

Kansas historical quarterly

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KANSAS HISTORICAL SOCIETY





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mitted him to use the manuscript records on file in their department archives. None of these were men who had been leaders during the territorial period. In the latter category, Holloway's list included, in the order named: Dr. A. Hunting, G. W. Smith, Joel Grover, C. K. Holliday, J. A. Halderman, Charles Robinson, James Montgomery, J. A. Wakefield, George Hillyer, John Ritchie, and James Christian. Only two of these, Halderman and Christian, had been identified with the so-called Proslavery party, and in commentary upon James Christian, Holloway remarked that he had "the most valuable library in the Territory."

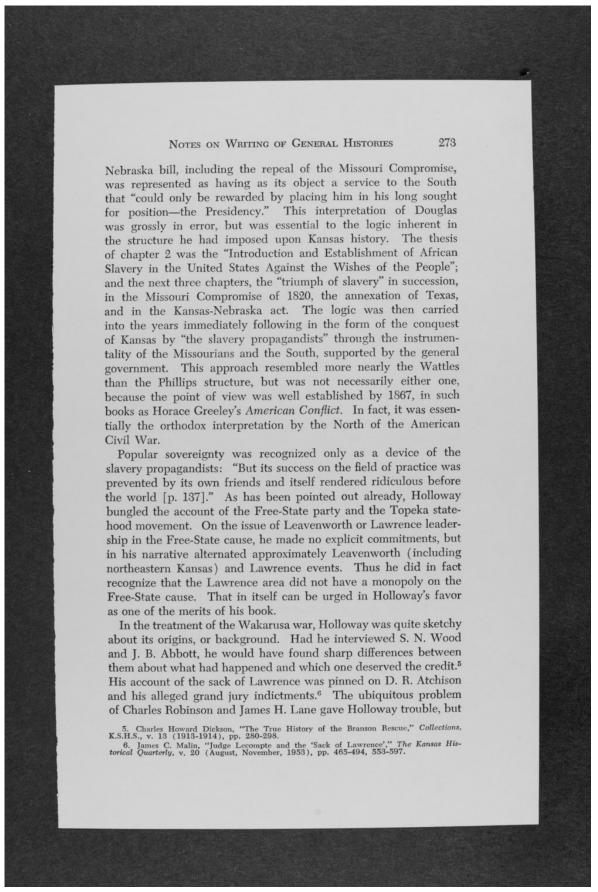
Among the territorial leaders omitted, but who were still present in Kansas, were J. B. Abbott, George A. Crawford, of Fort Scott, R. G. Elliott and Josiah Miller, who had edited the Kansas Free State, H. Miles Moore, Marcus J. Parrott, Mark W. Delahay, William A. Phillips, John Speer, T. Dwight Thacher, Samuel Walker, and S. N. Wood. These names would seem to comprise a minimum list on the Free-State side. Gen. Benjamin F. Stringfellow and Judge S. D. Lecompte might have been interviewed to represent the Proslavery side. Among Free-State men omitted, special emphasis should be placed upon Miller and Elliott, and their Kansas Free State. Failing an interview with either of the men concerned, Holloway should have given careful attention to their paper, which he virtually ignored. Thus he was without any effective antidote to the New England and Eastern interpretation of events. More than that, he omitted completely the Sandbank convention of July 17, 1855, and the bearing of its supporters upon the Big Springs convention and the origins of the Topeka statehood movement.4 Holloway did refer in his bibliography to the Augustus Wattles "Complete History of Kansas. . . .," published in the Herald of Freedom, but without mention of the author's name. Apparently he did not appreciate the relation of Wattles to the southeastern Kansas wars.

THE CONTENT OF HOLLOWAY'S History of Kansas

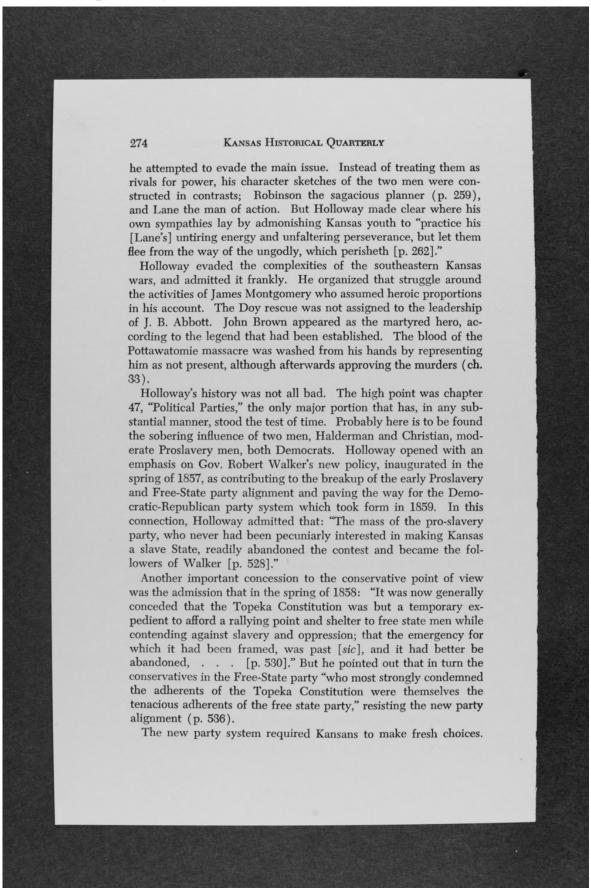
The content of Holloway's history may be indicated by using the same list of questions employed in reviewing the Phillips and Wattles histories in part one. Stephen A. Douglas received little space (p. 67), but his behavior in connection with the Kansas-

Cf. part one of this series, The Kansas Historical Quarterly, v. 21 (Autumn, 1954),
 pp. 184-223; "The Topeka Statehood Movement Reconsidered: Origins," Territorial Kansas: Studies Commemorating the Centennial (University of Kansas Publications, Social Science Studies, 1954).













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Notes on Writing of General Histories

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Holloway generalized that the moderate Proslavery men became Democrats, along with many conservative Free-State men, and that the radical Free-State men went into the new Republican party. The problem was not so simple as that however, and he qualified his interpretation in an important manner:

There was but little difference in the platforms of the different parties. The organization of these parties was the inauguration of that confusion and personal bitterness that had always characterized Kansas politics. Her early troubles attracted to her soil men of talent and ambition. Never could a new Territory boast of so many able and enthusiastic young men. The troubles had made them querulous; then these had subsided each one was ready to cast everything aside that stood in the way of his aspirations. No party nor principle could carry them through, for there was little distinction in parties; they were but in their infancy. Office-seeking, therefore, became a personal strife, an individual contest between men of equal merit and ability [p. 537]."

