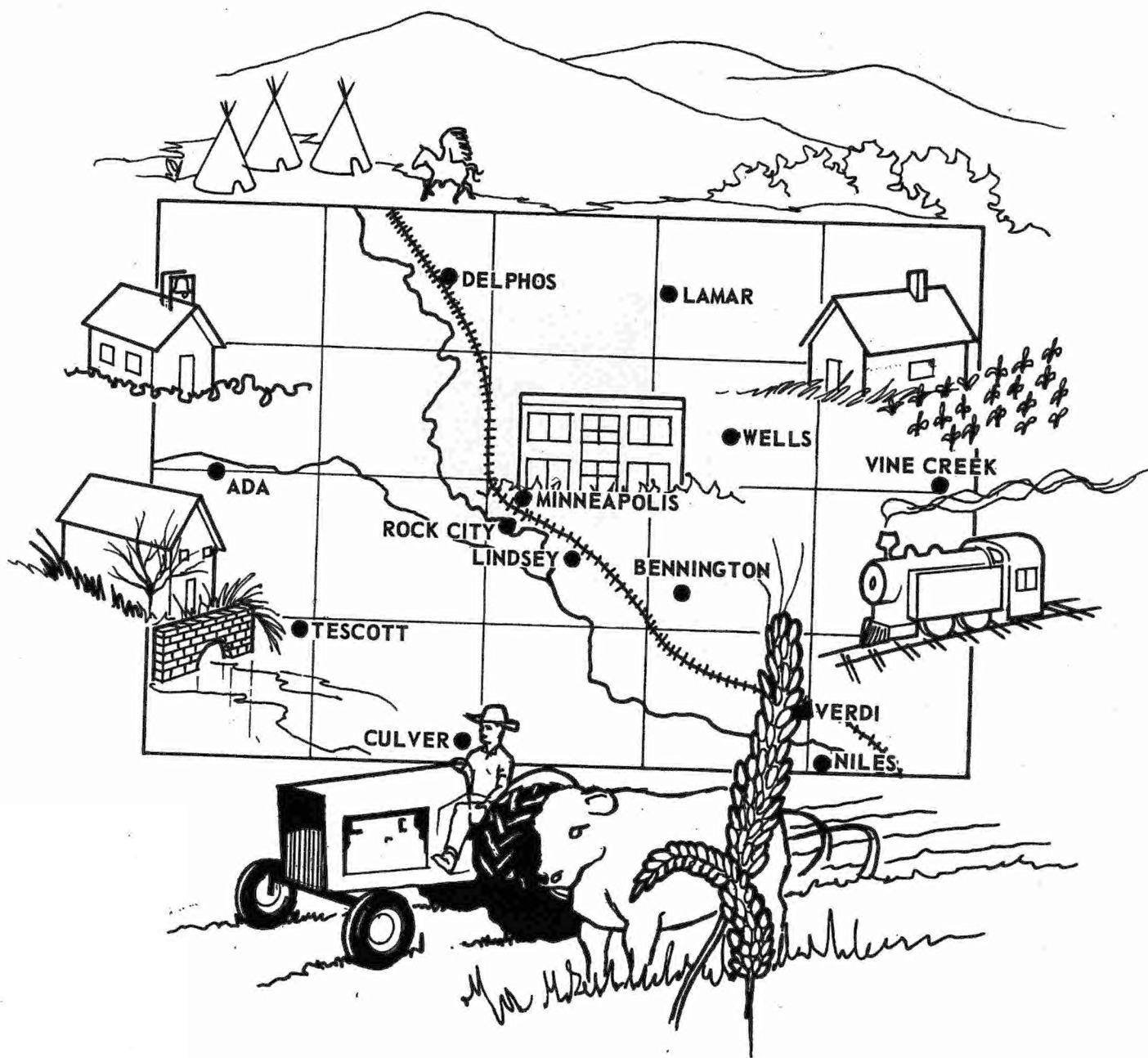


# OTTAWA COUNTY CENTENNIAL



1866



1966

# THE CITIZENS NATIONAL BANK

The Citizens National Bank was first organized in 1880 as a private banking firm with the name of J.W. Smith and Company. There were four stockholders; J.W. Smith, V.D. Rees, F.C. Rees and M.A. Arnott.

In 1882 the firm built a new bank building on the corner of 2nd, and Ottawa street. It was considered very modern and up to date and it was in advance of anything of its kind in the County. This building was the home of this banking institution for 36 years. It was torn down in 1916 and the present building of the Citizens National Bank was erected on the same site.

This is the picture of the old original bank building, built in 1882



The banking company re-organized in 1893 as a National bank, and was known as the Citizens National Bank of Minneapolis. Officers were elected at that time as follows; V.D. Rees, president, F.C. Rees, Vice President and J.W. Smith, Cashier. Other members of the bank were H.H. Jack and A.F. Shepard.

The First Official Published Statement as a National bank at the Close of business on December 19, 1893

Loans and discounts	\$70,638.55	Capital paid in	\$50,000.00
Overdrafts secured & Unsecured	158.58	Undivided profits less expenses and taxes	2,109.42
Banking Building & Fixtures	9,000.00	Individual deposits subject to check	109,112.60
U.S. Bonds to secure circulations	12,500.00	Demand certificates of deposits	66.80
Due from National banks (not reserve agent)	847.99	Time certificates of deposits	7,306.36
Due from State Banks & Bankers	4,403.81		
Due from approved reserve agents	29,540.58		
Checks & other cast items	6.85		
Notes of other National banks	365.00	Total	\$168,595.18
Frantional paper currency, nickles and cents	56.87		
Lawful money reserve in bank Viz; Specie	30,111.95		
Legal-tender notes	10,965.00		
Total	\$168,595.18		

All through these years the Citizens National is proud to be able to take an active part in celebrating this centennial of Ot-tawa County and the growth enjoyed during these years.

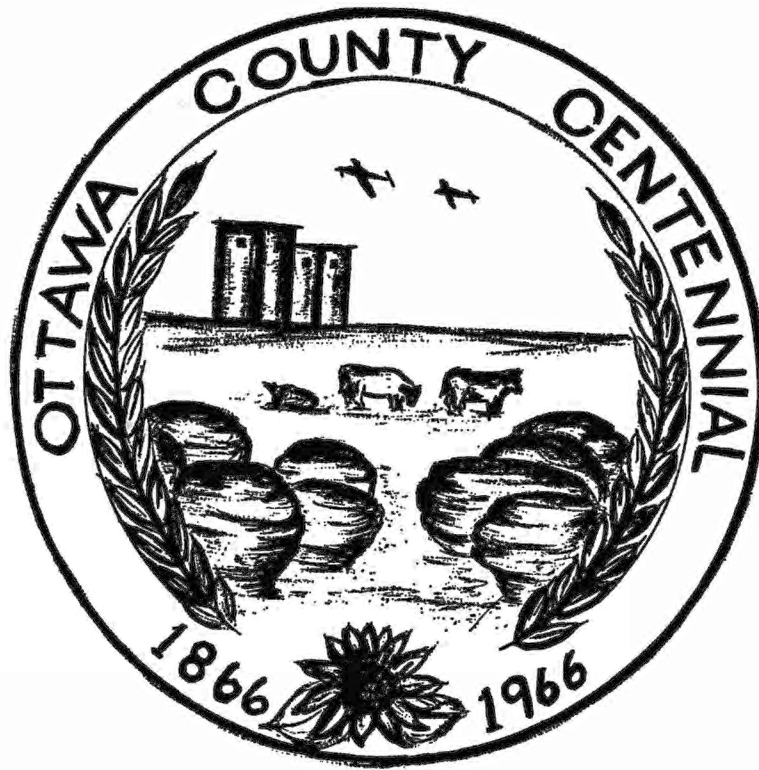
# DEDICATION

The old saying, "As we muse the fire burns" is trite. But the fires of memory do burn when we think of the birth time and early later days in Ottawa County, Kansas. Indians were still numerous in the country and about all the land was prairie.

Our pioneer folk had great courage and strong backbone to begin to make homes for themselves and at the same time a community of promise for generations unborn.

We must remember they did this in spite of droughts, grasshoppers, sand storms and other oppositions they had to face.

To those men and women of a century ago, who laid the foundation of the beautiful and peaceful community that we enjoy today, the story of Ottawa County, Kansas is affectionately dedicated.



# IN APPRECIATION

*GE  
Donation  
8 April 2006*

The Ottawa County Centennial celebration began because of a few individuals who felt that an anniversary of this type should not go unnoticed. As the plans developed, the enthusiasm for the idea grew until the response from each corner of the County was far beyond the expectations of those who conceived the idea. I consider myself fortunate to have been chosen to be general chairman and given the opportunity to work with the fine group who has supervised the programs. All of the chairmen have been deeply gratified by the response and the help that has been given in bringing about this celebration. We feel proud to be a part of a County that is so deeply interested in its past and its future to take the time and the money to make this the success that it has become.

R.B. Barefield,  
General Chairman.

**CLASS OF SERVICE**

This is a full-rate Telegram or Cablegram unless its deferred character is indicated by a suitable symbol above or preceding the address.

# WESTERN UNION

1204

**SYMBOLS**

DL=Day Letter  
 NL=Night Letter  
 LT=Int'l Letter Telegram  
 VLT=Int'l Victory Ltr.

W. P. MARSHALL, PRESIDENT

The filing time shown in the date line on telegrams and day letters is STANDARD TIME at point of origin. Time of receipt is STANDARD TIME at point of destination.

Govt NL PD  
 White House Washington DC  
 July 28, 1966

R. B. Barfield Chairman  
 Ottawa County Centennial  
 Minneapolis, Kans

On this joyous anniversary, the people of Ottawa County can look back upon a County of progress exceeding of the dreams of its founders. Ottawa County typifies the great mid-western heart of our nation. On your farms and in your community lives citizens who represent the unique spirit of America. The pioneers who established Ottawa County one hundred years ago would be proud of the manner in which succeeding generation have more than repaid the stake they place in the future, you are rightfully the inheritors of such pride. I send my best wishes to all of you and express to you my confidence that the grand Centennial Week celebration marks the start of another century of mounting spiritual and material abundance.

Lyndon B Johnson  
 29

**THE COMPANY WILL APPRECIATE SUGGESTIONS FROM ITS PATRONS CONCERNING ITS SERVICE**

**BOB DOLE**  
 1st District, Kansas

**MEMBER**  
 COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
 Washington, D. C.

May 6, 1966

Mr. R. B. Barefield  
 President  
 Centennial Board  
 Ottawa County Centennial  
 Box 245  
 Minneapolis, Kansas 67467

Dear Mr. Barefield:

I appreciate your letter and at this point am not certain what the Congressional schedule may be in August.

Your celebration certainly sounds exciting and, if at all possible, I will attend.

If it is satisfactory with you, I will have a United States flag flown over the Capitol on that date in recognition of your 100th Anniversary Celebration and will forward it to you as the General Chairman.

Thanks again for the invitation.

Sincerely yours,



**BOB DOLE**  
 Member of Congress

BD:jh

P.S. This Flag has been sent to the Centennial Committee for display during the celebration.

