

Kansas historical quarterly

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The quarterly journal of the Kansas Historical Society from 1931-1977, the Kansas Historical Quarterly succeeded the Kansas Historical Collections, 1875-1928, (also available as unit 221606) and preceded Kansas History: A Journal of the Central Plains, 1978 - present.

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KANSAS
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY



to make them, including a book of instruction, from Mrs. Dean Mordy, Shawnee Mission; toys, glass, and clothing from Madeline Deane Martin, Dallas, Tex.; furniture, household items, tools, books, games, and other items from the Lena Hamilton Casebier estate, North Topeka; pictorial literature from Larry McKamy, Lewisville, Tex.; a victrola, clothing, and papers from Mrs. H. L. Hiebert, Topeka; a lithograph of a blacksmith shop in Valley Falls by Margaret Whittemore, from J. W. Warner, Lyons; Maynard carbine rifle from Ralph L. Larson, Topeka; and pharmaceutical equipment from Mrs. Donna Andreason, Lincoln.

Other donors included: Mildred Baker, Holton; Walter N. Baldwin, Topeka; Bill Bartley, Topeka; George Bengel, Sr., Topeka; G. G. Benson, Jackson, Miss.; J. Leland Benson, Topeka; Walde Bergsten, Poplar, Wis.; Mr. and Mrs. Richard Bernatis, Topeka; Mrs. Case A. Bonebrake, Manhattan; John Branda, Lucas; Buffalo Bill State Park Committee, Inc., Leavenworth; Rodell Capper, Topeka; W. L. Cochennet, Emporia; William Coleman, Topeka; Mrs. Una Collinson, Topeka; Dr. Jacqueline Comstock, Topeka; Jean Keller, Topeka; J. B. Dobbs, Topeka; Mrs. Hilda Donnelly, Topeka; Doorstep, Inc., Topeka; Downtown Optimist Club, Topeka; William Drenner, Topeka; Lucille Elmore, Topeka; Harold R. Fatzer, Topeka; Mrs. Guy Finney, Topeka; Mrs. Richard Finney, Topeka; Dale Foose, Topeka; Susan Forbes, Topeka; Mr. and Mrs. Harold A. Fox, Allentown, Pa.; Richard M. Freeman, Topeka; Mrs. Roy Gibson, Chanute; Darcy, Robin and Penny Gilbert, Topeka; Mrs. Helen Gilbert, Arma; Mrs. Richard Ginter, Maple Hill; the Grinter and Kirby families, Kansas City; Michael D. Heaston, Wichita; Herman J. Hempen, Topeka; Mrs. Charles Hendricks, Emporia; Royce Hinchman, Topeka; Clifford Hope estate, Garden City; Mr. and Mrs. K. M. Hovorka, Arcadia, Calif.; Charles Howes, Topeka; Virginia Hudson, Topeka; George Jelinek, Ellsworth; Raymond Johnson, Wakefield; Roy H. Johnson, Topeka; Kansas Federation of Women's Clubs, Topeka; Alpha Kenna, Topeka; Col. R. A. Konopaska, Topeka; Mr. and Mrs. William Konowalow, Jacksonville, Ark.; Mrs. Homer LaForge, Chanute; Landmark Historical Society, Mt. Vernon, N. Y.; Mrs. Eleanor Langsdorf, Topeka; Paul Lungren, Topeka; Rex W. Maneval, Frankfort; Morris Mast, Topeka; P. M. Maus, Topeka; Mr. and Mrs. Willis McEntarfer, Hoyt; Harold McNeeley, Topeka; Mr. and Mrs. V. C. Messersmith, Topeka; George E. Miller, Urichsville, Ohio; Menno-nite Heritage Foundation, Goessel; Mrs. J. C. Morton, Topeka; Linda Mowbray, Topeka; Donald Otto, Ft. Worth, Tex.; Herb Pankratz, Topeka; American Legion Post 121, Council Grove; Mrs. Thelma Rand, Ottawa; Mrs. H. Lloyd Randel, Topeka; Dr. Victor Reinking, Topeka; John Reynolds, Topeka; Bob Riddle, Topeka; John Ripley, Topeka; Hilma Ringel, Topeka; Mrs. K. J. Roach, Topeka; Mrs. T. J. Sands, Robinson; Mr. and Mrs. R. Santellano, Topeka; Ken Scott, Topeka; Judge Willard H. Shaffer, Carlsbad, Calif.; estate of Nellie Shultz, Eureka; Elton Simpson, Topeka; Clara Ritz Smith, Topeka; Sam and Betty Smith, Larned; Wint Smith, Mankato; Bruce L. Snell, Topeka; Michael C. Snell, Topeka; Ellis Sumey, Topeka; Kenneth Timken, Topeka; Col. and Mrs. Donald O'Toole, Topeka; Bob Tischenor, Gorham; Clarence Vawter, Carbondale; Caroline Walbridge, Topeka; Mrs. William Laing Ward and Ruth and Jeanne Laing, Marysville; Verel Westover, Topeka; Albert Wiltz, Shawnee Mission; Thomas Witty, Topeka; Woman's Kansas Day Club, Topeka.

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NEWSPAPER AND CENSUS DIVISION

This department is struggling with a backlog of work which has been building for the past couple of years. More people, perhaps made history-conscious by the bicentennial, are using the newspapers and requesting photocopies of articles from them; family history continues to increase in popularity; and the need for records by persons seeking proof of age and place of birth for delayed birth certificates, social security, and other retirement benefits continues.

Approximately 11,500 persons were served in person, by mail, and by telephone this year. Use was made by the staff and the public of 8,506 bound volumes and 4,773 loose issues of newspapers; 5,983 census volumes; and 5,832 microfilm reels.

Furnishing photocopies of newspaper articles and pages, maps, and other documents is one of the most popular services provided by the division. It is estimated that over 10,000 photocopies were made this year. Orders for commercially made photostatic copies and microfilm reader-printer copies also were handled by the division. Unfortunately, local firms have discontinued photostating and this service is no longer available.

Kansas newspaper publishers continue to donate copies of their issues to the Society in keeping with the tradition started 100 years ago. Several give extra copies for clipping and microfilming. Microfilm copies of their current issues are donated by 18 publishers. The Society currently receives 56 dailies, four triweeklies, 11 semiweeklies, 245 weeklies, 23 semimonthlies, 39 monthlies, and 20 published less frequently. This is a total of 398 publications of which 291 are community newspapers, and 107 are school, church, trade, and miscellaneous papers.

Four hundred and sixty-seven bound volumes of Kansas newspapers, eight volumes of out-of-state newspapers, and 2,183 reels of newspapers on microfilm were added to the Society's files this year.

Among the older newspapers acquired were: *Sherman County Dark Horse*, Eustis, July 1, 1886, *Junction City Republican*, November 28, 1884-September 8, 1893, *Junction City Sentinel*, May 1, 1890-April 27, 1895 (incomplete), *Junction City Tribune*, August 17, 1879-July 18, 1889 (incomplete), and the *Junction City Union*, May 1, 1880-May 9, 1885, all donated by the Nebraska State Historical Society, Lincoln; *Union Volunteer*, Louisville, Ky., July 10, 1863, donated by the estate of William Macferran and Mrs. Macferran, Topeka; *Marquette Journal*, March 25, 1909, donated by C. P. Thompson and Mrs. Varda Thompson, Marquette; and the *Johnson County Democrat*, Olathe, November 25, 1921-October 23, 1952, donated by Murray Hodges of the Hodges Bros. Lumber Co., Olathe. The *Eudora Enterprise*, March 9, 1966-December 27, 1972, was lent for microfilming by Debby Eltschinger, Eudora, to fill a gap in the Society's files. For the second year funds donated by the Woman's Kansas Day Club were used to purchase microfilm of the *New York Times*. Film for 1871-1876 has been added to the files.

Other donors of older newspapers included: Mrs. H. L. Hiebert, Topeka; Blanche Welchhaus Lovelle, Topeka; Mrs. Virginia McArthur, Hutchinson; Diedrich G. Newman, Topeka; Rochester Museum and Science Center, Rochester, N. Y.; and Corbin T. Trimble, Meriden.

Requests for information have continued to be varied this year, ranging from the California woman who wanted photocopies of the Flapper Fanny



cartoon series which appeared in the newspapers in the 1920's and 1930's to the Wisconsin man who wanted help with an article he was writing on physicians as college football coaches, and from the retired army sergeant who wanted a newspaper story about the last cavalry horses, to the Kansas high school boy who asked about newspaper printing techniques in the 1920's. A university professor in Pennsylvania wanted information from the social statistics schedules of the 1850 [!] and 1860 census of Kansas for a study of the fertility of farm families. An inquiry from an Indiana University librarian led to the location of a prize-winning essay on the definition of success in the Lincoln newspapers of 1905 written by Bessie A. Stanley. The essay is still quoted today but is often credited to the American poet and essayist Ralph Waldo Emerson. Further, Mrs. Stanley turned out to be the mother of the Society's current president, Judge Arthur J. Stanley, Jr.

HISTORIC SITES

First Territorial Capitol, Fort Riley Reservation.—The number of visitors at the First Capitol of Kansas was 7,626, an increase of nearly 300 over the preceding year. Kansas visitors totaled 4,974 and the balance came from the other 49 states, the District of Columbia and 14 foreign countries. About 1,100 others are estimated to have visited the Capitol without registering.

