A BRIEF HISTORICAL STUDY OF THE STATE TEACHERS ASSOCIATION OF KANSAS

A THESIS

SUBMITTED TO THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND THE GRADUATE COUNCIL OF THE KANSAS STATE TRACHERS COLLEGE OF EMPORIA IN PARTIAL FULFILLMENT OF THE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE DEGREE OF MASTER OF SCIENCE

G. L. WAYNE BRITTON

Approved for the Major Department

46. Schrommel

Approved for the Graduate Council

A.E. Schrammed

DEDICATION

To the member of the K. S. T. A. -- the unknown teacher.

"Great generals win campaigns, but it is the unknown soldier who wins the war.

"Famous educators plan new systems of pedagogy but it is the unknown teacher who delivers and guides the young....He keeps watch along the borders of darkness and makes the attack on the trenches of folly and ignorance....

".... No one is more worthy to be enrolled in a democratic aristocracy 'king of himself and servant of mankind."

- Henry Van Dyke

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

To Dr. Edwin J. Brown, Director of the Graduate Division of the Kansas State Teachers College of Emporia, who suggested the study, and to Dr. H. E. Schrammel, Director of the Bureau of Educational Measurements, who acted as adviser, the writer is especially indebted. Also, the writer owes sincere gratitude to Mr. C. O. Wright who aided in the finding of certain materials.

W. B.

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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

Kansas had barely gone from a land of buffaloes and Indians into the stage which prepared it for statehood when the first educational meeting was held at Leavenworth in 1858 to select textbooks. Arising out of these meetings there came the first teachers' organisation in the state, which was formed at Leavenworth March 14, 1863, and despite a snowstorm which broke up the meeting, adopted a constitution on April 17. Invitations issued by this group resulted in the State Association being organized in the same year. Into the founding of the State Teachers Association and the attempts to nurture it into maturity has gone the same self-sacrifies and heroic actions that characterized the whole of Kansas history. Yet this institution, which started from the year that Kansas became a state and which has to some extent paralleled Kansas history and to some extent helped to create it, has no adequate study made of its history to place it before readers. Few persons, including its members, have even the faintest idea of the story of the seventy-five years of the development of the Association as it fought snowstorms, grasshomper plagues, influensa epidemics, lack of funds, and scarcity of members. Few know the work which outstanding men have contributed to the organization. Few realize the aims, the slow development, the widespread influence and the increasing accomplishments of the Kansas State

l C. H. Landrum, "State Teachers Association," History of the Educational System of Kansas to 1914. (A thesis for a Ph. D. at Kansas University, Lawrence, Kansas). Chapter 12.

Teachers Association.

Statement of the problem. This study intends to give a survey of the growth of the Kansas State Teachers Association through seventy-five years of development. In general it is intended to give (1) a general picture of the history of the Association; (2) the problems that the Association faced and how it overcame them; (3) the activities of the Association as they have grown and expanded; (4) the outstanding figures connected with the Association; (5) the services and membership as they have grown; and (6) a glance at the future possible development of the organization.

Importance of the problem. Any study of a group which has played such an important part in the educational development of Kansas will be vital. Such a study made available to every citizen will increase his appreciation of the work of the organization and make him more sympathetic toward its present endeavors. Too, if the knowledge were given to every member of the organization, it would result in extending his membership back into the past, it would present to him a picture of a growing, fighting organization which would increase his loyalty with resultant increases in his participation and respect so far as the Kansas State Teachers Association is concerned. The result on the organization itself might be an increased spirit and more effective service. Certainly, too, there may be needless features that should be eliminated or there may be essential reforms which need to be adopted, but any plans so formulated without a careful study of previous history will ultimately fail.

Although the cooperation between teachers has been to a great extent the product of the State Teachers Association there exists no continuous history of the development of that organization which might aid teachers and administrators to gain the perspective that comes from such a study.

organization into chapters. The subject matter of this study was so extensive that various points of emphasis had to be selected in order to give any unity to the thesis. It does not pretend to be a detailed history but rather a study of the development of the association. For the most part the topical rather than the chronological method of treatment was used. The second chapter deals with the evolution of the frame-work of government as it formally took place through constitutional revisions. The third chapter shows the development of the annual conventions as revealed in the time and place of meetings, the plan of the meetings, the speakers and topics, the growth in membership, and the policies which were favored as expressed through resolutions. The fourth chapter deals with the expansion of the services of the association through the various organs which it created and used. The fifth chapter treats the accomplishments of the organization, and the sixth chapter concludes with some suggestions further revealed by the study.

Review of previous studies. As the opening paragraph suggests little has been done to present a complete history of the Kansas State Teachers Association. John MacDonald in 1893 prepared a short history of the organization which was included in a larger history of education in Kansas. This gives a factual account of the early meetings. C. H. Landrum in a Doctor thesis for Kansas University also treated the history of education up to

this time, however, no one has attempted to trace the movements of the organization. Presidents of the association and editors of <u>The Kansas</u>

<u>Teacher</u> have referred to the history at times. Among these have been a speech by John MacDonald at the fiftieth annual meeting in 1912, an article by F. I. Pinet for the <u>Topeka Daily Capital</u> on the fiftieth anniversary and an article by C. O. Wright for the <u>Topeka Daily Capital</u> on the seventy-fifth anniversary.

Method of procedure. Since so little historical material has been assembled, materials had to be gathered from many sources, both secondary and primary. This was a research thesis. The Educational Index, The Reading Guide, and other topical guides were used to build up a preliminary bibliography. Then an overview of the entire field was gained by reading numerous articles on the subject. Using this overview, an outline was made of the divisions of the subject, the necessary limitations, and the points of emphasis. Using this outline, material was selected from an enlarged bibliography to develop the various points. The whole was then woven into an historical treatise from a topical and present time standpoint.

