

## Kansas History as Published in the State Press

"Early Days in Oskaloosa," by Francis Henry Roberts, is being published serially in current issues of the Oskaloosa *Independent*.

"A Pioneer Relates of Bison Hunts in the 60's," by John G. Ellenbecker, was the title of an interview with W. M. McCanles published in the *Marshall County News*, Marysville, December 25, 1931.

The story of a furrow plowed by Jos. G. McCoy from the Red river to Abilene was recalled by Frank D. Smith in a brief article in the Coffeyville *Daily Journal*, January 1, 1932. Mr. McCoy used only cattle power to make this furrow as a marker for a new cattle trail.

"Some Experiences of an Amateur Officer of the Law" were recounted by David D. Leahy, former United States marshal located in Wichita, in the January 3, 1932, issue of the Wichita *Sunday Eagle*. "How the Buffalo Hunters Fought a War of Their Own," was the title of a narrative of the Staked Plains war against the Comanche Indians, by Paul I. Wellman in the same issue. Several Kansas buffalo hunters were among the participants in this skirmish in the Texas Panhandle in the spring of 1877. Other stories of the Wellman series which are regular weekly features of the *Eagle* included such names as Gen. George Custer, Crazy Horse, Rain-in-the-Face, Sitting Bull and Kit Carson. A biographical sketch of William Patrick Hackney, an attorney for the vigilantes during the frontier days of south-central Kansas, was another article of historical interest in this issue. It was contributed by Bob Herrick.

The Lincoln *Sentinel-Republican* observed its forty-fourth birthday, January 7, 1932, with a short sketch of the newspaper's history featured in its columns. Supplementary historical data on Lincoln county newspapers as recorded in the *Souvenir History of Lincoln County* (1908), by Elizabeth N. Barr, was published January 28.

At the beginning of its fifty-third year, January 7, 1932, *The Rooks County Record*, Stockton, published several letters from old subscribers telling of their pioneering experiences.

Interviewing celebrities in the "Golden Age of Journalism" was a venturesome task to David D. Leahy. In a two-column article on

"Great Kansans of Past Had Many Humorous Quirks" Mr. Leahy related some of his experiences for the *Wichita Sunday Eagle*, January 10, 1932.

The First Presbyterian church of Arkansas City celebrated its fifty-ninth anniversary, January 12, 1932. Finley Marshall, one of the pioneer members, spoke of the "Little White Church," north of the present edifice, where he and others attended as early as 1877. Historical notes of the church were published in the *Daily Traveler and Tribune*.

A sketch of the growth and development of Independence and Montgomery county was given in a talk by Donald W. Stewart, attorney and state commander of the American Legion, at the dedicatory program of Montgomery county's new courthouse January 11, 1932. The speech was printed in the *Independence Daily Reporter*, January 12.

The twentieth anniversary edition of the *University Daily Kansan*, official student publication of Kansas University, Lawrence, made its appearance on January 17, 1932. Early university publications, present occupations of former staff members and historical matter pertaining to the university and its school of journalism were discussed in this issue.

A résumé of the contents of *The Kansas Plainsman*, May 20, 1876, an early Russell newspaper, was published in *The Russell County News*, Russell, January 21, 1932. An issue of the *Russell Hawkeye*, for March 29, 1883, was similarly reviewed in the January 28 issue of the *News*. Names of many pioneers were mentioned in these articles.

The first of a series of Cheyenne county pioneer editions was published by the *Bird City Times*, January 21, 1932. Old settlers' reminiscences were featured, with many pioneers contributing. "Cheyenne County in 1885," by James G. Butler; photographs of Benjamin Bird and Frances L. Emerson, for whom Bird City and St. Francis were named; histories of Wheeler, Kan., and the early county schools were the edition's highlights.

Tales of early Waterville as told to Waterville high-school students by Mrs. F. P. Thorne and "Mike" Delaney, pioneers, were printed in the January 21, 1932, issue of the *Telegraph*.