The property continues to improve in appearance and general condition, thanks to the capable attention of the caretaker. This year insulation, combination storm windows, and a new furnace will be installed in the cottage, after which heating costs should be lowered and the occupants should be able to live more comfortably.

Frontier Historical Park, Hays.—Frontier Park and the Fort Hays museum complex continues to be the most popular of the state-owned historic sites, though attendance has suffered since the gasoline crunch began. Last year there were 25,956 registered visitors to the museum and an estimated 7,500 more visited the museum or used the other park facilities without registering. It is expected that renovation of the officers' quarters will be completed this year and the building will be furnished and open to the public by next spring. This expansion of the museum facilities has been underway for several years, half the cost being financed by private donations, largely from Mrs. Virginia McArthur of Hutchinson, which were used to match federal grants of equal amount under the National Historic Preservation Act. A major improvement during the current year will be the repair of the park roads, which have seriously deteriorated.

Funston Memorial Home, near Iola.—Effective June 18, 1975, the Funston Home was placed on a half-time schedule as a result of a 50 percent cut in the operating budget. It is now open from 10 A. M. to 4 P. M. Tuesday through Saturday and from 1 to 4 on Sunday for seven months a year, April through October. This schedule was established because the building is not heated and there seemed little point in attempting to keep it open even on a minimum basis during the winter months. The caretaker, Louis J. Blohm, resigned when the new schedule went in to effect and has been succeeded by Leon Manson. In FY 1975 registered attendance was 1,033, about 200 more than the previous year, but per visitor operating expenses were still excessive.



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Goodnow House, Manhattan.—There were 2,473 registered visitors at the Goodnow House, 2,102 of them Kansans and the remainder from 44 other states, the District of Columbia and 10 foreign countries. This is an increase of about 370 over the year before, which is an encouraging sign in view of the fact that the property operates on a half-time schedule. Renovation of the barn and its interior adaptation for use as a small visitors' center has been completed. As time and funds permit it is planned to install several interpretive displays.

Grinter Place, Muncie.—Registered visitors at this property in the last fiscal year totaled 2,017, of whom 1,761 were Kansans and the balance were from 30 other states, the District of Columbia and seven foreign countries. This is an increase of nearly 400 over the preceding year. A new caretaker was employed in June, and hopefully with this change and the productive endeavors of the Junior League of Kansas City and Grinter Friends there will be substantial improvements.

Iowa, Sac and Fox Presbyterian Mission, near Highland.—Registered visitors totaled 3,561, an increase of some 450 over the year before. About half, 1,768, were Kansas residents and the remainder came from 42 other states, the District of Columbia, and 10 foreign countries. Seven new exhibits were installed, as listed in the section of this report dealing with the museum division, and the building has been pointed and waterproofed.

John Brown Museum, Osawatimie.—The number of visitors last year remained about the same as the preceding year, 4,672 as compared to 4,625. Most were from Kansas but 43 states, the District of Columbia, and 16 foreign countries were represented.

Kaw Methodist Mission, Council Grove.—Visitors the past year totaled 6,049, of whom 4,973 were from Kansas and the balance from 44 other states and nine foreign countries. Harlan Trego, who performed so admirably as the caretaker for about 12 years, retired at the end of April and was succeeded by Mr. and Mrs. Russell Miller. We are pleased to report that the Millers have taken firm hold of the job and we expect great things of them.

Marais des Cygnes Massacre Park, Linn county.—This property is frequently used by area residents for picnics and similar recreational purposes and therefore has a large percentage of unregistered visitors. Last year there were 3,373 registered visitors from 36 states and three foreign countries, Kansas residents numbered 1,980. In addition an estimated 2,250 others used the park without registering.

Pawnee Indian Village Museum, Republic county.—This property showed a decrease of a little more than 400 in visitor registrations, with 6,687 in fiscal year 1975 as compared to 7,101 the year before. Kansas visitors numbered 3,714 and the remainder came from the 49 other states, the District of Columbia, and 11 foreign countries. Another 1,200 are estimated to have visited the museum without registering. The property is in excellent condition and can justly be described as one of the finest archeological museums in the Midwest.

Pawnee Rock Historical Park, Barton county.—The Pawnee Rock Lions Club continues to perform maintenance and clean-up work at this park under an agreement with the Society. There is a considerable number of visitors each year but since there is no regular caretaker, no count is available.

Pony Express Station, Hanover.—Registered attendance last year was 4,821, about 700 less than the preceding year. Of these 1,832 were Kansans and



the remainder came from the other 49 states, the District of Columbia, and nine foreign countries. An estimated 2,500 others visited the museum or used the picnic facilities without registering. The long-awaited rural water district line was completed and the caretaker's house now has much better service.

Shawnee Methodist Mission, Johnson county.—This property, which has perhaps the most beautiful setting of any in the state, after a substantial increase in visitation in fiscal year 1974 showed a decline the past year. Registered visitors were 16,930 as compared to 19,559, and the grand totals for the two years, including visitors actually counted but not registered, was 21,308 as compared to 22,860. Last year 9,984 were Kansans and the remainder came from 48 other states, the District of Columbia, and 27 foreign countries. On September 17, 1974, the Daughters of the American Revolution again held their annual constitution-day pilgrimage to the Mission. In May, 1975, Shawnee Methodist Mission was included in the Kansas City Wellesley Garden Club tour for the first time; the more than 1,800 people who participated must have set some kind of one-day attendance record. A letter received from the club after the event said: "The standard comment seems to be 'I've driven by the Mission a thousand times, but never realized how fascinating it is, or how beautiful the grounds are.'" There was special praise for the superintendent and his wife: "Everything was superbly cared for, inside and out, and the grounds were as lovely as any garden in Kansas City." On June 23 the Shawnee Mission Indian Historical Society held its annual picnic at the Mission, at which our president, Arthur J. Stanley, Jr., was the principal speaker. We are most appreciative of the interest and support of these groups, and of the Daughters of American Colonists, the Daughters of 1812, and the Colonial Dames.

Mine Creek Historical Park, Linn county.—This park officially became the property of the state on February 27, 1975, when contracts were signed and state warrants were handed to the two property owners involved. However, no operating funds were provided in the budget for the current fiscal year so no development has been possible. A boundary line survey of the park area has been contracted for, but as this is written it has not been completed. The balance remaining from the purchase appropriation will be used to install a chain link fence along the east property line, as required by the purchase agreement, and no public use is to be made of the park until the fence is installed. If funds are insufficient it is hoped that the Linn county park board can provide some assistance to make the site at least usable. Preliminary plans, as explained in last year's report, call for a walking trail through the battlefield, and the park board officials have said they will mow such a trail along a path which the Society will stake out. Funds for development and operation are again requested in the Society's budget proposals for fiscal 1977.

Pottawatomie Baptist Mission, Shawnee county.—Last spring and summer a small crew performed archeological work under the supervision of Tom Barr, our historic sites archeologist, at the Pottawatomie Mission. The ground floor was excavated to the original level, drip lines from the original roof structure were located, and a number of interesting and significant discoveries were made about the materials and construction of the building. An associate architect was also employed through the state division of architectural services to do investigative research and provide a report and conjectural drawings on the fabric and appearance of the original structure. The result is a detailed



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report and architectural drawings, including floor plans and other concrete information which will be essential in any forthcoming restoration. Funds for this work were provided by the federal government under the National Historic Preservation Act, matching the state's acquisition costs. The balance remaining will be used, possibly during the current fiscal year, to begin the exterior renovation, including complete replacement of the existing roof and roof structure. Aside from capital improvement requests to continue the renovation and the adaptive restoration of the interior for museum use, only \$500 in operating funds has been requested for next year, this to provide electrical service.

SUBJECTS FOR RESEARCH

Subjects of extended research in the Society's collections included big league baseball; the black business community of Lawrence, 1902-1915; black business in Topeka; blacks in Oklahoma; Christmas in Kansas; Colorado gold mines; Coxey's movement and Populism; editorial attitudes of German newspapers in Kansas, 1880-1918; the Flint Hills; German immigrants; the Grange and Kansas State University; Japanese Americans; Kansas labor politics in the 1880's; medicine in Kansas, 1855-1900; movie censorship in Kansas; prayer meetings and revivals; rural life, 1870-1892; Shawnee county history; Western reactions to reconstruction, and women in Kansas Populism. Research was also conducted on the following individuals: Alfred M. Landon. Mary Elizabeth Lease, Edward P. McCabe, Isaac McCoy, and Kate O'Hare.

