

Kansas Historical Notes

Directors of the Wabaunsee County Historical Society named at the society's annual meeting May 29, 1971, in Alma, were: Howard Mohler, Harveyville; Esther Meinhardt, Alta Vista; and Lawrence Bandel, Wabaunsee. Mohler was reelected for a fourth term as president of the society at a meeting of the board of directors June 11. Steve Hund was reelected vice-president; Genevieve Graves, secretary; and Gerald Haller, treasurer.

Officers elected by the board of the Emmett Kelly Museum, Sedan, meeting June 7, 1971, were: Dr. M. L. Rees, president, and the Rev. Clarence Brooks, secretary-treasurer. Other board members are Clair Warring, Herb Bath, and Gary House. Mrs. Leo Keck is museum curator.

According to an announcement early in August, 1971, the new Dickinson County Historical Society museum is open. Formerly in the county courthouse, the museum is now located near the Eisenhower Center in Abilene.

A historical museum was formally opened in Claflin August 22, 1971. The building, one of the oldest in town, was donated by Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Hunt, Sr. The project's principal planner and worker has been the town's mayor, Dr. K. C. Jeffery.

The annual meeting and picnic of the Black Jack Historical Society was held August 22, 1971. The following officers were elected at the business session: Dupreeze Pearson, president; Dana Cavender, vice-president; Mrs. Delores Kalb, secretary; and Mrs. Wanda Whan, treasurer. Pearl Jones was the retiring president.

An election of officers was held at the July 8, 1971, meeting of the Cedar Vale Historical Society at the society's museum. Lucile Littrell was named president; Harold B. Cox, vice-president; Ethel Montgomery, secretary; Vergie Buchele, corresponding secretary; and Bill Schnoll, treasurer. Max Ferguson was the retiring president.

Dedication ceremonies for Old Jefferson Town, a project of the Jefferson County Historical Society, were held July 9, 1971, as a part of the 70th annual Old Settlers' Reunion July 8-10, at Oskaloosa. The pioneer village now includes a country store, a school, and a church.

All officers of the Mitchell County Historical Society were re-elected at a meeting of the executive board and planning committee in Beloit July 9, 1971, after the society had been incorporated. The officers are: Paul Gritman, Simpson, president; Mrs. Ethel Humes, vice-president; Teresa Bollman, secretary; and Mrs. Inez Ernzen, treasurer. A building has been leased from the Mitchell County Community Hospital for a museum.

The Florence Historical Society, meeting in the museum July 16, 1971, reelected Bessie Suffield president. Other officers chosen included: Dorothy Dannenfelser, vice-president; Leah Sellers, secretary; and Frank Graham, treasurer.

All officers of the Columbus Museum were reelected at a board meeting at the museum July 27, 1971. They are: Mrs. Wilbert Jones, Sr., president; Mrs. Armon Newby, vice-president; Mrs. Paul Bowman, secretary; Mrs. Burl Sanford, treasurer; and Mrs. Scott Buzard, historian. The museum has been moved to a building in American Legion Park, where it was opened August 23.

Meeting in Cimarron recently, members of the Gray County Historical Society named the following officers: A. V. Hanna, president; Maurice Johnson, vice-president; Leta Davis, secretary; and Eva Jacques, treasurer. Barbara Oringderff, Ingalls, was the principal speaker at the gathering.

Smith Center's centennial observance was marked by the publication of a 56-page booklet entitled *The History of Smith Centre, Kansas, 1871-1971*. Although the Smith Center Townsite Company was formed in 1871 and there were settlers in the area earlier than that, the site was not surveyed until 1875.

Trails to Turnpikes is the title of Wellington's 67-page centennial booklet. John P. McCulloch was the first settler on the townsite. In 1871 he was joined by others and the town was laid out and named after the Duke of Wellington.

Concordia celebrated its centennial August 6-14, 1971. A 76-page historical booklet was issued in connection with this observance. In 1860 J. M. Hagaman, who was to found Concordia, John M. Thorp, and August Fenskie settled in the area.

The Lake Wabaunsee Sportsmen Association recently published a 58-page *History and Directory* of Lake Wabaunsee. The lake was built in the 1930's by the Kansas Emergency Relief Corporation and the Works Progress Administration.

