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HISTORY
OF
RENO COUNTY
KANSAS

ITS PEOPLE, INDUSTRIES AND INSTITUTIONS

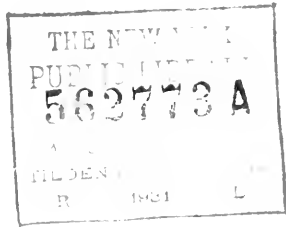
By
SHERIDAN PLOUGHE

With Biographical Sketches of Representative Citizens and
Genealogical Records of Many of the Old Families

VOLUME I

ILLUSTRATED

1917
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by

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PUBLISHERS' PREFACE

All life and achievement is evolution; present wisdom comes from past experience, and present commercial prosperity has come only from past exertion and sacrifice. The deeds and motives of the men who have gone before have been instrumental in shaping the destinies of later communities and states. The development of a new country was at once a task and a privilege. It required great courage, sacrifice and privation. Compare the present conditions of the people of Reno county, Kansas, with what they were fifty years ago. From a trackless area of virgin land, the county has come to be a center of prosperity and civilization, with millions of wealth, system of railways, educational and religious institutions, varied industries and immense agricultural and dairy interests. Can any thinking person be insensible to the fascination of the study which discloses the aspirations and efforts of the early pioneers who so strongly laid the foundation upon which has been reared the magnificent prosperity of later days? To perpetuate the story of these people and to trace and record the social, religious, educational, political and industrial progress of the community from its first inception, is the function of the local historian. A sincere purpose to preserve facts and personal memoirs that are deserving of perpetuation, and which unite the present to the past, is the motive for the present publication. The publishers desire to extend their thanks to those who have so faithfully labored to this end. Thanks are also due to the citizens of Reno county for the uniform kindness with which they have regarded this undertaking, and for their many services rendered in the gaining of necessary information.

In placing the "History of Reno County, Kansas," before the citizens, the publishers can conscientiously claim that they have carried out the plan as outlined in the prospectus. Every biographical sketch in the work has been submitted to the party interested, for correction, and therefore any error of fact, if there be any, is solely due to the person for whom the sketch was prepared. Confident that our effort to please will fully meet the approbation of the public, we are,

Respectfully,

THE PUBLISHERS.

Parsons
12 Oct 1931
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HISTORICAL

CHAPTER I.

EARLY EXPLORATIONS OF THE WEST.

The obtaining from France of the land known as the Louisiana Purchase, in 1803, met with the most violent opposition in the New England states. Even the Revolutionary War had failed to teach those who lived along the Atlantic coast the value of a wider national policy than that which they had been following. These segregated colonies had found that a closer union added greatly to their advantage—in fact, had been their salvation in their early struggle with England. They had found it impossible to maintain themselves without the compact under which they obtained their independence. But when the war was over, the advantages of uniting to build a greater nation seemed to have no place in their minds. They wanted no larger union. They wanted no more states, unless it be by division of the thirteen original states. From the people of New England, particularly, came opposition to Jefferson and his expansion policy. They had no vision of empire such as had inspired France when she explored the territory of the West; when her missionaries were among the Indians with the Cross; when her frontiersmen were naming the streams and her hunters were becoming opulent in their fur and peltry trade. With singular shortsightedness, the Americans at that period hugged to their breasts their early patrimony. They had no desire for the possession of any land west of the Mississippi river. To the French their giving up of their dream of an empire on the American continent, that had inspired their statesmen, was one that only the exigencies could end. The condition of affairs in France made the sale of Louisiana a war necessity, not only for the money it brought to their treasury, but to keep the land from falling into the hands of their enemies as a prize of war.

To the people of New England, the purchase of Louisiana seemed a useless squandering of money. "The sale of a wilderness has not usually commanded so high a price," said one anti-Jefferson Federalist of that time. Another recalled that Ferdinando Gorges received but twelve hundred and fifty pounds for the province of Maine, and that William Penn gave but sixteen thousand pounds for the tract that bears his name. "Weigh it," adds still another, "and there will be four hundred and thirty-three tons of silver. Load it into wagons and there will be eight hundred and sixty-six of them. Place these wagons in line, giving to each two rods, and they will cover a distance of five and one-third miles."

While the purchase of Louisiana met with this violent opposition, yet this was but a small matter compared to the feeling that was stirred up when it was proposed to admit to the Union a state from territory outside of the territory of the thirteen original states. One of the distinguished representatives from Massachusetts, Josiah Quincy, declared that if Louisiana was admitted to the Union of states, that "the bonds of the Union were, virtually, dissolved; that the states that compose it are free from moral obligations, and that as it will be the right of all, it will be the duty of some, to prepare, definitely, for a separation, amicably, if they can, violently if they must."

With such a sentiment against the West, it was somewhat remarkable that Congress could be induced to vote any money for any expedition that had for its purpose the development of the West. Only outside dangers could have induced the narrow-minded New Englander to give up his prejudice and join with others in authorizing an expedition such as was proposed to send into the West.

Among the things that led to this new policy was the disastrous failure of the Missouri Fur Company, and the similar failure of the Astor project along the Columbia river. These two things, and the activity of the British among the Indians in the north, combined to make the proposed expedition suddenly a very popular one. But to overcome the criticism against further western development, President Monroe and John C. Calhoun, secretary of state, favored a strong military expedition to the Northwest. Some of the more liberal men of Congress grew enthusiastic in this enterprise and wanted to go farther and make a formidable showing of national authority along the upper sources of the Missouri river, and to restore the rights the United States had obtained under the Treaty of Ghent along the Columbia river.

To carry out these plans, Major Stephen H. Long was selected to head the expedition.

Major Long was to be accompanied by a corp of assistants chosen both from civil and military life. A very pretentious force was to be put into the field. Major Biddle was selected to keep the journal of the expedition. There was also added to the party Doctor Baldwin, botanist, Doctor Say, zoologist; Doctor Jessup, geologist; Mr. Peale, assistant naturalist; Mr. Seymour, sketcher and painter, also Lieutenant Graham and Cadet Swift, topographical assistants. The party, including soldiers, numbered between six hundred and seven hundred people. It was called the Yellowstone expedition.

But the expedition never accomplished any of the purposes for which it was organized. In fact, the whole enterprise did a great deal more damage than it ever did good. It demoralized the whole matter of western exploration and development. It was the intention of the promoters of the Yellowstone expedition to proceed up the Missouri river in vessels from St. Louis. The ship-building proposition fell into the hands of an unscrupulous character, named Johnson, who was to build and equip the vessel needed to make the trip. Johnson failed to keep his contract and a large percentage of the money appropriated for the purpose was squandered. The matter was later investigated by Congress and the report, which was against Johnson, recommended legal proceeding to recover the money he had wrongfully obtained.

This gave a bad name to the whole matter of opening up the West and Northwest. The absurd extravagance that characterized the whole matter disgusted Congress. It was shown that Long could have kept the entire command in the field for five years and explored the whole territory west of the Mississippi and east of the Rocky mountains on the money that had been wasted. So the Yellowstone expedition was abandoned and another one planned, that was only a small part of the original project.

According to the new plan, the "Western Engineer," the vessel that caused the scandal, started from St. Louis on June 9, 1819. The boat was seventy-five feet long, with a thirteen-foot beam, drawing nineteen inches of water. The vessel carried three small brass cannon. They reached Ft. Osage on July 19, 1819, and on August 1 reached Isle de Vache, near where Leavenworth is now. The party stayed there until August 25. From that point they divided into smaller parties, each making short exploration trips through the country, near the Missouri river. They resumed their trip on August 25 and reached Ft. Lisa, where they went into winter quar-

ters. Major Long remained with the expedition about two weeks, when he went back to Washington to spend the winter. He was severely criticized for his inactivity and for going into winter quarters in September, in a latitude that made this the most enjoyable time of the year to pursue his plans. During the time his party were to remain in winter quarters, they were to make short excursions, gathering all the information obtainable about the country and making as many friends with the Indians as possible.

While Major Long was in Washington, the shorter trip of exploration was arranged. Long returned to his company at Ft. Lisa in the spring, and on June 6, 1820, the entire party left their winter quarters. They reached the Pawnee village on the Loup fork of the Platte river on June 11, 1820. When they reached the village of the Grand Pawnee, they found the Indians too busy hunting to see them. Very little was accomplished with this tribe of Indians, but an attempt was made to introduce vaccination among the Indians. Smallpox had broken out among this, as well as many other Indian tribes, and had greatly reduced their numbers. On June 13, 1820, the expedition camped on the Platte river about where Grand Island is now. Continuing their march westward, they saw the Rocky mountains on June 30. On July 5 they camped about where Denver now stands. After resting for four days, the party resumed its march and, on July 12, camped about twenty-five miles from Pike's Peak. They measured its altitude and Doctor James, with two men, made the ascent of the peak, the first white man to do this arriving at the top at 2 p. m., July 14, 1820. They calculated its height at about eight thousand five hundred and seven feet above the plains, which was probably five thousand seven hundred above the sea level. They also discovered another peak, which they named after the head of the expedition, "Long's Peak."

The party continued its march southward and reached the Arkansas river, about where LaJunta is now, on July 21. Here they divided the expedition. Captain Bell, Lieutenant Swift, three Frenchmen and five soldiers were sent down the Arkansas river, while the balance of the party continued their march southward, proceeding to the source of the Red river, intending to follow it till it flowed into the Arkansas at Ft. Smith. Both parties started on their trips, July 24, 1820. Captain Bell and his party reached the Great Bend in the river on August 9.

As they advanced, they kept about a mile from the stream on the north

side of the river, in order to avoid the sand drift along the river banks, that made traveling difficult. Each night they would camp on the river in order to have water and also because they were thus able to find driftwood which they could use for firewood for cooking their meat. They lived off the land as far as possible and found plenty of elk, deer, buffalo and other wild game. Their description of the country at that time is interesting. The weather was hot. They experienced a severe storm early in August, a typical northwest rain, with which the early settlers of this country were so familiar. It was an exceedingly hot day. Late in the afternoon a heavy cloud from this northwest came up and the rain fell in torrents. The lightning was terrible and the wind blew down their tents. Their horses wandered off with the storm, and they had no means of lighting a fire that night, all the wood being soaked.

Captain Bell's description of the country at that time is exceedingly interesting, especially in view of the report made by Major Long as to the quality of the land he traversed. The grass was described as luxuriant; along the river the sunflowers were abundant and very long. This would seem to show that the claim of the Mormons that they carried the sunflower seed with them when they went to Utah is unfounded, as Long's trip antedated the Mormon expeditions west more than a score of years. They reached Cow creek about sundown on August 12, 1820. Whether the point where they crossed Cow creek was where Hutchinson now stands, or near the mouth of the stream, is not disclosed in the description of these trips. As will be referred to later, it is probable at that time Cow creek did not run in the same channel it now runs in, but followed the low ground at the foot of the Sand hills, flowing through what used to be Brandy lake and then on south to the river.

Long's men continued down the river and later in the fall they were joined at Ft. Smith by the part of the expedition that branched off at LaJunta and followed the Red river. The Arkansas party reached Ft. Smith much ahead of the others, and remained there awaiting the arrival of Long. Together, the party continued down the Arkansas to St. Louis, and from there made their way back to Washington, where Major Long made his report to the President and the secretary of state.

Long's expedition was a great disappointment to the President and to Congress. It was eagerly seized on by all those opposed to the expansion of territorial lines. Outside of the money that was squandered on the enter-

prise, the report of Long was such that, instead of promoting the development of the territory covered in the purchase from France, it really retarded the settlement of the country. In his report, Long fairly stated the conditions as he saw things. He spoke of the vastness of the plains, of the great multitude of buffalo, of the abundance of all kinds of game, and of the fact that the entire country was well watered and well drained. He reported very little about the Indians, as he saw but few of them. Long had the idea that so generally prevailed of the West. The people of that time saw no necessity for more territory. Their vision was bounded by their own small interests. The vastness of the West, with their method of transportation, blinded them to the possible development of their new territory. The nation that was to grow up and settle this country was to be the work of a generation ahead of them. It was in great contrast with the view the French held regarding the same territory. To them it contained a new France. Visions of an empire were in the brains of her chancellors. They saw beyond the Mississippi a territory, vast and fertile, free from the jealousies of European nations. They saw the vineyards of France reproduced in the low lands of the Missouri and the Kaw and the Platte. They saw a great empire arise. But their vision faded when Napoleon, under the stress of war, sold the empire of their dreams, lest it should fall as a prize of war into the hands of the enemy.

But Long saw nothing of this. To him it was a territory valuable as a protection against any nation attacking the United States on the west. He could see nothing of the states to be created out of the Louisiana Purchase. He could see the Indian tribes and the buffalo as the constant occupants of the land. To him it had nothing of promise, nothing of added resource to the handful of states along the Atlantic ocean. To him it had no mines to add to the wealth of the land; no land to be subdued; no cities to be built. But one thing alone he saw—and that, the negative side of the whole matter; he saw the vast areas as barriers against a foreign foe. It was a matter of regret to the President and the people who supported the policy of Jefferson in the purchase of Louisiana, that such an unsatisfactory report was brought back. The spies sent out to view the land, as did those of Moses of ancient story, returned laden with the riches of the land, but repeated again, as of old, the stories of the giants that lived in the land.

There were other explorers in the valley. One of the most interesting

of them was Jacob Fowler. His biographer has published his records, just as they were written. His spelling is not just as we would spell the words today—in fact, he did not always follow his own style, but varied it as he desired. It is interesting on this account, in addition to the fact of the close observation that Fowler made and the accuracy of his statement.

Fowler was the first American to make the continuous trip from Ft. Smith to the present site of Pueblo. He measured the whole course of the Arkansas river between two places named. Lewis Dawson, one of his men, was probably the first white man buried in Colorado. Dawson was killed by a grizzly bear, near the mouth of the Purgatory river. Fowler's was doubtless the first white man's house built in Colorado, it being erected on the ground where Pueblo now stands.

Fowler's biographer adopted the unique idea of preserving the author's oddities and eccentricities. He describes his manuscript as being almost undecipherable until he found out the peculiarities of the author's handwriting. In publishing his "Journal of Travels," the author's spelling, punctuation and capitalization are reproduced. The abbreviations are just as Fowler put them down. The part of his journal that related to his trip through Reno county is here reproduced. The principal part of his records cover the land lying in the eastern part of the county. "The bold stream of water," he speaks of that he found on "15th October 1821," was Cow creek. Evidently it followed a different course than it now follows. The Indians say that it originally flowed at the foot of the Sand hills, through Brandy lake, thence south to the river. Fowler's journal is exceedingly interesting and is as follows:

12 October 1821. Cloudy and Rains a little We set out Early North 60 West fifteen miles over a Rich low Ridge there is Scarcely a tree or a Stone to be Seen and Hole land Covered with tall grass there is all allong Whight River and on this Ridge is much sign of Buffelow but the Indeans have drove them off. We camped on a small Branch near the Arkansas River." This description is of the country near Mulvane.

The next day—"13 October 1821"—they reached the Little river where Wichita is now located. On "14th Oct. 1821," he says, "we Set out Early Crossing the little Arkansaw and steering West at 12 miles Came to the Banks of the Arkansaw there up the River north 70 west We camped on the Bank Without trees"—this was about on the line between Sedgwick and Reno counties. "The Cuntry Continu fine the land level and Rich

the timber is plenty on the little Arkansaw, and some for a few miles up the main River but Heare there is no Timber or Willows on the River. Buffalo Bulls still appear But no Cows and we are now satisfied of the Caus of the Hunters not killing any of that Species. No Sign of deer tho we seen some turkeys last evening." The next day the party was in Reno county, and the journal continues:

"15th October 1821 We set out at our ushal time up the River No. 8 West and stoped at the mouth of a bold stream of Watter, came from the north, about 70 feet Wide but we Ware Soon alarmed by the Hunters coming and Haveing some Indians on Hors Back and sopped to be in pursuit of them—we gradually move up the River Crossing the Crick to some Sand Knobs on the River bank about 400 yds. above the mouth of the crick—there being no timber We made a breast works of our Baggage and Remained the balance of the day Waiting the arival of the Indians—but none appeared—some Buffelow Bulls were killed today. We kept the horses tyed up all night—yesterday the Sand Knobs appear at about ten mile distance on our Right Hand and Perellel With the River. Some Scatering trees appear on the Knobs."

The next day he reached about where the city of Hutchinson now stands. His journal reads:

"16th October 1821. We set out Early and maid ten miles up the River the Sand Knobs still on the Right We sent out Some Hunters to kill a Cow but they Remained out all night. We Ware much alarmed for their safety no meet for Supper or Breckfast—our corse No. 70 west and Camped on the River." The next day the party continued up the river. His journal reads:

"17th Octr 1821 We continued up the River North 65 west 15 miles and camped on the Bank. Scarcely a tree to be seen We this day passed the Head Spring of the Creek at the mouth of Which we camped on the 15th. This is a large butiful spring about three miles from the River on the north side and is a leavel Rich Piranie. the Sand Hills all along on the South Side and near the crick thay are not more than 60 or 70 feet High and the Country leavel beyond them to a great distance those on the north about the Same Hight and Several miles from the River." Fowler did not pass the spring that is the "head spring" of Cow creek, but the spring that forms Bull creek, which empties into Cow creek, as the springs from which Cow creek are formed are up farther north in Russell county.

Another explorer, the earliest, was Lieutenant Wilkinson, who left Pike's at Great Bend, where they reached the river in their overland trip of exploration in 1806. Wilkinson was sick and, making a boat out of cottonwood logs, made his way down the river. With him, however, it was simply an attempt to get back to St. Louis and very little of value is recorded of his trip down the river. These three parties are the earliest visits of Americans on the soil of what now constitutes Reno county.

CHAPTER II.

PHYSICAL APPEARANCE AND EARLY CONDITIONS.

The pioneers of Reno county found conditions very similar to what other pioneers had met in other states. The early settlers of Reno county were hardy, industrious people. There were many Union soldiers among them, young men then who had returned from the army and were ready for any new adventure. The West was opening up, and with cheap lands held out as an inducement, they came west to make their fortunes. They were mostly from states of a similar latitude.

There were but few trees in sight to greet the pioneer. The prairie was an unbroken sod of buffalo green. There were some trees in the sand hills and big cottonwoods in the bend of Cow creek, on the land afterwards owned by Peter Shafer, in Grant township, and one big cottonwood on Cow creek on Main street.

There were no roads and no bridges. From north to south across this county were the trail marks of the thousands of cattle that had been driven across the country to Abilene to be shipped east. These tracks bent in and out as the cattle would sway toward each other in their drive; would separate a few inches, jolt another beast on the other side, forming tracks that countless thousands of other cattle followed. They broke the sod; this loosened ground was blown out by the wind and the "trail" was established. Especially marked were there trails where streams were reached. There cattle would crowd together and the trails became deeper and more marked than in the open prairie.

The country was overrun with wild geese. Today they are rarely seen, except on some pond of water. Then they were a real pest and the pioneers had occasion to put up "scarecrows" to frighten off the geese. Soon they grew accustomed to these and other means had to be used to frighten away the geese, for a flock of these strong-beaked birds would soon ruin a whole wheat field, pulling the wheat up by the roots and devouring seed and blade alike. Many a farm boy has spent dreary days, in the fall and spring, chasing the wild geese off of a wheat field, only to see them circle around a while and settle again on some other part of the same field. Killing wild geese was not

only a sport, but an occupation. Many and many a load of wild geese were hauled to Hutchinson to be shipped East, partly for the flesh, but mostly for their feathers. Down in Lincoln township was one noted hunter, J. Q. Robinson. He killed the geese systematically. He had hiding places over the field. From these he would shoot, often till the flock was almost wiped out. These he would haul to Hutchinson by the wagon-load.

There was an abundance of smaller game in the county. After the buffalo disappeared hunting was limited to ducks, geese, rabbits, quail, and prairie chickens. There were a few antelopes hid away in the hills, but they soon were driven out. Coyote hunts were frequent, and afforded sport for a large number of hunters with their dogs, as no one dog had much of a show with a coyote. The prairie dog was a pest that spoiled considerable land. Near the Yaggy plantation was a "dog town" of nearly a hundred acres. These little creatures lived in their burrows. The body of a prairie dog was about the size of a mink; eyes and head rather large, resembling that of a rabbit; body the size of a small dog, hair short, shining and smooth. They lived in immense numbers on the prairies in dry locations, but not far from water. Their holes were deep and not in regular order.

BUFFALO GRASS, WONDERFUL FORAGE FEED.

The buffalo grass that covered all the land from the limestone hills of the central part of the state to the western border, was the most wonderful forage feed, except alfalfa, that has ever been found. The immense herds of buffalo that lived off of it, fattened on it, multiplied on it, was evidence of its nutritious quality. In the summer time the soft curling grass was dotted with flowers, the more conspicuous because of the sombre background of grass. There were a few varieties of flowers that were exceedingly common. Among these was the "sensitive" rose. While it was called a rose, it did not belong to the rose family, but to the briar family. It had narrow, very fine leaves on a vine that was covered with small, sharp thorns. The leaves were sensitive, whence the plant derived its name, and would immediately close up when touched. The blossom was a beautiful one, oval-shaped and bright red in color, and the stamens visible, otherwise bare on the top a yellow stigma. It was a very fragrant flower, and its odor permeated the air. The "false mallow" grew also on a long vine. Some of them would cover a yard-square space and have hundreds of bright red blossoms. The plant grew from a root that resembled the carrot in shape and size. This plant added a brilliance to the brownish-green buffalo grass that was very striking. The tall "spider

wort," with a sky-blue blossom, was common. It bloomed in June, when most of the flowers of the prairie were most abundant.

Outside of the wild grass there were in the early days an abundance of other kinds of game. Deer and elk were in abundance. Feeding on the buffalo grass, they would seek protection in the scraggy cottonwood trees that grew in the sand hills. There was also an abundance of prairie chickens, and these latter were not wholly driven out by the settlers for many years. All old settlers recall the early morning "booming" of these chickens, also their evening call to each other. They were a hard bird to shoot because they flew so fast and were exceedingly wild. Quail were plentiful and a few antelope hid themselves in the hills. The buffalo, of course, were the chief game, but they disappeared with the elk, the antelope and the deer.

Another animal found in abundance on the prairie was the coyote. These were the skulking scavengers of the plains; cowardly and cunning, they hung around a wounded buffalo or deer, waiting for a chance to get a meal. Their howl was one of the most distressing noises of the prairies.

While there were some things pleasant about the prairies in the days before the settlers came, yet there were things that overshadowed all else. The thing that made the prairies so lonesome that it was almost terrifying, was the monotony of the scene. Day after day the hunter passed across new land, but the same at morning, noon and at night. The same, day after day and week after week,—one seemingly unending stretch of buffalo grass; one eternally blue sky above—nothing the hunter could see that would look like a place of comfort; no boundary, no end to it. It took more than courage to conquer the prairies; courage alone would not have accomplished the wondrous change of a half a century. It took Faith, that saw the orchards grow up and set a boundary in the sod and furnished a resting place for the eyes. It took Faith to see the sod yield up the varied grains of today. It took Faith to see the buffalo grass supplanted by the alfalfa, and it took Faith and Courage to sustain the pioneer in the lonesomeness of early day life in Reno county; and that Faith and Courage have seen their reward, and the land of the buffalo has yielded its richness to the pioneer and his sons and his son's sons. The old settler never will forget the appearance of the land in the early seventies, and to rejoice at the change in the appearance of Reno county in less than a half century of time.

CHAPTER III.

THE ARKANSAS RIVER AND OTHER STREAMS.

The first white man, so far as any record shows, to see the Arkansas river was Coronado. He was the first explorer of the West. His journeys are among the most remarkable recorded in the annals of American history. Seventy-four years before the English made their settlement on the Atlantic coast, an army of Spaniards started four prosperous colonies in Mexico and explored a region as extensive as the eastern coast line of the United States from Maine to Florida. Their journey from Mexico was fraught with dangers and difficulties, which they only mention, apparently hoping to be remembered by the things they accomplished.

They started on their expedition on February 23, 1540. They sought the "Seven Cities of Cibola," of which they had heard from a Franciscan friar, Marcos of Nice, who accompanied the party as a guide and chaplain. Coronado marched for more than two years before he reached the Arkansas river. He crossed this stream near where Dodge City is located, on June 28, 1542. He called the river St. Peter and St. Paul. This day is St. Peter and St. Paul's day of the Catholic church and Coronado named the stream for the day he reached it. There have been several reasons assigned for the name of the stream; one was that he crossed the river where Wichita is located and that he gave to the Big Arkansas river the name of St. Peter and that of the Little Arkansas river the name of St. Paul. This is entirely fanciful. Coronado's description of the country through which he passed shows that he went northward after he crossed the Arkansas, until he reached almost the northern boundary of Kansas, when he turned back toward Mexico.

So the first name the river bore was given it by the Spanish. The name by which it is now known was given it by the French. They named it from a tribe of Indians, the "Akansa", they found near the mouth of the stream when they first reached the river. Through many changes in spelling, largely as a matter of pronunciation, the spelling has been changed to its present form.

The river rises in the mountains of central Colorado, near Leadville,

and empties into the Mississippi river at Napoleon, Arkansas. It is more than two thousand miles long and drains a basin of one hundred and eighty-five thousand square miles. It is the greatest western affluent of the Mississippi river. It starts in a pocket of lofty mountain peaks at an altitude of over ten thousand feet. It drops four thousand six hundred and twenty-five feet in the first one hundred and twenty miles of its course, over one hundred and twenty feet to the mile. At Canyon City it passes out of the Rocky mountains through the Grand canyon of the Arkansas. It soon is transformed into a turbid, shallow stream, depositing its mountain debris in the valley. It meanders across eastern Colorado, Kansas, Oklahoma and Arkansas. At Dodge City it shifts its direction to the northeast and at Great Bend it turns its course toward the southeast. It has a fall of seven and five-tenths feet per mile from Canyon City to Wichita, a distance of five hundred and one miles, and one and five-tenths feet per mile from Wichita to Little Rock, this being reduced to sixty-five hundredths of a foot per mile from Little Rock to its mouth. It is constantly changing its bed, due to heavy rainfall and the melting snows of the mountains, as well as to the character of the soil through which it flows. Its water is lowest in the channel from August to December. The depth of the water varies from twenty-seven feet to one foot.

The Indians called the Arkansas the "Ne Shuta", meaning "Red Water". Why it was given this name is not known. They likewise called the Little Arkansas, "Ne Shuta Shinka", meaning "The Young or the Little Red Water". This river was a highway of commerce for the French, as they made their way to the mountains in search of hides and furs. Their expeditions usually followed the river, generally on the north side, keeping a half mile or more from the river in order to avoid the sand along the banks, but keeping close enough to reach it for camping purposes, where there was water and driftwood. They generally could get enough driftwood for their campfires. The exploration of the Arkansas by the Americans in the early days was largely for the purpose of ascertaining the nature of the country and to find the number and character of the Indians that were to be found in this country.

Among these explorers was Zebulon Pike. In July, 1806, Pike left St. Louis on his second expedition. He ascended the Missouri to the Osage, and the latter to the villages of the Indians of that name. Thence he continued westward overland, entered Kansas, and proceeded to the Pawnee village on the Republican river near the present Kansas-Nebraska line.

Turning southward, he reached the Arkansas river at the present site of Great Bend. There he dispatched his junior officer, Lieutenant Wilkinson, with a few men, to descend the Arkansas, while with the rest of his company he ascended the same river into Colorado, as far as Pueblo. From this point he made an unsuccessful side-trip which had for its object the ascent of the since famous peak which bears his name, and returned to his camp at Pueblo.

Another early explorer was Jacob Fowler. Contrasting the work of the early explorers, the biographer of Fowler, says:

"There are no records of where others went or what they did. Ezekiel Williams, James Workman, Samuel Spencer, sole and shadowy survivors of Coyner's 'Lost Trappers,' are only uneasy spirits, flitting from the Missouri to Mexico and California in an apocryphal book, never materializing out of fable-land into historical environment. Wherever other American trappers or traders may have gone on the Arkansas or even the Rio Grande in those days, and whatever they may have done, Fowler was first to forge another sound link in the chain which already reached from Pike to Long. The latter's justly celebrated expedition came down the Arkansas and the Canadian in 1820. Pike ascended the main river from its great bend to its source in 1806, the same year that his lieutenant, Wilkinson, descended this stream from the point where he parted from his captain. For the lower reaches of the river we have Thomas Nuttall's 'Journal of Travels into the Arkansas Territory,' during the year 1819, and various other accounts. But I know of no record earlier in date than Fowler's of continuous ascent of the river from Ft. Smith to the present position of Pueblo in Colorado. He meandered the whole course of the Arkansas between the points named, except his cut-off of a small portion of the Verdigris trail. One of his men, Lewis Dawson, who was killed by a grizzly bear at the mouth of the Purgatory—and who, let us hope, left that place for happier hunting-grounds—may not have been the first white American buried in Colorado soil, but the record of a prior funeral would be far to seek. Whose was the first habitable and inhabited house on the spot where Pueblo now stands? Fowler's, probably; for Pike's stockade was hardly a house, and Jim Beckwourth came twenty years after Fowler. The Taos trail from Santa Fe through the Sangre de Cristo pass to the Arkansas at Pueblo was well known to the Spaniards when Fowler's party traversed it in the opposite direction; but we have no American itinerary of that passage at an earlier date than his. When Fowler ascended the Rio Grande to Hot Spring creek in the San Juan range, he followed a Spanish road; but never before had an American expedition

been so near the source of that great river Del Norte, and not till many years afterward did any such prolong Fowler's traces upward. The greater part of Fowler's homeward journey from Taos to Ft. Osage will doubtless prove as novel to his readers as it was unexpected by his editor. South of the Arkansas, his trail was neither by the way he had gone before, nor by either of those roads which were soon to be established and become well known, for he came neither by the Cimarron nor the Raton route, but took a straighter course than either, between the two, over Chico Rico Mesa and thence along Two Butte creek to the Arkansas on the Kansas-Colorado border. Again, when Fowler left the Arkansas to strike across Kansas, he did not take up the direct route which caravans were about to blaze as the Santa Fe trail from Missouri through Council Grove to Great Bend, but went a roundabout way, looping far south to heads of the Whitewater and Verdigris rivers before he crossed the Neosho to make for the Missouri below the mouth of the Kansas."

A reproduction of Fowler's journey, as far as it refers to this county, is given in chapter III.

Being the first white man to describe the earliest days of Reno county, the first to describe the streams and soil, something more of Fowler will be of interest, something of his life as told by his biographer. The following is from the introduction of "The Journal of Jacob Fowler":

"Major Fowler was born in New York, in 1765, and came to Kentucky in early life, a fine specimen of physical manhood, fully equipped for the office and duties of a surveyor. His surveying instruments were the best of their day, and elicited no little envy from those who used the common Jacob's staff and compass and chain of the times. He had the reputation of being an accomplished surveyor, and did much in this line for the United States government. His surveying extended to the great plains and mountains of the far West, before civilization had reached these distant wilds. He was there when wild animals and wilder savages were the only tenants of the wilderness.

"Major Fowler married the widow Esther Sanders, *née* de Vie, of Newport, Kentucky. She was of French descent and a lady of great beauty and accomplishments. She made his home one of happiness and hospitality. She sometimes accompanied him on his surveying expeditions and bore domestic charms to the tent in which they lived, as she did to the palatial mansion at home. She was a woman of fine business capacity, who, when her husband was not at home, attended to his affairs, and especially to his farm in the suburbs of Covington. Here fine stock and abundant crops owed

much to her constant care and supervision. The grapes that grew on the place were made into wine and the apples into cider, in accordance with the knowledge she had inherited from her French ancestors. Her great-grandchildren of today tell of the life of the camp, when she was with her husband in his surveying expeditions. The tent floor was nicely carpeted; a comfortable bed invited repose after the toil of the day; dainty china, bright cut glass, and shining silverware, handsome enough to be preserved as family heirlooms by their descendants, were used on the camp table. It was something of Parisian life in the dreary wilderness.

"Major Fowler died in Covington in the year 1850. His life as a surveyor and explorer in the West subjected him to many hardships, but a constitution naturally vigorous was preserved with care until he reached his eighty-sixth year. He has numerous descendants in Kentucky, Ohio and other states, some of whom occupy high social positions."

Speaking of his life, his biographer says of him: "If we turn from the substance of Fowler's journal and ask to see the bill of lading, curious to know what useful or valuable information is contained in so singular a conveyance, it may be composedly said that this "Prairie Schooner" is well foresighted for a "Voige" on the highway of Americana; for the cargo is a novel and a notable contribution to our knowledge of early commercial and pioneer adventure in the Great West. It is simple, the story of the trader and trapper, unsupported by the soldier, unimpeded by the priest and in no danger of the politician. The scene is set in the wilderness; the time is when the pack animals were driven across the stage, before the fast wheels rolled over the plains from the states to Santa Fe, and the actors have real parts to perform."

With his interesting story, is a glimpse of what the country was in 1821.

The Arkansas river has decreased in width very much since the first settlers came to Reno county. An explanation of this narrowing of the river bed is given in another chapter. While not the stream of former years, yet it at times becomes a turbulent one and carries a large volume of water. It has nothing of the importance it had in early years, as changed methods of transportation have decreased its value.

The Little Arkansas cuts off a part of the county in the northeast corner. While an interesting stream, it only touches the county in such a way that it becomes a stream of minor importance in a history of the county.

One of the most beautiful streams anywhere to be found is Cow creek, which in early days was a marvel to all who saw it. It heads up in the

hard land of Rice and Russell counties and threads its way through the bottom lands—two miles of creek to one as the crow flies. It appears on Sibley's map made in 1824 as "Cold Water" or "Cow Creek"—the latter name has clung to the stream.

Who named Cow creek? What a name for such a stream. The water as clear as crystal. The stones in the bed of the stream as plainly visible as if no water ran over them. Imagine how the first white man felt as he saw that stream. Riding over the hot, short buffalo grass of the prairie, his horse plunged into the tall blue stem that grew in the low bottom land that bordered the bank of the stream. He saw no water until within ten feet of the bank of the creek. A little way ahead, it emerged from the tall grass as it came around a bend, and a little way below it disappeared out of sight in the same way. It was an original discovery to every stranger who crossed it. Standing fifty feet from its banks in the rank growth of blue stem, there was nothing to indicate the existence of such a stream. It seemed supernatural. It came from the Unknown and went on to the Unknown. The traveler hesitated to turn away. He wanted to taste of the stream. He wanted to touch his hands in its cooling waters and let his feet rest on its shining sand and its glistening pebbles. When was this marvelous creation planned? How long has it been moving its way to the sea—along the unknown and silent pathway? What eons has it carried away the volcanic salts and alkalis that the changing seasons have leached from the soil to prepare the land for the tillage of the coming man? How many billion tons of granite, quartz, limestone and porphyry have the summer torrents of the Arkansas brought from the mountains and unloaded along its route till its water channel was seventeen feet above the waters of the creek, four miles above the townsite? How long since this beautiful stream began its meandering over the surface of the canyon filled with sand and water which we call the Arkansas valley? Who named Cow creek? If it were possible to see into the future, would there be an exercise of the police power of the city to prevent the contamination of the stream from its source to its mouth that there might be for all time a stream of water that for purity, for the health of the city, has no equal. Who named Cow creek?

Cow creek has had three disastrous floods. In normal times it does not look like a stream that would do much damage, by overflowing its banks. It has its source in the hard lands of Rice and Ellsworth counties and when the heavy rains fall in that territory the channel is unable to carry away the excess waters. When the Santa Fe railroad was built through this county their engineers knew but little of the country. The underlying

stratum of sand and water makes deep channels impossible. To the first railroad engineer there was no warning of any danger from overflow. There was no driftwood because of the entire absence of timber along the stream and even the little wash of grass and weeds were gone, burned by the annual prairie fire that swept the country. So when the Santa Fe engineers built their bridge across Cow creek, west of town, they put in a beam bridge, with abutments built of stone and a bridge only forty feet long. The railroad was about a foot above the level of the ground, just as little as they could get along with. When the first flood that occurred after the settlers came into the county, on May 7, 1877, the water soon piled up around the bridge and in a short time the flood had undermined the stone masonry abutment and the east abutment rolled over into the water. The sand had washed from under the stone abutment and the bridge was gone. But the volume of water could not find an adequate outlet in the creek channel and it spread over the railroad tracks. It followed the track to Main street, ran across Main street to First avenue, filling all the low places and finally made its way back to the channel of the creek. There was about two feet of water over the town, the deepest place being on Main street and First avenue east. The water stayed on the street and over the town for about two weeks.

In an effort to avoid any further floods the city at once began to raise the grade of Main street. This was done by hauling dirt and other material and piling it in the street. The intention was to raise the grade of the street for two feet. To do this required that all houses be raised two feet. There were no brick buildings then, only frame structures, and after considerable time all of the buildings were stuck up on stilts. The sidewalks were also put up and the city had its first damage suit as the result of these elevated walks. Taylor Flick, a resident of Kinsley, walked off of one of these stilted sidewalks one night and was injured. He sued the city for five thousand dollars damages. The jury gave him two hundred and fifty dollars.

The railroad likewise had to raise its grade to make sure that future floods would not wash out its tracks. They extended the bridge, making it more than double the length of the first one and, instead of using masonry abutments, they drove down piling and built the bridge on them. The piling went far enough into the ground that no trouble was ever experienced after that with washed-out bridges in Cow creek.

In addition to raising the grade of Main street, the city did another thing that greatly helped it, not only in later floods, but in times when there was more than the normal amount of water to be carried down the chan-

nel of the stream. That was the straightening of Cow creek through the town. The many bends in the creek greatly retarded the flow of water. W. E. Hutchinson made a proposition to the city, which was accepted. He agreed to straighten Cow creek through the city, making a channel that was just half the length of the bed of Cow creek through the city. The city paid ten thousand dollars for this work and in the subsequent periods of high water demonstrated its value. It not only cut the distance the water had to travel, but it increased the velocity of the water so that the creek's carrying capacity was increased four-fold. There have been several occasions when the low lands above town were covered with water and yet the creek was able to carry the water through town and not tax the channel to its capacity to carry the extra volume of water away.

The second flood of Cow creek was in June, 1886. The water was not as high as it was in 1877, but it was harder to get off of the town, because Main street, having been raised, held back the water and, while the west part of town suffered more than it did at the first flood, the eastern part of the city did not experience nearly the loss that it did in the first high water.

The principal damage in all of the floods has been to grass and lawns. No property loss of any great amount has ever been occasioned. The flood of 1903 did perhaps more actual damage than either of the others, as it came up very unexpectedly and merchants were not able to get their stock of goods off the floors. This last flood occurred on May 30, 1903. Heavy rains in Rice and Ellsworth counties for over a week had poured a volume of water into Cow creek that was more than it could carry. The water stood about two feet deep over Main street and covered perhaps two-thirds of the town site. There was considerable damage done by this flood. Merchants lost goods that they were unable to get off the floors before the water reached them. Some foundations of buildings were undermined and some buildings that were made of soft brick were damaged by the water. Gardens and lawns were covered with a coating of mud where the water stood, but no great loss occurred from the flood.

The city, shortly after the flood, dug a drainage canal from Cow creek to the river, west of town. This cost over thirty thousand dollars and into it a greater portion of Cow creek water is diverted. Whether it will prevent the floods from getting over the city when the water becomes as high as it was in 1903 is a matter of conjecture. It doubtless will keep off a great amount, but the test of its capacity is yet to be made. While the loss to the city by reason of the high water in Cow creek has been considerable,

the loss to the farmers above town and likewise those below town has been greater than the loss in the city. Both of the last two floods have occurred in the growing months of the year. Crops were spoiled and in some places the soil was washed by the high water. These losses, however, are such as come to the low lands, the best land being of course in the bottoms. But while the loss of crops is an item of considerable moment to those affected, yet it is not always a complete loss, as the deposit of soil left on the lands is worth considerable in added strength to the soil.

The north fork of the Ninnescah waters the western and southern part of the county. It heads in the eastern part of Stafford county, but has its principal feeders from the western and northwestern part of Reno county. Its name means "sweet water." On the early maps it was uniformly spelled "Nenescah," but the later spelling changes the "e" to "i". It has low banks, seldom ever runs dry and is a great stream for watering stock. There is fine bottom land on both sides of the stream and in the early days of cattle driving the Ninnescah afforded a splendid place to water and feed the cattle. There were several camping grounds for stock on the stream and it was a source of great pleasure for the tired and thirsty cattle owners to reach this rich bottom land with their stock in the long drives from Texas northward. The Ninnescah empties into the Arkansas river at Oxford in Sumner county.

Salt creek heads in the northwest corner of Kiowa county. Its old name was "Turkey Creek." It probably derives its present name from the salty, brackish taste of the water. It empties into the Arkansas river six miles west of Hutchinson. It was, like the Ninnescah, a watering point for Texas stock, the country round it affording good pasturage for the cattle.

Looking at it from the standpoint of its value to the stock men, it is not strange now that they fought so vigorously the attempt to shut the cattle business out of the county, and it is not strange the cattle men resisted so strenuously the effort to drive them farther west, as the natural conditions favored equally the raising of stock or the growing of grain. The abundance of water made it an especially valuable field for stock raising.

CHAPTER IV.

THE OSAGE INDIANS.

The early settlers of Reno county never had any experience with the Indians of any consequence outside of a raid on some cattle in an early day and an occasional begging band of Osages that drifted into the country; with these exceptions, the settlers of this county never saw the Indian. Like the buffalo, he had passed on westward. His depredations were centered on wagon trains along the Santa Fe trail and his vengeance was taken on hunters who, as the Indian thought, were forcing him off the ground he and his forefathers had held for centuries, and they were also killing off the buffalo and depriving him of his means of support. There were a couple of Indian "scares," almost entirely without foundation, after the settlers came to Reno county, and which amounted to almost a frenzy the last time in 1878. But the Indian never was a source of annoyance to the early settlers in this county.

The territory of which Reno county is a part belonged originally to the Osage Indians. Just how they happened to possess this valley and this part of the country perhaps cannot be known. When the white man came to this country he found various tribes of Indians scattered over the land—whether they settled their boundary lines by force or by argument cannot be known, but they lived in fairly well defined areas. According to Schoolcraft, the Osages, in an early day lived east of the Mississippi river. Meeting severe opposition from the stronger Eastern and Northern tribes, they came west, crossing the Mississippi at the mouth of the Missouri. Here they divided into two bands, the Quawpaws and the Ugmahaws. The Quawpaws, or the older of the Indians, liked the softer climate of that region and stayed at the mouth of the Missouri. The Ugmahaws, or the younger or more vigorous of the tribe, pushed up northward along the Missouri river as far as Omaha, which was named for this band of Osages, their name signifying the "Up Stream" Indian.

The Osages laid claim to all the country north of the Arkansas river to the Meramac river in Missouri and westward to an indefinite line, that included nearly the entire state of Kansas. West of the Osages, the Arapa-

hoes and Cheyennes claimed the land. Reno county was in the territory covered by the treaties of the Osages with the United States government, but lack of knowledge of the country caused an error in the treaty, by which the Osages received pay for some land claimed by the Arapahoes and Cheyennes and the territory immediately in the vicinity of this county was part of the doubtful territory and was a sort of neutral ground between the Osages and Arapahoes and Cheyennes. However, as the treaties for this territory were made with the Osages, they must be considered as the original holders of the soil.

THE OSAGE TREATIES.

The first treaty with the Osages by the United States was made on June 2, 1825, at St. Louis. This treaty was the result of the report by Major Stephen A. Long, who made a trip through the territory in 1821-1822, which will be referred to in a subsequent chapter. Major Long's report covered the questions for which the trip was organized, namely, to ascertain the tribe of Indians that held possession of the land and other items that would enable the government to deal intelligently with the inhabitants of the territory acquired from France in the Louisiana Purchase. At this time the government's policy was to meet the chiefs and sub-chiefs of each tribe and enter into a "treaty" or agreement with them for the acquisition of their land. While the government had bought it once from the French, yet a certain possessory right of the Indian was also recognized. The "treaty" that was made with the Indian tribes was largely in the nature of a barter and trade rather than the formal method that is used in the dealings of one sovereign nation with another. These treaties were effective between the United States and the Indian tribes only after they had been approved by the Senate of the United States.

There were present at the forming of this treaty with the Osages all the chiefs of the Great and Little Osage tribes. The government recognized the two divisions of this tribe that they had themselves created. By the terms of this treaty, these two divisions of the Osages ceded to the United States "all the land west of the state of Missouri and the territory of Arkansas, and west of the Red river, south of the Kansas river and west to a line to be drawn from the headwaters of the Kansas river southwest to the Rock Saline." According to the map and survey of J. C. McCoy, the "Rock Saline" was on the headwaters of Salt creek and is now township 18 north, range 12 west, near the north fork of the Canadian river. Owing to the fact that at the time the treaty was made the "headwaters of the Kansas river"

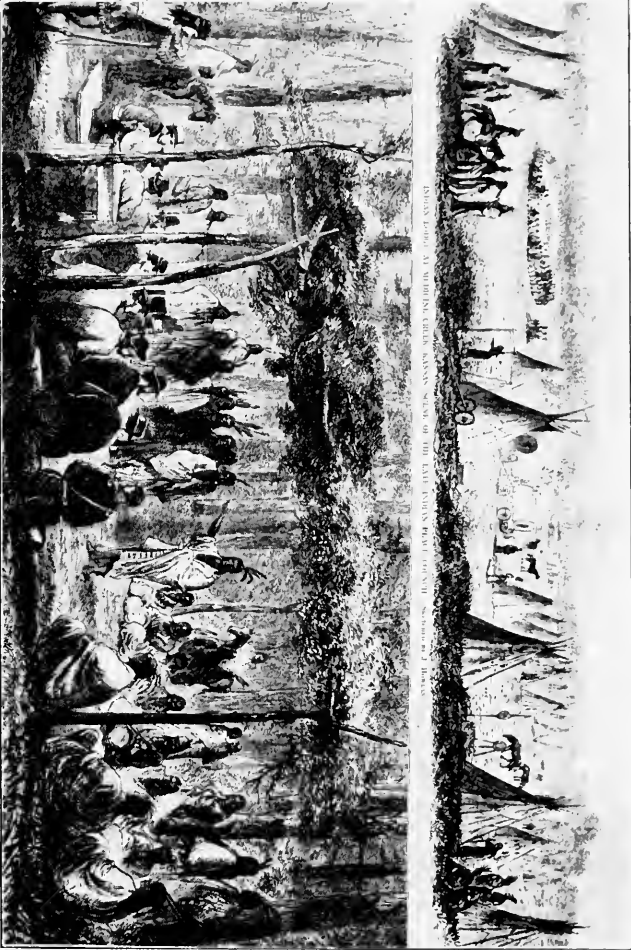
were not accurately known, but the men who made this treaty supposed these "headwaters" to be much farther east than what the later surveys showed to be correct, owing to the misapprehension of the western boundary of the Osage nation, this treaty included land lying in the western part of the territory thought to be conveyed to the United States that was claimed also by the Arapahoes and Cheyennes and this is the explanation of the "neutral strip" referred to in early part of this chapter.

In consideration, the United States agreed to pay the Osages the sum of seven thousand dollars a year for twenty years, payment to be made at "the village of St. Louis." In addition to this annual payment, the United States was to give to the Osages six hundred head of cattle, six hundred hogs, one thousand domestic fowls, ten yoke of oxen, six carts and such farming implements as the agent of the government thought was necessary; also a blacksmith shop to repair farm implements and tools. Likewise the United States was to pay the Delaware Indians one thousand dollars, which the Osages owed them, and one thousand dollars each to Pierre Choteau, Paul Balio and William S. Williams, the three latter being Indian agents with whom the Indians had been doing business and who had helped the government to negotiate this treaty.

From the character of the consideration for the land, the purpose of the government was evident, namely, to get the Indians to settle down to farming and quit their nomadic life. The gift of oxen and plows was for the purpose of seeing if the Indian could not be made self-supporting and induced to quit the chase as his only method of making a living. The fact that more than sixty years elapsed before the Indian gave up his early habits, took his land in severalty and began to farm, is evidence of the deep-seated love the Indian had for his old habits. While it is doubtful if the six hundred hogs and the thousand chickens, the ten yoke of oxen and the blacksmith shop had much effect on the men of the Osage tribe of that day, yet it was the beginning of the end of Indian occupancy of this sort, and marked the beginning of homesteads and the "school sections," the timber claim, the pre-emption, also the beginning of the land grant to railroads and the general dispossession of these lands by the government.

The second treaty with the Osages was made on August 10, 1825. This treaty was also an outgrowth of Long's expedition and in furtherance of the policy of Congress to promote direct commercial relations with Mexico. As a part of this policy, Congress authorized the President to cause a road to be marked out from the western frontier of Missouri to New Mexico. This second treaty was made at Council Grove, on the Neosho river. The name

INDIAN TREATY OF 1867, CONCERNING OSAGE TRUST LANDS



of the place was derived from the fact that the meeting place was held in a well-known grove and the word "Council" was added to the "Grove" to mark the place where the treaty was made. It is the name of the present county seat of Morris county and was a stopping place for travelers who later went over the trail that was afterwards established across the state and on out to Santa Fe, New Mexico. By this treaty the Osages agreed to allow the United States to mark out the contemplated road and they further agreed to be friendly with all who traveled over that road. After the route was established and travel started, how well the Indians kept their faith with the government is shown by the fact that it became necessary to establish two forts along the line, one at Ft. Zarah and one at Ft. Dodge, to protect the travelers over the route. Even with these troops, the wagon trains were often raided and robbed and the teamsters killed. The government paid the Osages five hundred dollars as a consideration of their friendliness. The result of the treaty was the establishment of the Santa Fe trail. This was a great highway of travel for forty years. Its purpose was purely commercial. It was so important that it can only be referred to here, leaving it for a subsequent chapter. It was the first, and perhaps the most important, outcome of this second treaty made with the Osages.

The third treaty with the Osage Indians included some land that is a part of Reno county. It covered the territory known as the "Osage trust lands." It was a strip of land two hundred and fifty miles long from west to east and twenty miles wide from north to south. It was located directly south of the land obtained in the first treaty with the Indians. Its western boundary extended about five miles west of Dodge City and its eastern boundary was about fifteen miles east of Fredonia. It covered about three and a half million acres of land. One row of sections is in Reno county, extending the full width of the county on the south border. This treaty was made on September 29, 1865. General Miles, General Sheridan and others represented the United States and the chiefs and sub-chiefs of the Osages were present. As payment for this land, the United States agreed to pay the Osages three hundred thousand dollars. The government was to sell the land at one dollar and twenty-five cents per acre and after the purchase price had been paid by the sale of the land, with five per cent. interest, the balance of the fund was to be placed in a fund to be called "The Civilization Fund." This treaty had a clause in it that looked like a joker when the treaty was made, but which subsequently had a far-reaching effect on the history and development, not only of Reno county, but of the entire South-

west. This matter will be spoken of later, as it affected the building of the Santa Fe railroad and the locating of the city of Hutchinson.

INDIAN HABITS AND CUSTOMS.

In appearance, the Osages were mainly good looking, stout of limb, and erratic in their mode of life, living part of the year in fixed villages and roving with their families in search of game the remainder of the time. The squaws cultivated the soil in a small way and perhaps it was to meet the demands of the squaws that the provision for the hogs and chickens and farm implements was inserted in the first treaty they made with the government. Major Hudson found at the mouth of the Little river, when he reached that place in his trip down the Arkansas river in 1821, a deserted Indian camp. It was the middle of August and all of the Indians were out on the hunt preparing their winter's meat. At the camp was a small field of corn, poorly tended, weedy and neglected, also some watermelons "although the melons were not ripe." Said the Major in his description of this place, "We ate them nevertheless and the green corn was greatly appreciated by the party, which had lived principally on meat for months." The Osages showed much skill in their negotiations with the United States agents, not only in the making of their treaties, but in their subsequent dealings with the Indian agents. They had a bold, direct manner and used large phrases and forms of thought, apparently for the purpose of impressing their opponents with their mental ability. Their lodges were arranged in a symmetrical manner. Their wigwams were built in a circle, one line within another, with the chief's tent conspicuously located at the head of each encampment. In the center of their camp they erected their scaffolds for drying their meat. Schoolcraft says that their name is of French origin, a corruption of "Ossingiguis," or "Bone Indian." They called themselves "Wabeshaus." They had the reputation with the other Indian tribes of being thieves and plunderers. Perhaps, realizing their reputation, they proceeded to realize on it. When they agreed to be friendly with the white man, it was for the consideration that was always a part of the contract.

CHAPTER V.

THE BUFFALO.

The buffalo, or bison, differs somewhat from the animal that bears that name found in other countries. He has one pair of ribs more than the buffalo of other countries and two pairs of ribs more than the domestic ox. The first description of the American buffalo is to be found in the records of the early Spanish explorers, who saw the buffalo first in the southwestern part of the United States, as the expedition of Coronado was marching northward in search of the "Seven Cities of Gold." The Spanish knew not what name to give to the big shaggy animals that crossed the plains and, for want of a better name, they called them "the crooked backed oxen."

The buffalo range was a very extensive one before he was disturbed by the white man. He was found all the way from the Columbia river to the Rio Grande, from Saskatchewan to Ottawa in the northern ranges. He was also an inhabitant of the regions about the Great Lakes. He was found in Alabama and down on the Brazos. He was as familiar a sight on the Atlantic as he was on the Pacific seaboard. Catesby, the early historian of South Carolina, says that in 1712 the buffalo were abundant within thirty miles of Charleston, South Carolina. However, the principal range of the buffalo, the ground on which he finally made his last stand, his last fight for his existence, was in Kansas, between the Arkansas and the Republican rivers.

It is, of course, impossible to tell how long the buffalo occupied the land of the great Southwest. He was driven west of the Mississippi after the white man landed on the eastern shores of the United States. His existence east of the Mississippi doubtless extended over a long period of time. The vastness of the numbers that were found even a half century ago, after he had been reduced to a range less than one-tenth of what he once grazed on, would indicate that for centuries he had thrived. Various estimates have been made of the number of buffalo that occupied the range. They were only estimates, and the wide variance in the figures indicate this more than anything else. R. M. Wright, an old settler and hunter, author of "Dodge City in Cowboy Days," quotes a conversation between General Sheridan and Major Inman. Both of them had traveled through the buffalo country many

times and both were close observers and men of good judgment. The two had made the trip from Ft. Supply to Ft. Dodge during the days following the Civil War. Inman placed the number of buffalo in the country through which they had passed at ten billion and General Sheridan objected to this as too high an estimate. After outlining how he arrived at that number, namely, by so many buffalo to the acre, stretched out over the long distance they had traveled, Inman reduced his estimate to one billion. General Sheridan objected again as too large an estimate and, after various methods of estimation were considered, they both agreed that there were at least one hundred million buffalo on the range at that time, in a radius of one hundred miles from Dodge City. At a later date, Horace Greeley made the trip overland in a stage coach, through the buffalo range, and placed the number of buffalo he had seen along the line through which the stagecoach traveled, at four million buffalo. Mr. Wright quotes Brick Pond, an old experienced hunter, a man of good judgment and thoroughly reliable, as placing the number of buffalo on the range within a hundred miles of Dodge City at twelve million. Mr. Wright's own figures, made at a later date, when the vividness of this sight had somewhat faded from his memory, was twenty-four million. He adds, "However, I think Pond was more nearly correct in his estimate than I was in mine, when it is remembered that the buffalo lived from twenty-five to forty years, that he was a powerful animal and capable of self-defense against all his natural enemies." The immensity of these figures make the estimates of these men more credible. All of the estimates of the vastness of these herds, indicates at once the fertility of a soil that would support so many animals, whose sole subsistence was the grass that grew on the prairies, and of the abundance of streams that would water so many animals. These considerations are heightened when it is remembered that the buffalo lived through the rigors of winter on the plains with no shelter except the ravines and small canyons that marked the course of some of the streams. Into this range have come in later days the cowmen with their herds, and they, in turn, have given way to the settlers who have broken up the range and cultivated the soil. Out of the immensity of the herds of buffalo and of the untold centuries these animals lived in this land, grew a condition of soil that made possible a peculiar grass that was named for the animal, which lived and thrived on it. How closely associated is this fact; how the grass and the buffalo grew together and disappeared together; how the habits of the one produced a condition of soil that made possible the grass; how it was that the vast areas of country that the buffalo browsed over, grew this humble grass, which was followed, on the disappear-

ance of the buffalo, by the innumerable varieties of other grasses; how nature adapted the product of the soil to the necessity of the animal, are perhaps some of the most interesting facts in natural history. This grass is so nutritious that on it alone the buffalo grew and fattened. This grass was green in the spring, like other grasses. It never grew more than six or seven inches long and hung so close to the ground that it was impossible to cut it with a mowing machine. In the summer and fall it would turn brown, but if the outside layer of the grass was peeled off, it would still be found green and fresh on the inside. This condition existed even in the late fall and winter. It "cured" itself, even while growing. It needed not the mower and rake of the farmer to save it for the winter. All the nutrition the heat of summer stored in its silky form was wrapped under the brown covering. It was prepared for winter feed in nature's "silo." All the buffalo had to do to get as good feed in winter as in summer, was to push aside the snow and there was his food, as nutritious, as juicy, as palatable as when he ate it in the spring or fattened on it in the fall—the most wonderful grass that ever grew.

This grass grew only in hard land and was the only kind of grass found on the plains in the early days. The ground had been pounded for thousands of years by the hoofs of the innumerable herds that lived in this range and was as hard as the traveled road. The roots of this grass were very fine, and when the ground was broken up and the air allowed to get to the roots, the buffalo grass disappeared and in its place grew, the first year, the tall blue stem, that grew as high as a horse's back, and this was followed by a large number of other varieties of grasses.

The buffalo grass and the hardened soil afford, perhaps, the best idea of the extent and time the buffalo lived on the range, that it is possible now to form, not as counted by thousands, or tens of thousands, but in a manner that shows vividly the extent of the herds.

The vast numbers given of the size of the herds, are meaningless. The soil condition indicates more clearly to us the numbers and extent of time the buffalo lived here on the prairies than the statement of those numbers in concrete figures. How long the buffalo lived here and fed on these plains, how long a period must have passed to make possible the hardened soil and how much longer still must have been the time it would take to develop a grass so peculiarly adapted to the needs and conditions of the life that it sustained—the grass and the soil tell more vividly than figures of the life of this, the earliest inhabitant of the great Southwest.

The hardened soil produced a condition in all the streams that drain the

plains. In order to carry off the water of the streams in flood times, that would run off the ground as it would off a roof, it was necessary for the streams to have much wider channels than was required in later days, after the settlers had broken up the soil, which allowed the rains to seep into the soil, instead of rushing off in torrents to the streams. Consequently, as soon as the land was broken, the Arkansas river, the ultimate drainage canal of this territory, began to decrease in width. Islands began to form in what formerly was the channel. The necessity for a wide channel had disappeared. In 1874, when the first bridge was built over the Arkansas river at Hutchinson, it was sixteen hundred and twenty-five feet long. The bridge that now spans the river at the same point is but five hundred and forty feet long.

The buffalo varied in height from four to five and a half feet and differed from the domestic ox in being longer-legged and shorter-bodied and in having a large hump on its back, a long mane and much longer hair on its back and shoulders. Its greatest girth was just back of the forelegs, from which its body gradually tapered and also diminished in height. Its head and eyes were small. Its whole structure was calculated for speed and its general aspect was fierce and terrible, although it was not so unless it was closely pressed. Under ordinary circumstances, it was harmless and timid. Its sense of smell was exceedingly acute and it depended largely on this faculty for its safety. It was a migratory animal, although a few buffalo could be found in the northern climates at all seasons of the year.

When the buffalo moved, it was in immense herds, but the larger herds would break up into smaller bands of a few thousand each. The buffalo never was alone except by accident. The males and females herded separately, except in the breeding season, which was in June and July. This was the time when the bulls contended for mastery. Old hunters tell of seeing hundreds of these animals fighting at the same time. When one of the old bulls was defeated by one of the younger and stronger ones, the defeated bull never again got in with the successful ones. He was out and he stayed out. The result was that the older and defeated bulls kept to themselves. The cows brought forth their young in March and April. They were notable for their attention to their young. At night the cows would form a circle, with the calves in the center. The cows would lie down, with their heads outward, forming a barricade against the wolves and coyotes that infested the plains and that hung around every sick or wounded animal, ready to fall on and devour it. The helpless calves were eagerly sought by the hungry wolves and the care and attention the cows gave their young, until they were able to care for themselves, was one of the characteristics of the buffalo.

The calves were of a very light color, but they would turn a rich brown color by winter. The young buffalo's hair would shed from its flank and sides the second summer and in the fall of its second year its hair would grow darker and thicker than it was the first year. After a buffalo had passed the prime of life the hair became a rusty-brown color. The buffalo would always face a storm instead of turning from it, as a domestic animal does. It was more thinly clad behind than in front and could best protect itself by facing the storm.

The buffalo was the chief source of the living of the Indian, affording him the principal part of his food. The Indians did very little in the way of cultivating the soil, in raising grain or vegetables. Occasionally the squaws had small patches of corn, a few watermelons and pumpkins. They also gathered some of the wild grapes and plums when they found them along the streams, but beyond this they ate few vegetables. The bucks were too lazy and indolent to work and all that was raised was done by the squaws. They had only the rudest sort of farm implements with which to tend their crops. So the buffalo was their chief reliance for food. While they had other kinds of meat occasionally, deer, antelope, wild geese and wild turkey, yet they relied mainly on the buffalo for the greatest part of their living.

The hides of the buffalo furnished the Indian with their clothing, their saddles and their tents. The sinews of the buffalo were used for bowstrings. There was not any part of the carcass that did not find some use. Without the buffalo, the savage could not have lived. The squaws would dry strips of buffalo meat by hanging them up in the sun. They would then grind this dried meat up, mix it with choke berry, add to it some of the fat of the buffalo they had fried out of his hump, put the mixture in a leather bag and it became the food of the tribe when they were on the march or when they were where they could not get fresh meat. This was exceedingly nutritious and enabled the Indians to carry their sustenance in a very condensed form.

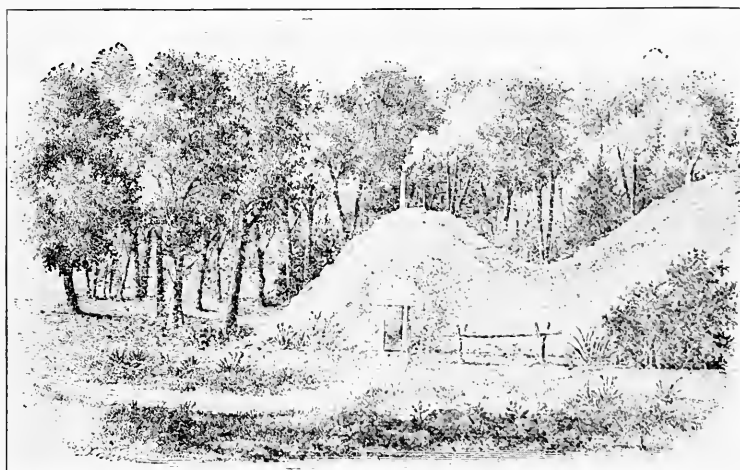
The disappearance of the buffalo was the cause of the breaking up of the tribal relations of the Indians, the first step that was necessary to prepare this land of the buffalo range for settlement. While the mere slaughter of the buffalo for its hide and meat cannot be looked upon with any great degree of approval, there is another side to the controversy that must not be overlooked. If the vast territory the buffalo ranged over was to be left for a range, if the interests of the settler were to be subordinated to that of the Indian, then there was no justification in the slaughter of the buffalo. If, on the other hand, the demands of civilization, the pushing onward of the

pioneer, were to be considered, then the view as expressed by General Sheridan was the proper one. The only thing that led to the settling of the Indian on his allotment was the fact that he could no longer live by the chase. The Indian resented the encroachments of the white man and made raids into his camps; along the traveled routes, in companies or alone, the Indian murdered the pioneer. There was no such thing as settlement until the Indian raids were things of the past. Their depredations must be stopped. A bill was introduced in the Texas Legislature, shortly after the Civil War, that was intended to protect the buffalo from the hunters. Against this bill General Sheridan made a vigorous protest. The General knew the Indians, perhaps better than any other of the regular army officers of those times. He knew also of the futility of trying to defend the whole frontier of the nation against the attacks of the savages and, referring to the proposed Texas law, he said: "Instead of stopping the hunters, you ought to encourage them by a unanimous vote of thanks, and add a medal of bronze, with a dead buffalo on one side and a discouraged Indian on the other. Those men have done more to settle the vexed 'Indian question' than the entire regular army has done in the last thirty years. They are destroying the Indian's commissary, and it is a well-known fact in military tactics that an army cut off from its base of supplies is in a precarious condition. Send the hunters powder and lead, if you will, and for the sake of peace let them kill, skin and sell until the buffalo are exterminated. Then your prairies can be covered with cattle and cowboys, who will follow the hunter as the forerunners of civilization."

What General Sheridan predicted has come true. After the buffalo and the Indian disappeared, after the hunters were gone, the pioneers came and with them came the long-horned cattle. The latter have likewise passed on and in Reno county, particularly, the longhorn was replaced by the shorthorn. The buffalo grass has been turned under and has rotted, and the alfalfa, the greatest forage food ever known, has taken the place of the humble buffalo grass. One acre now renders more service than a quarter section did under the old "cow" system, and more than a whole township did when the buffalo roamed over it. It is but a half century from bison to shorthorn, from the untamed herds on the plains to the silos of modern farming. But back of it all was the displacing of the tenants of the soil of a thousand years, to make place for those of today. While the process of making the change seemed harsh, the justification comes in rendering the earth more productive, paving the way for the growth of a country of contented and prosperous people.



OLD SANTA FE STATION AT STERLING, SHOWING PILE OF
BUFFALO BONES.



FIRST WHITE MAN'S DWELLING IN RENO COUNTY.

In the early days of the pioneers, buffalo bone hauling was the chief occupation and the principal source of revenue. Indeed, it was about the only thing the early settlers could do, to make money. At that time there was but little work to do in the country, little or no building being done, no factories or shops to furnish work. The farmer did all of his own work in the field, and had plenty of time on his hands, and his greatest occupation was that of hauling buffalo bones to town. There was but little money in the country. By gathering up these bones, that lay strewn for hundreds of miles, the early settlers were not only able to make a living, but lay aside a little for later use. "Buffalo bones" were legal tender in those days. These bones were hauled to the railroad, to be shipped from this part of the buffalo range. Carloads of bones were shipped East to be transformed into fertilizer. In this city the "bone yard" was in the exact spot where the Bisonte hotel now stands. It would have been impossible to have chosen a more appropriate name for this hotel, as the word "bisonte" is the Spanish for "bull buffalo." But no more striking is the change that has transformed a bone yard into a magnificent hotel, than that which has occurred in other lines of industry in Reno county.

The hide hunters were also numerous, though they did not do much in Reno county, for the buffalo had moved farther West before the early settler came to this county. There was a trail that ran across the southern part of the country called the "Northup Trail," that was used by hunters going farther west to secure not only the hides, but the buffalo meat. This meat was hauled to the nearest railroad station and shipped east, where it was considered a great delicacy. In the winter, they hauled the raw meat, frozen by exposure, to the cars. In the summer the meat was dried. Part of the business of the Northup trail was hauling buffalo hides from the hunting ground. These hides were dried and baled and their skins were sold to two firms, Charles Bales, of St. Louis, and a man by the name of Durfree, of Leavenworth. Buffalo robes were sold in St. Louis from sixteen dollars a piece for the big, fine, full-haired bull buffalo, to eight dollars and fifty cents for the smaller skins, of older animals that did not have so much hair on them. It is estimated by a writer of that time that Bales did at least a half million dollars worth of business annually for several years, while Durfree did half that much in the sale of hides at Leavenworth.

The early settler found some peculiar markings on the creek banks and some peculiar round depressions in the ground. The marks on the creek banks were V shaped and were cuts in the higher banks of the stream. These

were made by the buffalo going down to the stream for water. They did not hunt the low lands, but clambered out over the higher banks, urged on by the buffalo behind, and this caused the peculiar V shapes in the banks. The round depressions were "wallows," made by buffalo pawing up the ground for the salt in the alkali soil, and also for the buffalo to "wallow" in, to loosen up the old hair. But the erosion of streams has washed out all the V shaped cuts in the creek banks and the rains have filled up the wallows with the washings of the soil, so that nothing now remains of grass or bone or depression to show that the buffalo ever lived in this country.

CHAPTER VI.

EARLY TRAILS ACROSS THE COUNTRY.

The Texas cattle business was not a profitable one to those engaged in it before the Civil War. But after that struggle ended, the tide of emigration started westward and as one of the results of that shifting of the population of the country the cattle industry was greatly stimulated. The cattle men of the country explained this increased activity by saying that before the war their industry was a business, after the war it became a craze. The settlement of the Northern and Central states called for more cattle. To supply the demand, numerous herds of the Texas range stock were driven northward every year. In the early days before the wagon train of the "Forty-niner," before the laying out of the Santa Fe trail, there were millions of buffalo on the range from Texas northward. Literally, these millions of "crooked backed oxen" were supplanted by the Texas long-horn range cattle, and millions of them were driven north to market.

The driving might more properly be called "drifting." The cattle were not forced along except to reach a watering place and were allowed to graze. The cattle men started them northward in Texas early in April and as the grass grew long enough in the north to sustain the stock they crowded the cattle.

The earliest of these cattle men were the Bent Brothers. They built a trading post in eastern Colorado in 1829 and there they had a strong corral to hold the stock, also a store. The price of cattle in that time was very low. One sale is spoken of as a sample of prices made in 1866. Out of a herd of thirty-five thousand head, the purchaser was allowed to take his choice. For the first six hundred head he paid six dollars per head, for the next six hundred head he paid three dollars a head. This bunch of twelve hundred head of cattle cost him on an average of four dollars and fifty cents a head, or about forty cents a hundred pounds gross weight.

In 1868 there were seventy-five thousand head of cattle marketed in Abilene. This supply was cleaned up so rapidly that the next year two hundred thousand head were sold on this same market. At the beginning there was great aversion to the Texas cattle because of the Texas fever, but

this gradually was overcome and the shipping of Texas cattle northward was for many years a great industry.

In 1871 there were six hundred thousand head of cattle driven northward. As a result of this great increase in the supply, prices shrunk greatly and this was one of the bad years for the cattle drivers. A very large per cent, nearly half of the drive of this year, remained unsold and were driven to points in eastern Kansas and fed through the following fall and winter. They were largely yearling steers, thin cows and long, lanky steers that were fattened up in the corn fields of eastern Kansas. It was a mutually profitable business for both the owners of the stock and for the farmers. The latter found a ready market for his corn stalks and his hay, articles that before this year had produced but little revenue, and he also sold his grass in a home market to a fine advantage. The cattle men also profited, as their long, lanky steers fattened upon northern corn and hay, and his yearlings and "thin" cows showed big gains and were ready for the market long before the range cattle got onto the market.

The year 1874 was a year of disaster for stock men as well as everyone else. It was the grasshopper year. The "drive" that year was four hundred thousand head. They not only met the competition of the cattle left over the year before and which had been greatly improved by wintering in the eastern part of the state, but the shortage of feed because of the grasshopper plague made the sale of cattle almost impossible. As a result of these conditions, over one hundred and fifty thousand head of stock sold for two dollars per head.

Among the most famous of the Texas cattle men was John Chisholm. He began the raising of cattle in 1854. Shortly after the war he laid out the long cattle trail from Texas to the North. That trail crossed Reno county and had various paths through the county. In the early days, before there were any settlers to bother, he drove across the eastern part of the county. Later, his cattle trail entered the county in the southeastern part. He would follow the Ninescah river up till he reached a point about where Sylvia is now, then drive directly north. The plan of these cattle men was to reach a stream of water every day. After leaving the Ninescah the drive was north to Cow creek, reaching it close to where Lyons is now. Sylvia was a camping spot. There was plenty of good grass and water and the stock were herded there over night and the drive the next day put them on Cow creek, where there was an abundance of water. It is said the cattle men gave this name to the stream because they never knew a time when there wasn't plenty of water for the cows. Some of the streams would go

dry in the exceedingly long drouthy periods, but Cow creek always had plenty of water for the largest herds.

Another trail crossed the southern part of the county. It was called the Goodnight trail. Goodnight was a cattleman of Texas. He followed the Chisholm trail part of the way, but was one of the later stock men to drive cattle north. When the Legislature of Kansas fixed the line over which cattle might be driven through the state, and that line was the western boundary of Reno county, this stopped the driving to Abilene and stock was shipped from Ellinwood when the Santa Fe reached that point. To reach this shipping point, Goodnight established a new trail that was along the southern border of Reno county, and thence in a northwesterly direction to Ellinwood.

There was another trail, called the "Northup" trail, along the northern border of the county. However, this was not a cattle trail, but a road established by a trader by the name of Northup. He had a government contract for buffalo meat, and also did a big business in buffalo hides. He had several camps along the line from Emporia, Northup's headquarters, to the buffalo range. Northup did a big business and had many teams hauling meat and hides. His teams made a good beaten track and it was so direct that it took the name of the "Northup trail." Very little is known of Northup. The old settlers remember his sleek, well-fed mules, his strong wagons, his big loads of hides and meat that he hauled, but of Northup himself they know but little.

Around the cattle business as it was conducted in the days before railroads broke up this method of reaching the market—around the "old" cattle business clings the romance of the "trail," the "round-up," and of the features of a business that has passed away and can never exist again. All of the hardships and roughness is forgotten. It had no competition in any occupation. It stood out alone. Its reproduction is attempted in circus and "wild west" shows, but the original cannot be reproduced in the limited area now afforded for exhibition purposes. Its operations covered half a continent. Its season of work embraced all times of the year. It required a combination of military and commercial qualities to develop the trail and the cattle business. The herd on the trail had to be handled much as an army. It had its time of danger, in the early years, from Indian attacks. Water and pasturage had to be looked for as carefully as any army looks after its supply trains. It had its ambulance attachment. The young calves and the weaker cows had to have especial care.

Upon the Western cattle business now has settled the haze of Indian

summer. It is impossible now to estimate properly its dangers and hardships. It is impossible now to properly understand the sagacity and knowledge, of the early cattle man—the kind not learned in books or from others, but a knowledge gained only from the “round-up” and “trail.” Like all pioneers, he is entitled to have all his virtues recorded and all his faults softened for the sake of what he accomplished, for his development of the cattle industry. The cattle man’s life was a hard life, unromantically laboriously and wearisome. Death lurked in every canyon, in every stampede, in every “round-up.” There was one feature that was always dread by the cowboy, namely, the intense heat developed in a stampede. Heat would blister the side of the face and hands of the cowboy who happened to be on the windward side of the moving herd. The herds were generally driven in bunches of from three thousand to five thousand. In 1872 Chisholm broke the record by driving six thousand head in one herd over the trail he laid out from the Red river to Kansas. The track or the trail would be a half mile wide and as close together as the animals could walk. The tracks were parallel to each other, bending in and out as the cattle swayed from one side to the other. The outfit required to handle a herd of three thousand cattle would be a cook, a “horse wrangler,” who looked after the herd of horses that were driven along to afford changes of mounts for the cowboys, and one cowboy to every one hundred and seventy-five head of stock. The herds were difficult to start for the first day. The cattle did not want to leave their native ground and it was always a hard matter to get them to take to the trail. After a few days, leaders would be developed who would go ahead and the balance of the herd would drop in after them. These leaders would hold their places until footsore or some weakness would develop, when they would drop back and other cattle would take the lead.

The Chisholm trail has disappeared. The steam tractor or the riding plow has cut its worn tracks and its identity has passed away. The header reaps where the cowboy once rode to urge his herd. The cowboy days exist in romance and are reproduced in puny form in the circus of the “101 Ranch” shows. But they did their work well. They pioneered the way. They were the connecting link between the buffalo and the shorthorn. Their glory is gone, but the good the “cow system” developed is with us yet.

CHAPTER VII.

BOUNDARY LINES.

The Legislature of Kansas that met in 1855 passed three acts establishing counties in the territory of Kansas. The first of these fixed the boundary lines of thirty-three counties in the eastern part of the state. The government survey at that time had not progressed sufficiently to describe these counties by metes and bounds, so the only description given in that act was one of distances. The starting point was the middle of the channel of the Kaw river where it crossed the Missouri state line.

The second act of this Legislature created two new counties. The first, Marion, was cut out of a tract of land one hundred miles long and eighteen miles wide, west of what is now Morris, Chase and Butler counties and also the territory that is now called Marion. The second county created by this act was called Washington county and included all that part of the territory west of what was Marion county in 1855 and east of a line drawn north from the northeast corner of New Mexico, virtually what is now the southwest third of Kansas.

The third act of the Legislature created Arapahoe county out of all that territory west of the line running north from the northeast corner of New Mexico. Commissioners were appointed for this county, but the organization of the county was not completed, for the Legislature at the same session provided for an annual election of delegates to the Territorial Assembly and attached all of the newly created counties to Marshall county. This act further provided that all of the territory west of Marshall county and east of Arapahoe county should be attached to Marshall county for judicial purposes and all of the territory west of Riley and east of Arapahoe county should be attached for all civil purposes to Riley county.

By 1857 the survey of the eastern counties of the territory had proceeded so that it was possible to definitely bound the eastern counties of the territory by township and section lines. An act was passed by the territorial Legislature on February 20, 1857, correcting the boundary lines of all of the counties, except Marion, Washington and Arapahoe counties. Washington county was also created with the boundary lines it has now and as a

matter of necessity the territory formerly called "Washington" county, the southwest third of the state, was left without a name. The Legislature either did not think the land to which they had formerly given the name of Washington, worth a name or forgot they had taken this name from that portion of the territory and given it to another county. So that the land that now embraces the seventh and eighth congressional district was nameless for five years. When the Legislature of 1860 met, the slight that had been given the Great Southwest was corrected and the land that once bore the name of the Father of his Country was given the name of "Peketon." Whether this name was intended as a salve for the omission of namelessness by the former Legislature or as an irritant because it seemed necessary to give this territory some name, is not disclosed in the records. But "Peketon" it was and "Peketon" it remained until another Legislature met. The name was of Indian origin; what it meant, what its significance was, is not known. There are but few documents left from "Peketon county," only one being in the state historical collection. It is a letter to a Kansas man, notorious in southwestern Kansas in later years, Brigadier-General Samuel N. Wood. It was dated "Kiowa, Peketon county, May 10th, 1864," and was signed by John F. Dodds.

In 1865 another change was made by the map makers of Kansas. By an act of the Legislature of that year Marion county was enlarged to include all of the territory embraced in Peketon county and two years later the last general step toward putting Reno county on the map was made. Out of Marion county were made thirty-four counties that now compose the seventh and eighth congressional districts, with the exception of Montgomery and Howard counties, which were once also a part of Peketon county, but are not in either of the two congressional districts named.

But the boundary changes of Reno county were not yet completed. By this act of the Legislature in 1868, Butler, Sedgwick and Reno counties were all the same size, forty-eight miles long from north to south and forty-two miles wide from east to west. The changes that were afterward made were due to the location of the city of Hutchinson and showed the foresight of the founder of that city, C. C. Hutchinson. To appreciate the reasons for the changes that were afterwards made in the county lines, it will be necessary to relate some of the things that led to the selection of the present site as the county seat of Reno county.

C. C. Hutchinson founded the town of Ottawa, Kansas. By profession he was a preacher, belonging to the Baptist church. He was well known to the builders of the Santa Fe railroad as a man of integrity and

foresight. Hutchinson made a contract with the head of the land department of that road to locate a town on their road somewhere west of Newton. Hutchinson held to the idea that a town should be built on a watercourse, partially because of the drainage and also because the easy way of getting water now known was not known to the pioneer. Hutchinson drove along the line on which it was proposed to build the railroad. He crossed the Little Arkansas river where Halstead now stands. This place was offered as a location for the new town. For some reason it did not appeal to him, although today it has one of the finest natural parks in central Kansas. The Santa Fe road at that time was surveyed to the Arkansas river south from Halstead. It was the intention of the railroad officials to extend this line to San Antonio, Texas. Hutchinson selected a section of land on the Little Arkansas river where Sedgwick now stands as a place to build his town.

However, the contract was never carried out by either party. A discovery was made by the railroad officials that completely changed their plans. When it is remembered that the original builders of the Santa Fe railroad were Boston men, who built the road solely out of the sale of the land given them by the government, the importance of this discovery will be realized and the reason they changed their plans of building their road south to San Antonio, Texas, to the place it was afterwards built, westward, along the Arkansas river into Colorado, and later to the Pacific coast, will be made plain. That discovery was made by Mr. Hutchinson. From the beginning he had urged the railroad officials to build westward along the river. He told them that in his judgment, it would be a generation before the uplands would be settled; that the settlers would locate in the river bottoms and that they could not sell the uplands and that their source of revenue would be cut off, but that they could sell the river bottom lands. These arguments did not convince the railroad men. They were determined to build on south from Halstead into Texas. Hutchinson accidentally obtained a copy of the treaty made with the Osage Indians in 1865. This treaty had not been acted on by the United States Senate until 1867. Even then it was not published, but Hutchinson obtained a copy of the treaty made with the Osage Indians and found it impossible for the railroad to get every other section for a distance of five miles on each side of the road, and not only this, but by the terms of the treaty they would have to pay for their right of way at the rate of a dollar and twenty-five cents an acre. This provision regarding the building of railroads across the land purchased from the Indians in the treaty of 1865 was suggested by a St. Louis newspaper

man, who was with the party representing the government. This man was Henry M. Stanley, afterward known to the world as the great African explorer. It is said that Stanley, in a mockingly serious manner, when the commissioners had about concluded the work of making the treaty, suggested to them that they made a serious omission in the treaty, that they had made no provisions for building railroads across the land! It was regarded as a joke and the provision inserted that not only would bar Congress from making the usual land grant to railroads, but would require the railroads even to pay for their right of way.

When the Santa Fe officials had this pointed out to them, they concluded to act on Hutchinson's suggestion and follow the Arkansas river westward. Suppose, however, this joker had not been in the treaty, what would have been the results? Hutchinson would be located where Sedgwick now is. Dodge City would be without a railroad, perhaps be simply "Ft. Dodge." Garden City and Kinsley and Syracuse would be waiting yet for a railroad—in fact, the whole of southwestern Kansas history would have been changed, all due to a joker in an Indian treaty in 1865.

Following his idea of town building, Hutchinson came on west, after it was decided to build the main line of the road westward, and picked the section on which the city was to be built. However, there were some things which disturbed Hutchinson in his selection of a townsite and made him realize he had chosen an undesirable location for his town. Hutchinson thought he could remedy part of these things by action of the Legislature. Reno county at that time was unorganized. It required six hundred inhabitants at that time to organize a county. So a petition was prepared and the necessary six hundred names attached. The petition was presented to the governor, who appointed temporary county commissioners. Hutchinson explained his anxiety regarding the location of the county seat to the people here then and it was thought that the Legislature would help remedy matters. An election was called and Hutchinson was unanimously elected representative. This election was held on January 6, 1872. The regular election for members of the Legislature was held in the fall, but, recognizing the emergency, the Legislature seated Hutchinson. He began at once to protect the city he had located from a possible county-seat contest. As was stated, Butler, Sedgwick and Reno counties were all the same size, made so by action of the Legislature in 1867. A bill was introduced creating Kingman county. The northern end of Harper county was cut off and a row of townships taken from the southern part of Reno county and the new territory called Kingman county. In the same way Harvey county was put on the

map. The northern end of Sedgwick county was taken and the new county called Harvey. Also a row of townships was taken from Sedgwick county, as it was laid out in 1867, and added to Reno county. But these changes did not take away all the chances for a county-seat contest. It was only two miles from Hutchinson to the north line of the county and the Legislature very accommodatingly cut a row of townships from Rice and McPherson counties and added them to Reno county. This made Hutchinson more nearly the geographical center of the county and Hutchinson was relieved from his fear of a rival for county seat. In these changes Hutchinson had the help of the representatives of Sedgwick and McPherson counties. Hutchinson had some personal friends in the Legislature, men whom he helped in some of the enterprises in which they were interested. Notably among them was "Oklahoma Payne," the man who kept up the agitation for the opening of the Cherokee Indian lands and who was among the pioneers of Oklahoma when Congress finally opened the land for settlement.

So, after years of planning and scheming, Reno county got its present form. What we are now familiar with as the county lines, will doubtless remain. An attempt was made to divide the county in 1887. The proposed dividing line was to be run north and south, with the line of Salt Creek township, the eastern boundary line of the new county, joggling east to include Troy and Center in the new county. The enterprise had considerable strength, partially due to the claim among those politically interested that Hutchinson had all the best of the county offices and left the country with small representation in the court house. At that time there were a number of western counties that were being divided and those interested in that enterprise had to make their alliance in the Legislature with the representatives of the eastern counties, especially in the state Senate, where the eastern part of the state was much stronger than the western portion. So but little headway was made by the advocates of making two counties out of Reno.

However, had this agitation started in 1875 or even a few years later, it would have gained much more headway. It was the one great thing that C. C. Hutchinson feared, and one he did more to guard against than anything else. But the city had gained much and many of the early reasons for division had been removed, among them the lack of roads and the absence of bridges over the Arkansas river. This was not a formidable proposition in 1887, but would have been a serious matter to Hutchinson and to Reno county had the agitation been begun ten or twelve years earlier.

CHAPTER VIII.

THE EARLY SETTLERS.

The first man to settle in what is now Reno county was Lewis M. Thomas, of Iowa. Early in January, 1870, he left Iowa and drove his covered wagon southward, crossing the Solomon and Smoky Hill rivers, intending to strike the Santa Fe trail, then the only traveled road to the west, through Kansas. He started for California, but when he reached the rich valley of Cow creek he was so fascinated with it that he abandoned his California trip. He camped at the Stone Corral, which was one of the stopping places on the trail. This corral was located in Rice county, close to the northern boundary of Reno county. Mr. Thomas first visited a small settlement called Atlanta. He started down Cow creek in a southeasterly direction, looking for a suitable location. He picked out a part of section 8, township 22, range 5, and filed on this claim in November, 1870. Shortly after filing on this land Thomas drove to Lawrence, Kansas, purchased some stock and some provisions, and returned to his claim in December. On his return from Lawrence, he was accompanied by an Englishman named Hunt, who unfortunately filed on an odd-numbered section that had previously been granted to the Santa Fe Railroad Company by Congress. Hunt was disappointed in his failure to get government land and did not remain there long. He never tried to get another piece of land and disappeared from the country.

In January, 1871, there were two different settlements made in Reno county, one day by J. H. D. Rozan in the northwestern part of the county and one by Luther Dodge and others in the southeastern part of the county, just below the mouth of Cow creek. Neither of these settlements were then in Reno county. Rozan's claim was then in Rice county and Dodge and his party were in Sedgwick county, but the boundary lines of Reno county were changed by the Legislature that met in January, 1872, and both of these settlements are within the present boundary lines of this county.

Rozan's settlement preceded Dodge's. It was some time before either knew of the other's settlement. Hunt's claim was also in Rice county, which soon became a part of Reno county. They are

entitled to the distinction of being "the first settlers of Reno county." On February 9, 1871, A. S. Dimmock filed on a quarter of land that was likewise then in Rice county. The first filing in what was then Reno county was made by Luther Dodge, on February 19, 1871. John Shahan followed closely after Dodge, filing on his land on March 20, 1871. Later in the year W. H. Cadwell settled on some land southeast of Hutchinson. Later in the year Charles Collins took his claim north of town. Shortly after Collins filed on his claim, D. B. Miller, with his father-in-law and brother-in-law, also Amasa Smith, with his two sons, filed claims. On August 8, 1871, L. S. Shields with his two sons, Samuel and George, reached Reno county. A few days later Peter Shafer came to the county and filed on a claim northwest of town in what is now Grant township. A few days after Shafer filed on his land, Lewis Swarens filed on a claim that lies directly northwest of town on Cow creek. Here, within a hundred yards of the spot on which he camped the first night he reached Reno county, Mr. Swarens built his home. There he lived a long and useful life. In March, 1903, he passed away. At the time of his death he was the only man in Reno county who had lived continuously on the land on which he camped the first night he was in the county. Later in the month of August, 1871, B. F. Evarts and George Laferty came to the county. Miller and his sons filed on land that is now a part of Hutchinson, being platted as Miller & Smith's addition. This land was subjected later to much litigation. It is now covered by houses and one of the recent school buildings, the North Side building, is located on this land. In the latter part of the year A. K. Burrel, T. J. Decker, a Mr. Parker, Mrs. Mead and her sons, filed on land northwest of town in the Cow creek bottoms.

There was another settlement made about the same time at the mouth of Cow creek, some of the claims being below the mouth of the stream. These settlers thought they were getting their land close to the railroad. As is mentioned in another chapter, it was understood then that the Santa Fe road would be built south from Halstead to San Antonio, Texas, but the discovery of the fact that no land could be obtained as a bonus and the railroads would even have to pay for their right of way, induced the builders of that road to change their route and build up the Arkansas river. Consequently, the settlers who had filed on land southeast of where Hutchinson was finally located were greatly disappointed, as it left them several miles farther from the railroad than they expected to be. Some of the early settlers always blamed C. C. Hutchinson for making the change, when, in fact,

it was an Indian treaty made years before that was the cause of the change in the route of the road. Among those who thought they were locating near the railroad were, J. U. Shalian, William Bell, Robert Bell, W. H. Cadwell, a Mr. Havelin, John Butcher, P. Welch, William Lacy, a Mr. Folly, Isaac Ijams and wife, William Shoat and wife, James Freese, Hanna and Mary Freese and James Scaw.

These two settlements, the one below Hutchinson, the other above the city, all on Cow creek, shows how closely the early settlers clung to the water courses. At that time they knew but little of the underflow, but found the good rich soil of this bottom land and sought here to make their homes.

On the claim below town, W. H. Cadwell built a sod house. He was more nearly the center of the settlement than any of the others, so he was appointed postmaster. Perhaps this is the only postoffice ever located with a due regard for the wishes of the patrons, and it is doubtful if congressional patronage was necessary to secure his appointment as postmaster. The postoffice, the first in the county, was called "Queen Valley." The settlers agreed to haul the mail without cost to the government, in consideration of its establishment. In addition to his duties as postmaster, Cadwell ran a hotel and on the side of his dug-out he had a big canvas on which he had scrawled in big, awkward letters the inscription "Pro Bono Publico."

These early settlers found an abundance of game. In the sand hills there were elk, deer and antelope and an occasional buffalo. There was considerable timber, cottonwood and box elder in the hills. An abundance of sand hill plums, most delicious fruit, equalling anything the horticulturist of today can produce, provided the jellies and butter. So the early settler was not without the things that were necessities then, but would be the rarest luxuries now. They lived well as long as these things lasted. They had to haul their flour and corn meal some distance, but their meat was in abundance.

In March, 1871, J. H. D. Rozan and his brother, Charles Rozan, drove the first herd of Texas cattle into Reno county. The pasturage of the buffalo grass was fine and the creek bottom in the northern part of Reno and the southern part of Rice counties afforded exceptionally good grazing. In April, 1871, a bunch of Kaw Indians camped on the north side of the Arkansas river and a similar band of Sac and Fox Indians camped on the south side of the river. A careful watch was kept on both of these Indian bands, although apparently there was no danger from either of the tribes. In July

a report came in from the West that a war party of the Cheyennes was headed eastward to make war on both of these tribes. The Cheyennes claimed the land as their own, as their territory lay to the west of the Osages and they were dissatisfied with the treaty the government had made that dispossessed them of this land and gave the proceeds of the sale to their ancient enemies. Some of the settlers left their claims and went to Sedgwick City. Most of the settlers, however, remained on their claims. The Cheyennes came, as was expected, but did but little damage. However, they drove off a goodly portion of Rozan's stock. The settlers would not stand for this. They organized into a little band, armed themselves and pursued the Indians. They caught them off their guard, scattered the band and recovered most of the cattle. There were about fifty herders and frontiersmen in the party. No lives were lost in the little skirmish that occurred when the settlers reached the herds. The Indians vanished and never again visited Reno county in a hostile manner. There were rumors at later times of Indian raids, and there was a company of militia organized in Langdon township at a later date to fight the Indians in southern Kansas.

EARLY LAND SURVEYS.

During this early period considerable trouble and dissatisfaction arose over the land survey. The government ran part of the township lines in 1860, but the section lines were run at a later date. Townships 22, 23, 24 and 25, range 4, were run in 1860, as were also the same numbered townships in ranges 5, 6, 7 and 8. But in the north part of township 26 in range 4, the township lines were not run until 1867, while in the southern part of this township the survey was not made until 1871. At the same time, township 5, range 5, was surveyed, as was also township 26, ranges 6, 7, 8 and 9. While townships 22, 23, 24 and 25, range 9, were run in 1870 and townships 22, 23, 24 and 25 and the northern part of 26, in range 10, were run in 1871, the southern part of township 26, range 10, was run in 1867.

Not only were the section lines not run, but the township lines were so inaccurate that much trouble was experienced in locating lands, due to the careless way in which the surveys were made. Judge M. P. Simpson, presiding over the trial of a case in the district court in later years, which involved an early survey, commented on the way these surveys were made. Judge Simpson was in his early manhood a government surveyor and made

surveys in various parts of the country—none, however, in Reno county. He remarked that at the time the first township lines were run, it was thought a great joke to survey these lands, as they would probably never be settled. The surveyors would tie a rag to the stake of a wagon wheel, drive as nearly straight as they could, count the number of revolutions of the wheel, and when a sufficient number of revolutions had been made, a stone was pitched overboard and that became the marker for the township or range corner. It was the knowledge of such careless work that led J. H. D. Rozan to drive to Salina to get a surveyor who came to Reno county to help the settlers locate their land. When C. C. Hutchinson wanted to locate Main street of this city, he concluded not to rely on the government field notes, but obtained the variation of the magnetic needle and then the surveyor's transit was set up and Main street located by the observation of the North star.

As a complete record of the surveys of Reno county will be a matter of interest, there is added to this chapter a record of the official survey of Reno county, by whom and when surveyed and approved. This was furnished by the interior department of the government. There is also added a diagram showing the time of the running of the section lines, with the names of the men who did the work. This was also furnished by the same department.

OFFICIAL SURVEYS OF RENO COUNTY.

By whom and when surveyed and approved.

