Kansas Historical Notes

The basement of the Falls township library in Cottonwood Falls has been leased for a museum by the Chase County Historical Society, and the collection of suitable articles has begun. George M. Miller is president of the society.

Ray Pierce, Dodge City, spoke on preserving county history at a meeting of the Lane County Historical Society in Dighton, January 3, 1955.

Mrs. C. C. Webb, of Highland, was elected president of the Northeast Kansas Historical Society at a meeting January 12, 1955. Other officers elected include: Fenn Ward, vice-president; C. C. Webb, business administrator; and Mrs. Fenn Ward, secretary-treasurer. Harry Connell, caretaker of the Highland Mission state museum, managed by the society, reported 4,386 visitors registered at the museum during 1954.

Orville W. Mosher was re-elected president of the Lyon County Historical Society for his fifth term at a meeting in Emporia, January 27, 1955. Other officers are Harold Trusler, first vice-president; Catherine H. Jones, second vice-president; Mrs. C. A. Moore, secretary; Warren Morris, treasurer; and Mrs. F. L. Gilson, Lucina Jones, and Mabel H. Edwards, historians.

G. Clay Baker, Topeka, and Nannie Bingham, Sabetha, were named presidents of the Native Sons and Daughters of Kansas at the 87th annual meeting in Topeka, January 28, 1955. Other officers of the Native Sons are: Jim Reed, Topeka, vice-president; Charles N. McCarter, Wichita, secretary; and Cleo Norris, Dodge City, treasurer. Mrs. J. B. McKay, El Dorado, was elected vice-president of the Native Daughters; Mrs. George Marshall, Basehor, secretary; and Mrs. Hobart Hoyt, Lyons, treasurer. Mrs. Lelia Munsell, Herington, was the winner of the factual contest sponsored by the Native Sons and Daughters.

The 48th annual meeting of the Woman's Kansas Day Club was held in Topeka, January 29, 1955. Mrs. Earl C. Moses, Great Bend, president, told of the experiences of her pioneer parents and grandparents. The theme, featured in talks, decorations, and songs, was "Pioneer Education in Kansas." Interesting reports from the several districts were given to the Kansas State Historical Society. Officers elected at the business session were: Mrs. J. L. Jenson, Colby,
president; Mrs. E. L. Hazlett, Topeka, first vice-president; Mrs. Edna Peterson, Chanute, second vice-president; Mrs. Loleto M. Troup, Kansas City, secretary; Maude Haver, Douglass, treasurer; Mrs. Lucile Rust, Manhattan, historian; Mrs. Paul H. Wedin, Wichita, registrar; and Mrs. Robert A. Douglas, Topeka, auditor. District directors elected were: Mrs. Harry A. Chaffee, Topeka, first district; Mrs. Lloyd Thomas, Fort Scott, second district; Mrs. C. W. Spencer, Sedan, third district; Mrs. Ruth Hibbard, Wichita, fourth district; Mrs. Paul Randall, Ashland, fifth district; and Mrs. John Porter, Concordia, sixth district.

Jennie Owen, annalist for the Kansas State Historical Society, was the speaker at the meeting of the Riley County Historical Association in Manhattan, February 1, 1955. The compiling and publishing of volume 1 of the Annals of Kansas, 1886-1910, together with a review of the progress and changes in Kansas since the days of the covered wagon, were her subjects.

Garden City and Finney county history was portrayed in several skits at the annual dinner of the Finney County Historical Society in Garden City, February 8, 1955. The following were elected to the society’s board of directors for two-year terms: Gus S. Norton, J. E. Greathouse, Albert Drussel, Mabel Brown, William Fant, Chet Reeve, Mrs. Ella Condra, Frederick Finnup, Mrs. Louis Kamp-schroeder, Guy B. Norris, and Mrs. Kate Smith.

Dr. Robert Taft, of the University of Kansas, spoke on “Abraham Lincoln and the Gettysburg Address,” at a meeting of the Leavenworth County Historical Society in Leavenworth, February 12, 1955. Another feature of the program was the presentation of centennial medallions to the winners of a historical essay contest sponsored by the Kiwanis club and several women’s organizations in Leavenworth. John Feller is president of the society.

Mrs. C. M. Cooper read a paper prepared by Mrs. Rodney St. Clair, reviewing the history of Baxter Springs, at a meeting of the Crawford County Historical Society in Pittsburg, February 17, 1955. O. F. Grubbs is president of the society.

Judge William H. McCamish and Ellen Lees were speakers at a meeting of the Wyandotte County Historical Society in Kansas City, February 24, 1955. The society voted to undertake to make Huron cemetery a national shrine.
Mrs. Guy Wooten was re-elected president of the Ford Historical Society at a meeting March 11, 1955. Other officers elected were: Mrs. Harold Patterson, vice-president; Mrs. I. L. Plattner, secretary-treasurer; Mrs. Lyman Emrie, historian; and Mrs. W. P. Warner, custodian and reporter. The group voted to support Dodge City in its attempt to secure the proposed cowboy hall of fame.


*Silkville: a Kansas Attempt in the History of Fourierist Utopias, 1869-1892* is the title of a 29-page recently published pamphlet by Garrett R. Carpenter on the Franklin county colony founded in 1869 by Ernest Valeton de Boissiere upon the social and economic ideas of Charles Fourier. It comprises the December, 1954, number of *The Emporia State Research Studies*, Emporia.

James C. Olson, superintendent of the Nebraska State Historical Society, is the author of a 372-page volume entitled *History of Nebraska* (University of Nebraska Press, Lincoln, 1955). In his preface Dr. Olson says: "There has long been need for a one-volume general survey of the history of Nebraska. . . . This book represents an effort to meet that need."