

## The Annual Meeting

THE 81st annual meeting of the Kansas State Historical Society and board of directors was held in the rooms of the Society on October 16, 1956.

The meeting of the directors was called to order by President Wilford Riegle at 10 A. M. First business was the reading of the annual report by the secretary:

### SECRETARY'S REPORT, YEAR ENDING OCTOBER 16, 1956

At the conclusion of last year's meeting the newly elected president, Wilford Riegle, reappointed Charles M. Correll and Frank Haucke to the executive committee. The members holding over were Will T. Beck, John S. Dawson, and T. M. Lillard.

Two members of the Society's board of directors died during the past year: Mrs. W. D. Philip, Hays, and Henry S. Blake, Topeka. Mrs. Philip, a life member since 1918, had served on the board of directors continuously since 1931. A resident of Ellis county since 1886, she was the first student to enroll at Fort Hays State College when it was established. She early began to collect historical objects of northwest Kansas and contributed many fine relics, including an entire furnished room, to the Fort Hays museum. Mr. Blake, president and general manager of Capper Publications, was also president of the Capper Foundation for Crippled Children and was active in many other civic, state, and charitable organizations. The death of these two friends is noted with deep regret.

### APPROPRIATIONS AND BUDGET REQUESTS

The legislative session which convened in January, 1956, was the first "budget session" under the constitutional amendment of 1954. It was immediately obvious that the session must find new sources of revenue to meet financial needs as listed in the governor's budget recommendations or pare budget requests in an attempt to stay within anticipated revenues. It chose the latter course, but still failed to hold the total budget within these limits. For the Society this meant that although necessary appropriations for salaries and normal operating expenses were made, almost all items of special maintenance were denied.

Major requests which were cut from the budget included completion of the air-conditioning system, installation of steel stack floors, replacement of main exterior doors, laying of asphalt tile flooring in the museum, and installation of two new flagpoles. In fact, the only important maintenance requests allowed were \$10,000 to continue the rewiring of the building and \$650 for new rear entrance doors. A request for funds to convert the garage at the Kaw Indian Mission, Council Grove, into living quarters for the caretaker, and to build a new frame garage and toolhouse, was rejected for the second time. All major requests for improvements at Shawnee Methodist Mission, near Kansas City,

were also denied. These included construction of an addition to the garage, erection of a chain-link fence, deepening of the West building basement and laying a concrete floor. The only maintenance appropriation made was \$3,500 for exterior and interior painting. The appropriation for operation of the Funston Memorial Home near Iola was only \$1,300, which with a reappropriated balance from the preceding fiscal year allows approximately \$25 per month for all expenses of operation exclusive of the caretaker's salary. For the First Territorial Capitol an appropriation of \$400 was made for exterior painting of the caretaker's cottage.

Budget requests for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1958, were filed with the state budget director in September. In addition to appropriations for salaries and operating expenses, the major items listed above were asked for again. New requests included \$800 for museum storage closets, \$1,350 for fire protection installations in the Memorial building, \$4,000 for modernization of plumbing, and \$5,300 for interior painting. For the First Territorial Capitol \$700 was asked for a new electric line, and a supplemental appropriation of \$1,200—to be added to the \$1,500 already available—was requested for replacing the roof. The Funston Home needs a new well and a flagpole, and \$600 was budgeted for these items. New maintenance items for Shawnee Mission included \$2,000 for waterproofing and \$3,000 for interior painting of the East building, and \$1,000 for tree-trimming.

Capital improvement items—relatively large amounts for long-time improvements and special maintenance of the buildings and properties—constitute in total an unusually large percentage of the budget. Yet these improvements are necessary and must be requested if administrative responsibilities are not to be neglected. Several of these requests undoubtedly will be cut from the final budget, but the Historical Society as trustee of the state must nevertheless point out the necessity for proper maintenance of the various properties.

#### SPECIAL PROJECTS

Work on the cumulative index to the Society's publications—the *Collections*, *Quarterlies*, *Biennial Reports* and special *Publications*—was again interrupted in order to finish the index to the new two-volume *Annals of Kansas*. However, entries for the first ten volumes of the *Collections* have been completed, totaling an estimated 26,000 index slips for 4,280 pages of text.

News releases, taken from territorial and other newspapers of a century ago, are still being sent each month to the Kansas press. This program, launched two years ago as part of the observance of the 1954 territorial centennial, has been so well received by newspaper editors and readers that the articles will be continued.

The report of the survey of historic sites and structures in Kansas authorized by the 1955 legislature will be prepared for submission to the 1957 session. Although many sites and buildings have not yet been examined and will not be included in this report, it is expected that the work can be continued until all important historic sites are covered. A project of this nature, to be carried out efficiently and with a minimum of wasted effort, would require the services of a full-time staff member for the greater part of a year. Since this is impossible under present circumstances, it seems best to continue the survey as time permits and as personnel is available.

## ARCHIVES DIVISION

Public records from the following state departments have been transferred during the year to the archives division:

Source	Title	Dates	Quantity
Agriculture, Board of . . .	Statistical Rolls of Counties, Population Schedules of Cities and Townships . . .	1949 1955	1,699 vols. 4,031 vols.
Insurance Department . .	Annual Statements . . . . .	1948	50 vols.
Kansas Judicial Council, Secretary of State . . . . .	Correspondence and Papers, Original House and Senate Bills, Resolutions and Petitions . . . . .	1927-1946 1895-1917	1 box 34 transfer cases

Annual reports for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1955, were received from the accounts and reports division of the Department of Administration, director of Alcoholic Beverage Control, state auditor, Children's Receiving Home, Crippled Children Commission, Entomological Commission, Fort Hays State College, Horticultural Society, Industrial School for Boys, Industrial School for Girls, Larned State Hospital, Osawatimie State Hospital, Parsons State Training School, Real Estate Commission, Sanatorium for Tuberculosis, Division of Institutional Management of the Department of Social Welfare, Topeka State Hospital, state treasurer, and the Winfield State Training School. Annual reports were also received from the School Book Division of the Board of Education, the Board of Engineering Examiners and the state printer for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1956.

A progress report on construction and remodeling programs in the state as of January 1, 1956, was received from the state architect's office. Also deposited in the archives was a copy of the "Transcript of Proceedings Before the Investigating Committee of the Kansas State Legislature, March 10-20, 1953," relating to the sale of a building at the Sanatorium for Tuberculosis at Norton.

A small body of county and local government archival material was received during the year. One volume, a "Record of Bond Undertakings, 1887-1909," originally in the district court of Stevens county, was added to the collections and some miscellaneous Stevens county records, including poll books and school bond election papers, 1888-1895, were lent for microfilming. Two volumes of Dickinson county commissioners' journals, 1861-1883, were microfilmed, as were two volumes of early Abilene city records—an ordinance book, 1869-1874, and a minute book, 1870-1876.

In co-operation with the State Records Board and the Governmental Research Center of Kansas University, the Historical Society helped sponsor a state conference on records management, June 26, 27, 1956. The conference was prompted by the ever increasing records problems being encountered by state agencies. Planned by the Governmental Research Center, the program consisted of lectures by Benjamin Cutcliffe of the General Services Administration of the U. S. government and discussion sessions led by Prof. E. O. Stene of Kansas University. Inventories of agency records, filing systems, records disposal and storage, and microfilming were topics discussed during the meetings. All sessions were well attended and nearly all state offices were

represented. Other studies and conferences now in the planning stage should eventually lead to a more efficient records program for Kansas.

A new assistant archivist, Carl W. Deal, joined the staff on May 10. Mr. Deal is a graduate of Kansas State Teachers College of Emporia and holds a master's degree in history from the Mexico City College.

#### LIBRARY

Alberta Pantle, acting librarian since the retirement of Helen M. McFarland, has been appointed head librarian. Miss Pantle has been a member of the staff since 1940.

The number of patrons using the library again reached a record high. During the year 4,041 came in person, of whom 1,444 worked on subjects pertaining to Kansas, 1,620 on genealogy, and 977 on general subjects. Inquiries by correspondence were predominantly on Kansas topics, ranging from a request from Woodstock, England, for information on the origin of Woodstock, Kan., to queries from several states concerning the authenticity of exploits of Wyatt Earp as portrayed on a current television program. Some of these inquiries were answered by sending 182 packages of material from the loan file, which consists largely of pamphlets and articles on Kansas subjects.

Five special newspaper editions and 2,066 miscellaneous issues were read and clipped in addition to seven daily newspapers which were regularly searched for Kansas items. All clippings are classified and catalogued by the library staff before being placed on the shelves. With the aid of a part-time assistant during the summer, clippings from 14 worn volumes, totaling 4,118 pages, were remounted. Much remounting remains to be done because many of the older clipping volumes are deteriorating.

A display of rare and interesting Bibles and other religious books from the library collection has been arranged on the third floor. Several hundred people, including groups of children from Vacation Bible schools in Topeka and the surrounding area, have made special trips to see the exhibit.

