Genealogical Society New Sletter

Volume II, Number 3

Hutchinson, Kansas

August 1980

From the Desk of
The PRESIDENT

This summer many of our members traveled to different parts of the country to do first hand genealogical research. I'm sure that the travelers learned a lot—not only about their family, but also about doing research in the areas they visited.

My family and I vacationed in New Jersey this year. The trip was primarily to visit relatives, so I got very little actual research done. I did have the opportunity to talk to several of my husbands elderly relatives and learned where the family had lived in the 1800s. This fall I hope to get a good start on a new branch of the family tree.

Delma Ashcraft, Education Chairman, is setting up programs for members who need help with their research. Another trip to the courthouse is planned soon. If you need assistance with your research or if you have any questions about the work of this committee, call Delma at 665-7946.

-- Maureen Bellizio

CEMETERY RECORDS OF RENO CO., KS
425 pages softbound - 44,000 persons
buried in 70 cemeteries. Indexed.
Burials from 1860s through 1978.
\$20.00 plus \$1.75 postage and handling. KS residents add 70¢ sales tax.

Reno Co. Genealogical Society, P.O. X
Box 5, Hutchinson, KS 67501

KANSAS COUNCIL OF
GENEALOGICAL SOCIETIES

There are 36 genealogical societies in Kansas, 20 of which are members of the Kansas Council.

Kansas Review is the official publication of the Kansas Council and is issued in March, June, September and December. The Review has a new editor and a new cover. Individual subscriptions to the Review are maintained on a revolving basis. Subscriptions begin with the quarter in which they are received and are renewable one year from that date. As a member of a subscribing society, members of Reno County Genealogical Society may subscribe to the Review for \$3.00 per year. Non-members \$5.

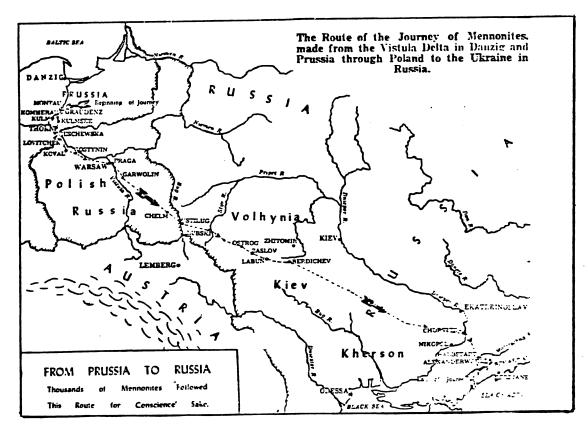
Plans are being laid for a trip by bus in the Spring to Ft. Wayne, Indiana. More details later.

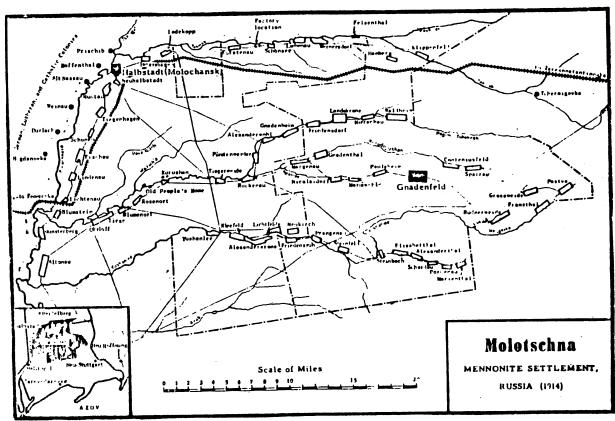
Regarding the transfer of material to the National Archives Regional Centers, it has been announced that a freeze has been put on all transfers as of January 1980. Robert Wagner has been appointed as Head Archivist of the National Archives. The Council suggests that members write Admiral Freeman, Office of Administration, GSA, 18th & South, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20405 and tell him of his wisdom in the appointment of Mr. Warner. Mr. Warner is an excellant choice and will be an asset to the genealogist.

