

Kansas History as Published in the Press

Articles in the *Bulletin of the Shawnee County Historical Society*, March, 1953, were: "Fire! Fire! Fire!," an account of the burning of the Crawford Opera House; "Local History in the Making," by Earl Ives; "The Valentine House and the People Who Lived There," by Lois Johnson Cone; "Topeka Once Had Operas," by Euphemia Page; "Nautilus [Club] Memories," by Margaret Sawyer Lovewell; and "Burnett's Mound," by R. C. Obrecht.

Brief historical notes on Lyndon appeared in *The Peoples Herald*, Lyndon, March 26, 1953. The Lyndon Town Company was organized March 7, 1870, and on May 1, 1871, Lyndon became a city of the third class.

The Cunningham *Clipper's* feature, "Echoes of the Past," has continued to appear regularly in recent issues. From March 20 to May 1, 1953, a "diary" of Cunningham, July 1, 1888, through July, 1889, was published. On May 8, 15, 22 and 28, a short story, "The Indians Are Coming," based on an incident in the pioneer life of Kingman county, appeared. Another *Clipper* feature, "Cunningham's Family Album," a series of historical pictures, also has been published regularly the past several months.

Articles in recent issues of the Pittsburg *Sun* and *Headlight* included: a history of the Farlington town hall, built in 1873, by Harold O. Taylor, *Sun*, March 22, 1953, and *Headlight*, March 23; "Lecompte's Old Town," *Headlight*, March 27, and *Sun*, March 28; and a short history of Pittsburg, *Headlight*, May 20, and *Sun*, May 21.

A biographical sketch of Vincent B. Osborne, for whom Osborne county was named, was published in the Ellsworth *Reporter*, March 26, 1953. Born in Massachusetts, Osborne served with Kansas units during the Civil War and later settled at Ellsworth.

Recent articles in the Hutchinson *News-Herald* included: a history of the Hutchinson fire department, organized 63 years ago, by Jim Skinner, March 29, 1953, and a short history of Windthorst, now celebrating its 75th anniversary, April 23. Another article on Windthorst appeared in the Dodge City *Daily Globe*, April 23.

Articles in recent issues of the Kansas City (Mo.) *Star* included: "Faith of God-Fearing Pioneers Brings Blessings to Lindsborg," by Howard Turtle, March 29, 1953; and "Ft. Riley History in

Pageantry for Centennial Celebration," by John Alexander, May 31. An article in the Kansas City (Mo.) *Times*, entitled "Stories of Adventure in Early West Had Beginnings on Missouri's Frontier," a review of the diary of Osborne Russell who in 1834 traveled from Independence, Mo., to the Rocky Mountains, by Robert G. Beason, was published April 28.

Two articles in the Emporia *Daily Gazette* recently were the story of the Reeble food stores in Emporia, April 1, 1953, and a history of Emporia's hotels, June 8. The Reeble grocery business began 70 years ago when Rudolph Reeble opened the first store. The Emporia House, first hotel in Emporia, opened for business in April, 1857.

Titles of articles included recently in John Watson's "See Kansas" series in the Wichita *Evening Eagle* are: "Lindsborg's 'Messiah' in 72nd Year," April 2; "Lucas, Kansas, Couple's [Mr. & Mrs. Roy E. Miller] Free Rock Museum Plays Host to 5,000 Annually," April 9; "[Indian] Massacres Once Terrorized Lincoln County," April 16; "West Kansas Store [Robidoux Store at Wallace] Carves Niche in History," April 30; "Pueblo Indians Lived in State," May 14; "Colby, Kansas, Woman [Mrs. Joe Kuska] Owns Unique Collection of 20,000 Items," May 21; "Kansas Often Described as Flat, Holds Canyons, Buttes, Bad Lands, Rock Cities," May 28; "Historic Old Fort Wallace Once Guarded Western Trails," June 4; "Only Sod House in State Stands at Morland," June 11; and "Cimarron Crossing Once Point of Decision for Travelers Goaded Oxen on Road From Westport to Ancient Santa Fe," June 18.

A historical sketch of the 19th Kansas cavalry, by Lot Ravenscraft, was published in the Minneola *Record*, April 16 and 23, 1953. The unit, commanded by Samuel J. Crawford, was recruited in the autumn of 1868 for a campaign against the Indians who had been attacking settlers and travelers.

Recent stories by Margaret Whittemore in the Topeka *Daily Capital* were: "Erosion Made Natural Bridge in Barber Co.," April 19, 1953; "Coronado Heights Honors Spanish Explorers," May 3; "Post Office Oak [Council Grove] Helped Make Pioneer History," May 17; and "'Beecher's Bibles' and Wabaunsee Church," May 31.

Publication by installments of the history of Harmony Ridge school, District 104, Butler county, by Zella Lamb Wolff, began in

the *Butler Free-Lance*, El Dorado, April 23, 1953. The district was organized in August, 1873.

