The Annual Meeting

The seventy-third annual meeting of the Kansas State Historical Society and board of directors was held in the rooms of the Society on October 19, 1948.

The meeting of the directors was called to order by President R. T. Aitchison at 10 a.m. First business was the reading of the annual report by the secretary.

SECRETARY'S REPORT, YEAR ENDING OCTOBER 19, 1948

At the conclusion of last year's meeting, the newly elected president, Robert T. Aitchison, reappointed Robert C. Rankin, Charles M. Correll and Gen. Milton R. McLean to the executive committee. The members holding over were John S. Dawson and T. M. Lillard.

BUDGET REQUESTS

Appropriation requests for the next biennium were filed with the state budget director in September. In addition to the usual requests for salaries and maintenance, several increases and special appropriations were asked for.

Among these are three items for the archives department: $10,000 a year additional for microfilming, $32,000 for steel stacks, and $2,400 a year additional in the calendar clerk's fund. As the archives department, this Society is required to preserve all state records of historical value. In the past two years a vast quantity of documents has been received. Many of these are piled on the floor in the basement and in other parts of the building. Since the modern way to handle many of these archives is to microfilm them and destroy the originals, the increase asked for in the microfilm fund will enable us to operate a night shift on these records. The request for steel stacks is necessary to take care of the archives which must be kept in their original form.

The 1947 legislature appropriated $38,000 for steel stacks in the library. This sum was based on an estimate made in September, 1946. In the summer of 1947, when we asked for bids, steel prices had increased so much that only a little over half the stacks could have been built. It was felt that it would not be economical to do a partial job, so none of the appropriation was used. New estimates have been made, allowing a 10 percent increase in steel prices over the present market. As nearly as can be estimated, the total cost will be $60,000. We have requested that the $38,000 be reapproriated, together with $22,000 additional.

These stacks will be erected above the library on the third floor, which was left uncompleted when the Memorial building was built 34 years ago. Since then the library has almost doubled in size. Our present shelves are so badly overcrowded that it is impossible to classify or house the books properly, and many of them have been stored in the basement.

An increase of $1,000 a year is requested for the "Continuation of Wilder's
Annals." Part of this money will be used to increase the salaries of the two annalist and part will be used for a part-time typist.

Since the Historical Society took over the management of the Memorial building, the outside walls have been repointed, caulked and painted, the roof has been repaired, and about four-fifths of all interior walls have been painted. Last spring the Memorial hall and the museum were redecorated. In connection with the latter job, more than 600 pictures were taken down from the walls, cleaned and replaced.

No requests for special improvements on the building were made. Greatly increased costs, however, make larger maintenance appropriations necessary. Our contract for elevator inspection and maintenance, for example, was increased about 60 percent. Much of the plumbing and electric wiring in the building needs replacement, and more money is being asked for this work.

Library

During the year, 3,421 persons did research in the library, an increase of about 400 over the preceding year. Of these, 1,701 worked on Kansas subjects, 808 on genealogy and 912 on general subjects. Numerous inquiries were answered by letter and 108 packages on Kansas subjects were sent out from the loan file. A total of 4,464 newspaper clippings were mounted from papers covering January through December, 1947.

Many gifts of Kansas books and genealogies were received from individuals. Typed and printed genealogical records were presented by the Colonial Dames, the Daughters of the American Revolution, the Daughters of Founders and Patriots of America and the United States Daughters of 1812.

A microfilm copy of the New Hampshire census for 1850 was purchased.

Picture Collection

During the year, 405 pictures were classified and catalogued and added to the picture collection. Of these, 141 were presented by the Woman's Kansas Day Club and 63 by Russell W. Walker of St. John.

Archives Division

Since the last report the following public records have been transferred to the archives:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Architect's Office......</td>
<td>Correspondence</td>
<td>1937, 1939,</td>
<td>151 mss.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Files</td>
<td>1940</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Auditor's Office........</td>
<td>Blueprints of Railroad</td>
<td>1887, 1888,</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Surveyor General's Plates</td>
<td>Illustrating Boundary</td>
<td>No date</td>
<td>56 mss.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Markers</td>
<td>(Probably territorial period)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Board of Agriculture.... Abstract of Assessors' 
Rolls .....................1893-1904 36 vols.
Abstract of Statistical 
Rolls (Counties)...1905-1910, 1912-
1914, 1916-1930,
Statistical Rolls of 
Cities .....................1940-1947 11,063 vols.
Statistical Rolls of 
Counties ..................1940, 1941 3,388 vols.
[Ness county, 1941, missing]

Governor's Office....... Correspondence Files of 
Governor Schoeppel.........1946 18,600 mss.

Insurance Department... Annual Statements of 
Insurance Companies 
Operating in Kansas....1871-1942 1,356 vols.
Annual Statements: 
Admission Statements...1915-1943 49 vols.
Firemen's Relief Association: 
Financial Statements....1927-1942 16 vols.
Firemen's Relief Fund: 
Annual Statements and 
Declarations .............1921-1942 42 vols.
Firemen's Relief Fund: 

School Retirement 
Board ................. List of Teachers on 
Retirement Lists as 
of July 1, 1948.............1948 1 reel (16
mm. microfilm)

These total 19,387 manuscripts and 19,498 volumes.
The largest accession of the year, that received from the Insurance depart-
ment, has been piled on the floor in the map room and the third floor annex
because no shelf space is available. These volumes, if placed on shelves, would
occupy about 360 linear feet of stack area, or about a fourth of the present
total capacity.

There are still large quantities of records in the state house which will one
day be transferred to our archives. This should be done without unnecessary
delay, because storage facilities there are far from adequate. The volumes
received from the Insurance department, for instance, had been kept in a base-
ment room and some of them were damaged by water leaking from the newly-
installed sprinkler system. Others show signs of attacks by mice.
Every department in the state house holds similar collections. The In-
surance department, for example, still retains three record series which are valuable as archives. These are the permanent parts of the correspondence files, the records of examinations of Kansas insurance companies, and the file of policy forms, a total of nearly 800 feet of records. More, of course, are added each year. The office of the Secretary of State, for another example, has several series of important records. If only the three or four largest groups were to be transferred to our archives—the original charters and annual statements of corporations, original bonds of notaries, legislative journals, house and senate bills and resolutions—the linear footage required would be almost as much as our present total shelf capacity.

**Manuscript Division**

During the year, 24 manuscript volumes and 421 individual manuscripts were received by the manuscript division.

Two diaries kept by James Stewart, one of the founders of Council City, now Burlingame, were secured through the courtesy of Leon R. Mitchell of Burlingame. They cover the years 1855-1857 and 1858-1860, and give much valuable data on early-day life and events in Osage county.

In 1871 the Ohio Soldiers Colony sent a locating committee to Kansas, Colorado and Indian territory to select lands for homes. A detailed journal of the trip, written by George C. Anderson, one of the committee, is a valuable acquisition of the year.

Histories of 21 rural cemeteries in Douglas county, with tombstone inscriptions, 1854-1920, were contributed by the Douglas County Historical Society. This is the second volume of the compilation, which was made by William L. Hastie. The first volume was received in 1944.