**CENTENNIAL BOARD:**

R. B. Barefield, president  
 Dean Gilley, Jr., vice-president  
 John Martel, secretary-treasurer  
 Robert G. Baker, member  
 C.A. Abercrombie, member

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE****HEADQUARTERS CHAIRMAN**

Dean Gilley, Jr.

**TREASURER**

Neil Muller

**GENERAL CHAIRMAN**

R.B. Barefield

**SECRETARY**

Jenny Green

**REVENUE DIVISION**

John Martel

Historical Program  
 Omar Joyce  
 Novelties  
 Leo Muller  
 Celebration Ball  
 Jean Todd  
 Concessions  
 Bob Rongish

**PARTICIPATION DIVISION**

Men: Miles Parks  
 Ladies: Vivian Baccus

Celebration Belles  
 Winnie Thompson  
 Ladies Tea & Style Show  
 Winnie Thompson  
 Darlene Haddock  
 Ladies Sunbonnets  
 Bonnie Parker  
 Brothers of the Brush  
 Cail Collister  
 Raymond Fraser  
 Men's Hats & Ties  
 Dale & Marj Wallace  
 Promenade & Caravan  
 Howard Chambers  
 Dick Whitney  
 Vivian Whitney  
 Kangaroo Kourt  
 Chuck Stein  
 Bathing Beauty Contest  
 Mary Green  
 Bonnie Robbins  
 Reception for Miss Kansas  
 Winnie Thompson  
 Breakfast Ladies Day  
 Jolly Belles

**SPECTACLE TICKET DIVISION**

Bob Watson

Tickets  
 Bob Watson  
 Advance Sale  
 Bennington Sorority  
 Patron's Ticket  
 Sandra Watson

**SPECTACLE DIVISION**

Bob Baker

Scenario & Title  
 Mrs. Kelly Halberstadt  
 Cast  
 Maxine Johnson  
 Properties  
 Harold Burger  
 Construction  
 Toots Tasker  
 Costume  
 Isabell Cote  
 Grounds  
 Bruce Cleveland

**PUBLICITY DIVISION**

Kathleen Wedel

Press Release  
 Jackie Werts  
 Bill Parks  
 Radio & TV  
 Lola Dallen  
 Distributive  
 Mary Wilson  
 Special Projects  
 Illa Johnson

**SPECIAL EVENTS DIVISION**

Larry Bertrand

Merchants Activities  
 Provine Green  
 Historical Windows  
 Mrs. Dean Bray  
 Parades  
 Clem Abercrombie  
 Music  
 Ralph Campbell  
 Hospitality Center  
 Dr. Bray  
 Pioneer Events  
 C.H. Ewart  
 Steam Threshing  
 Ralph Fuller  
 Traffic & Safety  
 Bert Hawkins  
 Transportation  
 Dennis Sullivan  
 Governor's Luncheon  
 Mrs. Foutz  
 Cake Cutting Ceremony  
 Dosia Brown  
 Winnie Gary  
 Marcelin Markley  
 Governor's Reception  
 Vivian Baccus  
 Downtown Entertainment  
 Charles Atkinson  
 Time Capsule  
 Bill Hemenway  
 Bar-B-Que  
 Lions Club  
 Square Dance  
 The Whitneys  
 Free Lunch for Kids  
 Belles-A-Go-Go  
 Youth Fun & Games  
 Dick Gary  
 Judi Yonally  
 Saturday Reception of Dignitaries  
 Kathleen Wedel

**SPECIAL DAYS COMMITTEE**

Al Kobbeman

# OLD MINNEAPOLIS



# NEW MINNEAPOLIS



# Ottawa County Defined & Described

In 1860, when the time came to designate a name to the land, now Ottawa County, a conflict presented itself to the Kansas Territorial Legislature. The first name introduced was "Wade", in honor of Benjamin F. Wade, a fiery anti-slavery senator from Ohio. However, the same day on which the organization bill was introduced, the governor sent in his veto of a bill prohibiting slavery in Kansas.

In consequence, House Bill No. 420 reads, in part:

"An act to provide for the organization of the counties of Republic, Shirley, and Wade", was taken up and by consent, "Ottawa" was (on motion of Mr. Pierce) inserted instead of "Wade". When the bill was read the third time the vote stood Yeas-12; Nays--none".

Two days later the governor approved the bill. "Ottawa" was undoubtedly selected as a neutral innocent title for the county.

At the evening session, February 27, which was the last day of the Special Session, the following message was received from the Governor:

Executive Office, K.T., February 27, 1860

TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES:

I have this day approved House Bill...."An Act establishing and organizing the counties of Republic, Shirley and Ottawa, and to define the boundaries thereof...."

Respectfully, (Signed) S. Medary

In the Session Laws of Kansas Territory, 1860, we find the text of this bill: Chapter XLIII. Be it enacted by the Governor

and Legislative assembly of the Territory of Kansas:

Section 1....and the territory composed of townships nine, ten, eleven and twelve south, in range one, two, three, four, and five west of the sixth principal meridian, shall constitute the county of Ottawa.

Section 2. The following named persons are hereby appointed commissioners for the aforementioned counties, to wit.. ....for the county of Ottawa, R.C. Whitney, Henry Matin, and... Branch of Pike Creek.

Legislature of 1860 bounded the county and named it after the Ottawa tribe of Indians. From that time up to 1865 Ottawa, with Clay, Dickinson, Saline and all the unorganized territory west of these counties, was attached to Davis County for judicial purposes. R.H. Little, of Ottawa, was a member of the 1st grand jury that sat at Junction City, and Isaac Markley was defendant to the 1st suit docketed in the District Court, under State laws, when Ottawa was a part of Davis County. Mr. Markley gained his suit. The Legislature of 1865 attached Ottawa to Saline County for judicial purposes. Dickinson and Saline counties had been organized, and the change was made for the convenience of the people. S.Z. Boss was appointed Justice for Ottawa.

Lewis Geissert came to about two miles of present site of Bennington in 1860. During the first five years of his residence here Mr. Geissert paid taxes in Davis County, for the following two years in Saline county, and then Ottawa county was organized.

## "The HOME OF LOWER FOOD PRICES"

'FINE



FOODS"

### "BRAND"

# BOOGARTS

## MINNEAPOLIS, KANSAS

## OTTAWA COUNTY ORGANIZED AND SURVEYED

In July, 1866, Seymour Ayers prepared the papers for organization of County it having, supposedly the required population of 500. Gov. Samuel J. Crawford completed the work by appointing Amassa May, Henry Dresher and A.J. Willis, County Commissioners, G.R. Ingersoll, County Clerk and designating Ayersburg as County Seat until the people should choose for themselves.

Though Ot. Co. was thus defined and described it was not formally organized until 1866. The drought checked immigration. The breaking out of the Civil War the next year 1861 gave rise to numerous Indian raids which occurred at intervals from the fall of 1861 until about 1868. The settlers were driven out but returned in 1863. They banded themselves together for protection and built Fort Solomon, almost straight west of the present Lindsey and lived in it from summer of 1864 to Spring 1865. After the war, the county received an influx of discharged soldiers coming to take advantage of their soldiers' claims. This was a time of rapid settlement for Ot. Co. Fort Solomon induced many people to settle around it in order that they would be safe from the Indians. Hence, since all the people were there, the county seat would naturally be there also; but when the Indians were driven away, the people moved up the Solomon again. The town of Eaton was established as a compromise between Lindsey and Minneapolis but finally joined with Lindsey. Minneapolis was on higher ground, well drained, and Markley's mill was there. During the county seat fight Mr. Markley said he would donate his land for a townsite.

Election in November resulted: Comm. C.R. Ingersoll, A.H. Boss and Silas Seaman; Co. Clerk H.S. Wooden; Treasurer Geo. Culver; Sheriff D. Pierce and J.H. Ingersoll Co. Attorney. Co. Seat in favor Minneapolis. Votes of 1870 and 1872 resulted also in giving the county seat to Minneapolis. The county rents buildings in Minneapolis for the county offices; a square has been set apart whereon to erect a substantial courthouse as soon as the county becomes sufficiently settled and wealthy. The poor farm is well supplied with buildings. At one time a lady carried the county seat to Ayersburg; then I. Markley and others went down and brought it back in one load on a wagon.

Warranty Deed from Israel Markley and wife Mary to County Commissioners Ottawa County, Kansas...entered into this ninth day of January in the year of the Lord 1867 between Israel Markley and Mary Markley his wife of the county Ottawa State of Kansas of the first part and H. Boss, Levi Yocky and Charles H. Bellis County Commissioners of Ot. Co. and their successors in office of the second part that for and in consideration of the County Seat being located by the Legal voters of the County of Ot. Co. Kansas, at an election held for that purpose on the tract or tracts of Land herein after conveyed the party of the first part have donated, given, granted and conveyed and by these presents do give grant and convey unto the party of the second part for the use of the inhabitation of said County forever the following described real estate....30 acres also 33 acres....These words form a part of the document in which Israel and Mary Markley granted 30 acres of land to the county for county seat and courthouse purposes in the year 1867. Their grandson Darrel has the original document.

Mr. Markley also built and donated the 1st courthouse, a two story lumber building, the offices on bottom floor, the court room above, and deeded it to the County as long as it was used for a courthouse. When the new courthouse was built in July, 1886, the old one became the property of Israel Markley again.

# Gilley's

## Massey Ferguson

## Automotive Supplies

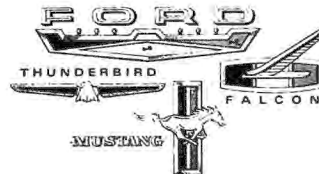
## Firestone Tires

## Cook's Paints

## Magic Chef

## Admiral

103 No. Corcord EX 2-2919  
MINNEAPOLIS, KANSAS



## BLANDING MOTORS, INC.

## 108 West Second St.

## Phone EX 2-2188 or 2189

## Minneapolis, Kansas



## SCHEIBELER'S

ABSTRACTS - INSURANCE  
REAL ESTATE - LOANS

208 North Concord

Minneapolis, Kansas

## CENTENNIAL GREETINGS

## ECONOMY CLEANERS

"Where Your Clothes Receive  
Personal Attention"

Vic Merryfield

Minneapolis, Kansas Ph. EX 2-2019

# El Dorado<sup>®</sup>

El Dorado Coaches are quality built by:

HONORBUILT DIVISION

Ward Manufacturing, Inc.

19940 Hansen Ave. — Box 266  
Lakeview, California 1200 West 10th St.  
Minneapolis, Kansas

... America's Most Popular Pickup Coach

WE SELL MOST BECAUSE WE BUILD BEST

## Schools of Ottawa County

How would boys and girls of today like to attend school in a log cabin with one window, and one door, dirt floor, wooden bench with no back set up on stumps? In winter there would be very little warmth and that would be from a pot bellied stove in the center of the room. Drinking water would have to be carried from a neighbor's well or a near-by spring and each pupil would drink from a long handled dipper which was passed from one to another. There were no sanitation laws. Lunch, what there was of it, would be carried in a tin bucket, usually a syrup pail, and in winter might be frozen by the time to eat it. There would be no black boards or writing paper but in place there would be a single or double slate to write on. Pupils of all ages, sometimes as old as twenty years, would be in this one room school. Attendance would vary according to the work that had to be done on the farm. There might sometimes be as forty pupils in the school.

