

Prairie Portrait



Centennial Book
Concordia, Kansas

1871 ~ 1971

Historical Program Book



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CONCORDIA, KANSAS

CENTENNIAL WEEK

August 6 through August 14, 1971

Maigy Swenson

THE WHITE HOUSE

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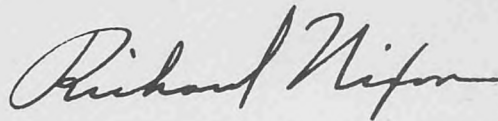
March 3, 1971

TO THE PEOPLE OF CONCORDIA, KANSAS

The observance of your one hundredth anniversary is an occasion of deep pride for you as well as for the nation.

The high purpose and vital community spirit that are reflected in your eventful history are in the best tradition of our American way of life.

Armed with these same qualities in the years ahead, I know that you will strive to be in the vanguard of constructive civic accomplishment. I welcome your full partnership in the demanding tasks we face as a nation, and in the good that promises to come from our united efforts.



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ROBERT B. DOCKING
GOVERNOR

GREETINGS:

It is a pleasure to have this opportunity to extend greetings to the people of Concordia as they celebrate the centennial of their city.

From the wheat fields to the U. S. Senate, Concordians have made their impact on the state of Kansas and the nation.

Economically, Concordia has progressed rapidly throughout the past century and has become a leading community of cities its size in Kansas.

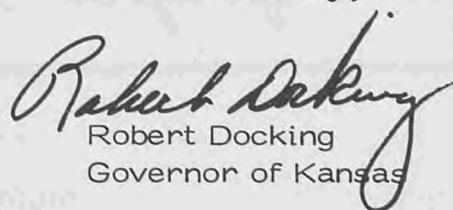
The citizens of Concordia have demonstrated by their progress their willingness to participate together to make their community a better community. The spirit of willing participation in a common effort is the kind of spirit which does not accept the hardships of today as an excuse for the cruelties of tomorrow; it is a spirit which is not bound for the past, but is free for the future. It is this spirit which turns to the wisdom and effort of the people to build a better community, a better state and a better nation.

The citizens of Concordia can reflect upon the past 100 years with pride. You can view the present with concern and the future with hope.

On behalf of all Kansans -- and personally -- I wish all citizens of Concordia a most successful centennial celebration, and I wish you health, happiness and prosperity in the future.

With every good wish.

Yours sincerely,


Robert Docking
Governor of Kansas



→
This Book is:
Dedicated to the young
men of Cloud County who
have fought the nation's battles
←

One Of Ours

From "Mugwump Musings" by Marion Ellet Published in the Blade-Empire, 1949

It is a classic of understatement, this monument "To the Young Men of Cloud County Who Have Fought the Nation's Battles." I had wondered about it, a little apprehensively. If it had been another dashing young man with lifted bayonet, if it had been a starry-eyed young warrior advancing like a sleep-walker toward some imagined Holy Grail, I should have sniffed and turned away. But it was no such thing. And I gulped because there was a lump in my throat.

The figure, which was designed and cast in bronze by Wallace Rosenbaur of Kansas City, may come to be regarded as one of the finest works of art in Kansas. It is the figure of a boy in his teens, any boy, all boys who ever played and fought and dreamed alone, and then went off to war. He is an American boy, well-fed, well-built, untormented by the brutal decadence of the Old World. He is standing at ease. He looks as though he might have paused to greet you as he came through the park on his way home from a high school pep meeting. Yet there is a certain alert in his posture. His stance is stubborn, legs far apart, shoulders squared, as though accepting some challenge which he scarcely understands. He is a bit cocky too. One arrogant thumb is thrust into his belt. His hands are awkward, the unused and unaccustomed hands of youth.

But it is the face which tells the rest of the story. It is neither brave nor cowardly, neither wise nor stupid. It is the inscrutable face of a boy who has just outgrown the age in which he hides his treasures in a "glory box" in the attic. He still hides his loves, his hopes, his dreams, behind a poker mask. He carries no tales on his classmates. But he sees everything. He penetrates sham with an unholy preception. And he cannot be reached by anything unreal or shoddy.

This is the boy who stood and fought at San Juan Hill, at Chateau-Thierry, at the Battle of the Bulge. This is the untutored boy who learned at Guadalcanal. This is the boy who raised the flag at Iwo Jima, who flew the Hump, who sailed the seven seas, who looked upon the dreadful miracle at Hiroshima. Stubborn as this, he stood between us and our ruin, saved the world from its own folly for a little while.

This is "One of Ours"—simple, homely, common, so devastatingly young, so poignantly ours that he shakes you "like the cry of bugles going by."

This moving tribute was written in 1949 when the lovely little statue was placed in the City Park in Concordia. The memorial was given to the people of Concordia by Mrs. N. B. Brown, wife of one of Concordia's pioneer citizens, Col. N. B. Brown. Mrs. Brown stipulated in her will that the monument be erected but left the choice of subject matter to the executor of her will, Mr. J. C. Peck. It was the thoughtful research, and artistic appreciation of "Chick" Peck which gave us this work of art in Concordia.

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THE CITY OF CONCORDIA

THE CONCORDIA CENTENNIAL BOOK STAFF

Chairman, Margie Wright

Research assistants

Mary Overstreet
Wanda Hood
Virginia Gillan
Agnes Fitzgerald
Wanda Sorem

Typists

Marguerite Larson
Dorothy Reeves
Anita Brooks

Artists

Dennis Demanett and Jack Kaufman

Photography

J. Milton Sorem

Wayne Switzer

Lloyd Bergman

The book committee wishes to express special appreciation to Janet Pease Emery, author of "IT TAKES PEOPLE TO MAKE A TOWN," for her generous contributions of time and material.

Also thanks to the following persons for their contributions to "I Remember;" Mrs. E. W. Larson, Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Berk, Mrs. Margaret Peck Wright, Mr. George Davis, Mr. Charles Shipee, Dr. Eldon Sawhill, Mrs. Florence Short, Senator M. V. B. Van De Mark, Mrs. Clare Bolinger McConaughey, Miss Mildred Neitzel, Miss Beatrice Betournay, Miss Marion Ellet, Mrs. Josephine Blaney, Mr. Norman Lewis, Mr. Clarence Paulsen, Mr. and Mrs. Milton Sorem, Mrs. Jack Bowman, Mrs. Helene Ossmann Larson.

The committee also wishes to thank the following people for their generous loan of treasured pictures, and valuable historical material; The Cloud County Historical Society, the IOOF lodge, the Masonic lodge, Miss Beatrice Betournay, Mrs. Florence Short, Mr. Phil Smith, Mr. and Mrs. Woodrow Hood, the Kansan, The First National Bank, The Cloud County Bank, Mrs. R. J. Saindon, Mr. George Dutton, Miss Marion Ellet, Mrs. Calvin Walker, Mrs. E. N. Robertson, Miss Erna Meyer, Mr. Vernon Martin, Mr. and Mrs. Pat Lasnier, Mrs. Charles Cook, Mrs. Helen Wilson Carlgren, Mrs. Dorothy Kennett Thurston, Mr. V. W. Thoman, Mrs. Lowell Swenson, Mrs. Harry Gotschall, Mr. and Mrs. Howard Lanoue, Mr. and Mrs. Rox Cook, Mrs. Pauline Vaughn, Mrs. Wayne Seim, Mrs. Russell Reeves, Mr. Everett Royer, (Topeka), Mrs. Eva Lanoue Barricklow, (Courtland), Mr. and Mrs. Charles Wilson, (Hebron, Neb.), Mrs. Pauline Titus, Mr. Fred Young, and Miss Waneta Philbrick.

We acknowledge the generous cooperation of the Churches, and the Schools, and numerous other Concordia organizations.

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PALMQUIST'S DRUG, INC.

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Senator Frank Carlson, Centennial Chairman

"During its 105 years as a state, Kansas has sent many men and one woman to the United States Congress. Some have had distinguished careers. It is doubtful, however, if any of them has had as broad an experience in government or have contributed as much to the state and nation as Frank Carlson." So spoke Congressman Clifford R. Hope of Concordia's most distinguished citizen, chairman of the Concordia Centennial.

United States Senator, United States Representative, Governor, State Representative, Presidential Advisor, United Nations Delegate, Churchman, Farmer. These are some of the achievements of this outstanding man.

During his two terms as governor, a mental health program was developed which made Kansas recognized as having one of the best programs in the nation. The State educational system was expanded, aid to elementary schools was doubled, teachers' salaries were increased. Farm research projects were developed at the Agricultural College to aid farmers, and a long-range Highway-Improvement program was begun. Mr. Carlson was chairman of the National Governor's Conference and Chairman of the Council of State Governments.

Carlson became the only Kansan ever to serve as U. S. Representative, Governor and U. S. Senator. He was one of eight men chosen to advise Eisenhower in his campaign for the presidency and he continued to be a key Congressional advisor to the Eisenhower Administration.

As Senator he served on committees of Finance, Foreign Relations, Committee for Rules and Administration, Joint Committee on Internal Revenue, Joint Committee on Economic Report, Committee on Aging, Republican Policy Committee and Republican Committee on Committees. In 1964 he was selected to attend the Kennedy Round Tariff Conference in Geneva, Switzerland. Later that same year the President appointed Carlson delegate to the 19th Assembly of the United Nations.

Frank Carlson, and his wife, Alice, have owned and operated a farm near Concordia since 1914 in an area settled by his Swedish emigrant parents. Always an active member of the Baptist Church in Concordia, Frank Carlson was Superintendent of his Sunday School for 20 years.

He established a Bible class at a Washington, D. C. Baptist Church which is still active and is known as the Carlson Bible Class. He established the Annual Presidential Prayer Breakfast over which he presided for many years.

Frank Carlson has profoundly influenced the lives of each of us by his achievements in government. Retired from active political life now, Concordia is enriched by his residence here in Concordia. The new public Library will be named the Frank Carlson Library and will become a repository for his papers. We salute Frank Carlson, honored citizen of Concordia.



PROLOGUE

Concordia is a portrait on the Kansas prairie. As one looks out across the valley and sees the little town enfolded in the softly rolling hills, one feels a sense of peace.

Symbol of Kansas, the tall grain elevator thrusts its white towers into the sky. The old of the red brick convent of the Sisters of St. Joseph blends with the new of the Junior College and the hospital.

Concordia is a pretty town—a pleasant town with well kept homes. There are comfortable schools; a much used City Park with a bandshell and a baseball diamond. The churches speak of the faith and generosity of their members in their sturdy buildings and large Sunday School annexes.

The main street is simple, dignified and well-cared for. There are few empty storefronts.

The people of Concordia are friendly and interested in one another and in YOU. The strength and wealth of Concordia comes from the farmers. These are a people who believe a man should earn what is owed to him. They value education and work for what is needed to send their sons and daughters to college.

The artists who paint the portrait which becomes a town are the people who live in the town. Concordia became a town one hundred years ago. The artists who painted those first brush strokes of this "Portrait On The Prairie" were gallant souls with incredible courage and daring spirit.

The great lure was land . . . all that land. It created exciting dreams of a future of wealth, power, freedom, of "being somebody." Many who came were from eastern states. Many were impoverished men, often well educated, who came because the land was free. Many who came were immigrants. Each immigrant coming from crowded, impoverished, politically controlled countries in Europe, knew what it meant to have 'his own land.' Those men dreamed of what it could mean to be free to speak, to write, to live, to worship as they wished; to have a full stomach, and a voice in their own government. Denied such freedoms in their own countries, these people thirsted for it with a thirst which pushed aside the thought of hardships.

So they came, from the east seeking land and wealth and investments; from Europe seeking land, freedom and identity; all of them seeking the opportunity to be part of a new experience, to be free.

The Artist



This book is not intended to be a "history" of Concordia. It is meant to be only a picture, a glimpse of, The Artist (the people); The Media (their activities), and The Portrait (Concordia Today).

Before an artist begins to paint his portrait he draws numerous sketches. Each sketch becomes a part of the finished picture, and is also a part of the artist expressing himself. Men are the artists who paint the portrait which becomes a community. We present a series of historical sketches, many of them actually written by persons who were a part of the history of Concordia.

**J.M. Hagaman,
Founder of Concordia**



In The Beginning...

Once there was just the beautiful valley. Indians moved across it, hunting, living from its bounty. Warlike Indian tribes fought with each other for the right to hunt in this land "where the buffalo roam." For literally, hundreds of thousands of the buffalo grazed across the valley on the Republican River.

The white man first came to live in the valley, apparently, in 1860. According to a published account, "On July 8th, 1860, in company with John M. Thorp and August Fenske, this writer (J. M. Hagaman) came to Cloud County—then Shirley (County), Kansas.

"We had three objects in view in coming to the Republican: first, to get the pick of claims; second, this land was not in market, and as we had no money, it would give us a better opportunity to earn the means, by farming, with which to pay for our claims; and third, and perhaps with some of our party the strongest motive, to be near the Buffalo range." This was written by James Manney Hagaman, who founded Concordia, ten years after he came to Cloud County. This remarkable man wrote a history of Cloud County which was published in the "Cloud County Blade" in 1879-80.

Reading of the hardships which settlement of the new country offered, one wonders why anyone would choose this way to live. Mr. Hagaman wrote of their first winter in Kansas. "As a matter of history, I suppose it will be proper

for me to give some of the experiences of the settlers during this first winter in Shirley County. For the sake of truth, I am compelled to state that so far as the settlers on Elm Creek were concerned, this first winter was the most agreeable event of their lives, as I have often heard them remark. But how we did enjoy ourselves! To my mind, true happiness is found in contentment, and everybody was contented. But we had more than this—we had health and hope.

"Having put our cabins in order, the next thing to be looked after was food and raiment for the approaching winter. We had \$107.00 in cash with which to purchase food and clothing for twelve persons until we could raise something, which at best would be nine or ten months. A journey to St. Joseph, Mo., for supplies and a hunt for the winter's meat and the settlers are prepared for winter. It is now December, and all preparations for the winter are completed. There is no work on the farm to do, therefore, recreation was the order: hunting, trapping and visiting. Scarcely an evening passed without all three families visiting together.

"Up until the middle of January, 1861, the weather was all that the most ardent lover of sunshine and calm could desire. But on the 15th of January, commenced what ended in the heaviest snowstorm that we have had in this county. The storm lasted three days, and was followed by three weeks of severe cold weather.

"As spring approached, it was found that our stock of provisions was nearly exhausted. Seed grain there was none, nor vegetables, nor garden seed of any kind. There was just four dollars in the county, not a penny more, and the

fortunate owners of that were August Fenske, \$1.50, and the writer, \$2.50. There was, in reality, no sale for stock. The best offer I could get for a yoke of cattle that cost me \$80.00 the year before in Wisconsin, was \$20.00. It seems but fair for the writer to state this, to him, important fact and one that will be corroborated by every one who resided in the county that winter, that his inability to refuse to divide with others more needy than himself, was the only reason he came out short in the spring. Strange as it may seem to the reader of this day, even hunters from the eastern part of the state, from Missouri and Iowa, became subjects of charity, and the scanty provisions of the settlers had to be divided with them. There were two courses left to the settlers, viz: to leave the county, or seek a portion of the aid being contributed to those in need by the liberality of the people of the free states of the east. This aid was being contributed with a generosity never before surpassed, if ever equaled, in the history of the world, and it was free to all who needed it, so far as my knowledge extended.

"It is hardly worth while to dwell upon the hardships of the journey to Atchison where the aid was being distributed, the swimming of rivers, fording of creeks, tramping through mud with jaded and worn teams. Suffice it that it was done and the handful of settlers in the county were enabled, from the aid received, to remain on their claims, plow, sow and reap. This was our introduction to life on the border. In it I see no cause for complaint, have never heard any." Thus wrote James Manney Hagaman, Pioneer.

INDIAN INCIDENTS

There was constant danger from Indians. Some were friendly, some were warlike, treacherous, inhumanly cruel to their own as well as to the white settlers. The white man was slowly encroaching onto the land the Indians had considered their own for centuries. Politicians, backed by armies, made the treaties with the Indians. It is a little appreciated fact that Indians, for the most part, tried to keep the treaties. It was the avaricious white man who broke the treaties and appropriated the lush farmlands. The Indians fought back, and were a menacing danger to the first settlers in this land.

Janet Emery has written a vivid account of the abduction of two white girls from this area.

"The Great White Father has told us that the white man must stay on this side of Wolf Creek. If he goes on the other side he will be considered an invader, and we will kill him. You go tell others."

These words were spoken to Moses Heller one day in the fall of 1860. Moses was alone on Elk Creek (Clyde) when he found himself surrounded by Indians. Heller was a large imposing looking fellow—perhaps the Indians approached him with the warning thinking him a leader of the white man. He, along with August Fenske, J. M. Thorpe and James Hagaman were the first settlers in Cloud County, and although their homesteads were east of the line imposed by the Indians, it was clear that before long, someone would push a little farther west.

According to the Indians the United States had signed a treaty that the Indians could claim as perpetual hunting grounds all of the country in Kansas and Nebraska drained

by the Republican, the Solomon, Smoky Hill and Arkansas rivers. Indians could claim anything west of a line that came from the Arkansas, crossed the Solomon at the mouth of Pipe Creek (Minneapolis, Ks.), thence by way of Pipe Creek to the divide over to the head of Wolf Creek, thence on to the Republican River, and north to the Big Sandy in Nebraska.

There were white people killed by Indians in the decade before Concordia became a town, and almost without exception, they were west of the line described by the Indians in 1860.

In the spring of 1866 a party of six white men who had been hunting were surprised by Indians on Brown's Creek in Mitchell County. After a running fight of 20 miles, all of them were killed on the Little Cheyenne, a tributary of Buffalo Creek. Their names were Lewis Cassel, Walter Haynes, William and Henry Collens, — Roberts, and — Tallman.

But the most frightening and dramatic incident concerning the pioneers' conflict with the Indians occurred August 13, 1868, when Benjamin White was murdered and his daughter, Sarah, was kidnapped.

White settled on Granny Creek (now White Creek) in 1866. He built a cabin and homesteaded a farm. On a summer morning two years later, he and his sons prepared to spend the day making hay on the river bottom north of Buffalo Creek (now the Hatfield farm). Son Charlie started back home on an errand, leaving Mr. White with his two boys, Martin and John (the eldest, Louis, was in eastern Kansas visiting relatives.) Suddenly a group of Cheyenne Indians appeared on horseback. The boys jumped on one of their horses and made for the river. An Indian fired his revolver at their retreating figures, nicking Martin in the ear lobe and John in the neck. The boys reached the river and crossed it to safety.

Benjamin White was not willing for the Indians to steal his fine Apaloosa horses, and walked toward them to remonstrate. He must have experienced an impulse of caution for he turned around and started to walk away. An Indian shot him in the back and he fell mortally wounded.

Watching helplessly from the other side of the Republican river was another group of farmers who had been haying—N. H. Eaves, William English, Charles English, Robert Atterberry and Virgil Brown. None of the farmers in the vicinity had carried adequate weapons with which to defend themselves.

The Cheyenne thundered away. English, his group, and the White boys crossed the river as rapidly as they could. A number of settlers who had been haying in the area began to congregate, having been alerted by the sound of gun fire. They included John and Jake Hull, Peter Harrod Johnson, Dennis Taylor, John Harris, George Harris, Mr. Berry, Chester Dutton, Homer Adkins (whose own son would die the same kind of death the following year), Oscar Taggart and Milton Spencer. As they were viewing White's body someone saw figures in the distance. Dennis Taylor said, "I'm going to see what them objects are." The objects were Mrs. White and her small children. Frantically she unfolded the harrowing story that Indians had raided their home, ransacked it, and kidnapped her 17 year old daughter, Sarah. She then asked about the welfare of her husband and boys. After a painful silence one of the men confessed, "The boys, Mrs. White, are all right, but the old man is killed."

Mrs. White had hiked seven miles from her cabin to the

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MARTIN - LESAGE V F W POST No. 588 and CLUB

LADIES V F W AUXILIARY

haying camp, carrying the youngest child in her arms. She didn't encounter her son, Charlie, as he made his way back to the cabin on his errand. It can be imagined his consternation when he found it empty and ruined. Not only had the Indians broken up the furniture, but they had ripped open a goosefeather mattress and had spread barrels of butter and pickles over the wreckage. The family bulldog was dead of gunshot wounds.

Charlie returned to the hay camp, arriving there about the same time as Captain Basil Coleman Sanders who was urging the men to set out after the Indians immediately. Only a few weeks earlier the settlers had formed a military company, and Sanders had received his commission the day before. He decided to head for White Rock (located near Lovewell Lake) reasoning that if the Indians were Pawnee, certainly they could be found in the small Pawnee camp near there, and if they were Cheyenne or Arapaho, the White Rock settlers would need all the help they could get. Volunteers for the posse included John Neve, Joe Merica, Hull, Spencer, Taggart and Dutton.

After a four day search which unearthed only frightened White Rock Settlers, part of Sanders' group disbanded, making their way to Lake Sibley. Peter Johnson with later recruits, Henry Thorpe, Captain E. O. Brooks (who later married Sarah White) and his brothers were unwilling to give up the search as easily, staying out two days longer before returning.

Dennis Taylor gave widow Mary White and her children a vacant log house he owned between Clyde and Sibley, and gave up his cornfields for her cow. She did not return to her homestead until the following spring.

The day of White's death his son, Martin, was sent to Fort Riley to report the incident to military authorities. He rode all night without stopping and arrived before noon the next day. A few soldiers were ultimately sent to the Sibley area where they spent the winter presumably protecting the nervous pioneers.

The following October near the Solomon river in Ottawa County, Sioux Indians kidnapped a young wife, Mrs. James (Anna Belle) Morgan, leaving her husband for dead with an arrow in his hip. They later traded her to the Cheyenne.

These kidnappings were repeated often enough throughout the western part of the state to arouse the citizens into action. Governor S. J. Crawford organized the 19th Kansas Cavalry in October, 1868, and took command of it himself, giving up his governorship. On November 14 they left Kansas to march to Fort Supply—Indian Territory, which is now Oklahoma. They were then to attach themselves to the 7th U. S. Cavalry under the command of General Philip H. Sheridan and to be led by Major General George Armstrong Custer.

By arriving later than planned the Kansas boys missed the famous battle of Washita, but were able to accompany Custer when he returned in December. The assignment was to force the Kiowas, Arapahoe, and Cheyenne to go to reservations, and to try to rescue Sarah White and Anna Belle Morgan from the Cheyenne—if they were still alive.

Armed with eleven companies of the 7th U. S. Cavalry, ten companies of the 19th Kansas Volunteer Cavalry and a detachment of scouts from the 10th Cavalry, General Custer prepared to move deep into Indian territory and to winter at Fort Cobb.

The day prior to departure General Custer was approached by a young man who begged to be allowed to accompany them. He said he would work at any job whatsoever for no pay if only he could tag along. The young man proved to be Mrs. Morgan's brother, Daniel Arthur Brewster. Custer happily consented for the young

man to be with them, and assigned him a job as teamster—with pay. From Brewster, Custer learned that Anna Belle Morgan's husband was recovering from the seemingly fatal wounds inflicted on him earlier in the fall.

While in Fort Cobb Custer made some scouting expeditions trying to get wind of Cheyenne villages. On his missions he took Little Robe, a Cheyenne interpreter, and young Brewster. It was Brewster who, engaging in conversation with the Indian, first learned there was hope that Sarah White and Mrs. Morgan were alive. Little Robe had chatted about two white girls who were prisoners of the Cheyenne. But the scouting forays proved only that the Cheyenne were out of reach.

In March of 1869 the whole army set out, determined to find the Cheyenne and to force them to go to the reservation. This time they tracked down the Indian camp on the Sweetwater, a tributary of the Red River, located in northern Texas not far from the Oklahoma border.

With the savages within his grasp Custer had to use diplomacy instead of force. He knew the two young prisoners would be first to die if a single shot was fired from the American troops.

With infinite patience Custer's army approached the Cheyenne village. Custer sent an Indian girl (his concubine) to the camp to ascertain if Sarah and Anna Belle were there, and the maiden returned with the glad tidings that they were.

Using cunning Custer lured three Indian chiefs to his headquarters: Big Head, Dull Knife, and Fat Bear. He then held them as hostages declaring they would not be freed until the Cheyenne released the girls and returned to the reservation.

At first the Cheyenne refused to dicker and two uneasy days went by. Finally Custer gave them an ultimatum. Either Sarah White and Mrs. Morgan be returned before sundown or he would execute all three chiefs, and his army would destroy the village.

At four o'clock the afternoon of Friday, March 19, 1869, in the words of General Custer, "I saw the two figures descend from the pony and, leaving the rest of the group, advance toward us on foot. All this I reported to the anxious bystanders, who became now more than ever convinced that the two figures approaching must be the two girls. I began describing the appearance of the two as well as I could, with the aid of the glass: 'One seems to have a short heavy figure; the other is considerably taller and more slender.' Young Brewster, who stood at my side, immediately responded, 'The last one must be my sister; she is quite tall. Let me go and meet them, this anxiety is more than I can endure.' But this I declined, fearing that should one of the two now approaching us prove to be his sister, seeing her in the forlorn condition in which she must be might provoke young Brewster beyond control and induce him to attempt revenge. So I declined to admit him to advance. By this time the two figures had approached near enough for me to determine that they were of white complexion, and undoubtedly were the two girls whose release we were waiting for.

"I deemed it appropriate that the regiment of Kansas Volunteers be the first to welcome the released captives. As the three senior officers approached the girls, Brewster bounded away, dashed past the three officers, and clasped in his arms the taller of the two girls. This told us all we had hoped for. In a moment officers and men were struggling about them upon all sides, eager to take them by the hand and testify the great joy felt in their deliverance.

"The appearance of the two girls was sufficient to excite our deepest sympathy. Miss White, the younger of the two,

though not beautiful, possessed a most interesting face. Her companion would have been pronounced beautiful by the most critical judge, being of such a type as one might imagine Maud Muller to be.

"They were clothed in dresses made from flour sacks, the brand of the mills being plainly seen on each dress; showing that the Indians had obtained their provisions from the government at some agency. The entire dress of the two girls was as nearly like the Indian mode as possible; both wore leggings and moccasins; both wore their hair in two long braids, and as if to propitiate us, the Indians before releasing them had added to the wardrobe of the two girls various rude ornaments, such as are worn by squaws. About their wrists they wore coils of brass wire; on their fingers had been placed numerous rings, and about their necks strings of variously colored beads. Almost the first remark I heard young Brewster make after the arrival of the two girls was, 'Sister, do take those hateful things off.'"

Another account of the girls' rescue was reported by a private in the Kansas Volunteers. He wrote in his diary, "It surely was a pitiful sight to behold. The larger woman appeared to be 50 years old, although she was less than 25. She was stooped and pale and haggard, looking as if she had been compelled to do more than she was able. She was quite tall with light hair that was bleached on top until it was dirty brown from exposure. Her clothes were made of three or four kinds of material, pieces of tent and blankets all worn out and sewed together with strings.

"The other was much younger looking and did not show the hard usage. She also was pale and dressed pretty much the same. The Indians did not allow them a blanket to cover their ragged clothes. They did not even smile when they came in."

Later, the diarist, whose name was David L. Spotts, reported that when the girls were shown the three captured Indian chiefs, Anna Belle Morgan tried to grab a gun and shoot Chief Big Head, claiming he was the worst Indian in the whole tribe.

The army moved back to Camp Supply and the girls with the Kansas Volunteers returned to Kansas. General Custer kept the three Indian chiefs in custody until the Cheyenne moved to a reservation. It is of interest to note that while the Cheyenne eventually complied with the order, only one of the chiefs, Fat Bear, was returned to his people. Big Head and Dull Knife were murdered by their guards.

At Fort Hays, Kansas, Mrs. Morgan was reunited with her husband. She had thought him dead until her brother informed her otherwise after her release from captivity. It was reported that Anna Belle had not once smiled since her release.

Sarah White had assumed that her whole family was dead. Oddly enough, none of her rescuers could give her any news to the contrary. It wasn't until she returned to Kansas that she learned only one member of her family had died during the raid.

Sarah's spirits began picking up in camp. The diarist reported that she was much more cheerful and was looking forward to meeting friends and relatives.

Perhaps it was Sarah White's optimistic disposition which kept her alive and sane during the seven months she was held captive; it seems surprising that she was in as good health as she was when she was rescued. Her ordeal of starvation, rape, beatings and exposure began that August morning of the previous summer.

She was at home with her mother, her youngest brother, Elmer, and her younger sister, Jane, when a group of a half dozen Indians approached the cabin. The White women thought they were friendly Indians. It was not unusual for a red man to ask for food from a settler, and that is what these Indians seemed to want. The men entered the cabin, and while Mrs. White prepared to serve them, they suddenly turned savage, breaking the furniture and utensils, grabbing the baby, Jane, only to hurl her down again, and finally forcing Sarah onto a horse, tying her to the Indian riding in front of her.

No one knows where they took Sarah that first day. General Custer theorized that they probably traveled 200 miles without stopping, as raiding Indians usually tried to get as far away from their crime as possible. Sarah White could only recall that they traveled west.

During her captivity Sarah was traded from camp to camp and eventually she and Anna Belle Morgan met in one of them. Anna Belle's first question to Sarah was what day and what month it was—but Sarah had no idea. They had both lost all sense of time and distance. It was difficult for the girls to decide who were the crueler, the Indian braves or the Indian squaws. The men repeatedly raped and beat them, and the squaws often tied them to trees and beat them with rawhide whips (years later Sarah White showed her son, Walter Brooks, the scars on her back. He said there wasn't a spot where he could place a finger that wasn't scarred). The girls were fed very little, yet were forced to carry burdens too heavy for a strong man. Sarah once told her five daughters, as they were experimenting with recipes, "Girls, it depends on how hungry you are how good it is. The best food I ever tasted in my life was plain old field corn boiled with water out of a creek and put on a piece of bark from a log and shoved under the flap of my wigwam. No salt, no pepper, no butter, no nothin.'"

Once the two girls tried to escape, but they were caught and punished severely.

According to diarist Spotts, the Indians who held the girls captive were "dog soldiers," outcasts of their own tribe, who would just as happily rob and pillage Indians as they would white people.

When Sarah met Mrs. Morgan for the first time, she thought Anna Belle was a beautiful girl. General Custer had commented on her beauty, also, but Spotts had really captured the broken spirit of Anna Belle Morgan. When rescued she was pregnant, unresponsive, and sullen. The horror of her life of captivity never left her. The half-breed baby, a boy, was born eight and one-half months later (Nov. 29 or 30, 1869) but died a year and five months later. Mrs. Morgan eventually lost her mind and died in the Insane Asylum in 1902 at the age of 57.

Sarah White was of a more stoical disposition. She put the matter out of her mind, refusing to discuss it with anyone for about 70 years. Indeed, her own daughter only learned of her mother's ordeal when she was five years old—and then heard it from playmates. Only once did Sarah reflect her fear of Indians. It was years later, after she had married E. O. Brooks, and had children. Her daughter, Jessie Medcalf, told the story: "The family was coming to Concordia to shop and mother had put blankets on the floor of the wagon for us three children to ride on. She and Papa were riding on the seat up front. A horseman came by as we rode along and said that U. S. soldiers had rounded

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DAVIES - CROOK AMERICAN LEGION POST No. 76 CLUB and AUXILIARY

up every Cheyenne Indian in the country and were moving them to a reservation. My mother turned pale as she whirled around on the wagon seat and ordered us to sit close to the back of the seat with our hands in our laps. We were not to look up nor make a sound. Mother pulled her bonnet down low over her face and I was never so frightened in my life! The Indians were so numerous as they passed by, they pushed against the wagon."

After Sarah White was reunited with her family, she began teaching at the Wilcox school, and after her marriage to Brooks, she settled down to the routine of any pioneer housewife. Her life was long and happy. She died May 12, 1939, and is buried at Fairview Cemetery near Jamestown.

Her father, Benjamin, was originally buried near a creek north of town (where Ezra Adkins' grave still stands in the pasture of the Ernest Miller farm). As soon as Concordia was incorporated, his body was removed to Pleasant Hill Cemetery. After resting there for a few years, his remains were moved again to Fairview Cemetery.

The last death caused by the Indians in Cloud County was young Ezra Adkins. He was only eleven years old when he crossed the Republican river where it ran north and south a few miles west of Concordia. He was looking for strayed cattle. His death is poignantly described by his mother in a letter to her daughter.

June 13, 1869

Lake Sibley
Cloud County, Kansas

My dear Daughter,

You must be very anxious to hear the particulars of our Ezra's death and I will again try to give it in writing. I wrote about it to father Adkins' folks last week, but it is a painful recital. But his release was so sudden from this world, I think his suffering was short.

Jasper got a horse from Mr. Himes the second day of June, and came to see how we were getting along. About half past four he said he guessed he'd start home. I was then making up the last of the flour so I proposed to Jasper to let Ezra take his horse and go to Mr. Nelson's and borrow some flour. He spoke of taking a spur, but Jasper said that he did not need any as he was going on a strange horse.

Aschel, Paul and I went to see him cross the river. Before he crossed the river I saw four objects north-west of Mr. Nelson's. I told him I thought it was the cows. I told him to leave the sacks at Mr. Nelson's for them to fill while he went and started up the cows, and when he got them to get the flour and drive the cows home.

He went to Mr. Nelson's as directed, and then out after the cows. I suppose he was not aware of any danger until he was surrounded by some forty or sixty Indians—mostly on horseback.

Mr. Nelson could see him from his house about a quarter of a mile off. The Indians chased him a half mile on horseback. Then Ezra jumped from his horse and ran a quarter of a mile (Oh, Jane it does seem as though I could not write).

Two Indians on foot ran after him and caught him. An Indian tried to pull him along. Ezra held back. Then an Indian rode up on horseback within two yards of Ezra's face and shot him in the face with a revolver. One shot followed the other as quick as possible. Mr. Nelson said he dropped backwards, dead at the first shot. One shot pierced his left eye and came out the back of his head. The other bullet passed in two inches and a half above that, tearing open the skull so that there was room enough to lay in a man's thumb.

Oh, it was a fearful looking wound. His left wrist was black and blue where the Indians held him and shot him.

The Indians robbed him of his little black coat and cap that you made for him. His shirt and pants were ragged—I suppose the reason why he was not entirely stripped, and he was barefooted.

While the Indians' attention was taken with killing Ezra, and capturing his horse and Mr. Nelson's team, Mr. Nelson's family were making good their escape, keeping the sand hills between themselves and the Indians till they came to the woods. They then came under cover of the woods until they got opposite our house then waded across.

Then from our house they could watch the Indians rob them of all their worldly goods (Oh, I had so much rather that they had taken our all in this world than the life of our faithful boy. He died in the faithful discharge of his duties).

The Indians stayed at their house for an hour and a half, then went off at their leisure with none to molest or make them afraid.

Homer was sick in bed all that day and the night before. Jasper and Mr. Nelson went over after dark that night (we made a fire on the house to show them the way home) to bring our dear boy. I was in hopes Mr. Nelson was mistaken about his being killed, but alas, it was too true. He was brought home a mangled corpse, bespattered with blood and brains. Mr. Dutton says that he thinks from what he saw that the Indians shot at Ezra four times before he jumped from the horse. Mr. Dutton's family fled the settlement that night. Mr. Nelson went the next day.

Men came from the settlement the next day with horses and wagons, and armed men on horseback to take us below, or help us what they could. Homer and Jasper were making the coffin, Annie was sick in bed, so we thought we had better stay here.

They wanted to know where to dig the grave. They thought that the funeral should be at three o'clock as the weather was so warm. Some of them went back to dig the grave down on Mr. Taylor's place six miles off. They said they would come back at three o'clock, but they said they did not consider it safe to bring any of their women folk on account of the Indians.

At three o'clock they returned with the two wagons and an armed escort of men on horseback to pay their tribute to the dead. Homer, Lucy, Aschel and myself were all of our family who could follow his remains to the last resting place. Homer was hardly able to go. Jasper stayed with Ann

and Paul. Paul was asleep when we started away. There were two other men who stayed with them.

There were twenty-four at the grave in all—two women, Mrs. Lois and Mrs. Hull. When the grave was almost filled, I asked Mr. Berry if there could be a prayer made. He said there should be, but he looked over the crowd and said to me, "There is no one here who makes any profession of religion but yourself." And I said, "We have lost so much confidence and others have too, that it will be useless to try." I then asked if we might have a hymn. He thought that would not be any more possible than the prayer. Poor man, he felt as badly as myself. I asked then, if he could please return our thanks to their friends for their kindness and assistance in burying our Ezra, which he did. Then we had to turn again to our sorrowful home.

But, oh, Jane, I do believe that he is with our saviour, and all the redeemed of the Lord, praising and glorifying him, that takes away the sting, and makes it easier to bear. We shall soon go to him. The time will soon roll around, and he has got through a little sooner than the rest of us. I feel now that I have two children in heaven, happy feeling. But, oh, it is so hard to part with them. We miss him at every turn. Oh, I pity your father. He misses him so much. I can't see God's providence in it yet, but the Lord knows

what is best. Let us pray, dear Jane, that we may conform to His holy will.

I suppose our dear lamented president's mother had no better burial than Ezra did. There were four graves there besides ours. Mr. White's, Miss Platt's, Miss Taylor's, and Mrs. Sanders' little boy that was drowned and was buried the day before Ezra was.

Aschel refused food for several meals after Ezra was killed. I had to compel him to eat before he would taste a bite.

