Kansas History as Published in the Press

Historical articles of interest to Kansans appearing in the Kansas City (Mo.) Star in recent months included: “Into Kansas To See Art, a Horse, Campuses, and a Fair,” a report of a visit to museums, schools, and other points of historical interest in the Lawrence and Topeka areas, by Fred Kiewit, September 10, 1961; “Cherokee Strip Run 68 Years Ago,” an account by the late Dave Mullendore, one of the participants, September 15; “Welsh Found Good and Bad in Mid-West of 1870’s,” by Brian Dunning, December 26; “K. U.’s John Fraser Made Mark as a Soldier,” by Ray Morgan, April 3, 1962; “Simple Rhymes Won Walt Whitman Fame,” by John Edward Hicks, May 5; “Fossil Bones of Early Horse Found in Kansas Gravel Pit May Be 500,000 Years Old,” by Alvin S. McCoy, June 3; and “He [Ralph E. Seaton] Tells of a Different Dodge City,” by Bill Moore, July 11. Among articles of historical interest in the Kansas City (Mo.) Times were: “As a Briton [Thomas Gladstone] Saw ‘Bleeding Kansas,’” by Brian Dunning, October 25, 1961; “County Seat Town [Russell Springs] That Won’t Die,” by Mabel I. Jagger, November 1; and “Homestead Act Spurred Rush to West Century Ago,” by Robert Pearman, May 19, 1962.


In observance of the Kansas centennial year and Oakley’s 75th anniversary, the Oakley Graphic published a 68-page special edition December 28, 1961.


“History of the Kansa Indians,” was the feature of the February, 1962, number of the *Heritage of Kansas*, published by the Kansas State Teachers College of Emporia.

“Famous Trail Had Great Part in Early Kansas Development,” a historical sketch of the Santa Fe trail by Philip S. Edwards, was published in the Wichita *Eagle and Beacon Magazine*, February 25, 1962.

An article by Col. Ray G. Sparks entitled “Tall Bull’s Captives,” comprised the March, 1962, issue of *The Trail Guide*, Kansas City, Mo. Sparks relates the story of Susanna Alderdice, Maria Weichell, and others who endured captivity and other sufferings at the hands of the Indians in 1869.

Lt. D. B. Long, stationed at Fort Wallace in 1866-1868, where his wife and her sister were the only women on the post, wrote, in 1911, of his experiences as a soldier in Kansas. Part of his manuscript was published in the Oakley Graphic, May 10, 17, 1962. The sister, Agnes Sage, died in 1867, a victim of the cholera epidemic.

Biographical notes on Col. W. C. Whitney and a brief history of the hotel he built in Cawker City in 1874, the Whitney House, were printed in the Cawker City Ledger, May 10, 1962.

Northeast Johnson county history continued to be featured in Elizabeth Barnes’ column, “Historic Johnson County,” in the Johnson County Herald, Overland Park, May 10, 17, and 24, 1962. On June 28 the column included a history of the Johnson County Herald, and on July 12 a biographical sketch of Antonia Hauser Rieke.


Early Pittsburg history is reviewed in an article by Lawrence A. Barrett, published in the Pittsburg Sun, May 18, 1962, in observance of the city’s 86th anniversary.

Geuda Springs history was reviewed in an article in the Arkansas City Daily Traveler, May 23, 1962. The Cowley-Sumner county town was once a resort area. On May 31 the Traveler printed “‘Port of Arkansas City’ Once Did Thriving Business During River Traffic Days Here.”


Histories of the Prairie View Church of the Brethren, Scott county, were published in the News Chronicle, Scott City, May 31, 1962, and the Garden City Telegram, June 1. The church had its beginning in 1886 in a dugout.
“Recollections of Fort Wallace,” from an autobiography by David Burton Long, written about 1913, was included in the June, 1962, number of The Westerners Brand Book, Chicago.

The Mississippi Valley Historical Review, Lincoln, Neb., June, 1962, published “The Populist Image of Vernon Louis Parrington,” by James L. Colwell. The author examines the influence that Parrington’s experiences as a youth in rural Kansas in the final decades of the 19th century had upon his intellectual development.

Mrs. J. C. Pond has compiled a history of the Milan post office which was printed in the Argonia Argosy, June 7, 1962, and the Conway Springs Star, June 14. The post office was established in 1875.