Early schools in Ottawa County were established so that they were in walking distance of the pupils. Every one walked unless the weather conditions were such that pupils could not attend. Most schools were established in a home and many times those in attendance paid for that privilege. This attendance fee was given to the teacher as his wages.

The first organized schools were established in 1867 although some schools operated as early as 1864. These were the schools for Minneapolis and a rural community west of Bennington given the name of Battle Creek. Schools continued to be organized as there was demand until there were 98 districts. Then came a decline in the number of schools as people left a community or when buildings were destroyed by catastrophes. The first school to discontinue was called Cyclone and ironically it was the victim of a cyclone.

In 1946 the Kansas Legislature passed a School Consolidation Law. This brought about a sharp reduction in the number of operating districts. While this law was later declared valid and continued as consolidated schools. In 1965 the State Legislature passed a School Unification Act which was declared constitutional. As the result of this Act, Ottawa County has only two school districts with 9 attendance centers since July 1, 1966.

Many school buildings were destroyed by fire and tornadoes. Others had to be rebuilt to house expanding population and curriculum. From the small one room school housing all grades, have evolved schools having a separate room or rooms for each grade from Kindergarten through high school. Transportation by bus or car is provided for pupils living 2½ miles or more from school who are residents of the district.



OLD GRADE SCHOOL  
Minneapolis, Kansas.

Teachers of early years received most of the training by attending "Normal Institute". Institutes which lasted four to six weeks have been replaced by summer sessions at the colleges. Institutes consisted largely of concentrated study on the subjects that were being taught. Certificates issued were based on examinations and experience, a First Grade certificate was the highest certificate that could be secured.

Minneapolis organized the first high school in 1885 which was for three years, but the next year became a 4 year course. Delphos organized a three year course in 1890, Tescott began their high schools in 1910, Bennington, Culver and Ada in 1916?

Ottawa County Superintendents were: H.H. Tucker 1866; W.H. Paxton 1868; Wm. A. Roberts 1870; A.B. Crosby 1872; J.H. Elder 1874; R.L. Hillman 1876; F.A. Bowin 1882; R.L. Hillman 1884; Ad. P. Warrington 1886; O.B. Fleming 1890; L.A. Henry 1894; Helen N. Eacker 1898; W.A. Wart 1902; Ida Collier 1906; H.E. Kilbourne 1910; Jessie Adey 1912; Lillias Mortimer, Appointed; Frank LaPlant 1926; Marie Feather 1944; Myrtle Thompson 1948; Kathryn Abbott, Appointed; Myrtle Thompson 1954; Ada C. Harder, Appointed; Ruth B. Austin 1958.

Among persons from the Ottawa County schools who have received honors was George Washington Carver who achieved fame in the fields of science and art.

Activities included Spelling Matches, Cyphering Matches, Lyceums, Singing Schools, Debating Societies and Track Meets.

In later years a unique feature that existed in Ottawa County was the Black & Gold band, by Bobby Dale of Bennington. This band was made up of members from Ada, Bennington, Culver and Tescott with members from Beverly in Lincoln County. The Black & Gold band lasted until the Unification program made it too difficult to continue.

Time passes, the future is ahead and there is much for Ottawa County schools to accomplish.

## Music Spots for Centennial

MON. AUG. 8

Noon Luncheon for Governor - Brad Warren  
3:00 - Cake Cutting - Minneapolis H.S. Band  
7:30 - Band Concert - Black & Gold Band

TUES. AUG. 9

3:00 - Astronotes (boys quartet)  
Other quartets (possible)

WED. AUG. 10

3:00 - Brad Warren & Dave Ralph - Swimming Pool for Beauty Contest  
7:30 - Band Concert - Minneapolis H.S.

THUR. AUG. 11

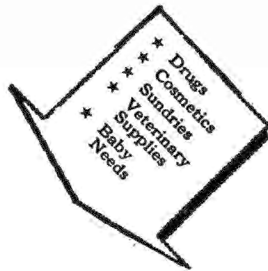
7:30 - Band Concert - Concordia Municipal Band  
Donation of Harley Doak

FRIDAY AUG. 12

7:30 - H.D.U. ladies singing group  
Bell-Cantro Trio: Mrs. John Landis  
Mrs. Vernon Webster  
Mrs. Norris Carlson

SAT. AUG. 13

1:00 - Before time capsule ceremony - Ft. Riley Band  
7:30 - Optimist Drum & Bugle Corp (St. John's)



HALLMARK  
Greeting Cards

YOUR DOCTOR KNOWS

**CITY PHARMACY**  
*The Rexall Store*

DEAN JOHNSON, R. Ph.

"We Serve"  
"Liberty, Intelligence, Our Nation  
Safety"



Minneapolis Lions Club

Serving For A Growing Community

# CHURCHES OF OTTAWA COUNTY

The first sermon in the county was by a Methodist circuit rider by the name of Rev. Holly in 1864. Mr. Semour Ayers went to Junction City and asked for him. The meeting was held in S.B. Chapmans dugout in Ayersburgh, later called Lindsey.

Soon after built a church in Lindsey and it was blown down before it was used. It was rebuilt in 1872 with Rev. Bradbury as pastor. He later served several points on horseback as far away as Lincoln, Kansas. Building churches as he went around. Churches were built in Ada about the same time by the Baptist, Methodist, and Catholics, organized by missionary circuit riders.

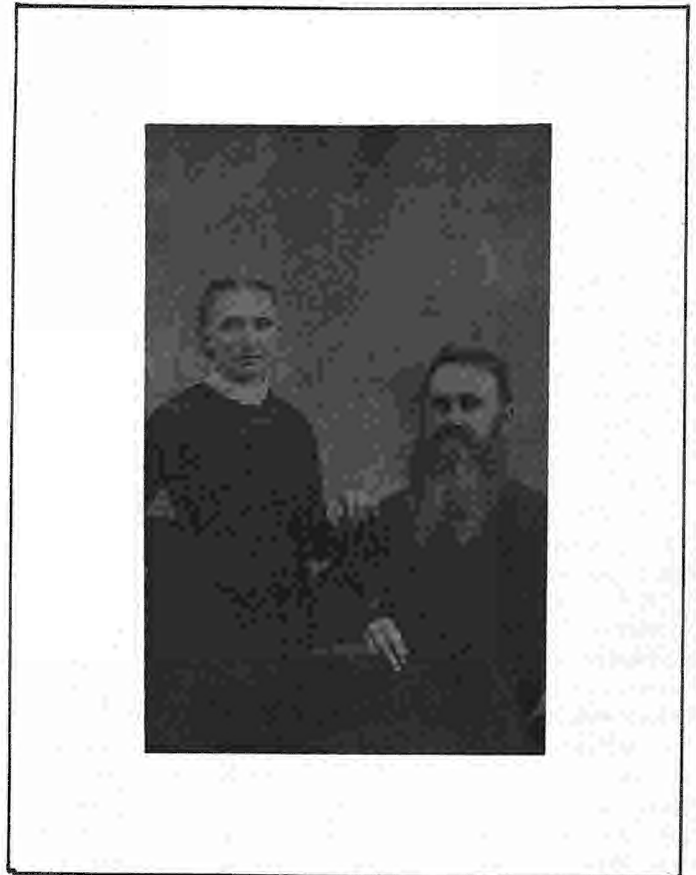
Catholic churches were organized in Delphos by Father Lewis Dumortier from St. Mary's, Kansas. Later he assisted in getting churches in Vine, Minneapolis and Niles in the 1880's. Vine was settled by Irish immigrants from County Cork Ireland. The Berrys the Foys and the Currys and others. The first resident pastor in Minneapolis was Father J.M. Reade. Mrs. Katie Startzmans father built the first Methodist church & later the Presbyterian church in Bennington in 1882. Rev. H. Bushnell organized a Presbyterian church in Culver in 1878.

The Universalist church was commenced in Delphos in 1879, and later after being destroyed by storm of 1 79, was rebuilt.

The Methodist built in 1874, the Baptist in 1878, the Presbyterians in 1879. By 1884 there were three churches in Delphos, the Universal 1st, Methodist and Roman Catholic, with the Christian and Presbyterian in process of building. The Spiritualists also had a strong society at that time. In 1890 the spiritualists organized a camp meeting and continued annually for a number of years, drawing large crowds of 3000 or more. It was moved to Wells in 1934.

The Wesleyan Methodist was led by Rev. L.S. Cooper in 1871 and continued for a great number of years throughout the communities of Pipe Creek, Lamar, Grover School, etc.

The Methodist church was organized in 1871 meeting in the Presbyterian building. The Baptist was organized in 1872, by Thad and Elizabeth Toler on east main street. The Lutheran in 1879; The Episcopalians in 1892.



About that time the Catholics, The United Brethern and the African M.E. also built churches. The Episcopalian church incorporated in 1885 and their first services were held in the grade building. The first meeting in Niles were held in the homes as were all the pioneer beginnings, later in the school-houses, and then building churches. The first church was Baptist, later changing to United Brethern. In Tescott the Methodist were the first to hold services beginning in the homes and led by circuit riders with groups over wide areas. Rev. H.R. Goulden preached in 1886 with the first church in 1887.

The Lutherans came prior to this and organized among themselves, being mostly Danish and German immigrants. Mr. and Mrs. Martin P. Larson were among the first to ask their mission board to send them a preacher as they felt the need of preaching and sacraments and instruction for their children. Rev. L. Lauffmanan was secured to give catechetical instruction. Their first church was built in 1893.

As you will notice the early settlers at once began to hold religious services in their dugout sand homes and groups till they were able to support their own church and preacher.

The circuit riders were the true pioneers of religion, meeting many hardships and getting their support in food and used clothing, etc. from the folks back east who remembered them.

# George Washington Carver

George Washington Carver was born about 1860 to a slave woman, Mary, owned by Moses Carver near Diamond Grove, Missouri. Soon, Mary and baby were stolen by raiders from the south. Later Mr. Carver offered a horse for their return. Mary could not be found but the baby, sick and nearly starved, was recovered. He was nursed back to health and later Mr. Carver adopted him into his own family.

The boy grew up, a great lover of nature, lowly and Christian in spirit, and with a real hunger for knowledge. He obtained some schooling in Neasho, Missouri and Ft. Scott, Kans.

In 1880 he appeared in Minneapolis, Kansas with a Negro family named Semour. They lived in a shanty in a ravine near where the city buildings now stand. The school children named the ravine Poverty Gulch. Some say George attended High School in Minneapolis. Others say he was taught grade school subjects by Helen Eacher who later became Ottawa County's first woman County Superintendent.

George supported himself by washing and ironing, knitting and tatting. His work room was an old chicken shack in Poverty Gulch. He was remembered by Mac and Lena Shepard, Mrs. C.N. Miller, Mr. and Mrs. John Ewart and some others.

In 1881 George was enrolled in the state College at Ames, Iowa. He graduated from this college with a Master of Science degree and was elected a member of the faculty at Ames.