There were at our house some thirty or forty military men the Friday and Saturday after, and they were called out in such a hurry that they came unprepared for a revolt, so they made our house their headquarters while they were enlisting men and roasting their coffee. And Lucy and I had to cook for them.

The Adjutant General and Captain Wenzel have been here today and they advised us to stay here. They said that we shall be protected from the Indians. Your father has gone out with them this afternoon to look about and find the best place to station the military men. They talked of placing them a mile west of us. Ezra was killed about a mile west of here.

I have just seated myself to finish this letter. I am sitting up with Lucy giving her an emetic. She has an attack of the typhoid fever. All of the rest are in bed, although it has been only a half an hour since the three officers left here. General Graham, one lieutenant, one sergeant, adjutant general Morehouse and two captains took tea with us tonight.

From your affectionate mother, H. R. Adkins, to my dear Jane.

The information culled for this account can be found in the Kansas City Star, 1934 and 1939; a tape recording by Steve White (son of Martin White) of Walter Brooks; "My Life On The Plains" by Gen. George Custer; "Campaigning with Custer," by Spotts; J. M. Hagaman's journal; the Concordia Empire, 1898; and the Adkins' letter from the Cloud County Historical Society.



BOSTON CORBETT
member of squad who pursued
the murderer. He shot Booth
by the light of a burning barn.
(© Keystone View Co.)

BOSTON CORBETT

Boston Corbett, the soldier who shot and killed John Wilkes Booth in a Virginia barn, homesteaded in Cloud County during the years 1878-1885. He was a religious eccentric who trusted no one. Seldom did he come into Concordia, and when he did come, he conducted his business as quickly as possible. Boston Corbett troubled no one except once when he shot a bullet over the heads of some boys who had been playing ball on the Lord's day. He was brought to court for his action, but Corbett pulled out his guns during the proceedings and said he was leaving. No one attempted to stop him, and no one gave further trouble to Boston.

He went as a page to the State Legislature, but again pulled his pistols on some people in the statehouse. This time he was not allowed to walk out on the consequences; he was committed to the state hospital. Corbett was at the hospital for about a year, then one day he stole a pony and rode away.

That was the last anyone ever saw Boston Corbett.

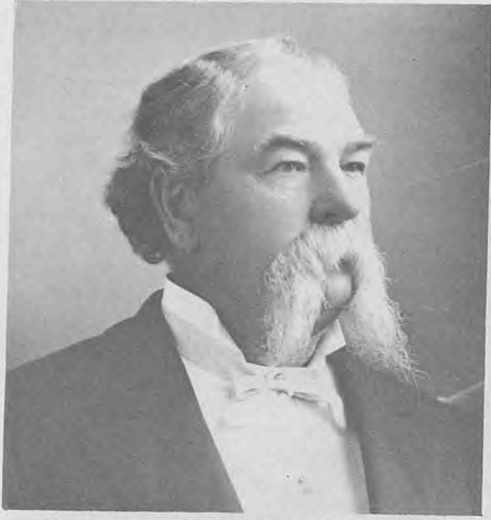


Boston Corbett's dugout cabin as drawn from memory by Ralph W. Harrington.

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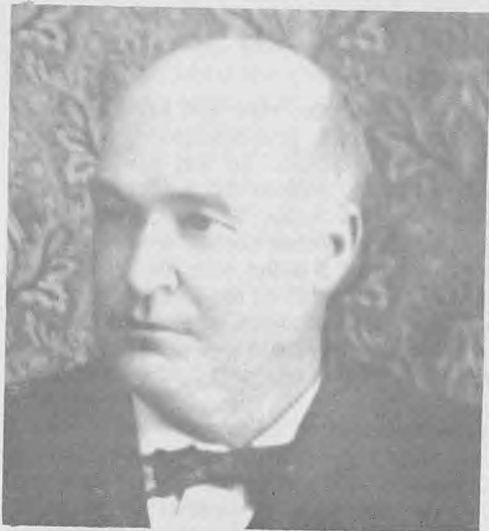
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THE FOUNDING OF CONCORDIA

(Most of this material was taken from an account written by W. E. Reid for the Atlas of Cloud County published in 1885, when Concordia was 14 years old.)

In the decade between 1860 and 1870 settlers moved into the area in ever greater numbers. Gradually the danger from Indians was ended and problems of government and the founding of towns became the greatest concern of the pioneers.

In the state legislature of 1859, the limits of Shirley County had been defined. Shirley was then a part of Washington County with the right to petition to become a separate county when sufficient number of people settled there. In 1866 a census was taken and it was claimed that there were the necessary number of voters residing in the county. Governor Crawford of Kansas granted the petition and made Shirley County a separate county, with Clyde as the temporary County Seat, and Moses Heller, G. W. Wilcox and Dr. Lear as the first temporary County Commissioners, with J. M. Hagaman as County Clerk.

The location of the County Seat was a never failing source of argument and discussion. When the question came up for final decision, three places laid claim to the honor of being so named; Clyde and Sibley, both thriving communities on the north side of the Republican River. On the south side of the river were two communities which wanted the honor. They joined forces and entered the contest with the name Concordia. In the election of 1869 Concordia and Sibley had the most votes, so a run-off election was held and Concordia won. The victory presented the anomaly of a County Seat without a single habitation . . . a town consisting of only a name and a plat on a piece of paper.

During 1870 the County Commissioners refused to meet in the one building which had been put up in Concordia to be used as a court house. They adjourned to Clyde, and there were several angry meetings held in Clyde, until on July 4th, 1870, the commissioners voted an order that the question of erecting county buildings be submitted at the fall election, and that all county officers move their offices to the County Seat by July 19th to which place the board adjourned to meet again Sept. 1st. Thus ended the controversy about the location of the County Seat. There seems always to have been an idea that the County Seat should be located near the center of the County, and this may have been one reason a town which was only a name could be so designated instead of an established town like Clyde, which was near the edge of the County line.

It was the establishment of the Land Office, however, in Concordia, which assured that there would be a town. J. M. Hagaman had master-minded the maneuvers which made his "town" the County Seat. He knew he had to do more to assure keeping the County Seat in his "town that was to be." At his own expense he built a road from Junction City to Concordia, and he used his acquaintance with men in government in Topeka and in the federal government to get the Land Office. In July, 1870, Concordia was named the location of the Land Office, and in January, 1871, the office actually opened with E. J. Jenkins as receiver.

Two town companies laid out Concordia, and the plat of the townsite of Concordia was filed in the office of the Cloud County Register of Deeds on March 3, 1871. Concordia held a city election in 1871 and the first office

holders were R. E. Allen, Mayor; C. W. McDonald, Police Judge; Malcom McKinnon, R. Heber Sturges, J. Sipe, Fred LaRocque and S. W. Williams, Councilmen; James Woodward, City Clerk; Edward Linney, Treasurer; George Andrews, Marshal.

In the fall of 1871 Hilaire Lanoue, who owned the first sawmill, began construction of a gristmill, which produced the first flour made in the vicinity. Edward Linney opened a general store and post office; Malcom McKinnon and C. Guilbert established a hardware and lumber business.

By 1872 when Concordia was registered as a city of the third class there was an amazing diversity of businesses established in Concordia. A directory of businesses published in 1872 lists the following:

General merchants: R. E. Allen, S. Case, Wm. Conner, M. McKinnon, W. M. Donaldson, Edward Linney.

Grocers: M. B. Marshall, Lockwood and Winne.

Druggists: Snowden and Gibbs, S. S. Burns, W. M. Donaldson.

Lawyers and Land Agents: A. A. Carnahan, J. M. Hagaman, L. J. Crans, J. W. Shrader, E. J. Jenkins, May & Hunter, C. W. McDonald, J. W. Martindale, Strain & Wells, J. W. Williams, Sturges & Co., Glidden & Bro., B. E. Sheffield.

Physicians: W. J. Lodge, W. H. McDonald.

Hardware and Stoves: McKinnon, Patrick.

Harness Makers: O. Lamay.

Clothing Stores: F. W. Neitzel.

Hotels: Truesdell House, Empire House, The Planters, Pioneer Hotel, Farmers Home, City Hotel.

Blacksmiths: Wm. English, W. D. Sullivan, M. Wagner.

Gunsmith: A. Parker.

Livery Stables: Andrews and Wilcox, Pratt & Webster.

Photographers: E. Fox, A. Simpson.

Lumber Dealers: J. M. Hagaman, Hilaire Lanoue, Lockwood and Winne.

Restaurant: Wm. French.

Wheelwrights: L. D. Sullivan, Wm. English.

Newspapers: Republican Valley Empire, Settlers Advisor.

Saloons: The Senate, The Shades, Billiard Hall, Lanoue and Williams.

Boot and Shoe Shops: W. Weatherbilt, Heshner and More.

Millinery: Mrs. J. C. Guffin.

Masons: Maloney & Wright, S. S. Craven.

Carpenters and Builders: J. M. Hagaman, W. H. Dennis, J. F. Row, J. C. Guffin, Jarvis, George Wright, J. Short.

Painters: M. O. Pierce, J. B. Wilson.

Plasterer: D. Votaw.

Butcher: Bean & King.

Bakery: N. B. Marshall.

Tailor: A. Richer.

Saw and gristmill: Hilaire Lanoue.

Architects: J. Woodward, Frank Smith.

Insurance: Reid and Bowen.

Ice: R. H. Sturges, Bean & King.

Express and Stage Line agent: Wm. E. Goddard.

Men on the frontier worked at many types of business.

In 1873 when the townsite appeal was made there were 69 families residing in Concordia. These were the artists who painted the first brush strokes on the portrait which is Concordia.

The Preacher Gets a Dunking

This reminiscence was the result of a conversation between Gomer Davies and W. T. Short, builder. Mr. Short

Hilaire Lanoue and His Ferry Boat

was one of the first settlers in Concordia, and he was reminded one day of the first Presbyterian minister of Concordia, Rev. R. P. Jones. Rev. Jones had come to Concordia in 1871, the same year Mr. Short came. Rev. Jones homesteaded south of town, and Mr. Short had built his home for him on his claim. Mr. Short told this story, and Gomer Davies recorded it:

"The mode of travel for Rev. Jones between his claim and his charge was on the hurricane deck of a small pony which he called 'Tommy Dodd.' Tommy was small even for his breed and the preacher measured 6'4" in his stocking feet and weighed only 135 lbs. It was a combination that was laughable to look upon, and of such a character as to bring woe to the preacher. Astride the pony, the preacher's feet nearly dragged on the ground. Sunday mornings, the preacher would climb Tommy's frame and head in toward Concordia that he might minister the bread of life to an expectant and waiting congregation. The Buffalo trail had been used many, many years. It was rarely more than 18" wide and cut deep into the sod by the trampling of the generations of buffalo. Tommy Dodd would travel no other place but in that rut, and in the rut the dominie Jones could not keep his feet from dragging. The pastor would release the pony by straightening his own legs and letting the pony walk out from under him, then lead him away from the trail and remount. But Tommy Dodd would take his head and straightway land back in the rut and return to his task of dragging his clerical homesteader to his congregation. One Sunday, Rev. Jones had an appointment to preach at the newly built schoolhouse near the Campbell claim in Lawrence township. Mr. Short was helping his brother build a shack near the place and was at the services to see Rev. Jones arrive.

"Jones and Tommy Dodd had started in good time. It had rained frightful the night before and the streams were bankfull. Jones had to cross a stream not far from his destination. Tommy Dodd was reluctant to enter the water but was finally coaxed and urged to do so. The parson drew his long legs together and wrapped them round the pommel of the saddle, sitting tailor-wise, slightly above the water.

"Reaching the middle of the stream, Tommy Dodd deliberately lay down as if to rest and the parson was treated to a complete immersion. He finally pulled himself and the pony out of the creek and reached the cabin at the Campbell place, a sorry looking pair. Mrs. Campbell, mother of Mrs. W. F. Sawhill and Mrs. W. C. Bramwell of Concordia, offered to lend the preacher a suit of her husband's clothes. Mr. Campbell was of a different style of anatomical architecture to that of Rev. Jones. He was a foot shorter and weighed a hundred pounds more. But the change was made and the preacher was a sight to behold. The parson's arms were quite bare up to his elbows and his legs likewise up to his knees. The tails of his coat didn't reach his waistline, and there was room enough in the midriff of his trousers to have stowed a bale of hay.

"The mishap had made him a trifle late in getting to the schoolhouse and the place was filled with an expectant congregation when he arrived. The laughter that filled the room was infectious. Very little explanation was required for the settlers to understand, nor was it so unusual as to disconcert the equanimity of the preacher. Mr. Short says he preached a fine sermon, and he insists that the preacher never lost his temper even when wallowing in a swollen stream, or riding Tommy Dodd in a buffalo trail."

Hilaire Lanoue was spoken of as one of the most enterprising men in the Republican Valley. He operated a saw-mill, a grist-mill, and a partnership in a brewery with a Mr. Geis of Concordia. By 1872, he was making preparations to manufacture brick and had contracted to erect a fine brick building on the main street for the LaRocque Bro's. He had a blacksmith shop near his mill, and he had a ferry to cross the Republican River, for there were no bridges.

In the "Empire" of March 11, 1871, was this story:

"The new ferryboat was launched last Saturday, March 4, and is now in good running condition. Mr. Lanoue is fixing up the landing and when completed it will be all the traveling public could wish."

When the ferry was ready for use, Mr. Lanoue advertised that parties who lived on the north side of the river who needed blacksmithing and had their work done by him, would be ferried free. He also carried all county officers free when traveling on county business.

Lanoue's petition for a license for his ferry was first granted by the County Board in 1872. The license fee was \$25.00, and the ferry rates were: Team and wagon, 25c; single animal and wagon, 15c; horse and rider, 10c; foot passenger, 5c.

In mid-summer of 1871, a Mr. Bogue and his family, who lived on the north side of the river, drove onto the ferry to cross. The ferry boat was not properly anchored and when the fore-wheels of the wagon struck the ferry, it was pushed into the deep stream and the wagon, team, women and all were thrown into the water. Mr. Henry Newman and James Hall plunged into the stream and rescued the women who were frightened, very wet, and narrowly escaped drowning.

By September of 1871, the river had reached such a low stage, that it was no trouble to ford it. Rains came, making ferrying necessary again and Mr. Lanoue allowed teams loaded with coal from Minersville to cross for half the regular rate. By November, teams were crossing on the ice and zero weather ended the ferrying season. However, Mr. Lanoue kept advertising his ferry boat in the "Empire."

"December, 1871. Ferry boat at Concordia. A new ferry boat at Concordia has just been completed by the undersigned and is in splendid running order. A substantial wire rope is used. The traveling public may rest assured that they will be properly attended to. We can ferry loads of any size. H. Lanoue."

The winter of 1871-72 was a cold one, and in January, 1872, men were putting up river ice 22 inches thick and clear. Late in February, this ice broke and went out. Four hours after it had broken, the river rose seven feet. For several days, the river was impassible. The Central Branch Railway in 1872 ended at Waterville, and the mail was carried by stage. When the ice went out, the stages were held up at Concordia. Within four days after the river opened, Mr. Lanoue had his ferry operating, and was crossing teams and passengers safely.

In November, 1872, an unfortunate accident occurred at the ferry when the ferryman, a familiar figure known as Capt. Hohlenberg, was drowned. Apparently, late at night, intoxicated, he fell off the ferry and froze to death in the

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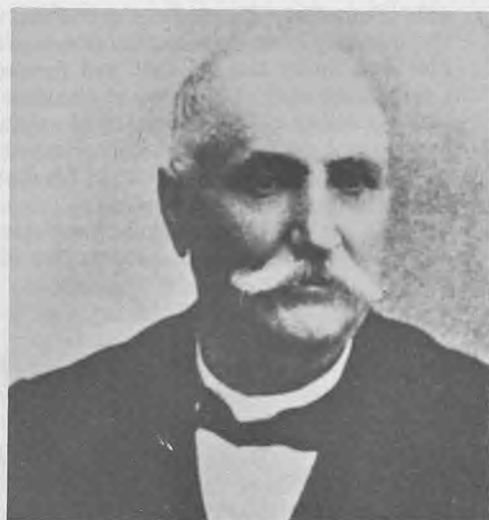
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Frank Groesbeck, Mayor



Hilaire Lanoue, Miller



Mrs. N. B. Brown, Grande Dame



The Rev. R. P. West,
Methodist Minister

cold river. The "Empire" recorded that "He was found in the morning lying close to the boat, his feet touching it and his head under the ice that had formed about him. The Captain, we understand, was at one time a Swedish soldier and a member of the bodyguard of a Swedish king, and had seen a great deal of active service. He had four children now in Sweden, to whom the news of his death in the far-away land, will be a sad message."

(This material was researched and supplied by Mrs. Eva Barricklow of Courtland, Kansas, granddaughter of Hilaire Lanoue.)

THE SNAKE STORY

Snakes Till You Can't Rest

A Den of Them 8 Miles from Concordia

As Many As Three Thousand Killed And Thousands Left

From "The Expositor," J. S. Paradis, editor.

October 20, 1876

On Saturday last we were asked by Mr. Jonathan Fulford if we had heard about the snakes. We hadn't, so he proceeded to tell us the story that we had thought incredible but which we were at last fain to believe and which we now know to be true having seen the horrid sight.

On the 2nd toward evening a young son of a Mr. A. Thompson, who lives about 8½ miles south of town was passing over a hill on the farm of Mr. Gibbs Myers, a neighbor, in quest of his father's cattle, when he accidentally stepped into a small hole, and drawing his leg out quickly, drew with it several serpents. The sight frightened the lad and he ran home with all speed and reported his experience. He soon returned, however, with another lad and found the hilltop was the home of a community of crawling reptiles, and before they left the spot, they had dispatched 46.

The matter was then reported among the neighbors, and on the following day, Messieurs J. Fulford (excuse me, monsieurs), T. R. Graves, and B. Bessee went to the place indicated and began a war upon the serpents, finding the hole into which the boy had stepped was the resort of hundreds of the snakes and that the hilltop was literally alive with them.

They dug down to a crevice which was between two large stones and then fought for hours, killing hundreds of them and not coming near the end at all. Day after day this work went on until last Sunday the dead snakes were picked up and counted and placed on a pile near the mouth of the den. The number, 1,776 was counted, but still the work of killing goes on from day to day.

We went to the place on Monday, accompanied by L. H. Smythe, and the astounding sight of near two thousand snakes in one pile met our gaze with live ones of apparently undiminished numbers upon the hill. We killed fifteen in as many minutes and had enough, while two little lads were hard at work, and the work of killing has been going on until now we hear that about three thousand have been dispatched, and there are hundreds, perhaps thousands left.

The snakes are of the species called the blue racers with a sprinkling of adders and vary in size from the thickness of a man's finger to that of his wrist, and in length from a foot to five feet. They run with remarkable speed and at first were cowardly, endeavoring to escape. They are now becoming vicious and at times get startlingly aggressive.

A reasonable theory is that the hole leads to a cavern somewhere in the depths of the hill.

The sight is worth a pilgrimage to see. A work of

extermination should be begun and worked at till completion. A blast has been suggested. We should have, perhaps a snake killing bee.

THE LIBRARY

Not until 1892 did Concordia have a lending library of any permanence. Ed Linney, Concordia's first postmaster and grocer, had attempted to start one back in 1873, but evidently the founding fathers were too busy building their town to lend enough support to his venture. It took a few more years of growth before the city had the leisure to become interested in cultural life. It also took the women. The Ladies' Library Association was formed by Mrs. Caroline Dudley, Mrs. J. E. Wilfong, Mrs. F. E. Cobb, Mrs. Homer Kennett, Mrs. Ruth Pulsifer, and Mrs. G. W. Marshall.

To acquire the money needed to furnish a room donated by the YMCA which was located on the southeast corner of 7th and Washington, Mesdames Wilfong and Dudley went from door to door grinding scissors. With the money earned, they bought a padlock for the door. Carpeting, furniture, and books were donated by interested Concordians. Only dues-paying members were allowed to check out books. The women did all of the housekeeping chores for their first library.

In 1894 better rooms were donated in the building now housing Caldwell's Shoe Store, but more money was needed to pay for shelving, a stove, and other necessities, so the intrepid housewives gave oyster suppers, minstrel shows, and costume parties to pay for the expenses.

The enthusiasm and versatility of the Ladies' Library Association were best displayed in 1905 when they gave an "Around the World Tour" party. The money earned was used to finance their third move which was to a dwelling on the north side of 7th, between Washington and Broadway. The "Journey" was recorded by Gomer Davies, editor and publisher of the Kansan:

"If anyone started out on the Trip Around the World last night under the impression that they were sacrificing their time in the performance of a painful social duty, they hadn't got far on the globe-trotting expedition until a different notion got into their heads; and when they had finally reached America, there was not a shadow of doubt in their minds about it—they had enjoyed one of the most extraordinary public entertainments ever given on the town site.

"The Kansan man took it all in—from the initial point at the Library room to the last appeal for the Rights of Woman Suffrage in America. We wouldn't have missed it for a horse. The first station on the trip was at the handsome residence of Mr. W. W. Caldwell and it was to represent Japan. We got off at the train all right enough, but we could not get into the station until we had our tickets punched by Mrs. Coffey, thereafter things seemed to brighten up considerable and the exceedingly glad hand was extended by Mrs. McCue and Miss Edith Caldwell, and tourists were by them graciously introduced to his royal nibs, the Mikado, represented by our goodlooking friend, Wasmer, seated on a great throne before which his handsome subjects did much kowtowing—dad burned if we know if that is the word or not, but it goes this time. The tourists were ushered into the dining room where tabourettes were scattered about the place and seated on the floor around them were the guests, drinking the finest kind of tea and eating the sweetest sort of confections. The tables were served by Mesdames Shaw, Reid, Scott, Bloom

and Barrett. Seated at the table were Misses Helen Davis and Mrs. A. Foote. In the east parlor a Jap theatre was rigged up with all the trappings of a small Jap theatre, which seemed to us to be under the direction of George Layton, who was togged out very much to represent a Jap nobleman of the first rank. Fact is, George makes a pretty rank oriental, anyway. The actors in this section were Miss Josephine Wrong, who did a stunt as a flute soloist; Ralph Hill and Miles Scott did an act representing the shooting of a bear—The Russian bear and the Jap soldier chasing him off the earth. There was a fine representation of the Geisha Girls, as shown at the World's Fair by Misses Green, Helen Davis, Josephine Wrong and Mrs. Shaw; Mrs. Foote played the piano. It was out of sight. Miles and Freda Scott were attendants, and Miss Louise Coffey was doorkeeper at the exit. Japan was all right.

"The run from Japan to Germany, Mr. Sohlinger's fine home on 7th Street, was made in short order and from the drinkers of tea were quickly transported to the drinkers of lager—but there was none on tap. They did serve coffee in steins, just to go through the short arm motions. One will see a plenty in a German garden, but they couldn't fool us. We knew right away that it wasn't beer. There was a fine German Band playing on the porch, and they played Dutch pieces altogether. Adlore Marcotte was the organizer and leader, ably assisted by Fred Bowman. At the door Dr. Skinner was stationed as ticket taker, and no one passed until their dues were paid.

"The guests were received in the hall by Misses Sohlinger, Margaret Peck and Mrs. E. V. D. Brown, and were ushered directly into the presence of His Royal Highness, the Kaiser, impersonated very cleverly by that man Maute, 'the shoe man.' He was rigged up in the most stunning manner imaginable—in fact he wore better clothes than we believe he can afford himself and we half suspicion he borrowed 'em. Then, too, his manly bosom was covered over with medals, which might denote valiant service in bloody battles—but we believe that was all a bluff. In the back parlor there was a stage and there Theo. Harker and Oscar Seyster did a short Dutch sketch. Refreshments were served in the dining room and the tourists were served by Mrs. Sohlinger, Mrs. Wilfong and Auntie Miller. Earl Brown was a busy man in Germany. We think he was a sort of Drum Major for the Dutch Band, and the make-up he wore would fit any case, from a Drum Major to a Bulgarian Bandit. The decorations of the house were all mighty catchy and exceedingly Dutchy.

"The next stop was at Persia, D. T. Dunning's. The presiding genius of the country was Mrs. Ellsworth Dunning. Had we not seen the representation of Persia at this handsome home last night, no sort of argument would make us believe there was half so much oriental bric-a-brac, rich hangings, and costly rugs in the whole county as was used in fitting up this mock palace of the Shah. Professor Carney was the howling, whirling dervish. Just what each lady of this section of the world was to impersonate we cannot tell, but one thing is sure, they looked more like Persians last night than the leading society women of Concordia. They were Mesdames Ellsworth Dunning, Neilson, C. B. Davies, Steward, Will Neitzel, Misses Ada Marshall, May Harker, and Gwen Davis. They had a Persian band at this station that was a fright. The band was composed of Carney, Carnahan, Alex McEckron, and C. B. Davies. The distinguishing feature of Persia was the costly

trappings and fine costumes worn by the ladies. All who visited Persia got the worth of their fare for the whole Trip Around the World.

"From Persia to Italy was quite a trip and it took McConaughy's wagonette to carry us there, and he landed us at Darlington's. The porch was gleaming with a powerful light, and good cheer was handed out in bunches. Mrs. Darlington as ticket taker and no one was permitted to slip under the edge of the tent. Walter Darlington turned a hand organ, and a little one, Madeline Jetmore, did a stunt representing the monkey. One thing we will concede at the start—Walter is a model Dago organ grinder. The crack novel feature of Italy, if not of the whole trip, was the stunt done by Frank Geiger, with Linn St. Clair acting the part of the bear. Refreshments of sardines, sandwiches, and excellent lemonade. In the parlor Mrs. Bowman presided at the piano, and Mrs. Pulsifer sang—now you know we heard some good music. Misses Della Colson and Margie Darlington did a fancy flower dance. Mrs. Misell played for them. Della Colson sold real violets, fragrant and lovely. Mrs. McCarty and Miss Lucille Bradford served refreshments. There was much plaster of paris statuary about to represent the wares for which Italy is so well noted. Clare Bolinger and Mary Darlington were the strolling street violinists. Italy was quite well up to the standard of excellence of the countries one visited in the Trip Around the World.

"The next stop was at America, the Sutherland's. There was more formality about entering this port than any other. We had to pass a cordon of U. S. Soldiers, at present arms, and also we were subjected to Custom House inspection, the officers being Dr. Pigman and Mrs. Cline. The ticket takers were Mrs. A. B. Miller and Mrs. Bradford. Gen. Blackmoor stood guard at the door in the person of Mayor Wheeler—and a right imposing figure he made in the uniform of an army officer.

"In the hall was a band of Indians: W. C. Whipp, Mrs. D. T. Dunning and Mrs. George Hill. This trio did a war dance that was simply immense and their costumes were perfect. George Rigby figured as Uncle Sam. Miss Pansy Davies filled to perfection the part of Columbia and Misses Morfydd Davies and Florence Williams were representative Puritan maidens. Herbert West was togged up as a large eagle. In the south parlor stood Prof. Ward representing George Washington; Mrs. Burroughs as Martha Washington; J. F. St. Clair as Adams; and Mrs. Thatcher as Mrs. Adams.

"In the north parlor stood in receiving line President Roosevelt, represented by H.A. Jetmore and Mrs. Roosevelt by Mrs. St. Clair; Vice-President Fairbanks, impersonated by George Marshall, and Mrs. Fairbanks by Mrs. E. S. Hill. Tom Kennett represented the Filipino and Mrs. Jeannette Martin was the representative of Cuba. It is hard to conceive how this bunch could be improved on. Miss Durham presided at the piano, Will Peck played the cornet and Harry Sutherland superintended the big phonograph. Ice cream and cake were served in the dining room by Misses Maude Pinney, Opal Birch, Celia Stetson, Margaret St. Clair and Griswold. When the tourists had been regaled with refreshments, they were directed from the dining room to the hall, and from the first landing of the staircase Mrs. Kamp of Belleville, as Susan B. Malaprop, amused the tourists very much by delivering a lecture on women's suffrage, and then the trip was over. The Sutherland's was a dream of loveliness and elegance and the arrangements for

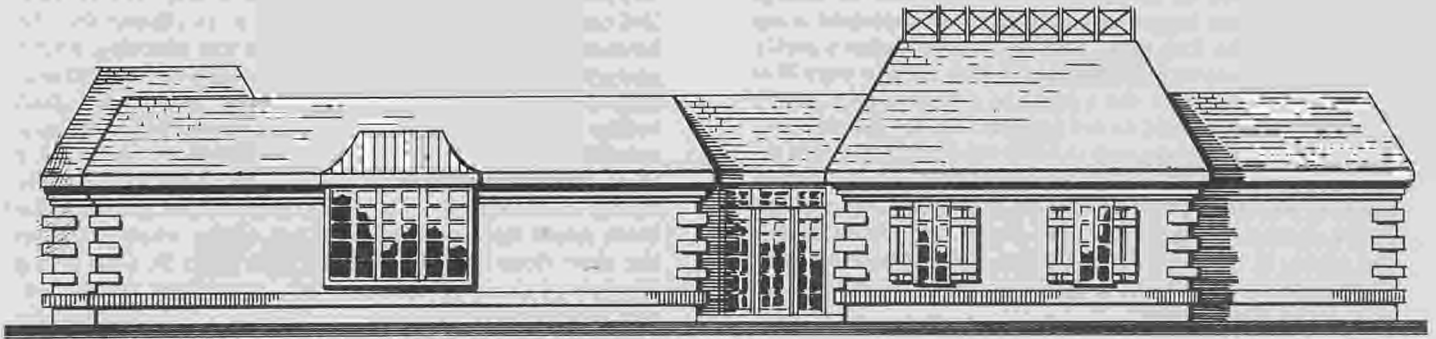
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"If I am dedicated to one thing, it is the preservation of the opportunities I had, for my children and grandchildren."

FRANK CARLSON



Proposed Frank Carlson Library

carrying out the representation of America was perfection.

"The soldiers on duty were Floyd Short, Harden Wood, R. V. Williams, Paul Williams, Ed Whipp and Archie Reid. The trip ended at the Sutherland's and along toward midnight all the other countries' representatives came there in a body, and there was a great time until all went home."

Andrew Carnegie proposed to give \$10,000.00 toward a library building in 1907. The city agreed with his stipulation that it maintain a free public library at a cost of not less than \$100.00 a year. The following year the property was acquired on the northeast corner of 7th and Broadway. The Ladies' Library Association disbanded, sold its building and donated the proceeds and its books to the city. G. W. Marshall, W. W. Caldwell and C. E. Sweet donated what other money was needed, and by 1909, the Carnegie Library, still in use at the same location, opened its doors.

Miss Anna Shafer was the first librarian, and Mrs. Dorothy Kennett Thurston is the present librarian, continuing the public spirited venture started by her mother in 1892.

The Concordia Free Library is entirely supported by city taxes, and since 1966 has been a member of the Central Kansas Libraries, a cooperative organization with headquarters in Great Bend, Kansas. The benefits accruing from this merger allows cooperating libraries to borrow books from each other. It also has a central ordering station which orders books at a substantial discount.

A very exciting prospect for Concordia is the proposed Frank Carlson Library which will be constructed in the near future.

where ladies were required to pin their hats during the performances.

Opening night, September 17, 1907, was the greatest social event in Concordia's history. Patrons arrived by carriage. The men wore full evening dress, and the ladies wore evening gowns and jewels. The show was "The Vanderbilt Cup" with a company from New York. The Harry Steinberg orchestra furnished special concert music as well as the music for the show.

The Brown Grand theater, now a movie theater, is still a handsome, sturdy building. Col. N. B. Brown must have considered himself Concordia's aristocrat, and he loved the impression that money could create; but he built well, and whatever his motive, he gave Concordia a fine theater.



Curtain at the Brown Grand Theatre featuring Napoleon, hero of Napoleon Bonapart Brown who built the theater in 1907.

THE BROWN GRAND THEATER

The Brown Grand Theater was built by Col. Napoleon Bonaparte Brown as a memorial to the Brown family. At the time it was built, every effort was made to make it the finest opera house in Kansas. The colonel's son, Earl Van Dorn Brown, was in charge of the construction and the operation of the theater. The building of this opera house was a great event for Concordia. The newspaper printed daily progress reports of the construction. The theater seated 1,000 persons. There was an orchestra floor, boxes, a balcony and a gallery. The color scheme was white, gold and dark green. Every seat had a velvet cushion on the back

THE POST OFFICE

The first post office was started in 1871. The first postmaster was Ed Linney, who carried on the postal activity in his grocery store, the store being the first building in Concordia on the corner of 5th and Washington. Mr. Linney later moved it into a building on the northeast corner of 6th and Washington. Mr. George C. Guilbert, one of Concordia's old timers, told this story about the post

office when it was located there. "One morning going by the back of the building, I and another lad saw envelopes that had been swept out the back of the post office. Among them was one with a money order for several hundred dollars. We boys were delighted with our find, took it to school and showed it openly. The teacher was shocked and sent us to return the envelope. There was a great deal of criticism of Mr. Linney, an investigation, and eventually Mr. Linney lost his job, though he was not to blame for the accident."

Robert Poston was the second postmaster, and he located the post office in a building about where the Daylight Clothing Co. is now. W. H. L. Pepperell, the rotund, jovial Democratic politician took over next as postmaster, and located the post office in the Bon Marche block.

The postmasters of the early day were required to furnish the equipment and building in which they handled the mail. Consequently, most men located the post office in their own place of business. Mr. Pepperell served three different times as postmaster, with Mr. Groesbeck and Mr. Bert Williams, Republicans, serving in between when there was a Republican administration. In 1898, when McKinley was president, T. A. Sawhill became postmaster. He located the post office in what is now the rear of the First National Bank building.

In 1914 the cornerstone was laid for the present post office building and in July, 1915, under the postmastership of A. B. Carney the post office held open house. In 1921 Sid Knapp became postmaster under Republican administrations, but in 1934, when Franklin Roosevelt became president, W. F. Danenbarger was appointed postmaster, and served until his death in 1942. Mrs. Nina Short was made postmistress, serving until her death in 1955. In 1955 Lyle Conley was appointed postmaster. He retired in 1970, and Mr. Don Campbell, long-time postal worker, was appointed postmaster in March 1971.

THE RAILROADS

The people of Concordia and Cloud County turned their attention to the need for a railroad into Concordia, as soon as the town was founded. The procedure for getting a rail line was to vote bonds to pay for the service, then persuade a line to build. In 1871 Cloud County voted \$100,000.00 in bonds to meet the proposition of the Central Branch Railway to build from their terminal at Waterville to Cloud County. This seems an enormous sum for a pioneer community, but it attests the feeling of the people that they must have a railroad. The Central Branch, however, did not build, and the bonds were not issued. In 1872 two rail lines made propositions to build into Cloud County, but the propositions of both companies were so unacceptable, the citizens rejected both proposals and were without a railroad until 1878. During those years before the railroad came there was constant agitation to have a rail line. In 1876 a railroad convention was held in Clyde. All the important men of Cloud County met to try to determine how to get a railroad to Cloud County. In November, 1876, the Republican Valley Railroad Co. was formed with a capital stock of \$900,000.00. They avowed they would build their own line if they could not get one of

the railroad companies to build. Directors of the company included: E. J. Jenkins, Frederick LaRocque, F. W. Sturges, M. McKinnon, W. E. Reid, H. Buckingham, William Conner, and R. F. Allen. Then propositions were again made by the Central Branch, and the Junction City and Ft. Kearney lines. The Central Branch proposition was accepted by the voters. This time the proposition was much more agreeable as the line apparently was ready now to build across Cloud County. The railroad was built on schedule, and on January 28, 1878, the first train pulled into Concordia. The town was wild with excitement. There was a rousing reception and celebration.

Within a few years Concordia was served with lines of four major railways; the Missouri Pacific, Union Pacific, Santa Fe and the Burlington. By 1910 the average freight traffic in and out daily numbered forty carloads; passengers in and out daily averaged 300. Three express companies handled an average of 5,000,000 pounds annually. Six rural mail routes were served from Concordia. The railroads were big business in Concordia. There was Pullman passenger service to Kansas City daily.

The railroads provided their share of the news and excitement in the community. In 1892 the Ringling Brothers' Circus train was wrecked east of town. Two men and many horses were killed. Despite the tragedy, the "show went on," and played to a crowd of 4,000.

In 1917 on Plum Creek between Concordia and Beloit, the Union Pacific passenger train was wrecked. The bridge across Plum creek collapsed just after the engine passed over it. The passenger cars were toppled down the steep embankments into the creek. Four were killed and many injured. A relief train was sent at once and took the dead and injured to Beloit. Mrs. Delia Charbonneau of Concordia was the first of the dead to be removed from the tangled wreckage of the train. The Concordia Red Cross sent aid, and doctors and nurses from Concordia assisted in the care of the injured.



Burlington 710 which made the run for years between Wymore, Neb., and Concordia now stands in Pioneer Park, Lincoln, Nebr. On March 11, 1884 the 710, pulling three wooden cars, won a race from Omaha to Chicago in 15 hours and 50 minutes with an average speed of 31½ m.p.h. and was awarded the contract to carry the U.S. Mail.