Holloway subscribed to the conviction of the old settlers in Kansas about the peculiar importance of Kansas history. His preface opened with the declaration that "Kansas has a history which is common with no other State in the Union." The reason assigned was that here supremacy of "Free Labor in Kansas" over the onward march of slavery "was finally settled." Then, illogically, he asserted that having lost in Kansas the "Slave propagandists . . . turned in their wrath upon the General Government. . . ." If, "finally settled" in Kansas, then why was the Civil War fought? Holloway was not alone in his difficulty. His reviewers revealed also a commitment to a similar determining role of Kansas in American history.

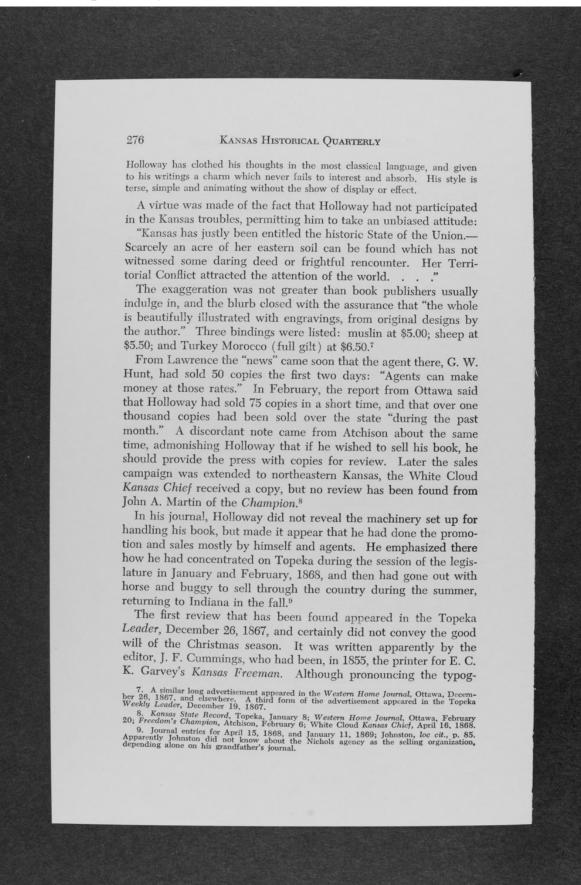
SALES AND CONTEMPORARY EVALUATIONS

Having printed his book privately, the job being completed about December 15, 1867, Holloway was obliged to arrange for marketing it. J. Nichols & Company of Topeka became his general agent, and they appointed agents throughout the state. The first of their advertisements found appeared in the Atchison Daily Champion, December 15, 1867. It was short, announced the book, a "Complete, Consecutive and Reliable History of Kansas. . . . A STANDARD Work of great interest and value to the people of Kansas." They emphasized that it would be sold "only on subscription, and an Agent will soon visit this city to canvass for it." The Topeka Kansas State Record, December 18, carried a long advertisement, announcing that the book was "now before the public." After an outline of the contents the advertisement continued:

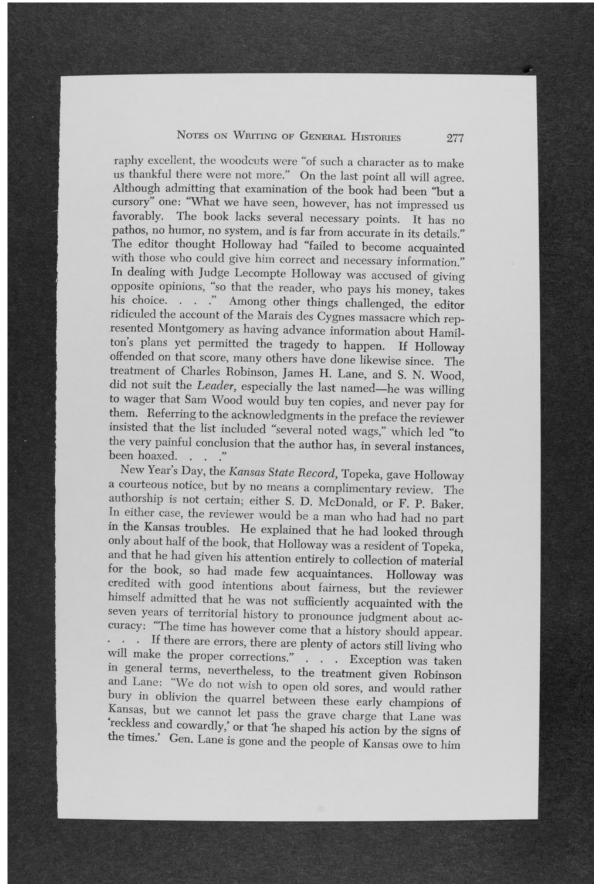
The book presents facts in a very life-like and entertaining manner. Mr.