Ames seemed to offer him the fulfillment of his dream. But a letter from Booker T. Washington told him that he was needed at Tuskegee Institution, a normal (teachers) and industrial farming school down in Alabama that he could go on with his experiments and aid his own people to achieve stature and dignity. His pay would not be large but his superiors at Ames who said, "Well, he is not promising you money, but he is offering you immortality". And that is about what happened. In that impoverished land, life became new. He made fertilizers from swampy muck, pottery and figments from Alabama clay. The tomatoe, peanut, sweet potato, and soy bean leaped into prominence. These were new and strange in America at that time.

Fame was his. President Theodore Roosevelt, Franklin D. Roosevelt, Thomas A. Edison, Henry Ford, and others visited him at Tuskege. Edison offered him a large salary to join his staff. Ford saw a new Industrial Empire based on plastics. He appeared before committees in congress, and was appointed to a place in the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Honors from foreign lands came to him as well as honors from many universities in the United States.

His story is long, too long to be told here. His reward was sure. He moved from Poverty Gulch into Immortality.

## TIME CAPSULE

A time capsule will be buried in Markley Groove containing articles pertaining to the history of Ottawa County. It will be opened at the 2nd centennial celebration.

## Handy-Stein Chev-Olds-Buick



101 South Concord

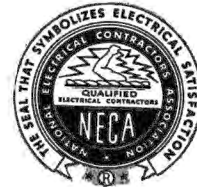
Phone EX 2-2118

MINNEAPOLIS, KANSAS 67467

Trade With Stein Where It's Handy

# FOX'S

Electrical Plumbing



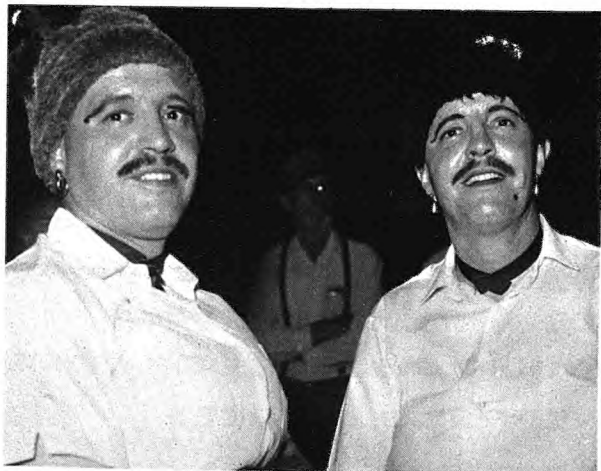
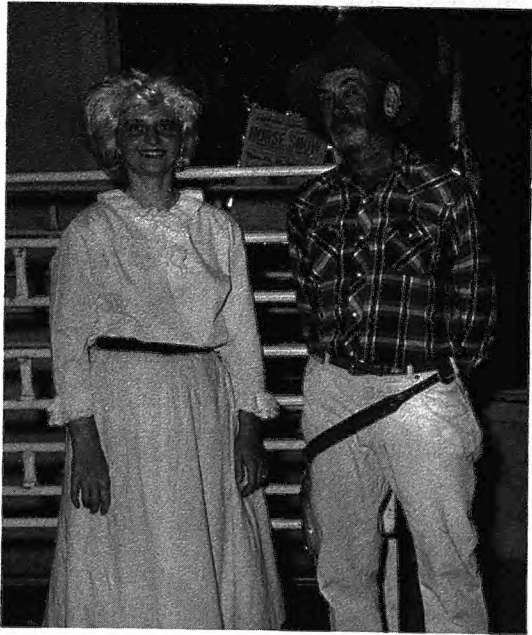
## Bryant Fedders

### Heating / Cooling

301 W. Second

EX 2-2005

Minneapolis, Kansas



# QUEENS PRIZES



## \$500 U. S. Saving Bond

Ottawa County Bank  
Citizens National Bank  
Delphos State Bank  
Honorbuilt Div., Ward Manufacturing Co., Inc.

## AM/FM and Stero Combination

Pepsi Cola Bottling Co.  
Perry Liquor Store  
Handy-Stein Chev.-Olds-Buick, Inc.  
Boogaarts  
Minneapolis Clinic  
North Central Steel, Inc.  
Tood Agency  
Kreigh Motor Co.  
Dingee Lumber Co.  
Jerry's Snack Bar

## T V Set

Blanding Motors  
D & M Body Shop  
D & G Oil Co.  
Smith's Variety Store  
Minneapolis Lumber Co.  
Schiebeler's Abstracting Co.  
Farmer's Elevator  
Farm Bureau Insurance Co. of Kansas  
E & F Floor Co.  
Baker's Western Auto

## Electric Toothbrush - One year's supply of vitamins

City Pharmacy

## Electric Hair Dryer

Gamble's

## One case of ZEST - The Beauty Bar

Martel Grocery

## Kitchenware

Gilley's

## \$5.00 Certificate - Bakery goods

Ponton's Bakery

## Blouses

Wallace's Department Store

## Gift Certificate

Sterling's Variety Store

## 2 Steak Dinners

People's Cafe

## Gift Certificate

Hixson's

## One year's supply of Culligan's Soft Water

Hoover's

## Purse

Minneapolis News

## Wheel Alignment

Ace Body Shop

## One pair of heels - one can Magic Shoe Color Spray

Ford's Shoe Shop

## Gift Certificate

Horner's Hardware

## Gift Certificate

Fox's Electric

## Dress

Killian's

## Diamond Ring

Stainbrook's Jewelry Shop

## Transistor Radio

Watson's Radio & TV

## Hair Styling

Dolly's Beauty Shop  
Blackstone's Beauty Shop  
Chaistels Beauty Shop  
France's Beauty Shop

## Flowers

Liby Floral  
Leo Welch Florist

# BARBEQUE

BEEF - ARGY-BUSINESS INC. - JAMES COOK, PRES.  
BUFFALO - MINNEAPOLIS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE  
PREPARED BY MINNEAPOLIS JAYCEES  
SERVED BY-MINNEAPOLIS LIONS CLUB  
LADIES BREAKFAST SERVED BY JOLLY JAYNES

PEPSI

RAINBOW

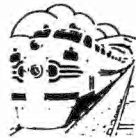
GUY'S

KITTY CLOVER

# THE OTTAWA COUNTY CENTENNIAL COMMITTEE

PROUDLY PRESENTS

OTTAWA



## THE SAGA OF OTTAWA COUNTY A JOHN B. ROGER'S PRODUCTION WRITTEN, PRODUCED AND DIRECTED BY EDWARD J. HAMILTON

### NARRATORS:

BARBARA ABERCROMBIE  
JOANNE BAKER  
KAY SMITH

JOE JAGGER  
JOHN JAGGER  
BILL PARKS

**SPECTACLE CHAIRMAN:**  
BOB BAKER

**CASTING CHAIRMAN:**  
MAXINE JOHNSON

**CONSTRUCTION CHAIRMAN:**  
LOWELL TASKER

**PROPERTY CHAIRMAN:**  
HAROLD BURGER

**COMMITTEE:**  
JUNE WHITE, JOANNE BAKER, KAY SMITH  
BILL PARKS

**COMMITTEE:**  
LOYDE WALKER, LEO FORSBURG

**COMMITTEE:**  
TOOTIE WHITE, SHERM LYLES,  
TOM BRADBURY

**COSTUME COMMITTEE:** ISABELLE COTY AND LUCILLE LARZALERE

**GROUNDS:** BRUCE CLEVELAND

## THE OVERTURE

### EPISODE I - PROLOGUE TO HER MAJESTY

#### THE YOUTH OF OTTAWA COUNTY

TRUMPETERS - Leslie Kobberman, Elaine Geist

#### HER MAJESTY AND THE ROYAL COURT

THE MINNEAPOLIS SADDLE CLUB - Amos Nelson, Emily Nelson, Chester Piersee, Ada Harder, Viola Walston, Raymond Watts, Curtiss Watts, Bobby Walston, Bill Daugherty, C.F. Daugherty, Larry Horting, Howard Miller, Tom Hamilton, Bob Hamilton, Mrs. Jack Haley, Dean Gilley.

CHILDREN - Sandra Baker, Darla Baker, Lee Ann Horner, Janst Clement, Lu Ann Peterson, Susan Wedel, Becky Forsberg, Vikki Liby, Pat Bergman, Elizabeth Foster, Lynn Kobbeman, Alan Wedel

PIONEERS - Edwin and Jaforie Peirsee, Harold and Mary Hrabe, Tom and Leola Bradbury, Russell and Dolores Nisbeth, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Bruce, Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Welch, Mrs. and Mrs. Vernon Liby, Mr. and Mrs. Howard Miller, Mike Schoeller, Bruce Barefield, Herschel Wilson, Delmar Lee, Dixie Hemenway, Mary Fran Morris, Deann Piersee, Bob and Vivian Whitney, Vickie Giest, Susan Wallace, Greg Miller, Stacey Miller, Mr. and Mrs. Riley D. Tibbits and Darlene, Mr. and Mrs. Dick Whitney and Richie, Kirk Wallace, and Rick Harper, Eunice Boll, Janice Cote, Vicki Lott, Judy Lott, Jennifer Lott, Mike Lott, Jeff Lott, Wanda Lott, Becky Kirn, Susan Bremerman, Lee Ann Bremerman, Deanna Peirsee, Toni Simpson, Pat Simpson, Becky Bodenhamer, Ruth Bodenhamer, Ray McGavran, Darye Berry, Doug Muller, Mr. and Mrs. Howard Miller, Greg and Stacey, Mr. and Mrs. Bernard Clanton, Mr. and Mrs. Milton Lott, Beth Lott, Chris Lott, Ed Wright, Craig Jagger, Marcia Musick, Marcia Stainbrook, and Bruce Barefield, Corrine Sidener, Becky Forsberg, Judy Whitney, Mrs. Tom Lott, Janet Musgrave, Mike Hrabe, and Brion Piersee.

### EPISODE II - THE BOOK OF DESTINY

THE BOY - Greg Miller

### EPISODE III - THE CITY OF ROCKS

THE BOY - Greg Miller

PRINCESS WHITE FEATHER - Sharon Parks

CHEIF - Ralph J. Crow

SQUAWS - Charlene Sidener, Pam Prochaska, Kathy Pridey, Becky May, Ann Pridey, Vivian Gawith, Peggy Anderson.

