Kansas History as Published in the Press

“Frederick Funston in Alaska, 1892-1894: Botany Above the Forty-Ninth Parallel,” by Thomas W. Crouch, was included in the Journal of the West, Los Angeles, April, 1971. This issue of the Journal featured the Northwest coast and the Alaska frontier.

On April 5, 1871, the first issue of the Beloit Gazette was published by A. B. Cornell. In observance of its centennial the Beloit Call Gazette printed its own history in the March 25, 1971, issue.

“History of Trees in Kansas Traced in Arbor Day Story,” an article by Kenneth Martin, was published in the Emporia Gazette, March 26, 1971.

Historical articles in the Garden City Telegram in recent months included “Stanton’s [County’s] History Traced,” by Nolan Howell, March 27, 1971, and “Cattle Raising Linked With West Kansas’ History,” April 27.

Helen E. Kohlenberg is the author of an article on the old Baptist mission near Paola, which appeared in the Miami Republican, Paola, April 1, 1971. The original building was erected in 1842 as a mission to the Indians. In the April 22 issue the Republican printed “The Mallorys and the Opera House Leave Their Mark on City of Paola,” by Marjorie McLaughlin.

Stories by Lester A. Harding about the Woodson Hotel in Yates Center, appeared in the Yates Center News, April 1, 1971, and the Toronto Republican, April 15. The hotel, still standing, was built in 1887.

A brief history of the Dillon stores was printed in The Tiller and Toiler, Larned, April 2, 1971. Dillon’s is currently observing the 50th anniversary of the firm’s expansion into a chain in 1921. The founder, J. S. Dillon, had previously operated a store in Sterling.

On April 19, 1971, the city of Russell observed its centennial. Both the Russell Daily News and the Russell Record of that date featured the history of the founding of the town. The founders were a group from Wisconsin called the Ripon colony. On June 1 the News published a 62-page edition. Among the numerous historical articles were: “John C. Fremont Known as Pathfinder,”

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A full page of southeast Lincoln county history was published in the Lincoln Sentinel-Republican, April 22, 1971. It was compiled by Francis Wilson and Harvey Roush for use on a tour of that area by the Lincoln and Ellsworth county historical societies on April 18.

Reminiscences of the late S. W. McComb, relating to a journey his family made by wagon from Iowa to Kansas in 1858, were published in the Stafford Courier, April 22, 29, 1971. The family settled a few miles southwest of Topeka.

A brief history of the Prairie Village area entitled “Tecumseh’s Grandson Started It All,” by Judy Katz, was printed in the Johnson County Scout, Shawnee Mission, May 5, 1971. Ownership of the land can be traced back to Graham Rogers, Shawnee Indian chief and Tecumseh’s grandson.

In its May 5, 1971, issue the Moran Mirror printed a brief history of Moran newspapers. The earliest newspaper is believed to have been the News, started in 1883 by G. M. Wixson.

The Medicine Lodge Index, May 13, 1971, published a biographical sketch of Lucy Barnard by Dave Magruder. Born in Missouri in 1884, Mrs. Barnard lived in Nebraska and Oklahoma before settling in the Medicine Lodge area.

Herbert P. Parkin, born in a dugout in Kiowa county in 1885, was the subject of a biographical sketch by Carrie Allphin in the Kiowa County Signal, Greensburg, May 26, 1971. “Medicine Valley History,” by Margaret Turnbull, appeared in the Signal, June 16.

In its May 27, 1971, issue, the Oswego Independent printed a brief summary of its own history. The paper, which recently changed ownership, was established June 22, 1872.

The Washington County News, Washington, recently published a 44-page, undated supplement entitled “Stay-a-Day in Washington County, Midway—USA.” Included in the supplement are brief accounts of historic sites and events of the area.

Histories of Kansas churches published in the newspapers in recent months included: Maple Hill Congregational, St. Marys Star, May 27 and July 29, 1971; Peabody United Methodist and First Presbyterian, Peabody Gazette-Herald, June 3; First Christian,
Fredonia, Fredonia Daily Herald, June 10; Marion Hill Lutheran, near Dwight, White City Register, June 10; St. Joseph Catholic, Leavenworth, Leavenworth Times, June 13; Neodesha Christian, Neodesha Register, June 17; St. Francis Xavier Catholic, Burlington, Daily Republican, Burlington, June 18; "Cathedral of the Plains," Victoria, Salina Journal, July 8; Greenwood Baptist, southwest of Ottawa, Ottawa Times, July 15, and Ottawa Herald, July 16; Hope Valley church, northwest of St. Francis, St. Francis Herald, July 27; Mulvane Brethren, Mulvane News, July 29; and St. Paul's Lutheran, southwest of Junction City, Junction City Union, August 11.

