

Kansas Historical Notes

Officers elected at the 22d annual meeting of the Chase County Historical Society in Cottonwood Falls, September 8, 1956, were: Paul B. Wood, president; Henry Rogler, vice-president; Clint A. Baldwin, secretary; George T. Dawson, treasurer; and Mrs. Ruth Conner, chief historian. Appointed to the executive committee were: Mrs. Conner, Mrs. Ida M. Vinson, Mrs. Helen Austin, Charles Gaines, Beatrice Hays, R. Z. Blackburn, and Wood.

The Shawnee Mission Indian Historical Society met at the home of Mrs. Sola Bradley in Merriam, September 24, 1956, for an election of officers. Those elected were: Lucile Larsen, president; Mrs. Yolande Smith, first vice-president; Mrs. Roy E. Boxmeyer, second vice-president; Mrs. Pearl Ghrist Miller, recording secretary; Mrs. Elwood Hobbs, corresponding secretary; Mrs. Louis Rieke, treasurer; Mrs. H. B. Sullivan, historian; Mrs. Charles Houlehan, curator; and Mrs. James G. Bell, member-in-waiting. Mrs. Harry Meyer was the retiring president.

On September 30, 1956, members of the Crawford County Historical Society toured the county by bus, visiting 32 historic sites. The organizer and guide for the tour was the society's president, C. M. Cooper.

New members elected to the Allen County Historical Society's board of directors at a dinner meeting of the society in Iola, October 1, 1956, were: L. T. Cannon, W. C. Caldwell, and Lewis Drake of Humboldt; Stanley Harris of Colony; R. L. Thompson, Jr. of Moran; and Spencer Gard, Mrs. R. H. Carpenter, Mary Hankins, and Angelo Scott of Iola. A feature of the program was the showing of colored slides of historic sites and structures in Kansas by Edgar Langsdorf of the Kansas State Historical Society.

Raymond Tillotson, Shields, was elected president of the Lane County Historical Society at a meeting in Dighton, October 8, 1956. Other officers are: Walter Herndon, vice-president; Mrs. Arle Boltz, secretary; and Mrs. R. G. Mull, Sr., treasurer. Arle Boltz, A. R. Bentley, and Frank Vycital were elected to the board of directors.

Officers elected by the Dickinson County Historical Society at the annual meeting October 12, 1956, at Enterprise, for two-year terms were: Mrs. Ray Livingstone, second vice-president; and Mrs. Adele Wilkins, treasurer. Willard Connell, Kansas City, a former resident

of Enterprise, was in charge of the program. B. H. Oesterreich is president of the society.

New officers elected by the Leavenworth County Historical Society at a meeting in Leavenworth, October 18, 1956, were: Mrs. Jesse Jones, president; Col. Ralph Stewart, first vice-president; John Feller, second vice-president; Mrs. Gorman Hunt, secretary; and Homer Cory, treasurer. The following will serve on the board of directors: George S. Marshall, W. Hans Friemuth, E. Bert Collard, Sr., D. R. Anthony, III, Byron Schroeder, J. V. Kelly, and Ruth Burgard. Feller was the retiring president.

Mrs. C. M. Slagg was re-elected president of the Riley County Historical Society at the annual meeting in Manhattan, November 15, 1956. Other officers are: Clyde Rodkey, vice-president; Homer Socolofsky, recording secretary; Mrs. F. F. Harrop, corresponding secretary; Dave Dallas, publicity secretary; Mrs. C. M. Correll, membership secretary; Carl Pfuetze, curator; and Ed Amos, historian. Joe D. Haines, John Holmstrom, and Bruce Wilson were elected to three-year terms on the board of directors. The speaker for the program was Louise Barry of the Kansas State Historical Society. The Riley county society has recently acquired new quarters and equipment for its museum. The new location is in the Memorial Auditorium.

Twenty Ottawa county citizens met in Minneapolis December 1, 1956, organized the Ottawa County Historical Society, and elected the following officers: Marshall Constable, president; W. A. Ward, vice-president; Mrs. Myrtle Thompson, secretary; and Fred Jagger, treasurer.

Approximately 150 persons attended the annual dinner of the Shawnee County Historical Society at the Hotel Jayhawk, December 4, 1956. The following trustees were elected for three-year terms ending December 5, 1959: Paul A. Lovewell, Ray A. Boast, Beryl R. Johnson, F. J. Rost, Frank Durein, Mrs. Paul Adams, Mrs. Henry S. Blake, Dr. John D. Bright, Mrs. W. M. Mills, Mildred Quail, and Earl Ives. Highland Park was featured on the program which included a slide show by John Ripley. On February 22, 1957, the directors met and elected the following officers: J. Glenn Logan, president; Milton Tabor, vice-president; Mrs. Harold Cone, secretary; and Mrs. Frank Kambach, treasurer.

Alan W. Farley, first vice-president of the Kansas State Historical Society, was named sheriff of the Kansas City posse of the Western-

ers, succeeding Frank Glenn, at a meeting December 11, 1956. Other officers are James R. Fuchs, chief deputy sheriff, and Col. Ray G. Sparks, deputy sheriff.

Dr. George L. Anderson, chairman of the department of history, University of Kansas, delivered the presidential address entitled "From Beef to Wheat, the Impact of Agricultural Developments Upon Banking in Early Wichita," to a meeting of the Agricultural History Society, December 30, 1956, in St. Louis.

