# HISTORY OF DONIPHAN COUNTY, KANSAS

Reprinted from Historical Plat Book of Doniphan County, Kansas, 1882

The object of this history is to preserve from the oblivion to which it is so rapidly tending some account of the experiences of that race of intrepid men and women who paved the way for that remarkable development which this country has so recently experienced, to give some dates and statistics of importance, and to record other matters of interest, too valuable to be lost. Many of the actors in the drama of colonization have already passed from the state, and with them has vanished all record of some of the exciting scenes in which they were participants.

The history of the native Indian tribes is somewhat meager. That powerful nation of the Indians, called the Pawnees, which, in all probability, had once held almost undisputable sway over this country, had, long before the arrival of the white man, given place to a race of Indians known as Iowas. This people, too, soon vanished before the "onward march of civilization."

When first opened for emigration, much of Eastern Kansas was in possession of various tribes of Indians, who had been removed from the East and placed upon reservations.

# ABORIGINAL OWNERS OF THE LANDS OF DONIPHAN COUNTY, KAN.

The land of Doniphan County was part of the public domain, or of the "Great American Desert," as it was called until the year 1837, when it was ceded, by the General Government, to the Kick-a-poo, Sac and Iowa Indians. The Kick-a-poos possessed that part lying south of a line running west from a point on the missouri River near where Belmont was laid out. North of this line, the Sacs held a reserve of fifty sections. Their northern boundary run through the section north of Highland, and extended west for quantity. North of this, the Iowas owned all of what is now Doniphan County.

These respective tribes possessed and controlled this land until the year 1854, when, by treaty, all the lands belonging to these tribes, in Doniphan County, were relinquished to the Government, and became a part of the State of Kansas. The Kickapoos moved south. The Iowas and Sacs moved to that part of their own reserves which lies near the mouth of the Nemaha River, where they still remain (1882).

The Iowas, at the time of their taking possession of this land, in 1837, numbered 800 souls. On leaving this part of their lands, in 1854, they numbered about 300.

The Sacs, on coming in, numbered 300; on removal, in 1854, numbered only

The Iowas, in 1837, were led and governed by four chiefs, respectively White Cloud, No-Heart, Walking-in-the-rain and Walking Cloud. These chiefs all passed away during their sojourn in this part of the land.

The Sac band was under the lead of a brave called Hesoquat or Bear-in-the-fork-of-a-tree, assisted by two so-called chiefs, all of whom have since disappeared.

The leading spirit and mind of the Kick-a-poos was Ken-e-kuk, who died near the village in Atchison County which bears his name.

#### EARLY EXPLORERS

Thirty years ago, there was scarcely a vestige of civilization in that part of Kansas now known as Doniphan County. For untold ages it had been covered with a waving sea of wild grasses; vast herds of buffaloes had, for numberless years, wandered almost unmolested across it. Its solitude had been broken only by occasional bands of nomadic savages in search of prey or plunder. It was a part of that section of country which old geographers had christened the "Great American Desert," "a barren waste, incapable of agricultural production, and uninhabitable." But it could not always remain a *terra incognita*. The advancing wave of that great tide of civilization which had crossed the Atlantic, and transferred a wilderness into an empire, must at length reach this part of the American continent. That part of Kansas now known as Doniphan County was crossed by Maj. Stephen H. Long in 1819 or 1820. We extract the following from a book entitled, "Account of an Expedition from Pittsburgh to the Rocky Mountains, performed in the years 1819 and 1820, by order of John C. Calhoun, Secretary of War, under the command of Maj. Stephen H. Long."

"The country southwest of the Missouri, between the Konzas and the Platte, is drained principally by Wolf River and the great Nemahaw. These rivers, like the Nodoway and Nishnebottona, which enter the Missouri nearly opposite them, from the northeast, rise in the prairies at an elevation of probably forty or fifty feet above the level of the Missouri. As they descend, their valleys become gradually wider, embosom a few trees, and at length, near their entrance into the Missouri Valley, are forests of considerable extent. The surface of these prairies presents a constant succession of small rounded hills, becoming larger and more abrupt as you approach the beds of these rivers. The soil is deep, reposing usually on horizontal beds of argillaceous sandstone and secondary limestone. \* \* \* \* The soil superimposed upon these strata of limestone is a calcareous loam. Near the rivers it is intermixed with sand; this is also the case with the soil of the high prairies about the Konzas village. \* \* \* \* The prairies, for many miles on each side, produce abundance of good pasturage; but as far as our observation has extended, the best soil is a margin from ten to twelve miles in breadth along the western bank of the river. In the summer, very little water is to be found in the prairies, all the smaller streams failing. Even though the season be not unusually dry, on account of the want of wood and water, the settlements will be for a long time confined to the immediate valleys of the Missouri, the Konzas and the larger rivers; but it is probable forests will hereafter be cultivated in these vast woodless regions, which now form so great a proportion of the country; and wells may be made to supply the deficiency of running water."

In 1804-5-6, Lewis and Clarke proceeded up the Missouri, thence across the Rocky Mountains and down the River Columbia to the Pacific Ocean.

## GEOGRAPHICAL AND TOPOGRAPHICAL

Doniphan is in the first tier of counties south of Nebraska, and west of the Missouri River. It is bounded on the north and east by the Missouri River, on the south by Atchison County, and on the west by Brown County. The Missouri River, bounding the county on the north and east, gives the county 92 miles of river front. The greatest length of the county north and south is 27 miles, and its greatest width is 25 miles.

The county contains 379 square miles, or 242,569 acres of land. About 110,000 acres are under cultivation. The bottom lands are about 25 per cent; the uplands about 75 per cent; forest (Government survey), 16 per cent; prairie, 84 per cent; average width of bottoms, one mile.