The 1850 federal census of Vermont was added to the microfilm collection of early out-of-state census records as a gift from the Kansas Society of Colonial Dames. The 1860 census of Missouri and Nebraska was purchased, bringing the number of states represented by these records to fourteen. Family histories and vital records were donated by the Kansas Society, Daughters of the American Revolution, and by a number of individuals. Some of these genealogies were written by Kansas people, others were old and out-of-print books which are rarely available for purchase.

Many Kansas churches celebrated their 75th or 100th anniversaries during 1955 and 1956. The library received copies of the following histories which were published as part of these celebrations: Atchison, First Christian Church, donated by the author, G. Harold Roberts; Hutchinson, Grace Episcopal Church, donated by Mrs. Vernon McArthur; Leavenworth, Christian Church and First Presbyterian Church, donated by John Feller; Manhattan, Congregational Church, donated by the author, Charles M. Correll; Topeka, First Congregational Church, donated by Mrs. Charles Galt. A collection of historical sketches of 11 Methodist churches in central Kansas was also received from B. F. Young, Winfield.

A number of reminiscences of early days in Kansas were given, among them *Mental Snapshots Along Life's Highway*, by Mrs. Lotie Van Velzer, and *Kansas*

*Heritage*, by Mrs. L. L. Pabst. Historical works received included "Ness County, Kansas, Histories," copied by Mrs. Minnie Dubbs Millbrook from manuscript and newspaper sources; *History of Easton, Kansas*, by Herbert C. Jones; and *Prairie Pioneers of Western Kansas and Eastern Colorado*, by John C. and Winona C. Jones.

Total library accessions, October 1, 1955-September 30, 1956, were:

Books	
Kansas .....	304
General .....	541
Genealogy and Local History .....	110
Indians and the West .....	48
Kansas State Publications .....	59
Total .....	1,062
Pamphlets	
Kansas .....	814
General .....	889
Genealogy and Local History .....	35
Indians and the West .....	8
Kansas State Publications .....	238
Total .....	1,484
Clippings (bound volumes) .....	10
Magazines (bound volumes) .....	220
Microfilm (reels)	
Books, magazines, etc. ....	8
Census .....	17
Total .....	25

#### MANUSCRIPT DIVISION

Twenty manuscript volumes and approximately 600 manuscripts were received during the year.

Mrs. Eugene L. Bowers, Topeka, gave 74 family letters, 1827-1879, and two manuscript volumes. Among the letters is a series written by Harrison Clarkson in 1868. Clarkson, then a resident of Indiana, was on a business trip to Kansas representing the Aetna Fire Insurance Co., and the letters offer a lively description of the places visited. Later the same year Clarkson removed to Topeka where he resided during the remainder of his life.

A small group of papers of Ebenezer Nicholas Orrick Clough was given by Mrs. Gerald Clough Bulkeley, Abingdon, Ill. Of special interest is a series of four communications by Clough addressed to the *Western Star* of St. Charles, Mo., in 1849, describing the Santa Fe trail from Independence to Council Grove as the author found it in 1847. Clough was a resident of Leavenworth for more than 40 years.

The Dickinson County Historical Society gave 25 historical sketches of that county. This society has collected biographical and historical information for more than 20 years and has filed copies of articles and sketches with the state Society.

A notebook containing papers of Albin K. Longren, pioneer airplane builder, was given by his brother, E. J. Longren, Topeka. The papers include a description of the Longren factory facilities at Topeka.

Minutes of the annual meetings of the Bar Association of Northwestern Kansas, 1929-1954, were received from Judge J. C. Ruppenthal, Russell.

A collection of records of the James Turner furniture and undertaking business of Clyde was given by L. E. Turner, Clifton. The 17 manuscript volumes and six files of invoices cover the period 1893-1924. Included is one volume of minutes of the Clyde Development Company, 1904-1907.

Minutes of the Southwest Kansas Editorial Association, 1896-1945, were given by Earl Fickert, Peabody.

An interesting single item received during the year is a letter by James Josiah Webb to his wife dated at Walnut Creek, Kansas territory, May 10, 1858.

Nine muster and pay rolls of the 6th regt., U. S. infantry, 1853-1855, were received. The rolls were dated at Camp Center, Ft. Riley, Ft. Atkinson, and Camp Precaution, all frontier army posts.

Other donors were: A. E. Anderson, Leoti; Jerome Beatty, Roxbury, Conn.; H. E. Breed, El Cajon, Cal.; Mrs. Luther Burns, Topeka; Mrs. Bernard P. Chamberlain, Charlottesville, Pa.; Mrs. Marion Catren, Olpe; Mary E. Clemens, Core, West Va.; Mrs. Anna Conwell, Topeka; Lois Coons, Parsons; Mrs. Paul Ernst, Olathe; Alan W. Farley, Kansas City; Dr. Madge Gabriel, Topeka; D. V. Godard, Albuquerque, N. M.; Mrs. Bert Hay, Holton; Mrs. Lloyd Hershey, Olathe; Dr. and Mrs. Gordon Hill, Topeka; Neal Jordan, Harper county; Charlotte McLellan, Topeka; James P. McCollom, Dodge City; James C. Mullis, Lawrence; Dr. Karl A. Menninger, Topeka; Dorothy Murphy, Caldwell; Jennie Small Owen, Topeka; Mrs. Ben Pannkuk, Wisconsin Rapids, Wis.; the Jennie A. Philip estate; Mrs. Edward Rooney, Topeka; Julien V. Root, Boise, Idaho; Mrs. Leland Schenck, Topeka; Mrs. Cliff Stratton, Topeka; Dr. E. B. Trail, Berger, Mo.; and J. A. Wells, Seneca, Mo.

Microfilm copies of the following have been acquired:

Diaries of Joseph Harrington Trego, Linn county pioneer, for the years 1844-1859. The originals were lent by Mrs. J. H. Morse, Mound City.

Diaries of Elizabeth Simerwell, daughter of the Baptist missionary, Robert Simerwell, for the years 1852-1861, in two volumes. Vol. 2 contains farm accounts of her husband, John S. Carter. The diaries were lent by Bessie E. Moore, Wakarusa.

Five letters of James E. Love, 1862. Love was first lieutenant, Co. K, 8th regiment, Kansas Volunteer infantry. The letters give details of the movement of troops from Camp Hunter to Aubrey, Johnson county. The originals were lent by Love's grandson, Lewis B. Stuart, St. Louis.

Medical records of Andrew H. Fabrique, pioneer doctor of Wichita. The records include a list of births, 1871-1876, and a visiting list for 1889. With the records was a ledger of the Tefft House, Topeka, 1868-1870. The originals were lent by Dr. Fabrique's daughter, Mrs. George T. Nolley, Wichita.

Records of the First Congregational church of Russell, 1886-1942. Originals were furnished through the courtesy of Mrs. Ralph Ewing, Russell.

Post returns of Camp Mackey, New Post Arkansas River and Ft. Atkinson, early 1850's. Film was obtained from the National Archives.

Papers in the claim of F. J. Marshall and Albert G. Woodward, Marshall county, for depredations committed by the Pawnee Indians, 1854-1855. Original documents are in the National Archives.

#### MICROFILM DIVISION

This year marked the tenth anniversary of the Society's microfilming program. Although some film was purchased earlier, it was in 1946 that the Society's camera was installed and a permanent microfilming program undertaken. As of September 30, 1956, nearly 4,200,000 photographs have been made, more than 380,000 of them during the past 12 months. This year there were 330,000 photographs of newspapers, and nearly 45,000 of archival records, with the balance divided between library and manuscript materials.

Work on the *Ottawa Daily Herald* was completed for the period November 18, 1896-November 27, 1952, a total of more than 148,000 exposures on 215 rolls of film. Microfilming of the *Herald* will be continued through 1954. The *Chanute Daily Tribune*, reported last year as microfilmed for June 22, 1892-November 1, 1915, was completed through 1954. Other newspapers filmed during the year were the *Cimarron Herald* and *Kansas Sod House*, July 16, 1885-March 25, 1886; *Coffeyville Journal*, January 1, 1900-December 31, 1920, and January 1-December 31, 1937; *Coldwater Republican*, November 27, 1884-December 30, 1886; *Coolidge Border Ruffian*, January 2, 1886-January 15, 1887; *Kansas Daily Tribune*, Lawrence, January 10, 1855-December 31, 1881 (with issues missing for December 7, 1874-January 6, 1876; October 19-December 31, 1879); and the *Kansas City (Mo.) Times*, July 1-November 13, 1874.

Archival materials microfilmed included 148 volumes of the state census of 1905 and two volumes of the census of 1925.

#### MUSEUM

The program of expansion and modernization of the museum has continued through the year. Its success in part is reflected in the attendance figures—41,702 for the year ending September 30, as compared with 36,097 for the preceding year.

Twenty new exhibit cases received last November have been fitted with displays depicting the early history of Kansas, from the migrations of prehistoric man and the expedition of Coronado to subjects of the territorial period and such personalities as Gov. Andrew Reeder, John Brown, and Abraham Lincoln. An additional 20 cases, funds for which were appropriated by the 1956 legislature, are on order and should be delivered next month. These will complete the renovation presently planned for the main gallery. An appropriation for the purchase of a third group of 20 cases is included in the budget for next year. These cases are to be used for Indian and military displays.