Through the cooperation of the Indiana State Historical Society, film prints of an interesting Quaker journal have been added to our collections. The author, Eleazer Bales, set down a minute account of his journey to Kansas territory in May and June, 1859, to visit Quaker settlements.

Some papers of James M. Harvey, governor of Kansas from 1869 to 1873, were received through I. M. Platt of Junction City and members of the Harvey family. Private letters make up the bulk of the collection.

Journals kept by Wilson Purdy, an early settler in south central Kansas, were lent for copying by his daughter, Mrs. Franklin Gilson of Emporia. Purdy wrote of his experiences in that region in 1874 and described in detail his overland journey with four companions from Hutchinson to Santa Fe, New Mexico territory, in October, 1874.

Over 1,125,000 pages of Kansas newspapers have now been photographed. A major job completed during the year was the filming of the Wichita Eagle. There are 25 reels of the Weekly, 1872-1919, 472 reels of the Morning paper, 1884-1947, and 140 reels of the Evening paper, 1927-1947. The entire film of the three Eagles to the end of 1947 made 637 100-foot reels, or 63,700 feet. This film, covering about 445,900 pages which the Wichita Eagle has published during its first 75 years, requires only ten filing cabinet drawers for storage. Thanks are due Marsh Murdock and Dick Long of the Eagle for their cooperation.

Filming of the Leavenworth Times, from 1868 through 1944, is practically finished. The early files of the Times, 1857-1867, were microfilmed several years ago through a cooperative project arranged by the Society with the publisher, Dan Anthony, and the Library of Congress. Although we have an extensive collection of Kansas newspaper files, there are gaps that can still be filled. Early issues of three papers were lent by their publishers during the past year to be collated with our files. Runs of the following papers were included in this filming: Burlingame Chronicle, 1869-1872 (2 reels), Russell Record, 1874-1877 (1 reel), and the Saline County Journal, Salina, 1871-1880 (3 reels).

Among other items microfilmed were E. W. Howe's Monthly, 1914-1933 (2 reels), a rare file unavailable elsewhere; Pearson's Magazine, New York, 1919-1924 (1 reel), lent by W. G. Clugston, Topeka, to complete a gap in the Society's library file, and the Topeka Daily Capital, January, 1936, through June, 1938.

A test run has been made on archives volumes. Kansas election returns, 1861-1874, from the office of the Secretary of State, all went into one 100-foot reel.

Since nearly a dozen publishers are now on the Society's list to have their newspapers filmed, it appears that the microfilm division, despite its record of one and one-quarter million photographs, is actually just beginning.

Obviously the Society can best serve posterity by microfilming as many as possible of the old files that are breaking up through use and age. Our newspaper filming is therefore being confined almost wholly to the older papers. These will not be photographed, however, until all available files can be assembled so that only the best pages of each issue are recorded.

Although the work of commercial concerns on old newspapers is seldom satisfactory, we urge publishers to make contracts for filming current issues. One publisher, Angelo Scott of Iola, has already engaged Recordak to film current issues of the Iola Register. He is furnishing us with a positive print without charge, and has arranged for all his negatives to be stored under the Society's control. Mr. Scott also will buy a positive copy of the microfilm which the Society will make of the Register's early files.

Newspaper and Census Divisions

Thirty-five hundred patrons were served by the newspaper and census divisions during the year, an increase of four hundred over last year.

Fifteen thousand five hundred single issues of newspapers and 11,122 bound volumes or microfilm reels were consulted; 4,571 census volumes were searched.
and from them 2,369 certified copies of family records were issued. These
census records are used in making claims for old-age assistance, social security,
railroad retirement, pensions and insurance endowments, and for delayed birth
certificates and passports.

The 1948 annual List of Kansas Newspapers and Periodicals was distributed
in September, 1948. This is the 53d newspaper List since the Society's organi-
ization, and it has become more or less routine. The many complimentary
editorial comments and letters testify to the value of the publication.

The 1948 List shows the issues of 680 newspapers and periodicals being
received regularly for filing. These include 57 dailies, one triweekly, 13 semi-
weeklies, 384 weeklies, one three times monthly, 20 fortnightlies, 23 semi-
monthlies, two once every three weeks, 117 monthlies, 11 bimonthlies, 28 quar-
terlies, 19 occasional, s, two semiannuals and two annuals, coming from all the
105 Kansas counties. Of these 680 publications, 247 are listed as independent,
122 Republican and 22 as Democratic in politics; 92 are school or college, 37
religious, 22 fraternal, seven labor, 10 industrial, 14 trade and 107 miscellaneous.

On January 1, 1948, the Society's collection contained 52,241 bound volumes
of Kansas newspapers, in addition to more than 10,000 bound volumes of out-
of-state newspapers dated from 1767 to 1948.

With the daily Leavenworth Times which Dan Anthony sent us for micro-
filming were the following weekly Times volumes not previously in the files of
the Historical Society: 1870-1873, 1881 and 1882. These volumes have been
added to our collections. Among other donors of miscellaneous newspapers
were: I. M. Platt, Junction City; Mrs. Jane C. Rupp, Lincolnville; Cecil
Kingery, Phillipsburg; Frances Beames, Salina; Karl Menninger, J. Walter
Mills and Rod Runyan, Topeka, and Miss Ruby Boory, Winfield.

ANNALS OF KANSAS

The years 1900 to 1906, inclusive, of the Annals of Kansas have been com-
piled during the past year. This entailed the scanning of 112,000 newspaper
pages: mostly the Topeka Daily Capital, the Kansas City (Mo.) Times, the
Wichita Daily Eagle, the Kansas Farmer, and in addition, the Topeka Daily
Herald for 1905 and 1906, when it was the official state paper. Approximately
650 weeklies and 250 dailies were used for checking items, besides state reports,
charts, directories and other library reference books and magazines.

More than ninety percent of the entries for those years are taken from the
Topeka Daily Capital. The Kansas City Times affords an excellent check on
the Capital on state news. The Wichita Daily Eagle of the period is used only
for local items, as it carried Oklahoma rather than Kansas news. The Kansas
Farmer was the official farm organ. Special effort is made to get a fair news
coverage of the state, to avoid having the Annals top-heavy with Topeka and
eastern Kansas news.

Newspapers of the 1900's are more conservative, more authentic, and con-
sequently more easily checked than those of the 1880's and 1890's. They have
more pages, however, and it still takes two annalists about eight weeks to read,
check, and write an Annals year. More than half the time is spent in reading.
Manuscripts in the period reported average 90 typewritten pages. This does
not include reports.
The compilation is being made by Miss Jennie Owen and Miss Ruth Hudson.

MUSEUM

The attendance for the year in the museum was 38,635. The largest number on any one day was 1,009, when the Santa Fe railroad sponsored a special tour by parties from out of town. The museum was closed for redecorating from February 3 to March 8. Since last March it has been kept open on Sunday afternoons from 1 to 4:30 o’clock.

There were 60 accessions. Among the most interesting was a clock with wooden works made by Daniel Pratt, Jr., who was an early American clock maker of Reading, Mass. It was owned in the family of Cecil Kingery of Phillipsburg for five generations.