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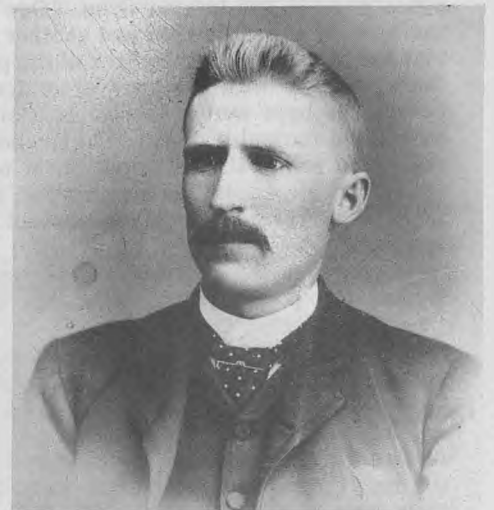
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Dr. Priest, Physician



Park Pulsifer, Attorney



George Ewing and Rox Cook
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Homer Kennett, Attorney, Mayor



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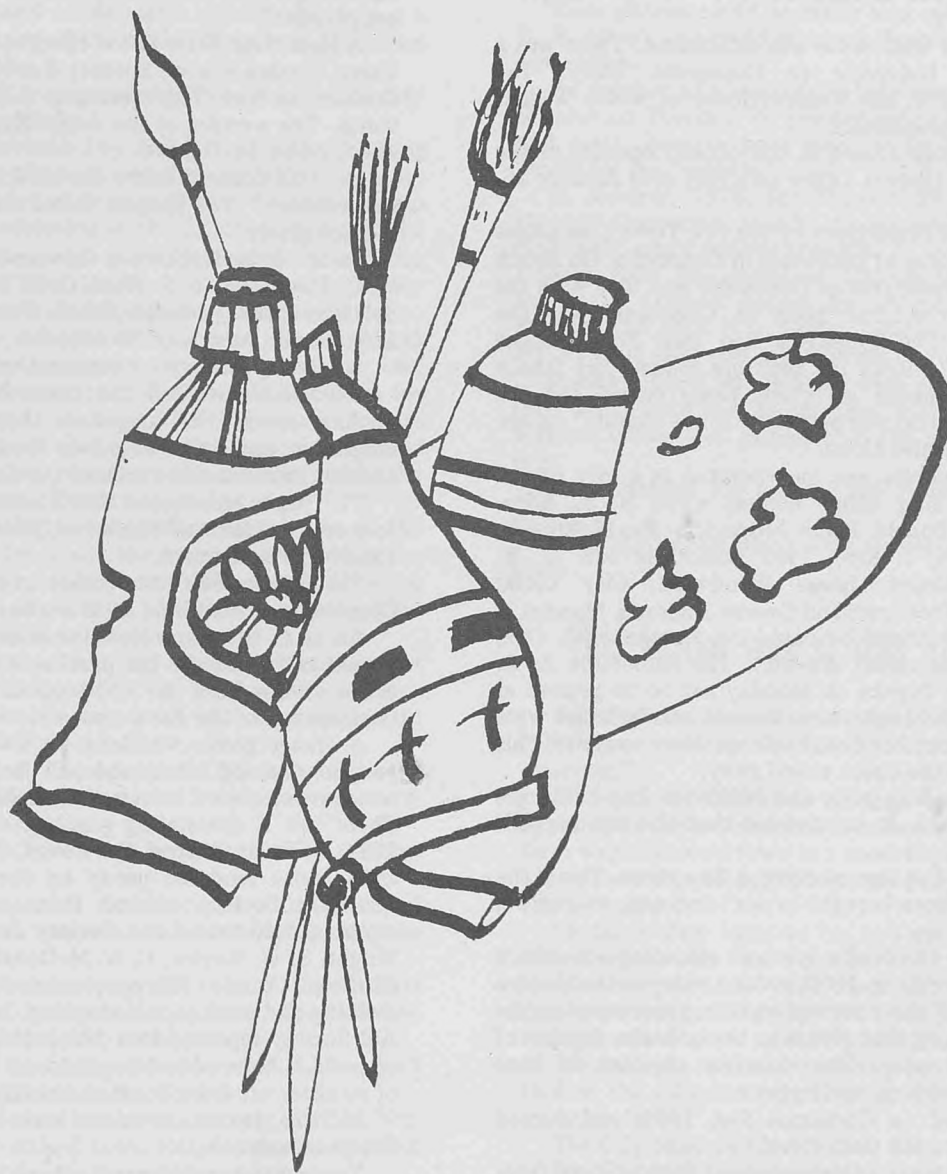


F. J. Atwood, Banker



Wm. Neitzel, Merchant, Druggist

The Paints



Concordia became a town. The town grew rapidly. The railroads came and with them came growth and people. Concordia was fortunate in the people who came. They mixed the paints of their endeavors, and painted bold brush strokes on the portrait. Life was colorful and interesting in the town.

This is the way it was during those hundred years...

(All of the material used in this section was copied directly from newspapers. The language is that of the particular editor of the newspaper used.)

If you had lived in Concordia between 1871 and 1881, THIS IS THE WAY IT WAS! Young people, irrespective of all distinctions in society, excepting respectability, duly celebrated Christmas Eve. Those who came to see and be seen, the proud, the humble, the witty and wise, were decked in fashion's most attractive garb. Supper was prepared by Messrs. Silver and Crans. Music was furnished by Professor D. T. Votaw, assisted by F. Thompson and Charley Floyd. Dancing lasted till 4:00 a. m. With many kind remembrances and a few regrets we parted at 5:00 a. m. So wrote "your Cockadoodledoo" in the "Empire" newspaper of 1871.

In 1871 a new mail route was established. There was a fast line from Waterville to Concordia. Daily. The headquarters were at the Empire House of which Wagner and Bennet were proprietors.

There was a huge crowd at the official opening of the Republican Land District Office on a very cold January 16, 1871.

Town lots were often given by the two Town Companies to encourage opening of businesses in Concordia. On March 3, 1871, the townsite plat of Concordia was filed with the County Clerk. The first hotel in Concordia was the Truesdell Hotel. The Truesdells had their house in the country rolled into town on large log rollers. The family remained in the house as it was being moved and the Truesdell's young daughter played "Yankee Doodle" on her melodion as they rolled along.

In 1872, Concordia was incorporated as a city of the third class. The first office holders were: R. E. Allen, Mayor; C. W. McDonald, Police Judge; Malcolm McKinnon, R. Heber Sturges, J. Sipe, Fred LaRocque and D. W. Williams, Councilmen; James Woodward, City Clerk; Edward Linney, Treasurer; and George Andrews, Marshal.

H. Lanoue advertised he could cut Cottonwood, Oak, and Walnut at his steam saw-mill. The Honorable A. A. Carnahan left for Topeka on Monday last to be present at the opening of the Legislature. Several young ladies were seen to use their handkerchiefs as they watched his retreating form as the coach rolled away.

There will be a May party and dedication hop in Sturges Hall, May 1st, 1872. It is intended that this will be THE hop of the season.

H. A. Hunter, Esq. has received a fine piano. This is the first one that has been brought to our town and, we believe, to the county.

Several of the Concordia teachers attending a teacher's Institute in Concordia in 1872 wrote a letter to the Empire protesting some of the exercises and disapproving of public dances, complaining that this was beneath the dignity of the teaching fraternity. The exercises objected to were discourses on physiology and hygiene.

A fire occurred on Christmas Eve, 1872, and burned several buildings on the main street.

In 1873, "it takes a letter just seven days to come from Emporia to Concordia. Why is this thus?"

You can get a coat, pants, vest, hat and a pair of shoes at "Conners" for \$9.00.

Stone sidewalks are being laid on 6th Street by LaRocque and Leveau.

In October the first annual Cloud County Fair was held. Our magnificent Hook and Ladder Company will not

parade on New Year's Day because it has never yet been organized.

Between 1872 and 1874, building in Concordia boomed. A school house, jail, mill, malt house, all of stone were built, as were a brick store, a court house, the splendid Hagaman block of three stone buildings, Crill's splendid new stone hotel, Jenkin's Bros. store, McKinnon's warehouse, and Wagner's Drug Store. Among the noticeable improvements in 1874 was the flagging of the walks on both sides of 6th Street. At Burns and Neitzel's was wanted, "one dozen wild cat skins for which a good price will be paid."

E. T. Robinson wrote to the editor of the Empire that he thought this part of Kansas had soil suitable to raising peppermint.

A New Year Festival for children was sponsored by the Union Sunday School. Seventy-five children attended at the Courthouse New Year's evening. Supper was served by the ladies. The wonder of the magic lantern was procured and operated by Dr. Gilmer.

Mr. Crill found a name for his splendid new hotel, "The Commercial." The Empire found this a good name, "neat but not gaudy."

Some of the teachers in Concordia in 1874 were Messrs. W. C. Townsend, W. S. Ward, O. H. Brooks, R. T. Little and Sylvester Bartley, Misses Estella Ferguson, Alberta Carver, Elda Brooks, Mrs. L. A. Stockton.

A Literary Society for men and women was formed.

Dr. Gilmer wanted the town to have a library and reading room. He suggested they could have papers, magazines, and innocent games. It would be better to spend an hour there than in a saloon, the doctor felt.

The paper announced that a number of French people, formerly residents of Kankakee, Illinois, have arrived in this vicinity for settlement.

The Editor feels more shade trees should be planted in Concordia, so it will not be known as a treeless city.

An ad in the paper stated that no lady in Cloud County should rest until she has purchased one of those beautiful calico dresses from the 100 bolts of calico that are now on the counters of the Brownstone Store.

A grange picnic was held on Wolf Creek. Nearly 1,000 people attended. It rained just before the dance. Many women were heard to say, "My dress is calico, let it rain." There was a devastating grasshopper attack in August of 1874. Citizens formed the Cloud County Aid Society to assist those rendered needy by the grasshopper invasion. The Aid Society offered them work, food, fuel and clothing. Officers of the Society are H. C. Snyder, H. H. Wright, S. W. Raylor, C. W. McDonald. In eleven townships of Cloud County 295 people are destitute who will need clothing and seed grain for spring. In January of 1874, the Aid Society reported that 140 half-sacks of flour, 7 barrels of pork, 2 bales of bedding, 1 barrel of molasses, and 1 box of sundries had been donated and distributed.

In 1875, two horse thieves were apprehended and given five year sentences.

You could buy 240 acres of land with a good house, two wells, and other valuable improvements for \$2,000.00 in the Concordia area in 1875.

A band of Indians stopped in town overnight. One of the squaws, a doctress, treated several people.

A. Gay, barber, advertised that he will restore hair to bald heads or refund your money.

In 1876, the school board engaged the services of

Professor Robinson to conduct a High School. They pay him \$37.50 for four months. We are in favor of a High School, but could not Professor Robinson leave the \$37.50 to the district and make wages without it?

We read in the February paper, "Our Community has been startled and shocked by the revelation of a disgraceful scandal, of which two young people, heretofore held in good repute, are the principals. Result: ruin, shame, remorse on her part; the stigma of deep and dreadful disease on his part. We refrain from giving either the names of the parties or the disgusting details."

The attendance at the High School is now 30 with more expected soon.

When a single saloon can take in \$1600.00 in 3 months, times must be improving.

The 4th of July celebrated the centennial of the United States . . . 100 years as a free and independent nation, with a parade, speeches and a huge crowd of more than 3,000. Fireworks at night and a ball which passed off without a jar. Most noted feature of the day's success was the entire absence of drunkenness in town.

Advertisement: "Opium and morphine habit absolutely cured. Painless, no publicity."

Remember the Sabbath Day and Keep it Holy. By going swimming in public places is not keeping it holy. We are informed that a number of persons from town have got into the habit of going swimming at the dam, which is a public highway, and making, in some instances, outrageous exposure of person. This vicinity is now a favorite of our citizens and their wives and daughters, and the luxury of swimming cannot be indulged without gross indecency, and we should think that any man of sense, young or old, would realize this. Some isolated place should be chosen for bathing purposes, and we trust this intimation will be sufficient. If it is not, we shall feel in duty bound to demand in the name of public decency and morality, that the constable break up this offense.

A grand triumphal procession from both sides of the river met on the bridge where the ceremony of driving the finishing golden spike took place, with other dedication ceremonies. A grand dance took place in the evening. (The bridge was at the foot of Archer Street.)

We would remind those in arrears for newspaper subscriptions that the weather is cooling off and our wood-pile is low. Either wood, or the wherewithal to procure it, will be quite acceptable.

In 1877, Col. N. B. Brown opened his new bank, the first in Concordia. Money could be borrowed from many lenders for 10%.

The new Catholic Church is to be built of stone and cost \$5,000.00.

Teeth are being sold at a reduction by Drs. Ball and Hagle. Artificial teeth made of the best rubber may be purchased for \$15.00.

In 1878, E. J. Jenkins suggested that an immigration society be formed in Concordia to give out information to immigrants who might want to settle here.

The Nellie Boyd Dramatic Co. played at LaRocque's new hall, presenting "Fanchon the Cricket."

Combed and uncombed butter was for sale; and Mr. Wm. McKenzie Burns advertised town lots for sale at auction. The paper noted that the M. E. parsonage was begun.

The Expositor newspaper carried a detailed account of the gathering of the lawyers of the town to administer the

"admission to the bar" of Col. N. B. Brown who now became a lawyer as well as banker and entrepreneur. After the ceremonies of admitting the Colonel to the bar, all of the legal lights of town went to Delmonico's restaurant on 6th Street to be wined and dined in celebration of the event.

Singer cabinet sewing machines, and Estey organs were shown at Gafford's furniture store.

The Central Branch Railway was being extended beyond Concordia to Beloit.

A strong windstorm in June of 1878 did considerable damage. In late July a heavy rain flooded the basements in town and the dam at the mill was partially washed out.

Professor J. S. Shearer arrived to commence the teacher's Institute. On August 29th, 1878, Professor Shearer was hired as school superintendent. The teachers hired were Mrs. A. L. Bates, W. T. Root, Miss Kate Beau, and Miss Lou McClure.

Your picture could be taken at a railroad photo car. At R. E. Allen's you could purchase flannel, cashmere, melton, and satin.

An insulter of a respectable lady was taken before Judge Shear on Tuesday. He pleaded guilty and was fined \$5.00 and costs. Being a poor man, he thought he was paying dearly for the "whistle."

In January, 1878, the Missouri Pacific Railroad came through Concordia. In July, floods plagued Concordia and diphtheria was a serious problem. In December, the Cloud County Bank was organized. Charles McDonald is cashier, and F. J. Atwood arrived from Vermont to be assistant cashier. The bank is in a small building on 6th street, and Mr. Atwood sleeps on the premises to guard the funds.

Beauty hint—if girl children were compelled to sleep on their backs until middle life, they would arrive at that age without crows feet gathering in the neighborhood of the eyes.

Street dresses for walking are made short (above the ankle).

In April of 1879, there were several cases of smallpox in town.

This is the way it was 1880-1890

By 1880 fashion notes are found in the newspapers as "Horseshoe ornaments have a metal four-leaf clover attached."

Pensions for Civil War veterans could be obtained by applying to the government. A runaway team yanked a new farm wagon around town in a most frightful manner. This is a constant danger and drivers are cautioned not to leave teams unattended.

Professor Page lectured for two evenings and a matinee for children on the subject of "The Origin and Development of Life." With maps and charts the professor demonstrated conclusively that man is not the result of evolution from atom up through various forms and varieties of life, but was spoken into being by the fiat of Almighty God in the fullness of time, when the earth was fitted for his habitation.

The City band paraded in their fine new band wagon.

Dr. Gilmer, a Concordia druggist known to be active in the temperance movement, was lured into selling one ounce of alcohol for a "sick horse," then was arrested and fined.

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THE BLADE—EMPIRE PUBLISHING COMPANY



Blacksmith Shop of Charles W. Myers, Corner 6th and State, 1901



Dust Storm, 1934



Crowd at Martin's Drug Store for personal appearance program of popular radio stars, and for free prizes. 1930's



Jack Bowman and Dick Weaver in Model T Roadster, 1929



Grocery Delivery Trucks in front of Elks Club about 1912

The same procedure was tried to catch Mr. Lawrence of Lawrence's Saloon. Mr. Lawrence beat the man acting as decoy and threw him out. Lawrence was then arrested and charged with assault, but when the trial was held no witnesses appeared to accuse Lawrence.

The 4th of July, 1880, fell on Sunday so the celebration in Concordia was, of course, held on Monday. Three to four thousand came to the celebration. There was a parade on the main street. There were train rides from town to the grove east of town where the celebration was held. These rides had been advertised for 5c, but when we came to ride the charge was 10c.

A Teachers' Institute was to be held for four weeks in August, and those attending could have board in Concordia for \$2.00 to \$3.00 a week. Teachers could club together, rent rooms and reduce this expense.

There were Teachers' meetings and Temperance meetings and the constitution of Kansas was amended to forbid the manufacture and sale of "spirituous liquors."

H. C. Hanson sold ladies' linen suits, linen dusters, and calico dresses.

There was a citizens' meeting in the Union Block to consider what should be done to relieve Washington street of the overflow nuisance in rainy spells. It was a right lively meeting, the expressions of opinion being various, pointed and interesting. But no satisfactory conclusion was arrived at, and the matter was commended to the wise discretion and action of the City Council. (Washington street was an old creek bed and during heavy rains the water roared through the street like a river.)

The School Board decided to rent a room in the basement of the Presbyterian Church because of overcrowding at the Washington School.

Lafayette Bromett was fined by Police Judge Brown \$1.00 and costs for gazing heavenward through a whisky bottle on Main Street.

Concordia has 24 stores that sell groceries and they all have a good trade.

The Calico ball was a great success.

In January, 1881, it has been so cold that our milkmen cut their milk up into chunks about the size of a brick and carried it around in a sack.

In August, 1881, the County Poor House was completed.

Coal mining is an industry in Minersville, northeast of Concordia.

You had to be careful about swearing because the newspaper, "The Republican," threatened to publish the names of those heard swearing on the public streets.

Ice, cut from the river, can be purchased for 1c a pound, delivered.

A fashionable local clerk while doing a rushing business, broke both suspenders, and in the midst of the excitement, substituted a patent clothes pin which rattled so furiously when he walked, that the customers thought him falling to pieces and refused to trade with him.

A harvest dance was given at LaRocque's Hall. Tickets for supper and the dance, \$1.50.

In 1884 Rev. Bushnell has come to be pastor of the Presbyterian Church. Five churches are listed for Concordia on the front page of the "Republican." The Catholic church has services every other Sunday.

Mrs. C. W. McDonald and her attendants received callers on New Years Day. Mrs. G. W. Marshall had announced to receive, but became ill and had to cancel her New Years Day plans.

Professor T. A. Sawhill went to Topeka to a State Teachers Meeting.

The Concordia National Bank, formerly the Concordia

State Bank, was reorganized under national banking laws. The officers are C. W. McDonald, President; Ed Linney, Vice-president; H. R. Honey, Cashier.

Eben Perry has a music store which he calls, "The Palace of Music."

The County Fair of 1884 was held with Miss Lottie St. Clare of St. Louis making the grand balloon ascension.

Simmons and Wilson offer fine furniture for sale, and Cole's Clothing Co. ran their advertisement in French as well as English, for the benefit of their many French customers.

In the "Empire" of September, 1884, there is a story of the tearing down of the first business building ever built in Concordia. This was a small building built in 1870 by A. A. Carnahan. Ed Linney bought it and opened a general store and the first post office in it. The building was at the northwest corner of 5th and Washington.

Concordia is to have a fine fife and drum corps.

Runaway teams on the main street are dangerous to everyone.

A. T. Sidwell of Chicago brought his family from Chicago to live in Concordia. He has built a grain elevator in Concordia and is resident agent for Mason Gregg and Bros.

There is a free Reading Room under the Concordia National Bank.

Brownstone Hall, the palatial residence of Col. N. B. Brown is completed. It has the only inside bathroom in Concordia.

Eli Martin owns the small building which stands on Broadway and which has been occupied by Betournay's Grocery. Last Thursday, Mr. Betournay commenced to remove his goods to the new store room, built by LaRocque, but did not get his goods all out. Thursday evening Mr. Martin demanded possession, which Mr. Betournay refused to grant until he removed the rest of his goods. Mr. Martin threatened to break in and after Mr. Betournay had gone home did break in. Mr. Betournay caused his arrest. He was tried before Justice Chaffee and fined \$1.00 and costs for breaking and entering. Mr. Martin has appealed the case to District Court.

The ringing of the school bell at 6 o'clock yesterday morning got a good many people out of bed to look for a fire. We understand the bell will ring regularly at 6 o'clock to get the children out of bed and keep them from being tardy.

E. J. Messall makes hop beer, birch beer and champagne cider, all temperance drinks. If people drank more of these instead of our "hard limey water," their health might be better during the intensive heat of summer.

Sam Barons now owns the "Commercial" and it is called the "Baron's House."

At a School Board meeting on August 20, 1885, J. M. Hagaman, an avowed atheist, proposed a resolution forbidding the reading of the Bible, or any prayer or religious exercise in the schools. The motion was adopted. Singing was not to be considered a religious exercise, and hymns could be sung at school.

In 1885 in Concordia a male teacher received a salary of \$111.11, and a female teacher received \$43.50. There were two school buildings and 12 teachers.

Choice building lots in Concordia sell for \$100.00 and \$250.00 per lot. Silk plush picture frames are 90c, and the Fair advertised ladies' scarlet underwear, all wool, for \$2.00 a suit.

There is an Athletic Club in Concordia and they had a splendid ball at Dey's club on New Year's night, 1885. The newspaper stated: "Concordia is deservedly noted for the large number of fine looking and elegantly dressed ladies who are supremely graceful dancers."

In 1886, in January, "Old Curiosity Shop" was at the LaRocque Opera House.

There was a very elegant and pleasant party at the W. M. Austin home on Wednesday night, where they played progressive Euchre. The time flew so swiftly that 2 o'clock a. m. came unexpectedly before the guests took their leave.

July 12th, 1888, the Republican Valley Medical Society met at the Opera House to form a permanent organization.

In December of 1888, the "Empire" newspaper scolded the ladies of the Episcopal Guild for having a dance, after their bazaar, and said there ought to be a line of distinction between meetings called in the name of Christian Religion, and those purely for worldly purposes and enjoyments.

The Concordia Electric Light Co. was formed in 1886, and incorporated in 1888 by H. M. Spaulding. The machinery was run by water power alone, from Lanoue's dam. In January, 1889, the electric light company put in a new \$10,000.00 engine which would create electricity. This enormous new engine has 128 horsepower. The arrival of the new engine will lessen the use of water power, and may make it possible to have more electricity. Heretofore water power for electricity could only be used from sundown to midnight on weekdays. All lights go off at midnight, and there is no electricity on Sunday.

June 20, 1889, the Presbyterian ladies had a social which was successful and well attended. Miss Babe Sturges recited, "The Brakeman" in excellent style.

An imposing red brick Courthouse has been built, occupying an entire block. Concordia now has 7 churches, a YMCA, four fraternal lodges, and a weather station. Concordia has been designated the See city of the Catholic diocese in northwestern Kansas.

In March of 1886 Mr. and Mrs. Barons held a reception at their hotel, "The Barons House." The Concordia Cornet Band played a concert on the veranda.

At the High School graduation most of those in the audience carried wreaths and flowers which they showered on the graduates.

The Concordia National Bank in 1886 received for collection some claims from a wholesale tobacco house in Kentucky. The message was worded in the following poetical terms:

"My drafts at 3 days sight are made
I trust enclosed will soon be paid
When paid, you can your charge arrange
Deduct amount and send exchange."

Cashier Honey collected the accounts, drew a draft for the amount and returned it to the Kentucky company with these sentiments:

"I spun around and got the chink
My charge is fair, I hope you'll think.
I send you all the even dollars
And keep the pence for sweated collars."

This is the way it was 1890-1900

The Cloud County Bank folks supplied, by carrier, the people of the city with a handsome calendar of 1890. Will Peck is Cashier of the bank.

Officers of the Presbyterian Sunday School are Superintendent, W. W. Bowman; Assistant Superintendent, D. M. Stackhouse; Secretary, Stella McCrary.

The Y.M.C.A. will meet at the M. B. Church.

Many cases of "La grippe" are reported.

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Sage had a party of cards and dancing. Those present included Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Taylor, Mr. and Mrs. W. H. L. Pepperell, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Pepperell; the Misses Gorham, Bertrand, Paradis, Tate, Archer. Star. Chapman. Neitzel, Hagaman; the Messrs Sturges, Wier, Hagaman, Neitzel, Priest, Young, Parr, Parsons, Archer, Lane, Davies, Harrison, Alexander and Woodruff.

Mr. and Mrs. Josiah Peck of Fair Haven, Vt. are visiting their sons, Charles and William, two of our foremost business men.

There are now 50 employes of the Missouri Pacific Railway in Concordia.

The editor commented that a poor production of "Uncle Tom's Cabin" was given at the Opera House.

Fred Sturges and Ellesworth Dunning, students at St. John's Military School in Salina, came up to spend the holidays with their ma's.

It would be a good plan to have the planks in the sidewalk on main street east of the Bon Marche, nailed down.

A raid was made on a gambling hall in this city Sunday by a lady who had been rightly informed that her husband was there losing his hard earned money. On entering the room the surprised hubby tried to soothe the angry woman and get her to leave the room. But no, she took a chair and told the young blood she should remain till he was ready to go. It wasn't long, however, till they were seen going home together, the back way.

The Columbian Circle Club is preparing a program, and the Ladies' Literary Society will meet with Mrs. George Marshall.

Dr. Coffey has moved to Concordia and gone into partnership with Dr. McCassey. He is an exceptionally well trained young doctor.

Lightning struck the Will Whipp house and caused some damage.

The Cloud County Fair Association has had a reorganization and is in the hands of a solid company of Kennett, Groesbeck, Belisle, Tittle, Betournay, Lasnier, Sheafor, Beauchamp, Jarvis, Stewart, Atwood, Colson and McCassey.

A. S. Gay and J. D. Smith have opened a school of shorthand and telegraphy.

Gomer Davies purchased the "Kansan."

W. M. Bennett, night miller in the Lingle and Cline's Mill, returned Saturday from Pleasanton, Mo., accompanied by his wife and boy.

1896 is Leap Year, and last night the long looked for Society event of the season occurred at the McKinnon parlors. The ladies of Concordia had, some time ago, resolved on celebrating the New Year in proper style and to show the men how they can entertain when they start out to do it.

The invitations were designed by the young artist, Albert T. Reid, of Clyde, who made a decided hit in his conception and execution of the invitations and programs. The room had been draped, the floor waxed for dancing, and card tables placed in a far corner for the use of those who did not wish to dance. Supper was served by the ladies of the Library Association.



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The party was attended by 75 couples of Concordia Society people who enjoyed an evening of pleasure, thanks to the ladies.

The fellows at Taylor and Neitzel's drugstore are certainly up to date. They have a Graphophone. It plays all the popular airs, sings and talks, and is an interesting instrument. It gives the boys in the store pleasure to let you hear it, and it costs you nothing.

The ladies of the Concordia Library Association will give a Dickens party early in February. As Dickens has 1,423 characters, we want 1,423 people to take a part, so select your character and report to the secretary, Mrs. Craig.

At five o'clock New Years morning there was a family gathering at the A. E. Lasnier residence. The children of the old lady Lasnier gathered in, as in the old French custom, to ask the parental blessing. The children present were three sons, A. A., C. A., and A. E. Lasnier, and the daughter and son-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. E. T. Martin. After the benediction, the mother was presented with an elegant arm chair by the children and they all partook of the first meal of the year together.

In September of 1897 Ringling Bros. Circus performed before 2,000 people in Concordia.

The 2nd annual boat excursion, concert, and balloon ascension was given by the band at the mouth of Lost Creek. All the people that the little steamer could possibly convey to the grounds attended and scores of others drove up to the grounds in buggies and carriages. The balloonist went so high that his form could scarcely be distinguished before he cut the parachute loose. When he did so, he shot toward the earth with frightful velocity before the apparatus opened, then he floated gently to earth, landing in Mrs. Truesdell's pasture.

Concordia has Kennett, Matson, and Scott, a dry-goods store, O'Reilly's Barber Shop, and Hinman's Ladies Ready-To-Wear.

The newspaper is printing actual photographs in the paper.

There was an installation ceremony for the A.O.U.W. lodge. Mrs. Troup sang and Dr. Sage manipulated the stereoptican.

What are commonly known as the "whisky cases" took the entire time of the District court this past week. The Court room presents a novel sight. On the right of the judge is the jury box. On the left is a delegation of ladies of the W.C.T.U. entirely watching every procedure. During a protracted lull in the proceedings these ladies complacently pull out their knitting or tating, and work, and the needles fly till the lawyers' tongues begin to fly.

Many Americans are going to the Klondike to search for gold.

The Bon Marche always has an interesting ad on the front page of the paper.

"One barrel of music, two barrels of fun at the Opera House. A lady with a gentleman admitted free. Two ladies admitted with one paid ticket."

The friends of Miss Pansy Davis gathered at her home in the south part of the city. The time was pleasantly spent in taking a trip over the Frolicsome, Funville and Featherbrain Railway. Alexander McEckron, guessing the most names of different stations along the route, won the prize. The guests included the Misses Paradis, Eastman, Birch, Davis, Cartney, Colson, Sohlinger, Hull, Darlington, Champion, Messall, Hull, and the Messers. James, Neitzel, Spaulding, Davis, Foote, Dutton, Cartney, Spaulding, Weaver, Quigley, Tooley, Seyster, McMullan, and McEckron.

Storm clouds of the Spanish-American War are gathering, and the battleship "Maine" is the pride of the

United States Navy.

The "Ethel" collar named for the great actress, Ethel Barrymore, is a band of black satin fastened around the neck of a dress with a big ruffle of guipure lace. The lace falls as a fissure nearly to the waist.

Ernie Quigley, Charles Wilcox and Arthur Weaver went down to Clyde to attend the commencement exercises. They went down on bicycles, but while there it rained. They know how they got home.

Bicycle jackets for women are popular.

The 16th annual Commencement exercises of the High School were held at the Opera House. Not a laggard nor a booby among the 10 graduates. Five of the class graduated in the Latin course, and five in the English course.

Letters which are unclaimed at the post office are listed by name in the newspaper.

The beautiful Betournay home was a scene of the jolliest society event of the season, it being in honor of Mr. and Mrs. W. L. Day of Kansas City, Mo. and Miss Grace Colson of Matoon, Ill. Cards, dancing, cake walks and a general good time were indulged in until long after the electric lights were turned off and other lights substituted. The guests included: Mr. and Mrs. W. L. Day, Mr. and Mrs. Dudley, Mr. and Mrs. Wilfong, Mr. and Mrs. Lutt, Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Peck, Mrs. Wagner, Mrs. Agnes Craig, Miss Grace Colson, Miss Melva Dawson, Miss Della Colson, Miss Maud Lake, Mrs. Vance Morgan, Mr. Charles Dunning, Mr. George Layton, Mr. Leon Dawson, and Mr. Earl Brown. The guests voted Mr. and Mrs. Betournay and Miss Carrie charming entertainers.

A fire department has been created by the City Council. J. H. Cline is the first fire chief. A fine, horsedrawn fire wagon has been obtained.

This is the way it was 1900-1910

Elks' Century Party, 1901

What may be called the Elks' advent into Society was given at the Elks' parlors on New Year's Eve. The decorations outdid anything seen in this city ever before. Our nation's colors mixed with garlands of smilax, holly and mistletoe were festooned around the room.

The magnificent and radiant electric chandeliers were centers of ceiling decoration, while the billiard table was covered with a dream in floriculture display of ferns and potted plants. In a recess off the billiard room, a bower of bunting overhung the punch bowl over which Clark McConaughy gracefully held dominion.

Card tables were provided and the first order of business of the evening was progressive high-five. Prizes were won by Mrs. Sohlinger, who received a beautiful Chinese vase, and Mr. Earl Brown who received a handsome mug.

Shortly before midnight the gong sounded and cards ended. Refreshments were served by caterer Colson.

At midnight a cathedral type gong sounded the twelve strokes amid perfect silence. At the close of the tolling Mr. F. W. Sturges, Jr. in fitting and eloquent words bade farewell to the old and welcomed the new century, and requested the guests join him in toasting the new century with a glass of sparkling champagne.

The orchestra under Professor DeVinney played for dancing till morning. The Virginia Reel, and the new fangled two-step and waltz engaged the attention of those who like to trip the light fantastic.

It is not often one sees in Concordia so many full-dress suits worn by men and decollette gowns by women, but they were numerous at the Elks' Century Ball.



Dutton's Cabin, 1870



Lanoue's Mill, 1871



Ice Company, 1902



Brown Grand Theater, 1907



Nazareth Convent, 1903



Court House, 1888

During Christmas of 1902 the Concordia Dancing Club had a dance at the Barons House and on December 29th, the Fireman's Ball was held there.

Christmas day the Concordia High School team played Osborne in football. Ernie Quigley, coach at St. Mary's College, was home for the holidays and attended the game. At the half the Osborne team attempted to substitute three black players. The Concordia team refused to go on with the game, not because the players were black (as they were accused of), but because it was unheard of and unsportsmanlike to put in fresh players. The Concordia team consulted Mr. Quigley, and his advice was that they refuse to continue to play, which they did, walking off the field. There was an uproar of discussion even in other towns, and the Beloit paper said it felt Concordia was right to do what it did—it wasn't as if anyone were hurt with a broken leg, or arm, or unconscious on the Osborne team, and it was very unsportsmanlike to run in fresh men against a team weakened by play.

Mr. F. W. Daugherty, secretary of the Concordia Telephone Co., stated that operations have already been commenced on the construction of a telephone line east to Clyde and Clifton.

Robinson and McCrary have a 101 piece set of Haviland China, white with gold trim for \$30.00.

In 1903 the Republican River is on a rampage and is higher than in 1892. Hundreds of acres are under water. The wooden bridge north of the Mill, our first bridge, has been carried away. Traveling salesmen are tied up here, but are having a good time at the Barons, Colson and Exchange hotels.

L. C. Knudson was arrested on a State Warrant for refusal to send his children to school and fined \$10.00. He was committed to jail until he pays. He absolutely refused to send his children to the Concordia school because the Bible is not taught.

The Nazareth Academy has opened its 1903 session in the elegant new building at the south end of Washington Street.

Physicians are of the opinion that the Washington and High School buildings should be equipped with modern and sanitary closets and connected with the sewer. This should have been done when the sewers were built. It would mean better sanitary conditions.

Mrs. Hoffman, who conducts the Imperial Dancing Academy in Concordia, is opening another dancing school in Beloit.

Mr. J. D. Fell has been elected Grand Standard Bearer of the Grand Commandery of the Knights Templar of Kansas.

A convention of the North Central Kansas Editors' Association was held in Concordia for two days. Every effort was made by the entire town to extend the best possible entertainment to the distinguished visitors. Mrs. George Marshall opened her lovely home for entertainment of the visitors on the first evening of the meeting. Mrs. P. B. Pulsifer and Mrs. E. V. D. Brown played piano duets during the evening, and the Clyde quartette sang. Members of the quartette were Messrs. Ware, Buller, LeCuyer and M. V. B. VanDeMark. Wives of prominent Concordia citizens assisted with the serving of the food and, on the whole, it was a joyous occasion. Following the affair at the Marshall home, a Smoker for the men was held at the Elks Club.

The following morning the guests were taken on a carriage sight-seeing tour of the city. At each stop they were entertained and refreshments were served. They

visited St. Joseph's Hospital, where Dr. Priest, Chief Surgeon, personally escorted the distinguished visitors; the Concordia Business College and the new Nazareth Convent, where a lovely musical program by the students and sisters was performed.

Chautauqua is advertised for Concordia in the summer of 1904. An entire week of superlative entertainments under canvas; lectures, music, readings and entertainment.

W. W. Bowman was chosen first secretary of the Kansas Bankers' Association. This is a very great honor for one of our valued citizens.

Alman Barrett Opera Co. presented scenes from many operas. Concordia demonstrated its cultural sense by a very appreciative response to this outstanding program.

Concordia has a small dog which meets every train that comes through. When the schedule of one of the trains was changed recently the poor animal was at a loss for a couple of days, but soon discovered when the train did arrive, and faithfully appeared to meet it. Concordia has another interesting dog. Dr. Sage, dentist, loves his animal so much he has filled the dog's teeth with gold fillings.

The Pythians and Commercial Travelers had a wonderful Ball at their new lodge rooms. The ladies' gowns were dreams of loveliness. Dr. E. J. Wilson, F. W. Sturges, Harry Davies, W. J. Brace and Ed Haug were the committee in charge of the entertainment. Frank McVey appeared as the singing evangelist. A good time was had by all and most did not return home till the small hours of the morning.

Farmers are agitating to have their telephones connected to a central switchboard in Concordia.

The magnificent new Fair Grounds opened September 28, 1905. Horse racing at the Fair Grounds during Fair week is very popular.

The son of Frank Davis was brought to St. Joseph's hospital with a bone in his throat. When every effort to remove it failed, it was finally located by x-ray and removed surgically.

The first automobile in Concordia was an Autocar owned by Dr. Ida Wiard, in 1905. This week three big spanking new automobiles were unloaded here and made that many people happy. The new cars are all the Haynes make, two with green gear and one with yellow. The automobiles are two-seated and fine looking. They belong to W. M. Peck, F. J. Atwood and J. F. St. Clair. It is said these gentlemen sat up half the night waiting for the freight to come in. Concordia now has ten automobiles.

One of the really charming events of the winter was the dinner dance given by Mrs. G. W. Marshall for her niece, Miss Marjorie Marshall, and for Miss Edna Dinsmoor of Lawrence. Dancing began at 10:00 in the third floor ballroom. Mrs. Marshall was assisted by her sons, George and Joe. The guests were Mr. and Mrs. Ed Haug, Misses Nettie Sohlinger, Margie Darlington, Nina Fell, Opal Buck, Ruth Ainsworth, Josephine Wrong, Margaret Peck, Katherine Wrong, Sara Martin of Omaha, and Messrs. Charles Skinner, Ray Sawhill, Oscar Seyster, Theo. Harker, Minor Wares, George Sprague, W. T. Wright, Clifford Peck and W. H. Danenbarger.