BRAVES - Mark Nace, Vernie Gawith, Herschel Wilson, Craig Jagger, Larry McPherson, John Crow, Rick Piersee, Delmar Lee, Curtis Watts, Glenn Anderson, Gary Giest

INDIAN GIRL DANCERS - Terri Wallace, Linda Kirn, Kathy Fabrizius, Susan Musgrave, Sue Stainbrook, Janice Cote, Mary Beth Hoover, Linda Carlson, Kay Gilley, Sandy Boyer, Sara Millum, Joleen Cooper, Janet Musgrave, Eunice Boll, Alana Windhorst, Terry Burger, Cheryl Reed, Leah Herbich

INDIAN SOLO DANCER - Sharon Parks

### EPISODE V - THE DAWNING THE THREE R'S

THE BOY - Greg Miller

SCHOOL TEACHER - Maxine Johnson

SCHOOL CHILDREN -

THOMAS - Alan Wedel

HESTER - Karen Wedel

ISSAC - Tom Hoover

ELIZA - Robin Barefield

LYDIA - Susan Wedel

RACHEL - Stacy Cooper

MAX - Doug Cooper

AMOS - Richard Bray

JAKE - Mark Wedel

EDWIN - Richard Bray

JOSHUA - Kevin Kennedy

ANNA - Linda Kennedy

AMANDA - Lee Ann Horner

### EPISODE IV - THEY CAME FROM FAR AND NEAR

THE BOY - Greg Miller

WAGON MASTER - Edwin Piersee

COOK - Shirley Lott

HER HUSBAND GEORGE - Milt Lott

MAN WITH ROCKER - Tom Bradbury

GRANNY - Mrs. Bruff Wilkins

LITTLE GIRL - Kathy Muller

TWO WOMEN - Pat Simpson, Jarmorie Tibbits

MAN - Harold Hrabe

### EPISODE VI - FAITH OF OUR FATHERS

CIRCUIT RIDER - Reverend Edmond Thomas, Father Albert Hyer.

CHURCH PEOPLE - Carol Muller, Geraldine Horner, Frances Drummond, Mr. and Mrs. Tom Kirkland, Mary Wheeler, Leon and Joyce Mars, Mrs. Kenneth Wallace, Mr. and Mrs. Bill Krone, Mr. and Mrs. Keith Wallace, Herschel Wilson, Mr. and Mrs. Lynden Baker, Mr. and Mrs. Bob Barefield and Bruce, Mr. and Mrs. Bradbury, Mr. and Mrs. Richard Whitney, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Whitney, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Bradbury, Mr. and Mrs. Howard Miller, Mr. and Mrs. Riley D. Tibbits, Mr. and Mrs. Edwin Peirsee, Mr. and Mrs. Wilbur Hogg, Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Cleveland, Mr. and Mrs. Kermit Wedel, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Bruce, Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Brown



## EPISODE VII - A LETTER TO MISTER LINCOLN

LINCOLN - Bob Baker  
GRACE BEDELL - Amy Farrington  
WESTFIELD TOWN FOLKS

---

## EPISODE VIII - THE CIVIL WAR

THOMAS STALL - Bill Hemingway  
VIOLINIST - Bruce Barefield  
CHOIR LEADER - Carol Muller  
CHOIR WOMEN - Mrs. Keith Wallace, Mrs. Carl Pickrell, Mrs. Floyd Blanding, Mrs. Kenneth Wallace, Mrs. Tom Lott  
SOUTHERN OFFICER - Edwin Piersee  
ABRAHAM LINCOLN - Bob Baker  
NORTHERN OFFICER - Harold Hrabe  
TWO FRIENDS - Riley Tibbits, Dick Whitney  
MOTHER - Mrs. Keith Wallace  
JEB - Jim Jagger  
TOM - Curtis Watts  
GIRL - Judith Lott  
NORTHERN AND SOUTHERN SOLDIERS - Don Tasker, Alfred Tasker, Vernon Anderson, Fred Jilka, Marian Brock, C.F. Cain, Bob Whitney, Delmar Lee, Herschel Wilson, Ray McGavran, and Vernie Gawith

---

## EPISODE IX - WE BECOME A COUNTY

THE BOY - Greg Miller  
ISRAEL MARKLEY - Darrel Markley  
C.R. INGERSOLL - Al Kobberman  
A.H. BOSS - Bob Barefield  
SILAS SEMAN - Ken Brown  
A.H. WOODEN - Herschel Wilson  
GEORGE CULVER - Dean Johnson  
SHERIFF PIERCE - Charles Markley  
J.H. INGERSOLL - Harold Ewart  
TWO WOMEN - Maxine Johnson, and June White  
GUNMEN - Harold Hrabe and Delmar Lee  
TOWNSPEOPLE - Edwin and Majorie Piersee, Harold and Mary Hrabe, Tom and Leola Bradbury, Russell and Dolores Nisbeth, Clarence and Edna Welch, James and Hazel Bremerman, Roy and Edith Kifer, Mrs. Bruff Wilkins, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Bruce, Mr. and Mrs. Vernon Liby, Mr. and Mrs. Harold Miller, Mr. and Mrs. Richard Whitney, Bob and Vivian Whitney, Mrs. Corrine Sidener, Tootie White, Riley D. and Majorie Tibbits, B.V. Barefield, Judy Whitney, Jim Jagger, Mike Schoeller, Larry Brake, Wayne Day, Janet Musgrave, Janice Cote, Eunice Boll, Eddie Wright, Craig Jagger, Nancy Hanes, Dennis Wallace, Kathy Fabrizio, Alana Windhorst, Ruth Bodenhamer, Rebecca Bodenhamer, Darrell Berryl, Ray McGavran, Chuck Wertz, Melvin Wright, Evonne Pickeral, Mr. and Mrs. Larry Welch, Marcia Stainbrook, Craig Jagger, Melvin Wright, Nancy Homan, Marcia Hood, and Herschel Wilson

## EPISODE X - THE COMING OF THE IRON HORSE

LADY - Marilyn Barefield  
YOUNG MAN - Delmar Lee  
VIRGINIA REEL DANCERS - Edwin and Majorie Piersee, Harold and Mary Hrabe, Tom and Leola Bradbury, Russell and Dolores Nisbeth, Clarence and Edna Welch, James and Hazel Bremerman, Roy and Edith Kifer, Mrs. Bruff Wilkins, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Bruce, Mr. and Mrs. Vernon Liby, Mr. and Mrs. Harold Miller, Mr. and Mrs. Richard Whitney, Bob and Vivian Whitney, Mrs. Corrine Sidener, Tootie White, Riley D. and Majorie Tibbits, B.V. Barefield, Judy Whitney, Jim Jagger, Mike Schoeller, Larry Brake, Wayne Day, Janet Musgrave, Janice Cote, Eunice Boll, Eddie Wright, Craig Jagger, Nancy Hanes, Dennis Wallace, Kathy Fabrizio, Alana Windhorst, Ruth Bodenhamer, Rebecca Bodenhamer, Darrell Berryl, Ray McGavran, Chuck Wertz, Melvin Wright, Evonne Pickeral, Mr. and Mrs. Larry Welch, Marcia Stainbrook, Craig Jagger, Melvin Wright, Nancy Homan, Marcia Hood, and Herschel Wilson.

---

## EPISODE XI - THE GAY 90's

THE BOY - Greg Miller  
BARBER SHOP QUARTET - Tom Johnson, Wilton Cooper, Ron Parks, Jim Jagger  
LIDA ROSE - Marilee Horner  
PICNIC M.C. - Dean Johnson  
THE PHOTOGRAPHER - Bill Hemingway  
COP - Ken Brown  
BATHING BEAUTIES - Mrs. Dean Johnson, Mrs. Ken Brown, Mrs. Kendall Moore, Mrs. Jack Werts, Mrs. Kermit Wedel  
CHARLIE THE STRONG MAN - Curtis Watts  
PICNIC PEOPLE - Charles Markley, Delmar Lee, Valerie Mars, Meridith Mars, Herschel Wilson, Mr. and Mrs. Larry Welch, Marcia Hood, Dean Johnson, Harold Ewart, A.R. Miller, Keith Wallace, Mrs. John Nace, Mark Nace, Mrs. Margaret Weidler, Hazel Tennyson, Joanne McCullick, Joe Johnson, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Barefield, Mr. and Mrs. Wilber Hogg, Mrs. Richard Chappell, Mrs. Charles Markley, Mrs. Melvin Doering, Mrs. Robert Haines, Ken Wedel, Rusti Baker, Carla Harris, Verla Harris, Randy Brown, Bill Hemingway, Esther Plunkett, Mrs. Matt Davis, Mrs. Mildred Phillipson, Wilma Shoemaker, Mrs. H. Ewart, Don Plunkett, Mrs. Charlie Schur, Marjorie Tibbits, Anna Bremerman, Robin Barefield, Paula Haddock, Darlene Tibbits, Becky Forsburg, Karen Wedel, Kim McCullick, and Micki McCullick.

---

## EPISODE XII - THE BIG ONE

LADY IN BLACK - Mrs. Mildred Kindall  
BUGLER - Delmar Lee  
MOURNERS - Mr. and Mrs. Darrel Markley, Mrs. F.C. Cromley, Mr. and Mrs. Levi Comfort, Mrs. Marquerite Foutz, Mr. and Mrs. Carl Salsberry, Mr. and Mrs. Harold Ewart, Mr. and Mrs. George Lempenau, Delmar Lee, Herschel Wilson

### EPISODE XIII – THE ROARING TWENTIES

THEDA BARA – Mrs. Kendall Moore  
LOVER – Kermit Wedel  
HUSBAND – Ken Wedel  
CHARLESTON DANCERS – Sharon Parks, Joy Flett,  
Steve Baccus, Sandi Johnson, Brent Johnson, Craig  
Jagger, Patty Schoeller, Alana Windhorst, Mary  
Beth Hoover, Wayne Day, Vickie Milum, Diane  
Smith, Jan Musgrave, Bruce Barefield, Carol  
Clanton, Merry Austin, Larry Brake, Jim Jagger,  
Ron Parks, Dennis Wallace, Brent Johnson, Tom  
Johnson

---

### EPISODE XIV – THE DARK YEARS

W.P.A. – Bruce Barefield, Robert Barefield, Ron  
Parks, Don White, Ron White, Al Cobbeman, Her-  
schel Wilson, Delmar Lee, Harold Hrabe, Ken  
Brown, Kermit Wedel, Ken Wedel

---

### EPISODE XV – WORLD WAR II

THE BOY – Greg Miller  
MOTHER – Helen Johnson  
TOM – Steve Baccus  
DAUGHTERS – Mary and Ruth Johnson  
FATHER – John Hoover  
SALIOR – Wayne Day  
NURSE – Angie Wagner  
RED CROSS WOMEN – Lela Broggs, Francis Mc-  
Pherson, Jane Spangler, Mrs. Russell Nisbeth.

---

### EPISODE XVI – THE ATOMIC ERA

### EPISODE XVII – THE FIFTIES

THE BOY – Greg Miller  
TEEN AGE BOY – Dennis Wallace  
NANCY – Mary Beth Hoover  
URSULA – Alana Windhorst  
ALICE – Nancy Hanes  
MARGIE – Sandy Johnson  
HARVEY – Ron Goure  
PENELOPE – Janet Musgrave  
HUGO – Jim Jagger  
TEEN AGERS – Vickie Geist, Marilee Horner, Bruce  
Barefield, Don White, Curtis Watts, Eunice Boll,  
Sharon Parks, Craig Jagger, Chuck Werts, Tom  
Johnson, Janice Cote, Larry Brake, Ed Wright,  
Melvin Wright, Dave Windhorst, Kathy Fabrizius,  
Marcia Stainbrook, Judy Whitney, and Becky Fors-  
berg

---

### EPISODE XVIII – THE ERA OF SPACE

THE BOY – Greg Miller

---

### EPISODE XIX – THE BEGINNING OF THE END

THE ENTIRE CAST

---



# ROCK CITY



It is difficult to think about the past 100 years in Ottawa County without somehow connecting it with Rock City. Rock City or the "City of Rocks" has become a part of the history of this area and was given notoriety long before Kansas was a State or Ottawa County came into being. It has been given world-wide attention, has been written up in newspapers in Kansas and outside of the state, and in foreign countries for half a century. While, admittedly, some of the newspaper writings in recent years were the result of indignant citizens chastising the owners of the property for failing to preserve such an unusual wonder available for public inspection and enjoyment; the story of the "City of Rocks" begins long before it was written up in history books or under consideration as a National Monument. There is even an Indian legend, the origin of which is unknown, but it was first published in detail in the Minneapolis Better Way and then later by the Topeka Daily Capital in August 1898 in an article on Kansas Legends.