Mrs. Harry Stuecker of Lawrence gave a large walnut bed which had been made especially for Governor Robinson. The sunflower motive is carried out in the carving.

Two medicine cases and a “Materia Medica” used by Franklin Home, a homeopathic physician of Beloit from 1888 to 1914, was donated by his son, A. E. Home, and daughters, Mrs. H. W. Harbaugh and Mrs. G. W. McClung.

Fifteen souvenir dishes with Kansas scenes have been added to the collection.

John S. Swenson of Jewell county gave a reaper which was manufactured in the 1870’s by the Walter A. Wood Mowing and Reaping Machine Company of Hoosick Falls, N. Y. It was purchased in Concordia and was used for many years in Jewell county. A distinctive feature is the self-rake mechanism, the rake rotating around the platform, sweeping the grain onto the ground in bunches.

SUBJECTS FOR RESEARCH

Extended research on the following subjects was done during the year: Biography: Edgar Watson Howe; Cyrus K. Holliday; William Clark; George Washington Carver. General: Methodism in Kansas; State Board of Education; Anti-Saloon League in Kansas politics; history of oil and gas conservation in Kansas; foreign immigration in Kansas; linguistic survey of Kansas; French in Osage county; Western Surgical Association; legislative career of Victor Murdock, 1909-1911; medical education in Kansas; history of the amendments to the Kansas constitution from 1861 to 1930; history of Harper county; history of Hodgeman county; history of Ness county; Negro education in Topeka; segregation of Negro and white children in Topeka grade schools; floods in the Pottawatomie river basin; history of the Beatrice Foods Company; circus history; Doniphan expedition; Santa Fe trail; background of Irving, Kan.; history of athletics at Midland College; Populist oratory, 1890-1894; oratory of John James Ingalls; history of Gunnison county, Colorado; cattle industry; municipal-owned electric utilities.

ACCESSIONS

October 1, 1947, to September 30, 1948

Library:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Books</td>
<td>868</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pamphlets</td>
<td>1,775</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Magazines (bound volumes)</td>
<td>185</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Withdrawn—127 volumes and 25 pamphlets</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The Kansas Historical Quarterly, now in its seventeenth year, continues to be widely quoted in the Kansas press. The “Letters of Julia Louisa Lovejoy, 1856-1864,” which were concluded in the May Quarterly, were popular as a colorful account of the lives of a pioneer minister and his wife on the prairies of Kansas.

An item of regional interest is “William Clark’s Diary,” edited by Louise Barry, which will be concluded in the November issue. The “Diary” has been in the Society’s possession for years. It reports on the weather and much of the comings and goings of steamboats and Indians on the waterfront at St. Louis from 1826 to 1831.

A substantial increase in the printing budget will be necessary if the Society is to maintain its present standards in the face of increasing printing and binding costs.

Old Shawnee Mission

Attendance at the Mission continues to increase. Sight-seers include many club groups from the two Kansas Citys and classes of school children from nearby counties and from Missouri. Often the pupils are asked to write essays about the Mission and a number have been sent to the Society. Among the most interesting were those from a class of Catholic youngsters, describing their impressions of this early Methodist school.

In August the Mission was visited by Chaplain and Mrs. John W. Beard of Portland, Ore. They had just completed a 2,020-mile horseback journey along the Oregon trail. Mr. and Mrs. Beard are both past sixty, yet they spent nearly every night of their four-months’ ride in a small tent which they carried on a pack horse. They were much impressed by the buildings and relics at the Mission, which was the Western outpost of civilization on the trail a hundred years ago.
The Society is indebted to the state departments of the Colonial Dames, the Daughters of the American Revolution, the Daughters of American Colonists, the Daughters of 1812, and to the Shawnee Mission Indian Historical Society for their continued cooperation at the Mission.

FIRST CAPITOL

The number of visitors at the First Capitol building on the Fort Riley reservation is beginning to equal that of prewar years. For three years the highway was closed to through traffic and attendance was limited to soldiers. Minor repairs were made on the buildings and grounds during the year. Budget requests include $250 to bring electricity to the grounds, $200 for painting the caretaker's cottage and $100 for repairing sidewalks and replacing trees and shrubs.

THE STAFF OF THE SOCIETY

The various accomplishments noted in this report are due to the Society's splendid staff of employees. I gratefully acknowledge my indebtedness to them. Special mention, perhaps, should be made of the heads of departments: Helen M. McFarland, librarian; Edith Smelser, custodian of the museum; Mrs. Lela Barnes, treasurer; Nyle H. Miller, microfilm director and managing editor of the Quarterly; and Edgar Langsdorf, archivist and manager of the building. Attention should also be called to the work of Harry A. Hardy and his wife Kate, custodians of the Old Shawnee Mission, and to that of John Scott, custodian of the First Capitol.

Respectfully submitted,

Kirke Mechem, Secretary.

At the conclusion of the reading of the secretary's report, Robert Taft moved that it be accepted. Motion was seconded by Robert C. Rankin and the report was accepted.

President Aitchison then called for the report of the treasurer, Mrs. Lela Barnes:

TREASURER'S REPORT

Based on the audit of the state accountant for the period
September 1, 1947, to August 16, 1948.

MEMBERSHIP FEE FUND

Balance, September 1, 1947:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cash</td>
<td>$3,700.47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Postage</td>
<td>2.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U. S. savings bonds, Series G</td>
<td>8,700.00</td>
</tr>
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Total: $12,402.47

Receipts:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Memberships</td>
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<tr>
<td>Reimbursement for postage</td>
<td>640.50</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bond interest</td>
<td>242.50</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sale of book</td>
<td>1.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gift</td>
<td>10.00</td>
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</tbody>
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Total: $1,378.00

Total: $13,780.47
### The Annual Meeting

**Disbursements..........................................................**

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<th>Item</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Balance, August 16, 1948: Cash</td>
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<tr>
<td>U. S. savings bonds, Series G.</td>
<td>8,700.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>—-----------------------------------</td>
<td>----------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>12,755.56</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$13,780.47</td>
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**Jonathan Pecker Bequest**

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<th>Amount</th>
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<tr>
<td>Balance, September 1, 1947: Cash</td>
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<tr>
<td>U. S. treasury bonds</td>
<td>950.00</td>
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<td>—-----------------------------------</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$1,120.34</td>
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**Receipts:**

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<td>Bond interest</td>
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<tr>
<td>Savings account interest</td>
<td>1.39</td>
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<td>—-----------------------------------</td>
<td>----------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>28.66</td>
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<td>$1,149.00</td>
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**Disbursements:**

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<td>Books</td>
<td>7.20</td>
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<td>34.92</td>
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**Balance, August 16, 1948:**

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<tbody>
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<td>Cash</td>
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<td>U. S. treasury bonds</td>
<td>950.00</td>
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<td>—-----------------------------------</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1,114.08</td>
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<td>$1,149.00</td>
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**John Booth Bequest**

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<td>543.38</td>
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**Receipts:**

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<td>Savings account interest</td>
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<tr>
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<td>15.10</td>
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<td>$558.48</td>
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**Disbursements**

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<tr>
<td>Balance, August 16, 1948: Cash</td>
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<tr>
<td>U. S. treasury bonds</td>
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<td>—-----------------------------------</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>558.48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$558.48</td>
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</table>
THOMAS H. BOWLUS DONATION

This donation is substantiated by a U. S. savings bond, Series G, in the amount of $1,000. The interest is credited to the membership fee fund.