<i>Tp.</i>	<i>R.</i>	<i>Tp. Lines.</i>	<i>Subdivisions.</i>	<i>Date Approved.</i>	<i>By Whom Approved.</i>	
22	4	James Withrow,	Stuck & Hill,	1860	March 18,	Ward B. Burnell, Sur. Gen'l.
23	4	James Withrow,	Stuck & Hill,	1860	March 18,	Ward B. Burnell, Sur. Gen'l.
24	4	James Withrow,	Abraham Ray,	1861	March 30,	Mark W. Delahay, Sur. Gen'l.
25	4	James Withrow,	Wilcox & Mong,	1860	February 14,	C. W. Babcock, Sur. Gen'l.
25	*4	Wilcox & Mong,	Wilcox & Mong,	1871	June 28,	C. W. Babcock, Sur. Gen'l.
26	*4	Sam'l. S. Snoot,	Sam'l. S. Snoot,	1867	April 16,	Jos. S. Wilson, Commissioner.
22	5	James Withrow,	Abraham Ray,	1860	December 21,	Mark W. Delahay, Sur. Gen'l.
23	5	James Withrow,	Abraham Ray,	1861	January 30,	Mark W. Delahay, Sur. Gen'l.
24	5	James Withrow,	Wilcox & Mong,	1860	February 14,	C. W. Babcock, Sur. Gen'l.
25	5	James Withrow,	Wilcox & Mong,	1860	February 14,	C. W. Babcock, Sur. Gen'l.
25	*5	James Withrow,	Wilcox & Mong,	1870	February 14,	C. W. Babcock, Sur. Gen'l.
26	*5	Sam'l. S. Snoot,	Sam'l. S. Snoot,	1867	April 16,	Jos. S. Wilson, Commissioner.
22	6	James Withrow,	Wilcox & Mong,	1860	February 14,	C. W. Babcock, Sur. Gen'l.
23	6	James Withrow,	Wilcox & Mong,	1860	February 14,	C. W. Babcock, Sur. Gen'l.
24	6	James Withrow,	Wilcox & Mong,	1860	February 14,	C. W. Babcock, Sur. Gen'l.
25	6	James Withrow,	Wilcox & Mong,	1860	February 14,	C. W. Babcock, Sur. Gen'l.
25	*6	Wilcox & Mong,	Wilcox & Mong,	1870	February 14,	C. W. Babcock, Sur. Gen'l.
26	*6	Sam'l. S. Snoot,	Sam'l. S. Snoot,	1867	April 16,	Jos. S. Wilson, Commissioner.
22	7	James Withrow,	Wilcox & Mong,	1860	February 14,	C. W. Babcock, Sur. Gen'l.
23	7	James Withrow,	Wilcox & Mong,	1860	February 14,	C. W. Babcock, Sur. Gen'l.
24	7	James Withrow,	Wilcox & Mong,	1860	February 14,	C. W. Babcock, Sur. Gen'l.
25	7	James Withrow,	Wilcox & Mong,	1860	February 14,	C. W. Babcock, Sur. Gen'l.
26	*7	Wilcox & Mong,	Wilcox & Mong,	1871	June 28,	C. W. Babcock, Sur. Gen'l.
26	*7	Sam'l. S. Snoot,	Sam'l. S. Snoot,	1867	April 16,	Jos. S. Wilson, Commissioner.
22	8	James Withrow,	Wilcox & Mong,	1860	February 14,	C. W. Babcock, Sur. Gen'l.
23	8	James Withrow,	Wilcox & Mong,	1860	February 14,	C. W. Babcock, Sur. Gen'l.
24	8	James Withrow,	Wilcox & Mong,	1860	February 14,	C. W. Babcock, Sur. Gen'l.
25	8	James Withrow,	Wilcox & Mong,	1860	February 14,	C. W. Babcock, Sur. Gen'l.
26	*8	Wilcox & Mong,	Wilcox & Mong,	1871	June 28,	C. W. Babcock, Sur. Gen'l.
26	*8	Sam'l. S. Snoot,	Sam'l. S. Snoot,	1867	April 16,	Jos. S. Wilson, Commissioner.
22	9	Isaac Wilcox,	Wilcox & Mong,	1870	February 14,	C. W. Babcock, Sur. Gen'l.
23	9	Isaac Wilcox,	Wilcox & Mong,	1870	February 14,	C. W. Babcock, Sur. Gen'l.
25	9	Isaac Wilcox,	Wilcox & Mong,	1870	February 14,	C. W. Babcock, Sur. Gen'l.
24	9	Isaac Wilcox,	Wilcox & Mong,	1870	February 14,	C. W. Babcock, Sur. Gen'l.
25	9	Isaac Wilcox,	Wilcox & Mong,	1870	February 14,	C. W. Babcock, Sur. Gen'l.
26	*9	Wilcox & Thomas,	Wilcox & Thomas,	1871	June 28,	C. W. Babcock, Sur. Gen'l.
26	*9	Sam'l. S. Snoot,	Sam'l. S. Snoot,	1867	April 16,	Jos. S. Wilson, Commissioner.
22	10	Wilcox & Thomas,	Wilcox & Thomas,	1871	February 14,	C. W. Babcock, Sur. Gen'l.
23	10	Wilcox & Thomas,	Wilcox & Thomas,	1871	February 14,	C. W. Babcock, Sur. Gen'l.
24	10	Wilcox & Thomas,	Wilcox & Thomas,	1871	February 14,	C. W. Babcock, Sur. Gen'l.
25	10	Wilcox & Thomas,	Wilcox & Thomas,	1871	February 14,	C. W. Babcock, Sur. Gen'l.
26	*10	Wilcox & Thomas,	Wilcox & Thomas,	1871	January 16,	C. W. Babcock, Sur. Gen'l.
26	*10	Sam'l. S. Snoot,	Sam'l. S. Snoot,	1867	April 24,	Jos. S. Wilson, Commissioner.

(6)

*North part.

†South part.

CHAPTER IX.

SOME "FIRST THINGS."

The first marriage performed in Reno county was celebrated on September 3, 1872, by Rev. Frances S. McCabe. The groom was John P. Watson, of Shawnee county, and the bride was Miss Henrietta Thompson, of Reno county. The groom was thirty years old and the bride twenty-five years of age. W. W. Updegraff was the probate judge and granted the license—No. 1—on September 2, 1872.

The first birth was that of a son born to Mr. and Mrs. Johnson. That boy is now a member of the police force at Omaha, Nebraska.

The first threshing machine was brought to Reno county by J. N. Shahan. It was such an event that even the weight of the machine was recorded—6,585 pounds. During the fall of 1873, John Shahan and William Bell did the threshing for the community. The spring wheat yielded from ten to eighteen bushels per acre. The oats yielded from seventeen to forty bushels per acre.

The first political convention was held on February 1, 1872, to nominate candidates for county offices. It was perhaps more in the nature of the old-fashioned "caucus," as there were no contests either in the "convention" or at the election that was held a few days later.

The "first" of everything in the county is of interest. J. W. Kanaga brought the first "dropper" to Reno county. W. J. Van Sickle claims that he brought the first mowing-machine. There is considerable controversy over who brought the first buggy to the county. In all lines the pioneer is proud of his deeds, he is anxious to be numbered as the "first" to do certain things or to have brought the first of a certain article of usefulness to the county.

THE FIRST CEMETERY.

The first death in Reno county was accidental and with this came the establishment of the first cemetery. There is an old joke, started in California and used in every new community eastward to the Mississippi river, that the climate was so healthful that it was necessary for some one to die a violent death to start a graveyard. While no such "motive" as that animated the

early settlers of Reno county, it is a fact that the first graveyard was started by the burial of a man accidentally killed. The man's name cannot be remembered by any who live now. Derrick Updegraff—the father-in-law of Charles Collins, Reno county's first sheriff, had the contract of grading railroads in Reno county. They had their camp on the banks of Cow creek, near where Main street now crosses this stream. In the latter part of December, 1871, and January, 1872, the ground was frozen so hard that the grading work could not be carried on. Updegraff had a small board building put up on the southeast corner of Main and Sherman streets, where he kept his harness, shovels and other equipment in one part of the building and in another he had a stove and table where the men cooked and ate their meals. The floor of part of this room was covered with hay, and on this were laid the blankets and buffalo robes that constituted the beds of the workmen.

Updegraff, himself an interesting character, had in his employ a bunch of men who were the real pioneers of the times, men that the present generation cannot appreciate. It was such men as these that showed to the less hardy what the county would produce. It was this class of men who demonstrated to the hidebound Easterner that this land west of the Mississippi river was worth more than simply to provide a barrier to keep off a foreign foe from the West, that would render their settlements on the Atlantic coast free from attack. It was such men as Updegraff had that put at naught the prejudice of those who would limit the boundary of the United States to original thirteen states or states to be cut out of that territory.

There also lived in the sand hills another man called "Dutch Pete." He made his living by hunting. He talked very broken English and was a woolly, sandy-haired, black-eyed old buffalo hunter. "Dutch Pete" drove his wagon and a team of small mules to Updegraff's camp and wanted some of the men to go hunting with him. There was an abundance of deer in the hills. Some of the men agreed to go with "Dutch Pete." Some supplies were being put into the wagon, some hay, horse feed, blankets, some food and an outfit with which to do some cooking. These articles had been put in the wagon, when "Dutch Pete" started to put a shotgun, muzzle foremost, heavily loaded with buckshot, into the wagon. One of Updegraff's men was standing at the end of the wagon as "Dutch Pete" raised the gun over the side of the wagon, the hammer caught and the full load of buckshot struck the breast of the man at the end of the wagon. He did not fall, but walked into the building, laid down on a blanket and in a few minutes was dead.

That afternoon a box of rough boards was made by Updegraff's men and

without any burial ceremony the body was put into a grave on a little sandy knoll in the block at the corner of Avenue B and Adams street. A few wild plum bushes surrounded the grave. It was dug deeper than usual, because of the fear that the coyotes might uncover the corpse. This was the first death; this was the first burial; here was the first graveyard of Reno county. The name of the dead cannot be recalled now. Later two other graves were dug out on that lonesome spot. A little fence, painted white, for a while surrounded it, but the prairie fires charred it and it soon fell away. Many years afterward a grader was being pulled along Adams street and the bodies were uncovered. They were all taken up, placed in new coffins and buried in the Eastside cemetery. Their names are all unknown. They were the sole occupants of the first graveyard of Reno county.

The second graveyard in this county was laid out in 1873 at the northeast corner of what is now Monroe and Seventeenth streets. It was then so far out that it was considered a sufficient distance from town. This was abandoned in 1881, and many of the bodies removed to the Eastside cemetery when it was located. There are many bodies still entombed in that old graveyard. Many persons are buried there. There is no record now that would identify them. This graveyard contained several graves of persons who died here while looking for a cure for their consumption. This location was bad from a sanitary standpoint, being above the city. The Eastside cemetery was laid out by W. E. Kellogg in 1881. The first tract of ground purchased was fifteen acres. It contained fourteen hundred and fifty-six lots and each lot was large enough for twelve graves. W. R. Brown was the first president of the company that had charge of this cemetery. E. L. Meyer was secretary and treasurer, and L. A. Bigger and W. E. Kellogg were directors. Later fifteen acres more of ground was purchased and added to the cemetery. It is probable that there are from twelve to fifteen thousand persons buried in this cemetery, and while nearly all of the lots are sold, yet there remain a great many parts of lots still unfilled. On June 9, 1914, the cemetery was taken over by the lotowners and John H. Campbell was elected president of the association; A. M. Jewell, vice-president, and D. A. Moore, secretary and treasurer.

There have been many other cemeteries established in Reno county, but lack of compulsory registration until recent years, has rendered a complete record of them impossible. Many of the graveyards are now abandoned; some have a few graves in them, while many of them are carefully kept and tended.

THE FIRST "JOINT" RAID.

The first "joint" raid was made before there were courts and before this county was organized. It was made by a man who afterwards became the first sheriff of Reno county—Charles Collins.

Collins was never known as a temperance sympathizer, but on the contrary, when the prohibitory law first went into force and the dealers in the forbidden liquor were arrested and required to put up a bond for their appearance in court, Charles Collins was the man who generally went on the bond for their appearances. Collins did this so generally that Judge Houk grew uneasy over Collins's liability, and one day summoned him into court and showed him the extent of his suretyship. At that time Collins was liable for \$175,000. Judge Houk questioned him closely as to his financial responsibility. Collins showed his resources, thousands of head of cattle; and while he did not state it on the stand, he practically told Judge Houk that he was indemnified by the brewers' organization, which was not only behind him on the financial part of the obligation, but was paying him liberally to go on the bonds of the men who were being tried, the brewers hoping to break the prosecution of the prohibitory law by this means. Judge Houk warned Collins to be careful and suggested that inasmuch as he, Collins, carried a deputy United States marshal's commission, that it was hardly the proper thing for him to be on the bond of the men who had been arrested for law violation. Collins soon ceased to go on the bond of the men arrested and they had to look elsewhere for help to keep them out of jail until they could have their trial.

But Collins made the first raid on a joint ever made in this county.

An enterprising citizen of Newton had driven over from his town. He had two barrels of whisky, two frowzy-headed women and a tent and his wagon. He camped on Cow creek and without anyone's consent began selling his whisky. C. C. Hutchinson was very much disturbed by this, as he was a prohibitionist and wanted to cut whisky out of his town entirely. There were no county or township officers to appeal to, as the county had not yet been organized. He thought of Charles Collins, who had a homestead four miles north of town. Collins was a son-in-law of Derrick Updegraff, a railroad contractor, who had the contract of grading the Santa Fe railroad across Reno county.

Collins, in his younger days, was a striking looking man; tall, straight as an arrow, with long, wavy black hair and an eye as black as his hair and a commanding manner that he never lost even in his old age. Hutchinson

appealed to Collins for help to get rid of the man with the two barrels of whisky and two frowzy-headed women. "I'll take care of them," was all he said to Hutchinson. Early the next morning, Collins drove up to the tent where the man had located his joint and without getting out of his wagon, called to him. The man stuck his head out of his tent and Collins showed him his United States marshal's star and ordered him to get dressed, he and his women, that they were all under arrest for selling whisky in an unorganized county. The old man and his women were frightened into obedience. Collins helped them load their whisky and tent and other belongings into the wagon, and drove them to Newton and unloaded them and told them to stay out of Reno county and to tell all their friends that the next booze seller who struck that county out west would be tried for the offense. So the first whisky raid ever made in Reno county was made by Charles Collins, without deputies or assistance, and the confiscated outfit was hauled by a mule team thirty-five miles to jail.

THE FIRST ALFALFA.

With alfalfa so abundant, the people of Reno county seldom inquire how long it has been grown in the county. They assume that it was a grass found here, but that is not the case. Strangely in contrast with the humble buffalo grass that covered everything when the first settler came to Reno county, was the alfalfa that soon began to be raised. The alfalfa is tall and dark green; the buffalo grass a light green in the early spring and summer and turning brown in the fall and winter. The one so short that it could not be cut with a mowing machine, the other yielding four and five crops a year with stalks up to the sides of the horses; the one natural, arising out of the condition of the soil, the other growing only when the soil has been broken and loosened up by tilling. The buffalo grass, the most wonderful natural grass ever known; the other the most prolific and valuable forage crop ever sown. The two are opposites in all respects, yet they grew alike in the soil of Reno county, when the conditions of their growth were met.

The first alfalfa was raised by G. B. Chapin, in Valley township. From the small start made by Mr. Chapin has come the 20,266 acres of alfalfa in Reno county. It is a forage plant that will fatten hogs almost as well as corn, when they are allowed to run on it. When cut and fed to cattle it will add fat almost as fast as corn. Horses will work hard and thrive on nothing but alfalfa. Fed to cows, it makes the best feed obtainable for milk and butter fat. Even the chickens like the leaves that may have shattered off in making hay. It has a bloom that is a delicate blue and a fragrance to that bloom that

mocks the art of any chemist to prepare a perfume that equals the fragrance of an alfalfa field in bloom. Some day some one will invent a method of extracting the perfume from the bloom and he will have an article of commerce that will richly reward his labors.

The seed of this wonderful plant is not lost, for the fastest of dyes are made from the little yellowish-brown, oblong seed of the alfalfa. Generally the second crop of alfalfa is allowed to go to seed, as this is usually the driest time of the summer, when the seed pods form the best.

Not only is it a feed that all the beasts of the field eat with avidity, but alfalfa meal, made by grinding the cured alfalfa hay, makes a bread that is sweet and nourishing. So when Mr. Chapin sowed the first small field of alfalfa, down in Valley township, he little dreamed that he was pioneering the most valuable forage crop ever raised in any county. Not only does it produce heavily, but it also enriches the soil in which it grows. Its roots sink down deep into the soil. From the air the alfalfa plant takes the nitrogen and stores it into rings around the roots of the plant and this stored fertilizer, the best nature affords, builds up the soil, while the plant does its service for man in its growth. The biggest wheat yield ever recorded in Reno county, sixty-seven bushels to the acre, was raised in an old alfalfa field that was plowed up in the summer of 1916 and produced the biggest yield in 1917.

THE BUILDING OF THE FIRST SILO.

The storing of feed for the winter months was not much considered in the early days. It was not necessary as long as the buffalo grass lasted, as this was as good a feed in January as it was in June. This grass cured itself in the fall and cattle would push the snow from this grass in January and eat it as readily as they did on the ranges in June. It was cured naturally and was a great natural feed. After the disappearance of the buffalo came the consideration of feed preparation for the winter. The building of silos was the method of "canning" the cattle feed. Perhaps the first silo in Kansas was built at the Agricultural College at Manhattan. Shortly after this one was constructed one was erected in Douglas county, and a couple of silos in Leavenworth county. The first one in Reno county was erected by W. E. Hutchinson, in the spring of 1882. This silo was a square one, sixteen by twenty-four feet, and twenty-four feet high. It was filled with Kaffir corn and cane. Mr. Hutchinson fattened a big bunch of steers in the fall and winter of 1872, and sold them to Frank Wolcott and W. E. Burns. They were without doubt the first fat steers fed on ensilage to go to the markets in Reno county.

THE LAST BUFFALO.

Like the first, the last is always the most noticed.

There have been many persons who have claimed to have killed buffalo on the Hutchinson townsite. A. F. Horner, who built the first house in Hutchinson, says he never saw a buffalo on the townsite. He says that he and two companions, on their way to Hutchinson early in January, 1872, ran across a buffalo as they came to the place where the town was afterwards located; that they were down on the Arkansas river below the town, probably south of the reformatory, when a buffalo ran out onto the sandbed of the river. All three of the men in the party shot at him. They never knew which one actually killed him; but that he, Horner, never saw a buffalo near the town after that one. Other old settlers claim to have killed a buffalo, generally near some prominent place in town, one near where the postoffice now stands, one where the waterworks plant is located and another where Convention Hall now stands, but it is probable that the memory of Horner and others is correct that the buffalo had moved westward before the town was located; and that if any buffalo were left it would be some old beaten bull that had been horned out of the herd and had concealed himself in the hills. There is a record that one such decrepit bull was killed on July 6, 1874, on the farm of E. S. Webster, south of town, but that he was so poor and old as to have been of no value. The buffalo had moved westward before the settlers came here, and few of them ever saw a buffalo in this part of the country.

THE BUILDING OF THE ROCK ISLAND RAILROAD.

One of the first things the Rock Island Railroad Company did was to run a survey through the country north of Hutchinson, crossing the Santa Fe at Sterling, and the people of Sterling thought they were going to get the road. M. A. Low, an attorney from some town in Missouri, did the negotiating for the railroad company. It is practically certain that they had no thought of going by way of Sterling, but they wanted to skin the county of Reno for the biggest sum possible, in the shape of a subsidy. At that time there was a law in Kansas allowing counties and other municipalities to subscribe stock in a railroad company, and pay for the same by issuing its bonds, and they could go as high as \$4,000 a mile. The road wanted a class of bonds that would sell for the most money and county bonds were much the best at that time, whereas township bonds were not so much sought. The railroad company had to get its line southwest, and if the road had crossed at Sterling

they would have had a long run through the western part of Reno county, and of course could have got nothing but township bonds, missing Hutchinson and the heaviest settlement. The matter of carrying county bonds was canvassed and it was decided to offer the company \$4,000 a mile clear across the county in a diagonal course, which meant about \$170,000. A strong argument was made that we were getting stock, and that if the road was worth anything for the company it would be a good investment for the county to take the \$170,000 of stock. Every detail had been perfected by the railroad company to steal the \$170,000 and they did so very easily. The proposition to build this road was not made by the Rock Island Road at all. The bonds were not voted to take stock in the Rock Island Road, and the county never got any stock in that road. The first move that the Rock Island made when they decided to build west of the Missouri river was to form a new company called the Chicago, Kansas and Nebraska railroad, all Rock Island interests. The bonds were voted to this new company, and the road was built, and the stock in the new company was issued to the county of Reno. One of the early things that the Rock Island attended to was to place a first mortgage on the Chicago, Kansas & Nebraska Road and sell these first mortgage bonds. Six months after the issue of these bonds an installment of interest fell due, and was not paid. A foreclosure suit was commenced at once, and the Chicago, Kansas & Nebraska railroad was sold under the foreclosure, and all the assets were bought in by the Rock Island Railroad Company, and there was not a thing left in the shape of property for the stockholders of the Chicago, Kansas & Nebraska railroad, one of which was the county of Reno. There was never a cleaner steal perpetrated in the state, but it was all done within the law.

THE POWDER EXPLOSION.

The first live, successful, broad-gauged business firm that did business in Hutchinson, was the firm of Allison, Devier & Blackburn. The individual names of the partners were M. E. Allison, W. C. Devier and John Blackburn. Allison and Blackburn were both professional druggists before uniting in this firm. Devier was known as "Billy" Devier, a greater distance from the town than any other man living here at the time. Allison looked after the business methods and system of the concern; Devier was the "business getter", and Blackburn gave his time to the attention of customers, and was a much-liked man. The business started in a store eighty feet deep and soon filled a room one hundred and fifty feet deep. Allison was the man who saw the opportunities to enlarge. He conceived the plan of buying his goods cheaper by

establishing a wholesale grocery store, and getting the benefit of the prices to wholesale dealers. West & Bloom, brothers-in-law, had a small livery stable on the corner of Second avenue and Main street, where the Whiteside building now stands. W. E. Hutchinson, two years before, had formed a company to pay off the debts of the water-mill built by C. C. Hutchinson & Co. It only required about twelve thousand dollars to make the deal. West & Bloom had a little money, Allison & Devier had some money, and H. Whiteside also had a balance in the bank. West & Bloom were given an interest in the mill as were Allison & Devier and Whiteside. Hutchinson reserved an interest for himself. There were four interests. The name taken for the mill company was West, Allison & Co. West and Hutchinson operated the mill, Bloom remained in the stable and Allison & Devier continued to confine themselves to the store. On account of this association, Allison proposed to Bloom to let them use his name as the proprietor of a wholesale grocery store and a room for a store room was obtained and a sign put "C. Bloom" on the outside of the building. Bloom did not have a dollar in the business; did not have a thing to do with the business, and never had any connection with a business of that sort. The scheme planned by Allison worked all right, however. At this stage of their business a powder company proposed to make the grocery firm their agents for the sale of powder. There were hundreds of hunters in the country and the consumption of powder was no small item. There were no waterworks in the town at that time. Cow creek crossed Sherman street where the water and light plant now stands, but a little north it swung into and across Adams street and cut the edge of First avenue half way between Washington and Adams streets. The back end of the lot lying along Adams street, on the west side, and fronting on Sherman street, was some little distance west of Cow creek and was considered a safe distance from the business part of the town. Here the powder company purchased a small tract of ground, about twenty-five feet square, and on this spot erected a stone and cement building, probably ten feet square, with thick walls and with an iron roof and an iron door. Swung from one end was a heavy iron bar, three inches wide, a half-inch thick and about three feet long. The other end fitted over a staple, and was fastened with the strongest padlock made. Few people ever wandered so far in this direction from the business portion of the town. There was no way to get there except to cross the creek over the bridge on Main street, and then follow up the west side of the creek to the powder house. The building was so far away that probably not a dozen people in the town knew of its existence. There was nothing on the building to indicate what was in it or what it was for. A considerable excavation was

made in the ground, and most of the contents were stored below the surface of the ground. It was built to hold a carload of powder, but at the time we are referring to there was not a half car in storage. The building did not stand over ten feet high above the surface of the ground. Less than a year after the powder was stored in this place, and during a thunder storm in the night, a bolt of lightning struck the powder house and exploded the powder. There probably never was a more astonished lot of people than the residents of Hutchinson. The nearest business house to the powder house was about eight hundred feet, and the farthest was perhaps twelve hundred feet. The buildings were the "square front" type of wooden stores, with as large window glass as could be put in. There were no watchmen or police, and no one knew what was the matter till morning came, except Allison and Devier. When business men went to their business in the morning they found their front window glass lying on the sidewalk in front in bits of pieces, hardly a piece being left in the sash where it belonged. Every store was wide open of course, and in some of them the rain had done some damage, but not much. It was such a sight as is seldom seen in a lifetime. There was not a claim that the powder house had been built too near the town, and that the grocery men were at fault. It is likely that if the creek had not been between the town and the store house it would not have seemed so far away; would have been known about by people more generally, and that the public would have taken an entirely different view of the accident. No person was hurt, but there was one remarkable escape.

Mrs. J. C. Beem at that time lived in a small wooden house on First avenue and on the north side of the street, and also directly north of the powder house. The construction of the house was simply weather-boarding on the outside of studding, and lathing and plastering on the inside of the studding. In Mrs. Beem's sleeping room her bed set with the head to the west and the foot to the east, making the side of the bed face toward the direction of the powder house. The house was about five hundred feet from the powder building. A rock as large as a man's head went through this house, going in on the south side and out on the north, and was lying a few rods north of the house in the morning. The rock passed directly over Mrs. Beem's bed, where she was sleeping, and barely high enough to avoid hitting her as it passed over. No one was hurt in the house. There was hardly a thing to show that there had ever been a building on the spot where the powder house stood, in fact, it would not have hardly been suspected by a stranger that a building had been there. The large iron bar referred to, which

held the door closed, was afterward found on the farm of Judge Houk about a half mile away. There was never another powder storehouse built on the townsite.

THE WATER AND LIGHT PLANT IN SHERMAN STREET, WEST.

Unquestionably many things pass into history as mysterious, and forever remain so: when, if at the right time, the right source had been appealed to, the mystery would dissolve into the most commonplace matter. Hundreds of people have asked why was Sherman street obstructed by the building of the water plant where it is, and the people on the west end of the street will always suffer a depreciation of their property by the fact that the access to it is permanently wrecked. Legally and morally these people are estopped from making complaint, for the reason that they acquired their property with a full knowledge of the conditions; but such circumstances do not always have the effect to hush the lamentations of the helpless, nor suppress the questions of the querulous. Others, wondering will go about their daily work, comforted with the conceit, that if they had been the original promoters of this utility, they would have located it on the spur track of one of the railroads, where the coal for fuel could have been shoveled from the car into the bin at the boiler house, instead of being shoveled into a wagon, and hauled a half a mile, and then all shoveled again. The answer for the city, and the answer for the promoters are two words which seem to sound louder and sound oftener in the anxious public ear as the years go round—"personal privilege." West and northwest of the present site of the plant was once the storage reservoir or pond of the Water Power Company and the dam and waste gates which impounded the waters were situated at a point on the creek which was the intersection of Sherman street. These gates were unsightly large wooden affairs which were an eyesore to every passer on Main street. The pond should never have been put there and the gates should have been in another place, if they were to exist at all. The town was making complaint occasionally, and it was evident that there would be trouble in time. Drake and Orton, from Chicago, came into town unannounced one day and introduced themselves to the city authorities and proposed to ask for a franchise for waterworks. S. W. Campbell was mayor and W. E. Hutchinson was city attorney. The people were flattered with the thought of getting a good service plant of this nature without a donation and the request of the applicants was readily granted. The interest of Drake and Orton was not to build and operate a plant, but to sell the bonds which

they would put on the property. They did not care to retain the ownership of the property, and they insisted that citizens of the town should take a majority of the stock as a gift. Stock was offered to Campbell, Hutchinson and L. A. Bigger, but none of them took any of it. Then the city made the stipulation that the plant should be located where it now is, but at that time it was the center of the creek channel and a difficult and expensive place on which to locate a building. The purpose of the requirement on the part of the city was to have the building hide the unsightly structure of the Water Power Company so it could not be seen from Main street. Drake and Orton hurried the building of the plant, and quickly sold \$450,000 of first-mortgage bonds and got their money, and undoubtedly they made such profits that the matter of whether the plant was located in the middle of Cow creek or at a desirable place on the railroad was altogether a minor item. In a few years the purchasers of the bonds found that they had made a very bad investment, and one-half of the bonds were cancelled, thus netting a loss to them of \$225,000. Drake and Orton were in the city but a few times after the construction of the plant. The water power proved of little value, and the growth of the town made the area valuable, and the dam and the gates were cleared away and the ground sold off according to the original plat, but the water works plant could not be moved, and it still stands at a location unfortunate to all concerned.

CHAPTER X.

A YEAR OF DISASTER.

The year 1874 was a dismal one^{*} for the pioneers of Reno county. The author of this history has had many suggestions made to him to omit any reference to this year, urging that only the brighter and the more attractive things should be recorded, and that a period of such disaster as that year presented should be passed over with but little reference to it. But, historically, 1874 was one of the marked years of Reno county's history. It was not one of prosperity, but it was a year unlike other years in the attention that it brought to the county, and illustrates one of the strange characteristics of human nature in a most striking way. It shows how things that happened may produce results in ways that cannot be seen at the time and which only the years that have passed away reveal. So it would be unfair to omit the hardships of pioneer life, that those who live now in comfort and contentment may realize as best they can from the description the old settlers leave, of what trials and privations their comforts cost, that they may more thoroughly appreciate the heritage of the present.

The summer of 1874 was dry and hot. There is no detailed weather record of temperature or rainfall, but the old settlers speak of the intensity of the heat and the length of the drought. Ned Webster's monthly records, as shown in another chapter, makes this the hottest year of his observations. There was approximately four thousand acres of corn in cultivation that year. Some of it was sod corn, but there was considerable ground, over three thousand acres, that had been broken in 1872, and in the sandy region, a part of which had been broken up in 1873, was ground that could be cultivated. Of course there was no cultivation for the sod corn, no chance to stir the ground and in this way minimize the injury of the dry weather. A year like this would be particularly hard on sod corn. The heat of July doomed the corn. It withered up and would not have made good food if it had been left. But a short time after the 28th of July there was not even a semblance of the corn stalks left, for it was in these days the first grasshoppers appeared in the sky. One of the old settlers of that day found a description that he said exactly described this visitation of the winged

plague: "For they covered the face of the whole earth, so that the land was darkened; and they did eat every herb of the land, and all the fruit of the trees which the hail had left; and there remained not any green thing in the trees, or in the herbs of the field, throughout all the land of Egypt." Exodus 10:15. They came in one continual stream, that was hours in passing, flying high in the air, obscuring the sun and having the appearance of a heavy snow. The locusts were of a dark brown hue, but in flying they show the underside of their body, which is white and gave their flight the appearance of a snow storm. Beneath this mighty stream was another one, which was continually detaching itself from the main body, coming to the ground. They kept this up for seven days. This flight swept through the state from west to east. It almost produced a panic. Those that stopped were but a small part of the vast number that filled the air. Where they came from or where they went, no one knows. What conditions brought them forth never has been ascertained, but the destruction they wrought was complete. They came again in 1876—but not in any such numbers as in 1874. Even in 1876, late in September, they ate all the leaves from the trees. Some were sowing wheat when they came, but the "hoppers" ate the hard grains as fast as the sower would put them on the ground. Chickens fled from them as from a hawk. The "crunch" of the insects as a person walked on the ground was a sensation not soon forgotten.

The destruction of 1874 was complete. There was absolutely nothing left, no feed for horses or cattle, no wheat nor corn. The early settlers could not go through the winter without help, so, early in the fall, a meeting was called in the court house to provide some means for the relief that was necessary. A "central committee" was appointed to have charge of the matter for Reno county. This committee was William Ingham, T. F. Leidigh and L. Houk. They immediately appointed sub-committees for each of the townships into which the county was then divided.

The grasshopper plague was not confined to Reno county, the whole state having been visited. No one was exempt, so a similar organization existed in all of the settled counties of Kansas and a central body, located at Topeka, to handle the matter in a general way. Agents were sent to Eastern cities to solicit aid. The railroads of the county "deadheaded" all of the things that were shipped to the state. Reno county had an agent and his assistants in New York City. All the donations boxed and shipped to Kansas were designated for the "Kansas Relief Fund." Considerable money was donated. It was estimated early in the winter that there were one

thousand persons in Reno county who were dependent on outside help to get through the winter. The entire population of this county that year was six thousand four hundred and seventy-six.

There were a few who left the county, but nearly all of the people stayed through the winter. They knew that in all Kansas such a catastrophe could not occur often. They had seen the prosperity of 1873 and had seen the soil yield bountifully, even after only two years of cultivation, so they concluded to remain in the county and fight it out.

It is impossible to tell how many thousand dollars' worth of goods and money were sent into Kansas. The records that were turned over to the State Historical Society show that Reno county received considerable aid. One such receipt aside from individual instances of aid, shows that twenty-four carloads of grain and feed and flour were received by Reno county. There are numerous personal receipts on file there for boxes and barrels of goods shipped to individuals and which were not handled by the committee. At a distance of more than forty years, some things are plainly apparent in this relief work. One of the most noticeable of them is the greed displayed by some of the people who were recipients of that aid. Some of them receipted for enough goods to keep their family and feed their stock for more than a year. Perhaps it would be impossible to have handled the matter so that the charge of graft would not have been sustained. But the greed displayed by some was plainly evident. The Eastern part of the United States was interested in helping the "starving people out in Kansas." Their generosity was not stinted. Some of the agents sent out by the various counties took advantage of the desire of the East to see that the distress was removed and exaggerated that distress, sometimes to their own gain. So that the "grasshopper relief" extended far beyond the necessity of the times.

So, in the sense of having comfort added that could not have been enjoyed without the relief work, Reno county and, in fact, the whole of Kansas, did not suffer in the least from the grasshoppers. In fact, it was a great blessing to the county. The hot winds and the dry weather had ruined the crops. Had not the "hoppers" visited the country there would have been almost as much distress as there was after they had stripped the land of all that they could eat. But when the destitution was referred to, when the "hand of Providence," as one of the agents reverently referred to the grasshopper plague whenever he spoke of conditions in the state, was hard on the land, it called forth the unstinted aid that nothing else would



MAJOR-GEN. JESSE LEE RENO

have done. The grasshoppers, instead of being a curse, were a blessing to Reno county.

There was another feature to this disaster that is really one of the difficult things to understand. There is on file in the State Historical Society a list of donors of the "Howard County, Indiana, Reno County, Kansas, Relief Fund." On this list is the name of the father of the editor of this history. The following year this father came to Reno county and bought land in the very county which the year before he had helped in its distress. What was the attraction that drew to Reno county the men who had, a year before, helped to support those that the plague had vexed?

L. A. Bigger was in the land business in Hutchinson for many years. He has told of many similar experiences. He said that in October, 1874, there came to his office many persons attracted by the crowd that had congregated around it, supposing them to be land seekers, only to find that they were farmers of Reno county getting wheat that had been donated to this county for seed. Mr. Bigger always secured the names of his visitors, to send them advertising matter, and he remarked that he was astonished to learn how many of those men came to Reno county in the years of 1875 to 1878, who had seen the county in her distress, when seed for the next crop was largely donated. This to him, was one of the most remarkable things in all his experience. Who can understand that trait of human nature? Who is able to tell why they came to Kansas to make their homes in 1875 and 1876 when "Droughty Kansas" was a by-word the land over, because of the distressing days of the year 1874.

The people of Reno county were not discouraged by the grasshopper visitation. More sod was broken out and all of the sod ground that had been corn in the summer was plowed under and sowed to wheat. The drought was broken early in the fall, the rain fell in abundance, the ground was in fine shape and when the seed arrived the sowing was done. A very large percentage of the ground that had been broken was sowed to wheat, which got a good start and furnished pasturage in the winter and early spring. The evidences of the drought and the grasshoppers soon vanished. The courage of the pioneer was tried and was found sufficient and, while the winter of 1874 was not an enjoyable one, it was not as bleak as it appeared on the July morning after the grasshoppers had darkened the sun of the previous day.

CHAPTER XI.

ORGANIZING THE COUNTY.

At the time Reno county was organized, the statutes required six hundred inhabitants as a necessary number to entitle a county to obtain self-government. Counties having a less number of inhabitants were attached to other counties for municipal and judicial purposes. Late in December, 1871, a petition was circulated in Reno county and the requisite number of signers was obtained. It is evident from looking at the list now, that some signatures were placed on the roll by proxy, for some of the inhabitants, still residents of Reno county, were entirely too small at that time to take any interest in any of the affairs of state. As soon as the petition was completed it was taken to Topeka by C. C. Hutchinson and was approved by Governor Harvey. He then issued an order for the organization of the county. He likewise appointed a special board of county commissioners, consisting of C. O. Bemis, William H. Bell and Thomas Allen, to have charge of the business of the new county until an election could be held. This board held its first meeting on January 4, 1872. Bemis was not present at this meeting, but the other two members met and elected Bemis chairman of the board. Who presided at this meeting is not disclosed by the record. The entire county was placed in one township, which was given the name of "Reno." From this one township all of the other townships have been taken and the territory now called Reno township is what remains after the organization of the other thirty-one subdivisions of the county. An election was called to select a county seat and notices were posted in "three most conspicuous places," notifying the voters of the election. The date was fixed for Saturday, February 3, 1872.

At the same meeting of the board of commissioners, "a special election" was called for January 6, 1872, ten days only to elapse before the election after the calling of the election. The reason for this haste was the anxiety of the promoters of the new county, and more particularly the owners of the townsite of Hutchinson, to get a representative in the Legislature who could make some changes in the boundary lines of the county that would lessen the dangers of another town being established nearer the center of the county that would contest with Hutchinson for the county seat.

So this hurried election was held on Saturday, January 6, 1872. There was but one candidate, C. C. Hutchinson, who received all the votes that were cast. The board of county commissioners did not delay long to canvass the vote, for as soon as the polls were closed and the votes counted, the board immediately began to canvass the votes and issued to Mr. Hutchinson his certificate of election within a half hour after the polls were closed. He left that night for Newton in a wagon, traveling overland, and there took the train the next morning for Topeka. On Monday morning, following his election on Saturday, Mr. Hutchinson presented his certificate of election and was sworn in as a member of the Legislature. It is doubtful if such a certificate, secured in such a manner, was ever presented to a legislative body before. Certainly it would attract attention now, for this "special board of commissioners" that had been appointed by Governor Harvey had not formally organized when the election of representative was held. In fact, only two members of that board had acted, for the commissioners' records declare that the "special board" did not formally organize until February 10, 1872, when the "minutes of the last meeting" were read and approved and then the "board" proceeded to "organize." Just what was the condition of the board when they called this "special election" for representative, and then canvassed the vote and issued the certificate of election to Hutchinson as representative, cannot be determined from the records they have left of their acts. But the records show affirmatively that the "minutes of the previous meeting" were read and approved and that the "board then proceeded to organize." Prior to this meeting just referred to, the board also met and canvassed the votes of the election called to select the county seat. All of the votes cast were for the "City of Hutchinson." So, on February 3, 1872, Hutchinson became the county seat of the county of Reno.

The board of commissioners waited four days before it met again, and it is recorded that, "pursuant to law," they ordered an election to be held in Hutchinson to "elect officers for the county of Reno." They specified the following offices to be filled: Three county commissioners, county treasurer, county clerk, sheriff, county surveyor, register of deeds, county attorney, coroner, probate judge, clerk of the district court and superintendent of public instruction. This election was held on March 12, 1872, and the following were unanimously selected for the various offices, there being only one candidate for each office: Sheriff, Charles Collins; treasurer, Edward Wilcox; county clerk, A. C. Kies; county attorney, Lysander Houk; register of deeds, S. H. Hammond; clerk of district court, Harry Hodson; probate judge, W. W. Updegraff; county surveyor, Luther Dodge; coroner,

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C. S. Martin; superintendent of public instruction, W. E. Hutchinson; county commissioners, C. C. Bemis, W. H. Bell and W. J. VanSickle.

Most of the men chosen at the first election were representative men. Seven of them remained in the county and helped develop it. These men were, Charles Collins, Edward Wilcox, L. Houk, Harry Hodson, W. S. VanSickle, W. E. Hutchinson and W. W. Updegraff. Of this number, only one, W. E. Hutchinson, is living at the time of the writing of this history. Some of the others who filled these offices were adventurers, without an abiding faith in the community. Of those who remained, probably Judge Houk and W. E. Hutchinson had the most prominent part in shaping the affairs of the county, and if any one man were singled out above the others as having had the most to do with the shaping and developing of the earlier affairs of the county and, later, in promoting the enterprises that helped the growth of town and county, that one would be W. E. Hutchinson. C. C. Hutchinson did a great work in arranging the boundary lines of the county and in fixing the character of the town by his activities while in the state Legislature, but he did not remain long in the county. His cousin, W. E. Hutchinson, remained through all of the early years, when even an existence was a struggle, through the boom days that followed the trying pioneer times and through the dismal days that followed the collapse of the boom, when property values shrunk to almost no value at all. Through it all, prosperity and adversity, he was a most active man. As will be seen later in the development of the county, he was "the man behind the gun" in so many enterprises that he was unquestionably the most constant factor in the early growth and development of Hutchinson and Reno county.

Judge Houk was not only the leader of the Reno county bar, but one of the great lawyers of the state. He was a man of wide learning and was constantly in demand for public addresses on all lines of work. He was greatly interested in horticulture, and was a life member of the State Horticultural Society. Some of the older members of the Reno County Bar Association have said that the early lawyers "went to school" to Judge Houk—such was their high regard for his ability as a lawyer and judge.

Harry Hodson remained in Reno county for many years and was a successful farmer and business man. He remained in the county about twenty-five years and led an active business life.

E. Wilcox also was actively engaged in the hardware business, erecting a brick building on South Main street. He remained in the county for many years and helped develop its resources.

Charles Collins was likewise a well-known and active figure in develop-

ing the county. Of Mr. Collins' early life, but little is known. There was a wall of secretiveness about him that no one ever broke down. He was physically a fine specimen of the Western frontiersman and in his early life he wore his hair long. He carried nearly all his life a United States deputy marshal's commission. He was greatly interested in the cattle business and, although it was not generally known, was a representative of Senator Plumb in his dealings with the cattle men of the Southwest. He lived nearly all his life in this county. At one time he was a wealthy man, but in his later life, through the shrinkage in cattle values, he was not in such comfortable circumstances.

Meanwhile, C. C. Hutchinson was active in the Legislature in carrying out his ideas of a town that he could advertise as a "home town," free from the "wild west" influences that were so conspicuous in other towns. He saw the class of people who were attracted by the cattle traders. He saw other towns bidding for this business. He saw the shamelessness, the debauchery, that characterized the cowboy of that day. All sorts of criminals made up the larger portion of the crowd. He saw how they had changed the peaceable community of Abilene into a hotbed of disorder, gambling, liquor drinking, prostitution and every other vice that was ever invented to take money out of one man's pocket and put it into another without consideration. When the Santa Fe reached Newton, Hutchinson saw that the scenes of Abilene would be re-enacted in this place, as the building of the Santa Fe westward would cut off a seventy-five mile drive for the cattlemen. There was scarcely a redeeming feature to the cattle business, so Hutchinson determined to have none of that element in the town he had laid out and which bore his name.

"What is to be the next cattle town?" was the query. Naturally they expected it would be Hutchinson. It was nearer the range and farther from the farmer, with his small tract of cultivated land, that interfered with the great herds that were driven north from Texas. It was closer to the Nimscah, Cow creek, the Little river, the Arkansas and the Chicaskia, a territory of a million acres of the best grass land, watered with streams that never dried up. The new railroad bent off to the northward from Hutchinson, as if to leave the rich pasture to the cattlemen, undisturbed and unbroken. Here the cattle could be driven farther west, so that they would not run into the farms that were being settled in Sumner and Cowley counties. To the southward were the hills of the Medicine Lodge country, where cattle would drift for protection whenever a "norther" swooped down on them. Hutchinson was to be the next "cow town." The restaurant man with his meager equip-

ment, his material for his shanty, with his trailers, the saloon keeper and lewd woman; the gambler with his faro and poker, his ready six-shooter strapped to his side, the aristocrat of this bunch of outlaws who lived off the cowboys—all were getting ready to come to Hutchinson. They all stopped. The startling news reached them that Hutchinson was to be a "temperance town." In every deed of conveyance of real estate in the new town there was a provision that the sale of liquor on that lot within three years from the date of sale would forfeit the lot. To the bunch of outlaws that information was a great joke. Perhaps they would have been able to make a joke out of it and all the plans for making Hutchinson a home town would have failed, had it been necessary to have had a direct fight with this class of outlaws. But they soon found out how it was to be accomplished. They wouldn't be allowed to drive their herds through Reno county!

As soon as C. C. Hutchinson was sworn in as a member of the Legislature he began actively to get some laws on the statute books. He had the help of his associates in adjoining counties in getting the boundary lines changed as referred to in another chapter. He likewise had the help of the same men in the passage of the "herd law," that was intended to protect the farmer's crop from stock that was allowed to run loose. But so far as making Hutchinson a temperance town, this bit of legislation that was slipped through the Legislature, with but little notice and less noise, was the one that allowed Texas cattle to be driven northward through the state from Texas, but fixed the eastern limit of the boundary through which they could be driven on a line that is the western boundary of Reno county. So the restaurant man, the saloon-keeper, the gambler and the rest of the crowd moved, but they never stopped at Hutchinson. Their business was not here, and would not be here. They went on westward, for without the cattle business they would be out of a job. They drifted farther west, at Ellinwood for a while, but later they made Dodge City their headquarters. This was their last stand. This was the cowboy's outpost. This was their last capital. The story of Dodge City has been told over and over again. "Dodge City, the Cowboys' Capital," has been glorified and dignified in a most interesting volume, written by W. M. Wright, of Dodge City. Thus Hutchinson escaped the fame that went to Dodge City.

The passage of the "herd law" by the Legislature was bitterly fought by the cattle men. Hutchinson took the position in the Legislature that the driving out of the buffalo, so that the big herds of cattle could graze on this land was only a step in the development of that land. He insisted that the substituting of the long horned Texas steers for the "crooked back oxen,"

as the Spanish called the buffalo when they first saw them, was limiting the development of the county. That the big herds, taking whole townships for their support, were no more the ultimate use to which the land should be put, than to allow the buffalo to roam undisturbed in the rich green lands; but that real development of this valley, that which the Legislature should foster, lay in the breaking up of the sod and in the cutting up of the range into small farms.

This idea of the use of the soil was bitterly contested by the cattle men. The land, according to their view, was only intended for range purposes; that if anyone wanted to use it for other purposes they could do so, but the primary purpose of the Legislature should be to protect the cattle industry and let the land be used for grazing purposes. The "herd bill" was passed by a small majority, but modified so that it would have to be ratified by the voters of each county before it would be effective. This law provided that stock should be kept up by the owner or if any stock broke loose and did any damage the owner was liable for such damage.

The passing of the law allowing Texas cattle to be driven north through the state, but fixing the eastern boundary line along which they could be driven was a most important thing in the settling up of the county. Prior to the passage of this law, great herds of cattle were driven over Reno county, over the Chisholm trail. They were first driven to Abilene, to be shipped eastward over the Kansas Pacific; later were driven to Newton, and later still to Ellinwood. The law was not rigidly enforced for a couple of years, until the settlers began to take the land for farming purposes, and until 1874 great herds were driven in through southern Kansas, crossed the southern part of the county, reached the Ninnescah river, followed it up on the south side until they got to where Smoot's creek flowed into the Ninnescah, then drove northward east of Arlington to the north fork of the Ninnescah to about where Sylvia now stands, thence directly north across the sand hills and on to Ellinwood. Early in 1875 they were compelled to drive directly west along the Northup trail, which was on the southern border of the county, their destination being Dodge City.

To finish the work of making Reno county a safe place for farmers, a petition was filed on February 29, 1872, asking for an election to vote on the "herd law." This election was held on March 26, 1872. The notices posted set out the proposed law: "No person owning, using or in anyway controlling any horse, mule, ass, cattle, sheep, swine or goat within the bounds of Reno county, shall at any time permit such animal to go at large within said county." Also providing a penalty for the violating of said law.

The election resulted in almost a unanimous vote in favor of the law and became effective on May 4, 1872. As a result of the passage of this law there was much increased acreage of corn planted that year. Sod was broken after the Legislature passed the law and corn planted. The early settlers saw their crop would be protected and greatly increased the amount of ground planted to corn.

Keeping in view the purpose that suggested the writing of this history of Reno county, to record the deeds of the men and women who pioneered the way and made possible the abundant prosperity of the people who now live within the borders of the county, at the end of this preliminary view of the organization of the county, is recorded the names of the men and women who signed the petition asking for the organization of the county. Many of their children and children's children are living in this county. But few of the signers are still alive. Some of the names, perhaps, are not correct, for the hands that signed them were unused to the pen. The ink is faded and the paper upon which that petition was written is yellow, making identification in some cases impossible. It is an honor roll, worthy to be written on any monument and, in the absence of any other record, their names are here recorded:

CENSUS ROLL OF RENO COUNTY, KANSAS, JANUARY 18, 1872.

D. B. Miller	Isaac Ijams	M. J. Parker
Louise Miller	B. V. Ijams	Frank Parker
Sidney D. Miller	Sallie Ijams	Harry Parker
Henry Miller	John W. Ijams	Edward Parker
Amasa J. Smith	William Ijams	Charles Parker
Elisabeth Smith	William Casey	Robert Bell
Olive Miller	Bridget Casey	Lucy Bell
Cora Smith	George Casey	William Bell
Jeremiah Rhoades	Willie Casey	E. L. Bell
Annie Rhoades	Harrie Casey	Carrie Bell
William E. Rhoades	Susan Casey	Joseph Bell
Frank P. Rhoades	Frederick Walker	Jacob Eisenberg
James B. Rhoades	John Anderson	Julia Eisenberg
Olive M. Rhoades	John P. Talbert	Catharine Eisenberg
Alice A. Rhoades	N. J. Patrick	John Eisenberg
Lillie D. Rhoades	James Patrick	Christine Eisenberg
Nellie J. Rhoades	Sarah Patrick	James Frees
J. W. Ijams	Newton Parker	Mary Frees

Hannah Frees
 Benjamin W. Goodhue
 Louisa Goodhue
 Gilbert H. Goodhue
 Charlotte Goodhue
 B. W. Goodhue, Jr.
 Artemas Goodhue
 Amy Smith
 Julia Smith
 James Sellenz
 Louise G. Sellenz
 James L. Sellens
 Edna L. Sellens
 Talmadge W. Colburn
 Eva L. Colburn
 H. D. Colburn
 Ezra V. Brown
 Dora I. Brown
 ———— Bell
 C. C. Hutchinson
 Arthur H. Hutchinson
 Carrie M. Hutchinson
 John A. Clapp
 George R. Tucker
 Mathew Dopp
 ———— Dopp
 Thomas Foley
 Thomas B. Campbell
 M. C. Campbell
 H. H. Campbell
 Emily Campbell
 Elisabeth Campbell
 Ulysses Campbell
 William J. Easter
 Wm. E. Hutchinson
 Albert H. Hutchinson
 James Mulligin
 H. Milligin
 James McPhilbiny

James Preston
 John Dorson
 J. Dorson
 T. Dorson
 James Nolan
 Luther Dodge
 Ann Dodge
 Mary Dodge
 William Dodge
 Martha Dodge
 Harriet Dodge
 Kitty Dodge
 Luther Dodge
 B. Hess
 Carrie Shields
 Daniel Shields
 Green Shields
 Minnie Shields
 Magg Shields
 Sarah Shields
 Oscar Sturgies
 Harriet Sturgies
 Harriet E. Sturgies
 Charles Sturgies
 Jennie Williams
 Albert Cravens
 Sarah Cravens
 William Hull
 M. Hull
 Oliver Wall
 N. Wall
 Peter Drinnigan
 John Odonnell
 Jesse Brainard
 B. Woodley
 J. M. Fife
 John Craddock
 B. W. Parr
 Peter Lafferty

James Oconor
 Lewis Holsey
 H. McCarty
 W. S. Pierce
 C. McCorwine
 Davis Gorgan
 Phebe Gorgan
 C. H. Gorgan
 O. Gorgan
 D. Gorgan
 ———— Gorgan
 ———— Gorgan
 ———— Gorgan
 B. J. Miller
 M. Sholtz
 J. G. Rolf
 Mastin Spich
 B. F. Miller
 W. Chestnut
 R. H. Ryan
 Andrew Palmer
 G. Anderson
 J. C. Talbot
 W. Wiling
 L. G. Patrick
 P. Nerlinger
 S. Liffering
 John Swanson
 P. Swanson
 John Laer
 James Huntsinger
 C. Lass
 S. Esklison
 M. Esklison
 C. Esklison
 Robert Clark
 M. Shehan
 G. McCoy
 T. Croly

S. Croly	W. G. Shields	Thomas Faley
P. Croly	Alice Shields	———— Faley
Patrie Croly	Daniel Shields	———— Faley
G. Canady	Florence Shields	M. Thomas
M. Canady	Alice Shields	H. Michael
H. Canady	Simon Shields	John Chatthan
James Canady	Malon Taylor	M. Mehan
Patrie Canady	Fanny Taylor	C. Cathamer
M. McMahon	E. Taylor	S. Cathamer
Peter Brady	W. H. Holcanst	J. Cathamer
A. Jones	Jennie Holcanst	Thomas Delany
P. Carroll	Mollie Holcanst	John Morris
James Milligan	Hattie Holcanst	James Colony
John Richileau	S. Shields	Alex. Beam
William Smith	T. E. Henly	Andrew Johnson
William R. Smith	H. Ersklim	Thomas Watt
Thomas Smith	L. Ersklim	J. C. Adams
Daniel Shean	John Piercesons	E. C. Whipple
Daniel Shean, Jr.	W. Shoaf	Michael Dolin
James Shean	———— Shoaf	John Mehan
Mary Shean	———— Shoaf	Martin Gregory
Sarah Shean	J. Parker	Thomas Slater
Thomas Brown	W. Casey	John Thomas
John Jones	B. Casey	James Persall
———— Allen	G. Casey	Whieman Rogers
Michael Sullivan	W. Casey	Thomas White
Patrick Madden	V. Casey	John Gaffany
Lewis Swarens	U. Casey	Patrick Doyl
Sylvia Swarens	P. Brady	Oly Davidson
A. L. Swarens	P. Tully	William Kelley
Leander Swarens	P. McMahon	John Carroll
W. Lovel	W. Doyl	T. F. Byren
Charles Boyles	E. Butcher	Thomas Rayl
Benjamin Carson	T. Butcher	Albert Tobin
E. Shaffer	J. Green	John Sullivan
G. Hamil	———— Green	James Williamson
G. Shields	———— Green	Thomas Carroll
Leander Shields	———— Green	James Sweeny
May Shields	———— Green	William Falley

A. C. Jeff	J. Williams	J. W. Bagley
W. E. Jeff	William Williams	Andrew Olson
H. A. Jeff	————— Williams	William Messenhelter
G. A. Jeff	William Walters	George Swinehart
E. N. Jeff	James Parker	Alfred Hubbard
B. J. Jeff	May Parker	Henry Kenzart
Lewis Jeff	Charles Parker	Henry Wessen
Justin Jeff	James Parker	H. C. Prentice
Erastus Pierce	Lizzie Parker	W. R. Prentice
Minus Pierce	Johnny Parker	Asa Spencer
Marz. J. Pierce	May Parker	Robt. Murphy
J. W. Upperman	Moses Parker	Charles Crosby
Frank Foster	Sarah Parker	George Crosby
F. U. Smith	Susie Parker	Ellen Crosby
John S. Malsbury	Katie Parker	Freeman Crosby
Sanford Malsbury	Thomas Hodgson	Emmet Crosby
Alice Malsbury	Hetherington Hodgson	Lorenzo Crosby
Lucy Malsbury	Jennie Hodgson	Hiram Colgrove
Sena Malsbury	May Hodgson	Edwin Colgrove
Leigh Malsbury	E. Uleson	William Colgrove
Amsae Kies	John West	Samuel Dennis
————— Bond	Henry Brown	S. F. Dennis
A. C. Kies	Henry Hilton	Mary Dennis
————— Kies	J. Fletcher	Sarah Dennis
————— Reed	M. Hitchcock	Jonathan Schenck
George Boyd	H. Burns	Sophia Schenck
Martin Updegraff	Charles Ostracon	Albert Schenck
Manin Fletcher	Emma Ostracon	Burton Schenck
————— Fay	Eliza Ostracon	Earle Stone
————— Fay	Joan Ostracon	Emily Stone
————— Fay	Katie Ostracon	Prentice Stone
G. S. Miles	James Hallowell	Martha Stone
M. Sanders	James Johnson	Luther Ordway
Levica Miles	S. Williamson	Sarah Ordway
J. D. Reid	E. Smithson	Smith Ordway
S. A. Reid	William Smith	Elvira Ordway
Charles Reid	Andrew Henson	Jane Ordway
Katie Reid	E. P. Hubbard	Oliver Whiting
M. Fay	Charles Burke	Jonathan Whiting

Sarah Whiting	B. Janson	Peter Wilson
Cynthia Whiting	C. Olson	James Wilson
Edwin Whiting	P. Polson	Charles Wilson
————— Davis	J. Anderson	Sarah Wilson
————— Hastings	————— Everett	John Hubbard
————— Putnam	————— Broadhead	James Hubbard
S. Fairchild	John Rowley	Sarah Hubbard
Edward Fairchild	Nancy Rowley	Mary Hubbard
F. Chase	James Rowley	Kattie Hubbard
Maria Chase	George Rowley	Harly Wendell
Matilda Chase	Martin Rowley	Abbie Wendell
George Douglass	Emeline Rowley	Moses Winsor
William Douglass	James Stuyvessant	Charles Winsor
F. M. Wyatt	Mary Stuyvessant	Carrie Winsor
R. S. Wyatt	Sylvester Lawson	Martha (Wiseman)
Thomas Ellis	Calvin Lawson	James York
James Ellis	Arthur Lawson	Sarah York
Cathrine Walters	John Talbot	Elias York
William Walters	Martha Talbot	Betsy York
Hubert Rose	Delphene Talbot	James Cumming
Lewis Rose	Willard Talbot	Sarah Cumming
Amanda Rose	William Clark	Charles Cumming
Eliza Rose	Sarah Clark	Alfred Cumming
George Nichols	Julia Clark	Edward Marsh
Sarah Nichols	Alex Moore	James Marsh
Oliver Van Orman	Metilda Moore	Eber Hatch
Elizabeth Van Orman	James Moore	Phoebe Hatch
Isaac Van Orman	John Sharpe	Sarah Hatch
Harvy Van Orman	Wesley Sharpe	Edgar Rawson
Demaris Van Orman	William Purdy	Hubbard Rawson
Wallace Hadley	Jane Purdy	Martha Rawson
Adelaide Hadley	Andrew Purdy	Hiram J. Colgrove
Charles Hadley	Mary A. Purdy	Susan Colgrove
C. W. Oxelcon	Eliza Purdy	Elias June
Martha Oxelcon	William Purdy, Jr.	Moses M. June
Nally Oxelcon	John Case	Mira June
F. Hultkvans	Mary Case	Elizabeth June
E. Sadevstion	James Belmont	Charles Hardy
M. Clapoul	Clarence Belmont	Simon Hardy

Moses A. Hardy	Abraham Van Scovier	Charles Foster
Kattie Hardy	David Van Scovier	C. W. Metcalf
Betsy Hardy	Jonathan Van Scovier	James Van Orsdale
John Segar	W. C. Caldwell	Charles Van Orsdale
Kathrine Segar	M. A. Caldwell	Henry Van Orsdale
Henrick Zimmerman	A. B. Caldwell	C. W. Johnson
Bunghart Zimmerman	Tila Caldwell	Ransom Johnson
Gertrude Zimmerman	C. A. Haislane	Martha Johnson
David Zimmerman	Mariah Haislane	Thomas Sheffield
Carolinda Zimmerman	J. A. Green	Sarah Sheffield
Martha Zimmerman	Elizabeth Green	James Sheffield
Charles Zimmerman	Charles Green	Richard Sheffield
L. D. Hastings	Caroline Green	E. D. Baker
J. M. Crane	Fitz Winslow	James Butler
James Larson	Martha Winslow	Sarah Butler
Joseph Larson	Resa Winslow	Clark Butler
James Wheeler	Thomas Butcher	Erastus Kent
Grattan Wheeler	Edriah Butcher	Martha Kent
O. H. Seymour	William Gaston	Rhoderick Kent
Edwin Seymour	Mary Gaston	Elizabeth Kent
Eliza Seymour	Charles Gaston	William Kent
Augusta Seymour	A. E. Gaston	Sarah Kent
Allen Drake	Cab Cork	Eliza Kent
Ayres Drake	Mary Cook	Judson Prentice
Moses Whitmore	Henry Cook	Martha Prentice
Samuel Whitmore	William Cook	Sarah Prentice
Marshall Whitmore	S. C. Huddle	Willia Prentice
Betsy Whitmore	John Haffrin	Jacob Woodward
Joseph Marsh	John Walker	Martha Woodward
Edward Marsh	John Robinson	Sarah Woodward
James Marsh	James Paster	C. C. Hutchinson
S. P. Marsh		

CHAPTER XII.

TOWNSHIP ORGANIZATIONS.

RENO TOWNSHIP.

When Reno county was first organized it was put into one township, and called "Reno Township." When other townships were founded they were taken from Reno township and that part of the sub-division now bearing that name is what is left of this organization. Little by little this territory has been sliced off and in later years, for different causes—in one case convenience for election purposes,—the chunks taken from the once big township leaves now only a whittling. So sliced and whittled has Reno township been that it lies now partly on the north side of the Arkansas river, partly on the south side and is very irregular in its outlines.

The first township election in Reno township was held shortly after the first county election. Peter Shafer was the first trustee elected. Mr. Shafer lived up on Cow creek, in what is now Grant township. D. B. Miller was the first township treasurer. He lived then north of town, but his addition to Hutchinson, under the name of Miller & Smith's, is now covered with houses and the city limits extend a mile north of Miller's old place. S. N. Parker was the first township clerk. J. Rhoades and D. D. Olmstead were the first justices of the peace, in both township and county, and John McMurry and J. Brown were the first constables. The date of their election was April 16, 1872. The first lawsuit in the county was held before "Squire" Olmstead, as he was called. It was filed on the 23rd day of April, 1872. The case was an action in replevin to recover the possession of a gray pony of the value of thirty-five dollars. Lewis Josephine was the plaintiff against Jacob Eisenbarger. The result of the suit is not recorded. Eisenbarger has the further distinction of starting the first graveyard in the county. He accidentally killed a man called "Mountain Jack," as spoken of in another chapter.

Among these first township officers, S. N. Parker and Peter Shafer were the ones that became the best known in later years. Mr. Parker lived

in town and was highly regarded. Peter Shafer was a whole-souled, companionable man. He made his home in Grant township through all his life. There were three very large cottonwood trees on his place, the first trees the old settlers remember in the valley. His sons and one daughter still live in Reno county. While the land he settled on has passed into other hands, it is generally known as "the Pete Shafer place."

Olmstead lived in the county for many years. He was a farmer and was generally elected justice of the peace for his township. He was a man of good judgment and a good many cases were tried before him in the township court.

VALLEY TOWNSHIP.

The first township to be cut off of Reno was Valley township. Martin Hoagland "and 56 others" presented a petition to the county commissioners. The election was to have been held on December 7, 1872, but the county commissioners' record has an entry "because of a disastrous prairie fire in the county, the election was not held on the date set, but will be held on January 8, 1873." The first township officers selected were: Trustee, Martin Hoagland; township clerk, H. Lyman; justice of the peace, J. H. Lawson, and constables, William Ballinger and J. A. Reid. Of these officers, Martin Hoagland and his wife are both still living in Hutchinson. They reared a large family of boys and girls. Two of the boys, Arthur and Walter, are in the clothing business in Hutchinson. Mr. Hoagland has been a very active man in Hutchinson and Reno county. He is one of the few of the original members of the local post of the Grand Army of the Republic left, and has perhaps helped in times of distress in more homes than any other of the old settlers in this county. J. H. Lawson died several years ago. He was interested in politics and was a member of the Legislature from the eastern district one term. William Ballinger was a stalwart character, who lived in Valley township many years and later moved to Hutchinson and engaged in the machinery business. He died out on the Pacific coast, where he lived the latter days of his life.

OTHER TOWNSHIP ORGANIZATIONS.

There were four other townships organized shortly after Valley township was cut off of the original territory. These were: Little River, Haven, Castleton and Center townships. Petitions for the organization of these townships were all presented to the board of county commissioners on the same day, May 14, 1872.

LITTLE RIVER TOWNSHIP.

The petition for the laying out of Little River township was presented by S. N. Riggs "and sixty others." The township got its name from the stream that runs through it—the Little Arkansas. The election resulted in the selection of the first officers as follows: Trustee, H. P. Thomas; clerk, H. W. McKinney; treasurer, J. P. Cassiday; Henry Hartford and J. F. Black, constables. Of these, two afterwards were elected to county offices. J. P. Cassiday was county superintendent in 1875 and 1876. He left Reno county years ago. Henry Hartford is still living in Hutchinson, having retired from farming. Mr. Hartford was sheriff of Reno county from 1872 to 1877. He is an old soldier and an active member of Joe Hooker Post, Grand Army of the Republic, at Hutchinson. Mr. Hartford through all of his years has been an exceedingly active man. He was generally a delegate for his township, Medora, when the old political system of conventions was in vogue. He has been one of the staunchest men in the development of the county. He kept in touch with the progressive men of the county and is one of the "boomers" worthy of the highest praise, a man who believed in the county and followed his beliefs with his actions.

HAVEN TOWNSHIP.

Haven township was organized on a petition presented by "J. U. Schoonover and 57 others." The first election in that township resulted as follows: Trustee, C. W. Peckham; clerk, David Hess; treasurer, D. McArthur; justice of the peace, Richard Astle. I. N. Gray and Henry Chalcomb were chosen constables. Mr. Schoonover, Mr. Peckham, Mr. Astle and Mr. Gray were among the most conspicuous of the early figures in township and in county affairs. Mr. Schoonover was one of the farmers of Haven township and spent his last days in that township. He was a public-spirited man and took an active interest in all public matters. C. W. Peckham, the first township trustee, has been identified with the business and political interests of the county from the time of his settlement in Reno county until the present time. He was a leader among the farmers in the Grange movement. He is still actively engaged and enjoys a competence of worldly goods as well as the highest regard of neighbors and friends. Mr. Astle was a successful farmer and spent his last days in Haven township. He was identified with the schools of his city—Haven—and took a wide interest all

his life in public matters. I. N. Gray was elected representative in the Legislature and was a man who had the highest interest and enjoyed the confidence of his neighbors.

CLAY TOWNSHIP.

The petition for cutting the territory of Clay township from the original Reno township was presented by "J. R. Lindsey and 55 others," as the records of the county commissioners show. The township's first election resulted in the selection of S. N. Praker as trustee; Thomas Butcher, clerk; Frank Maguire, treasurer, and J. P. Lindsey as justice of the peace, with M. O. Sullivan and John Talbott as constables. Of these men only two are now living, Frank Maguire and Mr. O'Sullivan. Both remained on their farms until the infirmities of age required that they cease their activities. Mr. Maguire was a man of keen intellect, possessed of one of the best memories of any man in the county, one on which he relied for correct restatement of facts years after their happening. Mr. O'Sullivan's home is still in Reno county, but he spends the greater part of his time with his son, who is a Catholic priest in another county. John Lindsey moved to Hutchinson and was engaged in the real estate business for many years, dying years ago.

CASTLETON TOWNSHIP.

Castleton township was another of the townships whose petitions were presented to the commissioners on May 14, 1872, "A. B. Smith and 62 others" signing it. The township was named in honor of the home of the lady whom C. C. Hutchinson expected to wed, he being a widower at the time he came to Reno county. That place was Castleton, Vermont. Both the township and the town were named for that place. The first officers of this township were: Trustee, John H. Medbury; clerk, T. A. Fuller; treasurer, John Walker; justice of the peace, A. B. Smith, with John P. Walker and John H. Shore as constables. None of these men ever became prominent in Reno county.

CENTER TOWNSHIP.

Center township was organized on October 2, 1873, "W. L. Teeter and 52 others" signing the petition. The first officers chosen were: Trustee, William Teeter; clerk, W. H. Faris; treasurer, R. S. King. William

Cecil was elected justice of the peace and H. H. Crampton, constable. This name was chosen because the township is in the geographical center of the county.

NAMED IN PRESIDENT LINCOLN'S HONOR.

Lincoln township was named after President Lincoln. The date of its first election was fixed for October 2, 1873, but the failure to receive the election ballots caused the election to be held on November 11, 1873. The petition for its organization was presented by "M. L. Reading and fifty others." The first officers elected were: Trustee, W. R. Marshall; clerk, J. L. Smith; treasurer, A. D. Deffenbaugh; justices of the peace, C. C. Chapin and E. G. Handey; constables, J. A. Grayson and E. H. Cooper. This list of names included the names of three men who afterward became county officers and two of the men on this township board are still living in Hutchinson, J. L. Smith and C. C. Chapin. The trustee, W. R. Marshall, was county clerk of Reno county from 1883 to 1887. J. L. Smith, or as he is generally known, "Fay" Smith, has held more offices in Reno county than any other man in the county. He has been county commissioner, sheriff, register of deeds and clerk of the district court and has the reputation of being the best "vote getter" that ever lived in Reno county. He is a genial man, is well acquainted and moves along the line of the least resistance. E. S. Handy was clerk of the district court for three terms. He moved to Hutchinson from Lincoln township after his election and lived in that city until the time of his death. He was a successful business man and was highly regarded by people who knew him. J. A. Grayson, the first constable, soon moved to Hutchinson and engaged in the coal business. He was interested in western Kansas land and was one of the men who founded Hartland, in Kearney county. C. C. Chapin still lives in Hutchinson and is a stout and vigorous man.

NICKERSON (GRANT) TOWNSHIP.

"Nickerson" township was cut off from Reno township on April 28, 1872. It was named for H. R. Nickerson, superintendent of the Santa Fe railroad at that time, but its name was changed to Grant township by a petition on May 20, 1873. Its offices were at that time officers of Reno township except R. L. Foster and have been referred to under the organization of Reno township. It was necessary, because the officers chosen in

the organization of Nickerson township were not residents of Reno township, to elect other officers for Reno township. S. D. Hunt was appointed to serve as trustee for the township until the general election in November, 1873.

SALT CREEK TOWNSHIP.

In the early part of 1874, the balance of the county was districted off into townships, and the petition for the organization of Langdon, Medford, Salt Creek and Troy townships were presented at one time—March 24, 1874. Salt Creek's petition was headed by F. W. Calais and had fifty other signers. The first officers elected for that township were: Trustee, J. J. Carey; clerk, C. H. Phillips; treasurer, J. F. Nelson; justice of the peace, T. B. Hand, and D. H. Holliday, constable. None of these men ever held any county office. D. H. Holliday lived in Hutchinson the latter days of his life, running a grocery store on South Main street.

TROY TOWNSHIP.

Troy township's petition bore Zeno Tharp's name as the first one to ask for a new township. Mr. Tharp was the leader in his township in his day, a man shrewd and energetic. In the election of the township's first officers, M. J. Trembly was chosen for trustee; Israel Slack, clerk; James Shanley, treasurer; Sam Slack and Zeno Tharp, justices of the peace; James Ray, constable. Of these, Tharp was the best known. Both Israel and Sam Slack were also men of high character and important factors in their township history.

LANGDON TOWNSHIP.

Langdon was the last of the four townships to be cut out of the original territory of Reno township. Its first officers were: Trustee, J. S. Ulmer; clerk, G. W. Brown; treasurer, J. Elliott; justice of the peace, W. H. Collins; constable, Isaac Jordan.

These twelve townships cut from the original township of Reno made the thirteen townships that first constituted the sub-division of Reno county. All of the present townships of the county, other than these thirteen original townships, into which all of the land of Reno county was originally cut, have been taken from the territory of those thirteen original townships. From time to time, for the convenience of the citizens, other townships

have been created by the dividing up of these original townships. The principal reason for organizing other townships has been to have a more convenient place for voting, a place closer than would be possible with the larger township; second, the task of working the roads could not be handled as satisfactorily as in a smaller and more compact body, and third, at assessing time, it became impossible for one man to cover the large territory as it became more thickly settled. These reasons were the ones urged when petitions were presented for decreasing the size of the townships of the early day.

The origin of all of the names of these original townships can not now be determined. Some of them have already been given. Troy township was named by Zeno Tharp and in all of his writings to the newspapers of that day, he constantly referred to "Beautiful Troy." It was named by Mr. Tharp after ancient Troy, in Troas, the scene of Homer's "Iliad."

Salt Creek township got its name from a stream that runs through the territory of the township and the stream's name originated from the brackish, salty taste of the water. On some of the earlier maps its name was put down as "Clear creek," but on all recent maps it has had the name of Salt creek. Neither the origin of the names of Langdon or Medford townships can now be ascertained. The other townships of the county—nineteen in number—will be treated of in a subsequent chapter.

MEDFORD TOWNSHIP.

The petition for the organization of Medford township was presented to the board of county commissioners on March 24, 1874. It was signed by N. Dixon and fifty-four others. The new township as described on the petition states that its boundary lines should be as follows: "Beginning at the southeast corner of township 23, range 8 west, running west to the west boundary line of Reno county, thence north to the northwest corner of Reno county, thence east to the southern banks of the Arkansas river, following the river in a southeasterly direction till it should strike the east line of range 8, thence south to the place of beginning. The first officers chosen at the election held on April 12, 1874, were: Trustee, C. Littlefield; treasurer, U. S. Helm; clerk, W. J. Eliot. The origin of the name Medford is not known, nor why this township was given this name. Other early officers of Medford township were: Trustee, W. R. Hoffman; clerk, F. S. McDermet; treasurer, C. B. Brooks; justice of the peace, J. O. Wheeler; constable, John A. Given.

MIAMI TOWNSHIP.

Of the organization of Miami township nothing is to be found in the county records except the date of the election of the first officers. The petition for its organization was filed on April 4, 1875. The first officers elected were: Trustee, Noah Ballew; clerk, H. Geezling; treasurer, J. A. Campton; justice of the peace, J. F. Graham; constable, G. J. Lamont.

GROVE TOWNSHIP.

Grove township was the next to be organized. It was cut out of Langdon township. It consists of township 25, range 10, and township 26, ranges 9 and 10. The petition for the organization of this township was filed on October 3, 1876. The first election in the township resulted in the election of W. J. Van Eman, trustee; A. H. Myers, clerk; F. H. Hickman, treasurer; R. O. Van Eman and O. L. Ely, constables, and Noah Ballew, justice of the peace.

NORTH HAYES TOWNSHIP.

North Hayes township was made by cutting Hayes township in two and the northern part of the township given the name of North Hayes. The petition for its organization was filed by "T. V. Starr and fifty others." It consists of sections 1 and 36 in township 22, range 10. The first election was held on April 7, 1874, and resulted in the selection of W. R. Hoffman, trustee; S. W. McDermed, clerk; C. B. Brooks, treasurer, J. O. Wheeler, justice of the peace, and H. Dixon, constable.

YODER TOWNSHIP.

Yoder township was the last township organized. It was cut out of Lincoln township. The agitation for the organization of this new township was kept up for many years. One board of county commissioners refused to create the new township, but A. M. Switzer and others kept up the agitation until it was finally granted by the county commissioners. Its description is as follows: Commencing at the southwest corner of section 31, township 24, range 5 west, thence north to a point where the Arkansas river cuts the west line of section 30, township 23, range 5 west, said part being the most northern part of Lincoln township, thence in a southeasterly direction along

the south bank of the Arkansas river to a place where said river touches the east line of Haven township, thence south to place of beginning. The petition asking for the creation of this township was filed on June 9, 1911, and was finally granted on March 4, 1915.

The Reno county commissioners organized townships outside of Reno county by virtue of a law passed in 1873, by which unorganized counties were attached to organized counties, with a further provision that the townships of the unorganized counties might petition the county commissioners of organized counties to organize their township. Under this law Harper township, which at that time consisted of all of what is now Harper county, was organized. This petition was signed by C. W. Johns "and fifty others." It is probable that but a very small part of these petitioners ever were in Harper county, but that Harper county was organized by Reno county men; for a close scrutiny of the names of these petitioners shows that most of them were carpenters and others working on the iron bridge that was being built across the Arkansas river, as shown by receipts on file with the clerk of Reno county. The date of this petition for the organization of Harper township was September 1, 1873.

In like manner Kingman township, Kingman county, was organized by the county commissioners. A petition was presented to the county commissioners of Reno county on May 24, 1873, signed by J. K. Fical "and thirty-five others." It was named "Kingman township" and embraced the entire county of Kingman. The election was held on the 1st day of June, 1873. The vote was canvassed by the Reno county commissioners on June 15, 1873, and the result of the election was published.

LATER ORGANIZED TOWNSHIPS.

In a former chapter relating to the organization of the original townships, the ones that were first created out of the one township into which Reno county was placed at the organization of the county, something has been said (where known) of the origin of the names of these townships, and the names of the first officers of those townships were given. Since that time there have been nineteen other townships created by the taking of territory from the older townships. These subdivisions were made largely as a matter of convenience for the people. In the beginning the commissioners laid down a rule governing of the making of new townships. That rule was that no township should be created with less than thirty square miles of territory.

They considered this size as a minimum, as it would be possible to locate the voting precincts so that it would not be far for any voter in the township to go for election purposes, and for the further reason that such a sized township would be all that could be conveniently and expeditiously assessed by one man, within the time prescribed by the statutes. They adopted another rule, that the township should have at least fifty electors, and, using as a basis five persons to a family, they insisted that the proposed township should have at least three hundred and fifty *bona fide* residents before the petition for a separation from other organized townships would be considered; when petitions for such organizations should thereafter be made, the petitioners should show affirmatively that the three conditions laid down had been met.

GROVE TOWNSHIP.

The first township to be formed under this rule was Grove township. It was taken from the territory formerly in Langdon township. The petition was presented to the county commissioners on October 3, 1876. The territory to be cut off from Langdon was township 25, range 10 west, and township 26, ranges 9 and 10 west. The first election was held at the regular election time, November 7, 1876. The next townships to be organized were Sumner and Loda. The petitions for the creation of these two townships were presented on the same day, July 3, 1877. Sumner township was named for Charles Sumner. The territory of the new township was located in the extreme southeastern corner of the county. It was described in the petition as follows: "Beginning at the northeast corner of section 36, town 25, range 4; thence running west nine miles to the northwest corner of section 34, town 25, range 5; thence south on the section line to the south line of the county; thence east to the southeast corner of said county of Reno to the place of beginning." The first election resulted in the selection of the following officers: Trustee, J. N. Phillips; clerk, S. Morris; treasurer, N. E. Vandeman; justices of the peace, R. Alexander and J. Adams; constable, F. Nichols and George Brown.

LODA TOWNSHIP.

Loda was the township organized at the same time Sumner township was created. It was taken from Langdon township by cutting off township 26, range 8, from Langdon. The first election was held at the time of the general election and resulted in the selection of the following officers: Trus-

tee, W. H. Warner; clerk, J. C. Layman; treasurer, W. A. Watkins; justice of the peace, William Potter; constable, J. M. Jones.

HAYES TOWNSHIP.

Hayes township was the next one created. It was cut off from what was originally Medford township. The date of the petition for the creation of this new township was October 6, 1877. The boundary lines set out in the petition describes the territory of the new township to be, "All that part of Medford township lying west of a line running from the northeast corner of section 3, township 22, range 9, west to the southeast corner of section 34, township 23, range 9, to be set off and called Hayes township." The election for the first officers of the new township was held at the residence of Harry Hill, Mr. Hill having been named trustee of the township until the election was held. This election resulted as follows: Trustee, S. R. Boyd; clerk, W. W. Osborn; treasurer, H. A. Hill; justices of the peace, Jonathan Duer and S. J. Caldwell; constables, Mitchell Hunt and John Pool.

BELL TOWNSHIP.

Bell township was the next one cut off from the original thirteen townships into which Reno county was first organized. This township was named for Mrs. Bell Van Emmon, one of the pioneer women of that township. The petition for its organization was presented to the county commissioners on October 7, 1878. The territory for the new township was taken from Grove township by cutting off all of township 26, range 9. The election for officers was held at the time of the regular election and resulted in the selection of the following as officers of the township for the first year: Trustee, B. Deweese; clerk, J. R. Brown; treasurer, J. Barnett; justice of the peace, W. Heaton; constable, C. E. Doty.

ALBION TOWNSHIP.

The petition for the creation of Albion township was presented to the commissioners, the day after the Bell township petition was granted, October 8, 1878. This township was formed by cutting off the south half of Castleton township. The election for the first township officers was held at the time of the regular annual election. The first officers chosen for the new township were: Trustee, W. H. Marks; clerk, G. W. Frank; treasurer, James Fay; justice of the peace, V. O. Burns; constable, J. H. Shore.

NAMED FOR ROSCOE CONKLING.

Roscoe township was the next to be created. The petition for the creation of the same was presented to the county commissioners on August 23, 1879. The township was named for Roscoe Conkling, then a United States Senator from New York and one of the leading Republicans of the country. The territory for this new township was taken from Troy township, township 26, range 4 west. The election of the first township officers was held on August 23, 1879, but there is no record of the officers chosen at this election.

ENTERPRISE TOWNSHIP.

Enterprise township was organized by the presentation of a petition on April 9, 1879, to the county commissioners. The territory for the new township was formerly Medford township. To make the new township, all of township 23, range 8, and two miles off of the west side of township 23, range 9, were set off and given the name of Enterprise township. The first election was held on May 27, 1879. No record is available of the result of this election, as the county clerk of the period found it a great deal easier to "file" the report of the election in some pigeon-hole rather than take the trouble to put it in permanent form in the records of the county commissioners, where such records should be kept.

PLEVNA TOWNSHIP.

Plevna township was created on August 2, 1879, by a petition to the board of commissioners. This new township was taken from Westminster, township 24, ranges 9 and 10, being sliced off of Westminster to make the land of the new township. The first election resulted in choosing the following for township officers: Trustee, J. B. Russell; clerk, J. W. Campbell; treasurer, Richard Kinnaman; justice of the peace, N. P. Gregg; constable, John Berry.

HUNTSVILLE TOWNSHIP.

Huntsville township's petition was signed by "T. B. Totten and fifty-two others," asking for the creation of a new township, and was filed with the county commissioners on May 19, 1885. It was found to conform to all the things required to form a new township and its creation was authorized and the first election held. This township was taken from both Hayes and

Enterprise townships, and consists of all of township 23, range 9 west. The election resulted as follows: Trustee, George McKeoun; clerk, A. L. Minter, Sr.; treasurer, William Holmes; justice of the peace, S. B. Rogers; constable, H. H. Van Liber.

WALNUT TOWNSHIP.

Walnut township was also created by the board of commissioners at the same time the petition was presented for the creation of Huntsville township. This township was taken from a part of Hayes and a part of Medford townships. The first election was held on May 28, 1885, and resulted in the selection of the township officers who should hold until the election in the fall. But no record is to be found of these first officers, the same no doubt having been duly "filed" instead of being recorded.

SYLVIA TOWNSHIP.

The petition for the creation of Sylvia township was presented to the board of commissioners on October 7, 1886. It was signed by B. B. Wilson "and fifty-two others." It was taken from the municipal township of Plevna, the west half, consisting of township 24, range 10 west. The first election took place on November 2, 1886, and resulted in the selection of B. B. Wilson for trustee; Charles A. Payton for clerk; T. J. Hanley for treasurer; J. S. Curra and J. M. Talbott, justices of the peace, and W. H. S. Benedict and Cicero Williamson, constables.

MEDORA TOWNSHIP.

On December 3, 1888, Henry Hartford headed a petition and eighty-eight others likewise signed it, asking for the creation of Medora township. It was to be taken from Little River and a part of Clay townships. It was irregular in its form and the description of the township was as follows: "Commencing at the northeast corner of section 6, township 22, range 4, west; thence running east to the southeast corner of section 31, township 22, range 4 west; thence west to the southwest corner of section 36, township 22, range 5 west; thence north to the northwest corner of section 25, township 22, range 5; thence west to the southwest corner of section 19, township 22, range 5 west; thence north to the northwest corner of section 6, township 22, range 5, west; thence east to the place of beginning."

ARLINGTON TOWNSHIP.

On January 4, 1881, Robert Burling and "fifty-six others" presented a petition for the creation of a new municipal township, which they wanted named Arlington, after the famous "Arlington Heights." The territory was to be obtained by taking the east half of what was then Langdon township. The geographical description of the new township was as follows: Township 25, range 8 west. The election of the first officers of the new township was fixed for February 5, 1881. The commissioners granted the petition for the new township and the election was held on the date fixed, but here again it evidently was found easier by the clerk of that day to file the results of the election in some pigeon-hole rather than to record it, so no names are available for the first officers of Arlington township.

NINNESCAH TOWNSHIP.

Ninnescah township was organized on July 1, 1889. Samuel Adamson headed a petition of the residents of what is now Ninnescah township to cut off part of Albion and Sumner townships and make the new township that was to be named after the stream that flowed through that part of Reno county. The new township was to be composed of all of township 26, south of range 5, west of the sixth principal meridian and section 34, 35 and 36 in township 25, south of range 6. The board of county commissioners granted the petition and fixed the date of the first election for August 5, 1887.

CHAPTER XIII.

POLITICAL PARTIES.

Reno county was settled in the earliest days largely by old soldiers. They had returned from the war and found conditions in their former homes unsatisfactory. With many of them the spirit of independence and adventure had been stimulated by the war. The free homestead lands in the west were an attraction to them. As a natural result of this, the Republican party became the dominant one here and has remained such through all the years since the organization of the county.

There was another thing which tended to strengthen this party. The county was settled by people from Ohio, Indiana and Illinois, states of a similar climate, which were Republican, and the early settler brought his politics with him when he came west. There were few people from the Southern states, but they were equally as strong in their belief in Democratic principles as the Northern emigrant was in the Republican faith.

RELATIVE PARTY STRENGTH.

The first election in Reno county where national political lines were drawn and which would give an indication of how the two political parties stood, was in 1873. That year, T. J. Ryan, candidate for Congress on the Republican ticket, received 1,105 votes and S. J. Crawford, Democrat, received 356 votes. In local matters, the personality of the candidate often was a factor and cannot be used to indicate the party preferences of the voters. In the general election of 1876, George T. Anthony, Republican candidate for governor of Kansas, received 1,072 votes and John Martin, the Democratic nominee, received 390 votes. The presidential electors of the two parties varied but little from the votes cast for each political party for their candidate for governor and at this time it would indicate that Reno county was Republican in a general way, by a ratio of three to one.

In 1877 the average strength of each of the parties was found in the vote for county clerk. That year, W. H. Beaty received 1,082 votes and George D. Barclay, 200 votes. However, this was an "off" year, a year

in which only local matters were issues and the minority party in those years seldom cast its proportionate part of the vote. In 1878 the vote on governor showed a new element in the party. John P. St. John was the Republican candidate for governor, J. R. Goodin, the Democratic candidate, and for the first time the Greenback party had a candidate. D. P. Mitchell was his name. St. John received 1,177 votes, Goodin, 462, and Mitchell, 149. This vote was the first indication of what has been one of the marked characteristics of the county—a tendency toward independent voting, that some years is intensified and has resulted in reducing the Republican majority and in some instances resulting in making this dominant party temporarily a minority party. This independence in voting in 1878 resulted in giving J. T. Cox, then a resident of Hutchinson, Democratic candidate for attorney-general, 904 votes, while his Republican opponent received 1,168 votes. In this case Cox's vote was more than one-third above his party vote. In this election, Thomas Ryan, Republican candidate for Congress from the third congressional district, of which Reno county was then a part, received 1,404 votes; Frank Doster, Greenback candidate, received 403 votes and J. B. Fugate, Democratic candidate, received 166 votes. J. R. Hallowell, candidate for congressman-at-large on the Republican ticket, received 1,367 votes and S. J. Crawford, Democratic candidate received 683 votes.

THE PROHIBITION QUESTION.

At this election the prohibitory amendment to the state Constitution was voted on. A vigorous campaign was made in behalf of prohibition and a bitter fight made on it. In a general way the Republicans voted for it and the Democrats opposed it. This was due largely to the fact that the Republican platform declared for prohibition. The result in the county over this question was that the prohibitory amendment received 1,006 votes and there were 932 votes against the amendment. This vote indicates that about 300 Republicans must have voted against the prohibitory amendment. The facts, as now recalled by those who participated in that election, were that probably 450 Republicans, or about one-third of the party, voted against the prohibitory amendment, while probably one-fifth of the Democrats voted for the amendment. The sentiment of the county was for the prohibition of the liquor traffic.

Reno county has ever since that vote been a staunch supporter of prohibition. There have been times, many of them, when saloons were run in

Hutchinson and in some of the other towns of the county. This has been due to two factors—one, that a large percentage of the people were opposed to the law originally, which has had its effect on the political parties in making their nominations for the executive officers of the county, they looking for candidates who would not show too severe an opposition to the saloon business. Another factor, and perhaps the one that had the most to do with the violation of the law, was the substitution of a fine system under some of the city administrations, which practically meant high license instead of prohibition. This condition existed under several of the city administrations and was only ended by the passage of a law that put city and county officers in danger of impeachment and ouster from their office by the attorney-general of the state for a failure to enforce the prohibitory law. The argument used by the city officials was that whiskey would be sold anyhow and the city should derive some revenue from its sale. This argument was dispelled as soon as the ouster law became effective and showed the weakness of the statement which had been an excuse for failure to enforce the law. This law has likewise been misused to boom some weak candidates for office, men who could not appeal to the people on their qualifications, but used it as a slogan to obtain votes. But in a general way, the prohibitory law has been enforced about as well as any other criminal statute.

One of the most notable political contests in Reno county was that between Chester I Long and Jerry Simpson for congressman. Reno county was the largest county in the district and became the center of the contest in each of four political campaigns in which these two men were candidates. Perhaps the greatest local meeting ever held in Reno county, one in which partizanship was at its height, was at the joint debate held in the old auditorium at Riverside park. Party feeling was bitter. The debate was largely over the monetary question, whether it was better for the country to have the gold standard or the "double standard," the latter being contended for by Simpson.

The largest political meeting and, for that matter, the largest crowd ever assembled in Hutchinson was on October 3, 1894, when William McKinley, then chairman of the ways and means committee of the house of representatives, spoke in this city. The railroads granted a one-cent-a-mile rate from all points within three hundred miles of Hutchinson. Every available bit of equipment was used by the railroads, some of them being forced to use freight cars to accommodate the people desiring to come to Hutchin-

son. It was estimated that there were over one hundred thousand people in Hutchinson, only a small portion of these people being able to hear McKinley speak. All of the chairs were taken out of the building and everybody stood up. Not only was the floor packed to suffocation, but the rafters of the unfinished auditorium became perches for men who wanted to hear the man who then was making a campaign for nomination for President of the United States.

Another great gathering of a political nature was in 1912, when William H. Taft, then President of the United States, visited Hutchinson, laying the corner stone of the convention hall in Hutchinson and addressing the crowd at the state fair grounds. It was an immense crowd, but strangely different from the McKinley meeting, which was marked by the highest enthusiasm, while the Taft meeting was very noticeable for the absence of any demonstrations of favor toward the speaker.

Prior to the establishment of the state primary system, all of the political parties made nominations by delegate conventions. The foundation of this system rested with the party caucus, at which time delegates were selected to the county convention, where county candidates were selected. In state matters, this county convention selected delegates to the state convention, which nominated the party candidates for state offices. When delegates to the national convention were to be selected, the state convention selected the men to represent the state. Frequently those delegates were instructed how they were to vote in the convention to which they had been sent. This system developed what were called "bosses", party leaders who selected the delegates and candidates and then sought to get the delegates to ratify their choice. In many ways this system was very satisfactory, but its abuses were in the spirit of the leaders, who grew arrogant in the power they wielded in practically having the control of the offices. Their choice was generally wise, and competent men were put in office, but it frequently happened that the party "bosses" thwarted the choice of the people and named subservient candidates who would devote the political energies of their officers to the continuing of the "machine", as the organization was generally called. All political parties were managed in the same way and it was the abuse of the power of naming the candidates that led to the changing of the system.

The protest against the convention system became so vigorous that the Legislature passed the "primary" law, which is in force at the present time. It really amounts to two elections. The state controls every feature of the

matter. It prescribes the method by which persons may become candidates, furnishes all the ballots, controls the election boards and pays all the expenses of selecting the candidates of all parties for all offices. It limits the amount of money a candidate can spend to secure either the nomination or the election. In a general way, the primary law has given satisfaction, but the abuses which can arise under it are becoming more apparent each year and it is becoming more evident that some additional features must be added to the law or it will become as distasteful as the old convention system. In a general way, the question of publicity is becoming a serious one. The best known man necessarily wins and the unknown candidate receives but small consideration. Newspaper advertising in a state-wide campaign is necessary and in some manner this must be obtained; therefore there is a great deal of truth in the statement frequently made that running for a state or national office is a rich man's game. Perhaps this feature is the most objectionable one. Another feature is that incompetent persons are sometimes named for office. While some conspicuous instances of this have occurred in Reno county, perhaps there have been no more than there were under the convention system.

In a general way, Reno county has been Republican in politics. The first breaking from the rule was in 1890, when the Populist party was organized. At that time nearly all of the county outside of Hutchinson went against the Republicans and the town majority was greatly reduced. The county offices were all filled with Populists. Gradually this party has disappeared, many of its members returning to the Republican party. However, there was a large percentage who, while nominally Republican, took almost any occasion to break away from the party. This was noticeable in 1912, when the "Bull Moose" party arose in protest against the methods of the Republicans in the national convention that nominated Taft for the Presidency. This was a revolt equal in extent to the one in this state that created the Populist party, which was over the financial question.

As a result of all these political moves, there has grown up in Kansas—and this applies to Reno county as well—a political independence that will not tolerate abuse of power by any party. It is the best possible guarantee of the better element of society controlling in political matters. With this independence, no party rules by reason of its former work. It must meet the demands of the day or the people will go to the other political party or, if need be, create a new one. With this sentiment, popular rule is assured, the highest integrity obtained in public officials and the best possible service from the servants of the people—the ones who hold the offices.

CHAPTER XIV.

THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS.

Reno county, under the statutes of Kansas, leaves her financial matters in the hands of three commissioners, who are chosen from three separate districts of the county. The boundary lines of these districts have been changed at various times, the general purpose being to get the population of the county divided up into as nearly equal parts as possible. Several changes have been made in years past for political purposes—a township or ward of a town shifted from one district to another because of its vote, but in general the idea of dividing the county as equally as possible according to population has controlled the county commissioners, who make and change the boundary lines of the districts.

The members of the first board of commissioners, appointed by the governor of Kansas, were C. C. Bemis, W. J. Van Sickle and W. H. Bell, and they were to have charge of county matters until an election could be held. They called an election for county officers for Saturday, February 3, 1872. At this election these three men were chosen for commissioners, to serve until the regular election in the fall of 1872, when they were all re-elected.

On August 13, 1874, the county was first divided into commissioner districts. The first district consisted of the townships of Clay, Grant, Little River, Valley and Reno. At that time Hutchinson was a part of Reno township. The second district consisted of the townships of Castleton, Lincoln and Haven, and the third district, the balance of the county.

These township lines have been changed in many ways since 1874, but cover about the same territory that is now comprised in the townships that compose the three commissioner districts. In 1916 these districts stood as follows: First district, the city of Hutchinson; second district, the townships of Albion, Castleton, Center, Nimmescah, Reno, Roscoe, Lincoln, Little River, Medora, Salt Creek, Summer, Troy, Valley, Yoder and Haven; third district, the balance of the county, seventeen townships in number.

NOTABLE POLITICAL ROW OF 1873.

The election of 1873 started in a row and ended in a law suit. The contest was nominally the country against the town, but in reality, it was the "outs" against the "ins." The result of the election went to the district court and on to the supreme court. The result was not announced until February 5, 1875. The contest was on county surveyor and the three county commissioners. Henry Hartford was continued as sheriff of the county; George W. Hardy, county treasurer; R. A. Soper, surveyor, with M. A. Sayles, J. S. Houser and William Astle as county commissioners. In their contest and anxiety to get their offices they lost the records of their opponents, of the men who won, and the vote is also missing.

In 1874 there were no county commissioners elected, the old ones holding over until the contest of 1873 was settled. In 1875 the entire board of commissioners were voted on. In the first district, J. M. Beam received 303 votes and E. J. Russell 122 votes. In the second district, J. W. Cook polled 116 votes, William Astle 110, and George Bishop 26 votes. Astle waited a year and went into the board the following year after the supreme court's decision. P. C. Branch won in the third district, receiving 147 votes, J. Elliott 112 votes, and T. J. Anderson 62 votes. There was no election in 1876. In 1877 all three commissioner districts held elections. In the first district J. B. Potter got 409 votes and G. M. Zinn 117 votes. In the second district J. A. Moore received 207 and M. Sharp 63 votes. In the third district Elmer Everett polled 281 votes and his opponent, T. J. Anderson, 102 votes. The only man of this board re-elected was Elmer Everett. Both Moore and Sharp dropped out of sight politically. Mr. Anderson, being a Democrat, was on the minority side. He was a candidate for other offices later, but was not successful in politics. However, he was a success in business, being later one of the most substantial cattle men of the early days. He lived a long and useful life in Hutchinson, honored and respected by all. Mr. Everett still lives in Center township. He has been one of the strong men in the county, a man of good, clear judgment, his word as good as a bond, successful in business, a good clean man, a pioneer of the highest order and a man whom his neighbors trust and honor.

In 1878 John Gilleland ran for commissioner from the first district, receiving 403 votes and D. D. Olmstead 305 votes. This was a race between two excellent men. Olmstead was a pioneer of Grant township, a justice of the peace and a worthy citizen. Gilleland lived in Valley town-

ship, and was equally as highly regarded. Gilleland served on the board for three years.

In 1879 A. M. Switzer was a candidate in the second district against S. Smith. He received 329 votes to Smith's 54 votes. Mr. Switzer at that time lived in Lincoln township, being one of the earliest settlers in that part of the county. He is still vigorous and healthy, living now in the last township organized, Yoder township, whose organization was due to Mr. Switzer's persistence and good standing in the county.

In 1880, Mr. Everett was chosen for a second term from the third district. His opponent was O. S. Jenks, of Turon. The vote stood—Everett, 856; Jenks, 682. There was no election in 1881.

PERSONNEL OF THE BOARD DURING THE EIGHTIES.