The general surface of the county is undulating. A writer in the *North American Review* gives the following admirable description of the matchless topography of Kansas in general, but applicable in every sense to this county:

"The most perfect display of the prairies is found in the Eastern parts of Kansas and Nebraska. It is no exaggeration to pronounce this region, as left by the hand of Nature, the most beautiful country in its landscape upon the face of the earth. Here the forest is restricted to narrow fringes along the rivers and streams, the courses of which are thus defined as far as the eye can reach, whilst all between is a broad expanse of meadow lands, carpeted with the richest verdure and wearing the appearance of artistically graded lawns. They are familiarly called the rolling prairies, because the land rises and falls in gentle swells which attain an elevation of thirty feet, more or less, and descends again to within the original level within a distance of one or more miles. The crest-lines of these motionless waves of land intersect each othere at every conceivable angle, the effect of which is to bring into view the most extended landscape, and to show the dark green foliage of the forest trees skirting streams in pleasing contrast with the light green of the prairie grasses. In their spring covering of vegetation, these prairies wear the semblance of an old and once highly cultivated country, from the soil of which every inequality of surface, every stone and every bush has been carefully removed, and the surface rolled down to absolute uniformity. The marvel is suggested how Nature could have kept these verdant fields in such luxuriance after man had apparently abandoned them to waste."

The principal streams are as follows: Wolf River runs north, entering through the north and west portions of the county. Independence Creek and its tributaries drain the southern portion of the county, and Peter's Creek is the largest in the eastern part. Other small creeks flow into the Missouri River.

The county is well supplied with springs, and good well-water can be reached at from ten to sixty feet.

The timber supply of Doniphan is better, perhaps, than that of any county in the State. All the streams have borders or belts of timber, varying from forty rods to three miles in width. These streams are so well distributed over the county that the distribution

of timber could hardly be better equalized. The native varieties are cottonwood; white, black, red, swamp and burr oak; white and water elm, linden, sycamore, willow, maple, black walnut, box-elder, hickory and numerous smaller varieties.

#### ORGANIZATION

Doniphan County was organized on Monday, September 15, 1855. The County Court consisted at that time of J. P. Blair, A. dunning, E. V. B. Rogers, County Commissioners; C. B. Whitehead, Sheriff; and J. A. Van Arsdale, Clerk pro tem.

The first order made by the board, dated September 15, 1855, was that J. A. Van Arsdale be appointed Clerk pro tem, to serve as such until a Clerk be duly appointed and qualified.

The following is the oath of office of one of the first Sheriffs:

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
TERRETORY OF KANEAS

I, C. B. Whitehead, do solemnly swear upon the Holy Evangelists of Almighty God, that I will support and sustain the constitution of the United States; and that I will support and sustain the provisions of an act entitled and act to organize the Territories of Kansas and Nebraska, and the provisions of the law of the United States, commonly known as the Fugitive Slave Law, and faithfully and impartially, and to the best of my ability, demean myself in the discharge of my duties in the office of Sheriff in the County of Doniphan, in said Territory. So help me God.

C. B. WHITEHEAD.

Sworn to and subscribed before the undersigned, this 29th day of September, A. D. 1855.

S.]

JOEL P. BLAIR, Judge Probate Court, C. C. K. T.

On Monday, September 17, 1855, the county of Doniphan was divided into five

municipal townships, called Iowa, Wolf River, Burr Oak, Washington and Wayne.

In 1856, the county was re-organized into seven townships: Iowa, Wolf River,

In 1856, the county was re-organized into seven townships: Iowa, Wolf River, Burr Oak, Washington, Wayne, Center and Marion. Union Township was organized in 1879, making eight townships in the county at the present time.

Name.—The county, when organized, was named Doniphan in honor of Col. A. W. Doniphan, of Clay County, Mo., who commanded a regiment of Missouri cavalry during the Mexican war. Marching across the plains, he took a leading part in the conquest of New Mexico. He was a zealous partisan in the agitation which arose in the opening of Kansas Territory to settlement. The county seat was first established at a point called Whitehead, on the Missouri River, about six miles from St. Joseph. The name of the town was afterward changed to Bellemont.

Troy was selected as the county seat of justice in the fall of 1855, but the court house was not built until the summer of 1856. The first meeting of the County Commissioners at Troy was October 20, 1856. They met in the new court house, which still stands where it was built, on the north side of the public square, and is the first story of what is now known as the Higby House.

The Doniphan County Historical Society wishes to thank all those who donated pictures, volunteered time and the advertisers in making this calendar a success.

1915

Severance High School alumni Reunion

CLASS ROLL

\* Means Deceased

1891

\*Eva Ryan Swayze

1896

\*Lizzie Corcoran, \*Birdie Curtis, \*Walter Broyles, \*James Campbell

#### 1899

\*May Broyles, May Campbell, \*Hugh Corcoran, \*Edith Heeney, \*Turner Lyons, Guy Willis

#### 1902

\*John Corcoran, Hallie Eaton, Willie Broyles, \*Beht Drake, W. J. Hargis, Jessie Harpster, \*Ed Heeney, Ray Randolph, Mable Merrick, Herbert Sharp, \*Pearl Stout

#### 1903

\*Emma Babcock, Helena Gray, \*Georgie Heeney, \*Muriel Showers, \*Florence Leonard

#### 1910

Emma Anderson, Dora Albers, Elmer Bearg, Closky Dittemore, Christian Anderson, Myrtle Ebeling, \*Ed Fullbright, Earl Hettick, \*Luther Miller

#### 1913

Edna Broyles, Barney Heeney, \*Samuel Lancaster, Byron Smith, \*Vincent Ward

#### 1914

Guy Corbet, Dora Ellis, Francis Gray, \*Raymond Hancock, Hada Moyer

#### 1915

Ida Bearg, Nora Corbet, \*Catherine Lancaster, James, Lowe, Toll Ware, Donna Moyer, Howard Rifer

#### 1905

\*Ray Adams, \*Lulu Drake, \*Wilbur Friend, William Butler, Levi Friend, \*Cora Howe, \*Myrtle Leonard, Otis Newton

#### 1907

\*Harry Bearg, Anna Ebeling, John Gray, \*Grace Stout, Mary Devereux, \*Nora Ward, \*May Maher

#### 1908

\*Horace Coy, Nellie Chapman, \*Thomas Delaney, Joseph Gray, \*Cecil Lowe, Viola Smith, \*Roy Vanbibber, Harry Ware, \*Roy Byers

#### 1909

\*Otto Butler, Arthur Albers, Dee Byers, Rosa Caudle, Myrtle Chapman, \*Worthy Dare, \*Harry Ebeling, \*Cornelius Flynn, Alice Heeney, Katie Lonberger, Ruth and Rosetta Milburn, \*Alma Moyer, Barbara Moyer, \*Carlisle Smith, \*Blanche Vanbibber, George Springer, Anne Ward

#### **AUTOGRAPHS**



Vol 8

SEVERANCE, KANSAS, FEBRUARY, 27, 1921

# No. 8

#### CHAMPIONSHIP ASSURED.

Jinx Took Usual Toll at Leona.