SOCIETY HOLDINGS, JUNE 30, 1975

Bound volumes

| | | |
|---|---------|--|
| Books | | |
| Kansas | 15,006 | |
| General | 68,348 | |
| Genealogy and local history | 13,910 | |
| Indians and the West | 3,229 | |
| Kansas state publications | 4,521 | |
| Total, books | 105,014 | |
| Clippings | 1,614 | |
| Periodicals | 21,900 | |
| Total, bound volumes | 128,528 | |
| Manuscripts (archives and private papers, cubic feet) | 7,482 | |
| Maps, atlases, and lithographs | 7,266 | |
| Microcards (titles) | 194 | |
| Microfilm (rolls) | | |
| Books and other library materials | 1,810 | |
| Newspapers | 16,846 | |
| Public archives and private papers | 4,149 | |
| Total, microfilm rolls | 22,805 | |
| Newspapers (bound volumes) | | |
| Kansas | 66,690 | |
| Out-of-state | 12,263 | |
| Total, newspaper volumes | 78,953 | |
| Paintings and drawings | 1,189 | |



Pamphlets

| | | |
|-----------------------------------|---------|---------|
| Kansas | 112,994 | |
| General | 45,621 | |
| Genealogy and local history | 5,036 | |
| Indians and the West | 1,546 | |
| Kansas state publications | 11,940 | |
| Total, pamphlets | | 177,137 |

Photographs

| | | |
|--|--------|--------|
| Still photographs | | |
| Black and white | 70,852 | |
| Color prints, transparencies, and slides | 1,399 | |
| Motion picture film (reels) | 131 | |
| Total, photographs | | 72,382 |

THE STAFF OF THE SOCIETY

After many years in this business and on the basis of a rather wide acquaintance with the operations of similar organizations in other states I remain convinced, as I have stated many times before, that the Kansas State Historical Society has a staff as capable and conscientious as can be found anywhere. It is always a pleasure to make this annual acknowledgment of the generally excellent work performed by this dedicated group, which each year elicits such comments as the following: A Dallas, Tex., researcher who spent a week with us wrote: "I was in the library, the newspaper and microfilm viewing rooms as well as the map room. You have an excellent system for retrieving information and your personnel is tops! I don't know when I've been treated so cordially and made to feel as welcome." From a reference librarian and bibliographer of the Iowa State University library: "The materials that I . . . used in the Kansas State Historical Society library were quite helpful, and the cooperation of its staff was magnificent!" And from a visitor from Indiana: "The Kansas State Historical Society represented one of the most courteous and helpful groups I had ever contacted."

This year I wish to express a double dip of appreciation to Edgar Langsdorf, the deputy director with many hats, who assists all over the place often without it being known on the outside. Among his several score chores this year was an extra assignment which must not be allowed to pass without acknowledgment. It was the writing of the Society's centennial history for which he did most of the research, made his copy ready for the printer, and got all of it published right on schedule.

I'm certain that he must have volunteered to do it, for I don't recall having had to twist his arm. However, he had the ability and experience, and the job was logically his. In fact he did it so well that bravo's are still sounding for him and the work. For example, here's one from a seasoned editor in central Kansas: "Would you believe that I got the centennial issue of the *Kansas Historical Quarterly*, Autumn, 1975, yesterday—sat down to glance through it—couldn't put it down—read every word . . . even The Last Word. Ed Langsdorf did a beautiful job of writing—making every word count—tying everything together perfectly. There are no loose ends! . . ." And that from the outside tells us what a man we have here in Ed Langsdorf.

Of course our appreciation continues to go to others on the staff, too, who also are giving good service: Robert Richmond, state archivist; Mrs. Lorene



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Hawley, chief librarian; Tom Witty, state archeologist; Stanley Sohl, museum director; Richard Pankratz, director of the historic sites survey; Forrest Blackburn, head of the newspaper division; George Hawley, chief of the microfilm department; Mrs. Blanche Taylor, accountant and office manager; to Joe Snell of the manuscript division; Eugene Decker, who manages the maps and photographs; and to all the other members of the staff—too many to name here—whose combined efforts make us what we are.

Two of those just named have given notice that they expect to retire at the end of the year: Lorene Anderson Hawley who began in our library in 1944 and for the past several years has been our head librarian, and George Hawley, who arrived in 1945 to start our microfilming, which work he has capably managed ever since. They met here, and were married in 1956. We deeply regret losing them for each has served ably and faithfully for over 30 years. We wish them continued happiness and the best health possible in retirement.

And our thanks also go to the people who operate our historic sites: Mr. and Mrs. Howard L. Brown at the John Brown Museum, Mr. and Mrs. Ray Cornelius at the Goodnow House, Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth L. Erkenbrack at the Pawnee Indian Village Museum, Mr. and Mrs. Larry Fader at the First Territorial Capitol, Carl D. Fehr at Marais des Cygnes Massacre Park, Mr. and Mrs. Leo Legleiter at Fort Hays, Leon A. Manson at the Funston Home, Mr. and Mrs. Russell W. Miller at the Kaw Methodist Mission, Mr. and Mrs. Pat Moffatt at Grinter Place, Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Severin at the Pony Express Station, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Snyder at Highland Mission, and Mr. and Mrs. A. N. Wiltz at Shawnee Mission.

Respectfully submitted,
NYLE H. MILLER, *Executive Director.*

Following the reading of the report in part Donald R. McCoy moved its acceptance. The motion was seconded and the report was adopted unanimously.

President Stanley then called for the report of the treasurer, Edgar Langsdorf. It, too, was given in summary but is fully reported below:

TREASURER'S REPORT

For the period July 1, 1974, to June 30, 1975.

MEMBERSHIP FEE FUND

| | |
|--|-------------------|
| Balance, July 1, 1974: | |
| Cash, checking account | \$4,225.01 |
| Cash, savings account | 45,156.50 |
| U. S. bonds | 5,000.00 |
| Common stock, Standard Oil Co. of Ohio | 436.30* |
| | <hr/> \$54,817.81 |

* Value as of date of acquisition.

| | |
|------------------------------------|-------------|
| Receipts: | |
| Membership fees | \$10,643.58 |
| Interest on bonds | 332.94 |
| Interest on savings accounts | 3,553.55 |



| | | |
|--|-------------|--------------------|
| Stock dividends | 38.08 | |
| Gifts | 3,526.02 | |
| New Museum Building gifts | 100.00 | |
| Sales tax collections | 631.66 | |
| Sales of <i>Kansas: The Story Told in Pictures</i> | 789.36 | |
| Sales of <i>The Beginning of the West</i> | 1,518.17 | |
| Refunds | 90.50 | |
| Luncheon reservations | 802.75 | |
| Humanities Centennial Fund | 2,823.14 | |
| Transfer to Capitol Federal Savings and Loan | 10,000.00 | |
| Transfers—Clearing | 66.00 | |
| | | <u>\$34,915.75</u> |
| | | <u>\$89,733.56</u> |
| Disbursements: | | |
| Books, pamphlets, and films | \$2,121.87 | |
| Expenses for meetings and conferences | 1,164.78 | |
| Surety bond premiums | 40.00 | |
| Travel expense | 271.16 | |
| Flowers | 52.45 | |
| Sales tax payments | 604.61 | |
| Microfilm (Woman's Kansas Day Club) | 185.00 | |
| Kansas State Dental Association project | 117.62 | |
| Grinter House | 30.00 | |
| Refunds | 40.40 | |
| Expenses for craft demonstrations | 554.57 | |
| Promotional advertising | 276.00 | |
| Transfers—Clearing | 66.00 | |
| Miscellaneous | 375.33 | |
| | | <u>\$5,899.79</u> |
| Balance, June 30, 1975: | | |
| Cash, checking account | \$14,687.42 | |
| Cash, savings account | 63,710.05 | |
| U. S. bonds | 5,000.00 | |
| Common stock, Standard Oil Co. of Ohio | 436.30* | |
| | | <u>\$83,833.77</u> |
| * Value as of date of acquisition. | | <u>\$89,733.56</u> |
| | | <u>\$89,733.56</u> |
| ELIZABETH READER BEQUEST | | |
| Balance, July 1, 1974: | | |
| Cash | \$898.67 | |
| U. S. bonds | 5,500.00 | |
| | | <u>\$6,398.67</u> |
| Receipts: | | |
| Interest on bonds | \$355.30 | |
| | | <u>\$6,753.97</u> |
| | | <u>\$6,753.97</u> |



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|-------------------------|------------|-------------------|
| Disbursements: | | |
| Books | | \$122.01 |
| Balance, June 30, 1975: | | |
| Cash | \$1,131.96 | |
| U. S. bonds | 5,500.00 | |
| | | <u>\$6,631.96</u> |
| | | <u>\$6,753.97</u> |

JONATHAN PECKER BEQUEST

| | | |
|-------------------------|----------|-------------------|
| Balance, July 1, 1974: | | |
| Cash | \$8.79 | |
| U. S. bonds | 1,000.00 | |
| | | <u>\$1,008.79</u> |
| Receipts: | | |
| Interest on bonds | | \$63.60 |
| | | <u>\$1,072.39</u> |

| | | |
|------------------------------|----------|-------------------|
| Disbursements: | | |
| Books | | \$29.70 |
| Balance, June 30, 1975: | | |
| Cash, checking account | \$42.69 | |
| U. S. bonds | 1,000.00 | |
| | | <u>\$1,042.69</u> |
| | | <u>\$1,072.39</u> |

JOHN BOOTH BEQUEST

| | | |
|------------------------------|---------|-----------------|
| Balance, July 1, 1974: | | |
| Cash, checking account | \$28.91 | |
| U. S. bond | 500.00 | |
| | | <u>\$528.91</u> |
| Receipts: | | |
| Interest on bond | | \$31.80 |
| | | <u>\$560.71</u> |

| | | |
|-------------------------|---------|-----------------|
| Balance, June 30, 1975: | | |
| Cash | \$60.71 | |
| U. S. bond | 500.00 | |
| | | <u>\$560.71</u> |
| | | <u>\$560.71</u> |

THOMAS H. BOWLUS DONATION

This donation is substantiated by a U. S. bond in the amount of \$1,000.00.
The interest is credited to the membership fee fund.