There is no need of Carrie Nation in Concordia as long as the Hon. W. W. Caldwell stays here. Normally a suave, polite man, and one of Concordia's wealthiest and most influential citizens, he entered Colson's Hotel with a hatchet and proceeded to the basement where the bar is located and went at the fixtures and bottles until everything was a wreck. As Mr. Caldwell owns the property,

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he warned Mr. Colson that worse things would happen if he continued to have liquor on the premises.

Atheum celebrated its tenth anniversary in Concordia with a reception at the home of Mrs. J. H. Cline at which about 300 women paid their respects to the club and members. Mrs. Cline, Mrs. M. Sohlinger, and Mrs. J. F. Hannum stood in the receiving line.

In 1907 St. Joseph's Hospital is greatly enhanced by the addition of Dr. F. E. Way, who is in charge of Pathology and Bacteriology. He has provided himself with one of the finest microscopes extant and with the necessary instruments for making a "blood count."

Little Marian Margaret Carnahan gave a party last night for a few of her friends, and after a supper served picnic style on the lawn, they played ring-around-the-rosey, drop the handkerchief, post office and other amusing games. The guests were little Maude Pinney, Maudie and George McConahey, Eddie Wilson and Charlie Davis.

In 1907 Golden wedding anniversaries were celebrated by Mr. and Mrs. N. Chartier, Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Tankersley, Mr. and Mrs. Gosselin. Perhaps the couple married the longest in Concordia are Mr. and Mrs. F. W. Neitzel who celebrated their golden wedding anniversary in 1903.

The Whist Club and the Jayhawker Club played duplicate whist and the Whist Club won. The contest and party was held at the home of the Sutherlands. Mrs. E. V. D. Brown and Mrs. A. B. Carney played several pretty piano duets during the party.

At the County Fair in 1908 the greatest attraction was the automobile race. The autos went at high speed in a ten mile an hour race against time.

This is the way it was 1910-1920

A. A. Wilson's White Gasoline car was unloaded today. And an automobile club has been organized to promote the use of the modern motor car. The officers are W. H. Danenbarger, J. F. Shea and L. F. Davidson.

In 1911 the trustees of the Swedish Sunset Home officially decided to make Concordia the permanent location for their Home.

Concordia has been invited to send a representative to a meeting in Salina to discuss the route of a highway north and south, and to discuss ways in which the towns along the route can finance the construction of such a road.

Fly-swatters were offered for sale for the first time.

Governor Stubbs of Kansas ordered an investigation of gambling dens in Kansas City, Wichita and Concordia.

The Fair Board in 1911 was Frank Baker, President; H. W. Barber, treasurer; and Fred Sturges, Jr., secretary. The U. S. Army Band from Fort Riley will play every afternoon and evening of the Fair.

The Chatauqua program of 1912 had singing groups, mystic creations, lectures and a reading of "The sign of the Cross." The greatest attraction of the week was the appearance of Mr. William Jennings Bryan, presidential hopeful. The tent was jammed for his speech. Following his lecture, Mr. W. M. Peck drove Mr. Bryan to Washington, Kansas, to fulfill a speaking engagement. That evening in Concordia there was a violent windstorm which blew down the Chatauqua tent, causing great fright among the spectators who had to grope in the darkness to find a way out from under the tent. A heavy rain fell over a wide area and Will Peck had extreme difficulty getting home from Washington, Kansas, because the mud mired the wheels of his Pope-Hartford car. Will's first grandson, William Earl Wright, was born that night.

A Concordia man with a full grown thirst swiped some huckleberry wine from the cellar of Dr. Davies. The loss was discovered and Carl Moore's famous pack of bloodhounds was put to work and led officers to the home of the huckleberry soaked citizen. He is now in the county bastille, and no doubt now sees the folly of confiscating booze without a supply of cayenne pepper to muss up his footsteps.

The Moose Club, founded in Concordia in 1912, advertises insurance which can be bought from the club.

Sheriff Carl Moore and Undersheriff Swafford went to Kansas City to attend the annual dog show. They exhibited their fine English Blood Hounds, and the dogs won everything in their classes at the show.

George Maute and H. M. Davies went to Waconda Springs for several days' treatment at the famous springs just west of Concordia.

Improvement club was formed in December of 1913. The members are Mrs. H. L. Baker, Mrs. Foote, Mrs. Priest, Mrs. C. B. Davies, Mrs. Maute, Mrs. J. E. Smith, Mrs. Wasmer, Mrs. Danenbarger, Mrs. Clyde Short, Mrs. Van De Mark, Mrs. Bennett and Mrs. George Layton.

In 1915 movies are being shown at the Lyric Theater across from the Bon Marche. You can see a three reel movie called "The Heart of the Night Winds."

Sheriff Carl Moore arrested two boys, George McConnell and Clifford Buckley, who were caught smoking cigarettes. They were fined \$3.00 and were paroled on promise of good behavior.

The first services were held in the new Presbyterian Church in 1916.

It was announced that a new \$50,000.00 hospital building will be erected just east of and adjoining the present St. Joseph Hospital.

Dr. A. M. Burbank opened a dental office in Concordia. As the war clouds gathered in Europe, an army recruiting office was opened in Concordia.

The French Embroidery Club met at Betournay's and the Nerissa Society met at Peck's.

Mabel McConaughy entertained at dinner the Misses Ruth Sheldon, Katherine Wrong, Frances McCassey, Ruth Ainsworth and Ruth Peck. The line party went to the White Way Theater to a movie, then returned to the Park Pulsifer home to play five-hundred. The Pulsifer's niece, Miss Sheldon, served a lunch late in the evening.

The crude oil, used by the Concordia Electric Light Co. to run its monster engines, got so cold they could not get it into the fireboxes and Concordia was without power for ten hours.

Mr. and Mrs. E. T. Haug entertained at an auction bridge party. Those present included the George Laytons, Frank Bakers, C. L. Shorts, Don Bolmans, W. H. Danenbargers, St. Johns, John Davies, Mrs. J. B. Watts, Mrs. Otto Kiene, Mrs. Geo. Marshall and Mr. Leo Harris.

The movie, "The Birth of a Nation," has been banned in Kansas because it is racially prejudicial. Those from Concordia who have seen it in Kansas City report it lasts three hours and is very exciting.

The Victor Talking machines are popular. There is great fear of the disease, Infantile Paralysis, with several cases in town.

On January 10th, 1917, the first real snow in two years fell—six inches.

Police have been instructed to stop kids from hooking their sleds on behind cars. Often as many as four sleds will be hooked to a car, sometimes without the driver knowing they are there. This is very dangerous.

War has broken out in Europe with the German armies

under Kaiser Wilhelm marching across Europe. The United States is determined to stay out of the conflict.

Banks in Concordia have announced they must lock their doors promptly at 4:00 o'clock because of the increase of bank robberies.

The Red Cross is active in helping the war victims in Europe. Mrs. George Layton is chairman of shipping. She has listed the surgical dressings sent to the front. Anyone is welcome to help prepare these and classes are taught in how to prepare surgical dressings. A White Elephant sale helped provide the supplies for making up the dressings.

Mr. and Mrs. George Cook left for Lubbock, Texas, where Mr. Cook will take a position as cashier of the Farmer's National Bank of Lubbock. For the past two years, Mr. Cook has been employed at the Cloud County Bank.

April 1917—The United States has entered the war in Europe.

The local draft board is made up of Sheriff Swafford, County Clerk Guilbert and Dr. W. B. Beach.

Joe Marshall is now with General Pershing in France.

Concordia raised more than \$1,600.00 for relief of the children of Belgium. Young Joe Marshall has been abroad and at a meeting at the Brown Grand Theater, he gave a lecture on the starvation he had witnessed in Belgium. Marie Wheeland played the piano while the collection was taken.

M. V. B. Van De Mark replaced Sheriff Swafford on the draft board when Swafford was called up to serve in the Army.

A "loyalty" meeting was held at the Brown Grand Theater. W. H. Austin, president of the Commercial Club, presided. J. M. Harrison, Kenneth Knapp, Ralph Davies and Senator A. B. Carney spoke.

Miss Katherine Wrong and Dr. Ross Weaver were married. Dr. Weaver is a first Lieutenant in the Reserve Corps and will report for active duty in October, 1917.

Among the first men from Concordia called to report to Camp Funston near Manhattan were Guy Haverstock, E. J. Francoeur, Chas. Wright, Millard Renbarger, Ernest Stortz, Vern Blaine, Price Huff, A. J. Byrier, Earl Olney, Glen Goodwin, Harry Davies, Bernard Sheridan, Vernon DeWitt, William McDaniel, Daniel McCarty, Oscar Haseur, Vern Eakins, Archie Denneau, Arthur Nordeen, Gaspar Fraser, Carl Atwater and Ira Wallace.

Concordia has formed a Home Guard, which gave a home talent show directed by Jack Kohler.

Mrs. Raymond Green is president of the local Red Cross.

Auto news: Roy Fahlstrom was arrested and fined for speeding. Henry Martin was trying to drive up an incline in his new Chevy, just purchased from Sid Knapp, when he killed the engine and the car rolled backwards and tipped over. He was uninjured.

A Liberty Loan Rally was held in Miltonvale and Gomer Davies and Fred Atwood were speakers.

The 35th Division of the 137th Infantry, the division that most of the Concordia boys are in, has been transferred from Camp Doniphan; probably to the point of embarkation.

Bess Haughey entertained Warum Club. There were eight tables of auction bridge.

November 7th, 1918, a false armistice was proclaimed, and on November 11th, the war ended. Concordia celebrated by parading in the streets. Everyone carried flags, car horns honked continuously and businesses closed for the day. Everyone seemed to have a gun loaded with live ammunition which they kept firing into the air. A great bonfire was built in the City Park. Dummy Kaisers were thrown on the fire, and a street dance was held that night.

During the election campaign of 1918, there was no public campaigning because of the terrible influenza epidemic.

November 28, 1919, Harry M. Davies received a letter from Kansas Senator Carl Curtis that his son, George Davies, had been killed in action at the battle of the Argonne in September.

Cases of "flu" are listed on the front page of the paper . . . it is a very long list.

Wounded and missing are still being reported to their families months after the war is over. The family of Captain Carl Rogers feared he was dead, but received a message from him that he was safe.

The Bowman Seed Company has only been operating for two months and is already expanding.

Frank Carlson has arrived home from Camp Travis, Texas.

The Concordia Country Club has been organized and the golf course laid out in Sturges pasture. The golf links are in good shape and members are enjoying the sport.

C. M. Atwood announced the sale of his jewelry store to E. R. Ingersoll, who will also have an optical business.

September 11, 1919, Barnum and Bailey Circus played in Concordia to the largest crowd they have ever had under the Big Top.

The first Armistice day, November 11, 1919, was celebrated with a huge celebration.

This is the way it was 1920-1930

The coal unions are on strike. Frank Daugherty has reopened the mines at Minersville. This is a city project and gives work to a number of idle men. But the coal is of such poor quality and so difficult to get to town, the project will close.

Ernie Quigley put Concordia on the map by umpiring the Harvard-Oregon football game in Los Angeles.

The new Concordia Hospital, operated by the Swedish Baptists, is open on Sunset Hill. The building is the former palatial residence of Mr. Watts. Superintendents are Mr. and Mrs. Fred Carlson, and staff members include Dr. W. E. Hatch, Dr. E. N. Robertson and Dr. L. E. Anderson.

At the February meeting of the Country Club, the following committees were appointed: Greens committee, Paul Edquist, C. L. Davies and Clyde Short; Building committee, J. R. Rand, Thomas Whitcomb, J. D. Fell; House committee, Gus Sturges, F. E. Horseman, K. K. Knapp; Social committee, Robert Misell, George Cook, Fred Gaudreau; Tennis committee, B. W. Chappell, Richard Austin, L. H. McDonald; Tournament committee, Dr. Ross Weaver, F. L. Short, Frank Hannum; Membership committee, A. B. Carney. At this meeting it was decided to hire a steward for the coming year, also to purchase a horse and wagon, the horse being used to mow the fairways. Ezra

This page sponsored by



Missouri Pacific Station about 1880



Courthouse, 1959



Gelvin-Haughey Clinic



Concordia Library, 1909



Cloud Ceramics Brick Company



Concordia Postoffice, 1914



Armory, South Highway 81



Concordia City Hall

Huscher was elected to the Board of Directors.

Ray Green has sold his interest in the Brown Grand Theater to the Concordia Amusement Company, composed of C. P. Rogers, Jerry Kershner, J. A. Brady, Russell Carlgren and Perry Murdock.

Homer Kennett, Concordia's most remarkable mayor (he ran the city almost single handed and kept it out of debt), was killed in an automobile accident.

Ray Green and Walter Carlisle represented Concordia at a "Good Roads" banquet at the Barons House. The meeting was concerned with getting a good highway through Concordia.

A jury of local women was asked to decide on the sanity of a woman from the Cloud County Poor Farm before Probate Judge Emma Wilmoth.

The Women's Community Club sponsored a local talent show at the Brown Grand. The show was "O, O, Cindy," and Olive Ingersoll, Helen Palmer, Josephine Boggs and Leo Haughey had the leading parts.

An Aero show was held in Concordia on September 1, 1921.

For the first time in the history of the local High School, a commercial course is offered.

The townfolk had a "get-together" picnic in the City Park for the farmers and families. There were three bands, speeches, races and a baseball game.

Charles Cook, who is a student at Northwestern University, is home for the holidays.

The Rotary Club voted to conduct a survey to help boys between the ages of six and sixteen in our community. As a result of the survey, in April, 1922, the Rotary Club held a special meeting to hear a representative of the Boy Scouts tell of the procedure to start the Scout movement in Concordia. He stated it would require \$5,000.00 for the first year. In less than ten minutes members of Rotary had subscribed \$3,000.00. The first Scoutmaster in Concordia was Ted Wright.

Announcement of the marriage of Dr. Clarence Welker to Miss Harriett Young was made.

Concordians will entertain many auto tourists during the summer of 1922, since the new Kansas City to Denver Airline Highway opened. The new road goes from Kansas City through Lawrence, Topeka, Manhattan, then veers north to include Concordia.

Sheriff Moore made a raid on a gambling hall in the rear of the old skating rink hall.

Sid Knapp received his commission as Postmaster. The Treasury Department is allowing Mr. Knapp to plant grass, trees and a hedge around the postoffice.

Schumann-Heink is returning to sing for Concordia, May 15, 1922, at the Brown Grand.

Robbers called on the dentists in Concordia, taking the entire gold stock of Drs. Eagleson, Moore and Beland.

More than 2000 are expected to attend the Knights of Columbus district convention in Concordia.

The last alumni banquet was held at Nazareth Academy. Next year Nazareth will be replaced by Marymount of Salina.

George Huscher sold his interest in the Concordia Milling Company to Messrs. Wasmer and Bennett.

August 9th, 1922, farmers were guests of the Concordia businessmen at Chautauqua.

An abortive attempt to establish the Ku Klux Klan in Concordia caused a community storm of emotional outcry, and led to many tense situations—including a law suit. At the same time tabernacle revival meetings in Concordia under Mr. Rose were attracting capacity crowds.

Fathers and Sons under the auspices of the local YMCA had a successful picnic at the "Rocks" east of town with

250 in attendance. A. A. Stockton led in the singing.

Five Concordia Boy Scouts received merit of honor badges: Donald Wade, Donald Haug, William Layton, Sidney Knapp and Richard Kiene.

A popular fad among the younger set of Concordia is giving of dancing parties with music furnished by radio.

W. E. Bonneau, Phil Chartier and George Cook Jr. won three sweepstakes awards in the various classes of poultry exhibited at the Cloud County Poultry Show.

Rox Cook, twirler for the Concordia Travelers, pitched his team to victory. Players were Gregory, Colson, Shrouf, McHain, Heller, Olson, Lanoue, Cook and Parker.

Concordia was host to the annual Cloud County Teachers' Institute. Among those enrolled are Alice Sjogren, V. H. Davidson, Dora Engle and Lois Decker.

The men who robbed Mr. and Mrs. O. W. Wasmer of \$2,500.00 in cash and jewelry the night of April 29, 1923, were apprehended in Los Angeles.

Concordia Elks Club was host to the annual "kids" party under the direction of Mrs. George Maute, who was assisted by Mrs. Ed Kerin, Mrs. A. M. Burbank and Miss Crystal McClean.

George Bowman and Ed Wilson are captains of the opposing teams for the golf season.

The first debates ever held at the Concordia High School took place. The teams consisted of: Affirmative—Robert McKinnon, Melvin Smith and Robert Wilson; Negative—Mary Laing, Franklin Kellogg and Louis Garlow.

Sheriff Kersenbrock and a party of deputies made a raid on the tenant on the Rossiter farm. The Sheriff found and confiscated 100 gallons of apricot and rye mash, and a sixty gallon still.

Baseball fans are invited to park their cars in front of the Blade office and hear the World Series on radio.

The Power Company held a cooking school to demonstrate the wonderful new electric ranges.

Many merchants are entering floats in the parade on July 5th, 1925. The queen candidates for "Miss Columbia" are Eleanor Wright, Aurelia Morrissette, Merle Layton, Ruby Sjogren, Mattie Holbert, Ruth Cushing, Roberta Hawkins, Mary Capper, Gertrude Henderson, Vera Farrell and Dorothy Watts.

On Sunday, July 4th, the Junior Jazzers orchestra composed of ten to twelve year old local boys will play at Poole's Cafe during lunch and dinner hours.

The pageant given by the Episcopal Church was well attended. Parts were taken by Hannah Haug, Jim Haughey, Rachel Kiene, Mary Short, Junior Haughey, Arnold Parks, John Peck and Dick Weaver.

Gather Inn Dance Hall, north of town, announced the names of the bands who will play for featured dances (Lawrence Welk played at Gather Inn when he was an unknown).

"Mugwump Musings" by Marion Ellet appeared for the first time April 15, 1926, in the Blade.

Swim meets are being featured at the City pool in the north part of Concordia.

The Travelers Baseball team of Concordia won the Denver Post Tourney in Denver.

A caravan of gypsies went through town and it is reported they all seemed to be enjoying their trip.

Fenton Sherwood was killed while racing his car with another student when they drove in to school.

The Concordia High School football team drubbed the Salina team. The Concordia players were Wagner, Ramsey, Marcy, Godfrey, Weaver, Hull, Spicer, Henderson, Grout, Saindon and Lague.

Letters to Santa are always printed on the front page of the paper.



Concordia Street Scene 1881



Concordia Street Scene 1881



Washington Street showing Colson Hotel
Old Caldwell Building and Baron's House



Concordia Street Scene 1905



Jail Hill—Early County Jail



Elks Club



CONCORDIA CENTENNIAL, INC.

proudly presents

“PRAIRIE PORTRAIT”

a

JOHN B. ROGERS CO. PRODUCTION

staged and directed

by

EDWARD J. HAMILTON

Narrators

JEANNE CHUBBUCK

DOUG JOHNSON

JANNA LIGGETT

DON LAMBERT

BARBARA OWENSBY

BOB WILSON

CONCORDIA ATHLETIC FIELD

August 10-11-12-13-14

8:00 p. m.

Prairie Portrait Cast

"PROLOGUE TO HER MAJESTY"

TRUMPETERS: Renee Chaput, Dana Hinson, Julie Jager, Lynnette Johnson

FLAG BEARERS: Jerry Johnston, Kelly Leon, Stuart Leon, Don Liedtke, David Martin, Larry Rittel, Steven Roberts, Diana GrandPre, Cheryl Kuchera, RhoDonna Morris, Cindy Pearce, Kathy Pearce, Susan Perret, Mary Ann Tallent

BOY SCOUTS: Rocky Aldridge, John Betzner, Vernon Branson, Randall Carpenter, Mike Caylor, Brad Chambers, Curtis Champlin, Gary Champlin, Greg Champlin, Shaun Champlin, Steve Champlin, Jack Fisher, Jerry Fisher, Darwin Folkerts, Gary Fraser, Jerry Grounds, Mark Haist, Mike Haist, Brad Henderson, Philip Hill, Bryce Johnston, Matt Kates, Larry Lesperance, Robert Letourneau, David Machmer, Doug Matthews, Alan Mills, Mark Moffett, Paul Moffett, Robbie Nixon, Troy Lee Reed, Jeff Schuyler, Mark Seim, Scott Sheely, Tommy Sother, Timmy Tholstrup, Brian Chambers, James Nixon, Thomas Nixon

CAMP FIRE GIRLS: Kim Bray, Cathy Breault, Gail Christensen, Sandra Dixon, Brenda Fees, Jenny Fisher, Gayle Hanson, Lisa Hopkins, Kelly Jager, Teresa Johnson, Sherrell Kates, Kathy Laing, Kim Lanoue, Louisa Letourneau, Julie Metro, Emilie Peterson, Glenda Richter, Joy Ridgeway, Lisa Slaughter, Annie Wiesner, Lisa Wilson, Lisa Winter, Andrea Berner, Julie Buechel, Connie Carpenter, Jeri Chaput, Cynthia Doyen, Paula Everitt, Debbie Haist, Jan Hesser, Marcia Higgins, Deidra Hinson, Mary Hotaling, Kimberly Johnson, Sue Lefort, Janet McCartney, Pamela Miller, Kate Mitchell, Beth Morrison, Nancy Olson, Shelly Potter, Karla Rogers, Kathy Seim, Sherry Sheely, Patty Tholstrup, Leslie Wilson, Cynthia Berner, Marlys Swenson

EPISODE I: THE TIME MACHINE

PROFESSOR: Arley Bryant
TINKER: D. L. "Heavy" Layton

EPISODE II: THE SONG OF THE LAND

Scene 1: The Originals

INDIAN CHIEF: Don Liedtke
INDIAN PRINCESS: Lee Nixon

INDIAN BOYS: Corey Cook, David Cook

INDIAN GIRLS: Susanna Pitzer, Jeannette Yarnell

INDIAN BRAVES: Dennis Johnson, Kenneth Johnson, Jerry Johnson, Kelly Leon, Stuart Leon, David Martin, Pat Peery, Scott Reeves, Larry Rittel, Scott Weigand, Curtis Wilson

INDIAN SQUAWS: Cynthia Berner, Therese Breault, Sheri Carpenter, Kelly GrandPre, Susan Herman, Sheryl Kuchera, Jane LaBarge, Loleta Monty, Melinda Roberts, Beth Samuelson, Linda Samuelson, Jewell Trueblood, Yolanda Walsh

INDIAN DANCING MAIDENS: Debbie Andrews, Rhonda Bohm, Janice Budreau, Susan Cailteux, Peggy Colby, Jean Darby, Sue Edwards, Pam Fleenor, Debbie Fowler, Kathy Gieswein, Mary Gocke, Peggy Graham, Kim Harper, Mary Hepperly, Linda Hubert, Sonia Johnston, Vicki Johnston, Debbie Jones, Melinda Melhus, Janice Myers, Ann Pearson, Lynn Pettygrove, Carole Rivers, Donna Spafford, Marlys Swenson, Nancy Townsend, Cindy Walton

Scene 2: Settlin' Down

PIONEER MEN: Max Anderson, Chester Brumfield, Ralph Campbell, Cliff Caywood, Ronald Cote, Don Demanett, Frank Demanette, Keith Dyson, Martin Frybarger, Alan Higgins, Dean Hinson, Gene Johnson, Harold Johnston, Melvin Kline, George Kocher, Joe Kuchera, John Laman, Lawrence Laman, Adrian Lancue, John Larson, D. L. "Heavy" Layton, Raymond Marcotte, Bernard Nobert, Gilbert Perret, Jim Snyder, Marvin Stortz, Mike Yaksich, Ross Doyen

PIONEER WOMEN: Lucena Anderson, Arlene Brumfield, Bertha Campbell, Doris Caywood, Marie Cote, Neva Demanett, Joan Demanette, Zella Dyson, Faye Frybarger, Annette Higgins, Diane Hinson, Jean Johnson, Barbara Johnston, Virginia Kline, Helen Kocher, Pat Kuchera, Shirley Laman, Helena Laman, Carolyn Lanoue, Alice Larson, Rita Layton, Lucille Marcotte, Beulah Nobert, Ella Paquette, Verona Perret, Rosella Ribordy, Eileen Snyder, Jane Wilson, Odella Yaksich, Judy Doyen

PIONEER BOYS: Randy Ames, Kirk Gieswein, Larry Jackson, Kevin Johnson, Kevin Johnston, Kurt Johnston, Kurt Kocher, John Lanoue, Vance Watchous

PIONEER GIRLS: Tammy Ames, Jo Bryant, Janelle Collette, Sherri Coy, Marcia Johnston, Modene Johnston, Jill Kocher, Martha Lanoue, Mary Lanoue, Michelle Lanoue, Martha Watchous, Rhonda Watchous, Janice Kuchera, Connie Kuchera

EPISODE III—THE SONG OF THE CITY

Scene 1: The Paper Town

OLD FASHIONED MEN: John Breault, Gary Cook, Keith Edwards, Lee Gale, Earle Hays, Dean Johnston, Jerry Joler, Bill Lagemann, Adrian Lanoue, Robert Machen, Dalton Marten, Dallas Nading, Paul Nelson, David Potter, Clifford Roberts, Ted Samuelson, A. G. "Jake" Swiercinsky, Robert Weigand, Dean Williams, Dean Winter, Tom Zugelder

OLD FASHIONED WOMEN: Sandra Cook, Esther Edwards, Bette Hays, Rebecca Hotaling, Marilyn Johnston, Joyce Joler, Mary Ann Lagemann, Carolyn Lanoue, Lela Machen, Ruth Marten, Nancy Nading, Peggy Nelson, Jean Potter, Bernice Roberts, Betty Samuelson, Jean Swiercinsky, Bette Weigand, Shelly Weigand, Joyce Williams, Marie Winter, Sharon Zugelder

OLD FASHIONED BOYS: Bryce Johnston, John Lagemann, Tracy Potter, Mitchell Weigand

OLD FASHIONED GIRLS: Kim Bray, Julie Cook, Gwen Fleenor, Mary Lisa Lagemann

Scene 2: Larnin' Our ABC's

TEACHER: Sharon Pendergrass

BOYS: Brian Berner, Kenny Branson, Corey Cook, David Cook, Tim McMenomey, Todd Pettygrove, Brad Predmore, Brian Predmore

GIRLS: Andrea Berner, Julie Cook, Angela Doyen, Cynthia Doyen, Mary Hotaling, Barbara Metro, Kim Olson, Nancy Olson, Kim Pettygrove, Karla Rogers

Scene 3: Faith Of Our Fathers

EPISODE IV: THE SONG OF AGGRESSION

SOLDIERS: Jack Barba, Robert Boardman, Bill Forshee, Keith Jackson, Ferril Laman, Leonard Marcotte, Devine Montoya, Elden Nelson, Damian Nobert, Kenneth Peery, Ted Peltier, Gilbert G. Perret

WOMEN: Josephine Barba, Paula Boardman, Freda Jackson, Viola Johnston, Thelma Kitterman, Mabel Laman, Mary Marcotte, Norma Montoya, Anita Nelson, Fedora Nobert, Doris Peery, Lena Peltier

BOYS: Barry Boardman, Ronnie Branson, Daniel Marcotte, Galen Nobert, John Peery

EPISODE V—THE SONG OF THE WHEEL

Scene 1: The Coming Of The Iron Horse

Scene 2: The Golden Era

MRS. DO-GOOD: Sherrie Erhardt

BATHING BEAUTIES: Nancy Champlin, Margaret Clark, Peggy Doyen, Margaret Hattan, Beverly Lapo, Rita Lowell

LIFE GUARDS: George Champlin, Harold Clark, Lee Doyen, Hugh Hattan, Gary Lapo, Steve Wilson

GAY NINETIES MEN: Roy Anderson, Wayne Chesebro, Louis Christensen, Dick Culbertson, Elmer Dicke, Jim Douglass, Arthur I. Eakins, Leon Gennette, Keith Jackson, Floyd Johnson, Paul Johnson, Robert R. Keiser, Ferril Laman, Leo Mayfield, Wilbur Naylor, Noel Nickel, Damian Nobert, Leon Rightmeier, Lee Scott, Wayne Scott, Leslie Ward

GAY NINETIES WOMEN: Kay Anderson, Letha Mae Brooks, Martha Bryant, Pauline Christensen, Geneva Culbertson, Gertrude Dicke, Marilyn Douglass, Lorene Fraser, Alexcine Grimm, Ethel Henthorne, Freda Jackson, Faith Johnson, Gerna Johnson, Mabel Laman, Marilyn Nickel, Fedora Nobert, Florence Paillette, Bonnie Rightmeier, Evelyn Scott, Verna Scott, Frances Walker Beryl Ward

GAY NINETIES BOYS: Tony Anderson, Fred Balthazor, Jeff Brodbeck, Todd Brodbeck, Brad Douglass, Craig Douglass, Gary Fraser, Todd Gennette, Jim Jackson, John Jackson, Ron Jackson, Steven Lawton, Bradley Nading, Galen Nobert, Randy Scott, Steven Scott

GAY NINETIES GIRLS: Lesa Anderson, Rhonda Bohm, Shelli Douglass, Marcia Greene, Cindy Jackson, Lori Jackson, Susan Jackson, Janet Lawton, Jani Nading, Lynnette Nickel, Amy Scott, Jan Wiltse, Sylvia Workman

Scene 3: The Roaring Twenties

THEDA BARA: Sandra Cook

HUSBAND: Bill Berner

LOVER: Gary Cook

SPECIALTY—CHARLESTON DANCERS: Albert Callaway, Doran Chaput, David Clemons, Mike Farmer, Terry Gentry, Mike Graham, Ray Harper, Brad Lowell, Carl Meats, Roy Nixon, Verlyn Trueblood, Betsy Baumann, Vicki Brodbeck, Susan Callaway, Cindy Chaput, Carol Clemons, Ann Doyen, Carol Doyen, Sue Edwards, Jane Kasper, Donna Spafford, Carol Trueblood

Scene 4: The Dark Years

Scene 5: Cops And Robbers

EPISODE VI—THE SONG OF LOVE

OUR ENTIRE CAST

Schedule of Events

OLD FASHIONED BARGAIN DAYS

Friday, August 6th

All Day

Our merchants help us celebrate with the greatest sale ever. Free buggy rides for the kids; door prizes for Mom and Dad. Downtown entertainment throughout the day.

9:00 a.m.-5:30 p.m.

Art Show Cloud County Bank promenade.

9:30-4:30 p. m.

Hospitality Center open, American Legion.

6:30 p. m.

Mayor's Night Block Party Finale: Fun for young and old at Centennial (City) Park.

OLD FASHIONED BARGAIN DAYS

Saturday, August 7th

All Day

Gigantic sale continues at all participating stores.

9:30-4:30

Hospitality Center open, American Legion.

9:00 p. m.

Centennial Coronation Ball. Two big dances to celebrate the crowning of our Centennial queen.

10:30 p. m.

Coronation of queen.

FAITH OF OUR FATHERS DAY

Sunday, August 8th

Morning

All local and area churches will observe their religious heritage, each in its own way.

Afternoon

Church picnics and gatherings.

3:30 p. m.

Tug of War: Concordia vs. Russell!

8:00 p. m.

Interfaith "Faith of Our Fathers Observance at Pageant site (Concordia athletic field).

SPECIAL CENTENNIAL DAY

Monday, August 9th

9:00 a. m.-4:00 p. m.

Flea Market and antique sale in downtown Concordia. Hospitality Center at American Legion.

1:00 p. m.

Antique auction at reviewing stand.

5:00-11:00 p. m.

Centennial Park opens at City park; entertainment, games and family fun for all.

GOVERNOR AND HOMECOMING DAY

Tuesday, August 10th

9:30-4:30 p. m.

Hospitality Center open, American Legion.

9:30 a. m.

Press Coffee for news media with Governor, congressman, special Centennial guests.

11:00 a.m.

Church bells ring, whistles blow as dignitaries and the public officially open Centennial at reviewing stand.

12:30 p. m.

Governor's luncheon.

4:00 p. m.

Centennial parade.

5:30 p. m.

Old fashioned barbecue at Centennial (City) Park.

5:00 p. m.-11:00 p. m.

Centennial Park open.

8:00 p. m.

Pre-Pageant entertainment at Concordia athletic field.

8:30 p. m.

Premier performance of "PRAIRIE PORTRAIT."

PIONEER AND LADIES DAY

Wednesday, August 11th

7:00 a.m.-9:00 a.m.

Country style breakfast at Boogaart's parking lot.

9:30 a. m.-4:30 p. m.

Hospitality Center open, American Legion.

10:00 a. m.-12:00 noon

Arts and crafts display, downtown.

2:00 p. m.

Centennial costume contest and Indian fashion show at the Grand Theatre.

5:00 p. m.-11:00 p. m.

Centennial (City) Park open.

8:00 p. m.

Pre-pageant entertainment at athletic field.

8:30 p. m.

Second performance of "Prairie Portrait."

YOUTH DAY

Thursday, August 12th

9:00 a. m.

Youth bicycle, pet and costume parade.

9:30 a. m.-4:30 p. m.

Hospitality Center open, American Legion.

10:00 a. m.-12:00 noon

Free swim for ages 11-14, city pool.

1:00 p. m.-4:00 p. m.

Youth games.

4:00 p. m.

Watermelon feed.

5:00 p. m.-11:00 p. m.

Centennial (City) Park open.

8:00 p. m.

Pre-Pageant entertainment.

8:30 p. m.

Third performance of "Prairie Portrait."

10:00 p. m.

Battle of the Bands at the band shell.

CLOUD COUNTY DAY

Friday, August 13th

9:30 a. m.-4:30 p. m.

Hospitality Center open, American Legion.

10:00 a. m.

Threshing bee at Fairgrounds. Tractor pulls start and continue throughout the day.

2:00 p. m.

Threshing bee at Fairgrounds.

All Day
Machinery exhibits at Fairgrounds.
5:00 p. m.-11:00 p. m.
Centennial (City) Park open.
8:00 p. m.
Pre-pageant entertainment at athletic field.
8:30 p. m.
Fourth performance of "Prairie Portrait."

GOOD NEIGHBORS DAY Saturday, August 14th

9:30 a. m.-4:30 p. m.
Hospitality Center open, American Legion.
10:30 a. m.
Dedication of Time Capsule.
11:00 a. m.-3:00 p. m.
Antique car display, downtown.
1:00 p. m.
Entertainment at reviewing stand, beard judging contest.
1:00 p. m.-4:00 p. m.
Tours of Nazareth convent and grounds.
3:30 p. m.
Auction of sterling silver Centennial medallion sets. Numbers 1-30.
4:00 p. m.
Gala Centennial grand parade.
5:30 p. m.
Old fashioned barbecue at Centennial (City) Park.
5:00 p. m.-11:00 p. m.
Centennial Park open.

8:00 p. m.
Pre-pageant entertainment at Athletic field.
8:30 p. m.
Final performance of "Prairie Portrait."

SUSTAINING EVENTS

HOSPITALITY CENTER

Aug. 9-14, 9:30 a. m.-4:30 p. m. Meet friends, leave notes, register out-of-town guests and past residents at the American Legion.

CENTENNIAL (CITY) PARK

Aug. 9-14, 5:00 p. m.-11:00 p. m. Games, pony rides, entertainment! Have a family picnic along with an evening of fun for the whole family.

ART SHOW

Aug. 5-13, Centennial paintings displayed in the lobby of the Cloud County Bank during banking hours.

HISTORICAL PAGEANT—"PRAIRIE PORTRAIT"

Aug. 10-14, 8 p. m., Concordia Athletic Field. See living history performed by a cast of over 300. Professional direction, special lighting and sound along with antique vehicles and rolling stock promise you a show you WON'T forget.

"Times subject to change."

COMMEMORATIVE HISTORICAL BOOKLET Contributing Sponsors

IZZY'S HEATING & AIR CONDITIONING
DR. ROBERT WEIGAND, Chiropractor
BOWMAN SEED COMPANY
D & W MOBIL SERVICE
RAY'S CAFE
JOHN TRUDE—SHUR-GRIP ADHESIVES
HUGH CRAIG—REALTOR since 1951
FARMERS GRAIN & FEED, INC.
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RITE-WAY LAUNDRY
CERAMIC SALES, INC.—Charlotte Wilcox
SCRITCHFIELD IRON & METAL
FYFE SAND COMPANY
CEDAR STREET MARKET
PETEY LIGGETT
KANSAS BLUE CROSS-BLUE SHIELD
CAMPBELL'S RESTAURANT
B & N BODY SHOP

81 TEXACO—Reuben Mendenhall
DAIRY QUEEN BRAZIER
CHRISTENSEN OIL COMPANY
DICK'S TIRE & AUTO SERVICE
HILLCREST LANES
METRO AUTO REPAIR
RAY & LUCILLE'S BARBER & BEAUTY SHOP
KERR'S GROCERY
R & R ENTERPRISES
DOWNTOWN 66 SERVICE
THOLSTRUP OIL COMPANY
HY-WAY MOTOR COMPANY
CENTRAL SAVINGS ASSOCIATION
KNIT SHOP
THE KANSAN
L. J. JOLER REALTOR & INSURANCE
J's FASHION BARN
CLOUD COUNTY ABSTRACT CO., INC.
BERGMAN STUDIO



PHOTOGRAPHIC VIEWS OF DOWNTOWN CONCORDIA TAKEN IN 1914—The above view shows the intersection of Sixth Street and Washington (left to right), looking south down Washington, Fidelity bank corner, looking west down Sixth Street, the Old Caldwell building (now Central Savings corner), looking north down Washington, Palmquist's corner, and looking east down Sixth Street.

