Kansas History as Published in the Press

“Ft. Larned: Guardian of the Old Trail,” a history and description of the historic fort, by Edna Walker Chandler, was published in the August, 1962, National Parks Magazine of Washington, D. C.


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Indian legend concerning the naming of the Marais des Cygnes river was discussed in the September 27, 1962, issue of the Journal of La Cygne. The name is interpreted "Marsh of the Swans."

Early Pratt county history was featured in an article in the Pratt Daily Tribune, October 1, 1962. The first white settler in the county was A. J. "Skunk" Johnson who arrived in 1873.


Wagon Bed Springs, on the Cimarron river in Grant county, was the subject of an eight-page section in the Garden City Telegram, October 5, 1962. The text, by Bob Greer, was accompanied by numerous pictures relating to that historic spot. The springs was an important watering point on the dry route of the Santa Fe trail and has also been said to be the place where Jedediah Smith was killed by Indians.

The history of the Cherryvale Republican was reviewed in its issue of October 24, 1962. The paper was started in 1877 as the Cherryvale Globe.

In observance of the centennial of the U. S. National Cemetery No. 1 at Fort Scott, the Fort Scott Tribune, October 25, 1962, began publication of a series of historical articles about the cemetery.

Some of the early history of Sterling College, Sterling, was sketched in the October 25, 1962, issue of the Sterling Bulletin. The school recently celebrated its 75th anniversary.

A history of salt mining at Lyons was printed in the October 30, 1962, issue of the Lyons Daily News. Salt was discovered under Rice county in 1857 and in 1890 mining operations were started.

Heritage of Kansas, publication of the Department of English, Kansas State Teachers College, Emporia, featured the Iowa, Sac and Fox Indians of Kansas in its November, 1962, number.

Mount St. Scholastica College, Atchison, was featured in a 12-page section of the Daily Globe, Atchison, November 11, 1962. The school is currently celebrating its centennial anniversary.

On November 22, 1962, the Hoisington Dispatch reprinted from a Dubuque, Iowa, newspaper a brief history of the Kansas settlement of Dubuque. Now a ghost town, Dubuque was located on the Barton-Russell county line.
Beginning in the issue of November 29, 1962, the Free Press-Tribune, Colby, published a series of articles, by Keith Willoughby, on lawyers who have practiced in Thomas county. W. G. Porter is credited with being the first lawyer in the county, settling there in 1880. He also published the county’s first newspaper, the Thomas County Cat, Colby, for a time.


The reminiscences of Charles M. Black, written by Sue Gilmore, appeared in the Wichita Eagle and Beacon Magazine, December 2, 1962. Black came to Wichita with his parents by covered wagon in the early 1880’s.


"Sixty-Two Years of Telephone Service in Kinsley, Kansas," is the title of a full-page history of Kinsley's telephone service published in the Kinsley *Mercury*, December 6, 1962. The history is largely a compilation of news items concerning the telephone service which have appeared in the *Mercury* since 1899.

A history of the Lower Big John school district of Morris county, prepared by the Morris County Historical Society, was published in the Council Grove *Republican*, December 6, 1962. On February 5, 1963, the *Republican* printed a sketch featuring the biographies of W. H. and Sarah White, pioneers in the Council Grove area.


“Mary Yelm of Scott City Is Area’s Senior Citizen,” was the title of a biographical sketch of Mrs. Mary Yelm Norman, 103 years of age, in the Hutchinson News, December 14, 1962. On December 16 the News published “Trail City: the Town Fiction Writers Shunned,” by Bill Leonard.

“Industrial Elk City 50-60 Years Ago,” a description of the business firms and other institutions of the town after the turn of the century by R. R. Painter, was published in the Elk City Sun, December 14, 1962.

“Topsy” school, Lincoln county District No. 18, was the subject of a short history by Arthur J. Stanley, Sr., in the Lincoln Sentinel-Republican, December 20, 1962. The school had its beginning in 1875 in a dugout.

Railroad building into Arkansas City in 1882 and on into Oklahoma territory six years later was the subject of an article in the Arkansas City Daily Traveler, December 20, 1962.

Historical information on the school, churches, and pioneer families of Highland township, Morris county, was included in a history of the township, compiled by Mrs. J. H. Comp and printed in three parts in the White City Register, December 27, 1962, January 3 and 10, 1963.

Inaugural ceremonies and receptions of several Kansas governors were discussed by Ron Kull in “100 Years Show Inaugural Change,” printed in the Topeka State Journal, December 31, 1962.