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SHAWNEE MISSION MEMORIAL FUND

| | |
|------------------------------|---------|
| Balance, July 1, 1974: | |
| Cash, checking account | \$81.42 |
| Balance, June 30, 1975: | |
| Cash, checking account | \$81.42 |

BAUGHMAN FOUNDATION RESEARCH GRANT

| | |
|------------------------------|-----------------|
| Balance, July 1, 1974: | |
| Cash, checking account | \$140.17 |
| Balance, June 30, 1975: | |
| Cash, checking account | \$140.17 |
| | <u>\$140.17</u> |

RESTRICTED PUBLICATIONS ACCOUNT

| | |
|---|-------------------|
| Balance, July 1, 1974: | |
| Cash, savings account | \$3,496.39 |
| | <u>\$3,496.39</u> |
| Receipts: | |
| Sales of publications | |
| <i>Kansas in Maps</i> | \$455.95 |
| <i>Kansas in Newspapers</i> | 402.07 |
| <i>Kansas Post Offices</i> | 102.80 |
| | <u>\$960.82</u> |
| Interest on savings account | \$214.44 |
| | <u>\$1,175.26</u> |
| Total receipts | <u>\$4,671.65</u> |
| Disbursements: | |
| Storage expense (<i>Kansas in Newspapers</i>) | \$66.00 |
| Balance, June 30, 1975: | |
| Cash, savings account | \$4,605.65 |
| | <u>\$4,605.65</u> |
| | <u>\$4,671.65</u> |

Mrs. Vernon E. McArthur of Hutchinson, a member of our board of directors, gave \$10,000 for the new museum building and \$505 for craft demonstrations. Royalties from the sale of books by Dr. T. R. Schellenberg, bequeathed by him to the Society, amounted to \$941.18. The Woman's Kansas Day Club donated \$185, the Colonial Dames in Kansas \$252, Larry W. Roberts \$100, Daughters of American Colonists \$130, Columbian Hog & Cattle Powder Co. \$75, Mrs. W. H. Keller \$100, Edith and Harry Darby \$500, Arthur J. Stanley, Jr. \$50, Kansas Committee for the Humanities (Centennial Fund) \$2,823.14, and Donald D. Sullivan \$50.

Forty-one new life and 331 annual members were added this year. The Society now has 1,076 life, 302 newspaper, and 989 annual members. In addition 346 persons and institutions are listed as subscribers to the



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Quarterly. The magazine is also sent to members of the legislature and on an exchange basis to 224 libraries and 57 other persons and institutions.

STATE APPROPRIATIONS

This report covers only the membership fee fund and other custodial funds. Appropriations made to the Society by the legislature are disbursed through the State Department of Administration. For the year ending June 30, 1975, actual expenditures of authorized state funds were: Kansas State Historical Society, including the Memorial building, \$754,205; First Capitol of Kansas, \$9,479; Frontier Historical Park, \$47,922; Funston Memorial Home, \$8,295; Highland Presbyterian Mission, \$10,769; John Brown Museum, \$7,834; Marais des Cygnes Massacre Memorial Park, \$10,036; Kaw Methodist Mission, \$13,300; Shawnee Methodist Mission, \$52,019; Pawnee Rock State Park, \$866; Pawnee Indian Village Museum, \$16,294; the Washington County Pony Express Station, \$11,191; Goodnow Memorial Home, \$32,103; Grinter Place, \$9,607; Pottawatomie Mission restoration, \$2,892, and Mine Creek Park acquisition, \$43,500.

Respectfully submitted,
EDGAR LANGSDORF, *Treasurer.*

James E. Taylor moved that the report be adopted. The motion was seconded by Theo. A. Sanborn, and it was accepted unanimously.

The report of the executive committee was then given by Philip H. Lewis, chairman. Mr. Lewis offered an amendment to the eighth bylaw to enlarge the executive committee from nine to 13 members by including the president, the first and second vice-presidents, and the immediate past president of the Society. This proposal had been approved at the May 8, 1975, meeting of the executive committee and notice of the intent to offer such an amendment at the annual meeting was sent to members of the board of directors on July 7, as required by the bylaws. Mr. Lewis moved that the bylaw be accordingly amended. The motion was seconded and the change was approved unanimously.

[The bylaw now reads as follows: "8. For the transaction of business when the board of directors is not in session, there shall be an executive committee of thirteen members. Nine are to be appointed by the president from among members of the board of directors for terms of three years; except that upon the adoption of these bylaws the president first shall appoint three members for one year, three members for two years and three members for three years, and thereafter the president shall appoint successors by reason of expired terms or vacancies as they occur. In addition to the nine appointed members, the president, the vice presidents and the immediate past president shall be ex officio member of the executive committee. The executive committee shall organize by electing a chairman at its first meeting in each year. The secretary of the Society shall serve as secretary for the executive committee. Subject to the general direction of the board of directors, the executive committee shall be authorized to exercise the power of the board, and may be consulted by the



secretary in carrying out the policies of the board and managing the affairs of the Society. The executive committee shall meet in January, May and September, and upon call of the president, secretary or chairman of the executive committee. Any number not less than three shall constitute a quorum of the executive committee. Vacancies as to the appointed members of the executive committee shall be filled by the president from among members of the board of directors."]

Mr. Lewis officially notified the board that an amendment to the third bylaw would be offered at the annual meeting in October, 1976, to revise the last sentence to read: "Memberships, other than those of life or honorary members, shall be upon a calendar year basis." At the same time consideration will be given to an increase in dues, both changes if approved to be effective January 1, 1977.

He also noted that the Society has not been in compliance with that part of the 10th bylaw requiring the corporate funds to be deposited to the account of the Society with the treasurer of the state of Kansas. The reason is the lack of statutory authority for the state treasurer to accept such funds. However, information has recently been received from the office of the revisor of statutes that a bill may be drafted for submission to the 1976 legislature to give the treasurer the necessary authority. If such a bill is approved by the legislature it will then be possible for the Society to comply with the requirement of the bylaw. In the meantime the treasurer of the Society will continue to handle the funds as in the past.

Mr. Lewis reported on the visit of the interim ways and means committee to the Memorial building on August 8, which he said was most productive in terms of making the Society's space problems known to the legislators, many of whom had not been in the building before. All seemed surprised at what they saw and apparently now realize the acute need for a new building to house the museum and archeology departments even though problems of location and priorities remain.

Mr. Lewis also reported on the status of governmental reorganization as it concerns the Society. President Stanley remarked on the effectiveness of the contingent which appeared at the legislative hearing on September 23 to urge that the Society remain independent. Theo. Sanborn commented that three members of the legislative committee took out memberships in the Society after the hearing was concluded. Mr. Lewis noted that the board had never adopted an official position on the matter of reorganization and asked, if the legislature should decide that the Society must be put into one department or another, whether the board wished to go on record as officially favoring a particular alternative. C. Y. Thomas

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suggested it would be better not to take an official stand but rather leave the decision to the executive committee if such action should later be required. James E. Taylor moved that the executive committee be authorized to take whatever action or position it might deem necessary should the occasion arise. His motion was seconded by Ernest B. Bader and it was approved unanimously.

Arthur C. Hodgson moved that the report of the executive committee be adopted. The motion was seconded and the report was accepted without dissent.

Mr. Lewis then presented the executive committee's report on the examination of the Society's accounts:

September 11, 1975.

To the Board of Directors, Kansas State Historical Society:

The executive committee being directed under the bylaws to examine the report of the Society's accounts states that it has so examined a report of the treasurer of the custodial accounts for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1975, and that the report is hereby approved.

Respectfully submitted,

PHILIP H. LEWIS, *Chairman*,
JEROME HARMAN,
PERCE HARVEY, JR.,
JOHN W. RIPLEY,
A. BOWER SAGESER,
FLOYD SOUDERS,
PAUL E. WILSON.

Mr. Lewis moved that the report be accepted as read. The motion was seconded and the report was unanimously approved.

The report of the nominating committee for officers of the Society was then called for. It was read by John F. Fontron, chairman:

NOMINATING COMMITTEE'S REPORT

September 11, 1975.

To the Board of Directors, Kansas State Historical Society:

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

For a one-year term:

Homer E. Socolofsky, Manhattan, president;
John E. Wickman, Enterprise, first vice-president;
Clifford R. Hope, Jr., Garden City, second vice-president.

For a two-year term:

Nyle H. Miller, Topeka, executive director-secretary.

Respectfully submitted,

JOHN F. FONTRON, *Chairman*,
F. C. BANNON,
HARRY E. HANSON,
DONALD R. MCCOY,
THEO. A. SANBORN.



Justice Fontron moved that the report be accepted. His motion was seconded by Mr. Sanborn and the officers were elected unanimously. The new officers were then introduced.

Paul Wilson was called on for a summary of the status of the historic preservation bill which was introduced in the 1975 session of the legislature but remained in the senate federal and state affairs committee at adjournment. He said that the committee chairman, Senator Reilly, had told him no problem was expected in voting it out of committee during the 1976 session, which Mr. Wilson interpreted to mean that it might be a noncontroversial bill which could be passed without difficulty since it is intended primarily to give legal status to an existing situation.