"When the white people first came to this country the Indians were pleased with their visit, but when they began to carry away their children in their great ships, and steal their hunting grounds, the chief became alarmed. Messages were sent to all of the great Chiefs and a council was called for all of the tribes. Those that were at war buried their hatchets during the time of the Great Council and their Chiefs joined together towards the center of their land. They came from the shoulders of the broad Atlantic and from the land of the setting sun. They journeyed over the mountains and plains, through the forests and valleys until at last they met, one and all, on the site of the present Rock City. But the great rocks were not there then. Oh no! For three days and three nights they called to the Great Spirit to help them drive the Pale Face away. At length the Great Spirit came and in sorrowful tones told them that the time had come when they must give up their Happy Hunting Grounds to the Pale Faces from over the sea. They were told that this new people were restless and strong and

would soon sweep across their fair land from ocean to ocean and the sons of the forest must bow to the will of their Pale Face brothers. But, the Sons of the Forest were not disposed to tamely bow and after conferring among themselves they told the Great Spirit that they intended to drive the intruders from the land. Then it was that the Great Spirit became angry with his people and declared that the people from over the sea should break up their wigwams and make their hunting grounds one of the great nations under the sun. Then as a reminder of his words, the Great Spirit took the great round rocks from his own Happy Hunting Ground and placed them between the oceans and those that came to the Great Council were told that when the winds rolled the great rocks into the sea, and the waves washed them into sand and cast them upon the shore, then would the Pale Face return to his home across the water. But, long before that time the Indian would be a race of the past. A maiden daughter of one of the Great Chief's humbled herself before the Great Spirit and pleaded so elegantly for her people that the Great Spirit relented and promised life to those that would be taught by the new people, and not only life but that their blood should flow into the veins of some of the greatest of the Pale Face chiefs. Then the Great Spirit withdrew from the Council, leaving the rocks as a token of his visit and the Indians after vainly trying to scatter the rocks, returned sadly to their tribes and the work of exterminating a wild free race began."

Prof. Raymond C. Moore, of the University of Kansas, writing in Graduate Magazine in 1932 about the origination of the "Jayhawk" states as follows:

"There is an unverified story that the Indians believed the great round stones in Rock City in Ottawa County are petrified eggs. The anonymous Indian who made this statement declared

that they were laid by the Thunderbird. This, he claimed, is the Indian name of the Jayhawk. When asked how any bird known to man could have laid eggs the size of these rocks, some of which are over 12 feet in diameter, his answer was that the Thunderbird, or the Jayhawk, not only could change its size at will but could make itself invisible, and was immortal."

Walt Kelly, the originator of the comic strip Pogo, refers in his syndicated strip in 1954 to Prof. Ray Moore's Jayhawk Eggs and states:

"Taint laying them that's the chore, but land, hatching 'em do wear a body down!"

All of this is reprinted in the Mythical Jayhawk by Kirke Mechem, a booklet printed in 1956.

Speculation as to what caused the rocks has been the subject of many writings in many newspapers, magazines and books. For example, on Page 1424 of a History of the State of Kansas, published in 1883 in Chicago, by A.T. Andreas, it states:

"The 'City of Rock' situated 2½ miles southwest of Minneapolis on the opposite side of the Solomon Valley, and half way up the bordering hills. It once consisted of several hundred round and oval shaped rocks, one half of which are now perfectly preserved. The remainder are broken, and the fragments somewhat scattered, yet every piece shows the original sphericity. They vary in size from two to fifteen feet in diameter. The stone is a white, flinty sandstone and is in thin

layers or shales. The "City of Rocks" is one of the most interesting natural curiosities in the state, and to every visitor the question of its origin is puzzling. It is claimed by some that the rocks belonged to the cretaceous period; that they have been worn into their present globular shape by the action of the water. The satisfactory explanation is that when the land was submerged a tribe of marine insects gathered here in spherical masses in and around which solidified white shifting sand. But, whether the true theory is found or not, every visitor will gaze with admiration and wonder on the 'City of Rocks'."

Although there have been other more learned explanations as to the cause of the rocks, they still remain a subject of speculation and pictures of them have been included in many geology text books since before the turn of the century.

Over the years there have been many attempts to make Rock City into a national monument or into a state park, all of which have been unsuccessful. And, today it remains on private property.

Despite this, the natural curiosity of the public brings many visitors each year to view this phenomenon, and years ago caused the citizens of the city of Minneapolis to adopt as their slogan, "The Home of Rock City", and caused the State of Kansas to include its location on the map of wonders and attractions in the state.

## Kriegh Motor Co.

Roy M. Kriegh

Roy M. Kriegh, Jr.

MINNEAPOLIS, KANSAS



SALES

PONTIAC

SERVICE

RAMBLER



JOHN DEERE TRACTORS  
AND IMPLEMENTS

*dedicated to quality*

## Lott Implement, Inc.

SALES • SERVICE • PARTS

Phone EX 2-3110

Minneapolis, Kansas

## Haley Home Funeral



EX 2-2131

405 Arygle

MINNEAPOLIS, KANSAS



# **-INSURANCE-**

The TODD Agency

W.O. TODD



DICK TODD

Complete Insurance Service-  
Real Estate-Bonds

EX 2-3073

## Dingee Lumber Co.

YOUR HOME OWNED

LUMBER YARD

IN

MINNEAPOLIS



COACH & FOUR BOWLING LANES

EXpress 2-3152

MINNEAPOLIS, KANSAS

WATSON RADIO, TV  
COMMUNICATION  
SERVICE

**ZENITH** / **MOTOROLA**

Sales & Service

We Sell the Best  
& Service the Rest

## Ronald Forrester Thompson

One of the outstanding early lawyers in Ottawa County, he began his practice in Minneapolis. In 1873 he was elected to the State Legislature as a representative from Ottawa County. In 1889 he was appointed Judge of the 30th Judicial District. In 1903 he was appointed a member of the State Board of Law Examiners. He died April 4, 1907. Judge Thompson was one of the strong men of the state and was a potent factor in the making of its history. A lawyer of state-wide reputation, and one of the most careful painstaking students of the law in the west. He took an active part in the conduct of the County's affairs.

## Harry McMillan

Harry McMillan located in Minneapolis in 1885 and first owned a grocery store and later became a rancher. In 1886 he married Mary Markley. In 1900 he was elected State Senator to represent the 31st District and made an exhaustive special study of railroad legislation, and his bill which made railroad commissioners elective caused the federation of commercial interest. This association, composed of the leading stock shippers, wholesalers and millers estate, in appreciation of his services in their respect elected him as their State President in 1904. In 1906 he was made Mayor of Minneapolis for three terms and under his leadership a number of notable political improvements were made. The waterworks plant was acquired, a fine system of sanitary sewers installed, and a splendid new bridge was built across the Solomon River connecting the town with Markley Grove. In 1912 he was again elected State Senator.

## Milbourne Stone

Milbourne Stone, known to millions as Dr. Adams in the Gunsmoke TV program, married Nellie Morrison, daughter of Mrs. Ann Morrison of Delphos, in the Delphos Presbyterian Church in June 1925. Mr. Stone played various roles with opera companies in Delphos in the early 1920's and 1930's.

## The Crossons

Joe Crosson, national aviator, brought out the bodies of Will Rogers and Wiley Post when they were killed when Post's airplane crashed in the fog near Point Barrow, Alaska, August 15, 1935. Joe's sister, Marvel Crosson, was killed in an airplane crash some years before this. It was believed that her plane had been tampered with. They were airplane pilots in the 1920's and narrow escapes were daily experienced.

Charles Crosson was an uncle. He carried rock and made monuments and fences, and made his own coffin. Before his death, he liked to take people to his private cemetery overlooking his old home place, and talk over the Spanish War and show his guns and canes and other war souvenirs. When he died, he was buried as he desired in the tomb that he himself had built.

# MARTELO

MINNEAPOLIS GROCERY  
211 W. SECOND

EX 2-2013

MINNEAPOLIS, KANSAS

It is our pleasure to serve you with quality food for less.



The Pike Trail Marker, sponsored by the County Historical Society, erected by Don J. Ballou, marks the midway point of one day's march made by Zebulon Pike on September 22, 1806. It is located five miles southwest of Delphos. From this point one may see the great arc of the Solomon Valley — 300 square miles of prairie ridge & timber, and the limitless dome of the sky.

## Ada Grain Co. Inc.

GRAIN-FEEDS-SEEDS-FERTILIZER

EX 2-2300 ADA, KANSAS

CARL MCGAVRAN, MGR.



JOHN B. PARKER  
AGENCY MANAGER

210 North Concord  
EX 2-2850

Minneapolis, Kansas

# DELPHOS FAMILY SOLD TREASURED LETTER FROM LINCOLN

By John Ballard

The presidential candidate was clean-shaven, and this worried a little girl from Westfield, N.Y. Intuitively wise at 11, Grace Bedell advised him to grow a beard, writing: "You would look a great deal better, for your face is so thin." Well, the candidate did grow a beard, and he did become president—one of our most famous. His name was Abraham Lincoln, and his letter from Grace was one of the warmest incidents in his campaign of 1860. He wrote her a thank you letter, and it became, of course, a treasured memento.

## To Delphos

Later Grace Bedell came to Delphos, Kansas, as the young wife of George Newton Billings, after a time the first cashier of the Bank of Delphos, founded in 1880. There her letter stayed in the vault of the bank for many years, framed and slightly faded. Now it has returned to New York.

## For Auction

Three grandsons of Mr. and Mrs. Billings have decided it is best to sell the letter. It was auctioned March 22 at the Waldorf Astoria hotel in New York City. The brothers are Roger B. Billings, still with the bank at Delphos; George Billings, a Minneapolis, Minn., businessman, and Dr. Arthur G. Billings, an economics professor at Indiana State university, Terre Haute. The Delphos brother explained two reasons prompted them to sell the letter. First, as succeeding generations receive it, more people at one time would be responsible.