A series of articles reminiscent of early-day Kansans and other historical figures of the past and present, by Dave D. Leahy, is pub-

lished regularly in the Wichita *Sunday Eagle*. The articles commenced with the January 24, 1932, issue. Sketches include such persons as Sen. Hiram Johnson, William Jennings Bryan, General Weaver and Judge Willis in the January 24 issue; Ernest Thompson Seton, John L. Sullivan, Ned Turnley, January 31; Pat McDonald, Seth M. Tucker, February 7; James Cardinal Gibbons and a discussion of Friar de Padilla, reputedly the first white man to settle in Kansas in 1541, February 14; George Washington, February 21; Col. Henry Watterson, Senator W. A. Clark, February 28, and St. Patrick, March 13.

Reno county celebrated its sixtieth birthday anniversary Tuesday, January 26, 1932, as the opening day's feature of Farm and Home Week, promoted by the Hutchinson *Herald* and *News*. "The Romance of Reno," a historical pageant representing a decade of development in Reno county, was presented. H. S. Lyman was the oldest settler of Reno county who attended the anniversary festivities. He came to the county in April, 1871. Salt jacks of pioneer times were feted the second day of the week's program. Special recognition was given to Marion Foster, one of the men who drilled the first salt well in Hutchinson. On Thursday, A. W. McCandless, first teacher at Sherman school in Hutchinson in the 70's, was the guest of honor at the pioneer school gathering. The hog callers, cow callers, bullwhackers, cowboys and bone pickers were all afforded opportunities to meet with their contemporaries on this day. Native Kansans of the county celebrated Kansas Day on January 29. Two native territorial Kansans were in attendance. They were John S. Simmons, Hutchinson attorney, who was born in Douglas county in August, 1860, and Mrs. Clara L. Barker, who was born in what is now Chase county on June 28, 1860. The Reno county 4-H clubs sponsored Saturday's finale.

The first radio founders' day program of Kansas State college was broadcast February 16, 1932, from KSAC. The present college was founded as Bluemont college. It was taken over by the state in 1863. *The Kansas Industrialist*, Manhattan, published brief biographical sketches of the founders in its issue of January 27.

How Henry Brown, sheriff of Douglas county, Rev. H. D. Fisher, Methodist minister, and Lawyer S. A. Riggs escaped the vengeance of the Quantrill raiders at Lawrence, August 23, 1863, was told by Lewis Brown, son of the pioneer sheriff, to the Hutchinson *News* January 27, 1932. Mr. Brown was only a few weeks old when the

massacre occurred, and his recollection of the affair came from his parents' description.

A short history of Mayetta as summarized from E. J. Lunger's speech to the Mayetta high school January 22, 1932, was published in the *Holton Signal*, January 28.

More than 100 Russell citizens, all of whom have been residents of Kansas for fifty years or over, were invited as guests of honor at a program sponsored by the Russell Cosmos Club, January 29, 1932. The names and short biographical sketches of a few of these early settlers were included in news accounts published in the *Russell Record*, January 28 and February 1, and *The Russell County News*, Russell, February 4.

Hardships of early-day Kansans were related by Mrs. E. F. Brown in the *Liberal News* of January 29, 1932. Mrs. Brown came to Kansas in 1857, locating near Emporia, and recalls the sacking of Lawrence and other territorial incidents. She removed to Seward county in 1885 and is reputed to be the county's first school teacher.

Residents of Salina who preceded the railroad into the city in May, 1867, were honored by the Saline county chapter, Native Daughters of Kansas, at its annual Kansas Day dinner, January 29, 1932. The names of this historical group published in the *Salina Journal* January 30 were assembled by Mrs. Effie Campbell, secretary of the Saline County Historical Association.

The history of the Mennonites, "their trials, persecutions and triumphs," was briefly sketched in *The Mennonite Story*, a 24-page illustrated booklet issued in February, 1932, by Bethel College, of Newton. Particular note was made of the Kansas settlements. Hundreds of these immigrants were carried across the continent in special trains, settling chiefly in Marion, Harvey, McPherson and Reno counties. The material was compiled by A. J. Graber.

A series of historical sketches of Wabaunsee county and Kansas, by F. L. Hodgson, are featured in current issues of the *Harveyville Monitor*. The first installment was published February 4, 1932. "Trouble With the Indians," "The Theft of Brain's Horse," "Charlie—the Slave," and "A Meal for a Tanning," are characteristic sub-titles for these articles.

Mrs. Julia M. Winters, who settled in Sedgwick county on October 16, 1872, told of early-day life in south central Kansas in the *Halstead Independent*, February 4, 1932.