John MacDonald, "Looking Backward," The Western School Journal, 29:12-14, December 1912.

Frank 1. Pinet, "The Kansas State Teachers Association Is the Best of Its Kind in the Country," The Topeka Daily Capital, August 25, 1929, p.6.

C. O. Wright, "The Seventy-Fifty Anniversary of the Kansas State Teachers Association," The Topeka Daily Capital, November 4, 1938. p. 6.

Sources of data. The most important sources have been the reports of the work of the Kensas State Teachers Association as revealed in the bound and unbound volumes of The Kensas Teacher and The Western School Journal. Official programs, constitutions, and other articles were obtained at the Kensas State Teachers Association headquarters in Topeka. Finally, various Kensas histories, The Journal of the National Education Association, and interviews with persons authoritatively familiar with the history of the association were used to gain materials. This included such primary evidence as minutes of various meetings, programs, budget reports, and such secondary evidence as comments, surveys, speeches, and histories about the association.

CHAPTER II

THE EVOLUTION OF THE CONSTITUTIONAL GOVERNMENT OF THE KANSAS STATE TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

The original constitution. When the Kansas State Teachers Association held its annual convention in November, 1938, it celebrated its diamond anni-wersary. It was on September 29, 1863, at the call from the Leavenworth teachers organization that thirty-four teachers representing eleven counties met and founded the Kansas State Teachers Association. The meeting lasted three days during which time a constitution was adopted and put into operation by electing I. T. Goodnow, president; Orland Sawyer, recording secretary; R. W. Putnam, corresponding secretary; and J. E. Platt, treasurer. Also a four-member executive committee and ten vice-presidents were elected. This original constitution set up the framework of the organization.

Revisions of the constitution. The membership of the association has grown from the thirty-four charter members to an official estimate of March 1, 1938, of seventeen thousand seven hundred and fourteen members. The prom a business limited in 1864 by a six-dollar balance and fifty-three

John MacDonald, and others, The Columbian History of Education in Kansas (Topeka, Hamilton Printing Company, 1893), p. 89.

Henry Barnard, "Kansas State Teachers Association," The American Journal of Education, 16:385, June, 1886.

⁵ F. L. Pinet, "The Kanses State Teachers Association Enters Its Seventy-Fifth Year and Prepares for Its Diamond Jubilee Convention," The Kanses Teacher and Western School Journal, 47:14, May, 1938.

penditure⁵ of \$68,788.61. Consequently, some changes in the original constitution have come to make provisions for improved efficiency in handling the growing business and growing membership as well as to encourage that growth.⁶ Still other changes have come apparently to counteract the criticism that the teachers were not given enough participation in the affairs of the association and that the management of the association was not democratic enough. These changes in the original constitution took place in the years 1876, 1882, 1888, 1915, 1920, 1923, 1926, 1928, 1931, 1935, 1936, and 1938. Of these, the revisions of 1876, 1913, and 1936 appear to merit the most consideration because of their basic revisions.

The revision of 1876. A committee was appointed in 1876 to provide for chartering the organization and to make recommendations for revising the constitution in such a manner as that step might require. The most important change made in the newly chartered, non-stock, State Teachers Association was found in Article II of the constitution adopted at the 1876 special meeting:

"Supreme power shall be vested in a Board of five Directors who shall elect annually a president, one vice-president from each organized county in the state, a recording secretary, a treasurer,

⁴ MacDonald, loc. cit.

⁵ C. O. Wright, "An Abridged Report of the Kansas State Teachers Association Board Meetings," The Kansas Teacher and Western School Journal, 46:7, January, 1958.

^{6 &}quot;Program of the Educational Council," The Kansas Teacher and Western School Journal, 12:10, December, 1920.

and an executive committee composed of three members. The Board shall select the time and place of meetings."7

The Board was chosen by ballot at the annual meetings. It would seem that this step of chartering the organization was taken in the interests of permanency and efficiency. A central organization now existed which could contract in the name of the association.

The revisions of 1882 and 1888. In 1882 a committee was appointed to revise the constitution but reported that it was unable to find any constitution. So in December, 1882, a new basic constitution was adopted. A revision of this constitution in 1883 apparently to make it more representative provided that a nominating committee was to select the officers but instead of the committee being appointed by the president it was to consist of one member from each congressional district elected by the members in attendance at the convention from the respective districts. The officers were to be: a president, a vice-president, a secretary, a treasurer, and an executive committee composed of five members with the president as chairman and the State Superintendent of Public Instruction as secretary.

The Constitution of 1913. Presumably, increasing membership and business made necessary some fundamental changes in the framework of

Gonstitution and Officers of the State Teachers Association of Kansas and the Papers Read at the Session (Topeka, Kansas State Teachers Association, 1877), pp. 1-46.

MacDonald, op. cit., p. 31.

Report of the Kansas State Teachers Association of the 27th
Annual Session (Topeka, Kansas State Teachers Association, 1889), pp. 1
et seqq.

government so in 1913 a new constitution was adopted. The Board of Directors was given executive authority. A provision was included that added the four persons who had served most recently as presidents of the associntion to the Board of Directors. 10 This was intended it would seem to add more experience to the Board. An Educational Council was created to represent the teachers in drawing up policies for the organization to pursue. Each organized teachers' association having an enrollment of not less than ten was allowed to send one delegate to the Council 11. Provisions were made for a permanent secretary to be employed to devote his whole time to the association work and an office was to be maintained the whole year in Topeka. 12 D. A. Ellsworth, the first permanent secretary, said of these revisions. "The year 1913 is worth underscoring in the history of Kansas."13 The headquarters maintained in Topeka with a secretary in charge has been a feature of the government of the Kansas State Teachers Association since that time. When Ellsworth resigned because of the failure of the association to increase his salary.14

John MacDonald, "Kansas State Teachers Association," The Western School Journal, 21:12, December, 1914.