Mr. Langsdorf reported on the situation regarding the proposed new museum and archeology building. He said he believed the interim ways and means committee, as a result of the August 8 visit to the Memorial building, was aware of the need for a new building and that the problems to be solved revolve around location, cost, and priorities. An evening meeting was scheduled for October 22, to be attended by Judge Stanley, Secretary Miller, Museum Director Stanley Sohl, and himself, representing the Society, and Senate President Ross Doyen, Representatives James Cubit and William Bunten with two members of the legislative research staff. At this meeting various problems of storage and working space, not only of the museum but other departments of the Society, were to be discussed as well as the matter of location and cost which seem to be major points at issue.

Judge Stanley commented that there seemed to be no unfriendliness on the part of the legislature, and he asked if the board wished to reaffirm its position regarding the need for the new building and favoring its location at the Pottawatomie Mission site just west of Topeka. Larry Roberts moved and Donald McCoy seconded the motion that the board do affirm its previously stated position, and the motion was carried unanimously.

George Jelinek remarked that western Kansans were not overly concerned about the desire of some Topekans that the proposed new building be in the downtown area, that this is a state institution for the benefit of all Kansans, not merely Topeka businessmen, and he believed the board's statement of position should specifically include this view. Accordingly this was added to the previous motion and unanimously adopted.

Frank F. Eckdall offered congratulations to Mr. Langsdorf for his work on the centennial history of the Society which was pub-



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lished in the Autumn number of the *Kansas Historical Quarterly*.

Homer Socolofsky asked the board to express its appreciation to President Stanley for a most successful year, which was done by applause.

Mr. Socolofsky's proposal to republish the long out of print *Andreas History of Kansas* (1883) as suggested to the executive committee at its meeting of May 8, 1975, was called to the attention of the board. Only recently it became known to Messrs. Miller and Socolofsky that the Atchison County Historical Society was also planning to reprint the work. The board agreed that no matter who sponsored it the project was commendable and the new printing should include a comprehensive index. Mr. Sageser suggested that President-elect Socolofsky and the Atchison County Historical Society work out acceptable plans.

At Mr. Eckdall's suggestion all members of the board in attendance stood and identified themselves.

There being no further business, the meeting then adjourned.

At the conclusion of the directors' meeting a brief special meeting of the executive committee convened at the call of Chairman Lewis to elect a new chairman and vice-chairman. Paul E. Wilson was elected chairman of the committee and A. Bower Sageser was elected vice-chairman without opposition. The next meeting of the committee was scheduled for January 14, 1976, at the Memorial building.

Annual Meeting of the Society

The annual meeting of the Kansas State Historical Society began with the customary noon luncheon, held this year in the ballroom of the Downtown Ramada Inn, Pres. Arthur J. Stanley, Jr., presiding. About 225 members and guests attended.

Father James J. Moriarty of Assumption Church, Topeka, gave the invocation.

Following the introduction of officers and guests Mr. Langsdorf, substituting for executive director Miller, introduced President Stanley, whose address, "Fort Leavenworth—Dowager Queen of Western Posts," appears on pp. 1-23 of this magazine.

At the conclusion of Judge Stanley's talk, President-elect Socolofsky presented him with a retiring president's plaque.

President Stanley then called on George Jelinek, who presented to him for the Society a wooden plaque, inset with two medallions,

made from an American elm tree which grew at the Eisenhower home in Abilene.

President Stanley next asked for the report of the committee on nominations for directors of the Society for the three-year term ending in October, 1978. The report was read by Justice Fontron, chairman of the committee:

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON NOMINATIONS FOR DIRECTORS
September 11, 1975.

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, 1978:

| | |
|--|---|
| Bannon, F. C., Leavenworth. | MacNair, John L., Topeka. |
| Ewing, Mrs. Kate Lee C., Russell. | Ripley, John W., Topeka. |
| Flory, Raymond L., McPherson. | Robinson, W. Stitt, Jr., Lawrence. |
| Fontron, John F., Hutchinson. | Rogler, Wayne, Matfield Green. |
| Gaines, Charles O., Cottonwood Falls. | Sanborn, Theo. A., Topeka. |
| Hamilton, R. L., Beloit. | Seiler, William H., Emporia. |
| Hanson, Harry E., Ozawkie. | Simons, Dolph, Sr., Lawrence. |
| Harman, Jerome, Columbus. | Slagg, Mrs. C. M., Manhattan. |
| Harper, Mrs. Jesse C., Ashland. | Smith, Wint, Mankato. |
| Haucke, Frank, Council Grove. | Smith, Mrs. Yolande M., Shawnee. |
| Hope, Clifford R., Jr., Garden City. | Souders, Floyd R., Cheney. |
| Kanaga, Clinton W., Shawnee Mission. | Stough, Charles D., Lawrence. |
| Koch, William E., Manhattan. | Templar, George, Topeka. |
| Lingenfelter, Angelus, Atchison. | Thomas, C. Y., Shawnee Mission. |
| McArthur, Mrs. Vernon E., Hutchinson. | Thomas, Sister M. Evangeline, Salina. |
| McCain, James A., Manhattan. | Treadway, William E., Topeka. |
| | Windscheffel, Mrs. Arno, Smith Center. |

Respectfully submitted,
JOHN F. FONTRON, *Chairman*,
F. C. BANNON,
HARRY E. HANSON,
DONALD R. MCCOY,
THEO. A. SANBORN.

Justice Fontron moved that the report be accepted. Floyd Souders seconded the motion and the nominees were declared elected.

After concluding remarks by President Stanley, there being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

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Directors of the Kansas State Historical Society as of October, 1975

DIRECTORS FOR THE YEAR ENDING OCTOBER, 1976

| | |
|--|--|
| Austin, Whitley, Salina. | Payne, Mrs. L. F., Manhattan. |
| Bader, Ernest B., Topeka. | Reed, Jim, Wichita. |
| Barkley, Mrs. John L., Mission. | Riegle, Wilford, Emporia. |
| Brown, Oliver S., Liberal. | Roberts, Larry W., Wichita. |
| Clark, Ralph V., Bethel. | Robison, Mrs. Jane R., Dodge City. |
| Dary, David A., Lawrence. | Ruppenthal, L. H., McPherson. |
| Fatzer, Harold R., Topeka. | Schulz, Ray S., Great Bend. |
| Hodgson, Arthur C., Lyons. | Shrewder, Mrs. Roy V., Ashland. |
| Jameson, Henry B., Abilene. | Socolofsky, Homer E., Manhattan. |
| Jones, Horace, Lyons. | Stanley, Arthur J., Jr., Leavenworth. |
| Kampschroeder, Mrs. Jean Norris, Garden City. | Taylor, James E., Sharon Springs. |
| Kaul, Robert H., Topeka. | Unrau, William E., Wichita. |
| Lewis, Philip H., Topeka. | Van Deventer, Mrs. R. W., Wellington. |
| Lindquist, Emory K., Wichita. | Williams, Charles A., Halstead. |
| Maranville, Lea, Ness City. | Wolf, Mrs. Max, Manhattan. |
| Montgomery, John D., Junction City. | Wright, Mrs. Marjorie, Russell Springs. |
| | Zimmerman, Ross W., Sterling. |

DIRECTORS FOR THE YEAR ENDING OCTOBER, 1977

| | |
|--|-------------------------------------|
| Anthony, D. R., Leavenworth. | Lose, Harry F., Topeka. |
| Barnes, Mrs. Lela, Topeka. | McCoy, Donald R., Lawrence. |
| Calhoun, William C., Emporia. | McNeal, Don A., Council Grove. |
| Clymer, R. A., El Dorado. | Malin, James C., Lawrence. |
| Cornish, Dudley T., Pittsburg. | Menninger, Karl, Topeka. |
| Cotton, Corlett J., Lawrence. | Millbrook, Mrs. Raymond H., Topeka. |
| Daugherty, S. Allan, Wichita. | Oliva, Leo E., Hays. |
| Docking, Mrs. Robert B., Arkansas City. | Pletcher, Mrs. Vera E., Manhattan. |
| Eckdall, Frank F., Kansas City. | Rankin, Charles C., Lawrence. |
| Euwer, Elmer E., Goodland. | Reed, Clyde M., Jr., Parsons. |
| Gard, Spencer A., Iola. | Sageser, A. Bower, Manhattan. |
| Hall, Charles L., Manhattan. | Sandstrom, Thad M., Topeka. |
| Harvey, Perce, Jr., Topeka. | van Wormer, W. J., Wichita. |
| Jelinek, George J., Ellsworth. | Wagner, Ray C., Overland Park. |
| Landon, Alf M., Topeka. | Walbridge, Caroline, Topeka. |
| Leech, William, Oskaloosa. | Wickman, John E., Enterprise. |
| | Wilson, Paul E., Lawrence. |

DIRECTORS OF THE YEAR ENDING OCTOBER, 1978

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|--|---|
| Bannon, F. C., Leavenworth. | MacNair, John L., Topeka. |
| Ewing, Mrs. Kate Lee C., Russell. | Ripley, John W., Topeka. |
| Flory, Raymond L., McPherson. | Robinson, W. Stitt, Jr., Lawrence. |
| Fontron, John F., Hutchinson. | Rogler, Wayne, Matfield Green. |
| Gaines, Charles O., Cottonwood Falls. | Sanborn, Theo. A., Topeka. |
| Hamilton, R. L., Beloit. | Seiler, William H., Emporia. |
| Hanson, Harry E., Ozawkie. | Simons, Dolph, Sr., Lawrence. |
| Harman, Jerome, Columbus. | Slagg, Mrs. C. M., Manhattan. |
| Harper, Mrs. Jesse C., Ashland. | Smith, Wint, Mankato. |
| Haucke, Frank, Council Grove. | Smith, Mrs. Yolande M., Shawnee. |
| Hope, Clifford R., Jr., Garden City. | Souders, Floyd R., Cheney. |
| Kanaga, Clinton W., Shawnee Mission. | Stough, Charles D., Lawrence. |
| Koch, William E., Manhattan. | Templar, George, Topeka. |
| Lingenfelter, Angelus, Atchison. | Thomas, C. Y., Shawnee Mission. |
| McArthur, Mrs. Vernon E., Hutchinson. | Thomas, Sister M. Evangeline, Salina. |
| McCain, James A., Manhattan. | Treadway, William E., Topeka. |
| | Windscheffel, Mrs. Arno, Smith Center. |



Bypaths of Kansas History

WHEN JESSE JAMES AND CHARLEY FORD CASED HIGHLAND

From *The Central State*, Highland, April 21, 1882.