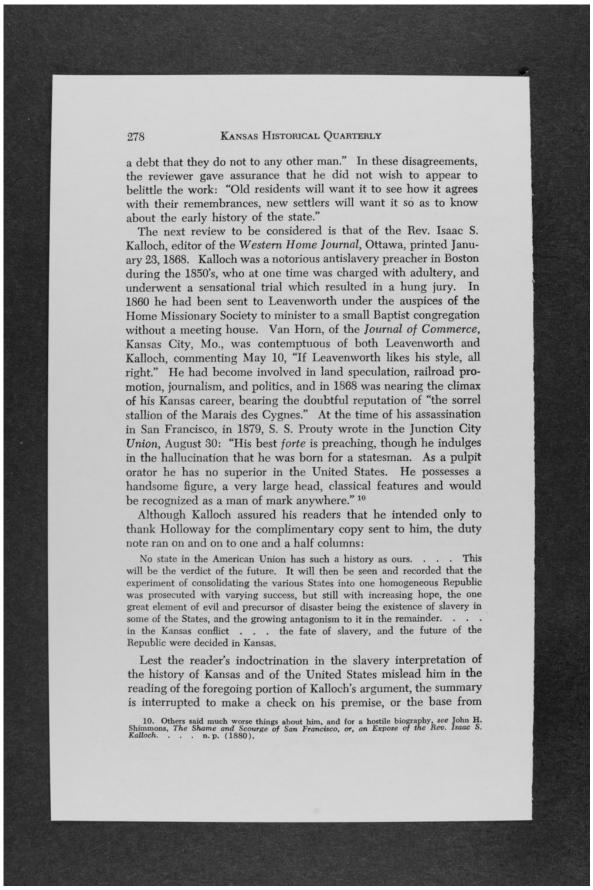




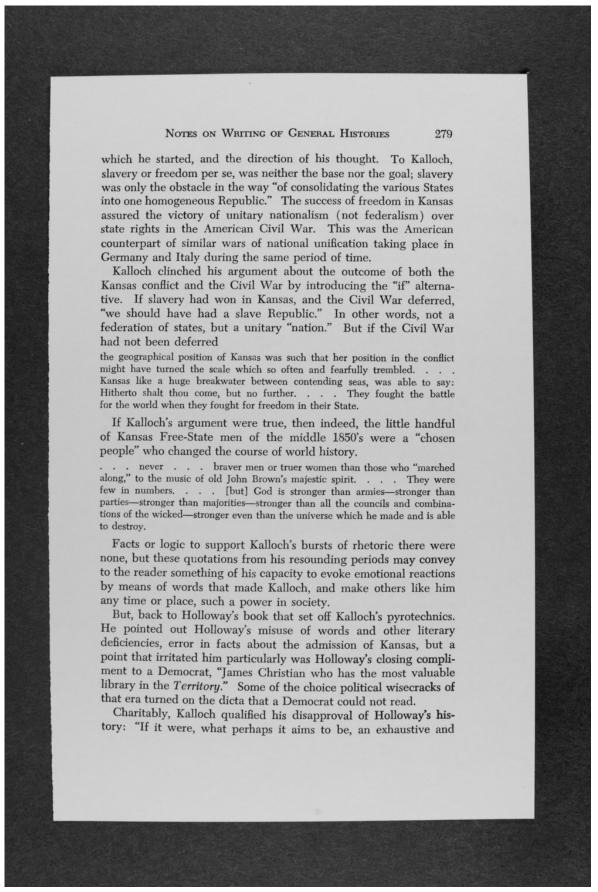












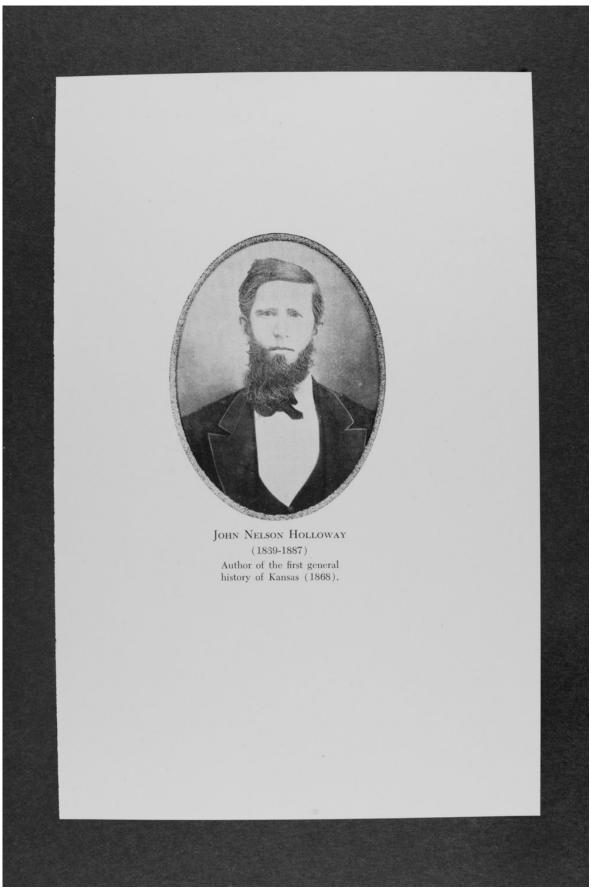




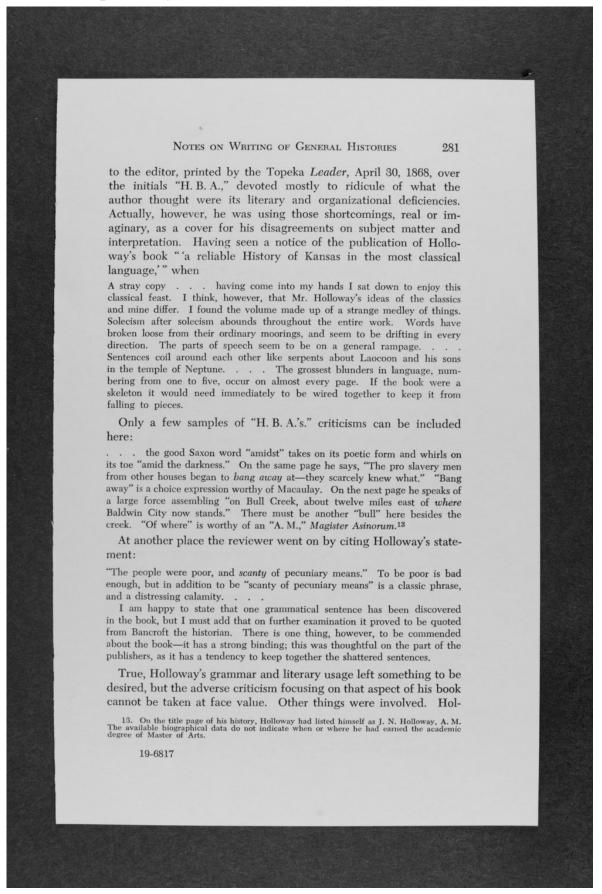
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KANSAS HISTORICAL QUARTERLY 280 final 'History of Kansas,' we should feel it our duty to criticise it unsparingly as utterly unworthy the magnitude of the theme." As a stopgap "It will be a valuable aid to the historian of the future. . . . we trust he will be duly rewarded for it. The 'History of Kansas,' however, remains to be written." But when would the time come? The Kansas conflict is among the unwritten histories of men. Partisan prejudice and passion are not yet ready to hear or believe the truth. But when these unholy passions have subsided; when the actors in the tragedy have been gathered to their fathers; when the love of patriotism swallows the love of party, and sympathy with treason to sympathy with truth; that history will be written. But for Kalloch, the rhetorician, there was still another qualification to which, in modesty, he deferred: "To write such a history will require a master of the art. The time has not come to write O. H. Browne, a former Proslavery man challenged the accuracy of Holloway's documentation of the bills passed by the "Bogus" legislature, and offered \$100 to any one who could produce one The Kansas State Record advised Browne that he could save his money by coming to Topeka where Holloway would gladly and without pay show him the document in question in the archives of the department of state where it had been copied for the book.11 The Leavenworth Commercial appraised Holloway's history as "the only book yet published worthy to be entitled a 'History of Kansas.' . . . However much we may differ from the author in his conclusions . . ., we must yet accord him praise for giving us so good a history of Kansas." 12 The canvassing for the book in the southeastern part of the state came late in the spring, the Fort Scott Monitor noticing it May 20, "the work which has been creating such a wonderful sensation in the northern part of the State. . . . All other States in the Union have had their history written in book form; but Kansasthe most historical of all-has not until now had a record of her stirring events given." The Monitor called attention to the prominence of Fort Scott in three chapters of the history, but pronounced no judgments, except recommending it to every family, and commending the author for his great service. The most vicious of the reviews was one in the form of a letter 11. Kansas State Record, February 19, 1868. Reprinted in the Western Home Journal, March 12, 1868. The file of the Com-mercial for this date has not survived.