Nothing but calamity can prevent S. H. S. from winning the County championship. There is only two more games left to play, one with White Cloud at Severance and one with Wathena at Wathena. These should be easy victories for S. H. S. owing to the fact that S. H. S. defeated White Cloud er, their own court 62 to 15 and Wathena at Severance 71 to 0.

S. II. S. was ousted from the thousand per cent column by their defeat at Lema. This was contrary to dope but dope is often upset. Severance ran up 14 points against them at Sevcrance, more than we counted against any other team but owing to the unusual handicap of the small court and because of the fast rate at which the Leona boys were traveling Severance met defeat, 49 to 30.

#### Elwood

Elwood came to Soverance expecting to go home with two victories to their credit but they were badly disappoint.

The girls game was fast throughout and the crowd was kept in wild excitement during the whole game. The game was decided in the last few min. utes of play. The Elwood girls wonby a score of 23 to 21.

The boys game was a walk-away for Severance. They started a whirlwind offensive and continued with it througout the game. The Severance squad was hitting the basket with regularity while the Elwooders were unable to cage them when they had a chance. The score at the end of the first half was 30 to 5 favor of Severance.

The Elwood boys came back stronger in the last half and made 16 points but Severance continued with their goal shooting and secured 33 points; making the final score 63 to 21. The points made for Severance are as follows: Riffer 26, Dye 27, Prawl 8, and first place in the race for the cup. Moyer 2. For Elwood, Wilkinson 5. King 7, and Chaney 9.

#### Leona.

S. H. S. boys met their only defeat of the season at Leona, February 3. The game started with the usual pep of a fast game. The Leona boys soon got into motion and had several goals before the Severance boys got on to the 12 foot ceiling and the small floor space. The Severance boys were going fine but the Deona boys had too much of a lead on them and the score was 21 to 15 in favor of Leona.

In the last half Leona continued at their fast pace. Sherman and Ultgen were scoring them from off the walls and ceiling. The final score was 49 to 30 in favor of Leona. For Leona, Sherman scored 28 points, Ultgen 12,

# Things About Our Town. Lever

We have-

Two of the most modern cafes in the county.

One well stocked drug store.

Two first-class general merchandise stores.

A crystal white butcher shop, which we claim is the best in the

An exclusive shoe store.

Two modern garages.

One of the strongest banks in the county.

Three of the finest churches ir any town of its size anywhere, each with a resident pastor.

A News Depot with a constant supply of daily papers, magazines, and novelties.

A hardware and furniture store.

Two fine barber shops.

A backery which supplies several towns with bread.

Two elevators.

A blackemith shop whose proprator knows his business.

A Post Office which is practical y new.

One of the oldest newspapers in the State of Kansas.

Two efficient dentists.

Two excellent doctors.

A defunct Turner Hall.

A commodious I. O. O. F. Hall.

Several beautiful modern homes

A sufficiency of fire and light insurance agents.

Electric Eghts.

A street sprinkling wagon.

English bootblacks with strap and pack.

Four passenger trains and two locals daily.

A strictly modern Sealey-Mattress hotel.

it tout a miplous luncher years of the cour

A high class hardware and furniture store.

We have everything which a town of four hundred needs with the possible exception of water works and fire protection and proper housing for our school.

Effer 10. Prawl 4, and Dittemore 2. was warned, "three" Cecil The Severance girls were defeated by a score of 59 to 5.

Holcombe, physical director of the Y. M. C. A. at Atchison, referred.

#### Denton.

The Denton boys came to Severance with blood in their eve, hoping to defeat the Severance boys, thus making Denton, Leona, and Severance tied for

The largest crowd that ever attended a basket ball game here was present. The spectators crowded along the edge of the court and along the ends making unusual rules necessary and cutting down the playing space.

The game started in a way that fore told a hard fight to the end. The Denton boys got started and were eight noints ahead of Severance at one time. After about ten minutes of play the Severance boys began to show good team work and caught up with their opponents. The score was, Sexerance 14. Denton 13, at the close of the first half. Denton had held the score by sacrifice in personal fouls.

In the last half the fast play of Severance forced the Denton squad to extremes and the personals began to and Dock 9. For Severance, Dye 14, pile up. Early in this half Chaney soon.

completed his four, quickly followed by Captain Burke. The score was even at this period. (It is har to convince the Denton aggregation that the game was not even for they refuse to take into account that the Severance boys had acquired but few fouls). After the removal of Burke and Denton the game was no longer in doubt, the final score being 36 to 23 in favor of Severance. Riffer played a good game and scored twenty-one points, while Dye his running mate, scored thirteen. Prawl made the other two points. The points scored for Denton are as follows: Burke 12, Joyce 7, C. Denton 2, and Callahan 2.

The Denton girls defeated the Severance girls 38 to 6.

The referee, R. F. Holcombe, of Atchison Y. M. C. A., is one of the best in northeast Kansas and is acquainted with both teams. There can be no criticism of any of Holcombe's decis-

Sixteen mothers were present to attend the "Home Meets School" enter-20. Another meeting will be field

#### CHAPEL SPECIALS.

Kansas Day

January 30th the officials of the and of the Students Activity. Association gave a fifteen minute program. The history of our state was given and each officer took up one phase of the life of Kansas. Poetry written by one of our inhabitants Mrs. Hattie E. Peeler, was read. We really do not realize how wonderful our sate is, until her birthday con es accund and we start to think.

#### Lincoln's Birtiday.

The Seniors rendered the program Lincoln's Day, sketches were given of Lincoln's life, which related old but new happenings. His picture was given the honor position on the wall and patriotic songs were sung by

#### St. Valentine's Day.

The Juniors came forth with another of their snappy programs on St. Valentine's Day. After a history of St. Valentine was read by Margaret Mc. Laren the Juniors presented each student with a valentine !!! Yes, they were valentines of all shades and colors. The Freshmen were given the suitable color-green.