ELIZABETH READER BEQUEST

Balance, September 1, 1947:
Cash in membership fee fund.............................. $311.19
U. S. savings bonds (shown in total bonds, membership fee fund) .................................................. 5,200.00

Total ......................................................... $5,511.19

Receipts:
Interest ................................................................ 130.00

Total ........................................................... $5,641.19

Disbursements .......................................................

Balance, August 16, 1948:
Cash ................................................................. 441.19
U. S. savings bonds, Series G ................................. 5,200.00

Total ........................................................... $5,641.19

STATE Appropriations

This report covers only the membership fee fund and other custodial funds. It is not a statement of the appropriations made by the legislature for the maintenance of the Society. These disbursements are not made by the treasurer of the Society, but by the state auditor. For the year ending June 30, 1948, these appropriations were: Kansas State Historical Society, $92,811.00; Memorial building, $14,157.60; Old Shawnee Mission, $6,481.20; First Capitol of Kansas, $1,150.00.

On motion by Robert C. Rankin, seconded by R. F. Brock, the report was accepted.

The report of the executive committee on the audit by the state accountant of the funds of the Society was called for and read by John S. Dawson:

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

October 15, 1948.

To the Board of Directors, Kansas State Historical Society:
The executive committee being directed under the bylaws to check the accounts of the treasurer, states that the state accountant has audited the funds of the State Historical Society, the First Capitol of Kansas and the Old Shawnee Mission from September 1, 1947, to August 16, 1948, and that they are hereby approved.

JOHN S. DAWSON, Chairman.

On motion by John S. Dawson, seconded by Robert Taft, the report was accepted.
The report of the nominating committee for officers of the Society was read by John S. Dawson:

**NOMINATING COMMITTEE’S REPORT**

October 15, 1948.

To the Board of Directors, Kansas State Historical Society:

Your committee on nominations submits the following report for officers of the Kansas State Historical Society:

For a one-year term: R. F. Brock, Goodland, president; Frank Haucke, Council Grove, first vice-president; Charles M. Correll, Manhattan, second vice-president.

For a two-year term: Kirke Mechem, Topeka, secretary; Mrs. Lela Barnes, Topeka, treasurer.

Respectfully submitted,

JOHN S. DAWSON, Chairman.

The report was referred to the afternoon meeting of the board. There being no further business, the meeting adjourned.

**ANNUAL MEETING OF THE SOCIETY**

The annual meeting of the Kansas State Historical Society convened at 2:00 p.m. The members were called to order by the president, R. T. Aitchison.

The address by Mr. Aitchison follows:

**Address of the President**

**RICHARD HAKLUYT**

R. T. AITCHISON

RALEIGH, Cecil, Shakespeare, Elizabeth, Bacon, Drake: Names like these are apt to make one think of Tudor England as a nation of brilliant personages. It was, but supporting them were many able men and organizations of the middle class.

Groups of wealthy individuals backed the adventures of Raleigh and Drake; businessmen furnished the capital for English factors in the East and West; Shakespeare and Bacon had their enthusiastic “subscribers” as have today’s authors their clientele. License fees from the trades financed Queen Elizabeth’s projects. In the middle class were the publicity and public relations men who helped make the great names popular and assisted in promoting England’s prestige.

One of these commoners is the subject of this talk, Richard Hakluyt—a man perhaps more responsible for the English settling North America than any other.
The Hakluys were landowning farmers and cattlemen in Herefordshire. They were of Welsh descent and had been gentlemen for several generations. Richard Hakluyt's father had moved to London to become a skinner, which would be called today a tanner or one in the leather business.

England about 1550 was a rather isolated island of sheep raisers, and exported wool, leather and coarse woolens to the continent. These exports were carried mainly in Dutch vessels, for England had few ships; not more than eighty.

Hakluyt's father retained his land in Hereford and with his business and some property was in comfortable circumstances. Richard attended Westminster school, where he was a queen's scholar. At about the age of 18 he entered Oxford and held his studentship for at least seventeen years. At Oxford, he mastered Latin, Greek, Italian, Spanish, French and Portuguese. He received his master's and was ordained at Christ Church, Oxford. The King's endowment paid for his tuition. Richard took full advantage of the Tudor N. Y. A.

At Oxford, Hakluyt taught its first class in modern geography. Columbus and Vespucci traveled new paths with the second century Ptolemy as a guide. Hakluyt; Ortelius, the map maker of Amsterdam; Mercator, the scientific cartographer of Germany, and Ramusio, historian of Italy, charted known courses and furnished accurate data to the seafarer of the sixteenth century.

Hakluyt's cousin, of the same name, was a barrister in the Middle Temple. He was also a consultant in geography and seafaring. When Richard was sixteen, the cousin aroused young Hakluyt's interest in these subjects by showing him the modern globe and maps by contemporary cartographers. He was told how necessary were these charts and trade information to traders sailing under the English flag.

This interest in geography and travel became a mania with Richard. He searched the book shelves of England and interviewed all travelers he had the opportunity to meet. Drake, Gilbert, Frobisher, Cabot and Raleigh were his intimates. Government administrators such as Walsingham, Sidney, Howard and Cecil consulted him.

Hakluyt became the outstanding geographer and consultant on seafaring in England. He compiled material on sea lanes. He knew where spices, silks, carpets, dyes could be found in the East, and timber, tobacco, fish and furs in the West. He knew the English merchandise which could be bartered for these products.
Richard's friend, Steven Bellinger, had sold in France for 440 crowns what he had purchased in Norumbega, now Maine, for 40. Hakluyt spent five years in France searching, interviewing and translating, while there as chaplain to the English ambassador, Sir Edward Stafford. He gathered data to prove to England the profits in foreign trade.

In an interview with Ortelius, publisher of the first atlas, while that map maker was in England, Hakluyt suggested he make from Espejo's and Coronado's travels as detailed a map of New Mexico as he had made of New Spain, farther south.

Hakluyt corresponded with Mercator about the northeast passage. He never overlooked an opportunity to procure information which could help bring wealth to England.

Drake's voyage had been profitable ten thousand fold. It interested the queen, who gambled extensively in piracy. Hakluyt realized that the time was opportune to have an audience with Elizabeth and gain her influence, if not financial assistance, to send Raleigh on a trip to the Americas.

His reputation as geographer and his family's prominence made the interview possible. His sales appeals were the immediate profit, and the formation of a policy of English expansion which would gain trade in the West to balance the dwindling trade in the East and block colonial acquisition by Spain.

Hakluyt presented a plan to the queen which recommended seeking raw materials from both East and West to convert into finished products in England for export to the continent, proposing an economic policy which still supports England. World trade and empire motivated Hakluyt's thinking and labor to the end of his life, and his voluminous printed texts gave impetus to their attainment.