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MAYOR'S MESSAGE

From all the citizens of Concordia, I extend a warm welcome to each of you and hope that you fully enjoy helping us celebrate our 100th Birthday.

Concordia's festive year of 1971 has been a fast and busy one for many of our people. It all began almost two years ago with the creation of the Centennial Steering Committee. Since then a lot of time, talent and work has been freely donated by members of this committee and many others. The many hours spent on this project have resulted in the entire community becoming involved and genuinely interested in making Concordia's 100th Birthday Party one of the best.

We believe our pageant, Prairie Portrait, will picture the exciting past of Concordia. It will show us how the citizens of this community have met courageously and unselfishly the many problems confronting them. This city has been through good times and bad times, through periods of peace and periods of war, through years of plenty and years of drought. Many were the times of discouragement but throughout the past 100 years a spirit has prevailed that has made Concordia one of the best cities of Kansas.

These are our heritages that we take with us into the next century of progress of our community. It is good to remember and reflect upon the traditions of the past, for with an appreciation of what has been done for us, we can accept our responsibilities and challenges for the future.

The observance of this Centennial Celebration gives us an opportunity to renew our faith in the spirit that has made Concordia a good town in which to live. May we dedicate ourselves to the future with the same enthusiasm our founders had 100 years ago.

Sincerely yours,
A. G. Swiercinsky,
Mayor of Concordia



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St. Peter's Parish
 St. Anthony's Parish
 Turner Grocery
 Wilkin's Dept. Store
 Willard's Upholstery and Laundramat
 White's Softwater Service
 Antiques—Gathers Hardware
 Phelp's Furniture
 Henry's Cafe
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HISTORICAL SOCIETY CENTENNIAL PICTURE—Back row L to R: Bill Dutton, George Dutton, Martin White, Russell Alcorn, Leslie Ward, Chester McWilson, Robert B. Wilson, Leon Gennette and Homer Hinman. 2nd row back: W. A. Kocher, Bill Russell, Mrs. Bill Russell, Crystle McDowell, Mrs. Clare McConaughy, Mrs. Lydia Harrington, Mrs. Russell Alcorn, Lois Decker, Mrs. Leslie Ward, Mrs. Chester McWilson, Mrs. Robert B. Wilson, Mrs. Earl Wright, Mrs. Ross Doyen, Mrs. George Dutton and Mrs. Homer Hinman. 2nd row from front: Lawrence Sjogren, Mrs. Lawrence Sjogren, Mrs. Victor Palmquist, Ruth Decker, Mrs. Kenneth Elsey, Mrs. Delmer Harris Sr., Miss Cordelia McKeen, Mrs. Edna LaBore, Miss Beatrice Betournay, Miss Olive Ritter. Front row seated L to R: Mrs. Ada Henrikson, Mrs. Roy Fahlstrom Sr., Mrs. John C. Henthorne, Mrs. Robert Hanson, Mrs. George Mallo, Mrs. Frances Walker, Mrs. Mary Jewell Pae, Mrs. E. N. Robertson, Mrs. Janet Baker Davis, and Miss Mildred Neitzel.

Gene Gaston, jeweler, was seen in a High School recitation room with a lot of eager young things around him. The rumor quickly spread that he was teaching an advanced class in card tricks, but it was a false rumor. The seniors were picking out their class rings.

Little Ruthie Wright, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. T. Wright, had her first horseback ride. When she returned she said, "Oh, Mommie, I can steer the horse now."

Junior Haug and Bill Hood won first place at the KOO KOO Karnival held at the High School, for their impersonation of the Two Black Crows, Amos and Andy.

"Growly Bowley" and "Rosebud," Mary Short's and Jane Boyd's dogs have formed an unbreakable attachment.

Harold Evert, popularly known as "Skinny," leaves Concordia for Rochester, N. Y., where he will represent his firm, the Forbes Investment Company.

Mrs. Lyle Conley is chairman for the dance committee sponsoring dances at the St. Hilda's Guild Hall of the Episcopal Church.

Car owners are now required to have tags on their autos. May 21, 1927, "Lucky Lindbergh the Flying Fool," landed in Paris after a solo flight of 33½ hours. All Paris went mad with excitement.

The Air Troupe sponsored by the Wichita Flying Club landed at the Carlgren Airfield April 3, 1928. One thousand people greeted the troupe at the landing field. Ben S. Paulsen, Governor of Kansas, gave a short talk on the development of aviation. The banks in Concordia closed in the morning so the bankers and personnel could go.

This is the way it was 1930-1940

One hundred and eighty people were served at the Methodist Church by members of the Creative English Class of the High School under the direction of Mrs. Verna Nims. A Swedish dinner was prepared. A short play was given between each course. Those participating were Hilary Wentz, Margaret Peltier, Wanda Garlow, Dick Weaver, Thayne Coulter, Pauline Rodgers, Maxine Gardner, Junior and Jim Haughey, Paul Blackwood and Hannah Haug.

Miss Lorene Perry was hostess to a number of friends at her home on East 9th. The afternoon was spent with games and music and Valentine refreshments. Those present were Jane Boyd, Virginia Hanna, Phyllis Monnier, Margaret Wright, Elizabeth Huscher, Gene Smith, George Short, Howard Robertson, Raymond Culley, George Wright and Mark Gale.

Wilmer Bennett and sons are now sole owners of the Concordia Milling Company.

Concordia Motor Company reported the sale of a Buick Sport Coupe to Orval Locke.

A Latin Club has been formed at the High School and only those making grades of "A" are eligible to belong. Miss Mary Hill is sponsor, and members are Florence Henderson, Hazel Benson, Maxine Laird, Luella McCowen, Hilda Patton, Thelma Schroth, Jane Boyd, Virginia Hanna, Lorene Perry, Margaret Wright, Edith Turley, Maxine Boucher, Joyce Price, Sam Kempton, Alfred Linn, Clarence Feasel, Archie Jeardoe and Sigrid Sjogren.

Art Schmitt overturned his Ford sport roadster near the Country Club.

Dedication of the New High School building will be held October 23, 1930. Dr. L. E. Haughey, president of the School Board, and W. T. Wright, vice-president, will receive and respond for the school board. E. B. Allbaugh is the

present school Superintendent. Among the teachers re-elected by the Board of Education are Charles Kutz, Mary Schmitt, Verna Marshall, Marian Danenbarger and Helena Ossmann.

Natural gas is now being burned at the Power Company.

The Ted North Players are presenting their full-length plays to capacity crowds in their tent every night this week.

Gillan Brothers Bakery instituted a new department on the second floor of their bakery by installing the latest and most up-to-date potato-chip machine.

The Fox Theaters will be ousted from Kansas if they show movies on Sunday.

City Bandmaster Sherrard arranged to exchange band concerts with surrounding towns.

In 1931, Kansas had arranged to issue driver's licenses.

As the depression gathered momentum, it was beginning to be felt in Concordia. Farm values were declining steadily.

In order to try to help relieve the unemployment situation in Concordia, the Daylight Clothing Company has instituted a free employment agency with headquarters in their store.

Concordia City officials discussed the establishment of a place to feed vagrants before asking them to move on. Eggs could be bought for 6c a dozen, and cheap bread could be procured, so they could be fed very cheaply. There would then not be so many tramps ringing the doorbells of Concordia citizens asking for food.

The summer of 1931 was one of extreme heat and extreme drought. Hottest September on record. Wheat is 45c a bushel. Harvest hands are paid \$2.00 a day.

The Blade announced the appearance in Concordia of Prince Zomar, mental wizard. He will answer any question you send in, and will drive a car down main street blindfolded.

Chief of Police Austin Finley's car was stolen.

Dr. and Mrs. Raymond Gelvin will leave for New York where Dr. Gelvin will enter New York Graduate Hospital for a post-graduate course in surgery. Dr. Gelvin has been an intern at St. Joseph's Hospital for the past 18 months.

Dr. C. J. Whitney is the head of the local Boy Scout Council.

Six unemployed men cut wood locally at a Community woodpile project. The men were paid 12½c an hour on an order entitling them to purchase groceries locally. The wood, suitable for fireplace burning, would sell at \$2.00 a truckload delivered.

The Lindbergh baby was kidnapped, and found dead after the ransom was paid.

In July of 1932 the Cloud County Bank was robbed, J. C. Peck was injured, and the bandits (part of the Barker gang) drove off with three women as hostages. The women, Ida Cook, Marie Fredrickson and Nelda Appleby, were released unharmed.

An x-ray school of instruction was held for Concordia doctors by General Electric Company.

The Cloud County Bankers' Association opposed the bank holiday, declaring it was not necessary, and so wired the governor. In March of 1933 a wire from the Federal Government closed all the banks in the country. During the bank holiday local stores advertised "Your credit is good."

3.2 beer is legal everywhere, but Kansas remains bone-dry.

Members of the St. Hilda Guild of the Episcopal Church entertained with a tulip tea at Cotswald Walls, the home of Mr. and Mrs. Ray Green. Many thousands of tulips are in

This page sponsored by

bloom in this lovely garden. Tea was served and a small admission charged.

Boogaart Grocery's grand opening, June 24, 1933.

The cast for the High School operetta, "The Lucky Jade," includes Larry LeSage, Miriam Ellis, Alice Cory, Jane Preble, Margaret Larson, Margaret Diebel, Albert Moore, Donald Ganstrom, Neeland Hummell, Guy Dewey, Bob Hanna, Cedric Tilson, Norris Austin and Don LeSage.

The Elks' Carnival will be held for two days in the basement of the Club.

The 1934 speaker for the annual Chamber of Commerce dinner at the Tea Room will be Marion Ellet.

Frank Carlson will run for Congress against Katherine O'Laughlin McCarthy, long time Democratic Congresswoman from this district.

Many lovely parties are being held for Verna Marshall and Ada Hunter, popular teachers in Concordia who will be brides this summer.

Caretaker John Swanson has filled the pool on the courthouse lawn with water lilies and goldfish. It is a lovely, refreshing sight.

Gertie Harker retired after 36 years as a telephone operator. She had worked for the telephone company when there were only a few telephones in town and, if a wife wanted to find her husband in a hurry, she would call Gertie who would lean out the window and, if he were on the street below, she would holler to him that his wife wanted him.

Ed Burge announced plans for the reception of the Elks' "Purple and White" fleet of special Elks' good-will cars when they come to Concordia. There will be a parade, dinner and a program at which Martin Van De Mark will give the address.

Clyde Brady, pitching for the Maute-Caldwell Kitten-Ball team, was hit by a batted ball and knocked unconscious, but was otherwise uninjured. Concordia has twenty Kitten-ball teams.

The girls' Pep Club, the Red Dragonettes, elected Jane Conley as chairman; Margaret Diebel, Vi Gillan and Betty Burbank as officers.

A local committee headed by Delmar Saindon asked the County Commissioners for jobs for 200 relief workers, a guarantee of 40c an hour and a thirty hour week.

Armand Girard of Concordia can be heard singing on a national radio hookup from California.

A. B. Wright has donated blankets for the football team. Beloit won the North Central football crown from Concordia by one point in a bitterly fought game. Those who received football letters on the recommendation of Coach Monk Edwards were Brown, Bates, Hillan, Abbott, Laughlin, Anderson, Horkman, Bramwell, Swenson, Alexander, McCowen, Mayfield, Myers, Delforge, Creager, Bates, Shrouf, Esplund, Macy, Bowman, Fate, Peck, Blackwood, McGrath, Conley and Drury.

The Concordia Dramatic Guild will present "Duley." Alice Bishop, Irene Sherman and Marguerite Conroy are in charge of the production. Cast includes Evelyn Weiser, Jim Reagan, Ed and Spencer Kerin, Ralph Hanson, Ellen Jones, Dorothy Gill, Jim Foster, George Short and Gene Henderson.

March 1, 1935 Concordia had an earthquake. The shocks came about 6:30 a. m. W. J. Worley, engineer at the city pumphouse, heard a roar and felt the building move. Mr. and Mrs. E. R. Ingersoll said they noticed a supernatural calm while the shocks were occurring. Alex Chaput said it was an eerie feeling to be walking in a house that moved. March 15, 1935, there was the most blinding dust storm ever experienced in Concordia, and in all of Kansas. People

trying to get home from work walked right by their own houses. Those driving could not see the road. One man reported he kept having to get out and feel for a fence post to determine where he was. The highways were filled with cars and trucks in the ditches. Most traveling men stayed in the hotels, and rooms were at a premium as stranded travelers sought shelter. A basketball tournament was in progress in Concordia and the teams unable to get home were housed at the High School, many sleeping on the floor of the gymnasium. Many fans who had accompanied the teams had to find places to stay in town, and people opened their homes to visitors. Spring wheat could not be planted because of the heavy layer of dust over the fields. The entire spring of 1935 was dust and more dust. The paper told you how to seal your windows against the dust which seeped through everything.

In May, 1935, the rains came and Concordia had a flood. May 29th a wall of water came down the Republican River. Twenty-five people were snatched from the water. Members of all civic clubs met to organize emergency relief plans. The Red Cross opened a disaster relief office in Concordia to help flood victims. They had just completed their work for dust relief in the county. The flood washed out all bridges and people had to cross the river by boat. A pontoon bridge was put across for temporary use. Gas service was severed, but was restored after six days.

An explosion at the Concordia Creamery injured Frank Mahan, George Balthazor and Virgil Walker. Orville Lambert, Dudley Doctor and Erhart Edquist who were also in the building at the time of the explosion were uninjured.

The Community Chorus chose officers and made plans for their annual cantata. Ray Shidler will direct. Oscar Allen will direct the orchestra. Accompanists will be Mrs. Vernon Martin and Mrs. H. Barber.

The 6th District Republican Convention is to be held in Concordia. Frank Carlson is the featured speaker with Clarence Paulsen as Program Chairman. Mrs. Rox Cook has charge of the luncheon. At the afternoon program a quartette will sing. The members are Mr. J. J. Kershner, Mrs. Walter Green, Mrs. Milton Sorem and Miss Dorothy Diebel.

The senior play of 1936 has been written by Mrs. Verna Nims of the English department. It is a story about a Nazi takeover of a Czechoslovakian village in 1933. The whole production is a moving experience. The cast includes Ovid Anderson, Edrie Lee Bonebrake, Mary Thompson, Val Gene Sherrard, Bill Gunter, Mary Kersenbrock, Marvin Riley, Jeanne McCall, Edna Spratlin, Leo Ross, Margaret Jeardoe and Carl Pettyjohn. Children in the story were acted by little Joyce Sjolander, Phyllis Fredrickson and Mary Alice Culbertson.

The summer of 1936 was hot, hot, hot.

July 16, 1936, the overpass across the tracks in Concordia was dedicated. Ed Burge, assistant highway director, was master of ceremonies. Frank Carlson spoke, little Joan Clithero christened the structure, and Mary Jane Beland cut the ribbon. The temperature was 110 degrees that day.

Recent news that King Edward VIII may visit this country recalls to Mrs. J. E. Blaney her encounter with the prince years ago when she was a small girl attending school in Canada. As the Prince of Wales, he made a tour of Canada, and all the children in her school were taken to the royal train when it stopped at the school. The Prince stepped off the train, and Mrs. Blaney was one of the lucky ones who shook hands with him.

The first Social Security forms were filed in Concordia, and metal sales tokens are in use.

Concordia and Lawrence are the finalists in the State Ban Johnson championship tournament. The Concordia Blues, managed by Red Herriot, won. This team always plays to record crowds in Concordia.

The W.P.A. workers are building a new swimming pool in the city park. It opens in May, 1938.

Bill Bowman, son of Mr. and Mrs. George Bowman, gave talks about his recent trip to Europe with a DeMolay group.

Dr. Norris Robertson has joined his father in practice in Concordia.

Red Cross chairman, E. B. Allbaugh, announced that the American Red Cross will help in the evacuation of Americans from China which is torn by war with Japan.

The third session of the Country Club Bridge Tournament met. Mrs. Tom Kennett, chairman of the tournament, announced that Country Club members could still enter the tourney.

In 1938 favorite columns in the Blade were "Mugwump Musings" by Marion Ellet and "Three Fingers of Hemlock" by Tom Kiene. Marion Ellet attended the President's Press Conference.

Bishop Thill was installed as Bishop of the Concordia Diocese.

The Kansas City Philharmonic Orchestra with Karl Krueger director played three concerts in Concordia in 1939.

Dr. John Porter, recently returned from study in London, described to the Kiwanis Club the frantic preparation of the British who anticipate an invasion of England by Hitler.

The High School Operetta, "Way Out West," had Russell Reeves in the lead. The cast also included Margaret Matthew, Dale Carlson, Erma Empson, Juanita Houtz, Jim Eagleson, Christine Anderson, Betty Cables, Don Hutchinson, Richard Hutchinson, Marx Ceder, George Roswell and Janice Nattier. Oscar Allen directed, assisted by Dorothy Diebel. The dramatic coach was Bill Skelton, and dancing was under the direction of Mary Ellen Rathbone.

The Business and Professional Women sponsored a local talent "Barnwarming Show" directed by Lillian Troup of Chicago. The show played to overflow crowds each night.

A cooking school, directed by Julia Kiene, director of the Home Economics Department of the Westinghouse Corporation, was held in Concordia.

Hitler marched into Yugoslavia, Hungary and Poland, declaring he was "liberating" them.

Swims at the Park Pool cost a nickel.

Fifteen hundred people took part in some phase of the summer recreation program offered in the city park, with Charles Kutz as director.

This is the way it was 1940-1950

In 1940 the guides for the annual Tulip Tea at the Ray Green home are Barbara Baldwin, Dorothy Alexander, Elnora Edquist, Jean Porter, Cynthia Haug, Claudia Baldwin, Virginia Venning, Rachelee McCrary, Margaret Swafford, Margaret Francoeur, Vi Gillan, Pauline Stichler, Margaret Huscher, Mary Louise Huscher, Helen Ellison, Wilma Spratlen, Helen Humphrey, Margaret Matthew, Harriett Ellis and Phyllis Bennies.

The Lions and Rotarians golfed and enjoyed a chicken

dinner and program at the Country Club. Dr. L. E. Anderson led the group in singing with Jim Eagleson at the piano. Milton Sorem was meeting chairman, and Marvin O. Brummett presented the golf prizes to H. D. Karns, Lawrence Diebel, George Myers, Clyde Brady, Cliff Shivers and Frank Fritton. A quartette consisting of Knouse, Brady, Shirling and Chaput sang.

As war drew closer, Congress passed a draft bill.

The Concordia Creamery had a picnic at which 600 employes, their families and guests attended. Before the picnic there was a parade down the main street headed by Erhart Edquist.

Virginia Venning is the football homecoming queen of 1940 with Betsy Marie Ross and Margaret Swafford as attendants.

Fifteen Concordia girls were inducted into Girl Scouting to form a troop. The girls are Imogene Davis, Sonia Bennett, Pauline Hesse, Edith Mae Keys, Carolyn Knapp, Marilyn Kutz, Pat McCrary, Frances McWilson, Mary Marshall, Frances Russell, Shirley Sudendorf, Rosemary Templin, Rose Truesdell, Arlene Wilcox and Mary Wilson. The sponsors of the troop are Mrs. Harvey Hensley and Mrs. Cliff Palmquist. The girls held a tea for their mothers following their induction.

A Civil Aeronautics Association training school for student pilots is okayed for Concordia. Lowell Houghton and Ed McBurney are in charge.

High School commercial students of Miss Crittenden are working part-time downtown. The group includes Doris Perkins, Doris Roy, Zella Rody, Marie Simpson, Grace McCarthy, Marilyn Whipp, Leland Perry, Margaret Swafford and Arlene Nelson.

Inductions into the army are listed daily in the paper.

March 6, 1941, a 13 inch snow fell.

The largest graduating class in the history of Concordia High School has 107 students. The annual "Senior Trip" to Kansas City has as sponsors Gwen Fletcher, Bill Skelton and Minnie Meyer.

In 1941 flood waters rushed down on the Concordia area and many people found themselves marooned on rooftops and in trees. Norman Lewis captained a motorboat crew which rescued nineteen marooned people. He was assisted by John Weaver, lifeguard from the city pool, and George Kagle. They used a boat of Dick Boogaart's and a motor lent by E. W. Alsdorf.

A Red Cross committee headed by Mrs. Ray Green collected clothing, food and money for victims of the flood. Boy Scouts made a door to door canvass to collect donations.

July 22, 1941, in Concordia, a great collection of aluminum pots and pans was made. You could get a free ticket for a movie or a swim by donating an aluminum pan. The metal was needed for the manufacture of war material being sent to Britain, who stands alone now against Hitler.

Albert T. Reid, famous artist and former Concordian, was honor guest of Concordia during National Art Week.

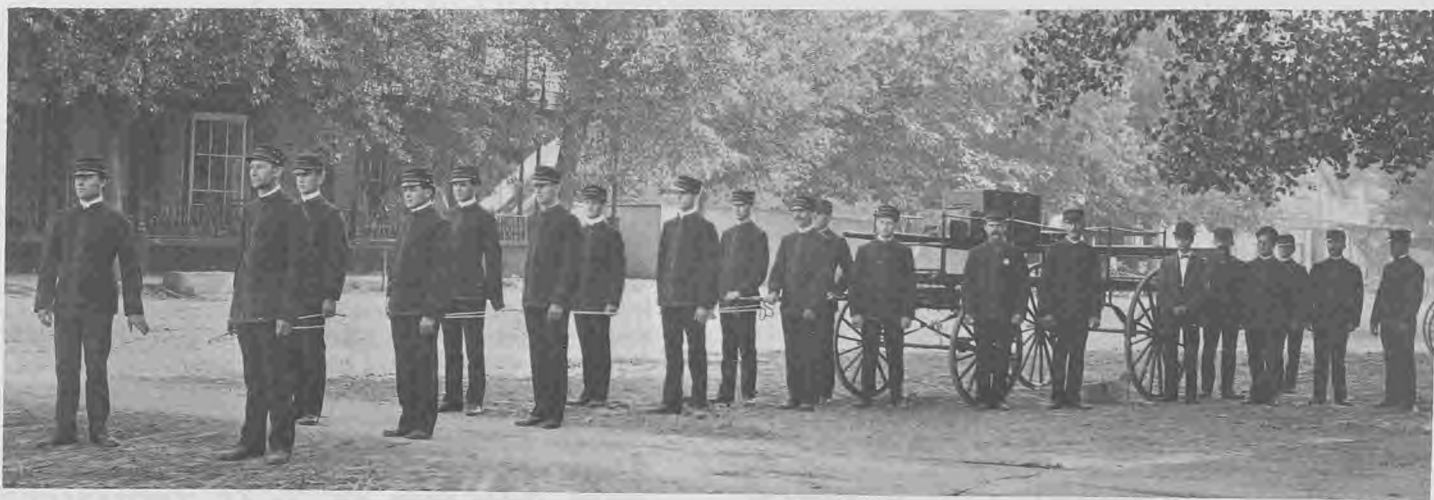
DECEMBER 7, 1941, THE JAPANESE ATTACKED PEARL HARBOR. WE ARE AT WAR. WORLD WAR II.

The news was heard here on radio, Sunday afternoon. All military men were ordered to report to their units at once. Then there was a news blackout. December 9, a Civilian

JOHNSON SUPPLY COMPANY
Your farm and home discount store
East on Hy. 9, 243-4226, Concordia

This page sponsored by

CONCORDIA TRACTOR INC.
John Deere Sales & Service
Bill Lagemann, owner



Early volunteer fire brigade in front of Baron's House.



Volunteer Fire Department in front of first City Hall, with old City Jail just behind. Ready for a Fourth of July parade. Probably 1890's.



Fire Department in front of present City Hall, early 1900's. Identified: N. Betournay, D. Wilson, W. Hinkle, S. Robbins.

Defense Committee was formed in Concordia. M. V. B. Van De Mark, Ralph Austin and Mayor Delmer Harris are the committee.

By 1942 we have full scale rationing. Cloud County is allowed 70 car tires a month. Officers of the local Red Cross are Erhart Edquist, C. A. Fees, Mrs. Raymond Gelvin and Mrs. R. O. Anderson. Directors elected are Mr. Mel Decker and Mrs. C. L. Blew. The Red Cross has set up sewing rooms and the women in charge are Mrs. Dean Champlin, Mrs. H. R. St. John, Mrs. Tom Kiene, Mrs. Ed Martin, Mrs. Otto Kiene, Mrs. D. E. Bolman, Mrs. George Maute, Mrs. W. H. Danenbarger, Mrs. R. O. Anderson, Mrs. J. C. Peck, Mrs. Lyle Conley and Mrs. J. M. Decker Jr.

Governor Ratner named Mrs. Elizabeth Haughey of Concordia as a member of the State Board of Regents.

Concordians are enrolling in a Civil Defense organization headed by Mel Decker. There are practice blackouts with block wardens checking each house to be sure there are no lights. The country is on Daylight Saving Time for the duration of the war.

Concordians are planting Victory gardens. Food rationing makes this necessary.

The first Concordia boy killed in World War II was Buford Bonebrake who was on the Battleship, "Arizona," when it was bombed and sunk in Pearl Harbor.

Gasoline, sugar, cars, tires and meat are rationed. Each citizen receives a book of ration stamps allowing him to purchase a decreed amount of food.

Policeman John Fazel attended an air-raid training school at K.U. so that he can instruct civilian defense groups in our area.

Calvin D. Walker is in charge of rounding up scrap rubber to be reconverted for military use. Every effort is being made to develop an ersatz rubber.

A Prisoner of War camp has been built north of town and is filled with prisoners. Most of the prisoners are from Rommel's Afrika Korps.

A USO room has been established in the Betournay building on 6th Street. Raymond Johnston and Charles Walsh are in charge. Local volunteers are staffing the quarters.

St. Joseph Hospital School of Nursing is training student nurses for the U. S. Cadet Nurse Corps. The Red Cross offers courses in Nutrition, Home Nursing, Hospital Aide Nursing, and Civil Defense.

E. C. Quigley has been made athletic director at K. U.

When Harry Ingram of Concordia and his son, Russell, boarded the train in San Francisco, they met Lyle Conley and John Peck on board. John is being transferred from his unit in California to one in Florida. John has served two years in Alaska. Lyle Conley, following his discharge from the Naval Reserves, purchased the Ford Agency.

Cloud County children have been asked to gather milkweed pods. The floss will be used to stuff life jackets and will replace kapok, formerly bought from Japan.

Paul Kendall, chairman for the National War Fund, and Mrs. Ferd Wagner, captain for the Women's Division, announced the names of their workers.

85% of all meat is rationed.

The Kiwanis Club is presenting Miss Christine Anderson in a concert at the High School. She has been studying in New York, and Concordia is fortunate to have this chance to hear her.

One Concordia housewife used a roll of Delsey toilet tissue, which she had hoarded since the beginning of the war, as a bridge prize. The winner was delighted.

A city-wide tennis tournament has just been held. Winners include Ward Hormel, Don and Dale Turner, Jo Anderson, C. V. Reeves, L. Carmichael, Margaret Swafford, Wila Jean

Heckert, Theresa Charbonneau and Mary Jensen.

Charles Walsh, chairman of Concordia USO, attended a regional conference.

Wastepaper and tin salvage are needed.

August 15, 1945, Japan surrendered.

The war is over.

"Hooray, girls' Nylon stockings are on the way," says the DuPont Company to nylon-starved women.

A breakfast for businessmen was held to open a drive for funds for the Kansas Industrial Development Company.

Condemnation proceedings for the city to acquire Blosser land for construction of a municipal airport were begun.

In 1946 Bill Cory, Concordia High School's sensational sophomore miler, won the mile relay at the K. U. Relays.

Dick Boogaart and family have moved to Mexico City where Dick is engaged in establishing a super-market for a Mexican capitalist.

A. W. Horkman reported seeing a flying saucer.

The Rev. Paul McCleave, popular young minister of the Concordia Presbyterian Church, has returned from a trip to Europe and spoke to the Chamber of Commerce.

Concordians who attended a flight breakfast at Belleville included Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Huscher, Joe Bond, Russell Reeves, Vernon Martin, Clarence Bonebrake, Kenneth Hewitt, Jack Bowman, Billie Crum, Wilbur Leckburg, Jim Day, Lloyd Neal, George Edington, Bob Darby, Tom McDaniel, Robert Teasley, Floyd Day and Charles Blosser.

Mrs. Fred Barber, president of the Kansas Council of P.T.A., spoke at the Kiwanis Club describing her recent trip to Washington D. C. to attend the national conference of P.T.A.

The Elks Club presented a home talent minstrel show to raise money for the March of Dimes. The numbers included an acrobatic routine by Rolland Hood and Lois Pearce; singing by Tom Potter and Rex Derousseau; piano by Richard Cook. Earl Wright's group gave a laughable portrayal of "Little Nell," and Charles Feight played the electric guitar.

Fire destroyed the Knights of Columbus Hall and the Strand Theater. Fire Chief Frank Perry was hospitalized from exhaustion.

Parking meters have been on the streets a year and have not yet paid for themselves.

Vida Tucker purchased the Gift Shop.

The spring music meet was host to 1600 students.

Mrs. Jack Sellers (Jeanne Metz) is invited to be soloist with the Emporia Messiah Chorus.

County Attorney Clell Barton has warned clubs in Concordia not to operate slot machines.

Concordia Community Concert Association presented Gorodnitzki, pianist.

Westcott's Jewelry Store (formerly Ingersoll's) opened, completely redecored.

A Day Camp for Girl Scouts and Brownie Scouts is being held in the City Park under the leadership of Mrs. Wilbur Naylor.

The Concordia B.P.W. had a "square dance" party at the Episcopal Parish Hall. Callers were Henry Freeman, Henry Kasl and Harriett Wood. Guests included the Sid Knapps, Henry Kasls, Howard Blachlys, Lewis Edwards, Phil Smiths, Leo Forsbergs, Henry Freemans, V. B. Curls, Ed Holdings, Calvin Walkers and Harriett Wood.

Concordia voted to have the City Manager form of government and the first City Manager is Alan Webster.

This is the way it was 1950-1960

Gas lines were shut off because of the flooding of Salt creek. The weather was warm so this did not create the hardship which occurs when the lines break during severe weather.

A 4.57 inch rain fell in May of 1950. The water retention dam at the north end of Blosser's pasture broke and water four feet deep roared down Broadway, catching many motorists and pedestrians unaware, and doing \$100,000.00 damage.

Don Shrouf returned home after being interned in Shanghai, China. Don works for the State Department, and was imprisoned when the Communists took over the city.

A drive is being held to establish a Junior Chamber of Commerce. LeRoy Pickard is chairman of the drive and Jack Mears is secretary.

The beautiful new St. Joseph's Hospital has opened. Thousands of visitors walked through the fine structure during the open house. The newly reorganized Hospital Auxiliary assisted in the conducted tours of the new facility. In 1951 the new nurses' home at St. Joseph's Hospital has been completed at a cost of \$200,000.00.

The V.F.W. asked that gift boxes be sent to the men serving in Korea. Corporal Harold Jaspersen has been reported killed in action in Korea.

Carl James, superintendent of schools, has completed the work for his doctorate in education while in Concordia.

The Gelvin-Haughey Clinic founded by Dr. E. R. Gelvin and Dr. Leo Haughey has opened. Dr. F. B. Emery and Dr. M. D. McComas are new additions to the staff.

Marvin O. Brummett has been appointed judge of the 12th Judicial District.

Concordia Community Concert will present the Marina Svetlove Ballet group.

In 1953 Dr. G. W. Coffey, pioneer physician has died.

Dr. Wayne Fowler has joined the staff of the Gelvin-Haughey Clinic.

J. Finley Daugherty has been named Probate Judge.

The Red Cross Bloodmobile visited Concordia for the first time and there were 138 donors.

Lt. Harold Wilkie has been reported killed in action in Korea.

A heart attack has been fatal for Ed Burge, prominent Concordia citizen.

In 1954 the Piconda Scout Jamboree has attracted 500 people.

The Concordia Community Players met at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Glen Gillan.

The Garden Club is sponsoring a flower show. Mrs. Frank Nattier is president of the club, and Mrs. Archie Boll is chairman of the flower show committee.

Julia Stanford and Evelyn Hebert have been chosen Girls' State representatives.

Mr. and Mrs. Lester Davis of the Sweet Shop made a half a ton of peanut brittle for the Boy Scouts to sell.

The Girl Scouts, under the leadership of Mrs. Jack Bowman, take library books each week to St. Ann's Home for the elderly.

In 1955, in an advancement and reorganization program of the Boogaart Grocery Company, Leland Perry has been

made general manager, and Dick Simpson, Marion Collins, Ronnell Derousseau, Keith Edwards, and Max Minard have been promoted.

The Ford Times magazine carried art work done by Jim Haughey of Billings, Montana, who grew up in Concordia, and is the son of Dr. and Mrs. Leo Haughey.

Rosa Larson is to go to Brazil for a Farm Exchange program.

In 1957 Russia has launched the Sputnik I, manned spaceship, into orbit successfully. There is much discussion and betting that we cannot place a man on the moon before Russia does.

Josephine Christman is the director of the Speech Correction center in Concordia.

Mrs. Glen Green of Osborne has had the first baby born by hypnosis at St. Joseph's hospital.

This is the way it was 1960-1971

In February of 1960 the Southwestern Bell Telephone Co. announced that a new telephone building will be erected on the corner of Tenth and Broadway.

In February of 1960 there was an accumulation of snow on the ground measuring 25 inches.

Bob Trego has been elected Mayor.

Vumore Company is installing equipment for cable T.V. for Concordia.

Dr. Charles Foster and Dr. Grady Coker have joined the Gelvin-Haughey Clinic staff.

The Concordia City Commission has designated the ball field at the City Park as the "Ray Culley Field" in honor of the late Ray Culley. Ray Culley was a very young man, employed as a rural mail carrier at the time of his death from a heart attack. He had devoted his life to working with the youth of Concordia, especially to development of baseball among the young.

In 1961 Russell Reeves has been elected Mayor of Concordia.

John L. Lemoine of Concordia was ordained into the priesthood of the Catholic Church. He celebrated his first Mass in the Concordia church.

In November of 1961 Vernon Stewart announced his popcorn stand will be closed after thirty-five years in Concordia.

Cliff Gillan is closing the Gillan's Bakery after being in business in Concordia for forty-one years.

July fifth, 1962 the new radar equipped weather station will be dedicated.

December sixth, 1962 Concordians will begin the use of dial telephones.

The Hood Construction Company has completed the new Notre Dame High School and it will be dedicated on January sixth, 1963.

On April 16, 1963 Joe Weaver is retiring from the Post Office after forty years. His cheerful salutations and witty stories have made life more pleasant for all who came into the Post Office.

In 1965 the Cloud County Community College has opened, using classrooms in the High School building. There are 119 pupils enrolled in the first class.

This page sponsored by

CONCORDIA AUTO PARTS STORES

Idris Regnier

Don Cart

GRAVES TRUCK LINE

Serving Concordia and Salina

The Cloud County Bank has opened its new Drive-In facility at the corner of Sixth and Cedar.

In a day sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce, the opening of three new ventures in Concordia is being celebrated. The groups honored with a luncheon, inspection tours, and formal dedication, include: Simlo Manufacturing plant in the new Industrial Park, The Cloud County Bank Drive-In facility; and the Concordia Rest Home Inc.

On April 3, 1966 The New Methodist Church is being dedicated with dramatic ceremonies.

In July, 1966 many Concordians shared in the Clyde Centennial celebration.

In April of 1967 the first Board of Trustees of the Junior College has been elected.

June 9, 1967 a destructive tornado hit Concordia. Mrs. P. S. Fees, a 76 year old rural woman was killed, the only death from the storm. She was seeking shelter, when her car was overturned by the storm. Damage to farm homes and to many homes in Concordia was tremendous. Mr. Lee Stinson, chief of the Concordia Airport Weather Bureau stated, "Make no mistake about it, that was a tornado. But luckily for Concordia the funnel did not remain fully on the ground as it went through. If it had there would have been terrible destruction." Winds were measured above 115 miles per hour. The Weather Bureau is convinced it was the tail of the tornado which hit Concordia, then lifted back up into the clouds. As soon as the hooked tail of the storm was sighted on the radar screen, the City Manager was informed and he called the Police and City crews to sound the alert, and to parade the streets with loud speakers on trucks urging people to take shelter. The storm was sighted on the radar at 6:35 p. m., four miles south of Beloit. At 6:55 it was sighted southwest of Concordia, and at 7:15 it struck the city. Power was cut off in the city, and the only communication was by radio. KNCK was able to continue operating on emergency power, as was the weather station, and the police radio. Three persons were hospitalized with injuries. Within an hour after the storm passed, the Concordia National Guard was on duty assisting in clean-up, and in keeping curious sightseers from areas where downed wires were dangerous. It is impossible to estimate the damage. Trees were ripped apart, uprooted and yards are a shambles. Many homes and businesses lost roofs, and had severe water damage in the torrential rain which followed the wind. People went to their basements, or to shelters when the sirens sounded. St. Joseph's Hospital reported there was no hysteria there. Those who could walk went to the basement. Those who could not had their beds wheeled into the halls, and the nursing staff remained with them. The Vumore television tower was twisted like a pretzel and thrown down. As always in tornadoes there were curious, even funny events. At one farm home, a woman ran for shelter leaving three loaves of freshly baked bread sitting on a counter. When she returned the counter was gone, but the three loaves of bread were sitting on the ground just where the counter had been. At Cloud Ceramics Brick plant a boxcar from "who knows where" was sitting in the brick plant yard. Clean-up of the streets and yards has begun. It will take many weeks.

