Kansas State Historical Society

Joseph W. Snell, Executive Director
Robert W. Richmond, Assistant Executive Director

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
Clifford R. Hope, Jr., Garden City, Chairman
Calvin Strowig, Abilene, Vice-Chairman
Harry J. Briscoe, Topeka
J. Eric Engstrom, Wichita
Willford Riege, Emporia
William H. Seiler, Emporia
Harriet C. Shatrell, Hoxie
Homer E. Socolofsky, Manhattan
Floyd R. Souders, Cheney

OFFICERS
June Windscheffel, Topeka, President
Helen L. Smith, Colby, First Vice-President
Donald F. Daner, Topeka, Second Vice-President
Joseph W. Snell, Topeka, Secretary
Robert W. Richmond, Topeka, Treasurer

Ex officio members
June Windscheffel, Topeka
Helen L. Smith, Colby
Donald F. Daner, Topeka
James L. Forsythe, Hays

The 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 will feature special and permanent exhibits and educational programs based on the Society's rich artifact collections. It is located near the historic Potawatomi 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.

Cover: Shown on the cover is one of the postcards English Professor Frederic N. Raymond dated and mailed home to his family while he traveled around Kansas inspecting sewage disposal plants and waterworks. Pressed into service during World War I, Raymond left his University of Kansas classroom in the summer of 1918 and collected water samples from St. Francis to Independence for shipment to the Lawrence laboratories of the Division of Water and Sewage of the Board of Health. For more on the professor's journey, see the excerpts from his letters, edited by his daughter, beginning on page 114.