Historical Wyoming [County], Arcade, N. Y., published in its January, 1963, issue a biographical sketch of Robert Smith Stevens by Harry S. Douglass. Stevens came to Kansas in 1856 where he remained until the 1870’s. He was in Lawrence during Quantrill’s raid and described the experience in a letter included in the sketch.
Later he became a railroad promoter and was manager of the Missouri, Kansas and Texas company during its construction period.


Standing on a hill west of Stockton are the ruins of an English castle built in 1880 by Enos and Eliza Good. Some of the story of this couple and their home is told by June Van Dyke in the Plainville Times, January 3, 1963.

Excerpts from a letter by W. S. Broadsword, concerning the life of Israel Broadsword, were printed in the Phillipsburg Review, January 3, 1963. Israel Broadsword came to Kansas in 1856, was active in the Free-State cause during the border troubles, served in the Civil War, and homesteaded in Phillips county in 1871.

“Carl A. Swensson Helped To Put Lindsborg on Map,” a biographical sketch of Swensson by Selma Lind, was printed in the Lindsborg News-Record, January 8, 1963. Swensson was an early Lindsborg minister and founder of Bethany College.

Over 100 historic sites of Kansas are listed in an article by Ruth Meyer in the Wichita Eagle and Beacon Magazine, January 6, 1963. Markers have been placed at these sites by the Kansas State Historical Society and the State Highway Commission.

La Harpe’s history was reviewed in the January 10, 1963, issue of the Iola Register. This Allen county town was founded in the early 1880’s. It experienced great expansion after 1900, but by 1917 had reverted to small-town status.

“A Chronicle of the Moody Family and Their Johnson County Farm,” by Dorothy B. Moody, was published in two parts in the Johnson County Herald, Overland Park, January 14 and 21, 1963. The land, near Lenexa, was first settled by Thomas Cross Moody and his sons in 1857.


“Progress” editions have been published recently by the following Kansas newspapers: Kansas City Kansas, January 27, 1963; Newton Kansas, February 2; Daily Journal, Coffeyville, February 24; Daily Courier, Winfield, February 26; and El Dorado Times, February 28.

Notes on Everest’s newspaper history, by Mrs. R. C. Irsik, were published in the Everest World, January 31, 1963. The first Everest newspaper was the Post which made its appearance in the early 1880’s, shortly after the town was organized.

Two articles of historical interest appeared in the Butler County News, El Dorado, January 31, 1963: a story of the Matthew D. Cowley family, Butler county homesteaders, by Mrs. Oscar F. Stewart and W. Harry Bradley, grandchildren, as told to Dora Foster; and an article on David L. Payne’s attempt to establish a settlement in Indian territory in 1883.

Historical articles appearing recently in the Pittsburg Headlight include: a history of the Crawford County Community High School at Cherokee, now abandoned, February 14, 1963; and an article by Harold O. Taylor about a log cabin on the John Denham property southeast of Pittsburg, March 13. The cabin was discovered when a larger building which had been erected over and around it was razed.

“Old Times at Walnut City” is the title of a series of articles by Ivan Glaze commencing in the Douglass Tribune, February 14, 1963.

Special editions, commemorating the centennial of Kansas State University, Manhattan, were published by the Kansas State Collegian, Manhattan, February 15, 1963, and the Manhattan Mercury, February 17.

An illustrated history of the Gilt Edge ranch, Russell county, by June Van Dyke, appeared in the Salina Journal, February 17, 1963. The ranch, once 6,640 acres, was started by A. G. T. Cooper.
in 1878. It will be covered by water from the Saline river when
the Wilson reservoir is completed.

Evaline Edmiston's recollections of events in the Towanda area
were published in the Augusta Daily Gazette, February 21, 1963.
Miss Edmiston was born February 13, 1873, near Towanda.

"Some Western Editors View the Mormon War, 1857-1858," an
article by Robert W. Richmond, archivist of the Kansas State His-
torical Society, comprised the March, 1963, number of The Trail
Guide, Kansas City, Mo., publication of the Kansas City Posse
of the Westerners.

In its March 7, 1963, issue the Toronto Republican published
a history of the Woodson county community of Finney, by Lester
A. Harding. Other articles by Harding, on the history of the cattle
industry in Woodson county, appeared in the Republican, March 7
and 14.

Historical sketches of the Montezuma State Bank and "Recollec-
tions and Reminiscences," by Helen Ward Rennie, appeared in a
six-page bank anniversary supplement of the March 13, 1963, issue
of the Montezuma Press. The bank was founded in 1912 and
moved into its present quarters March 13, 1913.

The March 29, 1963, issue of the Gove County Republican
Gazette, Gove, included articles on the newspaper's own history.
The establishment of the Gazette at Gove in 1886 was the beginning
of the present Republican Gazette.