¹¹ R. A. Kent, "Concerning the Proposed Amendments to the Constitution of the Kansas State Teachers Association," Kansas Teacher and Western School Journal, 17:26, October, 1923.

¹² D. A. Ellsworth, "A Declaration of Principles," The Kansas Teacher, 1:1, May, 1914.

¹³ D. A. Ellsworth, "The Reorganization and Program of the Kansas State Teachers Association," The Kansas Teacher, 1:20, October, 1914.

¹⁴ An interview with C. O. Wright, Assistant-secretary of the Kansas State Teachers Association at the Association Headquarters, June 8.

F. L. Pinet became the permanent or executive secretary. In 1916 Pinet edited his first Kansas Teacher as secretary and has held that position until the present time. 15

Revisions of the 1913 Constitution. The 1913 constitution was revised in 1917, 1920, 1923, 1926, 1928, 1931, and 1933. In 1917 a Council of Administration was added as an organ of the Kansas State Teachers Association. It continues to provide programs for the administrators of the state. In 1920, since at that time meetings were being held in four different cities, 17 each section was asked to elect a presiding officer who should be known as a vice-president of the association. In 1923 the Educational Council was discontinued because the complaint had arisen that persons who were not members of the association were helping to elect the delegates and some non-members were among the delegates. In its place was put a Representative Assembly whose delegates were elected by each section of the Association. 20 An amendment in 1926 allowed the

¹⁵ F. L. Pinet, "Mr. Ellsworth," The Kansas Teacher, 3:16, June, 1916.

[&]quot;Program of the Sixth Annual Session of the Council of Administration of the Kansas State Teachers Association," Kansas Teacher and Western School Journal, 16:9, January, 1923.

¹⁷ Cf. post. Chapter III, p 18 , Time and Place of Meetings.

[&]quot;Revised Constitution of the Kansas State Teachers Association," Kansas Teacher and Western School Journal, 12:54, December, 1920.

¹⁹ R. A. Kent, "Concerning the Proposed Amendments to the Constitution of the Kansas State Teachers Association, " Kansas Teacher and Western School Journal, 17:26, October, 1935.

²⁰ Loc. cit.

Representative Assembly to chose three persons for three year terms to the Board of Directors. The terms were to be "staggered" so that the Assembly would elect one member each year afterwards for a three year term. 21 An amendment in 1928 allowed the State Superintendent of Schools to be an ex-officio member of the Representative Assembly. 22 In 1931 the constitution was revised to remove the right of the Representative Assembly to elect three members to the Board. Also the basis of the election of the members to the Representative Assembly was changed. Each department of the Council of Administration was allowed to elect three members of the Assembly for three years with the terms to be "staggered". 23 In 1933 the executive committee was reduced in size from twenty-one members to nine, the minutes of the meetings were no longer to be published, and the Representative Assembly was eliminated as "unnacessary, uneconomical, and superfluous". 24 Behind that formal statement, however, lies a reason for the abolishment of the Representative Assembly which persons who are well acquainted with the history of the Kansas State Teachers Association say is the real reason. A more pressing motive would seem to be that the Representative Assembly began to level criticisms and suggestions at the Board of Direc-

²¹ Constitution of the Kansas State Teachers Association (Topeka, Kansas State Teachers Association, 1926), pp. 1 et seqq.

Constitution of the Kansas State Teachers Association (Topeka, Kansas State Teachers Association, 1928) pp. 1 et seqq.

Constitution of the Kansas State Teachers Association (Topeka, Kansas State Teachers Association, 1931), pp. I et seqq.

M. E.Pearson, Chairman, "Amendments Proposed to the Constitution of the Kansas State Teachers Association," <u>Kansas Teacher and Western School Journal</u>, 37:27, October, 1933.

tors so persistently that the Board decided to remove this "pestilence." 25

The Constitution of 1936. In the 1936 convention a constitution was adopted which declared the 1913 edition and its revision null and void. 26 The complaint had arisen that there was not "sufficient opportunity for teacher participation in the affairs" and that the "management was not as democratic as it should be." An editorial in the Kansas Teacher upon the adoption of the new constitution by a vote of 4,364 to 123 best expresses the organization changes:

"The new constitution differs from the old in four major respects: first, in the provision for sectional and state delegate assemblies; second, in the specific provision for classroom teachers as members of the board of directors; third, in the limiting of the Board of Directors to three consecutive terms; and fourth, in the creation of new standing committees."28

Under the new constitution the basic unit of government became the delegate assemblies. The members of the Sectional Delegate Assembly are elected by counties, first and second-class cities, and four-year colleges-one delegate is elected for the first twenty-five voters and one additional for each fifty additional voters. The Sectional Assembly elects a presid-

²⁵ Interviews with C. O. Wright and W. D. Ross, Assistant-secretary of Kansas State Teachers Association and former member of Board of Directors of Kansas State Teachers Association.

²⁶ W. L. Rambo, chairman, "A New Constitution and By-Laws for the Kansas State Teachers Association," <u>Kansas Teacher and Western School Journal</u>, 42:15, May, 1936.

²⁷ F. L. Pinet, "Shall the Kansas State Teachers Association Have a New Constitution?" Kansas Teacher and Western School Journal, 43:94, October, 1936.

