Kansas Historical Notes

A Douglass Historical Society has been organized under the sponsorship of the Copeland Memorial Library of Douglass. Officers are: Mrs. Elmer Sherar, president; J. M. Guyot, vice-president; Mrs. Inez Graves, secretary; Mrs. Daisy Lamb, historian, and Mrs. Viola Dennett, reporter. Persons who came to Douglass before 1878 are honorary members. Meetings are scheduled for the second Monday evening of each month.

The old guardhouse at Fort Harker, Ellsworth county, has been turned over to the Kanopolis post of the American Legion. The Legion has converted it into a historical museum. The guardhouse was built about 1867, when Fort Harker was an important military outpost.

The historic Council oak at Council Grove, a famed Santa Fe trail landmark, recently underwent “surgery” and is now expected to live another 50 years. Money for the work was raised by the Council Grove Historical Society.

A pageant depicting episodes in the history of Larned and Pawnee county, which was written by Judge Lorin T. Peters of Ness City, was presented in Larned, August 11, 1950. A reunion of Pawnee county pioneers was held as a part of the day’s program.

George Miller was re-elected president of the Chase County Historical Society at a meeting at the courthouse in Cottonwood Falls, September 9, 1950. Other officers re-elected were: Henry Rogler, vice-president; Helen Austin, secretary, and George T. Dawson, treasurer. Members of the executive committee are: Ida M. Vinson, Clint A. Baldwin, Minnie Norton, T. R. Wells and Claude Hawkins.

Mrs. C. D. Cheatum was elected president of the Shawnee Mission Historical Society at a luncheon in Spring Hill, September 25, 1950. Other officers elected were: Mrs. James Glenn Bell, first vice-president; Mrs. Homer Bair, second vice-president; Mrs. Arthur W. Wolf, recording secretary; Mrs. R. D. Grayson, corresponding secretary; Mrs. Charles Houlehan, treasurer; Mrs. Kenneth Carbaugh, historian; Mrs. C. L. Curry, curator; Mrs. William Brazier, chaplain, and Mrs. Percy L. Miller, parliamentarian. Mrs. John Barkley was the retiring president.
Ralph Shideler of Girard was elected president of the Crawford County Historical Society at a meeting in Pittsburg, September 28, 1950. Other officers chosen were: Dr. Ernest Mahan, Pittsburg, vice-president; Mrs. Ines Dixon, Pittsburg, secretary, and Opal Smith, Pittsburg, treasurer. Dr. Alvin Proctor, Mrs. J. U. Massey and C. P. Kelso were elected to the board of directors for three-year terms, and Dr. Josephine Trabue was named a director for one year. The history of the McNally Pittsburg Manufacturing Corp. was outlined by Thomas J. McNally, head of the firm, as the main feature of the program. Dr. H. M. Grandle, the retiring president, headed the society for two years.

A campaign was launched by the Kiowa County Historical Society at its annual Gold Ribbon party in Greensburg, October 5, 1950, to raise money for a museum at Greensburg to house the society’s collection of relics. Gold ribbons were worn by 105 persons of the more than 250 attending the party, indicating that they had come to Kiowa county more than 50 years ago. Sixteen golden wedding couples were present.

The annual meeting of the Riley County Historical Association was held October 12, 1950. C. A. Kimball was elected president; Mrs. Florence Fox Harrop, vice-president; Joe D. Haines, treasurer, and Mrs. Max Wolf, secretary. Albert Horlings, Richard Rogers and Mrs. F. A. Marlatt were elected to the board of directors. A talk by George Robb, state auditor, on Sen. James H. Lane, was the main event on the program. Prof. George Filinger was the retiring president.

A 30-foot stone cross, erected near Lyons in honor of Juan de Padilla, Franciscan friar who visited that area with the Coronado expedition in 1541, was dedicated by Bishop Mark K. Carroll, Wichita, on October 15, 1950. The monument was presented to the state of Kansas by the Knights of Columbus.

About 75 persons attended a meeting of the Dickinson County Historical Society at the Willowdale church, October 19, 1950. D. W. Tappan, Abilene; Bruce Crary, Herington; Mrs. Mame Riordan, Solomon; Mrs. George Mark, Chapman; Elsie Koch, Hope, and Mrs. Marie Chandler, Enterprise, were appointed as a committee to work toward getting a room for a museum in the new courthouse when it is built. Mrs. F. E. Munsell, Herington, is president of the society.

The Protection Historical Society was organized into the Comanche County Historical Society at a meeting in Protection, No-
November 14, 1950. Warren P. Morton, Coldwater, was elected president of the new organization. Other officers chosen were: Fred Denney, Protection, vice-president; Mrs. Nellie Riner, Protection, recording secretary; Mrs. Lillian Lyon, Coldwater, corresponding secretary, and F. H. Moberley, Wilmore, treasurer. Judge Karl Miller, Dodge City, was the principal speaker at the meeting. Denney was the retiring president of the Protection society.

The Wyandotte County Historical Society has been given a plot of land 100 by 100 feet, located at the old Shawnee Methodist Mission monument near Turner. In order to accept the gift a decision was made at a meeting November 14, 1950, to incorporate the society. Clifford H. Millsap is president.

A 36-page pamphlet has been printed by the Assaria Lutheran church in connection with the 75th anniversary of the organization of the church. Included in the pamphlet are pictures of the pastors, church leaders and present church organizations, and the church history. Some of the history was printed in the Salina Journal, September 16, 1950.

The Funston Homestead is the title of a recently published 30-page booklet by Mrs. Ella Funston Eckdall of Emporia. The homestead which was bought in 1867 by Edward Hogue Funston, was the home of his son, Edward H. Funston, member of congress, 1884-1894, and the boyhood home of his grandson, Gen. Frederick Funston.

The first Swedish settlement in Kansas, at Mariadahl, was mentioned in Oscar N. Olson's new book, The Augustana Lutheran Church in America: Pioneer Period, 1846-1860. The 397-page book was published by the Augustana Book Concern, Rock Island, Ill.