Kansas Historical Notes

J. Lincoln Strong, Smith Center, was chosen president of the Smith County Historical Society at the society's annual meeting, November 3, 1961. Roy Lumpkin was elected vice-president, and Mrs. Van Venables, secretary. Emmet Womer was the retiring president.

The 36th annual meeting of the Kansas Association of Teachers of History and Social Science was held at Marymount College, Salina, May 4 and 5, 1962. Papers presented at the gathering relative to Kansas history were: "Anarchy and Populism in Kansas, 1886-1891," by Richard Denton, El Dorado Junior College; "How the Populists Lost the Kansas Election of 1894," by Walter K. Nugent, Kansas State University, Manhattan; and "Joseph L. Bristow: The Editor's Road to Politics," by A. Bower Sageser, Kansas State University, Manhattan. The final session was held at the Eisenhower Library, Abilene, where Robert Bolton, acting director of the library, gave a description of the library and its facilities for historical research. Officers elected at the business meeting were: John J. Zimmerman, Kansas State Teachers College, Emporia, president; and Ernest B. Bader, Washburn University, Topeka, vice-president. New members of the executive council are: Sister M. Evangeline Thomas, Marymount College, the retiring president, and Ambrose Saricks, University of Kansas, Lawrence.

At the annual meeting of the Jewell County Historical Society, May 19, 1962, in Mankato, Clarence Black was re-elected president; Lily Henningsen, vice-president; Bernice Howard, secretary; Lucy Wiley, treasurer; and E. I. Chilcott, J. R. Beeler, Mrs. Kenneth Maag, and Mrs. Howard Edwards, directors.

The Barton County Historical Society held its annual meeting May 20, 1962, at Fort Zarah Park. At the business session the following officers were elected: Virgil Ernsting, Great Bend, president; Mrs. Ernest Grossardt, Claflin, first vice-president; Louis Ernsting, Ellinwood, second vice-president; R. E. Sullivan, Hoisington, third vice-president; Mrs. William C. Wells, Great Bend, treasurer; Mrs. Roy Evanson, Claflin, corresponding secretary; Wayne Huff, Claflin, publicity director; Mrs. A. H. Lanterman, Ellinwood, co-ordinator; and Mrs. Calen Unruh, Pawnee Rock, historian. Paul Gibler, Claflin, was the retiring president.

Robert W. Baughman was re-elected president of the Seward County Historical Society at the organization's annual meeting, May 29, 1962, in Coronado Museum, Liberal. Lewis C. Eyman was
chosen vice-president; Mrs. Frank Williamson, secretary; Fred Hill, treasurer; and Oliver S. Brown, Robert Larrabee, Harold Worthington, Charles Taylor, R. J. Leete, Price Davies, Floyd Massoni, Frank Boles, Everett Johns, Milton Blakemore, Harry E. Chrisman, Lloyd Lambert, Helen Baughman, Max Zimmerman, N. S. Leply, Ann Lockas, and James Yoxall, directors. The society received a donation from Baughman to purchase additional ground for expansion of the museum.

On May 30, 1962, the Allen County Historical Society opened its museum in the 93-year-old former county jail in Iola. About 600 persons viewed the displays on opening day.

More than 300 visitors attended the opening of the Wilson County Historical Museum, June 3, 1962, in the courthouse at Fredonia. The museum is the result of efforts of the Wilson County Historical Society, and the co-operation of the Wilson county commissioners. It is open weekday afternoons and Saturday mornings.

Directors of the Kiowa County Pioneer Museum met in Greensburg, June 5, 1962, and elected the following officers: Keith Brown, president; James Greenleaf, vice-president; Marietta Weaver, secretary; and Gena Hildinger, treasurer. Other directors are: Mrs. Capitola Lanier, Herbert Parkin, and Weaver Fleener.

Mrs. Alice MacGregor was re-elected president of the Barber County Historical Society at a meeting June 16, 1962, in Medicine Lodge. Other officers chosen included: D. C. Chads, first vice-president; Mrs. Alice Rankin, second vice-president; Mrs. Lois Cook, third vice-president; I. N. "Jibo" Hewitt, co-ordinator; Edith McGrath, secretary; H. E. Nixon, treasurer; Jack Fisher, in charge of publicity; and Mrs. Marjorie Stranathan, historian.

Ross Baker was re-elected president of the Peabody Historical Society at a business meeting June 26, 1962. Mrs. N. H. Poe was named vice-president; Grace Roberts, secretary-treasurer; and W. V. Krause, director.

Current officers of the Rush County Historical Society are: Harry Grass, president; Oliver Wilhelm, first vice-president; Bert Ficken, second vice-president; and Stan Merrill, treasurer.

Kittie Dale is the author of a recently published 10-page pamphlet entitled The Legend of Praying John Horrigan. Horrigan appeared in Ellis about 1870 where, due to the mystery concerning his previous life and his habit of kneeling on the open prairie to pray, he soon became legendary.
Part four of volume one of *Regimental Publications & Personal Narratives of the Civil War—A Checklist*, by C. E. Dornbusch, was published by the New York Public Library in 1962. The paper-bound volume includes a seven-page section listing publications relative to Kansans and Kansas units.

*The Time Now Past* is the title of a recently published 75-page history of Kansas Wesleyan University, Salina, by Jack Warner VanDerhoof. The school first opened its doors to students September 15, 1886.

*County and Community Names in Kansas* is the title of a recently issued 83-page, paper-bound volume by Wayne E. Corley. Origins of the names of the 105 counties and over 1,000 Kansas communities are listed.

Gen. George A. Custer’s *My Life on the Plains*, first published in 1874, has been reissued this year in a 418-page book, with an introduction by Edgar I. Stewart, by the University of Oklahoma Press, Norman.

*Tale of Two Towns*, a 175-page volume by Helen Ward Rennie, published in 1961 by the Royal Publishing Co., Dallas, Tex., is the story of two Kansas Montezumas, one founded in the mid-1880’s which lasted less than a decade, and the present town, founded in 1912.

A 200-page, paper-bound volume entitled *Fort Hays Kansas State College: An Historical Story*, by Lyman Dwight Wooster, was published in 1961. The college opened June 23, 1902, as the Western Branch State Normal School.

Christian Krebsiel’s autobiography, written in 1906, was recently published in a 160-page volume entitled *Prairie Pioneer*, by the Faith and Life Press, Newton. Krehbiel came to America from Germany in the early 1850’s and to Kansas in the middle 1870’s where he was instrumental in establishing several Mennonite settlements.

*Robert John Walker: A Politician From Jackson to Lincoln*, a 288-page volume by James P. Shenton, was published in 1961 by the Columbia University Press, New York and London. Walker was governor of the Territory of Kansas for several months in 1857.

A 401-page biography of Nelson A. Miles entitled *The Unregimented General*, by Virginia W. Johnson, was published in 1962 by Houghton Mifflin Co., Boston. Miles saw service in the Civil War, against the Indians on the Plains, and in the Spanish-American War.