²⁸ C. O. Wright, "An Editorial," Kansas Teacher and Western School Journal, December, 1936.

Association and a member of its Convention Program Committee. The Sectional Delegate Assembly meets in connection with each convention section.

Amendments to the constitution may be proposed by any Sectional Assembly on a petition of fifty of its members and may be adopted by a two-thirds wote of those voting at the assembly. The constitution was thus amended in 1938 to say: "If any unit lacks full representation, the administrative head has as a duty to appoint to fill out the quota." Each Sectional Assembly elects twenty per cent of its members to attend the State Delegate Assembly which meets in connection with the Council of Administration.

The State Assembly holds programs and suggests policies for the Board to pursue. Either delegate assembly may make recommendations and present petitions to the Board but their power is only that of recommending and petitioning along with discussing and, perhaps, in the Sectional meetings, amending.

The Board is composed of one person from each congressional district and one classroom teacher elected by each Sectional Delegate Assembly.

No member of the Board may serve longer than three terms of two years each in succession. The Board elects the president in its December meeting for a one-year term. An amendment which the Board may ask the Delegate Assemblies to vote on would result, if passed, in the president taking office March 1st. This change is proposed to give a longer time to prepare for the Council of Administration meetings which occur in February. The

²⁹ F. L. Pinet, op. cit., pp. 94-102.

³⁰ Interview with C.O. Wright, Assistant-Secretary to the Kansas State Teachers Association.

Executive-Secretary who serves a two-year term is usually elected in the June meeting of the Board. Since 1935, by the action of the Board, the association has employed C. O. Wright as the Assistant Secretary. F. L. Pinet receives a salary of \$4,800 and has the help of eight other members in the association headquarters besides Mr. Wright to carry on the business of the association.

Five standing committees now exist. They are auditing, convention program, research, legislative, and professional relations.

The presidents of the association. As Table I shows seventy-seven men have served as presidents of the Kansas State Teachers Association. In 1870 and 1881 special meetings were called with special presidents presiding. J. O. Hall served as president during the World War period so his term continued during 1918 and 1919. Three women have served as presidents. Thirty-four of the presidents have been city superintendents, twelve of them have been college presidents, twelve of them have been college professors, nine of them have been county superintendents, four of them have been State Superintendents of Public Instruction, three of them have been high school principals, one has been a magazine editor, and one has been a court judge. The names of all of these men appear quite frequently in the history of the association in other kinds of work besides the presidency.

³¹ Program of the Diamond Anniversary Convention (Topeka, Kansas State Teachers Association, 1938) pp. 23-24.

TABLE I
PRESIDENTS OF THE K. S. T. A.

Year	President	Year	President		
1863-64	I. T. Goodnow	1901	W. M. Sinclair		
1865	H. D. McCarby	1902	J. H. H111		
L866	O. Sawyer	1908	A. S. Olin		
L867	Peter MoVicar	1904	A. H. Bushby		
L868	B. F. Midge	1905	T. W. Butcher		
L869	B. J. Erewer	1006	D. M. Bowen		
L870-June	I. J. Banister	1907	W. S. Pickens		
L870-December	J. E. Platt	1908	J. E. Boyer		
L871	Philotus Falos	1909	C. S. Risdon		
L878	John Fraser	1910	Frank Strong		
L873	J. W. Homer	1911	M. E. Pearson		
L874	W. C. Rote	1018	H. J. Waters		
L875	E. F. Robinson	1913	W. S. Heusmer		
L676	H. C. Speer	1014	L. A. Lowther		
L877	L. B. Kellogg	1915	Lillian Scott		
L878	A. B. Lemmon	1916	L. W. Mayberry		
L879	J. Marvin	1017	W. M. Johnson		
LOBO	L. A. Thomas	1918	J. C. Hall		
1881-June	W. A. Wheeler	7870	J. O. Hall		
LBG1-December	W. Bishop	1920	olwal .A .Y		
1882	G. T. Feirchild	1921	A. E. Lunceford		
Lass	F. A. Fitzpetrick	1928	J. W. Miley		
1084	A. R. Taylor	1923	E. L. Holton		
L865	J. H.Canfield	1984	S. P. Rowland		
L686	P. J. Williams	1925	As J. Stout		
L887	T. W. Conway	1.926	C. E. Rarick		
L888	H. G. Larimer	1927	J. W. Gowens		
L889	J. N. Wilkinson	1988	M. P. Van Zile		
L890	D. E. Senders	1989	L. W. Brooks		
1801	D. S. Pence	1,030	Rees H. Mughes		
L892	J. E. Klock	1931	C. W. Smick		
1893	W. Winans	1038	Ira J. Bright		
1894	W. M. Davidson	1068	G. E. St. John		
L895	J. Districh	1936	L. H. Petit		
1896	G. W. Kendrick	1935	Dele Zeller		
1897	J.W. Posira	1938	R. V. Phinney		
1898	J. MacDonald	1957	G. H. Marshall		
1899	F. R. Dyer	1936	W. A. Prandenbur		
1900	E. T. Pairchild	1939	E. E. Evans		

Compiled from Columbian History, Western School Journal, Kansas Teacher, and U. S. Cifice of Education Bulleting.

Conclusion. Today the affairs of the Kansas State Teachers Association are nominally in the hands of a president elected for a one-year term but primarily in the hands of a Board of Director of twenty-three members. The staff of ten members in the association headquarters at Topeka handle the daily affairs of the association and most of its relations with the public. In addition the sectional delegate assemblies with approximately two hundred members and the state delegate assembly with about fifty members help to direct the policies of the association along with the standing and special committees.