At the time of the audience with the queen, Hakluyt's *Divers Voyages*, touching the discovery of American parts, was published. This was a small compilation of voyages and travels with a page list of American products England needed—timber, furs, tobacco, minerals, fish—and the information it contained checks accurately with today's knowledge.

The publicity Drake's financial success received made *Divers Voyages* a best seller. Its reception caused a flood of pamphlets and translations to hit the market. These editions, and especially the *Voyages*, gave strength to the colonial party working for Western plantings.
Public interest was turning from the excitement of piratic gambling to trade and pride of empire. Raleigh shifted from his raids on Spanish treasure to planting colonies. Cecil was Raleigh’s friend and backer. Hakluyt had promoted Raleigh’s adventures, with the crown and with prominent merchants and statesmen, including Cecil. When Raleigh asked assistance for his Guiana planting from Cecil, the queen’s secretary turned to Hakluyt for verification of Raleigh’s description of Guiana and its products.

Hakluyt was hired as consultant by the East India Company to check the reports of their representatives stationed in India and Burma. He supplied maps, listed the products available and the locations where they could be found, together with market data. He performed the same service to the Levant Company and other traders. Foreign merchant organizations purchased his services. A Dutch group procured his assistance in planning a northeast passage to China.

Richard’s great interest was America. He saw the Russia Company trade dwindle until it was necessary for them to move to the Near East. He realized the competition of the Dutch, Spanish and Portuguese and their advantageous position in Eastern trade.

During his life Hakluyt was always a preacher—in the church and in his geographical work. He spent most of his time disseminating geographical knowledge, but his main income came from the church. The queen presented him with a prebend in the Bristol cathedral in 1586. It gave Richard a residence and fifteen or twenty pounds a year. He was made rector of Wetheringsett in Suffolk, adding another ten or fifteen pounds. At Cecil’s request the queen granted Richard a prebend at Westminster Abbey. Cecil made him his chaplain, and in 1604, chaplain of Savoy. Walsingham while secretary of state used his influence to increase Hakluyt’s income. On his death Cecil became secretary and carried on in the same manner, but more successfully.

By 1604 Hakluyt had a comfortable living, four residences and a house in London, his inheritance of the estate in Hereford, and a considerable income as consultant in geographical matters.

It was a natural step to go from consultant to director in colonial enterprises. Raleigh had a patent on Virginia, an undefined territory, and on Gilbert’s death received the patent on New Foundland. Sir Thomas Smith managed the Virginia planting for Raleigh, and Hakluyt was made a director. Smith had been the governor of the East India Company when Hakluyt was consultant, and when
Smith sat as a member of the Royal Council for Virginia, Richard was one of its patentees. While Smith was treasurer of Virginia, Hakluyt was a shareholder. In 1612 Smith became chief of the Northwest Passage Company and Hakluyt one of its trustees.

Richard led in the development of the South Virginia Company. When Raleigh gave up active work in the Virginia Company he turned the bankrupt project over to eight of its charter members, retaining one-fifth right to any gold discovered. Of the eight charter members, four were soldiers of the Plymouth Company and three were soldiers of London. Hakluyt was the eighth member. This transaction developed the first successful planting of an English colony in what was to become the United States.

Hakluyt’s determination, energy and geographic knowledge perhaps made him more than any other person responsible for the English settling of our country. If that is true, we can credit him for our conducting this meeting in the English language. Spain, Portugal, France and the Dutch planted the rest of the Western Hemisphere. Spain had moved into Florida and New Mexico, and France into Canada when England blocked their expansion with her New England plantings.

To accelerate this drive for empire, Hakluyt procured Drake’s endorsement and a gift of twenty pounds to establish a foreign trade school where navigation and geopolitics were to be taught. The school started, though it was not adequately financed. Hakluyt solicited Walsingham, the queen, and others for aid but could not get the necessary funds, and the school ceased functioning.

Richard kept at his publishing, always striving toward publishing the compilation of the travels, translations and trade information he had collected. He published the first consistent body of colonial literature in England. His translations and notes covered travels in the Americas from Cabot’s St. John’s Island down the Atlantic coast, across the bay to Mexico, through the countries of Central and South America, including Coronado’s and Espejo’s conquests in New Mexico, to Drake’s voyage up the coast of California. In these writings he covered locations, climate, native customs, hardships, products, flora and fauna—complete information on the then known parts of the Western Hemisphere. These compilations and writings were always done from original documents or interviews with participants in the expeditions.

DeBray called on Hakluyt to assist him in publishing Heroit’s Virginia with White’s drawings. It was printed in Latin, German, English and French. They also collaborated in producing a history
of Florida with de Morgue’s drawings. Hakluyt introduced DeBray to the artists who had made their sketches while in Florida and Virginia.

Hakluyt’s complete works, 27 publications, numerous manuscripts and translations, and copious notes, were compiled into three volumes in 1598 and 1600, titled The Principal Navigations, Voyages, Traffics and Discoveries of the English Nation. It was a momentous work of one million seven hundred thousand words. It is today the source students use for research on travel and discovery up to 1600.

The small volume of Voyages published in 1589-1590 was designed to promote the establishment of colonies. Destruction of the Spanish Armada in 1588 and the growth of the English navy made it possible for the 1598-1600 edition of the English Voyages to contain additional material on England’s naval exploits and gave impetus to the building of an empire.

Being rich from Elizabeth’s long, peaceful reign, England planned for supremacy of the seas. Mary, Queen of Scots, lost her head in 1587, and the Holy Roman church lost its chance for reestablishment with it. All was serene on the British Isles and the time ripe for expansion. Richard Hakluyt shot his remaining arrow at the target of world dominance for queen and country. How near he came to a bull’s-eye is for the student to evaluate.

Contemporary discoverers recognized his endeavors and honored Hakluyt as a place name on their travels. In the year of Richard Hakluyt’s death, Baffin, skirting the west coast of Greenland at the northern neck of Baffin’s Bay, took shelter on an island he named Hakluyt’s Island. Henry Hudson in 1608 named the northern point of Spitsbergen, Hakluyt’s headland. The exploring ship, Amity, trying to find a northeast passage beyond the White sea, harbored in an island river mouth and called it Hakluyt’s river. Robert Fotherby, searching a northern passage for the Russia Company in 1615 between Spitsbergen and Greenland, used as a landmark a mountain “of a wonderful height and bigness.” He named it Mount Hakluyt.

It is interesting to note that all the places named for Hakluyt were used for shelter or guidance.

Following the address of the president, Edgar Langsdorf, the Society’s archivist, talked on his recent study of archives in Washington, D. C., and discussed application of approved archival methods to the archives of Kansas, administered by the Society. Mr. Langsdorf’s talk follows:
THE PROBLEM OF ARCHIVES

People have varying and sometimes rather hazy ideas as to what is meant by archives, and perhaps this talk should begin with an explanation. Archives are the official records of an organization. It may be a public organization, as a state university or a public library. The archives of Kansas, for example, are the official public records of the state which are accumulated in the transaction of the state's business. Or it may be a private organization, as the Santa Fe railroad or the Congregational church. In any case, the archives are the official records of the organization, the by-product of its business transactions, and as the evidence of what has been done, and how and by whom it was done, archives have substantial legal and historical importance.