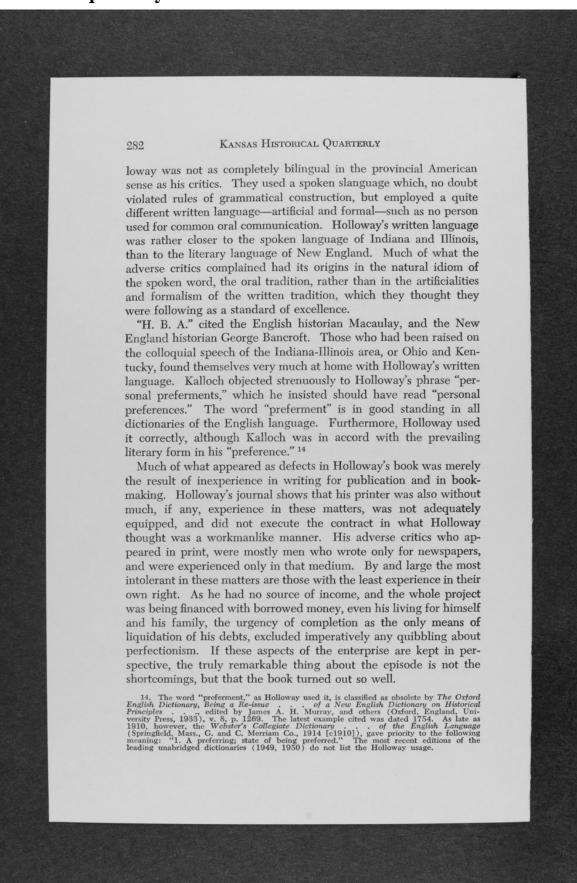




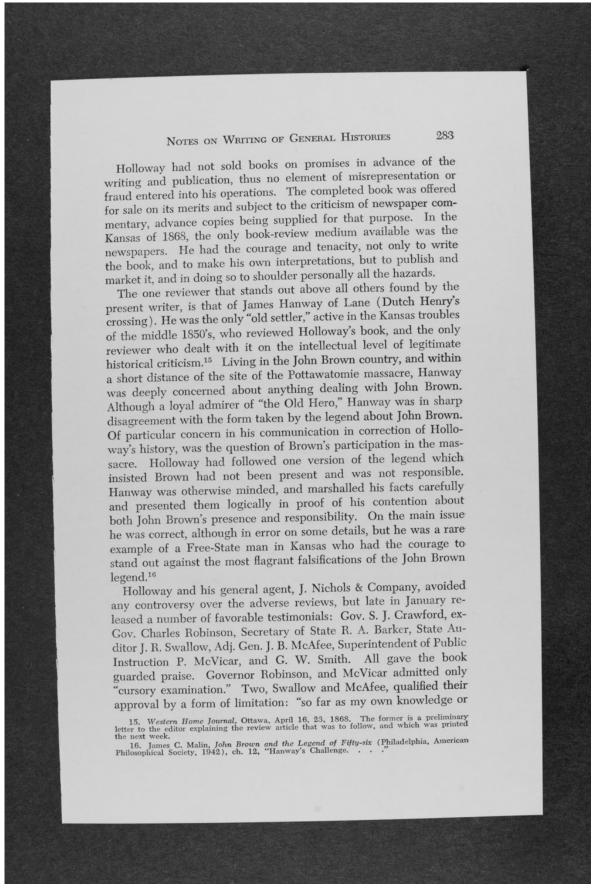




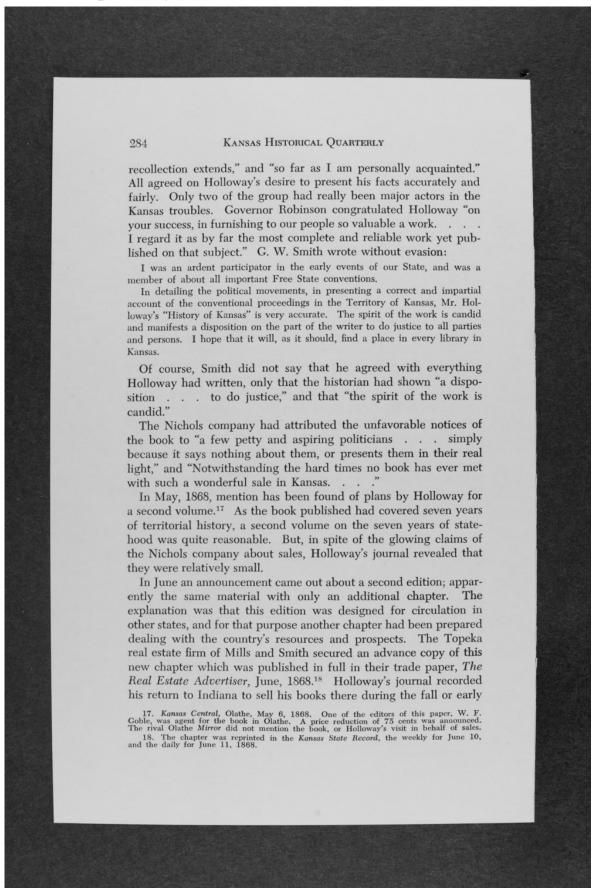




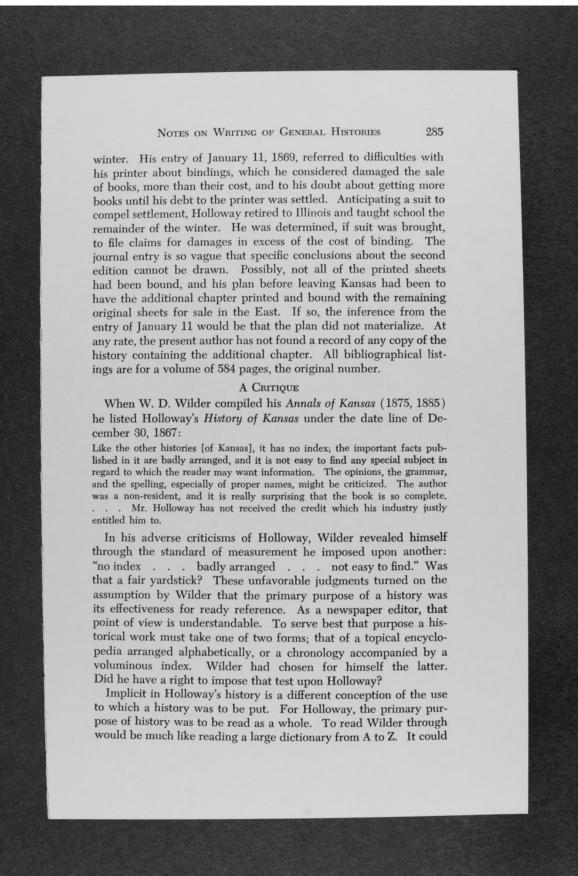




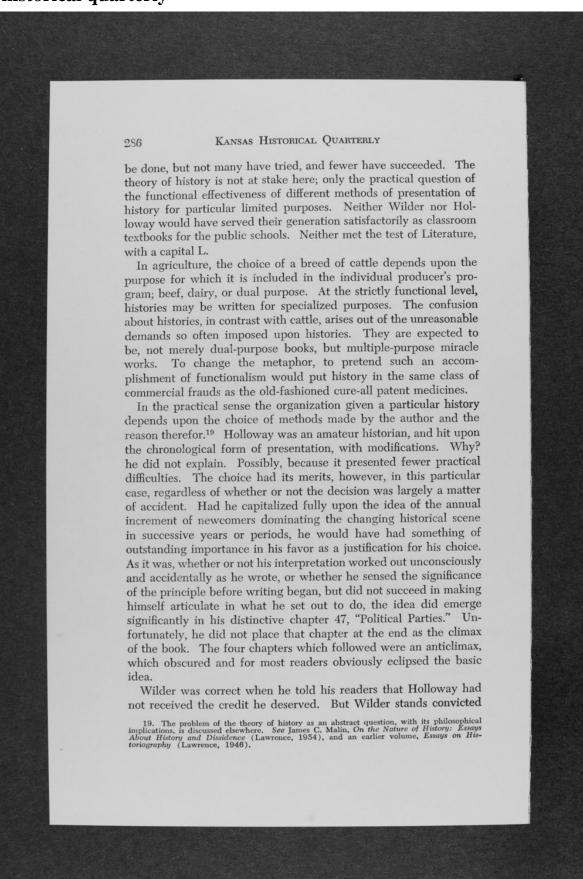




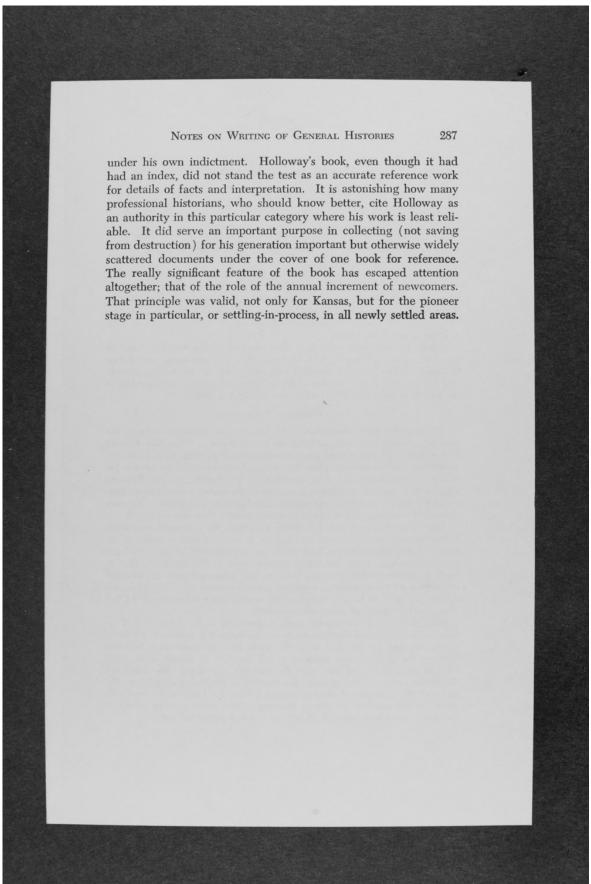




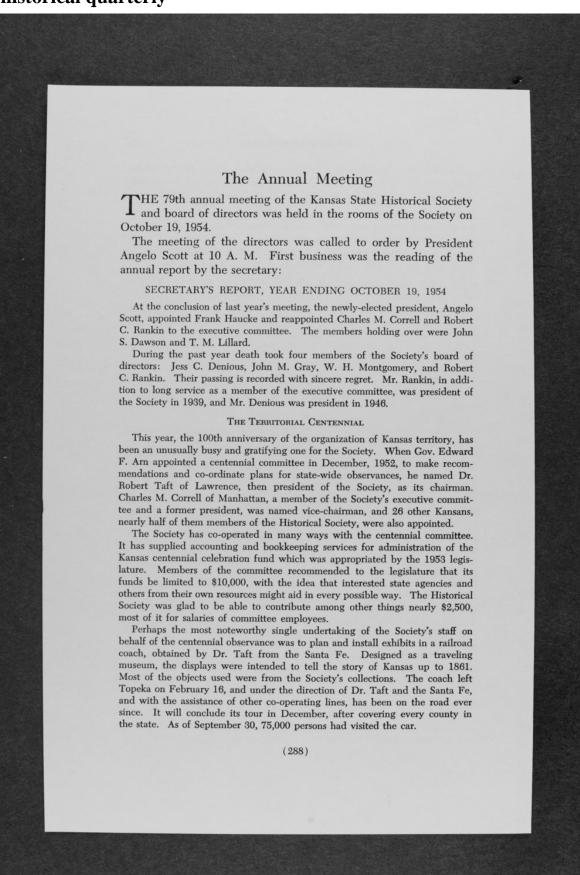




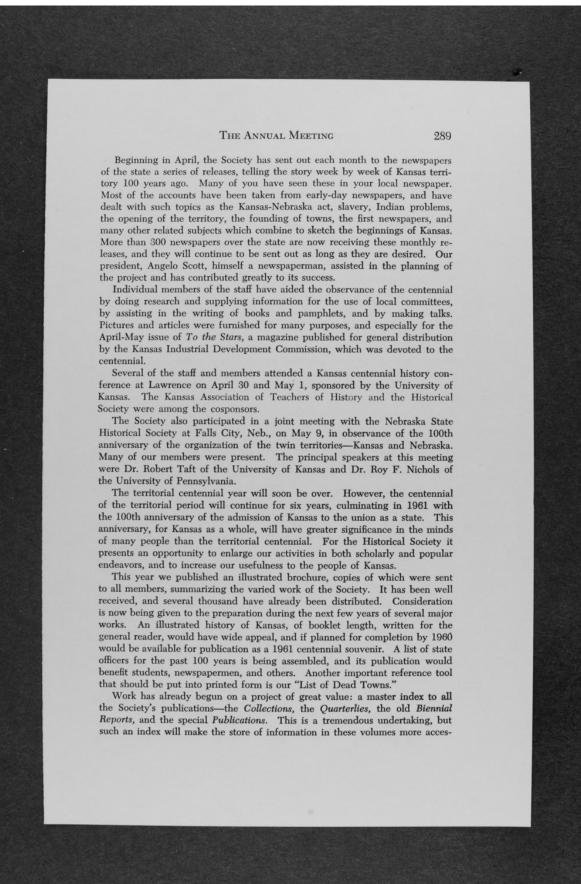




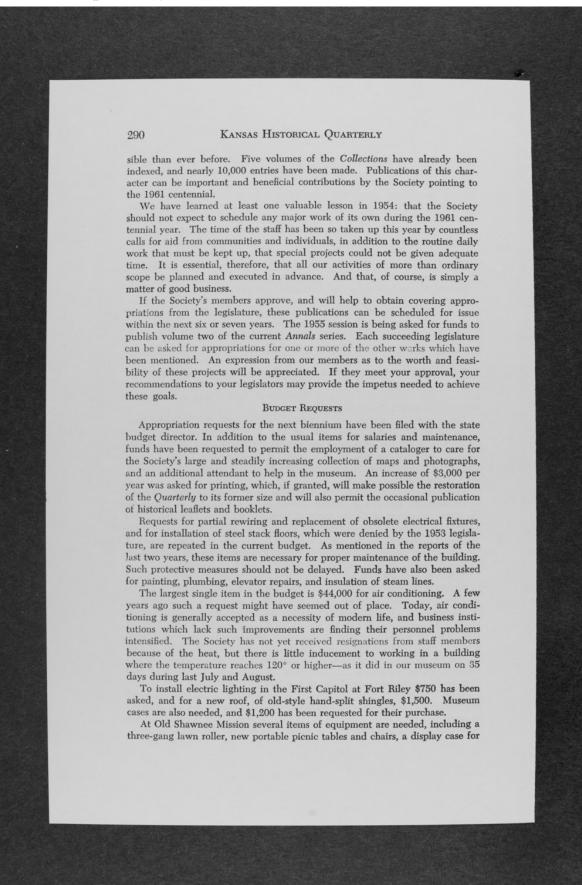
















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THE ANNUAL MEETING

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the museum, and a drinking fountain. Purchase of a pickup truck, long needed, has also been requested, and on the recommendation of the local fire department funds have been asked for an underground gasoline storage tank and pump to replace present storage in the garage. These requests total, in round figures, \$4,000. The most essential item for maintenance is tuckpointing and waterproofing of the West and North buildings, for which \$3,500 has been budgeted. Other important requests include \$5,000 for enlarging the garage to hold the truck and lawn roller and to provide additional space for storage and work rooms, \$3,500 to erect a