Col. J. P. Johnson informs us that through a conversation with Charley Ford he learns that on the 17th of last month, he in company with Jesse James, visited Highland, with the intention of robbing his bank. They came here on Friday afternoon and Jesse went into the bank and had a ten dollar bill changed, and had some conversation with Mr. Johnson, stating that he wished to rent a farm. After he retired young Ford came in and had a five dollar bill changed and took in the situation. Ford says they had a conversation about the bank, Jesse telling him he did not believe there was enough money in the bank to pay for robbing it, as they could see none in sight, Mr. Johnson keeping his cash in the safe, Jesse called once afterwards, Friday evening, but as several persons were in the bank at the time he soon retired. They stopped over night in the city and early Saturday morning took another peep into the bank, but failed to see any money. Mr. Johnson asked him if he had found a farm to rent, having stated the day before that he was looking for one. They loitered around our city all the forenoon without accomplishing anything or attracting attention, and left in the afternoon for Hiawatha. Mr. Johnson states that at the time of their visit he had more money in his safes than he had had for years, and J. J. and C. F. could have made a good haul if they had secured it. Mr. Johnson seems to rejoice over the death of the noted outlaw, and now can sleep sweetly and sound.

THEY COURTED AND WERE MATED IN COURT

From the *Harper Sentinel*, October 10, 1889.

On Monday, October 7, 1889, Judge Shoemaker licensed and tightly joined in matrimony Mr. Caleb Herman and Mrs. Emma Herman, the bride being the widow of the groom's brother; the Judge also mated Mr. Crittenden L. Harper and Miss Mary G. Sanders, both couples of Harper. The last named marriage was quite a public affair. The couple marched into court when it was in session trying a prohibition permit case and the room was full of lawyers, preachers, woman suffragists, etc., etc. The bride and groom blushed and looked nervous, showing the court plainly that they were in a hurry and wanted the knot tied forthwith.

Judge Shoemaker understood the situation through previous arrangement and immediately adjourned the court, cleared a place in the center of the room made the couple right face and right dress then tied them together smilingly; in fact there was not a sad expression in the house. Judge Shoemaker attempted to give the bride the accustomed kiss of the court when Squire Raney caught him by the coat tail and pulled him back before he reached the home base. The court made the preachers present sign the marriage certificate as witnesses, which they did willingly but kicked considerable at the Judge for cutting prices.



Kansas History as Published in the Press

"Take a Ride Along the Butterfield Trail," is the title of an article by Jim Suber in the *Salina Journal*, August 10, 1975. Other historical articles in the *Journal* recently included: "Kanopolis-Fort Harker Area Wanted To Be Capitol Site," by Pat Gaston, September 14; and "Salinans [Fred and Merle Vahsholtz] Restore Historic Abilene Home [Built in 1880 by A. L. Lebold]," by Bob Marcotte, January 18, 1976.

Histories of Kansas churches appearing recently in the newspapers included: St. Francis' Catholic, St. Paul, *Wichita Eagle*, August 11, 1975; West Liberty United Methodist, northeast Bourbon county, *Fort Scott Tribune*, August 22, and *Fort Scott Weekly Tribune*, August 28; Seltzer Springs United Methodist, Wichita, *Wichita Beacon*, September 5; Willis Wesleyan Methodist, Horton *Headlight* and *Everest World*, September 18; Sedgwick United Methodist, Sedgwick *Pantagraph*, September 25; St. Mark's Catholic, western Sedgwick county, *Wichita Eagle and Beacon*, October 5, and *West Sedgwick County News*, Goddard, October 9; Sisters of St. Joseph, Concordia, *Salina Journal*, October 12; and First Baptist, Winfield, *Winfield Daily Courier*, December 24.

An Indian attack on Kansas Pacific railroad workers in 1869 in present Russell county was recalled by Pauline Sturgeon in an article published in the *Russell Daily News*, August 14, 1975. Two men, Alexander McKeever and John Lynch, lost their lives but five others escaped on a handcar.

Histories of Yates Center and of the *News* were included in the 92-page centennial issue of the *Yates Center News*, August 15, 1975. The town was started in August, 1875, by Abner Yates. About two years later, June 8, 1877, the *News* published its first issue.

On August 16, 1825, a treaty was signed in present McPherson county by representatives of the U. S. government and leaders of several Indian tribes. The purpose of the treaty was to open the Santa Fe trail for surveyors and travelers. An account of the event by John Reinhart appeared in the *McPherson Sentinel*, August 16, 1975.

John K. Hay is the author of a history of the Stilwell Hotel, Pittsburg, published in the *Pittsburg Morning Sun*, August 17, 1975. Erected in 1889, the Stilwell is in the heart of the Pittsburg business

district. A history of Oswego by Gladys Mundt was printed in the *Sun*, August 31. John Mathews, who had a trading post on the town-site from 1841 to 1861, is credited with being the first settler.

Iola's first school, built in 1878, was the subject of an article in the *Iola Register*, August 20, 1975. A history of Edwardville's schools by Mrs. Ben White appeared in the *Basehor Sentinel*, August 22. The first building was erected in the late 1860's. The *Marmaton Valley Sun*, Moran, January 28, 1976, published a history of Linn county's first schoolhouse, built in 1858.

In 1885 the W. Terrel Adams family settled southwest of Dodge City. The reminiscences of Hallie West, the youngest member of that pioneer family, now 91, were included in an article in the *Dodge City Daily Globe*, August 20, 1975.

A history of the Valley Center *Index* by Gary Sawyer was published in the *Index*, August 21, 1975. The first issue of the newspaper appeared May 8, 1896, as the *Weekly Record*. The town's first newspaper was the *Valley Center News*, started in 1885.

Historical articles appearing in the *Wellsville Globe* in recent months included "When Mrs. [Carry] Nation Came to Town," August 21, 1975; and "Country Cemetery Tombstones Tell Many Stories," by Jacque White, September 25.

Among historical articles appearing in the *Goodland Daily News* in recent months were: "And That's How Goodland Got Its Start," by Ruth Taggart Erwin, August 27, 1975; "Goodland's Boom of 1888 Recalled," by the Sherman County Historical Society, September 21; "Courthouse Becomes Hotel," a history of the Palace Hotel by the historical society; and "Which Was the Worst Blizzard?" by Bruce Bair, December 7.

Historical articles appearing in the *Wichita Eagle and Beacon* in recent months included: "Munger House . . . History Captured in 4 Walls," by Katie Shewmake, August 31, 1975; "Only All-Black Community in Kansas [Nicodemus] Building Anew," by Darrell Morrow, October 5; "Soldier's Widow [Rebecca Burch, Last Revolutionary War Pensioner] Connects Kansas to 1776 Revolution," by Forrest Hintz, January 25, 1976; and "What's in a Name? Cansa? Kanisse? Kanzes?" by Bob Curtright, January 25.

Kansas Historical Notes

Current officers of the Linn County Historical Society are: Mrs. Eugene Crawford, Prescott, president; Bill Hurley, La Cygne, vice-president; Mrs. Hazen Campbell, Mapleton, secretary; and Willis Baker, Jr., Pleasanton, treasurer. Board members in addition to the officers, are: Otto Alexander, Mrs. Dale Avery, Mrs. Willard Fultz, Charley Murray, Mrs. Raymond Green, Mrs. Chester Shaw, and Bernard West. The society's fourth annual Jayhawker fall festival was held October 11 and 12, 1975, with parades, demonstrations, tours, and other events in the various Linn county communities.

The Fick Fossil and History Museum in Oakley was recently dedicated. Featuring the Ernest Ficks' collection of 10,000 prehistoric shark's teeth and other fossils, the museum demonstrates the change in the area from an inland sea to the present agricultural land.

The Republic County Historical Society, meeting in August, 1975, in Belleville, elected the following officers for 1976: Twila Bowersox, Belleville, president; Taylor Davis, Belleville, first vice-president; Homer Cardwell, Republic, second vice-president; Wayne Sutton, Norway, third vice-president; Patricia Walters, Belleville, secretary; Lois Strnad, Munden, treasurer; Frances Elyea, Belleville, publicity chairman; Mildred Moore, Norway, historian; and Howard Anderson, Belleville, Henry Strnad, Munden, Jerry Melton, Belleville, and Marcella Dolezal, Cuba, directors.

Retired Sen. Frank Carlson was the principal speaker at the dedication of the Clyde Community Museum, August 9, 1975. The museum, located in the restored city jail, is a project of the Clyde Historical Society. Daryl Schwab is president of the society.