CHAPTER III

THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE KANSAS STATE TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

The annual meeting. One of the cutstanding activities of the Kansas State Teachers Association in 1939 will take place when teachers from all over the state will be dismissed from school on Thursday and Friday so that they may convene in the six cities set aside by the Board as meeting places for the annual conventions. The development in these meetings has been concerned mainly with the time and place of meeting, the plan and organization of the meetings, the speakers and topics of the convention, the membership or attendance at the meetings, and the policies which the members endorsed at their meetings.

Changes in the time and place of the annual meetings. In the early years of the organization various months were tried as meeting times. At first vacation days were used for the meetings. In 1863 and 1864 the meetings were held in September and July respectively. From 1865 through 1868 July was the convention time. From 1869 through 1870 the conventions were held in June. Then for three years December became the meeting date. Then August was tried for three years. From 1876 through 1881 the meetings were again held in June. Them 1882 to 1908 the last week in December became the regular meeting time. In 1909 the schools were dismissed the

I John MacDonald, and others, op. cit., pp. 29 et seqq.

Z John MacDonald, "Kansas State Teachers Association," Western School Journal, Vols. VIII to XXIV, pp. 331 and 32.

latter part of the first week in November in order that the teachers might convene. Thus was set the precedent for since that time the meetings have been held in November. Until the year 1881 the convention was held in various cities although all of the cities were in Northeastern Kansas. In the order in which meetings were held in them the following places were convention cities: Leavenworth, Topeka, Atchison, Lawrence, Emporia, Manhattan, Wyandotte, Humboldt, Ottawa, and Valley Falls. From 1881 to 1919 the conventions met in Topeka. In 1919 the Board inaugurated a four meeting plan. In 1929 the conventions were divided into six sections and held in six different cities. In 1936 the conventions were held in eight different cities although that plan has not been followed consistently since. Under the six city plan three programs are prepared and the cities in groups of two alternate the speakers. The cities which have been chosen under the multi-meeting plan have been: Parsons, Topeka, Independence, Wichita, Hutchinson, Hays, Dodge City, Kansas City, Garden City, Manhattan,

F. W. Blackmar, Cyclopedia of Kansas History (Chicago, Standard Publishing Company, n. d.), Vol. II, p. 801.

⁴ MacDonald, and others, loc. cit.

⁵ Blackmar, loc. cit.

⁶ C. E. Rarick, "Accomplishments of the Kansas State Teachers Association," Kansas Teacher and Western School Journal, 34:5, March, 1952.

⁷ F. L. Pinet, "Thumb Nail Sketches," Kansas Teacher and Western School Journal, 29:26, October, 1929.

⁸ F. L. Pinet, Report of the Secretary of Kansas State Teachers
Association to the Board (Topeka, Kansas State Teachers Association,
December 5, 1936) p. 2.

Lawrence, Winfield, and Salina. Presumably, the cities are picked according to spatial distribution of teachers. Along with the dividing of the convention into sections held in different cities has come an increase in the membership of the Kansas State Teachers Association.

Changes in the plan and organization of the conventions. When the convention met in the six different cities in 1933 there were two general sessions held on the first day - one in the morning and one at night. Friday afternoon the following round table meetings were held: art, biology, physiology and hygiens, board of education, cadet teacher training, commerce, county superintendents, elementary school principals, English, geography, Girl Reserve, health, Hi-Y, Home economics, primary, social studies, speech and dramatics, ungraded room, vocational guidance, industrial arts, intermediate grades, Latin, library and study hall, mathematics, modern languages, music, P. T. A., physical education, physics, chemistry end general science, and printing. Altogether there were thirty-one round tables. On Saturday morning there were seven department meetings consisting of: college, senior high, junior high, rural and third class city high, intermediate grades, rural school, and primarykindergarten. 10 The general sessions were addressed by featured speakers as were the department meetings. The round tables tended more to the open forum style. Apparently the attempts of the meetings have been to provide more and more specialized speakers and branches. A glance at

⁹ Cf. post., Chapter III, p 28, Expansion in the membership.

^{.10 &}quot;Official Preliminary Program," Kansas Teacher and Western School Journal, 37:28-36, October, 1933.

the history indicates that such has been the growth.

Some of the specialized meetings appeared during the 1800's. the year 1874 the common school, high school, and college sections were created. In 1885 rearrangements were made in the program schedule so that department meetings were held in the forencen and general sessions in the afternoons and evenings. 12 The primary and kindergarten departments were established in 1891. 13 When the 1909 meeting was held there had been organized the following departments: college and high school. primary and kindergarten, and common and graded school. 14 Also in the 1909 meeting there appeared the following round tables: city superintendent, pedagogy, English, history and sociology, science, music, and Latin and Greek. 15 By the year 1914 there were five general sessions, five sections, and nineteen round tables. In the 1922 meeting one central there was carried out through the general sessions, the department meetings, and the round table discussions, also one general session was set aside strictly for Kansas speakers. 17 By 1933 these meetings had grown to the proportions described at the beginning of this topic.

¹¹ John MacDonald, and others, loc. cit.

¹⁸ Ibid.

¹³ Ibid.

John MacDonald, "Kansas State Teachers Association-47th Session," Western School Journal, 26:31, January, 1910.

¹⁵ Thid.

¹⁶ Ellsworth, October, 1914, Loc. cit.

J. W. Miley, "Concerning the Fifty-ninth Annual Session of the Kansas State Teachers Association," Kansas Teacher and Western School Journal, 15:7, June, July, 1982.

Kinds of speakers and topics of the conventions. In the Kansas Educational Journal for June, 1864, appeared this announcement:

"The first annual meeting of the State Association will be held in the city of Topeka on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday the 19th, 20th, and 21st of July.