Because of the cost of travel and the distance involved, the semi-annual meeting of the council has been discontinued. The annual meeting will be held in June 1981.

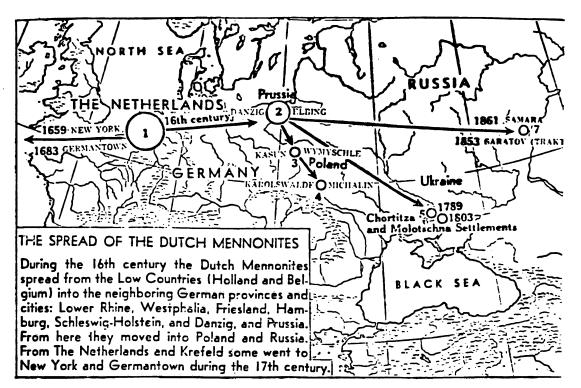
We thank the editor of the Review, Larry D. Gilbert, for publishing a copy of our flyer announcing the publication of "Cemetery Records of Reno County, Kansas".

* * +





AUGUST 1980



The two great historical migrations of the Mennonites, Prussia to Russia (1789-1840) and Russia to North America (1873-1880) were motivated by religious beliefs as well as land pressure and distrust of the government.

Mennonite is the name of a protestant group which was organized in 1525 (some sources say 1523) at Zurich, Switzerland. Mennonites were at first a branch of the Anabaptists, a much persecuted group that had split away from the Catholic Church. Their name comes from that of Menno Simons (1492-1559), a Catholic priest from the Dutch province of Friesland, who became a leader in the Anabaptist movement in northern Germany about 1540. Bitter opposition was the lot of these converts.

The gathering of Mennonites in Prussia near the mouth of the Vistula River was not planned, but it became a place of refuge from persecution. It was a place no one wanted at the time. The Mennonites received permission from the kings of Poland and Prussia to drain the swamps and build dikes to secure the land for agricultural use. The skills had been learned in the Netherlands from which most of the people originated. Because of their industry and sobriety, the Mennonites gained the respect of the kings who continued to give them special privileges. Such privileges produced envy by other citizens, especially when they noticed that these people were becoming wealthy. In 1789, the Prussian government issued an edict which restricted the purchase of real estate by Mennonites from non-Mennonites, thus creating a need for new settlements.

By 1762, when Catherine II ascended the throne of Russia, Mennonites were in nearly all the countries of Central Europe, in Canada, and in the American colonies. The year 1789 was a year of decision. The Russian government needed immigrants to settle the area of South Russia which had recently been won by means of war from the Tartars. Catherine the Great offered the Mennonites in Prussia land, freedom of worship, exemption from military service, local self-government and control of their schools—these privileges to endure for 100 years. The invitation was accepted by large numbers coming from Germany, Holland, Poland and other mid-European countries. These

immigrants settled on the Dnieper river, in Crimea, East to the Sea of Azof, along the Kuban and the Volga, and in the provinces of Volhynia and Bessarabia.

In the same year, 346 Mennonite families migrated to the Chortitza in Russia establishing seven colonies. The earliest immigrants to Molotschna came in 1804, but the immigration by groups from Danzig and other parts of Prussia continued on for another 35 years or so.

Scarcity of land was one important reason for migration. The Molotschna settlement contained 58 villages, but it was not enough to take care of the expanding population. Each farm was about 180 acres, but according to the original agreement with the Russian government, a farm could not be subdivided by inheritance, because the government wanted the Mennonites to demonstrate to the nativeshow a model family farm should be operated and 180 acres was considered the model size for a family. Since only one child could take over the management of a farm after the father retired, the other children became landless, which required constant expansion of settlements. By 1907 there were 14 major settlements in Russia and immediately prior to the communist revolution, there were 345 villages. This expansion included 5 settlements in the Ukraine, 4 in the Volga River region, 1 in the Caucasus, 1 in Crimea and 3 in Siberia.

