

No History OK 3
Then Kansas Was Young. *where to put this*

Q. 1
I am not indifferent to this opportunity to speak to this fine group of young Jayhawkers. Many of you no doubt, nearly all perhaps, have been born in Kansas and any one born in Kansas has been well born. And anyone who has become infatuated with its hills and valleys, with its prairies and plains, with this fine salubrious climate where the rigors of the north are met and turned aside by the bland softness of springtime, will never be content to live anywhere else. They may wander, they may roam, but they will return again to their first love. For Kansas is like some women, whom to have loved renders it impossible to love again.

Franklin crossed our state three times and he wrote into the log of his journey that Kansas was a great desert, so parched and barren that a crow could not fly across it unless he took his rations with him. Pike crossed our state in 1806, outfitting at St. Louis, he entered Kansas about halfway between Kansas City and the south-east corner of our state. Here he secured Indian guides and travelling in a northwesterly direction, he came to the Pawnee Indian village in Republic County, Kansas, along the north line of our state. Here he persuaded the Indian Chief to lower the Spanish flag and raised the Stars and Stripes for the first time over Kansas soil. The state now owns a part of 17 acres where they have erected a monument and the flag is always kept floating there. Pike's interpretation of the future usefulness of our state was a little more generous, for he said that he believed the time might come when our state would become suitable for raising goats. In the light of subsequent events this might be considered a prophecy foreshadowing the coming of Dr. Brinkley.

When I first beheld the sunlight Jefferson City, Missouri, was the farthest western point reached by railroad. Kansas City, Leavenworth and St. Joe were frontier trading posts. No bridge yet spanned the big muddy and all west was locked upon as a dark continent, fit only for a habitation of wild beasts and savage men. And the wise ones prophesied that the wild Indian and the wild buffalo, the wild bills and the Texas steer, the centipedes and the horn toads, would always have a home.

I have lived in Kansas continually since it was a territory. I have seen it grow and develop from an unbroken and unpeopled prairie over which ran the sunshine and the shadows. No other generation of men have witnessed such marvelous growth and development that has taken place in the brief period of a lengthened life, for it is indeed a long, long ways from the tallow dip to the electric light, from the slow moving canvas-covered wagon, to the Golden State Limited, from the overland stage coach to the automobile, from the pony express to the flying machine.

The history of Kansas proper begins with the passage of the Missouri Compromise, which provided that Missouri should be a slave state, and the territories of Kansas and Nebraska should be free soil. The South accepted this compromise under protest, abiding their time in the hopes that some lucky turn in the affairs of state might yet make Kansas a slave state and give to them a majority vote in the United States Senate. So they very cleverly conceived the idea that they would prevent the settlement of the Kansas territory by removing all of the Indian tribes east of the Missouri and Mississippi into Kansas, thus effectually shutting out settlement. So we find that they put into the Northeastern part of the state the Ioway tribe of Indians; west of the this tribe they located the Sack and Fox tribe of Indians; while still farther west was the Oto tribe of Indians. South of these reservations and reaching down to Ft. Leavenworth was given to the Kickapoo tribe of Indians, while south of the Kickapoo and north of the Kaw River was placed the Delaware Indians on a reservation of 2,600,000 acres. It was from this tribe that the Wyandotte Indians purchased their land of 38,000 acres when they were removed to Kansas in 1843 from the Upper Sandusky in the State of Ohio. While south of the Kaw River on a reservation 25 miles wide and reaching west almost to Topeka for quantity was set aside for the Shawnee Indians. While south of these were the Peorian, Illinois, Wene, and the Potawatcomie, the Muncie, and Chippewas.