"Lectures, essays, and reports upon interesting educational topics will be presented by some of the most eminent educators of the State.

"Ample arrangements have been made to accommodate teachers and friends of education, gratitously." 18

An executive meeting held October 2, 1863, had set the meeting for that date and had outlined the following program: On Tuesday morning two papers were to be presented on the topics, "Teaching one of the Learned Professions," and "Why Should Females Study Chemistry?" In the afternoon a paper was to be presented on "Moral Instruction." On Wednesday morning the following papers were planned: "Calisthentics," and "The Teacher Should Study." Other papers to be presented were: "The Education of the Sexes Should Not Be Separated," "Practical Teaching," and "What Degree of Religious Instruction Is Desirable and Obtainable in Our Public Schools?"19

In the 1933 meetings the theme followed was "The Need for a Larger Professional Spirit Among Teachers in a Time of Peril." Two addresses were on the two general session meetings in each city. Topics of the meetings were: "Mud and Music," "Promoting Economic Security," "What Can We Eliminate?" "The Real Business of the School," "America Goes to School," and "What Price Youth?"

¹⁸ H. I. McCarty, "Kansas State Teachers Association," Kansas Educational Journal, 1:188, June, 1864.

^{19 &}lt;u>Ibid.</u>, p. 15g.

^{20 &}quot;Official Preliminary Program," loc. cit., October, 1933.

Again it appears that there has been an evolution toward more specialized programs. The number of general sessions decreased and the number of special meetings had increased. Also the organization had gone into the field of bringing in speakers of renown to address the members as the first session was addressed by Kansas persons and the 1933 session had many out-of-state speakers. Some of the topics indicate it would seem. as do the policies and activities throughout the history of the association, the problems existing in education at the time and the influence of social conditions on teaching. Some of the topics have a very familiar sound which would indicate that educational growth is not a matter of minutes accomplished in one convention but is a matter of years acquired by patient persistence. Perhaps, it indicates that there exist certain educational cycles which tend to recur. Some of the topics presented during the meetings in the 1800's were: "The American Inclination to Novelty as Manifested in the Teaching Profession."21 "Factor and Product."22 "English Grammar in the District Schools."23 "Moral Training in Public Schools." What Is a Practical Education?" Woman. Her

Zl John MacDonald, "Kansas State Teachers Association," Western School Journal, January 1895, p. 331.

Se Constitution and Officers of State Teachers Association of Kansas (Topeka, Kansas State Teachers Association, 1877) pp. 1 et seqq.

ES Ibid.

²⁴ John MacDonald, "Kansas State Teachers Association," Western School Journal, 12:331, January, 1896.

John MacDonald, "Kansas State Teachers Association," Western School Journal, 16:331, January, 1900.

Sphere and Mission," "The Female Teacher, Her Moral Influence,"26 "The Teacher and His Work." A comparison between the Fortieth and Fiftieth Sessions shows some of the evolutions during the 1900's. The 1902 session²⁷ had five general sessions at which a total of fifteen lectures and talks were given. In the 1912 session²⁸ there were four general sessions with a total of seven talks being given. The fortieth session had nine musical offerings and a Shakespearean recital, the fiftieth session had three musical recitals and a one-act operatic concert.

In the early meetings featured speakers appeared with sometimes only one on the program. On the program in 1873 was a lecture by W. T. Harris, Superintendent of the St. Louis Public School System. ED In 1879 J. Eaton, United States Commissioner of Education spoke. During the 1800's other featured speakers appeared: Margaret Hill McCarter, a member of the Kansas State Teachers Association had a part on the 1898 program. An indication of the type of speech which Captain J. G. Waters gave on the 1899 program can be gained from his final words: "In perennial bronze I want to see erected the effigy of the seraph...celestial, angel, all divine, yet all human, nighest heart and nearest heaven, The

Henry Barnard, "Kenses State Teachers Association," American Journal of Education, 16:387, June, 1866.

Program of the Kansas State Teachers Association, (Topeka: Kansas State Teachers Association, 1902) pp. 1-15.

Program of the Kansas State Teachers Association, (Topeka: Kansas State Teachers Association, 1912) pp. 1-15.

²⁹ John MacDonald and others, op. cit., p. 35.

⁵⁰ Loc. cit.

⁵¹ John MacDonald, "Kensas State Teachers Association," Western School Journal, 15;331, January 1899.

Kansas School Marm. "32 President Bryan King of King's School of Oratory at Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. was another speaker on this program. During the early 1900's these were featured speakers: 33 Dr. E. E. Sparks, professor of history at the University of Chicago; W. A. White; Dr. A. E. Winship: Dr. H. Canfield; and G. Stanley Hall. In the 1909 meeting the following array of speakers appeared on the program: Dr. E. A. Ross of Wisconsin; Dr. A. S. Draper, New York State Commissioner of Education; Dr. E. A. Stiener of Grinnell, Iowa and J. W. Cook, president of Chio State University. Speakers of national renown who have since appeared on the programs include:34 Rabbi Stephen Wise: A. D. Albert, president of Rotary International; W. Mather Lewis, president of George Washington University; E. E. Slosson, scientist; Will Durent, philosopher; Richard Halliburton, adventurer: Staurt Chase: David Starr Jordan: Glenn Frank: Paul V. McNutt: G. P. Nye; H. L. Caswell; G.B. Oxnam; Lloyd C. Douglas; A. E. Wiggam: Dr. Boyd H. Bode: Carl Sandburg: Wm. John Cooper: W. T. Foster: and Dr. D. A. Poling. In 1909 six out-of-state speakers appeared on the program. 55 in 1914 nine out-of-state speakers were invited to the convention.36 and by 1932 almost forty out-of-state speakers at a cost of about \$10.000 were invited.37

³² John MacDoneld, "Kansas State Teachers Association," Western School Journal, 16:331, January, 1900.