chain link fence across the north property line, \$3,000 to enlarge the basement of the West building and install a concrete floor, \$1,500 to reinforce the first floor of the West building and \$3,000 for exterior painting on all of the buildings.

The Kaw Mission at Council Grove, which was purchased by the state in 1951, is now operating successfully as a museum. Plans are being made to convert the large stone garage adjoining the mission building into living quarters for the caretaker, so that the second floor rooms of the mission may be used

for museum purposes. The state architect's office has estimated that \$6,000 will be required for this work. In addition, \$1,575 has been requested to construct a new frame garage, large enough to include storage for tools and supplies.

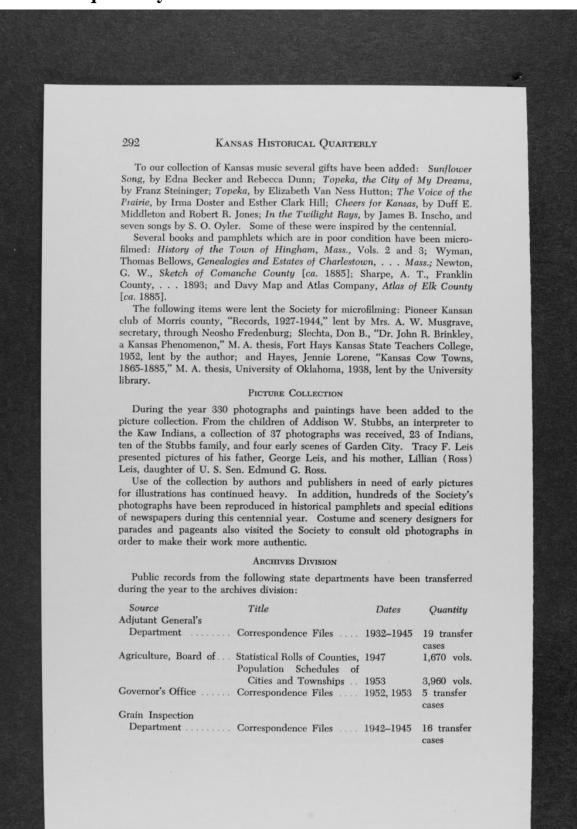
LIBRARY

During the year 3,910 persons have done research in the library. This number-693 more than the previous year-is the highest in the history of the department, and is almost certainly accounted for by the increased interest in Kansas history caused by the territorial centennial. Of these patrons, 1,650 worked on Kansas subjects, 1,393 on genealogy