In these days of typewriters and mimeographs and various other machines for manufacturing records, the output of any large organization is tremendous. The Federal government, which is probably without rival as a producer of large quantities of records, accumulated about twelve million cubic feet during the war years alone, a documentary mass which would require a building a city block square and fifty feet taller than the Santa Fe building to house it. State governments and business organizations also produce large quantities of records, though fortunately not on so astronomical a scale. The existence of such immense quantities of materials constitutes a perpetual problem for the archivist.

Obviously a large percentage of the records created by any organization are of transitory value, but always there is a core of permanently valuable material. The archivist, in cooperation with the office which creates the records, must find this permanently valuable core, weed out the unnecessary bulk which accompanies it, and transfer the core to the archives depository for preservation. There it must be put in its proper place, and there—if its continued preservation is to be justified—it must be made readily available for use by the office which created it, by other interested agencies, and by historians and other scholars who wish to study it. It is hardly necessary to remark that records which are stored without order in attics or basements, in such confusion that it is impossible to find a needed document, might as well be nonexistent. The principle of accessibility is basic in modern archival practice.

Strange as it may seem, the idea of preserving valuable records and making them available for use is relatively new in this country. Our magnificent National Archives building in Washington was only completed in 1935, after many years of planning and propaganda by such organizations as the American Historical Association and the Carnegie Institution of Washington. Before that time, according to the first Bulletin of the National Archives (1936), the government's records were found in cellars and attics and corridors, or piled on the floors wherever space could be found, and when there was no more space in the office buildings they were farmed out and stored in abandoned barns, warehouses, deserted theaters, in fact in any place that could be borrowed or rented. In the course of time many valuable records were destroyed by fire, damaged by dampness and heat, eaten by insects, mutilated by stamp collectors and autograph dealers. The fire marshal of the District of Columbia reported to Congress in 1915 that 250 fires had occurred in government buildings in the district since 1873, an average of about six each
year for 42 years. On one occasion a member of the cabinet sold 400 tons of official records to a junk dealer because he needed space for his office force. No one knows what quantities of irreplaceable government records were lost before the establishment of the National Archives.

The school which I attended last summer was a practical training course given by the American University in cooperation with the National Archives. The lectures and practical work were given in the Archives building and members of the class were permitted the privileges of interns, which allowed us to become familiar with the physical structure and arrangement of the building as well as the work which goes on there.

It is a truly remarkable building, without question the finest and best-equipped structure of its kind in the world. It is a huge cube containing 21 levels, or floors, of stacks, divided by fire walls and concrete floors into numerous sections. The stack space totals more than five and a half million cubic feet, with air-conditioning and humidity controls which provide clean air of the proper temperature and moisture for records preservation. There are no windows in the stacks; all light is artificial. Burglar- and fire-alarm systems guarantee, as far as is humanly possible, the safety of the records. In addition to the stack area, which is completely separated from the rest of the building, there is a beautiful exhibition hall on the Constitution Avenue side where documents of special public interest are displayed. The German and Japanese surrender documents were among those on exhibit when I was there. The administrative offices, the library and the public search rooms are on the opposite side of the building, facing Pennsylvania avenue.

When materials are brought into the National Archives they are first of all fumigated in a special gas chamber to kill any vegetable or animal life that may have taken up residence in them. This is necessary to prevent contamination by mold and damage by insects or rodents. All records that need it—about 66 percent, according to the latest report of the archivist—are also cleaned with compressed air blowers to remove loose dust. Further, if they are badly curled or folded they are put through a humidifying chamber and then pressed flat. Not until these processes are completed are the records sent up to the division which will preserve them. When they arrive in the division they are accessioned and shelved, and as soon as possible finding aids are made for them. These aids are of various types, but the first to be produced ordinarily, after the accession record, is a checklist which summarizes the contents of the file and gives a brief history of the creating office. This list serves as a guide for the staff members and also for researchers. When time permits, if the importance of the record justifies it, more elaborate guides are prepared.

Many records which come to the National Archives are in bad condition physically, either because of the poor quality of the paper or because of the adverse conditions under which they have been stored. In such cases they are repaired as soon as possible. The method of repair used at the National Archives is called lamination, and it has been adopted by a number of state archives and historical societies. It is a comparatively new process in which cellulose acetate foil, a thin, transparent material resembling cellophane, is applied to fragile and damaged papers by means of heat and pressure. The
foil melts into the paper, strengthens the fibers, and forms a completely air-
and water-tight seal around the document. In addition to strengthening the
document the acetate seal preserves it, something which the older method of
backing paper with silk does not do. The only drawback to this method, so
far as most institutions are concerned, is the high initial cost of the equipment.

Any archivist or curator of manuscripts can learn a great deal from a visit
to the National Archives, though its operations and equipment are of course
on a scale far out of proportion to the work of any other institution in the
country. The state archives of Maryland, called the Hall of Records, which
the class visited three times, more nearly approximates our situation in Kan-
sas. The building is newer and better designed for its purpose than ours here,
and consequently it is more efficient. Its stacks, for example, like those of
the National Archives, are isolated from the rest of the building, with air-
conditioning to maintain proper temperature, and no problems arise such as
we have because of dust and dirt entering the open stack areas from the public
rooms, or because of steam pipes which in some places run too close to our
shelves and gradually cook the life from some of our papers. Maryland also
has excellent equipment, which includes a laminator, two photostat machines,
one of which photographs both sides of the paper for book work, and a micro-
film camera similar to ours.

All archivists have one major problem which has little to do with the actual
administration of records. That is the problem of public relations. Because
archival work is still a little-known field, it is necessary to prove to people
that our collections are not mere rows of musty documents, as many seem to
think, but that they have real practical value. Many people, unfortunately,
still cling to the idea that archives departments—and historical societies too,
for that matter—are merely places in which old documents and books are
stored away when no one wants them any more, and where a few gray-beards
putter around among the dusty piles to no apparent purpose.

I do not refer here to the value of archives as a source of information for
the scholar. In this respect an archives serves the same purpose as a historical
society in preserving source materials for serious students of history and the
other social sciences. Without such materials their work would be impossible.
Our correspondence files of the governor of Kansas, dating from 1861, to cite
only one example, are a mine of information for any student of Kansas history.

An archives, however, serves in addition as an extension of the active files
of the other departments of government. The records which are transferred
to the archives are in some cases still frequently used by the departments which
created them, and of course many other agencies of government as well as
private researchers have occasion to use them also. We receive many requests,
for instance, for information from the charter books. This series, which was
compiled in the office of the Secretary of State, contains the record of every
corporation which has ever done business in Kansas. Such information is not
only valuable historically but frequently has current legal importance, even
though many years may have elapsed since the record was made. The same
is true of our series of records of notary commissions. We had an inquiry
not long ago from a lawyer who was interested in a case involving title to land.
A legal question had come up concerning the validity of the commission of a
notary who had witnessed a transfer of title many years before. It was suspected that his commission had expired before the date of the transfer. If true, not only might this transaction be invalid, but all subsequent transfers of the property likewise would be subject to question, and long and costly litigation probably would result. In this case, by reference to our records of notary commissions, we were able to establish the fact that the notary had renewed his commission and that his authentication was legally correct. In similar instances we have also been called upon to authenticate official signatures by comparing them with known true signatures in our archives. Such archival services are more or less common, and are accepted by the public often without realization of the legal difficulties which might arise if our records were not available.