³³ Compiled from the Western School Journal, Volumes XVII to XXVI, (1901-1910).

Gompiled from The Kansas Teacher, Volumes XV to XXXIV (1922-1939).

John MacDonald, "Kensas State Teachers Association-47th Session," op. cit., p. 51.

³⁶ Ellsworth, loc. cit., October, 1914.

³⁷ Rarick, loc. cit.

Policies supported by resolutions. Another phase of the annual meetings was expressed in its resolutions. Today under the 1936 constitution the Delegate Assemblies and the various committees handle the resolving. However, previously the members of the conventions heard the report of a committee on resolutions and adopted or rejected the report. As in the case of the subjects of the speeches made at the conventions some of the resolutions have a very familiar sound. Some of the resolutions have related to professional qualifications such as the one of 1864 which asked that teachers institutes be held semi-annually, that of 1886 which maligned the county superintendents as the "black sheep" of the school system, and the one of 1896 which called for auxiliary normal schools to be established. The report of the resolutions committee in 1910 was adopted to say:

"There must be more and more rigid academic and professional standards of requirements for entrance into teaching work and we favor legislation making such requirements." 59

In 1912 the convention resolved that educational offices should be removed from politics and again in 1914 the resolutions called for the county and state superintendents to be taken from the influence of politics. In 1924 a resolution asked that efficient teachers be obtained for rural schools and that an annuity law be enacted. Other resolutions have dealt with moral phases such as the 1878 resolution which favored temperance, the 1884 resolution that asked that temperance instruction be given in the schools, that in 1888 which asked that teachers and pupils abstain

Resolutions to 1893 taken from The Columbian History from 1893 to 1914 from the Western School Journal and from 1914 to date from The Kansas Teacher.

Uestern School Journal, 26:32, November, 1910.

from tobacco, and the one in 1891 which urged more instruction on tobacco and alcohol. In 1912 this resolution was adopted:

"...the building of character is the real aim of the schools. We commend every effort of parents and teachers to develop in the youth of our state a high regard for constituted authority."40

A final group dealt with school conditions in general; in 1864 war was deprecated but a practical view was taken, in 1865 a state normal school was endorsed and greater care was urged in the choice of county superintendents, in 1866 a resolution favored admission of colored children into public schools; in 1870 the group favored teaching the Bible in the schools; and in 1872 they favored the creation of a State Board of Education to examine teachers and grant certificates as well as urging the establishment of a reform school. In 1892 more stringent truancy and compulsory education laws were demanded, in 1897 consolidation of weak districts was asked for, and as late as 1902 free high school tuition was demanded. In 1910 the resolutions committee said:

"We believe that it is vital to the efficiency of our schools... that...there should be more adequate provision of security and permanence of tenure in teaching positions in order that teaching may take its rightful place among the professions and that teaching as a life work may command as it should the best brains and best efforts of strong men and women."41

In 1912 the teaching of sex hygiens in the schools was commended, in 1913 the state uniformity of high school texts was opposed. At the 1914 convention the committee on resolutions said that the majority on the School Book Commission should be engaged in public school work, and

W. S. Heusner, chairman, Adopted Report of the Committee on Resolutions - Fiftieth Annual Session, (Topeka: Kansas State Teachers Association, 1912), pp. 1-12.

⁴¹ Whittemore, loc. cit.

inequalities in educational apportunities between rich and poor districts were deplored in 1930. Some of these resolutions have been written into law as Chapter V on Accomplishments of the Kansas State Teachers Association will show, others were temporary issues which did not outlive their time, and still others continue to demand the attention of educators and legislators of Kansas.

The expansion of the membership. One of the greatest problems which the Kansas State Teachers Association faced during the period from 1863 until the first high peak in 1889 was the securing of enough members and enough fees to continue the organization profitably. Many critical years in attendance were due to forces beyond the control of the association for as early as 1874 the grasshopper plague almost made the meeting fall through. In 1876 apparently the State Teachers Association faced a crisis for there was an attendance of only thrity-five persons so the meeting was adjourned to meet on December 25 at which time the first Board of Directors was elected. For awhile the association had tried the life membership plan but discontinued the practice in 1888. Finally the membership rose to one thousand two hundred and forty-three in 1889 which was called "the largest membership ever known in the history of state association anywhere."

⁴² John MacDonald, and others, op. cit., p. 30.

⁴⁵ Ibid., p. 31.

⁴⁴ Ibid., p. 35.

^{45 &}lt;u>Ibid.</u>, p. 36.

snowstorm caused the attendance to drop to four hundred and ninety.46 ever. gradual growth took place and in 1914 the Kansas State Teachers Association hit a "greatest meeting"47 with an attendance of five thousand two hundred and forty-five. In 1918 plans for an extension to a four meeting plan were cancelled due to a "flu" epidemic which resulted in the State Board of Health asking that the meetings be cancelled. 48 C. E. Rarick now a past president of the Kansas State Teachers Association in an article in The Kansas Teacher for March, 1932, summarized the growth when he says: "Up until twenty years ago the total membership of the Kansas State Teachers Association ranged from 500 to 1000. Since 1916 it has grown more or less steadily."49 Table II shows the growth in membership from 1921 when the National Education Association placed the Kansas organization as the state having the largest percentage of its population belonging to the local chapter. Since 1921 the membership has risen and fallen somewhat with a low of 73 per cent of the teachers being members of the association in 1934 when the depression was causing economic distress. In 1938, however. 94 per cent of the teachers of Kansas were members of the state association. Figure I indicates the comparative membership of the various counties of Kansas as it existed in 1927 and as it existed in 1937.