Two more period rooms have been finished since the last report: a farm kitchen of the 1900's and a parlor of the 1920's, though the latter still lacks a few articles of furniture and accessories. Three additional rooms are planned for this wing of the museum, but their construction probably must wait while the staff turns its attention to the east wing. In this area, as mentioned in last year's report, plans call for the development of a general store and post

office, a blacksmith and harness shop, a print shop, doctor's office, and a dentist's office.

Air-conditioning units to cool approximately one half of the museum area were put into operation for the first time last spring. They have not only made it possible for the museum staff to work far more efficiently but have been a major factor in increasing attendance during the summer months. In this connection a comparison of monthly attendance records is interesting. In July, 1955, 2,786 persons visited the museum, and in August the number was 3,772. A year later, when the air-conditioning was in operation, the figures for the same months were 4,571 and 5,755, an increase of approximately 2,000 for each month.

Another important stimulus to increased attendance has been the publicity given the Society by the two Topeka newspapers. The *Topeka State Journal* has printed each week a photograph taken from our files showing old buildings and street scenes. Inevitably such pictures revive interest in the past, and the credit line printed with each tends to focus attention on the Society and its work. The *Topeka Daily Capital* has been publishing on Sunday a "Museum Feature of the Week," pointing out by means of a photograph and brief descriptive paragraph some object which is displayed in the museum. Public response to this series has been excellent.

The museum's educational program also has continued to expand. Guided tours are available to groups upon request, and approximately 150 school and scout groups from all parts of the state have utilized this service during the year.

A photographic darkroom is operated as an adjunct to the museum. In addition to photographing and processing all pictures used in museum displays, the darkroom staff has been responsible for all photographic work for the *Annals*, the *Quarterly*, and for newspaper releases. It has rephotographed all the legislative pictures which formerly hung on the walls of the museum, and made them into panels of a size suitable for the new display wings on the third floor. A collection of color slides of state landmarks and historic sites, some of which will be shown at the meeting this afternoon, has been started. Many old photographs have been copied for better preservation, and hundreds of prints from the Society's files have been made for patrons.

Through the generosity of the Eisenhower Museum at Abilene a temporary exhibit of gifts and mementos belonging to the President is currently displayed in two cases on the fourth floor. A series of original Eisenhower cartoons by Karl K. Knecht, also lent by the Eisenhower Museum, may be seen in the glass panels in the third floor lobby.

There were 68 accessions comprising 456 objects during the year. One of the most important was a purchase of Indian materials relating to the Kansas area from the Beloit College Museum at Beloit, Wis. Although the Society rarely buys museum articles, the inadequacy of our Indian collections made it advisable to take advantage of this opportunity to obtain a number of interesting and valuable pieces.

Important accessions during the year include a collection of furniture from the Emma Lodean Hinton estate, Kansas City; the Lillian S. Guy Memorial collection of 142 items, many of them articles of clothing of the 1880's, received through Mrs. Frank Pettit and Hinkle M. Guy, Jr., Topeka; fixtures and

equipment from the general store and post office at Zarah, from Mr. and Mrs. Harry King, Zarah, with the assistance of Robert Baughman; articles from a drugstore at Delia, from Mrs. B. E. Frisby, Delia; pioneer sod house items from Mrs. Ira E. Harshbarger, Loveland, Colo.; household furnishings of the 1920 era which were the property of former Gov. W. E. Stanley, from his daughter-in-law, Mrs. W. E. Stanley, Wichita; two large collections of household items from Mrs. Eugene Bowers, Topeka, and the estate of Mr. and Mrs. Hugh D. Carver, Concordia, through their heirs, Mrs. Dean Finley, Mrs. Grover Emption, and Lewis Carver; and a collection of Indian items belonging to Prof. J. V. Cortelyou, formerly of Kansas State College, donated by his wife through R. G. Cortelyou, Omaha, Neb.

Other donors during the year were Mrs. P. W. Allen, Topeka; Mr. and Mrs. Milton F. Amrine, Council Grove; Mrs. Louise Baber, Lawrence; Mrs. John B. Bellamy, Topeka; Roderick Bentley, Shields; Warren P. Chaney, Topeka; Mrs. W. B. Collinson, Topeka; Mrs. Anna Conwell, Topeka; Eldon Corkill, Dallas, Tex.; the Julia Cotton estate, Topeka; Col. Brice C. W. Custer, Topeka; Alva E. Dillard, Melvern; Mr. and Mrs. C. C. Durkee, Manhattan; A. R. Earhart, Topeka; Mrs. Harry B. Farnsworth, Oakland, Cal.; Dr. Newell Feeley, Topeka; Mr. and Mrs. E. E. Ferguson, Valley Falls; Mr. and Mrs. R. I. Forbes, Topeka; Mrs. W. H. Freimuth, Tonganoxie; Al F. George, Topeka; the Governor's Mansion through Mrs. Fred Hall; Horace T. Green, Topeka; Ray W. Groom, Council Grove; Mrs. J. L. Grubaugh, Council Grove; heirs of Loren Hadley, Kansas City, Mo.; Hall Lithographing Co., Topeka; Mrs. Bert Hay, Holton; Chester Heizer, Caldwell; Mrs. Jack Hendrix, Topeka; Mrs. Daisy Keller, Sapulpa, Okla.; Mr. and Mrs. Charles A. Kelley, Topeka; Manuel Kolarik, Caldwell; E. J. Longren, Topeka; Paul Lyons, Topeka; the heirs of William D. McFarland, Chase; Mrs. Frank Miller, Topeka; John Miller, Topeka; Mr. and Mrs. H. C. Mulroy, Topeka; Georgia Nicholson, Lawrence; Mrs. Gail French Peterson, Lawrence; Ward B. Philip, Brownell; B. W. Purdum, Topeka; Mrs. R. W. Richmond, Topeka; Mrs. George E. Smith, Topeka; Mrs. Hall Smith, Topeka; Stanley D. Sohl, Topeka; the children of Mr. and Mrs. Richard B. Stevens, Lawrence; Annie B. Sweet, Topeka; Mrs. Virgil Teeter, Partridge; Mrs. Carl F. Trace, Topeka; Mr. and Mrs. Charles Tucking, Valley Falls; Judy Ann Walker, Topeka; Mrs. L. R. Watson, Altoona; Charles J. Williams, Topeka; Wolfe's Camera Shop, Topeka; the Woman's Kansas Day Club; Charles Wulfkuble, Topeka; Otto Wullschlegel, Frankfort.

#### NEWSPAPER AND CENSUS DIVISIONS

A total of 6,342 patrons who called in person were served this year by the newspaper and census divisions, and a much larger number by correspondence. This service involved the use of 6,191 single issues, 6,472 bound volumes, and 1,828 microfilm reels of newspapers, and 43,886 census volumes, an increase of more than 12,000 over the number of census volumes searched during the previous year.

The demand for certified copies of state census records continues to mount. Another all-time high was reached this year with 17,580 certificates issued, nearly 2,500 more than in the preceding year. These records provide proof of age and place of birth needed for delayed birth certificates, social security, railroad retirement, and other purposes. The broadening of the social security program is undoubtedly responsible for the increasing demand.

Nearly all Kansas newspapers are received regularly for filing. These include 55 dailies, one triweekly, ten semiweeklies, and 292 regular weeklies. The Society's files now total 57,353 bound volumes of Kansas newspapers and over 12,000 volumes of out-of-state newspapers, dating from 1767 to 1956. With the addition of 679 reels this year, the Society's collection of newspapers on microfilm now includes 5,926 reels.

Publishers who contribute microfilm copies of the current issues of their newspapers to the Society are: Oscar Stauffer and Rex Woods, *Arkansas City Daily Traveler*; E. W. Johnson, *Chanute Tribune*; Harry Valentine, *Clay Center Dispatch*; George W. Marble, *Fort Scott Tribune*; Angelo Scott, *Iola Register*; W. A. Bailey, *Kansas City Kansan*; Dolph Simons, *Lawrence Daily Journal-World*; Daniel R. Anthony, III, *Leavenworth Times*; and Leland Schenck, *Topeka Daily Capital*.

The Society frequently receives miscellaneous issues of older newspapers. Ruth E. Hunt, Topeka, recently donated several issues of out-of-state newspapers, most of them published on historic dates. Charles H. Carr, Wichita, gave *The Phoebus*, Hutchinson, July 20, 1891-April 1, 1892. This was a small-size biweekly newspaper published by Carr and two other "printer's devils" to gain experience. Other donors of older newspapers include: Norman Niccum, Tecumseh; Mrs. Loyal Payne, Manhattan; Mrs. Wm. L. Smith, Sarasota, Fla.; and Mrs. Eugene Bowers, Ralph Crawshaw, Louis R. Smith, and LeRoy Stevens, Topeka. Mrs. C. D. Churchill, St. Francis, lent the *Wano Plain Dealer*, December 30, 1886, to the Society for photostating.