Kansas school histories included in recent issues of the newspapers were: Norton High School, Norton Telegram, May 28, 1971; Rome school, south of Wellington, Wellington Daily News, June 12; and District No. 73, Labette county, Mound Valley Time-Journal, July 1.

Some of the history of Emporia's street car system and electric light plant, including a 1910-1911 controversy over leasing the plant, appeared in an article published in the Emporia Gazette, May 31, 1971.

Elizabeth Barnes' column "Historic Johnson County," in the Johnson County Herald, Shawnee Mission, included a history of the Herald, June 2, 1971. The first issue of the paper was dated July 17, 1924.

The Garden City Telegram published a series of articles beginning in the issue of June 3, 1971, on the history of the sugar beet industry in southwest Kansas. Sugar beets were first raised in the area in 1889.

Wayne A. O'Connell is the author of a biographical sketch of Dr. R. W. Wright, early settler in the Oswego area, printed in the Oswego Independent, June 3, 1971.

Richfield, founded in 1855 by J. W. Beaty, was the subject of a historical article in the Ulysses News, June 3, 1971. On July 8 the News printed a brief history of Liverpool cemetery in Stanton county.

Two pages of the Minneapolis Messenger, June 10, 1971, were devoted to biographical sketches and pictures of Ottawa county's senior citizens. Most senior citizen is Mrs. Kitty Harvey of Minneapolis, who is 111 years of age.

Some of the history of early Neodesha businesses, from an 1886
brochure on Wilson county, was published in the Neodesha Register, June 10, 1971. The same issue included a history by Shirley Hanson of the canteen operated in Neodesha for the benefit of service men during World War II and the Korean conflict.

In observance of Neodesha's 100th anniversary the Neodesha Daily Sun published a 32-page centennial edition June 15, 1971. Many articles featuring the history of the Neodesha area were included.

Mrs. Stanley Stover is the author of a history of the Morrill post office printed in two installments in The Northwest Brown Countian, Morrill, June 17 and 24, 1971. The post office was established in 1870 with Solomon Myers as the first postmaster.

Biographical sketches of some of the pioneer families of the Logan area have appeared in recent issues of the Logan Republican. Included have been the families of the following: Oliver Oleson, June 17, 1971; Henry W. Phlegley, June 24; Timothy Lynch, July 8; Alec Brown, July 15; Thomas Ray, August 5; and S. F. Bailey, August 12.

Issued with the June 17, 1971, number of the Ellsworth Reporter was a 24-page "Smoky Hills Tourist Recreation Guide," which includes several articles on the history of the area. On July 22 the Reporter printed a biographical sketch of Arthur Larkin, Ellsworth pioneer businessman.


Biographical sketches of early Oxford area residents appearing in recent issues of the Oxford Register included those of Albert Morrill, July 1, 1971, and Clinton Metz, July 15.

A history of Stevens county by Russell Smith, and other brief historical items, were published in the Hugoton Hermes, July 1, 1971. The county was organized in 1886 and Hugoton incorporated in 1887.

In recent months "Museum Notes," a regular feature by Elizabeth Irene Schmidt in the Oswego Independent, included brief biographical sketches of some individuals involved in the history of the Oswego area. Among these were: William Shirley "Old Bill"
Williams, July 1, 1971; Pierre Beatte, July 8; John Mathews, July 15; James G. Blunt, July 22; and C. M. Condon, August 19.

Belle Plaine's 100th anniversary was observed by the publication of a 30-page centennial edition by the Belle Plaine News, July 1, 1971. Histories of the community, its businesses and institutions comprise the issue.

Development of the modern combine for the harvest of wheat and other grain was the subject of an article in the Norton Daily Telegram, July 2, 1971. The first combines were huge machines requiring up to 40 mules to pull them.