More than 225 persons attended the first annual meeting of the Tri-County Historical Society in Herington, September 6, 1975. George Kohls was elected president of the organization; Clyde Wade, vice-president; Eleanor Rucker, secretary; and James K. Smith, treasurer. Kohls had previously been temporary president. Mrs. Mildred Shields, Lost Springs, and Don Wilson, Abilene, were the principal speakers at the meeting.

Dr. Theodore Sperry was reelected president of the Crawford County Historical Society at a meeting in Pittsburg, September 16, 1975. Edith Martin is vice-president; Eugene DeGruson, secretary;



and Mabel Stevens, treasurer. Fred Snider was elected trustee. The society met in October at Cherokee. Wayne O'Connell, Oswego, talked to the group about the history of the town of Cherokee and Crawford county.

Meeting in Lincoln, September 27, 1975, the Lincoln County Historical Society elected Victor Suelter, president; Penny Anderson, vice-president; Loa Page, secretary; Jim Page, treasurer; Dan Metz, legal advisor; and Ralph Gatewood and Nellie Taylor, directors.

B. William Henry, Jr., became historian for the Fort Larned National Historic Site in October, 1975. Henry formerly held a similar position at Fort Laramie National Historic Site. He replaced Tom W. Lucke at Fort Larned.

Milton Reichart was reelected president of the Valley Falls Historical Society at the eighth annual meeting of the society, October 5, 1975. Ben Heuertz was named vice-president; Frank Shrimplin, secretary; Maxine Hefty, treasurer; Arthur Strawn, historian advisor; and Dale Irwin, board member. Sen. Jim Parrish spoke to the gathering on "Legislative Responsibility."

Officers of the Morris County Historical Society were elected at a meeting of the society October 6, 1975. Thomas Cosgrove was reelected president; Neosho Fredenburg was named vice-president; Mrs. Vivian Wilson, secretary; Mrs. Walter Hembrow, corresponding secretary; and Ruth Porter, treasurer. Members of the board of directors are: Roy Swenson, Alba Bowen, Frank Munsell, Mrs. A. G. Sprecker, Angie White, Mrs. Connie Essington, Mrs. Margaret Haucke, and Harold Haun.

Leon Broyles was reelected president of the Douglass Historical Society at a meeting of the organization October 11, 1975. Marjorie Bare was named vice-president, and Turia Bolington, secretary-treasurer.

Officers elected at the annual meeting of the Graham County Historical Society, October 13, 1975, were: Ralph Schweitzer, Penokee, president; Marie Dodd, vice-president; Ruth Siegrist, secretary; Christine Griffith, treasurer; and Betty Riggs, Mabel Cafferty, Bernice Bates, Dean Hobbs, R. A. Lindley, and Alvena Maier, directors. Judge C. E. Birney was the retiring president. Forrest Paul, Morland, spoke at the meeting on Fort Floyd, a sod fortification used by troops for only a few days in 1857.

Members of the Kingman County Historical Society met October 16, 1975, in Kingman, for the election of trustees. Those elected



were: Ron Harkness, Rubie Cusenbary, and David Amick. Following the meeting, the trustees named Harkness president; Amick, vice-president; Betty Amick, secretary; and Louise Hoover, treasurer. Charley Shoemake was the retiring president. The society operates a museum in the old Kingman city building.

Meeting in Iola, October 27, 1975, the Allen County Historical Society reelected Dudley Henderson president. Other officers elected include: Joan Willis, vice-president; June Toland, secretary; Jeanne Smith, treasurer; and Mary Lou Garver, Lance Gurwell, Dwight Howard, Dave Munson, and Lillian Johnson, directors.

The Mound City Historical Society, meeting October 30, 1975, elected Pat Sisson president; Mabel Carbon, vice-president; Maxine West, secretary; Sara Mae Post, treasurer; and Gladys Carbon, director. Jerry Peatman was the retiring president.

Forrest D. Flippo and Don W. Wilson were reelected president and vice-president respectively, of the Dickinson County Historical Society at a meeting October 30, 1975. Mrs. Viola Jones was named secretary; Max M. Hinkle, treasurer; and Mrs. Helen Dinger, Mrs. Garland Rucker, Edward E. Scheele, Gary W. Holman, and George Kohls, trustees.

At its November, 1975, meeting the board of directors of the Cowley County Historical Society elected the following officers: Roland Mueller, president; Edna Ann Carttar, vice-president; Frankie Cullison, secretary; and Brad Light, treasurer. Other members of the board are: Jim Bailey, Nancy Jefferis, George McNeish, Nellie Smith, Alice Telford, and Larry Wilgers.

Robert Hosack was elected president of the newly organized Neosho Valley Historical Society at a meeting November 4, 1975, in Chanute. Other officers of the society are: Ed Bideau, III, vice-president; Linda Cox, secretary; and Robert Merritt, treasurer.

Charles D. Stough was named president of the Douglas County Historical Society at the annual dinner meeting of the group November 11, 1975, in Lawrence. Sally Hersh was elected vice-president; Charles F. Fisher, secretary; Victor E. Harrod, treasurer; and Glenn Kappelman, Harold Keltz, Raymond Nichol, Alf T. H. Oleson, Mrs. Ivan Rowe, Odd Williams, and Mrs. Ross Wulfschle, directors. Kappelman was the retiring president. Arthur Townsend is the director of the society's new Elizabeth M. Watkins Community Museum.



The 10th annual dinner of the Jefferson County Historical Society held in Meriden, November 13, 1975, was attended by approximately 100 persons. The program featuring the history of the Meriden community was presented by Mrs. Rollin Clark of Meriden. The society's officers for 1976 are: William C. Leech, Oskaloosa, president; Don M. Rice, Perry, vice-president; Mrs. Verona McDonald, McLouth, recording secretary; Mrs. Virginia Voorhees, Oskaloosa, corresponding secretary; Elmer McAferty, McLouth, treasurer; and William K. Rhodes, McLouth, N. William House, Ozawkie, Orville Van Gaasbeeck, Nortonville, Tom Grose, Oskaloosa, Marcial Burroughs, Grantville, and Mrs. Helen Rodecap, Meriden, directors.

The Cloud County Historical Society met November 19, 1975, in Concordia, for the election of officers. Robert B. Wilson was re-elected president; Martin White, vice-president; Ethel L. Henthorne, recording secretary; Austin Huscher, treasurer; and Katherine Herbin, membership chairman. Leslie Ward and Hilary Wentz were named directors.

Isabel Campbell was reelected president of the Fort Larned Historical Society at the annual meeting of the group, November 24, 1975, at the Santa Fe Trail Center. Other officers are: E. H. Roth, vice-president; Opal Mae Manry, secretary; and Robert Taylor, treasurer. Mrs. Campbell reported a year of growth for the Trail Center museum in visitations, memberships, and displays.

Oscar Copple was reelected president of the Osage County Historical Society at a December 3, 1975, meeting in Lyndon. Other 1976 officers are: Floyd Butel, vice-president; Ada Bolyard, secretary; Pearl Tiffany, assistant secretary; and Mrs. Frank Loschke, treasurer.

Meeting in Wellington, December 29, 1975, the Sumner County Historical Society reelected all officers for 1976. Charles Medley, Caldwell, is president of the society; Helyn McMillen, Wellington, vice-president; Ruth Kennedy, Caldwell, secretary; Betty Weber, Milan, treasurer; Mrs. Everett Baumgartner, Wellington, in charge of publicity; Opal Vulgamore, Milton, photographer; Mary Ellen Heeney, South Haven, historian; and Grace Handy, Argonia, parliamentarian.

T. Russell Reitz was reelected president of the Riley County Historical Society at the January, 1976, meeting of the organization. Other officers for 1976 are: Kevin Larson, vice-president; Barbara Hebert, recording secretary; Mrs. Henry C. Miller, membership



secretary; Robert N. Haines, treasurer; and Vida Harris, J. Robert Wilson, Mrs. Max Wolf, Nelda Flinner, Sonie Liebler, Jerome Lowenstein, Helen Hyres, Bower Sageser, and J. Willett Taylor, directors. Construction of a new museum building is planned for this spring.

L. D. Behnke was reelected president of the Meade County Historical Society at the annual meeting of the group, January 10, 1976, in Meade. Don Goodnight was reelected first vice-president; Ruth Dingness, second vice-president; Flossie Bolan, secretary; Ora Fletcher, corresponding secretary; and Wm. Bunyan, treasurer.

The installation of officers for 1976 was held January 11, 1976, by the Wyandotte County Historical Society at the museum in Bonner Springs. William C. Davis, Kansas City, is the new president of the society. Other officers are: Norflet B. Carr, Kansas City, Mo., vice-president; Jeff Moore, Olathe, secretary; Kay Beach, Edwardsville, treasurer; Mrs. Harry M. Trowbridge, Kansas City, historian; and Mrs. Ben E. White, Bonner Springs, Ralph Clark, Albert S. Kent, and Raymond Lees, all of Kansas City, trustees. Lees was the retiring president.