Charles N. McCarter, Wichita, was elected president of the Native Sons, and Mrs. George Marshall, Basehor, was chosen to head the Native Daughters at the annual meeting of the Native Sons and Daughters of Kansas in Topeka, January 28, 1957. Other officers named by the Native Sons were: Roy Bulkley, Topeka, vice-president; Wayne Randall, Osage City, secretary; Dean Yingling, Topeka, treasurer. The Native Daughters elected Mrs. Hobart Hoyt, Lyons, vice-president; Evelyn Ford, Topeka, secretary; and Mrs. J. C. Tillotson, Norton, treasurer. Retiring presidents were Jim Reed, Topeka, and Mrs. J. B. McKay, El Dorado. Bob Considine, International News Service columnist, was the principal speaker at the meeting. Parts of the program appeared on a nation-wide television broadcast. Among those appearing on the broadcast were: Considine, Dr. Karl Menninger, chosen "Kansan of the Year" by the Native Sons and Daughters, Gov. George Docking, and former Gov. Alf Landon. John McComb, Kansas State College, won the oratorical contest sponsored by the Native Sons and Daughters.

Using the theme "Chautauquas," the Woman's Kansas Day Club held its annual meeting in Topeka, January 29, 1957. The retiring president, Mrs. Emerson L. Hazlett, Topeka, presided at the meeting. As its new president the club chose Mrs. Edna Peterson, Chanute. Other new officers are: Mrs. Lucile Rust, Manhattan, first vice-president; Mrs. Harry Chaffee, Topeka, second vice-president; Mrs. Eugene McMillin, Lawrence, recording secretary; Mrs. Paul H. Wedin, Wichita, treasurer; Mrs. Tillie Karns-Newman, Arkansas City, historian; Mrs. McDill Boyd, Phillipsburg, registrar; and Mrs. Claude Stutzman, Kansas City, auditor. District directors include: Mrs. T. M. Murrell, Topeka, first district; Mrs. Chester Young, Kansas City, second district; Mrs. Raymond Smith, Parsons, third district; Mrs. Ruth Vawter Rankin, Wichita; fourth district; Mrs. Glee Smith, Larned, fifth district; and Mrs. Sharon Foster, Ellsworth, sixth district. Historical material gathered by the historian, Mrs.

Edward Isern, Ellinwood, the district directors and assistant historians was presented to the Kansas State Historical Society. This year's meeting marked the golden anniversary of the club.

Eleven members were named to two-year terms on the board of directors of the Finney County Historical Society at the society's annual meeting February 12, 1957, in Garden City. They are: Mrs. Frank Crase, Mrs. Mabel Rowe Brown, J. E. Greathouse, Albert Drussel, R. G. Brown, Mrs. Ella Condra, William Fant, Chet Reeve, George Anderson, Mrs. Irene Walters, and Arthur Stone. Clifford Hope, Sr., was the principal speaker at the meeting. R. G. Brown is president of the society.

Development of the Prairie Grove battlefield in Arkansas as a historic shrine is under way, sponsored by the Washington County (Ark.) Historical Society and other groups. It is designed to honor both Union and Confederate soldiers. Kansas troops were among those who fought at Prairie Grove.

The New York Community Trust announced recently the grant of the Byron Caldwell Smith Award posthumously to Dr. Robert Taft for his *Artists and Illustrators of the Old West, 1850-1900*, published in 1953. The \$750 award is financed by the Kate Stephens bequest in the foundation. Miss Stephens was formerly professor of Greek at the University of Kansas. Dr. Taft was well known to readers of the *Quarterly* where his articles, including "Artists and Illustrators . . .," frequently appeared.

Wamego had its beginning on May 1, 1866, when seven men arrived at the site and constructed a small shack. In 1956 a 22-page pamphlet on the town's history and development was published by the Chamber of Commerce.

Snowden D. Flora, head of the United States Weather Bureau at Topeka from 1917 to 1949, is the author of *Hailstorms of the United States*, published by the University of Oklahoma Press in 1956. The 201-page volume includes information on hail forecasting, damage, and insurance. Flora also discusses the characteristics of hail and the storms that produce it. During the period 1944-1953 Kansas had the greatest hail damage of any state by a considerable margin.

Historical sketches of towns served by the Missouri Pacific are printed in *The Empire That Missouri Pacific Serves*, a 352-page book

recently published by the railroad. Also included are brief histories of the states through which the line operates.

Sigma Nu at Kansas University—1884-1956 is the title of a 222-page history published by the Sigma Nu fraternity at Lawrence in 1956. Authors included: Grant W. Harrington, Burton P. Sears, Solon W. Smith, Webster W. Holloway, Edward H. Hashinger, John J. Wheeler, Owen C. Jones, and Edward F. Hudson.

Vision—a Saga of the Sky, by Harold Mansfield, a 389-page "narrative account of forty years of progress in the air, the trials and triumphs of the great Boeing Airplane Company," was recently published by Duell, Sloan and Pearce, New York. Of special interest to Kansans is the chapter "Battle of Kansas," the story of preparing the first B-29's for use in World War II.

A biography of George Rogers Clark, by John Bakeless, entitled *Background to Glory—the Life of George Rogers Clark* was recently published by J. B. Lippincott Company, Philadelphia and New York. Clark was the military leader who fought the British, French, Spanish and Indians to win the Old Northwest during the American revolution.

The Founding of Public Education in Wisconsin, a 252-page book by Lloyd P. Jorgenson, was published in 1956 by the State Historical Society of Wisconsin, Madison.

Medicine in Chicago, 1850-1950, a 302-page work by Thomas N. Bonner, was published early in 1957 by the American History Research Center, Madison.

