

KANSAS HISTORY

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KANSAS HISTORY

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Maxine Benson, *Editor*
Dot E. Taylor, *Associate Editor*
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Twenty-one and All Is Well: Arthur Capper in Topeka, 1886 <i>by Homer E. Socolofsky</i>	202
The Chippewa and Munsee Indians: Acculturation and Survival in Kansas, 1850s-1870 <i>by Joseph B. Herring</i>	212
Farming in the Flint Hills: A Photographic Essay <i>by Thomas D. Isern</i>	221
Civil War on the Kansas-Missouri Border: The Narrative of Former Slave Andrew Williams <i>edited by William A. Dobak</i>	237
Book Reviews	243
Book Notes	249
Index	250
Picture Credits	260

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THE KANSAS STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY was organized in 1875 by the newspaper editors and publishers of the state, and four years later it became the official trustee for the state's historical collections. Since then, the Society has operated both as a non-profit membership organization and as a specially recognized society supported by appropriations from the state of Kansas.

The purposes of the Society are the advancement of knowledge about and the preservation of resources related to the history and prehistory of Kansas and the American West, accomplished through educational and cultural programs, the provision of research services, and the protection of historic properties. The Society is governed by a ninety-nine-member board of directors, elected by the membership, and is administered by an executive director and an assistant executive director.

The new Kansas Museum of History, which will open to the public in mid-1984, will feature special and permanent exhibits and educational programs based on the Society's rich artifact collections. It is located near the historic Pottawatomie Baptist Mission west of Topeka, adjacent to Interstate 70. All other Society departments will remain at the Center for Historical Research, Memorial Building, across the street from the State Capitol in Topeka.

All persons interested in Kansas history and prehistory are cordially invited to join the Society. Those who would like to provide additional support for the Society's work may want to consider contributions in the form of gifts or bequests. A representative of the Society will be glad to consult with anyone wishing to make such a gift or establish a bequest or an endowment. Address the Executive Director, 120 West Tenth Street, Topeka, Kansas 66612.

Cover: Parked outside the office, the automobile of the Chase County Farm Bureau awaits the agent's next excursion into the Flint Hills countryside. Arriving as early as 1918, county agents traveled throughout the Flint Hills promoting up-to-date farming methods and observing technologies in the field. The annual reports they filed from the 1920s into the 1940s, liber-

ally illustrated with photographs, portray Flint Hills farming practices of that era, documenting everything from vaccinating cattle to demonstrating a terracer. Beginning on page 221 of this issue, historian Thomas D. Isern presents selected images from the reports of the agents in Lyon, Chase, and Greenwood counties in "Farming in the Flint Hills: A Photographic Essay."