and 867 on general subjects. Many inquiries were answered by letter and telephone, and 146 packages on Kansas subjects were sent out from the loan file. A total of 5,808 clippings were mounted, and 1,463 pages from early volumes of clippings were remounted. Ten daily newspapers were read and clipped regularly, and approximately 1,400 single issues of other Kansas newspapers were also read and clipped.

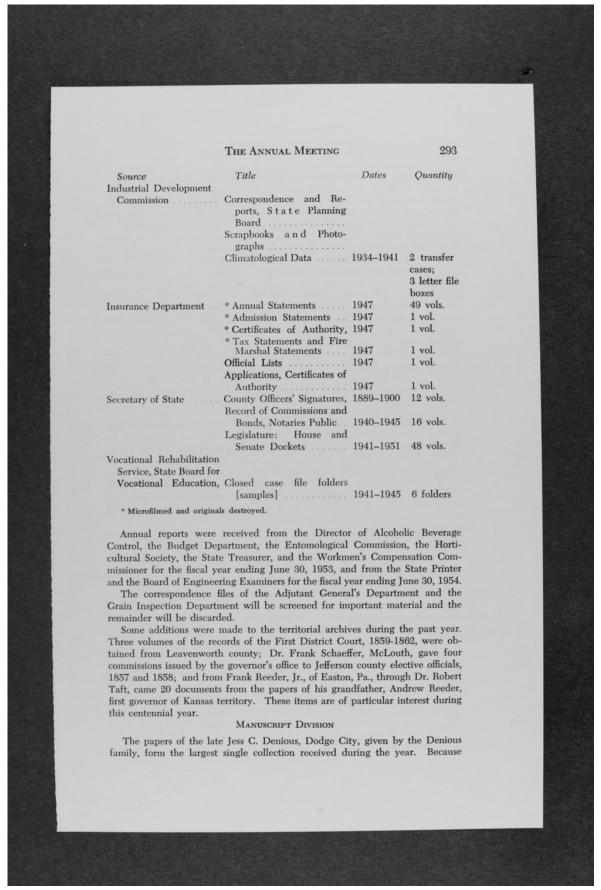
Important gifts which have enriched our genealogical department are microfilm copies of the United States census of 1850 for North Carolina, received from the State Society of Sons of the American Revolution; for South Carolina, from the Thomas Jefferson Chapter, Sons of the American Revolution; for Virginia, from the State Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution; and for Kentucky, from Mr. and Mrs. Frank Helm of Topeka. The Daughters of American Colonists contributed \$100 toward the purchase of the Illinois census. The 1850 census was the first census to list all the names in every family. From May through September, 1954, these records have been used by 190 persons, which proves their value to genealogists.