Alexander II, emperor through the latter part of the 19th century, yielded to the pressure of the natives to curtail the Mennonite privileges. In 1870 he rescinded Catherines order of military exemption, banned the German language, and assumed control of the schools. Since the 100 year period did not expire until 1883, he granted 10 years wherin those who would not accept the revocations might immigrate.

Cornelius Jansen, Prussian consul at Berdiansk, informed them of their plight and suggested they go to America where there was religious freedom and where many of their faith already resided.

Material for this segment submitted by James H. Arterburn and Zona Myrtle (Starks) Bridges.

To be continued in the November 1980 issue of the Newsletter.

The WILL OF STEPHEN McREYNOLDS WELLS b 28 May 1831 Maryville, TN (Blount Co.) d 10 Jan 1882 " " " "

I, Stephen M. Wells, of Blount County Tennessee, being of sound mind and disposing memory and knowing the uncertainty of this frail and transitory life, do make, publish, ordain and declare this to be my last will and testament hereby revoking and making void all former wills by me at any time made.

First: After the payment of all my just debts and funeral expenses, which I direct shall be done as soon after my death as possible. I give and bequeath to my wife, Nancy Ann Wells, all my household and kitchen furniture and all my personal property of every kind and description for her own use and the support of herself and children.

Second: I give and devise to my son, A. P. Wells, the tract of land situated in the 1st Civil District of Blount County known as the Dover place and which is bounded as follows: Beginning at the big gate below where Perry Headrick lives, running a west course up the ridge and along the top of the ridge to Hiram Walkers line: thence with his line to Davies Dyer: thence with Dyer to Swiney: thence with Swiney to the center of the big road above where Perry Headrick lives: thence with the big road to the beginning. one third interest in the mill and mill privileges -- the cotton gin excepted -- provided he shall pay one hundred dollars on the Sam Best note. I also give to him two acres on the North West side of my house and barn for a building site; and I authorize and direct my Executor to survey and lay off to him said piece of ground and make a deed to him for the same.

Third: I give and devise to my son W.L. Wells, during his natural life, and at his death to his heirs the following piece or tract of land situated in the 1st Civil District of Blount County, and being a part of my home tract, and bounded as follows: Beginning in the centre of the big road above where Perry Headrick lives, adjoining the tract given A.P. Wells and the Swiney tract and running with Swineys line to the line of John Best; thence with Best to the Water-gap; thence with the meanders of the Creek (with the right to put his fence on

the bluff) to a point below the mouth of the branch running from Swineys; thence outside of the cleared land to A.P. Wells line; thence with his line to the big gate; thence up the big road to the beginning. Also, a third interest in the mill and mill privileges, subject, however to his payment of one hundred dollars on the Sam Best note. I also give to him a one half interest in the Cotton Gin, and at the death of my wife and death or marriage of all my daughters, I give the whole of said Gin to him and his hiers.

Fourthly: I give and devise the residue and remainder of my real estate to my son, John B. Wells, except that my wife is to have the use and occupancy of my dwelling house, and barn and outbuildings during her life.

Fifthly: The above devises are made subject to the payment of fifty dollars to my daughters each at the time of their marriage; and said sums are made a charge upon the real estate herein. And said property is also charged with the support of my wife, and my daughter Mary S. Wells during their natural lives; and also the support of my other daughters until their marriage or death.

Sixthly: I give to my wife during her natural life a one third interest in the mill and a one half interest in the cotton gin and at her death, if my girls or either of them shall be alive and unmarried, then to them or her, and at their or her death or marriage, the one half interest in the cotton gin to go to my son W.L. Wells and the one third interest in the mill to my son John B. Wells.

And I hereby nominate and appoint my brother A.L. Wells to be Executor of this my last will and testament.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal this 5th day of June 1882 and in the presence of the subscribing witness hereto.

signed S.M. Wells (Seal)

(The above material submitted by Everett Wells, RCGS member.