#### Physical Englisher Buss.

Miss Ruth Holiday, County Nu se examined all students in Severance High School, Monday the 13th. Thirteem were found with defective vision, three with defective teeth, twelve with diseased tonsils, five with defective mouth breathing, one with defective hearing and four wereden per cent or mone underweight. Four perfect students were found.

We feel that if Miss Holiday's work could be continued from year to year it would be a great benefit to the com-

#### HOME MEETS SCHOOL

First Meeting Successful.

The Students Activity Association entertained the fathers and mothers of its members in a meeting of Home and School at the school house, February 20th. The meeting was called to order by the president of the Association, Albert Shay. The secretary called the roll and included the names of the guests. An interesting program was then presented. The Girls' Glee Club sang two selections, "Boat Song" and 'Santa Lucia." A vocal solo by Miss Caroline Piper followed. Speeches were made by Lois Dittemore, Wayne Dye, and C. I Moyer Jr., on topics concerning the school life as they desire it to be and as it is. Tom Springer sang Speaks' "To You". A recess tainment held at the school, February was held until the refreshments were prepared, during which we had a great

#### GRADE NOTES.

#### Grammar Room.

The Grammar Room was entertained with a Valentine party at the home of their tracher, Monday evening. Games, contests and a Valentine box furnshed amusement for the evening. In the condists, prizes were awarded Thelma Shay, Leonard Lancaster, Homer Courtin, and Alice Cluck. Refreshments were served and all prestat had an enjoyable time.

The Seventh and Eighth grades are having a spelling contest. A prize is to be awarded by the teacher to the hist speller at the close of the sixth month,

#### Second Primary Room.

Seventeen of the fwenty-three pupils enrolled in the second Primary Room were neither absent nor tardy during the January month. Only 6 days was lost foy both grades and no cases of tardiness. We think this is a very wood record.

Mollie McNett has carned four spelling certificates.

In the merit contest Mollie McNett and Leo McIntyre are ahead.

#### Primary.

" 1 24 5 3 (25)

Everyone is back in school, who were sick with the chicken pox.

For the sixth month, Vivian Fuller and William Dittemore are ahead in spelling.

Mable Bahr has been out for the past three weeks with the "grippe."

Miss Holiday, the County health nurse, examined the first grade, Wedmesday evening and out of the class of fifteen, five had no diffects and all had clean teeth.

The second grade was examined Thursday morning and out of the class three were underweight.

The month of February furnishes plenty ofhandiwork. Lincoln's birthday valentines and Washington's birthday.

The first and second primary and intermediate rooms had their valentine bix together. Tuesday afternoom,

The Severance Athletic Club defeate ed the Leona Athletic -Club, here, February 15th. The final score was 34 to 32.

Mildred Turley a former member of from St. Louis on account of bad burns have begun the chapter on reasoning, has been in the hospital for six weeks and returned home to recuperate before returning to school.

#### LOCALS

Monday morning the students of S. H. S. were somewhat surprised when they entered the study hall to find their desks rearranged. On account of lighting conditions, the seats had been changed to a position facing the north, so that the light would come bem the rear and the left of the room. Two years ago the seats were changed to a position facing the west, so that light came from the left only. The windows on the west being blocked. caused a strain on the eyes of the students, especially the Freshmen; he soudents and teachers requested that the seats be changed. No one suspected that the change would be made so soon. When we entered the turn ball. Menday moiting, .. our mouths and eyes flew open and "Whene's my seat?" was the first utterance. After finding a seat, came he jed looking for your old seat to get your books. Maybe your old seat would be found in the other part of the room way out in the hall. At th's writing, everyone is nicely se'tled. but many say they do not feel at home.

The Spanish II class is learning a beautiful poem, entitled, "Un Soneto."

The Algebra III class was given its first examination Thursday.

The Commercial Arithmetic class has finished work in Aliquot Parts and addtion and has taken up short methods of substraction multiplication and division.

The Algebra I class has finished the chapter, "Solution of equations by factering" and are now doing fine work and "Fractions."

The Spanish 1 Class took a day off last week to remove the stains from the arms of the chairs in Miss Furney's room. Remarks were heard the next day about the brilliant whitenes of eleven, ten had clean teeth and just of the woodwork, due to a vigorous scrubbing with lye, soap and water.

> The General Science Class has just completed one of the most interesting chapters in the text. Some of the things they studied were; plumbing, ventilation and light. The next chapter they will study will not be so interesting. It is, carbon and its compounds.

> The Agriculture class is making a thorough study of dalrying. The most interesting part of weighing and testing milk will be taken up soon.

The English II class just finishthe Junior class has returned home ed the chapter on dramas, stories and received at Christmas time, Mildred parliamentary lay and debate. If they are as good at debating as they are arguing they will certainly produce sev eral good debaters.

Ford and Chevrolet Batteries, . . \$22.50 See what cash will do-Saves you \$2 50 Fisk Casings, 30x3 1-2, . . . . . \$10.35

A. D. HALL

# BARBER

For First class Work. Popular Prices. Newest Styles. H. A. DYE, Prop. 

# YOUNG MEN-LOOK HERE

THE NEW CHECK SHIRTS

There's nothing quite so stylish as a C eck Shirt, with detached collar to match. "Neatand Natty," for the young men that's "So Different." Hence, very attractive. Why go to the city and pay \$2.50 for the same kind we sell for . . . \$1.89

GEO. W. SPRINGER

# HEENEY HARDWARE

For high-class, good

HOOSIER CABINETS, MAJESTIC COOK STOVES, ROUND CAK HEA-TERS, CALORIC FURNACES, PY-REXWARE, MIRRO-ALUMINUM.

Patronize a home merchant

# \*SPRAD'S \* PHARMACY\* DOES IT RIGHT

Prescription line complete. Sundries, Jewelry, Fountain Pens.

SPRAD'S PHARMACY SEVERANCE, KANSAS

#### WARD'S RESTAUR GO TO

FOR SHORT ORDERS, HOT AND COLD LUNCH, FANCY CHOCOLATES & CHOC-VELVET ICE CREAM OLATE BARS. EVERY DAY.

