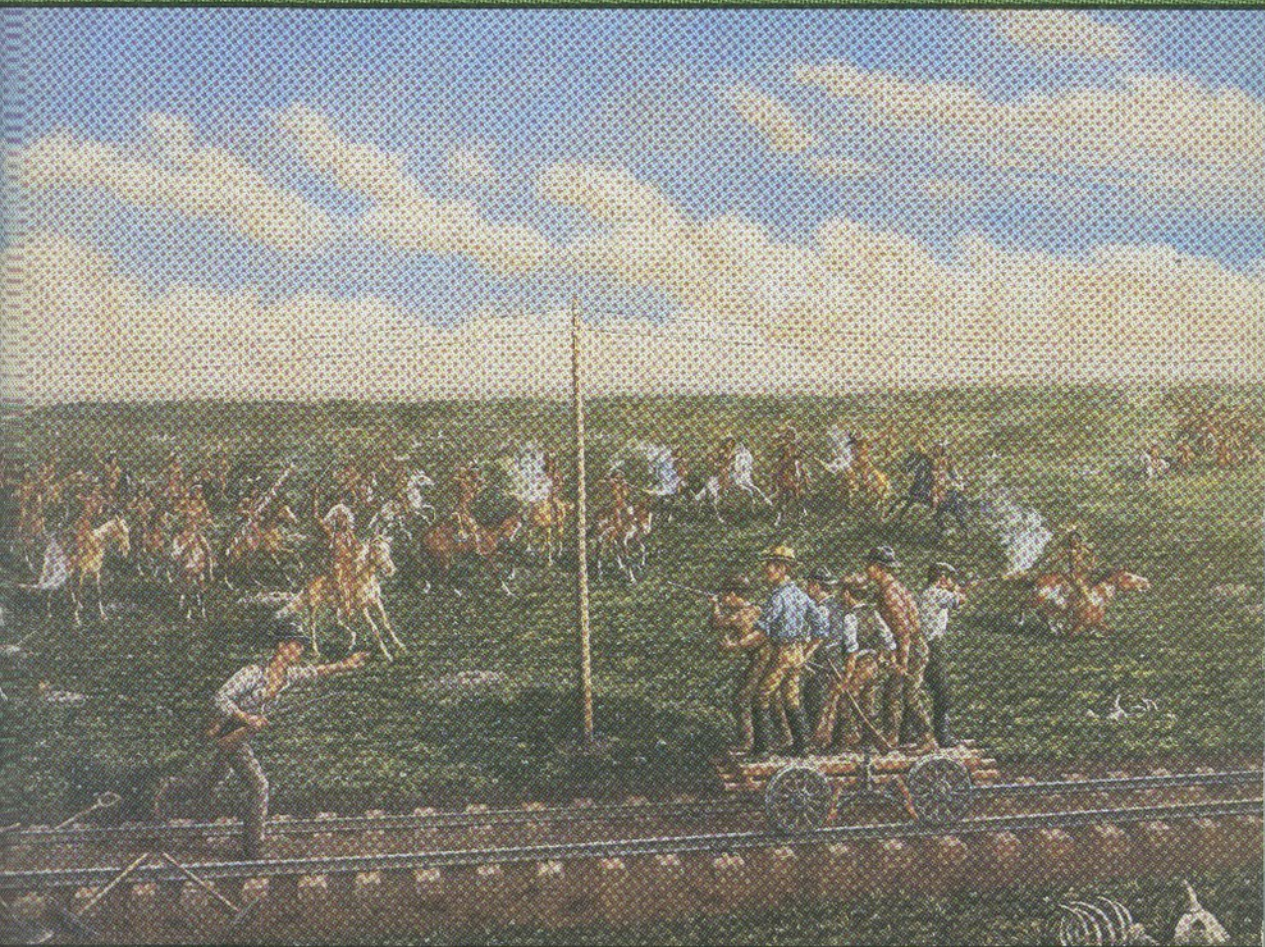


# KANSAS HISTORY

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A Journal  
of the  
Central Plains  
Volume 16, Number 2  
Summer 1987



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# Kansas State Historical Society

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**T**HE KANSAS STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY was organized in 1875 by the newspaper editors and publishers of the state, and four years later it became the official trustee for the state's historical collections. Since then, the Society has operated both as a non-profit membership organization and as a specially recognized society supported by appropriations from the state of Kansas.

The purposes of the Society are the advancement of knowledge about and the preservation of resources related to the history and prehistory of Kansas and the American West, accomplished through educational and cultural programs, the provision of research services, and the protection of historic properties. The Society is governed by a ninety-nine-member board of directors, elected by the membership, and is administered by an executive director and an assistant executive director.

The new Kansas Museum of History features exhibits and educational programs based on the Society's rich artifact collections. It is located near the historic Pottawatomie Baptist Mission west of Topeka, adjacent to Interstate 70. All other Society departments remain at the Center for Historical Research, Memorial Building, across the street from the State Capitol in Topeka.

All persons interested in Kansas history and prehistory are cordially invited to join the Society. Those who would like to provide additional support for the Society's work may want to consider contributions in the form of gifts or bequests. A representative of the Society will be glad to consult with anyone wishing to make such a gift or establish a bequest or an endowment. Address the Executive Director, 120 West Tenth Street, Topeka, Kansas 66612-1291.

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**Cover:** The oil painting on the cover of this issue was executed in 1931 by Jacob Gogolin (ca. 1864-1940) and is a portrayal of a May 1869 incident in which Kansas Pacific section workers were attacked by Cheyenne Indians. The incident became known as the Fossil Creek Massacre; the painting was commissioned by a survivor of the attack and used in his published reminiscences.

One who had some knowledge of the Cheyenne presence during the construction of the Kansas Pacific was Charles M. Knight, a college student who worked in various capacities—including bookkeeper and surveyor—as the rail line progressed to Denver. Knight's letters, written to his parents, are presented in this issue

of *Kansas History* and provide insight to the daily work routine, as well as a young man's first impressions of the Plains.

On the back cover is a reward poster issued after Charles Cobb killed Valley Falls police officer Daniel Weiser (the poster misspells the name) on January 6, 1883; seventeen days later, Cobb killed Cowley County sheriff Albert T. Shenneman. Weiser and Shenneman are among the law enforcement officers who have lost their lives in the performance of their duties in the state of Kansas and who are now memorialized on the Kansas Law Enforcement Memorial. The research to compile the names inscribed on the memorial and the listing of those names are presented in this issue.

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# KANSAS HISTORY

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# GOVERNOR'S PROCLAMATION.

## \$250 REWARD!

STATE OF KANSAS.

Executive Department, Topeka, Jan. 12, 1883.

**WHEREAS, Charles Cobb stands charged with the murder of Daniel Wiesen, in Jefferson County, Kansas, on or about the 6th day of January, 1883, and is now at large and a fugitive from justice:**

Now, Therefore, I, G. W. GLICK, Governor, by virtue of the authority vested in me by law, do hereby offer a reward of TWO HUNDRED AND FIFTY DOLLARS for the arrest and conviction of the said Charles Cobb, of the crime above stated.

In Testimony Whereof, I have hereunto subscribed my name, and affixed the Great Seal of the State, at Topeka, the day and year first above written.

[L. S.]

**C. W. GLICK.**

By the Governor:

**JAMES SMITH,**

*Secretary of State.*