Carl Clare was reelected president, Roy Chipman, vice-president, and Alica Breitenbach, treasurer, of the Ford County Historical Society at a meeting in Dodge City, January 13, 1976. Lola Harper Crum, who served many years as secretary, was named historian. Donna Adams was elected recording secretary; Susan Bunyan, corresponding secretary; Bill Bunyan, financial secretary; and Chris Breitenbach, Art Leonard, Edna Garrett, Ellis Cave, Gregory Graves, Alphon Giessel, Helen Henthorn, Vic Hull, Josephine Hulpieu, Leona Tyler, Jim Williams, James Farley, Leila Johnson, Herb Roenfeldt, Len Crum, and Dan Kliesen, directors.

Meeting January 15, 1976, members of the Osawatomie Historical Society reelected Chester Ward president. Alden Weber was chosen vice-president; Howard Brown, secretary; Olin Church, treasurer; Beatrice Caylor and Hazle Martin, directors; and Alma Mullins, Eleanor Grimes, and Bruce Hecke, members of the board of finance.

All officers of the Miami County Historical Society were reelected at a meeting of the society, January 15, 1976. Sister M. Charles McGrath is president; Virginia Bundy, vice-president; Bettie Ore, secretary; and Ethel J. Hunt, treasurer.

Meeting in Pleasanton, January 16, 1976, the directors of the Linn County Historical Society elected the following officers: Anna Mary Crawford, president; Bill Hurley, vice-president; Lucille Nellsch,

secretary; and Willis Baker, Jr., treasurer. At a meeting of the membership following the election, former Probate Judge Clarence Nation, Mound City, spoke on the problems of locating the county seat in the period 1855-1885.

A new secretary, Gisela Kirby, was elected by the Cheyenne County Historical Society at a meeting January 16, 1976. Bob Howell is a new member of the society's board of directors. Fred Magley, Jr., is president of the organization.

Incorporators of the newly formed Valley Center Historical and Cultural Society meeting January 19, 1976, named the following officers: George White, president; Keith Anderson, vice-president; Jeff Hull, secretary-treasurer; Nancy Hull, curator; and Virgil Stepp, Anderson, Hull, White, Dale Marcy, Suan White, Norma Daniels, Les Anderson, and Eleanor Johnson, directors.

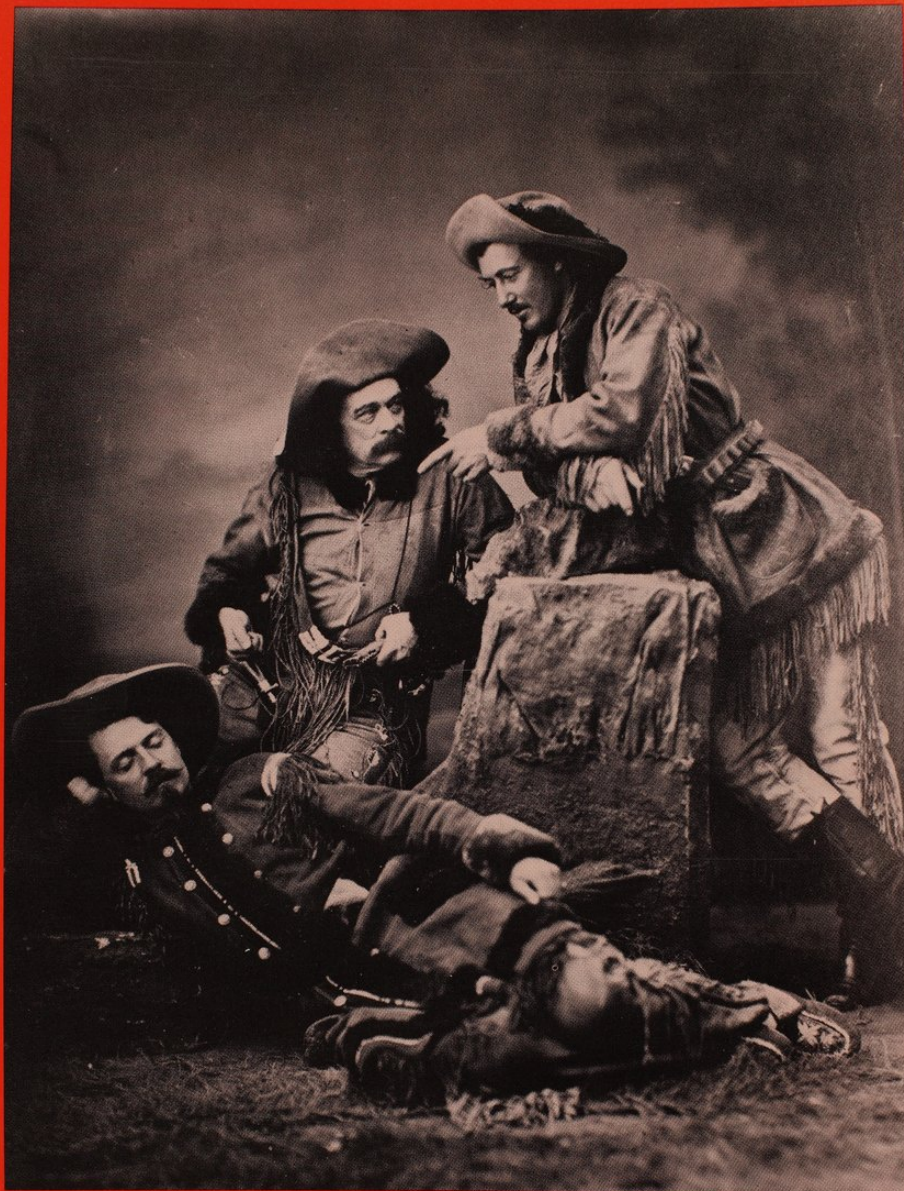
William Westermann, Bremen, was chosen president of the Marshall County Historical Society at the annual meeting of the organization, January 19, 1976, in Frankfort. Byron Guise, Marysville, was elected vice-president; Mrs. Mary Ward, Marysville, recording secretary; Mrs. Lauren Watters, Blue Rapids, membership secretary; Mrs. Erwin Bigham, Blue Rapids, treasurer; Erwin Bigham, assistant treasurer; and Mrs. Nell Glynn, Summerfield, Mrs. Marvin Argo, Oketo, and Mrs. Elizabeth Jueneman, Bremen, directors. Mrs. Dan Musil was the retiring president.

Installation of 1976 officers by the Mound Valley Historical Society was held January 19, 1976. The officers, all reelected, are: Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Billingsly, copresidents; Jack Gartner, vice-president; Mrs. Keith Billingsly, secretary; and David Pitts, treasurer.

Fred Sprang was chosen curator of the Baxter Springs Museum at a meeting of the Baxter Springs Historical Society, January 20, 1976. He succeeds Ivan Chubb who served for 10 years. The society is presently constructing a new museum building.

Directors named by the Geary County Historical Society at its annual meeting January 21, 1976, in Junction City were: John Jeffries, Mrs. Richard Paxton, Robert Waters, Mrs. Jack Collins, Robert K. Weary, Mrs. Delores Matthews, Mrs. Mona Kessinger, and Mrs. Dan B. Loeb.





SUMMER, 1976

 The
Kansas Historical
 Quarterly



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THE COVER

(Left to right) William F. "Buffalo Bill" Cody, Ned Buntline, and "Texas Jack" Omohundro costumed for their appearance in Ned's play "The Scouts of the Prairie," first performed in Chicago on December 16, 1872. "The critics wrote mocking reviews, but even though 'Buffalo Bill' managed to forget all his lines the audiences loved it." (See the "Buntline Special" article, p. 119; cover photo *courtesy* of the author.)



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Wyatt Earp and the "Buntline Special" Myth

WILLIAM B. SHILLINGBERG

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UNFORTUNATELY, stories linking weapons with Wild West heroes appear with almost monotonous regularity. Yet in the mythology of America's West regularity should never be confused with truth. In researching any accepted belief, truth becomes more elusive and frustrating than popularizers care to admit. Perhaps the most widely accepted of all such stories concerns Wyatt Earp and Colt's so-called "Buntline Special" revolvers. Legend describes Earp's gun as sporting a 12-inch barrel and shoulder-stock attachment. Garish accounts then have him using this extra-length barrel to subdue a host of hardcases in both Dodge City and Tombstone. Although a journalistic fabrication, at least as far as Wyatt Earp is concerned, this somewhat awesome-looking weapon remains his trademark in literature and in Hollywood.

This gun's inseparable association with Wyatt Earp has helped scores of writers and film makers transform that individual into one of the frontier's most fascinating marshals. Yet one is strangely reminded of earlier heroes—Achilles and King Arthur—their feats of derring-do, their mythical weapons and physical prowess.

What eventually confronts serious historians is not a man but a grim-visaged caricature into which has been poured all the ingredients of a super myth. The emerging figure bears little if any resemblance to anyone. Wyatt Earp is made to embody all the spirit of boldness and self-reliance that most modern audiences find secretly satisfying. Fascinated, viewers visualize their hero going into action, answering to no one—a seemingly unerring master of his own destiny. Using this childish one-dimensional view of the American West, lesser men find emotional escape in the person of Wyatt Earp.¹

WILLIAM B. SHILLINGBERG, reared in northern California and educated in San Francisco, has spent years traveling about the West, researching and collecting its history. Presently a resident of Tucson, Ariz., the author continues his pursuit of preserving the heritage of the American West.

1. For an entertaining look at this phenomenon, see C. L. Sonnichsen, "The Wyatt Earp Syndrome," *The American West*, Menlo Park, Calif., v. 7, no. 3 (May, 1970).