A series of articles by Susan Armstrong on individuals living in the Hays area who were pioneers, began appearing in the July 5, 1971, issue of the Hays Daily News. Among those featured were: Jacob J. Maska, July 5; Mrs. Edna Richmond, July 13; Mrs. Charles F. Wiest, July 19; Mrs. Oscar Straily, August 10; and Mrs. Elmer C. Pugh, August 17. On July 20 the News printed an article by Kitty Dale entitled "Mendota: Ellis-Trego County's Traveling Post Office."

Some of the history of Silkville, by Joan Istas, was published in the Ottawa Herald, July 8, 1971. The Franklin county ranch was established by Ernest de Boissiere for the production of silk. The project prospered for a time but foreign competition caused production to cease in 1886.

An 84-page "Stay-a-Day" supplement was published by the Johnson Pioneer, July 8, 1971. History and other information on the counties of Grant, Haskell, and Stanton were included.

Articles on local history were printed in a 92-page "Stay-a-Day" edition of the Haskell County Monitor-Chief, Sublette and Satanta, published July 8, 1971.

Bliss VanGundy's column, "Osborne County Pioneers," has continued to appear regularly in recent months in the Osborne County Farmer, Osborne. Other historical articles in the Farmer recently included: "When Osborne Was Six Years Old," by H. H. Ruede, July 8, 1971; "Minutes of the Pennsylvania Colony That Settled Osborne," July 15; and articles on the floods of 1844 and 1870 in the Osborne area, and the early mail service, July 22.

In the July 15, 1971, issue of the Jennings Journal-Selden Advocate, a history of the Albert Janousek family by Lillian Shimmick
was printed. The family homesteaded near Big Timber creek in Decatur county after a journey from Bohemia and first settling in Nebraska.


Roger McClure is the author of a series of articles on the history of Moline published in the *Elk County Reporter*, Moline, beginning July 22, 1971. The town was established in 1879 when the Lawrence, Leavenworth and Gulf railroad came through.

“Early History of Wilson,” a three-part article by Rosanna Healey Thompson, was published in the Wilson World, July 22, 29, August 4, 1971. The town, started in 1868, was first called Bosland. In the 1870’s numerous Bohemian settlers arrived in the area.

D. Howard Whisler had completed 43 years as a railroad depot agent when he retired in 1963 from the Holyrood Santa Fe depot. His memoirs of those years were published in two parts in the Bushton News, July 22 and 29, 1971.

Arkansas City’s centennial was the occasion of the publication of an 86-page special edition by the Arkansas City Traveler, July 30, 1971. Many articles and illustrations tell the city’s 100-year history. On August 5 the *Traveler* printed biographical sketches of T. B. Oldroyd and “Buckskin Joe” Hoyt, Arkansas City pioneers.

Dee Brown’s book, *Bury My Heart at Wounded Knee*, was printed in a 12-part series in the Hutchinson News and the Coffeyville Journal, beginning August 1, 1971. It is a story of the American Indian’s relations with the white man from the time of Columbus to 1890.

The McFadden family history by the late Mrs. Myrtle McFadden McComb, began appearing by installments in the Stafford Courier, August 5, 1971. Leslie, Lyman, Dolph, and Jacy McFadden came to Kansas in 1877 from Michigan.

Concordia newspapers observed the town’s 100th anniversary with appropriate editions. The *Kansan*, August 5, 1971, included an eight-page pictorial section of early scenes in Concordia. On August 6 the *Blade-Empire* published a 48-page edition comprised largely of historical articles and pictures.
Walnut is the subject of an article in the Erie Record, August 12, 1971. The Crawford county town was established in 1871 by a town company composed of J. Miller, H. Burns, F. Robins, J. Burk, Dr. J. C. Pete, and Louis Giddings.

St. John county was created out of Wallace county in 1881 according to an article by M. L. Baughn printed in the Winona Leader, August 12, 1971. The article also includes some of the history of the town of Gopher. In 1885 St. John county became Logan county and Gopher became Winona.

An article on the John Brown display in the Old Depot Museum in Ottawa, including biographical information on Brown, was published in the Ottawa Times, August 12, 1971.

"History of Osage County," a series compiled and edited by Lyndon High School students under the direction of Walter Scott, continues to appear regularly in the Lyndon News-Herald.

The September, 1971, issue of the Military Review, Fort Leavenworth, included an article entitled "The Army in Western Exploration," by Col. Forrest R. Blackburn, USAR.