Judge A. J. Myers of Lane county recalled the history of Ravanna, "dead" Finney county town, in a column-length article in the *Dighton Herald*, April 29, 1953. Myers came to the Ravanna area in 1880.

Two letters of historical interest appeared recently in the *Ellinwood Leader*: one, by Mrs. Annie Scheufler, printed April 30, 1953, reviewed life in Ellinwood around 1875; the other, by Mrs. Anna Ernsting, appeared May 14. Mrs. Ernsting's family, the Christoph Bock's, came to Ellinwood in the middle 1870's. Also on May 14 the *Leader* printed notes from the record book of Silas N. West, early Ellinwood coffin maker and notary public.

The early Garden City schools were discussed briefly by Marilyn Hatfield in the *Garden City Daily Telegram*, April 30, 1953. Sam Krotzer was the first teacher, holding classes in the John Stevens home in 1879 for 15 pupils.

Based on his visits to Concordia, Lebanon, Smith Center, Oberlin, Dighton, and Great Bend, Clyde Hostetter comes to the conclusion in an article, "Would Your Town Stop Anybody?" in *Pathfinder* magazine, Philadelphia, May, 1953, that something to be proud of in the way of history and progress can be found in almost every town. Hostetter thinks that small-town residents are far too modest about their communities.

Some of the history of Elkhart appeared in the *Elkhart Tri-State News*, May 1, 1953. Elkhart recently observed its 40th anniversary, having been established in April, 1913.

Several church histories have appeared in the past few months in the *Hays Daily News*. An article on the Hays Baptist church, established in 1883, was printed May 3, 1953. The history of the Presbyterian church of Hays, founded in 1873, appeared May 21. The Congregational church of Ellis, now observing its 80th anniversary, was featured May 24. Biographical sketches of two of Hays' prominent early businessmen, Andrew S. Hall and Morgan G. Huntington, were published in the *News*, June 7.

The *Wellington Daily News*, May 6, 1953, published a history of Wellington by May Myers Garland. In 1871 Mrs. Garland's father, L. K. Myers, joined with others in founding Wellington. It was incorporated in November, 1872.

A history of the early Grinnell grade schools appeared in the *Grinnell Record-Leader*, May 14, 1953. The first school in Grinnell apparently began in the fall of 1885, with Narra Jones as teacher. The first schoolhouse was erected that same autumn.

Anthony's 75th anniversary was celebrated May 27 and 28, 1953, with a Diamond Jubilee program designed to revive the pioneer spirit. The townsite of Anthony was selected April 6, 1878, by the town company. Anthony was incorporated in 1879. The *Anthony Republican* published a special 42-page edition, May 21, 1953, in which articles on the history of Anthony and Harper county appeared.

Some of the history of the First Presbyterian church of Dodge City was printed by the *Dodge City Daily Globe*, May 23, 1953. The church was formally organized as a Presbyterian church on May 26, 1878, but had been in existence on a non-denominational basis for some time before that. The leader in the organization was the Rev. O. W. Wright, who arrived in Dodge City in 1876.

A history of the first bridge over the Republican river at Clay Center, by L. F. Valentine, was published in the *Clay Center Dispatch*, May 26, 1953. The bridge, completed in 1875, was recently torn down. In the same issue of the *Dispatch* was a brief article by the Rev. F. E. Shivers, Miltonvale, on the Bateham post office in Clay county. Another article by Valentine, in the *Clay Center Times*, June 4, discussed the fees charged by ferries on the Republican river in the 1870's.

Girard had its beginning February 28, 1868, when Dr. C. H. Strong erected a stick on the site and attached the name Girard, according to a short article in the *Girard Press*, May 28, 1953. A town company was organized and in that same year lots were sold, buildings erected, and a post office established.

On May 30, 1953, the first weekly installment of Charles W. Goodlander's memoirs and recollections of early Fort Scott appeared in the *Fort Scott Tribune-Monitor*. Goodlander came to Fort Scott in 1858 and was active in the development of the town. In 1899 his memoirs were published in a book entitled *Memoirs and Recollections of C. W. Goodlander of the Early Days of Fort Scott*.

Included in the June, 1953, number of the *Transactions of the Kansas Academy of Science*, Lawrence, were "The Geography of Kansas," part 3—concluded, by Walter H. Schowe; and another editorial on favorite views in Kansas.

A history of the Orcutt community, Neosho county, by Grace Moody Reed, was printed in the *Erie Record*, June 5, 1953. The school district of Orcutt was organized and a schoolhouse built in 1873.

Featured in a 50-page special edition of *The Phillips County Review*, Phillipsburg, June 11, 1953, was the recently modernized and expanded Co-operative refinery.

A 92-page Fort Riley centennial edition was published by the *Junction City Union*, June 24, 1953. Included were articles on various phases of Fort Riley, Junction City, and Geary county history. Other newspapers observing Fort Riley's 100th birthday with special editions were the *Manhattan Mercury-Chronicle*, June 24, and the *Junction City Republic*, June 25.