A 44-page historical booklet has been published in commemoration of Rice county's centennial which was celebrated in the summer of 1971. The county's history, however, goes back far beyond 100 years. Coronado's expedition is believed to have visited the area in 1541.

Thayer Centennial—100 Years of Living, 1871-1971, is a 52-page historical pamphlet published in observance of Thayer's centennial in August, 1971. Settlement and building in the town began in 1870 and it was incorporated in January, 1871.

Peabody, the First 100 Years, is a 122-page booklet published in June, 1971. The first settler arrived in the Peabody area in 1864, however it was 1870 before others began settling in the vicinity.

A 113-page booklet simply entitled *Rossville*, was published at the time of the town's centennial in July, 1971. The booklet includes the history of the town of Rossville, first called Edna, and the township of Rossville.

"Arrington—a Health Resort," an article by Bruce Jones, has been issued in an eight-page, typed pamphlet by the Atchison County Historical Society. The town was started in 1858 by Abner Van Winkle and Thomas Hooper.

The Centennial Story of Parsons, Kansas, is the title of a 112-page, well-illustrated, newly published volume edited by Mrs. Tommie J. Crispino. The Parsons Town Company was organized October 17, 1870, and in March, 1871, lots were sold at auction.

Cherryvale's centennial in May, 1971, was marked by the publication of a 94-page historical booklet. The first settlers are believed to have arrived in the Cherryvale area in 1868.

Facts and Fables of Belle Plaine, Kansas, is the title of a 164-page, paper-bound booklet issued recently by the Belle Plaine Woman's Club in observance of Belle Plaine's centennial.

An 80-page booklet entitled *The Unfolding of the Scroll, 1871-1971—A History of Caney, Kansas*, was recently issued in commemoration of Caney's centennial. The first settlers arrived in the Caney area in 1869.

That's the Way Doc Did It is a recently published booklet containing 30 cartoons with comments by AvNell Mayfield on the life of the late Dr. Arthur E. Hertzler, the "Horse and Buggy Doctor."

Merrill J. Mattes is the author of *The Missouri Valley—A Student's Guide to Localized History*, a new addition to the localized history series edited by Clifford L. Lord and published by the Teachers College Press, Columbia University, New York.

Volume 6 of *Notes on Early Clark County, Kansas* was recently published by the Clark County Historical Society in a 102-page, paper-bound book. Ethel Luther Shattuck, Venna Wilson Valentine, and Melville Campbell Harper were the editors.

The Education of a Kansas Farm Boy—An Historical Account of the First Fifty Years of My Life, the 118-page autobiography of Harlan B. Miller, was published in 1970. Miller grew up on a Reno county farm, received his education in Kansas, and taught school for a time before leaving the state.

I Have Spoken—American History Through the Voices of the Indians is a collection of American Indian oratory from the 17th to the 20th centuries, compiled by Virginia Irving Armstrong. The 206-page volume was published by Swallow Press, Chicago, in 1971.

Frontier Governor—Samuel J. Crawford of Kansas, a 210-page biography by Mark A. Plummer, was published in 1971 by the University Press of Kansas, Lawrence. Crawford became governor in January, 1865, and resigned in 1868 to command a regiment in the Indian campaign.

John G. Bourke's *On the Border With Crook*, first published in 1891, has been reprinted in 1971 by the University of Nebraska Press, Lincoln. The book is a first-hand account of Gen. George Crook's Indian campaigns on the Plains and in the Southwest.

C. W. Ceram is the author of *The First American—A Story of North American Archaeology*, a new 357-page work published by Harcourt Brace Jovanovich, Inc., New York.

They Said It Couldn't Be Done: The Incredible Story of Bill Lear is a 204-page book by Victor Boesen, published by Doubleday & Company, Inc., Garden City, N. Y., in 1971. Among Lear's accomplishments was the development of the Lear Jet airplane at Wichita.

A 271-page volume published in 1971 by the University of New Mexico Press, Albuquerque, is entitled *The Santa Fe Trail—A Historical Bibliography*, by Jack D. Rittenhouse.