Gifts have also been received from the Smoky Hill chapter, the Emporia chapter, and the Eunice Sterling chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution; the National Society United States Daughters of 1812; the National Society Children of American Colonists; Margaret Dunning chapter, Daughters of American Colonists, and the Woman's Kansas Day Club. Kansas books and genealogies have been received from individuals, including 13 volumes of genealogical works given by Mrs. Guilford Dudley.

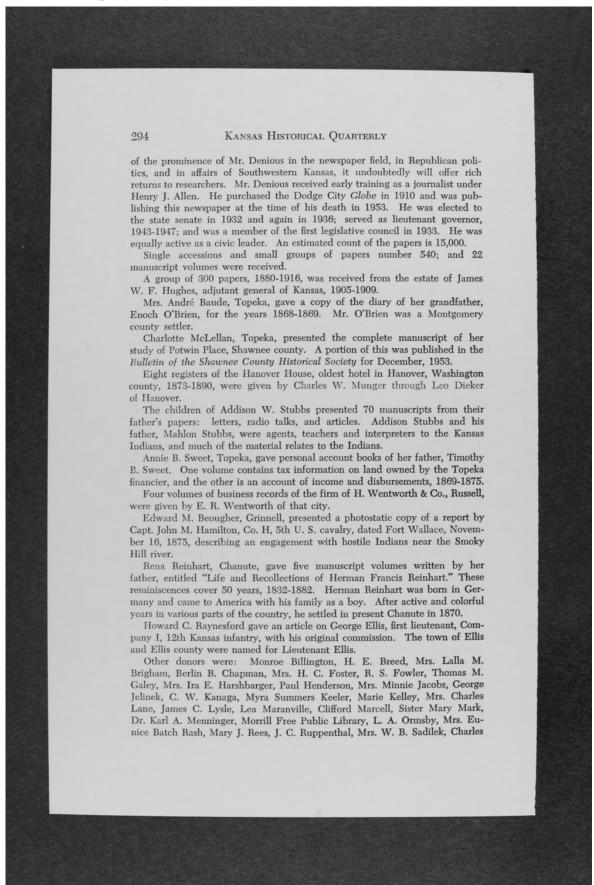




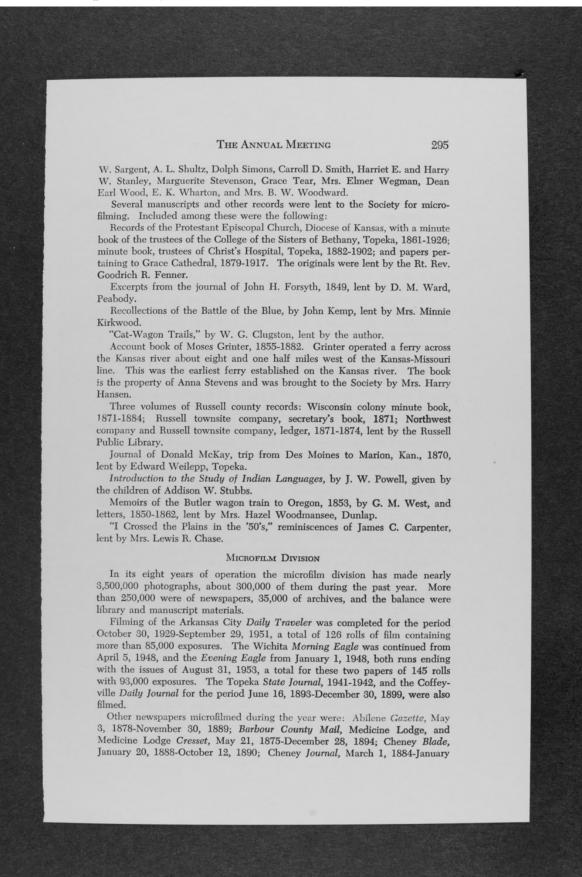




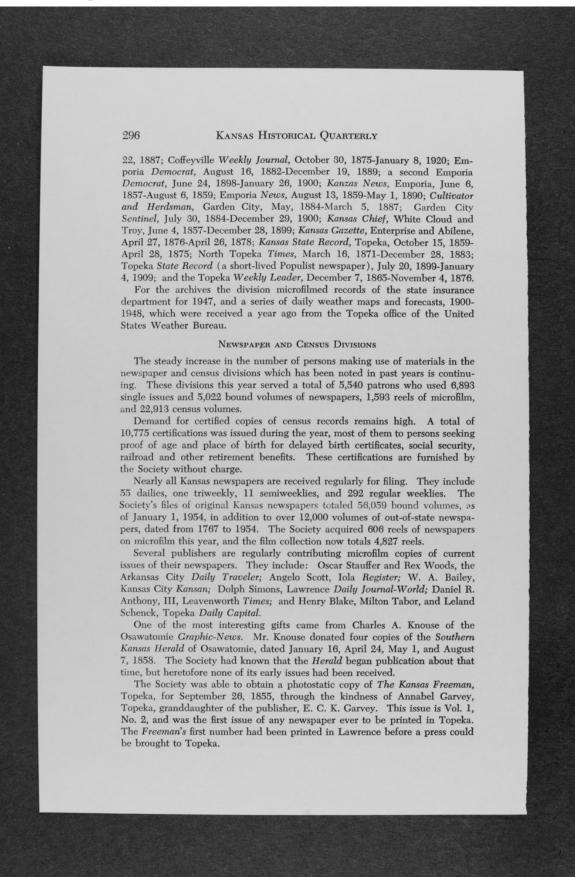




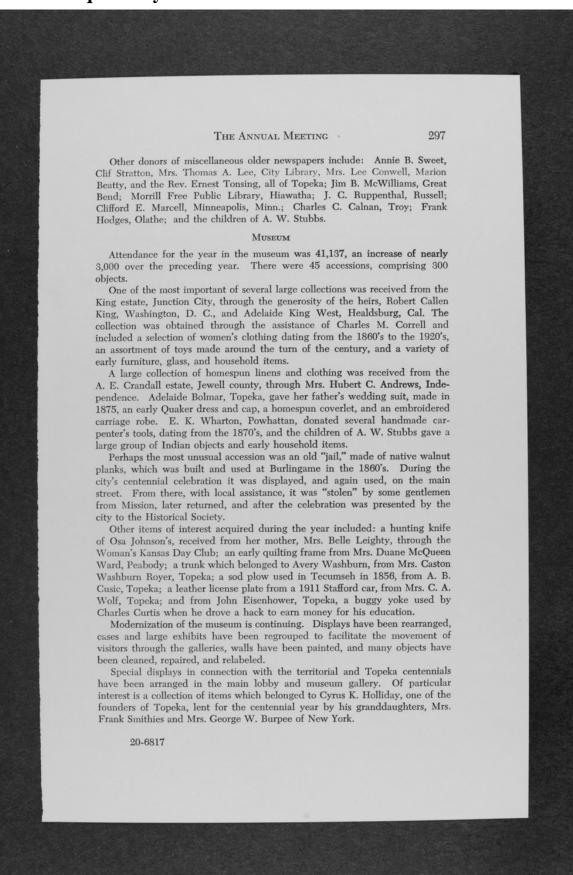
















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Annals of Kansas

The first volume of the new Annals of Kansas, 1886-1910, featuring 64 pages of pictures, is before you today. The extensive photograph collections of the Society were searched for suitable pictures of the period, and personal letters and notices in newspapers brought in many more from over the state and nation. Final selection of photographs to illustrate the first volume was made in July. Cuts and captions were finished in August. The first completed volumes were delivered by the state printing plant early this month.

Manuscript for the second volume, 1911-1925, has been revised, rechecked, and two thirds of it retyped. Approximately half is ready for the printer. Publication of this second volume, which will contain the index for both, must of course await authorization by the 1955 legislature.

SUBJECTS FOR RESEARCH

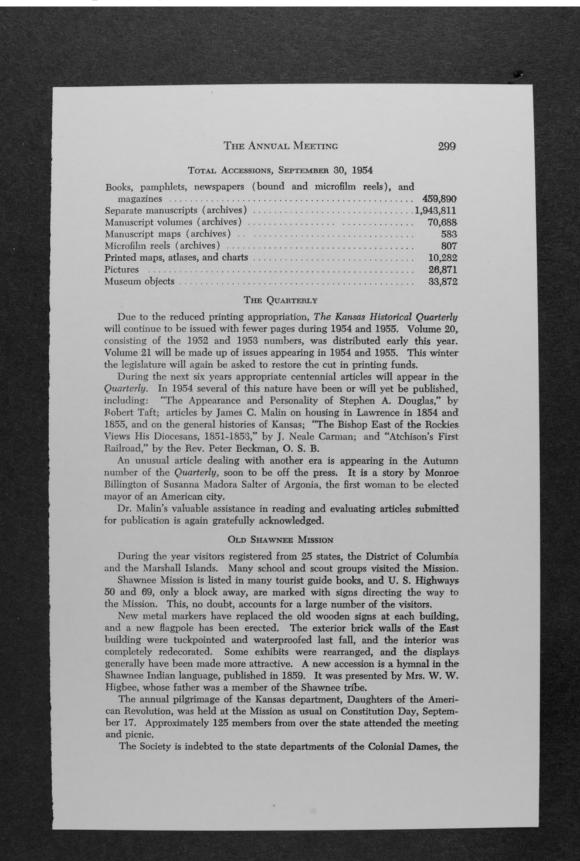
Extended research during the year included the following persons and subjects: Chester I. Long; Samuel N. Wood and the Stevens county-seat fight; Dr. John R. Brinkley; Waconda Springs; Fort Zarah; Fort Harker; Riley county history; histories of Hartford, Perry, and other Kansas towns; territorial history for centennial celebrations and publications; Tennessee town kindergarten, Topeka; Jewish colonies in Kansas; history of Topeka and Leavenworth schools; editorial opinion concerning the Spanish-American War; irrigation in western Kansas; Negro exodus to Kansas in 1879; early oil explorations in Oklahoma; history of Crested Butte, Colo.; Kansas newspapers printed in German; Kansans