

## Kansas Historical Notes

The 86th annual meeting of the Kansas State Historical Society will be held at Topeka on Tuesday, October 17, 1961.

Present officers of the Jewell County Historical Society are: C. L. Black, Mankato, president; Mrs. Darus Henningsen, Mankato, vice-president; Bernice Howard, Mankato, secretary; Lucy Wiley, Mankato, treasurer; and Iden Chilcott, Mrs. Howard Edwards, Mrs. Kenneth Maag, and Joe R. Beeler, all of Jewell, directors.

Current officers of the Harvey County Historical Society, Newton, include: Elden Smurr, president; Cecil Hornbaker, vice-president; and Bill Sage, secretary.

Ile Hillman was named executive secretary and Paul Gritman and Dennis Cady chosen vice-presidents at a meeting of the Mitchell County Historical Society, January 31, 1961, in Beloit. Alan Houghton is president of the society.

Arthur Hodgson was re-elected president of the Rice County Historical Society at a meeting of the society in Lyons, February 1, 1961. Other officers chosen included: Paul Jones, vice-president; Mrs. Bill Chandler, Jr., secretary; Mrs. Frank Peppiatt, treasurer; and Arthur Harvey, Mrs. Bert Hoyt, and I. L. Dresher, directors.

Francis Wilson, Ellsworth, was elected president of the new Ellsworth County Historical Society at a meeting in Ellsworth, February 12, 1961. Other officers are: Helen Keyser, Wilson, vice-president; Mrs. Paul Aylward, Ellsworth, secretary; and A. H. Barofsky, Ellsworth, treasurer. Directors of the society include: George Jelinek, Ellsworth; W. C. Frevert, Holyrood; Mrs. Emil Prochaska, Ellsworth; Oliver Bircher, Kanopolis; and Walter Kohrs, Lorraine. Stanley Sohl, museum director of the State Historical Society, spoke on museum methods at the meeting of May 17.

Elected to the board of directors of the Finney County Historical Society at the society's annual banquet meeting, February 14, 1961, in Garden City, were: Taylor Jones, F. Arthur Stone, J. E. Great-house, Amy Gillespie, Merle Evans, Damon Cobb, Mrs. Claude Owens, Claudine Lindner, J. M. Concannon, H. P. Winget, and M. L. Russell.

Great Bend's 20th Century club observed the centennial year with a program entitled "Reflections of Our Town's History," at a

meeting March 6, 1961. A review of the historical material presented at the meeting appeared in the Great Bend *Daily Tribune*, March 9.

Emmet Womer was re-elected president of the Smith County Historical Society at its annual meeting in Smith Center, March 7, 1961. Other officers chosen included: Roy Lumpkin, vice-president; Margaret Nelson, secretary; and Opal Diehl, treasurer.

At the annual election of officers, March 10, 1961, the Ford Historical Society named Mrs. Walter Umbach, president; Mrs. E. H. Patterson, vice-president; Mrs. Addie Plattner, secretary and treasurer; Mrs. W. P. Warner, custodian; and Mrs. Lyman Emrie, historian.

Earl Vore was elected president of the Bourbon County Historical Society at a meeting in Fort Scott March 14, 1961. Judge Harry W. Fisher was elected vice-president, and Mrs. M. L. Prichard, secretary-treasurer. Vore, Mrs. Prichard, G. W. Marble, Mrs. Emma Connolly, Bob Waters, Don Torkelson, Harold Calhoun, George Eakle, Melvin Hurst, A. W. Dickerson, and Hilton Wogan were named to the board of directors. Eakle was the retiring president.

Approximately 125 persons attended the fourth annual meeting of the Missouri Valley Conference of Collegiate Teachers of History, held March 24, 25, at Omaha, Neb., under the auspices of the Department of History of the University of Omaha. Prof. Bell Wiley of Emory University; Franklin H. Littell, Southern Methodist University; and Philip S. Brooks, director of the Truman Library, were the featured speakers. The next meeting will be held at Omaha, March 23, 24, 1962.

Dedication ceremonies for a new historical marker on the Kansas turnpike were held April 10, 1961, at the Lawrence service area. The principal speaker was Fred W. Brinkerhoff, Pittsburg publisher. The marker memorializes Lawrence, the Oregon trail, and the Santa Fe trail.

Helen Riepl was elected president of the Gray County Historical Society at a meeting April 11, 1961, at Cimarron. Other officers elected were: Merle Warner, vice-president; Grace Truax, secretary; Katie Jacques, treasurer; and Wanda Nicolet, director. Mrs. Merle Warner was the retiring president.