In 1882, in the second district, there were three candidates for the office, A. M. Switzer receiving 223 votes, R. Laughlin, 138 votes and W. H. Northcutt, 146 votes. Mr. Switzer served one term. In 1883, in the third district, W. A. Watkins and R. T. Cassidy were the candidates. Mr. Watkins polled 488 votes and Mr. Cassidy, 200 votes. Mr. Watkins served one term of three years. In 1884 the first district elected commissioners. W. P. D. Fleming was elected over F. M. Wiley, he receiving 937 votes and Mr. Wiley, 576 votes. Mr. Fleming was re-elected in 1887, polling 1,046 votes. In this second race he had two competitors, G. W. Hardy, who received 202 votes, and J. P. Theabold, who received 22 votes. In 1885 there were elections in both the second and third districts. In the second district Frank Maguire beat George H. Benson, he receiving 426 and his competitor 297 votes. In the third district J. M. Anderson was elected by a vote of 573 to R. T. Cassidy's 301 votes. Mr. Anderson was re-elected in 1886, L. M. Hall, running against him, getting 488 votes, and C. M. Gray getting 84 votes, while Anderson received 666 votes. Mr. Maguire failed to secure a second term, due to a divided vote. He received 788 votes, while G. M. Zimmerman received 949 votes. W. F. Carson was also a candidate in this race, receiving 59 votes, and Minor Crippen received 169 votes. By reason of the four candidates, elected on local issues, the votes that were received by the two lowest candidates were taken largely from Maguire. In 1890 W. P. D. Fleming was elected from the first district for the third time. He received 641 votes and W. B. Holmes, his competitor, got 356.

In 1891 J. H. Fountain received 742 votes from the second district for

commissioner, G. M. Zimmerman, 606 and John Parker, 304 votes. Mr. Fountain served one term. In 1892 the race was a very close one between W. K. Noland and William Patten. Noland received 1,150 votes and Patten 1,135 votes. Noland served but one term. He was elected as a Populist, but turned Republican while on the board. At that time the county printing was a prize much sought for. The Populist paper had the patronage for the first year of Noland's incumbency. But the Republican paper induced Noland to change and vote for them. Noland likewise, during his official term, changed his vote on the Haven Angling road case. At the first presentation of the case, Noland held the balance of power on the board of commissioners and voted then to keep the Angling road open. Later when the road case came up again, Noland voted to close the road. Noland did not ask for re-election, but shortly after his term of office expired he left the county.

In 1893 W. P. D. Fleming was elected for the fourth term as commissioner from the first district. He received 817 votes and his competitor, C. M. Mulkey, 556 votes. In 1894 D. M. McElwain was elected from the second district, receiving 1,008 votes, as against 963 votes for W. D. Kennedy. In 1895 I. Rutledge, of Arlington, was chosen commissioner from the third district. He received 904 votes, M. G. Hackler 748 votes, and E. S. Ping, 61 votes. Rutledge was re-elected in 1898 by the small majority of 3 votes. Rutledge got 892 votes and his Democratic competitor, Leeds, 889 votes. In 1896 H. Miskimen was elected over J. M. Brehm, the former receiving 1,100, the latter 760 votes. In 1897, in the second district, J. F. McMurray got 753 votes and John Myers, 919 votes. Mr. Myers was re-elected in 1900, receiving 1,180 votes to 1,089 that his competitor, A. J. Tyler, of Haven, received. In 1899 T. F. Leidigh was chosen commissioner from the first district. In 1901 M. F. Bain received 899 votes in the third, or "west" district, to 660 cast for Henry Thompson. Mr. Bain was re-elected in 1904. In 1902 there were four candidates for commissioner in Hutchinson, H. C. Barrett getting 1,115 votes; J. E. Fowler 487 votes, S. N. Parker 37 votes and A. S. Lech, 89 votes. Mr. Barrett was a candidate again in 1906, but he was beaten by Fay Smith, the vote standing, Smith, 1,014; Barrett, 989.

CHANGE IN THE ELECTION LAWS.

About that time the election laws were changed by the Legislature, and by reason of this change the election of part of the county officers took

place each year, so that the elections would be held every two years. This makes two county commissioners' election in one year, instead of one being elected each year. As a result, in 1908, there were commissioners to elect in the second and third districts. In the second district the two candidates were J. M. Bush and J. F. McMurray, the former receiving 1,312 votes and the latter, 1,019 votes. In the third district M. F. Bain received 1,195 votes as against L. G. Bradshaw's 1,100 votes. In 1910 the city district No. 1, had a close race between J. Q. Patten and Fay Smith, the latter being elected, receiving 1,335 votes to Patten's 1,246 votes. J. M. Bush and A. J. Hill were candidates from the second district. J. M. Bush was continued in office, getting 1,182 votes and Hill 1,051 votes. In the west district Peter Deck received 1,086 votes and J. F. Justice, 1,050 votes. Deck was re-elected in 1916, receiving 1,720 votes to 1,694 votes for C. L. Dodd. At the last election for county commissioners in Hutchinson in 1914 there were three candidates. J. L. Ball received 2,398 votes; Fay Smith, 1,967, and H. M. Payne, 925. In 1916 the election in the second district was an interesting race, there being an "independent" candidate—Rodney Elward. The successful candidate was H. J. Astle, of Haven, who received 1,383 votes. Elward received 1,189 votes and T. C. Potter, 1,007; so the board of county commissioners at the present time stand: J. L. Ball, first district; H. J. Astle, second district, and Peter Deck, third district.

PIONEER OFFICIALS LACKED "VISION."

In a general way the county commissioners, as the financial agents of Reno county, have exercised average business judgment in the conduct of the affairs of the county. In the early days it was a question of getting the money with which to do the business of the county, but the men who transacted the business of the county should not be judged by the standard of today, by the development of the present time. They were doing the county's business for the average man, who less, perhaps than the commissioner of his day, saw in the future the great development of the county's resources; men who never dreamed that farm values would double time and time again; who thought that the villages of that day would never be more than villages, and who thought that cities would never take the place of those county villages. With no dream of the future, they planned accordingly. They built as the average man would have built. For instance, when the present court house was built, it was thought that it would meet the demands of the county for generations. Less than twenty years have come and

gone; some of the men holding offices of the county at that time are still running for office, and the court house is even now far below the requirements of the time. They considered then that the county superintendent of public instruction needed but one small room for an office. They never thought in their life time that a larger one would ever be needed. Now, when anything more than an average day brings people to that office on school business, they must stand around in the corridors of the building and await their turn. One small office then was considered all that would be needed for generations to come. The county clerk's vault room is filled and books of record of the greatest value must be put down in the basement for lack of vault room. All over the court house, the inadequateness of the building, for even the present, testifies to the smallness of the vision of the men who voted the taxes for the building.

In bridge building, temporary structures were considered ample. Wooden culverts were put in, to rot and be replaced a half dozen times; wooden bridges built, to be torn down and cement structures erected in their place, the kind that should have been constructed in the beginning. Temporary work done on roads, ample for that day, but absolutely inadequate for the tonnage of today, when the demand for better highways is incessant. No man of commanding force opposed them to show the people that a corporation like Reno county, one that would last for hundreds of years, one that in fact has a perpetual existence, should not build as individuals build, should not put up temporary structures, but should build with a view of the demands of the future. They need not have paid for their improvements—they should have extended that indebtedness over long years of time—that those of the future might help pay for the development of the county.

Instead of that the temporary means were adopted, and Reno county will soon be compelled to rebuild her court house, some of her bridges and her roads and the man who will arise and show the taxpayer the wisdom of the greater view, the economy of permanent improvements, will be the man the future taxpayer of Reno county will want to do honor to.

The selection of H. J. Astle, of Haven township, is one of two instances of the son succeeding to the work of his father. In 1873 William Astle, the father of H. J. Astle, was chosen county commissioner of Reno county. He resided in Haven township and from this township forty-two years later came his son as county commissioner. The only other similar instance in Reno county history is the election of Harry Ragland to the office of register of deeds, which office had been held by his father.

CHAPTER XV.

PROBATE JUDGES OF RENO COUNTY.

In many respects the office of probate judge is the most important office in the county. So far as the title to real estate is concerned alone, it is a most important office; for, sooner or later, the title to every piece of real estate will have to go through the probate court. In addition, the care of estates of minors requires this office to be held in the highest regard, that the rights of these minors, who are unable to protect themselves, may receive the greatest degree of care from this court.

In recent years an added burden has been placed on this court, the care of the delinquents and juveniles who have no proper care at their homes. This calls for a degree of patience and insight into the ways of these weaker members of society that requires the highest intelligence and discernment.

In order to show the growth of this office and to indicate its importance, a comparison will be made of the eight principal activities of the probate judge's office, namely: Insane cases, foreign wills, domestic wills, adoption proceedings, administrator appointments, juvenile cases, marriage licenses and foreign and resident guardian's appointments.

There have been two hundred and seventy-two insane cases tried in the probate court since the establishment of the court. For convenience, the comparisons will be made in ten-year periods, which gives four periods, with the balance of the four years which covers the time of the present probate judge, Charles S. Fulton. These ten-year periods show the extent of the working of the office and the growth that has taken place in the last four years.

For the period of 1872 to 1882, there were thirty-one cases of insanity hearings recorded in the probate judge's office. The files are incomplete for the last eight years, and no files are found in the records of any nature for the first two years of the office, consequently for the first two years no estimate can be made of the insane cases tried in this county, if there were any. For the period of ten years from 1883 to 1892, inclusive, there were fifty-five insane hearings in the probate court. In the period from 1892 to 1902, inclusive, there were forty such cases tried in this court. From 1903

to 1912, inclusive, the number of such cases tried numbered eighty-seven. For the last four years, from 1912 to 1916, fifty-nine cases of insanity have been heard and disposed of by this court. In the ten-year period prior to the last four-year period, the average has been a little less than six cases of insanity a year for the court's consideration, while during the past four years the average has been almost twenty cases per year.

FOREIGN WILLS AND GUARDIANSHIPS.

During the county's existence there have been filed with the probate court two hundred and fifty-eight foreign wills. There has not been much of a variance from one period of ten years with another similar period. The foreign wills filed have averaged slightly over six wills of this kind a year. In the period from 1893 to 1902, inclusive, a somewhat larger number of foreign wills were probated in Reno county. The record of this class of business is as follows:

From 1874 to 1880, no foreign will files found in the court records; from 1880 to 1882, inclusive, eleven foreign wills filed; from 1883 to 1893, inclusive, sixty-two foreign wills filed; from 1893 to 1902, inclusive, eighty-one foreign wills filed; from 1903 to 1912, inclusive, seventy-four foreign wills filed; from 1913 to 1916, inclusive, twenty-nine foreign wills filed.

It is impossible to give the amount of property involved in these cases, because the probate court of this county had but little knowledge of the estates involved, the instruments being filed in this county because of the existence of some property in this county that was covered by the wills filed. In many cases the probate court has no means of knowing what the value of the property is, as no inventory is filed with the will. Whether there were any foreign wills filed in this county from 1874 to 1880 can not now be determined, as there is no record of any such wills, if any were filed.

During the history of this county there have been one thousand and sixty-four foreign and resident guardians appointed by the probate court. In this, as well as other departments of this office, the early records are very deficient. The case files are so deficient that about all that can now be ascertained is the number of guardians appointed. The records that now exist show that there were ninety-one guardians appointed from 1874 to 1882.

From 1883 to 1892, inclusive, there were two hundred and twenty-seven appointments of guardians made. From 1893 to 1902, inclusive, there were two hundred and seventy-four guardians appointed. From 1903

to 1912, inclusive, there were three hundred and twenty such appointments made. In this latter period there were a few more than thirty-five appointments, on an average, made per year. In the last four years, from 1913 to 1916, there were one hundred and forty-two guardians appointed, increasing the average to about thirty-seven appointments a year.

APPOINTMENT OF ADMINISTRATORS.

During the forty-four years of Reno county's organization there have been nine hundred and twenty-six administrators appointed by the probate court. The early records disclose sixty-eight appointments, with very deficient files from 1874 to 1882. From 1883 to 1892, inclusive there were one hundred and ninety-nine appointments made. From 1893 to 1902 the court appointed two hundred and twenty-five administrators. From 1903 to 1912, inclusive, there were three hundred and five appointments made. From 1913 to 1916, inclusive, there were one hundred and twenty-nine administrators appointed. The increase has been, in the last four years, about three more administrators of estates by this court per year than in the ten-year period previous.

DEPARTMENT OF DOMESTIC WILLS.

The probate court of this county has acted on four hundred and thirty-three domestic wills during the existence of the court. The records prior to 1884 are found to be in such a shape, so indefinite and incomplete as to the number of wills probated, scattering and without dates as to filing, so that it is impossible to give the number of wills filed in this court during that period.

From 1884 to 1892, inclusive, a period of nine years, fifty-six wills were filed for probate. From 1893 to 1902, inclusive, there were seventy wills probated. From 1903 to 1912, inclusive, there were one hundred and ninety-two wills probated. From 1913 to 1916, inclusive, one hundred and fifteen wills were probated. The number of wills filed in the last four years averages twenty-nine wills a year. For the ten-year period previous the number averaged nineteen. For the ten years from 1893 to 1902 the average number of wills filed each year was seven, and for the nine-year period of which the records are obtainable there were six wills filed annually. The number of wills filed has gradually increased as property values have increased, and there will be a gradual increase as the county develops and

larger estates are to be distributed. The value of the property that passes under the care of this court has been estimated by the officers of the court for the last four years. It has been computed that at least one million dollars of value in real estate a year for the last four years is covered by the wills filed for probate. The valuation will increase year by year, as the property value of the county increases. Not only the property covered by the new wills filed will increase in value, but wills filed in former years that have not been closed up, show great increase of property values.

There is in this court one case of a guardianship that covered a period of seventeen years. The property left to the minor heirs was of comparatively small value when the guardian was appointed, but by constant care the estate left to the heir at the end of the seventeen years of guardianship, was a very valuable one.

ADOPTION CASES AND JUVENILE COURT WORK.

There have been a total of one hundred and sixty-two adoption proceedings filed in the probate court of Reno county. Prior to 1887 no regular records were kept of the juvenile cases tried before this court. In some of the cases there is no record other than the name, so no accurate record prior to 1887 can be given.

From 1887 to 1893, inclusive, a period of seven years, there were thirty-four adoption cases handled by this court. From 1893 to 1902, a period of ten years, there were thirty-six adoption cases. From 1903 to 1913, there were fifty-one such cases, and from 1913 to 1916 there were forty-one adoptions. It will be seen that the adoptions at the present time maintain an average of ten a year; for the previous ten years, five adoptions a year, and a similar proportion in the years preceding, since the records of this part of the probate court's work has been kept.

One of the most exacting duties, one that calls for patience, judgment, sympathy and kindness, is dealing with the juvenile court work. This work is the care of the boys and girls who for various causes have been considered incorrigible by the schools, or boys and girls whom their parents are unable to control, the latter thus appealing to the probate court for assistance. It embraces likewise the attention of the youthful criminals, and the record of cases filed indicates only a small per cent. of this work that the court has to do. Hundreds of cases are handled by the probation officer, under the direction of the court, and settled satisfactorily out of court without expense to the county for court costs or witness fees. Fully ninety per

cent. of the juvenile cases are not recorded. This court kept no regular docket for juvenile cases prior to 1904. From 1904 to 1912, inclusive, a period of nine years, one hundred and fifty-five juvenile cases were considered by the probate court of Reno county, while one hundred and forty-two cases have been handled in the last four years, making a total of two hundred and ninety-seven cases of this kind on the records of the probate court.

COMPLETE RECORD OF MARRIAGE LICENSES.

There is one record of the probate court that is complete through all of the terms of the various probate judges. This is the record of marriage licenses issued. From 1872 to 1882 there were eight hundred and eighty-nine licenses issued; from 1883 to 1892, 2,318 licenses were issued; from 1893 to 1902, 2,660 licenses were issued; from 1903 to 1912, 3,910 licenses were issued, and from 1913 to 1916, 1,853 licenses were issued, or a total since the organization of the county of 11,630 licenses.

LIST OF PROBATE JUDGES.

There have been ten different men elected as probate judge of Reno county. One of them served one term, another only a part of a term, two of them served two terms each, three of them served three terms each, one of the latter serving one additional term at a later period. One of them, Harvey Eisminger, served only a part of the term for which he was elected, resigning his office before he had served a year. W. W. Updegraff was the first probate judge of the county. He was elected without opposition. He was not a candidate for re-election. In 1874 G. V. Ricksecker was a candidate, and likewise L. S. Shields. Ricksecker received 374 votes and Shields 304 votes. Ricksecker was a candidate again in 1876. His opponent was W. B. Brown. Ricksecker received 235 votes and Brown 110 votes. Ricksecker was a candidate for a third term, receiving 1,245 votes, and C. W. Peckham, his opponent, received 430 votes. In 1880 S. B. Zimmerman was the Republican candidate and W. L. Rose his opponent. In 1882 Zimmerman was again a candidate. He had two opponents, I. N. Phillips and L. S. Shields. In the contest Zimmerman polled 1,262 votes, Phillips 818 votes and Shields 132 votes. In 1884 Zimmerman was a candidate again. George Barclay was a candidate on the Democratic ticket. Zimmerman received 1,937 votes and Barclay 1,493 votes. In 1886 S. A. Atwood was the successful candidate. He polled 1,899 votes, George Barclay 1,114

votes and F. R. Chrisman 338 votes. Atwood was elected again for the term beginning in 1888, he receiving 3,562 votes, Thomas Smith polling 705 votes and S. B. Presby 221 votes. In 1890 a revolution in politics put the Republican party out of power. R. A. Campbell, the Republican candidate for probate judge, was beaten by Harvey Eisminger. Campbell received 2,411 votes and Eisminger 2,975. Eisminger served but a short time, resigning. J. A. Fontron was appointed to fill the unexpired term. In 1892 there were four candidates, J. A. Fontron, T. J. Bowser, W. M. Ingham and G. V. Ricksecker. J. A. Fontron was elected, receiving 2,281 votes, Bowser 2,066 votes, Ingham 425 votes and Ricksecker 231 votes.

In 1894 Fontron was re-elected. His Democratic opponent was R. J. Cannell. Fontron polled 3,266 votes and Cannell 2,440 votes. In 1896 James M. Stewart was the Republican nominee and C. W. Oswald the Democratic candidate. Stewart received 3,252 votes and Oswald 3,085 votes. Stewart was re-elected in 1898. His opponent that year was Fred Thorp, of Haven. Stewart polled 2,976 votes and Thorp 2,450 votes. In 1900 R. A. Campbell was the Republican nominee and B. E. Kaufman the Democratic nominee. Campbell was elected, receiving 3,738 votes and Kaufman 2,827 votes. Campbell was re-elected in 1902. He had three opponents, W. J. Olmstead, Henry Wilson and T. J. Anderson. Campbell received 3,291 votes, Olmstead 1,840 votes, Wilson 68 votes and Anderson 130 votes.

In 1906 G. V. Ricksecker received 3,318 votes and J. H. Gresham 2,326 votes. In 1908 R. A. Campbell, a Republican, was defeated by J. M. Jordan, a Democrat. Campbell polled 3,404 votes and Jordan 4,210 votes. Jordan was re-elected in 1910. His Republican opponent was Ed. L. Teed. Jordan received 3,846 votes and Teed 2,858 votes. In 1912 Charles S. Fulton was the Republican candidate and J. R. Beeching the Democratic nominee. Fulton received 4,298 votes and Beeching 3,027 votes. Mr. Fulton was re-elected in 1914 without opposition, receiving 9,271 votes. He was a candidate again in 1916. He had two opponents, W. C. Hutchinson and O. B. Burkett. Fulton received 8,905 votes, Hutchinson 4,745 votes and Burkett 570 votes.

COURT PROPERLY COMPLIMENTED.

During the administration of Judge Fulton, the office of probate judge has been brought up to the highest degree of accuracy and completeness. Lawyers from other states practicing in the court comment on the orderly condition in which they find all of the records and on the pleasure they find

in practicing in this court. Judge Fulton has an able assistant in A. L. Lander, who has charge of the juvenile work, and the painstaking care with which Judge Fulton and Mr. Lander handle this office is shown in the orderly condition of all the records of that office. Judge Fulton is recognized as one of the ablest probate judges in the state and real estate titles that have passed through his office receive no criticism from attorneys who pass on such titles for loan companies.

CHAPTER XVI.

CLERKS OF THE DISTRICT COURT.

Reno county has had eleven different clerks of the district court. For some reason that cannot now be ascertained, the tenure of service of this office has been longer than in other offices. Some of the county offices are limited by statute to two terms. No such limitation is imposed by law on this office, and it has escaped the popular limit of time set for one man to hold the office to two terms. Four years has been the accustomed limit of the holding of a county office, but the office of clerk of the court has had two exceptions. The first was Edward S. Handy, who was first elected in 1876 to this office. He served six years. He was not a candidate for the fourth term. His successor was John B. Vincent, who was elected for three successive terms; but he took his pitcher to the well once too often and the fourth time he was a candidate he was beaten and that, too, by a comparatively unknown man, and by a majority half as large as he was accustomed to receive in his campaigns.

RECEIVED ALL VOTES CAST.

The first clerk of the district court was Harry Hodson. He, with the other candidates, received all the votes cast, as there was but one ticket in the field at this election. In 1876 E. S. Handy was the Republican candidate for this office. F. R. Chrisman was the Democratic candidate. Handy received 238 votes and Chrisman 117. In 1878 Mr. Handy was the Republican candidate again, receiving 1,242 votes and J. F. Dunkin, the Democratic nominee, got 431 votes. This vote indicates a large increase in Republican votes. There were a great many Union soldiers settled in Reno county from 1874 to 1880. They were generally Republicans in politics. While the Democratic party increased its vote, the increase was not as rapid as the Republican vote. Another matter that helped increase Mr. Handy's vote was his personal popularity. He was a very pleasant man to deal with and persons dealing with his office, although of opposite political faith, were constrained to vote for Mr. Handy. While the "two-term" idea had started

with the idea of limiting the length of service, yet Mr. Handy's personal popularity gave him a third term over his opponent, W. D. Woodson, a Democrat, by a vote of 1,444 for Handy to 588 votes for Woodson, and Handy was the Republican candidate again in 1882, receiving 1,361 votes, Allen Shafer 785 votes and C. Bishop 88 votes.

In 1884 the Republican candidate for clerk of the court was John B. Vincent. He received 2,040 votes. J. T. Burtch, his Democratic opponent, received 1,363 votes. For the second term in 1886, Mr. Vincent had two opponents, J. H. Kinkaid, who received 1,274 votes, and W. E. Fosnot, who polled 164 votes. The Republican candidate polled 1,073 votes.

In the race for the third term of clerk of the court, Mr. Vincent had two opponents again. He received 3,369 votes, Jesse Reynolds got 1,812 votes and H. B. McMullen 151 votes.

In 1890 Mr. Vincent made the race for clerk of the district court for the fourth time. His opponent was F. P. Adams, a comparatively unknown man in politics, and one who made but one race for office and then left the county. Mr. Vincent polled 2,321 votes and Adams's vote was 3,047.

In 1892 the Republican candidate for clerk of the court was Z. W. Whinnery. He had two opponents, John H. Kinkaid and Richard McDaid. This race was a close one. Whinnery got 3,126 votes, Kinkaid 3,063 votes and McDaid 88 votes. In the campaign for re-election in 1894 Mr. Whinnery had A. R. Dodge for an opponent. This time he had a few less than a thousand majority, he receiving 3,356 votes and Dodge 2,364 votes.

GOOD "VOTE GETTER" TURNS TABLES.

In 1896 the Republican candidate was defeated. This was due partially to the ill feeling developed in the Republican convention of that year, and partially to the candidate opposing Walter Payne—Fay Smith, who perhaps is the best "vote getter" that ever ran for office in Reno county. The vote this year stood: Payne, 3,082 votes; Smith, 3,322.

In 1898 the Republicans nominated E. Edwards and the Democrats renominated Smith. Edwards polled 2,650 votes and Smith 2,836 votes. Smith ran again in 1900 against John M. Wyman. The prejudice against a "third term" was revived and used in the campaign and Smith's "vote-getting" qualities were unable to pull him through. Wyman got 3,422 votes and Smith, 3,189 votes.

In 1902, Wyman was the Republican candidate for re-election. He had as opponents George Sain, of Nickerson, Democrat, who polled 1,038

votes; C. D. Wood, Prohibitionist, 67 votes, and George Bishop, Socialist, 124 votes. Wyman had a good clear majority over all, his vote being 3,231.

In 1904 there were three candidates for clerk of the court—R. H. Flynn, O. S. Coffin and G. S. Bishop. Flynn received 3,692 votes, Coffin 1,944 votes and Bishop 2,060 votes.

In 1906 the Republicans re-nominated R. H. Flynn for a second term. He had J. P. Hendrixson as an opponent. Flynn's vote was 3,395 and Hendrixson got 2,242 votes.

WOMEN ELECTED TO OFFICE.

In 1908 Miss Amy Alexander was nominated for clerk of the court. Her father was one of the pioneers of Hutchinson. Miss Alexander had the enthusiastic support of a large number of the old friends of her father and polled 4,314 votes. Her opponent, W. L. Stroup, received 3,295 votes. In 1910 Miss Alexander was renominated and re-elected, receiving 3,878 votes. Her opponent, A. J. Coleman, received 2,797 votes.

In 1912 the Republican candidate was Carl Richardson and the Democratic candidate was Mrs. Florence Hutchinson. Mr. Richardson polled 2,944 votes and Mrs. Hutchinson 4,611 votes.

In 1914 Mrs. Hutchinson was renominated for clerk of the court and the Republicans made no nominations against her. The result was that Mrs. Hutchinson polled 9,248 votes.

In 1916 there were three candidates, Carl Richardson, the Republican nominee; Miss Margaret Kessler, the Democratic candidate, and C. E. Anderson, Socialist. Richardson won, getting 7,361 votes; Miss Kessler, 5,580, and Anderson, 753.

FIRST CASE IN DISTRICT COURT.

The first session of district court for Reno county was held in August, 1872. Judge W. R. Brown opened court, with Lysander Houk as county attorney; Harry Hodson, as clerk of the court; Charles Collins, sheriff, and John McMurray, under-sheriff. The first case called for trial was that of Robert Ross against Pat Riley. The action was for the replevin of a horse and wagon. Riley was an Irishman, who had a little shack out west of town, just across Cow creek. A careful search of the records, among all of the files that are left of that case, together with the journal entries, which were kept on paper at that time, until the books of the clerk's office could

be procured, fail to disclose how the case was decided. But it was "No. 1" and regardless of its importance or its decision, it is a case of the first importance. The first criminal case was that of the state against John Callahan. It, too, has lost all importance except that it was the first criminal case filed in Reno county. The civil and criminal cases were docketed together until November 25, 1901, when the criminal docket was separated from the civil docket. At the present time the criminal docket is disposed of before the civil docket is commenced. Since the establishment of the separate dockets, until the beginning of the December term of the court in 1916, there had been 1,159 criminal cases entered on the docket. The total number of cases filed up to this same date was 12,504.

While no effort has ever been made to separate the cases—the criminal from the civil docket, while they were kept together—it is estimated that about sixty per cent. of the criminal cases have been cases arising out of the violation of the prohibitory law.

CHAPTER XVII.

THE COUNTY CLERKS.

Reno county has had twelve different clerks. Seven of them served two terms, or four years; four of them served one term of two years each and one, W. R. Marshall, broke not only the record of the county clerk's office, but all other records of continuous office holding of the same office in Reno county. He served four terms of two years each.

The first county clerk, A. C. Kies, was elected on March 15, 1872, when the first county election was held. He had no opposition. He was not a candidate for a second term. Some irregularities were found in the court house. The books of the county clerk and the county treasurer did not agree. There were charges of wrong doing by friends of both of the county officials and Kies was not a candidate for re-election after he had served his first term.

In 1874 the second election was held. Harry Hodson was the successful candidate. His opponent was H. W. Beatty. Hodson received 479 votes and Beatty, 264 votes. Hodson was not a candidate for re-election. He doubtless could have had a second term, for he was a popular clerk, a man of good ability. He left Reno county shortly after his term of office expired.

In 1876 the election for county clerk called out three candidates, H. W. Beatty, who was a candidate against Hodson in 1874; S. B. Zimmerman, who had taught in the public schools for one year, and E. J. Russell. Beatty polled 531 votes; Zimmerman, 421 votes and Russell, 122 votes. Beatty was re-elected in the fall of 1877. His opponent was a Democrat, George Barclay, who served as justice of the peace for several terms later. Barclay was a staunch Democrat. He received 211 votes, while Beatty got 1,052 votes. Beatty was a candidate for a third term in 1879 for the term beginning in January, 1880. He was opposed on the third-term platform by W. R. Marshall and W. D. Woodson. Both Beatty and Marshall were Republicans, but the "anti-third-term" talk won for Marshall, who received 1,006 votes, Beatty polling 871 votes and Woodson, 140 votes. Marshall ran again in 1882. He was re-elected and despite his anti-third-term talk when

he was a candidate the first time, he was a candidate for a third term in 1885. He was opposed by Martin O'Sullivan, of Clay township. Marshall polled 1,716 votes and O'Sullivan, 654 votes. In 1887 Marshall was a candidate for the fourth term and he won it over C. W. Peckham, but by a much decreased majority. He received 1,716 votes and Peckham, 916 votes.

NEWSPAPER MAN ENTERS THE LIST.

In 1888 S. J. Morris was a candidate for the office on the Republican ticket for the term beginning in 1889. His Democratic opponent was Sims Ely, a Democratic newspaper man, who years afterward moved to Phoenix, Arizona, where he became prominent in Democratic political circles. Morris received 2,136 votes; Ely, 1,750 votes and E. Eaton, running on an independent ticket, 59 votes. Morris was re-elected in 1889 and served out his second term.

In the election of 1892 J. E. Eaton, of Arlington, was the Republican candidate. W. F. Williams, of Nickerson, was his Democratic opponent and Jackson Fryar the candidate on the Greenback ticket. Eaton polled 2,458 votes, Williams received 2,152 votes and Fryar, 406 votes. Eaton was re-elected in 1894. His opponent that year was F. D. Hornbaker. Eaton received 2,699 votes and Hornbaker, 2,006 votes.

In 1896 W. S. Yeager was elected county clerk. He had two opponents, J. W. Turkle and J. J. Campbell. Yeager received 2,825 votes; Turkle, 1,827 votes and J. J. Campbell, 211 votes. Yeager was re-elected in 1898 for the term of two years, beginning in 1899. P. L. Campbell was his opponent. Yeager received 2,825 votes and Campbell, 2,220 votes.

In the election held in 1900 there were four candidates for county clerk, William Newlin, Mack Ross, O. C. Borger and J. Leuty. Newlin was elected, receiving 3,553 votes. Ross got 1,784 votes, Borger, 68 votes, and Leuty, 127 votes. Newlin was a candidate for re-election in 1902. He received 3,474 votes and his opponent, J. W. Likens, 2,170 votes.

In 1904 F. S. Lang was the successful candidate. He received 3,644 votes. B. McKeown, one of his opponents, polled 2,141 votes, and Lem Bowser, a third candidate, received 197 votes. Lang was a candidate for a second term. J. D. Likens was his opponent. Lang polled 3,474 votes and Likens, 2,170 votes. Lang, sought a third term, but was defeated by A. R. Hamma, who secured 3,928 votes, while Lang polled 3,699 votes. Hamma was not a candidate for re-election. He was the representative of

the minority party and knew that he would not have a third-term candidate to run against, and that he would probably be defeated.

There were three candidates at the election of 1910, H. M. Payne, Walter Brown and John Collins. Payne polled 3,807 votes; Brown, 2,912 votes, and Collins, 285 votes. Payne was re-elected in 1912. His opponent was J. E. Burgess, of Clay township. Payne received 4,046 votes and Burgess, 3,398 votes.

In 1914 there were three candidates, A. E. Noonan, C. Brice Nash and George W. Lee. Lee was elected, receiving 4,338 votes; Noonan, 3,367 and Nash, 3,026. Lee had been county assessor for two terms prior to his election. He was re-elected in 1916. He had two opponents, Edward A. King and C. E. Anderson. Lee polled more votes than both of his competitors, he receiving 7,848 votes; King, 5,146 votes, and Anderson, 852 votes.

OFFICE GROWING IN IMPORTANCE.

The office of county clerk has grown in importance greatly since the early days of the county. Today its records are of the highest importance, as it is the office of original records. It deals with the questions of taxation more largely than any of the other offices of the county. The office of county assessor was once an independent office, but the Legislature combined the duties of the county assessor and the county clerk. So now the clerk has all of the various phases of taxation to deal with as a part of the duties of his office. All of the assessment rolls are prepared in this office of all the property, personal and real, and also all public utilities. The work of getting the assessment rolls for each piece of property in Reno county has grown to be an immense job. After the assessors are through with their work, the office is required to make an abstract of each township so that the board of equalization that was created to adjust any irregularities in the work of the various county assessors may proceed intelligently. After the board of equalization is through with its work another abstract is made of the various assessors' reports and sent to the state tax commissioners in order that they may compare this county's assessments with other county assessments, in the same manner that the county board of equalization compares township and individual assessments.

The clerk also makes all school levies. The school directors indicate in their annual report just how much money they will need to meet their wants for the following year. The county clerk prepares the levy and reports to the county commissioners, who order the levy made. This is an immense

task, when it is known that there are six state and county levies, seventeen general levies and twenty special levies for Hutchinson; about half as many special levies for South Hutchinson, and, at the present time, two hundred and sixteen different levies for the various school districts of the county.

OTHER DUTIES INCUMBENT ON THIS OFFICE.

The county clerk's office records the transfer of all deeds that are filed with the register of deeds and all land contracts. In addition to these matters and other matters arising out of the same, the county clerk keeps a daily balance of accounts with the county treasurer. He records, also, every warrant filed with the county commissioners and has a duplicate of every check for the payment of money. He keeps a record of all the changes in the roads of the county. He keeps a record of all physicians and nurses and of all dentists, likewise a record of all undertakers of the county. He keeps a record of all marks and brands of cattle and a record of all names given to farms. He issues all hunting licenses and all venders' licenses. He keeps a complete record of all townsite vacations and of additions to the cities.

Likewise the county clerk has full charge of all election matters, both primary and general. He prepares and has printed the ballots. He keeps a record of all the results of elections of all kinds and issues to the successful candidate a certificate of nomination and also a certificate of election after the election is held. He issues all election notices and approves the bonds of successful candidates. The county clerk also attends all of the meetings of the county commissioners and keeps a complete record of all of their acts. This one record is the only one consecutive and complete record in Reno county. It affords the only means of supplementing the incomplete records of other offices of Reno county. The clerk prepares a final statement that is intended for the use of the governor of the state and of the Legislature, upon which much of the action in local legislative matters is based; including a large variety of matters, among them the total valuation of all property in the county, the amount paid the state directly, the amount collected for the general and all the special funds, including the road fund, both county and township; the amount on hand in the sinking fund with which to pay the bonds of the county when they become due; the amount of money paid out for interest; the amount spent to support the poor of the county; the amount for each school district and the average rate of taxation for each dollar of valuation. There is a vast

amount of work for this office. This work is close and technical in character and must be correct and it therefore has required a peculiar ability to handle the affairs of this office.

CLERK CONVICTED OF EMBEZZLEMENT.

Of the twelve men who have held this office, two of them have had suspicion cast on their integrity. One of these was A. C. Kies, the first county clerk. There was a shortage in the finances of the county. The poor system of bookkeeping of that time makes it impossible now to locate the blame. E. Wilcox was the treasurer of the county at the time Kies was county clerk. Wilcox was charged with shortage in county funds. After months of discussion, with a board of county commissioners that were unfriendly to Wilcox he was able to clear up all the matters charged against him and the account with him settled. Kies was accused of irregularities in office, but no suit was ever filed against him. Whether the commissioners of that day were more unfriendly to Wilcox than to Kies can not now be determined, but no criminal suits were ever filed against either Wilcox or Kies. However, one county clerk was checked up short. Howard M. Payne was found guilty of embezzlement and sentenced to the penitentiary for an indeterminate sentence. The total amount of his shortage amounted to \$5,540.18, of which \$3,609.82 was paid by his bondsmen, leaving a loss to Reno county of \$1,930.35.

The result of Payne's shortage led to a checking up of all of the offices of the county and the installing of some checking systems that would make detection of irregularities easier. This is the only defalcation ever found against any officer in Reno county.

PRESENT RECORDS COMPLETE AND ACCURATE.

The records of the county clerk's office at the present time are complete and information is easily obtained. In the early days, either through lack of requirement of the law or lack of disposition on the part of the clerks, the records were carelessly kept and in many instances were placed in a filing case instead of being recorded in a permanent form. There is a lack of vault room for the records of the county clerks, and many of the old records are stored in the basement of the court house for lack of room in the vault, but the records that are being made at the present time are complete and accurate.

CHAPTER XVIII.

THE COUNTY ATTORNEYS.

This office has come to be regarded as one of the most important in the county. Not only has the occupant of the office been obliged to represent the state in all criminal proceedings, but the civil business of the county has become so important that the taxpayer is disposed to look carefully to the qualifications of the candidate.

Reno county is practically a one-hundred-million-dollar corporation. Its business interests have grown to such proportions as to require the best advice obtainable. Likewise the wide range of subjects that must be handled also requires the greatest care and diligence of the county attorney. All of the contracts made by the county commissioners on behalf of the county must be drawn by the county attorney. Reno county in the year 1916 let bridge contracts for over one hundred thousand dollars. These contracts must be prepared by the county attorney and he must meet the competition of the best legal minds the bridge contractors can command, that the county's rights may be protected and the contractors' obligations kept within the terms of the agreement with the county commissioners.

The county attorney must likewise advise with the commissioners on all tax levies—their extent, when they can be levied and their limitations. He must advise them against illegal levies, that no injunction suits be brought against the collection of these taxes by some taxpayer. In this he competes likewise with the tax commissioners of the various railroad companies, who are constantly on the watch for levies that are not authorized by the statutes. Likewise the county attorney must be the legal adviser of all township officers. In taxation matters there are continually arising questions as to the construction of statutes, which the county attorney must decide for the township commissioners. He also is the legal advisor of the various county officers as to matters arising out of their offices.

AN OFFICE OF MUCH IMPORTANCE.

The county attorney also becomes the legal adviser of the various justices of the peace, especially in criminal cases. There are many cases,

perhaps five hundred a year, that might be brought, that are trivial, neighborhood disputes that some would perhaps like to get into the courts, that the county attorney directly dismisses, advising against bringing; then settles them when he can, out of court, and uses his discretion in other cases to the end that trivial matters may not burden the courts. So the county attorney's office has grown to be an office of great importance.

In the early days the office was not so seriously regarded. The county attorney's office was regarded then as a place for the prosecution of criminals, the civil side of the office not being much regarded. So much so was this the case that the principal qualification of a candidate was his announced desire to prosecute violators of the prohibitory law. In many Reno county elections this has been the issue in the election of both county attorney and sheriff. But the growth of public sentiment against the liquor business, whether it be sold by a "joint" or a "boot-legger" or a saloon, together with the throwing down of nearly all the limitations of the criminal law in liquor cases, has rendered this clamor at election time for the enforcement of the prohibitory law a minor quantity. The community insists on the enforcement of the liquor law, just as it demands the enforcement of any other criminal statute. It, however, has a just regard for the civil side of the county attorney's business and, as this business increases, the importance of the county attorney's office is more highly regarded.

INCUMBENTS IN OFFICE SINCE CREATION OF SAME.

There have been fourteen different county attorneys elected in Reno county. The first attorney was Lysander Houk. He was elected at the first election held on March 12, 1872. There was only one ticket nominated and Judge Houk was unanimously elected. He served as county attorney until 1874. In this third election, November 6, 1874, there were two candidates for the office of county attorney, H. Whiteside receiving 454 votes and J. H. Stevenson, 276 votes. Mr. Whiteside is still a resident of Hutchinson, but there is no further record of Stevenson in the court affairs. If he remained in Reno county long he never attained any prominence in county affairs. Whiteside served as county attorney for two years.

The third attorney for the county was W. H. Lewis. In the race for county attorney in 1876 Mr. Lewis received 1,059 votes. In 1878 the contest for this office was between Mr. Lewis, who was running for a second term, and W. M. Whitelaw. Mr. Lewis polled 1,050 votes and Mr. Whitelaw, 657 votes. In 1880 L. Houk was the Republican candidate, receiv-

ing 2,090 votes. In 1882 Judge Houk was a candidate for re-election. He received at this time 1,177 votes, while his opponent, W. H. Lewis, received 995 votes. Judge Houk resigned the county attorneyship on being elected judge of the ninth judicial district and in the election in 1883 for the balance of the term there were two candidates. The contest was an exceedingly interesting one and resulted in the election of R. A. Campbell, who received 1,203 votes to 1,173 received by his opponent, G. A. Vandever. Mr. Vandever was a Democrat, a fine lawyer and a popular man, and he cut the Republican majority to a close margin in the election. In 1884 Mr. Campbell was re-elected without opposition, receiving 2,224 votes.

In 1886 there were three candidates. The Republican candidate was Douglas Kirkling. He received 1,842 votes. F. P. Hettinger, the Democratic candidate, received 1,300 votes and an independent candidate, E. L. Jewell, polled 160 votes. Mr. Kirkling was an indifferent lawyer. He served but one term. He was very deliberate in his manner in the trial of a case, and the old settlers recall how Judge Houk, in a criminal case would take the preliminary examination of the jurors out of the hands of the county attorney because of his slow manner and examine them himself. The court would lose his patience with Kirkling's manner and would act as county attorney as well as judge to expedite business.

INFLUENCE OF THE POPULISTS.

In 1888 W. H. Lewis was the Republican candidate and D. W. Kent was the Democratic candidate. Lewis received 3,369 votes and Kent, 2,382 votes. Mr. Lewis served two years. In 1890 the Republican party became a minority party in both county and state. In this election Mr. Lewis received 2,263 votes and C. M. Williams, 3,110 votes. Mr. Williams resigned after serving about a year. In 1891 there were three candidates, Z. L. Wise, Republican, receiving 2,269 votes; J. W. Quick, Populist, 2,093 votes and W. M. Whitelaw, Democrat, 650 votes. Here still the Republican party was in the minority, but the three party candidates divided the votes so that Mr. Wise was elected. The election this year was to fill the balance of the term for which Mr. Williams was originally elected, and this made an election in 1892 necessary. There were three candidates this year, also, but the Republican candidate was J. W. Jones. He was a good lawyer, but not popular. His opponents were James McKinstry, an old-time Democrat, who, however, had associated with the Populists in their "fusion" with the Democrats in their joint effort to beat the Republicans. James Hettinger was

the regular Democratic candidate. At this time the Democrats saw that the Populist party was not long-lived and there arose an element that wanted to keep up the party organization, knowing that in the break-up of politics, the majority of the Populist party would return to the Democratic party rather than go into the Republican party. In this election McKinstry's personal popularity with the Democrats got him enough votes in addition to the Populist votes to elect him. He received 3,037 votes. J. W. Jones, the Republican candidate, got 3,031 and James Hettinger, the Democratic nominee, got 204 votes.

In 1894 there were two candidates. L. M. Fall, the Republican candidate, got 3,063 votes and Williams, 2,075 votes. In this election Mr. Williams ran more than 700 votes ahead of his ticket. Party lines were settling down and under ordinary circumstances Fall should have received a thousand majority over his opponent, but Mr. Williams was regarded as a far superior lawyer to his opponent and cut his majority very much.

In 1896 Fall had another close race with H. Fierce, he receiving 3,213 votes and Fierce, 3,137 votes. Shortly after his term of office expired Fall moved to California.

In 1898 the contest for this office was between Carr W. Taylor and Willis E. Vincent. Taylor received 3,008 votes and Vincent 2,450 votes. Taylor was re-elected in 1900. W. M. Whitelaw was his Democratic opponent, receiving 2,877 votes while Taylor's vote was 3,655.

In 1902 there were four candidates for county attorney, J. U. Brown, Republican, polling 3,325 votes; James McKinstry, 1,800 votes; G. W. Morgan, Prohibitionist, 73 votes, and Frank Hogan, Socialist, 129 votes. In 1904 Mr. Brown was re-elected, receiving 3,342 votes against 2,473 for A. W. Tyler, and for A. C. Humphries, 192 votes.

In 1906 W. H. Lewis was the Republican candidate and Willis E. Vincent, the Democratic nominee, Lewis receiving 3,027 votes and Vincent 2,077 votes. In 1908 Mr. Lewis was a candidate again, but was defeated by James Hettinger, who received 4,210 votes, while Lewis polled 3,430 votes.

In the election in 1910 Walter F. Jones was the Republican candidate. The Democratic candidate was Ed T. Foote. Jones received 3,370 votes and the successful candidate got 3,410 votes. Mr. Foote was re-elected in 1912. His Republican opponent was R. B. P. Wilson, Foote polled 4,518 votes and Wilson 2,885 votes. The election of 1914 for county attorney was another three-cornered fight. Warren H. White was the "Bull Moose" candidate; Herbert Ramsey, the Democratic representative and Eustace Smith,

the Republican nominee. Ramsey won, receiving 5,059 votes. Smith was second, with 4,160 votes, and White received 2,526 votes. This was an exceedingly interesting race. It indicates the comparative strength of the political parties of that year. The candidates were all young men, clean and capable, and each pulled the full strength of his organization. In 1916 Mr. Ramsey was re-elected, receiving 7,326 votes and his Republican opponent, C. G. Deming, polled 6,003 votes.

VOTE INDICATES GROWTH OF COUNTY.

Of the fourteen men who have represented Reno county in legal matters, eight of them are still living in this city at the time of the writing of this history in 1916. They are H. Whiteside, W. H. Lewis, R. A. Campbell, C. W. Williams, C. W. Taylor, James Hettinger, E. T. Foote, and Herbert Ramsey. Four are dead, L. Honk, Z. L. Wise, James McKinstry and J. U. Brown. D. Kirkling left this county shortly after his term of office expired and L. M. Fall lives in California. The average length of service of these men has been three years and three months. W. H. Lewis has served the county the longest time—ten years, and C. M. Williams the shortest time, serving but one year of the term for which he was elected, and resigning at the end of one year. The number of votes cast in the various years accurately indicates the growth of the county. In 1874 there were 643 votes cast, and every effort was made in the early days to get out as large a vote as possible. Party lines were more strictly drawn than they are now and an additional effort was made to get out all of the votes possible in order to make as big a showing as possible. At some of the early elections it is recorded that the judges and clerks left the polls in order to go out in the town and townships to get the voters to get out and vote.

In 1884 the number of votes had increased the 2,224 votes in the county. During the later years a Presidential year brought out a larger vote than the "off" years. In 1894 the vote had more than doubled—increasing to 5,768. Ten years later, in 1904, that being a year when only local matters were up for consideration, there was only a slightly larger vote than in the ten-years-previous year, which was a year when Presidential candidates were voted on. In 1914 the vote cast amounted to 11,745. The women voting added to the vote very largely, as they cast almost as large a vote, proportionately, as the men. The vote in 1916 totaled 14,018 on county attorney. It was the largest vote ever cast in the county, a Presidential election calling out a large per cent. of the voting population of the county.

CHAPTER XIX.

THE REGISTER OF DEEDS.

Reno county has had twelve different men in charge of the office of register of deeds of the county in the forty-five years of its existence. Nine of these have held the office for two consecutive terms. One had it two terms but another held for two years intervening between the first and second terms. One held it for three years, and one for one term of two years.

The first register of deeds of Reno county was S. H. Hammond, who was appointed to the office by Governor Harvey when the county was organized in 1872. He was a candidate in 1873, but his election was contested, and Hammond held the office during the time the election was in the courts, the decision on the election being announced on February 5, 1875. In the election of 1875 Hammond was a candidate. S. A. Atwood was also a candidate, as was I. A. Ijams. In this election the contest was a bitter one. The court proceedings had intensified the feeling against Hammond, who insisted on holding on to the office until a final decision in the Supreme Court was rendered. In the election of 1875 Atwood polled 706 votes for register of deeds; Hammond only got 197, and Ijams, 160. Atwood was a candidate for re-election in 1877. His Democratic opponent was J. M. Beam. Atwood received 1,012 votes and Beam 322 votes.

In 1879 John Paine was the leading candidate. He had two opponents, Pat Holland and W. H. Jordan. No record of the vote any of the candidates received can be found. And the only record showing that Paine was the successful candidate is that his name is signed to the records of the register of deeds during the term for which he was a candidate. Paine received the nomination and election in 1881. The records show that he received 1,243 votes; T. J. McMurray, 440 votes, and Simeon Cooper, another competitor, 110.

In 1883, J. S. May was the Republican nominee for this office. E. Blanpied was his Democratic opponent in this race, and he was also Mr. May's competitor in the race for the second term. In the first race, May polled 1,391 votes, and Blanpied, 973. In 1885 in the election May increased his vote to 1,733 votes, while Blanpied's votes fell off to 962.

In 1887, I. N. Woodell was the Republican nominee for register of deeds.

He received 1,979 votes, while his Democratic competitor, J. L. Reger, polled 1,815. Woodell was renominated and was re-elected in 1889, but there is no record of who was his competitor, nor of the number of votes either candidate received.

Woodell was succeeded in this office in 1896 by H. C. Barrett, who polled 2,469 votes, while his Democratic opponent, L. D. Pollock, received 2,083 votes, and D. W. Stull, a third candidate, polled 443 votes. The Republican candidate that year failed to poll a majority of all the votes cast, partly because of Barrett's lack of popularity, and partly because his Democratic opponent, Pollock, was a very popular man, and good vote-getter. In his second race Barrett did better than he did in the first race, receiving a majority of 489 votes over Hugh N. Johnson, his Democratic competitor, Barrett receiving 2,589 votes, and Johnson, 2,100.

In 1895 B. J. Ragland was the Republican nominee and the successful candidate at the election. He was opposed by Fay Smith and J. E. Wood. Ragland received 2,484 votes; Smith, 2,231, and Wood, 179. Ragland was renominated and was re-elected in 1897. The Democratic nominee against him in this race was Sam S. Graybill. Ragland received 2,645 votes in this election, and Graybill, 2,430.

In 1899 Fred S. Scoresby was the Republican candidate for register of deeds. He had three opponents, Joseph Hawes, T. B. Lehman and O. C. Miner. Scoresby polled 3,227 votes; Hawes, 1,516; Lehman, 67, and Miner, 135. Scoresby was re-elected in 1902, but no record of the vote of this election is on file. In 1904 J. G. Lamont was the successful candidate on the Republican ticket. He was elected, but the records fail to show who his opponent was, or the vote cast for either of them.

In 1906 Lamont was renominated by the Republican party and was re-elected, receiving 3,110 votes, while his Democratic opponent, Sam Gallup, polled 2,602 votes. In 1908, Charles W. Ragland was elected register of deeds over W. L. Stroup, he receiving 4,422 votes, and Stroup, 3,295 votes. Ragland's case was one of the two cases in Reno county of the son succeeding to the office his father had held. The other instance was in the office of county commissioner, where William Astle, the father, held the office of county commissioner in the early days of the county, and forty years later his son, Harry Astle, was chosen for the same office. Charles Ragland was given a second term in 1910.

In 1912 there were two candidates, Mary B. Parks and J. A. Schardein. Miss Parks received 3,242 votes, and her opponent polled 4,050 votes. In

1914, Schardein was renominated, but was defeated by E. M. Garman, who polled 5,772 votes, while Schardein received 5,507 votes. Schardein was renominated in 1916, as was also Garman. In this latter race, Schardein was successful, polling 6,578 votes, while Garman received 6,455, and F. O. Swanson, 704.

IMPORTANT FUNCTIONS OF THE OFFICE.

The work of the register of deeds has grown from a few instruments filed in the course of a day to many hundred instruments of various nature. In the early days of the county the register of deeds had but little business to transact, as there was not much property being sold. As the county developed, subdivisions of land were made, and the business greatly increased, especially during the boom period of Hutchinson's growth, as there were many new additions to the city platted and the lots sold. Likewise in the days of "hard times" there were a great many chattel mortgages filed. But at the present time the number of releases, both of chattel and real-estate mortgages, average about the same. Some seasons of the year there will be more mortgages recorded than released, but when the crops have been harvested and marketed, the release will greatly exceed the new instruments filed; but throughout the year, the average will be about the same for new mortgages filed and old mortgages released, they having been paid off.

This office is an important one, as the title to every piece of property has to be recorded here. The men who have held the office have been careful in the discharge of their duties, and no instance has ever come to light where the negligence of any register of deeds has caused a loss to any patron of the office of the twelve men who have held this office. Half of them are living and half of them are dead, Hammond, Atwood, Paine, May, Woodell and Barrett being dead, while B. J. Ragland, Scoresby, Lamont, Charles W. Ragland, Schardein and Garman are living. It is unusual for such a large per cent. of the men who have held this office, running back almost half a century, to be still living. All but one of those living are residents of Reno county—that one is Fred S. Scoresby, who lives in Rice county, Kansas.

In the early days of the county there were more instruments filed than there were releases. This was especially true of mortgages, on real estate, as well as chattels. The times of the year of the filing of the largest number of mortgages vary—in the spring there are more chattel mortgages, and in the fall and winter, more real-estate mortgages. The reason for this difference is that in the spring and summer money is borrowed on chattels to conduct the business of the year—among farmers to get the immediate money to carry

on the farming until they can sell some of their crops,—but the largest loans are the ones made in the handling of real estate, and a large per cent. of real-estate mortgages are made in the fall and winter.

The deed records will run about two volumes a year, or about thirteen hundred deeds filed annually.

As a sample of the amount of business done in this office, which is a record of the activities of this line in the county: In 1916 there were filed on an average one hundred and twenty deeds a month; one hundred mortgages a month; one hundred and fifty chattel mortgages a month, and one hundred and fifty releases a month, there being but little variation in the number of mortgages and releases, both running about the same number, also about eighteen assignments a month. There are likewise about one-third more mortgages filed during the year than there are deeds filed.

CHAPTER XX.

SURVEYORS AND CORONERS.

There can be no reason given for grouping two county offices such as surveyors and coroners in one chapter in a history of the county, except that one of the offices has not been of enough importance to make a chapter of itself and there never was much reason for the existence of the other office. The surveyor's office was always one of the last offices to be filled by a nominating convention, when that system was in use for placing men as candidates for office. There never were more than two or three men in the county that were qualified to fill the office, men who had the technical knowledge required. This, however, was not always recognized by the convention that made up the party ticket. There was one convention in the latter days of the convention system of nomination that was stampeded. The convention had hung on all afternoon; bitter contests arose over each office, and when the office of county surveyor was reached half the delegates had gone home. Fred Carpenter had been the county surveyor for years. He was a man of experience and ability and made a very competent county surveyor, but he had been surveyor for several terms and some young men from one of the wards of Hutchinson concluded to make a change in that office. As soon as Mr. Carpenter had been nominated the name of another was sprung in the convention by a group of band boys of Hutchinson. The man they wanted could toot a horn and had made a living by running a newspaper in a small town in the southwestern part of the county, but the fewness of the delegates and the anti-fourth-term sentiment resulted in the nomination of T. G. Elbury. Being on the Republican ticket he was elected, and Reno county and Hutchinson today have the "errors of Elbury" to contend with in his surveys.

There was no surveyor elected at the organization of the county. A surveyor by the name of D. M. Lewis was appointed by the board of commissioners to do some of the early surveying. The first election for surveyor was in the fall of 1873. There were two candidates, E. A. Smith and Sam Slack. In the election Smith received 238 votes and Slack, 102 votes. The same men were candidates two years later. At this time Smith's vote increased to 538 and Slack's vote increased in proportion, he receiving 402

votes. In 1879 J. M. Harsha, Sam Slack and E. Pratt were candidates for sheriff. Harsha was elected, receiving 127 votes, Slack polling 439 and Pratt, 223 votes. In 1881 there was but one candidate, J. M. Harsha, who received 1,025 votes.

In 1883 a change was made in county surveyors. W. H. Dunkin became a candidate against Harsha, who had held the office for three consecutive terms. As a result of the election Dunkin polled 1,215 votes and Harsha, 1,161 votes. In 1885 Fred Carpenter became county surveyor. He had graduated from the State University, was a thoroughly competent man and gave the county fine service. His opponent in 1885 was the man who held the office at that time, W. H. Dunkin. Carpenter polled 1,648 votes and Dunkin, 1,040 votes. In 1887 Carpenter was again a candidate. J. M. Talbott was his opponent. Carpenter received 2,376 votes and Talbott, 1,512 votes. There is no record of the election of 1889, the minutes of the county commissioners for that year merely showing the list of the successful candidates. It was the custom of all the preceding county clerks to record the votes for each candidate as well as those county clerks who succeeded. S. J. Morris, the county clerk of that time, and to place in the book in which the commissioners' proceedings are recorded the list of the votes by townships for each candidate. The record for this year simply records the successful candidates, among shown was Fred Carpenter, who was elected surveyor, and refers to the abstract of this election on file for "further information", and the county commissioners solemnly certify, and have it recorded in their journal, that "they have canvassed the vote and found the result recorded herewith to be correct". Whatever became of the abstract, if it were ever prepared, can not now be known. A search in the court house, in office filing-cases, in the vault where records are kept and even in the basement, where valuable records are "dumped" because of lack of place for them in the vault, fails to show any trace of this abstract.

In 1891 there were three candidates for county surveyor, Fred Carpenter, W. H. Dunkin and T. H. Robbins. Carpenter received 2,390 votes; Dunkin, 2,176 votes and Robbins, 447 votes. In 1893 there were two candidates for surveyor, Fred Carpenter and E. M. Garrett. Carpenter received 2,661 votes and Garrett 994 votes.

STAMPED THE CONVENTION.

It was the convention of 1894 that was referred to in the early part of this chapter, when the convention was stamped for T. G. Elbury against

Fred Carpenter. In the Republican convention that nominated Elbury no one knew him, but he received the nomination over Fred Carpenter. In the election Elbury received 2,588 votes and Carpenter, 2,220 votes. Elbury was nominated again in 1897 by the Republicans. The democrats nominated E. L. Allen. Elbury polled 2,690 votes and Allen 2,311 votes. In 1899 Elbury ran again. His opponent was Alva O'Hara. Elbury polled 3,011 votes and O'Hara 2,752. Elbury was chosen for the fourth term in 1901. He had two opponents, Alva O'Hara and Frank Lang. Elbury received 3,278 votes in the election, O'Hara 1,868 votes and Lang 131 votes.

In 1903 there was a complete change in candidates for this office. G. L. McLane and C. P. Rathburn were the candidates. McLane is a high-grade civil engineer and his work has been eminently satisfactory. In this election he received 4,070 votes and Rathburn 272 votes. In 1906 McLane was renominated and was elected without opposition, receiving 3,586 votes at this election. In 1908 McLane was a candidate again and the opponent was W. H. Dunkin. McLane polled 4,178 votes and Dunkin, 3,395 votes. In 1910 the same candidates were before the people. McLane received in this election 3,600 votes and Dunkin, 2,985 votes. In 1912 McLane had no opposition, polling 3,836 votes, and by successive re-elections is still serving as county surveyor.

In this forty-five years of the organization of Reno county there have been but six men who have held the office of county surveyor. G. L. McLane has held the office for seven terms, or fourteen years; T. G. Elbury, four terms, or eight years; Fred Carpenter, five terms, or ten years; J. M. Harsha, three terms, or six years; E. A. Smith, two terms, or four years, and W. H. Dunkin, one term, or two years. Of these, W. H. Dunkin, Fred Carpenter and G. L. McLane still live in Reno county. Mr. Carpenter is roadmaster on the Santa Fe railroad; Mr. McLane is a member of Company G of the National Guard, in the service of the country, and W. H. Dunkin has retired from active business because of his age.

CORONERS OF RENO COUNTY.

If one were looking for an anatomical analysis of the county offices, if he were seeking to locate in the "body politic" the various offices of the county, he would have no trouble in properly placing the office of coroner. It is the vermiform appendix of the political body. It has but little use. In cases of persons found dead the coroner "sits" on the corpse to ascertain whether the deceased came to his death from natural causes or whether

his death was caused by the act of some other person and, if so, who the person was, if there is any evidence to disclose the identity of such a person, or whether the death was accidental or not. He has but little authority and the courts act entirely independently of the findings of a coroner's jury. The coroner's office has one dignity attached to it: That official becomes sheriff of the county where there shall be no sheriff in the county or where the sheriff for any cause shall be committed to the jail of the county of which he is sheriff. This dignity has never yet come to any coroner of Reno county. However, Reno county has always elected a coroner, and a history of this county would be incomplete if it did not mention this constitutional office.

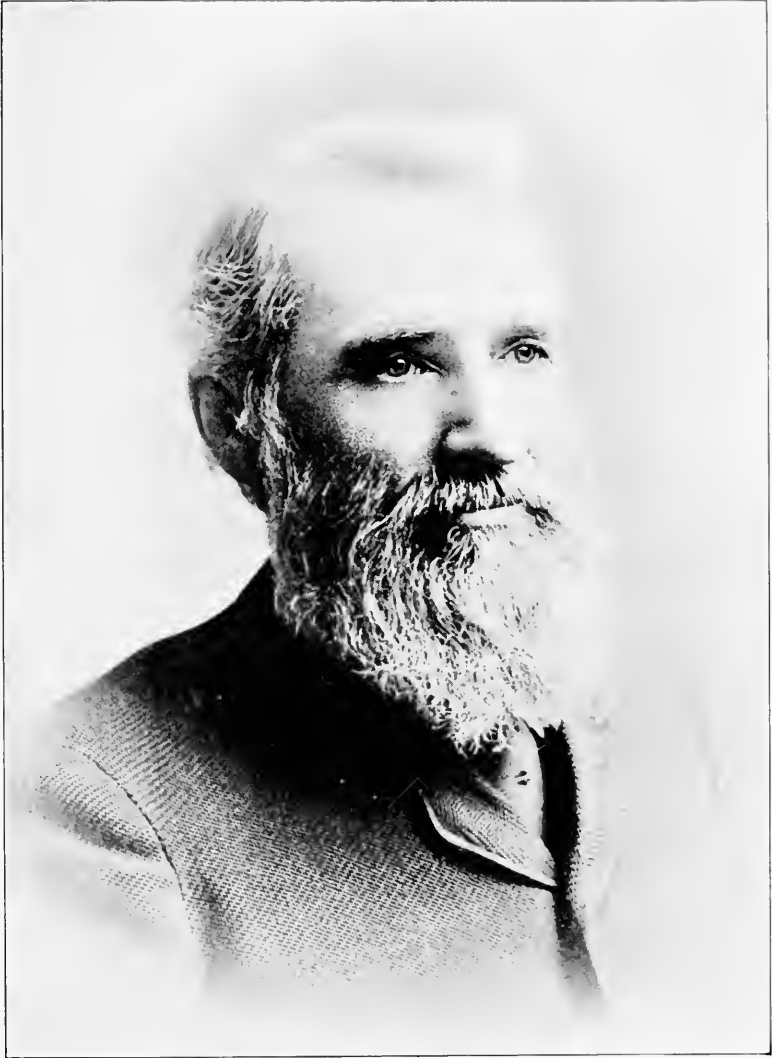
The first coroner was elected in 1873. A. Diffenbaugh and A. R. Blodgett were the candidates. Diffenbaugh polled 311 votes and Blodgett, 246 votes. In 1875 there was but one candidate, Dr. A. W. McKinney, who received 865 votes. In 1877 there were two candidates, C. L. Eggert and Dr. N. T. P. Robertson. Eggert polled 1,044 votes and Robertson, 279 votes. Doctor Robertson was one of the best known of the early doctors, tall, thin and awkward. He was always smooth shaven, even in those days when beards were popular. Doctor Robertson never was able to poll many votes for coroner. He was a candidate, perhaps against his will; his name put on to fill up the ticket, but he never was able to command many votes. This, coupled with the fact that he was a Democrat, the kind of a Democrat that always asserted his Democracy, perhaps accounted for his light vote.

In 1879 A. H. Moffat, W. L. Ross and L. Diffenbaugh were candidates for coroner. Moffat was at that time agent for the Santa Fe railroad in Hutchinson. He afterwards became one of the road's general passenger agents. In this election he polled 1,272 votes. Rose received 439 votes and Diffenbaugh, 223 votes. It is said that this election for the office of coroner was very much like the contest sometimes conducted to find out who is the most popular lady in the city. Moffat's friends got him on the ticket as a joke, but he did not want any candidate on his ticket to get more votes in the election, so he stirred up his friends to see if he could not "lead" the ticket and he did it. But, having received the prize, Moffat declined this honor, never qualified and Reno county was without a coroner for one year. In 1880 there were two candidates to fill the vacancy of one year, Dr. A. W. McKinney and D. D. Olmstead. McKinney got 353 votes and Olmstead 222. In 1881 there were three candidates for coroner, O. S. Jenks, Dr. N. P. T. Robertson and John Payne. Payne won, receiv-

ing 878 votes; Robertson ran second, polling 690 votes, while Jenks polled 138 votes. In 1883 S. H. Parks and Dr. A. W. McKinney were candidates for this office. Parks polled 1,305 votes and McKinney 1,266 votes. In 1885 the contest was between two doctors, Dr. A. W. McKinney and Dr. N. T. P. Robertson. McKinney won, polling 1,752 votes, and Robertson, 938 votes. The same candidate, with J. Hanan, made the race in 1887. McKinney polled 2,333 votes; Robertson, 1,425 votes and Hanan, 187 votes.

Because of the failure of S. J. Morris, county clerk, to keep the result of the vote, there is no record of the election of 1889, except that "A. W. McKinney was elected coroner". In 1891 A. W. McKinney, R. B. Wilson and John Parke were candidates for this office. McKinney polled 2,409 votes, Wilson, 2,183 votes and Parke, 428 votes. In 1893 there were two candidates, Dr. S. M. Colladay and J. C. Stratton. Colladay polled 2,555 votes and Stratton, 960 votes.

In 1895 Dr. E. A. Taylor, J. W. Hutton and J. F. Ives were the nominees for coroner. Taylor polled 2,801 votes in the election; Hutton, 1,802 votes and Ives, 214 votes. In 1897 Taylor and Ives were candidates again. This time Taylor received 2,789 votes and Ives 2,223 votes. In 1899 Taylor was again a candidate. His opponent was J. B. Julian. Taylor's vote in this election was 3,154 and Julian's, 2,126. In 1901 Doctor Taylor was again a candidate. He had three competitors, J. F. Ives, of 1895 and 1897, also A. L. Hollowell and Bartholomew Carrington. Taylor received 3,223 votes, Ives, 1,823; Hollowell, 75, and Carrington, 125. In 1903 Dr. H. M. Stewart was a candidate with E. A. Richardson and W. S. Richardson as his opponent. Stewart polled 3,903 votes; E. A. Richardson, 1,702 and W. S. Richardson, 217. In 1905 Dr. W. F. Schoor and Dr. F. D. Forney were candidates. Schoor polled 3,336 votes and Forney 2,266 votes. In 1907 Schoor was a candidate again, with Warren H. Miner as his opponent. Schoor polled 4,209 votes and Miner 3,356 votes. In 1909 there was but one candidate, Dr. W. H. Williamson, who polled 3,776 votes. In 1911 Williamson was a candidate again, polling 3,725 votes to 3,260 for his opponent, C. F. McNair.



C. C. HUTCHINSON

CHAPTER XXI.

REPRESENTATIVES AND STATE SENATORS.

Reno county's first representative in the lower house of the Legislature was C. C. Hutchinson. His election was very irregular, and it is very doubtful if he would be admitted to any present-day Legislature with credentials such as he had; for the county had not been organized when he was elected, a temporary board of county commissioners having been appointed by the governor to hold the first election. The commissioners of Reno county had not made an organization when two of them called the election for representatives one day, held the election the next day, canvassed the vote and issued the certificate of election before sundown of election day, and within a half hour after the certificate of election was finished Hutchinson was on his way overland in a covered wagon to Newton, then the western terminus of the Santa Fe railroad, which he "took" to Topeka early the next morning, and on the following morning presented his certificate of election to the House of Representatives then in session, was admitted as a member and began his work as such at once. This was called the ninety-fourth district at that time. In the election held in 1873, for the legislative session that was held in 1874, there were two candidates, C. C. Hutchinson and J. W. Kanaga. Hutchinson received 341 votes and Kanaga, 221. Hutchinson served as a member of the House for the session held in 1874.

The third election for representative brought out three candidates: T. T. Taylor, W. J. Ross and Fletcher Meredith. Both Taylor and Meredith were Republicans, and Ross was a Democrat. The two candidates of the Republican party divided the vote, Taylor receiving 447 votes; Ross, 278, and Meredith, 248. In the election held in November, 1874, Taylor had no opposition for re-election and received 742 votes as representative from the ninety-fourth district.

In 1876 there were two candidates for representative, J. V. Clymer, a Republican, and W. J. Ross was candidate against Clymer. The latter received 589 votes, and Ross, 412. Considering that Reno county was so strongly Republican, the vote Ross received was a high compliment to him. Ordinarily the Democrats, at that time, received but a small per cent of the

votes, the county being settled largely by Union soldiers, who were nearly all Republicans. During the session of the Legislature the district which was composed of Reno county had its number changed from ninety-fourth to one hundred and fifteenth. The settling up of the western part of the state led to the organization of new counties and the new number of one hundred and fifteen was given to Reno county.

RIVALRY BETWEEN COUNTRY AND TOWN.

In 1878 the election brought out four candidates, W. R. Brown, a lawyer of Hutchinson, and a Republican; W. J. Ross, a Democrat; A. J. Cole, a Greenbacker, and J. H. Lawson, a Republican. In that election politics played only a small part. There had grown up in Reno county a fight of the country against the town. The contest started over who should hold the offices, the country claiming that the town monopolized the county and legislative offices. There was but little virtue to the claim, but it was made by some men in the county in order to get votes, by appealing to the prejudices of the farmer. In this election Brown polled 479 votes; Ross, 507; Cole, 103, and Lawson, 630. Lawson won on his "country against the town" campaign. Ross received a great many Republican votes, and while Cole's vote, added to those Ross received, would not have been enough to have elected him; had not Cole been a candidate, Ross would undoubtedly have been elected, for there were many men in Hutchinson who voted for Brown who would have voted for Ross, had they not thought that Cole would take enough votes from Ross to insure his defeat. Had the vote been between Ross and Lawson, Ross would have been elected by a large majority.

In 1880 Lawson was re-elected. His opponents then were William H. Ingham and Henry Hegwer. Lawson received 1,017 votes; Ingham, 826, and Hegwer, 204. This Legislature divided Reno county into two legislative districts. The eastern part of the county, including Hutchinson, was called the ninety-seventh district, and the western and southern part of the county was put into another district and numbered the ninety-eighth district. In the election held on November 10, 1882, in the ninety-seventh district there were three candidates, T. T. Taylor, A. R. Scheble and H. S. Freeman. Taylor lived in Little River township at that time, where he was homesteading a quarter section of land. He was also practicing law in Hutchinson. Scheble was a lawyer living in Hutchinson, and Freeman lived in Lincoln township. As a result of this election, Taylor received 482 votes; Scheble, 560, and Freeman, 236. In the west district, there were two can-

didates, J. W. Claypool and T. B. Hand. Claypool was elected, receiving 515 votes, and Hand, 439.

In 1884, in the ninety-seventh district, there were three candidates, W. H. Northcutt, Sanders Cochran and I. N. Gray. The election resulted in Gray's election, he receiving 1,067 votes; Northcutt, 685, and Cochran, 640. In the ninety-eighth district there were two candidates, A. B. Caldwell and O. S. Jenks. Caldwell received 899 votes and Jenks, 637.

Another change in the numbers of the district was made by the Legislature. The territory remained the same in each district, but the numbers were changed to ninety-two and ninety-three. The ninety-second district was the eastern, or "town" district, as it was called.

MADE IT PRACTICALLY UNANIMOUS.

In the election of 1886, T. T. Taylor had but little opposition in the election. His opponent was C. Bishir. Bishir was a peculiar man, honest, but very narrow and very selfish. He was a Greenbacker and opposed bonds of any and all kinds, opposing the issuing of bonds for any purpose. In this election, Taylor made no campaign and the universal dislike of Bishir made it evident that the latter would receive but few votes. The result of this election justified the lack of effort on Taylor's part, as he received 1,009 votes and Bishir, 84.

In the west district there were three candidates, W. A. Watkins, E. J. Arnold and W. J. Presby. Watkins received 778 votes; Arnold, 827, and Presby, 107. Arnold served one term in the Legislature and was never a candidate again and soon moved from the county.

In 1888 H. M. Whistler, F. P. Hettinger, C. W. Peckham and Charles Purdy were candidates in the ninety-second district. Whistler was elected, receiving twelve hundred and sixty votes. Hettinger polled 1,197 votes; Peckham, 78, and Purdy, 107. In the ninety-third district there were four candidates for the office in 1888, J. N. High, A. S. Kent, J. H. Fry and D. Tamer. High was elected, receiving 1,385 votes; Kent, 819; Fry, 81, and Tamer, 162.

In 1890 there were two candidates in each district. In the east district J. A. Meyers and H. S. Freeman contested for the office. Freeman was elected, receiving 1,570 votes to 1,413 for Meyers. In the west district, Enos Dutton, the Republican candidate, was beaten by W. H. Mitchell, a Populist, Dutton receiving 9,740 votes and Mitchell, 1,440. This Legislature again changed the numbers of the two Reno county districts, num-

bering them seventy-six and seventy-seven. In the election of 1892, in the seventy-sixth district, J. F. Greenlee was the Republican candidate and received 1,715 votes. In the west district there were three candidates, J. W. Dix, W. H. Mitchell and W. E. Roach. Dix received 1,535 votes; Mitchell, 1,511, and Roach, 16. In 1894 Dix was again a candidate from this district and beat his opponent, George Thompson, Dix receiving 1,508 votes and Thompson, 1,245. In this election in the east district, Fletcher Meredith beat Frank Bowser, Meredith polling 1,729 votes and Bowser, 1,230. Meredith was a newspaper man, a fighter and an uncompromising protectionist. He was not a good candidate, as he never left a matter like getting votes interfere with what he had to say in his newspaper. He was a candidate before the convention several times for different offices, but was seldom successful. In this race he had the better of Bowser, who was a farmer in Lincoln township and very little known at that time.

OVERCOME VIGOROUS OPPOSITION.

In 1896 Theo. Botkin was the Republican nominee from the seventy-sixth district and M. Watson the Democratic candidate. Botkin came to Hutchinson from southwestern Kansas, where he was judge of the district court. He had a stormy time as judge, and was impeached by the state Senate. Botkin was a man of great force of character and a good speaker, but a man who had an unusually active group of enemies. The fight was continued on him here in this race, but he won, receiving 1,703 votes to Watson's 1,673. Botkin was a good representative, but moved away from Hutchinson shortly after he had finished his term of service in the Legislature.

In the west district, Thomas Keddie was the Republican candidate, and J. A. DeBard, the Democratic nominee. Keddie beat DeBard ninety-nine votes, he receiving 1,543 votes to DeBard's 1,444. In 1898 DeBard was a candidate in this district again, being elected over E. R. Watkins, by a vote of 1,383 to 1,357. This district number was changed by the Legislature of 1896 to the seventy-ninth district, and the east district was numbered eighty. In the election of 1898, in the eightieth district, Z. L. Wise, of Hutchinson, beat M. Watson, Wise receiving 1,605 votes and Watson, 1,084. In 1900 Wise was again a candidate and was re-elected. He had as an opponent C. Bishir, who had made the race against T. T. Taylor in 1886, and whom Taylor beat so badly. Bishir had grown more popular than he was in the early days, talked less against "bonds", and made a very

respectable, showing, Wise receiving 2,132 votes to Bishir's 1,138. In the seventy-ninth district, E. R. Watkins made a second campaign for representative, beating his opponent, J. A. DeBard, by twenty-one votes, he receiving 1,642 votes to DeBard's 1,621.

In 1902 in the Hutchinson, or east district, there were four candidates, John M. Kinkel, C. W. Oswald, T. D. Talmadge and J. P. Stratton. Kinkel was the Republican nominee, and received 1,653 votes; Oswald, the Democratic candidate, polling 1,215 votes; Talmadge, the Prohibition candidate, 65 votes, and Stratton, the Socialist candidate, 111. In the west district, E. R. Watkins was re-elected over Joseph Sherrow and J. W. Brown, Watkins receiving 1,424 votes; Sherrow, 854, and Brown, 24. In 1904 in the eightieth district, W. Y. Morgan was elected, receiving 1,850 votes. A. P. Johnson, his Democratic opponent, got 1,443 votes, and J. W. Stratton, the Socialist candidate, polled 143 votes. In the eighty-first district, J. W. Jones was the Republican candidate. He had been sheriff of Reno county for four years. He was beaten by Henry S. Thompson, Jones receiving 1,214 votes and Thompson, 1,230. In 1906, in the east district, Morgan was re-elected over John A. Myers, receiving 1,663 votes to Myers' 1,566. In the eighty-first district the same candidates were chosen by each party, Thompson winning over his opponent by a vote of 1,351 to 1,165.

In 1908 Morgan was a candidate for the third time in the east district, and W. E. Vincent was his opponent. Morgan polled 2,524 votes, and Vincent, 2,098 votes. In the west district C. Fred Fehr received 1,567 votes to 1,419 received by his Democratic opponent, W. A. Austin, of Sylvia. In 1910 W. Y. Morgan was the Republican candidate again and Frank Fields, of Pretty Prairie, was the Democratic nominee, and was elected. Morgan received 1,820 votes, and Fields 2,218. In the west district, Fehr and Thompson were candidates, Thompson winning by a vote of 1,295 to Fehr's 1,273. In 1912 J. S. Simmons was the Republican nominee for representative for the seventy-fifth district, and J. P. O. Graber his Democratic opponent. Simmons received 2,009 votes and Graber, 2,410. In the west district E. E. Blaisdell beat Henry Thompson by a vote of 1,414 to 1,327.

In 1914 there were three candidates in the east district for representative, F. L. Martin, R. C. Layman and C. H. Bacon. Martin was the Republican candidate, Layman the Democratic nominee, and Bacon ran on the "Bull Moose" Republican ticket. Martin received 3,387 votes; Layman, 2,769 votes, and Bacon, 1,351. In the west district Jake Edwards, the Republican nominee, defeated Henry S. Thompson by a vote of 2,163 to 1,748.

In 1916 F. L. Martin was re-elected representative from the east district over Eugene Hipple, Martin polling 4,483 votes and Hipple, 3,960. In the west district, Edwards was elected for a second term, receiving 2,369 votes to 1,960 votes cast for J. A. Lyons.

There have been thirty-one different men elected to the office of representative from Reno county, four of them representing the entire county in the early days when Reno county constituted one representative district, and thirteen different men have been elected from each of the two districts after the county was divided. There have been seven men who held the office two terms, C. C. Hutchinson, John Lawson and T. T. Taylor (although one of the latter's terms was filled after the county was divided, when there was one district in the county), Wise and Martin, in the east district, and Watkins and Edwards in the west district. There have been two men, one in each district, who have held the office three terms, W. Y. Morgan, in the east district, and Henry S. Thompson, in the west district.

Of these representatives, none is living who represented the entire county. Of those who represented the east district, five are still living, and all of them are still residents of Reno county. In the west district, seven are still living and are likewise still residents of the county. One of them, W. Y. Morgan, was afterwards elected lieutenant-governor, and another, T. T. Taylor, was counted out by a corrupt group of politicians in the convention, he having had a majority of the votes for lieutenant-governor, but by juggling the ballots in the box his opponent was nominated and elected. A third, John M. Kinkel, is at the time of writing this history a member of the board of public utilities of Kansas. Another, H. S. Thompson, one of the former representatives of Reno county, is president of the State Fair Association, which position he has held for many years. They have all been representative men and have served their county and their districts in a capable manner.

STATE SENATORS.

There have been twelve elections for state senators since Reno county was organized. The district has undergone many changes. In the early days it embraced many counties. Reno county has been a controlling factor in the district in recent years. The district is now composed of Reno, Kingman and Pratt counties. It is a compact district, with similar interests and the senators from this district have but few conflicting interests to serve.

In 1872 Reno county's vote stood on the two candidates for state senator—M. M. Murdock, 258 votes; D. S. Payne, 92 votes. At that time

Sedgwick county was the most populous county in the district, and the senator elected was then a resident of that county and editor and owner of the *Wichita Eagle*. In 1876 Reno's vote stood, on state senator, T. T. Taylor, 593, and C. C. Hutchinson, 480. In 1880 George W. Nimmocks, of Great Bend, received the largest vote of Reno, he polling 560 votes to 722 for his competitor, Ira D. Busick. In 1884 the vote of this county was divided between two Reno county men, A. M. Switzer receiving 838 votes, and A. R. Scheble, 1,358. A third candidate from another county, W. M. Condan, received 1,223 votes.

In 1888 Reno's vote on state senator was cast as follows: F. E. Gillett, of Kingman county, 3,321 votes; R. S. Cates, of Barton county, 1,912. Reno's vote was largely the one that decided the contest in favor of Gillett, who was the successful candidate in the district. In 1892 Reno county had a candidate for state senator, J. M. Leeds, of Turon, who was elected. James Kelley, of Pratt county, was his opponent, Reno's votes stood, Leeds, 3,019; Kelley, 3,215. In 1896 A. M. Switzer and Frank Fields, both from Reno county, received the nomination from their party. Switzer polled 3,336 votes and Fields, 3,029. Fields received a majority of the votes in the other counties and was elected.

In 1900 Frank Vincent, of Reno county, and D. B. Crawford, of Pratt county, were the candidates. In Reno county Vincent polled 3,643 votes, and Crawford, 2,865. Vincent was elected. The other two counties then composing the district, Kingman and Pratt, about "broke even" with the candidates, and Reno's majority for Vincent was enough to elect him. In 1904, F. C. Carver, of Pratt county, was elected state senator. In Reno county he polled 3,562 votes, while C. W. Peckham, of Haven, the Democratic candidate, received 1,975 votes and J. F. Westfield, of Kingman county, received 105 votes.

In 1908 Emerson Carey, of Hutchinson, was elected senator, Henry S. Thompson, of Sylvia, and J. A. Carlisle also being candidates. In Reno county, Carey received 3,926; Thompson, 3,528, and Carlisle, 136. In 1912 Carey was re-elected state senator, receiving 3,744 votes in this county to 3,501 for his opponent, Frank Fields.

In 1916 Will S. Thompson, of Reno county, was elected senator. His opponent was Frank C. Fields, also of Reno county. In this county Thompson received 7,510 votes and Fields, 5,222. Thompson's term of office expires in 1920.

CHAPTER XXII.

SOME EARLY BOND ELECTIONS.

The organization of the county and the election of its officers were but the beginning of activity both in the town and county. There were no roads laid out. There were some trails over the county, being the routes traveled by the early settlers. There were no bridges and the freshets made travel very difficult, in some cases stopping communication entirely. The Arkansas river was a barrier that would divide the county unless bridges were built, not only owing to the amount of water in the channel, but also the treacherous nature of the sand.

The county was likewise without any place in which to transact its business. All of the early elections took place at "The office of C. C. Hutchinson." It was necessary to build a court house as well as to build bridges and establish roads, so the office of the county commissioners was the center of the county's activity during the years 1872 and 1873.

Another matter that was equally as serious as the absence of roads, bridges and buildings, was the absence of money to pay for these necessary things. Equally serious was the absence of any great amount of property. All of the homestead land yielded no taxes and was not taxed until proved upon. The fact that it was exempt from taxes until the title passed from the government to the individual was an inducement to the early settler to put off "proving up" on his claim as long as possible. There was very little personal property and very few persons besides the merchants had personal property above what would be covered by the two-hundred-dollar exemption for the head of each family. Especially was this true when property was valued at from one-fourth to one-sixth of its real value for taxation purposes. Consequently the list of personal property taxpayers was noticeably small in the early years of the county's history.

So the burden of the taxes fell on the settlers who had bought railroad land and upon the railroad, after it was built into the county. These two classes furnished what money went into the county treasury. As an indication of how largely these two classes had to pay in the way of taxation, it may be added that in 1872 there were fourteen personal taxpayers on

the rolls of Reno county, and the total amount they paid in taxation amounted to one hundred forty-one dollars and twenty-five cents.

The only method of providing for the necessities of the county was the issuing of bonds. Not only was it necessary to issue the bonds to provide for the carrying on of the internal improvements needed, but it was equally necessary to provide for the first year's interest on those bonds. So when the first issue of bonds was voted, another series of bonds was voted to pay the interest on the first issue.

The first election took place on April 25, 1872. The petition asking the commissioners to call the election was signed by C. C. Hutchinson, E. Wilcox and sixty-five others. The matters covered in their petition to be submitted to the voters of the county were: First, shall the county issue thirty-five thousand dollars of bonds to build bridges across the Arkansas river, across Cow creek, on Main street in Hutchinson, also a bridge across Cow creek in township 22, range 6 west, also a bridge across the Little Arkansas river, northwest of Hutchinson. The second proposition which the petitioners desired to have submitted to the voters was the issuance of bonds for fifteen thousand dollars to build a brick building on lots 55 and 57 South Main street for a court house and jail for the county. The third matter on which a vote was asked was the one referred to, namely, the voting of ten thousand dollars in bonds to pay the interest for the first year on the bonds voted. The result of this election was as follows:

Bridge bonds -----	For, 152	Against, 64
County building -----	For, 155	Against, 60
County loan -----	For 151	Against, 64

An old settler who was present at the election and voted, made the remark, that it was possible to see the proportion of voters who had obtained government land as opposed to those who had bought railroad land; thus, while it is possible that there were other considerations that influenced the individual voter, yet, in this election as well as other bond elections that have been held since, it is not always the man who pays the taxes who votes for a bond proposition. But those bonds carried and the next matter that concerned the county officials was the selling of their bonds.

After the voting of these bonds, bids were called for the building of the bridges. There was not much competition, first, because there were but few bridge-building concerns in the state and, second, it was known that the concern that obtained the contract would have to take their pay in county

bonds and dispose of them as best they could. The firm that secured the contract was the King Wrought Iron Bridge Company. They evidently looked at the amount of money the county had set apart for the building of these bridges, for their bid was thirty-three thousand seven hundred and thirty-two dollars. This contract was let on June 7, 1872. The bridge was eighteen hundred and sixty-two feet long.

The county commissioners had also advertised for bids for building the court house. The contract was awarded to W. E. Hutchinson for eighteen thousand dollars. The specifications were changed several times, additions made, and, later, a jail was added in the basement of the court house. It was found that there had not been enough money voted to put up such a building as was contracted for. The lowest bid, outside the jail and changes that were made before the contract was let, was three thousand dollars in excess of the amount of bonds voted, even if the bonds could be sold at par. It was agreed that the work should be pushed as far as possible. Let the question of finding the money with which to finish the building be provided later. There was no building suitable for the county officers nor for their records, and the commissioners were exceedingly anxious to get their building completed as fast as possible.

Everything possible was done to crowd the building of the bridges, especially the river bridges across the Arkansas. The founders of the town saw that even with the changes in the boundaries, by which a row of townships was added on the north and east sides of the county and a part of the southern end of Reno cut off and Kingman county created by the Legislature of 1872—that even with these changes, that put Hutchinson nearer the center of the county, there was growing in the county a disposition to contest Hutchinson's claim for a county seat at a later date. So they were anxious to have the river bridge completed as soon as possible, so as to offer an opportunity for the people living on the south side of the river to get to Hutchinson. With the completion of the railroad to Hutchinson in July, 1872, a profitable business grew up in the hauling of the buffalo bones to Hutchinson to be shipped east. For these reasons nothing was allowed to interfere with the building of the "big bridge," as it was called.

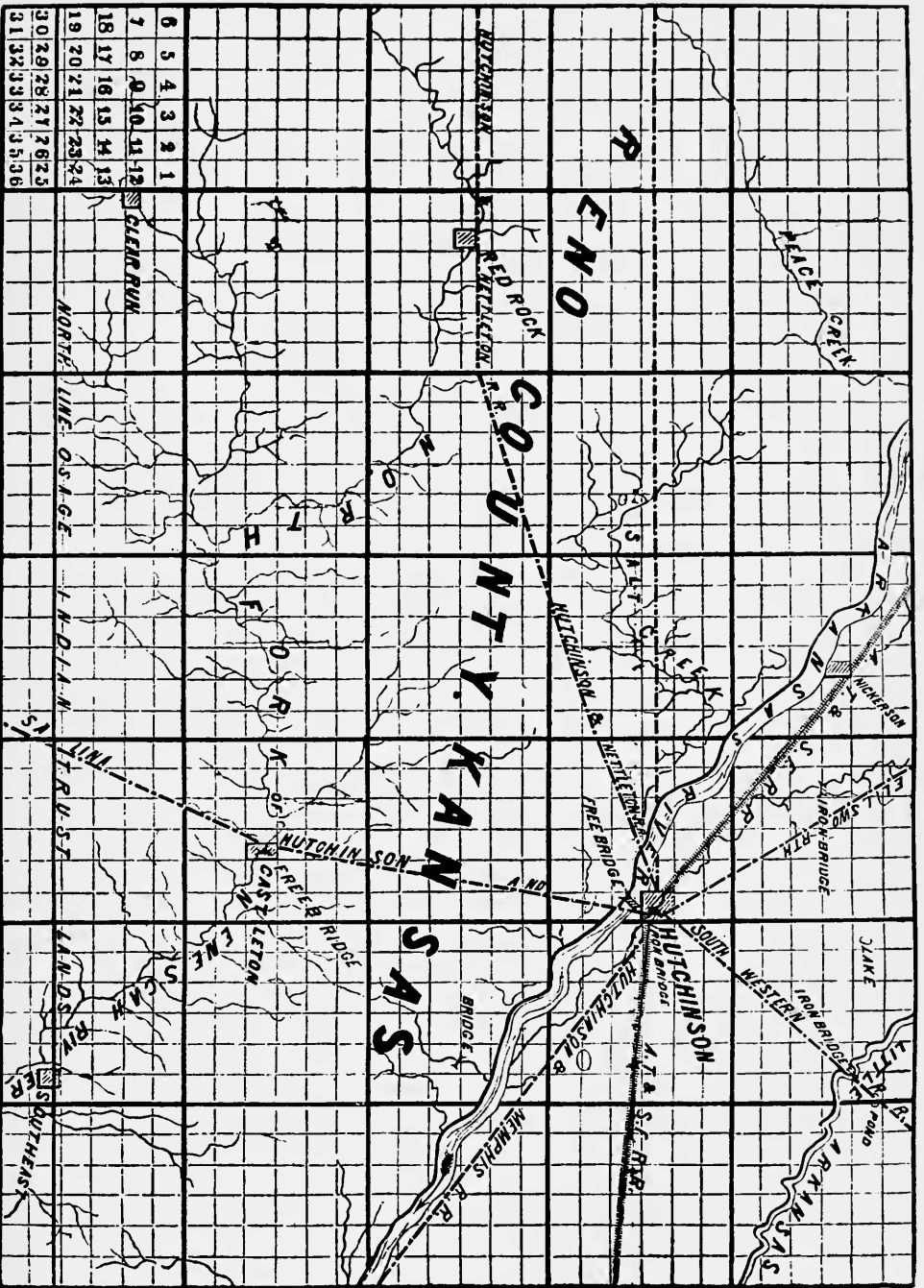
Another matter that received the attention of the county commissioners at this time was the question of roads. Prior to this time there were no regularly laid-out public roads. There were no fences and but few farms and the traveler was guided by the axiom that the shortest distance between two points would be a straight line; there was but little to stop anyone from

going the shortest route. But as farms began to be settled, it became necessary to have regularly laid-out paths of travel. There were some roads that had been used until they became fairly good to follow, especially over the star routes, but they were so few that they would not answer generally for roads. On July 6, 1872, Judge L. Honk and nineteen others presented a petition to the county commissioners to declare all section lines public roads, except the lines of section 13, township 23, range 6, where Hutchinson was located and which would provide itself with streets. The Legislature of 1872 passed a law making all section lines public roads, but it was necessary under the act to have a petition presented to the county commissioners and have them declare the establishment of the roads. This, in a general way, was the beginning of the public roads of the county. But it did not meet the immediate needs of the people of that time. There were a good many roads that did not follow section lines. Among the more notable of these roads was one that in later years caused a great deal of discussion and litigation. It was called the "Haven angling road." The people living southeast of Hutchinson did not want to follow the square-cornered road system, but preferred to "cut across lot," on their way to town. At that time there was but little objection to such a road. Travelers were scarce and people were more sociable than they were in later years. The land was not so valuable and but little inconvenience was experienced by the owners of the land in having a road run diagonally through their land. So, at the meeting of the board of county commissioners in January, 1873, the "Haven angling road" was authorized. There was no "viewing" of the road, no damages awarded and no benefit assessed by the commissioners in taking this action; but it met no opposition, for the people to the southeast of Hutchinson wanted it and the owners through whose land the road passed made no objection, so the road was established.

Twenty years passed. The "Angling road" was a highway of commerce and a big change had been made in the farms lying between Haven and Hutchinson. Many of these were fenced, all of the land farmed and the owners of the land there wanted the road changed to the section lines. The contention lasted four years. Attorneys were retained by both those who wanted the road kept open and by the landowners who wanted the road closed. Two different boards of county commissioners heard the case. The first one refused to close the road. The vote stood two to one to keep the road open. Another petition was filed, another hearing held and the controversy was one that divided the neighborhood along the road. To end

it all, another vote was taken and W. K. Noland, one of the commissioners, changed his position in the matter and the "Haven angling road" was a thing of the past. The policy of closing the "angling roads" was adopted and, as but few of the "short cuts" of the old settler remained, the so-called section line roads serve the people for their highways.

Early in 1873 C. C. Hutchinson issued a circular that contained a great deal of descriptive matter of Reno county, also a map. But it was more than a map. It was his vision of the Reno county in the years to come. At that time there was but one railroad in the county, the Santa Fe, and there were no other railroads looking towards Hutchinson. There was scant business for that one—there was little, in fact, to haul out of the county except buffalo bones and nothing to haul in except the settlers' goods and cattle. But in this dream—and C. C. Hutchinson was a dreamer, and one whose dream this time came true—he saw other railroads built into this valley. How well he dreamed, how his dream came true, can be seen by looking at this map. Put it down beside a map of Reno county of today and one would have to look closely to see wherein the railroad he dreamed of did not appear in the map of today. The "Hutchinson & Nettleton railroad" is but a short distance out of the line of the present Kinsley branch of the Santa Fe. The "Hutchinson & Memphis" could hardly be distinguished in its route from the Missouri Pacific that was built many years after the map was made. The "Southwestern railroad" of 1873 follows almost exactly the line the Rock Island built into Hutchinson years later and the "E. L. L. & Southwestern" leaves Reno county on almost the same ground that the Missouri Pacific takes as it bends toward the main line of that road that runs into Colorado. This map is published to show the conceptions the founder of this city had of its future and his idea of the way railroads would be built into this territory.



Map Drawn by C. C. Hutchinson in 1873, Showing His Remarkably Prophetic Vision of Future Reno County.

CHAPTER XXIII.

BONDS OF THE COUNTY AND ITS SUBDIVISIONS.

As soon as Reno county was organized in January, 1872, one thing was very apparent to the men who were managing the county's affairs, and that was that improvements of various kinds would be necessary. A court house had to be built, bridges had to be built, and the running expenses of the county had to be met. Another thing was apparent, and that was that the county would have to borrow money to make these improvements. So the early bond issues were voted. Ever since that time Reno county has had a bonded indebtedness.

Another feature of these bonds was that they were refunded, most of them, before they were due. The early bond issues generally bore seven per cent. When the county's credit was strengthened and bonds could be sold at a low rate, these bonds were called in and paid off and in their place other bonds were issued at a lower rate of interest. To pay the commissions for making the change in these bonds, the money in the sinking fund, that was for the payment of those bonds when they became due was used to pay these commissions. Considerable criticism of the county commissioners was made at the time, but they justified their action by saying that the interest on the bonds was as much a part of the debt as the principal, and that a reduction in the rate of interest of the bonds was such a reduction of the indebtedness as would justify them in using the sinking fund under the limitation of the statute that required that the sinking fund could be used for no purpose other than the payment of the bonds. They further insisted that it was only the part of wisdom to extend the time of the payment of the bonds, beyond that contemplated at the time of the issuance of the bonds so that the burden of the internal improvements of the county should be distributed, and that the generations of the future that would use these improvements should help pay for them, and the county at that period of its development should not undertake to pay more than the interest, and that they were wisely acting in the best interests of the people of that day when they were reducing the interest rates on their bonded indebtedness, and likewise decreasing their taxes.

While considerable money was paid in commissions for the refunding of these bonds, from the standpoint of the present, the objections to extending the time of payment of the bonds of the county seem to be of little force. Considering the comfort and benefit the present generation has inherited in the way of municipal improvements, no criticism of any great force can be urged against the action of the county commissioners of that day; and while Reno county would be out of debt now if that policy had not been adopted, yet the burden left to the present generation is so small compared to the changed conditions and improved conditions of the present over that of twenty-five years ago, that no legitimate criticism can be now urged against the policy they adopted. Reno county has always been prompt in the payment of all her obligations. There never has been a default on interest payments. Bonds were promptly re-issued when due, and the credit of the county has always been carefully guarded.

TOTAL BONDED INDEBTEDNESS.