RENO COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY, INC. MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY 1 JULY 1980

		1 0021	*	Indicates new members
	Allen, Mrs. Olin (Donna Johnson) 10 W. 21st Hutchinson, KS 67501	662-0744	Crane, Mr. & Mrs. Steve (Pam 341 N. Sparta Wataga, IL 61488	
	Arterburn, James H. 600 Columbia Drive Hutchinson, KS 67501	663-7470	Cushing, Harriet H. Rte. 3, Box 127 Hutchinson, KS 67501	662-0738
	Ashcraft, Mrs. Harry (Delma Kincheloe) 16 Truman Drive So. Hutchinson, KS 67505	665-7946	Evans, Mr. & Mrs. Harold (Naomi I 505 W. 15th Hutchinson, KS 67501	Oavisson) 662-2403
	Ballard, Ileen 1727 N. Monroe Hutchinson, KS 67501	663-3615	Ewing, David 480 Chapel Ridge Drive Hazelwood, MO 63042	
*	Banks, Mrs. Howard (Millie Rice) Box 91 Sylvia, KS 67581	486-2513	Filbert, Mrs. & Mrs. Edward (Ruth 1519 Willow Road Hutchinson, KS 67501	Hair) 663-2804
*	Bechtel Mrs. Curtis (Leda Vernon) Rte. 1 Pretty Prairie, KS 67570	459-6814	Fiskin, Mr. & Mrs. Gene (Dorothy 1001 N. Plum Hutchinson, KS 67501	Rouser) 662-5046
	Bellizio, Mrs. Frank (Maureen Helmer) Rte. 1 Buhler, KS 67522	662-8592	Fox, Mr. & Mrs. W.D. (Marguerite 516 W. 8th Hutchinson, KS 67501	Millert) 663-3494
	Bizzini, Mrs. Paul 287 Del Mesa Carmel, CA 93921		Frager, Mr. & Mrs. Glen (Melba Hi 125 Downing Road Hutchinson, KS 66501	lggins) 662-1830
	Brawner, Mrs. Delmar (Hazel Smith) Rte. 4, Box 270 Hutchinson, KS 67501	662-5007	French, Mr. Marson (Lillian Crott Rte. 1 Partridge, KS 67566	ts) 567-2423
	<u>Bridges</u> , Mrs. J.R. (Zona Myrtle Starks) 10 Sunset Drive Hutchinson, KS 67501	662-0763	* <u>Garey</u> , Mrs. Marshall (Edith Carey Rte. l Stafford, KS 67578	')
	<u>Buhler</u> , Mrs. Jake (Mabel Starks) 705 Cole Hutchinson, KS 67501	665-5388	Gardner, Mr. & Mrs. Roy (Evelyn 1 604 W. 13th Hutchinson, KS 67501	Welson) 662-8192
	Canfield, Mrs. T.W. (Virginia Barrett) 6609 E. 4th Hutchinson, KS 67501	662-8668	<u>Glass</u> , Louise (Clapp) 116 S. Madison Hutchinson, KS 67501	662-8316
	Collins, Anabel (High) R.R. Partridge, KS 67566		<u>Graves</u> , Arthur 1512 W. Blanchard So. Hutchinson, KS 67505	662-6542
	Cook, Mrs. Weldon (Jolene Mitzner) 17 Truman Drive So. Hutchinson, KS 67505	662-6278	Griffin, Mr. & Mrs. James (Chery: 1916 James Hutchinson, KS 67501	Roberts) 663-1949
	Cooper, Mrs. Richard (Ruth Morgan) 29 Tomahawk Road Hutchinson, KS 67501	662-2920	<u>Griswold</u> , Esther 229 E. 6th Hutchinson, KS 67501	662-3608
	Cover, Mrs. L.C. Rte. 6, Box 730 Clarksville, TX 75426		Haile, Bonnie Alden, KS 67512	

