DIAMOND DICK, The Dandy from Denver

A TRUE STORY OF THE MINES OF NEW MEXICO.

BY "BUCKSKIN SAM"—Major Sam S. Hall,
AUTHOR OF "GARK DASHWOOD," "WILD WILL, THE MAD RANCHOBO," "KIT CARSON, JR.," ETC., ETC., ETC.

KANSAS HISTORY
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As we approach the fiftieth anniversary of the twentieth century's most important United States Supreme Court case—Brown v Board of Education of Topeka, Shawnee County, Kansas—it seems appropriate to reflect on a few questions of race and education in "free" Kansas before and after Brown. The landmark decision itself overturned the "separate but equal doctrine" that had been the law of the land since 1896 (Plessy v Ferguson), ended constitutionally sanctioned segregation in the nation's public schools, and launched the modern civil rights movement that would so change the face of Kansas and all of America. Chief Justice Earl Warren's opinion for the high court was rendered on May 17, 1954, but the origins of Brown v Board date back at least one hundred years.

For nearly all of those years Kansans lived with a paradox. African Americans migrated to the "promised land," Kansas, because it had become a symbol of hope and freedom. But the reception they received and the reality they found here was at best mixed. Most enjoyed political equality of sorts, but they were set apart socially and often found Kansas all too like the "Jim Crow" South they had fled.

Kansas schools prior to Brown were a mixed bag as well. Legally, separate black and white schools were allowed only at the elementary level in the state's largest towns (cities of the "first class," over fifteen thousand inhabitants), but in reality, segregation pervaded the educational system. African American students who were able to attend high school did so with white students, but in many cases they were excluded from extracurricular activities or encouraged to form "colored" clubs or athletic teams. At Paxico High School—at least in 1918—this clearly was not the case, but the above photograph raises more questions than it answers.
DOCTOR DIAMOND DICK: LEAVENWORTH'S FLAMBOYANT MEDICINE MAN
by L. Boyd Finch

DAMMING THE KAW: THE KIRO CONTROVERSY AND FLOOD CONTROL IN THE GREAT DEPRESSION
by Dale E. Nimz

"WE'LL FIGHT IT OUT FAIR RIGHT NOW": HOMICIDE, FELONY ASSAULT, AND GENDER IN KANSAS CITY, KANSAS, 1890–1920
by Donna Cooper Graves

GROWING UP IN KANSAS
Review Essay
by Pamela Riney-Kehrberg

EDITOR'S NOTE

REVIEWS

BOOK NOTES