> W. W. WARD Severance, Kansas

#### First "All County Five" Offered-

Hicking an all county team is I hazardous bus ness. Each coach has his own ideas as to the ideal players It is of course easy to pick a combination that would beat the remaining possible, under most any conditions. But to pick the best possible combinations is a difficult proposition. Probably the man most feared as an oppenent and most conceited as an ally is Riffer, captain of the Severance Though usually under a two man opposition Riffer is leading the league in scoring. He plays a heady consistent game, commits few fouls, and keeps his men playing all the time, H'b work has been an outstanding feature of Severance play and a considerable factor in determining the champlonship. For these reasons he has been chosen as captain of the mythical five bu; his position changed to that of guard.

The League is especially favored with forwards this season. Sherman of Leona and Burke of Denton are the hardest men in the league to stop. Their certainty on the free throw and their aggressive follow\_up shooting give them the edge on any of the rest. They have my unanimous vote for their positions.

With a scoring combination as suggested by the three aforenamed the center position should be given to a man certain of the "tip" and ableon defense. Ultzen of Leona fills the bill. he plays a clear fast game, probably making more improvement than any man in the league durng the past sea-

we have no guards capable of stopping the mighty onslaught on the basket the above combination might make. For

fers two candidates Prawl and Moyer. Leona might possibly advance the Benfers; Denton will holler for a place for Cecil. Elwood might want a place for Foster and White Cloud will hold out for Taylor. Since Riffer has, been Chosen for one defense corner, Moyer would probably work in better than any of the others. His clean play gives him the edge on C. Denton, Severance has never scored less than thirty-five points in any game (Lecna game excepted) and our opponents have never touched thirty-five. This argues well for the Severance defense of which Riffer has played an important part. Mover then is elected.

Just what this combination would do in a real contest is hard to say, but it would look pretty good on the floor: Riffer, Moyer, Ultzen, Sherman and Burke. It would be mighty hard to

Denton, and the Benders would make a nice combination. Lyons and Chaney would probably be as strong a combination as the Benfers but not as easy to say. Somehow a brother combination always sounds good. Prawl would work well in C. Denton's position. The fact that he has twice this season outplayed him being a strong argument.

What's the use of picking, your idea and mine may not at all colincide and the argument follows. We all indulge in idle speculation.-Mickel.

Sickness has claimed many of the students during the past three weeks. Our business managers, C I. Moyer, was threatened with pneumonia the The guard og stuation is different. first part of this week. Alce Mosier had a bad cold for several days, Albert Shay had an ear ache" Capt. Renard Riffer had a cold last week the remaining position. Severance of and Cara Hardy has the chicken pox.

# For second team, Dye, Joyce, C.

## BOX SOCIAL TROY HIGH SCHOOL FRIDAY NIGHT

E HAVE the very best line of box cardies and candy bars on the market. Also, Eskimo Pie, a candy bar a la mode, for 10c. lee cream in stock every day, at the

The only Exclusive Cafe in Severance

# BANK OF SEVERANCE

Severace, Kansas



COMMENCED BUSINESS, AUGUST 5, 1892

\$15,000 Capital 34,000 Surplus \$49,000 Total

# THE STORE OF QUALI

THIS STORE ALWAYS CARRIES THE HIGHEST GRADE GOODS THAT CAN BE BOUGHT

# LYONS' CASH STORE

# GO TO BONE-McLUCAS LUMBER CO.

For everything to build with; everything to repair with; everything to paint with, and everything to burn. We can satisfy you on price and quality.

Bone-McLucas Lumber

# Monday Night, February 27th I. O. O. F. HALL

2-ACT COMEDY

Presented by High-Life Staff

25c and 35c Admission

# GRAIN, COAL, FLOUR, FEED

For the best service, fair treatment and the highest price for your grain, come to

THE A. J. ELEVATOR COMPANY

L. A. MOORE, Manager

March 16, 1927

# Only Nine Weeks of School Left

It hardly seems while that we are so near the end of another school year. May we let it be a challenge to those of us who are wing well to keep our good work up to the end, and to those of is who may be lagging to redouble our efforts and not give up just because we are bound.

## Scholarship Records

The following students made a grade of one plus in one or more subjects during the last six weeks period. After the name of the student is indicated the subject or subjects in which the work was done.

Marguerite Pullbright = harmony; art.

Marie Anderson = harmony; geometry; art.

Elizabeth Dittemore = English II; history; French I.

Opal Winter = English II; French I; geometry; art.

John Fullbright = history; French I.

Lola Dittemore = English IV; French II; art.

Louise Dittemore = English IV.

Ruth Barnes = English IV.

Mollie McNett = English I.

### Attendance Better

Our attendance is gradually showing improvement. There were too many cases of tardiness this last period. These students were neither tardy nor adsent for the first six weeks of this semester: Lola Dittemore, Louise Dittemore, Paul Libel, John Fullbright, Marie Anderson, Grace Roland, Dittemore, Opal Winter, Rex Hall, Ursula Kirwan, Murl Higgins, Oscar ( Mobert Fuller, Klizabeth Morley.

# Honor Accorded Art Student

bola Dittamore has been asked to make a picture to be placed in the library of Highland College. As yet Lola has not decided what the picture will be nor in what medium it will be done.

## Better Citizenship

Some complaint of trespassing by students, especially by grade students on the way to and from school, has come to our trention. In many instances children show little regard for the rights of others, trampling over lawns and breaking and tearing up small shrubs, bushes and plants. This is matter which rightly belongs in part to the school. It certainly is a for the function of the school to teach respect for the rights of others are to in culcate in the growing individual the ideals of good citizenship to as a theory but as a dys mic force impelling to action so that he will be a good citizen not because he knows what the good citizen should be bat because he habitually does what the good citizen should do. We are trying to assume our full share of this burden. But this obligation rests as truly on the home and on the community as on the school and until school, home and community cooperate the greatest good in this direction can never be accomplished.

# County Scholarship Contest

the last of next month. The following students have been chosen to compete in the different tests: in English I, Marguerite Fullbright and Mollie McNett; in English II, Marie Anderson and Elizabeth Dittemore; in English III, Lola Dittemore and Paul Libel; in algebra, Marguerite Fullbright and Irene case; in geometry, Opal Winter and Marie Anderson; in physics, John Fullbright and Paul Libel.

# New Student

Emmett Schriner who attended the Denison High School the first semester of this year is now enrolled with us as a freshman. We are glad to have him with us.