On January 1, 1916, Reno county had a total bonded indebtedness of \$209,000 that was outstanding and not due. The county treasurer had \$18,640 on hands to apply on these bonds at the date of their maturity, as the bonds of the county are investments which the holders do not desire to have paid until maturity. These bonds, together with the date of issue, purpose of issuance of the bonds, the date of the bonds, the date of their maturity, and the interest the bonds bear:

Amount, \$40,000; date of issue, February 1, 1898; purpose, refunding; due February 1, 1918; interest rate, $4\frac{1}{2}\%$.

Amount, \$15,000; date of issue, January 1, 1898; purpose, C. K. & N.; due February 1, 1919; interest rate, $4\frac{1}{2}\%$.

Amount, \$44,000; date of issue, January 1, 1889; purpose, C. K. & N.; due January 1, 1919; interest rate, $5\frac{1}{2}\%$.

Amount, \$6,000; date of issue, January 1, 1899; purpose, C. K. & N.; due January 1, 1919; interest rate, $5\frac{1}{2}\%$.

Amount, \$39,000; date of issue, December 1, 1898; purpose, refunding county bonds; due January 1, 1929; interest rate, 4% .

Amount, \$24,000; date of issue, June 1, 1899; purpose, refunding county bonds; due June 1, 1929; interest rate, 4% .

Amount, \$32,000; date of issue, June 1, 1899; purpose, refunding county bonds; due June 1, 1929; interest rate, 4% .

Amount, \$9,000; date of issue, June 1, 1900; purpose, refunding county bonds; due June 1, 1930; interest rate, 5%.

Nickerson has \$3,900 of sewer bonds. Hutchinson had on January 1, 1916, \$243,220 of bonded indebtedness, all for internal improvements—pavements, sewers, parks, etc. Grant township had outstanding bonds to the amount of \$7,000, and had \$9,000 on hands with which to pay the bonds. No explanation is available as to why the bonds are unpaid or why there should have been levies made and money collected in excess of that amount of their indebtedness. Little River township had \$8,700 of outstanding bonds and \$2,000 in the treasury to their credit to pay on their bonds. Center township had \$1,000 of outstanding bonds on January 1, 1916.

The total school district bonds on the date given was \$84,900, these bonds being issued for the erection of new school buildings and grounds and other improvements since January 1, 1916. Eight districts have voted bonds for new school buildings.

The bonded indebtedness of the county has been decreased since 1892, when the county had \$412,000 of this kind of debts. The \$60,000 of bonds voted in 1872 for a proportion to the taxable property in the county of that time, is far beyond the rate of the bonded indebtedness of 1916. The amount of bonds of the county in 1916, is almost negligible. Of the \$210,000 bonds, as shown by the table in this chapter, \$50,000 will be due on January 1, 1919; \$15,000 will be due ten years later, and the balance, \$9,000, due on January 1, 1930. The bonds of the county in 1873 covered fourteen per cent. of the assessed valuation of the county, while the bonded indebtedness of 1916 is less than one-fourth of one per cent. of the assessed valuation of the county. In other words, from a bond standpoint alone, the county's financial responsibility is more than sixty-five times as great as it was in 1872. In fact, this is a small measure of the difference. Then, the county was an experiment; now, a realization; then, a few settlers with no financial resources; now, a population close to fifty thousand, and a wealth of diversified industries and a county development that the most ardent financier among the pioneers never dreamed of. Then a land of buffalo and Indians and buffalo grass; now, the homes of contented and industrious people, and with alfalfa fields that produce as much wealth to an acre as the early-day grass did to a section.

This bond matter is of small importance to the county, but it affords a method of ascertaining the progress of less than a half century, which enables us, in commercial terms, to measure the advance of the county in the lifetime of the earliest settler.

In addition to the bonds of the county, a few townships and cities still have a small bonded indebtedness. Sylvia City has \$6,000, due January 1, 1921. The proceeds of the sale of these bonds were used by the city for the erection of an electric-light plant. Turon also put in a municipal electric-light plant at a cost of \$10,000, for which they issued bonds. They have \$3,500 on hand in their sinking fund to retire these bonds when due. Nickerson issued \$5,000 in city bonds, the proceeds of which they put in a complete sewer system. South Hutchinson has still outstanding \$2,800 of bonded indebtedness. This issue of bonds was used to refund an old bonded indebtedness.

There are some townships that have voted bonds for road improvements. Clay township has an issue of \$1,500 used on the roads in the northern part of the township, which is an extension of the pavement put down on Fourth avenue, east, Hutchinson. Little River township voted \$2,000 with which to build the "Buhler" road. Hayes township was the last of the townships to vote bonds for road improvements, their issue being for \$1,000 that was used on some of the "sand hill" roads of that township.

CHAPTER XXIV.

RENO COUNTY'S FINANCIAL MATTERS.

In 1872, when Reno county was organized, the question of raising money with which to run the county was one that puzzled the early settlers. The county had to have a building in which to transact its business, to house its records and to hold its courts. It had to provide for the expense of maintaining order. It had to build bridges across the Arkansas river, Little river and Cow creek. It had no taxable property and no machinery for collecting taxes. So, among the first activities of the county commissioners was to call an election to vote bonds with which to obtain the necessary finances. Nor was it as easy then as now to sell bonds. There was no such market as there exists now for the sale of county or municipal bonds. Capital was afraid to invest in the uncertainty of a county as far west as Reno. When it is recalled that there were no railroads in the county, and that even the railroad builders, supposedly composed of men of ability and men who had confidence in the land into which they were building, openly declared they never expected to sell any land west of Great Bend, and that, in their opinion, it would be fifty years before any land in Reno county outside of the bottom, would be settled; it is not strange that there was no demand for bonds of such a community, so the first financial action taken in Reno county was the voting of bonds to build a court house, then an additional series of bonds to pay the first year's interest on those bonds, and also for the maintenance of the county.

In 1872 the assessor reported five hundred and sixty-eight dollars in valuation in personal property in Reno township, the only township then organized. There was no railroad property assessed that year, for the Santa Fe did not have any of its road in Reno county at the tax assessment time. So the only property that was on the tax rolls in 1872 was the meager belongings of the early settlers. There was no land available for taxing purposes, for no one had title to his land, it either being homesteaded or pre-empted, so the property valuation of Reno county in 1872 was very small.

Among the early financial troubles of Reno county was an injunction

suit, filed by the Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe Railway Company against the board of county commissioners and also against the treasurer of the county, enjoining the board of county commissioners from levying any taxes for that year, and also enjoining the county treasurer from receiving any money from any taxes for the year. This suit was filed on March 25, 1874. C. G. Foster and Joseph Waters representing the railroad. The case was brought in the name of Joseph Nickerson, then president of the Santa Fe railroad. This injunction suit paralyzed the activities of the county. The railroad was the heaviest taxpayer in the county, and if the county was not allowed to levy any taxes, financial ruin faced the county. The purpose of the road was to discourage all internal improvement. They said the county didn't need any improvement. They were particularly adverse to building any school houses. District No. 2, in Grant township, wanted a school house. The railroad officials said they didn't need one. They likewise refused to pay any interest on the bonds voted the previous year by district No. 19. Likewise they refused to pay any interest on the school bonds voted in districts 27, 28 and 30. They especially objected to paying any interest on the school bonds of district No. 30 because these bonds were voted one day too late, according to a strict interpretation of the law, to be taxed in 1874. So the company found an especial objection to district 30's bonds. In the other districts they gave as the reason that the district didn't need school houses. These districts had no school houses of any kind, and it was simply the attempt of the road to keep the taxes down as low as possible.

COMPROMISES MADE WITH RAILROAD.

Considering that Congress had given the road every other section of land in the county for a distance of five miles wide on each side of the track, as a bonus to build the road, and considering the fact that the men who built the road originally, a bunch of young men from Boston who put up no money to help build the road, for a very apparent reason—they had no money to put into the enterprise—and considering that they mortgaged the land for money with which to build and equip the road, the consideration of these facts was the occasion of deep resentment on the part of the early settlers. The road did not continue this policy very long, as the resentment led to a practical boycott of land agents of the Santa Fe. The settlers would not buy the Santa Fe land. As soon as the effect of the company's small policy began to develop, and the railroad officials realized the effect it was

having on immigrants, they dismissed the suit, but not until the county commissioners had compromised with the road on many levies of taxes.

The commissioners were severely criticized for compromising with the railroad, but a condition faced them that they dared not allow. There was very little money in the county. The county had no credit. It found the sale of its bonds a difficult matter and the commissioners of the county were forced to provide for the running of the county and to raise money to meet the interest on the bonded indebtedness of the county. So they compromised with the railroad and some of the school districts suffered heavily by the refusal of the company to allow the improvements to be made. At another time, in later years, the Santa Fe showed its disposition to dictate to the settlers, when it moved its shops from Nickerson to Newton. This action was largely because of the effect of an election held in Nickerson, when the company's small local official resented the action of the voters of Nickerson, and the company declared they would make the grass grow on the streets of Nickerson. They never succeeded in their attempt. They spent a good sized sum of money in moving their shops, hoping to carry out their threat. At a later period, one of the smaller division officials made a threat of what the road would do to Hutchinson, if the city of Hutchinson enforced some of the ordinances that affected the railroad, but the higher officials of the road soon sought to assure the city officials that the threat was not that of anyone who could make it good, and assured the city commissioners they would seek to obey all ordinances governing the city. The time has passed now when any railroad can hold up Reno county's progress. They are all too dependent on the county for an immense revenue, and if any one of them would undertake to "double-cross" either the city or the county, the other roads would become the beneficiaries, and only the road doing the "double-crossing" would suffer.

SOME INTERESTING STATISTICS.

The following table shows the constant increase in the valuation of taxable property in the county. It shows also the entire indebtedness for each of the years since the county was organized, the total expenditures for all purposes and the rate of taxation for each year since the county was organized in 1872, and closing with the financial condition of the county at the end of 1916:

Year	County Valuation	Amt. State Tax	County Ex- penditures	County Levy in Mills	State Tax in Mills	Total in Mills	Amount Bonds
1872	-----	-----	14,625	32	8.5	40.5	60,000
1873	596,820	5,410	22,100	36	6	42	86,000
1874	602,125	6,000	24,000	36	6	30	91,500
1875	605,000	6,100	25,000	27	6	33	91,500
1876	926,000	7,250	23,150	25.5	5.5	31	105,000
1877	1,642,094	9,031	41,873	27	5.5	32.5	110,000
1878	1,522,413	8,383	41,105	24.5	5.5	30	130,000
1879	1,619,283	8,904	39,672	18.5	5.5	24	130,000
1880	1,843,850	10,141	37,111	17	5.5	22.5	144,682
1881	1,920,091	10,560	32,641	16.5	5	21.5	144,000
1882	2,124,915	10,644	35,051	15	4.5	19.5	144,000
1883	3,911,159	17,600	58,667	14.5	4.3	18.8	141,500
1884	3,098,376	13,288	44,810	13.5	4.5	18	144,000
1885	3,777,289	14,027	44,543	14	4.6	18.6	143,500
1886	3,911,159	17,991	52,800	13.5	4.1	17.6	141,500
1887	5,399,041	22,136	80,985	15	4.1	19.1	141,500
1888	6,089,733	24,727	77,349	12.7	4.1	16.8	141,500
1889	6,431,526	26,374	135,062	21.1	4.2	25.3	309,500
1890	6,149,269	26,580	86,089	14	4.25	18.25	401,500
1891	5,962,230	24,139	81,265	13.6	3.95	17.55	412,000
1892	5,816,353	26,992	83,173	14.3	3.9	18.2	412,000
1893	6,148,092	27,697	81,769	13.3	3.8	17.1	412,000
1894	5,795,142	24,079	70,580	15.6	3.9	19.5	411,000
1895	5,780,537	30,441	83,817	14.5	4.25	18.3	411,000
1896	5,952,583	28,272	83,336	14	4.24	18.25	383,000
1897	6,133,480	27,600	67,468	11	4.1	15.1	382,000
1898	6,009,873	21,034	84,138	14	8.5	22.5	362,000
1899	6,340,490	33,445	88,346	14	5.5	19.5	360,000
1900	6,754,987	30,774	81,059	12	5.5	17.5	360,000
1901	6,667,971	36,673	66,679	10	5.5	15.5	360,000
1902	7,456,205	32,026	74,562	10	5.5	15.5	343,000
1903	7,605,465	53,238	69,970	9.2	6.4	15.6	333,000
1904	7,631,433	41,972	80,130	10.5	5.4	15.7	333,000
1905	7,883,560	43,359	82,777	10.5	5.7	16.2	333,000
1906	8,937,564	41,996	132,934	14.45	.47	.619	306,000
1907	9,366,468	58,072	162,673	.163	.62	.783	292,000
1908	61,544,497	55,309	152,629	.248	.9	1.46	288,000
1909	64,469,817	80,587	210,562	.325	.125	.45	292,000
1910	82,674,054	86,597	246,757	.29	.135	.395	259,000
1911	77,800,000	83,360	247,960	.32	.12	.44	270,000
1912	77,588,860	93,196	176,026	.227	.12	.349	207,900
1913	78,849,635	94,619	177,987	.268	.12	.588	269,000
1914	76,759,595	92,100	204,274	.270	.12	.39	252,000
1915	79,769,903	99,712	299,108	.375	.125	.5	233,570
1916	79,769,903	103,700	215,376	.21	.13	.4	217,020

The above table shows some interesting points regarding Reno county's finances. The property valuations given prior to 1908 are supposed to be

on a basis of one-third the actual value of the property. How far from that standard, was shown when the first effort was made, under a law passed in 1907 requiring all property to be listed at its full value, when the valuation of the county increased from nine million to sixty-one million dollars, nearly seven times what it was under the old system of valuation, instead of three times the real value, as was supposed to be the basis of assessment. But even in 1908 the value was not within ten million dollars of what the property assessed was really worth. There was a determined effort on the part of some of the assessors to keep the valuation in their respective townships or his wards down, so that his unit of assessment would not have to pay more than its proportion of the expense of the county. In the townships, the assessor chosen was generally the township trustee. This is an elective office and each assessor was anxious to retain the good will of his neighbors, and the valuation he put on property, both real and personal, was as low as he could put it and be able to have his work approved by the county commissioners, who are the equalization board under the law for the county. And they, the county commissioners, were in the same position with respect to the state equalization board as the individual assessor was with respect to them, as each county was trying to keep its valuation as low as possible, so that the county should not have to pay more than its proportion of the taxes to support the state government. So it is very probable that the valuation fixed on property under the old system was nearer a tenth of its real valuation than a third, the basis on which it was supposed to be assessed. Then the head of each household was allowed an exemption of two hundred dollars on personal property. The result was a further decrease of the assessed valuation of the county.

When the law requiring all property to be assessed at its full value went into effect, it was supposed that the full valuation would be fixed on property, but it didn't have that effect. Nor has the change in the law, requiring assessments to be made on basis of full valuation, been much more successful in getting all the property on the tax rolls of the county. There are so many discrepancies in values fixed by the assessor as compared to what the property sold for that it is probable that, if any actual cash valuation could be obtained, at the end of 1916 the real value of the taxable property of Reno county really was one hundred and fifty million dollars, rather than the approximately eighty million dollars fixed by the assessors.

COUNTY'S BONDED INDEBTEDNESS.

A large per cent. of the bonds which have been voted by the county have been donated to railroads. It will be but a few years until these bonds will be paid off. It is very probable that before many years the bonded indebtedness of the county will be increased. The old bonds were for transportation purposes, and the new bonds that will be issued will be for transportation purposes also; not, however, for the use of the railroad, but for the use of the people. It is very probable that the paving of county roads will soon be adopted, as the almost universal use of the automobile requires better roads than the old dirt roads of the present time. It is very likely also that Reno county will within a few years build a new court house, as the old one is wholly inadequate to the needs of the county and its vault is overcrowded, necessitating the storing of valuable records in the basement of the court house. The present court house is not a fire-proof building, and Reno county risks its records of immense value in a building that no corporation of one-tenth the capital of the property of Reno county would risk over night. The probate court records, involving the record of estates, the register of deeds' records, involving the title to every piece of property in Reno county are so inadequately protected in the old building that common prudence alone will require a fire-proof structure for the housing of these records.

So it is probable that it will be many years before the bonded indebtedness of the county will be much lower than it is at the present time. Values will increase, farm values particularly will grow, and internal improvements be carried on on an extensive scale.

OFFICE OF COUNTY ASSESSOR.

Reno county has had three county tax assessors. Then the law was changed and the duties of the assessor were added to those of the county clerk. This change was made in the interests of economy, but it is very doubtful if the change has been a wise one. Three men have held the office of county assessor, J. E. Conklin, John A. Myers and George Lee. It is very probable that far more property was added to the tax rolls by the activities of these men, on which the taxes would more than pay all the extra expenditures caused by the continuing of the office of county assessor. The first one of these assessors, J. E. Conklin, found enough canned goods

stored in Hutchinson, that had never been listed before for taxation, to more than pay the entire expense of his office, the assessor's salary, and all the clerical help required in that office. These goods were owned by firms in other cities stored in Hutchinson for shipment, subject to taxation in Reno county. They were not listed at the place of business of the firms, storing them here for reshipment to their customers. But a wave of economy swept over the Legislature and it discontinued the office of county assessor, and added the work to the already heavily burdened office of the county clerk, who cannot devote his time to hunting up property missed by the assessor.

SOMETHING REGARDING COUNTY'S PROGRESS.

The annual expenditures of the county for county purposes have gradually increased from \$14,625 in 1872 to \$215,376 in 1916. But these expenses have not increased, either in proportion to the increase in the population of the county, or in proportion to the increase in the assessed valuation of the county. They will increase as the years go by. The big increase in the business of the county will make the expenditures for county purposes heavier year by year. The increased road expenditures caused by the demand for better highways to accommodate the greater amount of travel will be greater each year. It will cost more to maintain the poor for the assurance of old that they will abide with us always, cannot fail of fulfillment, even in a county as prosperous as Reno.

The progress of the county of less than a half century is marvelous. It has surpassed the dreams of the early settler. He, more than those who have become residents of the county in more recent years, is astonished at the great development of the county's resources. He realizes also better than the newcomer, that this development has scarcely begun. The resources of the county have hardly been touched. Crops more productive by many fold than those the old settler planted are grown, and ground neglected has been brought into cultivation, and better farming has doubled the products of the soil. Hutchinson has developed into a commercial center in a way that has greatly added to land values, and the richness of Reno is but begun to be developed.

CHAPTER XXV.

BUILDING THE MISSOURI PACIFIC.

In the days before railroads were generally built, when transportation matters were in their formative period, there was great rivalry between towns for railroads. The laws were exceedingly generous as to the amount of financial aid to railroads that was allowed to be voted by a community. Both county and township bonds were permitted to the extent of four thousand dollars per mile, which was given for "stock subscription", the township or county taking so much stock and the railroads getting the bonds of the county or township and converting them into cash, with which they built the road. As soon as the road was completed, the property was sold to the real owners of the road, the bonds and other donations having been made to a "construction company". This was a method of getting rid of the municipal stockholders used by some roads.

The Missouri Pacific road through Reno county was built under the name of The Wichita & Colorado railroad. It was first agitated by some Wichita people. Their plan was to build in a northwesterly direction until they struck the southern boundary of Reno county. They proposed then to run west, along the southern line of the county and then go to Kinsley. They obtained their charter on July 27, 1885. The main purpose of this road was probably to help Wichita and, in the second place, to kill Hutchinson. They thought they would run through the southern part of the county, establish towns along the road, build the road to the center of the county, then called Reno Center (now Partridge), and make a fight for that town as the county seat. The Santa Fe railroad was largely interested in the success of Wichita, as at that time it was one of their principal stopping points in the state. The Hutchinson people did not oppose the Santa Fe crowd directly. The plan they adopted was to beat the Wichita people at their own game and not let them know what they were doing. L. A. Bigger visited the general offices of the Santa Fe and urged them to build a line from Hutchinson to Kinsley. The Wichita project was not being pushed very rapidly. So, on August 4, 1885, a charter was obtained for the Arkansas River & Western road, now known as the "Kinsley cut-off" of

the Santa Fe. The construction of this road was pushed as fast as possible over the identical route from "Reno Center to Kinsley" that the Wichita people intended to build their line, and was well under way when the Wichita people, whose road was being financed by Jay Gould, reached the eastern border of Reno county.

At this point another turn was made in affairs. Mr. Bigger, W. F. Mulkey, Hiram Raff and S. W. Campbell were sent to New York to see Gould and see if the Wichita road could not be brought to Hutchinson. They met Gould and he informed them that there would be no more railroad building into Hutchinson or any place else in Kansas unless the railroad could have its property protected from strikers. At that time there was a big strike on the Missouri Pacific and its railroad property had been burned at Atchison and Parsons. Gould had appealed to the county authorities to protect his property, but the politicians in the local offices were more afraid of losing some votes at the election if they used force in stopping the strike than they were anxious to protect the property of a corporation that had no votes. Mr. Bigger, for the Hutchinson committee, suggested to Gould that perhaps they could help him. "You are the men I want," replied Gould. "You get my property protected from the strikers and you can have whatever you want from me."

Raff, who was the politician of that committee, suggested a plan. They would wire R. M. Easley, then editor of the *Hutchinson News*, to go to Topeka and await word from New York. Before he left Hutchinson, however, he was to wire all of the politicians of western Kansas who had any influence with the governor to meet him in Topeka at once as matters of highest importance to them were at stake. They hurried to Topeka. Easley was adroit and able to handle the Topeka end of the proposition. Meanwhile, the Western Union wire had been turned over to the committee in New York for their use to any extent desired, without charge. The New York committee wired Easley in Topeka freely about the things that it would take to get the road built to Hutchinson. The real purpose of all this was not divulged by Easley to the men whom he had wired to meet him in Topeka, but the threat of Gould to stop all railroad building in Kansas unless the strike was stopped was told them. Gould also added that no road would build into a state where strikers were allowed to burn and pillage property without any attempt on the part of the authorities to stop them.

All of the men Easley had wired were friends of Governor Martin. They likewise had contracts for townsites with various railroads and the

prospects of the stopping of railroad building in Kansas was an appalling one to them. When Easley had them all worked up to the right point where they would ask how they could help, Easley would tell them that there was only one way and that was to get Governor Martin thoroughly aroused by their own anxiety over prospective losses; that they could overcome his opposition to the calling out of the militia, if necessary, to stop the riots. Martin was very anxious to avoid anything of this sort. He wanted as little of this as possible in his administration, but all day, one at a time, these political friends called on him, properly coached by Easley, and talked to the governor, each on a different phase of the subject. There was one thing that influenced him most. They made it very plain to the governor that future relations between them would depend on the governor helping them to save the fortunes they had invested in the prospective townsites that were threatened. All day long, they drilled up to the governor's office at the state house. At supper time he was still undecided and still besieged. New arguments were constantly being brought up to force the governor to action. Late at night he surrendered. He told his besiegers that he would issue the proclamation they wanted. Easley soon appeared at the state house, accidentally of course, dropped in on the private secretary of the governor and began talking about the necessity of prompt action. The private secretary asked Easley if he would write the proclamation, as that was something new for him to get up. Easley agreed to this, retired to an adjoining room and, after a proper length of time, produced a proclamation that had been wired him from New York. When the method of handling the strike had been agreed on, Gould called in his attorney, Judge Dillon, and had him prepare the proclamation that was desired. In this proclamation the governor called on the strikers to desist from all violence and he threatened to send the militia to the various points in the state unless order was immediately restored. It called on all sheriffs to enforce order and to co-operate with the militia in case it was necessary to have them to suppress lawlessness. This proclamation was wired to Easley and it was this copy which Easley handed to the Governor's private secretary. The Governor signed the proclamation. It was sent out to the various sheriffs in the counties where the strikers were creating trouble and published the next morning in the *Topeka Commonwealth*, then the official paper of the state.

The news of Easley's success was wired to the Hutchinson committee in New York, who immediately went to Gould's residence and told him of their success. Gould was greatly pleased with the work of the Hutchinson

men and told them to come to his office next morning and he would carry out his part of the agreement.

In the meantime the Hutchinson committee in New York had had a big map made of the Missouri Pacific as it was then constructed. After leaving West Wichita, the road was built in an almost northwesterly course to the point where the town of Maize is now located. It continued to where Colwich is now located and then, instead of continuing in that course, it bent southward and ran almost due west to where Andale is now located. Here the course was changed again and the road ran almost due north to where Mt. Hope is located. There was no reason why the road could not have been built directly northwest, as it was started from Wichita. With this enlarged map, the big crooks showed up very plainly. At this interview the fact that the Santa Fe had occupied the territory from Reno Center west and had beaten the Wichita people to that territory was first made known to Gould. He had been financing the proposition, supposing that there was no road contemplated in that territory, and was very angry that he had been imposed on by the Wichita promoters. He was in a proper mood to give the Hutchinson committee what they wanted.

A big map of Kansas was consulted. It showed the Missouri Pacific main line was then completed to a point northwest of Hutchinson. Gould then drew a line from where the road being built by the Wichita promoters reached Reno county. He traced the road to Hutchinson and to have an outlet he continued his drawing of the road as it should be built, northwest from Hutchinson, up through Nickerson to Sterling, north to Lyons and on northwest to a point where it would join the main line of the Missouri Pacific, now where Hoisington is situated.

As soon as the Wichita promoters found that the finances had been withdrawn, they hurried to New York to see Gould. But he had made his promises to the Hutchinson committee and told them they would have to stand. However, when the road reached the Arkansas river, Gould tried to keep from building into Hutchinson, in order to appease the Wichita promoters. He notified the Hutchinson committee that they could not cross the river, as there was no bottom to the sand and that it would cost too much to cross the river. The Hutchinson committee told him that was only a bluff; that the Santa Fe had built a bridge across it a couple of miles higher up and that Reno county's bridge, less than a mile above where he proposed to cross the river, was not an expensive one, and insisted that he keep his contract and build into Hutchinson as he had agreed to. As soon

as he saw the determination of the Hutchinson committee, he ordered the road built as was originally agreed on. Thus another road was built into the city.

The present size of Hutchinson would never have been attained, its trade would have been diverted to Wichita and a number of small towns would have been built along the southern border of Reno county had it not been for the incessant activity of the men who lived in this city then, who were always alert for opportunities of helping the growth of the city. These "old-timers" were constantly on the outlook for the things that would help build up this community.

CHAPTER XXVI.

THE HUTCHINSON & SOUTHERN RAILROAD.

As it was originally planned, the Hutchinson & Southern railroad was a Union Pacific project. The Santa Fe was then extending its track southward; the Rock Island was also arranging to build a line to the southern coast of the United States and the Union Pacific wanted to be on equal terms with its competitors and get through the rich lands of southern Kansas and into the land then called the Indian Territory and on to Texas and the southern markets. The originator of the plan to build what is now the Hutchinson & Southern railroad was John P. Usher, of Lawrence, Kansas. He was at one time general attorney for the Union Pacific railroad. Mr. Usher was a man of broad vision and saw the advantage that would accrue to the Union Pacific in having such a southern feeder to its east and west main line. Usher had a prominent place in the political world. He had been secretary of the interior in President Lincoln's cabinet, which position he left after the assassination of Lincoln and became general attorney of the Kansas Pacific railroad. Later he became general attorney for the Union Pacific railroad. His plan was to extend the Union Pacific branch, then built from Salina to McPherson, southward through Hutchinson, continuing through Kingman and Harper counties and on to the Gulf. The general plan for the building of this road was outlined, but, before it could be carried into effect, Mr. Usher died. A preliminary survey was made in 1885 and a charter for the road obtained the next year.

The road was organized under the name of the McPherson, Texas & Gulf railroad. The original incorporators were A. L. Williams, H. P. Dillon, Charles Monroe, N. H. Loomis, of Topeka; G. A. A. Deane, of Lincoln, Kansas; W. H. Clark and George D. Thompson, of Harper, Kansas; W. P. Olmstead and J. B. Forbes, of Anthony, Kansas. The first board of directors consisted of A. L. Williams, H. P. Dillon, Charles Monroe, N. H. Loomis and G. A. A. Deane. A. L. Williams was the first president of the new road and the entire project was conducted in the interests of the Union Pacific railroad.

Prior to this survey, there was a great controversy in the board of directors of the Union Pacific railroad. The New York side of the directors was represented by Sidney Dillon and the Boston interests of the road were represented by Charles Francis Adams. Dillon was an advocate of continuing the westward line and Adams wanted to build to the Gulf. Whenever the Dillon interests controlled, the westward plans were pushed, but, when the Adams side of the controversy controlled the stock in the Union Pacific road the southern extension advanced. The Dillon contingent made a contract with the Rock Island for a joint use of the bridge over the Missouri river at Omaha. This contract included a joint use of the track of the Rock Island from Kansas City to Topeka, from McPherson to Hutchinson and from Limon to Denver. The Adams interests were opposed to the contract, they urging separate tracks and a separate bridge over the Missouri river. When the Adams interests got control of the directorate of the Union Pacific they tried to repudiate the contract with the Rock Island. The case was tried through all of the courts and resulted in the upholding of the contract.

The making of this contract rendered necessary the building of a road from McPherson to Hutchinson, as a part of the plan of the incorporators of the McPherson, Texas & Gulf railroad. The Rock Island was considering building to El Paso and the Union Pacific began to move trains from McPherson to Hutchinson in May, 1890, over the Rock Island tracks from McPherson, which continued for several months. When the Dillon interests gained control of the Union Pacific, the train service between these two points ceased. But the time for the building of the road southward from Hutchinson, in order to get the bonds voted by Hutchinson, South Hutchinson and Kingman for "terminal facilities", likewise the bonds voted by the various townships through which the road was to run, were expiring by limitation, when G. A. Walkup, a real estate man of Hutchinson, undertook to build the road as was contemplated and get the bonds voted by these municipalities. He interested two other Hutchinson men, Charles Collins and A. J. Lusk. Collins was an old-timer in Hutchinson, the first sheriff of Reno county, and Lusk was president of a bank that went to pieces during the hard times of a few years later. Walkup, Collins and Lusk went to Chicago and induced three Chicago men to join with them in the enterprise of building the road. These men were Everitte St. John, then general manager of the Rock Island, E. E. Wise, who was a brother-in-law of Major-Gen. John M. Schofield, of the United States army, and H. A. Christy.

The Dillon management of the Union Pacific, then in control of this road, were glad of an opportunity to stop the Adams management that they had just succeeded in putting out of control of the Union Pacific, and gave the franchise of the McPherson, Texas & Gulf to the new company, with the stipulation that it was to be constructed under another name. According to this agreement, the road's name was changed to the Hutchinson, Oklahoma & Gulf railroad. The board of directors chosen then were H. A. Christy, E. E. Wise and E. St. John, of Chicago, and Charles Collins and G. A. Walkup, of Hutchinson. Christy was elected president of the new road, Wise, general superintendent, and O. P. Byers, superintendent of construction. The articles of incorporation of the road were filed with the secretary of state of Kansas on October 7, 1889.

The territory over which it was planned to build this road had no railroad facilities. The people were anxious to have the road built. Bonds were voted and right-of-way given freely. When the company found a man who would not give the right of way, they would seek to get him by the promise of a life pass on the road; if this did not succeed in getting the right of way, they would build around his place. It made little difference to these men about the curvature in the road. They were building it to sell and their bonds were voted on a mileage basis. No money was ever paid out, for the promoter had none with which to pay. Neither did they have any money with which to build the road. All grading was paid out of the subsidies voted the road. The rails were purchased on time from the Illinois Steel Company through the influence of St. John. The ties were likewise purchased on time. Engines and cars for construction purposes were loaned; the freight on material was to be paid out of the proceeds of the bonds, after they were earned. The road was built without a dollar of money being put up by the men building it. It was built on the credit of the towns and townships through which it was constructed.

The new company found they had but sixty days to build the twenty-three miles of road to the southern boundary of Reno county. All the material had to be hauled hundreds of miles. Weather conditions became very bad, for it rained continually. One fortunate feature for the company, however, was that the rain fell during the night, the days being nice and bright, and no work was stopped because of the weather. The track was laid on the road at the rate of a mile a day. It was completed to within a mile of the county line and only one day remained of the time to earn the bonds. Then it was discovered that there was no more material on hands

to finish to the Kingman line. So the only thing left to do was to tear up all of the sidings and put them down as part of the main line. This was done and the county commissioners of Reno county accepted the road and ordered the bonds paid.

The road was built on to Kingman. There was plenty of time, however, to reach that city, as the time limit did not expire as soon as it did in Reno county, and the company proceeded in a more leisurely way to build that portion of the road.

When it came to selling the bonds of the road and paying for the material, some difficulty was found in disposing of the bonds. There had been a series of short crops in Kansas. Political agitations, arising out of the inflation of values and the over-mortgaging of the lands, had sent the credit of the West down and it was found difficult to market the bonds. They were finally sold to the state school fund at a discount.

A difficulty arose over the division of the proceeds of these bonds. Wise and Christy undertook to squeeze out Lusk and Collins. They had eliminated St. John at an earlier period and thought they could in a similar manner get Lusk and Collins out of the deal and have the entire proceeds for themselves. Lusk met Christy and Wise in a bank in Hutchinson to talk over the matter. It became apparent that the Chicago men were anxious to get all of the bonds for their own use. Lusk knocked Christy down, then had both Christy and Wise arrested, and they would have spent the night in jail had not a Hutchinson citizen gone on their bonds. That night Collins went to the hotel where Wise and Christy were stopping and, after getting into their room, he locked the door and put the key in his pocket. He told them in very forcible language that they could not freeze him out in the manner they proposed and that he was there to get what was coming to him. They both knew Collins and knew he would make good his threat. Collins left the room satisfied. Just what they paid him, how they settled with him, neither they nor Collins would say. All that Collins ever said about it was that he got what he went after. Later, a suit was brought over the issuance of the bonds Hutchinson had voted. While the "terminal facilities" promised were never built, the city council thought that, even though the bonds were never earned, yet it enabled the road to be built and Hutchinson to have the trade it brought to the city. Wise and Christy had, after completing the road to Kingman, a railroad thirty-two miles long, built out of the subsidies, with no bonded indebtedness.

While this road was being built, another change took place in the man-

agement of the Union Pacific. The old idea of building to the Gulf again animated the officers and a new company was organized, called the Omaha, Hutchinson & Gulf railroad. A survey was made from the city of Kingman to the south line of the state. Elections were held and bonds voted. The subsidies allowed by law had been reduced from four thousand dollars to two thousand dollars a mile and the "terminal facility" bonds from Kingman, Harper and Anthony were also voted. The proposition to continue the building of the road was presented to the new management of the Union Pacific, with the provision that when the fifty additional miles that would be necessary to reach the state line were built, that all the subsidies should be the property of the promoters and the entire eighty-two miles of road should be bonded for twelve thousand five hundred dollars a mile, the Union Pacific to advance seventy-five per cent of this value of the bonds when the road was built and in operation from Hutchinson to the Indian Territory line. The Union Pacific was to have the privilege of taking over the road upon the payment of the other twenty-five per cent of the bonds. This proposition was accepted and the road completed to the state line on June 2, 1890. The road was then reincorporated and was known as the Hutchinson & Southern railroad. The entire amount of the bonds issued was seven hundred sixty-eight thousand five hundred dollars. The stock was put up with the bonds and the control of the road passed to the bondholders. The net profits to the builders of this eighty-two miles of railroad was over a quarter of a million dollars. It was the intention to continue the building of the road to Denison, Texas. Oklahoma had been opened for settlement. Townsites were available and bonds were as easily secured as in the early days of Kansas. Indian contracts of great value could be secured and the prospects for the road for building farther south were bright. An application had been made to Congress for a right-of-way across this territory, when another convulsion took place in the management of the Union Pacific. The Dillon interests had again crowded out the Adams interests. They were antagonistic to the entire southern proposition and promptly repudiated the contract that had been made for building the road southward. They refused, further, to take possession of the newly-built railroad and left it in the hands of the builders. These builders sought money elsewhere, when it became apparent that no further aid could be expected from the Union Pacific. But it was hard work at that time to get any money for railroad construction. Nearly all of the western roads were in the hands of receivers and a receiver was appointed for the Hutchinson & Southern. The man

sent to Hutchinson to have charge of the road was L. E. Walker. His appointment was the payment of a political debt of Senator Thurston, who was then attorney for the Union Pacific. Walker came to Hutchinson and took charge of the road. Soon afterward he selected W. A. Bradford, a Boston man, as general manager of the road. The idea of extending the road appealed to them and they undertook to duplicate the job of building the road from Hutchinson to Kingman, from the terminus then at Cameron, on the state line, to Blackwell, Oklahoma. They got bonds wherever possible. They took the receipts of the road and used them. They had receiver's certificates issued by the United States court to pay taxes and other expenses and they left the taxes unpaid, using the money to continue the building of the road. They succeeded in getting to Blackwell and the road was becoming an exceedingly valuable one. They started to build a depot in Hutchinson, now the Missouri Pacific passenger depot. They built a bridge across the Arkansas river, so they would not have to use the tracks of the Rock Island road. They were getting along nicely. They had an offer of a million dollars for the road from the Choctaw railroad, which was anxious to get a line northward. Their success turned their heads. Instead of accepting the Choctaw proposition, that would have made them a big profit, they held on to their road, expecting to make a great system out of it. However, the Santa Fe looked at the road with longing eyes and bought the bonds of the Company. The stock was up as additional security, which stock carried with it the control of the road, and on December 20, 1889, the Hutchinson & Southern became the property of the Santa Fe. Bradford and Walker made but little out of the sale. They had put nothing in. They sold the depot to the Missouri Pacific for ten thousand dollars and the track from the river to the depot and the bridge across the Arkansas river, that were not covered by the bonds of the road. This was all they had when the Santa Fe took control of the road.

So the Hutchinson & Southern was built. The early promoters made a fortune out of it, but none of them made much of their profits. They all died poor. None of the early builders are living. Some of the men who helped build the road are still in Hutchinson. Among them, O. P. Byers, who was superintendent of the road until it was built to Kingman. He now is president of the Anthony & Northern railroad. Fred Carpenter, of Hutchinson, was road master for many years and is still road master of this road. It is a great feeder for the Santa Fe. It runs through a rich territory and is a great help in the development of the Great Southwest.

CHAPTER XXVII.

EARLY FARMING.

Perhaps those who live in Reno county fifty years hence will look upon farming as it is done today with the same view that the farmers of today look at the methods of the pioneers of Reno county, the men who broke the sod and drove the wildness out of the soil. From the standpoint of farming as it is done today, the pioneer was exceedingly crude in his methods and small in his attainments. Perhaps the reason for the smallness of the acreage was the lack of a market, although in 1878 and for a few years thereafter there was a hay and corn market in Reno county that was very heavy. The volume of the hay business exceeded that of the present day. It was in the mining days of Colorado, that created such an immense hay business. C. B. Myton was the manager of the company that shipped much hay from Hutchinson. It was prairie hay and the general price paid was three dollars a ton. Myton baled the hay and shipped it to Colorado mining towns. His hay stacks were built on Second avenue west, about where the gas plant is now located. Much of the grass that was hauled to market was blue stem from the bottoms and a fuzzy topped grass that grew in the uplands. As was shown in another chapter, as soon as the buffalo quit grazing on the grass, the buffalo grass disappeared and the tall blue stem and other varieties of grass followed it.

The farmer of today wonders at the wastefulness of getting a ton of grass to the acre, when his alfalfa fields now yield him four to five cuttings that will average more for each cutting than he got for his entire hay crop for a season. The price of the alfalfa is three to four times as much as he received for his prairie hay when Myton was shipping it west.

The year 1872 developed twenty-four farmers in Reno county who put out corn, the total number of acres planted that year being two hundred fifty and one-half. The Ijams family were the big corn raisers that year, the family altogether having in fifty-five acres of corn. The family are still among the enterprising farmers of Reno county and still raise corn. That crop the entire family put out in 1872 would hardly be a start now for some of the younger members of the family. Isaac Ijams was easily

the king of corn raisers in 1872, for he alone had thirty-five acres of corn in cultivation. The crop that year averaged from twelve to fifteen bushels per acre. This, of course, was all sod corn and had no cultivation. About all that was done to raise the crop was the plowing of the ground and the planting by hand of the corn, and then, in the fall, the harvesting. Corn sold in the fall of 1872 and spring of 1873 from a dollar to a dollar and a quarter a bushel, the latter price being generally paid for seed corn.

One of the chief encouragements to farming was the passage of the Herd law. Prior to the enactment of this statute there was no protection from stock and none of the farmers had money enough to fence their land. But farming developed rapidly as soon as the law became effective. There was also one other thing that hindered the development of farming, except close to Hutchinson, and that was the driving of immense herds of Texas cattle northward to Abilene and, later, to Ellinwood. Until the passage of the law governing the driving of herds, which allowed Texas cattle to be driven across the state, but fixed as the eastern boundary a line that was the western boundary line of Reno county, no one risked planting much in their fields. Some gardens were planted and some families that lived in the Ninescaw bottoms, near where Arlington now stands, did a thriving business in selling green vegetables. Lettuce, onions and everything they could grow were readily sold to the cattle men who were driving their herds northward. Anything in the fresh vegetable line found a ready sale with the cattlemen. While the law fixing the boundary line for driving cattle north was passed in 1872, it was not rigidly enforced, as there were but few settlers outside the bottom lands. Realizing the fact that while the statutes prohibited the driving of cattle across Reno county, on their way from the Texas ranges to shipping points on the Santa Fe, the county commissioners modified the order to a certain extent in allowing cattle men to make a short cut across the southwest portion of the county, as there were but few farmers in that section of the county. So they authorized a route to be laid out along which cattle could be driven. This, however, was not used long. As soon as the Santa Fe railroad was built to Dodge City, another and more southwesterly route was used by the cattlemen and the driving of Texas cattle through Reno county ceased entirely.

The growing of wheat in 1873 started the agitation for a grist-mill from water power obtained from Cow creek. Obtaining flour was a hard task then. The nearest grist-mill in 1872 was operated by a man by the name of Dick, at Cedar Point, on the Cottonwood river, nearly a hundred

miles east of Hutchinson. It took a week to make the trip with a load of wheat, returning with a load of flour. The first wheat in Reno county was raised by J. W. Kanaga on his farm southeast of town. Charles Phillips took the first load of wheat from Reno county to the mill at Cedar Point. A short time later a steam mill was started at Conesburg, now Peabody, and this materially shortened the distance to mill. The Kanagas had an old fashioned "dropper", which they had brought with them to Reno county. In the summer Kanaga sold ice and he took his pay for cutting his neighbors' wheat in the labor of those neighbors in putting up ice in the winter. It is recorded that the ice of the winter of 1873-1874 was "very good", as good perhaps as the wheat crop harvested the summer before.

The long distance to mill was a great incentive to the establishment of a mill in Hutchinson. In the summer of 1874 C. B. Myton built a grist-mill alongside the Santa Fe tracks about where the passenger depot now stands. He ground wheat and corn, but the flour was of an inferior quality. At this time the nearest mill to Hutchinson was at Wichita. Myton had all of the trade of the territory adjoining Hutchinson. His charges were excessive. At that time wheat was very low in price and it was very much to the advantage of the farmer to exchange part of his wheat rather than sell the wheat and buy flour. Myton's charges were fixed on the basis of "all the traffic would stand." Farmers complained of the excessive tolls taken by him for grinding. Some of the men took their wheat to Wichita rather than pay the excessive tolls Myton exacted. So strong was the protest against these high charges, that in 1875 a mill was projected, to be run with water power. A mill that would be of any capacity worth considering would require one hundred horse-power to operate. To obtain this power it was found necessary to have more water than Cow creek naturally furnished and it was found necessary to raise the water eight feet above the surface of the ground at Avenue C and Main street, where the mill was to be located. It was further found necessary to get as much water from the Arkansas river as Cow creek afforded. It was found after the mill was constructed that whenever the river failed to supply this extra amount of water, it was necessary to shut down the mill. To get this extra water a ditch was dug from the river to Cow creek four miles northwest of town. It was found that the water in the river was seventeen feet higher at a point directly west of Cow creek than the water in the creek. By bringing the water from the river to the creek, enough power was obtained to run the mill. The two years following the completion of the mill were wet ones

and it was found then that had the banks of the head race been raised another foot, there would have been enough water in the creek to run the mill. It was found in the winter time, when the water was most needed to supplement that of Cow creek, that the water would be low, the river sometimes going almost dry. It was found also that in the winter ice would form on the river much sooner than on Cow creek; that Cow creek, being fed by springs, never ceased flowing until zero weather was reached, and then the ice would soon disappear after a few warm days. This mill was started in the fall of 1876 and for a few months did a very successful business, grinding grists for farmers who had driven long distances to get a chance to exchange their wheat for flour. It was no uncommon thing for the mill to receive as much as one thousand bushels of wheat a day to grind.

The mill greatly helped the merchant. It brought men to town for flour who became customers of the stores of the city, and when the water failure, a few years afterward, caused the mill to shut down it was a hard blow to the merchants, who had profited greatly by this new business. It was likewise a hard blow for the farmers, who had had fair treatment from the mill company.

Another thing which made farming uncertain in the early days was the frequent prairie fires. There was little plowed ground, most of the country remaining grass land, and a fire, fanned by a high wind, was something to be greatly dreaded. One of these swept over the state in the fall of 1872. It started in northern Kansas and was not stopped even by the rivers, as the high wind carried burning tumble weeds over the water and started fires on the opposite bank of the stream. These great fires were of yearly occurrence. They were not all as extensive as the one referred to, but they would often sweep over a space as large as a county before a changed wind, a rain or some natural obstacle like a stream would intervene. One of these big fires is spoken of in the county records. An election was called in Valley township for November 12, 1872, but the election was not held, for a memorandum on the commissioners' records states that, "owing to a very destructive prairie fire sweeping over Valley township, no election was held."

Another such fire occurred in Grant township in the fall of 1876. A funeral procession had started to the cemetery then located at the corner of Seventeenth and Monroe street, when a man in one of the wagons of the procession dropped a lighted match in the grass. In a moment the prairie was burning. Difficulty was experienced in getting the procession out of danger of fire. Teams were hurried up, a place of safety from the fire was

reached, then the women in the party held the teams, while all of the men helped to put out the fire. After fighting the flames till almost sunset, the men, almost exhausted, resumed their places in the wagons and the procession moved on to the cemetery, where the burial was performed after dark.

No one who has seen a prairie fire at night will ever forget the sight nor the impression it made on him, especially if he has seen the fire in the sand hills, when the wind had died down and in the darkness of the evening, the flames would hover over the hills in long lines of bright creeping fire. Fires that were ten to fifteen miles long were no uncommon sight. There would be no smoke visible in these night fires; only the creeping flames could be seen. Up one side the light could be seen, then down the side of another hill, half hidden, would appear a glow on the otherwise invisible smoke, flaring up as the flames reached some high blue stem in some low bottom spot between the hills; then creeping, creeping along, an endless array of light, dying, but to brighten again; fading, but to be reflected on some dark, hidden veil of smoke. It was a fascinating sight. All night this slow fire would gnaw its way over the hills. On the following day only the smoke could be seen. On a still day in the short grass it would burn, appearing again on the second night, perhaps dimmer because its flames had devoured all the grass between—burning until some stream was reached, or till the hills hid the light of the slow burning fire beyond.

The plains are devoid of timber because of these prairie fires. When the settlers reached Reno county there was some timber on the higher knolls of the hills, trees that had gotten a start where the wind whipped the sand around until the grass was covered. Getting a start in these places, the trees soon grew until the fires could not burn the bark, as the ground would be shaded and no grass would grow, to add to the fuel of the flames. In addition to these scrubby trees, there were three trees on Cow creek in Grant township, on what was known then as the Peter Shafer place, but in the valley there were no trees, because of the prairie fires.

The diversity in farming was not one of the virtues of the pioneer farmer. Garden vegetables were very little cultivated, as it was thought impossible to raise much but corn and wheat. The Santa Fe railroad put out a large variety of trees in an early day, on a tract of ground west of Cow creek, doing so in order to convince the early settlers that trees would grow on the prairies. Many varieties of trees were started and the success of the enterprise encouraged the growth of other timber. Especially was the planting of cottonwood and mulberry hedges general. There were but few,

however, who put out orchards. In the Arkansas valley there were some farmers who believed that fruit would grow in the valley. Among the most enterprising of those who had faith in the soil and planted out apple and other kinds of fruit trees was W. R. Pennington, in North Reno township in the Cow creek bottoms. He was one of the pioneers in planting apples and his rich harvest has brought the reward for his work.

None but a pioneer can appreciate eating of the "first fruit" of an orchard. "The planting of the apple tree" means something to them that their children cannot appreciate. The years of waiting and watching, in years of drought, the watering, the pleasure at seeing the bloom come on the tree in the spring, the watching of the apple as it grows till the ripened fruit is gathered. The editor of this history remembers well, although many years have passed since it happened, the first apple of the orchard planted and watered and watched. His father bought the "first fruit" and it was cut into five pieces, one for each member of the family. Since then, many crops of luscious fruit have been gathered from that orchard, but no apple gathered since has had the flavor of that first apple that was gathered from that orchard. It was an experience that comes only to the pioneer, an experience that made a deeper impression on the mind than anything like it in later days.

Another who made a success in horticultural lines was George Cole. He was an Englishman and his place, while he lived on it and cared for it, was one of the show places of the county. Evergreens were planted in abundance and his lawn was one of the beautiful places of the county. Mr. Cole was among the earliest to grow grapes. His vineyard yielded liberally and he had the market to himself for several years, laying the foundation of a competence that he enjoyed in his later life.

Among the things most neglected by the earliest pioneers was one that it would seem were the easiest to obtain, and that was butter and milk. One of the earliest of the pioneers of the county remarked that there was but one milk cow in Hutchinson when her father reached Hutchinson. This cow furnished the milk for the town. She was an aristocrat among the thousands of cattle on the plains, but even she failed to maintain her station, as she was "dry" six months in the year.

Cows, however, later came to be common. The "town herd" became an institution. For a dollar a month, the proprietor of the "town herd" would come and get the cow, drive her to pasture and return her at night. This gave employment to one man and to several of his boys. The pasture

was generally rented for a small sum and for the summer and fall months for seventy-five to one hundred and fifty cows were herded together and returned to their owners at night. This system was kept up for many years, until the ground close enough for a range was plowed up, when the "town herd" disappeared and the milk wagon started on its rounds. It was soon found more economical to buy the milk than to keep a cow the year around and the growing city abolished the keeping of cows in town, as impractical.

This same pioneer, who spoke of the owner of a cow as the "aristocrat of their street," also refers to the luxury of hen eggs. She remarked that eggs were so scarce that good cakes were impossible and soft-boiled eggs were a luxury reserved for the sick. She added that she had been tempted very often in her girlhood to play sick that she might enjoy the luxury of an egg for breakfast.

This absence of milk, butter and eggs is all the more remarkable in view of the extent to which these industries have been developed in recent times. But the pioneers here, as in so many other things, realized but little of the productiveness of the soil and of the development along lines considered impossible then. Perhaps those who live here fifty years hence will wonder at the short-sightedness of those of today, who pride themselves on such a wide development of the resources of the county.

CHAPTER XXVIII.

RENO COUNTY FAIRS.

The first Reno county fair was held on September 28, 29 and 30, 1875, three years after the county was organized. The early timers knew the value of such things, both as a means of affording a place for comparison of products and as an advertisement for the county and its resources. The same spirit that acted as a stimulant toward having a county fair actuated the old settlers in organizing an old settlers' association. The first organization of the old settlers, however, was made when the oldest of the old settlers had been in the county but a little more than two years.

The first county fair was held the year after the grasshopper raid. The crops that year were abundant and immigration into this part of the state had begun to be an item to be considered. Every effort possible was made to attract settlers. The land agent was, of course, the principal agency in inducing settlers to visit Reno county. The Santa Fe railroad had its land and immigration department, that was pushing the sale of land along the railroad. When they first built their road over Reno county, they publicly declared they never expected to sell any land beyond Great Bend, and they thought it would be a half century before the lands outside of the bottom lands would be settled. But the settlers crowded into the county and the railroad men's faith grew in the upland, so that they pushed the sale of lands out of the valley with the same confidence and the same guarantee to the land buyer that the land was rich and would yield abundantly. They sold land rapidly, on long time and at a low rate of interest and the land department of the Santa Fe always acted fairly and liberally with the land buyer.

The first county fair was but little more than a reunion. There is no record of any cash prizes or of any charges. But the next year the fair assumed larger proportions. L. J. Templin was elected as secretary and general manager. Mr. Templin was a Methodist preacher and had moved to Reno county from Kokomo, Indiana, with his family in 1875. He was a stalwart man in appearance; a genial, whole-souled man, equally qualified to preach the Gospel or handle a horse race. In either position his sturdy

manhood was evident. There was no gambling at the fair. Mr. Templin lived in the county for many years and reared a large family, the best known of them being Prof. Olin Templin, dean of the faculty of the State University. Professor Templin was only a boy when his father moved to Reno county and he afterward became a successful teacher. When he first came to Reno county, Olin was considered too small to load the old-fashioned muzzle-loading shotguns, but not too small to go out and kill geese that were so abundant. So the young man would have his father load his shotgun and he would do the shooting, coming back generally with a big goose, to have his gun loaded again.

The managers of the second fair charged an admission fee. The total receipts of this fair, which was held on October 17, 18 and 19, 1876, were three hundred thirty-four dollars and fifty-one cents. It is not stated in the accounting whether the total included the two hundred dollars given by the state to stimulate county fair or not, but the probabilities are that the two hundred dollars was in the item of receipts. There was a "small balance" left, according to the report; at least there were no unpaid bills and perhaps but little money in the treasury of the fair association. But the association did not have its meeting every year. The burden of taking care of all such organizations falls on the same persons year after year. It becomes irksome, especially when there is no compensation. So the Reno County Fair Association lived some years and in other years languished. Occasionally a racing meeting would be held. Such a meeting as this was held over on a track east of town and at this particular meeting two noted horses raced, "Ashland Wilkes" and "Joe Young." This race drew an immense crowd, more than the fair association could accommodate in the small grandstand.

The present state fair had its beginning on February 7, 1901. A few men met at the Commercial Club rooms to talk over the advisability of organizing a fair association. A canvass was made shortly after this meeting, wherein it was agreed to raise money to start a fair. Frank Fearl carried the subscription paper. The first signature secured was that of Matthew Smith and Mr. Fearl signed for the second one. The total number of names secured was fifty-two. When the list was completed a second meeting was held on the date mentioned and the subscribers organized by selecting F. E. Fearl as president and J. L. Sponsler as secretary. The first directors chosen were as follow: R. H. Holton, J. Q. Patten, Thomas H. Foley, C. W. Peckham, H. S. Thompson, John R. Price, W. H. Johnson, E. Rayl.

W. H. S. Benedict, J. U. Brown, Henry Hartford, Matthew Smith, John M. Kinkel and J. B. Talbot. This board of directors met on April 24, 1901, and elected the following officers: President, A. L. Sponsler; vice-president, D. J. Fair; treasurer, W. H. Eagan; secretary, Ed M. Moore; assistant secretary, John L. Sponsler. The prizes for the fair were fixed at two thousand five hundred dollars.

The fair association had no grounds on which to hold this fair. They made a contract with the Park association, which had a tract of about fifty acres north of town, to give the park association ten per cent. of the gate receipts and one-half of the money taken in from the sale of privileges. The Park Association was to erect all the necessary horse and cattle barns, build a race track and put up a grand stand. The total receipts of this first fair of the Central Kansas Fair Association, as the association called itself, were \$6,049.47. The total expenditures for this year, including the percentage due the Park Association, was \$5,293.84, leaving a balance of \$755.47.

Encouraged by the success of this first fair, the association greatly enlarged the scope of the fair of 1902, by adding many departments not represented in 1901. More money was added to the speed ring, more and larger prizes for hogs, cattle, sheep and poultry were offered. The fair grew constantly in size and interest. Larger crowds attended. Premiums were always paid and exhibitors were satisfied and came year after year. In 1905 the total receipts were more than four times what they were in 1902.

On March 12, 1907, the capital stock of the fair was increased to fifty thousand dollars and a contract made for the purchase of grounds and buildings of the park association. The boys' and girls' corn contest was added as a feature of the fair, the purpose being to arouse a deeper interest in corn growing and to make this feature of the fair an educational one.

By 1908, the fair had increased so that the total receipts were \$40,285.71, and netted the association \$8,534.51. The two following years were equally prosperous and in 1910 a meeting to organize a movement for the celebration of the semi-centennial of the admission of Kansas to the Union. The result was that the fair for 1911 was the largest ever held in the state. The time was extended to two weeks, the semi-centennial part of the celebration following the regular fair. The total receipts for this fair were \$65,520.34, the net receipts being \$11,680.40. There were a total of one hundred and eighty-three thousand admissions during the time of the celebration.

Two years later the state of Kansas, through the state agricultural board, took charge of the fair and the name was changed from the Central Kansas



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Fair Association to the Kansas State Fair Association. As a part of the consideration of making it a state fair, Reno county was to turn over the grounds and equipment free to the state. Prior to this time the fair association, having outgrown the grounds on which it first started, bought one hundred and twelve acres of land immediately north of the old grounds. In order to pay for these grounds, the question of buying the fair grounds of the fair association was submitted to a vote of the people of Reno county. The election was held on April 22, 1913, and resulted in Reno county voting fifty thousand dollars, in bonds to purchase the fair grounds. The vote on this stood six thousand four hundred and forty-nine votes for the bonds and one thousand five hundred and fifty-five votes against the bonds.

Having turned the equipment over to the state, after the Legislature had designated the Hutchinson fair as the state fair, it was supposed that the Legislature would appropriate money with which to run the fair. But they failed to make any appropriation in 1913. In 1915, after the fair had been handled by the state agricultural board, an appropriation for more permanent buildings was made by the Legislature. Likewise an appropriation was made for a "revolving fund" to take care of the expenses of the fair up to the time of the fair meeting. But the governor vetoed the appropriation for permanent buildings and allowed only the "revolving fund" to remain.

The state fair is thus an outgrowth of the efforts of the few men who met and organized the Central Kansas Fair Association. The growth of the fair has been phenomenal. Its success is due to many things. The location is right for a great annual gathering. It is the visiting place of central and southwestern Kansas. Men and women from various points in the southwest meet here, having come for years and enjoy the associations the fair affords. It has become a common meeting ground for friends and acquaintances. The exhibits furnish the best in live stock that is to be found. Agricultural exhibits form a large part of the attraction for visitors. And the exhibition, in more recent years, of farm machinery by the various manufacturers adds to the value of the fair.

Another element that has been a constant factor in the growth of the fair has been the character of the men who have managed it. The directors are now practically the same men who started with the fair in 1901. Five of them have dropped by the wayside, John R. Price, D. J. Fair, J. U. Brown, Matthew Smith and James Haston. The other directors are the

ones who started with the fair in its beginning and were active in its support all the years of its growth. They have worked with but little compensation and they have achieved a success that is worthy of their efforts. Recognizing the fact that much of the success of the fair was due to the personal efforts of the officers and directors, when the fair was turned over to the state board of agriculture they made no changes in the directorate and continued the officers for the state fair who had built up the Central Kansas Fair.

The future of the fair is with the Legislature of Kansas. By the terms of the donation, whenever the state ceases to maintain a fair the land, now worth over a hundred thousand dollars, reverts to Reno county. Its location is such that it will increase constantly in value. The fair is a great element in the development of the resources of the state.

CHAPTER XXIX.

THE GRAIN BUSINESS.

The grain business of Reno county today is of such vast proportions it is hard to realize that it has been only a few years since there was no wheat or corn sold in Reno county. The earliest buyer of farm produce was C. B. Myton, who purchased all the hay he could obtain and shipped it to Colorado; also bought some corn, but very little of that. The first person who really made a business of buying grain was Chas. D. Christopher, who began buying corn in 1875, which he shipped to Colorado where it was used in the mining camps. The volume of business done by Mr. Christopher was not very large compared with what it is now, but it was of great importance to the early settlers, to whom the business meant a money income from their small crops. In the early days there was very little ready money in the community, and the chief source of it from 1872 to 1875 was from the sale of buffalo bones in town. Mr. Christopher purchased nearly fifty cars of grain in 1875, when corn was selling from thirty to forty cents a bushel.

Shortly after Mr. Christopher began buying grain, J. B. Potter came to Hutchinson, built a little elevator close to where the Rock Mill Elevator now stands and began buying wheat. Empey and Burrel were in the grocery business then and did a little grain business, but their dealings were more like barter than sale, since they would trade groceries to the farmers for their grain. In 1880 J. M. and W. F. Mulkey moved to Hutchinson from Illinois and began buying and selling grain. They remained in this business for seven or eight years, after which they went into the salt business, which they later sold when they moved to Detroit, Michigan.

There were several other grain buyers in the city from 1880 to 1890; among them Ken Ringle, George Woodard, A. S. Vance and A. N. Bontz. In 1880 T. J. Templar came to Hutchinson, bought the little elevator built by C. B. Myton and added to it until it grew to the proportions of the present Kansas Grain Company's plant. In addition to buying grain in Hutchinson, the Kansas Grain Company, which was soon enlarged by L. B. Young joining the enterprise and becoming its secretary, began erecting elevators at other points in Kansas, until they were doing business at fifty differ-

ent stations in this state, this being the largest and most extensive grain firm that ever did business in Hutchinson. Mr. Templar and Mr. Young continued with this company until 1917, when they sold their interests to J. B. Hupp, T. L. Hoffman and T. J. Holdridge, who now are the proprietors of the business. Mr. Templar, the biggest single factor in the grain business, sold his interests only a few months before his death, which occurred on August 6, 1917. Mr. Young, who was associated with Mr. Templar until the business was sold out, is still a resident of Hutchinson.

There are many grain buyers in Hutchinson now. The Board of Trade was organized in May, 1910, with a membership of fifty, T. J. Templar being the first president and H. M. Talcott the first secretary. There are fifty firms buying grain in Hutchinson at the present time, and the growth of the enterprise is a fine index of the growth of grain farming in Reno county and of the southwestern part of the state. In 1875 probably fifty cars of grain were bought and sold in Hutchinson, but the business increased as the farms were developed until in 1880 when there were about one million bushels of grain of all kinds handled in Hutchinson. In 1890 the business had increased until there was about ten million bushels of grain sold through the various elevators and mills of the county. In 1900 this had increased to 15,000,000 bushels, in 1910, 25,000,000, and in 1917, 50,000,000 bushels. These figures represent the growth of the grain production of Reno county. It is not long in point of time from 1875 to 1917, but in the amount of grain grown the increase has been very large. From the 25,000 bushels marketed in 1875 to the 50,000,000 handled in 1917 is the measure of the increased production and development of Reno county. The price of grain has varied much. Corn which has been sold as low as fifteen cents a bushel in 1891 and 1892 reached its highest price in 1917, when under the stimulus of the war and a short crop it reached two dollars and thirty-five cents a bushel. Wheat has sold as low as forty-five cents a bushel, but in 1917 it reached its highest point of three dollars and twenty-five cents a bushel. Rye and oats have kept along with wheat and corn, varying in price with the principal grains.

As an auxiliary of the grain business, the flour mills, have played a conspicuous part. At the present time there are eight big flouring mills in Reno county, four in Hutchinson, and four in other parts of the county.

The Hutchinson Flour Mill, which was built by W. E. McKinney, is now owned by L. B. Young, J. W. Burns, R. L. Burns and Fred Burns. It has a capacity of two hundred barrels of flour a day and a storage capacity of one hundred and fifty thousand bushels of wheat.

The Monarch Mills were built by W. E. Carr and William Kelly, and now have a six-hundred-barrel daily capacity and storage for one hundred thousand bushels of wheat.

The William Kelly Milling Company, built and largely owned by William Kelly, who was formerly one of the owners of the Monarch Mills, has a daily producing capacity of nine hundred barrels of flour and a storage capacity for two hundred and fifty thousand bushels of wheat.

The Larabee Flour Mills Company, owned by the Larabee Brothers, has a daily capacity of two thousand barrels of flour, and a storage capacity for five thousand bushels of grain.

The Turon Mill Company, located at Turon, was built by John R. Price. It has a capacity of producing one hundred and fifty barrels of flour daily, with a storage capacity for one hundred and fifty thousand bushels of wheat.

The Haven Milling Company, with mills located at Haven, has a daily flour producing capacity of two hundred barrels and a wheat storage capacity of fifty thousand bushels.

The Buhler Milling Company, with their mill located at Buhler, has a capacity for producing five hundred barrels of flour a day and a wheat storage capacity of one hundred thousand bushels.

The Sylvia Milling Company, located at Sylvia, has a capacity to make two hundred barrels of flour daily, and has a grain storage capacity for seventy-five thousand bushels.

George Herr's mill, located in South Hutchinson, has a capacity of one hundred and fifty barrels daily and a storage capacity of twenty-five hundred bushels of grain.

In addition to these mills there are located in Hutchinson four large elevators capable of storing five hundred and seventy-five thousand bushels of grain, distributed as follows:

Kansas Grain Elevator, two hundred thousand bushels.

Rock Mill & Elevator Company, two hundred thousand bushels.

Hutchinson Terminal Elevator Company, one hundred and twenty-five thousand bushels.

Pettitt Grain Company, fifty thousand bushels.

These mills and elevators receive grain from all over the southwest, and the flour from the Reno county mills sells all over the country. Besides these big storage elevators there are many smaller elevators which have facilities for handling the grain from the wagon to the car. Reno county has sufficient elevator and mill capacity to handle the big wheat crop, not only of this county, but for southwest Kansas.

CHAPTER XXX.

POSTOFFICES AND MAIL ROUTES.

The first mail came overland from Newton to Hutchinson, as described in another chapter. As soon as the Santa Fe railroad was completed to this city, these mail routes were discontinued. But there was a great demand for mail to outlying points. Hutchinson began to be the distributing point for a big territory south and north. The mail was hauled in cumbersome stage coaches. Six "star routes" were formed within two years after the Hutchinson postoffice was established. Six more were established in 1878, another six in 1882, and the last ones, five in number, were established in 1886.

Some of the points to which mail was hauled cannot now be identified and the postoffice department at Washington cannot locate them. Many, perhaps, were just private homes for the distribution of mail and some member of the household designated as postmaster. The following are the various star routes with the distances and the name of the contractors:

Hutchinson was supplied by service from Newton, thirty-two miles, by James A. Hawkes, Circleville, Ohio, without pay, from December 25, 1871, to April 22, 1872, when star route No. 14233 was established between those offices and a contract awarded to Mr. Hawkes at the rate of \$790 per annum, the route being discontinued July 15, 1872. Special service was also employed between these points at eight hundred dollars per annum from January 1 to June 30, 1872. Special service was performed between Farland and Hutchinson, thirteen miles, from October 1, 1872, to June 30, 1873, at the rate of eight hundred dollars per annum.

A contract for service on star route No. 14300, New Gottland to Hutchinson, seventy-five miles, three times a week, was awarded April 9, 1873, to Eric Forsche, Falun, Kansas, at the rate of \$700 per annum for the remainder of the contract term expiring June 30, 1874.

Service was authorized on star route No. 14293, Hutchinson to Camp Supply, one hundred and sixty miles, once a week, and a contract awarded March 20, 1873, to D. T. Parker, of Parker, Kansas, at the rate of \$4,975 for the remainder of the contract term.

Star route No. 14299, Lindsborg to Hutchinson, 54½ miles, once-a-week service, was established, and a contract awarded March 20, 1873, to Samuel D. Bradley, of Salina, Kansas, at the rate of \$970 per annum.

Contracts were awarded for service on star routes during the four-year term beginning July 1, 1874, as follows:

Route No. 33117, Salina to Hutchinson, via Marquette, 70 miles, once a week, \$750 per annum, Eric Forsse, Falun, Kansas, contractor.

Route No. 33118, Salina to Hutchinson, via Oasis (located in Salina county), and Farland in McPherson county, 70 miles, three times a week, Henry E. McKee, Washington, D. C., contractor.

Route No. 33126, Hutchinson to Camp Supply, 180 miles, once a week, \$2,440 per annum, James Call, Sun City, Kansas, contractor.

Route No. 33237, Wichita to Hutchinson, 55 miles, twice a week, \$750 per annum, Charles H. Miller, Eldridge, Kansas, contractor.

Route No. 33247, Hutchinson to Leaville (located six miles west of where Partridge is now), 18 miles, once a week, \$177 per annum, A. H. Scott, Concordia, Kansas, contractor.

Route No. 33313, Hutchinson to Zenith, 41 miles, once a week, \$286 per annum, John C. Beem, Hutchinson, Kansas, contractor.

The following contracts were entered into for the four-year term commencing July 1, 1878:

Route No. 33145, Salina to Hutchinson, via Salensburgh and Leslie (now Medora), 76 miles, three times a week, \$750 per annum, James Lehring and R. E. Fletcher, Hutchinson, Kansas, contractors.

Route No. 33146, Falun to Hutchinson, 62 miles, twice a week, \$773 per annum, Beriat Wagoffin, Sedalia, Missouri, contractor.

Route No. 33266, Wichita to Hutchinson, via Ferris (a farm house in Sedgwick county), 55½ miles, twice a week, \$498 per annum, Rolando L. Bell, Eldridge, Kansas, contractor.

Route No. 33272, Hutchinson to Medicine Lodge, 90 miles, three times a week, \$947 per annum, W. W. Warren, Albany, Wisconsin, contractor.

Route No. 33273, Hutchinson to Haynesville (located near where Pratt is now), 68 miles, twice a week, \$775 per annum, John C. Beem, Hutchinson, Kansas, contractor.

Route No. 33334, Iuka to Hutchinson, 63 miles, three times a week, \$830 per annum, U. W. Parker, Atchison, Kansas, contractor.

Contracts were awarded for the term from July 1, 1882, to June 30, 1886, as follows:

Route No. 33381, McPherson to Hutchinson, 34 miles, three times a week, \$490 per annum, M. A. Thompson, Sedalia, Missouri, contractor.

Route No. 33382, McPherson to Hutchinson, via Westfield (a farm house in McPherson county), and Little Valley (another farm house in McPherson county from which mail was distributed), 37 miles, three times a week, \$535 per annum, M. A. Thompson, Sedalia, Missouri, contractor.

Route No. 33390, Wichita to Hutchinson, 52 miles, three times a week, \$694 per annum, John R. Tuffer, Graysville, Vermont, contractor.

Route No. 33409, Hutchinson to Medicine Lodge, 84 miles, three times a week, \$1,790 per annum, John R. Misser, Independence, Missouri, contractor.

Route No. 33410, Hutchinson to Prattsburgh, 80 miles, three times a week, \$1,270 per annum, Newell C. Keyes, Windsor, Missouri, contractor.

Route No. 33411, Hutchinson to Iuka, 70 miles, three times a week, \$1,010 per annum, W. A. Stoddard, Camden, New York, contractor.

Contracts were entered into for the four-year term beginning July 1, 1886, as follows:

Route No. 33436, McPherson to Hutchinson, 40 miles, three times a week, \$618 per annum, Vincent Boring, London, Kentucky, contractor; service discontinued October 15, 1887.

Route No. 33444, Wichita to Hutchinson, 56 miles, three times a week, \$727 per annum, Edgar H. Gaither, Harrodsburgh, Kentucky, contractor; service discontinued November 4, 1886.

Route No. 33486, Stafford to Hutchinson, 47 miles, three times a week, \$690 per annum, Vincent Boring, London, Kentucky, contractor; service discontinued August 10, 1886.

Route No. 33471, Hutchinson to Kingman, 35½ miles, three times a week, \$493 per annum, H. W. Winslow, Fairmount, Indiana, contractor; service discontinued February 22, 1890.

Route No. 33472, Hutchinson to Turon, 46 miles, three times a week, \$649 per annum, A. M. Moore, Red Creek, New York, contractor; service discontinued October 26, 1887.

POSTMASTERS.

The following is the record of appointments of postmasters of the postoffices in Reno county, since their establishment to their discontinuance or to the present time:

Hutchinson (present salary, \$3,300.)

	Date of Appointment.
John A. Clapp (established) -----	December 6, 1871
Edward Wilcox -----	June 4, 1872
N. C. Boles -----	February 27, 1877
Hiram Raff -----	November 12, 1878
R. M. Easley -----	January 2, 1883
J. F. Blackburn -----	January 19, 1887
Wilson McCandless -----	May 14, 1890
Eli Mead -----	August 10, 1894
John B. Vincent -----	July 1, 1897
Henry M. Stewart -----	January 24, 1906
Samuel S. Graybill -----	September 25, 1914

Nickerson (present salary, \$1,500.)

Amanda J. Sears (established) -----	January 21, 1873
Lizzie Boggs -----	April 8, 1875
Lizzie M. Budd -----	April 29, 1875
L. A. Reeves -----	January 14, 1876
E. W. Elliott -----	February 23, 1883
George W. Sain -----	July 20, 1885
John W. Claypool -----	January 30, 1890
Sarah M. Arnold -----	February 27, 1894
Joseph E. Humphrey -----	January 10, 1898
George W. Sain, Jr. -----	February 4, 1914

Zenith (present salary Sylvia, \$1,500.)

Thomas J. Anderson (established) -----	May 12, 1876
J. B. Wright -----	October 1, 1884
Thomas J. Talbott -----	December 21, 1885

Sylvia (name changed) -----

	April 23, 1887
H. S. Austin -----	April 23, 1887
Thomas Litchfield -----	July 20, 1889
H. S. Austin -----	December 18, 1893
J. A. Whitehurst -----	August 23, 1895
C. W. Tipton -----	June 26, 1897

	Date of Appointment.
E. H. Smith -----	March 11, 1899
Amanda M. Baird -----	April 2, 1901
Frank Forney -----	August 22, 1902
Joseph E. Aldrich -----	January 21, 1907
L. G. Waggoner -----	May 1, 1913

Pleona.

Frankie Hazen (established) -----	October 25, 1877
H. S. Austin -----	March 11, 1884
John W. Campbell -----	August 4, 1886
E. M. Blachly -----	June 27, 1888
William O. Severance -----	January 29, 1890
Mary E. Wilson -----	September 29, 1894
Levi W. Blaisdell -----	August 3, 1897
Louis M. Ipson -----	May 7, 1908
J. D. Likens -----	

Salt Creek.

Nathaniel Dixon (established) -----	December 8, 1873
W. W. Farrand -----	January 19, 1876
Elias Palmatier -----	May 15, 1877

<i>Abbyville (name changed)</i> -----	June 1, 1866
James McLean -----	June 1, 1866
Jennette Wyer -----	June 11, 1889
James McLean -----	August 11, 1893
Flora Oliverson -----	August 2, 1897
Kate Robertson -----	

Reno Center.

Thomas Harris (established) -----	December 12, 1873
Samuel Dilley -----	April 30, 1875
Henry C. O'Hara -----	June 12, 1882

<i>Partridge (name changed)</i> -----	May 24, 1886
M. L. Jordan -----	May 24, 1886
P. D. Shoemaker -----	January 5, 1887
William Pilcher -----	May 17, 1889

	Date of Appointment.
Henry C. O'Hara -----	September 17, 1894
William Pilcher -----	December 1, 1897
Henry C. Lusk -----	April 15, 1901
Robenia E. Davis -----	June 3, 1912

Hamburg.

Edwin R. Rogers (established) -----	January 30, 1888
Dietrich Enns -----	August 17, 1888

Buhler (name changed) -----

Dietrich Enns -----	October 20, 1888
Frank F. Tows -----	December 20, 1889
Jacob M. Pletscher -----	August 4, 1890
John J. Dick -----	March 14, 1894
John M. Enns -----	April 15, 1897
Theodore Krehbiel -----	May 8, 1902
James F. McMillen -----	August 7, 1902
Cornelius P. Froese -----	December 11, 1902
Peter H. Adrian -----	March 4, 1911

Haven (present salary \$1,100.)

Caleb Cupps (established) -----	April 10, 1873
F. W. Thorp -----	May 3, 1886
Charles W. Astle -----	April 19, 1889
George W. May -----	September 19, 1893
John R. Payne -----	August 5, 1897
Charles W. Astle -----	August 26, 1901
Elmer G. Erwin -----	February 19, 1903
William J. Waterbury -----	October 24, 1907
M. E. Henderson -----	June 17, 1913

Yoder.

Eli M. Yoder -----	November 25, 1889
Samuel C. Gaston -----	January 17, 1902
M. E. Hostetler -----	February 18, 1903
Annie B. McDermed -----	December 15, 1903
Ben Buxt -----	November 26, 1904
Annie Switzer -----	March 15, 1906

Cotton Grove (established.)

	Date of Appointment.
John B. Thatcher -----	September 19, 1877
John S. Bates -----	December 28, 1880
<i>Turon (name changed. Present salary, \$1,300) --</i>	January 13, 1882
M. H. Potter -----	January 13, 1882
John Hinds -----	July 20, 1891
Calvin L. Ely -----	November 25, 1893
George B. Potter -----	June 10, 1897
O. S. Jenks -----	January 10, 1902
Florence Lowe -----	August 3, 1905
Mrs. John Catte -----	

Arlington.

H. H. Purdy (established) -----	February 7, 1878
John J. Gaines -----	April 15, 1879
William A. Knorr -----	December 21, 1880
S. L. Bunch -----	December 28, 1885
J. D. Scott -----	July 17, 1886
John F. Lowe -----	August 2, 1886
J. C. Lowe -----	December 8, 1887
Isaac S. Trembley -----	March 3, 1891
Anthony Roetzel -----	March 1, 1895
Isaac S. Trembley -----	November 23, 1897
John Berry -----	

Langdon.

John E. Ulmer (established) -----	December 16, 1873
H. E. Evarts -----	October 4, 1880
Asa J. Judy -----	November 2, 1887
William I. Holland -----	April 6, 1889
Charles A. Miller -----	December 10, 1890
William I. Holland -----	May 31, 1893
Albert W. Collings -----	February 20, 1895
Lacy J. Jones -----	June 19, 1897
Chester W. Wyatt -----	June 8, 1911
Austin B. Smith -----	December 6, 1872

Castleton.

	Date of Appointment.
William Wallace -----	December 27, 1872
Eliza Wallace -----	August 25, 1884
Thomas Fall -----	January 28, 1890
George T. Fall -----	February 12, 1890
Horace N. Holcomb -----	June 14, 1895
Ralph B. O. Leary -----	March 25, 1908
Newell E. Fountain -----	January 30, 1911
Maude E. Givens	May 9, 1916

Pretty Prairie.

Mary Collingwood (established) -----	January 26, 1873
William G. Graham -----	July 11, 1878
Thomas H. Smith -----	July 29, 1879
Stephen P. Sanders -----	January 17, 1884
H. C. Gault -----	December 18, 1893
Samuel G. Demoret -----	November 24, 1897
Samuel E. Young -----	January 9, 1905
George D. Smith -----	January 25, 1907
John F. Smith -----	

Booth.

George W. Keedy -----	March 29, 1890
Ottilia Umstot -----	April 10, 1890
<i>Darlowe (name changed)</i> -----	October 2, 1900
Ottilia Umstot -----	October 2, 1900
Floyd H. Moore -----	February 5, 1914

Leslie.

George W. Cooter -----	March 16, 1874
Jefferson Huston -----	January 31, 1876
Abraham Klopfenstein -----	May 11, 1880
Samuel S. Smith -----	November 17, 1882
<i>Medora (name changed)</i> -----	August 16, 1887
John J. Dick -----	August 16, 1887

	Date of Appointment.
H. C. Bear	January 25, 1888
William Poulton	February 12, 1890
Patrick W. Furlong	March 6, 1894
Mary Richards	July 27, 1896
Jesse D. Weaver	December 23, 1898
Lovisa A. Harrison	February 23, 1900
Harvey J. Rickenbrode	October 24, 1901

Netherland.

J. F. Martin (established)	August 12, 1874
A. M. Webb	April 3, 1876
Wylie Brown	April 29, 1878
C. L. Ely	July 24, 1879
Orlo S. Jenks	August 8, 1881

Leardo (name changed)

Orlo S. Jenks	May 2, 1884
J. J. Jones	April 19, 1887
William P. Jones	April 6, 1889
William H. Cheatum	February 4, 1891
Matthew S. Ely	November 21, 1894
Abigail Frazier	March 12, 1895
Rice N. Cheatum	July 10, 1897
John F. Cheatum	May 20, 1898
Charles W. Dutton	September 26, 1900
David J. Davis	March 28, 1901
J. Wesley Barr	March 29, 1902
Dis-continued	February 13, 1904

FREE CITY DELIVERY.

The city delivery system was established at Hutchinson on October 1, 1887. The carriers then appointed were Othello C. Furman, Charles W. Oswald and Grant W. Prather.

The records of the bureau of postoffice service of the postoffice department show that additional carriers were appointed on the following dates: One, September 10, 1889; one, January 1, 1904; two, October 1, 1906; two, May 1, 1909; two, June 1 and 15, 1910; one, November 24, 1913.

As the records at the present time show that fourteen carriers are employed, additional carriers were appointed, probably on a date between the establishment of the service and September 10, 1880. The only record prior to that date is a card record in the first assistant postmaster-general's office which fails to show whether the new carriers were appointed to fill vacancies or to additional places.

POSTAL RECEIPTS.

The records either of the postoffice in Hutchinson or of the department in Washington fail to show the receipts of the Hutchinson postoffice prior to 1884. The following table shows the postal receipts of the postoffice at Hutchinson for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1884, to the fiscal year ended June 30, 1914.

1884 -----	\$6,410.68	1901 -----	\$24,014.20
1885 -----	6,884.74	1902 -----	25,939.15
1886 -----	8,085.14	1903 -----	28,165.22
1887 -----	11,539.33	1904 -----	31,235.04
1888 -----	13,954.20	1905 -----	34,696.99
1889 -----	16,141.70	1906 -----	40,907.88
1890 -----	17,745.69	1907 -----	48,150.66
1891 -----	16,407.32	1908 -----	52,477.66
1892 -----	17,357.60	1909 -----	62,208.31
1893 -----	19,615.38	1910 -----	71,977.21
1894 -----	17,437.39	1911 -----	75,225.62
1895 -----	17,339.15	1912 -----	76,824.41
1896 -----	17,467.36	1913 -----	79,680.10
1897 -----	17,338.25	1914 -----	79,163.60
1898 -----	18,256.37	1915 -----	89,048.04
1899 -----	20,613.14	1916 -----	105,377.44
1900 -----	21,802.98		

RURAL FREE DELIVERY.

Rural routes, outside of Hutchinson, were established first in 1902. There are thirty-three routes in the county at the present time, covering practically the entire county. The first rural route in the county was es-

established out of Hutchinson on September 15, 1900. Below is a table of the dates of the establishment of all of the routes in the county made on those routes:

- Abbeyville, No. 1, December 1, 1902.
- Abbeyville, No. 2, November 15, 1904.
- Arlington, No. 1, December 1, 1902.
- Arlington, No. 2, January 2, 1905.
- Buhler, No. 1, October 1, 1903.
- Buhler, No. 2, August 1, 1905.
- Castleton, No. 1, April 1, 1907.
- Darlow, No. 1, November 15, 1904.
- Haven, No. 1, October 1, 1903.
- Haven, No. 2, October 1, 1903.
- Haven, No. 3, August 15, 1904.
- Hutchinson, No. 1, September 15, 1900.
- Hutchinson, No. 2, December 1, 1902.
- Hutchinson, No. 3, December 1, 1902.
- Hutchinson, No. 4, November 15, 1904.
- Hutchinson, No. 5, November 15, 1904.
- Hutchinson, No. 6, August 1, 1905.
- Langdon, No. 1, November 2, 1903.
- Langdon, No. 2, August 1, 1905.
- Nickerson, No. 1, November 16, 1903.
- Nickerson, No. 2, August 1, 1905.
- Partridge, No. 1, October 1, 1901.
- Partridge No. 2, August 1, 1905.
- Plevna, No. 1, October 1, 1900.
- Plevna, No. 2, November 16, 1903.
- Pretty Prairie, No. 1, July 1, 1904.
- Pretty Prairie, No. 2, July 1, 1904.
- Pretty Prairie, No. 3, August 1, 1905.
- Sylvia, No. 1, October 15, 1903.
- Sylvia, No. 2, August 1, 1905.
- Sylvia, No. 3, August 1, 1905.
- Turon, No. 1, November 2, 1903.
- Turon, No. 2, November 1, 1904.



Esther H. Richardson

CHAPTER XXXI.

SCHOOLS OF RENO COUNTY.

It is impossible to write a complete and accurate history of the schools of Reno county. The records are in such a condition that the information necessary cannot now be obtained, nor has the state superintendent of public instruction any adequate records of the schools of this county. Until recently, when the information was supplied from other records, the county superintendent's office had no records of the first three county superintendents of this county; the records of that office being corrected from the journals of the county commissioners. It is recalled by some of the old settlers that so little consideration was given this office that ten years after the organization of the county the county superintendent of that day kept all his school records in a gummy-sack, and pitched that sack in a corner of a coal and hide office, where it was the custom of the superintendent of that time to spend his leisure time playing chess; and when school matters were to be considered, the person desiring to deal with the county superintendent hunted up the hide house for the superintendent and his gummy-sack. There are no records of the organization of a single school district in the county. From appearance, those who had charge of the county's educational affairs divided part of the county up into spaces that would afterwards be settled up and school districts were informally organized; instead of organizing them as the statute provides, by a petition from the patrons of the proposed school district to the county superintendent, who would, on hearing their statements, lay out and organize the district. So the present district boundaries have been whittled and cut to meet the demands of the patrons, but the dates of the cutting and whittling are gone. The nearest approach to that date is the date of the first issue of bonds. It is very likely that this date is not far from the date of organization, as it was necessary in all of the districts to vote bonds to build the school house.

FIRST SCHOOL DISTRICT ORGANIZED IN 1872.

According to this method of fixing the dates of organization of the various districts, there was one district organized in 1872; in 1873 there

were twenty-eight districts organized: in 1874 there were twenty organizations made. It was a notable fact that all but four of the districts organized in this latter year were in the earlier part of the year, ten in August and two later in the year. The grasshoppers had discouraged many persons from all thoughts of permanent improvement. However, new faith came with the spring of 1875, for ten new districts were organized that year. Nine were made in 1876, seven in each of the years 1877, 1878 and 1879. In 1880 only one district was formed; two in 1881; five in 1882; three in 1883; seven in 1884, while 1885 shows a marked increase in educational matters, eleven districts having been organized in that year. In 1886 seven new buildings were erected, eleven in 1887, three in 1888, two in 1889, one in 1890, four in 1891, three in 1892. The years 1893 and 1894 distinguished themselves as being the only years in the county's history when no new school houses were built until the county was completely organized. In the year 1895, 1896 and 1897 one district was organized in each year. The last year named closed the organization of new school districts. The following table shows the number of the districts and date and the amount of their first bond issues, together with a supplemental table showing the bonded indebtedness of the district at the close of the year 1916:

BONDED INDEBTEDNESS OF SCHOOL DISTRICTS.

Dist- trict.	Sale of First Bond Issue.	Amount of First Bonds.	Dist- trict.	Sale of First Bond Issue.	Amount of First Bonds.
1	June 10, 1873	\$15,000	21	August 1, 1873	400
2	March 13, 1873	1,000	22	August 9, 1873	500
3	June 10, 1873	500	23	June 19, 1873	1,250
4	April 24, 1873	500	24	December 10, 1873	1,500
5	March 11, 1874	700	25	September 25, 1873	1,000
6	March 1, 1873	1,200	26	December 1, 1873	1,000
7	February 27, 1873	1,000	27	September 9, 1873	1,000
8	September 8, 1876	1,200	28	June 1, 1877	1,300
9	December 15, 1872	1,000	29	March 21, 1874	600
10	June 1, 1873	1,500	30	September 10, 1873	1,000
11	March 17, 1873	600	31	June 16, 1877	1,300
12	July 26, 1873	1,500	32	September 26, 1874	400
13	March 1, 1873	800	33	November 10, 1873	800
14	June 23, 1873	1,000	34	February 11, 1874	700
15	October 24, 1874	500	35	November 6, 1873	1,000
16	April 26, 1873	600	36	October 16, 1873	1,200
17	May 17, 1873	500	37	March 7, 1874	800
18	May 20, 1873	1,250	38	March 17, 1874	800
19	May 17, 1873	1,000	39	November 10, 1873	1,000
20	July 17, 1873	1,000	40	November 1, 1876	600

Dist- trict.	Sale of First Bond Issue.	Amount of First Bonds.	Dist- trict.	Sale of First Bond Issue.	Amount of First Bonds.
41	November 17, 1873	1,250	87	February 7, 1879	152
41	February 18, 1874	250	88	February 18, 1878	260
42	January 1, 1874	1,000	89	December 16, 1879	200
43	November 17, 1874	1,000	90	April 20, 1878	203
44	January 15, 1875	900	91	May 1, 1878	325
44	July 15, 1875	663	92	August 17, 1878	295
45	December 15, 1875	137	93	July 1, 1879	225
46	January 16, 1874	200	94	November 2, 1878	600
47	January 8, 1874	800	95	March 10, 1874	100
48	November 15, 1875	600	96		
49	October 1, 1875	800	97		
50	November 10, 1874	600	98	August 4, 1882	
51	October 1, 1875	400	99	September 13, 1879	575
52	June 2, 1874	1,000	100	August 1, 1881	475
53	February 1, 1875	290	101	August 8, 1881	475
54	June 1, 1874	550	102	September 22, 1886	700
55	October 1, 1875	380	103		
56	March 19, 1874	400	104	March 16, 1883	
57	March 2, 1882	400	105	March 1, 1884	345
58	June 1, 1876	399	106	November 1, 1883	830
59	November 26, 1884	600	107	January 5, 1884	200
60	August 1, 1874	1,500	108	July 5, 1884	200
61	August 1, 1874	550	109	August 25, 1884	700
62	October 22, 1883	500	110	February 1, 1886	187
63	March 3, 1875	362	111	March 2, 1885	700
64	January 3, 1876	270	112	December 27, 1884	400
65	May 17, 1876	800	113	December 22, 1884	1,600
66	August 10, 1882	550	114	December 9, 1885	300
67	November 30, 1875	425	115		
68	October 24, 1877	300	116	February 18, 1885	300
69	June 6, 1877	300	117	August 2, 1886	260
70	April 1, 1875	150	118	August 21, 1886	400
71	February 1, 1876	555	119	March 15, 1887	600
72	November 15, 1875	600	120	August 1, 1885	600
73	November 27, 1879	100	121	October 31, 1885	350
74	March 3, 1879	125	122	September 12, 1885	500
75	September 30, 1876	455	123	October 20, 1885	900
76	April 16, 1877	700	124		
77	December 11, 1877	450	125	December 10, 1885	1,000
78	September 13, 1878	475	126	September 26, 1885	
79	August 1, 1885	800	127	December 10, 1885	400
80	August 1, 1877	300	128	May 5, 1886	450
81	March 7, 1879	73	129	March 14, 187	300
82	February 6, 1878	236	130	November 13, 1886	464
83	July 18, 1882	350	131	January 13, 1887	420
84	September 1, 1885	200	131	September 20, 1888	310
85	November 9, 1880	200	133	November 16, 1886	400
86	September 27, 1882	400	134	November 20, 1886	100

District.	Sale of First Bond Issue.	Amount of First Bonds.	District.	Sale of First Bond Issue.	Amount of First Bonds.
135	February 16, 1887	600	148	May 6, 1891	400
136	October 1, 1887	1,980	149	January 1, 1891	900
137	August 1, 1887	1,000	150	September 12, 1891	900
138	August 3, 1889	1,960	151		
139	September 1, 1887	1,960	152	November 24, 1891	600
140	January 20, 1887	300	153	August 8, 1892	500
141			154	September 15, 1892	800
142	January 2, 1888	650	155	September 15, 1892	400
143	November 30, 1887	600	156	November 22, 1895	500
144	December 2, 1887	500	157		
145	July 25, 1888	500	158	December 1, 1896	200
146	July 13, 1889	400	159	January 10, 1897	200
147	September 1, 1890	600	160		

LATER BOND ISSUES.

District.	Present Bonded Indebtedness	Purpose of Indebtedness.
1	\$246,500	New buildings and grounds.
10	1,700	New building.
12	6,000	New building.
13	3,000	New building.
24	5,000	Experimental land.
36	300	Improvements.
45	4,500	New building.
57	600	New building.
62	5,500	New building.
73	6,200	New building.
74	500	Improvements.
99	9,275	New building.
102	2,200	New building.
117	1,300	New building.
136	15,000	New building.
139	3,000	New building.
149	8,000	New building.
157	1,500	New building.

CONSOLIDATED RURAL SCHOOLS.

The creation of school districts ended with district 160. A short time after the idea of the school system changed and instead of more districts it

was urged that better school teachers and better schools could be obtained by combining school districts. The county superintendent that was most insistent on this new feature of school district formation was I. L. Dayhoff. He wanted to carry out his idea, but was afraid to leave it to the districts that were affected. To gain his point he induced the members of the Legislature from Reno county to get a bill through the Legislature combining districts number 4, 35, 108 and 139. They were merged by this act into one district, and the new district called "Union District No. 139." At the same time, and by the same act, districts 9, 25 and 150 were merged into one district and renamed "Union District No. 150." Considerable trouble was experienced by this act, but it soon became apparent that the new move was a good one, even though the method employed in obtaining it was questionable. The same Legislature passed a general law allowing school districts to combine, and on August 12, 1912, after a considerable time of discussion, districts 78 and 85 united under the name of "Union District No. 78." Likewise on June 6, 1913, district 70 was combined with district 73 at Turon, under the name of "The Turon Union School."

In 1909 districts number 123, 125, 124 and 60, all in Medford township, united under the name of "Union District No. 5."

RURAL HIGH SCHOOLS.

The last step in the development of the schools of the county and one of the most far-reaching that has ever been taken, was the passage of the law allowing rural high schools to be formed in order that the children of the rural schools might be given substantially the same educational facilities as are enjoyed by the children in the city schools. This law did not originate with the school teachers of the state, but with the Grange, an organization composed entirely of farmers. The authors of the law insisted that the most economical way to educate the boys and girls of the farm was to bring the school to the student, rather than send the student away from home to the school. They knew that the age at which boys and girls entered the high school was the most impressionable one of their lives and an age when the parents' influence should be most strongly exerted, and that to maintain this influence it was necessary to have the schools close to their homes. So they suggested to the Legislature the advisability of passing a law that would allow the patrons to create such a district.

The first place in the county to organize under this law was Arlington. The Arlington rural high school was organized on June 22, 1915. It has a

tull high school course and in the school year of 1916 it had thirty-four students.

The second rural high school to be organized was located at Partridge and was organized on the same date as the new school at Arlington, as was also the school at Plevna, which is styled "rural high school No. 3" but which, in fact, shares equally the honor of being the first with Arlington and Partridge. Abbyville, also, was organized on this date, but was given No. 4. These four districts were organized at the earliest moment after the law was passed and shows how well the authors of the law gauged public sentiment as to the needs of educating the children at home as far as possible. Langdon was the fifth to organize, June 29, 1915. The sixth school to organize under the law was Pretty Prairie, which district voted for a rural high school on April 4, 1916.

THE STANDARDIZED SCHOOL.

One of the advanced steps in education was the adoption of what is called "The Standard School." The state superintendent's office has had added to its force two rural school inspectors, whose work is to visit the various districts and work in connection with the county superintendents to bring about a higher standard for the schools; bringing about a closer co-operation of parents and schools, and in a general way raising the grade of the schools of the state. They have adopted certain definite requirements for the district before it can become a "standard" school. There must be at least an acre of school ground, which must be kept in good condition. There must be such trees and shrubs as the soil will grow. The outhouses and coal houses must be kept in good repair. The school house must be kept in good repair, papered and painted. It must be well lighted, have adjustable shades, suitable cloak rooms, good slate blackboards and be heated by a room ventilator or a furnace. The desks for the students must be suitable for their ages. The school must be supplied with books for the library such as are needed for the grades of students attending. There must be a good set of maps, a globe and a dictionary, and the water supply shall be sanitary. The rooms must contain a thermometer and be equipped with a sand table for the little children. The teacher must hold a state certificate or a first grade county certificate, or a Normal Training School certificate. The teacher must rank as a superior teacher and the salary paid must be not less than seventy dollars a month.

With this as a standard, there are in 1916 thirty-five standard schools in Reno county. This is one-third of the entire number of such schools in the state of Kansas. The standard is a high one and there are a good many more

schools in the county ready to be standardized as soon as the state inspector can reach the county and inspect them.

This "standardization" is a means by which the schools are measured. It does not mean that there will be no better schools, but it means that definite improvement is being made in the work of getting a higher grade of work done each year in the country schools.

SOME DEFINITE SCHOOL STATISTICS.