July 1967 Dr. C. J. Whitney, prominent dentist in Concordia for 45 years is retiring.

In 1968 Charles Jewell has been elected Mayor.

The new sanctuary at the Christian Church is dedicated.

October 24, 1968 open house and dedication of the new Junior College building is being held. And October 31, 1968 about three hundred Republicans met to honor Senator Frank Carlson who is retiring from the U. S. Senate.

November 11, 1968, the eternal flame which is located

at the northwest corner of the courtyard has been lighted and dedicated on this Veterans' Day. The flame was lighted by Mrs. Robert L. Collins of Jamestown. The Collins' son was killed in Vietnam only a few weeks before the ceremony.

Richard Fiffe, son of Mr. and Mrs. R. E. Fiffe, is the first Concordian to be killed in action in Vietnam. There is growing feeling that this is not a justifiable war, and rumbles of protest are beginning to be heard as the war drags on.

April 3, 1969, many Concordians attended the burial rites in Abilene for General Dwight D. Eisenhower. Others watched the three days of impressive ceremonies on T.V.

May, 1969 Ann Beckman and Sally Humes were chosen co-Valedictorians and Susan Hattan was chosen Salutatorian of the Concordia High School senior class. In January, 1970, the Concordia City Commission has approved construction of a new 500,000-gallon water tank at 16th and Spruce.

Anderson's, Inc. has incorporated with the Bon Marche and Robert Anderson will become store manager. The Bon Marche was founded in Concordia in 1887. A. J. (Pat) Lasnier, owner of the Bon Marche, will remain active in the operation of the store.

Dec. 3rd, 1970, the Centennial Committee has been organized and the officers elected.

A. G. Swiercinsky is our new mayor.

Robert Cousins, son of Mr. and Mrs. Deane Cousins, was ordained a minister of the United Methodist Church on June 25, 1970.

August 20, 1970, Charles (Chuck) Chaput, son of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Chaput, was ordained to the Catholic priesthood.

On September 24, 1970, Stafford Hall, the new wing of the Nazareth Motherhouse was dedicated. This wing will be used for Senior Sisters of the Order of St. Joseph.

A reward of \$300.00 has been offered for information leading to the identity of the caller in recent bomb threats to the Fidelity State Bank, and the Junior-Senior High School.

Mrs. Evelyn Stilson Brummett has sold the Cloud County Abstract Co. to Mrs. Velda Cook.



View east down 6th Street after a March snowstorm in 1915.



May 20, 1957, Ray Doyen, Rice, photographed the tornado as it passed east of his farm.



Among the many homes destroyed in the 1957 tornado was the W.E. Keil home, one mile south and two miles west of the KFRM towers. The home was a two story building of limestone.

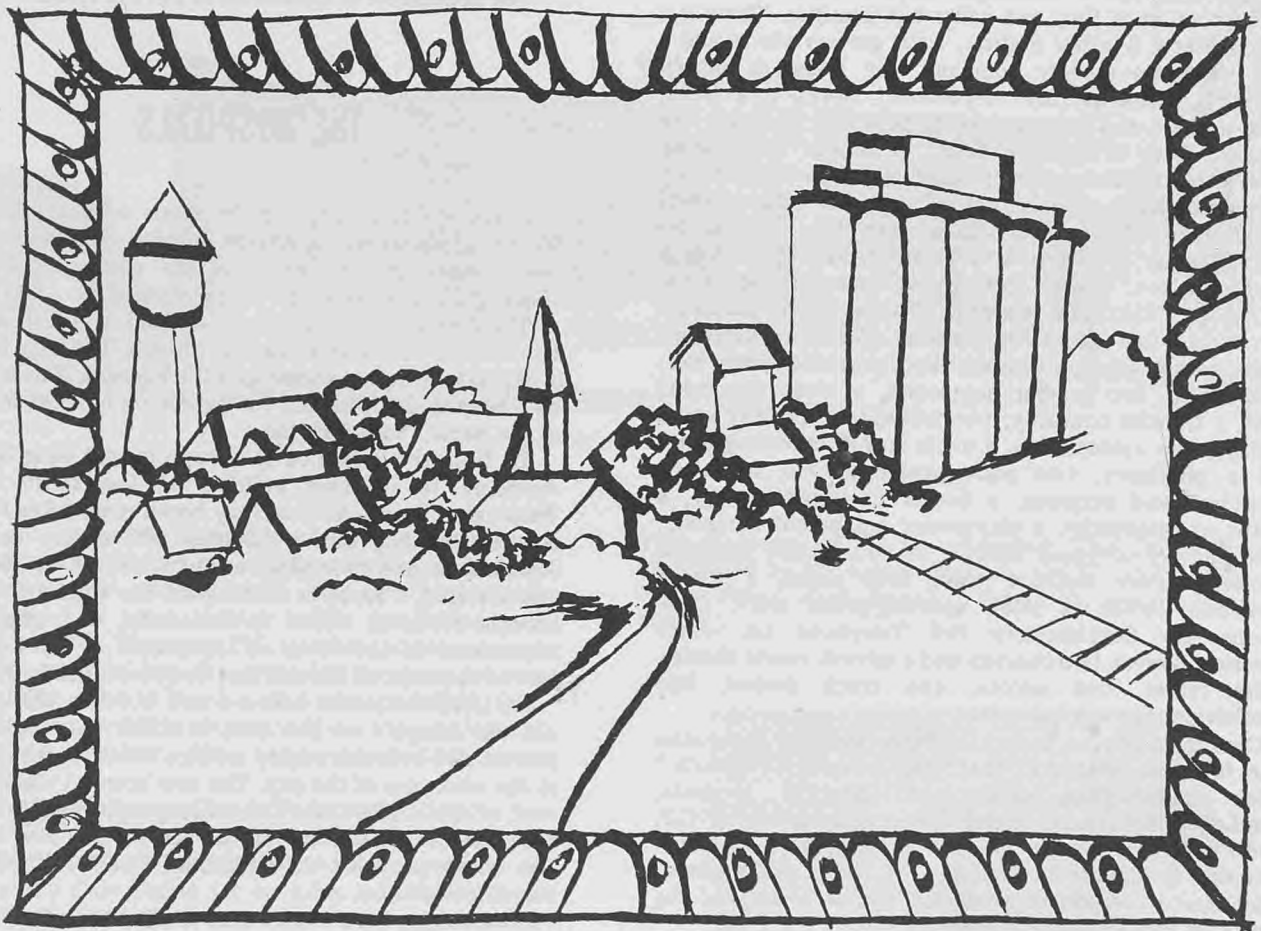


1915 flood. This view of Concordia was looking north from the old bridge by the mill.



Republican River Bridge

The Portrait



The Portrait is Concordia today. It is not a finished painting, for the people who live in Concordia today have become the artists who are daubing paint here and there to keep the portrait current, active and interesting. The portrait shows the town today—its schools, churches, industry, etc. It depicts the people of Concordia today and what they are doing, as they add their brush strokes to the painting of Concordia.

The Portrait

The "Portrait On The Prairie" is Concordia today. It is not a finished painting for Concordia is a growing, active community. Looking at the portrait of Concordia today we see:

Concordia has six parks: the Fairgrounds park, Airport park, Hood park, Second Street park, Decker park, and the City park. In the City park are the municipal swimming pool, tennis courts, a handshell, a baseball diamond, etc.

Concordia Country Club has a nine-hole, grass green, golf course, a pleasant clubhouse serving food.

KNCK is the Concordia radio station started in 1954.

There are four motels and one hotel in Concordia. There are 14 restaurants, with food service at the Moose Club, Elks Club and the Country Club.

Concordia has a municipal airport with air charter service to Kansas City and other communities. There is a United States Weather Station; eight grocery stores and a large wholesale grocery company, the Boogaart Supply company. There are four department stores, four ladies ready-to-wear, and two men's clothing stores. There are five dentists, three accounting firms, an alfalfa dehydrating plant, cable television, eleven attorneys, an auction house, three automobile agencies, three banks, one bakery, seven barber shops, eleven beauty shops, three boat dealers, one bowling alley, two florists, a creamery, six farm supply companies, four electric dealers, two funeral homes, three gift shops, five grain elevator dealers, three hardware merchants, five plumbing dealers, fourteen insurance agents, two jewelers, a laundry, five liquor stores, four loan associations, two lumber companies, a meat processing plant, a transfer company, two newspapers (a daily and a weekly), two optometrists, a music store, three drug stores and a pharmacy, two photography studios, seventeen physicians and surgeons, a doctor of ophthalmology, a doctor of osteopathy, a playground equipment company, three railway shipping offices, six real estate agencies, nineteen service stations, three shoe stores, a speech correction center, a retail sporting-goods store, three taverns, the Southwestern Bell Telephone Co., three television dealers, two theaters and a drive-in movie theater, trailer rental, tree service, two truck dealers, two upholsterers, three veterinarians.

Concordia has an Industrial Park, and the companies with factories located in that area include: "Trailcraft," which manufactures canoes and fiberglass products; "SimLo" which makes metal fabrication products; "C.P. Products," which make creative playthings. New manufacturers in Concordia include: "R. & R. Enterprises" which make component parts for mobile units; and the Concordia Battery Manufacturers.

Just east of town is the large "Cloud Ceramics" plant which has a monthly capacity of 3,800,000 bricks.

The Gelvin-Haughey medical clinic has fourteen physicians on its staff. The clinic serves patients from all of north central Kansas and south central Nebraska.

In the center of town is the courthouse of Cloud County in which are all the county offices. These include:

County Attorney, William J. Walsh

County Clerk, Betty Powell

Clerk Of the Court, Marguerite Larson

County Commissioners, Martin Koch, Orville Meeker, and Loren Sparks

County Agent, Joe Neill

District Judge, Marvin O. Brummett

Engineer, Clarence Smith

Health Nurse, Donna Collins

Probate Judge, Marvin L. Stortz

Register of Deeds, Ruth E. Bulthaup

Sheriff, Carl A. Clintsman

Treasurer, Maxine F. Shunn

Weed Supervisor, Harold Swenson

Welfare Director, F. Lenora Zeornes

City business is carried out at the City Hall. Officers include:

City Clerk, D. L. (Heavy) Layton

City Manager, Leland Brodbeck

Librarian, Dorothy Thurston

Chief of Police, Bill Krasny

Water Department, R. A. Cote

Fire Chief, Jim Erhardt

The City Commissioners of Concordia in August of 1971 are: A. G. Swiercinsky, Mayor, Deane H. Cousins, and Donald Cart.

The population of Concordia in 1971 is 7,800.

THE HOSPITALS

Concordia has had three hospitals in its history. The Weaver Hospital was a private hospital conducted by Dr. Asa Weaver in his home on the corner of 9th and Washington. The structure is now divided into two houses.

The Concordia Hospital was opened in 1920, and was sponsored by the Kansas Baptist Church. The large home of J. W. Watts was remodeled into the hospital. This ceased to be a hospital in 1951 and the building is now the infirmary of the Baptist Sunset Home.

In 1903 the Sisters of St. Joseph moved their Nazareth Academy to its new building at the south end of Washington Street. At once they began remodeling their old convent building into a hospital which they called St. Joseph's. In one newspaper account written in 1903, the editor stated, "There is nothing on the townsite that has brought so much notice to Concordia, or impressed the importance of the town on the people of the northwest part of the state, as has this fine Concordia Institution."

In 1916 the sisters added a new building adjoining the old St. Joseph's on the east. In 1950 they opened the present 150-bed, thoroughly modern structure which stands at the west edge of the city. The new hospital was built at a cost of \$2,750,000.00. The townspeople held a drive to raise \$250,000.00 to aid in the cost of the new hospital. The sisters provided the additional \$2,500,000.00. There was no government aid.

The sisters established a school of nursing for members of their order in 1919, and in 1921 lay students were accepted in the nurses' training program at St. Joseph's. The present nursing program is conducted at Marymount College in Salina and is a four year college-degree program.

In a typical year St. Joseph's hospital will provide more than 37,000 days of patient care, and treat more than 5,000 out-patients in the emergency room. The hospital employs 310 workers and has a gross payroll of \$1,200,000.00.

Concordia has a mental health clinic, "The Sunflower Guidance Center," with headquarters at 122½ West 6th Street. The director is Mr. Jon Sward.



Concordia Hospital



Old St. Joseph, First St. Joseph's Hospital



St. Joseph's Hospital

It was the persistent, devoted work of Mrs. Etta Warner and others which provided this excellent facility, and which made available the mental health care now utilized by Concordians. The local mental health association was organized in 1962. There are 250 members at present, and the officers are President, Rev. Wendell Berggren; 1st vice president, Rev. Chuck Winkler; 2nd vice president, Rev. Robert Fleenor; recording secretary, Sister Frances Joanne; corresponding secretary, Mrs. Lewis Sulanka; treasurer, Wayne Hilton.

Concordia also has a Cloud County Association for Retarded Children. This group was founded in 1963 to promote the general welfare of the mentally retarded. It operates a Day Care Center for mentally retarded children between the ages of three to twelve. It also provides a summer recreation program at Camp ArCloud with a professional director in charge. Officers of the group include President, Mrs. John Fellows; 1st vice president, Mrs. Dorothy Lawyer; 2nd vice president, Mrs. Virgil Lagasse; secretary, Mrs. Carl Johnson Jr.; treasurer, Mrs. Gerald Chavey.

There are five rest homes for the elderly in Concordia.

Two of these are church sponsored: The Sunset Home maintained by the Kansas Baptists, and St. Ann's operated by the Sisters of St. Joseph in the old St. Joseph's hospital building.



Weaver Hospital

This page sponsored by

THE ST. JOSEPH HOSPITAL
established 1903
Concordia, Kansas

SKYLINER STEAK HOUSE and SKYLINER MOTEL
Enjoy our centennial hospitality

THE NEWSPAPERS

Light and shadow, color and substance of the portrait of Concordia is reflected in the newspapers of our town.

The first newspaper was called The Empire. It was founded in Clyde by H. and A. L. Buckingham, and moved to Concordia in 1870. The Empire was published intermittently as were most of the newspapers of that early day.

The second newspaper, The Republican, was established in Concordia when Mark Kelly moved his Clyde Watchman to Concordia in 1871 and called it The Republican. Soon defunct, it was revised by J. S. Paradis and called The Expositor. In 1882 he renamed it the Republican, and in 1883 the paper merged with The Empire to become the Republican-Empire under editor Charles J. English. When this paper was purchased by schoolman, T. A. Sawhill in 1886 he called it again, The Empire.

In 1879 J. M. Hagan founded his paper and called it The Blade. Apparently he founded it for his own amusement, and as a vehicle for making his views felt in the community. There is historical evidence that he used his paper to taunt those whom he disliked. He published The Blade intermittently until 1889 when he sold it to the Blade-Publishing Company.

In 1902 the three newspapers, Empire, Republican and Blade were consolidated by George Burroughs and George Clark into the Concordia Blade-Empire. It is known by that name today.

Probably the most memorable editor of the Blade-Empire was Ray Green, who started his career with the Blade-Empire in 1909 when he left school work to purchase an interest in the paper. In 1914 he became sole owner of the paper, and began the work of making his newspaper develop a real personality.

Whatever occurred in Concordia was given substance and color, interest and excitement, aroused by his editorial opinions on local issues.

Ray Green was an astute newspaperman, and he brought



First home of The Empire



First home of the Kansan and present quarters.

such personalities as Tom Kiene, Marion Ellet, Lillie Cook and Les Shrouf into his staff. They brought stature and recognition to the Blade-Empire.

As he had no heirs, Ray Green willed his newspaper to his employes, and it is now under the capable leadership of Art Lowell.

The Kansan, which is Concordia's other newspaper is a weekly with a colorful history. It was founded in Jamestown in 1881 by F. P. Kellogg and moved to Concordia in 1895 by Frank R. Forrest and Frank Honeywell. The paper was purchased in 1896 by Gomer Davies who had a peg leg. He became Concordia's most widely known newspaperman. He edited the Kansan until 1940 when he was forced to retire, because of ill health. Through all those years he delighted the town with his pithy columns.

Gomer Davies was intensely aware of life in Concordia and wrote about it brilliantly. He was an implacable foe if he differed with you. Those who became his antagonists were apt to be battered unmercifully in his columns.

The Kansan is published today by co-owners, Dallas Nading and Fred DeArmond.

Because of these outstanding editors, the newspapers of Concordia have had distinctive personalities, and Concordia has been well recognized in the journalistic world. Concordia has been well served also, for the newspapers stirred discussion and thought, and above all awareness of issues, particularly local ones.

Concordia has had three other newspapers at various times. The Times was founded in Concordia in 1884 by Charles J. English, and Emory B. Shafer. It was merged later with the Republican Empire.

The Democrat was published between 1885 and 1900, then was absorbed by the Empire.

The Press was founded in Miltonvale in 1892, as a Democratic paper, and was moved to Concordia in 1901 by J. A. Marshall and L. W. Glidden. It was purchased by W. H. Danenbarger when he came to Concordia in 1904. He published The Press as a weekly until he was appointed Postmaster in 1934, and terminated his newspaper. His son, W. F. (Bill) Danenbarger is co-owner and manager of Concordia's radio station KNCK.

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First School Building in Concordia, 1872



Concordia Business College and Normal School



WASHINGTON SCHOOL
HIGH SCHOOL

PAROCHIAL SCHOOL



LINCOLN SCHOOL
GARFIELD SCHOOL

Early Concordia Schools

THE SCHOOLS

The first school in Concordia was held in the home of William English. The first regular town school was started in a dug-out and taught by Milo Stephens. It was then moved to Donaldson's Hall. In 1872 when Concordia was only a year old, the townsmen voted \$5,000.00 in bonds to build a school building large enough for the present number of pupils and for those who might come later. That first school building built on the hill where Washington School now stands was a stone, two-story, L-shaped building. The building was poorly constructed and by 1884 had to be replaced. A much larger four-wing, brick school building was built on the same site. This was used until the present Washington School was built.

The first Garfield and Lincoln Schools were built in the 1880's as was the first high school. That high school is now the Masonic Temple.

The first school board of Concordia included Sam Pratt, William English and James Bowen. But the Concordia school system became a truly educational system under the direction of the first Superintendent of Schools, Professor T. A. Sawhill, who arrived in 1880. Professor Sawhill was an exceptionally well educated man and brilliant teacher. He brought structure, continuity and purpose to the Concordia intellectual community. He served as superintendent until 1886 when he purchased the newspaper, "The Empire," and became a newspaperman. He later served as postmaster.

A. B. Carney became Superintendent of Schools in 1896 and served until 1906. He was a firm disciplinarian, a capable administrator, and the Concordia school system earned a good name under his guidance. He resigned in 1906 and bought the Concordia Business and Normal College which he ran very capably, adding another facet to the educational picture of Concordia.

Concordia has reaped the benefits of the capable men who have been Superintendents of the school system. Names such as Allbaugh and James brought educational excellence to Concordia.

The Parochial Schools:

In 1882 Father Perrier, the first pastor of the Concordia Catholic Church, began a parochial school taught by himself and lay teachers in the basement of his residence. In 1884 he persuaded the Sisters of St. Joseph to come to Concordia to teach. A convent was built for the sisters and a parochial school. The parochial school was only for boys when it opened. The sisters also opened an academy called Nazareth Academy, which was for young ladies. They had boarders, and girls from Concordia as day students. Many daughters of Protestant families as well as Catholic were educated at this select school.

The parochial school was eventually made co-educational and remained so. The Concordia parish has had a Catholic high school on two occasions. In the 1920's, and again in the 1940's. In 1962 a Catholic high school building was built on the east edge of town. The burden of Catholic educational expense became too heavy and by 1971 the Catholic school system in Concordia came to an end. The large school building has been purchased by the public school system and will be used as a middle school in 1972.

CONCORDIA SCHOOLS TODAY

Concordia prides itself on its educational facilities; not only is it the seat of Unified District 333 which encompasses the northern portion of Cloud County, it houses Cloud County Community College. Six hundred students attend the rapidly growing institution located in the south part of town.

It was 1960 when Harold Clark, Superintendent of Public Schools, announced to a group of interested citizens that two year colleges were to be the answer to the problems held by over populated universities. Why not, asked Clark, have a two year college in Concordia?

Why not? echoed his enthusiastic audience, and from that small group of people began a movement which culminated in a special election in 1965. The vote was favorable, 2445 to 181, and the college became a reality. Until a building could be erected, Juco classes were conducted in the local high school with Superintendent Clark its first president and the Concordia school board acting as trustees. The members of the school board doing double duty were Celeste McComas, George Ganstrom, John Herbin, Boyd Lewis, Don Hutchinson and Bill Larson. There were 119 students enrolled during the first semester.

In 1966 the first board of trustees for the college was elected which included Margaret Coulter, Marilyn Harwood, Don Hanson, Frank Brunell, Larry Peck and Tom Pitner. The trustees appointed Arley Bryant president of the college.

The present campus complex was occupied in the fall of 1968.

In the Concordia public school system in 1971 there are four grade schools, one middle school (5th and 6th grades), one junior high, one senior high school and a vocational agricultural building. Concordia high school includes in addition to its vo-ag course, college preparatory and work education. Special education and remedial reading are available to all school age children.

There are currently 123 teachers in the Unified District, and 106 teachers in Concordia. Harold Clark is still superintendent and is alert for new educational benefits for the town he has served for eleven years.

Cloud County
Community College



ST. JOHN'S LODGE No. 113, A.F. & A.N.
100 years in Concordia
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Concordia High School



Old U. B. Church, 1911-12



Catholic Rectory, Cathedral, Convent, School, in 1870's



Catholic Church, 311 E. 5th



Lutheran Church, 325 E. 8th



Christian Church, 6th and Cedar

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METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

THE CATHEDRAL
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

SWEDISH BAPTIST CHURCH
FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

Early Churches of Concordia

THE CHURCHES

The early settlers of Concordia came to Kansas to build homes and a way of life. Most of them brought the Christian beliefs expressed in the churches in which they had been reared. It was not long before their churches were being established in Concordia.

The first sermon preached in Concordia was preached at the Land Office by R. P. West, a Methodist minister. Rev. West was a pioneer circuit preacher who had homesteaded near Belleville in 1866. He supplied the needs of Methodists in Sibley and Concordia in 1870. In 1871 the Concordia charge was supplied by Rev. Freeman and Rev. G. E. Nichols. The first church members met in various halls available in town or in homes. The first Methodist Church building was built in 1878, the second in 1898, the third in 1908, to which was added the large Sweet Memorial Annex.

In 1965 the present beautiful church was dedicated. In a dramatic procession the congregation led by Rev. Richard Taylor marched from the old church on Broadway, carrying the lighted candle fire from the old altar to the altar of the new church on Highland Drive. The present pastor of the First United Methodist Church is Rev. Robert M. Fleenor.

The Presbyterian Church was organized in Concordia in 1871, and they built the first church building in Concordia in 1874, on Seventh between Washington and State streets. The first pastor was R. P. Jones. One of the best known and respected of the pastors of the Presbyterian Church in Concordia was the Rev. Horace Bushnell. His daughter, Carrie, taught in the public school system. The lovely little stone church was torn down in 1915 when the present neo-classic building was built. Rev. David Seward is the pastor.

The Swedish Baptist church was established in Concordia in 1878 under the pastorate of Rev. August Johnson. A small church was built in 1878 and in 1900



Presbyterian Church, 7th and State



Episcopal Church, 117 W. 8th



Wesleyan Church, 1517 Cedar



Trinity United Methodist Church, 128 E. 8th



United Methodist Church, 11th and Highland



Baptist Church, 333 W. 7th

another fine stone church was built at the corner of seventh and Cedar.

The First Baptist Church was established in Concordia in 1878 also, and until 1880 the two Baptist churches shared the same building. An attempt was made to unite the two congregations, but failed, and the First Baptists built their own church in 1888. This was the brick church at the corner of seventh and Washington, and was sold to the Wesleyan Methodist Church in 1926 and used by them until it was replaced. In 1924 the two Baptist congregations merged and in 1926 built the present large church at the corner of seventh and Cedar. The Swedish church was torn down and the stone of the old church used in the foundation of the present structure. The Baptist church has one of the finest pipe organs in the area, a gift of Mrs. W. L. McCarty. The pastor is Rev. Ross Sackman.

The United Brethren Church began as a series of small classes which met in various parts of Cloud County as early as 1879. These were Wolf Creek, Fairview, Union Valley, Range Line, Otterbein and Sibley. The church in Concordia was begun in 1886. The small congregation met in halls or sometimes in the Swedish Baptist church. In 1888 a small building was built as a church on east eleventh. The location was inconvenient, and in 1892 property was purchased at the corner of Lincoln and eighth and the second church building was built. It was torn down in 1910-11 and the present church was built on the same location. The Sunday School unit was added in 1959. The church is now known as the Trinity United Methodist Church and Rev. Jack J. Kersenbrock has been appointed minister following the retirement of Dr. H. H. Vogel.

The congregation of the Church of Christ was organized in Concordia in 1872. For fourteen years they met southeast of Concordia, then moved into town, meeting in homes or public halls. In 1900 they built their own church. Their present church is at eighth and Kansas.

The Christian Church was organized in Concordia in 1900. The congregation purchased the first Swedish Baptist building when that church built anew. The present Christian Church building was built in 1924 at the corner of sixth and Cedar. The beautiful new addition was added in 1968. The pastor is Rev. Arnold Krob.

The large Catholic population in the Concordia area came around 1870. Originally from Canada, these French Catholics settled in Illinois then came to Cloud County. The priest who ministered to them was Father Mollier, who came only occasionally to Concordia to say Mass in the homes. In 1877 the Catholics living in Concordia decided to build a church, and as soon as construction was begun, Father Joseph Perrier was appointed pastor. It was through his efforts that the Sisters of St. Joseph came to Concordia. And again, through his efforts Concordia was chosen as the seat of the Bishop's residence when Kansas was divided from one into three dioceses. In 1886 the Concordia church became the Cathedral church and remained so until moved to Salina in 1944. The original stone church was enlarged and redesigned, and is still in use, as is the rectory. The huge stone residence which was built for the Bishop's residence in the 1920's on the west edge of Concordia became the first building of the Gelvin-Haughey Clinic, opened in 1951. When the Bishop moved to Salina, the house was eventually purchased by the clinic. The pastor of

the Catholic Church is Father Werth.

The earliest record of church services of the Episcopal Church was found in the journal of Bishop Thomas, Bishop of Kansas, who noted that he visited Concordia November 10, 1887. On August 14th, 1887 Bishop Thomas again visited Concordia and arranged with the Rev. J. T. Bagnell of Clay Center to hold services in Concordia on Tuesday evenings. In 1889 the record shows the Rev. R. W. Rhames, a missionary at Belleville, holding services in Concordia, and reporting church property worth \$300.00 and eight communicants. Services were held in homes, a Guild was formed, and several successful bazaars were held. In 1904 Rev. Wm. Neeley Colton became the first resident priest. A hall was rented, a green burlap curtain was hung across one wall, and a wooden cross was fastened to the curtain. A kitchen table was used as an altar. In 1907 the lovely little stone church on seventh street was built. It has been enlarged, and redecorated in 1971 with the addition of a fifteenth century altar, under the devoted pastorship of the present rector, Father Wilfred Hotaling.

These were the early churches of Concordia, established before 1900. Several have been established since including:

The Bethel Assembly of God, Sixth and Archer, established in 1944.

The Four Square Gospel Church at 223 W. Second, was organized in 1934. Archie Cooper is the minister.

The Lutheran Church at eighth and Olive was organized in 1943. A. H. Roesener is pastor.

The Wesleyan Methodist Church at 1517 Cedar was organized in 1924. Duane Seitz is the minister.

The South Side Baptist Church was organized in 1971. Rev. Gene Haynes is minister.

Concordia has a Ministerial Association which was organized in the late 1930s. Daily religious programs on Concordia radio station KNCK are provided. The present officers of the Association are: President, Rev. Wilfred Hotaling; V.P., Rev. A. H. Roesener; sec.-treas., Rev. Robert M. Fleenor

THE CONVENT

In 1884 a small band of Sisters of St. Joseph placed their "Footprints On The Frontier" which was Concordia. They had started originally from Rochester, N. Y. intending to go to Arizona to found schools. When they got to Kansas, the tales of the dangers from Indians persuaded them to ask the Bishop of Leavenworth if he could use their services in his vast Kansas Diocese. He accepted joyfully, and sent them to Newton, Kansas to found a school. At the urging of Father Perrier, the first permanent pastor of the Catholic Church in Concordia, the sisters came to teach. Very soon they located their motherhouse in Concordia and opened a 'select' boarding school for girls as well as teaching in the parochial school. In 1903 they built their impressive new Nazareth Academy and Convent. This building, now used only as the Motherhouse, stands, tall and strong, catching the eye as one drives into Concordia. The sisters have staffed most of the parochial schools of the Salina Diocese (formerly the Concordia Diocese). They have seven hospitals in three states, and own and operate Marymount College, a four year, co-educational college in Salina. The record of these sisters of St. Joseph is the record of a courageous and completely successful pioneering effort.

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Baptist Home Today



Nazareth Convent Today

THE SUNSET HOME

The "Sunset Home" of Concordia is a retirement home operated by the Kansas Baptist Church. It was founded originally by the Swedish Baptist Church in Clay Center, Kansas. In 1911 the Swedish Sunset home was moved to Concordia, and a building built at the end of seventh street. Since the First Baptist and the Swedish Baptist Churches merged, the home has been called only the "Sunset Home." It has been extensively enlarged and is enjoyed by 97 occupants.

The Organizations...

If organizations are indicative of progress and development in a town, Concordia is a very progressive town. Every effort was made by the book committee to gather information about the clubs, but some did not reply to the request for information and are listed by name only. No effort was made to list social clubs.

THE CLUBS

The oldest study club in Concordia is the Ladies' Literary Club, founded September 29, 1890 at the home of Mrs. W. F. Sawhill. The club motto was "Mutual Good Will and Mental Growth." Founding members included Mesdames Cobb, Stackhouse, Wilfong, Harkness, Brown, Sawhill, Kelly, Kennett, Dudley, Marshall, Bolinger and Bowman. The club helped promote the first library, donated shrubbery to the city park and helped in the upkeep of community rest rooms. During the early years study included Chautauqua courses. The Bible was made a permanent study in 1901. Present officers are President, Mrs. J. V. Bertrand; V. P., Mrs. F. L. Daugherty; sec.-treas., Mrs. Lloyd Larsen; historian, Mrs. F. L. Short. There are 20 members.

Atheneum Club was organized in 1896 to study history and current events. Charter members included Mesdames Avery, Cline, Williams, Sohlinger, Lamb, Reid, Rigby, Robinson, Whipp, Pigman and Wilmoth. The present officers are President, Mrs. Gerald Fraser; V.P., Mrs. Paul Koehn; sec., Mrs. Ted Samuelson; treas., Mrs. Warren Freeborn. There are 22 members.

The Tuesday Study Club was organized Feb. 18, 1903, by Mrs. W. F. Matson. The club studied literature, history, current events and the Bible. The club celebrated its 25th anniversary at the home of Mrs. Walter Whitebread, and its 50th at the home of Mrs. Gordon Hugerth with two charter members, Mrs. W. F. Matson and Mrs. Emily Misell, present. The club has twenty members and officers are President, Mrs. Leo Forsberg; V.P., Mrs. James Buoy; sec., Mrs. Gordon Hugerth.

Current Events Club was founded in 1912 for mutual improvement through social and educational channels. There are 14 members with officers composing President, Mrs. G. B. Kappelman; V.P., Mrs. Martin O'Connor; sec.-treas., Mrs. Frank Carlson.

The Improvement Club was organized and federated in 1913 with the objective of improvement of the mind, culture and social recreation. There are 20 members, and the officers are President, Mrs. Marvin Lawton; V.P., Mrs. L. J. Joler; sec., Mrs. Clare B. McConaughy; treas., Mrs. William Lagemann.

Sas-nak Study Club was organized in 1914 by Mrs. Frank W. Daugherty. The purpose was study of history, literature, poetry and current events. Present officers are President, Mrs. Doug R. Schuyler; V. P., Mrs. James Douglass; sec.-treas., Mrs. Harvey M. Olson; hist., Mrs. Edgar Allbaugh.

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Entre-Nous Study Club was organized in 1915 for mutual improvement through general education and literary work. Officers are President, Miss Dora Engle; V. P., Mrs. Virgil Noah; sec.-treas., Mrs. Olen Gillan. There are 14 members.

Cleophas Study Club was organized in 1922 as an embroidery club to which members brought their children. Mrs. D. L. Matthew is the only charter member remaining. It was reorganized as a study club in 1924, and was federated in 1926. Officers are President, Mrs. Clifford Shivers; V. P., Mrs. Wallace St. Pierre; sec.-treas., Mrs. Lowell Swenson. Membership is 21.

Mothers' Study Club was founded in 1938 with the purpose of education in promoting the welfare of the young. There are 18 members, and the officers are President, Mrs. Dallas Nading; V. P., Mrs. John Schmitz; sec.-treas., Mrs. Mike Fraser.

"As You Like It" Federated Club was organized in 1962. President is Mrs. Dale Branson; V. P., Mrs. Don Musick; sec., Mrs. Noel Nickel; treas., Mrs. Elmer Dicke. Fifteen members compose this club.

Epsilon Pi chapter of Beta Sigma Phi International fraternity was founded in 1955. Its purpose is to provide varied friendships and an inspirational experience in enjoyment of liberal arts. Officers include President, Mrs. Robert Baumann; V. P., Mrs. Lorin Kasper; treas., Mrs. Ron Cailteux; sec., Mrs. Harold Johnston and Mrs. Doug Fate. There are 17 members.

Beta Iota Chapter 3680 of Epsilon Sigma Alpha was chartered in 1968. The chapter chooses a local philanthropic project each year. Officers include President, Betty Spicher; V. P., Era Philipp; sec., Wila Jones; treas., Doris Caywood.

Concordia has two P.E.O. Sisterhoods. The purpose of P.E.O. is educational and philanthropic. A. O. was organized in 1914. There are 45 active members and 2 non-resident members. The officers are President, Mrs. Phil Smith; V. P., Mrs. James Pettygrove; treas., Mrs. Eugene Leon. E. V. of P. E. O. was founded in 1942. There are 31 members and the officers are: President, Mrs. David Seward; V. P., Mrs. Arthur Lowell; rec. sec., Mrs. Alden Blackburn; cor. sec., Mrs. L. Diebel; treas., Mrs. Nancy Jones; chaplain, Mrs. Leland Perry; guard, Mrs. Elmer Palmquist.

The Concordia Music Club was organized and federated in 1960. The purpose of the club is to preserve and promote our musical heritage. The officers are President, Mrs. Ray Doyen; V. P., Mrs. C. R. Findley; sec., Mrs. Wayne Switzer; treas., Mrs. John Heinen. There are 32 members.

The Concordia Talk of the Month Club was organized in 1969. This is a dinner club organized under the auspices of the Kansas University Bureau of Lectures. The purpose is cultural and social. There are 144 members, and the officers include President, Glenn Claycamp; V. P., Wilbur Naylor; sec., Joseph Bertrand.

Scouting began in 1922 in Concordia under the sponsorship of the Rotary Club. At the present time there are 275 boys and young men registered in Cub Scout Packs, Boy Scout Troops, and Explorer Posts in Concordia. In

1970-71 the following men are serving: J. Milton Sorem, Coronado Area Council President; Frank Carlson, Council Executive Board Member; Marion Collins, District Chairman; Roy Wilson, District Commissioner; James L. Craven, District Scout Executive. In 1971 the unit leaders include: Pack 31, George Champlin; Pack 32, Dennis Reed; Pack 34, Emory L. Mills Jr.; Pack 39, Doug Schuyler. Scoutmasters include: Troop 31, Marvin Peterson; Troop 32, Lee Collette; Troop 34, Doyle Turner; Troop 39, Kenneth E. Peery. Explorer Advisors include: Post 31, Roy C. Wilson; Post 32, M. J. McMenomey; Post 39, George K. Ganstrom.

The Camp Fire Girls, Inc. of Concordia was founded in 1962, replacing the Girl Scout organization which had flourished in Concordia for many years. The program is designed to help girls grow through a variety of constructive, character building experiences. The present officers are: President, Mrs. James H. Buoy; first V. P., Mrs. Wilson Liggett; second V. P., Mrs. Charles Richey; sec., Mrs. Seth Dixon; treas., Mrs. Wilson Carlgen. There are 300 girls active in Camp Fire Girls.

Recognizing the need to save the documents and other articles used by our forefathers, for posterity, the D.A.R. sponsored a play in the late 1920s and raised money for the purpose of a forming a Historical Society and establishing a Museum. But it wasn't until 1958, when Mrs. Robert B. Wilson, then Regent of the Concordia Chapter of the D.A.R., brought up the subject again. It was enthusiastically endorsed by the membership.

Plans were being drawn for the new Courthouse, and after meetings between the D.A.R. and the County Commissioners, the plans provided for a room in the basement for the historical museum.