# Senior Class Doubled

Everybody is glad to have William Hylton back in school. The doctor believes that Williams leg which was wrenched at the knee as well as being broken near the ankle will be as good as ever in a short time. Because William was unable to play any more basketball after he was injured the team was left in a weakened condition to finish the season and go through the tearnament.

Lecured of John Janot of Doughan County Jansas Semilory This 22 20 December 1858 The dollars & Thil Cents in full of Tell County & Tem torial Jay for the Year 1856 Lucius Nutting Town the Treasurer Kickepio KJ Hely 15th 185-8 Mr John Proll Bot of Heard & Moods on US M. for 160 - acres sho 72352 - \$1.70 -Recet progent inform and generature the Some to from Should the Same be Rejection by The Defishent by Exchanging another Mith him Here & Modern of Doniphan County, this 186 Cthe sum of Eigh O the amount due from him to said County, on his Real Estate, Personal, Poll, and Township Tax, for the year

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# Severance Church no longer stands

The history of the Severance Methodist Church dates back to the spring of 1872 when Rev. George W. Wood organized a handful of Methodists in the vicinity. The cornerstone of the first church was laid on April 11, 1874. The new structure was erected and completed, and dedicated on Sept. 24, 1874.

The congregation grew so rapidly in the next forty years that a larger church was needed. Mr. Herman Day, one of the most popular men in Severance, had left \$3500 in his will for church purposes and this started the building fund. The church was to cost \$10,000 but it ran over to \$13,000 and the hat was passed at the dedication service on January 10, 1915 and subscriptions were taken up to finish paying for the church.

It was a big day, the other churches suspended services so all the community for miles around could attend. There was a stained glass in the church in honor of Mr. Day along with Henry Laverentz, Watkins, Catherine Plank, Rittenhouse and Mary Denton and others.

The graduation services of Severance High School were held in the new church along with basketball games in the basement and many other community events.

The church contained oak pews and railings and was quite beautiful.

When the board decided to demolish the church due to non-use, the bell, dishes and upper balcony railing were given to the Hiawatha Southern Baptist Church. A crew from Perry, Kan., took out the pews and the windows, some were purchased locally, and the bricks were removed by a Kansas City firm. When the cornerstone was removed a metal box was discovered the size of a brick. This was opened on August 18, 1991. It contained a copy of the Severance news of the dedication week in 1914, a Bible, a church discipline, a letter from the Doniphan County Sunday School organization in Wathena soliciting five cents per member, a folding key from the 1874 church and the list in the paper said an 1874 and 1914 coin were included but these were not found. It was made of copper and folded over and soldered shut, very neatly. Where did the coins go, maybe whoever sealed the box decided to pocket them?

This leaves a vacant spot on the hill along with the vacant lots across the road that contained the old wooden school and the brick school built in later years.

The Christian Church was dedicated the same year 1914 it still stands but is in bad shape. The Catholic church burned a few years back.

—Beverly Kentzler

# DONIPHAN COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Volume 3 Issue 7 Published July 10, 1997 Rt #2 Box 330 Troy, KS. 66087

#### DONIPHAN COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEETING JULY 17TH AT 6:30 P.M.

The next meeting of the Doniphan County Historical Society will be July 17th at the Lewis and Clark Look-Out in White Cloud. This is our annual potluck and wiener roast hosted by Wolf River Bob Breeze. Our guests will be the members of the Kanza Chapter of the Kansas Anthropological Association of Atchison. Hot dogs, buns and beverage will be furnished. Please bring a covered dish to share in the potluck.

#### **MEETING OF JUNE 26TH**

The June meeting of the Doniphan County Historical Society was held at the City park in Severance with 60 members and guests attending. Everyone enjoyed a potluck and the delicious hot dogs grilled by Don Kentzler. Olga Gronniger, president, conducted a short business meeting. Wolf River Bob invited everyone to participate in an archaeological dig at the back of the White Cloud train depot which he owns. As of this date there are no reports on whether they found any buried treasure.

Beverly Kentzler presented the program for the evening on the history of Severance. She had pictures and maps for everyone to enjoy.

Beverly's great-grandparents settled in the rural area of Severance in 1855 and 1856. This was Indian territory and a person could acquire land by serving in the military or staking a claim and living on the land for a certain period of time. Forty acres was set aside for the town. The railroad came west from Elwood and in 1869 John Severance, for whom the town was named, brought the railroad to Severance. In 1874 a depot was erected for the telegraph office and the passengers of the railroad. Mr. Severance brought a Captain Gunn with him and the main street in Severance is named Gunn St. The railroad was named St. Joe and Denver and also St. Joe and Western.

The town was incorporated in 1877 with a population of 400 citizens. Mr. Severance and Cpt. Gunn built the first hotel in Severance. It was destroyed by fire in 1903. An electric plant was erected on the same site where the hotel had been. This is where the City Hall is today. In 1900 there were 50 businesses. There was a grist mill, ice house, Farmer's

Union Elevator, lumberyard, stockyards, hotel, a combination grocery store and cream station, livery stable, hardware store, bank, barbershop, blacksmith shop, restaurant, general store, millinery shop, post office, telephone office, shoe store, telegraph office, tavern/pool hall, meat market and newspaper. There were also professional people such as Doctors, Dentists, Lawyers and a Veterinary. Silent movies, plays and basketball games were in the IOOF Hall

The first school was built in Severance in 1870. It was a one room schoolhouse with one teacher. The enrollment kept expanding and in 1890 a second school was built. Later another school was erected and the first graduating class from it was 1928. 1953 was the last graduating class from this newer school. The Severance school system is now part of the Midway school system.

The Christian Church of Severance was in the remodeled school building that was built in 1870. A new Christian Church was built in 1914. St. Vincent Catholic Church was established in 1882 at the cost of \$2,000.00. The Methodist Church was built in 1874 and a new brick building was erected in 1914 at a cost of \$13,000.00. Both the Catholic and Methodist Churches have been torn down and the Christian Church is in the process of being torn down. The Historical Society was the recipient of some of the bricks from the Christian Church.

The social event of the year was the VFW picnic. It started as a chautauqua NW of Severance. In approximately 1950 it was moved into town and was a carnival type of celebration. Our potluck and meeting was held on the cement that was the dance floor of the VFW picnic.

The current population is approximately 120 and there are no active businesses, churches or schools.