			August 1980
<pre>Hathaway, Mr. & Mrs. Ralph (Beth Briggs) Rte. Chase, KS 67524</pre>	938-2504	Mohrle, Evelyn 6933 McArthur Blvd. Oakland, CA 94605	
<u>Henson</u> Garland F. 510 E. 24th Hutchinson, KS 67501	665-5003	Moore, Mrs. Claude (Delores Ehly) 1902 Westbrook Drive Hutchinson, KS 67501	662-9455
<u>Herriman</u> , Mr. & Mrs. Dorris (Gertrude Vin Rte. Abbyville, KS 67510	cent) 286-5586	Morgan, Mrs. Nelson (Betty Myers) 221 Countryside Drive Hutchinson, KS 67501	662-7030
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Syliva, KS 67581 * Johnson, Marion 107 W. 14th Hutchinson, KS 67501	662-7386	Nielsen, Mr. & Mrs. Orval (Dorothy Godsey) Rte. 1 Alden, KS 67512	534-2345
Jones, Mrs. Robert G. (Edith Duffin) 721 Cloverdale Drive Hutchinson, KS 67501	662-8922	O'Rorke, Mr. & Mrs. W.C. (Margaret Walton) 303 N. Hendricks Hutchinson, KS 67501	665-8890
King, Mr. & Mrs. Jesse (Edith Smith) 1228 N. Jackson Hutchinson, KS 67501	662-8374	Oswald, Mrs. G.C. (Gertrude Casebier) 1008 E. 23rd, Apt. A Hutchinson, KS 67501	662-9015
Kloxin, Mrs. Walter (Florence Campbell) Chase, KS 67524	938-2407	Parnell, Virginia (Warner) Arlington, KS 67514	538-2447
Lackey, Mrs. William (Marie Ferron) 14 - 18th Edgemore Hutchinson, KS 67501	662-7006	* Partridge, Mrs. Bill (Evelyn Waggoner) 3214 N. Halstead Hutchinson, KS 67501	665-8465
LaFever, Robert 1010 N. Main Hutchinson, KS 67501	662-5848	Partridge, Mr. & Mrs. Robert (Norma Young) 600 W. 23rd Hutchinson, KS 67501	663-4038
Lee, Mrs. & Mrs. James (Twila Delker) 417 W. 11th Hutchinson, KS 67501	662-8643	<u>Peterson</u> , Mrs. William F. (Malinda Crotts) 808 W. 25th Hutchinson, KS 67501	663-3453
Lindburg, Mr. & Mrs. Clifford (Maxine Par 311 W. 25th Hutchinson, KS 67501	ker) 663- 396 8	Proctor, Mrs. Paul (Alta Engler) 704 W. 18th Hutchinson, KS 67501	665-5966
Logan, Mr. & Mrs. Earl (Wilma Odle) 315 W. Sherman Hutchinson, KS 67501	662-4232	<u>Purcell</u> , Mr. & Mrs. Joe C. (Jayne Koepke) 323 E. 9th Hutchinson, KS 67501	662-4966
Longhofer, Mr. & Mrs. Garland (Jo Easter) 305 Crescent Blvd. Hutchinson, KS 67501	662-3797	Ramsdale, Margaret A. 430 E. 12th Hutchinson, KS 67501	665-6766
Martin, Mrs. James (Ruth DeWater) 1011 W. 1st Hutchinson, KS 67501	663-4723	Rayl, Mrs. E.F. (Dorothy Rabun) 49 Rambler Hutchinson, KS 67501	663-3176
McGonigle, Mr. & Mrs. Jack (Zola Belden) R.R., Box 32 Abbyville KS 67510	422-3967	Riead, Naomi (Leonard) Rte. 1, Box 31 Burrton, KS 67020	463-7681
Miller, Mrs. Lee R. (Carla Sanders) 100 W. 25th Hutchinson, KS 67501	662-0184	Ritche, Mr. & Mrs. Bill (Janet McGonigle) 226 S. Rhodes Pretty Prairie, KS 67570	459-6698