The following table shows the valuation of the property in each school district in the county, the levy for 1916 on each one hundred dollars of valuation and the enrollment and average attendance of each school district in the county:

Number	Valuation	Levy Per \$100	Census	Enroll- ment.	Average Attend- ance
1.....	\$21,380,090	\$.60	5,013	3,780	2,994
2.....	464,686	.20	43	36	28
3.....	678,417	.25	58	35	35
5.....	1,196,017	.30	134	100	92
6.....	390,571	.21	36	25	20
7.....	489,783	.12	37	31	21
8.....	255,192	.20	33	22	16
10.....	255,054	.22	30	21	19
11.....	313,474	.24	41	32	25
12.....	571,068	.42	94	82	61
13.....	388,287	.13	49	27	23
14.....	592,729	.12	28	14	13
15.....	403,936	.10	28	15	14
16.....	325,937	.19	45	32	19
17.....	458,115	.12	46	31	22
18.....	473,902	.12	36	22	18
19.....	379,535	.17	29	27	16
20.....	457,621	.09	64	42	29
21.....	457,346	.11	20	17	10
22.....	735,814	.10	39	28	21
23.....	825,187	.08	53	24	15
24.....	1,726,195	.30	386	234	192
26.....	397,328	.15	40	27	20

Number	Valuation	Levy Per \$100	Census	Enroll- ment.	Average Attend- ance.
27.....	317,258	.18	28	22	19
28.....	564,652	.13	40	33	31
29.....	232,811	.27	31	18	14
30.....	474,958	.20	35	37	21
31.....	407,463	.17	27	20	19
32.....	413,993	.12	30	14	12
33.....	476,233	.15	45	36	28
34.....	354,940	.20	14	14	10
36.....	400,120	.17	21	17	15
37.....	390,953	.16	47	27	20
38.....	411,210	.15	19	16	13
39.....	259,423	.21	72	46	25
40.....	254,043	.24	37	21	19
41.....	484,758	.10	39	33	21
42.....	947,282	.16	111	103	66
43.....	361,551	.14	26	26	16
44.....	378,144	.19	22	21	10
45.....	591,000	.43	72	54	45
46.....	316,378	.16	30	14	6
48.....	492,911	.20	51	46	35
49.....	462,568	.12	58	34	29
50.....	426,522	.11	49	35	20
51.....	367,879	.18	43	35	26
52.....	532,071	.08	35	26	23
53.....	268,925	.19	27	17	14
55.....	463,197	.13	52	34	22
56.....	217,521	.19	12	6	5
57.....	447,682	.16	29	22	16
58.....	264,104	.23	34	24	22
59.....	301,104	.17	22	15	12
61.....	254,715	.20	20	14	13
62.....	505,548	.35	90	75	56
63.....	344,305	.17	28	14	10
64.....	363,652	.14	48	32	27
65.....	526,391	.10	31	18	13
66.....	246,202	.24	35	20	17

Number	Valuation	Levy		Enroll- ment.	Average Attend- ance
		Per \$100	Census		
67.....	209,552	.22	32	21	18
68.....	219,566	.27	25	23	19
69.....	340,206	.15	39	28	25
71.....	284,457	.18	21	13	9
72.....	354,470	.13	33	25	23
73.....	1,192,763	.55	220	208	176
74.....	210,544	.39	26	29	20
75.....	214,646	.26	20	16	11
77.....	232,294	.20	15	10	7
78.....	355,180	.14	88	59	26
79.....	348,105	.20	41	44	31
80.....	389,243	.13	29	27	13
81.....	166,833	.36	24	16	12
82.....	282,606	.14	34	21	15
84.....	725,409	.27	90	97	72
83.....	275,791	.22	28	21	18
86.....	283,788	.18	37	24	22
87.....	239,635	.17	26	15	8
88.....	373,672	.08	37	24	19
89.....	166,472	.24	25	14	11
90.....	246,336	.20	22	9	8
91.....	295,236	.24	38	21	17
93.....	262,586	.25	22	18	23
94.....	413,423	.18	64	57	39
92.....	309,560	.26	21	13	8
95.....	298,404	.16	25	11	10
96.....	314,676	.19	23	17	12
97.....	400,212	.08	31	16	11
98.....	215,479	.20	31	16	12
99.....	922,541	.43	140	150	109
100.....	236,564	.21	28	20	16
101.....	286,448	.14	28	15	12
102.....	1,077,320	.51	229	193	187
103.....	459,311	.15	42	29	24
104.....	263,955	.31	20	20	14
105.....	292,796	.20	20	16	14

Number	Valuation	Levy Per \$100	Census	Enroll- ment.	Average Attend- ance.
106.....	309,717	.16	33	23	18
107.....	180,895	.28	24	12	11
109.....	467,690	.09	50	36	14
110.....	198,719	.30	34	29	25
111.....	436,281	.31	28	22	16
112.....	322,832	.19	35	27	20
113.....	415,430	.27	73	39	32
114.....	205,687	.20	57	46	30
115.....	291,529	.16	27	22	18
116.....	401,381	.20	29	20	19
117.....	207,918	.36	28	24	22
118.....	227,762	.27	34	23	16
119.....	196,358	.25	22	16	12
120.....	353,122	.24	45	38	34
121.....	252,241	.24	54	43	39
122.....	224,036	.29	16	14	12
126.....	440,452	.34	50	34	26
127.....	286,216	.21	18	13	12
128.....	237,772	.30	40	32	25
129.....	178,168	.23	26	21	12
130.....	279,070	.25	47	37	32
131.....	345,191	.23	29	19	17
132.....	233,626	.26	40	28	24
133.....	223,281	.32	17	18	16
134.....	195,600	.20	20	14	11
135.....	233,385	.34	37	26	20
136.....	1,040,207	.34	165	116	89
137.....	586,721	.31	80	59	50
138.....	309,528	.15	28	31	23
139.....	1,886,542	.40	246	191	150
140.....	175,548	.23	30	21	14
141.....	248,832	.32	32	26	23
142.....	230,498	.20	20	...	...
143.....	275,085	.20	27	25	19
144.....	490,743	.12	60	52	32
145.....	316,677	.19	38	21	19

Number	Valuation	Levy Per \$100	Census	Enroll- ment.	Average Attend- ance.
146.....	163,750	.33	36	19	16
147.....	221,483	.33	24	23	17
148.....	381,564	.20	24	31	21
149.....	1,159,644	.40	150	143	106
150.....	980,180	.41	204	142	130
151.....	256,038	.24	35	23	22
152.....	307,964	.15	27	20	14
153.....	220,304	...	9	...	...
154.....	230,403	.26	28	14	13
155.....	174,047	.20	20	...	...
156.....	193,642	.30	12	13	11
157.....	226,209	.27	31	26	20
158.....	223,001	.18	6	12	11
159.....	177,067	.28	39	24	29
160.....	325,084	.25	59	30	28

COUNTY SUPERINTENDENTS.

The Reno county schools have had fifteen different superintendents. W. E. Hutchinson was elected superintendent at the first county election on March 12, 1872. He served until July 6, 1872, when A. M. Hunt was appointed. The latter declined to serve, however, and shortly afterwards left the county. Alexander Lynch was then appointed and served until 1873. The following have held the office since that time for the period indicated: Taylor Flick, 1873; Lysander Houk, 1874; J. P. Cassaday, 1875-76; J. W. Kaunaga, 1877-1881; E. L. Jewell, 1881-84; Eli Payne, 1884-88; C. P. White, 1888-1890; Sam W. Hill, 1890-92; Charles P. Dawson, 1892-96; I. L. Dayhoff, 1896-1902; J. H. Jackson, 1902-05; A. W. Hamilton, 1905-08; Stewart P. Rowland, 1908-1918.

Mr. Jackson died while in office. Of all these superintendents only two now live in Reno county, the present incumbent and Eli Payne. Mr. Rowland was re-elected on November 7, 1916. He has served eight years and will have served ten years at the expiration of his present term.

THE RENO COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL.

The charter for the "Nickerson College" was issued on June 30, 1898. The Southside school building in Nickerson was fitted up for the new school, and the "Nickerson College" and the Nickerson high school were merged. The first trustees of the college were: W. E. Detter, George Turbush, J. H. Jackson, W. F. Hendry, L. C. Brown. The school opened on August 30, 1898, with an enrollment of seventy-eight students.

On April 16, 1903, the county commissioners, on petition, established the county high school. The question as to the establishment of the school had been submitted to the voters of the county at the election in the fall of 1902. Failing to get a majority vote on the proposition, a special act was passed by the Legislature, allowing the county commissioners to establish the school on a petition of the voters of the county. The first board of trustees for the county high school were appointed by the commissioners as follow: J. H. Jackson, County Superintendent F. W. Cook and Frank Vincent, of Hutchinson; Elmer Everett, of Partridge; C. B. Copeland, of Haven, C. U. Woodell and W. F. Hendry, of Nickerson.

The combined "Nickerson College" and Reno county high school have been maintained by taxation on the entire county since the establishment of the school. The total amount raised by taxation to support this school in 1916 was \$35,020. Since the establishment of the various village high schools, the necessity of a county high school has been challenged by the districts maintaining high schools of their own, they objecting to the double taxation required of them—the support of their own high school as well as to pay their proportion for the support of the county high school, and it is likely that some modification of the county high school law will be brought about by the portions of the county that are subject to the double taxation to support both their own high school and also the county high school.

CHAPTER XXXII.

NEWSPAPERS OF THE COUNTY.

Reno county has always had an abundant supply of newspapers. Before the county was six months old a newspaper man was on the townsite with a small amount of type, an old press and a desire to serve the community, and in return make a living out of the service rendered. In a new community there are always a bunch of men who are "boomers" by nature and they instinctively turn to the newspapers for the necessary advertising. In this respect the average newspaper of Reno county has been no exception to that rule that the newspapers give away more genuine advertising space than they collect a revenue from. In the early days of the county, the biggest boomer for the community was the newspaper. It was the inspiration to many a man in the early days, when crops were poor and money scarce, to hold on; always insisting that the better days were just ahead, prophesying a big crop with every little shower and pointing out that a town would make everybody rich was just as certain as death or taxes. If it were possible now to ascertain the number of old settlers of Reno county who have had their faith in Reno county held up through the pioneer days by the newspapers, whose influence kept these old settlers on their land; if it were possible to ascertain the number of such, it would be found that the newspapers formed the one most potent factor in developing Reno county of all the agencies that contributed to the present development and prosperity of this county.

LIVED TO SEE HIS DREAMS REALIZED.

There was one man, full of vigor and faith in Reno county in the early days, who was a fair sample of this faith and who was a more or less regular contributor to the newspapers of his time. He was not an educated man, but he was one who thought clearly and expressed himself tersely. This was Zeno Tharp, of Troy township. Letter after letter was published in the newspapers of that day that were full of faith in the county and of what a man of little means but an abundance of energy could accomplish. "Uncle Zeno" wrote of his own work, his "little boys" and of "Beautiful

Troy." He lived to see all his dreams more than realized, his sons prosperous and himself a living rebuke to the old adage, "a prophet is not without honor, save in his own country." For the county he wrote about honored him, not with gifts of office nor places of power, but as a prophet should be honored, a remembrance of his help to others when they needed that help, and the realization of his own prophecies.

FIRST NEWSPAPER IN RENO COUNTY.

The first newspaper in Reno county was founded by Perry Brothers. Their first issue was printed on July 15, 1872. It was called *The News*. The paper has retained that name through all the years of this county's history. It has had many editors, it has had its vicissitudes, its ups and downs; was once in the hands of a receiver for two years, but has been the "constant factor" in the newspaper field. Perry Brothers ran this paper for several months, then it passed into the hands of Houston Whiteside, who was a lawyer, but with plenty of time in those days to carry on both his law practice and run a weekly newspaper. Whiteside was succeeded in the ownership of this paper by Fletcher Meredith, who was a thorough newspaper man. He was of the fighting kind of newspaper men, a strong prohibitionist, a Republican and a partisan. He was a vigorous writer and as a result accumulated a good supply of enemies. He compromised with no one and his columns even today, when the condition of the county, its politics, its grafters, its builders and its benefactors have completely changed, are still intensely interesting, affording for the history writer a view of conditions not otherwise obtainable; for it is not always possible, from the mere narration of events, such as most newspapers content themselves with, to get a proper and accurate view of the forces that are building and unbuilding the county.

A "BOOMER" ON THE JOB.

Meredith was succeeded by Ralph M. Easley, perhaps the most resourceful man of Hutchinson of that day. He was a "boomer," and the development of Hutchinson and of Reno county was the one thing the *News* of that day did. When corn was selling for fifteen cents a bushel, Easley originated the idea of getting "an emergency rate" on corn from the railroads. He pounded away at this idea, got others interested and the railroads put in a very low rate on farm products to the markets. It benefited the farmers for a while, much as the rebate system benefited the early ship-

pers when rebating was a practice common among shippers and railroads. But prices soon adjusted themselves and the "emergency rate" was repealed. Easley was a politician and was one of the main factors in securing the building of the Missouri Pacific railroad into this city, as mentioned in another chapter. The discovery of salt was another thing that Easley boomed to the fullest extent, also the packing-house building. The reaction from the boom affected the newspaper business as seriously as it did other lines of trade and the *News* went into the hands of a receiver, J. B. Vincent being appointed to run the paper. It had various editors for a short time, but was shortly afterward purchased by its present owner, W. Y. Morgan. The *Weekly News* was founded on July 15th, 1872, and the *Daily News*, August 17, 1886.

FURTHER NEWSPAPER DEVELOPMENTS.

The *Interior* was the second newspaper started in Hutchinson. Fletcher Meredith was one of its first editors, leaving the *News* to become owner and publisher of the *Herald*. Later it was consolidated with the *Herald* under the name of the *Interior-Herald*. Henry Luman was one of the earliest editors of this paper. Another man, a brilliant writer, a hard fighter and politically opposed to the policies of the other papers of Hutchinson, was Jap Turpin. The rivalry of the newspapers of that day was far sharper than it is today and the editorial columns of the papers were often full of the sharpest personalities; but never were there any platitudes, which are the product of politically-edited papers that oppose no one lest it loses some votes for its editor, coupled with indifferent political writers. The combination of the *Interior* and the *Herald* under the editorship of Fletcher Meredith lasted until 1903.

The third paper that was established was called the *Clipper*. It was founded by W. A. Loe in 1889. In 1902 the paper was sold to Sheridan Ploughe and its name changed to the *Independent*. In 1908 the *Independent* was purchased by the *Gazette*, by Harry A. Lill. The *Gazette* was started in 1890 by Warren Foster, who ran it until 1895. Foster was a vigorous writer. His paper gained a wide circulation through the rise of the Populist party. It was their organ and when that party began to lose its prestige, the *Gazette* suffered. In 1902 E. G. Nettleton and his brother, A. M. Nettleton, purchased the *Gazette* and put it on a broader basis. Both of the Nettletons were good newspaper men and made the *Gazette* a vigorous paper. In 1895 Harry Scott founded the *Bee*. He ran it for several years and was succeeded in its ownership by Frank Lawson. In 1902 the Lawson Printing

Company started the *Daily Bee*, which was edited by them in addition to the *Weekly Bee*. In 1902 the Independent Company purchased the *Daily Bee* and the *Weekly Bee* and consolidated them with the *Independent* until June 1, 1908, when the *Independent* was sold to Harry A. Lill, the owner of the *Gazette*, who issued the combined publications under the name of the *Gazette*. That paper continues as the morning daily of Hutchinson. Lill ran the paper for four years, at the end of which time he sold it to a stock company. Since that time it has had several editors, some of them speculators, some of them newspaper men, and is now owned by Emerson Carey and Elijah Rayle and is independent in politics, supporting generally, however, the Democratic candidates.

SOME SHORT-LIVED PAPERS.

There have been other newspapers in Hutchinson that have been short-lived. In 1893 Kelly & Palmer started a daily called the *Patriot*. It was issued from July 10 to September 19, 1893, when it was discontinued and moved to Oklahoma. The *Times* was published from December 6, 1889, to 1905. There have also been some trade papers published, among them the *Tradesman* that was issued from November 22, 1902, to June, 1907. It was published first by The Bee Company and when that paper was sold to the *Independent*, it was continued by them until that paper was succeeded by the *Gazette*. The *Wholesaler* was started in 1908 by A. L. Sponsler and T. G. Armour. It covers the trade territory of Hutchinson and is of special benefit to the wholesale trade of Hutchinson.

An educational paper was founded by F. J. Altswager in 1894 and for some time was issued monthly. Another educational magazine was published by Richard Price called the *School Visitor* and was issued for two years—1893 and 1894.

OTHER PAPERS IN THE COUNTY.

At Arlington there is one paper, the *Enterprise*. It was founded by J. E. Eaton and H. C. Warner in 1885. It is issued weekly. Its present owner is M. L. Barrett.

The *Journal*, at Haven, now owned and edited by R. G. Hemenway, was founded on August 8, 1896, by George W. Way. It is independent in politics.

The *Leader*, issued at Langdon, was founded on November 23, 1911, by H. B. Albertson. It is now owned and published by B. B. Miller.

The *Argosy* is published at Nickerson by Henry A. Lyon. This paper

was founded by J. W. Sargent on December 7, 1878. In 1886 he became the editor and publisher. In 1891 the *Argosy* purchased another paper published in Nickerson, called the *Register*. This paper was founded in 1884 by C. N. and H. E. Whitaker. In 1889 the name was changed to the *Nickerson Industry*, with Claypool & Raisner as editors and publishers. In the same year Harry H. Brightman became the editor and owner of the paper and changed the name to the *Nickerson Argosy*. In 1891 it was consolidated with the *Nickerson Argosy*, with W. F. Hendry and J. E. Humphrey as editors and publishers. Hendry was a capable newspaper man, very positive in his views, and while he was editor the *Argosy* was an interesting paper.

The *Times*, at Pretty Prairie, was founded by Percy Torrey in 1910. Its present editor and owner is C. W. Claybaugh. It is like most of the papers published in the smaller towns, independent in politics.

The *Sylvia Sun* was founded in 1900 by C. S. Eckert. It was discontinued on September 13, 1901, but was re-established on January 1, 1902, by George Walker. Its present editor and owner is George H. Yust. It is issued weekly, an all-home-print paper and is independent in politics.

The *Turon Press* was founded by T. G. Elbury in 1894 at Pretty Prairie and moved to Turon in 1895, with Elbury continuing as editor. Its present editor and owner is B. S. Edwards, and it is Republican in politics. There have been a number of papers issued in the county in the past that have been discontinued. The following list, furnished by the press bureau of the State Historical Society, which has a complete file of all of the papers ever published in the state, covers all of these publications:

At Abbeville: The *Chronicle*, June 4 to October 9, 1897; the *Tribune*, August 26, 1886, to 1887.

Buhler: The *Herald*, October 23, 1913, to 1914.

Haven: The *Dispatch*, July 28, 1888-1889; the *Independent*, June 10, 1886, to June, 1888; January to March, 1889; December, 1889-1893; the *Item*, March 23, 1894-1895.

Lerado: The *Ledger*, November 4, 1886-1888.

Olcott: The *Press*, January 11, 1889, to November 1, 1889.

Partridge: The *Cricket-Press*, November 4, 1886-1887; the *Republican*, March 6, 1896, to 1897.

Plevna: The *Torchlight*, June 14, 1888-1889.

Pretty Prairie: *Press*, February 7, 1889, to 1894; the *Record*, February 23, 1906, to 1907.

Sylvia: The *Banner*, December 6, 1889, to 1895; the *Chronicle*, July

10, 1896, to December 4, 1896; the *Herald*, April 4, 1889, to August 29, 1889; the *Telephonic*, May 25, 1886, to 1889.

The last paper started in Reno county is the *Observer*. It is published by the Observer Company and is edited by Sheridan Ploughe, editor and as publisher and owner. The paper is issued monthly. It contains no advertising, but depends on its subscription list for support. It is independent in politics and discusses in an editorial way public questions. Its circulation is not at all local, as it has more readers outside of Reno county than in the county.

The newspapers of Reno county are one of its chief assets; not in the taxable value of their property, but because of the stimulus to business and the constant advertising the county has received from the newspapers. The tendency of recent years has been to reduce the number of papers in the county and this has had a tendency to strengthen the papers that remain in the field; to increase their circulation and consequently their value to the advertisers, and the demand of those advertisers today are for papers with wider circulation, that their goods may be known, not only in the county but in the country southwest of this city, in other counties. This demand of the big advertisers is a guarantee of the future of the daily papers published in Hutchinson, that they will increase in their usefulness as the county develops.

CHAPTER XXXIII.

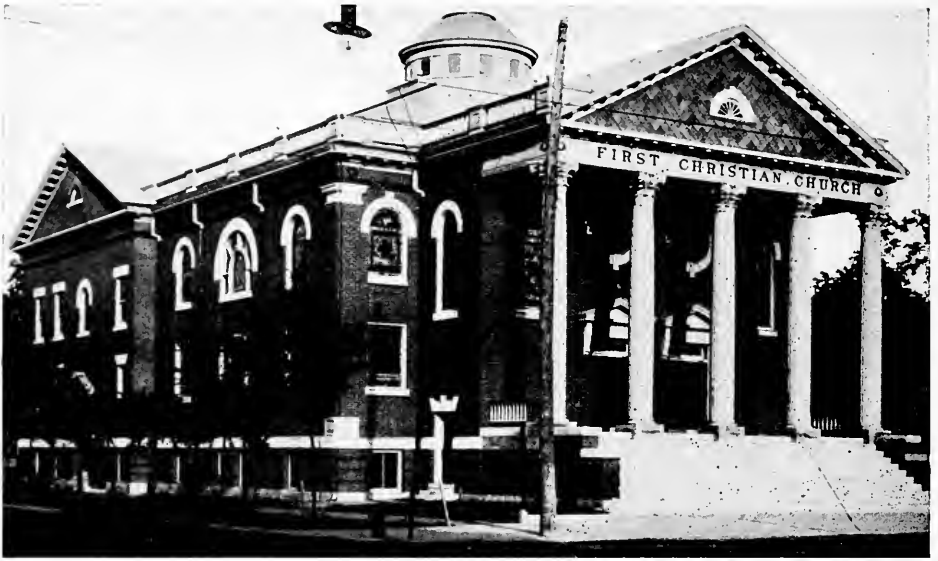
THE FIRST CHURCHES IN THE COUNTY.

The first public religious service in Reno county was held on the second Sunday in March, 1872. The preacher was Rev. J. S. Saxby of the Baptist church. There were no church buildings and the services were held in a meat shop. The tables and meat blocks were pushed back, an improvised pulpit made from a shoe box some early settler had had in his wagon when he came to this town. The meat of that time was all wild meat—buffalo, elk, deer, antelope and prairie chicken—meat that was so common then, but which couldn't be obtained today. The meat shop was the largest building and a few chairs were taken to the room and the services held. There was no musical instrument so the preacher, to use the expression of that time, had to "pitch and tote the tune". There was only an occasional song book, but the songs were those that have stirred men and women for years and which lingered in the memory of the early settlers long after they had left their early home "back East". The preacher of that occasion did not remain long in the county. The prospects were too poor. He could see nothing in the future. He couldn't adapt himself to his surroundings; so, being discouraged, he remained only a few months and went back East. Another preacher was sent to this city, Rev. M. J. Morse, in his place. Before leaving he organized the first Methodist church in Reno county. This was done on July 11, 1872, and was composed of the following persons: T. S. Scoresby and wife, S. N. Parker and wife, H. Chadeyene and wife, Fred Ames and wife, Roxanna Stout and Elva Stout, twelve in all. Their first "quarterly meeting" was held on November 9, 1872. Reverend Morse preached for this church until the following spring, when Hutchinson was organized as a separate charge by the Methodist conference, then in session at Ottawa, in April, 1873. Rev. S. B. Presby was sent to Hutchinson by the Ottawa conference. Reverend Presby was an active industrious man, well liked by the people of that day. He secured lots and began building a parsonage, and as soon as the court house was completed so that it could be used, the services were held in that building. In the following March, 1873, Rev. J. W. Fox was sent to Hutchinson by the conference. He began

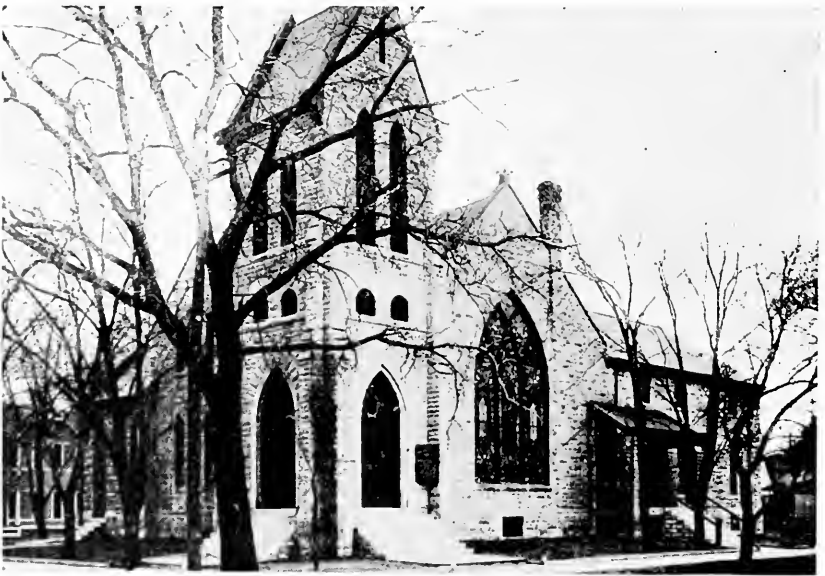
the work of putting up a church building. Lots were secured, on the ground now occupied by the First Methodist church, on the corner of Walnut and First avenue, and a building that cost \$5,200 was erected and was dedicated on April 12, 1874, by Rev. H. Buck.

The next church organized in Reno county was of the Congregational denomination. This organization was not made in Hutchinson, but in Center township. On September 15, 1873, Rev. Samuel Dilly, his wife, his son and his son-in-law and the latter's wife, reached Center township, where they expected to take claims and make their homes. They traveled overland by wagon and on reaching Center township built a temporary board shanty on the northeast quarter of section 28, township 24, range 7 west. In this temporary building Reverend Dilly organized a Sunday school and held the first service of his church on December 6, 1872, with the following membership: Samuel Dilley, Belinda Dilley, Clancy E. Chapman, Lucy Chapman, Hugh Ghormley, Martha J. Ghormley, Henry C. O'Hara, Darella O'Hara, Zema A. Dilley, Henrietta E. Dilley, Elbert A. Dilley, Alta L. Chapman, Flora E. Ghormley, Caroline O. Daniels, Sarah Hawkins and Julia J. Taverner.

The third church organized in Hutchinson was the Presbyterian church. Early in 1872, realizing the need of the community, C. C. Hutchinson offered one hundred dollars and three lots to any denomination that would build a church. The subscription was first started as a union of all churches, but this movement did not succeed. Mr. Hutchinson's donation had been added to until it amounted to fifteen hundred dollars. After the failure of the union plan, the Presbyterian church undertook to build, taking the three lots and the fifteen hundred dollars, but it was too much for them and after a thorough canvass, they gave it up. Then the Methodists tried to build, using the three lots and the fifteen hundred dollars that had been raised. They failed likewise. The Presbyterians took another turn at the matter after the Methodists had failed and this time they succeeded in getting the necessary amount of money to complete the building, and on the fourth Sunday in June, 1873, their church, costing three thousand dollars, was dedicated free from debt. It was the first and only church building in the county for nearly two years. At a meeting on October 28, 1872, Rev. J. T. Potter was hired and came to Hutchinson to preach. He came to the call from the Ohio presbytery, he having been located then at Cincinnati. This church was incorporated on January 9, 1873. From July 15, 1873, to January 1, 1874, the church was without a regular pastor. At a called meeting of the



CHRISTIAN CHURCH, HUTCHINSON



PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, HUTCHINSON



REV. J. T. POTTER, FIRST PRESBYTERIAN PREACHER AT HUTCHINSON

church on the First Wednesday evening, December, 1873," so reads their record, "Rev. D. M. Moore of Lawrence was called to the pastorate of this church." He came to Hutchinson the first Sunday in January, 1874. The church at that time had twenty-seven members.

In December, 1872, Reverend Saxby, who preached the first sermon ever preached in this city, returned to Hutchinson and organized the Baptist church. He had seven members in this first organization. Reverend Saxby stayed with this church for two years as the pastor.

The Christian church was organized in Hutchinson in July, 1876. The organization had no building and met in the court house for some time. The first pastor of this church was Alexander Elliot, who then lived near Burrton. The first official board consisted of A. H. Ploughe, M. Saunders, Henry Music, T. J. Anderson and H. Eisminger. This organization used a rented hall for its services for several years. In 1882 the congregation began the erection of a building on North Main street, which cost ten thousand dollars. This building was later sold and moved to Fifth avenue, east, in 1911, and another building erected on this original site that cost over forty thousand dollars. This church had two of the most notable revivals ever held in this city. They were conducted by Rev. J. V. Updike and one was held in 1885 and the other in 1889. The result of these meetings was a membership of over one thousand at the close of the second revival.

Among the earliest church organizations outside of Hutchinson was the one founded in Castleton township and was called the Harmony Baptist church. It was organized on November 3, 1875, with ten members. The first officers were H. D. Freeman, H. Bramwell, G. R. Bowser and B. F. Tucker. The church building was begun in July, 1882, and was completed in April, 1883, at a cost of one thousand dollars. It was dedicated on May 20, 1883.

The first church organization effected in "old" Nickerson was made by Rev. J. W. Fox, the presiding elder of the Methodist church, and the services were held in the school house on the old townsite until a building could be erected, which was in the fall of 1875, when a brick structure was erected costing four thousand five hundred dollars.

In December, 1878, Rev. R. J. Schlichter organized the Congregational church in Nickerson with nine members.

The first Catholic church in the county was organized in Nickerson by Rev. F. P. Sweeney. The early meetings were held at the homes of the membership for a number of years. Reverend Sweeney also organized the

church in Hutchinson, he having about fifty families in his charge at Hutchinson and Nickerson. Their first building was completed in Hutchinson in 1879.

The first Universalist church in Reno county was organized in December, 1881, with forty members by Rev. T. W. Woodrow. Their first meetings were held in the Baptist church until they could erect their first building on Plum street.

The church growth of Reno county has kept pace with the material growth of the county. Almost every neighborhood has a church. Nearly every organization has its own building. A few meetings are held in school buildings. Sunday schools are maintained in all places where there are church organizations, and in several communities Sunday schools are kept up, with only an occasional church service.

CHAPTER XXXIV

EARLY DOCTORS OF RENO COUNTY.

The first doctor of any county spends a particularly strenuous life, and the first doctors of Reno county were no exceptions. They had all of the usual hardships of their calling, and to these were added the long drives necessitated by the sparsely settled communities they served. Many of the modern doctors do not go out of the city at all, and when they leave their offices to call on patients they have an automobile to hurry them to their patients and back to the office. Others do not leave their finely-fitted rooms, with every modern convenience. But the pioneer doctors made their long drives, often by night, generally with a team of mustang ponies, the kind that would strike up a swift trot and maintain that gait without either whip or spur. These doctors would drive over roads for miles and never see a sight of any human habitation. Their trips often carried them one hundred miles southwest, over into Barber county. They would necessarily be gone several days. They were more like the pioneer preacher in their visits than they were today when professional rules have set the boundary lines for their calling. They would go into a community and if any were sick they would minister to them, leaving them such medicine as they had with them, and advising them as to the care of their case.

The first doctor in Hutchinson was Doctor DeWitt, who came to this community from California. Very little is now known of him, not even his initials being remembered. He had a further distinction of being the first Sunday school superintendent in Hutchinson. He had been in the village but a short time when he began talking of the organization of a Sunday school. There wasn't much sentiment among the pioneers of that day for such an organization, but DeWitt persuaded ten or twelve of the early settlers to gather together and organize a Sunday school. It did not continue very long, as the men of that day were more interested in the material development of the county than they were in the upbuilding of spiritual things. Although C. C. Hutchinson was an ordained Baptist preacher, his experience among the pioneers showed him that the church life of a community was a matter that followed later in the development of a community. Doctor

DeWitt is described by those now living who knew him, as being a highly cultured man, not used to the pioneer ways, but readily adapting himself to his surroundings.

Doctor Easley was the second doctor to reach Hutchinson. The third in the order of arrival in Reno county was Dr. A. W. McKinney. He lived for years in Hutchinson and had a large practice, dying there many years ago. Doctor McKinney was a public-spirited man, taking a leading part in the early affairs of Reno county. He was a prominent lodge man, and was coroner of the county for many years.

Dr. D. B. McKee was the next doctor to come to Hutchinson and was one of the men accustomed to make the long drives in the country. He was small of stature, genial in his nature, kindly and sympathetic; did much work among the poor for which he never collected any fee, and never expected to when he went to call on his patient, but his services were given as cheerfully, and his care and attention of them were just the same as he gave his best-paying patients. Doctor McKee practiced many years and died in Hutchinson of hardening of the arteries.

Perhaps the best known of the early doctors, the one who was the largest factor in the medical development of Reno county, was Dr. H. S. Sidlinger. He came to Hutchinson in 1874 and still lives in this city, having retired from the practice several years ago. He is the only one of the early doctors living. Doctor Sidlinger had an enviable record as a physician. During his practice he attended two thousand three hundred and fifty-seven confinement cases, and in all the years he never lost a patient in all those cases. There are hundreds of young men and women in Hutchinson and Reno county, whom he attended at their birth, that he calls by name. Doctor Sidlinger made many trips in the early days to the southwest, Sun City, in Barber county; Larned, Iuka, in Pratt county, and other points equally distant. He is still living, enjoying a competence, driving his high-power automobile as carefully and at not much greater speed than he drove his mustang ponies in the early days over the prairies.

Dr. N. T. P. Robertson was another of the old-time doctors. He was the physician spoken of in the chapter on "Surveyors and Coroners" as the aggressive Democrat who was generally put on his party ticket as a candidate for coroner, but who never hesitated to impress his Democracy on all occasions, and for that reason never was able to be elected to any office. Doctor Robertson was a tall, spare man, active even in his advanced age. He had a large practice among the old settlers even in his later years, and he responded to calls as long as his health permitted.

Dr. G. W. Maguire was another of the old-time doctors. He quit the active practice years ago because of his health and moved to West Virginia.

There are a number of physicians who have been practicing many years in this county outside of Hutchinson. Among the most active and prominent is Dr. C. H. Bacon, living in Valley township. He has been in Reno county many years, and limits his practice to the country surrounding his home. In addition to the doctors named there are about fifty doctors practicing in Reno county at the present time, most of them in Hutchinson.

The Reno County Medical Society was organized on October 12, 1904. Dr. H. J. Duval was the first president of the organization. It meets once a month in Hutchinson. The president at the present time is Dr. W. F. Schoor.

Reno county has never had any epidemics of any sort. The rules laid down by the board of health are generally observed. Hutchinson has always maintained a complete sewer system, and other preventative measures are enforced.

The first hospital was established in the county by Dr. J. E. Stewart and Dr. R. E. Stewart, who built a hospital on North Main street, called the Stewart Hospital and maintained a high-grade institute for many years. The hospital was sold in September, 1915, to the Methodist church, which organization has continued its operation.

In July, 1917, another hospital movement was started. The Catholic church started a campaign to raise one hundred thousand dollars for a hospital. This campaign lasted a week and was only partially successful, about thirty-eight thousand dollars having then been subscribed to the fund. They insist that the work will soon begin on the hospital building, and will be continued until their original plan for a four-hundred-bed hospital is accomplished.

While hardly a subject matter for a chapter on doctors in a county history, yet a matter closely allied to the work of a physician was accomplished in 1917. It was the raising by popular subscription of fifty thousand dollars for the Red Cross of America, as a part of the war plans of the country. This amount was assigned to Reno county as her part of the work of helping care for the soldiers of the country. The county subscribed \$68,500, or \$18,500 more than was asked for. There never has been as willing a subscription made in Reno county as was this one. The balance above the amount asked for will be held in the treasury of the local organization in anticipation of other calls of a similar nature before the war closes.

CHAPTER XXXV.

THE BANKS OF RENO COUNTY.

The first bank in Reno county, which was organized on October 12, 1872, was started by C. C. Hutchinson, the founder of the town, and continued in business until 1876. Others had stock in the bank but it was a private institution. There is no record of the capital stock, its deposits, its loans or any other features of its activities. Its successor was the Reno County State Bank which continued in business until 1884.

In 1877 James Redhead started a bank, also a private institution, which was owned by the founder and his father. The bank continued in business until 1888 when it was sold to James St. John and A. W. McCandless, who ran the bank until its consolidation with the Valley State Bank.

The First National Bank was organized in 1884, succeeding to the business of the Reno County State Bank. The directors of the Reno County State Bank at the time it became the First National Bank were: S. W. Campbell, L. A. Bigger, John Brown, E. L. Meyer, H. Whiteside, E. S. Handy and E. Wilcox. The First National succeeded on July 1, 1884, and continued the directors of the Reno State Bank. This bank has continued under the same management for forty years, E. L. Meyers being its president.

The Citizens Bank was a private bank when it was established on August 1, 1892, by the owner, J. B. Mackay. It had a small capital but grew rapidly and continuously. J. B. Mackay was president of it from the beginning until 1916, when C. M. Branch became president.

There were two banks organized in an early day that met with reverses: one was the Hutchinson National and the other, the Valley State. The shrinkage of values during the relapse from the boom was the cause of their suspension. The latter was reorganized and reopened under the name of the Hutchinson National, but the reorganized bank did not prosper and closed its doors after a few months.

The State Exchange Bank was organized in 1891 by Willis N. Baker, the owner of a bank at Pretty Prairie, which he sold and started the bank in Hutchinson. Mr. Baker sold this bank also and moved to Iowa. The present officers of the bank are: F. W. Cooter, president, and B. E. Mitchener, cashier.

The Commercial National Bank was organized on November 26, 1906. It has the same officers now that it had when organized: A. E. Asher, president; and R. H. Suter, cashier.

The Farmers National Bank, the last bank organized in Hutchinson, resulted from the consolidation of the Reno State Bank, and another bank, the Farmers National, occupying the same room and in reality, the same bank as the present Farmers National, except as to ownership. H. K. McLeod was president of the Reno State Bank at the time of its consolidation with the Farmers National, and the combined institutions, which were merged, June 23, 1917, took the name of the Farmers National. H. K. McLeod is president; E. P. Bradley, cashier, and Graut Chamberlain, assistant cashier. The Reno State, which became a part of the Farmers National, was organized in 1909 by S. G. Puterbaugh.

The first president of the Central State Bank was F. J. Altswager. At the present time J. C. Hopper is president and George T. McCandless, cashier.

The State Bank of Haven was organized in August, 1886, and re-organized in September, 1891, the original capital stock being \$50,000. Its first president was T. R. Hazard, and L. O. Smith, cashier.

The Citizens Bank of Arlington was established in 1887, with the capital stock of \$12,500. H. C. Warner was its first president and F. B. Babbit its first cashier.

The State Bank of Turon, a private institution, was organized in 1887 with an original capital stock of \$4,000. J. B. Potter was its first president and M. H. Potter, its first cashier.

The State Bank of Pretty Prairie was organized by Willis N. Baker, who sold this bank when he started the State Exchange Bank in Hutchinson. J. A. Collingwood was the first president and Mrs. Ella Demorest was the first cashier. The original capital of this bank was \$5,000. This bank has been one of the most prosperous in the county, having paid over one hundred thousand dollars in dividends to the stockholders in the thirty years of its existence on the original investment of \$5,000.

The State Bank of Sylvia was established in 1898 with the capital stock of \$5,000. W. H. Hinshaw was the first president and O. G. Hinshaw the first cashier.

The State Bank of Langdon was organized on July 7, 1902. J. E. Eaton was the first president and O. J. Windiate its first cashier. The original capital was \$5,000.

The Buhler State Bank started in business in 1912. J. J. Wall was its first president and A. B. Buhler, cashier. Its original capital was \$5,000.

The Farmers State Bank of Turon was established in 1904. J. T. Wallace was the first president and E. E. Shears its first cashier. Its capital stock at its organization was \$10,000.

The Partridge State Bank was organized in 1904. A. B. Burke was its first president and German French, Jr., its first cashier. Its original capital was \$10,000.

The State Bank of Castleton was organized in 1906. Charles D. Evans was its first president and J. A. Lewis, its first cashier. Its original capital was \$10,000.

The Nickerson State Bank was established in 1907. F. R. Newton was the first president and O. J. Windiate its first cashier. The original capital was \$15,000.

The Citizens State Bank of Sylvia was organized on February 5, 1909. O. C. Lang was its first president and F. E. Lang, its first cashier. It started with a capital of \$10,000.

The Farmers State Bank of Arlington was established in 1910. C. F. Fehr was its first president and R. M. Taylor its first cashier. Its original capital was \$12,500.

The State Bank of Abbyville was organized on May 13, 1901. J. H. McSherry was the first president, John McKeown, the first vice-president, and F. S. Hinman, the first cashier.

The State Bank of Plevna was established in 1900. Its original capital stock was \$5,000. J. N. Hinshaw was the first president; George McKeown, the first vice-president, and W. E. Roach, the first cashier.

The State Bank of Nickerson was established in 1881 by W. R. Marshall. It was then called The Exchange Bank of Nickerson. It was first established to issue exchange and was not intended as a bank of deposit. There was no other bank in Nickerson and it was soon changed and became a bank of deposit. The name was also changed to the State Bank of Nickerson. This bank had no stated capital at the time of its organization. In 1888 A. D. Butts and L. C. Brown bought the bank from Mr. Marshall. Mr. Butts was the president and Mr. Brown, the cashier. They capitalized it for \$25,000. In a short time Mr. Butts sold his interest in the bank to Mr. Brown, who ran it as a private bank until 1898. In August, 1898, the bank was incorporated with \$15,000 capital. A. M. Brown was the first president, D. E. Richart the first vice-president, L. C. Brown the first cashier, and H. E. Fleming, the assistant cashier.

The Citizens State Bank of Haven was organized with a capital of \$10,000. Its present capital and surplus is \$22,000. Its deposits at the present time amount to \$50,000. C. R. Astle is the present cashier.

These banks have all prospered, as will be shown by reference to the table which shows their original capital, the present capital and their deposits at the present time. These banks are a fair measure of the prosperity of their communities.

The total capital stock of the banks of Reno county at the present time well show their soundness as financial institutions. The deposits at the time of their last statements to the Bank Commissioner show the total to be \$9,020,217.

<i>Name</i>	<i>Location.</i>	<i>Original Capital.</i>	<i>Present Cap. and Surplus.</i>	<i>Present Deposits.</i>
First National Bank	Hutchinson	\$5,000	\$339,000	\$2,025,906
Central State Bank	Hutchinson	100,000	106,220	332,110
Citizens Bank	Hutchinson	5,000	353,163	1,519,304
Commercial National	Hutchinson	100,000	186,552	925,286
Farmers National Bank	Hutchinson	150,000	165,000	669,304
State Exchange	Hutchinson	10,000	150,000	1,500,000
State Bank	Turon	10,000	18,500	206,000
Farmers State Bank	Turon	10,000	24,000	175,000
Citizens State Bank	Sylvia	10,000	22,000	120,000
State Bank of Sylvia	Sylvia	5,000	25,000	156,434
State Bank of Haven	Haven	50,000	34,500	227,000
Citizens State Bank	Haven	10,000	22,000	120,110
Farmers State Bank	Arlington	12,500	15,000	72,000
Citizens State Bank	Arlington	12,500	50,000	125,000
Partridge State Bank	Partridge	10,000	27,000	114,000
State Bank of Castleton	Castleton	10,000	20,000	50,000
Nickerson State Bank	Nickerson	15,000	38,000	175,000
State Bank of Nickerson	Nickerson	*	45,000	199,814
Abbyville State Bank	Abbyville	5,000	19,000	111,534
State Bank of Castleton	Castleton	10,000	20,000	50,000
State Bank of Plevna	Plevna	5,000	26,500	96,000
State Bank of Pretty Prairie	Pretty Prairie	5,000	25,000	250,000
State Bank of Langdon	Langdon	5,000	20,000	150,763
Buhler State Bank	Buhler	5,000	22,600	142,000

*No stated capital.

CHAPTER XXXVI.

THE RENO COUNTY BAR.

The lawyers of Reno county have, with few exceptions, been men of high character and ability. The county and city has never had much great litigation, although there have been several cases that have ended in the supreme court of the United States. It has been a general practice that the lawyers have enjoyed. A good per cent. of their business has never shown on the docket of the district court, as it has been conducted entirely in the office of the attorneys. There has never been a case wherein it was charged that the attorney betrayed the interest of his client.

Of course, the largest per cent. of the litigation of the county has been civil business. While there has been a criminal docket in every term of court it always has been an unimportant part of the court's work. The largest per cent of the criminal practice has been for violation of the prohibition law. When the prohibition law was first framed, a number of men undertook to sell liquor in defiance of law. They stayed in the business for a while and apparently succeeded, but public sentiment grew to favor the law and the jointist voluntarily quit or was put out of business by the expense of the litigation, even if he escaped with serving a term in the county jail. Under some county attorneys a large number of injunctions were placed on buildings. One of these was a hotel. An injunction would be run on one room of that hotel. The "joint" would be moved to another room. Another injunction was run, and another move for the joint. This kept up until there were more than a score of injunctions filed on the one building. The purpose of this was a nominal enforcement of the law. It resulted profitably to the county attorney of that day, as each injunction produced a fee as a part of the judgment. This was continued until the threat of ouster brought the means of an apparent enforcement of the law to an end and secured a more complete enforcement of the prohibitory law.

Occasionally a more drastic method was used. A search would be made of the place and all of the joint fixtures and intoxicating liquor would be confiscated. But the liquor business, today is perhaps as nearly prohibited

as is possible. So many aids to the enforcement of the law have been added to the original law that the booze seller has found that it costs too much to keep up the contest. There is liquor sold in Reno county, but this law is as well enforced as any other criminal statute. There has been, of course, criminal practice other than whisky prosecution. There have been several murder cases. There have been many burglary cases. But with the disappearance of whisky the criminal practice dwindled to the minimum and the attorneys have paid but little attention to the criminal practice, making their chief business the settlement of civil disputes.

EARLY LAWYERS OF RENO COUNTY.

Among the early lawyers, perhaps the most conspicuous was Lysander Houk. He was a highly educated man, and had taught in a southern college before the Civil War. He was a fine jurist and later made one of the best judges the district court ever had. His brother-in-law, William M. Whitelaw, was also a fine attorney. While it was operated as an independent road, he was general attorney for the Hutchinson & Southern railroad and in all its litigation, through its receivership and its reorganization, Mr. Whitelaw represented the road. He was a man of fine ability; not a fluent speaker, but a good lawyer. His brother, Frank S. Whitelaw, was an accomplished speaker. After leaving Hutchinson he practiced in St. Louis and was the trial attorney for one of the largest law firms in that city, until the time of his death. Among the early lawyers, one of the ablest as a trial lawyer was A. R. Scheble. He defended William Moore, who killed his neighbor, a man by the name of Cox, near Arlington. The trouble arose over some grazing land. After killing Cox, Moore came to Hutchinson to secure the coffin for his victim. He was soon suspected and the feeling against him was intense. Scheble went to Arlington to attend the preliminary hearing. The feeling was as intense against Scheble as it was against Moore. The justice of the peace before whom the preliminary was being held asked Scheble if he wanted a guard while he was attending the trial. Scheble pulled two Colt revolvers out of his hip pockets, laid them on the table before him and told the justice that he could protect himself. He made a hard fight for Moore, but the circumstances were sufficient to convict him. There was only one eye-witness to the killing—a daughter of Moore.

Another of the old-time lawyers was James McKinstry. He was one of the most prominent Democrats of the state, and succeeded in being elected county attorney one term in this county when the nominal majority against

him was nearly a thousand. He ran against J. W. Jones in 1892 and beat him by four votes. Mr. McKinstry was very popular with his fellow lawyers and was a great friend of the younger members of the bar.

George A. Vandever was another of the early lawyers of Reno county. He practiced his profession here for a number of years with A. R. Scheble. He moved to New York and was prominent in his profession there. He returned to Hutchinson and was senior member of the firm of Vandever & Martin. He was a candidate for judge of the district court and would have without doubt, been nominated, but he was killed in an automobile accident at a railroad crossing the night before the primary. Had he lived he would, without doubt, have been elected judge of the district court.

S. B. Zimmerman was an early settler in Reno county. He was made principal of the city schools of Hutchinson in 1874 and continued as principal for three years. He began the practice of law in that city in 1877. In 1880 he was elected probate judge and served six years. He practiced his profession in Hutchinson until his death. Mr. Zimmerman was an amiable man, of no exceedingly great ability, but a square, honest man and well respected.

BACHELORS ARGUE FOR WOMAN SUFFRAGE.

Theodore A. Decker was the bachelor member of the bar. An incident of the early day was a public debate on "woman suffrage," at a time when the subject was a new one. The attorneys furnished the argument. The meeting was held in the old opera house, the proceeds to go to some public purpose. Both of the lawyers who argued in favor of the rights of women to vote were bachelors. One of them was T. A. Decker, the other was J. V. Clymer. Mr. Decker never reached a very prominent place at the bar. He was modest and had only ordinary ability. He also edited *The Democrat* for a while.

J. V. Clymer was another of the early lawyers. Like Decker he was a good man, but with no energy, and although he had ability, he hadn't the energy to develop that ability. He generally could be found in his office on the first floor of a small building on South Main street with his feet on his desk, listening to the talk of those who dropped in. Clymer was a good listener, and he had plenty of callers to entertain him. He had some property in Hutchinson and lived comfortably, dying about twenty years ago.

Z. L. Wise was another of the early lawyers of this county. He was

county attorney for two years. He was a great friend of a United States judge, Williams, and when there was a receiver to be appointed, Wise was generally appointed. He was a member of the Legislature from Reno county for two terms and was in Topeka attending the sessions of that body when he was taken suddenly ill and died. Mr. Wise was a very popular man with the members of the bar.

D. W. Dunnett did not have a general practice, but represented some business firms as their attorney. He seldom appeared in court. He was, however, arguing a case in the supreme court of this state when he was stricken with heart trouble and died in the court room. He was a member of the Reno county bar for about ten years.

The above covers the members of the bar who have done their work. It would be impossible to speak of the present members of the bar as of those who are dead. There are now forty-six members of the Reno county bar. Among its members are some of the oldest members and some of the youngest. The oldest member of the bar, from point of service is H. Whiteside. He was county attorney of this county in an early day. For many years he has been president of the Bar Association. Mr. Whiteside has been an attorney in much of the biggest litigation in the courts of Reno county and in the state supreme court. He has retired from the practice, but in deference to his long years of practice he is still retained as president of the bar association.

Another member of the bar of years of practice is W. H. Lewis. He was county attorney for five terms, or ten years; the longest period in point of service of any member of the bar, and he is still actively engaged in the practice of law in this city.

SOME PRESENT MEMBERS OF THE BAR.

F. L. Martin is a member of the bar of long standing. He was judge of the district court for four years. Mr. Martin has held other offices. For two terms he was a member of the state Legislature and was one of the leaders of that body. He has been mayor of Hutchinson for several terms and he is actively engaged in the practice of law at this time.

R. A. Campbell is likewise another of the old lawyers. He has been county attorney and probate judge of this county and he is one of the oldest members of the bar of this county.

W. G. Fairchilds has been a member of the Reno county bar for nearly

thirty years. Perhaps no lawyer in Reno county is more constantly at the practice than Mr. Fairchilds. He never has taken an active interest in politics; never has been a candidate for any office, but has devoted his time exclusively to his business. He is at the prime of life and enjoys a fine general practice.

J. S. Simmons came to Hutchinson from Lane county. He began his practice in this county as a member of the firm of Whiteside & Simmons. When Mr. Whiteside quit the practice, Mr. Simmons became the head of this firm. He has been a member of the Legislature of Kansas and was chosen speaker of the House of Representatives. He was a candidate for Congress from the seventh district in 1914 and again in 1916, but was defeated both times by the present Congressman, Jouett Shouse. Mr. Simmons is actively engaged in the practice of law in Hutchinson at the present time.

Another attorney who has moved to Hutchinson is Fred Dumont Smith. He was state senator for a number of terms, moving to Hutchinson from Kinsley. He has a large practice in the courts of this state.

Charles E. Branine also is a member of the bar. He moved to Hutchinson from Newton after his term of service as judge of the ninth judicial district was over.

Carr W. Taylor is a Reno county man and began his practice in Hutchinson. His father was one of the pioneers of Reno county and practiced law in Hutchinson for a number of years, moving South from here and dying there several years ago. Carr W. Taylor is actively engaged in the law business in Hutchinson. He was attorney for the state railroad board for several years, also for four years county attorney of Reno county.

Howard S. Lewis was graduated from the high school at Hutchinson and attended the law school at Washington, D. C. After he was graduated from that school he returned to Hutchinson and began his work as a lawyer. He is at present judge pro tem of the district court.

Charles M. Williams began the law practice in Hutchinson with B. O. Davidson. Later he was associated with F. F. Prigg. When the latter was elected judge of the ninth judicial district the firm of Prigg & Williams was dissolved and Mr. Williams continued the business. Mr. Williams was appointed judge of the district court, but soon resigned because of the political conditions that made it impossible for him to continue in that office, as is spoken of in the chapter on "The Judiciary." He has a good practice and it would be a difficult matter to get him to consider any political proposition.

Frank P. Hettinger and James Hettinger have long been associated in the law business. James Hettinger was county attorney for one term and F. P. Hettinger was a candidate on the Democratic ticket for judge of the ninth judicial district, but was beaten.

J. P. Francis lives at Nickerson. While a member of the bar he has practiced but little in the district court, but does a great deal of the legal work of Nickerson in consultations.

PRESENT JUDGE OF DISTRICT COURT.

Judge F. F. Prigg came to Hutchinson in 1883. He was superintendent of the city schools for two years and then began to practice law. He was city attorney for years; was elected judge of the district court in 1912 and was re-elected without opposition in 1916. His term of office ends in 1920.

A. C. Malloy began his law practice in Hutchinson. He is a graduate of the Michigan University Law School. For a number of years he was attorney for the city of Hutchinson and at the present time, in addition to a general practice, he is general attorney of the Anthony & Northern railroad.

Ray H. Tinder is a graduate of the State University Law School and began his practice in Hutchinson. He was a member of the firm of Simmons & Tinder for a number of years, but at the present time is practicing alone. He is active in Republican politics and was a candidate for county attorney, but was defeated in the primaries by Eustace Smith.

George A. Neeley was graduated from the State University Law School. He was a candidate for Congress at the election to fill the vacancy caused by the death of E. H. Madison. He was elected at that time and re-elected for the second term. He was a candidate for United States senator, receiving the Democratic nomination, but was beaten at the election. He is a member of the firm of Neeley & Malloy and they both have a good general practice.

E. T. Foote, who was elected county attorney for two terms, is one of the younger members of the bar. He left the county attorney's office with a good court practice.

H. E. Ramsey is the present county attorney. He was elected in November, 1916, for the second term, with an increased majority over his vote of two years previous.

J. R. Beeching is another of the younger members of the bar. He was

a candidate for probate judge in 1914, but was defeated by Charles S. Fulton. Mr. Beeching is a Democrat and is in much demand as a campaign speaker.

GOOD WORK OF PROBATE JUDGE.

Another member of the bar that is not practicing law, but has made a great success in a special line is Charles S. Fulton. For ten years he has been actively engaged in probate work, four years as an assistant of J. W. Jordan and six years as probate judge of Reno county. His office is regarded as one of the best systematized and perhaps the best probate judge's office in Kansas. In addition to the probate court work, the law imposes upon this court the care of the juveniles of the county which requires a great deal of kindness and skill in handling these younger members of society. Mr. Fulton's majority at the election of 1916, regardless of his long service, was nearly 6,000.

R. B. P. Wilson has practiced law in Reno county for a number of years, coming to Reno county from Western Kansas and is, at the present time, police judge of Hutchinson.

Walter F. Jones was raised in Hutchinson and was graduated from the public schools of this city. He later was graduated from the State University Law School and began his practice in Hutchinson. He has been city attorney of Hutchinson for six years. He was a candidate for county attorney in 1910, but was beaten by a few votes. Mr. Jones is prominent in Republican politics, taking an active interest in the campaigns of that party.

Warren White received his law education in the Indiana State University. He moved to Hutchinson in 1908 and began the practice of law. He was a candidate for county attorney on the "Bull Moose" ticket in 1914, but the divided Republican party vote resulted in the election of Herbert Ramsey, the Democratic candidate.

Eustace Smith was graduated from the Law School of the Kansas State University. He returned to Hutchinson and began the practice of law with his father, F. Dumont Smith. He was a candidate for county attorney in 1914 on the Republican ticket. With three candidates for this office, two of them, practically Republicans, Mr. Smith being the Republican candidate, he was beaten by the present incumbent, Herbert Ramsey.

YOUNGER MEMBERS OF THE BAR.

This short sketch of the older members of the bar leaves nineteen other members, who have either recently begun the practice of law or are working in the law offices of older lawyers. The special mention covers all who have ever been candidates for office and also the older and better-acquainted and longer-established members of the profession. Of the nineteen members, Van M. Martin and John Martin are members of the firm of Martin & Sons—they practicing with their father, F. L. Martin. Of these two young men, Van Martin is the elder and has made an excellent showing for the length of time he has been a member of the bar. John, the youngest member of the firm, is a graduate of the State University Law School and has recently begun the practice of law with his father and brother. H. R. Branine is also a graduate of the Kansas University Law School and is practicing with his father, C. E. Branine. D. C. Martindell is at present an assistant of C. W. Williams in the law work. This same thing is true of K. K. Simmons, practicing with his uncle, John S. Simmons.

Martin Alemore is practicing and is one of the younger members of the bar that is practicing independently of an older attorney. His law education was obtained in the law office of W. G. Fairchild at Hutchinson. W. A. Huxman is assistant in the office of the county attorney, H. E. Ramsey. Arthur L. Maltby is a graduate of the law school in Washington, D. C. He began his practice in that city. When he returned to Hutchinson he became a member of the Machine Gun Corps of Company E, of the Second Regiment, Kansas National Guard, and spent seven months on the Southern border with the United States troops under General Finston. When the company returned home Mr. Maltby resumed his law practice. B. A. Earhart is attorney for a collecting agency in Hutchinson; however, he has a general practice, as well as attending to the collection business. C. E. Deming is a graduate of the Kansas University Law School. He was appointed judge of the city court, an office created by the Legislature of 1914. The supreme court held the law unconstitutional and the court was discontinued. In 1916 Mr. Deming was the Republican candidate for county attorney, but was beaten by Herbert S. Ramsey. A. Coleman, also a graduate of the Kansas Law School, began his practice in Hutchinson. Mr. D. Asher has held the office of justice of the peace in Hutchinson for several years and was re-elected in 1916. William H. Burnett is an assistant in the office of Carr W. Taylor.

CONVICTED LAWYER DISBARRED.

There has been but one disbarment proceeding in the history of the Reno county bar. E. C. Clark was convicted as an accessory before the fact of a brutal murder committed in a joint in Hutchinson and was sentenced to the state penitentiary. Immediately disbarment proceedings were commenced against him. The Reno County Bar Association is composed of men of high character and ability and compares with any bar association in the state.

CHAPTER XXXVII.

THE NINTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT.

The Ninth Judicial District was created by the state Legislature in 1867. The bill creating the district was approved by the governor February 26, 1867, but it did not become effective until after its publication, March 4, 1867.

When this bill was passed, the counties of Chase, Marion, Butler, Howard, McPherson, Sedgwick, Sumner, Rice, Reno, Harper, Stafford, Pratt and Barbour were embraced in the district, the boundary lines not being the same for the counties then as they are now. The district included all territory south of Chase county to the state line, all west of Chase, including what is now Barton county, and all south from Barton county to the state line, including what is Stafford, Pratt and Barbour counties; obviously, not many of these counties were organized at that time. The Legislature would add a county that was unorganized to the nearest organized county in the district, but as soon as the counties had enough population to organize a local government, they would establish their own courts whose sessions were transferred gradually to each of the unorganized counties. It was such a big territory to cover that court only lasted a week or so in each county.

Reno county by an act of the Legislature of 1867, was attached to Marion county for judicial purposes, there being but few people in the former at that time, chiefly hunters and cattlemen, for whom some form of government was necessary. There is, however, no record of any case being tried in Marion county for Reno county. By an act of that Legislature of 1870 Reno county was detached from Marion county and attached to Sedgwick county, which had just been organized, hence Reno county's judicial matters were transferred to Sedgwick county. In 1872, after Reno county was organized, the judicial affairs were brought from Sedgwick county to Hutchinson, and at the same time Kingman county being yet unorganized, was attached to this county for judicial purposes. These two changes, transferring the judicial matters of Reno county from Wichita to Hutchinson, and attaching Kingman county to this county, became effective March 1, 1872. So Reno county has had three seats of justice—Marion, Wichita and Hutchinson. In 1873, because of their having no county organization Pratt, Bar-

bour, Kiowa and Comanche counties were attached to Reno county for judicial purposes.

The district continued of the organized size until 1881, when other judicial districts were formed and the Ninth district was reduced to Reno, Harvey, Kingman, Marion, Chase, Rice and Harper counties, and in 1883 the district was again reduced until it contained only Reno, Rice and Chase counties. In 1885, Rice county was cut out of the district, and in 1903 a further reduction was made when the extent of Reno, McPherson and Harvey counties determined the territory of the ninth judicial district.

The first judge of the district was W. R. Brown, a native of New York, born July 16, 1840, who was educated in Union Academy in Schenectady, New York. After his graduation he came west, settled in Lawrence, Kansas, and began the study of law in the office of Ex-Governor William Shannon, and in 1863 went to Topeka, where he received the appointment of deputy clerk of the supreme court. Three years later he moved westward again, locating at Emporia, where he became associated with Judge R. M. Ruggles. He removed the next year to Cottonwood Falls, and while there was elected the first judge of the ninth judicial district, took his seat on January 13, 1867, and continued to preside over the district court until March 1, 1875. In the fall of 1874 he moved to Hutchinson, having been elected as a member of Congress for the third district in the election of 1874.

When Judge Brown resigned to take his seat in the Federal Congress, Judge S. R. Peters was appointed to fill the vacancy until the next election. He was a candidate the following fall and was duly elected for four years, and in 1878 was re-elected for another term. In the fall of 1882 Judge Peters, like his predecessor, was elected congressman from the Seventh District, and resigned his place on the bench December 13, 1882. Judge Peters was a native of Ohio, born in Pickaway county, August 16, 1842. Attending the Ohio Wesleyan College when the Civil War started, where he had reached the sophomore year, he enlisted in the Seventy-third Regiment, Ohio Volunteer Infantry, as a private. During service he received various promotions until he reached the rank of captain. At the close of the war Judge Peters resumed his education in the University of Michigan, graduating from the law department in 1867, and began the practice of law in Memphis, Missouri. He moved to Kansas in 1873, locating at Marion, where he continued to practice his profession, was appointed judge of the ninth judicial district and began his work on the bench, March 8, 1875. He was elected judge in the following November, and was re-elected in 1879. He moved to Newton in September, 1876, to be nearer the center of his district. In June,

1878, he was nominated for congressman-at-large, and was elected in the fall, but when the reapportionment of the state into congressional districts was made, Judge Peters was assigned the Seventh Congressional District.

The third judge of the ninth judicial district was Lysander Houk, who was born near Knoxville, Tennessee, February 22, 1834, but when about a year old, his parents moved to Morgan county, Alabama. Later he took a four-year course in Union University at Murfreesboro, Tennessee, and then entered the law school of Cumberland University at Lebanon, same state. On finishing his legal training he began the practice of law in Brownville, Tennessee, in 1857, and in the same year he began teaching in the law school. When the Civil War broke out he was drafted into the Confederate army, but he was released from service and moved to St. Louis, where he remained until 1865. He came to Hutchinson in January, 1872, where he was elected county attorney of Reno county in April, 1872, and served until January 1, 1873. He was elected judge of the ninth judicial district in the fall of 1882, took his seat on the bench on January 1, 1883, and served until January 1, 1892.

The fourth judge of the ninth district court, F. L. Martin, now living in Hutchinson, was a native of Illinois. He spent his early life in Hancock county, that state, where he received his early education in the public schools. Becoming imbued with the ambition to become a lawyer, he entered the law school at Carthage, Illinois, and after he graduated, came to Hutchinson, Kansas, there beginning the practice of his profession in the law firm of Scheble & Vandever. Later he became permanently associated with these lawyers, and the firm name became Scheble, Vandever & Martin. His practice was so successful and his personal integrity was so unimpeachable that he was elected judge of the ninth judicial district to succeed Judge Houk, his predecessor, on January 11, 1892, and served out his term. At the expiration of his term on the bench, he was re-elected and served one year when he resigned to resume his practice in Hutchinson, where he is now actively engaged therein with his two sons, Van and John Martin.

Matthew R. Simpson, the fifth judge of the district court, was a native of Harrison county, Ohio, born in 1857. He remained in the neighborhood of his old home, there attending the public schools, until the outbreak of the Civil War when he enlisted in the Union army, in October, 1861. He was a member of Company I, Fortieth Regiment, Ohio Volunteer Infantry, with which he served throughout the war, participating in all the engagements in which his company and regiment took part. After he was mustered out of the service in November, 1864, he moved to Clinton county, Illinois, and

farmed until September, 1865, when he entered the law school of Ann Arbor, Michigan, graduating from the institution in the spring of 1867. In 1869, he began the practice of law at Taylorville, Illinois, where he was engaged a part of the time as a government surveyor. He moved to McPherson county, Kansas, in July, 1873, where he was later elected county attorney and served three years. In the early years of his residence there he did much surveying, for he stated from the bench in a case pending before him in this county, that he was a member of a party that surveyed the larger portion of this part of Kansas. He was elected judge of the ninth judicial district, taking his seat, January 1, 1900, and served until he was accidentally killed in an automobile accident on May 10, 1904.

Charles M. Williams, the sixth judge of the district court, was educated in the common schools of Lexington, Kentucky, and later graduated from the State University of Kentucky, after which he began the practice of law in the office of Terrel & Mathe in Harrisonville, Missouri. He was admitted to the bar in 1875, moved to Hutchinson, Kansas, in 1886, and began the practice of law with McKinstry and Whitelaw; later, however, he formed a partnership with B. O. Davidson. When the latter moved from the city in 1896, he formed a partnership with F. F. Prigg, under the firm name of Prigg & Williams. After the accidental death of Judge Simpson, Mr. Williams was appointed judge of the district court by Governor Bailey, to fill the vacancy until the election in the fall. A political condition arose which would preclude any Reno county man from receiving the nomination, arising from the fact that each county in the district, Harvey, Reno and McPherson, had fifteen votes each in the nominating convention. Since McPherson and Harvey counties were in the same state senatorial district, the politicians agreed that Harvey county should have the state senator, and McPherson should have the judgeship. Knowing this condition to exist, and that he would serve only until the January following, Mr. Williams resigned in September, 1903. The fact that his firm was largely interested in the cases to be tried and he would be disqualified to try them as judge, was an additional reason for his resignation.

W. H. Lewis, who was appointed to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Judge C. M. Williams, was born in West Bedford, Coshocton county, Ohio, and moved to Hutchinson in July, 1874. He formed a partnership with J. O. Ellis under the firm name of Ellis & Lewis but later Mr. Ellis moved away from Hutchinson and the former entered into partnership with J. T. Cox, which continued until the latter moved to Indiana. Judge Lewis

was elected county attorney of Reno county in 1880, and served four terms as such officer, having had the rare distinction of receiving in one of his candidacies for county attorney, fourteen hundred and twenty-four votes out of the fourteen hundred and sixty-one votes cast. There was no candidate opposing him, but this large a proportion of the entire vote where there is only one candidate is exceeded by only one other candidate in the history of Reno county. In 1878, when S. R. Peters was the unopposed candidate for judge of the district court he received nineteen hundred and seventy votes out of the nineteen hundred and seventy-four votes cast. Judge Lewis was appointed judge of the district court on September 1, 1904, and served until January 9, 1905, when he resumed his practice in Hutchinson, where he is still actively engaged.

The contest for district judge in the fall of 1904 resulted in the election of P. J. Galle, of McPherson, who was born in Franklin, Lee county, Iowa, on January 16, 1860, attended the public schools of that state and Denmark Academy, located in McPherson county, Kansas, in 1876, where he has since made his home. He graduated from the State Normal School at Emporia in 1883, and from the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor in 1888, and in the same year began the practice of law at McPherson, Kansas. He was elected county attorney of McPherson county in the fall of 1888, and held that office for one term but was defeated in the Populistic success of 1892. He was again elected county attorney and held the office from January, 1895, to January, 1899. He was a member of the Legislature of Kansas of 1903 from McPherson county and after the expiration of his term was elected judge of the ninth judicial district of Kansas and held the office from January, 1905, until January, 1909. Since his retirement from the bench he has been engaged in the practice of law at McPherson, Kansas.

The successor of P. J. Galle as judge of the ninth judicial district was Charles E. Branine, who was born in Fayette county, Illinois, March 7, 1864. He came to Kansas when he was ten years of age, attended the public schools of Newton, and later entered Baker University. He studied law in the office of J. W. Ady and was admitted to the bar in November, 1890. In November, 1908, he was elected judge of the ninth judicial district and served two terms, after which he moved to Hutchinson and resumed his practice of law.

The present judge of the ninth district is F. F. Prigg, who was a native of Madison county, Indiana, born on June 5, 1853. He was a student of the normal school at Valparaiso, Indiana, and later took the scientific course at Danville, Indiana. After the completion of his education he studied law at Middletown, Indiana, and was admitted to the bar at Danville. In 1883

he came to Hutchinson, having been elected superintendent of the city schools, and served two years in that capacity. In 1885 he began practicing law in Hutchinson and later in 1896 he formed a partnership with C. M. Williams. Judge Prigg was city attorney for seven years. In November, 1912, Judge Prigg was elected judge of the ninth judicial district, served four years and was re-elected without opposition either in the primary or the election in 1916. His term of office expires January 15, 1921.

Of the ten men who have served on the bench of the ninth district court, four are dead, namely: Judges Brown, Peters, Hunt and Simpson; and six are living: Judges Martin, Williams, Lewis, Galle, Branine and Prigg. All of the latter, except Judge Prigg, are actively engaged in the practice of law: one, Galle, in McPherson, the other four in Hutchinson.

CHAPTER XXXVIII.

THE CIVIL WAR SOLDIERS IN RENO COUNTY.

In this chapter will be found a complete list of Union soldiers living in Reno county in 1890, when the census was taken, which includes the name of the soldier, his rank, his company and regiment and, with a few exceptions, the state from which he enlisted. This list is remarkable, as it shows the cosmopolitan character of the early settlers of Reno county. Nearly every state in the Union is represented. The Southern states have representatives from nearly every state in the Confederacy, and with few exceptions those from the seceded states were mostly colored soldiers, there being a total of sixteen colored regiments enrolled as troops of the United States during the Civil War.

There is perhaps no other complete list in Reno county of the soldiers of the North. They were among the most active of the old settlers of the county, it being named for a soldier, Major Jesse Lee Reno, who lost his life in the battle of South Mountain. In a former chapter, in order to preserve them, there are six hundred and fifty-nine names of the men and women who signed the petition for organizing the county in 1873, likewise here is recorded the list of the old soldiers who were living in the county in 1890. This list has been taken from the records of the war department at Washington and checked with a similar list on file in the office of the secretary of state of Kansas. It contains ten hundred and thirty-five names, and the number from each state is set down opposite the name of the state, as follows:

Illinois 235	Connecticut 11	Colorado 2
Indiana 177	Tennessee 12	North Carolina . . . 1
Ohio 143	Mississippi 4	Rhode Island 1
Iowa 93	U. S. Navy 14	Arkansas 1
New York 71	West Virginia . . . 15	Minnesota 1
Missouri 65	New Jersey 7	Alabama 1
Pennsylvania 53	Virginia 6	Texas 3
Michigan 30	Massachusetts . . . 6	Nevada 1
Kansas 28	California 3	Nebraska 1
Kentucky 26	Maryland 4	Arkansas 1
Wisconsin 17	Vermont 4	

<i>Names</i>	<i>Rank</i>	<i>Company</i>	<i>Reg.</i>	<i>State</i>
Alexander, D. S.	Private	B	24	Michigan
Avery, B. G.	Private	B	21	Wisconsin
Atwood, S. A.	Private	I	47	Illinois
Asher, Alvin B.	Private	A	80	Illinois
Asher, C. B.	Private	F	30	Indiana
Anderson, A. P.	Private	D	22	Pennsylvania
Albertson, John	Private	A	19	Michigan
Anderson, J. M.	2nd Corporal	C	9	Iowa
Ansley, Joseph	Private	C	23	Indiana
Ashton, Daniel	Private	A	39	Illinois
Apple, Herman	Private	D	..	Missouri
Arkebeauer, Hiram	Private	L	3	Illinois
Astle, Wm.	Private	I	97	Illinois
Atwood, M. V.	Private	D	108	Illinois
Attenread, Levi	Private	C	7	Missouri
Amadown, Wm. H.	Private	H	197	Pennsylvania
Andrews, J. M.	Private	F	88	Ohio
Alexander, Robert	Private	G	6	Iowa
Atherton, J. R.	Private	H	78	Illinois
Andre, Geo. W.	Private	A	38	Ohio
Ames, Orpheus	Corporal	K	85	Illinois
Adams, J.	Private	K	130	Indiana
Alexander, Wm.	Private	C	52	Kentucky
Albright, John	Private	B	70	Indiana
Akin, Dudley D.	Sergeant	A	11	Kentucky
Adams, G.	Private	D	51	Illinois
Brimegar, J. H.	Private	H	28	Kentucky
Bramwell, H. S.	Private	C	5	Indiana
Burns, V. O.	Private	K	9	Indiana
Bennett, J. S.	Private	A	152	Ohio
Bongardner, Michael	Private	Cogwell's Battery		Illinois
Banks, Rivers	Private	G	8	Kentucky
Brown, Thompson	Private	K	38	Ohio
Burris, Milton	Corporal	M	13	Missouri
Black, Clinton	Private	D	85	Illinois
Blodgett, L. W.	Private	F	94	New York
Bussinger, M. C.	Private	K	85	Indiana

<i>Names</i>	<i>Rank</i>	<i>Company</i>	<i>Reg.</i>	<i>State</i>
Bell, W. H.	Sergeant	H	15	Kansas
Brady, T.	Private	I	1	Ohio
Burkett, Peter S.	Private	B	79	Pennsylvania
Baughman, Joseph	Private		165	Pennsylvania
Brown, Thomas W.	Private	F	149	Indiana
Bridgeman, J. C.	Corporal	I	128	Indiana
Baker, Sylvester	Private	H	105	Ohio
Brownfield, H. B.	Private	H	7	Illinois Cavalry
Byers, I. J.	Corporal	B	71	Ohio
Brightman, S. B.	Lieutenant-Colonel		43	Wisconsin
Booth, C. M.	Sergeant	A	8	New York
Barnett, H. C.	Private	C	26	Indiana
Brown, William	Private	A	4	Pennsylvania
Briggs, Robert	First Lieutenant	B	65	Illinois
Banett, John A.	Private	K	73	Illinois
Ballew, Noah	Private	E	148	Ohio
Baynum, J. W.	Private	L	4	Illinois
Bullis, John R.	Private	H	21	Ohio
Bartholomew, Charles	Private	E	99	Indiana
Beegle, Adam H.	Private	E	147	Illinois
Boner, Joseph	Private	B	16	Pennsylvania
Birch, G. H.	First Lieutenant	H	29	Indiana
Brewer, A. J.	Private	D	77	Illinois
Batty, P. T.	Private	C	40	Indiana
Barngrover, —		E	50	Ohio
Brown, James	Captain	B	60	New York
Banks, James	Sergeant	B	1	Kentucky
Belt, A. G.	Private		13	Indiana
Burchell, H. E.	Private	E	15	Indiana
Barber, Nathaniel	Private	C	21	Michigan
Bennett, S.	Private	B		Ohio
Bouser, Thomas	Private	H	55	Illinois
Branch, P. C.	Private	G	13	Iowa
Bresler, Nathan	Private	G	57	Indiana
Brooks, G. B.	Private	I	94	New York
Batthey, Manhall	Captain	A	111	Illinois
Bringle, Jacob I.	Private	C	70	Indiana

<i>Names</i>	<i>Rank</i>	<i>Company</i>	<i>Reg.</i>	<i>State</i>
Bramwell, Joseph	Private	H	125	Indiana
Bingham, S. L. J.	Private	F	8	Michigan
Baughman, H. C.	Captain	F	59	Illinois
Burch, L. N.	Private	D	87	Indiana
Burdo, R. D.	Private	K	25	Ohio
Baker, F. W.	Captain	I	10	Tennessee
Boody, S. B.	Private	C	115	Ohio
Bolton, Augustus	Private	C	19	Connecticut
Brown, F. E.	Private	H	35	Mississippi
Baughman, H.	Drummer	E	122	Ohio
Bryant, Wm.	Private	F	1	Michigan
Blampied, Elisha	Private	E	42	Kentucky
Baxter, J. S.	Private	D	118	Illinois
Ballinger, J. L.	Private	H	13	United States
Baylan, John	Private	A	13	Missouri
Bosley, Henry	Private	H	104	Illinois
Brainard, Jess	Captain	B	4	Illinois
Baker, R. W.	Yeoman			New York
Bradburn, James	Private	C	54	Indiana
Brooks, G. B.	Private	I	94	New York
Ballard, V. B.	Private	F	64	Ohio
Bauthaner, J.	Private	A	21	Missouri
Bartlett, William	Private	F	64	Ohio
Briggs, Robert	Private	E	104	Ohio
Blake, Madison	Private	C	6	Indiana
Benson, G. F.	Sergeant	G	M H	Missouri
Barghman, Joseph	Private	A	105	Pennsylvania
Brink, Stephen	Captain	D	124	Illinois
Berry, C. S.		B	118	Illinois
Brown, Wiley	Private	Discharge	Lost	Ohio
Barnes, J. S.	Major		91	Illinois
Beall, George	Private	B	154	Ohio
Bradwell, Silas	Private	E	26	Illinois
Batty, Marshall	Private	H	129	Illinois
Bardett, James	Private	E	7	Indiana
Beggs, Wm.	Private		10	Missouri
Beam, J. M.	Private	C	76	Ohio
Brown, J. B.	Sergeant	H	14	Ohio

<i>Names</i>	<i>Rank</i>	<i>Company</i>	<i>Reg.</i>	<i>State</i>
Bigger, L. A.	First Lieutenant	F	1	North Carolina
Bane, Ephram	Corporal	C	47	Illinois
Barclay, George D. . . . .	..	..	..	..
Ballinger, John W.	Private	M	4	United States
Baker, B.	Private	E	7	Indiana
Berwick, W.	Sergeant	G	R R	Missouri
Burns, W. E.	Private	A	7	Missouri
Basher, Z. S.	Private	E	123	Indiana
Brown, F.	Private	..	11	Indiana
Blackburn, J. F.	Lieutenant	E	129	Illinois
Bruner, Philip H.	Private	F	2	California
Boyd, Benjamin	Private	G	1	New York
Bringle, Jacob	Private	C	70	Indiana
Burdick, E. C.	Private	D	38	Ohio
Barker, W. H.	Private	B	4	Ohio
Baker, H.	Private	M	9	Indiana
Baker, William	Private	G	30	Indiana
Boglan, J.	Private	A	13	Missouri
Carey, John	Private	C	118	Indiana
Campbell, S.	Sergeant	C	50	Iowa
Colee, C. C.	Private	C	22	Pennsylvania
Cathcart, Samuel B.	Private	F	16	Iowa
Center, William H.	Corporal	F	1	Illinois
Colee, Theodore F. . . . .	..	..	..	Pennsylvania
Chambers, Charles C.	Sergeant	K	64	Ohio
Campbell, John	Private	A	53	Illinois
Colville, Benjamin A.	Corporal	C	117	Illinois
Craig, Henry H.	Private	G	114	Illinois
Campbell, Robert A.	Private	K	24	Ohio
Carew, Harvey H.	Private	B	15	New Jersey
Clymer, John V.	Captain	B	156	Indiana
Constant, Constant M.	Private	H	30	Illinois
Collins, Charles	Private	A	2	Kansas
Chase, Frank M.	Private	C	92	Illinois
Cox, Solomon	Private	C	55	Kentucky
Crippen, W.	Private	..	..	New York
Crandall, C.	Private	C	81	Indiana

<i>Names</i>	<i>Rank</i>	<i>Company</i>	<i>Reg.</i>	<i>State</i>
Clink, William	Private	I	41	Illinois
Crow, Martin	Private	D	90	Illinois
Cecil, Thomas	Private	D	78	Illinois
Cecil, William	Private	D	78	Illinois
Cecil, Wilford	Private	F	155	Illinois
Calverly, Richard	Private	..	...	Missouri
Crampton, H. H.	Private	E	8	Ohio
Crampton, James H.	Sergeant	E	110	Ohio
Cassidy, R. T.	Lieutenant	B	163	West Virginia
Care, J. R.	Private	J	31	Iowa
Cochran, ———	Private	L	16	Illinois
Curnutt, H. G.	Private	I	72	Indiana
Cochran, N. J.	Private	B	84	Indiana
Coles, J. W.	Private	K	46	Iowa
Clark, Ashbury	Corporal	E	89	Illinois
Cunningham, H. C.	.....	..	...	Ohio
Consoe, L.	Sergeant	E	41	New York
Compton, David	Private	K	67	Indiana
Connett, J. T.	Corporal	H	30	New Jersey
Cupps, Cabel	Private	E	136	Indiana
Chaffin, G. B.	2nd Lieutenant	H	15	Ohio
Cowen, John	Private	B	26	Illinois
Clothier, J. B.	Private	G	8	Iowa
Clothier, Newton	Private	G	7	Iowa
Criswell, William	Private	G	86	Illinois
Collings, Isaac	Private	G	145	Indiana
Crippen, Miner	Private	C	113	Ohio
Carpenter, O. S.	Corporal	D	142	New York
Clingan, G. A.	Private	C	7	Iowa
Cooten, G. W.	Private	C	1	Missouri
Caldwell, John G.	Private	A	75	New York
Caldwell, A. B.	Brevt. 1st Lieutenant	A	2	Mississippi
Chamberlain, W.	Private	A	148	Indiana
Clearwater, Rubin	Sergeant	A	6	Indiana
Charles, Levi B.	Private	L	1	Colorado
Carver, John	Private	A	30	Maine
Croome, John W.	Private	C	5	Kentucky
Cummings, Walter C.	Private	O	51	Massachusetts

<i>Names</i>	<i>Rank</i>	<i>Company</i>	<i>Reg.</i>	<i>State</i>
Coleman, George A.	Private	I	70	Indiana
Crommett, Robert T. ...	2nd Lieutenant	F	1	Maine Vet. Vol.
Crow, Martin	Private	K	92	Ohio
Curliss, Harklis	Private	K	118	Illinois
Caldwell, S. J.	Private	..	37	Illinois
Cheeseman, John	Private	I	118	New York
Chattle, Wm. H.	Private	A	89	Illinois
Cowan, Samuel	Private	E	8	Illinois
Clark, W. H.	Private	E	1	New York
Claypool, J. W.	Sergeant	K	70	Indiana
Chase, Wright	Private	F	66	Illinois
Crabb, J. E.	Sergeant	B	34	Ohio
Copeland, M. H.	Sergeant	A	107	Illinois
Carey, Peter	Lieutenant	K	47	Indiana
Chapin, C. O. ....	..	..	...	.....
Carson, William F.	Private	C	77	Illinois
Caster, Joseph	Private	I	2	Ohio
Case, Oscar	Private	H	121	Ohio
Cubbison, Joseph	2nd Lieutenant	C	101	Pennsylvania
Counterman, E.	2nd Lieutenant	I	11	Michigan
Carr, H. H.	Private	B	15	New Jersey
Compton, D.	Private	N	67	Indiana
Cory, N. B.	Private	..	...	Indiana
Cox, J. L.	Private	E	1	Missouri
Cade, George C.	Private	G	2	Illinois
Cooper, W. C.	Sergeant	B	6	Missouri
Coldrult, S. J.	Sergeant	E	72	Indiana
Cox, Rebecca J.	Widow	..	...	.....
Coelirane, Sanders	Private	G	16	.....
Cole, Harry	Private	F	34	Indiana
Comett, William	Private	..	16	Indiana
Conroe, Israel	Private	E	41	New York
Carpenter, Orson S.	Corporal	S	142	New York
Crabbs, J.	Major	..	89	Indiana
Dice, H. W.	Private	C	132	Illinois
Dewitt, J. F.	Private	F	14	New Jersey
Decker, F. J.	Lieutenant	C	18	Wisconsin
Decker, C. V.	1st Lieutenant	D	123	Illinois

<i>Names</i>	<i>Rank</i>	<i>Company</i>	<i>Reg.</i>	<i>State</i>
Delano, Richard F.	2nd Lieutenant	B	49	Indiana
Decker, T. A.	2nd Lieutenant	B	1 Cav.	Ohio
Downs, John	Corporal	K	180	Ohio
Dinsmore, Charles	Private	E	6	New Jersey
Davis, Ulysses	Private	C	3	West Virginia
Dodge, A. R.	Private	B	...	Illinois
Dutton, Enos	Private	B	19	Iowa
Davis, A. O.	Private	K	108	Illinois
Dull, S. A.	Private	G	51	Ohio
Dunsworth, ———	Private	D	32	Illinois
Dalton, ———	Private	A	29	Missouri
Dilly, S. A.	Private	F	83	Pennsylvania
Davis, L.	Corporal	H	14	Rhode Island
Davis, Samuel	Private	G	14	Ohio Infantry
Dunn, John P.	Private	C	9	Iowa Cavalry
Doolittle, L. F.	Private	..	...	Kansas
Davis, John J.	Private	G	6	Virginia
Davis, C.	Corporal	B	2	Maine
Duval, Francis	Ord. Sergeant	D	83	United States
Dickhut, C. W.	Private	H	118	Illinois
Doles, J. A.	Private	G	22	Ohio
Day, Robert	Private	G	50	Indiana
Dunsworth, A. J.	Private	F	50	Illinois
Dillingham, W. H.	Corporal	H	26	Kansas
Doron, E.	Private	I	1	Ohio
Dean, J.	Private	F	40	Iowa
Denison, G. A.	Private	I	61	Iowa
Deering, C. T. ....	.....	..	...	.....
Duckworth, J. L.	Private	F	36	Iowa
Deane, Martin	Chaplain	..	45	New York
Dearlove, W. B.	Private	..	14	Ohio
Duke, Edward	Private	B	10	West Virginia
Delono, W. H.	Private	..	144	Indiana
Dugan, Ferdinand	Private	..	..	U. S. N.
Davis, Robert	1st Lieutenant	A	15	New York
Dorman, Samuel N.	Private	C	20	Illinois
Evans, M. M.	Captain	Q	56	Illinois
Elliott, William H.	Corporal	G	1	Missouri

<i>Names</i>	<i>Rank</i>	<i>Company</i>	<i>Reg.</i>	<i>State</i>
Ely, David H.	Private	H	22	Iowa
Elliott, David H.	Corporal	G	15	Iowa
Ewing, R. M.	Corporal	B	50	Illinois
Elliott, George B.	Corporal	G	16	New York
Everett, Elmer	Corporal	R	83	Illinois
Elliott, E. W.	Corporal	D	89	Ohio
Ewing, J. K.	Corporal	G	4	.....
Eddie, John	Private	L	1	United States
Eddy, George	Corporal	I	8	Vermont
Evarts, H. E.	Private	F	16	Ohio
Ellis, Perse	Private	C	4	Wisconsin
Ernst, A.	1st Lieutenant	G	7	California
Eusminger, W. P.	Private	D	6	Indiana
Erion, Philip	Private	B	3	Illinois
Ellsworth, Allen	1st Lieutenant	I	118	Illinois
Epperson, John H.	Private	D	83	Illinois
Eisminger, Harvey	Private	F	73	Illinois
Dix, Jonathan W.	Private	O	10	Kansas
Duffy, Edward	Drummer	D	33	Indiana
Davis, William B.	Private	H	5	Pennsylvania
Dorman, S. M.	Private	C	29	Illinois
Dum, Thomas	Private	D	16	Iowa
Dum, William	Private	H	39	Iowa
Dodds, Ira R.	Private	F	28	Illinois
Durkell, Jr., D.	Private	E	45	Missouri
Dimock, A. S.	Private	..	...	Massachusetts
Demort, Samuel	Private	C	...	Indiana
Deck, Isaac	Private	K	7	Missouri
Detter, G. W.	Private	D	78	Pennsylvania
Duer, Jonathan	Private	H	2	Iowa
Dixon, T. B.	Private	D	18	Iowa
Dittman, Nicholas	Private	D	2	Michigan
Dodge, John	Private	C	44	Indiana
Dennis, Edward	Private	G	100	Illinois
Darr, Andrew J.	Private	H	104	Ohio
Dinsmore, Charles	Private	E	6	New York
Davis, H. A.	Private	E	88	Pennsylvania
Deane, Albert	Private	E	88	New York

<i>Names</i>	<i>Rank</i>	<i>Company</i>	<i>Reg.</i>	<i>State</i>
Driver, ———	Private	A	142	Indiana
Day, D. P.	Corporal	F	107	Illinois
Devoe, B. R.	Private	H	113	Indiana
Davis, J. W.	Private	B	47	Illinois
Davis, R. A.	Private	F	11	Illinois
Davis, W. M.	Private	B	21	Ohio
Drake, Michael	Private	A	135	Pennsylvania
Dodge, Riley	Private	B	152	Illinois
Dawson, R. A.	H. Steward	..	...	Missouri Regular
Eabling, John F.	Sergeant	E	9	Illinois
Edson, Lucius C.	Private	G	11	Vermont
Ellis, William	Private	C	53	Kentucky
Everett, E. J.	Sergeant	K	83	Illinois
Ellis, James K.	Private	D	39	Indiana
Elder, George	Private	A	46	Pennsylvania
Eareant, J. J.	Private	H	2	Tennessee
Elswik, Thomas	Private	L	7	Missouri
England, John	Corporal	A	8	Missouri
Evers, Elias	Private	I	34	Indiana
Epperson, W. N.	Corporal	A	16	Kansas
Ellston, J. W.	Private	..	46	Indiana
Fisher, David	Private	G	33	Indiana
Fish, George W.	Private	A	16	Illinois
Filley, Worthington	Private	B	101-	Illinois
Fluck, Casper	Private	E	195	Pennsylvania
Farnsworth, Lamar	Private	K	16	Illinois
Fastrow, Herman	Private	E	6	Ohio
Flohr, C. P.	Private	A	1	Iowa
Fowler, T. J.	Private	I	3	Pennsylvania
Freemyer, David	Private	B	9	Missouri
France, E.	Sergeant	H	21	Illinois
Fenimore, J. C.	Private	C	3 & 9	Kansas
Fenimore, E. R.	Private	E	149	Ohio
Fisher, Alfred	Private	E	17	Iowa
Frysear, A. B.	Sergeant	..	4	Arkansas
Ferguson, Thomas	Sergeant	I	122	Illinois
Fowler, T. G.	Private	B	47	Illinois
Foggie, E. M.	Private	G	18	Iowa

<i>Names</i>	<i>Rank</i>	<i>Company</i>	<i>Reg.</i>	<i>State</i>
Franklin, J. R.	Captain	A	17	Iowa
Filson, John	Private	K	101	Illinois
French, H. N.	Private	C	24	Missouri
Freeman, Will H.	Private	..	15	Indiana Battalion
Frease, Cyrus	Captain	G	19	Ohio
Frense, W. W.	Private	..	184	Ohio
Fosnot, W. E.	Private	G	147	Pennsylvania
Fisher, B. S.	Private	B	47	Iowa
Frost, J.	Private	A	126	New York
Froyne, R. I.	Lieutenant	F	22	Kentucky
Frisby, O.	Private	G	7	Illinois
Glanville, F. M.	Private	C	65	New York
Gorden, Henry	Private	B	16	Indiana
Gray, William C.	Private	C	1	Wisconsin
Grady, Henry	Private	I	7	Illinois
Gregg, John	Private	F	5	New York
George, John B.	Com. Sergeant	..	1	Michigan
Grayson, Joseph A.	Private	D	6	West Virginia
Guyer, John	Private	K	134	Pennsylvania
Gehm, Peter	Private	J	14	Illinois
Green, Francis	Private	F	10	Minnesota
Glick, S. A.	Private	C	45	Pennsylvania
Getter, H. K.	Private	F	20	Pennsylvania
Galer, J. B.	Private	K	18	Iowa
Gleichman, George	Private	A	42	Indiana
Gransen, M.	Private	H	116	Ohio
Gallup, Ed	Private	C	21	Wisconsin
Green, D. B.	Private	H	94	Illinois
Gray, Morris J.	Private	E	52	Ohio
Grudel, J. H.	Private	I	20	Indiana
Gozder, Marcus	Private	H	110	Alabama
Gransbury, John W.	Private	A	95	New York
Gray, C. W.	Sergeant	H	69	Missouri
Gaston, S. D.	Private	I	62	Missouri
Graves, Benona	Private	C	11	Iowa
Gould, William	Private	C	6	Iowa
Grist, William	Private	B	82	Pennsylvania
Gallop, H. C.	Corporal	A	88	Illinois

<i>Names</i>	<i>Rank</i>	<i>Company</i>	<i>Reg.</i>	<i>State</i>
Gillock, Thomas C.	Sergeant	..	11	Indiana
Grant, John . . . . .	..	..	..	..
Gillespie, Patrick	Private	D	13	Kansas
Godfrey, J. H.	Private	E	1	Texas
Gibson, Harrison	Private	G	85	Ohio
Ginn, Joseph	Private	I	21	Missouri
Gibbs, William E.	Private	C	8	New York
Gillett, John	Private	C	..	Indiana
Gibson, David	Private	E	27	Kentucky
Guller, John	Private	I	81	Illinois
Gillett, John W. H. P.	Private	C	19	Indiana
Goodwin, Jacob	Private	G	57	Indiana
George, J. W.	Corporal	F	15	West Virginia
Griffin, J. D.	Corporal	A	8	Michigan
Gill, John H.	Private	H	46	Indiana
Grover, Charles B.	Private	B	124	Illinois
Greenamyre, J. R.	Private	A	129	Indiana
Gordon, H.	Private	B	16	Indiana
Greenlee, J. F.	Sergeant	G	142	Ohio
Grover, Freeman	Private	H	16	Wisconsin
Grant, G. E.	Private	..	23	Wisconsin
Handy, Edward S.	Private	F	79	Illinois
Hamlin, M.	Private	A	15	Connecticut
Hill, E. M.	Colonel	1st		Missouri
Holliday, D. H.	Private	F	88	Ohio
Hayden, G. F.	Captain	F	17	Indiana
Herdick, J. M.	Captain	Q	4	Ohio
Hawkins, Frank J.	Private	K	1	Michigan
Hartshorn, Jacob C.	Private	D	138	Illinois
Hasty, William W.	Private	L	7	Illinois
Hegwer, Henry	Private	B	9	Kansas
Holmes, William B.	Private	I	5	California
Hill, Josephus	Private	F	73	Illinois
Hodson, Z. T. . . . .	..	D	28	Iowa
Hiller, Nathan	Corporal	A	172	Ohio
Harris, William E.	Sergeant	E	1	Connecticut
Hawkins, I. H.	Private	F	42	Ohio
Hinman, J. M.	Third Corporal	E	134	Indiana

<i>Names</i>	<i>Rank</i>	<i>Company</i>	<i>Reg.</i>	<i>State</i>
Hayes, P. H.	Private	A	44	Missouri
Hoffman, A.	Private	H	11	Ohio
Hall, S. W.	Private	..	1	Iowa
Hill, H. A.	Sergeant	M	14	New York
Hanan, B. D.	Hospital Steward	H	1	Missouri
Hathaway, Samuel	Corporal	G	3	Iowa
Hegwer, Augustus	Private	B	9	Kentucky
Holland, William T.	Private	A	152	Illinois
Highbarger, E.	Private	F	63	Pennsylvania
Hoover, Michiel	Private	B	7	Missouri
Hotchkis, O. L.	Private	K	22	Iowa
Houser, J. S.	Private	..	...	Illinois
Huston, Jeff	Private	B	2	Illinois
Hartford, William. . .	First Lieutenant	A	8	New Jersey
Hartford, Henry. . .	Lieutenant-Colonel	..	8	New Jersey
Hehin, James	Private	G	83	Illinois
Harper, Thos. V.	Sergeant	E	1	Ohio
Hodge, L. D.	Private	B	11	Indiana
Hadley, Levi P.	Private	E	26	Indiana
Hodgson, William	Private	E	4	Minnesota
Hemphill, John A.	Private	A	183	Ohio
Hand, Thompson	Private	G	78	Illinois
Holin, Lewis	Private	E	4	Pennsylvania
Hindrey, W. F.	Private	H	36	Ohio
Hoskinson, Geo. W.	Private	L	1	Iowa
Haines, Clayton	Private	I	33	Iowa
Hoaglan, Martin	Sergeant	I	57	Illinois
Hopping, Thomas	Private	I	20	Illinois
Harsyman, J. S.	Private	A	6	Missouri
Hornbaker, F. D.	Private	I	145	Indiana
Holmes, John E.	Private	B	154	Illinois
Homes, William H.	Private	C	144	Illinois
Hardin, W. M.	Private	K	35	Kentucky
Hunt, Willis	Private	H	1	West Virginia
Hinds, John	Private	C	77	Ohio
Harbison, G. W.	Private	A	71	Indiana
Hardy, W. G.	Sergeant	G	4	Iowa
———, Tim	Private	B	8	New York