Several members and guests shared personal experiences about the history of Severance. Many thanks to Beverly for her presentation and her extensive research and to Don for the delicious hot dogs.

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Corky Smith reminds us that he and his work crew are working every Saturday on the Baker House project. Currently they are in the process of finishing the roof and working on the siding. The siding needs to be scraped. He is ready for primer and painting on some of the siding. He needs volunteers desperately and the work can now be done on the ground level. (For those of us who do not like heights.) Let's support these hard working men and make a big improvement before our August open house.

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**Membership**: As of our June meeting, we have 103 members with the newsletter going to 69 households.





9 pages of the Domphan
History of the Courty
City of Severance
Can be found at
www. kancollorg/books/
Cutler/dow.phan

Home Table of Contents Search

# Public Services

Last update: 07/28/2001

Salt City>>

#### PUBLIC SERVICES

Public service also began in the 1880's. The City Council took the first tentative steps toward locating the state reformatory in Hutchinson at about 1885. A large waterworks plant was begun on West Sherman by the Holly Manufacturing Company in the fall of the same year. This was to be called the Hutchinson Water, Light and Telephone Company. The first telephones in town were connected at the plant in December 1886. Phone numbers 1 and 2 were inside the plant, and number 3 went to the Hutchinson News.

The Inter—State Gas Company of St. Louis was successful in convincing the city of the need for artificial gas. The gas plant was completed at 2nd and Adams in early 1886. The fuel produced was called Imperial Oil Gas, and was manufactured through a mixture of kerosene, water and air. The product was quite expensive and appealed only to the more elite. Some years later the plant was converted, using cheaper coal to manufacture gas. This fuel was used in Hutchinson in the patented Weisback Burner. The plant stood at the present site of the KP&L offices. A city light company was chartered that same spring.

In March, 1886, Hutchinson became a city of the 2nd class by petition, with a population of 2,300. The 1880's also marked the beginning development of a park, complete with a small zoo, along the Arkansas River on the south end of Main Street.

Halfway through the decade, John Severance, whose name is memorialized by the naming of Severance Street, persuaded the City Council that street cars were the up—and—coming mode of travel, and that Hutchinson needed "modern" transportation to remain a progressive city. Severance was granted a 21—year franchise for the Rapid Transit Company early in 1886, and by April, small horse and mule drawn cars were carrying passengers up and down Main Steet, a street now lit by artificial gas lights.

The new flood control system was tested in June, 1886, and found sorely lacking as Cow Creek overflowed. The raised Main Street held flood waters back in the downtown area, but west Hutchinson was literally swamped. A plan was instigated to reconstruct and straighten the meandering bed of Cow Creek, beginning northwest of town and continuing to southeast of the city, to allow the water a faster current

by artificial gas letes / John Sev. appointed by How. of Ke (1885 Act) to seeve on Reformatory Bd. existed bldg. John elec. chairmon of Bd. Visited

Fred ahretens.

# Severance Farmers Telephone Directory.

Early Before

30.

Office Hours: Summer Months, 5 A. M. to 10 P. M. Winter Months, 6 A. M. to 9:30 P. M.

After these hours a charge of ten cents for each call.

# Mutual Service with Bendena, Leona and Highland.

# = RULES =

- 1. Always call by number.
- 2. Always ring off when through talking.
- 3. When wishing to send a message to other towns, give central the call and you will be called up as soon as party wanted is reached. Charges on toll line may be known by ringing up Central.
  - 4. Do not hold the line longer than is necessary, for others may be waiting to use the line.
  - 5. Avoid loud and harsh talking. Stand close and speak direct into the transmitter.

#### Follow the Rules or Do Not Complain.

6. Party line subscribers should not listen on a busy line as it is detrimental to the service.

# CITY.

No.	Name	No.	Name	No. Name
20	Bank of Severance	33½	Francis, T. J. Residence	18 Lyons' Store
15	Blakely, Dr. S. H.	47	Gregg & Gregg Hardware	181/2 Lyons, T. J. Residence
45	Brådley, Rev. Matthew	23	Hall, A. D. Residence	r2 Mill
50	Broyles, J. L.	41	Hancock, W. D. Residence	37 Merrick, Dr. R. H.
52	Byers, Rev. W. J.	28	Hansen, H. C. Residence-Buller	27 News Office .
11	Chapman, Mrs. E. R.	13	Hargis, V. B. Store	9 Sheep Yards Stouts Sta.
32	Clymans, A. J. Elevator	29	Hargis, W. H. Residence	24 Showers, A. B. Residence R W Mou
38	Clymans, A. J. Residence	16	Heeney, Ed Store	43 Sharp, D. G.
39	Depot, G. I. Ry.	26	Heeney, Ed Residence	34 Springer's Store
14	Ebner, Gus Store	31	Horner, Dr. T. E.	341/2 Springer, Geo. W. Residence
141/2	Ebner, Gus Residence	25	Hotel Corcoran	49 Vanbebber, Charles
19	Ebeling, J. F. Residence	46	Lancaster, Geo. W.	36 Ware, Mrs. E. J.
21	Foster, C. J. Residence	53	Leonhard F. O. Store	51 Ward, William
48	Franklin, T. H. Residence	30	Lowe, Jno. E.	42 Williams, M. F. Residence
33	Francis, T. J. Lumber Yard	22	Livery Barn	40 Weil, Sol.
68	Frank Candle V	. 44	LeoH Roff V	46 Seo Lancaster
57	Catharine Malee		De Blakely Rech	61 Stansen It lo. V
2	Joseph Carbed /		D& parist V	6) Stansen It to
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No.	Name	No.	Name	No.	Name	No.	Name Edmond
70	Andrus, William	87	Dittemore, John	104	Lancaster, Ed	121	Rittenour, W. J.
71	Bahr, William	88	Dittemore, Adam	105	Laverentz, H. A.	122	Roberts, James
72	Bird, George	89	Dittemore, J. C.	106	Laverentz, H. G.	123	Sharp, J. B.
73	Black, W. H.	90	Dittemore, W. P.	107	Lewis, Samuel	124	Shay, John OK Storet
74	Clark, E. C.	91	Dittemore, W. H.	108	Libel, J. J.	125	Snodgrass, O. T.
75	Corbet, John	92	Ebeling, Fred	109	Libel, Henry	126	Snodgrass, Homer and May
76	Corbet, Joseph	93	Francis, Jacob	110	Libel, John F.	127	Steuart, Charles
77	Corbet, Ed	94		III	Marcell, C. L.	128	Stout, Jacob
78	Corbet, Geo. W.	95	Gray, J. J.	112	Marcell, J. O.	129	Swim, S. S. a Control
79	Corbet, J. M.	96	Halling, Frank	11.3	Miller, W. A. Secklers	130	Teufler, Theo. J.
80	Cummings, Oliver	97	Heckman, H. O.	114	Miller, P. F.	131	Thomas, J. R.
81	Dare, James	98	Huss, J. H.	115	Miller, W. L.	132	Thorp, John
82	Davis, T. T.	99	Jenkins, John	116	Moyer, Chas. I.	133	Ward, John F.
83	Day, Herman	100	Jinkler, C. J. Lughland	117	Peabody, F. H.	134	Wakins, A. B.
84	Delzeit, J. J.	101	Jones, J. C. Mills	118.	Pry, John	135	Watkins, W. E. Newtons
85	Delzeit, N. W.	102	Johannes, John H.	119	Rittenhouse, Noah	136	Whitson, M. P.
86	Denton, Robert	103	Kinsley, Fred	120	Rittenhouse, Moses	137	Zeltner, August
	Jone moser V	139	Geo Brown V	lo sa	118	1	Erica learners
144	John moser .		Butteasen V		1 010		4 17 L

