

Kansas Historical Notes

The first chapter of a paper on the armed forces in Doniphan county was read by H. H. Newman at a meeting of the Doniphan County Historical Society, May 12, 1950. The society has been given a room in the courthouse in which to display the historical articles that have been donated. One of the most interesting objects received by the society is John Brown's rifled carbine presented by Brig. Gen. Milton R. McLean.

The 76th anniversary celebration of the settlement of the Mennonites in Barton county and of the organization of the Bergtal Mennonite Church was attended by more than 600 persons, May 21, 1950. Besides a luncheon and services at the church four miles north of Pawnee Rock, a temporary museum which had been assembled at a near-by schoolhouse with exhibits contributed by the pioneer families of the county was visited. Oldest item in the collection was a German Bible printed in 1599.

A Wichita group devoted to the restoration and preservation of early city landmarks, chartered as Historic Wichita, Inc., was recently organized with Richard M. Long as president. Other officers are: Tom W. Fuller, vice-president; Rev. Jesse Clyde Fisher, treasurer, and William C. Hook, secretary. The officers, together with Harry C. Castor, Larry Roberts, Ewing Lawrence and O. A. Bell, constitute the board of directors. Reconstruction of Wichita's first permanent church building, erected in 1870, has been undertaken as the organization's initial project.

Dedication ceremonies for the monument erected by the Arthur Barrett chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution in memory of Sarah Handley Keyes, member of the Donner party who died and was buried at Alcove Spring in 1846, were held May 30, 1950. William S. Eddy, Marysville attorney, gave the dedicatory address.

Old Shawnee mission in northeast Johnson county was viewed by approximately 500 people at an open house, June 4, 1950, sponsored by the Shawnee-Mission Indian Historical Society. Mrs. Harry Meyer, Lenexa, was chairman of the committee on arrangements. Mrs. John Barkley is president of the society.

The records and flag of the *USS Emporia* were presented to the city of Emporia at a ceremony in the Civic auditorium on July 4,

1950. Dr. O. W. Mosher, president of the Lyon County Historical Society, presided at the meeting, and the principal speakers were the two wartime commanders of the *Emporia*, Lt. Comdrs. Langford Anderson and R. F. Althausen. The ship's bell had previously been presented to the city by the late James Forrestal. A luncheon of the historical society, with Lieutenant Commander Althausen as the speaker, concluded the activities.

One hundred and fifty-one persons registered at the old settlers' picnic sponsored by the Clark County Historical Society at Ashland, July 4, 1950. Lewis Oswald, Hutchinson lawyer, was the principal speaker.

A 47-page illustrated booklet by Dr. Robert Taft reviewing the chemistry department's work in the Bailey chemical laboratory at the University of Kansas, Lawrence, was published recently under the title "Fifty Years in Bailey Chemical Laboratory." Included was a list of the publications of the laboratory's staff from 1900 to date.

Volume one of Dr. James C. Malin's *Grassland Historical Studies: Natural Resources Utilization in a Background of Science and Technology* has recently been published in lithoprint. This 377-page volume, covering geology and geography, is divided into two parts: Part one is concerned with wood and minerals for fuel and building material; part two is an early history of the town of Kansas (Kansas City, Mo.). Dr. Malin's grassland historical studies will be published in three volumes, the second and third to be issued later.