#### PHOTOGRAPHS AND MAPS

During the year 1,262 photographs were added to the collection. Of these, 707 were gifts and 555 were lent to the Society for copying. Many of the pictures came in response to requests for *Annals* illustrations. In addition, a great many still photographs and color slides and several feet of motion picture film were taken by the staff. New filing cases have made the picture storage facilities less crowded, and the system of filing is being revised.

The new photographic darkroom, mentioned previously in this report, has already proved of great value to the Society. All photographs lent for copying were reproduced by our own staff and equipment rather than by a commercial photographer as in the past. A large number of faded or damaged pictures from the files were also copied. Service to the public has been substantially improved. Dozens of patrons have been aided by the files and darkroom facilities as the Society has been able to furnish copies in sizes from small snapshots to large photo murals upon request.

The map collection has undergone some changes and 40 new maps have been accessioned during the year. The acquisition of a new map case has facilitated cleaner and more efficient storage. A large backlog of uncataloged material has been recorded and filed. Space has been saved and the maps themselves are more easily accessible.

#### SUBJECTS FOR RESEARCH

Subjects for extended research during the year included: Negro migration, 1879; St. John's Episcopal church, Wichita; banking in Kansas; the Indian frontier on the upper Missouri before 1865 and missions and fur trade on the upper Missouri before 1900; labor unions in Kansas; World War I; the

Lecompton constitution; woman suffrage; railway promotion in the settlement of Kansas; Shawnee county schools; cow towns; Pottawatomie Indians; local taxes in Kansas; the Republican party; Highland Park; Kansas folklore; E. Haldeman-Julius and his publications; textbooks used in Kansas schools; Kansas sheriffs and outlaws, and life in central Kansas, 1870-1900; Eugene F. Ware; Mary Elizabeth Lease; Frederick Funston; William Clark; and David R. Atchison.

#### PUBLICATIONS

The *Quarterly*.—Reduced printing appropriations of the past four years were increased by the 1956 legislature, enabling the Society again to publish a *Quarterly* of sufficient pages to warrant the binding of an annual volume. Volume 22, therefore, will contain the four numbers for 1956, and should be ready for distribution by the end of the year.

A larger magazine will permit publication of a greater variety of articles, which in turn will attract more reader interest. Among the features this year were the Charles B. Lines letters, edited by Alberta Pantle, which told the story of the Connecticut-Kansas colony and its settlement at Wabaussee 100 years ago. Articles relating the experiences of two pioneer women in western Kansas, Mrs. Hattie E. Lee and Mrs. Catherine Wiggins Porter, have received widespread praise. George C. Anderson's journal, being published in two parts, records an Ohio land committee's impressions of several areas of Kansas and Colorado in 1871. Dr. James C. Malin's contributions this year are articles on James A. and Louie Lord, and other theatrical groups and individuals who entertained in Kansas. The Winter number will include an account of the old ghost town of Quindaro, by Alan W. Farley, and the journal of William W. Salisbury, who joined the gold rush across Kansas to the Pike's Peak area in 1859, edited by David Lindsey.

*Annals of Kansas*.—Today the second and final volume—at least for the present—of the new *Annals of Kansas* will be formally presented. It marks the conclusion of a gigantic task. Nearly ten years of research, selection, and editorial effort have gone into the preparation of these two books. The first volume, published two years ago, covered the period 1886-1910. The second volume continues this day-by-day history of the state through 1925. More will be said of this work at the afternoon meeting, but it is fitting here to make special mention of Jennie S. Owen, chief annalist, and the several assistants who have worked with her through the years; of Kirke Mechem, the editor; and Louise Barry, who undertook singlehanded the immense job of compiling the index.

Upon the completion of her work on the *Annals* Miss Owen retired from active service with the Society. Although she had been a member of the staff for 18 years, she often spoke of her desire to write again for the newspapers. Now she will have time, and Jennie's by-line undoubtedly will be seen over special articles and feature stories, as it was in earlier years when she worked for the *Emporia Gazette*, the *El Dorado Times*, and the *Junction City Union*.

The *Mirror*.—Publication of the *Mirror*, the Society's bimonthly newsletter, has continued through the year. It has been well received by members and friends and has been helpful in bringing them into closer contact with the actual administration and activities of the organization. Many fine accessions

have been received, particularly for the museum, as a direct result of articles which have appeared in its columns.

#### THE FIRST CAPITOL

Registration of visitors at the First Territorial Capitol, on the Fort Riley reservation, totaled 3,590 for the year. This is a decrease of approximately 1,000 from last year's figure, and may be accounted for at least in part by the fact that many tourists now use the new U. S. 40 highway which by-passes Fort Riley.

Installation of new display cases was completed during the year, and electrical wiring was installed in the building for the first time. The new cases, each with its own electrical fixture, may now allow exhibits to be seen under the most advantageous conditions.

#### THE FUNSTON HOME

Officially known as the Funston Memorial State Park, this property did not begin active operation until May, 1956. V. E. Berglund was employed as caretaker and a great deal has been accomplished since that time despite the handicap of extremely limited funds. Grounds have been cleaned up, trees and shrubs trimmed, and new plantings have been set out.

Many articles of furniture, decoration, and household goods have been received from Mrs. F. A. Eckdall, Emporia, and Aldo Funston, Parsons, a sister and brother of Gen. Frederick Funston. The Society's museum staff has installed two wall cases in which are displayed articles relating to the general's career.

A visitors' register opened in June was signed by 377 persons through the end of September. Thirteen states, in addition to Kansas, were represented. The number of visitors undoubtedly will increase substantially, although lack of a heating system will make the home primarily a three-season attraction.

#### THE KAW MISSION

This has been a highly successful year for the Kaw Methodist Mission at Council Grove. Visitors registered from 45 states, the District of Columbia, Hawaii, Alaska, and nine foreign countries. Registrations totaled 5,722, a gain of more than a thousand over the preceding year.

Much of the credit for the increase in attendance must go to local supporters. A "Museum Scoreboard" published each week by the Council Grove *Republican* has created a great deal of interest, while an information bureau established by the Junior Chamber of Commerce has done an excellent job of directing tourists to the Mission. Council Grove is aware of its historic sites and their interest to visitors. It is also aware of the commercial value of such places to the community, and it is losing no opportunity to call attention to them.

Three floodlights purchased and installed by the Council Grove Ladies' Civic Improvement Club, with the assistance of the Kiwanis Club, also have made the Mission and grounds a place of beauty after dark. The Kansas District of Kiwanis International has placed an attractive marble bench in a corner of the grounds to commemorate the founding of the district at Council Grove.

Donors during the year included Ralph Edwards, Burdick; Dorothy Miller, White City; Fred Roy, Wilsey; John Ryman, Dunlap; and Lucy Porter Axe,

Rose Axe, O. A. Copple, O. D. Griffing, Bud Larner, Larry Stewart, W. H. White, Jr., and Willard Young, Council Grove.

#### OLD SHAWNEE MISSION

During the year visitors representing 29 states, England, Germany, Australia, Colombia, Ecuador, the Egyptian Sudan, and the Philippine Islands stopped at Old Shawnee Mission, located in the Kansas City suburbs. All sections of Kansas and Missouri were represented and there were many school and scout groups. A group of approximately 100 new Johnson county public school teachers visited the Mission on a tour to points of interest in the vicinity, sponsored by the Mission, Kan., Chamber of Commerce. Among other visitors were Mrs. Eleanor Lia, great granddaughter of the Rev. Isaac McCoy, Shawnee Baptist missionary; Mr. and Mrs. Louis T. Dick, Tulsa, Okla., George Dick, and James Squirrel, all Shawnee Indians.

The original brick walls of the North building and most of the West building were tuckpointed and waterproofed. Three rooms in the North building were papered with a reproduction of a wallpaper used before 1840.

The annual pilgrimage of the Kansas department, Daughters of the American Revolution, was held as usual at the Mission on Constitution Day, September 17. Approximately 115 members from over the state attended the meeting and picnic.

The Society is indebted to the state department of Colonial Dames, Daughters of American Colonists, Daughters of the American Revolution, Daughters of 1812, and the Shawnee Mission Indian Historical Society for their continued assistance at the Mission.

#### THE MITCHELL BEQUEST

In 1953 the board of directors accepted for the Society a 30-acre tract of hill pasture known as Mount Mitchell. Bequeathed by William I. Mitchell in memory of his father, Capt. William Mitchell, and the Connecticut-Kansas colony of which he was a member, the hill overlooks the town of Wabaunsee where the colony settled. The terms of the bequest required that an appropriate monument or marker be placed on the hill. This condition was fulfilled last month when a six-foot monument of Onaga stone was erected on the summit. A bronze plaque attached to the stone reads:

In commemoration of the Connecticut Kansas Colony, known also as the Beecher Bible and Rifle Colony, which settled at Wabaunsee in 1856, and in memory of Capt. William Mitchell, a member of the Colony, this monument is erected on Mount Mitchell through the generosity of his son, William I. Mitchell, by the Kansas State Historical Society, 1956.

This year is the centennial of the Connecticut colony's arrival in Kansas, and it is therefore fitting that the marker should have been erected at this time. The Society is pleased to have had a part in commemorating the constructive efforts of this group of pioneers.