Platholic 1882 - 2,000 - Vincent De Paul

Meth - 1872 - april 1874 - Cornerstone laid

Completed Sept 1874 - torn down 1914 - 1915 - New

13,000 cost - Herman Day gare 3500. Read piece

Rad old school bidg. 1st) I Wrote

Cht. Ch. Dail 914 - 7,500 cost. - W- Poug Ditt Charles when process of being torn down - had relvet drapes

paptistry - choir loft - bazaars big affairs

i ce cream 50 cials too.

Best Business Town on R.R. in 1870-1880-1890

1868- Comm. Dryden St. in Severance

1876- Harpster (Comm) Banker in Sev.

1879- E. Heeney- Supt. of Schools

1879- W. River divided into Union Twship.

First PM-Robinson (St. Severance named)

1871-J-A. Compbell-druggist

1854 W.H. Curtis mechant-gr. dealer

1858- John Kirwan-Gen'l Busines Stande horses

1847-Rippey-farmer-Shorthorn-Poland-China

1872-J.G. Sell-Carpenter

Lyon Store torndown-pricks were burned inkiln

by R.R. tracks - Certical grow drygoods-thotions

had women's aloak sale in Fall-ordered Men's

Suits - On deck (in back) was millinery shop

Lionhead Coffee had pprdoll in each pack

with 90 Lionheads you could win watch.

with 90 Lionheads you could win watch.

with Franklin + Frick Mill-Snowflake + Whitefrost

flour was advised at Lyons Store. Upper floor

housed famous dence hall - Trains brot people

from St. Joe for big yearly dance

Torn down in 1953 - 1879-Sex. Silver Cornet ago

Torn down in 1953 - 1879-Sex. Silver Cornet ago

Torn down in 1953 - 1879-Sex. Silver Cornet ago

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Torn down in 1953 - 1879-Sex. Silver Cornet ago

3 Schools

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Ist grade sch. Sev. Chr Ch Site Cost 1200. -1871

rough wooden structure -1 teacher then 2 - exhel

onto - cost 1300.

Jul school- wh. frame - parklocation - 1891

in 1894 added 2 yrs H. 5 - later 4 yrs. -1911 
enlarged to drooms - reference library lab.

CR. Itewins taught 20yrs. (Souvenir)

3rd school grad. 1st class in 1928. great gymn

hosted many tournaments. Closed in 1953

other pusinesses

Red + White store WWWard - 100F-1928

Butcher shop-Pat Ward silent movies

Restaurants (chairs)

Pr. Blakeley-Pryhouse Lin family - basketball so

Capital of Morley Bank 1882 Lodges members

1921-15,000, - broke in 1930's Lawyer office

up stairs

Sev. School levy 1921 dances-Lyons

Sev. School levy 1921 dances-Lyons
7 mills - Midway 38 mills licect socials
Hallie Peteler - poet fr. Severance

1882Book p.66
Itouses - Livery Stable (Coopers)
L Rippey's Farm (Halling Lapeaking tube pasement need pasement nee

Semlers 1855-C.C.Clonch G.W.DiHemore John Prawl

Ryan Station hear Strut's grave on our West line

Springer

1880 pop. 375

1900- 50 thriving businesses.

1915-Pat Gray Newsshow uses in 1882 Plat Book still standing
houses in 1882 Plat Book still standing
Lawswit-Prawl gristmill-jury Great Gr. wm Perry

\* 1893-block of businesses destroyed by fire.

1883-Newsppr. Sev. Enterprise by H. H. Brookes
other names teditors later - Pat Gray,
Heeney House Sev. torndown - 1889-Newsppr
Heeney House Sev. torndown - Sold to Gray to
Curtis
Ware House moved to Denton.

\* 1893-Harpster Bank destroyed - Leonhard Drugs

for H. S. (used later for 7th y 8th y Kindergarten + 1-4 (Denton - 5-6 Bendena - then Midway, Before brick school B.B. played In 100F

Hall + Meth. Ch. basement. (Mona Simonson dam. 02 51 Ryan)

sceial springs was resort for outings. Espring serial sceial springs was resort for outings. Espring street and ball team - uniform - 19 to's

185ev. V. F. W. had ball team - uniform - 19 to's

script Sev. pienic held W. of Sev. (now Rush) in the social sev. pienic held W. of Sev. (now Rush) in the 1930's- moved to town & V. F. W incharge - last in 1970's.

184er - ballteunion Twship - called in 1970's.

Denton Was contact of Wolf River until 1878

1890 - each towns goal to have new sppr. y be a METROPLIS

Dr. 5H. Blakeley in Sev. long.period
of time - died there-delvid
Caudles
Rewl's - 2118.

Made house calls in horse + buggy.

Folks bot' furniture in 1930 Whenhedied

Dr Ryan followed him
1880-Ed Heeney Have-farm hack landertaked
Wagen-buggies