

Kansas Historical Notes

The 85th annual meeting of the Kansas State Historical Society will be held at Topeka on Tuesday, October 18, 1960.

It was recently announced that the Iowa, Sac, and Fox Indian Mission Museum, two miles east of Highland, is open each afternoon except Mondays. The museum is operated by the Northeast Kansas Historical Society.

Wm. R. Hainline and Paul Wheeler are cochairmen of the newly organized Trego County Historical Society. The organization meeting was held March 31, 1960, in WaKeeney. I. N. "Jibo" Hewitt, special representative of the Kansas Centennial Commission, assisted with the meeting.

Rolla Clymer, El Dorado publisher, and Edgar Langsdorf, assistant secretary of the Kansas State Historical Society, were the principal speakers at Bazaar's centennial celebration, April 16, 1960.

Ruby Peterson was elected president of the Edwards County Historical Society at its annual meeting held April 19, 1960, in Kinsley. Other officers chosen were: Mel Tatum, first vice-president; Iva Herron, second vice-president; Jessie Winchester, third vice-president; Elsie Jenkins, secretary; Cecil Matthews, treasurer; Myrtle H. Richardson, historian; Ethel Gilley, assistant historian; Mary Vang, custodian; and Mae Zimmett, assistant custodian.

Mrs. Ross E. Weaver and Steve White were the speakers at a meeting of the Cloud County Historical Society in Concordia, April 28, 1960. Both told of pioneer ancestors and early Cloud county history.

Officers elected at a meeting of the newly organized Kingman County Historical Society, May 6, 1960, in Kingman, include: Sadie Jurney, president; Harriette Kinman, secretary; and Nellie Frisbie, treasurer.

John Brown in Kansas is the theme of a 667-page novel by Truman Nelson entitled *The Surveyor*, recently published by Doubleday and Company, Garden City, N. Y.

In 1839 Matthew C. Field spent the summer traveling the Santa Fe trail and visiting the settlements of New Mexico. He recorded events and impressions of his journey in articles and verse. These

writings have been collected by Clyde and Mae Reed Porter, edited by John E. Sunder, and recently published by the University of Oklahoma Press, Norman, Okla., in a 322-page volume entitled *Matt Field on the Santa Fe Trail*.

Edward Everett Dale is the author of a collection of articles recently published by the University of Texas Press, Austin, Tex., in a 265-page volume entitled *Frontier Ways—Sketches of Life in the Old West*.

John Palmer Usher—Lincoln's Secretary of the Interior is the title of a 152-page biographical work by Elmo R. Richardson and Alan W. Farley, published by the University of Kansas Press, Lawrence, in April, 1960.

A 358-page history of the High Plains and Rocky Mountain country, by Robert G. Athearn, entitled *High Country Empire*, was published in April, 1960, by McGraw-Hill Book Co., New York. It is the "story of the land which was the Old West."

The Mormon Conflict, 1850-1859 is the title of a 311-page volume by Norman F. Furniss, published by the Yale University Press, New Haven, Conn., in 1960. It is an account of the efforts of the Latter-day Saints "to live a life of their own choosing, politically and religiously, and the Government's retaliatory efforts to protect and enforce federal laws."

Jacques Marquette's part in the Jolliet voyage of exploration down the Mississippi river in 1673 has been re-examined in a new 350-page work by the Rev. Francis Borgia Steck, O. F. M., entitled *Marquette Legends*, published by Pageant Press, Inc., New York.

A history of the Pony Express entitled *Hoofbeats of Destiny*, by Robert West Howard, assisted by Roy E. Coy, Frank C. Robertson, and Agnes Wright Spring, was published in June, 1960, by the New American Library, New York, in a 191-page, paper-bound, pocket-size volume.

James Francis Riley's story of his experiences as a freighter on the Plains in 1859 and the years following, was recently printed in an 82-page booklet entitled *Recollections*. The manuscript was prepared for publication with a "Foreword" by Judge John Riley James, of Independence, Mo., a grandson.