#### THE STAFF OF THE SOCIETY

It is a pleasure this year, as always, to call attention to the work of the staff. The Society's collections have made it one of the nation's leading historical institutions, but the people who do the work day after day are

responsible for the personal element which brings such commendations as this from California: "In my opinion the Kansas State Historical Society is the most efficient and co-operative historical society in the country. . . ."

While it is not possible to name every individual on the staff, the work of each is sincerely appreciated. Special mention should be given to Edgar Langsdorf, assistant secretary; Mrs. Lela Barnes of the manuscript division, treasurer of the Society; Alberta Pantle, librarian; Robert W. Richmond, archivist; Stanley D. Sohl, museum director; Forrest R. Blackburn of the newspaper division; and Jennie S. Owen, annalist.

Acknowledgment should also be made of the fine work of the custodians of the several historic sites administered by the Society: Mr. and Mrs. Harry Hardy at Shawnee Mission, Mr. and Mrs. Elwood Jones at Kaw Mission, Mr. and Mrs. V. E. Berglund at the Funston Memorial Home, and John Scott at the First Capitol.

Respectfully submitted,

NYLE H. MILLER, *Secretary.*

At the conclusion of the reading of the secretary's report, Karl Miller moved that it be approved. Motion was seconded by Will T. Beck and the report was accepted.

President Riegler then called for the report of the treasurer, Mrs. Lela Barnes:

#### TREASURER'S REPORT

Based on the post-audit by the State Division of Auditing and Accounting for the period August 5, 1955, to July 26, 1956.

##### MEMBERSHIP FEE FUND

Balance, August 5, 1955:

Cash (including \$1,153.69 of the Elizabeth Reader bequest) .....	\$6,396.36	
U. S. bonds, Series K .....	3,500.00	
		\$9,896.36

Receipts:

Membership fees .....	\$929.01	
Gifts and donations .....	35.30	
Bond interest .....	274.90	
		1,239.21

\$11,135.57

Disbursements: .....

Balance, July 26, 1956:

Cash (including \$775.19 of the Elizabeth Reader bequest) .....	\$4,094.07	
U. S. bonds, Series K .....	5,000.00	
		9,094.07

\$11,135.57

## JONATHAN PECKER BEQUEST

Balance, August 5, 1955:		
Cash .....	\$68.02	
U. S. treasury bonds .....	950.00	
		<u>\$1,018.02</u>
Receipts:		
Savings account interest .....		2.54
		<u>\$1,020.56</u>
Balance, July 26, 1956:		
Cash .....	\$20.56	
U. S. bonds, Series K .....	1,000.00	
		<u>\$1,020.56</u>

## JOHN BOOTH BEQUEST

Balance, August 5, 1955:		
Cash .....	\$142.90	
U. S. bonds, Series K .....	500.00	
		<u>\$642.90</u>
Receipts:		
Savings account interest .....		1.29
		<u>\$644.19</u>
Disbursements, books .....		\$27.12
Balance, July 26, 1956:		
Cash .....	\$117.07	
U. S. bonds, Series K .....	500.00	
		<u>617.07</u>
		<u>\$644.19</u>

## THOMAS H. BOWLUS DONATION

This donation is substantiated by a U. S. bond, Series K, in the amount of \$1,000. The interest is credited to the membership fee fund.

## ELIZABETH READER BEQUEST

Balance, August 5, 1955:		
Cash (deposited in membership fee fund) .....	\$1,153.69	
U. S. bonds, Series G .....	5,200.00	
		<u>\$6,353.69</u>
Receipts:		
Interest (deposited in membership fee fund) .....		130.00
		<u>\$6,483.69</u>
Disbursements, books .....		\$508.50
Balance, July 26, 1956:		
Cash (deposited in membership fee fund) .....	\$775.19	
U. S. bonds, Series G .....	5,200.00	
		<u>5,975.19</u>
		<u>\$6,483.69</u>

## STATE APPROPRIATIONS

This report covers only the membership fee fund and other custodial funds. Appropriations made to the Historical Society by the legislature are disbursed through the State Department of Administration. For the year ending June 30, 1956, these appropriations were: Kansas State Historical Society, including the Memorial building, \$217,232; Funston Home, \$2,600; Pike Pawnee Village site, \$1,000; First Capitol of Kansas, \$4,848; Kaw Mission, \$4,534; Old Shawnee Mission, \$14,363.

Respectfully submitted,

Mrs. LELA BARNES, *Treasurer.*

On motion by Lea Maranville, seconded by John S. Dawson, the report of the treasurer was accepted.

President Riegle then called for the report of the executive committee on the post-audit of the Society's funds by the state division of auditing and accounting. The report was read by Will T. Beck:

## REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

October 12, 1956.

*To the Board of Directors, Kansas State Historical Society:*

The executive committee being directed under the by-laws to check the accounts of the treasurer, states that the State Department of Post-Audit has audited the funds of the State Historical Society, the Old Shawnee Mission, the First Capitol of Kansas, the Old Kaw Mission, the Funston Home and Pike's Pawnee Village, for the period August 5, 1955, to July 26, 1956, and that they are hereby approved.

WILL T. BECK, *Chairman,*  
JOHN S. DAWSON,  
FRANK HAUCKE,  
T. M. LILLARD,  
C. M. CORRELL.

Will T. Beck moved acceptance of the report. Alan W. Farley seconded the motion and the report was accepted.

The report of the nominating committee for officers of the Society was read by Will T. Beck:

## NOMINATING COMMITTEE'S REPORT

October 12, 1956.

*To the Board of Directors, Kansas State Historical Society:*

Your committee on nominations submits the following report for officers of the Kansas State Historical Society:

For a one-year term: Rolla Clymer, El Dorado, president; Alan W. Farley, Kansas City, first vice-president; and Richard M. Long, Wichita, second vice-president.

For a two-year term: Mrs. Lela Barnes, Topeka, treasurer.

Respectfully submitted,

WILL T. BECK, *Chairman.*

The report was referred to the afternoon meeting of the board. Because of interest in the controversy over the Wyandotte Indian

burial ground in the heart of Kansas City, Kan., Alan W. Farley was called on to speak briefly on the history of the site and its current status. Mr. Farley concluded his remarks by presenting the following resolution and moving its acceptance:

#### RESOLUTION

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Directors of the Kansas State Historical Society at the annual meeting on October 16, 1956, at Topeka, Kan., that the Huron Indian Cemetery in Kansas City, Kan., is a place of unusual historical interest and should be preserved for posterity because of its unique character and because of the historical significance of the lives of those Wyandotte Indians buried therein, and that the Secretary is hereby directed to notify all of the Kansas representatives and senators of this resolution, and that they be urged to secure the repeal of provisions relating to said cemetery contained in Public Law 887—84th Congress, Chapter 843, Second Session, S 3970.

R. F. Brock seconded the motion by Alan W. Farley, and the resolution was adopted.

There followed a brief discussion of means of obtaining new members with remarks by Joseph C. Shaw, Charles C. Rankin, Frank Haucke, Otto J. Wullschleger, and Karl Miller.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned.

### ANNUAL MEETING OF THE SOCIETY

The annual meeting of the Kansas State Historical Society was called to order at 2 P. M.

Before the president's address, Col. Brice C. W. Custer was introduced to the meeting. Colonel Custer is a grandnephew of Gen. George A. Custer and is currently serving as Senior Army Adviser for Reserve units in the state of Kansas.

The address by President Wilford Riegler follows:

#### ADDRESS OF THE PRESIDENT

#### PECK'S BAD BOYS

WILFORD RIEGLER

**T**HIS is a brief story of an infantry division in World War I, a division composed of men from Kansas and Missouri; a division that covered itself with glory and everlasting fame by helping to drive the Germans out of France, and across the Rhine river, which brought peace for awhile to a troubled world.

I refer to the 35th division, a National Guard outfit, if you please. When war was declared on the Germans in 1917, our United States armed forces were neither large nor strong. Much planning, organi-

zation, and reorganization had to be effected expeditiously by our military leaders in Washington and elsewhere in the country, for the Germans were driving toward Paris and ultimate victory over the Allies. In order to reach the required strength for a war-size infantry regiment, for instance, the National Guard regiments within a state, and sometimes from two states, were joined together.

Uniting two regiments to make one regiment of the required strength eliminated virtually half of the officers. Many officers were transferred to other units or camps for duty; a good many were discharged for physical disabilities; others were relieved from the service because of certain deficiencies. Those were days that tried an officer's soul because of the anxiety for his military future. In order to reach the required strength of a division, battalions and regiments of the various branches of several or more states were joined together. To make up the 35th division, the National Guard organizations of Kansas and Missouri were combined. The Missouri Guard contributed, according to the record, 14,282 men, and Kansas 9,781 men. When the divisional strength was placed at 27,000 the additional men were taken almost entirely from Kansas and Missouri drafts, so that the division about which we speak today, started out and continued to be, to the time it was mustered out in 1919, a Kansas and Missouri outfit.