Officers elected at the annual meeting of the Edwards County Historical Society, April 18, 1961, in Kinsley, were: Mrs. E. G. Peterson, president; Cecil Matthews, first vice-president; Charles Anderson, second vice-president; George Ott, third vice-president; Elsie Jenkins, secretary; Mrs. George Miller, treasurer; Myrtle Richardson, historian; and Mary Vang, custodian.

Dr. George Anderson of the University of Kansas, Lawrence, and president of the Kansas State Historical Society, was the speaker at the centennial banquet of the Rawlins County Historical Society, April 29, 1961, in Atwood.

On May 5 and 6, 1961, the 35th annual meeting of the Kansas Association of Teachers of History and Social Science was held at the University of Kansas, Lawrence. Among the papers presented, relating to Kansas history, were: "Land and Credit Problems in Underdeveloped Kansas," Paul Wallace Gates, Cornell University, Ithaca, N. Y.; "Hatchets and Hoopskirts or the Distaff Side," Elizabeth Cochran, Kansas State College of Pittsburg; "Europeans and Kansas: a Reappraisal," Hubert C. Johnson, Kansas Wesleyan University, Salina; "A Kansas Romance of the Gay Nineties," Homer E. Socolofsky, Kansas State University, Manhattan; "Collecting Material of Kansas History," Alan W. Farley, Kansas City, Kan.; "Civil War and Reconstruction," Edgar Langsdorf, Kansas State Historical Society, Topeka; "Political Parties and Party Leaders, 1877-1917," James C. Malin, University of Kansas; and "From World War I to World War II," Ruth Friedrich, Washburn University, Topeka. New officers elected at the business session included: Sister M. Evangeline Thomas, Marymount College, Salina, president; John J. Zimmerman, Kansas State Teachers College, Emporia, vice-president; and Robert W. Richmond, Kansas State Historical Society, secretary-treasurer for three years. W. Stitt Robinson, University of Kansas, was the retiring president.

Ceremonies dedicating the Bender Museum, Cherryvale, were held May 6, 1961. The dedicatory address was given by Charles S. McGinness, former Cherryvale mayor and state legislator. The museum building is a replica of the Bender home and inn where in the early 1870's northeast of Cherryvale, overnight guests were frequently murdered.

Wagons rolled again along the Santa Fe trail, May 8-20, 1961, from eastern Kansas to Santa Fe, N. M., marking the 100th anniversary of Kansas and the 140th anniversary of the Santa Fe trail. But

for most of the distance they moved on trucks, unloading to parade through cities and towns along the way in conjunction with local celebrations. The colorful caravan was a centennial project of the U. S. Highway 56 Association—the Santa Fe trail highway for most of the way—under the direction of Mrs. Grace Collier of Great Bend.

Council Grove observed the state's centennial in a big way May 10, 1961. Among the events were: first sale of the Kansas centennial commemorative stamp, Santa Fe trail caravan parade and local parade, chuck wagon meals, Indian dances, and rodeos. Distinguished guests appearing on the program included: Sen. Frank Carlson, Gov. John Anderson, Jr., and H. W. Brawley, deputy postmaster general, who gave the principal address.

A pontifical field mass was celebrated at the Father Juan Padilla cross, four miles west of Lyons, May 14, 1961, by the Most Rev. Frederick W. Freking of Salina. The event was sponsored by the Knights of Columbus of Kansas and the centennial committee of Lyons.

The Stevens County Gas and Historical Museum, Hugoton, was dedicated and officially opened May 16, 1961. The ceremony was a part of Hugoton's Diamond Jubilee celebration.

Crawford county's contribution to Kansas' centennial observance was held May 19, 20, 1961, at Cato, the site of the first coal mining operations in the county. Among the attractions at the celebration were a historical museum housed in a tent, demonstrations of coal mining and feed grinding with donkey power, and talks by Lt. Gov. Harold Chase and other officials, and Douglas Hudson of Fort Scott.

Some U. S. mail traveled by stage coach in Butler county May 21, 1961, with a run from El Dorado to Towanda, Augusta, and Leon carrying about 3,000 pieces of mail. Additional runs are planned for later this year.

Cloud county now has a historical museum in the basement of the courthouse in Concordia. Established by the Cloud County Historical Society, the museum is open Wednesday and Friday afternoons.

The Centennial Press, Salina, published a 226-page volume early in 1961, described as a centennial yearbook, entitled *The Kansas Centennial*. The work contains brief histories of the state and many of its cities and towns.