<i>Names</i>	<i>Rank</i>	<i>Company</i>	<i>Reg.</i>	<i>State</i>
Hall, L. M.	Private	A	1	Maryland
Hadley, S. I.	Private	K	7	Iowa
Hadley, D. W.	Captain	K	79	Indiana
Hutchinson, J. S.	Private	C	71	Illinois
Hallinger, J. W.	Private	D	5	Ohic
Harmony, Will.	Private	B	6	Missouri
Hammond, John.	Private	C	8	Illinois
Hall, Samuel W.	Private	..	1	Iowa
Hall, James B.	Private	I	88	Illinois
Hendry, E. M.	Private	I	153	Illinois
Hostetter, Amos.	Private	C	6	West Virginia
Holland, J.	Private	..	...	U. S. N.
Harison, J. S.	Private	B	113	Ohio
Hodges, G. W.	Private	F	40	.....
Hutchinson, W. E.	Private	H	102	New York
Hollowell, L.	Private	..	...	Ohio
Holcomb, H.	Sergeant	K	104	Illinois
Hawley, S. K.	Private	C	63	Ohio
Hostetter, A.	Private	..	...	West Virginia
Higgins, A. P.	Private	H	120	Indiana
Houk, L.	Sergeant	B	1	Maryland
Herloener, J. M.	Private	E	49	Pennsylvania
Herdick, J. E.	Lieutenant	D	11	Illinois
Irwin, A.	Corporal	A	87	Indiana
Iganes, I.	Private	E	3	Missouri
Imman, Thomas.	Corporal	H	54	Illinois
Johnson, Isaac.	Private	H	111	Illinois
Ivy, J. W.	Private	K	47	Wisconsin
Ireton, William.	Private	H	11	Michigan
Johnson, John.	Private	F	2	Missouri
Jones, Greenberry R.	Lieutenant	H	21	Missouri
Johnson, Samuel G.	Sergeant	..	...	Kansas
Jewell, R.	Private	K	57	Indiana
Jobes, Abner H.	Corporal	D	6	West Virginia
Julian, Stephen L.	Private	L	8	Missouri
Jenks, S. O.	Sergeant	B	97	New York
Johnson, Hugh N.	Corporal	C	18	Kansas
Jones, Hobert.	Private	I	2	Illinois

<i>Names</i>	<i>Rank</i>	<i>Company</i>	<i>Reg.</i>	<i>State</i>
Jarboe, Daniel	..	..	...	Maryland
Jones, Seth	Private	F	40	Iowa
Jones, Joseph H.	Private	H	144	Indiana
Jones, William	..	G	2	Kansas
Jones, William J.	Musician	K	3	Missouri
Jeffs, William E.	Sergeant	G	90	Illinois
James, N. J.	Corporal	F	101	Illinois
Johnston, George A.	Private	C	138	Illinois
Jones, Lewis	Private	B	40	Iowa
Jewell, W. D.	Corporal	I	84	Indiana
Johnson, W. G.	Private	C	70	Ohio
Jenkins, A.	Private	I	2	Tennessee
Johnston, B. D.	Private	K	70	Ohio
Jeffers, A.	Private	F	15	Michigan
Johnson, W. W.	Private	H	34	Illinois
Johnson, W. F.	Private	..	...	Wisconsin
Jones, T.	Private	D	1	Iowa
Knight, Seth	Private	E	22	Wisconsin
King, William	Private	E	114	Illinois
Kruch, F. W.	Private	K	5	Missouri
King, R. S.	Private	D	16	Illinois
Kanaga, J. W.	Private	A	134	Ohio
Kirby, Boston	Private	K	25	Michigan
Kennedy, David	Private	L	3	Michigan
Kyes, E. J.	Private	B	16	Illinois
Kennedy, William D.	Sergeant	G	23	Missouri
Kitchen, W. H.	Private	E	54	New York
Kelly, Andrew J.	Corporal	G	49	Indiana
Kingkade, J. H.	Private	C	80	New York
Kenoyer, E.	Private	H	151	Indiana
Kinder, J. W.	Private	D	18	Missouri
Kinder, Thomas	Private	F	12	Missouri
Keller, G. W.	Private	H	21	Missouri
Kirkpatrick, R. B.	Private	E	80	Ohio
Kirkpatrick, W. H.	Private	M	5	Ohio
Knight, N. D.	Private	D	4	West Virginia
Kohule, John	Private	H	2	Illinois
Kelsey, R. D.	Private	F	73	Illinois

<i>Names</i>	<i>Rank</i>	<i>Company</i>	<i>Reg.</i>	<i>State</i>
Karns, M.	Private	B	6	Iowa
Kingkade, David	Private	E	7	Missouri
Kimney, Harlow	Private	B	1	Iowa
Kibby, J. F.	Private	B	46	Ohio
Kirkham, D.	Private	K	6	Indiana
Lawson, J. H.	Corporal	D	16	Illinois
Lindsey, John R.	Com. Sergeant	H	1	Ohio
Longstreetle, Charles H.	Private	F	6	Pennsylvania
Lindsey, John C.	Private	D	39	Indiana
Lacy, Robert	Major	..	79	Illinois
Laymon, Preston	Private	E	2	Tennessee
Langdon, S. M.	Private	..	..	..
Leutz, G. W.	Private	H	28	Iowa
Leeman, J. H.	Captain	C	6	Ohio
Laughlin, Robert	Private	D	120	Indiana
Lashbaugh, W. H.	Sergeant	B	9	Michigan
Leslie, Alexander	Teamster	..	1	Missouri
Litchfield, John	Sergeant	D	64	Illinois
Lyons, William	Corporal	E	5	Michigan
Lamb, George W.	Private	..	188	Ohio
Lowry, Robert	Private	L	41	Ohio
Litchfield, Thomas.	Orderly Sergeant	I	14	Ohio
Litchfield, James	Private	C	3	Ohio
LaDuke, Mitchell	Private	H	16	New York
Lawrence, William	Lieutenant	D	1	Missouri
Libbey, C. E.	Private	H	11	Illinois
Lible, Martin	Private	C	7	Kansas
Lyman, Hamilton	Captain	L	5	New York
Lance, A. J.	Private	H	28	Iowa
Lindsley, W. D.	Private	F	Post Command	Kansas
Littsell, W. W.	Corporal	A	32	Illinois
Lloyd, M. E.	Lieutenant Colonel	..	119	New York
Lyman, L.	Corporal	L	5	New York
Laughton, Charles	Private	M	126	Indiana
Laucks, Charles	Private	B	144	Illinois
Lain, H. S.	Private	B	29	Indiana
Lefy, D. D.	Private	I	101	Pennsylvania
Lentz, G. W.	Private	H	28	Iowa

<i>Names</i>	<i>Rank</i>	<i>Company</i>	<i>Reg.</i>	<i>State</i>
Lowe, I. A.	Private	A	3	Iowa
Luckey, J. R.	Private	C	14	Iowa
Lake, J. W.	Private	E	50	Illinois
Marshall, W. R.	Private	H	15	Ohio
Moulder, F. C.	Corporal	H	118	Indiana
Myers, John A.	Sergeant	B	51	Ohio
Myers, Abraham A.	Private	B	51	Indiana
Mooney, R. M.	Private	E	37	New York
Milan, J. S.	Private	A	59	Indiana
Melrose, Henry	Private	C	1	Virginia
Monroe, James	Private	A	55	Illinois
Marlin, A. D.	Private	D	95	Ohio
Maylow, Joseph	Private	A	10	Kansas
Miller, Alexander	Private	A	...	Illinois
Martenev, Stalnaker	Private	D	...	West Virginia
Max, John	Private	Cogwells Bat., Light Art.		Illinois
Markham, J. J.	First Lieutenant	E	56	Ohio
Magwire, F.	Private	G	3	Michigan
Miskimen, H.	Captain	G	47	Ohio
Middleton, W. R.	Corporal	H	21	Ohio
Moulton, S. D.	Private	L	8	Illinois
Mahnsan, J. W.	Corporal	G	59	Indiana
Mallory, J. W.	Sergeant	Quarter-Master		Department
Moorman, W. H.	Private	B	34	Iowa
May, R. R.	Private	D	81	Indiana
Moorhead, Albert	Private	C	35	Missouri
Marshall, John H.	Sergeant	B	1st Bat.	Nevada
Mitchell, R.	Private	H	38	Iowa
Muck, Anthony	Captain	F	44	Missouri
Munger, H. H.	Sergeant	C	11	Michigan
Mount, Cyrus	Private	C	4	Iowa
Miller, C. P.	Corporal	D	11	Missouri
Manhall, W. H.	Private	H	2	Kansas
Mahoney, Clemard	Private	E	84	Indiana
Magee, Benjamin	Private	..	...	New York
Miller, Robert C.	Private	C	81	Indiana
Mayers, J. V.	Private	I	2	Ohio
Murry, C. H.	Private	H	77	New York

<i>Names</i>	<i>Rank</i>	<i>Company</i>	<i>Reg.</i>	<i>State</i>
Mousy, J. N.	Private	H	11	Ohio
McMullen, H. B.	Private	K	26	Indiana
Marshall, I. F.	Private	F	69	Indiana
Merles, John	Private	I	23	Illinois
Mudge, James F.	Landsman	..	...	.....
Masies, Joseph	Private	..	...	.....
Murphy, J. C.	Second Lieutenant	I	12	Michigan
Malick, A. J.	Sergeant	I	9	New York
Mills, T. E.	Private	I	36	Illinois
Miller, S. R.	Private	C	100	Indiana
Mathews, A. L.	Private	E	14	New York
Morris, S. J.	Private	C	9	Indiana
Mercer, C. E.	Private	D	17	Illinois
Marsh, David	Private	H	104	Ohio
Myers, John C.	Private	D	47	Pennsylvania
Moore, W. T.	Private	C	1	Missouri
Martin, John	Private	K	39	Illinois
McMurry, T. J.	Private	E	6	Tennessee
McNew, J. H.	Private	E	8	Indiana
Merrill, ———	Major	..	141	New York
Miller, Peter	Private	C	82	Ohio
Miller, G. R.	Private	D	7	Pennsylvania
Morrow, Mattie	Private	..	82	Pennsylvania
Myers, S. D.	Private	Navy		New York
Maphet, John	Private	D	9	Kentucky
Martin, Hugh	Private	..	...	.....
Martin, J. E.	Private	C	49	Indiana
Mitchell, W. H.	Private	R	24	Indiana
Mauck, E. H.	Private	G	112	Illinois
Marshall, Conrad	Private	C	9	Indiana
May, Michael	Private	E	31	Indiana
Miller, J. K.	Private	..	...	Illinois
Myres, A. F.	Private	H	89	Illinois
Matick, A. J.	Sergeant	I	9	New York
Mize, J. H.	Sergeant	I	1	Illinois
Meredith, F.	Private	K	7	Indiana
Morehead, A. J.	Private	..	...	.....
More, ———	Private	A	181	Ohio

<i>Names</i>	<i>Rank</i>	<i>Company</i>	<i>Reg.</i>	<i>State</i>
Miller, G. E.	Private	B	...	.....
More, B. H.	Private	G	27	Indiana
Matherly, W. I.	Private	E	86	Indiana
McCandless, ———	Private	Q	78	Illinois
McKinney, A. W.	Surgeon	..	31	Indiana
McKinstry, J.	Private	I	135	Illinois
McClurg, Joseph H.	Farrier	A	14	Ohio
McFarland, L. S.	Private	D	5	Iowa
McCracken, J. W.	Hosp. Steward	..	99	Iowa
McCanine, W. H.	Second Lieutenant	D	13	New Hampshire
McAlister, R. ....	.....	..	...	Virginia
McCormick, M.	Private	G	174	Ohio
McSherry, Thomas	Sergeant	K	115	Illinois
McGowan, Alex.	Musician	..	50	Illinois
McGregor, J. R.	Sergeant	Q	4	Illinois
McCormick, W. H.	Corporal	B	2	Ohio
McMurphy, ———	Private	A	7	Indiana
		D	1	Illinois
McCaslin, John	Private	H	6	Pennsylvania
McCurdy, J. P.	Private	K	11	Pennsylvania
McColin, Alexander	Corporal	K	36	Ohio
McClellan, Robert	Private	B	83	Illinois
McKay, Frank	Corporal	H	3	Iowa
McMurry, George	Private	G	46	Illinois
McIver, Isaac	Private	K	49	Illinois
McKewgie, ———	Musician	A	20	New York
McDonald, E.	Private	B	45	Iowa
McGregor, E. T.	Private	F	23	New York
McCollum, John	Private	I	85	New York
McGibbons, Levi C.	Private	..	22	Illinois
McArthur, Duncan	Private	A	...	Kansas
McAngthy, N.	Private	D	135	Illinois
McGinley, John	Private	I	21	Missouri
McAtee, George	Private	H	7	Ohio
McGregor, William	Lieutenant	B	6	U. S. V.
McCorthe, L. A.	Corporal	F	3	New Hampshire
McInterff, A.	Sergeant	C	7	Kansas
McIntosh, W.	Private	A	143	Ohio

<i>Names</i>	<i>Rank</i>	<i>Company</i>	<i>Reg.</i>	<i>State</i>
McRee, D. B.	Private	G	4	.....
McFarland, D. T.	Private	F	6	Iowa
McFadden, J. A.	Private	H	14	Ohio
McClery, J. H.	Private	A	14	Illinois
Northcutt, H.	Private	H	1	Missouri
Neuman, G. W.	Private	G	59	Indiana
Neeley, Thomas H.	Corporal	M	12	Illinois
Nall, W. H.	Private	C	4	Kentucky
Nishols, B. F.	Private	H	128	Indiana
Nichols, F. M.	Private	G	6	Iowa
Noise, O. S.	Private	F	47	Illinois
Newton, S. E.	Private	C	64	Illinois
Noyes, C. J.	Private	A	11	Maine
Odell, G. W.	Qr.-M. Sergeant	E	5th Cavl.	Illinois
O'Hara, H. C.	Corporal	E	7	Missouri
Osler, Jackson	Private	F	11	Indiana
Obee, Henry	First Lieutenant	G	100	Ohio
Oxenseider, Henry	Private	G	10	Iowa
Olmstead, W. J.	Private	A	5	Michigan
Osborne, R. A.	Private	..	...	Kansas
Ost, William	Private	E	1	Illinois
Parker, D. H.	Private	G	79	Ohio
Pierce, William W.	Corporal	G	3	Iowa
Priest, David	Private	H	89	Ohio
Patten, L. L.	Private	D	10	Illinois
Philips, Nelson	Private	A	16	Iowa
Piettiifer, Joseph	Private	D	35	Ohio
Pistole, Joseph	Private	D	120	Illinois
Perkins, John	Private	F	186	New York
Potter, J. B.	Private	G	147	.....
Peterman, Samuel	Private	..	...	Kansas
Pugle, Thomas J.	Private	I	7	Indiana
Priest, W. J.	Private	E	120	Illinois
Palmer, George E.	Private	E	12	Kansas
Pinnell, G. L.	Private	K	6	Illinois
Parker, James H.	Private	G	86	Illinois
Pry, John H.	Sergeant	..	...	Iowa
Phillips, C. W.	Private	L	6	Michigan

<i>Names</i>	<i>Rank</i>	<i>Company</i>	<i>Reg.</i>	<i>State</i>
Parker, John	First Sergeant	A	2	New York
Poulton, William	Private	K	1	United States
Potter, William	First Lieutenant	K	51	Ohio
Pearson, William	Corporal	F	79	New York
Penington, W. R.	Private	G	156	Illinois
Petterson, Alowgo	Private	F	57	Illinois
Powers, John	Private	E	56	New York
Pallett, James E.	Private	G	6	Missouri
Peed, Josephus	Private	F	15	Indiana
Petre, John	Private	E	23	Pennsylvania
Proctor, John	Private	C	52	Indiana
Putnam, U. F.	Private	K	6	Michigan
Parker, Payton N.	Private	F	1	Nebraska
Paul, W. L. R.	Private	G	7	Kansas
Pinkston, Samuel	Sergeant	E	19	Kentucky
Pyles, Joseph	Teamster	..	...	.....
Pilcher, William	Private	H	78	Illinois
Platt, L. H.	Private	A	137	Illinois
Powers, R.	Private	D	11	Michigan
Purdy, E. T.	Private	G	83	Pennsylvania
Pieper, C. H.	Private	C	80	Indiana
Parker, C. D.	Sergeant Major	..	48	Ohio
Payne, Milo	Private	E	10	Indiana
Puterbough, J.	Sergeant	E	47	Illinois
Plank, A.	Private	B	45	Iowa
Prently, J. W.	Private	B	3	Kentucky
Pinnell, G. L.	Private	K	C	Illinois
Pumphrey, A.	Private	..	124	Indiana
Quinn, C. E.	Private	A	31	Massachusetts
Rea, J. A.	Sergeant	C	106	Indiana
Renehard, S.	Private	E	14	Illinois
Rhodes, O. W.	Private	K	153	Ohio
Rogers, George	Bugler	C	10	Illinois
Rogers, James	Private	D	7	Iowa
Rusher, Robert A.	Sergeant	C	22	Illinois
Richter, Elias	Private	K	75	Indiana
Reynolds, James	Private	C	5	Minnesota

<i>Names</i>	<i>Rank</i>	<i>Company</i>	<i>Reg.</i>	<i>State</i>
Reynolds, Charles	Private	F	122	Illinois
Reid, Nathan	Private	A	35	Kentucky
Ramsey, William A.	Private	H	22	Pennsylvania
Richards, N.	Captain	H	40	Iowa
Rogers, James	Bugler	C	10	Illinois
Riddell, A. J.	Private	C	5	New York
Reed, J. D.	Private	D	7	Illinois
Russell, Matthew	Private	B	29	Massachusetts
Richart, Henry	Private	E	21	Missouri
Rogers, George F.	Private	H	15	Illinois
Roberts, John	Sergeant	A	28	United States
Risley, John	Private	D	67	Illinois
Reynolds, Jesse	Sergeant	D	53	Illinois
Rodrick, J. P.	Private	E	1	Ohio
Reville, T. P.	Private	C	...	New York
Rogers, John	Private	F	133	Illinois
Ross, J. M. C.	Sergeant	C	...	Missouri
Rose, W. A.	Sergeant	C	13	Iowa
Robinson, J. W.	Private	..	7	Indiana
Radliff, William	Sergeant	..	1	Wisconsin
Renfro, A. G.	Sergeant	K	5	Kentucky
Rallins, Isaac	.....	H	10	West Virginia
Rowland, Perry	Private	B	9	Ohio
Reese, James M.	Private	H	123	Indiana
Rehin, Hugo	Sergeant	K	81	Ohio
Rose, W. L.	Chaplain	..	16	Illinois
Reed, William N.	Private	..	3	Michigan
Ran, Jacob	Sergeant	M	1	West Virginia
Ricks, A. T.	Private	E	17	Ohio
Reed, S. M.	Private	I	15	Iowa
Reed, John A.	Private	A	35	Illinois
Rowland, R. H.	Musician	F	92	Ohio
Royer, J. D.	Private	G	62	Illinois
Ross, W. D.	Private	D	98	Pennsylvania
Roland, Jacob	Private	..	...	Ohio
Ruddick, John	Private	L	1	Ohio
Rohlman, Spencer	Private	D	120	Illinois
Reed, J. M.	Private	L	7	Indiana

<i>Names</i>	<i>Rank</i>	<i>Company</i>	<i>Reg.</i>	<i>State</i>
Rogers, H.	Private	D	7	Iowa
Rice, A.	Private	C	11	Indiana
Rudy, J. S.	Private	F	168	Pennsylvania
Rising, J. B.	Corporal	I	60	New York
Robinson, A. J.	Private	..	...	.....
Ritchie, W. H.	Private	D	155	Indiana
Richards, Henry	Private	E	21	Missouri
Romig, P.	Sergeant	G	40	Pennsylvania
Rise, G. H.	Sergeant	H	14	Ohio
Rich, W. R.	Private	B	82	Indiana
Rugg, E. M.	Private	D	168	Ohio
Staley, J. A.	Corporal	E	10	Virginia
Sharp, M. L.	Private	A	10	Missouri
Shahan, J. N.	Private	L	11	Missouri
Sanders, G.	Private	F	41	Tennessee
Shafer, A.	Private	E	32	Ohio
Sidlinger, S. H.	Sergeant-Adjutant	Staff	125	Ohio
Sanders, M.	Private	K	125	Ohio
Shields, G. T.	Private	F	10	Iowa
Shields, G. T.	Private	A	1	Illinois
Smith, S. C.	Private	H	14	New Hampshire
St. John, John F.	Private	K	15	Iowa
Shottenkirk, C. F.	Corporal	I	21	Illinois
Shore, J. H.	Corporal	C	6	Kansas
Stambaugh, Jacob S.	Corporal	B	84	Illinois
Stinnett, Henry	Private	E	29	Indiana
Sizelove, Joseph	Musician	K	115	Illinois
Shrader, Casper	Private	D	25	Iowa
Smith, H. W.	Private	A	33	Illinois
Smith, F. M.	Private	H	135	Indiana
Sprout, G. A.	Private	C	2	Indiana
Strong, T. V.	Sergeant	C	1	Missouri
Stephenson, ———	Private	H	4	Indiana
Shuyler, John S.	Private	G	53	Indiana
Shuyler, Joseph A.	Private	C	42	Indiana
Saxton, G. W.	Fourth Corporal	B	105	Pennsylvania
Shuyler, D. M.	First Lieutenant	E	4	Indiana
Secoy, J. B.	Sergeant, First Major	..	51	Wisconsin

<i>Names</i>	<i>Rank</i>	<i>Company</i>	<i>Reg.</i>	<i>State</i>
Shafer, Peter	Private	F	2	Illinois
Smith, J. N.	Corporal	B	16	Illinois
Sears, William	Private	C	9	Iowa
Sewerd, A. G.	Corporal	B	24	Indiana
Smith, R. P.	First Lieutenant	QM. B	50	Wisconsin
Shurburn, J. R.	..	..	..	Missouri
Stetler, B. M.	First Lieutenant	A	143	Pennsylvania
Summer, Levi	First Sergeant	B	7	Iowa
Schamp, B. F.	Private	F	47	Missouri
Shafer, Joe	Sergeant	E	99	Indiana
Schamp, A. V.	Private	..	..	Pennsylvania
Sprowl, Simon	Private	A	8	Indiana
Schoonover, John U.	Private	E	3	Iowa
Stoalabarger, Reuben	Private	C	40	Iowa
Salmon, Isaiah K.	Private	K	3	Michigan
Shumway, Edwin	Corporal	A	32	Illinois
Stiggins, T. J.	Private	D	160	New York
Stuart, E. D.	..	A	161	Pennsylvania
Swiwyer, A. M.	Private	D	165	Ohio
Shulty, John	Private	I	3	Indiana
Seward, J. R.	Private	F	9	Kentucky
Seeley, E.	Corporal	D	18	New York
Show, D.	Private	H	2	Ohio
Spencer, M. M.	Private	E	20	Iowa
Sample, J. M.	Private	..	14	Michigan
Sharp, Job	Private	H	2	Iowa
Schneeberger, D.	Private	G	1	California
Sallee, John	Corporal	A	76	Illinois
Simons, Andrew	Second Sergeant	I	18	Kentucky
Sly, James	Private	C	22	Michigan
Spangler, F. M.	Private	H	107	Illinois
Seward, Jesse E.	First Sergeant	L	11	Kentucky
Stevens, James A.	Corporal	K	11	Indiana
Stallman, F. H.	Private	C	77	Pennsylvania
Shaddock, Robert B.	Private	I	9	New York
Schardine, John	Private	C	11	Indiana
Strohl, A. J.	Private	F	44	Indiana
Swope, George J.	Private	E	76	Illinois

<i>Names</i>	<i>Rank</i>	<i>Company</i>	<i>Reg.</i>	<i>State</i>
Spann, Harry C.	Private	B	14	Michigan
Ship, Preston	Private	G	133	Indiana
Smith, Ichabod	First Sergeant	C	89	Indiana
Schamp, R. G.	Private	F	44	Indiana
Smith, Sylva	Private	F	112	New York
Shulto, Marion	Private	C	124	Ohio
Skinner, J. W.	Private	G	4	Illinois
Saunders, J. M.	Private	C	10	Missouri
Stone, J. S.	Musician	F	40	Iowa
Sigerson, William	Hospital Steward	6 months during war with Mexico		
Sigerson, William	Sergeant	E	1	Arkansas
Seward, G. A.	Private	B	52	Kentucky
Shepard, J. L.	Private	B	58	Indiana
Stocking, H.	Private	G	107	New York
Smith, E. W.	Private	C	68	Indiana
Smedley, Richard	Private	G	23	Ohio
Seltzer, D.	Private	K	64	Ohio
Smith, M. C.	Private	K	10	Michigan
Smiley, Robert	Private	B	4	Pennsylvania
Smith, J. T.	Private	E	67	Indiana
Shapley, W. H.	Private	A	6	Maryland
Stark, F. E.	Private	I	4	Ohio
Sinclair, Jesse	Chief Gunner	A	3	Ohio
Seagraves, W. I.	Private	G	57	Indiana
Smith, W. F.	Private	K	89	Ohio
Sizelove, William	Private	M	2	Illinois
Summer, O. L.	Private	B	2	Illinois
Shrenk, John	Private	I	9	Ohio
Seams, W. G.	Private	B	47	Kentucky
Smith, John R.	Private	B	130	New York
Seibert, J. F.	Assistant Engineer	..	...	Missouri
Stephens, W. H.	Private	H	22	Michigan
Sain, George W.	Private	D	17	Illinois
Smith, J. N.	Corporal	B	16	Illinois
Scurlock, Allen . . . . .	..	..	...	..
Stewart, James	Sergeant	D	13	Pennsylvania
Stephenson, J. A.	Corporal	K	11	Indiana
Surey, William	Private	I	123	Ohio

<i>Names</i>	<i>Rank</i>	<i>Company</i>	<i>Reg.</i>	<i>State</i>
Slavyenhof, E. M.	Private	G	155	Pennsylvania
Stokes, C. S.	Sergeant	F	3	Wisconsin
Sampson, Samuel	Sergeant	..	5	Massachusetts
Stotts, E.	Private	K	1	Ohio
St. John, I. P.	Sergeant	K	15	Iowa
Smith, I. L.	Private	K	133	Ohio
Smith, J. H.	Private	..	...	Pennsylvania
Stephenson, W. S.	Private	H	4	Indiana
Shafer, ——— . . . . .	..	..	...	.....
Scott, I.	Captain	H	50	Indiana
Stewart, J. N.	Private	G	94	Illinois
Tunnell, L. B.	Private	F	122	Illinois
Taylor, M. W.	2nd Sergeant	F	10	Iowa
Taylor, Calvin	Major	..	25	Iowa
Theobald, Joseph	Private	E	1	Illinois
Tibbitts, William	Private	H	13	Illinois
Tucker, George B.	Sergeant	I	3	Massachusetts
Tapp, James B.	Private	K	83	Illinois
Tishue, William R.	Private	H	6	West Virginia
Terrell, Edmond	Corporal	G	3	Illinois
Tedrick, M.	Corporal	D	92	Ohio
Tecter, W. L.	Private	J	28	Iowa
Trimble, J. M.	Private	G	103	Pennsylvania
Thomas, Martin	2nd Corporal	G	57	Indiana
Tester, Joseph	Private	G	8	Kentucky
Thomas, W. A.	Private	D	13	United States
Thomas, W. A.	Private	D	8	United States
Taylor, David	Sergeant	C	22	United States
Totten, Trustimon B.	Corporal	F	44	Indiana
Turbush, George	Private	K	8	Vermont
Tollman, D.	Private	E	20	Iowa
Taylor, T. T.	Brevt. Brig. General	..	47	Ohio
Thomas, W. H.	Private	H	100	Illinois
Thomas, G. W.	Private	D	51	Pennsylvania
Ferry, Joel F.	Private	F	85	Illinois
Furner, Dennis	Private	H	133	Illinois
Peter, Jonathan	Private	F	94	Illinois
Taft, S. F.	Private	K	3	Missouri

<i>Names</i>	<i>Rank</i>	<i>Company</i>	<i>Reg.</i>	<i>State</i>
Ferry, George F.	Private	K	131	Indiana
Tharp, Zeno	5th Corporal	A	34	Iowa
Tryon, Ephraim	Private	K	161	Ohio
Tippetts, John M.	Surgeon	..	13	Pennsylvania
Thompson, W. H.	Private	K	78	Illinois
Trace, James	Private	D	169	Ohio
Taft, Charles	Private	A	11	Missouri
Thomas, Stephen	Private	K	189	Ohio
Thomas, F.	Corporal	K	91	Illinois
Tuttle, James	Private	C	64	New York
Tuttle, Judson	Private	C	1	Wisconsin
Tuttle, A. C.	Private	C	18	Indiana
Thomal, H. A.	Corporal	E	9	Tennessee
Ungles, Robert B.	Private	I	17	Illinois
Underwood, Wm. R.	Private	F	75	Indiana
Underwood, Theo. W.	Private	B	138	Indiana
Ungles, M. J.	Private	C	102	Illinois
Vessels, Elijah	Private	E	6	Indiana
Vaughan, W. B.	Private	L	3	Iowa
Van Emmon, W. J.	Private	F	15	Illinois
Van Natlian, Nelson	Private	F	39	Missouri
Van Natlian, T.	Private	C	50	Missouri
Vincent, J. B.	Private	H	51	Indiana
Vest, John	Private	K	139	Ohio
Vandolah, John S.	Private	I	33	Iowa
Vanhorn, David	Private	..	...	Ohio
Van Campen, N. F.	Private	B	1	New York
Vincent, W. G.	Sergeant	H	14	Illinois
Vessels, Thomas	Private	I	148	Indiana
Viek, L. A.	Private	K	10	Illinois
Vanviker, M. D.	Private	A	72	Indiana
Vanbibber, M. H.	2nd Corporal	..	...	West Virginia
Vance, Samuel	Private	E	16	Illinois
Wenstow, H.	Private	G	19	Illinois
Woddell, I. N.	Corporal	E	12	Ohio
Wright, D. M.	Private	C	115	Illinois
Weaver, Henry W.	Private	I	28	Iowa
Wisdom, A. S.	Private	A	50	Wisconsin

<i>Names</i>	<i>Rank</i>	<i>Company</i>	<i>Reg.</i>	<i>State</i>
Wentz, Lewis H.	Private	K	3	Virginia
Wolf, Roman	Private	C	193	Ohio
Worthington, Joseph	Private	D	32	Illinois
Wilson, M. W.	Private	G	2	Iowa
Wallace, William	Private	..	6	Iowa
Willard, C. N.	Private	A	1	Illinois
Wright, Jonathan	Private	G	183	Ohio
Wray, C. H.	Corporal	B	120	Indiana
Wall, W.	Private	E	8	Indiana
Wright, J. W.	Private	B	152	Illinois
Wright, G. W.	Corporal	C	94	Illinois
White, H. S.	Private	A	15	Kansas
Wiley, G. G.	Private	C	76	Ohio
Wirt, S. M.	Lieutenant Colonel	..	39	Missouri
Wagner, A.	Private	B	...	Iowa
Wiley, F. M.	Corporal	G	123	Illinois
Woods, G. D.	Private	..	...	Pennsylvania
Wheeler, J. W.	Private	F	105	Illinois
Wilkinson, C. C.	Sergeant	C	1	Indiana
Winsor, David	Corporal	B	97	New York
Winsor, G. R.	Sergeant	B	97	New York
Winsor, James	Private	B	97	New York
Wolf, W.	Private	I	94	Ohio
Wright, B. F.	Private	K	43	Illinois
Walker, J. P.	Private	C	156	Indiana
Wheeler, William S.	Private	H	10	West Virginia
Willis, Joseph	Private	H	17	Iowa
Whitinger, Jacob	Private	E	45	Iowa
Williams, James S.	Sergeant	F	9	Kentucky
Worthington, Joseph	Private	K	83	Illinois
Williams, U. G.	Private	H	28	Illinois
Wilson, M.	Private	C	36	Iowa
Wyman, Silas D.	Wagon Master	C	117	Indiana
Witherow, Q. A.	Corporal	I	94	Illinois
Whitney, Barney	Private	F	79	Pennsylvania
Wakins, William A.	Captain	K	76	Illinois
White, Levi	First Lieutenant	I	111	New York

<i>Names</i>	<i>Rank</i>	<i>Company</i>	<i>Reg.</i>	<i>State</i>
White, Levi M.	Private	E	115	Illinois
White, John A.	Private	E	10	Illinois
Wheeler, John O.	First Lieutenant	I	98	Illinois
Weigel, Jacob	Private	I	76	Pennsylvania
Wright, William T.	Private	K	8	Iowa
Walters, Christo A. . . . .	..	..	..	Pennsylvania
Willis, L. Mortimer	Private	B	27	Connecticut
Wilson, Smith	1st Sergeant	G	11	Pennsylvania
White, Charles	Musician	I	11	New York
Wolgamate, Jacob	Private	I	86	Illinois
Wisert, J. C.	Private	A	192	Ohio
Wells, William M.	Corporal	F	5	Pennsylvania
Wolfersberger, Isaac	Private	A	10	Pennsylvania
Weigle, Lewis	Private	W	15	Pennsylvania
Wasnock, Simeon	Private	A	48	Iowa
Wallace, William H.	Private	H	2	Tennessee
Willard, Samuel	Private	A	134	Illinois
White, Joseph	Private	A	55	Illinois
Wilcox, J. K.	Corporal	D	118	Illinois
White, John E.	Private	F	165	Pennsylvania
Wright, B. F.	Private	H	29	Indiana
Waggoner, J. H.	Private	I	1	United States
Withroder, A. M.	Private	I	81	Illinois
Walker, J. W.	Private	E	..	Indiana
Wyman, David	Private	K	23	Indiana
Worthington, E.	Private	G	155	Illinois
Warne, W.	Private	H	151	Indiana
Warren, E. E.	Private	E	8	Ohio
Wagner, Gustave	Private	B	..	Iowa
Williamson, L. N.	Private	K	33	Missouri
Wilson, Garretson	Private	C	36	Iowa
Waller, W.	Corporal	H	10	West Virginia
Waterberger, S.	Private	G	183	Ohio
Wayman, J. M.	Sergeant	H	130	Indiana
Warren, G. W.	Private	B	20	Indiana
Wright, D. M.	Private	C	115	Illinois
Young, J. H.	Private	K	131	Illinois

<i>Names</i>	<i>Rank</i>	<i>Company</i>	<i>Reg.</i>	<i>State</i>
Yoakum, M. C.	Private	H	45	Ohio
Yust, F. S.	Private	A	21	Missouri
Yust, Frederick J.	Corporal	A	21	Missouri
Yeager, W. J.	Sergeant	D	36	Ohio
Yoush, Jacob	Private	B	28	Illinois
Yearout, J. J.	Private	M	2	Tennessee
Zimmerman, S. B.	Lieut. Artillery	H	8th U. S. Army.	

CHAPTER XXXIX.

STATE MILITIA—COMPANY E.

The first military company of Reno county was organized on August 12, 1873. The occasion of its organization was a reported raid of Indians and the killing of some hunters near Medicine Lodge. The company was organized very hurriedly. Charles Collins was sheriff of Reno county at the time and was placed in command of the company. The state hurried guns and ammunition to Hutchinson as soon as the reported raid was made known to the adjutant general. William Aistle was elected first lieutenant and A. M. Switzer, second lieutenant. All were old soldiers, then in the prime of life. Great difficulty was had in getting enough horses to equip the company. There is no record of the number of men that went out to Medicine Lodge. The company, as soon as it was organized and equipped, left for the Indian country. They were gone three weeks, but saw no Indians, but found the bodies of James Crippen and his father, William Crippen; a man by the name of Kimes, another one, Will Boles, and a surveyor from Lawrence, who was a member of the hunting party, whose name can not now be ascertained. They buried the bodies close to where they were found, and brought back to Hutchinson some of the load of buffalo hides the party had obtained and loaded.

This was the only time a military company ever saw any service in the early days. The company disbanded as soon as the danger from Indians was supposed to be over and the following spring the guns and other equipment sent to Hutchinson from Topeka, were returned to the adjutant general of the state. This company never had a name and perhaps there is no record in the military history of the state of this expedition, except that of the loss of some guns and some rounds of ammunition that they have charged up to "Captain Collins." It is very probable that the members of the company thought that the guns and ammunition would be of more service in Reno county, shooting game than they would be in Shawnee county, and the only record there is to offset this "shortage" is, "guns lost, ammunition used."

HOME GUARD COMPANY ORGANIZED.

In 1878 a military company was organized at Langdon. It was more of a "Home Guard" organization than a military company. No record remains of the officers of this company. The occasion was a reported "Indian raid," which started in some wild stories of settlers toward the southwest. It resulted in a panic of the farmers to get to some place of protection. Families were loaded into wagons, women left their bread in the ovens, men left their horses in the barns, except the ones they drove, while everybody was chasing to refuge. There never was any cause for this scare, as there were no Indians within a hundred miles of Langdon. The excitement soon died down and the "Military Company of Langdon" exists only as a story that is told.

ORGANIZATION OF COMPANY E.

In May, 1890, Company E of the Second Regiment, Kansas National Guard, as it now exists, was organized in Hutchinson. It was mustered into the service of the state on August 25, 1890. R. A. Campbell was captain; F. L. Martin, first lieutenant and Frank D. Roberts, second lieutenant. The company was armed with the old Springfield rifles, which were soon replaced with Krag-Jorgenson rifles, and these in time replaced by the present Springfield rifle. The company was sent to Seward county on January 5, 1892, to help preserve peace in a county-seat "war" that had resulted from a county-seat contest. They were out eleven days. Martin and Roberts resigned and Carr W. Taylor was made first lieutenant and Frank W. Beam, second lieutenant. Taylor soon resigned and Beam was made first lieutenant and A. W. Eagan, second lieutenant. The latter soon resigned. T. R. Campbell was promoted to Eagan's place and in 1895 was elected captain of the company, on the promotion of R. A. Campbell, his father, to be lieutenant-colonel of the regiment. T. R. Beebe was made second lieutenant in 1895. He soon resigned and Edward A. Campbell, another son of R. A. Campbell, who went to the Philippines in 1868, was appointed first lieutenant. C. L. Hawley was elected second lieutenant in 1896, serving a short time, when he was succeeded by Dorr Thompson, who resigned and was elected captain of the company in 1898. This company had a second call when they were sent to Greensburg, Kansas, to protect from mob violence a man charged with murder. There was but little reason for the call, for the militia and the company returned to Hutchinson on the evening of the day they reached Greensburg.

MUSTERED INTO UNITED STATES SERVICE.

Company E did not go into service in a body, but was mustered out in December, 1898, being reorganized in May, 1899, with T. R. Campbell, captain; Matthew Smith, first lieutenant; Chester Roberts, second lieutenant. Campbell was promoted to major in 1901. He was succeeded by J. T. Lawson. During this time Alfred H. Poe, Charles S. Meece, David Baxter and Howard Sheeley were lieutenants in the company. J. C. Newman succeeded Lawson as captain and Rodney J. Kessler was made first lieutenant. Kessler resigned and Fred L. Lemmon became captain of the company on September 21, 1908, and has been captain of the company since his selection.

Company E was mustered into the United States service on May 12, 1898, as a part of the Twenty-first Regiment, Kansas Volunteer Infantry. On May 17, 1898, the regiment left Topeka for Fort Lysle, Georgia, where it went into camp and remained there until August 25, 1898. There was much sickness in this camp and twenty deaths from typhoid fever resulted. On August 25 the regiment was sent to Camp Hamilton, Kentucky. The regiment remained there until September 25, 1898, when it was ordered to Ft. Leavenworth, Kansas, where it was furloughed and finally mustered out on December 10, 1898. Below is the roster of the company at the time of its service during the Spanish-American War:

Company E.

Captain, Dorr Thompson.

First Lieutenant, James U. Brown.

Second Lieutenant, Charles S. Gibbens.

First Sergeant, James F. Lawson.

Quarter Master Sergeant, Edward A. Heffner, Frank L. Huxtable.

Sergeants, Edward Swift, Clyde J. Botkin, Frank Nicholson, Elmer Kenoyer.

Corporals, Roy C. Whitney, Lawrence Meece, William H. Heffner, Harry Squire, Charles H. Shaw, Percy F. Godley, William H. Elder, James K. Moon, William H. Erwin, John M. Garrison, Hiram M. Dolby, William H. Ashley, Frank H. McKee, Benjamin A. Fleming.

Musicians, Marion A. Kelley, Teddie W. White, Charles C. Hoag, Earl R. Benson.

Artificers, John G. Willard, Edward S. Patton.

Wagoner, James O. Messinger.

Cook, Joseph R. Marr.

Privates, Albert R. Atkinson (died in division hospital, September 11, 1890, of typhoid fever), William H. Ashley, Frank J. Baker, Walter Baker, William A. Barnes, Harry Barton, Samuel Bedford, Owen Bickford, Ethan E. Bringle, Frank C. Brown, Albert A. Buck, Charles W. Brown, Earl R. Benson, Gilbert L. Callard, Robert A. Campbell, Dexter Chambers, Richard J. Coleman, Andrew Crichton, William Campbell, Herbert Davis, Ernest W. Day, Richard Devine, John A. H. Devitt, Ernest DeWalt, William E. Duke, Hiram M. Dolby, Rufus Edwards, Frank J. Ekey, Judd L. Elliott, Albert B. Eales (died in division hospital, Aug. 17, 1898, of typhoid fever), William H. Elder, William H. Erwin, Henry Fey, Robert P. Frost, Benjamin A. Fleming, William G. Gordinier, Bruce F. Grimm, Herbert M. Grubbs, John M. Garrison, Edward A. Heffner, Charles W. Holsapple, James Hamilton, Leonard C. Harry, Charles C. Hoag, Frank L. Huxtable, Irwin M. Ivey, Marion A. Kelley, William T. Kincade, Thomas Kirk, George D. Koon, Thomas H. Kesner, deserted August 20, 1898; Dwight T. Lawson, Samuel E. Lowe, Charles E. McCormick, Horace Matherly, Lawrence Meece, William E. Munson, Algernon R. Murphy, Robert C. Myers, James K. Moon, Frank H. McKee, Joseph R. Marr, Raymond Nally, Levi A. O'Hara, William E. Pimmell, Edward S. Patton, Albert M. Rardin, William F. Redman, Carl D. Rice, John W. Roberts, William G. Robertson, Arthur C. Rogers, Joseph Rogers, Frank M. Raner, George Schlegel, Chris W. Schrader, John H. Schrant, Charles H. Shaw, Hiram S. Shaw, Eads E. Shive, Burtie E. Shultz, Walter S. Simms, Matthew Smith, Ross L. Snyder, Charles Sommers, Charles A. Starr, Clarence Taylor, Cyrus C. Taylor, Morgan M. Tolle, Levi H. Tuttle, Joseph H. Van Dorsten, Clarence E. Warren, Teddie W. White, John G. Willard, Charles M. Wilson, Frank Wilson, Alfred Vaughtar.

SECOND CALL TO SERVICE.

Company E received its second call to service on June 19, 1916. It was sent to Ft. Riley on June 23, 1916, and was mustered into the service of the United States on June 26, 1916. The regiment left Ft. Riley for Eagle Pass, Texas, on July 1, 1916, arriving there on July 3. The regiment was assigned to the Twelfth Army Division and was ordered to join that division at San Antonio, Texas, making the trip in motor trucks; leaving Eagle Pass on September 6, 1916, and making the one hundred and eighty miles in two days' time. The division was sent overland from San Antonio to Austin, Texas, making the distance in fourteen days. It consisted of

fourteen thousand men and six thousand horses. The regiment was ordered North on October 24, 1916, and was mustered out of the service on November 12, 1916, at Ft. Riley, Kansas. Company E automatically reverted to its former state as Company E, Second Regiment, Kansas National Guard. The following is a roster of Company E as it stood at the time of its second call to service, on June 19, 1916:

Captain, Fred L. Lemon.

First Lieutenant, Durward J. Wilson.

Second Lieutenant, Walter W. Brown.

First Sergeant, Harvey R. Rankin.

Mess Sergeant, Rex C. Houston.

Supply Sergeant, Lee R. McMullen.

Sergeants, Clarence T. Mather, Donald P. Stewart, Dalbert W. Mitchell, Charles O. Sonder, Thomas D. Horr, Louis D. White.

Corporals, Earl K. Risley, Albert Wickendoll, Fred A. Hadel, Roy H. Newton, Bert V. DaVolt, Claude M. Hall, Donald C. Potter, Elton E. Giles, Morris J. Tucker.

Mechanic, Leonard A. Gibbs.

Cooks, Wilber R. Lee, Lloyd B. Cox.

Buglers, Paul L. Black, Robert L. Shields.

Privates, First Class, Seth J. Abbott, Harry G. Buettner, Charles G. Diehl, Leon L. Foster, Lester O. Foster, George E. Hobby, Fred W. King, Ernest W. Parmley, Edward W. Payne, Ralph F. Peck, Ivan G. Ramsey, William F. Smither, Howard E. Strobel, Joseph L. Ulmer, Frank A. Vaughan, John Vogt, Leo Ward, William S. Weir, Charles E. Williams.

Privates, Paul L. Barstow, John A. Black, Clayton W. Brace, Charles R. Brundige, George H. Burdick, James W. Campbell, Clarence C. Chapin, Dale L. Crippen, John E. Davidson, Hobart Edwards, William F. Gabbert, Frederick E. Goodrich, George W. Goodrich, Philip W. Hamer, Ralph R. Hart, Roscoe O. Hawkins, Joseph F. Harrington, Bert L. Hicks, Floyd H. Hobson, Edgar E. Howe, Roy A. Howe, John R. Jewell, Earl H. King, Archie D. McCollum, Norman W. Miller, Davis E. Parsons, Verner B. Porter, Charlie L. Seaman, Harry H. Stephens, Grant Stewart, Albert N. Stockton, Harvey W. Ulmer, Hubert L. Waggerman, James H. Weaver, William J. Whitehead, James H. Woods, Charles L. Zumalt.

MACHINE-GUN COMPANY, SECOND INFANTRY, KANSAS NATIONAL GUARD.

The Machine-Gun Company was located at Hutchinson through the influence of Guy C. Rexroad, at the beginning of the year 1916. The first

drill was held on January 17, 1916. Lieutenant Rexroad received his commission as second lieutenant on March 6, 1916. At that time the Machine-Gun Company was composed of members detailed from other organizations and the regiment commissary captain was ex-officio captain of the Machine-Gun Company. Capt. C. S. Gibbons, of Nickerson, was regiment commander and therefore captain of the Machine-Gun Company. Under the direction of these two officers the company was brought up to a high state of efficiency when the call for border service came on June 19, 1916.

The company left Hutchinson for Ft. Riley on June 23, 1916, with its full strength of fifty-three men. Captain Gibbons failing to pass the physical examination, was succeeded as captain by Jerry C. Springstead, of Topeka, then ranking as colonel in the guard in the paymaster's department. Meanwhile the law making the Machine Gun Company a separate and independent unit of the regiment was passed and the complement of the company placed at fifty-three enlisted men and four officers, a captain, first lieutenant and two second lieutenants.

The company was mustered into the service of the United States at Ft. Riley and left for the border at Eagle Pass with the regiment on July 1, 1916. Soon after reaching Eagle Pass, Second Lieut. Frank J. Bencoter, of Hutchinson, and Second Lieut. William H. Burgener, of Newton, both of the supply company of the Second Regiment were transferred to the Machine-Gun Company, Lieutenant Rexroad having been promoted to first lieutenant on July 1.

The company made the trip from Eagle Pass to San Antonio by motor truck and took part in the march from San Antonio to Austin and return, came North with the regiment and was mustered out at Ft. Riley on November 12, 1916, and returned to Hutchinson on November 14, 1916.

As the Machine-Gun Company is now constituted the men are armed with automatic pistols in addition to the machine-guns. The company consists of two platoons and each platoon is armed with two machine-guns. Each of these guns is capable of firing six hundred shots per minute and is estimated to equal fifty rifles. The guns and equipment were carried on pack mules and the Hutchinson company became very efficient in packing and caring for its equipment.

Captain Springstead has been transferred to another department, leaving the company under the command of Lieutenant Rexroad, who was in actual command nearly all the time on the border, Captain Springstead being occupied much of the time with other duties.

ROSTER OF THE MACHINE-GUN COMPANY.

The following is a complete roster of the Machine-Gun Company at the time it was mustered out of service on November 12, 1916:

First lieutenant, Guy C. Rexroad, commanding company; second lieutenant, Frank J. Bencoter; second lieutenant, Carl B. Schmidt; first sergeant, Robert A. Campbell; mess sergeant, Edward C. Clickner; supply sergeant, Bertram J. Ayres; stable sergeant, Lester W. Huston; sergeants, Ezra J. Wilson, John J. Barthold, James H. Holdeman, Ray W. Brown, Roy F. Parsons; corporals, Arthur L. Maltby, Hal. H. Crocheron, James B. Lynas, Edward W. McKee, Walter D. Hyatt, Howard J. Bates; horse-shoer, George S. Middlehurst; mechanic, Earl C. Warnock; buglers, Karl F. Schonholz, Frank E. Woodmanse; cooks, Harry B. Reynolds, Bert C. Butser; privates, first class, Roy M. Crow, Marcus G. Keedy, Alfred A. Massoni, Arba F. Richards, Leslie L. Shawhan, Ray F. Brown, Darrell P. Hagaman, John H. Ferguson; privates, Ray W. Arnold, Chester I. Bates, Vern O. Bobey, Harry Elmes, Martin E. Everett, Paul F. Fick, Karl M. Harmon, Floyd M. Jackson, Roy V. Johnson, Harland D. Kinzey, Frank L. Lloyd, Verl J. McKenzie, William S. Nelson, Gerald Rexroad, Ned M. Rider, Ray E. Shiffer, Lee Slate, George W. Winters.

CHAPTER XL.

COMMUNITY MUSIC.

The early settlers were not without their pleasures. They had more leisure than their successors, for business matters were not so pressing and social matters received more attention than they do now. Formality was less observed than now and everyone in the county knew his neighbor. It was pioneer days and they enjoyed pioneer ways.

Social gatherings were common. In the early days religious gatherings were largely attended. Music was one of the features of church work. The musician was in constant demand for church services, for funerals and for entertainments of all kinds. There were a few persons who could always be relied upon to help out in the service, of whatever nature it might be. It would be a difficult matter to place a value on the services of a singer who was always ready and willing to help with the voice. The uplifting influence of one good singer in a county—the refining influence that comes from such a person—has more to do with the character of the county than has ever been told.

In the early days of Reno county there were a number of persons who had good voices and who were always ready to help along. Among them were Nettie Burrell, now Mrs. Joe Talbott; Mrs. A. W. Innes, now of Waukegan, Illinois; Mrs. Dr. Lucas; Mr. Wall and B. S. Hoagland. Perhaps a quartette of these singers has sung for more public entertainments, church services and funerals than any other quartette that ever was organized in the county. For twelve years they sang regularly in one of the churches. It mattered not what denomination wanted their help in any special music and it mattered not what services they had rendered that day, they were always ready and willing. They have a record of two church services, one special Sunday school service and three funerals in one day. Without a charge of any kind, they did their work for the good of the community.

One of the earliest music teachers in the county was Prof. W. F. Oakes. He was a fine pianist and also a splendid violinist. He stayed in Hutchin-

son for many years and his services both as a teacher and entertainer were in constant demand.

The first public concert was given in 1875 in the Presbyterian church. Among the soloists were T. F. Leidigh, G. V. Ricksecker and B. S. Hoagland. A year or so later the cantata, "Queen Esther," was given by Hutchinson musicians. Among those who participated in this musical entertainment were Mrs. C. A. Robb, Dr. A. W. McCandless, L. T. Woodrow, Mrs. Lyda Rogers and Mrs. H. Whiteside. These were some of the occasions in which the community interests were considered. They were the beginnings of general interest of the entire public in musical matters. Of course there were numerous other musical events, but these were the most pretentious.

On Thanksgiving day, 1892, a big concert was arranged at the auditorium, then located at Riverside park. The principal feature of this concert was a children's chorus of one thousand two hundred and ninety-seven voices. Patriotic songs and school and religious songs were on the program. The purpose of this concert was to raise money with which to pay the local expenses of the State Christian Endeavor Union that was to be held in Hutchinson the following summer. There was one soloist that day, who afterwards became mayor of the city and is now at the head of a trust company, Louis E. Fontron, then but a young man. He sang the solo part of "Throw Out the Life Line," the chorus and audience all joining in the chorus. It was an inspiring sight and public interest in this class of public entertainments was aroused and was responsible for the largest musical event that Kansas has ever known, "The Musical Jubilee."

L. A. Bigger, then owner of the street car line (only a horse-car line at that time) and who saw how greatly it would benefit the city and help him keep the car line in operation which was barely making operating expenses, proposed to finance the preliminary organization that it would take to establish the jubilee as a state-wide musical event. B. S. Hoagland was selected as secretary of the jubilee committee and general field agent and manager of the matter. It was arranged through Theodore Thomas, director of the World's Fair music, to appoint a committee of ladies to have charge of the first jubilee. Back of the World's Fair proposition was the Hutchinson Jubilee, providing the place and prizes for the contests. All the railroads of the state joined in a low rate and Hutchinson became the musical center of Kansas. The committee who had charge of the jubilee were Mrs. Gaston Boyd, of Newton; Mrs. A. M. Dunlap, of Lawrence; Mrs. G. H. Parkhurst, of Topeka; Mrs. H. W. Hodges, of Abilene; Mrs. S. W. Jones

and Mrs. Kate Blunt, of Leavenworth; Mrs. Garst, of Wichita, and Mrs. S. C. Cross, of Emporia. The State Music Teachers' Association met that year at Lawrence and they also joined in the enterprise.

The prizes were for ladies' choruses, male choruses and for solos, duets and quartettes. Instrumental contests were also provided for the piano, violin, pipe organ and other instruments.

The street car company guaranteed two thousand dollars for the expense of the meeting. The Commercial Club also joined in the guarantee and raised the necessary guaranty to push the matter to the end.

The result was that the greatest anticipations of the most enthusiastic were more than realized. There were mixed choruses of over a hundred from Emporia, Newton, Topeka, Leavenworth, Hutchinson, Anthony, Abilene and Salina. There were also ladies' choruses present from Wichita and Newton. There were dozens of entries in all of the other contests and it became necessary to continue the contests into the night to get through with all of the contestants. In this contest, W. L. Tomlins, of Chicago, was the adjudicator of the choruses; Carl Busch, of Kansas City, was the vocal adjudicator, and H. C. Schultze, also of Kansas City, instrumental adjudicator.

The jubilee ran eleven years. Ten of these years its was under the direction of B. S. Hoagland. He traveled over the state, keeping in touch with the musicians. He had a job for which he was eminently fitted and for which he had no competition. He had the ability to keep the notoriously hard bunch of high-grade musicians in working order. He kept down factional jealousies. He anticipated the opposition of other towns which would like to have had the jubilees located in their city and for ten years he was the principal factor in the continuance of the big musical event. The eleventh year was one of disaster. H. E. Malloy was directing it after Mr. Hoagland declined to carry the load further, but, with no fault on the part of anyone, the jubilee was a failure. The big floods in eastern Kansas made railway travel impossible. Hutchinson was experiencing one of the three occasions of a flood in Cow creek and it was a physical impossibility to carry the jubilee through.

So there were ten years of musical jubilees. During these ten years there were but two years when the jubilee did not pay all expenses and then it was but a few dollars shortage. There never was a time when all prizes in contests were not paid the last night of the jubilee. All of the judges' salaries were paid. There never was a time when there was the slightest

question about everyone getting their money. Prizes were often paid when the strict construction of the rules of the contest did not require such payment, but no technicality ever was allowed to prevail. Perhaps it was this feature as much as any, that held the support of those who lived outside of the city and who would perhaps have really favored some other place for the contest; the fact that Hutchinson business men guaranteed everything and made good that guaranty, kept other towns from organizing in competition.

It is difficult now to comprehend the real value of those ten years of jubilees to Hutchinson and to Reno county. Outside of the increased interest in musical matters and the developing of the musical talent of the city and community, it had a financial value that was very great. In the ten years thousands of people came to attend the jubilees from points outside Hutchinson and Reno county. Special trains were provided every year to accommodate those who attended. The money they left in the city was no small item in those days, when crops were not so bountiful and when prosperity was not so general as it was at a later date. It kept alive one institution alone that could not possibly have survived the "hard times," and that was the street car line. Without the added business of the jubilees, it could not have continued to operate. The present electric system is an outgrowth of the old car line, and it would not have been established.

The interest in musical matters developed by the jubilees led to the present condition of "community music" and the voting of a small tax to support a "municipal band," which is one of the interesting features of Hutchinson life. This band gives a concert during the fall, winter and spring months in Convention hall every Sunday afternoon. The capacity of the building, four thousand five hundred, is nearly always used in these concerts, the average attendance being over four thousand weekly. There is no charge whatever for these concerts. The highest and the lowest, the wealthy and the poor, have equal access to it. It is an exceedingly popular institution and has a large part in the community life. During the summer months, when it would be uncomfortable in a building, this band plays one concert during each week, at some one of the various school yards of the city, enabling the people of each part of the city, without any expense and with little effort, to hear the music. It is without doubt a great help in adding to the common enjoyment.

CHAPTER XLI.

SMALLER TOWNS IN RENO COUNTY.

Hutchinson, of course, is the largest city in Reno county. Being the county seat it has always had the advantage and its location also has helped keep it growing. It has the outlet of railroads centering here and has enjoyed a steady growth ever since it was organized. Reno county has a number of smaller towns that have had a steady growth ever since they were laid out. The largest of these towns is Nickerson. It got its name from Thomas Nickerson, who was president of the Santa Fe Railroad Company at the time the town company was organized. It is ten miles northwest of Hutchinson on the Santa Fe railroad and also on a branch of the Missouri Pacific that runs to Hoisington, where this branch line connects with the main line, east and west.

NICKERSON.

The original townsite of Nickerson was laid out one mile east of its present location in 1875. A depot was built on the old townsite in 1872 and the name of Nickerson was given to it. In the fall of 1872 the railroad company erected a house for the use of their section foreman. In the fall of 1874 a school house was built to accomodate the children of the settlers who had taken land close to Nickerson and in August, 1875, A. L. Reeves built a two-story building and opened up a stock of general merchandise in the store. In 1876 he sold his store and building to A. Seivert. This was the extent of the growth of "old" Nickerson. In 1878 the present town of Nickerson was laid out on ground that was then in corn. A few days after the survey of the townsite James DeWitt began the foundation of a hotel which he called the Old Dominion House. Soon afterward A. L. Harlow began the building of a house for a hotel, which he called the Harlow House. Before either of these buildings were completed, Reeves moved his old building from old Nickerson to the new townsite; hence, outside of a small building occupied by John Sears as a residence, the building of Reeves was the first one on the present townsite of Nickerson. By March, 1879, Mr. Reeves had a number of buildings erected.

In October, 1878, M. McCormick erected a small building and used it for a drug store. Soon after Seivert & Smith had a general store in operation. In a short time Nickerson had two hotels, a dozen stores of various kinds, two livery stables, two lumber yards, and a printing office.

The postoffice of Nickerson was established in January, 1873. Amanda J. Sears was the first postmistress. The office was first opened up in a sod house in the southeast corner of the present townsite. The money-order system of the postoffice was established in 1880.

The first school in Nickerson was established in 1874 and the first term of the school was taught by Mary Kinney. In 1879 the building was moved to the new townsite and was occupied until 1882, when the present two-story building was erected.

The first newspaper issued in Nickerson was the *Nickerson Argosy*, the first copy of which was printed on December 11, 1878. Sargent & Bowman were the publishers. On February 12, 1879, Sargent purchased Bowman's interest in the paper and ran the paper until September 10, of the same year, when he sold it to I. M. Bundy.

Nickerson was incorporated as a city of the third class on June 7, 1879, and the following were the first officers under that organization: Mayor, L. A. Reeves; councilmen, M. McCormick, C. S. Brown, J. A. Moore, J. O. Smith and H. I. Nickerson. The first police judge of the city was D. D. Olmstead.

Nickerson has had a slow growth since that time. It is now the seat of a county high school and has a number of prosperous stores in operation. Its population has increased, and it is a center of a good agricultural country.

ARLINGTON.

Arlington, named after the famous Heights of Arlington, is located eighteen miles southwest of Hutchinson on the Rock Island railroad. It was on the route of the "Sun City Trail" of early days and was a stopping place for haulers because of the abundance of the water and grass. Later it was close to the trail over which cattle were driven from Texas to Abilene. The townsite was laid off in August, 1877, by A. K. Barrel and G. T. Empey. The first building in the town was a three-story frame mill, which was operated by water from the Nimescal. This building was thirty by forty feet. It had four bulhrs and had a daily capacity of fifty barrels. It was operated for a number of years and was a great convenience to people living southwest of Hutchinson, offering the nearest flour supply they had.

The next building was a hotel known as the Arlington House, erected by P. Howell. The first postoffice was established on February 7, 1878, when H. H. Purdy was appointed the first postmaster. The first store established in this town was that of M. C. Rogers. The first school in Arlington was established in 1878. It was taught by Miss Juliet Courtright in a small building, privately owned. In the fall of 1879 a frame building was erected for school purposes and later on a brick building was erected.

CASTLETON.

Castleton is located twelve miles south of Hutchinson. It was laid out in 1872 by W. E. and C. C. Hutchinson. When it was first started Castleton was the first stop out on the Hutchinson, Kingman & Medicine Lodge state route. Today it is an important stopping point on the Hutchinson & Southern Railroad. The first building in the town, erected by William Wallace, was begun in July, 1872. It was used by William Wallace for years as a general store and residence. It received its name from Castleton, Vermont, where C. C. Hutchinson's wife was born. Today it is a point for the shipment of grain and cattle. It has good country around it, but being so close to Hutchinson, its growth is necessarily limited to local demands.

HAVEN.

The town of Haven was laid out early in the year 1886. F. W. Ash, C. W. Peckham, Levi Charles and William Astle made an agreement with the Eagle Townsite Company, of Wichita, whereby two hundred acres of land was purchased on which to build the town by the resident member of this town company. Part of the contract was that the Wichita railroad, now the Missouri Pacific railroad, should be built to Haven, and in consideration of this the Eagle Town Company received fifty-one per cent. of the land purchased for the town. The town was named Haven after a postoffice located two miles east of the present town of that name. As soon as the new town was started the postoffice was moved to the present town of Haven. The old postoffice called Haven was one of the oldest in the county.

The first lots in Haven were sold on April 12, 1886, and within sixty days Haven had sixty residences under construction and a bank organized. A creamery and lumber yard soon were added to the activities of the town.

The first railroad train ran into Haven on July 4, 1886. The build-

ing of this road was a great convenience to the farmers, whose nearest market for their grain was Hutchinson, many of them having to haul their grain fifteen to twenty-five miles. Haven voted bonds to the amount of \$25,000 to the railroad and took stock to an equal amount of the bonds. This road took up this stock on a reorganization plan and paid Haven township sixty per cent. of the face of the stock of \$15,000, under an arrangement similar to the one spoken of in the chapter on Hutchinson, a city of the second class.

Haven was incorporated in 1891 and C. W. Astle was its first mayor. Haven is surrounded by some of the best land to be found anywhere in the West. It is a great wheat-producing territory and a grain market has grown up in that country that handles nearly a half million bushels of wheat a year and half that amount of corn. In addition to the grain market, Haven has a fine live-stock market. Haven is a clean home town, prosperous and healthy. It has a fine system of schools, which the citizens foster and support with a good deal of care. It has a good live newspaper and is one of the most prosperous towns in Reno county.

PARTRIDGE.

Partridge is located close to the geographical center of the county. It was called, in the early days, Reno Center. There was a stage route through Reno Center in 1873, following the old trail to Medicine Lodge, one of the oldest trails in Reno county. Partridge now has both the Kinsley branch of the Santa Fe, and the Rock Island railroad. These roads from Hutchinson diverge at Partridge, the Santa Fe joining the main line of that road at Kinsley and the Rock Island going on southwest to the Pacific coast.

The name of the town was changed from Reno Center to Partridge in March, 1886, when the latter town was incorporated. Partridge has a good country surrounding it, has elevators and facilities for handling grain and live stock and is one of the best of the smaller towns in Reno county.

ABBYVILLE.

Abbyville is located on the Kinsley branch of the Santa Fe, west of Partridge. It was incorporated as a city of the third class on April 6, 1888. Like Partridge, it has a good country surrounding it and is the center of a prosperous community.

PLEVNA.

Directly west of Abbyville, on the Kinsley branch of the Santa Fe, is Plevna. It was established as a city of the third class on November 28, 1891. It has the usual facilities of a small town—a good school, churches, a bank, an elevator and an enterprising people.

LANGDON.

Langdon was incorporated on April 20, 1887. It is located west of Arlington on the Rock Island and has a bank, churches, schools, and a lumber yard and meets the needs of the surrounding country.

MEDORA.

Medora's townsite plat was filed for record with the register of deeds on April 20, 1887. The town is located at the crossing of the Rock Island and Frisco railroads eight miles northeast of Hutchinson. It is a shipping point for grain and live stock.

BUHLER.

Buhler is located in the northeastern part of the county in the German settlement. The plat of the townsite was filed in May, 1914. The town is the center of the activities of the German population of the northeastern part of the county. It has a fine mill, good schools and churches and a very prosperous bank.

ELMER.

Elmer is the first station out of Hutchinson on the Hutchinson & Southern branch of the Santa Fe railroad. It was established when the Hutchinson & Southern railroad was built south from Hutchinson. The plat of the town was filed for registry on September 25, 1886. The town is a shipping point for cattle and grain and serves a good agricultural country.

TURON.

Turon is the last town in the county, southwest of Hutchinson, on the Rock Island railroad. It was intended to name the town after a city in

Italy, "Turin", but the postoffice department objected to that name as there was another place named "Turin", so they suggested the change in the name to its present form—Turon. The town was established in 1886. Its plat was filed for registry on August 11 of that year. It is a prosperous village, has a system of waterworks and electric lights, two banks, a big mill and a grain elevator. The town also has a branch line of the Santa Fe, from Wichita. It is the center of a wealthy country and the town reflects the prosperity of the surrounding country.

CHAPTER XLII,

FORTY-FIVE YEARS IN RENO.

Reno county is forty-five years old. The progress of the county in that time outruns the wildest dream of her early settlers. They had no such idea of the development of the county. Lands they thought would not be settled for generations have yielded their crops to their children and to their children's children. In 1872 there was a total of 512 acres of corn in Reno county. It was all "sod corn," and no wheat was sown until the fall of 1873. In 1917 there were 149,721 acres of corn planted in Reno county. The wheat acreage of 1917 was 255,626 acres, against none in 1872. The other crops of which there were none grown in the first year of the county's existence were: Oats, 2,694 acres; rye, 8,041 acres; barley, 613 acres. There was raised in 1917, 6,774 acres of sorgum, most of it for feed for stock. In addition to these there was 703 acres of millet raised in this year of Reno's existence. In addition to these there was planted 13,204 acres of Kaffir corn, for seed and for feed, in 1917; also 1,020 acres of milo; 452 acres of fetereta and 880 acres of Soudan grass. In 1917 Reno county had 391 silos, "feed canneries," where the corn and fetereta and sorgum are cut up and "canned" for winter feed for stock. The county had likewise 139 "tractors," with which to plow the ground, contrasting remarkably with the method of 1872, when a large per cent. of the sod of Reno county was broken by oxen.

In the early days, regardless of the thousands of cattle driven through Reno county every year, milk cows were scarce. One cow was all that a dozen families in Hutchinson had. In 1917, there was made and sold in Reno county 3,911,160 pounds of butter. This in addition to the immense amount of butter consumed on the farm. There was \$236,097 worth of milk sold in addition to the butter made and the milk used by farmers.

One of Hutchinson's most prominent ladies tells, in 1917, of the scarcity of eggs in the early days. They were reserved for the sick, and this lady says in her childhood she was often tempted "to be sick," so as to have the luxury of an egg for breakfast. In 1917 the poultry and eggs sold by the farmers and others amounted to \$247,170, and the value of animals slaughtered by the farmers of Reno county amount of \$951,483. Despite the

heavy sales of horses for war purposes made in 1915 and 1916, there were 17,517 horses in Reno county on March 1, 1917. Reno county farmers have sold off a large number of lighter horses, keeping the draft horses for farm work. The almost universal use of automobiles by farmers has enabled the farmer to run his farm with less horse flesh. In addition there were 6,080 mules in the county, despite the fact that hundreds of mules likewise have been sold for war purposes during the past few years.

There were 11,402 milk cows in the county during this year and 37,522 other kinds of cattle in the county. There were 25,179 hogs in Reno county in 1917, although the corn crop of the preceding year was light. From the small patch of ground sown by W. G. Chapin in 1875 in alfalfa there has been sown and is now growing 20,266 acres of this most prolific forage plant ever grown.

In 1872 there were fewer than 1,000 acres of land plowed in Reno county. Forty-five years later there were 490,566 acres under cultivation and a total of 513,696 acres in farms in the county.

This brief contrast of the conditions of this county in the forty-five years of its existence is only a small indication of the progress that has been made in the last forty-five years. It gives a partial idea of the changes of the time. In appearance the county has undergone a wider change than these figures would indicate, for along with the cultivated fields and the increased live stock have come fine barns and comfortable homes. The Reno county farmer takes a great pride in his material progress, but that takes a subordinate place to the comforts and conveniences of his home. While he has been cultivating his fields he has not neglected to provide schools for his children as the statistics on Reno county schools show. He has built the best school houses and equipped them with the very best books, charts and other school-room appurtenances that he could buy.

Nor has the Reno county farmer disregarded his religious life. Churches are to be found in every community. Sunday schools are maintained and Sunday is not given over to frivolity, but to the more serious affairs of his life.

The growth of the village into cities has been as remarkable as the development of this country. Hutchinson, from a few straggling one-story houses in 1872, has grown to a city of over twenty-five thousand population and the other villages of this county have grown to cities of the third and second classes. The industries that do business in Hutchinson are an example of the growth of this interest in the county. The salt plants have developed to an industry doing business in dozens of states. The soda-ash plant ships

its products all over the United States. The strawboard works have customers in Eastern as well as Western states. Flour made in Hutchinson is sold in states bordering on the Atlantic and Pacific coasts and thousands of barrels of the product have found their way to foreign countries. The big elevators and flour-mills testify to the market opened up in Hutchinson for wheat and other farm products, not only of Reno county, but of adjoining wheat-growing counties. The produce houses speak of the markets opened up for Reno county produce. The modern school building reminds the people that the welfare of the boys and girls is not neglected. The great church buildings in Hutchinson, the Y. W. C. A. building and the Y. M. C. A. building tell of the efforts made to improve the conditions of the people.

It is less than fifty years from ox-team to automobile, from forded stream to concrete bridges. Less than fifty years from buffalo grass to alfalfa; from unplowed fields that had been pounded by hoofs for a thousand years, to the mellowed soil of varied crops. Less than fifty years from Bison to Shorthorn, from the wandering tribes to the contented families. The plodding pace of "Buck and Berry" and the gliding 1917 model affords no greater contrast than that which obtains in all lines in Reno county.

It is less than fifty years from inebriety to sobriety, from Kansas drunk to Kansas sober. It is less than fifty years from the wagon trail to the iron rail. So unpromising was Reno county less than fifty years ago that the federal government surveyors ran only the township lines. But with sedulous care the county surveyors now record the exact location of every corner and every variation. Less than fifty years in Reno county from "buffalo chips" to natural gas.

Reno county is only forty-five years old, yet she has more money on deposit in her banks per capita than many an older county of a century's growth. Forty-five years ago, only the occasional letter; today the rural carrier visits every farmhouse in the county. The isolation of the farm has been remedied, the telephone, the rural carrier, the automobile, and the improved roads have made neighbors of people living miles apart, closer than they formerly were when a block away.

Reno county, the commonwealth, has had her infancy and manhood in less than the life time of a generation. "Better five and forty years of Reno than a cycle of Cathay."

CHAPTER XLIII.

THE BEGINNING OF HUTCHINSON.

In June, 1872, C. C. Hutchinson, the founder of the city of Hutchinson, made a contract with the directors of the Santa Fe railroad, at their annual meeting in Topeka, to build a town at a point where the railroad would cross the Little Arkansas river. The company was to share equally in the proceeds of the sale of lots on the townsite. At that time it was supposed that the proposed town would be located near where Sedgwick City is now situated. It had been the intention of the directors of the road to build south, with an ultimate terminus of San Antonio, Texas.

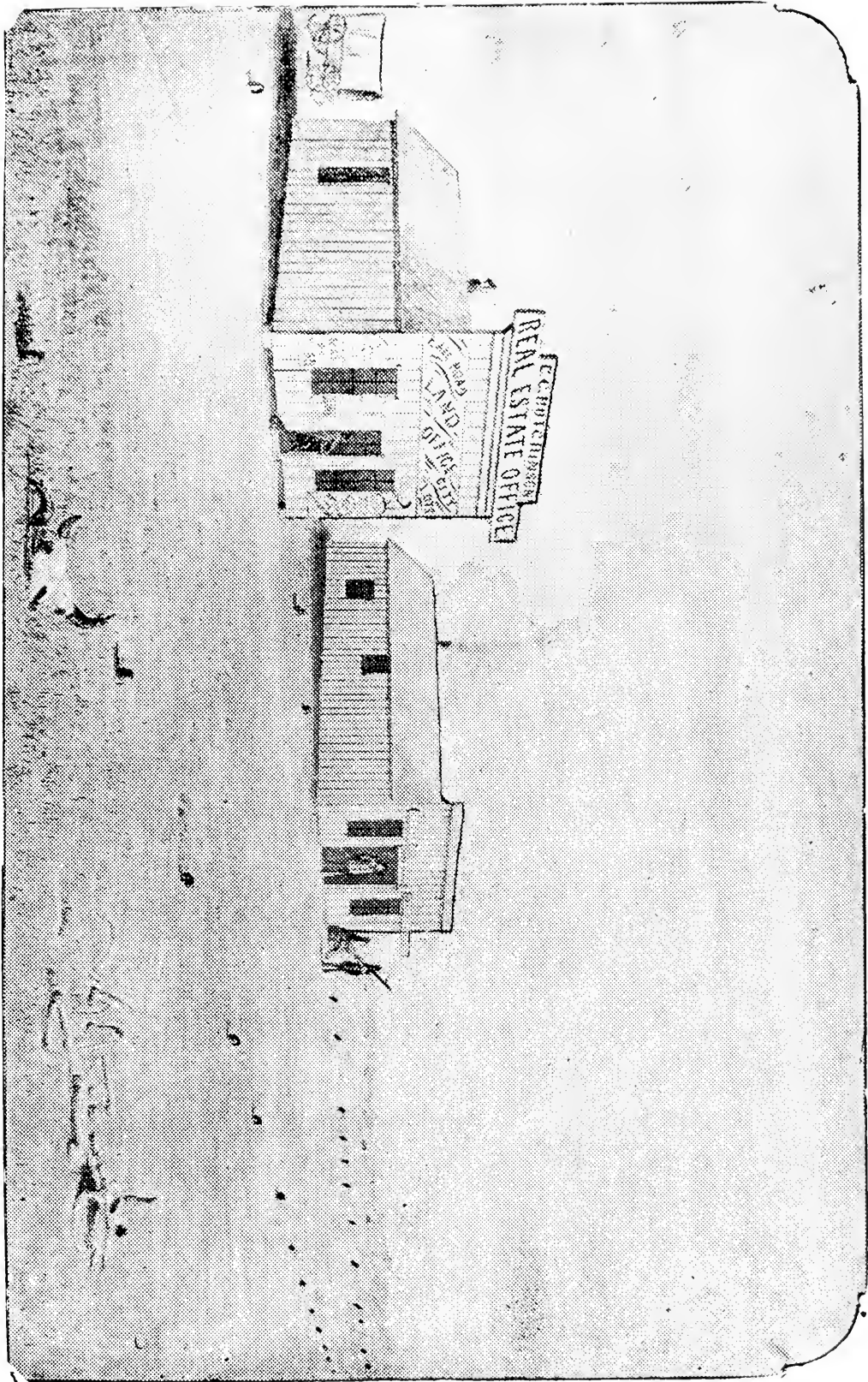
It was soon determined, however, not to build southward, but to follow up the Arkansas river and build into Colorado. The reason for this change of plans was the discovery by the directors of the railroad of a clause in an Indian treaty made in 1865, but which was not acted on by the United States Senate until 1867, so as to make it effective—that the road not only would not be able to secure a land grant through the Osage trust lands, as this strip of territory was called, which was covered by the treaty, but that they would have to buy their right of way at the price at which it was to be sold to the public, one dollar and twenty-five cents an acre.

The Santa Fe directors were astonished when they found this clause. They had no money. They were building and equipping the road by mortgaging the land. So this provision, put into this treaty as a joker—it being suggested after the treaty was practically made—which provided that railroads might be built through the Osage trust lands, but that the railroads should pay for the right of way at the price fixed for the settlers—this joker has probably had more effect than any other joker put in a public document, for it changed the building of a great road, which, had it not been built then, would have left southwest Kansas without a railroad for many years. It caused the settlers to file on lands in western Kansas instead of going down into southern Kansas and Oklahoma for their farms. It changed the location of Hutchinson, which would have been established at the point where Sedgwick now stands. Had this provision not been added to the treaty, there never would have been a Great Bend nor a Dodge City. It would have stopped the organization of the Comanche pool, the greatest cattle combination

ever made, as it would have rushed the settlers along the newly built railroad into Oklahoma and made the big cattle pool an impossibility in that section. Perhaps it might have transferred its activities to western Kansas alone, but the pool had its base of operation in the "Cherokee Strip," which the cattle men were able to keep from settlement for years, in order to have the range for their stock, unmolested by the farmer. Instead of the whole of southwest Kansas being tributary to Hutchinson, the city that Hutchinson would have founded would doubtless be as it is now, a small village of no great importance commercially.

As soon as it was determined to build westward instead of toward the south, Hutchinson came on west to find a location for his town. He had determined that his town should be built on a water course for the purpose of drainage. He drove overland with S. T. Kelsey and A. F. Horner, now living in Topeka. They camped the first night on the northwest corner of section 19, directly southwest of where the town was afterwards located. In the morning the party drove over to the point where the railroad would cross Cow creek and finally selected section 13, the present site, for the location of the town. He changed his agreement with the Santa Fe officials, paying them fifteen dollars an acre for the section, in lieu of the equal division of the sale of the town lots. However, it was with many misgivings that section 13 was selected for the townsite, for, considered from many standpoints, the location was undesirable. The town was located too close to the edge of the county, only six miles to the east line and two miles from the Rice county line. As is referred to in another chapter, the matter of location was helped later by changing the boundary lines. Another thing that was causing some uneasiness, was that the railroad ran very near the north line of the section and a greater part of the townsite lay on the south side of Cow creek, while on the north of section 13, D. B. Miller, his son-in-law, one of his sons and his father-in-law, Amasa Smith, all three, had located on section 12, which was directly north of the proposed townsite and it was possible for them to obtain title to their government land in a short time, lay out their land in town lots and greatly interfere with the sale of Hutchinson's town lots as well as his plans for building up a town. Hutchinson made an effort at the start to have the Santa Fe railroad officials make the city a division point and he made a proposition to give the railroad company a one-twelfth interest, in addition to paying the company the fifteen dollars an acre for the land, if they would make Hutchinson the division point.

In this first trip, Hutchinson endeavored to interest Mr. Horner in the



HUTCHINSON NOV. 25 1876.



proposed town. He was then one of the largest merchants in Newton, had opened up some stone quarries at Florence and was a business man of great ability. Horner had a peculiar reputation as a town builder. When Brookville was established on the Kansas Pacific, that town offered a town lot to the man who would erect the first building. Horner built a building there and got a town lot. The building was of black walnut lumber, about twenty feet wide, ten feet high and sixty feet long. It was of a fine quality of walnut and would be worth today many times what a building cost then. When the Santa Fe road was built west from Emporia and reached Florence, the same offer of a town lot to the man who would erect the first building was made. Horner was on hands with his black walnut house and secured the town lot in Florence. When the road reached Newton and a lot was offered there for the first house, Horner's black walnut house again won the prize. On the way over from Newton it was settled again that the black walnut house should make one more pilgrimage and obtain a town lot for its owner, and the little black walnut house was moved to Hutchinson and located on what the surveyor afterwards showed was lot 7, north Main street.

Following the putting together of Horner's town-lot-getter came other stores, the material for which was hauled from Newton, then the terminus of the railroad, and later from Halstead, when the road was built westward to that place. On November 15, 1871, Mr. Lehman, of Newton, then a partner of E. Wilcox, who lived in Topeka, came to Hutchinson and bought lots 1 and 3, south Main street, paying one hundred and fifty dollars for the corner lot and one hundred dollars for the adjoining one. Just what put that value into the lots cannot be known. C. C. Hutchinson, speaking of this first sale of town lots, said that "it took quite an effort to make him see those values in the lots," especially when Hutchinson had bought the entire quarter section for fifteen dollars an acre. On November 17, 1871, J. M. Jordan and C. C. Bemis came to Hutchinson and bought lot 13, north Main street, and later put up a building for their dry goods and grocery store. At that time Hutchinson's land office was not equipped with tables or writing desks and in making the contract for the sale to Bemis & Jordan, Hutchinson got down on the floor of his office, which was only partially laid, and wrote the contract on the finished part of the floor. On November 25, 1871, Jacob Rupert, of Newton, bought lot 11, north Main street and the consideration for this lot was that Rupert should put up a building and Hutchinson should have it for an office for a term of years. Later, in this building Hutchinson established the first bank in Reno county.

It was located on lot 1, north Main street. That humble building gave but little promise of the handsome six-story building that now occupies this lot, the building of the First National Bank. Later, this building was moved across the street, then was moved once more to another location and was rented by Dickey Brothers for a drug store. On December 7, 1871, lot 15, north Main street, was sold to Fred Ryde and he immediately put up a building and occupied it.

When the "lot-getting" black walnut box home was put up, it had the office of C. C. Hutchinson in the northwest corner. The southeastern corner of the same building was the postoffice, and a shoe box brought over from Newton was partitioned off and that constituted the fixtures of Hutchinson's first postoffice. A wagon canvas was hung across the middle of the room and the west end of the room became the first hotel established in that city. It had four boarders, C. C. Hutchinson, W. E. Hutchinson, John A. Clapp and George Tucker. The latter two were called the "Boston Boys," after the place of their birth. Clapp was made the first postmaster and Tucker obtained another position of equal importance in the new city—he was the cook in the first hotel in Hutchinson, and after Tucker cooked the meal, washed the dishes and did other duties as general manager of the hotel, he became assistant postmaster. Clapp's commission as postmaster was dated December 6, 1871. The mail was brought by stage from Newton twice a week, except at times when it was impossible to ford Little river, and then it was delayed until a crossing could be effected. At first the hauling of the mail was done by the people of Hutchinson, but on December 27, 1871, the first government stage, hauling the mail, reached Hutchinson. It continued hauling passengers and mail for two months, until the stage company refused to haul it any longer without a bonus. In order to keep this line of communication open, C. C. Hutchinson offered the stage company a Main street lot and some residence lots, if they would continue to run the stage until the railroad could be built to the city. They accepted, and the stage with the mail continued to reach Hutchinson every other day, except at such times as it was found impossible to ford Little river. The first exclusive hotel was a frame building put up by Charles Collins on the corner of first avenue and Main street. The hotel was run by Gus Williams and wife, Mrs. Williams being the first woman to live in Hutchinson. They soon were well patronized and C. C. Hutchinson took down his wagon cover, discontinued the rear end attachment to his real estate office and the postoffice and all of the boarders moved over to the new hotel and became regular customers.

There were a number of additions to the business part of the town as soon as the new hotel was finished. Jordan & Bemis started a dry goods store; E. Wilcox started a hardware store; J. C. McClurg, who had settled in Sedgwick county, moved his livery and feed stable there; T. F. Leidigh opened a grocery store and a Mr. Bailey, of Emporia, opened up a general merchandise store. The winter of 1871-1872 was a very severe one. The principal loser by reason of the severe weather was J. H. D. Rozan. He had no feed except buffalo grass and no shelter for his stock, and his loss was heavy. In the spring the streams were all high and greatly delayed the hauling of lumber from Newton. To remedy this, a raft was made, on which stuff was loaded, and it was then pulled over the stream by teams with ropes attached to the raft.

There were no stones in the county for corner markers, so buffalo bones were substituted to mark the boundaries. Main street was to be the principal street. Another street was surveyed so as to be the business street. The lots on both Main and Sherman streets were made twenty-five feet wide, while residence lots were laid out thirty-three feet wide. Sherman street was named after Miss Gertrude Sherman, of Castleton, Vermont, a lady whom C. C. Hutchinson expected to marry soon, he being a widower at the time he started Hutchinson. Miss Sherman was a daughter of Carlos S. Sherman, a marble quarry owner at Castleton. Later, Mr. Hutchinson remembered the place of his prospective wife's residence when that name was given to a township and a town in the southern part of the county.

CHAPTER XLIV.

HUTCHINSON, A CITY OF THE THIRD CLASS.

Hutchinson was incorporated as a city of the third class on August 15, 1872. The petition for the organization of the city was presented to W. R. Brown, judge of the district court. The petition contained the names of a majority of the legal voters of the city to be organized and declared that there were more than two hundred and fifty people within the boundary lines of the proposed city and less than one thousand inhabitants. The district court granted the petition and fixed the time of the first election to be held for August 26, 1872. William Ingham, E. Wilcox and Josiah S. Fay were appointed by the court as judges of the election.

At the first city election Taylor Flick received 71 votes for mayor and C. S. Martin received 17. For police judge J. B. Brown received 67 votes and W. P. Brown, 27. There were eleven candidates for councilmen. The result of this first election for council resulted in the following vote: John McMurray, 59; G. A. Brazee, 56; E. Wilcox, 66; R. C. Bailey, 66; Gus Williams, 24; G. Mills, 1; S. S. Williams, 32; W. W. Hastie, 30; William Mills, 19; M. Sanders, 29; D. M. Lewis, 61. Of this number the following were declared elected: E. Wilcox, D. M. Lewis, R. P. Bailey, G. A. Brazee and John McMurray. H. W. Beaty was appointed city clerk and city treasurer.

The first ordinance passed was one to "provide means of getting the smoke out of the buildings." It provided that stove pipes might be run up through the roofs of buildings, but specified that a double tin safety device should be inserted in the roof through which the pipe should run. There were nothing but frame houses in Hutchinson at that time, and the first ordinance was a fire-protection guarantee. The second ordinance regulated the running of stock within the city limits, and the third ordinance was one prohibiting the discharge of firearms in the city limits.

The petition for the organization set out the boundaries of the city. Prior to this time there had been no organization, all of the county being then in Reno township, and all of the business of the county was transacted by Reno township.

EARLY CITY ORDINANCES.

Among the first measures introduced in the city council was one authorizing the mayor to take the necessary steps to protect the city from prairie fires. The buffalo grass that surrounded the town was burning up in the August heat and it was thought necessary to have a sufficient number of fire guards placed to protect the new city. So the first fire-fighting apparatus ever used in Hutchinson was a sod plow and a yoke of oxen. The corner "stones" used to mark out the street crossings were buffalo bones. The streets were covered with buffalo grass, and there were no bridges then completed, Cow creek being forded where the Main street bridge now stands. The track that led down into the water did not cross it squarely, as the banks were three or four feet high, and it was necessary to angle down to the water so as to have an easier grade out. The first city marshal for Hutchinson was J. R. Lindsay, who was also principal of the city schools for the first term. The records do not disclose who was on duty in the school house when Lindsay was discharging his duties as city marshal, nor who was protecting the public from disorder and riot while this dual official was discharging his obligation as a school teacher. It was probable, however, with this combination, that it was not thought necessary to add the modern school official of "truant officer."

The second election, which was held on April 7, 1873, resulted in the selection of C. L. Kendall for mayor. J. B. Brown was the candidate against Kendall, receiving one vote less than the latter. G. W. Hardy, S. M. Bell, R. C. Brazee, T. W. Cochrane and C. Chambers were candidates for members of the council. Hardy, Bell and Cochrane were elected, there being a difference of only one vote between the losing and the winning candidates for the council. H. W. Beatty was appointed city clerk and city treasurer, and George Shields was appointed city marshal. This administration was the first one to start public improvement. The building of sidewalks was agitated. The first walk put down was on the west side of Main street, from Cow creek to the Santa Fe railroad. Later some of the citizens living farther north, Dr. N. T. P. Robertson, W. R. Marshall and others, asked for sidewalks along their property—on property now between Fourth and Sixth streets, on the west side of the street. The council also appropriated "five hundred dollars to grade Main street and put in street crossings." This council also had trouble getting a city marshal to stay on the job. M. Hale was chosen marshal, but he declined to accept the office. Then the

council selected George S. Shields for city marshal, but he was not satisfactory. In just what way his services did not suit the council is not stated. They removed Shields and put Robert Chism in as city marshal. He lasted just a month. The city clerk, W. R. Brown, also resigned. H. A. Jeffs was selected marshal in Chism's place, and C. P. Bailey was put in Brown's vacated place. During this year an ordinance was passed that indicated that a better class of houses were being erected. Up to this time one-story wooden buildings, generally "sided up and down," unplastered and unpainted, were about all the town afforded. But an improvement era had started and more substantial buildings were being erected; so the council repealed its first ordinance that provided that stove pipe might be used as flues, if it had a shield around it to keep the pipe away from the wood of the roof. The principal fuel of that day was "cow chips," which make a quick, hot fire, and the pipe would get about as hot as the stove. The council, early in the year 1873, ordered that thereafter no flue should be built that was not made of stone or brick, and it was specified also how much above the roof the chimney should extend. Hutchinson was improving and, in anticipation of better buildings, this ordinance was passed.

HITCHING-POST QUESTION AN AGITATING ONE.

The third city election was a real campaign. There were twenty-four candidates for councilmen. Four men wanted to be mayor, and there were four candidates for police judge. The election resulted in the selection of the following: Mayor, J. B. Brown; police judge, R. A. Soper; councilmen, W. M. Ingham, G. W. Hardy, C. B. Winslow, S. M. Bell and James Crow. When the new council met it chose H. W. Beatty for city clerk and city treasurer. They made no appointment for city marshal, but R. M. Cheney was allowed pay as city marshal by the council until May, when George B. Alford was chosen as city marshal. This administration began to wrestle with a proposition that not only worried it, but all succeeding councils, and which the progress of the times and the almost universal use of the automobile has eliminated from the worries of the city council of today. It was the question of hitching-posts on Main street. This was one of the questions that all administrations from the first until hitching-posts were not needed found to be the subject of endless debate, both in the city council and the Commercial Club rooms, and among idle men in front as well as men behind the counters. It was a real question in those days—one that the present generation cannot appreciate. The country people, the farmers, wanted places

at which to hitch their teams when they came to town. They likewise wanted the teams hitched in a convenient place, generally in front of the store where they did most of their trading. The merchant did not want to object, as he was afraid of offending his best customers, the farmers. The merchant had to put up with the odor arising from uncleaned streets and, in the summer, with the pest of flies that the teams attracted. But he complained not. It was the town people who complained. Many a lady has had a dress ruined by some big-footed horse splashing mud on her while she walked along the street. The council of 1874 was petitioned to "do away with the hitching-post nuisance." But the members generally "ducked" the question. They didn't want to offend the farmer, for the town could not live without the trade of the farmer. The merchants were interviewed. They didn't want to have anything to do with it. They would lose if they got caught expressing their opinion. They would lose the farmer trade one way and the city trade the other way. A merchant is the last man to take hold of any proposition that involves the good will of his customers. It was true in Hutchinson in 1874 when the "hitching-post nuisance" was up for consideration, and it is true today when any proposition is presented that might lose the merchant trade. This controversy would be unsettled today in Hutchinson, had not the automobile put the horse out of business. The solution was dodged by the council of 1874 and by all succeeding councils. The council of 1874 started the "ducking."

BY WAY OF CONTRAST.

A review of an ordinance passed in 1874 reveals the difference in the Hutchinson of 1874 and the Hutchinson that the present generation knows. And it is set down here that the present generation may have an idea of the changes they can only know of as others tell of them. Hutchinson was subject to overflow from Cow creek. In 1874, as a result of the first of these high waters in Cow creek, pools of water stood over the town. There was a good-sized "fishing pond" on West First avenue, close to Main street. The council wanted to drain it, so they cut a ditch across Main street and ran the water down past the Methodist church and on south to Cow creek. With a sewer system now that provides for the drainage of surface water the people of Hutchinson today can look back and see what conditions were in the early days, and see what the early settler had to contend with and how well he has done the work of making the city a beautiful, healthful place in which to live.

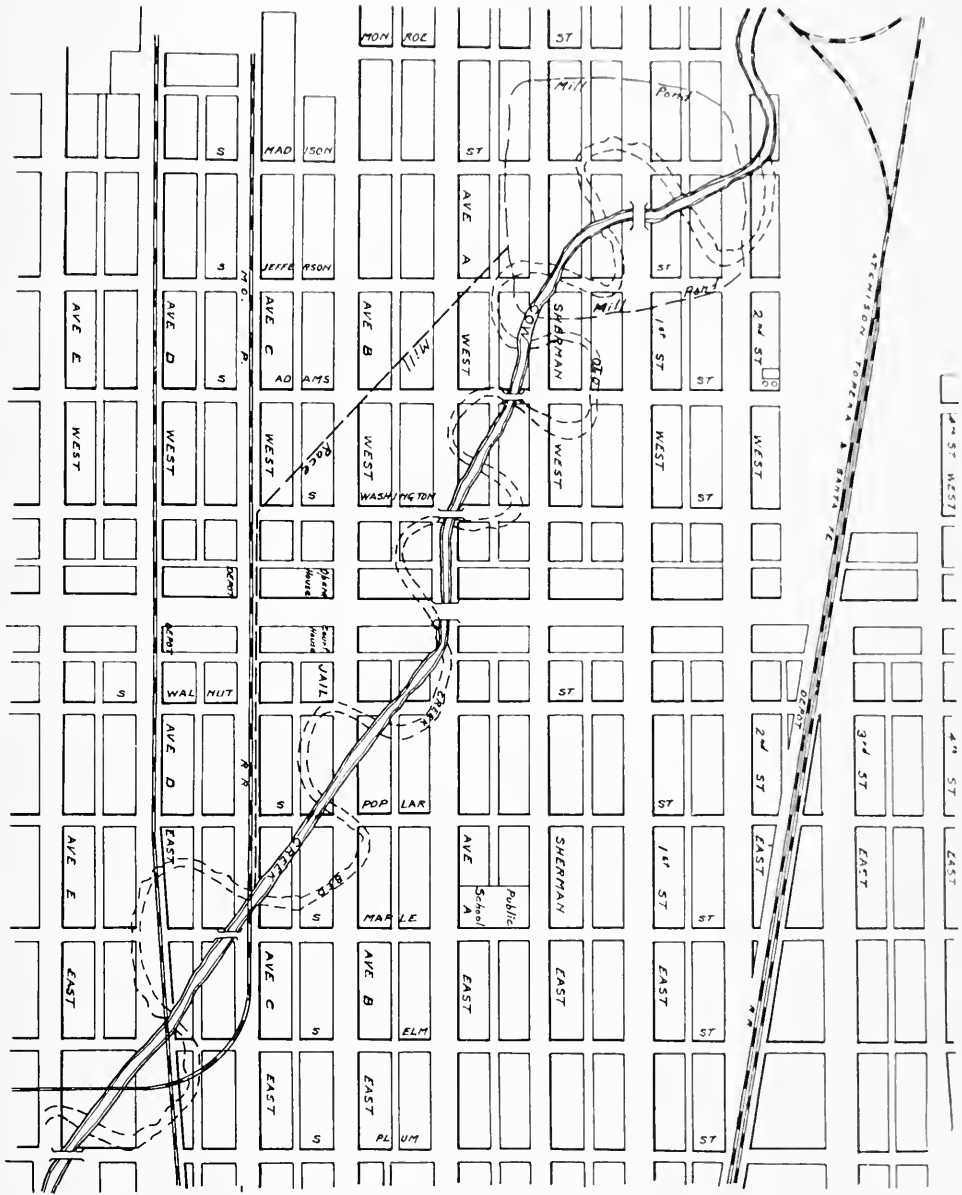
In the election for 1875, there were only ten candidates for city councilmen. The race was a very close one. The highest vote cast for any candidate was seventy-nine, and the lowest candidate received seventy-four votes. E. Wilcox was elected mayor, he receiving 78 votes, while J. B. Brown received 74 votes. The councilmen chosen were: E. A. Smith, George W. Hardy, John Paine and R. E. Conn. J. F. Dunkin and James Crow received the same number of votes and the election judges "flipped dollars" to see which one of the two should have the office. Crow got "heads" and was added to the names of the councilmen for that year.