## Endangered

And more significantly, "natural light and gas deterioration, things of that type, even in the vault," were destroying the letter slowly. Not that the letter isn't in good shape. It is "I would say the letter is in good shape, if not excellent," said Billings. The only marks on the letter are water marks, he said, which have been misinterpreted in a famous anecdote. "It was snowing when she got the letter at Westfield," he said. "More romantic writers said the marks are from teardrops falling from her eyes." Lincoln's letter of Oct. 19, 1860, to Grace was not in whole-hearted agreement with her advice. He wondered if a beard might not be called "a piece of silly affection", since he hadn't worn one before. But four months after he wrote her the president-elect detoured his train through Westfield to see Grace. He asked for her from the crowd and kissed her, she later told her grandsons, and said, "You see, I let these whiskers grow for you, Grace." Her grandson Roger said the incident became a scoop for a lone reporter from the New York Tribune. "It was the only paper to have a reporter on the train who saw the candidate reaching to see her," he said. The Tribune gave it national attention.



## KISSED BY LINCOLN:

Grace Bedell as she appeared fifteen years after letter earned her a kiss from Abraham Lincoln.

## Imaginative Account

Like the story of the teardrops, the story of Grace's later life also was changed in imaginative accounts. The first edition of a well-known children's book, "Lincoln's Little Correspondent," said the young girl disappeared into the West and was never heard of again, said Billings. "Naturally, the family called right away. So the second edition said she moved to Delphos and had six children. Even that was wrong. She only had one. Her husband, George Newton Billings, was the son of a New York legislator.

## To A Colony

"About 1870, grandfather came through Omaha to see the Greeley colony (colony of the editor of the Tribune, Horace "Go West Young Man" Greeley)," said Billings. "He didn't like the looks of it, went on to Denver and returned by train to Abilene." "Bill Hickock was marshal about that time and he

was fascinated by a repeating rifle Granddad had—a Spencer, I think." Billings homesteaded 160 acres in the Solomon Valley north of Delphos and began hauling lumber for his house from Abilene. Said Billings: "One night in Abilene there was no room to stay, so Hickock offered to share his room with him. There was no lock on the door and no lights were in the hall. Granddad said Hickock spread a newspaper out by the door, so he could hear anyone creeping around." When the house was done, his new wife came to Delphos. Roger Billings and his three brothers grew up across the street from the house his grandfather built. Grace Billings' lone child was the father of the three brothers, Harlow Billings. He was born in 1872 and died Aug. 27, 1964. George Newton Billings died in June of 1930, and Grace Bedell Billings died in November of 1963. She was 88. As important as her letter from President-elect Lincoln was the letter she wrote him. In it she not only told him the beard would fill out his thin face, but she also said the beard would cause women to "tease" their husbands into voting for him. How important the beard was is a question for historians. But Lincoln won a close election without having even a majority of the popular vote. "A man came to her in the mid-20's about her letter," said Billings. "He was a lawyer and a Congressman and a student of Lincoln. He went to Mrs. Robert Todd Lincoln after hearing she was sealing the

Lincoln files and got permission to see them. "He found grandmother's letter and wanted to keep it. "Mrs. Lincoln thought grandmother should have it. But he came and asked for it and stayed so long, they finally relented since he promised he eventually would give it to a museum. "Well, she later asked for it many times and never got it back. "Every time she asked, he got up on the floor of Congress and inserted in the Record how generously she had given him the letter, then sent her a copy of the Record."

## MERCURY SPACE CAPSULE

A mercury space capsule from N.A.S.A. in Houston, Texas is being displayed for the public viewing at Hoover's Soft Water Service. The capsule was used in the earlier stages of the space program.



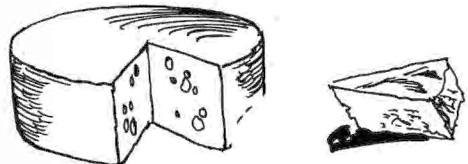
- Local and Long Distance Live-stock Hauling
- KANSAS CITY—OMAHA and ST. JOSEPH

Motor Freight From Kansas City

**Scheibler**  
**TRUCK LINES**

BENNINGTON, KANSAS

OFFICE  
913 488-3787  
R. R. SCHEIBLER  
913 488-3851



**TESCOTT CHEESE INC.**

TESCOTT, KANSAS

Co-Operative Sales and Services, Inc.  
CULVER AND SALINA



Grain - Fertilizer - Feeds  
Grinding and Mixing  
Bulk Farm Fuel Delivery  
Service Station

Culver  
Ph. 283-4350

Salina  
Ph. TA 7-3634



# JUDGE & KEYSTONE COPS



## HOOVER

Propane & Butane Gas  
Culligan Soft Water Service

215 No. Sheridan St.-----Phone EX 2-2038

Minneapolis, Kansas



Automatic  
Softener  
Salt

## Wallace I.G.A.

Home of Locally Feed & Processed beef



D.&G.-Oil-Company

Jim Rarig- Jack Gardinier

Phone EX 2-9992

Minneapolis, Kansas

"THE OLD"



COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

ROY YOST

OTIS NELSON

ALFRED WILCOX

COUNTY ATTORNEY

ROBERT B. BAREFIELD

COUNTY CLERK

YVONNE PICKRELL

CLERK OF COURT

ESTHER PLUNKETT

816 Argyle  
Phone EX 2-2063

Minneapolis, Kansas  
67467



ROCK CITY MANOR  
FOR SENIOR CITIZENS

*Tender Loving Care*

JUNE WHITE  
ADMINISTRATOR

Wallace Dept. Store



Clothes For The  
Entire Family

Minneapolis Clinic

---

Booster of Ottawa

County Centennial

**PROBATE JUDGE**

MARCUS HENRY

**REGISTER OF DEEDS**

BERNITTA MARTIN

**SHERIFF**

RALPH ENLOW

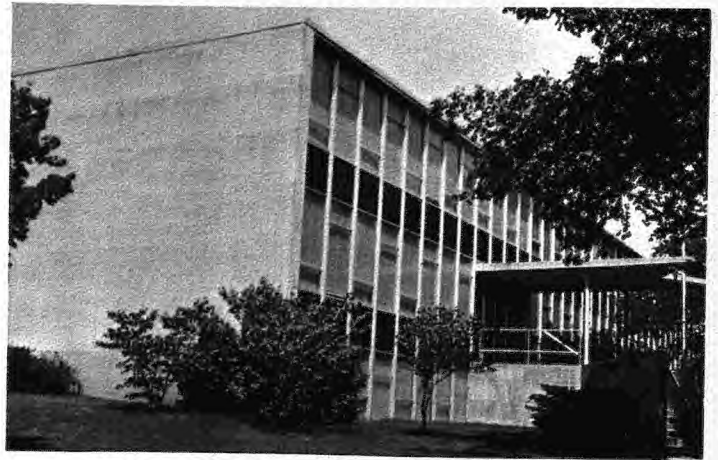
**SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS**

RUTH AUSTIN

**COUNTY TREASURE**

ALINE FUNK

**"THE NEW"**



**MINNEAPOLIS  
MESSENGER**

*"The Newspaper*

*of Ottawa County*

*Since 1875"*

Circulation 3,000

Fine Printing of All Kinds

Messenger Advertising Gets Results

MOBIL OIL CORP.



WARRENS SERVICE  
MINNEAPOLIS



STATE FARM INS.  
FRANK LAPLANT  
MINNEAPOLIS, KS.

STEVENSON'S  
TA 5-4619  
SALINA, KANSAS

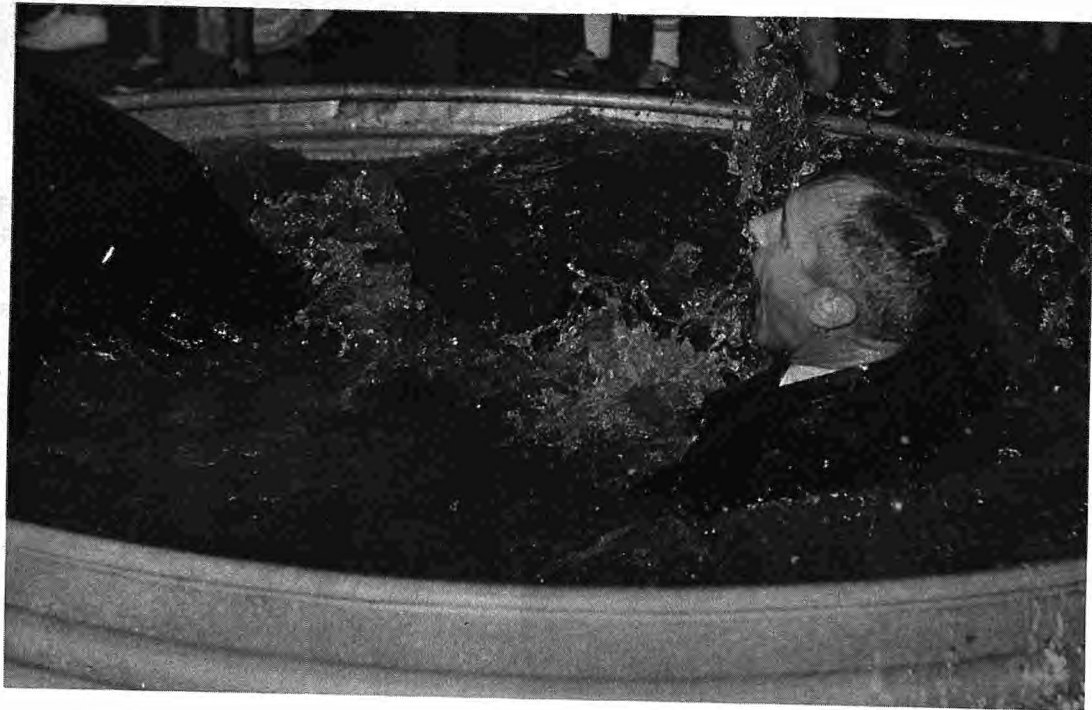
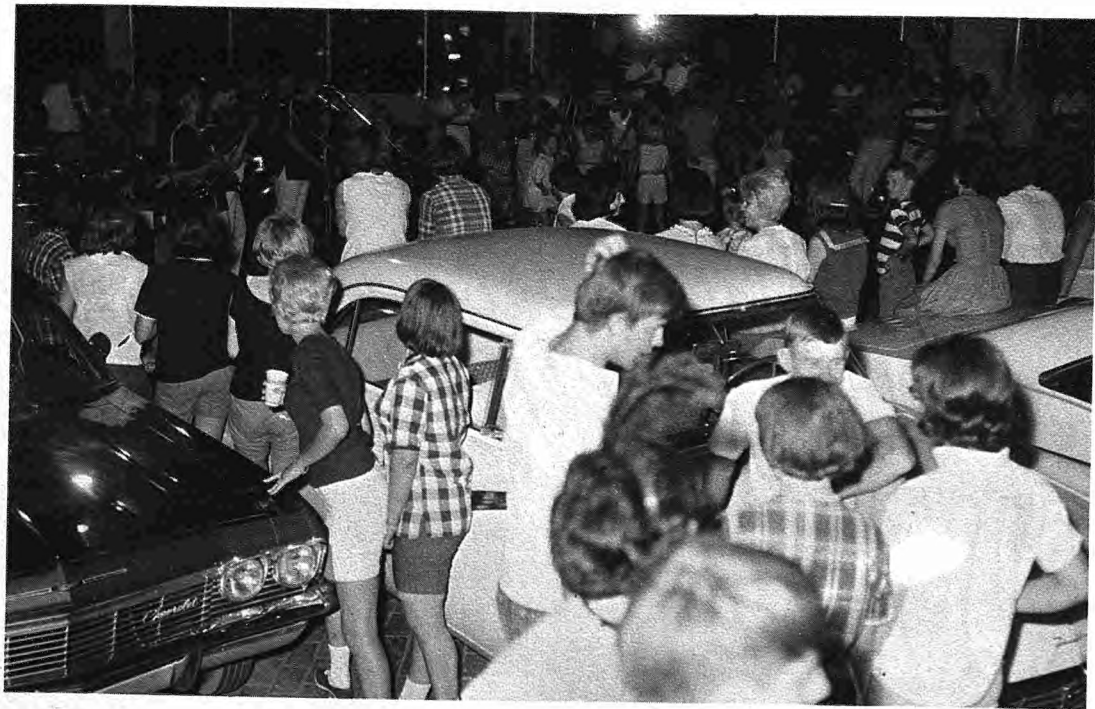


ROYAL TIRE CO.  
TA 3-9527  
SALINA, KANSAS

VAHSHOLTZ IMP. CO.