Here in Kansas, for many years prior to 1917, our National Guard units, small in size, and without much pay and equipment, were instructed, trained, and led by many devoted, loyal, and efficient officers. I have time here to speak briefly of only three of these officers who helped to mould our Kansas National Guard in those days. Many of you knew these officers personally, I am sure.

Gen. Charles I. Martin, of Fort Scott, was the adjutant general of Kansas before and after World War I. He had a long and distinguished military career. As a captain of the famous 20th Kansas infantry in the Battle of Manila, Martin's company suffered the heaviest casualties of the regiment. Near Calucan in the Philippines his company held the enemy in place without relief for six weeks. Martin came out of that engagement a major and was the only National Guard general officer with the 35th division in 1917 and 1918.

Gen. Wilder S. Metcalf, of Lawrence, had been in command of the 1st Kansas infantry regiment from 1897 to 1917, except during the Spanish-American War, during which time he served as a major of the 20th Kansas infantry. He succeeded Funston as commanding officer of that famous regiment.

Col. Perry M. Hoisington, of Newton, the grand old man of the 2d Kansas infantry regiment, was born in Michigan. He served in the National Guard of that state as an enlisted man and officer before coming to Kansas in 1884. Colonel Hoisington served in the National Guard of Kansas most of the years from 1890 until 1925, beginning as a private. He received the rank of colonel in 1895 and commanded the 2d Kansas through the Spanish-American War and on the Mexican border. He was the first commanding officer of the 137th infantry in 1917. He gave the guard an uplifting and permeating influence which displayed devotion and love of service of the highest order. Many a time the men followed on foot this gallant soldier and his horse while on some hike or maneuver.

Such was the caliber of the officers who prepared the National Guard for service in World War I.

Many of the men of the division served on the Mexican border in 1916, guarding and protecting our southern American frontier against Mexican outlaws who were making life miserable for those who lived there.

The service on the border proved to be a great training center for these men who later became veterans of World War I. Down there in the hot winds, sand, and cactus the men were moulded into soldiers of the best quality by living a vigorous outdoor life and by learning to endure fatigue, discomfort, and hardship.

On Sunday, August 5, 1917, the troops of Kansas, and other states, were called into active service and assigned to home camps. The units were federalized, passed from the control of the states, and became a part of the United States army. From then until October a steady stream of guard troops departed from many towns in Kansas for Camp Doniphan, Okla. Here organizations were joined together and allotted designated areas. They started an intensive program of exercises, marches, and drills; they became accustomed to a daily menu of Oklahoma dust. Soldiers were routed out of bed each morning with dust in their eyes and dust on their army bacon. They drilled or hiked under a scorching sun with equally scorching sands underfoot.

Gen. William M. Wright, the division commander, insisted firmly that the men of his division be highly proficient in the use of the rifle, accurate in firing at all ranges, and skilled at maneuvering in the open woods by day or by night. The manual of arms, bayonet drill, grenade throwing, and trench warfare became an important part of each day's routine for the infantry. The field signal battalion, with its radio work; the artillery with its range practice; and the

medical men with their first aid training also were on a busy schedule. Gruelling hikes took the men out into the scrub oak districts surrounding the camp. The men had never trained for trench warfare so experts in the new art of war, French, Scotch, and English, were sent from the battlefields of France to teach them. In spite of living in tents, which meant a fight day after day to maintain their health, the men were hardened and toughened by constant hard work.

At Camp Doniphan the Kansas contingents of the division passed in review before the governor of Kansas, the Hon. Arthur Capper. It was a windy and dusty day, and the mental picture of Governor Capper, astride a strange and frisky army steed has not yet faded. During much of that day the governor also passed through the Kansas area of the camp shaking hands with many soldiers over the age of 21.

During the late winter of 1917 and the early spring of 1918 rumors were numerous and insistent about the division's departure from Camp Doniphan. Nobody knew just how and where all the rumors were started. Finally, early in April, the order for evacuation came. All the tracks of the spur railroad leading into camp were spotted with empty passenger coaches. As troop train after troop train departed, the soldiers bid a fond and profane adieu to Oklahoma's dusty precincts.

Immense crowds saw the troop trains as they passed through cities and hamlets. Once or twice each day the men were marched through the streets of various cities in order to exercise their legs.

The whole division was assembled in Camp Mills, near Mineola, on Long Island, N. Y. Here the equipment of the men was checked and made complete and they were given last minute instructions for the trip across the Atlantic Ocean. However, there was time for relaxation and furloughs. Many of the men were given two-day furloughs, so they could see the bright lights and wonders of New York City. The old Hippodrome Theatre, with its spectacular shows, was probably the main attraction for the men.

The men of the division attracted the immediate attention of the New Yorkers because of their chin straps. The winds of Oklahoma spoiled many formations on the parade ground by blowing hats from the soldiers' heads. For that reason, General Wright, the division commander, ordered every officer and enlisted man to secure his campaign hat with a strap under his chin. The New York papers called the division, the "Chin Strap Division," and the citizens of

the East concluded that the Kansans were either cowpunchers or ranchers. In fact, a good many of the Easterners, smug in their culture and provincial thinking, were a little afraid of these Kansans as they walked their streets. Peering with strained necks at skyscrapers and getting lost among the canyons of the city, indicated to the Easterners that these chin strap boys from the "Wild West" might not be civilized.

On April 24 and 25, the Middle Westerners, many of them smelling salt water for the first time, boarded ships at the loading docks in New York City and Hoboken, N. J., and sailed away to the first great adventure of their lives. It was a cold, windy voyage across the boisterous sea. Because of the German submarine the ships traveled in convoys, and they were routed far to the North Atlantic. Turning southward near the Scottish coast, the ships passed through the Irish Sea between England and Ireland. Immediately upon debarkation at Liverpool the troops were marched through the city, beneath flying flags, banners, and confetti to waiting trains. They were then whisked away to Winchester, Southampton, and other cities of southern England. Here they basked in England's sunshine; here they saw their first German prisoners, erect, proud, and defiant.

After a few days' rest, the men embarked on small boats and ships, and on a cold and foggy night, crossed the English channel safely to Le Havre on the northern coast of France. The troops moved to various bivouac areas, erroneously called rest camps, near the city of Eu. The war was not far away. The division, with eight other American divisions, was assembled in a little corner of northern France not far from Dunkerque of World War II fame. Here they were attached to the British army as reserves. The men were issued English rifles and other British equipment. English instructors and cooks were assigned to the various units. Under their guidance the Kansans dug reserve trenches, and erected barbed wire entanglements; they prepared a line of defense to which the British could fall back, or into which some of the American reserve divisions could be thrown, if need be, to stop a push of the Germans to the English channel.

About this time the Allied command was putting heavy pressure on General Pershing for a drastic change in organization. The English "Big Brass" insisted that these American reserve divisions be split up. They wanted to use the men of these divisions as replacements for British units. If their plan had been successful,

American soldiers would have worn British uniforms, eaten English-cooked food, and would have fought as Englishmen. The thought of this un-American plan lowered the morale of the men greatly. But General Pershing, God bless him, with speed and firmness, convinced the Allied command that his men would fight under the American flag, in American uniforms and units, under command of American officers.

On June 7, 1918, the division boarded the small boxcars, commonly called 40 men or 8 horses, for the province of Alsace in southeastern France. By lying bumper to bumper 40 men could sleep most unsuccessfully in one of these boxcars. Alsace had been taken from the French in 1870 during the Franco-Prussian War. It remained a German province until the early days of World War I when the French recaptured it from the Germans. The majority of the people spoke German. Alsace was a quiet and peaceful sector and a good training ground for the division. High pine-clad hills looked down on the fertile valleys below. The homes of the peasants were intact there and the fields produced their yearly harvests. The linen factories, on the banks of the streams, hummed the song of peace. The inhabitants of the villages clattered along in their wooden shoes, like troops of trotting cavalry. Old women at the municipal washing troughs beat out a symphony of peace with their pounding paddles.

Golden-haired girls shouted welcomes, waved their hands, and threw flowers in the trucks filled with soldiers. The men unanimously agreed that it was a bully sector in which to fight a war. And every soldier felt sure he would do well in this peaceful sector.

After being in Alsace a short time, the men observed that most of the farm work was done by women. The public relations officer of the division issued a bulletin stating that all soldiers, who wished to do so, might volunteer to assist the women in the fields on Sunday after church. Eight hundred men volunteered. He never issued such a bulletin again.

In the little town of Wesserling, high in the Vosges mountains in Alsace, a good many of the men slept in a great barracks which formerly had been a German headquarters. Others slept in haymows. The stables usually were under these haymows so there was always an elaborate assortment of odors. The soldiers were annoyed by the stamping and moving cows. Rats and troops developed into congenial bedmates.

The war in Alsace had taken on a subdued tone. There had been

no major action since 1915. It had been a rest center for both the French and the German troops for some time. The roar of guns was seldom heard and air raids never occurred.