Publication of a series of articles on the history of Stockton, by Ellsworth Dodrill, began in the June 7, 1962, issue of the Rooks County Record, Stockton. The town was started in 1871 and was incorporated in 1880.

A 208-page “One Kansas” edition, containing descriptive and informative material on all areas of the state, was published by the Wichita Sunday Eagle and Beacon, June 10, 1962.


On April 24, 1887, the cornerstone was laid for St. George’s Catholic church in Fairview township, Republic county. In 1950 the building was moved to Munden. A history of the church was published in the Belleville Telescope, June 14, 1962.

A history of the Harveyville Telephone Co., by Susie Butler, was published in the Harveyville Monitor, June 14, 1962.

The issue of June 15, 1962, of The Northwestern Kansas Register, Salina, in observance of the 75th anniversary of the Diocese of Salina, included a 74-page historical section.

A history of the Protection First Christian church appeared in the Protection Post, June 15, 1962. The church is currently celebrating the 50th anniversary of its founding.


Sts. Peter and Paul Catholic church of Cawker City was the subject of a historical article appearing in the Cawker City Ledger, June 21, 1962. The first church building was erected in 1879.

Residents of the Delavan, Morris county, community met May 16, 1887, and formed School District No. 77, according to a history of the school, by Mrs. Alfred Yakle, published in the White City Register, June 21, 1962, and the Council Grove Republican, June 22.


A biographical sketch of Mrs. Rosa Legleiter, oldest resident of Liebenthal, by Gordon Beiberle, appeared in the Great Bend Daily Tribune, June 24, 1962. In its July 15 issue, the Tribune devoted a half page to Claflin history. Included were a history of early Claflin and recollections of the town's early days by Dillie Hartten and Mary Kimpler. Also in the July 15 issue, the Tribune published McCracken's early history as recalled by four of her senior citizens,
Nellie P. Dutton, Patrick J. Jennings, Harry Sultzer, and Kate Derr. The town recently observed its 75th anniversary.


St. Mary’s Catholic church, Gorham, was the subject of a historical article in the Russell Daily News, June 28, 1962. The first services were held in the Gorham church in 1898. On July 6 the News printed an article on the St. Mary’s Catholic church of Russell. Catholic services were first held in Russell about 1874 and a church building was erected in 1886.

Fort Larned’s flagpoles were the subject of an article by Isabel Doerr Campbell in the Dodge City Daily Globe, June 30, 1962, the Great Bend Daily Tribune, July 1, and the Tiller and Toiler, Larned, July 3. The first pole of which there is a record was erected in 1863.

High Plains history, agriculture, industry, and natural resources are featured in the mid-1962 number of the Plainsman, Dodge City.

Articles in the July, 1962, number of the Bulletin of the Shawnee County Historical Society, Topeka, included: “Early Days in Kansas,” by the late Gertrude Robertson Burlingame; “Letters From Mrs. [Charles] Curtis,” edited by Margaret Morns Holman; a continuation of George A. Root’s “Chronology of Shawnee County”; “The Pioneer Spirit,” by Russell K. Hickman; “A Contrast [of Old-Time and Modern Grocery Stores],” by the late Mrs. A. H. Horton; and “Did You Know That—,” a group of news items from Shawnee county newspapers of the 1870’s and 1880’s, by Mary Davis Sander.


Historical articles and pictures featuring Kansas State Teachers College, Emporia, were included in the July 5, 1962, issue of the Emporia Times. The college is currently observing its centennial.

Mrs. John Cossman has written an account of the Hodgeman county community of Bundyville, which was printed in the Jetmore Republican, July 5, 1962, and the Dodge City Daily Globe, July 11.
The article features the history of the grocery and general merchandise store operated by Mr. and Mrs. Everett Bundy until its recent closing.

A brief history of the Waverly Methodist church appeared in the Waverly Gazette, July 5, 1962, and the Daily Republican, Burlington, July 10. The church received its charter in 1882, two years after Methodist services were first held in the area.

In 1887 the town of Lebanon was moved to its present location. The story of the move, and other notes on the town, are featured in an article in the Lebanon Times, July 12, 1962.

Sam Jent is author of a biographical sketch of Ed Hewins, Chautauqua county pioneer, which appeared in the Cedar Vale Messenger, July 12, 1962.