The Cloud County Historical Society was organized January 30, 1959, and Mr. Martin Van De Mark was elected President. The first item donated to the museum was a picture of Col. Cloud, for whom the County is named. Past presidents have included: Mr. Robert Hanson, Mr. Ernest Powell, Mr. George Dutton, Mr. Ben Kappelman, Mr. Wm. Dutton, Mr. Leo McCarty and Mr. Leslie Ward, the present president. Membership is 50.

Company A 891st Engineering Battalion (C) (A) of the National Guard was organized January 12, 1954. The purpose is military training and support of the Civil authority. The present officers are 1st. Lt. John Perdue, Commanding officer; 1st. Lt. Richard Utter, Executive officer; 1st. Sg. James Cory; Jerome Sorell, Platoon Sergeant. There are 66 members.

The Veterans of Foreign Wars, Martin-LeSage post No. 588, of Concordia was organized in 1933. There were 51 charter members. The club has always been involved in charitable ventures, notably during the depression years. There are 500 members and the officers are Commander, Jack J. Barba; Sr. Vice Commander, Abner Monty; Jr. Vice Commander, Don Hudsonpillar; Quartermaster, Gilbert G. Perret; Adjutant, Leonard Wiltsie; Chaplain, Freeman Gildersleeve.

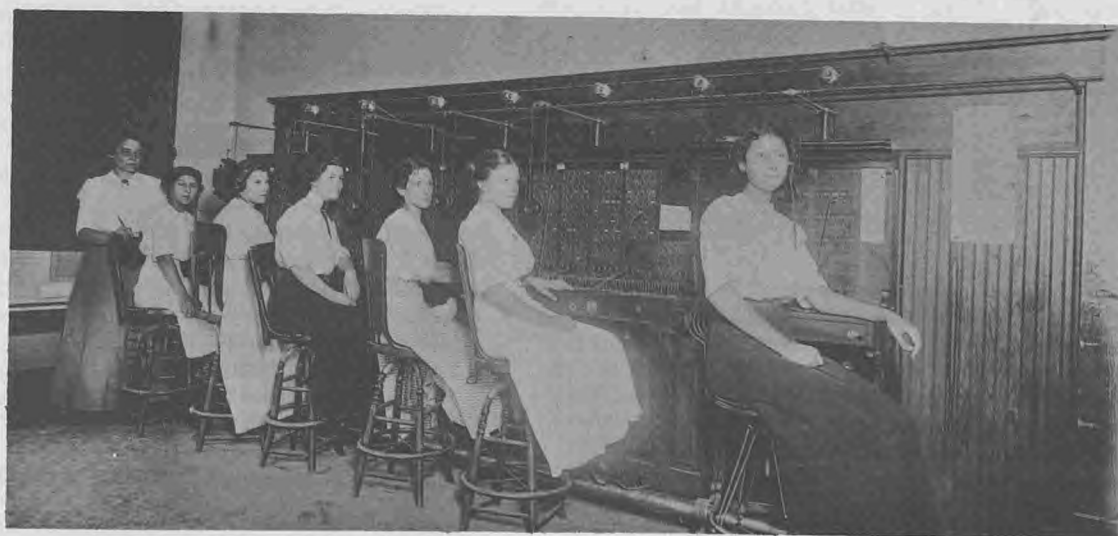
The Auxiliary charter was issued Jan. 20, 1934. The auxiliary does outstanding work for V.A. hospitals in Kansas. Present officers include President, Dorothy Lawyer; Senior V. P., Fedora Nobert; Junior V. P., Alma Fleming; treas., Ilda Walden; sec., Lena Hyland; Chaplain, Adda Mossburgh.



First Camp Fire Girls Troop in Concordia: first row, Mildred Neitzel, Edna Lamb, Dorothy Spencer, Edith Witcher, Libbie O'Reilly, Helen Forbes; 2nd row, Avis Perkins, Alice Lambert, Josephine Choquette; 3rd row, Isabel Neitzel, Ruby Rogers; others, Maurine Elmore, Ruth Rogers, Margaret Stewart, Lucille Belisle, Faith Nixon, Thelma Willard, Verna Ferguson, Louise Nixon, Camilla Hanson, Vera Kelly, Lucile Carey and Vivian Olney. Organized in 1913.



St. Hilda's Guild around 1914: Bess Bragg, Marcelline Martin Ward, Nettie Hanson Shuss, Josephine Wrong Boggs, Mabel McConahey Seyster, Bessie Boggs Henshall, Katherine Wrong Weaver and Frances McCasesy Layton



The First Telephone Swithboard

The Davies-Crook post of the American Legion was chartered in 1919. It was named for Private Oran B. Crook, and Corporal George T. Davies, both killed in the battle of the Argonne, in September of 1918. The first Commander was Charles Ulmer. The Concordia Legion has sponsored baseball, Boys' State, Lawmen's School, Scholarships, Basketball, Girls' Softball, and Christmas baskets for the needy. Present officers include Commander, Ferril G. Laman; Sr. Vice Commander, Bill K. Folkner; Jr. Vice Commander, Kenneth Cleveland; Adjutant, A. C. Gagnon; Chaplain, Freeman Gildersleeve; Finance Officer, Walter Morgan.

The American Legion Auxiliary was chartered in 1922, and the first president was Crystle McDowell. The group sponsors poppy day sales and uses the money to buy equipment for veterans' hospitals. Two girls are sent to Girls' State each year, and a nursing scholarship is given each year. Officers include President, Mabel Bonneau; Sr. Vice Pres., Zella Dyson; Jr. Vice Pres., Isabel O'Connor; sec., Mabel Laman.

Concordia chapter of the D.A.R. was founded in 1921. Mrs. E. J. Messall was organizing regent. The purpose is to promote the memory and spirit of the men and women who achieved American Independence. Present officers are Regent, Mrs. C. R. Carlson; v. reg., Mrs. E. N. Robertson; sec., Mrs. H. A. Kuhn; treas., Mrs. C. N. Inge; hist., Mrs. M. J. O'Connor; reg., Mrs. R. H. Hanson; chaplain, Mrs. C. W. Pilcher. There are 24 members.

Cloud County Navy Mothers' Club No. 943 was founded in 1966. Its purpose is to assist the families of Navy men and women. There are 42 members and the officers are Commander, Agnes Fleming; 1st v. com., Jettie Johnson; 2nd. v. com., Frances Wiruth; adjutant, Dorothy Strait; finance, Joyce Bourne.

The W. T. Sherman Woman's Relief Corps No. 74 was organized in Concordia May 18, 1885 with 26 members. At that time it was a women's patriotic auxiliary to the G.A.R. organization of Civil War Veterans. This group has continued to exist in Concordia, still offering aid to sick and needy, taking part in memorial services. It is the oldest patriotic auxiliary in Concordia. The officers are President, Adda Mossburgh; V. P., Frances Wiruth; sec., Agnes Fleming; treas., Josephine Bowling.

World War I North Central Barracks No. 2732 was chartered in Concordia in 1961. Two hundred and fifteen members from five counties have an average age of 76. Within the group are 53 couples who have celebrated their golden wedding anniversaries. Axtell Humphrey was the first commander and Jim Widrig of Beloit is the present commander. The auxiliary was organized in 1962 with Ida Walden as president, and Wilma Henry, secretary. The purpose is to assist W. W. I buddies and widows.

Concordia-Beloit Licensed Practical Nurses Chapter was organized in 1950 to promote a spirit of good will and cooperation, with the goal to raise the standard of practical nursing in the community. There are 20 members and the officers are President, Miss Beryl Grove; V. P., Mrs. Goldie Martin; sec.-treas., Mrs. Lillian Briney.

American Association of Retired Persons was organized in 1968. Its purpose is to provide a channel for members to do volunteer community work, and elderly people to make social contacts. There are 60 charter members. Officers are President, Glen Zeornes; 1st V. P., Sam Long; 2nd V. P., John Hooker; sec., Chester McWilson; treas., Axtell Humphrey.

The Martha Society of the Methodist Church was organized April 25, 1895. The first president was Mrs. Clara Sweet. In January 1943 the name of the Martha Society was changed to Woman's Society of Christian Service, and the president of the group at that time was Mrs. J. Milton Sorem. Officers in 1971 are President, Mrs. Roy Nordquist; V. P., Mrs. Tom Campbell; sec., Mrs. Wayne Switzer; treas., Mrs. Hugh Boyd. There are 168 members and the purpose of the Society is to help women grow in the knowledge and experience of God.

A woman's missionary society was active in the Presbyterian Church of Concordia as early as 1885. Dr. Horace Bushnell and his wife, Nerissa, were the inspirational force behind early missionary endeavors. In 1946 the Bushnell Society was formed. At one time there was also a group called the Nerissa Society. The Bushnell Society is a part of the state and national United Presbyterian Women's Organization. The purpose of the group is to support the church mission, to have personal Christian growth, and to become active in Christian concern. There are 90 active members. The present officers are President, Mrs. C. E. Sjogren; V. P., Mrs. L. W. La Bore; sec., Mrs. Robert Machen; treas., Mrs. L. A. Sjogren.

Court St. Francis de Sales of the Catholic Daughters of America was founded in Concordia in April, 1929. The first regent was Mrs. Katherine Starr. The purpose of the group is to preserve the Faith, to foster Charity and Patriotism, and to promote the spiritual and temporal welfare of Catholic women. There are 70 members and the officers are Territorial Deputy, Betty Laing; Regent, Pauline Cassel; V. R., Kay Anderson; treas., Jan Roy; sec., Margaret Hattan.

In 1912 the first women's group of the Christian Church was organized. That group was called, "The Willing Workers." In 1922 it was called "Sarepta Society" with Mrs. E. A. D. Parker as President. In 1940 it was called the "Woman's Council." In 1950 the name became, "Christian Women's Fellowship." The purpose is to strive to enlist all our women in the fellowship and worship of the church. The officers are President, Mrs. Taylor Jewett; V. P., Mrs. Wm. Cox; sec., Mrs. John Vint; treas., Mrs. Grant Gorsuch. There are sixty members.

The Baptist Church is the union of two churches, both founded in Concordia in 1877. In the Swedish Baptist Church the early Woman's Society sewed for the Klingberg's Children's Home in Connecticut. Early officers were Mrs. Peter Benson and Mrs. John Ganstrom. In August 1924 the churches merged, and the woman's groups merged and called themselves the "Ruth Society." The first

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president was Mrs. Don Bramwell. There are now 180 members and the purpose of the Society is to serve Jesus Christ as Lord and Saviour through worshiping, working and witnessing in all areas of life. The present officers are President, Mrs. George Fredrickson; sec., Mrs. Donald D. Lewis; treas., Mrs. James Coppoc.

The Women's Society of Christian Service of the Trinity United Methodist Church was originally two different organizations; the Ariel Society and the Women's Missionary Association. There are now 89 members and the officers are President, Mrs. Leon Lewis; V. P., Mrs. Winnie Krohn; sec., Mrs. Clyde Van Zandt; treas., Mrs. Vernon Martin. The purpose of the Woman's Society of Christian Service is to help women grow in the experience of God and to develop a personal responsibility for the whole task of the church.

The Concordia chapter of the Red Cross has been active through each of our wars, and in many of the disasters caused by flood and tornado. The chapter is behind the group of volunteers who handle the collection of blood for the Red Cross Blood program which operates in Concordia four or five times a year. During the disastrous flood in Clyde more than \$31,000.00 in aid was provided by the Cloud County Red Cross organization. Officers include: Chairman, Buford Miller (deceased May 21, 1971); V. C., Janet Baker Davis; sec., A. W. Humphrey; treas., Gene Johnson.

The Garden Club was organized March 24, 1950, and Federated in 1951. The purpose is to encourage interest in all phases of home gardening and promote better horticultural practices, civic beauty and the conservation of natural resources. The club has had many civic beautification projects. The officers are President, Mrs. Ben Pearson; First V. P., Mrs. Lloyd C. Larsen; second V. P., Mrs. William Krasny; sec., Mrs. George Belden; treas., Mrs. Bernie Lash. Membership is 26.

The Community Concert Association of Concordia was started originally in 1946, flourished for a few years, and was abandoned. It was reactivated in 1963. The purpose is to bring above average musical events to Concordia. It has provided an opera, several large symphonies, many famous choral groups, and dance and instrumental groups. There are 773 members and the officers are President, Everett Miller; V. P., Mrs. C. D. Reynolds; sec., Mrs. Gene Johnson; treas., Gordon Huggerth; membership chairman, Mrs. Paul Rimovsky.

THE LODGES

In 1872 the Grand Master of Kansas granted the Concordia charter of the Independent Order Of Odd Fellows. This is one of the oldest lodges in Concordia. It is a Friend, Love and Truth Order. The officers are: Noble Grand, Ernest Palecek; Vice Grand, Stanley Mossburg; Warden, Arthur Eakins; treas., Grant Swenson; sec., John L. Vint.

The associate lodge with the IOOFs is the Rebekahs. This group was organized in Concordia October 10, 1877. The officers are: Noble Grand, Anna Lee McGinnis; Vice Grand, Florence Paillette; Chaplain, Libbie McCammon; treas., Ilda Walden; Recording sec., Helen Cochran; Financial sec., Dorothy Johnson.

The first meeting of Masons in Cloud County was probably in 1870 on the open prairie where the Pleasant Hill Cemetery is now. The first recorded meeting was held in the early Court House on east Sixth Street. The first Master was Marquis de Lafayette Sutherland, and founding members were: Cale E. Hensen, Frederick A. Thompson, William Wetherilt, Wm. E. Reid, A. A. Carnahan, R. E. Hill, Milton Reasoner, Jeremiah Burns, J. J. Burns, James Woodward, L. B. Hay, Leander Schooley, Herbert Patrick and Albert Nichols. The first stated meeting was held Dec. 1, 1871. At the meeting a communication was read from the Grand Secretary asking for assistance for the Chicago Brethren on account of the great Chicago Fire. "Our lodge gave them sympathy, being too poor for financial assistance."

Charles McDonald was the first one to be initiated by the Concordia St. John's Lodge.

In 1934 the lodge purchased the old high school building on the northeast corner of eighth and Washington, and in that temple the following groups now meet: St. John's Lodge No. 113, H. Corvon Carpenter, Master; Concordia Chapter, John Vint, High Priest; Hiram Council, Wilbert Sieverin, Illustrious Master; Commandery, James B. Moates, Commander; Eastern Star, Mrs. Helen Martin, Worthy Matron; DeMolay, Gary Hobbie, Master Councilor; Rainbow for Girls, Patty Doyle, Worthy Advisor; Beauceant, Isabel O'Connor, Worthy President. C. E. Laman has been secretary of the St. John's Lodge since 1949.

In 1945 the North Central Kansas Shrine Club was founded to act as liaison with the Crippled Children's hospitals and the burn hospitals maintained by the Shrine and see that eligible children are cared for. There are 219 members and the officers are President, Ralph Anderson, (deceased April 24, 1971), Randal, Kan.; V. P., Donovan McCarty, Belleville, Kan.; Junior Past President, Leo A. Forsberg, Concordia.

The Knights of Columbus Council No. 1142 was chartered in 1906. The first Grand Knight was A. S. Lambert. The purpose is to provide spiritual, social and charitable opportunities for Catholic men. The current officers are Ernest Girard, Grand Knight; George Chaput, Deputy, Grand Knight; Alfred Metro, Chancellor; Rev. Loren Werth, chaplain.

The Concordia Elks Lodge was founded in Concordia through the efforts of Park Pulsifer in 1900. "It has been reported that Park Pulsifer sponsored a head count in Concordia when Buffalo Bill's Wild West Show was in town. Included in this census were those who arrived to see the show." The Elks Grand Lodge had a rule that a community must have a population of 5,000 before a lodge could be instituted. The head count that day gave Concordia its Elks lodge. The present officers of the Elks are John McDonald, Exalted Ruler; Ron Deal, Esteemed Leading Knight; Vic Emmel, Esteemed Loyal Knight; Floyd Day, sec.

The Concordia Lodge of the Loyal Order of the Moose was chartered in Concordia in 1912 and was active for a time, then became inactive. In 1956 the lodge was chartered again with 133 members. The lodge has fraternal, and social aims. It has earned recognition for its outstanding record of community service. The Concordia chapter has a large clubhouse in Concordia, on fifth street, serving some of the best food in town. There are now 1200 members, and the present officers are Jr. Past Governor, Ira Studt; Governor, Jim Loop; Jr. Governor, Dale Ryser; Prelate, Delton Hatesohl; treas., Norman Cook.

The Women of the Moose was chartered in 1957 with 52 charter members. The purpose of the organization is to help in civic affairs, to donate to local scholarships, and to Mooseheart, the national home for dependent children, and Moosehaven a home for the elderly. There are 282 members and the officers are Senior Regent, Pat Hinson; Junior Regent, Ruth Muths; Chaplain, Mildred Emmot; treas., Jane Wilson; Recorder, Marie Dearsmit; Junior Grand Regent, Minnie Studd.

THE SERVICE CLUBS

During this Centennial year, The Rotary club of Concordia will celebrate its golden anniversary. The club was organized in 1921 with Paul F. Edquist as president. Other past presidents included Edgar Allbaugh, Ben McCrary, Leo Haughey, W. F. Metz, Lewis Henderson, J. R. Forbes, Earl Ingersoll, Chick Peck, Lester Shrouf, Dutch Short, Charles Hunt, Gay Busby, Henry Karns, Charles Fees, Ed Thompson, Erhart Edquist, Lester Templin, Orval Locke, Milton Sorem, Eugene Throop, Clarence Paulsen, Ernest Huscher, Paul Kendall, Charles Cook, Clarence Welker, Carl Cunningham, Jack Bowman, William Duehren, Norman Lewis, George Brady, Wallace Travis, John Peck, Cliff Gillan, "Duke" McComas, Ross Thornton, Carl Rogers, Dick Cook, Lin Owensby, Leslie Anderson, Wilbur Naylor, Bob Trego, Charlie Moss, Wayne Switzer, Tom James, Glen Winter, Hugh Craig, Leon Gennette, Howard Ward, Bill Buechel, Roger Viets.

One of Rotary's earliest activities in Concordia was the organization and sponsorship of Boy Scouts in Concordia. Scholarship is encouraged by money grants, and by the annual Scholarship Dinner in May.

The Kiwanis Club was organized in Concordia September 29, 1924. The first officers were President, Martin Van De Mark; 1st. V. P., Harry L. Weatherford; 2nd. V. P., J. D. Caldwell; sec., J. C. Bock; treas., C. J. Putt. The purpose of Kiwanis is to inspire voluntary service for the benefit of the community and its people. The present officers are President, Noel Nickel; 1st. V. P., Glenn Claycamp; 2nd. V. P., James L. Craven; sec., Chester McWilson; treas., Taylor Jewett; Immediate Past President, A. G. VanKooten. Directors are: George Fredrickson (deceased May 15, 1971), Steve Reedy, Lee Doyen, Don Campbell, Arthur Slaughter, Paul Buck, Boyd Lewis.

The Concordia Lions Club was chartered June 14, 1938. The purpose of the club is to create and foster a spirit of "generous consideration," of good government and good citizenship, to take an active interest in the civic welfare of the community, and to encourage high ethical standards in business and professions. The present membership is 42, and the officers are President, Earle B. Hays; 1st. V. P., Robert Busby; 2nd. V. P., Dallas Nading; 3rd. V. P., Gene Johnson; sec., A. G. Swiercinsky; treas., Leo Forsberg; Lion Tamer, Ernest Palacek; Tail Twister, Dave Potter; Asst. Tail Twister, Lynn Powell; Directors, Gary Cook, Cecil Runyan, Rev. Robert Fleenor, Ray Stanton.

The Optimist Club was organized in Concordia March 25, 1971. The purpose of the club is "Service to the Community, and Friend of the Boy." There are 38 charter members, and the present officers are President, V. O. Braun; V. P., Larry Hartshorn; sec.-treas., David Haskins.

Concordia Business and Professional Women was founded in 1924. The first president was Dr. Mae Decker. The purpose of the club is to elevate the standards of women in business and the professions and to promote the interests of business and professional women. The present membership is 31 and the officers are President, Mrs. Mildred McFall; V. P., Mrs. Louise Dutton; sec., Mrs. Lucille Hansen; treas., Mary Ann Baxa; Corresponding sec., Mrs. Gladys Winsett.

The Jaycees were founded June 22, 1950. The purpose of the club is to foster Faith in God, brotherhood, economic justice, government of law, and service to humanity. The officers are President, Dennis McDaniel; 1st. V. P., Gene Leonard; 2nd V. P., Rodney Cart; secretary, James Bourne; treas., Kenneth Palmquist; Directors, Bill DeArmond, David Haskins and Clifford Stoutner.

The Concordia Jaycee Jaynes was founded in 1952. The purpose of the club is to cooperate with the Concordia Jaycees and to provide the membership with training in leadership and civic consciousness to better their usefulness as citizens. The present officers are President, Mrs. Christie Leonard; V. P., Mrs. Jan Long; sec., Mrs. Ivadel Christian; treas., Mrs. Marge Cart.

St. Joseph's Hospital Guild was founded in 1950. Its purpose is to provide volunteer help for the hospital. The guild holds a money-raising event each year, and donates the proceeds to buy needed equipment for the hospital. The present officers are Mrs. Mark Coco, president; Mrs. Howard Lanoue, V. P.; Mrs. Quentin Nault, treas.; and Mrs. Roy Anderson, sec.

The Concordia Chamber of Commerce is an active organization made up of the business and professional people of the community. Because of the leadership of the organization, the Chamber of Commerce has come to be known as "The organization that gets things done." Throughout its fifty-four year history, the Chamber of Commerce has worked aggressively for such projects as: Highway 81 through the city; St. Joseph's Hospital Fund Drive; Development of the Industrial Park, and bringing in new industry; United Fund; Cloud County Community College; and the Concordia Centennial.

Men who have served as president of the Chamber of Commerce include: Paul Edquist, S. H. Parrish, George Bowman, E. B. Allbaugh, W. F. Metz, Frank Baldwin, Ernest Swanson, H. M. Christensen, Ed Burge, Clarence Paulsen, D. D. Spurrier, E. G. Crawford, John Wilcox, E. H. Moore, J. C. Tibbetts, Vernon Martin, Charles S. Cook, Oscar Allen, Ernest Huscher, Orval Locke, Jack Bowman, Hallie Bulthaupt, Gordon McCoy, Ferd Wagner, Bill Fitzgerald, Finis Morris, Elmer Palmquist, John Hooker, James B. Snyder, Robert M. Davis, Harry Young, Vernon Nelson, Wilson Carlgren, Dale Nelson, Leon Gennette, Dean

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The Woman's Division of the Concordia Chamber of Commerce was formed in January, 1971, with fifty charter members. Each member serves on one of four committees: PRIDE, CULTURE, EDUCATION, or HOSPITALITY. The

purpose of the group is to cooperate with the Concordia Chamber of Commerce in the advancement of the cultural and economic welfare of the community.

Concordia also has societies for Multiple Sclerosis; United Fund; March of Dimes; Heart Association; Cancer Association; CROP; and a Recreation Commission. There is a chapter of the American Association of University Women; a Republican Women's Club; a Saddle Club; the Industrial Development Association; the Medical Society; and the Triple S. Club.



Mrs. Park Pulsifer and her electric car



In 1892 the Ringling train was wrecked east of town, killing two men and 20 horses.



E. W. Olson with Bible Wagon in front of Swedish Baptist Church, early 1900's



Early Boogaart store in Randall. Identified are left, Nellie Swarty, the first woman employe, a customer, Henry Boogaart, a customer, and Marinus Boogaart.



Horses and men take a break during harvest.

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"I Remember"...

Looking at the "Prairie Portrait" which is Concordia stirr memories. Collected here are paragraphs of memories. Some of these reminiscences written by people who are dead. Some were written many years ago. Some were written by people who used to live in Concordia. Some were written by people living in Concordia now. All concern memories of incidents which were part of life in Concordia.

"I Remember," by Mary Whipp Wilcox

Mrs. Wilcox came to Cloud County in 1871. She was the grandmother of Mrs. E. W. Larson, Mrs. Duane Shrader, A. N. Wilcox, John Wilcox and Robert Wilcox, all of Concordia. Before her death, Mrs. Wilcox wrote these memoirs for her family.

"My father, Martin T. Whipp, came to Cloud County in 1871 and took a homestead. In the fall we all came out and camped. While we were camping a herd of Texas cattle came along the trail going north. We all ran up the hill to see it. It was a grand sight. It was perhaps two thousand cattle weaving along with their long wide horns. At times the herds were a mile long. Sometimes one or more cows would get too tired to travel and would fall by the wayside to be left for the coyotes, but soon the settlers caught on and would butcher them. One fell from the herd we saw, and the man whose place we were camped on butchered it.

"In the spring of 1872 we came to stay. I was sixteen that spring. Concordia was just a little place, four or five stores. Grocery stores and dry-goods stores were combined. The stores were built of rough lumber boards set lengthwise. One store was called the Ironclad because it had a tin roof.

One could travel for miles and not see anything but prairie. Now and then a rabbit or an antelope would scamper away. The antelope were beautiful little animals with white and brown spots on their bodies. They were smaller than deer and without antlers. After we had been here a while we might see smoke curling up from the edge of a ravine or creek bank and when we came near, it would be a dugout where some settler lived.

"That first summer our nearest neighbor lost two little children with croup. They put them in little caskets and took them to the cemetery in Concordia, and put them away without any service at home or at the graves. No minister could be reached.

That first year was the hardest. I remember we girls had to milk and take care of the cows. They were staked out on the prairie on long lariat ropes. They had to be put on fresh grass and watered two or three times a day in hot weather. Sometimes they would be so thirsty they would break loose from us and run. If they didn't get too big a start and we could run fast enough, we could pick up the end of the rope and stop them.

"In those days, the lucky ones got aid from friends or relatives back east. Our relatives in Illinois sent us a barrel of flour, some bacon and other things. How we did stretch out that flour. Just made bread or biscuits on rare occasions when we got too tired of cornbread or had company.

"I remember our schools were taught in dugouts. I taught the first term of the Hopewell school, and my twin sister, Martha, taught the first term at Prairie Point.

"Soon the prairie was broken and farmers began raising

all kinds of crops. How they did grow on the new ground. Pumpkins, squash, melons, citrons and yams. Corn meal was the principal bread stuff. I remember in the fall of the first year, for some reason, we happened to be out of corn meal. Father made a grater out of an old tin pan, cut it open and punched it full of holes and nailed it on a board with the rough side up. We grated corn and made meal. The corn had hardened so it grated easily. It made good bread and if it happened to be sweet corn, it was delicious. One Sunday, we had several neighbors for dinner. It kept my sister and me busy grating corn for bread, all forenoon. Just as we thought we had enough, one of my brothers came home bringing a friend with him, and we had to go back to the grater again. Mother had other things to do and was dressing chickens.

"Dancing was the principal amusement, but sometimes in the long winter evenings, we would have spelling matches. We would go to each other's house or dugout and father would pronounce until we all got tired, then we would have a party. People went in lumber wagons or on horseback or on foot. We thought nothing of going five or six miles on foot. There were no roads. We went over the ridges or anywhere to find our way.

"My husband, Jedediah B. Wilcox, and his people came in 1871 also. Jed said his earliest recollection of Concordia was of 'Hi' Burns running a foot race in front of the land office. Jed and I were married on August 29, 1875 in a double ceremony with my twin sister, Martha, and Amos Johnson."

"I Remember," by "Hi" Burns

In 1945 Mr. Hiram J. Burns was the oldest living resident of Cloud County. He was interviewed by a reporter for the "Concordia Press" and his recollections were published in that paper in August, 1946 at the time of Concordia's Diamond Jubilee. "Hi" Burns came to Concordia with his family in 1867 when he was three years old.

"I remember when we came to this county the Republican river wasn't as wide as now, but it had much higher banks and was considerable deeper, and, excepting at flood stage, the water was clear and full of sand and gravel.

"We broke prairie in the spring of 1866. Every third furrow one man would open a hole with a spade and the boys would drop in three grains of corn and step on the hill. Pumpkins were planted every sixth row. Some Hubbard squash were planted, also cucumbers. Muskmelons and watermelons were the kids' crop. That first winter there wasn't much to eat—corn bread and sorghum molasses, milk and butter.

There was no recreation excepting dances. Dances would be held in the log cabins of the settlers with an old fashioned taffy pull. Literary societies and spelling bees were held at the school house. A big picnic would be held on July Fourth in the timber. My family would take a wagon, put hay in the bottom, go around and collect the neighbors and go to a dance. Music would be mostly fiddling by some settler. The girls were different than they are now. If a girl smelled whisky on your breath, she wouldn't dance with you.

"From eighth street south was the Burns Town Company, and the north part was Hagaman and Andrews.

"The first railroad track was laid in 1877, and the first train came in January of 1878. It was the Missouri Pacific, Central Branch. That evening the Burns family came to town and that was Hi's first view of a railway train. He



Land Office, 1872



Baron's House, 1880



Graduating Class of 1884. Back row: Clara Healy, Jamie Wyer, Lulu Morden, Lawrence Smith, Annie McKinnon, Harry Buckingham, Anna Shafor; front row: Luella Brown, Nanny Rigby, T. A. Sawhill (superintendent of schools), Minnie Blair, Carrie Bushnell.



Championship Travelers Baseball Team: (l to r) back row, Vern "Pop" Gleason, Harold Neustrom, Dick "Lefty" Landrum, Jeese "Red" Herriott, Chuck Carroll, Wayne "Havy" Havis, and Chet Titus; from row, Lowell "Skimmer" Hogue, G.V. "Cy" Sarvis and Dave Williams . 1927.

stood and looked at the cars and was told they were stock cars. He couldn't figure how they could get stock into the cars as they couldn't be lifted in.

"The first sermon was preached in Concordia in 1871. It was at the Land Office which had just been built. It was a custom whenever a new house of any kind was built to have it dedicated with an old fashioned dance. They announced preaching in the Land Office the coming Sunday and all the people in and near the town came to church. R. P. West, the circuit rider, arrived, sang a few hymns and sang all with the same tune. When he started to preach, a Bible could not be found for his text, which was, "Hew to the line and let the chips fall where they may." A dance was announced at Church for the following Wednesday to dedicate the Land Office. Preacher West didn't like that at all.

"When the family arrived along the river most everything was log cabins. Back in the hills were dugouts. There were few sod houses. Most of the houses had only dirt floors. The roof would be made out of logs. The community would hold a log-raising, when the neighbors would come in to help raise the logs into place. The center-ridge log was raised and smaller logs run down to the eaves. These were covered with slough grass and covered with dirt. Snakes were never seen in their log houses, but had sand fleas by the millions. The spaces between the logs would be chinked with small chips of wood. Buffalo grass would be mixed with mud and slapped into the cracks to make them tight.

"The first school in the county was a log cabin with the customary dirt floor. Each family had to furnish the seats for their own children. They would go to the sawmill and get some slabs, bore holes and insert logs. Such a thing as a desk was unknown. The first term of school was two months, in 1867. In '69 there were three months."

"I Remember," by Levi Hillan

Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Berk farm just east of Concordia near Twin Mounds. The grandfather of Mrs. Berk and father of Mrs. Vern Dyson was Mr. Hillan who came to Concordia in 1872. In 1947, when Mr. Hillan was 95 years old, Mr. Berk made a recording of Mr. Hillan talking about the early days on the farm near Concordia. The tape was made available to us and we quote from it:

"We crossed the Missouri River the first day of March, 18 and 72, and we landed in Concordia on the eighth day of March. We located three miles east of Glasco on a very barren piece of land, possibly half an acre broke, a well dug and a storm cellar. We put in our time the best we could with what we had. We had seven horses we brought through with us, and we didn't have a particle of food for any of them, and the night we landed it snowed from about midnight till towards morning. When morning came, it cleared and the sun came up bright and fine. It was on Sunday, but them horses had to be fed. I hitched up a team and drove down a mile or two to a man who had some hay. I told him our troubles and he was very kind and filled the wagon box with hay.

"The country was practically all new. We done the best

we could, broke prairie, planted what sod corn we had. The season was fair, prairie grass come good. I remember that 18 and 74 was a beautiful spring to start with, but about the sixth of June the rains stopped. We had no more rain till September the seventh. That was the grasshopper year. They came down by the hundreds of thousands. That sounds bad but it is a fact. They came as a dirt storm from the North. They ate everything green there was, all our corn. They left us in a very few days and we were very glad they went.

In September it set into raining and we had a fine fall. We wintered fairly well considering what there was. It being an open winter there was very little loss of stock. So it went on, and in 1877 I took to myself a bride. We lived together nearly sixty years, then she passed away. Since that time I have put in my time with the children. If it wasn't for my children this life to me would be a terrible burden. But there is a bright hope beyond. Now this is my true belief, that we will meet those that have gone before us with the love and respect and hope and faith in Christ Jesus our Savior."

Mr. Berk also made a tape of an uncle, Mr. Nanninga, who farmed south of Concordia in the early 1900's. He remembered:

"We had coal-oil lamps for light. Heat was wood burned in stoves. We chopped wood in the winter. . . . What we cut during one winter was laid out to dry through the summer and burned the next winter.

"I remember when I was a boy the prairie was all open around us, and the cattle were brought in from quite a distance, everybody used the prairie together, no fences. Somebody brought in a bunch of cattle and there was a wild bull with them, weighed about a thousand pounds, I imagine. It was in the evening and I had to go about three miles out in the open prairie to bring our milk cows home. When I got across the creek, there was a big ledge of rock, and I climbed up over that, and went to where our cows was, and this bull took after me. I didn't know what to do, so I just stood there, and when the bull came at me I jumped to the side and made a grab for his tail, and luck would have it I got a hold of his tail and I hung on. He went round and round for quite a while, and me with him, and then the bull seen he couldn't do me no harm and he ran one way and I ran the other and jumped over the ledge, and I never did see that bull again. I was glad I made that lucky catch, for that bull would have killed me sure."

"I Remember," by Mrs. Rosa Ossmann

"I remember," by Mrs. Rosa Ossmann, who came to Concordia around 1902.

She had come with her family from Germany to St. Louis when she was sixteen. Oldest of eight children, she was working as a domestic in St. Louis when she met Mr. Carl Ossmann whose family had also migrated from Germany. Mr. Ossmann became a successful hardware merchant in Concordia. Those who knew Rosa Ossmann remember her as a warm, gentle woman. Their daughter is Mrs. Helene Larson, whose husband, C. R. Larson, was a respected farmer of the Concordia area.

"I remember a funny thing that happened when we lived

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on sixth street. Mr. Quigley got hurt. He was a traveling salesman and he tried to collect insurance. There was a lawsuit and all the neighbors had to be witnesses. I got orders too to be at the trial. I was so afraid, as I couldn't talk very much English, or lead a conversation. So I went to the lawyer's office and answered questions. They asked me if I had seen Mr. Quigley go about without a cane and so on. Mrs. Choquette and Mrs. Maute and other neighbors had to be at the trial, and afterward the ladies laughed as they all bought their spring hats with the money they got from the court. So did I. I got \$3.50.

"I remember the first Christmas away from home. We were alone and on New Year's Eve we went to the church for Watch Night. The smell of the coffee made me sick so we went home. I decided if we could, to have a Christmas tree the next year. So we did. Mrs. Cline and I both ordered one, and dad got the decorations for both of us from St. Louis, through the store. Helene had arrived at our house in September so we looked forward for Christmas with our baby girl . . . to have a real Christmas. Our tree was from the floor to the ceiling. I baked German cookies and candy and filled little bags . . . tied some to the tree. We had little candles on the tree to light. I invited all the children from the block to see the tree. I remember Helene's eyes just sparkled when the children came and the tree was lighted. The youngsters sang Christmas songs. Mrs. Choquette helped me. Then before they left I sang "Stille Nacht" for them in German. I wonder who those children were, Blooms, three Clines, Josephine Choquette, George Nelson, Michael Priest and Helen Wilson, I remember. From then on we had a Christmas tree every year."

"I Remember," by Ray Sawhill

Ray Sawhill was the son of T. A. Sawhill, first superintendent of schools of Concordia, and a brother of Florence Sawhill Short. He became a banker in Glasco. The material quoted here is from a talk he gave in 1931 when he was a guest speaker at the Concordia Rotary Club.

"This is a series of pictures of Concordia in the eighties and nineties, reproduced from the memory of a Concordia boy. Naturally a boy remembers best the neighborhood of his home and school. It was the old Washington school, where Frank McVey rang the first bell at 6:00 a. m. because that was the proper time for all good citizens to get up in the morning. The entire block to the west of the school was then an apple orchard surrounded by barbed wire, and visited by the boys, before school, at recess, and after school, both when the apples were green and when the apples were ripe. To the northwest of the school lived Mrs. Starr who said, "Boys, keep out of this yard. I'll keep the ball if it comes through the fence." And she did. And a block on down, the sunflowers grew as tall as poplars and were never molested, until fall when they became the weapons for many a spear fight.

"The eligibility rules in High School football in the nineties were not real well defined. In fact it was quite customary to play the coach, and slip in a 'ringer' or two. Once we were playing Clay Center and getting the worst of it, so A. B. Carney, our superintendent and coach, hastily donned a suit and got into the game. But the Clay Center coach did likewise, so the only thing we could do was to run in two of Carney's brothers, regulars on the Emporia Normal College squad, who happened to be on the sidelines.

"One of the stalwart characters of Concordia was Dr.

Horace Bushnell, who served the First Presbyterian Church for over a quarter of a century, a man who made me think of Abraham Lincoln. It was this church that had a Christmas supper on Christmas Eve. At the Methodist Church there was a Christmas tree. And the bad little boys who never attended Sunday School more than one or two Sundays in the year, always showed up for the supper at the Presbyterian Church at 6:30, and at the Methodist Church for the tree at 7:30.