However, the Kansans did their best to make things exciting for the Germans, who retaliated with shrapnel, gas shells, and hand grenades. The Kansans received their first baptism of fire when the Germans staged a raid on their lines. A short time later Company C of the 137th infantry, made up of boys from Burlington and Great Bend, raided the German trenches and captured seven prisoners. The division left 100 men in the foothills of the Alps who had been killed during raids on the German lines, or who had died of wounds, accident, or disease. Lt. Thomas Hopkins, a Kansan, was killed while rescuing a wounded comrade from the barbed-wire entanglement in "No Man's Land." He formerly lived in Wichita, and the American Legion Post there is named for him. Sgt. McKinley Pratt, of Emporia, threw himself upon an unexploded hand grenade in order to protect near-by comrades and was killed when the grenade exploded.

In Alsace the men learned how grim war could be. They swore at the discomforts and were disgusted with fighting in the mountains. Yet, when they had moved on to other sectors, where battles raged and men died on every side, they remembered how serene their lives had been in the high mountains of Alsace.

Intense fighting had developed in the Marne valley, east of Paris, while the 35th trained in the Alsace sector. The enemy had attacked, and they had been repulsed with heavy losses. For the first time in four years conditions were encouraging for the Allies. General Pershing had obtained consent from the supreme command to reduce the sector above St. Mihiel, a strong and dominating area which the Germans had occupied since 1914; so, early on the morning of September 12, after intensive artillery preparation, the Americans launched their first major offensive, designed to wipe out this St. Mihiel sector. The day before the St. Mihiel offensive began, the 35th landed in the Foret de Haye, a densely wooded area not far from Nancy and only a few miles in the rear of St. Mihiel.

The 35th division was in reserve during the St. Mihiel offensive which was an important assignment. The reserve is an essential part of every attacking force, large or small, even if that reserve never moves a foot nor fires a shot.

Those were trying days for the 35th. The St. Mihiel fight was

only a few miles away, and the roar and flash of the guns could sometimes be heard and seen by the men. At night enemy airplanes came over and dropped bombs on the forest, and a good part of the time it rained heavily. The St. Mihiel offensive was tactically perfect and was operated with precision. The Americans crashed at will against the German lines and there was no need to call upon the reserves. Immediately after the St. Mihiel sector was taken the 35th left its reserve position and moved by motor buses, trucks, and on foot toward the Argonne Forest.

This forest, forever made immortal by the blood of many American boys, covered hills and low mountains. It dominated the country surrounding it and was heavily fortified by the Germans. As long as the Germans held and occupied this forest the war could not end. It was the most essential area in the possession of the enemy. The operation to attack and capture the Argonne was set tentatively for the spring of 1919. However, the ease with which the St. Mihiel sector was captured, and the obvious weakening of the enemy on all fronts, convinced Marshal Foch, the allied supreme commander, that he could capture this forest and end the war in the fall of 1918. He, therefore, set the force of the Allied armies to the task of preparing for the last great battle of World War I.

The American battle line extended from the Meuse river, a few miles above Verdun, westward to the Argonne Forest, where it connected with the French Fourth army which was attacking on the left of the Argonne. Nine American divisions were in the Meuse-Argonne line ready to attack on the night of September 25. The men of these divisions had been under constant enemy fire for four days and nights.

At 11:30 P. M., September 25, the American artillery opened a deceptive fire to the east of the Meuse river and to the west of the Argonne Forest. This was intended to deceive the enemy as to the place at which the attack would come. It was hoped that the enemy would shift his reserves and other forces away from the American line. At 2:30, on the morning of September 26, all other artillery concentrated its fire between the Meuse river and the Argonne. All Hell broke loose. The sky was slashed and cut with a mass of crimson. The earth jarred and rumbled, for three hours, as 3,000 guns concentrated their fire upon the enemy lines. Naval guns stationed at posts farther to the rear concentrated on movement of troops behind the enemy lines.

Then at 5:30 the infantry on the American line went over the top. There was little ceremony about it. Every man knew that at last he was going forward to a new and great adventure. He knew that he might fall along the way, rise again to sweep toward the enemy, and then fall again to rise no more.

The ground over which the division advanced was not heavily wooded. The trees were scattered. There were many deep ravines, destroyed villages and farms, and other obstacles.

It is impossible to relate here in detail the part played by the 35th in the Argonne. In five days of intensive, unremitting fighting, the division had fought against the best the Germans had to offer. In a bedlam of death, destruction, and debris it had thrust aside, and pushed back, the pride of the German army. The 35th had fought against and taken prisoners from six German divisions. It had advanced ten miles into enemy territory. It had been pushed back, had gone forward again, and then had been forced to organize and hold a line about ten miles forward of the original front. The division had advanced farther into the Argonne than any other division in the First army. It had captured Vauquois Hill, a perfect example of German fortification with an elaborate trench system. Along with the 28th, Pennsylvania's National Guard division, on the left, it had captured the town of Varennes. When the French Revolution was brewing King Louis the 16th and Marie Antoinette endeavored to escape from France. They got as far as Varennes where they were captured, returned to Paris, and eventually turned over to the executioner.

The 35th also captured the towns of Cheppy, Very, Neuville, Baulny, Charpentry, Exermont, Fleville as well as Chaudron Farm and Montrebeau Woods.

The division captured over 1,000 prisoners. It also captured a great mass of enemy equipment: machine guns, auto rifles, anti-tank guns, telephone systems, engineer dumps, ammunition dumps, 6-inch howitzers, antiaircraft batteries, and many other weapons and materiel of warfare.

It suffered 8,023 casualties out of 27,000 men in five days of desperate fighting. The War Department records show over 1,000 killed, 6,894 wounded, and 169 captured.

The 35th division played a decisive part in the Meuse-Argonne offensive, the last great battle of the war. Under the dark, autumn sky, and through the steady, cold rain it pushed ahead, and the Aire river valley was reddened with the blood of a thousand dead.

When the division had spent its force, it stepped aside to let the First Regular army division take its place to carry on the battle.

On October 1, 1918, the weary columns of the 35th were on their way to the rear. It was morning and the sky was clear. The air was cool for it was October in France. The leaves on the trees were purple and russet.

The division, as it went to the rear, looked more like a band of refugees than a military organization. The men were unshaven, dirty, and haggard. Their clothing was soiled and torn. Many men had minor wounds, and white bandages were much in evidence. A great deal of equipment had been lost or destroyed. A serious dysenteric epidemic had broken out.

Into this scene, even before the men had time to recuperate, to clean their clothes or equipment, or to get a good, square meal, rode one Maj. Robert Gray Peck, of the Inspector General's department. He arrived at the scene in a shining limousine, spic and span in a clean, spotless uniform, stiff, erect, his military appearance perfect in every detail. Major Peck was far behind the front lines, during the Meuse-Argonne offensive. The roar and flash of the guns of that battle had not disturbed his sleep. He had been sent forward to inspect the troops, then ride back to his rendezvous in the rear of the lines and make his report to his superior officers.

Major Peck was indeed a well-trained and discerning officer. He had been taught to appreciate shining buttons, well-polished shoes, and snappy saluting.

Colonel Rieger of the division explained to Major Peck about the battle and the long march immediately afterward, whereupon Peck heatedly replied, "The soldiers ought to be ready for inspection on all occasions." Some men did not have buttons on their coats. Major Peck reported on that. Some did not have blouses at all, and none could be obtained, but Major Peck severely reprimanded the division for this deficiency. One soldier, sick with dysentery, his uniform torn, and legging partly gone, as a result of the battle, was reprimanded by Major Peck. When the Kansas boy said, "I haven't any other clothes," Major Peck replied, "Why don't you get them?"

Major Peck severely criticized the men because they did not jump to their feet with military precision, stand at attention, and salute him. He complained that the officers and men were talking together. He came upon about 40 men resting together. A few of them were sick. They failed to notice the major as he approached

them, and they did not come to attention. Major Peck severely reprimanded these men and made three who were sick stand up and come to attention.

As Major Peck was driving away in his limousine, he came upon a wagon with officers' bed rolls. On them were two privates who had been gassed in battle. "What the Hell are you doing on that wagon?" shouted the major. The sergeant explained that the men were sick, and had been ordered to rest on top of the rolls. To which Peck instantly replied, "I don't give a damn who told you to ride there, get the Hell off and stay off." The men got off. Major Peck should have known better. Any officer knows, or should know, that an Inspector General, or his representative, is an administrative officer. He does not command except in his own department. His job is to inspect, ascertain conditions, offer helpful suggestions and advice, and then make his inspection report to his superior officers. Major Peck had no business giving any commands to the lowliest private in the division. If he wanted the two men to get off the bedding rolls he should have asked the captain to order them off.

Major Peck's entire report showed how appalled he was by these ragged and wearied men. He ended his written report by saying, "Most of the organizations showed all the earmarks of National Guard units, which they are. Captains and lieutenants were continually noticed on most familiar terms with enlisted men. The National Guard attitude permeates the entire division and must be gotten rid of at once."

The wheels of time turn.