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Roots, Mrs. C.A. (Mildred Copeland) 1907 N. Jackson Hutchinson, KS 67501	662-2930
Ross, Mrs. R.A. (Freda E. Williams) 14 W. 14th Hutchinson, KS 67501	663-1085
Samms, Jerry Sylvia, KS 67581	486-2465
Sawatzky, Randy S. P.O. Box 462 Buhler, KS 67522	
Schroeder, Vaneta (Beck) 218 S. Ash Pretty Prairie, KS 67570	
Snyder, Mrs. Roy (Deborah) Box 442 Inman, KS 67546	585-2289
Stansel, Mr. & Mrs. Harry (Beatrice Gross) 4001 N. Halstead Hutchinson, KS 67501	662-5737
Stansel, Mr. & Mrs. Lynn (Pamala Thompson) 429 W. 13th Hutchinson, KS 67501	663-8678
Stewart, Clavence E. 1832 Ranser Road Manhattan, KS 66502	539-4018
Stewart, Mr. & Mrs. Raymond (Genevieve Marke 2806 Pama Lou Hutchinson, KS 67501	er) 663-5379
Streeter, Mrs. R.E. (Lydia Hewitt) 407 E. 16th Hutchinson, KS 67501	662-1103
Taggart, Mrs. B.D. (Donna Wilson) 504 E. 7th Hutchinson, KS 67501	662-6737
Vernon, Mrs. Arden (Sally Bradshaw) Box 356 Turon, KS 67583	
Vincent, Arlene 1010 N. Madison Hutchinson, KS 67501	662-8693
Walters, Mrs. John G. (Ruth) 12 E. 28th Hutchinson, KS 67501	663-3961
Wells, Everett H. 608 E. 8th Hutchinson, KS 67501	662-7852
Wheeler, Esther C. (Christmore) 122 W. 18th Hutchinson, KS 67501	662-2867

Wilson, Elisabeth 1026 Erial Avenue Torrance, CA 90503

Wintersteen, Mrs. Elmo (Nona Ginn) 310 E. 14th Hutchinson, KS 67501

662-3165

DATES TO REMEMBER

15 September 1980 - ROGS Meeting. Jack Robertson, Reference Librarian Hutchinson Public Library will discuss library usage.

19-27 September 1980 - Kansas Council bus trip to Salt Lake City.

28 September 1980 - Open House, Salina Genealogical Society. Lydia Streeter has details. 662-1103.

6 October 1980 - RCGS meeting - Library.

8-9 October 1980 - Kansas Genealogical Society, Dodge City fall meeting. Richard Lackey will speak on "Research in the Deep South".

20 October 1980 - Everton Workshop 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM. Emporia Recreation Center. For details contact Marilyn Johnson, President Flint Hills Genealogical Soc., 1407 Patrick, Emporia, KS 66801.

17 November 1980 - RCGS Meeting. Speaker will be Esther Griswold on using DAR records.

From our Exchanges:

"Genealogy", a publication of the Family History Section Indiana Historical Society: February 1980 issue has "Researching in Maryland", and "How to Become a Certified Genealogist". April and May 1980 have articles about "Research in Virginia" and "Do You Have Kentucky Origins?" listing Kentucky periodicals. August 1980 has "New York City: A Genealogical Resource", "A Guide to Ohio County (IN) Records for Genealogical Research" and "Polish Ancestry".

These excellant publications can be found on the shelves of the Hutchinson Public Library.

Ancestors Unlimited, McCook, NB says "Mr. Howard Hill has started a new daily (except weekends) newspaper covering news in Lafayette and Ray Counties. He will print queries. Write: The Daily News, P.O. Box 100, Richmond, MO 64085 or P.O. Box 202, Lexington, MO 64067.

The Canadian County Genealogical Society, El Reno, OK will accept queries for their quarterly at no charge. Send to: Mrs. Virginia Lang, Editor of Canadian Co. Connections, P.O. Box 886, El Reno, OK 73036.