SALINA, KANSAS





Congratulations From

## Johnson Builders Inc.



P.O.Box 457

Salina, Kansas

TA 3-2283

## Spaeth OFFICE SERVICE

- TYPEWRITERS
- ADDING MACHINES
- CALCULATORS

*Olivetti  
Underwood*

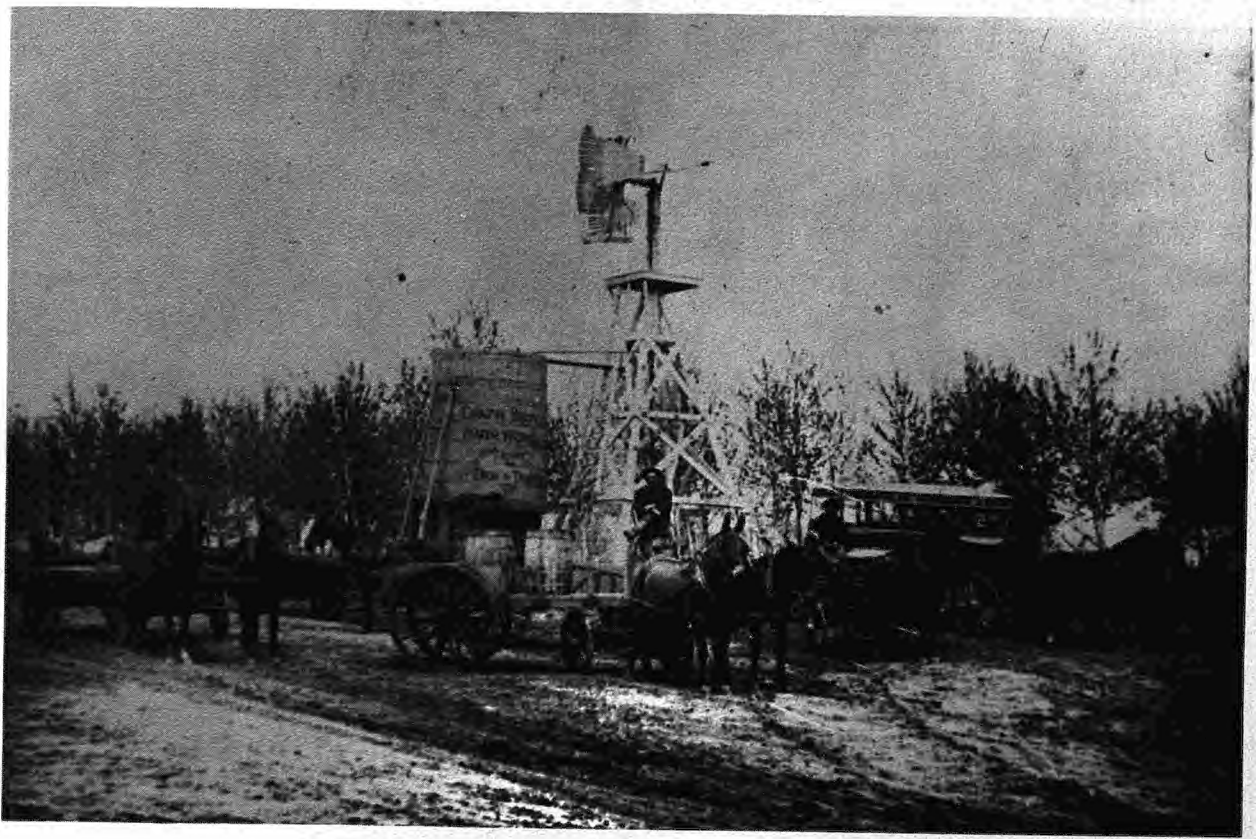
*Gestetner  
Duplicators*

*Stenocord  
Dictating Systems*

*Office  
Furniture*

K. C. "RED" SPAETH, OWNER  
RES. TA 5-0620

221 S. SANTA FE  
SALINA, KANSAS 67401  
TA 7-8173



Chapin Bros. Water Work and Dray & Transfer Co.  
The first waterworks in Minneapolis located on the court house grounds.

**BEST WISHES**

**FOR A**

**VERY SUCCESSFUL**

**CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION**

**THE JO-MAR DAIRIES CO.**

**SALINA, KANSAS**

**Kancen Printing Co., Inc.**

Complete Letterpress and Offset Printing Service

TAylor 3-3461

**Kancen Advertising Co.**

Advertising-Artwork-Copy Make-up

TAylor 3-9171

**202 West Iron**

**Salina, Kansas**

"Our Business is Making Your Business Better"



WONDER BREAD  
and  
HOSTESS CAKES

CONGRATULATIONS  
ON YOUR CENTENNIAL!  
WINCHESTER PACKING  
COMPANY, INC.  
HUTCHINSON, KANSAS

BEST WISHES  
Brown-Mackie  
School of Business  
SALINA, KANSAS

  
Betts Baking  
Company

MO 2-1261  
Hutchinson, Kansas

KSAL  
SERVING OTTAWA COUNTY  
AND VICINITY  
CONGRATULATES  
OTTAWA COUNTY  
1st 100 YEARS  
FULL TIME RADIO 1150kc

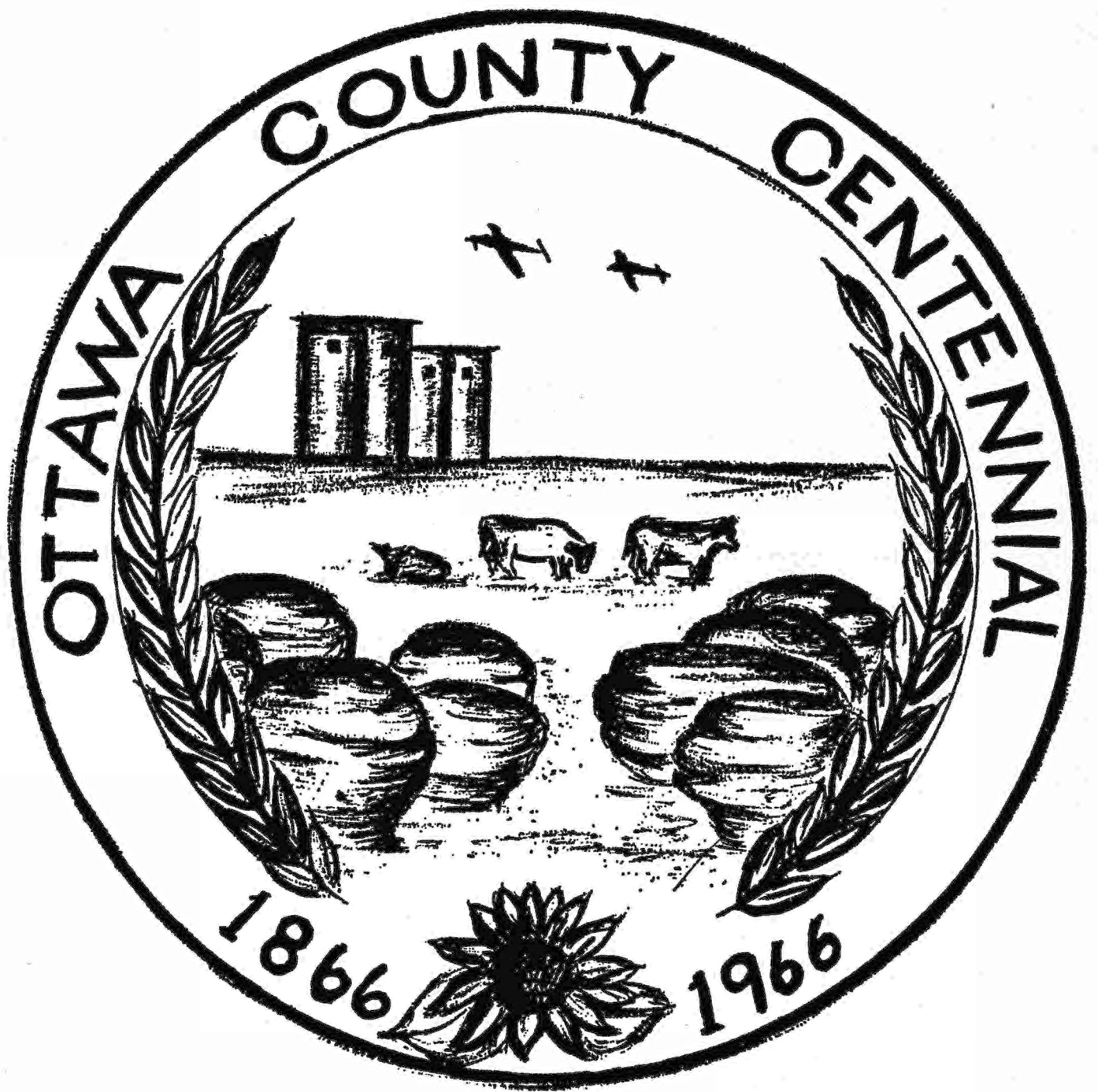


Compliments of  
Topliff Truck Lines

703 No. Fifth St.  
Salina, Kansas  
TA 3-9211

95702

BEST WISHES  
GUY'S  
FOODS, INC.



# The Ottawa County Bank

Capital \$35,000

Surplus \$115,000

Undivided Profits Over \$70,000

The First Chartered Bank in Ottawa County

Serving the Community since 1880



## Officers

Al Kobbeman, Jr., President  
Alyce McMichael, Vice President  
M. A. Dean, Cashier  
Wilma Shoemaker, Ass't Cashier  
Maxine Behrendt, Ass't Cashier  
Doii Plunkett, Bookkeeper  
Joan McCullick, Bookkeeper  
Bruce Cleveland, Agri. Rep.

## Directors

Al Kobbeman, Jr.  
Alyce McMichael  
M.A. Dean  
Darrel B. Hubbard  
Ben A. Stein  
C. C. Morris  
Mrs. F. E. Chapin  
Chas. C. Carlson

Member F. D. I. C.

Member Federal Reserve System