These are illustrations of one of the most important reasons for preserving records, that is, to document the rights and privileges of the people. An even more striking illustration here at the Society is the large number of requests for census information that we receive. This is a case of the daily use of official records, all 25 to 50 years old or more, which are needed to establish the most fundamental fact about any individual: the date and place of his birth. Because of the increasing demand for records which provide information about the individual citizen—his employment history, for example, so that he may take advantage of social security, railroad retirement, and other forms of retirement insurance—the archives will play an even larger part in the future.

The preservation of archives is valuable, of course, for other reasons than to serve the needs of individuals. Governmental machinery and procedures can be improved if we are willing to learn from experience. By studying the records of the past we can avoid making the same mistake twice. During the war years, when various emergency agencies were created in the government, records of similar agencies of the first World War were studied carefully for this very reason. These records had been preserved and were available in the National Archives. Agencies such as the War Production Board, the Office of Price Administration, the War Industries Board, the Council of National Defense, and many others, found much valuable information in records of the first World War which was used in developing policies and drawing up operational plans. Permanent agencies such as the Weather Bureau and the Bureau of Mines also made use of their own earlier records.

So far as the state of Kansas and the members of this Society are concerned, there is one illustration of the value of archives which drives home the point better than any other. If certain state records had not been preserved in this Society, we probably would not have this Memorial building today. The two appropriations made by congress in 1908 and 1909 to reimburse the state for expenses incurred in equipping its soldiers in the Civil War, and for repelling invasions and suppressing Indian hostilities, were secured because proof of the Kansas claims was available in our files. The state agent in Washington who pushed the appropriations through congress is quoted as saying that “without the records kept by the Historical Society, and nowhere else to be found, the state never could have collected a dollar.” The Memorial building was constructed with the money thus received from the Federal government.
There are many things which should be done to make our archives more serviceable to the people of the state. First, however, we must convince the legislature that we have a job to do which cannot be done satisfactorily without essential equipment. Kansas got off to a flying start in archives, as you know. Although the United States as a whole did not become archives-conscious until the beginning of this century, when there was little knowledge of archival functions and few precedents to follow, our legislature made this Society the official archival agency of the state in 1905. The word archives was not used in the act, but it was provided that state, county or other officials might "turn over to the Kansas state historical society, for permanent preservation therein, any books, records, documents, original papers, or manuscripts, newspaper files and printed books not required by law to be kept in such office as a part of the public records three years after the current use of the same, or sooner in the discretion of the head of the department." Here we had at least the legal beginnings of a state archives, and a year earlier at that than Iowa, which is generally credited with being the pioneer state in the Middle West.

Unhappily, and we may as well admit it, our progress since 1905 has not fulfilled the promise of our early beginning. It was natural that our library and our newspaper division, which were already well-known and widely used, should tend to overwhelm the infant archives division, particularly since few people knew what an archives was or should be, and even fewer cared. These two divisions, of which the Society is so proud, have in the course of time been well-equipped, their holdings have grown, and today they are well-organized, their materials are easily available to researchers, and consequently they attract visitors from all over the state and from other states as well. The archives, on the other hand, is an orphan child, provided with a roof overhead but with little else. In the 43 years of its existence the archives division has been given not a single foot of permanent stack equipment. We now have about two million documents—manuscripts and bound volumes—with no place to put them except a few temporary wooden shelves which overflowed many years ago. Now we have valuable official records piled all over the building, and it is a real problem to find a record in response to a request.

Our plans for the future, then, include first of all a request to the legislature for money to build stacks. If the 1949 legislature will grant an appropriation for this purpose, one of our most immediate difficulties will be largely overcome. I say one of our difficulties will be largely overcome, because we need more than stacks. When it is realized that our largest accession of the past year, the 1,470 volumes received from the Insurance department, amounts to about 600 cubic feet—enough to occupy nearly one-fourth of our present shelf space—and that many other state departments still have records equally bulky which we must prepare to handle, it is obvious that more is needed than shelves in one room. At the rate at which we may reasonably expect to receive accessions to the archives in the next ten or fifteen years we will overflow this building, even if we were able to build stacks in every room. There are two possible means of solving this situation. Either we must have more room, which means the construction or leasing of another building, or we must reduce the bulk of our records. The latter seems at this time to be the most advisable course. We can reduce the bulk of our archives by a large-scale program of
microfilming, which, despite a number of disadvantages, is the best method now known for keeping large groups of records in a small space. An expanded microfilming program will require a substantial increase in funds, too, for more people will be needed to prepare material for the camera and more money will be needed for film and processing. These funds also will be requested from the 1949 legislature.

Our situation as regards room to work in and equipment to work with grows more difficult each year. Our state government has outgrown the state house and is planning a new office building. The state’s clerical force is expanding, and more and more records are being produced. Those of permanent value must be kept. We hope that Kansas will not overlook the importance of preserving her valuable public records, and that plans will be made soon for placing her archives in the front rank of the states.

Following Mr. Langsdorf’s talk, the report of the committee on nominations was called for:

**REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON NOMINATIONS FOR DIRECTORS**

*To the Kansas State Historical Society:*

Your committee on nominations submits the following report and recommendations for directors of the Society for the term of three years ending October, 1951:

Bailey, Roy F., Salina.
Beezley, George F., Girard.
Bowlus, Thomas H., Iola.
Brinkerhoff, Fred W., Pittsburg.
Browne, Charles H., Horton.
Campbell, Mrs. Spurgeon B., Kansas City.
Cron, F. H., El Dorado.
Ebright, Homer K., Baldwin.
Embree, Mrs. Mary, Topeka.
Gray, John M., Kirwin.
Hamilton, R. L., Beloit.
Harger, Charles M., Abilene.
Harvey, Mrs. A. M., Topeka.
Hauke, Frank, Council Grove.
Lingenfelser, Angelus, Atchison.

McFarland, Helen M., Topeka.
Malone, James, Topeka.
Mechem, Kirke, Topeka.
Mueller, Harrie S., Wichita.
Philip, Mrs. W. D., Hays.
Rankin, Robert C., Lawrence.
Ruppenthal, J. C., Russell.
Sayers, Wm. L., Hill City.
Simons, W. C., Lawrence.
Skinner, Alton H., Kansas City.
Stanley, W. E., Wichita.
Stone, John R., Topeka.
Stone, Robert, Topeka.
Taft, Robert, Lawrence.
Templar, George, Arkansas City.
Trembley, W. B., Kansas City.
Woodring, Harry H., Topeka.