San Diego Genealogical Society will publish queries free of charge. Write: Mrs. T.L. Faircloth, 6030 Kelton Ave., La Mesa CA 92041.

Eastside Genealogical Society in Bellevue, WA will do research of cemetery records in the Seattle area for a SASE. Write: Lois Lemon, 15802 S.E. 10th, Bellevue, WA 98008.

If you cannot get rid of the family skeleton, you may as well make it dance.

--Bernard Shaw

AUGUST 1980

QUERIES

Seek information on parents or family of Rosella (Rhoda) JACKSON b 15 April 1862 Terre Haute, IN. Marr Shadrick H. MOCK 2 Feb 1877 Clark Co., IN. Her bros were: David, Lonzo, Kallupp, Charley and her step sister is Ellen. Delma ASHCRAFT, 16 Truman Dr., So. Hutchinson, KS 67505.

Morris Mahlon <u>BALSER</u> b 15 Mar 1878 last known Bethel, KS. Moses Melville <u>BALSER</u> b 29 Mar 1872 last known Ringwood, OK Parents were John Mahlon <u>BALSER</u> b 30 Oct 1844 and Mary Stacey <u>MORRISON</u> b 24 Dec 1843 from Deputy, Scott Co., IN. Ruth M. <u>WALTERS</u>, 12 E. 28th, Hutchinson, KS 67501.

Would like to contact descendants of John B. <u>BROWN</u> who was mayor of Hutchinson in 1800s. Betty <u>BROWN</u> <u>LAES</u>, P.O. Box 10054, Bainbridge Island, WA 98110.

(Malinda PETERSON notes that according to "Historical Reference of the city, Hutchinson, Kansas" compiled by the Midwest Publishing & Distributing Co. 1931, BROWN was mayor in 1874 and 1875 (pp 9 and 10). On p 16, "1882 - J.B. BROWN a principal one who was responsible for the Opera House built by Public Subscription. Built on the Rorabaugh-Wiley Corner - two story building - Opera on second floor." The book also states on pp 16, 19 & 20 that he was Councilman in 1883, 1886 and 1887.

Some signings from the guest book in the Hutchinson Public Library:

CRANDALL, POTTER, DIX - H.L. POTTER, 634 Dordan Ct. Gurnie, IL 60031.

SHAW - Sarah and Harry I. Ch: Maggie PREASE, Jennie DAVIS, Nellie SHAW, Virginia AUSTIN, Rte. 1, Box 21, Liberty, KS 67351.

WHITE, THOMAS CALLISON, COLLISON - Grant WHITE, 121 W. Cleveland, Sterling, KS 67579.

McGONIGLE, MOTTER, BENNETT, SPEES, BROWN-EWELL, HUFFER, DAVIES, RITCHA, BOYER, LA-TIMER, PREWITT - Janet RITCHA, 226 S. Rhodes, Pretty Prairie, KS 67570.

ROUSH, NECHZERKEL, SIEGRIST, PULEC, HOOVER Mrs. Clarence HOOVER, 1079 5th, Phillipsburg, KS 67661.

BALDWIN, JENKINS, HODSON, STEPHENS - Margaret CHILDS, 404 N. Peabody, Nickerson, KS 67561.

LUTZ, WALTERS, GREATHOUSE, TUCKWOOD, RIC-SECKER, ROYER, THOMPSON, JAMES, HEARN, ADAMS - Wanda HEARN, Rte. 1, Box 53, Stafford, KS 67578.

MILLIRON, MISSISON, HUHLEISEN - W. PA, NW VA 1750 thru 1880 then IL. James H. Ar-TERBURN, 600 Columbia Dr., Hutchinson, KS 67501.

Reno County Gebealogical Society (Inc.) P.O. Box 5 Hutchinson, Kansas 67501

Jayne (Koepke) Purcell, Editor