On February 28, 1921, the names of 4,000 officers came before the Military Affairs committee of the United States Senate for promotion. The names had to be confirmed by the senate. The committee was about to take favorable action on the entire list when Sen. Arthur Capper of Kansas inquired if there were a Robert Gray Peck on the list. There was. Senator Capper then explained to the committee about the Peck report on the 35th division. The committee listened intently to Senator Capper and also to the reading of resolutions opposing Peck's promotion, and then struck his name from the list. Later another effort to force the promotion of Peck was balked by Senator Capper in the committee. He was supported this time by Sen. Selden P. Spencer of Missouri and by Sen. Charles Curtis of Kansas. Later, the senate committee recommended the promotion of Major Peck. Senators Capper, Spencer, and I. L. Lenroot of Wisconsin filed a minority report against the promotion. The nom-

ination of Peck to be a lieutenant colonel in the Regular army was discussed later in an executive session in the senate. Strong opposition to the promotion developed early in the debate. Capper, and many other senators, spoke against Peck. Finally, about 11 months after his name was first considered, the senate in executive session, by a vote of 41 to 19, confirmed the nomination of Peck to be a lieutenant colonel in the Regular army. Thus ended one of the strangest and most publicized episodes in the military history of the National Guard of Kansas.

What became of Peck? He served as a lieutenant colonel only seven months, for he was retired from the army on December 15, 1922.

What became of the 35th division? It was soon reactivated after World War I, this time composed of the National Guard troops from Kansas, Missouri, and Nebraska. Charles I. Martin was its first post-war commanding general.

In December, 1940, the division was ordered into Federal service and was sent to Camp Robinson, Ark., near Little Rock. Here it trained until a few weeks after Pearl Harbor, in December, 1941, when it was ordered to the West Coast. After two years of training and duty in various camps of the United States it was shipped overseas. On D-day it landed on Omaha Beach in Normandy under command of General Eisenhower, and once more helped to drive the Germans out of France and across the Rhine river.

Soon after the end of World War II, the division was again reactivated and was composed once more of the National Guard troops of Kansas and Missouri. It is now considered one of the best trained and equipped National Guard divisions in the United States.

I am proud to have served in this division for over 25 years and during two World Wars.

At the conclusion of the president's address, the secretary showed a series of color slides of historic buildings and sites in Kansas. The slides were selected from the collection being assembled by the Society.

Kirke Mechem, former secretary and editor of the *Annals of Kansas, 1886-1925*, was introduced by President Riegle. Mr. Mechem in turn introduced Jennie Small Owen, annalist, and presented the second volume of the *Annals*.

The report of the nominating committee was called for, and was presented by Will T. Beck:

## REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON NOMINATIONS FOR DIRECTORS

October 12, 1956.

*To the Kansas State Historical Society:*

Your committee on nominations submits the following report and recommendations for directors of the Society for the term of three years ending in October, 1959:

Aitchison, R. T., Wichita.  
 Anderson, George L., Lawrence.  
 Anthony, D. R., Leavenworth.  
 Baugher, Charles A., Ellis.  
 Beck, Will T., Holton.  
 Chambers, Lloyd, Clearwater.  
 Chandler, C. J., Wichita.  
 Clymer, Rolla, El Dorado.  
 Cochran, Elizabeth, Pittsburg.  
 Cotton, Corlett J., Lawrence.  
 Dawson, John S., Topeka.  
 Eckdall, Frank F., Emporia.  
 Euwer, Elmer E., Goodland.  
 Farley, Alan W., Kansas City.  
 Knapp, Dallas W., Coffeyville.  
 Lilleston, W. F., Wichita.  
 Lose, Harry F., Topeka.

Malin, James C., Lawrence.  
 Mayhew, Mrs. Patricia Solander,  
 Topeka.  
 Menninger, Karl, Topeka.  
 Miller, Karl, Dodge City.  
 Moore, Russell, Wichita.  
 Motz, Frank, Hays.  
 Rankin, Charles C., Lawrence.  
 Raynesford, H. C., Ellis.  
 Reed, Clyde M., Jr., Parsons.  
 Rodkey, Clyde K., Manhattan.  
 Shaw, Joseph C., Topeka.  
 Somers, John G., Newton.  
 Stewart, Donald, Independence.  
 Thomas, E. A., Topeka.  
 von der Heiden, Mrs. W. H., Newton.  
 Walker, Mrs. Ida M., Norton.

Respectfully submitted,

WILL T. BECK, *Chairman*,  
 JOHN S. DAWSON,  
 FRANK HAUCKE,  
 T. M. LILLARD,  
 C. M. CORRELL.

Will T. Beck moved the adoption of the report. Motion was seconded by J. C. Shaw and the report was accepted. Members of the board for the term ending in October, 1959, were declared elected.

Reports of local societies were called for and given as follows: Orville Watson Mosher for the Lyon county society; Mrs. C. M. Slagg for the Riley county society; Mrs. Clyde E. Glandon for the Wyandotte county society; Lea Maranville for the Ness county society; and Paul B. Wood for the Chase county society.

Emory K. Lindquist presented the following and moved that it be made a part of the record:

In recognition of the distinguished contribution to a knowledge of the history of Kansas by the publication of the two volumes of the *Annals of Kansas*, and in appreciation of the high level achievement which the volumes represent,

we hereby extend our hearty congratulations and genuine thanks to Kirke Mechem, Jennie Small Owen, Nyle Miller, Louise Barry, and all others who have shared in the writing, editing, and publishing of the two volumes of the *Annals of Kansas*.

The motion was seconded by Sylvester Baringer, and the members of the Society voted their approval.

There being no further business, the annual meeting of the Society adjourned. Refreshments were served to members and visitors in the museum.

## MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The afternoon meeting of the board of directors was called to order by President Riegle. He called for a rereading of the report of the nominating committee for officers of the Society. This was read by Will T. Beck who moved that it be accepted. J. C. Shaw seconded the motion and the board voted to accept the report. The following were elected:

For a one-year term: Rolla Clymer, El Dorado, president; Alan W. Farley, Kansas City, first vice-president; and Richard M. Long, Wichita, second vice-president.

For a two-year term: Mrs. Lela Barnes, Topeka, treasurer.

After the introduction of new officers and brief remarks by President Clymer, the meeting adjourned.

### DIRECTORS OF THE KANSAS STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY AS OF OCTOBER, 1956

#### DIRECTORS FOR THE YEAR ENDING OCTOBER, 1957

Bailey, Roy F., Salina.  
Beezley, George F., Girard.  
Beougher, Edward M., Grinnell.  
Bowlus, Thomas H., Iola.  
Brinkerhoff, Fred W., Pittsburg.  
Brodrick, Lynn R., Marysville.  
Cron, F. H., El Dorado.  
Docking, George, Lawrence.  
Ebright, Homer K., Baldwin.  
Farrell, F. D., Manhattan.  
Hall, Fred, Dodge City.  
Hamilton, R. L., Beloit.  
Harvey, Mrs. A. M., Topeka.  
Haucke, Frank, Council Grove.  
Hodges, Frank, Olathe.  
Lingenfelter, Angelus, Atchison.  
Long, Richard M., Wichita.

McArthur, Mrs. Vernon E., Hutchinson.  
McCain, James A., Manhattan.  
McFarland, Helen M., Topeka.  
McGrew, Mrs. Wm. E., Kansas City.  
Malone, James, Gem.  
Mechem, Kirke, Lindsborg.  
Mueller, Harrie S., Wichita.  
Murphy, Franklin D., Lawrence.  
Rogler, Wayne, Matfield Green.  
Ruppenthal, J. C., Russell.  
Simons, Dolph, Lawrence.  
Slagg, Mrs. C. M., Manhattan.  
Stone, Robert, Topeka.  
Templar, George, Arkansas City.  
Townsend, Will, Great Bend.  
Woodring, Harry H., Topeka.

## DIRECTORS FOR THE YEAR ENDING OCTOBER, 1958

Barr, Frank, Wichita.  
 Berryman, Jerome C., Ashland.  
 Brigham, Mrs. Lalla M., Pratt.  
 Brock, R. F., Goodland.  
 Charlson, Sam C., Manhattan.  
 Correll, Charles M., Manhattan.  
 Davis, W. W., Lawrence.  
 Denious, Jess C., Jr., Dodge City.  
 Godsey, Mrs. Flora R., Emporia.  
 Hall, Standish, Wichita.  
 Hegler, Ben F., Wichita.  
 Jones, Horace, Lyons.  
 Kampschroeder, Mrs. Jean Norris,  
 Garden City.  
 Lillard, T. M., Topeka.  
 Lindquist, Emory K., Wichita.  
 Maranville, Lea, Ness City.

Means, Hugh, Lawrence.  
 Owen, Arthur K., Topeka.  
 Owen, Mrs. E. M., Lawrence.  
 Patrick, Mrs. Mae C., Sublette.  
 Payne, Mrs. L. F., Manhattan.  
 Richards, Walter M., Emporia.  
 Riegler, Wilford, Emporia.  
 Robbins, Richard W., Pratt.  
 Rupp, Mrs. Jane C., Lincolnville.  
 Scott, Angelo, Iola.  
 Sloan, E. R., Topeka.  
 Smelser, Mary M., Lawrence.  
 Stewart, Mrs. James G., Topeka.  
 Taylor, James E., Sharon Springs.  
 Van De Mark, M. V. B., Concordia.  
 Wark, George H., Caney.  
 Williams, Charles A., Bentley.

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