ANOTHER OLD POINT OF CONTROVERSY.

Another matter came up during this administration for the first time in the history of Hutchinson, which, like the hitching-post matter, was one long-drawn-out controversy, and also, like its companion in agitation, was one that was settled by events in which the council and people of Hutchinson had only a small part in settling. This was the question of having saloons. For the first time since the town was organized a petition was presented to the council asking that license be issued for the sale of intoxicating liquors. A remonstrance was also filed and the mayor appointed a committee composed of C. B. Winslow and G. W. Hardy to examine both petition and remonstrance, to "examine and compare" the two documents and report to the next meeting of the council. The committee reported against the saloon. What their "examination" consisted of, how they "compared" the two, is not related; whether there were more names on the remonstrance, or whether it was simply a means to side-step the whole controversy, is not disclosed in the record. Later, in 1879, on June 19, the first saloon license was granted. Later in that year two more licenses were issued by the city. The license fee was fixed at five hundred dollars a year, payable quarterly in advance.

In the granting of these licenses, the council went squarely against the wish of the founder of the city, C. C. Hutchinson. So anxious was he that no saloon ever be allowed in the town that he put a clause in every deed to every piece of real estate, which stated that "in case intoxicating liquor should be sold on that lot the title should revert to the grantor." But the supreme court overruled this clause, as being "against public policy," and Hutchinson had her saloons. But the controversy in the city, that was the issue in every political campaign, was ended by the passage of the prohibition law. Even then it was not entirely ended, but the controversy changed

OLD AND NEW CHANNELS OF COW CREEK THROUGH THE CITY OF HUTCHINSON





to a contest to enforce the laws. But through the various enactments of the Legislature that have made the conviction of the one who sells liquor an easier matter, and through the development of a more acute sentiment against liquor among the citizens, which has quickened the activity of the officers having this in charge—the enforcement of the law—the prohibitory law is now as well enforced as any other criminal statute of the state.

PROMOTION OF PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS.

The election of 1876 brought out two candidates for each office except that of police judge. George W. Hardy and F. R. Chrisman were candidates for mayor. Hardy was elected, receiving 99 votes to 95 for Chrisman. John Jones, John McCollough, S. C. Smith and R. E. Conn each received enough votes to get a certificate of election to the council, but William Ingham and J. B. Brown each received the same number of votes, and in the drawing Ingham was the successful candidate and was made a member of the council for the year 1876. J. C. Lindsay was chosen police judge, he being the only candidate. He received 191 votes. H. S. Fitch was chosen city clerk by the council. He served until December 20, when he resigned and Lewis Mills was chosen as his successor. J. H. Leeman was chosen for city marshal.

This year was one in which considerable improvement was made in the city. The Water Power Company began to dig a mill race to direct the water from Cow creek to the mill site; a couple of new bridges were built, one over Cow creek on Main street, and one over the mill race, which ran on what is now Avenue B, and emptied into Cow creek on the east side of town. A great many sidewalks were put down and Main street was filled from dirt from the mill race, so as to raise it above the water in times when Cow creek was more than bank full.

In the election of 1877, E. Wilcox and John McCollough were candidates for mayor. Wilcox received 166 votes and McCollough 78 votes. J. M. Jordan, Vernon Roe, L. A. Bigger, William Ingham and D. B. McKee were chosen for councilmen. There were three candidates for police judge. John McMurray received 147 votes; J. C. Lindsay, 89 votes, and Lon Mead, one vote. C. B. Winslow was appointed city clerk; J. T. Norman was elected city marshal.

During June of this year Cow creek overflowed its banks and covered most of the town. In August the city voted bonds to straighten out the creek, cut out the windings of the stream, build levees on the banks, and by

this means protect the city from further overflow. The water in the creek this year was the highest known since the county was settled, and the work done was of great value in later years when the stream got out of its banks.

In 1878 the annual election brought out two candidates for each elective office. E. Wilcox and L. A. Bigger were candidates for mayor. Bigger polled 132 votes and Wilcox, 126. John McCollough, H. S. Sidlinger, M. J. Ruddy, I. M. Carter and H. Raff were elected councilmen and John McMurray was elected police judge. When the new council met the mayor appointed Gus Mead as city clerk and Pat Holland for street commissioner. The city council's work for this year was largely confined to the completion of the work on the mill race, the straightening of Cow creek, and the building of bridges. A large number of sidewalks were put in and the general improvement of the town continued. Several ponds in the city, places washed out by the flood of the previous year, were filled up. During this administration for the first time the sprinkling of Main street was begun. During this year the city also took an active part in locating the East Side cemetery, moving the burial ground from its old locality northwest of the city to the present site. A part of this cemetery was allotted to the public, in consideration of the financial aid given by the city for the purchase of the twenty acres of ground originally bought for burial purposes.

SHADE TREES MAKE THEIR APPEARANCE.

The election of 1879 resulted in the usual number of candidates, and a largely increased vote disclosed evidence of the growth of the city. A. K. Burrell and C. L. Pennington were candidates for mayor. Burrell polled 196 votes and Pennington, 149. J. T. Lane led in the fight for councilmen, polling 339 votes, while Ruddy received 197; Carter, 189; Sidlinger, 180, and C. V. Decker, 211. D. W. Stimmel received 203 votes for city marshal as against John McMurray's 141 votes. Gus P. Mead was continued as city clerk, as was Pat Holland for city marshal. The financial statement of the city treasurer, made at the first meeting of the city council, showed the entire receipts for the previous year as \$2,786.03. The expenditures for the year were \$2,726.03, leaving a balance of \$60 on hand.

A feature of the activity of this council was the planting of trees. The city purchased a thousand cottonwood trees and planted them along the "mill race." Five thousand willows were planted along Cow creek. The idea was that the tree roots would be a help in keeping the banks of these waters from washing in flood time.

As referred to in another part of this chapter, this council distinguished itself in being the first to grant licenses to sell liquor in Hutchinson. These continued but a short time and were a constant source of controversy while they were running. The passage of the prohibition amendment to the constitution took away the right of city councils to pass such ordinances. One thing is noticeable, however, in the proceedings of this council. It became necessary during this administration to have a night police force, arising out of the disorders caused by liquor sales. This was the first time the city felt it necessary to have night policemen, and is sufficient comment on what the presence of liquor for sale in a city does for the orderliness of the city.

On March 3, 1880, a census was taken of the city for the purpose of changing the corporation from a city of the third class to one of the second class. The census showed there were 2,006 residents of Hutchinson at that time. But the resolution to change the form of the city government was beaten in the council. Lane, Carter and Ruddy voted "No," so the matter was dropped temporarily, but became an issue in the spring election in later years.

DEVELOPMENT OF "PUBLIC UTILITIES."

The election in April 5, 1880, brought forth the usual number of candidates. John McCollough was elected mayor, receiving 212 votes, and A. K. Burrell, 168 votes. E. Wilcox, G. W. Hardy, A. E. Taylor, O. P. Mayer and John Brehm were chosen councilmen. George Barclay was elected police judge, he being the only candidate, receiving 381 votes. C. H. Longstreth was elected city marshal after several ballots. Ted F. Halverson was elected city clerk. George Hern was elected night watch "during good behavior." Just what was meant in that qualifying term of the period of his employment is not declared by the records. The report of the council proceedings showed that four saloons were running in Hutchinson at that time. The election of 1881 had the usual number of candidates: S. H. Sidlinger received 212 votes for mayor, and Leo H. Albright, 63 votes. G. T. Empey, J. B. Brown, M. J. Ruddy, W. R. Marshall and A. W. West were elected members of the city council. George Barclay and A. J. Higley were candidates for police judge. Barclay received 96 votes and Higley, 54 votes.

When the new council met D. S. Alexander was elected city clerk, A. R. Scheble was chosen city attorney and C. B. Winslow was nominated by the mayor for city treasurer. The first vote on the confirmation of this nomination resulted in a tie—two for, and two against. A second vote was taken, and the result was a rejection of the nomination, three against and two for.

At a later meeting, Winslow was again nominated for city treasurer by the mayor, and was confirmed, only three votes being cast—two for confirmation and one against. Allen Shafer was chosen city marshal by acclamation.

In order to show further how public improvements grew, how public utilities developed, the council of 1881 erected a wind-mill and tank for fire protection of the city. This was considered sufficient in that day. It offered a contrast for those of today who are accustomed to the highest degree of efficiency from the very best forms of fire-fighting apparatus, in connection with an elaborate waterworks system. The people of today can hardly think of the method of travel of the early days of the county—the ox-team, or the horse and wagon, and roads that never received the slightest attention, in many cases on “angling” roads on the prairie across what are now cultivated fields. This in contrast with the automobile and the graded road; the concrete bridges, where once were simply fords in the stream. In a like manner they can hardly realize, unless they have lived through the changes, the difference in municipal matters now and what the city was thirty-five years ago, and the action of the council of 1881 in putting up a wind-mill and a tank for fire protection shows the great progress of Hutchinson in a little more than a third of a century.

The election of 1882 resulted in the usual number of candidates. S. H. Sidlinger and E. A. Smith were candidates for mayor, the former receiving 194 votes and the latter 163 votes. G. T. Empey, L. A. Bigger, W. R. Marshall, M. J. Ruddy and J. T. Lane were elected councilmen. George D. Barclay was continued as police judge; D. S. Alexander was appointed as city clerk and C. B. Winslow was continued as city treasurer, as was Allen Shafer as city marshal. Very little of general interest appears in the minutes of the city council. The usual sidewalks were ordered in, and the usual occurrences were provided for, but nothing of interest above other years appeared during 1882.

BETTER FIRE PROTECTION DEMANDED.

The election of 1883 resulted in the selection of J. T. Lane as mayor. He received 199 votes, and G. T. Empey, 176 votes. J. B. Brown, S. A. Atwood, J. F. Blackburn, H. Dice and A. K. Burrell were elected councilmen. George Barclay and A. J. Higley were both candidates for police judge. Barclay beat Higley, as he did the year previous. W. H. Lewis was appointed city attorney. J. P. Dillon was elected city clerk; S. H. Craig was elected city marshal, and J. H. Young was elected city treasurer.

About the only thing this council did that was out of the ordinary was the establishment of a city scales. The agitation had been running through several years and the council of July 23, 1883, ordered such scales, and fixed the salary of the city weigh-master and the prices to be charged for the use of these scales.

The city council realized the importance of better fire protection, and realized further that the wind-mill and tank that the city relied on was inadequate, and ordered one fire engine, hose and other equipment for fire protection. The water was obtained by sinking well points along Main street, and connecting them with one pipe from which the water was obtained. A volunteer fire department was organized.

The city council at a meeting held on July 21, 1884, passed an ordinance to include land not in the original city plat as part of the city. This was the first addition ever made to the original townsite as it was laid out by C. C. Hutchinson in 1872.

The treasurer's report showed that the expenditures of the city for the previous year were \$7,700.42; the total disbursements, \$7,091, leaving a balance of \$699.42 on hands. The items of receipts showed that the sum of \$4,430.18 was received from the county treasurer as direct taxes; that \$29 came from fines in the police court; \$625.11 from licenses; \$594.55 from the sale of city script; \$776.30 from occupation tax; \$208.30 from the city scales, and \$5 from dog tax. The expenditures were divided as follows: General fund, \$4,208.18; street fund, \$1,514.67; interest fund, \$1,299.04; improvement fund, \$69.11. The report also showed that during the year, \$1,301.73 of script was issued in the street fund and \$3,781.88 in the general fund; or, in a general way, the city expended \$4,384.19 more than it collected. This necessarily resulted, later, in the issuing of bonds to take up the city script, some of which are still unpaid. The treasurer's report also showed the bonded indebtedness of the city to be \$10,200, divided up into improvement bonds of \$5,000; funding bonds, \$4,000, and bridge bonds, \$1,200.

PERMANENT IMPROVEMENTS GOT UNDER WAY.

The election of 1884 was a peaceful one. There was only one candidate for mayor, S. W. Campbell, who polled 365 votes. The members of the council chosen were L. A. Bigger, L. B. Young, J. M. Mulkey, Wilson McCandless and E. Wilcox. George Barclay and L. S. Shields were candidates for police judge. Shields received 228 votes and Barclay, 238. H. Whiteside was elected city attorney, J. P. Dillon was continued as city clerk.

Joe Christ was chosen as city marshal and Tom Jarvis as street commissioner.

This year marked the beginning of many of the permanent improvements of the present time. Early in the life of this council the agitation for a waterworks system was started. A committee was appointed to visit other cities and look at their water plants. At a later meeting an ordinance was passed requiring either stone or concrete pavements of the present width (fourteen feet) on all Main street property between certain streets. All of the principal streets were brought to grade and guttering was ordered. Street sprinkling was started in a systematic manner. While there had been some sprinkling done before, it was done in a very inadequate manner. The council also, at the meeting on April 1, 1885, took the necessary steps toward getting the state reformatory located in this city, one of the things done in this connection being the appointment of a special committee, composed of T. T. Taylor, G. C. Miller and L. A. Bigger, to handle the city's interests in the matter of the proposed location of the reformatory.

The election held on April 8, 1885, resulted in the re-election of S. W. Campbell as mayor, over Dr. N. T. R. Robertson, Campbell receiving 394 votes and Robertson, 240. E. Wilcox, L. A. Bigger, J. M. Mulkey, D. McKee and Robert Lacy were chosen councilmen. George D. Barclay was elected police judge against L. S. Shields. J. P. Dillon was re-elected city clerk and George Hern, city marshal.

On September 15, 1885, the council granted a franchise to the Interstate Gas Company—a franchise granting that company the right, for twenty-one years, to use the streets and alleys for the purpose of furnishing gas for heating and lighting purposes.

On October 5, 1885, the council passed ordinance No. 199, providing for a system of waterworks. This was the last step taken by the city for effective fire protection. It will be remembered that the first fire protection provided for the city was some furrows plowed around the townsite to protect the city from prairie fires. The second step was the erection of a windmill and tank. The third step was a hand-pump with well points driven at various places on Main street, from which water was to be pumped, and then, this last ordinance, that provided for a waterworks system that is so constructed that it has met the demands of the city as it has grown from a village to a city, and is capable of expansion to any extent necessary.

So Hutchinson grew from a few scattered houses on the prairie to a city of the third class. It has made much progress toward its present con-

ditions. It has established the streets, guttered them, and put permanent pavements in front of them. It has established adequate fire protection for its property. It has straightened Cow creek through the city, and formed a more permanent outlet for flood waters. It has established a street-lighting system. Its population has grown to 2,300. The city considered at times that it would be made a city of the second class, in order that it might have increased authority over its local matters to provide for the increased population. It was made a city of the second class on March 25, 1886, and as such city of the second class it will be considered in a following chapter.

CHAPTER XLV.

HUTCHINSON, A CITY OF THE SECOND CLASS.

After the requirements of the statutes had been met, a proclamation signed by Governor John A. Martin, declaring Hutchinson a city of the second class, was received by the city council and was ordered recorded with the register of deeds of Reno county. This was done on March 26, 1886, and Hutchinson became a city of the second class.

The first thing necessary for the council to do was to divide the city into four wards. At the same time it was ordered that all houses be numbered. This latter was also preparatory toward the establishment of the free delivery mail system. The first election as a city of the second class resulted as follows: For mayor, L. A. Bigger; police judge, T. A. Decker; city treasurer, W. T. Atkinson; treasurer of the board of education, E. A. Smith; councilmen, first ward, O. Wolcott and D. B. McKee; second ward, R. A. Campbell and S. W. Campbell; third ward, Herman Beers and John B. Brown; fourth ward, A. J. Fisk and Frank Vincent. Charles E. Hall was appointed city clerk and James McKinstry, city attorney.

Two important matters were up for consideration during this administration—one was the granting of a franchise to John Severance for a street car line, the other was the voting of bonds for aid in the construction of the Wichita & Western railroad, or what is now the Missouri Pacific railroad. Severance was granted the charter for a street car line on June 5, 1886, and the election for the voting of bonds for the Missouri Pacific was held on June 30, 1886, by which the city subscribed for fifty-one thousand five hundred dollars worth of stock in the Wichita & Colorado railroad, which was paid to the railroad company on November 23, 1886, when the road was completed into Hutchinson. This included likewise the western extension of this road, which was constructed under the name of the Salina & El Paso railroad. This council also submitted to the people the question of voting bonds for the Chicago, Kansas & Nebraska railroad, now the Rock Island, for twenty-five thousand dollars. This bond vote was of the same nature as that in behalf of the Missouri Pacific railroad, an issue of the city's bonds in exchange for the company's capital stock of equal amount. The council met

on July 21, 1886, and called an election for August 31, 1886. This election had the unique distinction of having had but one vote cast in the negative. The proposition received ten hundred and thirty-two votes favoring it, and only one against it.

The election held on August 8, 1887, the second under the city's charter as a city of the second class, resulted as follows: Mayor, L. A. Bigger; police judge, J. S. Houser; city treasurer, W. T. Atkinson; treasurer of the school board, E. A. Smith; councilmen, first ward, Hiram Constant; second ward, O. Wolcott, long term; D. McKee, short term; third ward, J. B. Brown; fourth ward, Frank Vincent. Charles S. Hall was continued as city clerk, and George Hern as city marshal. The first matter of importance this council considered was the establishment of a sanitary sewer. It was estimated that the proposed sewer would cost forty thousand dollars, and it was to be constructed in such a manner that it could be added to as the city grew.

This council did what no other council has ever done. It paid the expenses of a committee of Hutchinson men who were in Chicago trying to secure the location of a packing-house in this city. No one ever questioned the right of the council to so appropriate money to obtain sufficient money and property to offer a bonus, and it was regarded as necessary to have this financial help from the city.

CITY'S BOUNDARY LINE EXTENDED.

During this year the boundary lines of the city were very largely extended, petitions for fifteen additions to the city being granted at one meeting in February, 1888. It was the beginning of the "boom," when town lots were laid out in every direction. Many of these additions were vacated after the boom in real estate collapsed. Some of them went back to farm land. In some the streets and alleys were vacated. The original corporate limits of the city were sufficient for a city of twenty times the size of Hutchinson; but of the additions to the city limits, there was no end in the early days of 1888, when there were more real estate men in Hutchinson than those engaged in any other occupation. The town was boomed by everybody. Values were inflated in such a manner that there could be no hope that those values would remain. But the council admitted every applicant for a place within the corporate limits of the city, on the theory that the newcomers would have to help support the city in taxes and the council of 1887 and 1888 denied none who knocked, but published the ordinances admitting them as fast as they were requested.

The council of this period came more nearly being one of "continuous session" than any the city has ever had. Besides the regular monthly meetings, special meetings were held almost every week, and on some weeks, two and even three times a week were they called together. The boom was on and when some real estate man wanted to plat an addition to the town, he induced three of the members of the council to call a special meeting. Perhaps no council in the city's history ever had as strenuous a time as the one of this period. Perhaps no other council acted on as many matters as did this council.

The election held on April 6, 1888, elected only the councilmen and members of the city school board. The mayor held his office for two years. The result of this election was as follows: Councilmen, first ward, A. M. West; second ward, G. W. Hardy; third ward, J. V. Clymer; fourth ward, W. E. Hutchinson. The members of the school board chosen at this election were: First ward, J. B. Allen; second ward, L. W. Zinn; third ward, F. R. Chrisman; fourth ward, B. S. Hoagland. The mayor appointed the city officers as follows: Marshal, George Hern; assistant marshal, Eugene M. Rugg; city clerk, Charles E. Hall, and R. A. Campbell, city attorney.

The most important matter this council considered was the construction of a sewer system for Hutchinson. On November 26, the council passed an ordinance defining the sewer district. On January 22, 1889, the contract for the sewer was let and construction was soon begun.

ELECTION WARMLY CONTESTED.

The election held on April 5, 1889, was one of the most warmly contested ones in the history of Hutchinson. There were two candidates for mayor—Hiram Constant and J. F. Greenlee. Constant greatly outdistanced Greenlee, although it was confidently expected that Greenlee would be elected. Constant polled 1,361 votes and Greenlee received 933 votes. J. P. McCurdy, D. B. McKee, D. W. Holaday and J. F. Gardner were elected councilmen. D. W. Stimmel was elected police judge over four competitors. Mrs. Sadie Lewis was elected city treasurer. A. W. Robbins was chosen by the mayor for city marshal and A. A. Meredith for city clerk.

The council of this year had but little of importance beyond routine matters. One of the most important was the voting of twenty thousand dollars worth of bonds to aid in extending the terminal facilities of the Hutchinson, Oklahoma & Gulf railroad, now the Hutchinson & Southern railroad. This bond issue was carried by a vote of 784 to 420.

On August 28, 1889, a franchise was granted to R. R. Price to manufacture and supply gas to the citizens of Hutchinson for heating and illuminating.

This year saw the beginning of the decline in values from the "boom" when prices for real estate were pushed up to a level for which there was no warrant. One of the factors that carried the inflation so far was the ease with which money could be borrowed. There were loan agents in abundance, handling Eastern money that then was so plentiful. There was not enough business in the county to justify the building that was carried on and as a consequence, as soon as the interest became due, it was realized that there were more houses, both for business and residence, than the town needed.

Out of the reaction there came two men who were never bothered by the terrors of a business collapse. One was Ben Blanchard. The paralysis of the boom in South Hutchinson, which Blanchard had largely built, impelled him to bore for oil. In his efforts to get oil he struck salt, and this was the beginning of the salt industry that is spoken of elsewhere.

AN ENTERPRISING EDITOR.

The other man whose ardor was not dampened by the decline in real estate was Ralph M. Easley. The collapse of the boom had annihilated the prospective resources of the *Hutchinson Daily News*, of which he was the owner and editor, and Easley, like Blanchard, hunting around for some way out, of his own volition and without consulting any other citizen of Hutchinson, telegraphed Dold & Company, of Kansas City, a cash offer of one hundred thousand dollars to build a packing house in Hutchinson. Dold answered Easley's telegram, and Easley, L. A. Bigger and Sam Campbell were appointed a committee to go to Kansas City and see Dold, and out of this struggling venture to hold on, finally came the packing-house, the lard refinery and the stock yards, also spoken of in another chapter of this history.

During that period, for the first and only time in the history of Hutchinson, the mayor died while holding office. Mayor Constant died on January 19, 1890, and appropriate action was taken by an extra session of the city council. Mr. Constant, as noted in the resolutions passed by the council, was regarded as one of the benefactors of the city, and his care and consideration of the poor and unfortunate were especially dwelt upon. He was also commended for his unselfishness and devotion to the public, as well as to his private duties. J. V. Clymer, being president of the council, assumed the

duties of mayor until the regular annual election, when a mayor would be elected to fill out the unexpired term of Mr. Constant.

The election held on April 4, 1890, resulted in the election of John Sev-erance as mayor. He was the only candidate and received all but two of the votes cast. Frank Colladay was elected member of the council from the first ward; J. T. Norman, from the second ward; F. McCollom, from the third ward, and Samuel Matthews, from the fourth ward. Jerry Ballinger was appointed city marshal; William Ingham was chosen as city clerk; Z. L. Wise was appointed city attorney and Fred Carpenter, city engineer.

There was little of public interest during this administration. The city ordinances were revised and the council spent the greater part of its existence trying some policemen for misconduct. They took the time of several meetings listening to the testimony in the case, when they might have suspended him in a few moments; but it was the demand of the chief of police, who, from the testimony introduced before the council, was more intent on getting evidence of misconduct on the part of some policemen than he was in looking after the vindication of the law. But the administration closed without "getting" any of the offending policemen.

COUNCIL AND MAYOR AT OUTS.

In the election of April 7, 1891, the following were chosen for city officers: Mayor, R. A. Campbell; police judge, D. S. Gibbs; city treasurer, E. A. Smith; councilmen, first ward, D. E. Reid; second ward, D. B. McKee; third ward, S. J. Sipes; fourth ward, H. Miskiman. The mayor and council got into a wrangle at the first meeting. The council refused to confirm the mayor's appointments. After several meetings the officers of the city were appointed one at a time. A. R. Little was chosen city clerk. Jerry Ballinger declined the office of city marshal by reason of the council's refusal to confirm the mayor's appointment. At a meeting held on October 31, 1890, Mayor Campbell resigned and W. L. Winslow was elected to fill his place. This arrangement met with the approval of the council, for all members voted to accept the nomination. Though the record doesn't disclose the deal, it is recalled that as soon as Mr. Campbell's successor was elected he appointed the former mayor as city attorney, and by this means ended the row between the mayor and the council. Jerry Ballinger was succeeded by George E. Miller as city marshal. Resignations being a part of the activities of this council, D. E. Reid felt called upon to resign for some failure of the council to act as he desired on matters he suggested. His resignation was unanimously accepted.

The election of 1892 resulted in the selection of Frank Vincent as mayor, and councilmen as follows: First ward, long term, Charles E. Brown; short term, J. B. McCurdy; second ward, W. L. Winslow; third ward, long term, J. T. Norman, short term, David Holliday; fourth ward, James Myers. The following appointments were made by Mayor Vincent: City attorney, F. F. Prigg; city marshal, George E. Miller; city clerk, George D. Barclay. This council was a peaceable one; no friction developed and there was only one resignation, that of the city clerk, George D. Barclay, who resigned on December 20. W. R. Underwood was appointed as his successor. During this administration the number of the wards was increased to six. The condemnation of some old board sidewalks, as a result of several accidents and resultant damage suits, was one of the principal acts of the council, and for the first time the city began to require permanent sidewalks of stone or brick. The drainage damage suits against the city also received the attention of the council, many of the people living below the city on Cow creek, into which all the sewage of the city was emptied, having brought suit against the city for damages and for a permanent injunction against the city so disposing of the sewage.

CITY WARRANTS HEAVILY DISCOUNTED.

The city treasurer's report for 1892 showed the total receipts of the city for the year to be \$11,463.48, and the total expenditures, \$10,338.86, leaving a balance of \$1,124.62 on hands. There was no detailed report of either receipts or expenditures, nor was there any showing of the bonded or floating indebtedness of the city.

The election on April 6, 1893, resulted in the election of Frank Vincent as mayor; councilmen, first ward, W. F. Wass; second ward, Marion Watson; third ward, D. H. Holliday; fourth ward, F. P. Hettinger; fifth ward, long term, C. A. Ryker; short term, H. Miskimen; sixth ward, long term, J. M. Mulkey; short term, E. Edwards. The mayor appointed the following: City attorney, F. F. Prigg; city clerk, W. R. Underwood; city marshal, George E. Miller.

The records fail to disclose anything but routine matters during the existence of this council. The election of April 4, 1894, resulted in the election of the following councilmen: First ward, M. Hoagland; second ward, O. E. Comstock; third ward, W. R. Bennett; fourth ward, J. M. Harsha; fifth ward, H. Miskimen; sixth ward, E. Edwards. The appointments of the mayor for the other officers of the city were the same as that of the

previous year. The city's finances were in such a shape that city script was at such a discount that it became necessary to vote nine thousand dollars in bonds to take up the script then outstanding. Beyond the election and the mayor's veto of guttering ordinances, because of the bad financial condition of the city, this council did nothing of importance.

The election held on April 1, 1895, resulted as follows: Mayor, Frank Vincent; councilmen, first ward, G. W. Wright; second ward, M. Watson; third ward, S. H. Holliday; fourth ward, A. L. Forsha; fifth ward, C. A. Ryker; sixth ward, H. W. Willett. John Anderson was elected police judge; the city clerk and city attorney of the previous administration were reappointed, and S. V. Davis was appointed city marshal. Among the things this council did was to issue eighteen thousand dollars in city warrants to take up the city script that was being so greatly discounted. These warrants bore interest at the rate of six per cent. until paid by the city. The entire trouble with the city's finances was the loss of taxes caused by the shrinkage in values of property after the boom had collapsed. The city was constantly running behind in its financial matters.

Little interest was taken in the election of April 7, 1896, a very light vote being cast and only one ticket having been nominated. William Pells was elected councilman for the first ward; J. R. Campbell for the second ward; A. H. Foeltzer, third ward; J. P. Harsha, fourth ward; Walter Kile, fifth ward, and J. S. George, sixth ward. The appointive officers remained the same as during the previous administration. The financial matters of the city were finally adjusted by the city voting bonds for fifty-five thousand dollars to take up outstanding warrants and script.

The election held on April 4, 1897, resulted in the election of J. P. Harsha, as mayor, F. P. Hettinger being his opponent. The councilmen chosen were: First ward, J. W. Roberts; second ward, W. S. Randle; third ward, J. B. Baxter; fourth ward, N. L. Hollowell; fifth ward, Jacob Schoenfeld; sixth ward, W. H. S. Benedict. W. R. Underwood was elected city clerk. Charles J. Noyes, police judge, and D. E. Benedict, city marshal.

MORE AID GRANTED RAILROAD.

During this administration the city voted twenty-five thousand dollars in bonds to the Hutchinson & Southwestern Improvement Company. These bonds were for the building of the depot for the Hutchinson & Southern railroad. This road had been using the Rock Island depot for its station. The depot was built by the Hutchinson & Southern railroad and for a couple of

years was so used by that road, but when the road was sold to the Santa Fe, the depot was discontinued and the Hutchinson & Southern, then a branch of the Santa Fe, used the depot of the latter road. Later this depot was sold to the Missouri Pacific, which formerly had its depot on Avenue D, and the Santa Fe discontinued the use of that depot and the Missouri Pacific began the use of the old Hutchinson & Southern depot.

The election held on April 8, 1898, resulted in the election of Jonathan Teter as councilman from the first ward; E. S. Handy, second ward; A. H. Foeltzer, third ward; W. H. Kinney, fourth ward; M. V. Whetzel, fifth ward, and J. P. Shunk, sixth ward. D. E. Benedict was elected city marshal, and W. R. Marshall, city clerk. F. F. Prigg was continued as city attorney.

The city council, on February 20, 1898, bought a building on Sherman street, west, lots 29 and 31, for city purposes, including council rooms, city jail, city clerk's office, police judge's office and fire department headquarters. The city paid thirteen hundred dollars for the two lots and the two-story brick building located on the lots. It also undertook to give Prospect Park to the Hutchinson & Southern railroad for roundhouse, shops, etc., but later it was discovered that the park could not legally be used for any purpose other than that for which it was given to the city, namely, for a park, hence the inability of the council to carry out the liberal offer it had made to the Hutchinson & Southern railroad. Otherwise there was not much of general interest developed in Hutchinson in 1898.

THE COMING OF NATURAL GAS.

The election of 1899 was not one of any great interest. The mayoralty contest was between Frank Vincent and B. W. Ladd. Vincent beat Ladd by more than a three-to-one vote, he receiving 1,314 votes, and Ladd 388. For councilmen, William Pells was unanimously elected in the first ward. In the second ward Charles N. Payne won over J. R. Campbell; in the third ward J. B. Baxter had no opposition; in the fourth ward Henry W. Wilson had no opposition; in the fifth ward Charles Crawford won over J. W. Schoenifield; in the sixth ward Charles Brown and Harless Rayle were the candidates, and Brown was elected. Harry E. Holaday was elected city clerk. Charles J. Noyes was elected police judge, and E. Hedden won over D. E. Benedict for city marshal. J. V. Clymer was unanimously chosen city attorney.

One of the first things done by this council was the granting of a franchise to E. H. Hoag to use the streets and alleys of the city to pipe natural

gas into this city from the gas fields of southeastern Kansas. During this year the start toward a city library was made, the council granting the use of rooms in the city building for a library and reading rooms. There were a limited number of volumes of books, mostly donated, at the beginning of the library; but it was a start from which grew the present city library, with an ample building on North Main street and a levy annually to buy new books and to maintain the library. It was the beginning of one of the most helpful enterprises of the kind ever started in Hutchinson. This small start created sufficient interest in a public library to secure the passage of a resolution submitting the question of voting a half-mill tax to support the library at the next city election.

In the election of 1900, "Kirkpatrick" and "Davis" were candidates for mayor. The city clerk evidently was so busy that he did not put down either candidate's initials, and nowhere in the records do the initials of the successful candidate, Mr. Kirkpatrick, appear. In the second ward, H. Schlaudt was elected councilman; in the third ward, W. H. Wilson was the successful candidate; in the fourth ward, Samuel Carey was elected; in the fifth ward, W. N. Baker was elected, in the fifth ward, C. L. Vaughn was the successful candidate, and J. P. Shunk was chosen to represent the sixth ward. Harry Holaday was elected city clerk; E. Hedden, city marshal, and W. H. Lewis, city attorney. The proposition to vote a tax of one mill to support a free city library was defeated by a small majority, but its supporters went to work more enthusiastically to create sentiment for another submission of the vote and the council fixed May 12, 1900, as the date of a special election. At this special election the proposition carried by 277 majority.

CITY'S FINANCES IN A BAD WAY.

In the latter part of the year 1900 the city entered into a contract with L. A. Bigger to refund the bonded indebtedness of the city, then amounting to one hundred and eighty-four thousand dollars, and reduce the interest on the bonds from six per cent. to five per cent. It was some time before the contract was carried out. The city's finances were in a bad way, the city paying out annually more than it was receiving in taxes. It was running behind so badly that during this year the council met with the Commercial Club of the city to find some way of keeping the city's credit good, keep the city script from selling below par and to generally improve the financial condition of the city treasury. The refunding plan proposed by Mr. Bigger



SHERMAN STREET



MAIN STREET

was a step toward getting the city on a basis where it could pay its operating expenses without issuing script.

The city's financial condition became an issue in the city election. It was asserted that the city administration showed its inability to handle the city's finances, and that some others should be put into the office to put the city on a proper basis. So, on this issue, began a series of political campaigns that lasted for years, between J. P. Harsha, the mayor at the time, and F. L. Martin. The contest ran over several years, until the returning of better times financially, when higher values for real estate and the resultant receipt of more money in taxes settled the controversy, and the contest between the two factions represented by these two men was settled by events outside the control of either faction or either of the men involved. The final arrangements for this refunding plan proposed by Mr. Bigger were closed up on March 30, 1901, the council agreeing to pay Mr. Bigger \$7,843 for his services in securing the reduction of the interest on the outstanding bonds of sixty-two thousand dollars.

The election of April 5, 1901, resulted in the election of Frank L. Martin. His opponent was Willis N. Baker, who became the first of the candidates who alternated with Martin in the mayoralty of Hutchinson for a few years. William Pells was elected councilman for the first ward; B. W. Ladd was chosen from the second ward; L. D. Pollock received a majority of the votes in the third ward; A. E. Asher, receiving six more votes than his opponent, A. N. Bountz, was chosen in the fourth ward; Charles Crawford received a majority of the votes for the short term in the fifth ward, and Walter Kile for the long term; O. Suttle was unanimously elected councilman from the sixth ward, and E. I. Parks was chosen to represent the sixth ward in the city administration. C. J. Noyes was elected police judge. The council confirmed the following appointments of the mayor: City clerk, George S. Bourne; city attorney, H. S. Lewis; city marshal, Frank Nicholson.

MUNICIPALIZATION PROJECT FAILED.

Among the first things done by this council was the granting of a franchise to J. S. Bellamy and W. E. Burns for the erection and maintenance of a telephone system in the city.

This council began negotiations with the Water, Light and Power Company for the purchase of the plant by the city. A resolution to that effect was passed on October 4, 1901, setting forth the conditions upon which the city would enter negotiations for the purchase of the plant, among which

was one setting out that the city should not be required to pay cash, but should be allowed to pay for the plant by an issue of bonds not to bear more than four per cent. interest; the city also to have the right to employ an expert to place a valuation on the plant. The city further specified that the price paid must be such that the assured income of the plant would pay for the interest on the purchase price, and that the bond issue should gradually supplant all hydrant rentals. In furtherance of this plan the city employed C. H. Evans, a Chicago engineer, to place a value on the waterworks plant. Evans made his report to the council on January 4, 1902, in which he placed the total value of the plant at \$267,160.71, this exclusive of the real-estate value, and of the value of the franchise, or business, which he placed at \$100,000 additional. His report favored the purchase of the plant, he claiming that the net profits to the city would be \$14,700 a year, to which, he claimed, should be added the saving of foreign administration, and that the saving of state and county taxes would increase the net earnings to \$18,724.03. But nothing ever came of this effort to purchase the water plant and operate it as a municipal plant. The agitation was kept up for a while, but it soon died down.

The election held on April 4, 1902, resulted in the selection of the following for councilmen: First ward, A. E. Asher; second ward, John Severance; third ward, W. H. Wislon, long term, and C. S. Woods, short term; fourth ward, F. G. Delano, for the long term, and A. W. Eagán, for the unexpired term; fifth ward, C. L. Vaughn; sixth ward, Chester O'Neal.

CARNEGIE LIBRARY OFFER ACCEPTED.

On June 2, 1902, the city received an offer from Andrew Carnegie to erect a fifteen-thousand-dollar building for a public library, on condition that the city provide fifteen hundred dollars a year for the support of the library. The council promptly accepted Mr. Carnegie's offer, and the public library was soon an established institution in Hutchinson.

Considerable extension of the sewers of the city was made during this year, although a policy of retrenchment was the one that governed the council, the aim being to try and get the city on a cash basis. As was referred to in an earlier part of this chapter, the contest over mayor was begun and was continued in the election held on April 7, 1903. The vote on mayor at this election showed a majority of 329, Martin receiving 1,638 votes, and Harsha, 2,055. The councilmen elected were: First ward, C. W. Oswald; second ward, J. R. Campbell; third ward, John Blair; fourth ward, Henry

Hartman; fifth ward, Samuel Hirst; sixth ward, James Hetlinger. W. R. Underwood was elected police judge. S. F. Johnson was chosen city clerk; A. C. Malloy, city attorney, and James Coleman, city marshal.

In the election held on April 8, 1904, the following were elected councilmen: First ward, M. I. Hulst; second ward, L. A. Beebe; third ward, L. F. Morris; fourth ward, F. G. Delano; fifth ward, Frank McDermid; sixth ward, Chester O'Neal. There were no changes made in the appointive offices of the city.

SOME INTERESTING FINANCIAL EXPEDIENTS.

The police judge's report for this year, as for other years during the time the "joint licensing" policy was adopted by the council, showed monthly fines running from seven hundred to one thousand dollars. But despite receipts added to the taxable income of the city, the council proceedings are full of plans of that body to raise more money. Expedients of all sorts were resorted to. Levies were made for purposes for which no money was spent, and then the money received by taxation for those purposes was transferred from those several funds to the general fund. The judgment fund and the sinking fund were the most prolific sources of increased revenue. Instead of applying on the bonds as they matured the money that was derived from levies to pay off bonds, the councils of these years of licensing of joints, by resolution, would transfer the money so raised to the general fund and keep it to pay the expenses of the city. The bill for extra police caused by reason of the joints that were allowed to run, more than absorbed the revenue from the joints; in addition, these councils were extravagant in the extreme in their expenditures and the city finances were in a poor shape.

The election held on April 4, 1905, was a warmly contested one. There were three candidates: J. P. Harsha, A. W. McCandless and J. C. Shatton. The first two were running on independent tickets, the latter being the Socialist candidate. Harsha was elected. In the first ward C. W. Oswald was elected member of the council; J. E. Hostettler, in the second ward; John Blair, third; W. S. Thompson, fourth; C. Howard, fifth, and E. I. Parks, sixth. W. R. Underwood was elected city clerk; Joe Riggs was appointed city marshal; S. F. Johnson, city clerk, and A. C. Malloy, city attorney.

The ordinance calling for the paving of Main street was passed by the council of the preceding year, but the contract for the paving was made by the council of 1905. During this year the street was paved from Avenue D to Fifth avenue, with bitulitic. This was the first pavement put down in

Hutchinson. Sherman street, west, was the next pavement to be put down, then Sherman street, east. Avenue A was also paved soon after the pavements of the other streets named had been put down.

CONSTRUCTION OF DRAINAGE DITCH.

During this year the city dug a big drainage ditch from Cow creek to the river. It cost the city over thirty thousand dollars. It was the purpose of this ditch to take the water from Cow creek, above the town, with the view to preventing flood waters from coming through the business part of the town. This canal has helped carry water off in ordinarily "high-water" periods. But there have been no such floods as swept over the city in 1877 or in 1903 since it was dug. At the present time the ditch has grown up in weeds and willows and filled up with sand blowing into it and washing into it with every rain, so that at the present time it would be of very little value to the city in flood time, such as covered Hutchinson in either of the two big floods that have come down Cow creek.

This council also brought on a controversy with the Water, Light and Power Company that was very unfortunate. It is probable, looking at the controversy years afterward, that there was a great deal of personal animosity governing some of the council members in their dealing with the waterworks company, that contentious members of the council allowed their personal feelings to bias their judgment of the rights of both the water company and the city; as a result, the water company cut off the electric street lights. This forced the council to "back up" from some of their positions and offer to deal with the waterworks company. The whole controversy was uncalled for, but was settled later when the water company changed hands and a new council was elected that had no personal animosities to vent.

FRANCHISE GRANTED ELECTRIC STREET-CAR LINE.

On December 15, 1905, the council granted a franchise for an electric street-car line in Hutchinson. The franchise was given to Hutchinson men, and these men later bought the old street-car line. The men to whom the franchise was given were Emerson Carey, K. E. Sentney, C. W. Williams, C. H. McBurney, A. W. Smith, and J. S. George, the first three named being those upon whom the burden of building the line would fall. The line today is owned by Emerson Carey, all the other members having retired from the company. Its lines have been extended as the city has grown, and has be-

come a valuable factor in the city's ability to meet the demands of the people. Extensions are made as fast as traffic grows, and an adequate service is rendered the people of the city.

The election held on April 6, 1906, resulted as follows: Councilmen, first ward, J. H. Buettner; second ward, George T. Hern; third ward, W. E. Long; fourth ward, Pet Nation; fifth ward, Frank McDermed; sixth ward, Chester O'Neal. The council retained all of the former employees. Very little of general interest was accomplished during this year. Routine matters occupied the time of the council. The city gradually increased in size. Financially its affairs were not bettered to any great extent; while the income from taxation was greatly increased, yet the expenditures of the city grew equally as fast as the income of the city.

In the election held April 5, 1907, J. P. Harsha was elected mayor over C. W. Oswald. A. C. Hoagland was chosen member of the council from the first ward; A. L. Barnes, from the second ward; John Blair, from the third; W. S. Thompson, from the fourth; John Craig, from the fifth, and E. I. Parks, from the sixth ward. W. R. Underwood was elected police judge, and Ed Metz was appointed city clerk.

On April 8, 1908, the city elected the following members of the council: First ward, J. H. Buettner; second ward, George Hern; third ward, J. M. McVay; fourth ward, Samuel Hirst; fifth ward, Frank McDermed; sixth ward, E. J. Canatsey.

COMMISSION FORM OF GOVERNMENT.

During this administration the city council passed an ordinance calling for a change in the form of the city government from that of mayor and council to that of a commission. This ordinance was unanimously passed on January 25, 1909, and the change was made on a petition to the council. The election was held on March 2, 1909, when the change was voted for, there being 970 votes cast for the proposition and 619 against the change.

CHAPTER XLVI.

HUTCHINSON AS A CITY OF THE FIRST CLASS.

Hutchinson changed the form of her city government on April 10, 1905, when the first city commissioners met. There had been many influences at work to bring about the change from council to commission. One of the most practical of these influences was the persistent policy of the council to "wink" at the violation of the prohibitory law. It was difficult to defeat the councilmen who saw the law-breaking and welcomed the revenue the monthly fines turned into the city treasury. While it would be difficult to determine, yet it is quite probable that the fines received into the city treasury never by far paid the increased cost of maintaining the peace of the city or paid for the expense of caring for those whom the open joint deprived of the earnings of those who patronized those joints. So an ouster proceeding was brought against the last mayor under the council system. The case was heard in the supreme court, but the decision was delayed until the term of the mayor expired and in a technical sense he was not ousted for he was not in the office at the time the judgment of ouster was rendered by the supreme court of Kansas. The disclosure of that suit was the deciding element for the change in the form of city government. It also was a warning for mayors not only of Hutchinson, but of the entire state, that the persistent and continuous taking of fines from offenders without the jail sentence being also attached would be a matter that would subject the offender to a judgment of ouster for his office. The sentiment arising out of the continuous breach of the prohibitory law under the guise of license was also the cause of the passage of a law by the Legislature making the third conviction of the law a penitentiary offence.

So the new commission went into office. It had a plainly marked line to follow. It not only could not raise money from this source but it was prohibited from spending more money than it had on hands, derived by taxes. It cut down the extravagance of cities. They could not go in debt, as the councils of the past did; issue warrants until those warrants would not be accepted for service or merchandise, then vote bonds to take up those warrants and continue their old way of spending more than they had on

hand. Economies were forced on the new commission that have been exceedingly wholesome, for in the "joint days" the extravagance of the council was increased when the police judge turned in his monthly report to the meeting of the council, the report of the big sums of money being turned over to the city treasury from funds collected during the month.

The first commission consisted of three men, the mayor and two members. F. L. Martin was the first mayor and George W. Winans and C. W. Oswald the members. In the early part of their term they met every day. They were paid for their services, the mayor receiving seven hundred dollars a year; the members, each five hundred dollars. Their first act was the election of George Hern as city marshal and A. W. Tyler as city attorney; S. A. Poe, city clerk and R. A. Campbell, police judge. In the early part of their administration they ordered many miles of permanent sidewalks. The commissioners on June 14, 1909, ordered an election to vote on the question of issuing internal improvement bonds, the money to be spent in building a bridge at the corner of Avenue A and Main street. This election was held on June 29, 1909, and resulted in the bonds receiving eight hundred and forty-nine majority.

In July the commissioners undertook to get some return for the stock in the Missouri Pacific railroad that had been voted for the building of the road into the city. As a result of this action of the commissioners the railroad company paid twenty-nine thousand four hundred dollars for the stock issued by the city when the forty-nine-thousand-dollar bond issue was made to the road. This was the first time in the history of the county when any of the municipalities ever realized anything on the sale of the stock of a railroad corporation. This is all the more noticeable when the action of the Rock Island railroad is recalled. The Chicago, Kansas & Western railroad, the name under which the Rock Island was built across the county, issued one hundred and seventy thousand dollars worth of stock to Reno county for the bonds of the county for a like amount. As soon as the road was constructed the first payment of interest on the bonds of the company was defaulted and the Rock Island Company, which was in reality identical with the Chicago, Kansas and Western railroad, foreclosed on its bonds, made Reno county a party to the suit and wiped out the county's stock.

During this year Adam street from Avenue A to the Santa Fe Railroad tracks was paved.

In the second election under the commission form of government, F. L. Martin and L. A. Bebee were candidates for mayor. Martin was elected

by a majority of one hundred and sixty-seven votes. The city appointees remained the same as under the former administration.

On December 2, 1910, the board of commissioners passed a resolution, upon a request of a mass meeting of citizens of Hutchinson, to make this city a city of the first class, but they also declared that there was a doubt as to whether the city, if it should pass to a city of the first class, should continue under the commission form of government or revert to the council system, and that any action on the matter should be deferred until the Legislature met and had an opportunity to enact such laws as would be necessary to meet the exact situation of Hutchinson; so the matter of changing to a city of the first class was deferred until the regular spring election. But on February 21, 1911, the city became a city of the first class by virtue of having a population of more than fifteen thousand people. In this election, held on April 4, 1911, there were two candidates for mayor, Frank Vincent and F. P. Hettinger. Vincent received 2,277 votes and Hettinger 1,928 votes; for the office of commissioner for two years, Frank McDermed and George W. Winan were candidates; for commissioner for one year, Sam S. Graybill and L. D. Pollock also ran. Being a city of the first class, the number of commissioners was increased from three to five. The city having voted bonds for a new city building that was to have also a public auditorium, the matter of location was taken up by the city commissioners and the site located on Avenue A, over Cow creek and fronting Walnut street. The city building was officially named "Convention Hall". It has a seating capacity of four thousand two hundred and contains also all of the city offices. The corner stone was laid by William H. Taft, then President of the United States, on September 26, 1911. The building was erected at a cost of one hundred and twenty-five thousand dollars and has been in great demand when large audience room is needed. It is one of the chief assets of the city in offering a large auditorium for state conventions. It also is valuable in bringing a larger number of people together frequently and promoting a better feeling among all classes. Every Sunday afternoon the city's band gives a concert, without any charges and concerts of a high standard are rendered. People of all grades of life attend these concerts, the rich, the poor, white and black. Perhaps nothing has ever done as much to promote a kindlier feeling in the city, nothing has broken up the class feeling, nothing has promoted the general regard one for another, in the community as has this gathering that is supported by the city by taxation, in a building ample and free to all, without discrimination, without distinction. The Sunday afternoon concerts given by the municipi-



METHODIST HOSPITAL, HUTCHINSON



CONVENTION HALL, HUTCHINSON

pal band also taxes the capacity of the building and its existence would be justified for these meetings alone, if the big auditorium was put to no other use.

The election of April 2, 1912, resulted in the election of Frank Vincent for mayor by a vote of 2,113 to that of 1,571 for C. D. Forby and 36 for W. W. Tamplin. R. H. Flynn and John F. Smith were elected commissioners. J. Q. Patten was elected city marshal; Edward Metz continued as city clerk; Walter Jones, city attorney, and M. Hoagland, probate judge. The first session of the city commissioners in the new hall was held on May 3, 1912.

The primary election of 1913 was a hotly contested one. There were three candidates for mayor in the spring election and of these Lincoln S. Davis and L. S. Fontron were the two highest and became, by virtue of this fact, the candidates on the election. In this election Davis received 2,273 votes to Fontron's 2,781 votes. For finance commissioner, George W. Winans received 2,672 votes and Harry Ragland, 1,972 votes. For street commissioner J. B. Baird polled 2,133 votes and J. E. Buskirk, 2,701 votes.

Mayor Fontron was one of the youngest men ever elected to this office, perhaps the youngest. He was raised in Reno county and received his early education in the county schools, later graduating from the city high school. He was a successful business man and was popular in the election and made the city a very fine mayor. The following offices were appointed by the mayor and confirmed by the council to act for the ensuing year: City attorney, W. F. Jones; police judge, J. M. Jordan; city clerk, Edward Metz; chief of police, E. M. Davis. This council, like its predecessor, was largely engaged in internal improvements in all parts of the city not before improved; rebuilding some of the smaller bridges of the city and in the general routine of commission work, such as admitting new additions to the city, letting sprinkling contracts, etc. This commission also established the "White Way" on Main street, a system of a cluster of lights on standards, one cluster in each block on each side of the street in place of the old swinging arc lights in the center of the street. This added greatly to the appearance of Main street at night. It may be said that Hutchinson was among the first cities of the state to put in these kind of street lights.

This commission passed the first ordinance for the parking of automobiles on Main street. It will be recalled that one of the things the early councils had to contend with, was the hitching of teams on Main street. However, the commission that handled the automobile parking matter did

not have as serious a time as its predecessor did in dealing with the hitching-post question. But the question was one that recurred so often that the plan of parking now in use was devised by this commission and it also passed speed regulation ordinances, which, however, are not quite as much honored in the breach as in the observance of the ordinance by the automobiles, yet a sufficiently large number of violations are found every day and automobile accidents are so common, because of the great number of machines, that it perhaps would be about as well for the commission to raise the limit of speed and save having so many violations of its ordinances, as there are but few instances when automobiles are driven on the streets strictly in accordance with the ordinance governing the speed of machines on the streets of the city. This commission also adopted the policy of its predecessors and continued the improvement of the city, putting a sidewalk and curbing where desired by property owners and where it would add to the improvement of the city.

The election of April 7, 1914, was not as warmly contested as the previous elections. F. W. Cook and L. S. Davis were the candidates for mayor. Cook received 3,102 votes and Davis 2,855 votes. R. H. Flinn was elected commissioner of parks and John F. Smith, commissioner of public utilities. George Hern was appointed city marshal and Edward Metz continued as city clerk.

In the election held on April 12, 1915, there were two candidates for mayor, F. W. Cook and J. P. Harsha. Cook received 2,977 votes in the election and Harsha, 2,946 votes. G. W. Winans was continued as commissioner of finance and J. E. Buskirk, street commissioner. In the appointive offices, Walter Jones was continued as city attorney; George W. Hern as city marshal. This council had the question of "Sunday closing" to contend with. Some wanted all show places closed on Sunday. The show people resented being singled out and began a campaign to close all business houses. In the movement many of the business firms joined, as most of them wanted to close and they desired an ordinance that would force their competitors who did not want to close, to conform to the rule. The result of the controversy was a "referendum" vote. The Sunday-closing ordinance in the "referendum" vote lost, by a vote of 2,920 against the ordinance to 2,430 for the ordinance.

In the election of 1916, Doctor Cook was opposed by A. C. Gleadall. The latter won, receiving 2,854 votes to Cook's 2,232. For commissioner of parks R. H. Flynn received 2,434 votes and his competitor, H. N. Johnson, 2,384 votes. For commissioner of utilities, W. A. Knorr received

2,002 votes and J. F. Smith 1,865 votes. Walter Jones was continued as city attorney; Ed. Metz, as city clerk and W. F. Cody, city marshal.

In the election in 1917, F. W. Cook was a candidate again. His opponent was Frank Vincent. Cook polled 2,383 votes and Frank Vincent received 2,124 votes. For finance commissioner, George W. Winans was continued, he receiving 3,365 votes and E. E. Wilson, 953. For commissioner of streets Will H. Shears defeated J. E. Buskirk, he polling 2,337 votes and Shears, 2,132 votes. The appointive offices of the former administration were continued except that of city marshal. The commission, acting on petition, ordered Adams street paved and ordered a large number of sidewalks and gutters, and likewise approved the drainage plans proposed by the proprietors of the soda-ash plant, the strawboard factory and the packing house, substituting a closed sewer for the open ditch formerly used.

CHAPTER XLVII.

THE SALT INDUSTRY.

The salt vein in Kansas is fairly well defined. It is a rock salt deposit and is found in the counties of Rice, Ellsworth, Kingman, Harper, some in Meade county and in Reno county. While there are salt manufacturers at other places than in Reno county, yet a very large percentage of the salt business in Kansas is centered at Hutchinson.

Salt was known to exist at an early day in Reno county and in Rice county. It was found on top of the ground in 1875 by some cowboys camping ten miles south of Raymond, in Rice county. This discovery was reported in Hutchinson and a salt company was organized to make salt. F. E. Gillett was elected president; E. Wilcox, treasurer; Hiram Raff, secretary; E. A. Smith, engineer, and C. C. Bemis, superintendent. They proposed to pump the brine from the salt marsh to Raymond, on the Santa Fe railroad, ten miles distant. It was soon discovered that the brine was not strong enough to make it profitable to evaporate it. Very little money had been paid into the project when it was found unprofitable. Salt was made in small quantities at Solomon, Kansas, by the solar process, but no great amount was ever made.

Ben Blanchard first discovered the rock salt in this county. He was drilling for gas in South Hutchinson when his drill struck salt. This was on September 27, 1887. Salt at that time was selling on the market in Hutchinson from three to three dollars and a half a barrel. It was all brought here from Michigan. Within a year after the discovery of salt by Ben Blanchard there were ten salt plants in operation in Hutchinson.

In June, 1888, representatives of the Michigan Salt Association visited Hutchinson. The party consisted of W. R. Burt, president, Edwin Wheeler, W. J. Barstow, Thomas Cranage, D. G. Holland, Joy Morton and J. F. Ewing. They expected to start the erection of a plant, but they found so many plants in operation that they considered it a bad time to invest. Later, Morton bought many of the plants that had failed to make money in the manufacture of salt and today the Morton interests are largely in the lead in the manufacture of salt.

The first salt plant that was built in Hutchinson was erected by Doctor Gouinloch, an experienced salt manufacturer of Warsaw, New York. He began the construction of his plant in October, 1887, and his first well was completed on December 16, 1887, after he had bored through three hundred feet of rock salt. On March 24, 1888, the first salt was produced.

The "opening day" for the salt industry in Reno county was on Sunday. A large percentage of the people living in Hutchinson and a great many from over the county visited the plant on this day. The crowd that attended this first day's manufacture of salt was estimated to be over five thousand. Dr. Gouinloch associated with him C. H. Humphries, who was superintendent of the plant. The company soon put down another well. This plant at the start had a capacity of five hundred barrels a day. Five years later it was enlarged and the capacity increased to one thousand barrels a day, consisting then of nine open steel pans from which the brine was evaporated.

The second plant started was called the "Vincent plant." The company organized consisted of Thomas Kurtz, president; George L. Gould, vice-president; John F. Vincent, secretary and treasurer, and Frank Vincent, general manager. In addition to these, Calvin I. Hood, C. A. Leighton and Preston B. Plumb, then United States senator from Kansas, were interested in the plant. But the three men from Emporia sold their interest to Kurtz before the plant began operations. This company was called the Hutchinson Salt and Manufacturing Company and was organized in March, 1888. Their plant, which was completed in July, 1888, was located on Avenue C east and Lorraine street. Its capacity was three hundred barrels a day. The following year they built the first dairy mill for the manufacture of dairy and table salt.

The Diamond Salt Company built the third salt plant. G. W. Hardy was president and Sims Ely, secretary. In addition to these two men, J. S. May, W. E. Burns and Grant Easley formed the company. Their plant was located in Blanchard's first addition and consisted of two open pans. It began the manufacture of salt in December, 1888, with a capacity of two hundred barrels a day. On April 25, 1892, it was sold at sheriff's sale to Charles E. Phelps, mortgagee, who, in turn, sold it in June, 1893, to Joy Morton, who operated it until the fall of 1897.

Late in the fall of 1888, G. H. Bartlett, of Providence, Rhode Island, built a small plant of one pan, located over in the northeastern part of the city. It was not an economical plant to operate and for a short time was

idle. It was then purchased by Samuel Matthews and Charles Collins. Shortly afterwards Mr. Matthews purchased Collins's interest and operated the plant, enlarging it from an eighty-barrel capacity to three hundred barrel daily capacity. Mr. Matthews had had considerable experience in the manufacture of salt in England and successfully operated the plant for many years. This was the fourth plant to be started.

Henry Hegwer built the fifth plant, in the northeastern part of town. He began the construction of his plant early in the summer of 1888 and had it in operation in the fall of the same year. It was a four-pan plant. Early in 1889, R. R. Price and W. L. Moore leased the plant of Mr. Hegwer and operated it under the name of the Western Salt Company. This lease passed to the Kansas Salt Company when it was organized and was operated by them until 1897. The Kansas Salt Company and the Hutchinson Salt Company consolidated in 1899 and finally became the property of the Morton Salt Company.

The Riverside Salt Plant was the seventh to be built. It was erected in South Hutchinson and was an open-pan plant, with a capacity of five hundred barrels a day. It also had a dairy mill in connection, with a capacity of one hundred barrels a day. The company was organized in June, 1888, by J. M. Mulkey, W. F. Mulkey, N. White, J. F. DeBras, A. M. West, W. E. Hutchinson and H. Whiteside, J. M. Mulkey being president of the company. In August, 1890, the ownership of this plant passed to the Kansas Salt Company. In May, 1899, it became the property of the Hutchinson-Kansas Salt Company and is now a part of the Morton property.

The eighth plant to be erected met financial troubles early in its existence. It was called the New York plant. Anthony Oswald was president of the company and J. M. Zimm, secretary. Early in 1889 it met with financial reverses and was not completed until early in 1891, when it was purchased by the Standard Salt Company. It was later sold to the Hutchinson Salt Company, finally becoming the property of the Morton Company.

The ninth plant was built by Indiana men. The company consisted of John H. Briggs, Andrew Grimes, J. N. Phillips, J. Q. Button and Frank Brittleband, all of Terre Haute, Indiana. They erected their plant in Blanchard's first addition to South Hutchinson. Beginning early in June to construct a plant, they called it the Crystal Salt Plant. It had two open steel pans and could produce three hundred barrels a day. It began operations in the fall of 1888 and in March, 1891, it was sold to the Hutchinson Salt Company and is now the property of the Mortons.

The tenth plant to be put up was erected by an organization called the Pennsylvania Salt Company. In the latter part of 1888, W. R. Bennett, T. J. Decker and C. R. Thoburn organized the company. The plant was erected in South Hutchinson and had a daily capacity of three hundred barrels. In 1890 it was sold to Jay Gould, who soon sold it to the Hutchinson Salt Company. This company operated the plant until May, 1899, when it passed to the Hutchinson Salt Company and finally to the Morton Company.

In the latter part of 1888, the Great Western Salt Company was organized by D. T. McFarland, Z. L. McFarland, J. O. Grimes, all of Hutchinson, J. H. Crabbs, of Dodge City, and M. Brandome, of Wichita. The company completed a small plant on South Monroe street, in this city, with a capacity of two hundred barrels a day. It was a poorly constructed plant and was never operated successfully. It passed to the Gould interests in November, 1890, who sold it to the Hutchinson Salt Company in 1891. It is now one of the Morton properties. This was the eleventh plant erected in less than a year after the discovery of salt.

In February, 1888, some men from Warsaw, New York, organized the Wyoming Salt Company. It was composed of E. H. Bucklin, J. B. Crossett, M. E. Coffin and W. W. Hanley. The building of the plant was handled by Mr. Hanley and the company commenced to make salt in August, 1888. The management and the business was not profitable. The plant was sold to an organization called the Queen City Salt & Mining Company, composed of J. R. Van Zandt, J. N. Sweet and A. F. Smith, all of Hutchinson. This plant was operated until November 1, 1892, when it was sold at sheriff's sale to B. F. Blaker, of Mound City, Kansas. Mr. Blaker operated the plant at times until 1895. The plant was then leased to G. C. Easley and Samuel Matthews, who operated it for a short time. The Kansas Salt Company and the Hutchinson Salt Company operated the plant jointly until January, 1900, when it passed to the ownership of the Hutchinson-Kansas Salt Company. It was an open-pan plant, with a daily capacity of two hundred barrels. It is now the property of the Morton Salt Company. This was the twelfth salt plant built in Hutchinson.

The thirteenth salt plant bore the "hoodoo" that is associated with that number. E. H. Holbrook, of Port Huron, Michigan, started the plant in South Hutchinson in 1901. After building four cement graner pans and drilling three brine wells, and after receiving several carloads of lumber with which to construct the plant, Mr. Holbrook disappeared from Hutchin-

son. It was generally supposed that he was unable to finance the enterprise and dropped it in that manner. The property was foreclosed in 1903 and was purchased by the Hutchinson Salt Company in March, 1908. The plant never was completed and in the consolidation of salt plants became the property of the Morton Company.

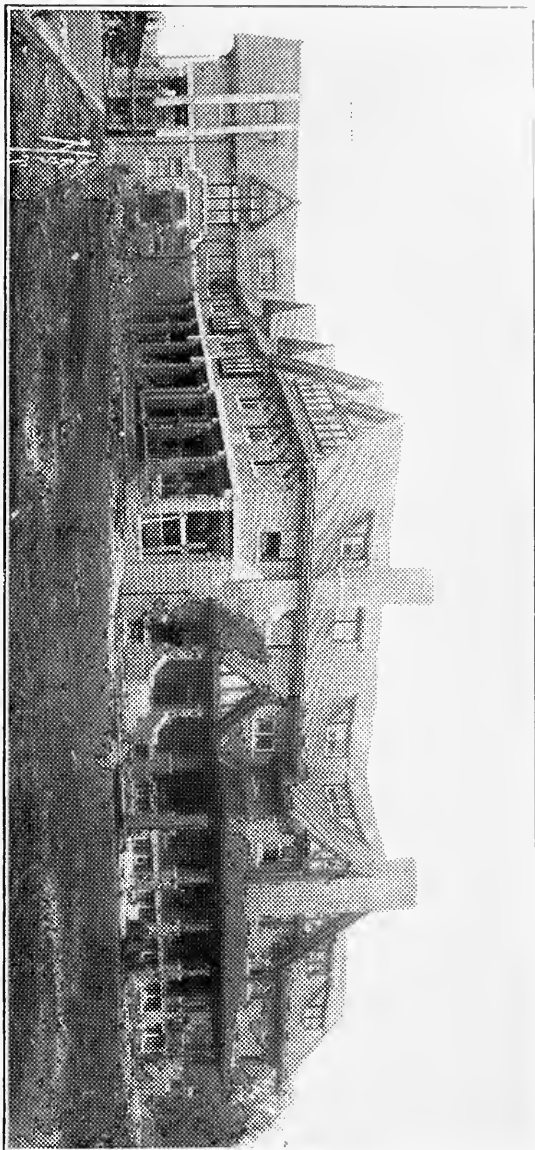
The fourteenth plant to be built was that of the Hutchinson Packing Company, owned by the Omaha Packing Company, of Chicago, Illinois. Its officers were James Viles, Jr., president; E. F. Robbins, vice-president; Sidney Underwood, secretary; Walter Underwood, general manager. It began the making of salt as a side line of the packing plant, the brine being evaporated with the used steam of the packing house. It began operations with two pans and in 1895 increased its capacity by adding two more pans. The output was then three hundred barrels a day. In 1895 the company put in the Craney Direct Heat Vacuum Pans, with a capacity of fourteen hundred barrels a day. The investment in this plant was about one hundred and fifty thousand dollars, with a storage capacity of eighty thousand barrels of salt. It also had a complete dairy mill. Financially it was not a success and closed down in 1900.

One of the successful salt manufacturers was Emerson Carey, who organized a company on April 25, 1901. Emerson Carey was president; C. W. Southward, vice-president; Edith Carey, secretary, and W. D. Puterbaugh, treasurer. This plant was located on South Main street and the steam to evaporate the brine was supplied from the ice plant. The first car of salt was shipped from the plant in July, 1901, to J. B. Baden, of Winfield, Kansas. This plant has continually grown until it now has a large daily capacity. In 1905 this company installed a small steam vacuum pan, but it was not successful and was later dismantled, and in 1907 the company put in the Lillie quadruple vacuum pans.

The second plant of this company was erected east of town, just outside the city limits. It was equipped with the Lillie quadruple vacuum pans and has a capacity of one thousand barrels a day, besides a dairy mill of two-hundred-barrel capacity, making a total capacity for the two plants of fifteen hundred barrels a day.

In the fall of 1892, E. E. Barton, Frank Barton and William Banta organized the Barton Salt Company, leased the packing house built by the Toby & Booth Packing House Company and installed a three-pan salt plant, with a capacity of three hundred barrels a day. In August, 1903, this plant was

BISONTE HOTEL, HUTCHINSON



destroyed by fire and on the old site, in the fall, they erected a new building and installed a five steel graner salt plant. They incorporated their company on July 1, 1905, with E. E. Barton, president; E. M. Barton, secretary and treasurer, and H. M. Barton, F. L. Martin and G. A. Vandever as other directors. This plant was operated by E. E. Barton until his death, on February 26, 1912, when the plant went into the hands of C. H. Humphreys. The company now operating it is officered by C. H. Humphreys, president; E. M. Barton, vice-president G. A. Samuelson, secretary, and George M. Bonnell, sales manager. In June, 1913, the company put in a vacuum evaporating plant and has made salt under this process since its completion, the latter part of 1913. It also has a dairy or refining plant in operation.

The Union Ice and Salt Company was organized in 1892. It was located on Avenue D east. It began operations in 1892 and has a capacity of two hundred and fifty barrels daily. J. F. Redhead was president of this company until July 1, 1900, when the plant was sold to Ed. Gardner. It has an ice plant in connection with the salt plant and perhaps is more of an ice plant than a salt plant.

The Star Salt Company was organized in 1889. R. E. Conn was president; Will Randle, secretary, and John Welsh, treasurer. Their plant was located west of town on the Santa Fe railroad. It had a dairy mill, with a fifty-barrel-a-day capacity. This company operated the plant until 1894, when it was sold to the Kansas Salt Company.

Such was the way in which the salt business in Reno county was started. As might have been anticipated, it soon became a matter of elimination. There were all classes of men engaged in the business. Some of them had had experience in the manufacture of salt, many of them had not. Some had the capacity to make salt at a reasonable cost, but they found that making the salt was only a part of the business. They found that the selling of the salt was equally important with the cheapness of manufacturing it. The result was that as soon as the market was filled and there was no demand for salt, the price fell to a point where the plants were operated at a loss. The salt makers stood this loss for a while, then undertook to remedy it. They held a meeting, at which the condition of the salt business was discussed and they found out that with a restricted territory they would have to curtail the output. Each man thought the others should cut down his output. Agreements were made, with no serious intention on the part of

any making them to keep the agreement. These meetings disclosed some interesting facts about the salt business of the Hutchinson territory. The amount invested in these plants was over six hundred thousand dollars. There were twenty-nine open steel pans and four steam graner pans, with an annual capacity of production of nine hundred thousand barrels. Owing to the competition of the first three years eight different plants were either sold or leased to stronger companies. Those that were sold brought less than half the cost of construction. Later, nearly all of these plants were dismantled, as it was found that they were too expensive to operate and that they could not compete with the larger and more compact plants. Especially was this true when the vacuum pans were put into operation, which reduced the cost of production so greatly.

The railroad greatly appreciated the value of the salt business, which consisted not only of the freight on salt shipped out, but on the coal and barrel stuff shipped in, after the plants were constructed, and there was an immense tonnage represented in the plants themselves.

The first expansion of the salt market came when the Goulds became interested in the salt business. The result was the changing of freight rates that enlarged the field for Hutchinson salt. The larger companies also had rebates on freight and other advantages that enabled them to keep their plants running, much to the disadvantage of the smaller proprietors, who either did not know how to get rebates from the railroads, or did try and found that some other manufacturer had the attention of the railroad official to an extent that excluded them from sharing in the rebates.

The first plants were all open steel pans, with heat applied directly to the pans. The salt was raked out of the boiling brine and left on the edge of the pan to drain, after which it was hauled in carts to the storage room. In 1895 a steam graner was installed, steam being conveyed through pipes in the pans. In 1896 direct heat vacuum pans were installed, but were not a success. Later steam vacuum pans were tried and the success of this method of making salt revolutionized the business, by reducing the amount of heat required to precipitate the salt.

Michigan was early the greatest competitor of the Kansas salt manufacturers. The Wolverine producers had been long in the business. They occupied the entire territory and the Kansas manufacturers had to contest every inch of ground with the Michigan competitors. They had favorable freight rates and, for the first ten years, restricted the territory of the Kan-

sas manufacturers, who made more salt than their territory consumed. The following is an estimate made by Frank Vincent, one of the oldest manufacturers of salt in this field, as to the annual output of salt in the Kansas field. This estimate embraces more than the output of the Hutchinson plant, as it includes some plants operated outside of Hutchinson, but in general it gives the volume of business of the salt industry since it began in 1888:

1888—190,000 barrels.	1903—915,000 barrels.
1889—380,000 barrels.	1904—1,070,000 barrels.
1890—600,000 barrels.	1905—958,000 barrels.
1891—800,000 barrels.	1906—930,000 barrels.
1892—850,000 barrels.	1907—997,000 barrels.
1893—900,000 barrels.	1908—1,132,000 barrels.
1894—875,000 barrels.	1909—1,215,000 barrels.
1895—839,000 barrels.	1910—1,206,000 barrels.
1896—850,000 barrels.	1911—1,198,000 barrels.
1897—812,000 barrels.	1912—1,137,000 barrels.
1898—952,000 barrels.	1913—946,000 barrels.
1899—1,197,000 barrels.	1914—1,110,000 barrels.
1900—1,344,000 barrels.	1915—1,250,000 barrels.
1901—1,014,000 barrels.	1916—1,400,000 barrels (partly esti- mated.)
1902—928,000 barrels.	

The consolidation of the salt industry began in March, 1891, when Jay Gould agreed to the consolidation of all the Gould plants with those of the Hutchinson Salt Company. This organizing of interests dates from April 22, 1891, when an amended charter of the Hutchinson Salt and Manufacturing Company was granted to the Hutchinson Salt Company and the capital of the company was increased to two hundred thousand dollars, one-half of which was paid up.

The Hutchinson Salt Company continued to operate its plants until May 16, 1899, at which time this company and the Kansas Salt Company consolidated and the name was changed to the Hutchinson-Kansas Salt Company. On January 1, 1900, all of the stock and plants of the Hutchinson-Kansas Salt Company was purchased by a company, of which Joy Morton, of Chicago, became president. An office was maintained in this city, with Frank Vincent as general manager. This company, by virtue of the con-

solidation of the smaller plants and the building of a new plant, has an annual capacity of one million barrels and a storage capacity of one-quarter million barrels.

In January, 1910, the Morton Salt Company, of Chicago, Illinois, was organized with Joy Morton, president; Mark Morton, vice-president; Sterling Morton, secretary, and Daniel Peterkin, treasurer. The general offices were in Chicago. The Hutchinson office was continued until November, 1914, when the Hutchinson sales office was moved to Kansas City, Missouri, with Sterling Morton in charge of the sales department.

On September 21, 1906, Joy Morton, president of the Morton Salt Company, began the erection of the largest salt plant in the west. The plant was almost completed when it was completely destroyed by fire on March 25, 1907. The debris was cleaned away and a new plant was immediately begun. The boiler room and salt warehouse were made fire-proof. On September 10, 1907, the new plant was completed and began making salt on the 14th of September, 1907. This plant has a capacity of thirty-three hundred barrels of salt per day. This is by far the largest salt plant in the west and perhaps the largest plant in the United States. L. D. Libbey was superintendent of the plant until October, 1908, when W. E. Kissick was made superintendent, which position he held until November 1, 1914, when Wirt Morton was made superintendent and continues to hold the position at the time of the writing of this history.

There have been one hundred and fifty salt wells drilled in the salt fields around Hutchinson. The water is pumped down the outside pipe and is forced up the inside pipe, saturated with salt. These drill holes show but very little variation after passing through the first one hundred feet. The drill extends down sixty feet before striking shale. The log on well 7, drilled at Riverside salt plant in January, 1897, shows the following: 99 feet of clear sand, 68 feet of red shale or soft stone, 313 feet of white lime shale, soft stone, and 330 feet rock salt strata. The salt strata shows the following: 35 feet of salt and shale, 20 feet of salt, 15 feet of salt and shale, 10 feet of salt, 10 feet of salt and shale, 15 feet of salt, 5 feet of salt and shale, 20 feet of salt, 5 feet of salt and shale, 5 feet of salt, 5 feet of salt and shale, 15 feet of salt, 10 feet of salt and shale, 30 feet of salt, 15 feet of salt and shale, 15 feet of salt, 20 feet of salt and shale, 50 feet of salt, 15 feet of salt and shale, 15 feet of salt.

The total of 330 feet shows 190 feet of clear salt and 140 feet of salt

mixed with shale. In putting down the well there was used 99 feet of eight-inch pipe, 168 feet of six-inch pipe and 775 feet of three-inch tubing. An analysis of the brine from twelve different wells made in 1906 shows the following analysis:

Specific gravity at 75 degrees Fahr. -----	1.19980
Sulphate of lime -----	.39139
Chloride of calcium -----	.20757
Chloride of magnesium -----	.13625
Chloride of sodium, pure salt -----	25.49380
Water -----	72.67119
	100.00000

CHAPTER XLVIII.

BUILDING UP THE SALT INDUSTRY.

In the preceding chapter the work of constructing the various salt plants has been recorded, as well as the expansion of the number of plants, the failure of some to succeed and the dismantling of the older ones. It took large sums of money to erect these plants. But few of the promoters of the salt business in the beginning had had any experience in that line. When the limited market of that time was supplied, the cutting of prices on salt was begun. It then was simply a process of elimination, the survival of the most experienced and the driving out of the business of the smaller of the salt men and the passing of their plants to others.

In the beginning of the manufacture of salt there were no freight rates that would allow any great expansion of the industry. The building up of railroad tariffs that would enable the manufacturer of salt in Hutchinson to get to a larger market was the problem. It was thought necessary by some of the plants to get a railroad interested in the business in order to help out the marketing of the salt. This led to the payment of rebates on freight shipments of salt that helped some of the plants. The final outcome of this rebate system was an investigation by the interstate commerce commission into the entire question of salt rates. This hearing was held in Hutchinson. It drew the presence of more traffic officials of the railroads, not only in Kansas but in other states that had joined with the Kansas railroads in joint tariffs on salt, than ever congregated in Kansas before. The private cars of the officials of these roads were sidetracked in the Hutchinson yards, while the traffic men attended the hearing on the rebate matter.

Judge Charles A. Prouty, a member of the Interstate Commerce Commission, presided at the hearing. He was a shrewd, keen lawyer and knew the various methods used to evade the interstate commerce law. John T. Marchand was the attorney of the interstate commerce commission and conducted the examination.

Commenting on this case in the report the commission made, Judge Prouty says, "The exigencies some of the shippers felt necessary to use to evade the law developed a crop of expediencies for the benefiting of par-

ticular shippers." "Hutchinson", continues the report, "is the center of the salt industry of Kansas, although factories are operated at several other points in that vicinity, the salt beds being of extensive area. The Kansas salt works at the present time are known as the 'trust' and the 'independents'. It appeared that all of the 'trust' mills, nine in number, were located in Hutchinson and had a capacity of three thousand five hundred barrels a day, all owned and operated by the Hutchinson-Kansas Salt Company, while the 'independent' companies, seven in number, with a daily capacity of two thousand five hundred barrels, were owned by individuals." "It was shown further," says the report, "that the salt rates from Hutchinson to the Missouri river were not generally maintained previous to the spring of 1902. The rate to Kansas City and corresponding Missouri river points was ten cents per hundred pounds on bulk salt and twelve cents per hundred pounds on barrel salt. Bulk salt was shipped loose in cars, with no barrels or packages, and was generally used by the packing houses, saving the expense to the packers of barrels and also the expense of barreling it."

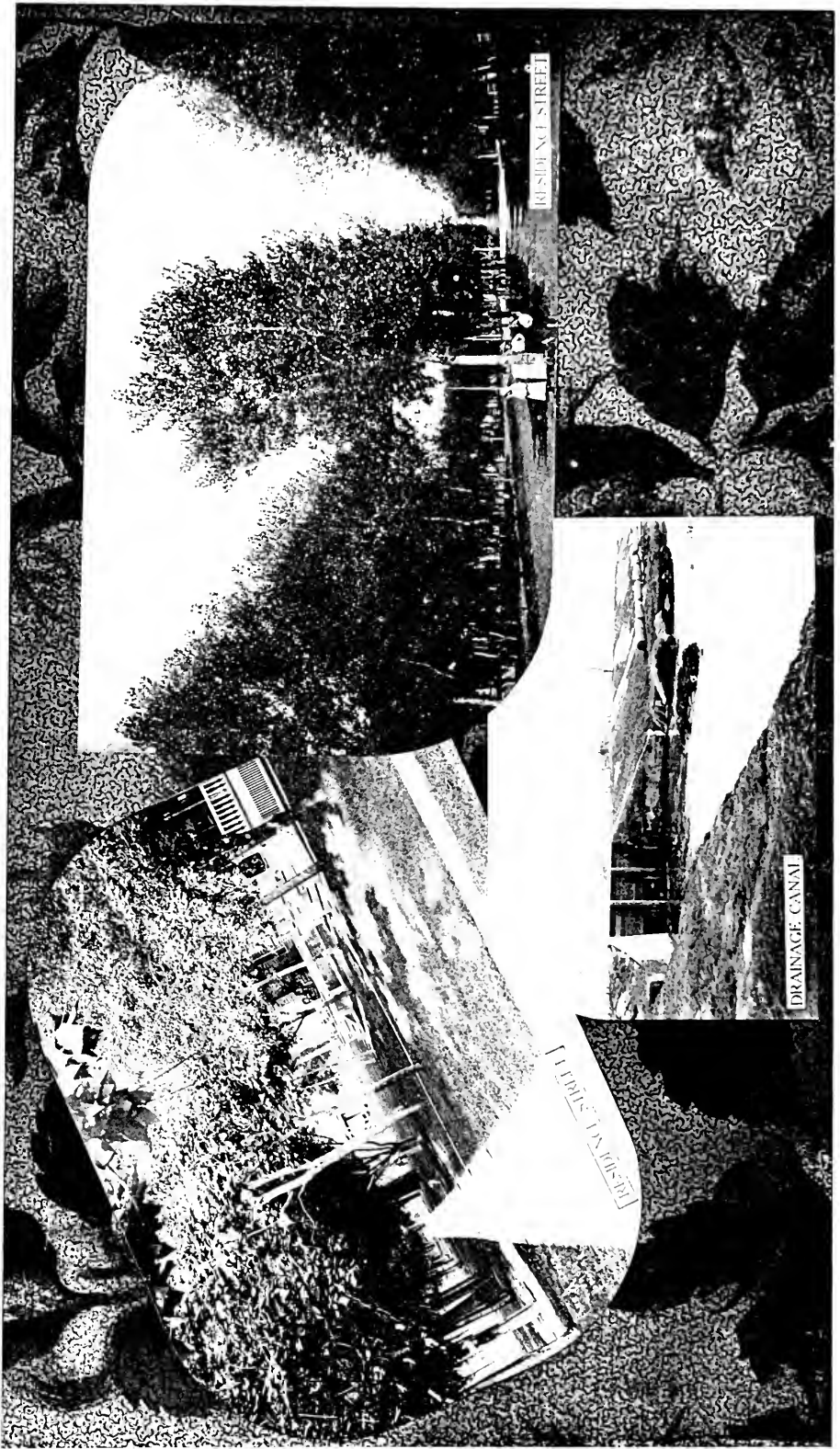
In July, 1902, a railroad corporation was organized under the laws of Kansas, known as the Hutchinson & Arkansas River Railroad Company. The purpose set out in the charter of the company was to construct a railroad from Kechi, a small town on the St. Louis & San Francisco railroad, to Hutchinson. A survey of this road was effected and estimates made of the amount of grading required, but nothing was ever done toward the building of the road. In addition to this a further purpose was to construct, combine and connect all of the plants owned by the Hutchinson-Kansas Salt Company in such a way that the cars could be conveniently handled in and out to the various plants of the company.

The largest plant of the Hutchinson-Kansas company is the Morton plant, south of the Arkansas river. It has a capacity of eleven hundred barrels of salt a day. The tracks of the Kinsley branch of the Santa Fe run on one side of the plant and the Rock Island on the other side, and there are two switches connecting both sides of the mill with these railroads, the entire length of these switches being about four thousand feet. These tracks were built by the Morton Salt Company for the purpose of furnishing a means of reaching the two railroads mentioned and had been constructed for several years before the Hutchinson & Arkansas River charter was obtained. As soon as this charter was obtained, these switch tracks were sold to the Hutchinson & Arkansas River Railway for a consideration of seven thousand dollars. These were the only tracks owned by the Hutchinson & Arkansas River railroad, which had no cars or engines.

The capital stock of the Hutchinson & Arkansas River railroad consisted of eight hundred shares, with a par value of one hundred dollars each. Of these eight hundred shares, seven hundred and ninety-four were issued to Joseph P. Tracy, the other six shares being issued, one each to the directors of the company. These directors were Joseph P. Tracy, D. Peterkin, Mark Morton, Joy Morton, J. C. Baddeley, Frank Vincent and G. Phillips. The officers of this "railroad company" were President Joy Morton, Vice-president Frank Vincent, Treasurer Mark Morton, General Manager Joseph P. Tracy and Assistant General Manager Frank Vincent. Joy Morton was at that time president and Mark Morton, treasurer, of the Hutchinson-Kansas Salt Company and Frank Vincent was manager of the salt company. All the officers of the Hutchinson & Arkansas River Railroad Company were officers of the Hutchinson-Kansas Salt Company, except Mr. Tracy. Peterkin was the private secretary of Joy Morton. In the hearing that was held, Joy Morton testified that he and those whom he represented owned the entire capital stock of the Hutchinson-Kansas Salt Company. The testimony at the hearing disclosed the fact that all three of the railroads running into Hutchinson, the Santa Fe, the Rock Island and the Missouri Pacific, were approached by Mr. Tracy, all in the same manner and making the same statement to all of them, namely, that competitive conditions existed on the Missouri river, both foreign and domestic salt being sold there in large quantities, and if bulk salt were to be moved to Missouri river points that some inducement would have to be held out to the salt companies by the railroads. He stated that he had organized a railroad, the Hutchinson & Arkansas River railroad, and asked the various railroads to make a division of freight rates from Hutchinson to Missouri river points, so that a price could be named to the packing houses on the Missouri river that would enable them to compete with the foreign companies.

The hearing disclosed further that the rate of ten cents a hundred on bulk salt to Kansas City and twelve cents to Omaha was then in force and that upon this rate the railroads would grant to the Hutchinson & Arkansas River railroad, a division of twenty-five per cent of the amount paid in freight, but that in no event was the amount paid to the "railroad" to exceed fifty cents a ton of the salt shipped. Accordingly, the Santa Fe, the Rock Island and Missouri Pacific railroads all issued tariffs allowing this division of rates to the Hutchinson & Arkansas River railroad.

Everybody entered a general denial at the hearing. The railroads claimed they had granted the Hutchinson & Arkansas River railroad the



STREET SCENES AND DRAINAGE CANAL. HUTCHINSON

division and that they had violated no law in so doing. That they had a right to make division of tariffs to other roads. The Hutchinson-Kansas Salt Company denied that it had received any money paid under this new tariff with the Hutchinson & Arkansas River railroad. The traffic officials of all roads who were present were urged to state how the paying of this sum of money to the Hutchinson & Arkansas River railroad could in any way help the Hutchinson-Kansas Salt Company to compete with foreign salt at Missouri river points, unless the Hutchinson-Kansas Salt Company received the amount they had paid in rebates. The Hutchinson & Arkansas River railroad were confronted with this question, so that all of the various traffic officials admitted that the alleged purpose of the tariff, namely, to help the Hutchinson salt field to compete with foreign fields, could not have been accomplished unless the salt company received the rebate. They said further that had they considered the subject in this light, they probably would not have made the division of the rate they did make. Then Joy Morton testified. He said that he was president of both the salt company and of the "paper" railroad company. He said that neither he nor the salt company had received any of the receipts for the division of freight rates. When pressed, he admitted that Mr. Tracy had purchased the stock in the Hutchinson & Arkansas River railroad at his suggestion and that while Mr. Tracy did not hold this stock as his (Morton's) trustee, he would probably dispose of the stock in the railroad company and vote its shares as he suggested. That being the case, the proceeds accruing to the paper railroad could at any time be diverted either to Mr. Morton or to the salt company of which he was president.

One of the keenest-witted cross-examinations ever heard in Reno county, conducted by Mr. Prouty, followed the statement Morton made in the witness stand. The shrewd Yankee judge was matched against the equally shrewd, keen-minded head of the salt company, also the head of the "paper" railroad. Judge Prouty begged Morton to tell him how any good could come to the Hutchinson-Kansas Salt Company, of which he was president, unless the proceeds obtained by the railroad were diverted and passed into the treasury of the salt company. Morton answered, with a smile, "Well, Judge, I suppose the proceeds of the salt company went into my right hand pocket and the money earned by the division of freight rates went into my left hand pocket." With a smile equally as pleasant, the Yankee judge responded, "Then, Mr. Morton, I suppose you follow the scriptural injunction

tion of not allowing your right hand to know what your left hand is doing." The admission of Morton settled the case. The Hutchinson-Kansas Salt Company would receive the proceeds of the division of the freight given the "paper" railroad at same time. The order of the interstate commerce commission was the abolishing of the "paper" railroad and the cancellation of all of the tariffs that had been issued by reason of this road's alleged existence. The effect of this rebate while it was in operation was exceedingly unpleasant for the small companies selling salt in Hutchinson. It gave the Hutchinson-Kansas Salt Company such an advantage that they could have sold salt at cost and made their profits out of the rebates. One of the managers of one of the salt companies expressed this conclusion, when he said that if it had not been for the rates granted on freight by the railroad companies it would not have been possible to have operated the salt plants in this city.

This statement could not be entirely true. There were salt manufacturers who stayed in the salt business and are in it yet, who never received any rebates on salt shipment. Among these is Emerson Carey. While a competitor of the Hutchinson-Kansas Company, he made salt and made a profit on his salt. He has constantly been urging before the state railroad commission and before the interstate commerce commission, the lowering of freight rates to an equitable basis with other salt fields. He kept consistently and constantly working on this line so that this salt field could be extended and the Kansas field have an equal show in the hauling of salt and in the freight on coal and barrel stuff required. His plan of selling was to deal with the jobbers, shipping in car lots on contract. He kept at it until the trade territory of Hutchinson has been enlarged until Hutchinson salt is sold in the following territory: Kansas, Arkansas, Missouri, Nebraska, Iowa, Montana, Wyoming, South Dakota, Idaho, Colorado, New Mexico, Arizona, Texas, Oklahoma and some territory in Tennessee, Alabama, California, Washington and Oregon.

The companies doing business in Hutchinson other than those interested in the early rebating also aided in securing a wider market for Hutchinson salt. Among those was the Barton Salt Company. Ed Barton was energetic all the time, pressing the salt products to the best of his ability. Since the rebating system has ceased, all of the companies have sought by all legitimate means to keep the plants in this city in operation. They have met the competition of other fields. They have sought better and more equitable freight rates in competition with other fields. They have kept

their plants up to the highest efficiency, using the most modern machinery. They have sought to increase their trade, not at the expense of another, perhaps weaker, as was the manner during the railroad rebate system. The sales department of the Morton plant has been removed to Kansas City, Missouri. The other companies retain their sales offices in Hutchinson, increasing their trade as the country develops and as the change of freight rates will permit. The output is slowly gaining in volume and is becoming more and more each year a factor in Hutchinson commercial life.

CHAPTER XLIX.

LOCATING THE PACKING HOUSE.

The boom days had left Hutchinson in a sad way financially. People had all their money invested in town lots at exorbitant prices. There was considerable Eastern money invested in Hutchinson during the boom days, but much of that was put into houses, which were not a ready asset, as there were too many houses for the number of people. Crop failures and low prices had reduced the resources of the country to an alarming extent. The banks had but little money on hands, no account, according to one of the leading bankers of that day, amounting to over ten thousand dollars, and but few were over one thousand dollars. There were accounts, many of them, overdrawn, secured by collateral of real estate, which, after the mortgage was paid on the collateral, was worth but little more than the overdraft itself. This same banker said the black figures on the ledger fell over like ten-pins when the boom collapsed and in their place the sickening entries in red figures, expressed in two, three, and even five and six figures, appeared in another column in the same ledger.

It was at this critical time that R. M. Easley, then editor of the *Daily News*, without counselling anyone and without letting anyone know of what he had done, telegraphed Dold & Son, of Kansas City, a cash bonus of one hundred thousand dollars to build a packing house in Hutchinson. To Easley's surprise, Dold answered his telegram in a hopeful letter. Easley then told some of the leading business men what he had done, and also had a double-column flash-head article the next morning in the *News*, assuring the people that the packing house was a certainty. In response to Dold's letter, R. M. Easley, L. A. Bigger and S. W. Campbell went to Kansas City to see Dold. They found he was one of the sons of Jacob Dold, the founder, a generation before, of a packing house in Buffalo, New York. They were politely received by Dold and one of the committee says that the suggestion to this Dold of building a packing house was too much of a shock to his cumbersome system to allow him to make an expression of his ideas that contained any meaning whatever. At the same time the committee called on Armour & Company and were met by K. B. Armour, a young man

of about thirty years, who was then in charge of the Kansas City plant. He displayed a great interest in the enterprise and the committee began to worry a little on the question of how they were going to get the money in case any packer should conclude to build a plant here. The story of Hutchinson's effort to get a packing house and the bait that was being put up for it soon reached Chicago and a short time afterward Nelson Morris, the founder of the Morris packing house, came to Hutchinson and met with the business men of the city.

Matters soon took form. A meeting for organization was held and the plan to secure a packing plant, or rather, to secure the money for a packing plant, was outlined by L. A. Bigger and W. E. Hutchinson. The amount they proposed to raise was one hundred thousand dollars, Hutchinson suggested that the amount be fixed at two hundred thousand dollars, and that real estate be put into the subscription, and when this was sold the one hundred thousand dollars could be realized. With this proposition, a committee was sent to Chicago, consisting of W. E. Hutchinson, L. A. Bigger, J. M. Mulkey and Charles Collins. It was thought that by having a real estate subscription, part of it could be sold to the packers themselves. This is just what happened and greatly helped the enterprise, as it is doubtful if one hundred thousand dollars in cash could have been realized; but, with real estate, it was possible to secure donations because the owners realized that it was not a great asset on the market.

One of the men who greatly helped the Hutchinson committee in Chicago was G. A. Walkup. He was not a resident of Kansas and had no property here to increase in value, and no consideration was offered him to help in the enterprise. He never intimated that he wanted any of the profit of the enterprise, but he was one of the main helpers of the committee in Chicago. Through him the committee met Mr. Lord, the senior member of the firm of Lord & Thomas. Lord suggested that the bonus be raised to four hundred thousand dollars in real estate and organize a company with a capital of two hundred thousand dollars, to whom this property should be deeded. This would leave two dollars of property out of which it was figured one dollar of value could be realized. Lord took an active interest in the organization matters. He was related through his wife to a Mr. Favorite, who was the right hand man of P. D. Armour. In order to have this avenue to Armour kept open, Walkup bent all of his energies and used all of his tact and judgment. Lord also interested J. P. Odell, president of the Union National Bank of Chicago. Through these sources, E. L.

Lobdell, who was in the business of selling securities, was interested, in order that some means of disposing of this real estate might be provided. Lobdell had a good standing and was a relative of G. B. Shaw, president of another one of Chicago's banks. Walkup kept this Hutchinson committee on the go, meeting men of financial resources and arranging all of the details of all of the numerous meetings of the committee with the various financial leaders of the city. Walkup arranged meetings with G. B. Swift, the founder of the Swift Packing Company, also with Libby, McNeill & Libby, Mike Cuddahy, of the packing company which bears his name. Anderson Fowler and P. L. Underwood were all likewise interviewed. Later, the idea of a lard refinery was added to that of a packing plant and N. K. Fairbanks & Company were visited with an idea of interesting that firm.

For several weeks this work was kept up in Chicago. Lord was interesting many in the real estate end of the proposition and the bonus question, that was such a big stumbling block to the Hutchinson people, was largely taken care of outside of the city. Among those who were helpful in the real estate proposition was E. S. Dreyer, president of a German bank of Chicago. He had a fine standing in Chicago and did more, perhaps, in helping finance the proposition, using his own money, than any other one man the Hutchinson committee met.

The next step was to bring the interested parties to Hutchinson, to look over the investments. There was one matter, however, that the committee in Chicago had to look after when they reached this city, namely, the matter of raising four hundred thousand dollars in real estate instead of two hundred thousand dollars as was understood when they left this city. The town had subscribed all of the amount originally agreed on, and it required considerable diplomacy to get the citizens of Hutchinson to take up the burden again and do a double amount of subscribing of real estate. A public meeting was called at the old opera house. Even here a systematic plan was carried out. The speakers were told just how long each was to talk, just what they were to say and at the proper time. This was done for two nights. The second night the doors of the opera house were shut and locked, subscriptions were taken, but not enough was raised to close up the balance of the two hundred thousand dollars to be added to the original subscription. In fact, clearing up the entire matter took from the middle of May, when the public meetings were held until October. There was much to do in the way of examining titles and settling the details of a matter that covered so many tracts of land.

During this time the subscriptions were being arranged. The Chicago capitalists were brought to Hutchinson and they were entertained in the homes of the citizens of the city. E. R. Dreyer was among this number. Before he left Hutchinson he subscribed twenty-five thousand dollars worth of town lots, which was a great boost to the weary canvassers for real estate subscriptions. After the total amount had been subscribed, the committee was sent to Chicago to complete the work of getting the packing house. Prior to that time the committee had paid their own expenses, but the city council met and agreed to pay future expenses. There was no warrant for such expenditure, but no one questioned it and it went through unchallenged.

The committee that was sent to Chicago consisted of W. E. Hutchinson, J. M. Mulkey and Charles Collins. They had settled one matter among themselves, and that was that the Fairbanks lard refinery and the Underwood Packing Company were the ones with which they could deal. When the Hutchinson men reached Chicago they found Lord had not been able to do much in the way of selling the stock of their real estate company that had been organized and they had the additional burden of selling most of the stock as well as interesting the packing companies. At this point, Wichita got interested in getting the packing house away from Hutchinson. They sent fifteen of their leading men to Chicago to head off Hutchinson and to land the business for themselves. The Wichita committee went directly to P. L. Underwood, but they soon ruined any chances they had with Mr. Underwood. Their methods did not appeal to him. He was a man of the highest integrity and he told the Hutchinson committee that he would not go to Wichita with his plant.