"Then there was Walter Bowman who long was Superintendent of the Sunday School, and Jamie Wyer, (later chief Librarian of the State of New York) who carried his right shoulder high—we said because he worked at a high desk in the First National Bank.

"And I remember B. H. McEckron, receiver of the land office and owner of the only dry drug store in Kansas.

"And old Jim Hagaman who owned the Blade and said what he thought, and didn't care how it looked in print.

"And Colonel Brown, our capitalist, who built Brownstone Hall.

"And Ham Spaulding, who owned the mill, was county treasurer, always kept game roosters, and never failed to speak to every boy he met.

"And Billy Pepperell, who ran the post office and the Democratic party.

"And the Peck boys, Will and Charley, and the Harrison boys, Dwight and Dan, who learned to be real bankers and rode those high wheeled bicycles on salaries of \$5.00 a week.

"Bill Short, who was an authority on anything pertaining to Concordia.

"John Stewart who operated the 'chicken factory.'

"And Bill Carnahan, who always won the 100-yard dash and climbed the ladder in the hook and ladder races on the Fourth of July.

"And Ike Rigby, a promising young lawyer who went to K. U. and practiced in the United States Supreme Court.

"O, there were dozens and dozens more in my picture, but there was one who was grown-up in those old days, and who still today has a bright eye and as keen a mind as any of us, and that is F. J. Atwood."

"I Remember," by George B. Davis

From a letter by George B. Davis who lived in Concordia from 1894-1905 came these memories. He was a brother of the Davis sisters who became fashionable couturieres in Topeka. He wrote:

"One evening after dinner, I was loafing in the "Candy Kitchen" on Main street, when there was a fire alarm sounded and out came the fire cart well manned by the volunteers, afoot. The fire was just across the street from where we young loafers were congregated. It was a house of ill fame that was burning. The volunteers never got any water on the house until it was too far gone to save, whether by accident or not, I do not know. Twas suspicioned that someone cut the hose. Much of the contents of the house was carried into the street including the piano. Art Carnahan, I think was the lad's name, who coralled the piano stool, brought it up to the piano and thumped out "A Hot Time in the Old Town Tonight." Meantime the two story 'House' burned to the ground.

"I remember with affection, Gus Sturges, who acted as a grain broker, and who bought the billiard parlor from the Burches. There I spent, along with many of the traveling



Graduating Class in 1890's. Mr. A. B. Carney (with derby) superintendent of schools. Those identified: Ed Wilson, Carl Allendorfer, Myrtle Linville, John Wood, James Brown, Naomi Joseph, Stella Murphy, and Ida Wilcox, Principal.



Music Club, early 1890's. Identified: Mrs. F. J. Atwood, Kate Groesbeck, Mrs. Sturges, Maude MacEckron, Mrs. Homer Kennett, Mrs. Walter Bowman, Mr. Woodred



Ladies Literary Club, organized 1890 Those identified include: Mesdames W. F. Sawhill, E. N. Robertson, Finley Hannum, Walter Reid, Bates, A. H. Bolinger, T. D. Troup, Fred Dutton, T. A. Sawhill, George McConahey. (picture in 1910.)



Semper Fidelis costume party. Club organized in 1896. (picture in 1933.) Includes: Tot Bowman, Ruth Peck Noone, Lucy Sawhill, Mamie Neitzel, Mollie Peck, Helen Carlgren, Allie Wilson, Alice Raines, Alice Maute (standing) (sitting) Nellie Allbaugh, Caroline Betournay, Molly Pulsifer, Margaret Peck Wright, Kate Brown, Josephine Pepperill. (on floor) Edith Sawhill Shannon, Beatrice Betournay.



Atheneum Club founded in 1896, picture taken in 1903, top row, Mesdames Cline, Scott, Reid, Neitzel, Williams, Robinson, Sohlinger, Avery, Carney and Rigby; seated, Mesdames Lamb, Hannum, Baker, Daugherty, Whipp, Neilson and Smith



Members from Atheneum and Ladies Literary Clubs in costume for a colonial dance for a spring tea. Identified: Hazel Eddy, Stella Kosar, Harriet Hanna, Pat Barrett, Mary Louise Porter, Mrs. Birch, Jo Edwards, and Alice Bishop.

salesmen, many happy hours playing pool with my high school friends, Sam Roberts, Van Burch and others. We were all orderly boys, but spent many hours contributing to our pleasure and Gus' money bag. He carried a canvas money bag by way of a purse."

"I Remember," by Dr. Eldon Sawhill

Dr. Eldon Sawhill, son of the pioneer Concordia physician, Dr. W. F. Sawhill, grew up in Concordia. He wrote:

"One of my first memories was falling out of the Pulsifer haymow and breaking both bones in my forearms. My father set the bones after Dr. Pigman gave me chloroform. That was an event of sufficient import to make my mother open the front parlor where I was allowed to lie on a mattress to recuperate. All the work was done on the kitchen table.

"I remember going with my father to a farm north of town where an old lady had broken her hip. Father hunted about and found a pulley, a flat iron and some rope, and while I gave the patient some chloroform (scared to death) he put her leg up in traction. Money was always secondary to my father and I often heard him say, "they probably need the money more than we do." I was in the office one day when a man came in to pay a bill he had owed for many years. After the man left I asked my father how much interest he charged him. Father said, "With anybody that honest, I think he should have a discount."

"I Remember," by Margaret Peck Wright

"I remember," written by Margaret Peck Wright about her father, William M. Peck.

"My grandmother always called her boys, "Willie" and "Charlie." When they came to Concordia they were called Will Peck and Charlie Peck. They were identical twins, and were inseparable. They built houses across the street from each other. Uncle Charlie's house is the Yarnell home now. The Russell Bays' home is where my father's first home was, and where I grew up. They are in the 400 block on West Ninth Street. That was the very edge of town when the houses were built. Just beyond was Hinman's pasture, where we used to play, and where Ringling Brothers and Barnum and Bailey circus set up their tents. I remember the excitement when the circus came. They watered the elephants down on our street corner—Ninth and Republican. Republican was a dirt road with deep ditches on each side, and the elephants were in the ditch to be watered.

"My father provided many things that a child desires. We had cherry trees to climb, a grape arbor where we could hide and steal grapes as they began to ripen. We had a barn with one horse, a buggy, and a hay loft where it was fun to play. We had a shed with a flat roof, just the right height to scramble up and jump off. My father made us stilts in the spring, and kites to fly in Hinman's pasture. He made us a swing hung between light poles and a heavy rope

strung through a stout board seat. There was none like it in the whole town, and all the neighbor children came to play at our house. In the late summer, two of us, facing, would pump the swing up so high we could see corn cut from the cob and peaches drying on sheets on our flat tin kitchen roof. In front of our house was a hitching post. It was there till the street was paved.

"My father was cashier of the Cloud County Bank. He ran the bank with only one assistant, a bookkeeper, and a secretary, Miss Hardesty.

"Our house was lighted with kerosene lamps and our furnace was stoked with coal. There was an electric company which supplied the street lights. When they failed in business, my father ran the company along with the bank, working long hours to keep it going until it was sold finally to the Greens, who went into the utility business, and made millions.

"We lived in a close knit, friendly neighborhood. West of us lived the Willards, across the alley the Hannums and the Hinmans. These were retired farmers, and the Hinmans had a dry-goods store. There were only two houses south of us, my uncle Charlie's and the Cooks. George Cook and his brother Bill were younger than I but they played in our gang. I remember the excitement in our neighborhood the day Charles Cook was born. I recall Charles with his mother, and it seems to me she dressed him always in white till he was three or four years old. Across the street east of the Cooks were the Kennetts and their children, Tom, Pauline and Dorothy.

"Every day when I went to school, I walked out our kitchen door, down the alley, and through the grape arbor of the Betournay home, where I joined my dearest friend, Beatrice Betournay, then out their dining room door and away to school. The Betournay family were very special in my life and very important in the life of early day Concordia. Mr. Betournay ran a grocery store. My fondest memory is of the candy counter in his store. Sometimes when Beatrice and I went into the store, she would go behind the counter and help herself to the goodies. This raised her status in my astonished eyes. Mr. Betournay was one of the gentlest, most endearing of the men I remember. At his home was a large barn with a pair of beautiful horses, a carriage with broadcloth seats and elegant fringe around the top. There were ponies and a pony buggy which the Betournay children were permitted to drive. How I envied them this opulence.

"This was a well settled in neighborhood. All the children played together. We took music lessons from the talented and elegant Mrs. Molthrop, whose daughter, Charlotte, married a multi-millionaire steel magnate, Mr. Vierling, of Chicago.

"Downtown Concordia in those 1880s and 90s was three blocks long. The Bon Marche was the finest dry-goods store in town. There was a barber shop on the corner with its candy-stripe pole and a wooden Indian outside. Across the street from the Bon Marche was LaRocque's Opera House. We thought the plays were wonderful, when we were permitted to go. I remember they had elegant dances there also. Just once was I allowed to go and sit in the balcony, and watch my parents in their beautiful clothes dancing the polka and waltz.

"When I was a little girl I remember, before the days of the telephone, my mother pinned notes to my father in the pocket of my dress and sent me down to the bank to

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deliver them. He always gave me a dime and I remember the first real candy store where I went to buy taffy, rock candy or licorice.

"There were open saloons in our town. I remember walking down the main street past the swinging doors with the feet of men walking around inside. For some reason I recall automatically turning my head the other way. Probably part of my upbringing, for my father was a Dry.

"My father and mother belonged to the social Society of the town. They danced and had evening card parties. They played euchre, whist, five hundred. My mother belonged to a duplicate whist club, to Semper Fidelis club, which was considered ultra, ultra. They took their fancy work to Semper Fidelis, sewed and chatted all afternoon, and then were served a sumptuous dinner, each hostess trying to outdo the other in elegance and gourmet treats. Mother belonged to the Ladies Literary club too. The women of Concordia were bent on becoming cultured.

"I remember that in 1905 Ted Wright, grandson of the founder of the Cloud County Bank, came to Concordia to take a position in the bank. He was a flunky, who slept in the back room of the bank, acted as janitor and bookkeeper, and ate at Mrs. Hagaman's boarding house. My father offered the same kind of a position to his nephew, Chick Peck, and for four years the two young men roomed together in the back of the bank.

"I remember the first automobile in Concordia. Mrs. Ida Wiard had it. It had a rear seat which was divided and the door was in the middle of the back. She gave me a ride home in it one evening. My father was playing his trumpet on the front porch, and the car made so much noise I couldn't hear the trumpet.

"My father had worked part of his way through school playing the trumpet, and he played in the Concordia band, and always marched in the Fourth of July parades. I remember those parades. There were horse-drawn carriages, pony carts, tricycles, and bicycles trimmed with crepe paper ruffles and streamers. The streets were unpaved, there were deep drainage ditches on every side, and wooden sidewalks at every intersection like raised humps to keep them dry, and the paraders bumped over these.

"My father had the second automobile in Concordia, a Haines, and he had the agency for the Haines car in Concordia, and later the Pope-Hartford car. No car ever went out in the country without one or two other cars accompanying them. When something went wrong with one car, the others stopped and helped."

"I Remember," by Charles Shippee

Charles L. Shippee, who lived in Concordia in the early 1900's wrote his reminiscences in a letter to Janet Pease Emery after the publication of her book, IT TAKES PEOPLE TO MAKE A TOWN. She was kind enough to donate the letter, along with others, and we quote from Charles Shippee:

"I remember our family came to Concordia, it might be said, with the railroads before 1900. My father, L. M. Shippee, was depot agent for the Missouri Pacific Central Branch, while we resided in Concordia, and my brother-in-law, Dick Varner, was his cashier, and later became depot agent. We knew many of the railroad men such as "Banty" Manwarring; Mike Sohlinger, conductor; Jack Harris, baggageman who fought in the Indian wars; and my uncle, Fred Shippee, who was engineer on the Central Branch for 50 years. There was a hotel in Concordia

called the Gillhouse. I'll never forget when the trains came in, the hotel representatives and hackdrivers would be at the station trying to get people to take their conveyance, especially this one crying, "This way to the Gillhouse House."

"I recall 'Pie' Allen who ran the town baggage and general hauling wagon and drove a matched span of small mules; John Mallory, operator of the local tonsorial parlor and bath house; Billy Lutt, general manager of the Concordia Creamery, and the Concordia Natatorium, close by. (note, the Natatorium was a swimming pool)

"I remember Hull's blacksmith shop close enough to the main street you could hear the ring of the anvil. My brother, Mett, and I often stopped there to watch the smithy at his work.

"I remember seeing Buffalo Bill, and Annie Oakley, who shot glass balls tossed up into the air, and never missed, and the real Indians who camped in tents near the show and made their fires of cow chips. I remember Blind Boone who gave a piano recital at the Methodist Church. Someone would play a selection on the piano. He would listen, then sit down and play it through.

"I recall the Republican river changing course. It was said someone plowed a furrow up the river and the current soon cut another bed. We spent many happy hours skating on the old river above the dam."

"I Remember," by Beatrice Betournay

Beatrice Betournay is the daughter of one of Concordia's early businessmen. Beatrice still lives in the house her father built, and is a delightful, interesting 'old settler.'

"I remember an incident about my early childhood before I was in school. In those days before there were baby-sitters, mother asked dad to take me with him to the store after the noonday meal. The store was a grocery store at the corner of Broadway and sixth, where Cook's I.G.A. is now. Dad had his office in a small balcony above the main floor. He left me up there in his office. During the afternoon he was with his clerks waiting on customers. He had occasion to give one of them a lecture and during the talk he used the word 'damn.' He looked up, saw me in his office, and came up and apologized to me for using such strong language."

"I Remember," by Florence Sawhill Short

"I remember," by Florence Sawhill Short, whose father was the first Superintendent of Schools of Concordia, and whose husband, "Dutch" Short was one of Concordia's best builders.

"I remember that Boston Corbett threatened to kill my father for something papa printed in the newspaper about Boston. Father was down on the main street when Boston came after him. Papa rushed into Beauchamp's drug store and Mr. Beauchamp told him where to hide. Boston Corbett couldn't find papa and apparently got over his anger and rode away.

"I remember Frank and Mollie McVey who lived in the basement of the old Washington School, and were the custodians. Frank rang the bells at six o'clock every morning, and Mollie used to make cookies and give them to the little ones at their recess.

"I remember the place where the Masonic Lodge is now



Betournay Home, 506 W. 8th
Occupied by Miss Beatrice Betournay

W. M. Peck Home, 330 W. 9th—1907

Sutherland Home, 501 W. 5th



Ray Green Home, 1021 First Ave.
Built as an advertising house.
Now owned by Dr. L. C. Owensby

Marshall Home, 7th and Broadway

Sturges Home, 8th and Washington
Occupied by builder's granddaughter
Marion Ellet



Brownstone Hall, 6th and 2nd Ave.

Messall Home, 7th and Washington
Restored by Mr. and Mrs. Charles S. Cook
in 1970. Presented to Episcopal Church as
residence for the Rev. Wilfred Hotaling

Sorem Home—Built in 1968
at 1421 Sunset Trail

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was once a mudhole. It would freeze over and the kids could ice-skate there.

"I remember that Dutch told me the workmen of 1883 who worked for his father (who was also a builder) worked ten hours a day. The stone masons came from a town called Scotch Plains, west of Belleville. They were the most skilled workers and got \$2.50 a day. Skilled laborers got 25c an hour, and common laborers got 15c an hour.

"I remember the wooden sidewalks along the streets downtown. There were cracks between the boards and it was easy to lose things between the cracks. I remember a real tragedy of my childhood, when my father gave me a whole nickel to spend as I wished and I lost it down a crack in the wooden sidewalk."

"I Remember," by Marion Ellet

"I remember," by Marion Ellet, newspaper woman, columnist. Marion's family, the Sturgeses, are warp and woof of the fabric of Concordia.

"I can remember when there was no entertainment in Concordia except what you made for yourself. There was a street fair sometimes in the summer, and there was always the county fair in the autumn. And sometimes there was a traveling tent show which presented "Uncle Tom's Cabin." But there were no record players, no radio, no TV, no movies.

"In my home we never had one of those phonographs with a horn attachment. But when I was a girl in my teens we finally did get what was considered a fine Victrola, and we could play recordings—pretty bad ones—of Schumann Heink and Caruso and the Boston Symphony orchestra. It was the kind of Victrola that you had to crank up.

"When I was a very little girl and was, for some reason, included in a dinner party for grownups, we went in Dennison's horse-drawn 'hack.' But the party must have been so far away we didn't want to walk in our good shoes—maybe Brownstone Hall—for we usually walked.

"I can remember the first picture show I ever saw. It was in a hall on Main street opposite the Bon Marche, in the building now occupied by Sears. The film was a flickering, jumpy thing. And it was always going off suddenly with a strange flapping noise. I believe that in technical language the film was 'jumping the sprocket.' But whatever it was it made the people in the audience impatient and they stamped on the floor and whistled. The film was a real 'melerdramer' about illness and poverty and drunkenness. It was almost as bad as a modern TV documentary.

"I really preferred our homemade entertainment. Someone was always playing the piano or reading aloud at our house. We read aloud a great deal, practically every night. It was grown-up stuff, much more exciting than the picture show. I never heard any children's stories. In cold weather I sat on the floor by the base-burner, cutting out pictures while I listened. Sometimes my bedtime came before the reading was finished. But if it did I managed to leave my door open a crack, and sometimes I wrapped myself in a blanket and sat by the crack so that I could hear what happened next. There was a picture show going on in my mind. And it was a pretty good one, better than a lot of

TV releases today. I still remember the story about the illicit love affair of Alexander Hamilton's mother, the affair that brought Alexander into the world.

"Somehow I associate that period of my life in Concordia with Hull the Plowman. At that time he had a plow shop and blacksmith shop in a building which stood on the corner where the post office stands today. I can remember the ring of the anvil, the forge, and I can remember watching the shoeing of the animals. That was good entertainment. I can remember too the cool shade as I passed by the smithy on a hot afternoon. There were no trees on that corner. I remember the comforting sound that the tired horses made when they sucked cool water from the trough in front of the blacksmith shop.

"The city hall and the fire house were in the building next door to Hull the Plowman. So sometimes there was the entertainment of watching the fire wagon and its prancing dapple greys leaving the fire house.

"Among the very best amusement was the harvest-time experience of riding in from the country on a horse-drawn load of wheat bound for the mill. Usually it was in the evening. And I can remember the excitement of seeing the lights of the mill emerge from the dark and hearing eager talk about how many bushels to the acre we were running.

"I suppose entertainment is where you find it."

"I Remember," by Josephine Blaney

Josephine's father, Joseph La Rocque, came to Concordia from Canada and was one of the earliest merchants. Josephine and Elliot Blaney had the music store in Concordia until Elliot's death, and are beloved friends of all Concordia.

"I remember my father, Joseph LaRocque, was owner of a general store in Concordia in the seventies. He told us that when he had accumulated enough to support a wife, he went to Canada for his bride. He knew before-hand just the girl he wanted, but also he knew he must ask her father for her hand before he could court her. In a sleigh he drove across the snow and ice to Saint Mathias to the home of Notary D'Asignon. The gentleman gave him permission to court my mother, but she would not consent to move to Kansas, the frightening Indian country. With a sad heart my father started back over the frozen river. He got lost and found himself back in the village, eventually. In the meantime my mother decided to accept him, and sent him a note that she would see him. After a short courtship they were married and traveled to Kansas—the Indian country.

"I remember in the late twenties Elliot and I came to Concordia to live—at that time we roomed in a private home. One day while walking I noticed a big stone house (Charlie Davis') being torn down. Inside was a long stair railing. It was painted black but I thought it might be walnut so I told Elliot about it. He looked it over and found it was black walnut. He bought it, and stored it for future use. When we built our home he built the living room with a balcony so he could use that lovely walnut stair-rail. We loved it all these years, and I shall always love it."

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"I Remember," by Norman Lewis

Norman is a member of an old hotel family, long associated with the Barons House, and at present owner of the Barons Motel.

"I remember hearing that the earliest tourists to Concordia were the freighters and haulers, in large wagons. The favorite place to park the wagons was at the corner of 5th and Washington Streets. There they slept in or under the wagons. Shortly, in 1871, Crill and Zimmerman built a frame hotel on the lots. In 1888 S. H. Barons bought the property and started building with stone. It took five years to finish the elegant 80 room hotel and livery stable. After Mr. Barons' death in 1901, his widow sold the hotel to C. H. Martin of Lyons, Kansas.

"The railroads brought the 'drummers' to this division point. Many had large trunk showings in the hotel sample rooms for the local merchants. 'Pie' Allen was the man in charge of trunk transfer from train to hotel and return to the station. He was a man of considerable girth and capacity and easily carried a trunk on his back up the flights of hotel stairs. The hotel porters met all the trains with a push cart, for the hand luggage. I remember that the Barons Hotel was a \$2.00 house. Room and three meals were included in the American plan. Ladies had a separate and private entrance to the ladies parlor, never going into the lobby except at meal-time to get to the dining room. Men without coats were given alpaca jackets to wear while eating. It was all very formal, proper and correct."

MENU BARONS HOUSE Sunday, May 5, 1895

S. H. Barons

proprietor

Dinner

Clam Chowder Soup and Puree a la Crecy
Shrimp on Toast*Queen Olives
Stewed Catfish with Tomatoes
Sweet Cucumber Pickles*Mangoes*New Lettuce
Radishes and Onions*Halford Sauce
French Mustard*Tomato Catsup*Chili Sauce
Boiled Sugar Cured Ham with Spinach
Corned Beef with caper sauce
Ox Tongue with Lemon Sauce
Roast Prime Sirlon of Beef with Pan Gravy
Turkey with English Stuffing
Shoulder of Pork with Apple Sauce
Chicken with Oyster Sauce
Grenadins of Veal—Giblets a la Parmentier
Banana Fritters, a la Glase
Mashed Potatoes*Asparagus*Sugar Corn*Tomatoes
Apple Pie*Rhubarb Pie*Lemon Pie
Cream Cheese
Vanilla Ice Cream and Strawberries
White Mountain Cake
Fruit Cake*Gold Cake*Chocolate Layer Cake
Jelly Tarts
Bananas, Oranges, Raisins, Nuts and Candies

Tea, Coffee, Ice Tea and Milk
Butter Milk and Cocoa

"We Remember"

"We remember," by Helen Wilson Carlgren, Beatrice Betournay, and Alice Christensen who sat down together and recalled these incidents.

"We remember when the neighborhood kids stood on tip toe to peak in the windows of the Darlington home when Ernie Quigley and Marge Darlington were married.

"We remember when there were three ways to cross the old Republican river; by ferry at 25c for a family carriage and horse, by pontoon bridge which was so uncertain often one of the wheels of the carriage would slip over the edge, and by just plain fording which excited the children and frightened their mothers.

"We remember how thrilled we young girls were when the son of the editor of the newspaper, Covert Burroughs, fell in love with and married the daughter of the owner of the "Gorgeous Parker Carnival Co."

"We remember the first pavement laid in Concordia in 1914. It was the block from the Barons House to the Bowman Seed Co. We almost waited in line for the chance to drive on the new pavement, then hurry around the block to wait our turn again."

"I Remember," by Clarence Paulsen

Clarence is a member of an old rural family of the Concordia area. He is a respected and successful attorney, member of the firm of Baldwin, Paulsen and Buechel. His wife, Lois, is a published poet. She is the daughter of Judge E. W. Thompson, who was Probate and County Judge of Cloud County for more than twenty-five years.

"I remember when Concordia was, to two small boys, a Mecca where one could buy ambrosial food for a nickel! One of the boys was the late Ernest Newingham, former County Clerk of this county. I was the other boy. We lived on neighboring farms, and we both enjoyed the robust health and unique taste buds of typical farm kids of those days—with appetites to match.

"On Saturdays our respective parents would travel the seven miles to town in buggies drawn by horses, and we would be wearing our 'town clothes' complete with knickerbockers and button shoes. After this ride of perhaps an hour and a half the horses would be tied to a chain stretched between posts in the hitching lot that used to be across Fifth Street south of the power plant. Through the open door of the power plant we could see the big piston-driven engine industriously and noisily turning a dynamo. (When the weather was bad the horses were put in Noe's livery stable about where the Moose Lodge is now.)

"But I digress. I was remembering the food fit for the gods.

"In its little pasture between the front steps of the Elks building a large metal elk stood looking south. I believe he is the same elk that now guards the lodge members' plot in Pleasant Hill Cemetery. Across Sixth Street from the Elks and a few doors east, Walter Nelson operated a grocery store. In the back of his store Mr. Nelson had a butcher's chopping block. On it under a glass cover he kept a boiled ham. For a nickel he would slice off a thick piece about the shape of the sole of a size 14 boot, ensconce the slice in a large fresh bun and embellish the culinary masterpiece with sweet pickles. Delicious!

"Then late in the 1920s the town's still apparent proclivity for progress was exemplified when some



Concordia Tumblers Football Team, 1900
 Identified in picture: McKay, Hull, F. Short,
 Reid, B. Short, Spaulding, Harker, Fulmer,
 Wilcox, Scott, O. Fulmer, Davis



1901 Concordia Citizens Band



Post Office in rear of First National Bank, 1914
 Identified in picture: First row, Steele, Key,
 Gordon, Hall, McBurney; second row,
 Spencer, Fish, Sawhill, Sawhill (postmaster),
 Lillie McCall; third row, Scott, Frankforter,
 Spencer, J. D. Huscher.



Concordia Football Team 1916. Identified in picture:
 First row, Gene Green, Dale Russell, Dutch Truesdell,
 Herman Clark; second row, Tom Thompson, Austin
 Finley, Breault, Jerry Arnold, Bill Henry; third row,
 John Eustice, Guy Livengood, Handy Walden, Frank
 Eustice, Mervin Evans, Clarence Hudsonpillar.



Concordia Blues Baseball Team



Concordia Band, 1902. Identified in picture: Carl
 Moore, Ed Diebel, Jess Spencer, John Diebel,
 Charles Livengood, Dutch Short, Jim Head.

Penneys

CONCORDIA ROTARY CLUB

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enterprising individual parked a 'cook shack' in the grass and weeds east of the Brown Grand Opera House. This cook shack was on high lumber wagon type wheels, and one entered it by climbing wooden steps to its door. I believe it was Concordia's first 'hamburger stand.' That odoriferous hamburger stand with its kerosene-burning griddle behind a short counter and four or five stools was to small boys what a barn was to flies.

"I remember Wilson's Bakery (where Cooks' I.G.A. is) where we could and often did buy whole pies and eat them then and there.

"In my nostalgic memory I rate these gourmet creations above anything I can find in today's fancy restaurants."

"I Remember," by Clare Bolinger McConaughy

Clare Bolinger McConaughy is a member of one of the old families of Concordia, living here, active and interested in Concordia.

"I remember at one time a large pond occupied the location where the Masonic building now stands. In the winter this was a popular spot for skaters, and in the summer boys and girls gathered with home made fishing poles, casting for fish which never seemed to be there. But there were always pollywogs and these became frogs and enlivened the night with their deep bass voices.

"I remember before the streets of Concordia were paved, there were wooden crossings built somewhat higher than the streets. Due to the constant wearing by horses and vehicles and possibly the elements, the crossings tended to get higher and higher, thus causing a bump when going over them. One young lady who drove her father's Reo discovered it was great fun to make a run for these crossings, especially on downtown sixth street, mainly to hear the screams of the occupants in the rear seat of the car. Whether these friends actually were frightened or screamed for effect is a moot question. Anyway they hung on for dear life as they went over the bumps. In those days, the police, if any were around, looked on indulgently and no tickets were issued for speeding up Main street, probably about 15 miles an hour.

"I remember a group of young people gathered one evening for a lawn party at the Walter Darlington home (now the home of Mr. and Mrs. Russell Carlgren) as guests of Mary, the Darlington's daughter. Among them was a guest from Illinois, a visitor at the home of Dr. and Mrs. A. M. Burbank (newly married). The young lady was fashionably dressed, her brown hair swept upward in a pompadour with a cluster of curls on top. Amidst the repartee and laughter, Chick Peck, then an unattached bachelor, in a sudden burst of exuberance, clapped his hand down on the elegant guest's head and came up with . . . you guessed it . . . a handful of curls. There were gasps of horror from the group and then uncontrollable laughter. False hair? No one had ever seen or heard of it in Concordia."

"I Remember," by Milton and Wanda Sorem

Wanda is the daughter of Mr. Boogaart, who started the Boogaart Grocery business. Milton has been associated with the business ever since it was founded in Concordia, and under the guidance of "Mr. B.", his son, Richard Boogaart,

and Milton Sorem, the business grew to be a multi-million dollar wholesale grocery supply company, and grocery chain.

"I remember when the first Boogaart store was opened in Concordia in June 1933. A good salary was \$12.00 to \$15.00 a week. Store hours were from seven a. m. to six p. m. and on Saturdays from seven a. m. to whenever the last farmer came in to pick up his box of groceries. The farmer would come in, give his order, which was written out, then leave. We put up the orders, and the farmers picked them up whenever they were ready to go home Saturday night. When we opened, our floor displays were made from bushel baskets and upturned orange crates. We had one meat case to supply cold meats.

"The store opened during the depression, and I remember times were so hard most people only bought staples. We bought carloads of potatoes at 98c a hundred wt., and Morgan Wallace, a drayman, would unload a carload of potatoes and sugar at two cents a hundred wt. He was so anxious for the business, he would carry those heavy bags off the railcar, bring them to the store and carry them into the basement.

"I remember when Mr. B. said we must have a meat market in the store, one was installed, selling hamburger at six pounds for a quarter; T. Bones at two pounds for a quarter; etc. The customers actually taught us the meat business. Many complaints were received against the hamburger, and we discovered the butcher, who came to us highly recommended, was putting a quart of water in each ten pounds of meat. It looked great but it shriveled to almost nothing, and it popped and splattered when cooked.

"I remember when we bought an old second hand truck and Dick Boogaart would drive it to Colorado once a week to buy produce, then into Kansas City to buy from the markets there. It seemed we worked day and night to keep the business going, and we had a hard time to make ends meet. But many wonderful customers stayed with us, and our bank believed in us, and gradually things began to change.

"I can remember when sugar was ten pounds for 39c and coffee ground at the store was three pounds for 35c and canned tomatoes were a nickel.

"I Remember," by Mildred Neitzel

Mildred Neitzel is the granddaughter of one of Concordia's first druggists. Mildred for many years was a popular teacher in Wichita, but lives in Concordia now.

"I remember one of the strangest and most amusing incidents occurred one very warm Sunday afternoon in the summer of 1912. My mother, father, and I were visiting friends who lived just east of the Library. We were all sitting on the front porch chatting, and watching those who passed by. The streets of Concordia at that time were unpaved, and the cross-walks were built up about six inches from the dirt street. Dr. Ida Wiard came chugging down the street in her new fire-engine red touring car. There were so few cars in town, the finer ones always attracted a great deal of interest. We were all intently watching the approaching vehicle. When it reached the cross-walk it bounced up and came down with a great clatter and the whole motor dropped out.

"This car was the prized possession of Mrs. Wiard and she found great satisfaction in exhibiting it. She became quite agitated when this event happened. A crowd soon gathered and watched as the wreckage of the car was removed. The incident caused much comment, and became

quite a talking point for paving the streets. The work of paving was begun the following year.

"Mr. and Mrs. F. W. Neitzel celebrated their golden wedding in Concordia, November 19, 1903. They were both from Germany, met in Wisconsin and were married there. They came to Concordia in 1872. They were the first couple to publicly celebrate their fiftieth anniversary in Concordia.

"I remember my mother telling a lively story about a Semper Fidelis club meeting. This club was organized in 1896 and was active until 1946. This episode occurred about 1900. The club met at the home of Mrs. C. E. Sweet. During the afternoon Mrs. Frank Davis and her baby son, Barton, and small dog were out for a walk and stopped to call at the Sweet home, unaware the Semper Fidelis club was meeting. When young Mrs. Davis realized she was interrupting a social gathering, she tried to leave, but Mrs. Sweet, ever the gracious hostess insisted she come in. As the door swung open the Davis dog spied the Sweet cat and dashed into the house after the cat. In a second the cat was up the lace curtains, the dog after it, tearing the curtains to the floor. The cat ran to the kitchen with the dog in hot pursuit. One of the ladies started to open the door onto the enclosed back porch. Mrs. Sweet cried, "Don't let them out on the porch. My refreshments are out there." It was some time before the hub-bub subsided, and the ladies could return to their fancy work. Poor little Mrs. Davis slipped away leaving an afternoon to remember."

"I Remember," by Eleanor Bowman

Eleanor Wright Bowman grew up in Concordia, and is married to Jack Bowman who also lived his life in Concordia. Both have been a part of the growth and development of our town, always supporting its activities.

"I remember my uncle, Owen E. Wright, papa's eldest brother, who was manager of the International Harvester Company here, and the business was housed in what is now the Bowman Seed Company building. Later, Owen moved to Topeka and my uncle, George C. Wright, was the local manager. The business then was located in what is now the Western Power Company office. I remember uncle George had a wonderful full-size box wagon, yellow, red and green, on display on the floor and black shiny buggies. There were artificial life-size horses displayed with them, one was dapple grey. My cousins and I had great times driving those play horses. Ah nostalgia."

"I Remember Charles Cook"

One cannot close the book of memories about Concordia without remembering and paying tribute to Charles Cook. Charles was born in Concordia, a member of a pioneer family. He was a reserved, almost shy person. But he never believed that something couldn't be done. Charles had a brilliant, searching mind. He knew the value of careful, organized research before a project was undertaken. Every facet was explored and the probables as well as the absolutes were determined. Once committed, Charles did not turn back. This was the kind of a personality which developed our fine industry, Cloud Ceramics.

Charles did not intend to become a brick-maker. He had a successful finance business established, when, in 1942 he

heard geologists from the University of Kansas tell Concordians they had fine brick clay in the area. Charles felt this could become a good industry for Concordia and tried to interest people in the town in developing such an industry. When no one would undertake the project, he decided to do it himself. He had to wait until the end of World War Two to get machinery, and in 1946 when he began to build the plant, machinery could still only be obtained by buying used parts from other brick plants around the country. Charles did this, talking and learning from each brick maker with whom he came in contact.

Charles' wife is a native Concordian too, Marian Danenbarger, whose father was a newspaperman and former postmaster of Concordia. Marian's brother, Bill, is co-owner of Concordia radio station KNCK and a member of the Board of Regents of Kansas.

I remember Marian telling me that Charles was reading a book on how to succeed. She said that chapter two said to write a book. It was wartime and there was a troublesome, difficult to understand, government regulation called Regulation W. Charles wrote a book about the regulation to make it understandable to puzzled businessmen.

I remember asking Marian what the third chapter was about. She said, "He's supposed to make speeches." And soon Charles was speaking everywhere on Regulation W. He spoke at Milton Eisenhower's Symposium on Postwar Development at Kansas State University, and at the convention of the American Industrial Bankers. Charles became a director of that Association.

Charles' reactions were sensitive and very quick. I remember one time when he and Marian were in the country with us. We had taken our little boys out to fly a huge Navy Target kite. There was a swift wind and the kite flew rapidly. Before we knew it, the nylon cord had slipped from our hands. But Charles was already running, and caught the cord and hung on till the kite was in control. It seemed a feat so quickly done it wasn't possible. That was how fast Charles could react to a situation.

Charles loved beauty in his always handsome dress, in the lovely home he and Marian made together, and in the magnificent art objects they collected on their many travels.

Charles and Marian loved Concordia too and worked for any project which would help our town. Charles was always FOR something, never negative. Charles and Marian have always shared their life with Concordia. During the years of their many travels to all parts of the world, Charles would write beautifully descriptive letters about the nations in which they visited. He tried to learn the meaning of the type of government of each nation; how the native people felt about their government, about their way of life, and about America. Reading back through those wonderful letters one is impressed with the expressions of delight at the friendliness of the citizens of each country in which they visited. Almost never does Charles write of anyone being unfriendly to them. I believe this is part of the personalities of Charles and Marian Cook. They have never made a stranger of anyone they met, young or old, rich or poor. You are just their friends.

Those letters Charles wrote were copied and shared with a large list of friends. When they returned from their trips they would always rent a hall, and put an invitation in the paper asking all Concordia to come to the hall and see their pictures and hear about their trip.

Charles died in February, 1971, in Agadir, Morocco. It is too soon to measure this loss to Concordia. But he is sorely missed, and no history of Concordia will ever be written without his name being honored. I am grateful that I can remember Charles Cook.

By Margie Wright



"Concordia Main Street in 1873" by the eminent artist Albert T. Reid was painted partly from memory of the street as he knew it in his early boyhood and partly from an old photograph. It depicts the Waterville-Concordia stage coach in which so many of Cloud County's early pioneers came to this community. Albert Reid's father owned the stage line.

The artist, who lived in New York before his death, was the third white child born in Concordia. He was national president of the American Artists Professional League, also served as president of the Artists Guild, and was a Life Honorary Member. In 1949 he was recipient of the Gold Medal of Honor, the highest art award in the country. He ranks with Fred Remington and Charles Russell among the country's foremost painters of "westerns," and he was a recognized authority on the drawing of horses.

The painting now hangs in the Historical Society's Museum in the County Courthouse in Concordia. The work, which measures 8 ft. by 5½ ft., was purchased by the Concordia Branch of the American Association of University Women and is valued at \$1,500.

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Aerial view of Concordia

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