The February 5, 1932, edition of the *Leon News* was edited by members of the Leon Methodist church in connection with the celebration of "Booster Sunday," February 7. Church sketches of a historical nature were featured.

A short history of the Emporia Kansas State Teachers College appeared in the February 12, 1932, issue of *The Bulletin*, the official student publication. The college was founded as the Kansas State Normal School February 15, 1865.

A brief sketch and photograph of the old mill erected by J. M. Piazzek at Grasshopper Falls (Valley Falls) in 1855, was a feature of the *Topeka Daily Capital*, February 14, 1932. C. C. Nicholson was the contributor.

Fifty years ago in the West were recalled by George M. De Tilla in a lengthy newspaper article in *The Western Times*, Sharon Springs, for February 18 and 25, 1932. Mr. De Tilla is a former cowpuncher, stage driver, miner and railroad worker.

*Russian German Settlements in the United States*, written in German by Dr. Richard Sallett, was translated by Judge J. C. Ruppenthal and the parts pertaining to Kansas were reprinted in *The Russell County News*, Russell, in its issues of February 18, 25; March 10 and 24, 1932.

A biographical sketch of Thomas Byrne, a Dickinson county pioneer, written by Mrs. Mary Byrne Clennan, a granddaughter, was published in the *Chapman Advertiser*, February 18, 1932. Other biographical articles followed in succeeding issues. A sketch of the life of Michael Cogan was contributed by Mary Cogan, his daughter, in the February 25 issue; Mrs. Fred Pierce wrote of her pioneering experiences in Kansas in the March 3 edition; a story of Jack Nash was featured March 10, and an account of the lives of Mr. and Mrs. Scott E. Poor, by a son, William Poor, was published March 17 and 24.

"Old Osage Mission" at St. Paul, was the subject of a historical sketch in the *Wichita Evening Eagle* from February 19 to March 3, 1932. Rev. Wm. Schaefer contributed the series.

A brief history of Sod Town, now Stafford, by Helen Akin, appeared in the *Wichita Sunday Eagle*, February 21, 1932. Many early-day settlers were named in the article.

An "Honor Roll of Old Settlers" of Seward county was prepared by Abe K. Stoufer for the *Liberal News*, February 23, 1932.

The *Kingman Journal* took official note of Kingman county's fifty-eighth birthday on February 27, 1932. A short sketch of the county's organization and settlement was published March 11.

The sixtieth anniversary jubilee of the building of the first railroad up the Arkansas valley was observed with a week of festivities in Hutchinson, February 29 to March 5, 1932. Sixty years ago, Hutchinson, Sterling, Dodge City and many other cities of the valley were born. Monday, February 29, the citizens of Hutchinson and their guests buried "Old Man Depression." Tuesday, pioneers of the 70's, later settlers of the 80's and 90's, and youngsters of the 1900's were garbed alike in the costumes of the early settlers. Transportation day on Wednesday brought out everything from the travois of the Indian tribes of the prairie down to the airplanes that soar over the wheat belt to-day on the air lines. The Santa Fe displayed one of the first engines used in the valley in 1872, and placed near it one of the larger locomotives of to-day. The Rock Island also featured a transportation display. Old-time handpump handcars manned by typical crews of Irish paddies, operated on the trolley tracks. Labor and industry celebrated their progress Thursday, and Friday was the official farm and grain day. Saturday was junior jubilee day. The event was well advertised in the newspapers of the valley, particularly in the *Hutchinson Herald* and *News*.

"Tribulations of an Early Day Editor," by H. S. Givler, was a column feature of the *Western Kansas World*, Wakeeney, on March 3, 1932, its fifty-third birthday anniversary edition. Mr. Givler was editor of the *World* from 1894 to 1919.

The March 3, 1932, seventh anniversary edition of the *Douglas County Republican*, Lawrence, was dedicated to Charles Sumner Finch, Kansas pioneer editor, now a member of the *Republican's* staff. Mr. Finch entered newspaper work in the fall of 1880 with the purchase of a part interest in the *Harper Times*. Since then he has been associated with many newspapers in Kansas and Missouri. The edition contained tributes from his friends and associates.

Prominent citizens of Florence, Peabody and Marion were named by Helen Akin in a three-column historical sketch which appeared in the *Wichita Eagle*, March 4, 1932.