In the meantime, the Hutchinson committee got suspicious of Lord. They, through Walkup, soon ascertained that Lord had agreed to help the Wichita committee and leave the Hutchinson committee to work out its own salvation. The Hutchinson people concluded not to let Lord know that they knew of his dealings with the Wichita committee, but rather to lead him to think that the Hutchinson committee were depending entirely on him. The plan worked all right. Lord thought he was winning and the Wichita committee, instead of getting out on their own account, depended entirely on Lord, until the Hutchinson committee got what they wanted and had everything closed up beyond a chance of failure. Lord failed to accomplish anything for Wichita and sometime afterward sued Wichita for sixteen thousand dollars, which they had agreed to pay him, but which he never was able to collect.

When the final stage was reached, the contracts were ready to sign. They were written by W. E. Hutchinson and submitted to the representatives of the Fairbanks Lard Refining Company and the Underwood Packing Company. Very little change was made in the contracts. This contract provided for the creation of the Chicago Investment Company, the capital of which was stated and the corporation to be organized under the laws of Kansas. Every feature of the business was completed, the last of the subscriptions needed to take up the real estate side of the matter being subscribed by P. L. Underwood. At the same time, a deal was closed with another firm to build a stock yards in connection with the packing house. Mr. Walkup did most of the work in getting this done.

This was the work of a town of five thousand people raising four hundred thousand dollars for a stock yards, lard refinery and packing plant. Very much of the credit should be given to W. E. Hutchinson for his persistence, his sagacity and his energy. L. A. Bigger also is entitled to a great share of credit for his work. Charles Collins was almost indispensable as an outside helper. The great friend that this city had in carrying forward this enterprise was G. A. Walkup, evidenced by his intense interest in helping Hutchinson land this business and his faithfulness to his trust. E. R. Dreyer also was of great help, financially and personally. The Hutchinson business men who helped are numerous, but it is the intention here to speak of those who had the active management of the work of getting the money and afterwards getting the industries mentioned.

CHAPTER I.

THE SODA-ASH PLANT AND THE STRAWBOARD WORKS.

The first person in Hutchinson to talk "soda ash" was Dr. S. H. Colladay. He was interested in it and continued to talk of its manufacture in the early years until a meeting was held and a company organization effected. S. H. Colladay was the first president. The name given the company was the Hutchinson Chemical and Alkali Company.

John Faulkner was the soda-ash expert that was employed by the company. Faulkner was not a competent man; he could make soda ash, but not at a profit. John R. Watson was the construction engineer of the plant. When the company found that they could not make soda ash profitably, they called on Faulkner for an explanation. He blamed it onto Watson, declaring the latter had not properly constructed the plant. That Watson had not properly constructed the plant was shown by the reconstruction and practical rebuilding of the manufacturing part of the plant when an experienced and competent construction engineer, C. H. Humphries, was employed by the company.

The plant was constructed to produce one hundred and twenty tons of soda ash daily, but it never produced that amount under Faulkner's and Watson's direction. So the old company threw up the job and a new organization was effected, with the following directors: C. M. Williams, L. A. Bunker, W. Meisenheimer, Walter Underwood, Frank McDermid, A. C. Hoagland, C. N. Sentney, William Peet, of Kansas City, Ed Hornbrook, of Kansas City; J. H. McNair, of Halstead; Joseph Sears, of Chicago, and Emerson Carey.

Mr. Carey was elected president and this new company began a complete reconstruction of the whole soda-ash plant. Mr. Carey undertook to find out what the trouble with the plant was and when he located that trouble, the company let out Watson and Faulkner and employed C. H. Humphries to rebuild the plant and put it in operation. He did this so completely that it was soon making soda ash at a profit.

The original investment in the soda-ash plant was \$607,250, of which \$347,250 was in stock and \$250,000 in bonds. The stock subscription was at

par, but the bonds sold for eighty cents on the dollar. In the reorganization, a new block of stock for \$167,000 was issued and sold to rehabilitate and operate the plant.

In 1910, Mr. Carey sold the entire plant to the Solvay Company, of New York. But few of the stockholders knew anything of the sale, although they all desired a sale of the plant, until they received an offer of sale for their stock at par. They would have taken a much smaller amount, but in the sale one of the conditions made by Mr. Carey was that the stockholders should have par for their holdings. These stockholders, however, did not get back all they had invested in the plant, as they had scaled down their original subscription of \$250,000 fifty per cent., but it represented far more than what they had hopes of getting. The incompetency of the men who were supposed to be experts and who had been employed by the company to erect and operate the plant cost them one-half of their original investment. So all of the stockholders received their money and all the bondholders received for their bonds eighty per cent. of their face value.

The sale of this plant to the Solvay corporation, of New York, was without doubt, the biggest business transaction ever made in Hutchinson, nearly six hundred thousand dollars having been involved. The sale was made without commission or charges of any kind. Mr. Carey had personally endorsed nearly seventy-five thousand dollars of the notes of the corporation with his individual endorsement, as well as his signature as president of the company, and he was anxious not only to get free from this liability as endorser, but was more anxious that the stockholders get their money out of the business, as it had been a long, hard pull for many of them, and the bringing of this amount of money at that time relieved a hard strain in many places in Hutchinson. The soda-ash plant has turned out to be a great business institution for Hutchinson. It is a monument to the men who invested their money, and who had to deal with incompetent experts who cost them thousands of dollars because of their incompetency, and they were indeed glad to get a fair proportion of their investment back, but were more pleased to know that they had helped build up one of the biggest industrial concerns in the West. Since the Solvay Company purchased the plant, they have more than doubled its capacity.

The rebuilding or remodeling of the soda-ash plant by the Solvay Company, likewise the increased capacity of the plant, has made it one of the biggest institutions in Hutchinson. It is now running full capacity, twenty-four hours a day with three shifts of hands. They now have over five hundred

hands employed and are manufacturing over fifty tons of soda ash daily. The war greatly increased the demand for this product and at a greatly increased price and at the present time it is one of the best paying investments in the county. G. T. Lee succeeded R. B. Rutherford, who was transferred to Canada by the Solvay Company to construct another plant for the company.

THE STRAWBOARD WORKS.

One of the manufacturing institutions that finds most of its raw material in the county, and utilizes products that before it was built were largely wasted, is the strawboard plant. It was organized with a capital stock of one hundred thousand dollars, and the first directors of the plant were William E. Corp, A. E. Asher, B. E. Giles, W. D. Eastman and C. H. Farley. The plant had its trials and tribulations. It did not succeed very well. While it made strawboard; like the soda-ash plant it did not make a profit out of the business.

In 1915 the company was reorganized. Its present capital is three hundred and fifty thousand dollars. At the reorganization, Emerson Carey was made president and general manager. The market for this product was greatly increased. Strawboard from the Hutchinson plant is shipped to Chicago, St. Louis, Denver and many western and northern places where there is a demand for the product.

The raw material used is straw, obtained from the wheat fields of Reno county and adjoining counties. From this product is made cardboard, backs for tablets, egg-filler cases and boards used by laundries for shirts and all other places where strawboard products are used. Another product of this plant is chipboard. Waste paper is used in the manufacture of this grade of goods. This paper is gathered from all parts of the state, tons of it and baled in cities and shipped to this factory here. It affords a market for waste papers, heretofore burned up, but which the demands of the economy of resources of the country have induced this saving of papers heretofore wasted. The plant at the present time employs about two hundred hands in addition to the men who haul straw to the plant and to the hands who gather and ship the baled paper to the institution.

Another industry that has been developed as a result of the building of the strawboard plant is the Hutchinson Egg-Case Filler Company. The officers of this company are Emerson Carey, president; Howard Carey, vice-president; secretary, Charles Carey, and treasurer and manager, Fred Kath. This company has a capital of thirty-five thousand dollars. It manufactures

egg-case fillers out of the product of the strawboard plant. The product of this company is shipped all over the country where there are eggs to ship. It is an exceedingly profitable business and one that is constantly growing. The soda-ash plant and the strawboard plant, together with the egg-case filler plant are largely the product of the ability of Emerson Carey. He put both plants on a paying basis. In the soda-ash plant he was instrumental in reorganizing and selling it to a company that knew the business. The strawboard plant was not a paying institution when Mr. Carey took hold of it, but it has recently become a very profitable plant. General conditions, higher prices and the restricted competition caused by the war has been a big element in the success of both companies, but the plants had been put in a position to produce the products economically and in sufficient amount to make them profitable by Mr. Carey. They are manufacturing industries that are great places for the employment of labor and add greatly to the resources of the county.



JENNIE HODGSON, THE FIRST SCHOOL TEACHER IN HUTCHINSON.

CHAPTER LI.

THE SCHOOLS OF HUTCHINSON.

The first school in Reno county was a private school. When the first settlers reached Reno county they brought their religion with them, for they soon started a church. They likewise realized that no community could thrive without schools. At that time there were no facilities for schools. There was no property to levy taxes on and it would require nearly a year to levy and collect these taxes, so a "select school," as it was called, was started. It more properly could have been called a subscription school, because all of the children of the community were urged to attend the school, although the parents of some did not contribute toward the support of the school.

Miss Jennie Hodson was the first teacher. Rooms were used wherever they could be secured, locations being shifted as buildings thus occupied might be needed for some other purpose. Thus from place to place, wherever rooms were available, the school was held.

The second teacher to have charge of the schools was Mrs. Sanford Maulsbury. Mrs. Maulsbury was one of the women who signed the petition to organize the county. She and her husband had a claim west of town, then a mile and a half distant. Now it is part of the city, known as "The Cloverdale Addition." There are no records of attendance at these schools.

In 1872 school district No. 1 was organized. At that time it embraced the townsite of Hutchinson, which was but little more than the "site" of the town then, and the territory adjacent. No strict boundary lines were drawn. It was just district 1, and included everything in the county at that time. At the present time district 1 includes just the city of Hutchinson. There is no date set down for the organization of this district. It was "early in 1872"—is all that can be told now because of the lack of records, as mentioned elsewhere.

FIRST ISSUE OF BONDS FOR SCHOOL PURPOSES.

On June 10, 1873, bonds to the amount of fifteen thousand dollars were voted for a school building in Hutchinson. Judge L. Houk was

chosen to supervise the erection of the building, which was erected on Sherman street, east, where the new junior high school building was erected a year ago. During the first year only two rooms downstairs were completed. It is suspected that not only were the bonds used to erect the building, but that enough funds were kept out of that first bond issue to run the school, as the taxes that were levied were less than half paid during the first two or three years of the county's existence, and without any record being made of it the board evidently "saved" some of the proceeds of the sale of the bonds for purposes other than the erection of the building.

The first teacher employed in this building was J. T. Lane, who lived in Hutchinson for years. He was a money loaner for several years and later moved to St. Louis. Mr. Lane taught in the school for one term. The total enrollment was seventy pupils. The second term of school, about six months for a term, was taught by J. R. Lindsey, who afterward was a real-estate agent, connected with the firm of Brown & Bigger. During that term there were eighty students in school. Lindsey taught three successive terms in the school. During his second and third terms he had two assistants, Miss Hattie Smith and Miss Jennie Miller, the enrollment increasing during the third term to one hundred and twenty-five students.

GRADUAL GROWTH OF THE SCHOOLS.

On April 14, 1874, Mr. DeBurn was elected principal of the school and Miss Fannie Frescoln, assistant. Only two rooms of the new building were then in use. In September, 1874, S. B. Zimmerman was chosen principal. Zimmerman afterward became a prominent lawyer in Hutchinson, and was probate judge of Reno county for two years. He remained in the school one year. He had two assistants, Miss Jennie McKinstry and Miss Maud Zimmerman. The two rooms that were finished were not sufficient to accommodate the students, so the hall was furnished with seats and used until early in 1875, when the two upstairs rooms were completed and ready for use. The schools of Hutchinson were generally in advance of the place to house them. It has been, and is yet, an exceedingly difficult matter for the school board of the district, in its building operations, to keep ahead of the growth of the school population. Soon after the Sherman street building was completed it was necessary to rent a building down town to accommodate the students. In 1880 two frame buildings were erected, one in the southwest corner and one in the southeast corner of the old Sherman street school grounds. The growth

of the district has been constant and continuous, and with the city growing rapidly it will tax the resources of the members of the board to keep in advance of the increasing school population of Hutchinson. There are nine buildings now in use. There are one hundred and nine different class rooms; two study halls, seating two hundred and sixty; one auditorium, seating seven hundred, and two gymnasiums. There are now one hundred and sixteen teachers employed, ninety in the grades and twenty-six in the high schools. The school grounds are equipped with play apparatus under the direction of a corp of paid directors. The district also owns its own athletic fields, at the corner of Fifteenth and Monroe streets.

The school district buildings are now valued at \$397,500. The grounds have an additional value of \$124,000, while the furniture and equipment has a value of \$31,000, making a total physical valuation of the school district property of district No. 1, in 1916, of \$552,500, while the assessed valuation of the district upon which a tax levy is made to support these schools is \$22,681,000.

COMPLETE SYSTEM OF RECORDS.

At the present time the school board has a very elaborate and complete system of records that makes it an easy matter for it to compare the cost of operating the schools one year with another. At the present time they show the cost of operating the schools for the district to be \$115,292.86. They further divide up the expense so that they show the cost of the grade schools to be \$83,248.02 for the year, or \$462.48 per day, while the high school cost \$32,049.84 for the year, or \$178.04 per day, a total cost per school day of \$640.52. They show the cost per pupil to be thirty-six cents a day for the high school and seventeen cents a day for the grade, or an average cost per student, per day of twenty cents.

The school board has kept up the high grade of the teaching force at all times. The high school teachers' average pay is one hundred and six dollars per month. The grade principal receives on an average of one hundred dollars per month. The principal of the high school receives nineteen hundred dollars a year. The schools teach all the regular academic subjects, including German and French. Industrial courses are also taught, domestic science and the art and manual training extending down to the seventh grade. The high school course also includes a manual-training course and likewise a complete course in business and stenography.

THE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION.

There have been eight hundred and thirty-six graduates for the high schools of Hutchinson since the first class completed the course in 1882. With the exception of one year, when the course was changed from a three-year to a four-year high school course, there has been a graduating class. These graduates are scattered all over the world. With the exception of three or four, the graduates are all living, a remarkable fact considering the diversity of occupations and the variety of climates into which these graduates have gone. The Alumni Association holds its annual meetings, and its membership is a constant encouragement to the boys and girls in the school to complete their high school course. As an incident of unusual occurrence: The president of the Alumni Association for the year 1917 was C. W. Oswald, a graduate of the high school in 1885. His son, Lewis Oswald, who was graduated with the class of 1917, was chosen to respond to the address of welcome given by the president of the class, a "father and son" incident seldom witnessed in schools; the father continuing his interest in school matters, an active member of the Alumni Association, until his son also becomes an alumnus.

SUPERINTENDENTS OF CITY SCHOOLS.

The present superintendent of the schools is Prof. J. O. Hall. The following is a list of the men who have held the position of superintendent of the city schools, with the dates of their terms of office: J. F. Lane, 1872; J. R. Lindsay, 1873; Percy DeBurn, 1874; S. B. Zimmerman, 1875; J. R. Campbell, 1876; H. Lewis, 1877; J. R. Leslie, 1878-79; J. J. McBride, 1880 to January 1, 1882; G. W. Winans, January, 1882, to December, 1883; J. R. Silver, December, 1883, and two months of 1884; F. F. Prigg, November, 1884, and 1885; John Schurr; A. P. Helm; C. H. Finch; H. S. Rogers, acting superintendent; Z. Winans, 1894 to 1902; Richard Price, 1903 to 1907; J. O. Hall, 1907 to present time.

NOTABLE RECORD OF TEACHING SERVICE.

The "constant factor" in the educational work of the schools of Hutchinson has been Mrs. E. H. Richardson, who began teaching in the city schools in 1879. With the exception of but a few short periods she has been in the schools ever since that date. She has perhaps more boys and

girls in Hutchinson, more men and women scattered over the country, who honor her than any other teacher that ever taught school in Kansas. Indeed hers is a record that would be hard to beat any place in the country. Mrs. Richardson is just as vigorous in mind and body, just as alert in her school work as she was years ago. Her influence with the boys and girls of the high school is unbounded. While she is strict and exacting in her work, tolerating no slack work, yet that strictness is accompanied by a kindness and a personal interest in each student in her classes that commands the highest regard for their teacher.

CHAPTER LII.

THE Y. M. C. A. AND Y. W. C. A.

The first Young Men's Christian Association was organized on August 4, 1876, with the following officers Rev. T. J. Templin, president; Rev. D. M. Moore, vice-president; R. M. Easley, recording secretary; F. R. Chrisman, corresponding secretary, and H. W. Beatty, treasurer. The president of the Y. M. C. A. was a Methodist minister, a tall angular man, full of energy, who commanded the highest respect of all. He had the further distinction of being, at the same time, the first president of the Reno County Fair Association, which consisted largely at that time of a small agricultural display and an afternoon of horseracing. But whether judging a horse race or superintending a Y. M. C. A. meeting, Rev. Templin was equally at home, a pioneer that could adapt himself to the surroundings and retain the respect and confidence of all in whatever position he occupied. The vice-president of the Y. M. C. A. was the second resident pastor of the Presbyterian church here; and the recording secretary, then a young man, energetic and industrious, afterwards became postmaster of Hutchinson, and editor and manager of the *News*. At the time he bought the paper, it was a weekly but shortly after he purchased it, he made it a daily. F. R. Chrisman, the corresponding secretary, who spent his life in Hutchinson, where he was identified closely with the religious activity of the day, was for ten years superintendent of the Methodist Sunday school. The treasurer remained in this county but a short time.

Little record is left of this organization. Its meetings were always held in one of the churches and it made comparatively but little impression on the community. As long as Rev. Templin lived in Hutchinson the enthusiasm of the organization was buoyed up, but after his removal, interest began to lag and the organization was maintained but little over a year.

In 1885, another attempt to maintain a Y. M. C. A. was made which was more successful than its predecessor. W. L. Upshaw was the president of the organization and Ed. Lehman, secretary. The Association occupied rooms in the second story of the building that formerly stood on the corner of Main street and First avenue, where the Farmers' National bank is now located.



Y. M. C. A. BUILDING, HUTCHINSON



PUBLIC LIBRARY, HUTCHINSON

They had an assembly room, and a reading room. This organization was maintained nearly two years, but when Mr. Upshaw left town and Secretary Lehman obtained a position on the road selling groceries, the interest in the organization lagged and gradually died out. Soon it was discontinued.

There was no further attempt at organization until 1909 when an agitation for a Y. M. C. A. building was begun, accordingly a provisional committee met, December 9, 1909, in the Commercial Club rooms to consider the question of beginning a campaign for that purpose. This committee consisted of W. Y. Morgan, J. U. Brown, J. W. Burns, S. W. Livengood, D. A. Moore, Ed Sweet, Frank Colladay, Will S. Thompson, V. M. Wiley, L. A. Bigger, Ralph Glascock, C. N. Sentney, A. H. Schlaudt, J. N. Bailey, A. E. Asher and A. W. McCandless.

The committee considered the conditions were such in the town that such a building was needed for young men, and they started to raise the money for a building. After a campaign for one week they raised \$76,801.21, but since they intended at first to raise \$75,000.00, they did better than they planned. A charter was applied for and the following officers were elected for the first year: President, W. Y. Morgan; first vice-president, L. A. Bigger; second vice-president, A. E. Asher; treasurer, J. W. Burns; secretary, L. V. Starkey.

Mr. Starkey began his work as secretary early in 1910 and served the association until April 15, 1912, when he was succeeded by Garland Craig, who began his work in June, 1912, and continues in that capacity up to the present time.

As the lots for the Y. M. C. A. building on the corner of Walnut and First avenue were purchased for ten thousand dollars; the building cost \$58,260, and the equipment an additional \$28,547, the total cost of the completed building was \$86,807.

The Y. M. C. A. was built at a time when Hutchinson was sorely in the need of a central, non-sectarian, undenominational organization that could become the leader in work that no one denomination or organization could alone do, but which needed the united work of all the forces in the city to carry it forward.

Among these movements that have been greatly helped by the Y. M. C. A., the workers it has developed and the resources put behind the movement was first the building of the Salvation Army barrack. Later came the Red Cross movement, when Reno county raised twenty-five per cent. more money than was asked as its share of the hundred million dollars, raised at the begin-

ning of the war for the help of the soldiers. Then came the Y. W. C. A., which was greatly helped by the organized workers of the Y. M. C. A. The surgical dressing organization, that made bandages for the wounded soldiers, found a great helper in this organization.

In addition to their wider advantages, the Y. M. C. A. during the year 1917 maintained two large reading rooms which over seventy-three thousand men and boys patronized. It had four hundred eighty gymnasium classes annually, conducted over eleven thousand games of bowling, and had over forty-five thousand people make use of the physical education section of the organization. It took a great interest in the Sunday school base ball league, which afforded clean sport for thousands of people. It co-operates with the city schools in all phases of boys work. It provides membership privileges for young men and boys situated so they cannot pay the usual fee, and has an annual attendance in the building of over one hundred and seventy-five thousand persons.

In addition to these activities, the Y. M. C. A. has been diligent in all moral and uplifting movements.

They co-operate with all of the churches in the county, supplying them with speakers, help them with their boys' organizations, help get "gospel teams" for fields of work, help locate young men coming to this city and get them interested in their church work and do all that an organization of this kind, non-sectarian and non-denominational can do. It has been a great uplifting force in Hutchinson and has demonstrated its worth on many occasions.

THE YOUNG WOMEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION.

In the spring of 1917 an agitation for an institution for women and girls, similar to that which had been erected for the men and boys of the county, was started and a week's campaign for funds resulted in the subscription of over thirteen thousand five hundred dollars for a Young Women's Christian Association. After the money had been subscribed the officers for the first year were chosen as follow: President, Mrs. R. E. Steale; vice-president, Mrs. L. E. Fontron; corresponding secretary, Mrs. M. E. Hinman; recording secretary, Mrs. Val Adams; treasurer, Mrs. William Kelly.

The association leased a building on Sherman street, west, for two years and on October 1, 1917, opened up their rooms for the use of the women of Hutchinson and adjoining country. The association started out with a membership of seven hundred. They maintain a paid secretary and furnish read-

ing rooms, rest rooms, a gymnasium and rooms where the young women of the county can rest. There are now working in Hutchinson over four hundred young women who are away from home, and it is expected that the continuance of the war will bring others to this city to hold positions, and for these the Young Women's Christian Association is a haven.

The association affords a place where working women and girls can eat their lunch. They will not serve meals or lunches as does the Young Men's Christian Association, but will serve hot drinks and furnish a quiet place for women and girls to eat their lunch. Their work, like that of the Young Men's Christian Association, is non-sectarian, and will grow in importance year by year.

CHAPTER LIII.

THE WEATHER.

COMPLETE METEOROLOGICAL RECORDS OF RENO COUNTY.

There is no more common topic of conversation than the weather. It interests all; it affects all. The weather records of Reno county are among the most complete of any county in the state. They began two years after the county was organized and have been kept daily from January, 1874, to the present date, September, 1916. The first person to record the temperature and rainfall was C. S. Webster. He was not provided with government instruments until 1893, when the government established the station in Reno county. Mr. Webster kept these records until September, 1909, when he moved to California and the records and instruments were turned over to Sheridan Ploughe, who has kept them since that time. In this history, Mr. Webster's daily records are not given from 1874 to 1893, but the daily records from 1893 to the present time are a part of Table I, which is added to this chapter, because of its length, and the better displaying of the records. The tables that are added to this chapter include the following:

Table I, monthly temperatures, 1874 to 1892, inclusive.

Table II, daily temperature, 1893 to 1916, inclusive.

Table III, monthly temperature, 1874 to 1916, inclusive.

Table IV, record of days thermometer registered below zero.

Table V, record of days thermometer registered above 100°.

Table VI, unusually cold months.

Table VII, dates of last killing frost in spring and first killing frost in fall.

Table VIII, monthly precipitation, 1889 to 1916, inclusive.

GOVERNMENT RECORDS.

These weather tables are of great value. They are taken without any qualification in all the courts of the land. They require no verification, no proof of their authenticity. The statement that they are the records of the government, taken under the direction of the weather bureau of the government, is sufficient proof of their accuracy. They are constantly consulted by shippers and by railroads, when claims for damages from freezing are made. They are consulted by persons wishing to buy land, especially as to the variation of temperature from winter to summer, and from summer to winter. They are used in damage cases in court to prove the condition of the weather at a given time, the direction of the wind, the presence or absence of snow and, because of their general interest, some of the things indicated by the records will be pointed out.

EXTREMES OF TEMPERATURE.

These records show that there is but little variation in the temperature from one year to another. A recapitulation of the forty-three years the records have been kept shows that the average temperature for Reno county for the forty-three years has been 53.9 degrees. January is the coldest month and the average of the temperature for that month is 29.2 degrees. The hottest month of the year is July, with an average temperature of 74.9 degrees. April and October resemble each other very closely, so far as temperature is concerned, the temperature of April averaging 55.2 degrees, while that of October is 55.8 degrees. August and September are also very much alike in temperature, varying only .6 of a degree. March and November are almost identical in their temperature, there being only one-tenth of a degree difference between them. There is a variance of 45.7 degrees between January and July, this being the average yearly range of temperature. The coldest day on record was February 13, 1905, when a blizzard swept over Kansas from the northwest, and carried the mercury to twenty-seven degrees below zero. This storm started on February 11, with a cold wave from the northwest. The thermometer dropped from twenty-seven to two degrees below zero on the night of February 11. The storm increased in intensity, with a high wind, during the 12th and 13th. It blew the snow, which resembled sleet more than snow, and it was impossible

for any one to face the storm. However, but little damage was done to stock and the morning of February 14 opened up bright and clear. The temperature soon rose and the maximum thermometer for February 14 was 33, a rise during the day of 57 degrees.

"THE HOT SUNDAY."

The hottest day on record was June 25, 1911, which is remembered as "The Hot Sunday." The temperature for several days before this date had been above 100 degrees. There was no wind and the thermometer reached 112 degrees in the "shelter house" provided for the thermometer. Like the blizzard, this extremely high temperature did not last long. The next day the thermometer registered 92 degrees. The extremes of both heat and cold passed away in less than twenty-four hours.

There have been 251 times, as shown by the records, when the thermometer passed the 100 degree mark. Of these, May had 4; June, 24; July, 92; August, 110, and September, 21. May 3, 1913, was the earliest time during the forty-three years the thermometer reached 100 degrees and September 17th the latest to reach this mark.

The latest date for killing frost was May 15, 1907, and the earliest frost in the fall was September 11, 1894.

The average precipitation, which includes rain and snow, is 29.22 inches. There have been but three months in the forty-three years of these records when there was no rainfall. These months were December, 1889, November, 1914, and July, 1916. Four other months have had but a "trace" of rain, March, 1910, April, 1914, November, 1912, and December, 1908. The wettest year, as shown by the records, was 1898, when the precipitation amounted to 37.10 inches, and the driest year was 1914, when but 15.71 inches of rain fell. July has, on an average, the greatest amount of rainfall, averaging 4.76 inches, while January has but .78 inches on record. The heaviest rainfall for one month was July, 1904, when 9.37 inches of rain fell, May, 1902, being second with a rainfall of 8.98 inches.

The prevailing direction of the wind is southwest. Next to this direction, the southeast is the direction of the wind. The northeast is generally the direction of the wind in the spring and fall, during a rainy season. The wind is seldom ever from the west, the cold waves coming from the northwest. Seventy-seven per cent. of the days are placed on the record as "clear

days", fourteen per cent. are "partially cloudy" and nine per cent. are "cloudy".

The distribution of the rainfall is most beneficial for the growing crops. Seventy-eight per cent. of the annual precipitations fall in the six growing months from April to September, the fall and winter months of October to March being dry, with an occasional snow, but which seldom becomes heavy enough to interfere with outdoor work.

The following tables furnish a complete review of the temperature and rainfall for almost the entire time that Reno county has been organized:

MONTHLY TEMPERATURE RENO COUNTY, 1874 TO 1892, INCLUSIVE.
(Expressed in Degrees.)

	January--			February--			March--			April--			May--			June--		
	A.M.	M.	P.M.	A.M.	M.	P.M.	A.M.	M.	P.M.	A.M.	M.	P.M.	A.M.	M.	P.M.	A.M.	M.	P.M.
1874	22.2	34.1	31.1	20.7	34.	32.4	32.3	46.7	47.4	38.7	55.3	57.7	57.7	76.2	72.7	66.	85.6	74.6
1875	7.9	18.9	17.6	16.5	32.8	33.7	27.1	46.	43.	36.8	58.	56.7	52.2	74.	73.4	61.9	83.5	72.7
1876	25.4	41.6	38.6	23.	48.1	44.4	27.9	38.4	35.3	44.4	66.2	57.	54.4	72.2	63.5	59.3	69.3	67.4
1877	17.7	31.1	27.6	29.	45.6	38.8	28.7	49.7	42.7	41.9	61.	53.3	54.2	71.8	63.3	61.2	69.8	69.8
1878	24.9	38.2	34.2	29.7	45.3	40.5	38.5	59.7	53.7	45.5	68.5	59.5	53.2	71.6	62.4	60.7	80.	69.
1879	18.8	31.2	25.7	22.4	40.	34.6	34.6	57.5	50.4	45.5	66.7	57.6	57.4	79.4	68.1	62.3	86.2	74.6
1880	25.5	46.2	40.8	18.	45.5	39.1	29.2	52.1	45.4	41.9	69.6	58.4	58.8	81.1	70.6	53.2	85.3	75.1
1881	9.84	24.	19.9	19.9	30.9	26.2	28.1	46.2	39.5	40.8	62.4	54.6	59.6	75.2	67.9	66.3	88.1	75.8
1882	21.2	37.1	32.2	16.5	47.3	41.8	35.3	56.7	50.	45.4	64.	56.7	49.9	66.3	59.	62.7	83.	72.1
1883	12.9	28.8	24.8	24.6	33.2	30.2	30.3	48.	42.8	43.	64.7	57.8	50.9	71.	63.	61.2	81.8	72.2
1884	13.3	30.	25.8	24.4	33.1	22.2	32.3	51.5	44.5	40.6	58.9	51.5	51.3	70.4	62.	63.3	83.9	72.1
1885	12.2	28.6	21.1	16.5	33.3	27.6	30.9	50.2	44.7	45.5	63.3	57.2	51.9	72.6	61.8	64.4	53.4	73.6
1886	9.3	20.3	16.7	24.6	38.7	34.8	30.9	48.1	43.	42.4	64.5	56.1	56.4	81.4	71.	61.	83.3	72.2
1887	15.	32.8	28.7	24.4	37.1	33.	31.2	56.6	49.7	44.8	68.1	60.2	56.2	80.1	69.3	61.8	86.1	75.1
1888	11.	26.7	23.	27.6	42.4	39.7	30.	48.1	42.7	48.7	70.7	62.6	53.	77.4	66.4	68.2	90.	79.9
1889	21.8	38.4	36.4	20.8	40.4	35.7	34.9	56.8	51.9	46.1	69.5	61.3	55.7	78.2	69.3	62.7	86.2	74.1
1890	21.5	33.4	31.2	26.2	39.1	38.6	32.	51.8	48.6	47.5	67.9	61.7	53.5	79.4	70.8	67.5	93.4	84.
1891	25.8	37.9	34.9	22.2	36.8	33.7	28.	41.6	39.8	46.	68.1	60.6	51.7	71.9	65.2	63.3	84.6	72.
1892	16.8	35.	32.9	29.1	41.2	40.7	29.3	45.3	42.6	43.3	61.	56.1	51.5	67.7	60.1	61.9	85.1	74.3

DAILY TEMPERATURE RENO COUNTY, 1893 TO 1916, INCLUSIVE.
(Expressed in Degrees.)

JANUARY.

	1		2		3		4		5		6		7		8		9		10		11		12		13		14		15	
	H. L.	H. L.	H. L.	H. L.	H. L.	H. L.	H. L.	H. L.	H. L.	H. L.	H. L.	H. L.	H. L.	H. L.	H. L.	H. L.	H. L.	H. L.	H. L.	H. L.	H. L.	H. L.	H. L.	H. L.	H. L.	H. L.	H. L.	H. L.	H. L.	
1893	44	9	50	25	50	26	67	23	56	34	49	19	41	29	56	21	55	25	42	21	50	21	50	19	34	16	35	19	43	8
1894	58	28	61	29	36	26	48	17	33	14	5	1	47	4	47	12	52	4	56	11	55	27	68	10	63	28	54	37	73	27
1895	35	6	43	15	33	21	33	13	40	15	43	23	34	18	33	3	40	8	51	15	34	28	26	0	31	3	52	31	38	24
1896	54	24	45	24	30	4	45	8	64	19	59	24	52	27	70	24	74	28	70	34	53	23	55	19	38	23	40	32	32	
1897	60	30	45	16	34	4	28	10	35	5	53	25	60	22	60	25	62	21	61	25	55	24	63	31	54	28	48	34	52	30
1898																														
1899	35	8	47	22	47	28	41	21	37	15	41	12	47	14	42	32	50	26	51	28	44	31	57	38	63	30	68	26	66	33
1900	32	19	45	14	41	21	40	25	45	33	50	37	54	38	51	37	52	46	38	30	37	28	62	33	63	50	64	22	63	33
1901	25	-6	23	0	47	12	49	20	31	14	42	19	49	19	35	28	23	18	26	9	37	11	44	13	55	23	68	27	64	30
1902	54	34	59	24	44	20	39	7	39	15	63	20	65	25	70	25	71	30	56	30	58	16	45	20	51	15	62	18	52	28
1903	37	21	39	30	49	13	43	36	47	24	63	23	37	25	39	9	32	17	32	14	24	3	37	-1	50	14	48	17	50	18
1904	26	22	24	-3	23	-4	38	-4	39	19	46	15	60	20	68	22	59	31	46	27	40	17	54	18	44	15	58	23	63	24
1905	58	33	40	22	59	11	58	21	48	20	41	12	37	13	30	10	24	15	13	4	14	3	14	-5	10	-10	-17	-20	-19	
1906	33	29	34	30	32	18	38	18	49	22	48	24	41	29	32	9	43	15	36	21	49	21	38	26	33	31	52	31	50	31
1907	42	32	56	40	47	23	48	25	16	34	52	27	65	31	33	24	26	17	44	24	41	27	46	27	45	31	39	21	21	13
1908	50	27	57	26	45	36	41	33	35	25	54	25	60	25	54	23	64	26	50	38	44	28	46	23	42	28	54	19	47	21
1909	30	16	44	25	54	29	59	23	45	9	9	-4	20	0	32	11	48	30	37	3	5	2	17	-15	27	13	24	13	29	17
1910	59	31	31	14	18	13	19	3	20	-3	22	-4	33	2	31	15	35	6	42	28	39	29	43	32	32	25	29	18	26	27
1911	42	3	3	-4	18	-15	48	12	60	24	50	25	60	22	50	33	56	23	75	39	71	15	32	17	33	14	23	12	23	20
1912	27	2	21	7	19	2	21	-8	10	-2	3	12	3	16	2	-1	39	-1	20	4	10	-6	-2	-19	10	-10	41	30	8	8
1913	52	28	42	20	56	27	34	26	28	18	-1	12	-20	15	3	34	15	43	27	12	11	19	-13	9	13	9	40	10	58	36
1914	39	27	35	27	34	22	33	21	36	24	40	26	56	30	54	30	45	24	44	26	50	22	44	19	46	24	48	26	66	36
1915	45	24	45	18	53	28	50	32	52	42	45	24	42	18	45	16	47	27	47	32	42	25	47	26	47	22	52	25	50	25
1916	31	19	43	26	46	21	50	20	73	37	26	20	18	16	36	23	59	32	33	23	23	15	0	-7	6	-13	21	-2	20	10

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1893	1	-4	33	-3	33	3	42	5	37	17	19	-2	23	-3	37	1	55	14	5	28	48	24	56	20	48	26	28	14	44	14
1894	43	11	53	19	39	22	53	7	42	17	52	26	72	25	50	28	45	32	27	8	7	28	0	32	-3	38	9	44	1	
1895	26	2	32	3	16	6	27	-3	28	0	10	-6	13	-14	20	4	30	5	25	-8	30	0	28	3	27	3	28	10	60	13
1896	57	34	63	36	63	37	51	32	57	21	48	28	40	16	52	17	58	26	52	33	49	32	47	36	63	20	68	26	62	34
1897																														
1898	36	16	23	13	52	15	50	39	54	23	58	24	69	31	67	31	58	47	40	28	57	28	65	27	58	32	41	32	54	34
1899	21	5	15	-4	15	6	17	6	18	0	20	-5	25	-7	14	-8	8	-7	16	-2	-5	-16	10	-24	37	-3	54	16	61	25
1900	63	18	54	26	61	33	51	23	61	27	54	18	55	24	63	6	35	7	58	20	60	30	35	30	36	17	29	18	16	8
1901	40	12	33	25	39	23	19	-2	21	2	31	12	33	25	30	28	21	-5	37	12	30	8	29	4	44	2	51	20	46	24
1902	33	18	17	15	30	7	14	5	28	1	13	8	42	12	23	12	22	11	32	1	35	16	32	20	27	23	33	17	36	11
1903	69	29	42	22	27	23	33	19	44	13	31	25	36	23	15	9	48	27	55	37	60	25	27	24	26	14	25	19	9	6
1904	35	16	25	21	32	13	52	10	60	35	74	36	35	8	32	11	20	5	28	3	30	1	48	18	62	28	33	7	55	8
1905	10	4	1	11	6	12	7	9	15	0	16	-11	19	4	35	13	27	15	19	3	5	-2	-2	-12	20	-27	3	33	7	
1906	52	29	58	24	71	29	57	14	24	0	31	11	50	10	57	1														

DAILY TEMPERATURE RENO COUNTY, 1893 TO 1916, INCLUSIVE.
(Expressed in Degrees.)

- July -		- August -		- September -		- October -		- November -		- December -	
A.M.	P.M.	A.M.	P.M.	A.M.	P.M.	A.M.	P.M.	A.M.	P.M.	A.M.	P.M.
70.4	93.5	82	72.7	95.7	83.4	56.4	73.3	68.6	47.3	66.1	59.7
67.3	85.1	75.9	62.6	83.4	72.5	55.7	79.6	71.3	44	67	60
68	87.5	76.5	67.1	88.9	75.3	54.5	78.6	67.7	41.2	64.9	55.7
64.5	86.4	74.4	63.3	84.4	73.6	56.3	79	67.9	45.2	60.1	53.9
68.5	89.1	78.3	65.6	88.8	77.1	55.4	79.2	69	44	65	57.7
68.9	90.9	79.6	63.1	87.5	75.7	54.3	78.7	69.1	49.4	71.2	61.5
65	86.6	75	63.3	88.8	75.6	55.1	77.7	67.1	41.7	63	53.9
68	88.4	76.5	67.5	92.5	77.9	58.3	80.8	69.2	50.3	65.6	59.7
63.6	85.1	72.2	60.2	86.7	72.6	53.7	83	70.4	46	66.6	58.8
66.6	87.7	75.9	63.8	83.7	73.6	53.4	74.8	75.3	45.2	69.6	53
67.7	87.4	75	66.1	82.2	72.3	63.5	85	75.5	50.1	70.6	61.3
67.9	88.3	96.8	64.2	83.9	73.9	57.1	77	67.7	41.2	64.1	55
66	81.4	78.7	66.4	89	78.1	59.7	80.7	72.3	48.5	70.2	62.6
66.6	92.3	78.6	67.8	91	80.4	55.2	74	66	40.5	64	56
72.6	97.5	86.3	70.1	91.1	81.5	55.5	84.2	72.9	44.7	69.2	67.2
70.1	92.7	81.1	68.4	92.1	80.2	57.4	81	69.8	68.1	66.1	60.1
72.6	101.9	89.3	68.4	93.5	84.2	54.8	76.9	70.7	45.2	66.9	60.3
65.4	84.3	74.7	63.7	86.1	76.3	60	79.8	73	43.1	65.9	59.2
66	87.1	77.2	63.5	87.2	77.1	57.6	87.4	74.3	47.6	68.3	61.1

DAILY TEMPERATURE RENO COUNTY, 1893 To 1916, INCLUSIVE.
(Expressed in Degrees.)

16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31
H. L.	H. L.	H. L.	H. L.	H. L.	H. L.	H. L.	H. L.	H. L.	H. L.	H. L.	H. L.	H. L.	H. L.	H. L.	H. L.
53 10	56 11	45 13	45 14	64 19	65 21	65 21	67 21	65 29	61 26	20 11	26 10	24 18	35 4	40 16	65 29
71 34	61 37	60 27	41 31	51 31	66 25	38 8	12 9	15-14	16 3	43 6	43 16	55 18	61 16	68 29	32 17
48 18	45 30	70 30	78 34	69 40	55 22	59 25	41 18	32 12	21 10	41-1	28 4	31 8	38 5	28 4	39 6
40 32	42 33	37 28	55 30	62 30	45 32	44 36	34 21	45 14	31 20	54 17	61 21	50 20	57 41	48 21	48 41
48 33	50 30	60 33	51 32	45 30	55 28	54 32	60 31	18 0	18 17	20 0	23 8	22 6	25 10	30 15	39 28
67 28	39 21	36 17	47 21	68 27	70 27	63 31	41 28	58 21	55 38	31 23	39 12	30 10	31 2	4 3	17-6
47 34	48 32	45 30	62 23	63 29	58 27	67 37	67 30	51 36	45 12	56 23	51 22	21 10	57 9	47 20	38 12
48 24	33 13	53 20	63 28	60 24	52 32	50 26	60 29	46 24	48 26	55 36	60 22	55 26	42 35	33 12	41 20
54 15	60 30	47 29	47 26	36 30	37 18	50 23	28 26	51 11	34 24	12-10	16 10	16 6	16 9	18-14	27 10
44 31	39 23	43 12	43 15	40 32	45 10	45 25	29 20	46 12	56 25	44 33	51 32	61 21	40 21	50 17	53 25
48 16	60 17	61 28	54 38	57 22	58 11	28 11	22 14	25 15	-2-5	36 11	45 7	21 5	47 2	53 18	42 5
28 5	39 8	38 20	48 21	44 18	38 16	36 15	43 16	24 15	16-11	30 5	46 9	34 21	22 10	25 11	19 3
52 26	56 34	53 29	64 35	70 34	37 18	29 7	52 7	59 21	47 23	58 19	59 19	59 25	65 30	54 26	68 24
39 16	30 26	41 30	53 35	47 24	55 30	46 28	46 22	41 27	30 15	25 13	33 9	49 22	41 22	22 8	27 17
39 10	56 19	52 26	57 24	61 29	59 31	56 24	39 14	52 18	61 21	61-38	60 11	51 17	32 22	45 13	39 15
27 15	27 4	26 24	30 24	36 28	57 31	56 37	71 32	71 38	61 30	46 34	54 24	51 23	66 35	36 15	26 7
40 33	38 29	50 28	45 28	42 31	46 21	42 24	56 35	50 30	63 35	56 37	46 28	50 28	42 23	48 21	66 25
22 16	33 19	45 19	40 24	50 38	48 23	46 26	46 12	42 34	65 40	70 46	62 30	41 22	72 34	60 28	72 34
37 10	33 21	28 13	26 4	32 10	38 11	43 14	42 19	44 22	44 16	62 24	49 26	52 35	49 34	58 39	42 31
52 39	46 26	46 21	42 32	22 15	48 9	46 21	42 36	44 16	62 24	49 26	56 24	64 31	67 41	35 20	52 16
56 34	56 34	56 40	66 28	46 30	48 31	47 27	54 28	44 23	46 27	56 24	60 31	67 41	35 20	54 34	32 20
23 18	24 2	40 16	32 16	35 18	32 19	18 2	26-2	36 17	14 11	36 20	14 3	31-4	34 24	54 34	32 20
10 3	26 -1	27 10	27 20	41 30	50 34	53 21	59 34	60 35	21 17	39 17	17 5	12 4	15 5	13 6	11 8

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54 19	57 22	60 24	63 25	60 21	56 31	66 27	58 33	50 29	56 22	62 37	30 22	57 13
43 14	50 33	63 27	33 6	23 10	25 6	36 8	37 13	40 15	55 15	61 25	68 28	60 25
46 3	57 18	52 26	57 23	73 28	58 28	60 26	63 31	65 33	55 39	56 41	63 46	75 41
52 24	57 21	55 25	68 32	44 20	58 23	62 37	75 32	75 31	75 35	64 37	57 24	54 33
72 32	44 33	49 20	30 19	40 15	50 15	56 24	63 25	59 25	59 21	69 29	73 37	62 26
57 32	57 31	56 27	74 20	70 38	62 35	52 27	33 3	39 15	31 26	37 20	54 14	43 33
20 8	19 -3	53 13	49 30	35 32	46 24	58 26	41 37	35 27	49 19	35 25	31 26	32 17
55 23	55 37	45 25	37 25	31 15	45 21	30 13	14 13	53 15	53 23	54 25	68 27	64 35
51 24	37 25	33 20	26 21	40 15	49 17	49 26	53 27	54 25	56 25	64 36	56 36	49 29
17-15	33-14	15 -1	34 -2	53 13	44 24	56 23	42 30	40 23	10 25	33 28	41 18	25 15
32 7	27 18	23 11	34 1	35 17	46 10	63 20	81 32	65 30	76 43	45 19	73 29	60 37
43 20	37 18	33 22	32 22	54 18	62 25	67 25	59 36	53 50	61 24	68 29	52 26	68 25
38 26	59 27	61 30	58 32	60 38	70 26	75 44	61 38	62 30	61 27	51 31	48 40	67 31
69 28	72 29	71 37	54 24	65 32	52 23	35 21	36 26	54 28	54 28	56 17	64 25	55 29
51 25	56 29	54 23	26 9	47 11	47 27	69 22	62 27	58 40	52 33	48 28	49 25	64 33
35 2	50 23	50 32	64 20	61 24	56 22	68 38	58 32	47 20	67 29	60 29	61 22	67 31
27 8	28 5	38 12	43 15	38 19	26 11	23 12	17 3	37 13	46 24	46 35	47 19	63 28
54 39	44 34	35 30	30 22	25 10	21 7	34 9	37 14	40 19	40 32	39 29	35 23	35 19
56 28	57 35	66 33	51 32	43 27	33 19	45 19	47 31	48 37	45 25	26 17	40 5	32 20
72 32	74 30	72 40	40 32	43 21	31 24	34 7	21 14	22-11	45 6	34 26	12 8	20 6
51 25	65 34	33 29	33 26	44 30	56 34	46 18	16 3	26 9	38 10	46 24	46 32	46 30
48 25	60 40	38 38	42 35	41 37	42 35	40 32	41 27	44 26	44 23	54 33	45 33	35 23
64 30	67 32	52 32	67 30	65 30	72 31	57 44	56 24	55 34	65 24	38 26	23 21	37 28

MARCH.

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
1893	11. 62	11. 72	11. 75	11. 35	11. 24	11. 7	11. 20	11. 25	11. 35	11. 32	11. 43	11. 34	11. 33	11. 33	11. 16
1894	10. 31	10. 74	10. 35	10. 42	10. 48	10. 7	10. 20	10. 25	10. 35	10. 32	10. 43	10. 34	10. 33	10. 33	10. 16
1895	15. 18	15. 63	15. 19	15. 42	15. 36	15. 15	15. 23	15. 18	15. 25	15. 22	15. 29	15. 20	15. 24	15. 20	15. 5
1896	15. 18	15. 63	15. 19	15. 42	15. 36	15. 15	15. 23	15. 18	15. 25	15. 22	15. 29	15. 20	15. 24	15. 20	15. 5
1897	57. 57	57. 54	57. 24	57. 51	57. 25	57. 47	57. 30	57. 28	57. 32	57. 31	57. 33	57. 31	57. 31	57. 31	57. 18
1898	50. 32	45. 19	60. 19	60. 19	56. 34	60. 34	64. 37	61. 31	61. 31	78. 47	65. 39	47. 36	41. 53	58. 31	62. 29
1899	65. 25	78. 39	51. 41	36. 48	48. 24	30. 17	39. 11	40. 12	71. 26	73. 42	71. 43	35. 24	45. 20	45. 26	62. 35
1900	49. 9	56. 25	51. 24	35. 30	38. 29	36. 26	49. 23	50. 30	69. 37	80. 38	85. 44	84. 45	68. 41	54. 38	38. 18
1901	76. 29	84. 34	63. 42	43. 33	32. 15	63. 10	64. 25	65. 44	34. 32	48. 27	68. 29	65. 49	56. 33	51. 27	52. 21
1902	46. 29	53. 20	63. 42	37. 26	54. 15	55. 30	68. 45	65. 27	66. 45	80. 49	56. 42	65. 42	68. 36	69. 43	42. 25
1903	32. 2	42. 2	42. 2	31. 28	44. 29	59. 38	51. 33	56. 41	63. 38	60. 30	59. 28	68. 35	71. 40	46. 28	63. 30
1904	73. 33	90. 41	42. 42	50. 16	55. 30	38. 29	36. 26	49. 23	71. 22	68. 33	74. 48	61. 33	61. 26	54. 33	58. 25
1905	69. 31	77. 29	75. 35	66. 47	66. 48	49. 34	45. 40	50. 28	69. 30	44. 25	54. 35	62. 30	60. 37	67. 40	68. 46
1906	71. 45	47. 25	62. 62	52. 35	50. 34	67. 39	59. 38	50. 29	46. 36	46. 31	70. 33	62. 35	37. 30	56. 23	67. 33
1907	51. 18	60. 31	62. 62	52. 35	50. 34	67. 39	59. 38	50. 29	46. 36	46. 31	70. 33	62. 35	37. 30	56. 23	67. 33
1908	51. 33	48. 25	61. 62	42. 42	78. 46	73. 34	47. 21	44. 26	54. 13	51. 17	73. 32	81. 31	69. 28	81. 39	77. 31
1909	73. 33	73. 33	63. 63	60. 34	74. 25	60. 36	66. 33	59. 25	35. 21	37. 21	31. 23	33. 21	46. 17	42. 20	59. 23
1910	64. 30	79. 31	83. 83	84. 36	85. 37	68. 44	68. 26	65. 34	55. 35	54. 23	70. 27	81. 37	76. 35	62. 31	64. 26
1911	31. 1	46. 13	51. 26	46. 31	67. 38	57. 41	57. 42	64. 40	75. 41	74. 42	72. 53	63. 33	58. 26	72. 31	56. 32
1912	27. 11	31. 25	26. 13	24. 19	26. 16	33. 10	33. 30	32. 18	47. 2	32. 20	37. 30	34. 24	36. 19	40. 20	42. 11
1913	31. 1	40. 7	46. 34	46. 34	46. 34	46. 34	46. 34	46. 34	46. 34	46. 34	46. 34	46. 34	46. 34	46. 34	46. 34
1914	31. 24	68. 28	54. 4	44. 32	46. 28	56. 26	50. 28	42. 23	63. 20	67. 28	44. 32	42. 26	67. 21	76. 27	82. 31
1915	31. 24	43. 39	43. 39	43. 39	43. 39	43. 39	43. 39	43. 39	43. 39	43. 39	43. 39	43. 39	43. 39	43. 39	43. 39

APRIL.

1893	73. 41	82. 46	82. 46	82. 46	82. 46	82. 46	82. 46	82. 46	82. 46	82. 46	82. 46	82. 46	82. 46	82. 46	82. 46
1894	77. 37	86. 38	86. 38	86. 38	86. 38	86. 38	86. 38	86. 38	86. 38	86. 38	86. 38	86. 38	86. 38	86. 38	86. 38
1895	47. 34	72. 38	72. 38	72. 38	72. 38	72. 38	72. 38	72. 38	72. 38	72. 38	72. 38	72. 38	72. 38	72. 38	72. 38
1896	55. 27	66. 33	66. 33	66. 33	66. 33	66. 33	66. 33	66. 33	66. 33	66. 33	66. 33	66. 33	66. 33	66. 33	66. 33
1897	60. 38	72. 38	72. 38	72. 38	72. 38	72. 38	72. 38	72. 38	72. 38	72. 38	72. 38	72. 38	72. 38	72. 38	72. 38
1898	58. 32	74. 32	74. 32	74. 32	74. 32	74. 32	74. 32	74. 32	74. 32	74. 32	74. 32	74. 32	74. 32	74. 32	74. 32
1899	47. 25	74. 32	74. 32	74. 32	74. 32	74. 32	74. 32	74. 32	74. 32	74. 32	74. 32	74. 32	74. 32	74. 32	74. 32
1900	74. 31	70. 34	70. 34	70. 34	70. 34	70. 34	70. 34	70. 34	70. 34	70. 34	70. 34	70. 34	70. 34	70. 34	70. 34
1901	35. 31	42. 29	58. 28	58. 28	58. 28	58. 28	58. 28	58. 28	58. 28	58. 28	58. 28	58. 28	58. 28	58. 28	58. 28
1902	56. 25	61. 36	50. 57	60. 36	66. 32	81. 39	71. 40	79. 33	66. 38	69. 35	62. 40	65. 28	69. 42	59. 36	50. 39
1903	82. 50	13. 48	87. 29	64. 35	68. 42	65. 40	73. 34	80. 36	77. 47	85. 55	88. 51	57. 46	58. 37	64. 31	64. 27
1904	65. 34	71. 26	58. 31	55. 34	66. 41	69. 34	48. 37	42. 30	59. 31	82. 31	74. 44	60. 27	77. 34	69. 33	55. 37
1905	73. 55	67. 45	61. 43	65. 39	57. 27	67. 31	83. 37	90. 42	91. 41	74. 43	56. 37	65. 30	68. 39	61. 32	55. 32
1906	67. 38	72. 46	65. 40	41. 35	64. 35	73. 36	68. 50	66. 48	83. 35	83. 48	83. 48	71. 56	52. 39	61. 35	67. 33
1907	67. 38	72. 46	65. 40	41. 35	64. 35	73. 36	68. 50	66. 48	83. 35	83. 48	83. 48	71. 56	52. 39	61. 35	67. 33
1908	58. 32	48. 24	62. 62	52. 35	50. 34	67. 39	59. 38	50. 29	46. 36	46. 31	70. 33	62. 35	37. 30	56. 23	67. 33
1909	61. 33	66. 34	73. 37	59. 41	69. 40	85. 45	88. 62	68. 38	54. 32	73. 47	66. 40	73. 31	75. 48	66. 56	74. 47
1910	76. 28	76. 48	87. 36	79. 47	65. 41	71. 28	81. 56	79. 33	79. 39	71. 48	73. 56	78. 49	73. 52	71. 54	56. 44
1911	71. 32	86. 46	86. 46	86. 46	86. 46	86. 46	86. 46	86. 46	86. 46	86. 46	86. 46	86. 46	86. 46	86. 46	86. 46
1912	33. 33	66. 33	66. 33	66. 33	66. 33	66. 33	66. 33	66. 33	66. 33	66. 33	66. 33	66. 33	66. 33	66. 33	66. 33
1913	78. 31	85. 60	46. 42	46. 42	46. 42	46. 42	46. 42	46. 42	46. 42	46. 42	46. 42	46. 42	46. 42	46. 42	46. 42
1914	74. 49	85. 60	46. 42	46. 42	46. 42	46. 42	46. 42	46. 42	46. 42	46. 42	46. 42	46. 42	46. 42	46. 42	46. 42
1915	44. 39	59. 24	81. 39	71. 38	71. 38	82. 47	82. 47	82. 47	82. 47	82. 47	82. 47	82. 47	82. 47	82. 47	82. 47

MAY.

1893	67. 31	75. 35	75. 35	75. 35	75. 35	75. 35	75. 35	75. 35	75. 35	75. 35	75. 35	75. 35	75. 35	75. 35	75. 35
1894	81. 44	65. 55	66. 7	72. 55	48. 48	84. 56	81. 56	81. 56	81. 56	81. 56	81. 56	81. 56	81. 56	81. 56	81. 56
1895	80. 35	79. 18	79. 18	79. 18	79. 18	79. 18	79. 18	79. 18	79. 18	79. 18	79. 18	79. 18	79. 18	79. 18	79. 18
1896	72. 42	71. 32	71. 32	71. 32	71. 32	71. 32	71. 32	71. 32	71. 32	71. 32	71. 32	71. 32	71. 32	71. 32	71. 32
1897	72. 42	71. 32	71. 32	71. 32	71. 32	71. 32	71. 32	71. 32	71. 32	71. 32	71. 32	71. 32	71. 32	71. 32	71. 32
1898	61. 50	69. 41	69. 41	69. 41	69. 41	69. 41	69. 41	69. 41	69. 41	69. 41	69. 41	69. 41	69. 41	69. 41	69. 41
1899	71. 15	71. 31	71. 31	71. 31	71. 31	71. 31	71. 31	71. 31	71. 31	71. 31	71. 31	71. 31	71. 31	71. 31	71. 31
1900	81. 54	54. 54	54. 54	54. 54	54. 54	54. 54	54. 54	54. 54	54. 54	54. 54	54. 54	54. 54	54. 54	54. 54	54. 54
1901	92. 38	90. 60	87. 65	87. 65	87. 65	87. 65	87. 65	87. 65	87. 65	87. 65	87. 65	87. 65	87. 65	87. 65	87. 65
1902	63. 39	76. 16	72. 27	75. 41	75. 49	63. 50	60. 51	72. 50	69. 49	74. 55	79. 50	60. 45	68. 55	70. 51	73. 52
1903	74. 48	76. 16	72. 27	75. 41	75. 49	63. 50	60. 51	72. 50	69. 49	74. 55	79. 50	60. 45	68. 55	70. 51	73. 52
1904	74. 48	76. 16	72. 27	75. 41	75. 49	63. 50	60. 51	72. 50	69. 49	74. 55	79. 50	60. 45	68. 55	70. 51	73. 52
1905	85. 54	84. 57	85. 63	85. 63	85. 63	85. 63	85. 63	85. 63	85. 63	85. 63	85. 63	85. 63	85. 63	85. 63	85. 63
1906	76. 45	64. 46	77. 55	64. 16	61. 43	72. 40	64. 16	61. 43	72. 40	64. 16	61. 43	72. 40	64. 16	61. 43	72. 40
1907	62. 26	65. 44	59. 29	54. 24	50. 42	50. 42	50. 42	50. 42	50. 42	50. 42	50. 42	50. 42	50. 42	50. 42	50. 42
1908	72. 28	67. 40	49. 75	49. 75	49. 75	49. 75	49. 75	49. 75	49. 75	49. 75	49. 75	49. 75	49. 75	49. 75	49. 75
1909	89. 23	75. 45	76. 36	91. 40	96. 31	87. 48	79. 49	70. 70	66. 10	72. 35	77. 48	89. 36	56. 61	86. 62	73. 47
1910	59. 23	75. 45	76. 36	91. 40	96. 31	87. 48	79. 49	70. 70	66. 10	72. 35	77. 48	89. 36	56. 61	86. 62	73. 47
1911	58. 34	87. 45	87. 45	87. 45	87. 45	87. 45	87. 45	87. 45	87. 45	87. 45	87. 45	87. 45	87. 45	87. 45	87. 45
1912	85. 37	85. 37	85. 37	85. 37	85. 37	85. 37	85. 37	85. 37	85. 37	85. 37	85. 37	85. 37	85. 37	85. 37	85. 37
1913	85. 60	68. 51	84. 84	62. 57	61. 56	64. 41	72. 33	75. 37	72. 36	81. 62	78. 41				

JUNE.

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	
	H. L.	H. L.	H. L.	H. L.	H. L.	H. L.	H. L.	H. L.	H. L.	H. L.	H. L.	H. L.	H. L.	H. L.	H. L.	
1893	81	49	77	52	85	56	83	52	84	57	90	57	95	60	93	67
1894	35	42	77	52	85	56	83	52	84	57	90	57	95	60	93	67
1895	35	42	77	52	85	56	83	52	84	57	90	57	95	60	93	67
1896	35	42	77	52	85	56	83	52	84	57	90	57	95	60	93	67
1897	35	42	77	52	85	56	83	52	84	57	90	57	95	60	93	67
1898	35	42	77	52	85	56	83	52	84	57	90	57	95	60	93	67
1899	35	42	77	52	85	56	83	52	84	57	90	57	95	60	93	67
1900	35	42	77	52	85	56	83	52	84	57	90	57	95	60	93	67
1901	35	42	77	52	85	56	83	52	84	57	90	57	95	60	93	67
1902	35	42	77	52	85	56	83	52	84	57	90	57	95	60	93	67
1903	35	42	77	52	85	56	83	52	84	57	90	57	95	60	93	67
1904	35	42	77	52	85	56	83	52	84	57	90	57	95	60	93	67
1905	35	42	77	52	85	56	83	52	84	57	90	57	95	60	93	67
1906	35	42	77	52	85	56	83	52	84	57	90	57	95	60	93	67
1907	35	42	77	52	85	56	83	52	84	57	90	57	95	60	93	67
1908	35	42	77	52	85	56	83	52	84	57	90	57	95	60	93	67
1909	35	42	77	52	85	56	83	52	84	57	90	57	95	60	93	67
1910	35	42	77	52	85	56	83	52	84	57	90	57	95	60	93	67
1911	35	42	77	52	85	56	83	52	84	57	90	57	95	60	93	67
1912	35	42	77	52	85	56	83	52	84	57	90	57	95	60	93	67
1913	35	42	77	52	85	56	83	52	84	57	90	57	95	60	93	67
1914	35	42	77	52	85	56	83	52	84	57	90	57	95	60	93	67
1915	35	42	77	52	85	56	83	52	84	57	90	57	95	60	93	67

JULY.

1893	99	62	87	60	87	62	100	68	99	73	98	70	97	71	84	71
1894	102	67	9	68	92	64	98	63	91	62	71	72	82	50	81	58
1895	62	61	82	62	83	64	90	66	92	63	86	68	78	58	81	58
1896	91	65	98	72	98	71	87	71	94	62	90	66	89	65	74	60
1897	95	74	97	74	103	78	85	64	92	66	96	73	97	72	98	73
1898	90	69	91	70	81	64	83	54	87	62	90	72	93	60	90	72
1899	87	68	85	67	85	65	83	65	92	67	83	66	80	63	83	60
1900	90	69	91	74	97	72	85	70	92	66	94	68	100	71	91	58
1901	190	73	101	72	102	74	105	74	96	70	101	63	104	58	104	63
1902	90	65	96	61	91	69	90	69	91	70	90	68	90	64	90	66
1903	95	69	96	70	85	65	80	62	85	58	92	61	93	68	95	69
1904	88	56	85	55	84	63	80	63	86	58	74	58	78	59	86	59
1905	86	67	82	62	79	61	80	63	85	64	83	57	84	62	77	61
1906	86	67	82	62	79	61	80	63	85	64	83	57	84	62	77	61
1907	86	67	82	62	79	61	80	63	85	64	83	57	84	62	77	61
1908	86	67	82	62	79	61	80	63	85	64	83	57	84	62	77	61
1909	86	67	82	62	79	61	80	63	85	64	83	57	84	62	77	61
1910	86	67	82	62	79	61	80	63	85	64	83	57	84	62	77	61
1911	101	76	101	69	103	67	105	72	107	79	94	73	96	68	97	72
1912	87	68	94	69	94	66	95	72	84	65	90	57	96	65	94	69
1913	88	68	96	67	94	72	101	73	104	72	102	72	103	73	98	74
1914	88	68	96	67	94	72	101	73	104	72	102	72	103	73	98	74
1915	88	68	96	67	94	72	101	73	104	72	102	72	103	73	98	74

AUGUST.

1893	97	57	87	58	88	68	96	66	98	62	97	63	94	63	88	67
1894	65	67	91	63	80	61	83	48	90	52	91	52	92	59	94	67
1895	65	67	91	63	80	61	83	48	90	52	91	52	92	59	94	67
1896	95	68	92	64	99	71	96	71	96	73	98	73	100	75	104	74
1897	103	74	98	67	95	75	97	70	96	71	90	70	86	70	82	71
1898	97	61	96	69	96	69	97	72	82	70	87	65	97	63	90	73
1900	98	58	96	62	96	65	95	70	97	68	97	65	79	68	90	68
1901	101	65	103	66	105	67	106	59	88	45	95	56	95	67	97	71
1902	96	63	101	64	101	66	102	69	91	54	97	56	91	65	90	62
1903	88	58	91	65	90	68	93	68	96	71	81	65	82	63	89	65
1904	88	58	91	65	90	68	93	68	96	71	81	65	82	63	89	65
1905	88	58	91	65	90	68	93	68	96	71	81	65	82	63	89	65
1906	88	58	91	65	90	68	93	68	96	71	81	65	82	63	89	65
1907	93	68	95	67	93	68	97	66	92	63	96	73	99	73	100	71
1908	93	68	95	67	93	68	97	66	92	63	96	73	99	73	100	71
1909	93	68	95	67	93	68	97	66	92	63	96	73	99	73	100	71
1910	93	68	95	67	93	68	97	66	92	63	96	73	99	73	100	71
1911	83	63	102	75	102	62	101	67	85	67	91	67	86	56	95	65
1912	83	63	102	75	102	62	101	67	85	67	91	67	86	56	95	65
1913	83	63	102	75	102	62	101	67	85	67	91	67	86	56	95	65
1914	101	75	99	66	102	68	101	65	105	66	105	68	106	68	105	68
1915	85	65	78	62	76	51	78	58	82	62	80	63	78	65	82	66

RENO COUNTY, KANSAS.

SEPTEMBER.

	1		2		3		4		5		6		7		8		9		10		11		12		13		14		15			
	H.	L.	H.	L.	H.	L.	H.	L.	H.	L.	H.	L.	H.	L.	H.	L.	H.	L.	H.	L.	H.	L.	H.	L.	H.	L.	H.	L.	H.	L.	H.	L.
1893	93	48	95	52	94	52	101	54	101	61	88	56	94	62	90	58	94	56	97	52	92	52	94	59	100	64	100	59	90	62		
1894	86	67	93	64	97	65	96	65	90	67	98	64	103	67	80	67	90	63	72	58	75	49	75	44	82	53	76	69	82	42		
1895	78	50	90	66	93	69	95	67	92	70	91	73	74	62	94	60	95	65	96	71	97	71	102	67	99	65	99	69	98	72		
1896	95	63	98	64	80	64	91	58	91	56	85	50	95	58	65	65	96	74	67	58	73	53	84	55	90	62	86	67	91	68		
1897	98	70	95	69	92	66	96	68	98	69	92	65	92	66	91	66	90	65	91	68	92	69	95	63	93	60	77	69	89	68		
1898																																
1899	93	68	92	66	93	62	98	65	99	72	98	70	99	73	70	63	69	62	80	60	87	53	87	55	81	55	87	59	89	60		
1900	97	66	91	68	91	64	94	64	95	66	101	67	100	69	69	68	95	67	72	69	88	63	80	59	90	62	96	65	84	55		
1901	89	59	91	56	92	60	90	56	94	65	93	63	89	66	87	65	85	59	95	60	90	64	89	54	91	57	97	60	87	48		
1902	72	58	81	48	76	60	74	43	72	55	87	43	90	65	75	64	83	36	88	53	58	50	70	34	76	35	83	50	85	50		
1903	90	54	92	54	94	69	92	63	95	60	90	59	95	69	88	61	86	52	72	40	88	65	86	62	89	60	50	44	50	42		
1904	89	66	85	62	72	55	82	48	85	51	87	50	88	52	90	54	91	51	91	58	67	50	74	46	77	55	68	39	78	41		
1905	96	68	85	60	80	43	85	47	76	58	79	63	78	64	70	60	76	66	81	62	87	59	91	67	90	64	90	68	84	67		
1906	83	70	89	64	75	63	79	63	82	65	86	62	90	63	91	64	92	63	90	67	89	68	80	65	78	50	71	63	87	66		
1907	91	63	88	64	90	55	81	59	79	55	94	63	92	61	80	62	71	54	76	41	90	48	94	56	92	60	91	62	93	64		
1908	89	54	86	51	70	62	85	58	98	63	90	60	96	56	92	60	93	64	92	60	93	64	92	59	91	57	90	57	76	64		
1909	90	65	90	72	95	65	86	65	80	54	80	64	94	64	90	64	95	67	95	65	98	67	98	71	78	65	76	57	81	51		
1910	73	62	96	67	90	65	86	66	80	67	86	51	92	65	81	67	67	57	80	43	98	69	83	56	75	56	70	59	76	61		
1911	79	66	98	59	97	61	86	60	96	66	98	74	88	61	83	65	81	60	94	72	98	71	100	66	101	70	103	73	87	64		
1912	99	74	96	71	95	69	95	70	97	71	94	66	96	67	98	67	98	70	99	75	85	67	73	62	74	63	69	51	57	49		
1913	99	72	99	73	100	73	102	64	103	61	104	71	97	74	90	66	78	68	79	68	72	64	71	56	74	45	70	40	71	54		
1914	94	62	82	55	86	51	98	67	101	71	96	71	100	74	71	71	96	70	95	74	89	67	83	67	89	70	79	64	89	67		
1915	81	59	82	52	88	53	87	56	85	55	87	64	92	67	88	71	75	69	94	69	92	65	91	70	91	71	78	65	78	56		

OCTOBER.

1893	84	56	68	45	82	41	80	48	73	44	83	40	85	44	88	45	92	58	92	61	68	60	62	37	72	32	72	35	76	35	
1894	70	49	80	43	80	45	80	45	73	45	83	50	63	46	72	29	74	37	77	39	77	39	82	49	77	37	83	45	85	50	
1895	72	38	78	44	57	54	63	49	62	52	81	52	74	47	66	39	70	39	83	48	74	43	72	35	81	44	85	43	80	45	
1896	95	40	88	55	82	45	81	48	62	42	66	48	68	42	71	48	65	45	55	44	67	34	75	38	73	35	73	40	76	40	
1897																															
1898																															
1899	81	50	89	57	74	51	63	52	73	38	84	41	83	42	82	48	87	48	82	61	88	66	92	54	91	63	90	65	85	67	
1900	82	56	88	64	86	65	92	61	91	69	83	50	63	65	40	70	39	73	35	70	39	72	30	78	34	77	36	82	45	74	54
1901	87	57	77	41	74	45	63	41	66	41	79	46	69	46	44	50	89	49	81	50	65	49	60	46	59	36	68	28	69	35	
1902	74	45	61	36	49	45	52	37	72	29	76	40	77	37	70	47	81	50	79	44	79	49	59	51	62	35	79	36	84	52	
1903	79	69	84	62	84	63	79	47	76	45	87	48	75	45	75	39	77	35	76	46	74	49	55	49	54	46	56	48	61	46	
1904	69	48	82	46	84	50	84	51	61	59	62	41	73	42	85	56	86	63	80	50	83	41	74	45	62	51	74	50	81	48	
1905	72	43	79	44	84	50	84	55	83	35	78	38	86	41	82	44	66	45	64	27	79	40	82	31	77	35	72	36	75	33	
1906	76	35	79	40	85	49	70	56	65	50	78	38	80	41	82	44	66	45	64	27	79	40	81	50	77	38	67	34	54	47	
1907	84	66	91	49	82	57	73	51	77	47	81	49	74	53	71	35	70	39	83	39	68	46	50	34	65	32	76	46	71	45	
1908	76	39	77	54	77	52	81	54	77	58	72	53	78	44	61	45	78	52	88	40	61	36	68	34	85	51	86	55	85	55	
1909	92	47	90	52	91	51	92	47	91	48	94	50	86	62	78	48	48	42	64	41	58	39	53	24	70	35	77	40	74	40	
1910	94	54	96	46	81	54	85	43	74	45	94	50	78	35	39	47	85	42	85	39	87	39	87	41	82	56	81	59	85	52	
1911	90	63	68	56	86	69	74	45	89	60	82	60	65	50	63	34	71	34	77	44	90	54	89	62	82	51	93	48	77	60	
1912	56	29	66	50	83	44	92	54	88	60	84	43	74	45	82	46	78	56	74	44	71	46	74	41	72	38	81	39	79	40	
1913	79	56	81	45	82	48	77	66	79	64	76	60	73	56	53	55	75	57	68	52	84	55	82	49	86	50	79	51	61	49	
1914	80	49	80	58	74	47	74	47	82	42	82	48	82	61	70	57	74	50	74	49	74	49	74	38	50	38	49	39	55	43	
1915	71	51	76	52	76	53	71	35	61	48	70	44	64	37	56	34	70	35	86	51	74	55	54	46	75	35	65	45	62	55	

NOVEMBER.

1893	82	49	48	29	50	31	74	20	83	28	72	33	70	42	76	43	70	30	66	36	51	38	51	24	70	25	59	19	65	19
1894	69	41	63	33	86	31	72	40	62	24	76	34	73	35	66	32	55	37	42	28	48	25	88	31	70	35	68	23	79	33
1895	68	31	69	35	67	45	78	52	79	57	50	41	44	35	48	33	52	27	61	25	65	32	67	35	60	30	70	32	69	44
1896	74	42	71	41	59	41	64	32	64	32	63	32	46	24	48	18	62	37	40	37	46	28	61	27	64	36	73	36	75	38
1897																														
1898	69	39	72	33	76	34	83	51	76	46	61	32	78	34	45	33	44	28	56	18	50	24	45	33	57	33	59	24	59	28
1899	66	34	53	25	66	21	69	28	62	29	69	14	70	38	69	43	58	36	69	39	55	25	63	33	59	31	58	25	76	40
1900	67	31	71	39	74	43	79	36	66	49	68	35	64	36	45	28	51	28	53	32	46</									

SEPTEMBER.

16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31
H. L.	H. L.	H. L.	H. L.	H. L.	H. L.	H. L.	H. L.	H. L.	H. L.	H. L.	H. L.	H. L.	H. L.	H. L.	H. L.
81 45	82 54	80 49	84 75	86 58	87 57	93 61	73 52	69 52	76 50	88 56	84 58	88 58	72 69	71 36	71 36
102 70	100 69	98 73	91 52	91 73	93 73	93 48	72 36	86 43	91 55	83 58	77 46	71 55	72 34	70 32	70 32
98 68	74 63	81 62	69 48	65 44	83 52	76 48	72 16	78 50	78 53	72 57	68 46	63 53	78 38	90 16	
76 53	70 53	85 69	85 53	80 51	83 53	92 56	93 56	93 60	93 56	92 54	96 55	90 59			
76 60	75 10	78 45	77 68	78 43	83 52	82 53	89 53	89 56	78 47	78 40	86 52	70 50	68 39	80 42	
79 49	68 48	90 50	81 55	83 48	80 48	83 56	76 57	78 54	71 41	69 41	76 43	62 54	80 52	85 56	
61 52	65 38	70 37	62 42	70 32	86 45	90 54	92 60	91 63	81 61	90 67	80 62	74 58	68 55	78 55	
90 51	62 58	70 39	84 52	69 63	73 65	68 59	78 51	61 54	72 55	92 59	74 49	77 41	65 58	75 38	
64 37	67 33	81 45	79 51	83 53	75 54	83 55	77 52	78 41	9 48	71 54	73 36	72 63	66 53	81 56	
88 35	91 63	92 64	96 64	58 52	69 50	72 53	86 56	82 61	95 62	97 61	92 63	89 64	83 63	85 60	
98 68	86 68	79 58	79 43	84 50	90 50	82 56	91 59	90 53	85 62	88 60	89 59	87 59	79 45	78 54	
80 70	71 70	62 57	77 43	80 51	87 56	82 58	81 53	82 53	85 61	78 54	78 58	75 48	79 45	74 49	
91 65	95 69	93 63	95 67	86 59	83 52	95 42	95 45	81 53	78 44	93 54	87 54	74 36	64 52	57 54	
80 59	87 62	88 64	88 56	86 56	88 60	91 60	85 56	86 61	79 61	74 48	75 48	66 35	71 35	74 45	
90 50	96 54	87 59	92 57	92 53	92 62	83 36	80 41	87 43	85 47	78 43	75 35	66 35	95 42	93 45	
92 62	94 67	99 67	90 67	80 67	88 59	94 68	85 62	77 51	85 56	71 49	72 37	77 41	89 50	96 59	
86 67	98 70	88 61	77 45	73 57	78 49	86 72	95 67	82 57	82 57	93 69	98 68	100 72	83 63	93 56	
68 48	73 53	70 42	82 52	76 52	72 38	79 39	78 48	75 52	66 57	69 32	73 37	69 46	54 41	66 32	
71 57	78 52	36 48	74 48	60 47	65 40	82 46	81 45	35 45	56 44	65 41	64 41	65 46	70 65	69 49	
90 69	93 70	88 66	65 63	85 63	78 65	71 49	81 46	83 48	80 58	82 60	83 60	84 60	87 62	81 59	
81 60	85 66	79 61	86 67	66 60	69 52	68 55	69 56	8 59	70 64	89 69	77 54	71 56	65 55	65 55	

OCTOBER.

73 48	80 47	85 49	86 75	70 40	85 50	56 65	90 55	65 41	75 35	86 46	86 33	62 30	64 32	16 31	70 44
92 48	92 48	80 56	55 48	89 56	83 45	88 44	86 43	93 48	85 38	82 46	67 46	57 45	60 37	55 28	62 35
87 44	78 38	88 48	64 39	86 33	84 37	10 45	58 35	68 37	82 33	85 40	65 24	57 27	55 28	45 37	62 35
86 38	67 36	84 37	84 37	63 31	75 33	59 33	53 33	40 68	73 35	74 44	80 47	70 58	48 50	68 66	75 37

70 46	68 38	71 44	86 43	88 50	88 58	87 62	83 69	79 64	64 59	56 50	53 46	73 38	72 41	77 42	72 43
61 43	67 33	76 45	69 45	69 49	59 51	64 41	84 35	73 59	80 58	86 59	76 69	65 39	65 53	73 55	56 43
65 35	72 35	87 45	72 46	81 45	81 45	81 44	79 45	74 46	76 50	82 49	75 49	68 54	78 58	70 56	59 50
83 41	82 53	72 45	86 39	80 39	83 54	82 52	94 55	84 52	86 58	76 39	72 54	62 25	78 32	71 43	72 45
69 30	62 36	72 33	40 36	81 41	81 39	62 40	65 26	75 32	82 35	67 36	72 53	71 40	67 36	56 39	54 46
83 49	84 55	74 56	53 39	69 35	74 36	64 33	77 32	63 40	57 24	71 26	63 26	78 27	79 28	76 29	73 38
83 43	75 51	52 44	53 39	56 22	62 28	67 32	61 39	57 49	64 38	72 42	64 42	66 32	36 32	36 32	53 25
57 50	60 51	71 49	72 39	63 54	61 38	52 37	53 35	57 39	71 34	78 42	65 36	64 28	62 39	52 32	51 24
76 47	79 49	76 45	77 39	70 44	73 41	80 37	81 44	81 43	69 47	50 37	54 42	56 32	52 47	60 47	56 50
84 63	77 60	68 49	68 50	73 46	61 49	57 41	49 35	55 26	53 22	47 10	52 29	67 25	62 30	64 33	60 32
72 40	71 53	53 44	47 39	60 46	75 37	73 50	63 37	67 35	64 45	67 34	71 32	71 35	71 54	83 55	76 49
87 47	85 56	81 58	67 46	46 36	70 22	75 30	78 37	77 38	86 39	82 49	62 37	47 19	68 23	57 32	72 41
67 46	76 36	77 46	65 37	55 32	55 35	71 27	72 31	72 48	64 38	59 38	42 32	39 32	42 37	56 40	55 28
83 37	55 54	65 49	55 50	63 39	60 39	50 40	50 38	63 40	68 41	81 44	84 42	78 48	74 40	38 30	56 26
45 42	58 34	48 32	45 33	52 30	60 34	55 39	70 40	76 44	74 45	41 29	52 24	38 18	40 23	40 32	65 36
64 49	70 38	76 46	70 53	67 54	68 55	68 59	74 58	65 44	54 35	54 37	62 22	65 32	74 41	75 44	75 45
74 54	61 48	74 44	78 48	74 44	75 41	76 44	74 41	80 47	70 40	76 40	51 41	78 44	84 47	82 44	76 54

NOVEMBER.

67 33	43 29	48 45	72 16	47 28	62 33	42 28	44 12	11 17	40 25	45 33	64 29	70 33	70 28	48 32	
39 24	53 6	64 32	70 14	75 26	68 25	60 32	57 13	69 20	75 25	40 33	70 11	55 26	50 22	45 32	
78 39	74 33	52 32	74 27	77 36	28 20	28 19	34 20	34 20	29 26	40 13	51 23	60 34	46 28	40 25	
72 30	76 52	43 40	31 20	35 25	40 29	50 17	67 32	64 39	70 45	40 40	40 10	30 5	32 12	40 22	
62 32	63 34	69 33	71 33	71 48	17 10	39 9	31 9	14	40 37	43 34	61 29	68 33	70 42	52 47	
70 57	79 40	57 43	59 49	60 54	61 50	63 50	59 53	49 40	40 37	43 34	46 30	53 28	59 28	58 25	
56 32	74 45	31 30	35 26	34 28	54 29	75 45	34 30	34 29	45 19	42 27	46 30	53 28	59 28	58 25	
53 19	56 35	53 32	59 20	50 35	60 36	53 34	51 26	61 34	59 26	60 24	68 35	62 24	76 32	70 38	
73 28	54 24	63 28	65 40	70 53	53 41	49 44	56 37	50 47	53 21	45 23	45 14	52 33	48 17	52 20	
40 25	76 11	37 6	38 17	45 21	60 23	60 25	57 30	39 26	47 16	43 15	64 20	60 40	49 23	41 20	
73 27	76 28	77 26	77 45	62 27	69 22	73 29	73 30	67 21	49 27	50 14	60 25	73 33	62 31	68 22	
73 33	68 39	56 38	59 31	58 31	56 28	61 30	59 31	55 36	64 30	63 34	68 40	68 36	48 16	26 12	
58 50	51 27	49 19	34 19	24 19	37 18	38 10	45 21	41 25	44 38	50 32	49 28	44 29	44 38	44 42	
55 21	57 29	50 29	44 38	45 40	55 29	60 27	57 29	60 31	68 28	64 30	59 37	35 23	59 25	50 37	
68 21	76 29	79 34	67 32	67 29	65 28	66 41	54 36	52 32	47 37	54 27	47 26	41 6	48 40	50 37	
35 21	43 24	57 26	63 31	68 36	57 34	41 27	55 28	67 37	56 35	72 54	67 59	64 33	48 35	52 40	
46 18	54 30	52 26	60 26	58 34	65 24	73 28	65 27	65 32	73 34	87 45	70 39	53 10	49 19	44 25	
73 39	68 29	64 29	61 28	54 32	60 27	53 47	47 24	50 13	60 24	65 25	55 29	29 16	41 6	30 19	
55 22	59 27	73 34	77 37	72 24	59 24	58 42	56 26	52 19	62 20	44 20	40 24	54 21	56 26	66 29	
56 31	66 43	67 39	71 56	74 52	71 36	56 45	55 29	55 26	54 46	50 39	60 59	56 47	60 49	53 48	
43 23	40 24	50 19	47 14	70 18	68 24	68 27	69 27	65 30	61 41	67 41	60 33	52 19	52 32	53 42	
61 26	56 23	57 32	68 38	62 32	67 34	68 36	67 27	27 45	45 40	61 28	50 36	46 28	45 17	52 23	

DECEMBER.

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	
	H. L.	H. L.	H. L.	H. L.	H. L.	H. L.	H. L.	H. L.	H. L.	H. L.	H. L.	H. L.	H. L.	H. L.	H. L.	
1893	31	8	39	29	47	10	58	23	44	30	58	24	60	21	60	23
1894	42	33	47	25	58	12	58	17	75	20	80	40	80	35	70	32
1895	44	30	32	11	47	7	52	24	50	16	66	23	52	32	48	19
1896	45	7	44	25	58	30	60	32	62	36	70	34	55	34	50	30
1897	52	10	32	10	17	10	40	6	58	16	62	24	63	29	61	28
1898	60	30	68	29	30	25	55	19	56	25	48	25	51	18	30	16
1899	68	29	74	40	54	31	41	17	51	17	55	27	59	28	50	32
1900	62	24	50	33	41	31	53	22	47	27	59	30	41	34	64	25
1901	55	34	49	26	37	34	35	25	50	24	64	32	43	34	42	23
1902	61	30	53	34	26	16	34	4	58	19	47	27	33	14	31	7
1903	29	21	46	18	53	24	39	17	49	9	65	18	55	20	43	22
1904	67	33	35	15	39	15	30	21	38	22	48	17	55	14	65	14
1905	41	21	37	19	34	16	44	16	49	28	53	22	54	24	56	28
1906	44	33	35	36	62	35	68	40	63	39	49	29	50	20	63	37
1907	67	24	35	33	51	26	39	12	38	27	50	32	56	42	62	33
1908	42	15	31	13	48	24	44	27	41	26	39	28	39	9	36	20
1909	51	37	47	34	42	34	34	15	27	10	26	14	14	-1	14	-2
1910	36	11	48	15	51	31	40	28	30	23	39	7	35	12	48	11
1911	59	30	60	25	50	28	52	22	53	31	57	36	52	33	55	37
1912	54	24	59	28	64	40	65	40	46	32	31	40	43	22	42	18
1913	60	47	54	46	52	47	55	46	44	39	40	27	47	24	42	24
1914	62	33	56	23	52	15	49	13	53	19	49	32	42	32	40	30
1915	61	28	48	17	50	26	59	29	61	31	54	45	56	44	57	28

COLD NOVEMBERS.

	Sunrise	Noon	Sunset
1874	29.43	46.90	39.43
1875	26.56	46.10	41.80
1876	28.43	45.66	38.66
1877	30.53	45.43	39.26
1880	21.50	34.90	30.30
1881	29.26	47.50	49.06

COLD FEBRUARYS.

1875	16.57	32.82	33.79
1881	18.63	30.93	26.21
1885	16.33	33.35	27.61
1894	17.25	33.10	31.32
1899	9.87	26.28	21.78
1905	13.28	29.32	24.25

COLD DECEMBERS.

1876	12.39	31.51	24.19
1878	17.22	31.10	25.22
1879	17.32	32.67	28.22
1880	17.05	30.90	26.58
1884	16.12	26.80	23.64
1909	18.42	28.45	26.53

RAINFALL 1880 TO 1892.

	1880	1890	1891	1892
January	.75	2.49	2.00	.30
February	.20	.30	1.25	3.56
March	1.43	.60	3.57	2.32
April	3.33	2.69	1.04	1.15
May	5.47	2.15	8.20	4.78
June	6.71	8.20	3.60	3.26
July	2.99	1.33	3.96	3.86
August	2.54	3.05	1.47	1.51
September	2.74	1.52	2.86	.79
October	1.99	2.64	2.48	3.43
November	1.35	.94	.32	.49
December	0	1.21	.96	2.11
	29.55	27.10	31.10	27.56

COLD JANUARYS.

1875	7.90	18.90	17.65
1881	9.84	24.06	18.93
1883	12.93	28.87	24.84
1885	12.26	28.65	21.19
1886	9.32	26.32	16.74
1888	11.96	26.74	23.
1905	13.58	27.26	24.

DECEMBER.

16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31
H. L.	H. L.	H. L.	H. L.	H. L.	H. L.	H. L.	H. L.	H. L.	H. L.	H. L.	H. L.	H. L.	H. L.	H. L.	H. L.
49 24	64 24	70 24	62 24	58 23	70 35	72 58	55 42	61 14	53 25	50 25	60 26	60 30	55 20	45 23	65 23
58 31	61 26	72 25	70 33	68 41	59 28	64 33	61 33	29 24	39 4	19 3	31 14	30 6	36 10	45 3	
65 38	46 34	37 27	48 27	53 17	47 24	39 33	40 32	52 22	52 12	50 20	57 23	57 20	40 24	53 14	46 24
52 30	50 22	44 21	53 30	48 35	68 32	78 28	12 22	40 25	16 22	55 34	54 36	60 33	62 37	49 31	57 28
26 9	36 8	27 10	23 17	41 16	40 13	50 16	58 27	49 22	62 23	58 27	50 32	50 23	62 28	60 28	38 26
47 30	55 19	36 31	37 32	58 28	50 20	56 20	53 27	57 24	65 26	65 34	65 31	65 31	62 31	27 11	30 4
42 25	37 28	47 29	47 16	52 18	57 27	30 25	58 25	65 33	54 25	42 24	44 23	43 18	36 22	27 20	50 20
62 33	65 25	49 30	55 25	59 17	55 32	41 40	46 32	45 23	53 20	49 18	45 25	32 15	43 13	35 15	18 6
36 8	19 2	50 11	19 3	45 2	64 17	57 20	66 25	49 36	48 16	49 23	49 30	46 22	57 22	64 21	50 28
32 6	36 4	40 10	42 35	34 27	42 26	31 20	33 19	37 23	28 12	28 4	28 12	56 24	46 15	54 15	54 22
58 17	54 18	62 40	44 25	56 15	59 24	57 21	61 35	15 23	50 21	33 8	59 25	53 24	56 16	66 20	63 24
39 31	48 10	54 25	48 12	35 20	56 17	61 53	35 25	38 11	44 16	19 10	21 1	32 2	47 13	56 20	59 29
50 20	54 32	43 25	47 16	35 22	49 27	41 27	43 20	49 17	58 18	57 15	14 21	45 21	49 17	42 25	56 16
35 19	33 19	34 10	38 19	49 29	48 25	45 27	41 21	51 30	53 22	53 33	41 29	41 25	50 38	49 53	37 32
39 25	38 26	31 1	33 5	31 5	32 19	34 31	41 22	50 23	48 28	53 29	50 30	44 26	45 33	44 26	33 27
50 38	44 37	37 25	45 17	55 15	50 19	55 17	56 31	59 22	42 26	65 23	52 28	65 20	64 26	64 26	52 16
14 26	36 10	25 6	31 10	33 5	30 13	33 10	34 22	34 27	30 18	41 8	38 19	35 24	38 10	53 19	57 26
56 18	52 17	51 18	55 25	48 21	39 19	47 28	44 15	50 13	52 23	51 16	51 25	42 29	34 25	44 17	46 29
34 25	51 29	48 29	43 32	35 31	33 12	31 5	28 4	31 14	25 10	23 14	23 1	33 8	32 11	14 2	19 7
28 22	40 20	45 30	30 20	35 18	29 10	38 18	41 18	52 22	42 15	36 18	45 20	48 25	38 20	52 30	50 20
48 36	44 36	41 28	44 26	28 23	33 14	32 22	32 14	22 9	20 13	32 3	29 13	31 11	39 9	26 8	30 15
20 2	29 10	32 21	34 21	28 0	25 5	30 3	33 14	33 12	20 3	50 7	32 8	32 22	31 18	27 9	37 7
41 22	42 14	46 23	45 16	41 19	57 25	71 26	31 28	41 26	42 26	32 26	31 15	31 1	32 15	34 19	35 26

RECORD OF DAYS WHEN THERMOMETER HAS REGISTERED BELOW ZERO

Date, 1875	A.M.	M.	P.M.	Date, 1881	A.M.	M.	P.M.	Date, 1885	A.M.	M.	P.M.
January	2	-----	8	January	10	-----	13	February	10	-----	5
"	5	-----	13	"	11	-----	2	December	14	-----	10
"	6	-----	2	"	13	-----		1886			
"	7	-----	1	"	14	-----	8	January	7	-----	3
"	8	-----	2	"	27	-----	4	"	8	-----	18
"	9	-----	20	February	15	-----	9	"	9	-----	10
"	10	-----	2	"	19	-----	8	"	10	-----	8
"	13	-----	15	1882				"	11	-----	2
"	14	-----	11	January	17	-----	9	"	12	-----	18
"	15	-----	1	"	31	-----	2	"	16	-----	4
"	16	-----	3	December	7	-----	3	"	19	-----	17
"	19	-----	1	"	19	-----	16	"	22	-----	8
February	3	-----	5	1883				February	23	-----	7
"	7	-----	1	January	18	-----		"	23	-----	3
November	29	-----	1	"	19	-----	16	"	5	-----	4
1876				"	22	-----	14	1886			
February	1	-----	5	"	21	-----	9	February	27	-----	5
March	20	-----	2	"	22	-----	4	1887			
December	18	-----	2	February	3	-----	8	January	2	-----	5
"	26	-----	19	"	4	-----	18	"	3	-----	6
"	28	-----	1	"	5	-----	10	"	6	-----	1
"	29	-----	4	1884				"	8	-----	10
1877				January	2	-----	8	"	9	-----	22
January	12	-----	4	"	4	-----	5	"	10	-----	7
"	16	-----	6	"	5	-----	12	February	1	-----	6
1878				"	6	-----	7	"	3	-----	7
December	17	-----	6	"	7	-----	1	March	27	-----	8
"	18	-----	6	"	7	-----	1	"	21	-----	6
"	24	-----	1	"	24	-----	13	"	22	-----	6
"	25	-----	2	February	9	-----	1	"	22	-----	3
"	27	-----	4	"	12	-----	1	"	28	-----	4
1879				"	13	-----	4	1888			
January	2	-----	10	"	14	-----	4	January	8	-----	2
"	3	-----	5	December	18	-----	4	"	13	-----	5
"	9	-----	6	"	22	-----	3	"	11	-----	12
December	24	-----	2	"	24	-----	9	"	15	-----	20
"	25	-----	12	"	25	-----	8	"	16	-----	1
1880				"	31	-----	5	"	17	-----	3
March	14	-----	4	1885				"	20	-----	10
"	18	-----	5	January	1	-----	10	"	21	-----	13
December	28	-----	2	"	2	-----	2	"	22	-----	2
"	29	-----	12	"	16	-----	6	1889			
"	30	-----	4	"	17	-----	11	February	18	-----	8
"	31	-----	2	"	19	-----	10	"	23	-----	1
1881				"	20	-----	8	1890			
January	8	-----	0	"	21	-----	3	January	13	-----	5
"	9	-----	17	"	22	-----	1	"	16	-----	3
				"	25	-----	5	February	27	-----	1
								"	28	-----	3

RENO COUNTY, KANSAS.

Date.	A.M.	M.	P.M.	Date.	A.M.	M.	P.M.	Date.	A.M.	M.	P.M.
1892				1901				1909			
January 12.....	-11			February 4.....	- 1			December 7.....	- 1		
" 13.....	- 4			" 9.....	- 3			" 8.....	- 2		
" 14.....	- 2			December 14.....	- 7			1910			
" 15.....	- 3		- 3	" 15.....	- 1			January 5.....	- 3		
" 19.....	-16			1902				" 6.....	- 4	- 1	
March 18.....	- 2			January 26.....	- 8			1911			
December 26.....	- 5			" 27.....	- 7			January 2.....	- 4		
1893				" 30.....	-13			" 3.....	-15		
February 1.....	- 3	- 3	- 3	February 2.....	-15			" 31.....	- 7	- 2	
" 6.....	- 2			" 21.....	- 4			1912			
" 7.....	- 3			December 17.....	- 3			January 4.....	- 8	- 1	
1894				1903				" 5.....	- 2		
January 23.....		- 5		January 12.....	- 1			" 6.....	-12	- 9	-
" 24.....	-14			February 16.....	-14			" 7.....	-16	-12	- 5
February 13.....	- 3			" 17.....	- 1			" 8.....	- 1		
" 15.....	- 2			1904				" 9.....	- 1		
December 27.....	- 2			January 25.....	- 4			" 11.....	- 3	- 3	- 6
" 28.....	-13			" 26.....	- 8			" 12.....	-19	- 9	- 7
" 31.....	- 2			December 28.....	- 2			" 13.....	-10	- 2	
1895				1905.				January 6.....	- 1		
February 1.....	- 2			January 12.....	- 2			1913			
" 5.....	- 1			" 13.....	-10		- 1	" 7.....	-20		
" 6.....	- 0		- 4	" 14.....	-15			" 12.....	- 7		
" 7.....	-13	- 1		" 15.....	-20			February 4.....	- 1		
1897				" 16.....	- 6			" 24.....	-11		
January 24.....	- 1			" 25.....	- 9			1914			
" 17.....	- 2			February 1.....	- 8		- 1	February 6.....	- 3	- 1	
1899				" 2.....	- 8		- 4	" 7.....	- 6		
January 3.....		- 4		" 3.....	- 9		- 3	December 14.....	- 3		
" 31.....	-10			" 4.....	- 3			" 16.....	- 2		
February 4.....	- 8			" 6.....	-11			" 20.....	- 0		
" 7.....	- 7			" 11.....			- 2	" 21.....	- 5		
" 7.....	-10			" 12.....	- 9	- 3	- 9	" 30.....	- 0		
" 8.....	-11			" 13.....	-27			1915			
" 9.....	-13			" 15.....	- 4			January 23.....	- 2		
" 11.....	-20	-12	-15	1907				" 28.....	- 4		
" 12.....	-26	- 2		February 4.....	- 1			1916			
December 15.....	- 4			" 5.....	- 5			January 12.....	- 7	- 0	
1900				December 18.....	- 1			" 13.....	-13		
January 17.....	- 7			1909				" 14.....	- 2		
1904				January 6.....	- 4			February 1.....	- 5		
January 1.....	- 6			" 12.....	-15	- 8		" 2.....	- 5		

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