who have received the Congressional Medal of Honor; Kansas Freedman's Relief Association; history of the Kansas State Department of Public Instruction; campaign songs; Cyrus K. Holliday house in Topeka; Kansas homestead act; history of woman suffrage in Kansas; Kansas during the Civil War; Fascism in Kansas; linguistic survey in Kansas; promotional publicity put out to bring settlers to Kansas; American toys.

Accessions

October 1, 1953, to September 30, 1954

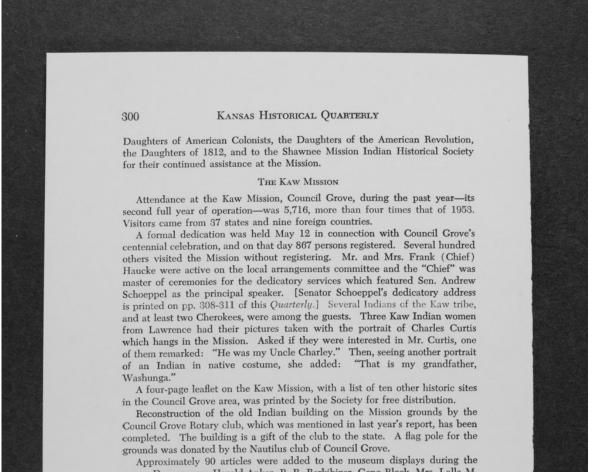
Library:	7.000
Books	
Pamphlets	
Magazines (bound volumes)	
Archives:	
Separate manuscripts	128,500
Manuscript volumes	5,760
Manuscript maps	
Reels of microfilm	
Private manuscripts:	
Separate manuscripts	540
Volumes	0
Reels of microfilm	
Printed maps, atlases and charts	
Newspapers (bound volumes)	
Reels of microfilm	
	0.04
Museum objects	







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year. Donors were Harold Anker, B. R. Berkihizer, Gene Block, Mrs. Lalla M. Brigham, the Council Grove Library Board, Mrs. R. R. Cross, Mrs. L. S. Harris, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Haucke, Mrs. John Jacobs, Johnson Brothers, Orval Kendall, Hattie Mack and John Quiett, Georgia Nicholson, Allen Nixon, Mrs. W. H. Pierce, Andrew and R. C. Porter, G. G. Puryear, Mrs. Quinter Sample, R. O. Scott, and the Stubbs family.

THE FIRST CAPITOL

Next year is the centennial of the First Capitol. The first territorial legislature met in the building July 2, 1855, in accordance with Governor Reeder's proclamation, but adjourned on the 6th to meet at the Shawnee Methodist Mission. Antagonism was rife between the Proslavery legislature and the Free-State inhabitants of Pawnee, as this short-lived town was called. A resident wrote that during the session occurred the first and only Fourth of July ever celebrated in Pawnee, and that it was "of such a tempestuous nature that no inhabitant of that city ever desired to see another celebration of the day."

Plans are being made to install new and attractive displays in the hope that visitors, particularly from out-of-state, will be interested in seeing the building even though the principal highway now by-passes the Fort Riley reservation. There were 4,890 visitors at the Capitol this year, an increase of more than 25 per cent over 1953.