Respectfully submitted,

**John S. Dawson, Chairman.**

Upon motion by John S. Dawson, seconded by Frank A. Hobble, the report of the committee was accepted unanimously and the members of the board were declared elected for the term ending in October, 1951.
Robert C. Rankin, representing the executive committee, presented the following resolution to the meeting:

Whereas, the management of the Kansas State Historical Society has been for the past eighteen years under the supervision of Kirke Mechem, secretary, so efficient as to earn for our Society very high rank as one of the best state historical societies in the United States.

Some of the most outstanding accomplishments of the Society under Mr. Mechem are:

(a) Rapid progress towards microfilming of the files of old newspapers—a process necessary for the preservation of our remarkably complete and extremely valuable collection of newspapers;

(b) Restoration and attractive furnishing and upkeep of Shawnee Mission, one of the state’s most valuable and interesting shrines of Kansas territorial days;

(c) Organization and staffing of our various departments upon such an efficient basis that the Society is in continuous use by nationally-known experts, as a source of historical data in the preparation of many valuable books and other literary productions which require accurate research work, and

Whereas, The annual salary now fixed by law for secretary of the State Historical Society at $4,000 is substantially lower than salaries paid to officers of similar societies in other states—the usual range being from $5,000 to $6,500—and is too low to constitute reasonable compensation for the services rendered, particularly under present financial conditions,

Therefore, be it resolved by the members of the State Historical Society in annual meeting at Topeka, Kan., on October 19, 1948, that we hereby petition the legislature of Kansas, at its 1949 session to raise the annual salary of the secretary of the Kansas State Historical Society from $4,000 to $5,000.

On motion by Mr. Rankin, seconded by John S. Dawson, the resolution was adopted.

An oil portrait of Peter McVicar, painted by the Topeka artist, George Stone, was presented to the Society as a gift from Dr. McVicar’s nephew, A. J. Sutherland, of Eau Clair, Wis.

Reports of county and local societies were called for and were given as follows: Gus Norton for the Finney County Historical Society; Clyde K. Rodkey for the Riley County Historical Society; Mrs. Franklin Gilson for the Lyon County Historical Society; the Rev. Angelus Lingenfelscr for the Kansas Catholic Historical Society, and Robert Stone for the Shawnee County Historical Society.

There being no further business, the annual meeting of the Society adjourned.
MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The afternoon meeting of the board of directors was called to order by Mr. Aitchison. He asked for a re-reading of the report of the nominating committee for officers of the Society. The report was read by John S. Dawson, chairman, who moved that it be accepted. Motion was seconded by Wilford Riegel and the following were unanimously elected:

For a one-year term: R. F. Brock, Goodland, president; Frank Haucke, Council Grove, first vice-president; Charles M. Correll, Manhattan, second vice-president.

For a two-year term: Kirke Mechem, Topeka, secretary; Mrs. Lela Barnes, Topeka, treasurer.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned.

DIRECTORS OF THE KANSAS STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY
AS OF OCTOBER, 1948

Barr, Frank, Wichita.
Berryman, Jerome C., Ashland.
Brigham, Mrs. Lalla M., Council Grove.
Brock, R. F., Goodland.
Bumpgardner, Edward, Lawrence.
Correll, Charles M., Manhattan.
Davis, W. W., Lawrence.
Denious, Jess C., Dodge City.
Dav, Mrs. Mamie Axline, Pratt.
Fzierz, E. E., Larned.
Godsey, Mrs. Flora R., Emporia.
Hall, Mrs. Carrie A., Leavenworth.
Hall, Standish, Wichita.
Higler, Ben F., Wichita.
Jones, Horace, Lyons.
Lillard, T. M., Topeka.
Lindsley, H. K., Wichita.
Means, Hugh, Lawrence.
Owen, Dr. Arthur K., Topeka.
Owen, Mrs. E. M., Lawrence.
Patrick, Mrs. Mae C., Satanta.
Payne, Mrs. L. F., Manhattan.
Reed, Clyde M., Parsons.
Riegel, Wilford, Emporia.
Rupp, Mrs. Jane C., Lincolnville.
Schultz, Floyd B., Clay Center.
Sloan, E. H., Topeka.
Smelser, Maud, Lawrence.
Stewart, Mrs. James G., Topeka.
Van De Mark, M. V. B., Concordia.
War, George H., Caney.
Wheeler, Mrs. Bennett R., Topeka.
Wooster, Lorraine E., Salina.

DIRECTORS FOR THE YEAR ENDING OCTOBER, 1949

Aitchison, R. T., Wichita.
Anthony, D. R., Leavenworth.
Baugh, Charles A., Ellis.
Beck, Will T., Holton.
Capper, Arthur, Topeka.
Carson, F. L., Wichita.
Chambers, Lloyd, Wichita.
Collins, Corlett J., Lawrence.
Dawson, John S., Hill City.
Ewer, Elmer E., Goodland.
Hobble, Frank A., Dodge City.
Hogin, John C., Belleville.
Howes, Cecil C., Topeka.
Hunt, Charles L., Concordia.
Knapp, Dallas W., Coffeyville.
Lillston, W. F., Wichita.
McLean, Milton R., Topeka.

DIRECTORS FOR THE YEAR ENDING OCTOBER, 1950

Malin, James C., Lawrence.
Mayhew, Mrs. Patricia Solander, Topeka.
Miller, Karl, Dodge City.
Moore, Russell, Wichita.
Price, Ralph R., Manhattan.
Raynesford, H. C., Ellis.
Redmond, John, Burlington.
Rodkey, Clyde K., Manhattan.
Russell, W. J., Topeka.
Shaw, Joseph C., Topeka.
Somers, John G., Newton.
Stewart, Donald, Independence.
Thomas, E. A., Topeka.
Thompson, W. F., Topeka.
Van Tuyl, Mrs. Effie H., Leavenworth.
Walker, Mrs. Ida M., Norton.
THE ANNUAL MEETING

DIRECTORS FOR THE YEAR ENDING OCTOBER, 1951

Bailey, Roy F., Salina.
Beezley, George F., Girard.
Bowlus, Thomas H., Iola.
Brinkerhoff, Fred W., Pittsburg.
Browne, Charles H., Horton.
Campbell, Mrs. Spurgeon B., Kansas City.
Cron, F. H., El Dorado.
Ebright, Homer K., Baldwin.
Embree, Mrs. Mary, Topeka.
Gray, John M., Kirwin.
Hamilton, R. L., Beloit.
Harger, Charles M., Abilene.
Harvey, Mrs. A. M., Topeka.
Haucke, Frank, Council Grove.
Lingenfelsor, Angelus, Atchison.

McFarland, Helen M., Topeka.
Malone, James, Topeka.
Mecham, Kirke, Topeka.
Mueller, Harrie S., Wichita.
Philip, Mrs. W. D., Hays.
Rankin, Robert C., Lawrence.
Ruppenthal, J. C., Russell.
Sayers, Wm. L., Hill City.
Simons, W. C., Lawrence.
Skinner, Alton H., Kansas City.
Stanley, W. E., Wichita.
Stone, John R., Topeka.
Stone, Robert, Topeka.
Taft, Robert, Lawrence.
Templar, George, Arkansas City.
Trembly, W. B., Kansas City.
Woodring, Harry H., Topeka.