^{46 &}lt;u>Ibid.</u>, p. 37.

D. A. Ellsworth, "The Five Resolutions of the Educational Council," Kansas Teacher, 1:2, May, 1914.

Rarick, op. cit., p. 5.

⁴⁹ Loc. cit.

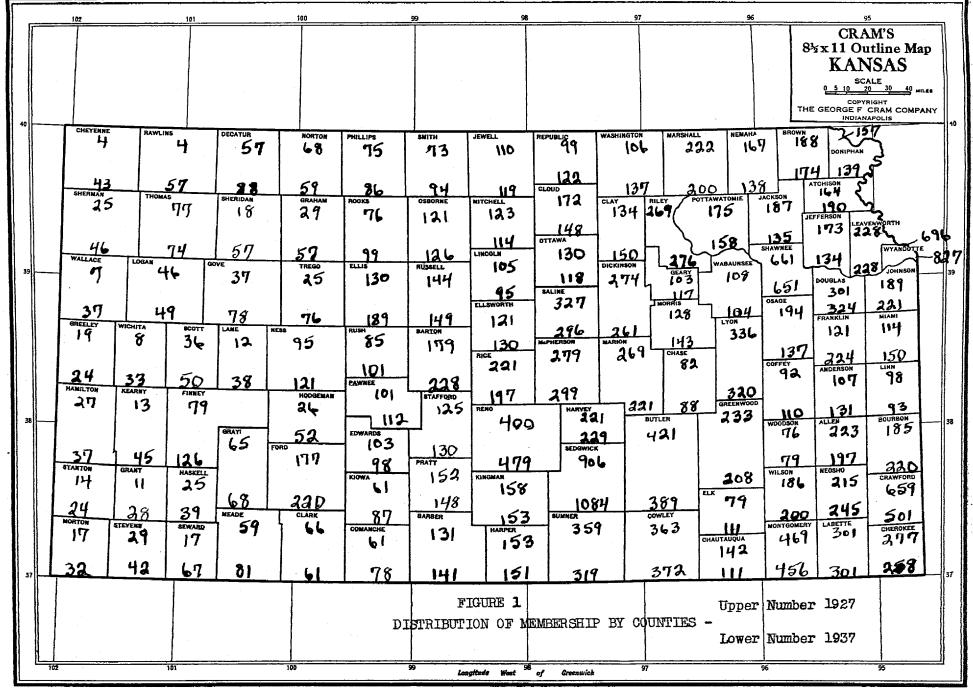
RECENT GROWTH IN MEMBERSHIP OF THE K. S.T. A.

Year	No.of members of K.S.T.A.	Per cent of teachers members of K. S. T. A.	Relative rank with other states on per cent
1920	12,591	WA 450	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
1921	13,301	75*	lst
1922	13,330	yah mili	A-1 400
1923	13,339	78.51	19th
1924	14,127	81.08	18th
1925	14,949	85.80	16th
1926	16,568	91.10	16th
1927	16,271	83.02	1.7th
1928	16,843	77.62	25th
1929	16,996	77 * 25	23rđ
1930	17,847	81.18	25.5
1931	17,848	87.05	1.7th
1932	17,640	87.76	18th
1933	17,173	83,	21st
1934	14,689	73.	28th
1935	16,282	88.	25th
1936	16,246	84.	30th
1937	17,219	89.	27th
1938	17,863	94.	23rd

^{*} Members per 10,000 population.

Compiled from the <u>Journal of the National Education Association</u>—starting with the November 1921 issue and concluding with the November 1938 issue.

From charts headed "Growth of Education Associations."



These figures would indicate that some of the Eastern counties had suffered an actual decline in membership over that period of ten years.

The early meetings did not draw even a small proportion of the teachers. The representation was almost entirely from the northeastern section and many local organizations were more powerful and had larger and more representative memberships. O. O. Wright, assistant-secretary of the Kansas State Teachers Association commenting on the Seventy-Fifth Anniversary of the association said:

"The growth of the state organization...had been dwarfed by the development of district teachers organizations which threatened to exert greater influence (by 1914) than the state association."51

There were nine districts which held annual meetings. Then in 1916 F. L. Pinet became the new permanent secretary, he studied the membership rolls and found that 75 per cent of the members lived within seventy-five miles of Topeka, the convention city. He began a campaign to interest all teachers. The result was one of enlarged membership and increased interest. The result was one of the four meeting plan the membership more than doubled. C. C. Wright says: "Within three years (after Pinet took office) the district associations were united in the state organization and lost their identity." It would seem then that the multi-meeting plan was one of the prime factors in the increase in membership which started about 1919.

⁵⁰ John MacDonald, "Look Backward", op. cit., p. 12.

C. O. Wright, "Seventy-Fifth Anniversary of Kansas State Teachers Association," op. cit., p. 6.

Milton Tabor, "Pilots Teachers to High Record of Achievement," Topeka Daily Capital, May 26, 1955, p. 9B.

⁵³ c. O. Wright, loc. cit.

CHAPTER IV

THE EXPANSION OF THE SERVICES OF THE ORGANIZATION

Services besides the annual meeting. The Kansas State Teachers Association has added organs to render certain services as it grew. The Reading Circle and the Placement Bureau will be discussed under Chapter V as accomplishments. The services include the publishing of an official magazine, apparently, for the purpose of preserving unity in the organization; the establishing of meetings to give the members a hand in determining the policy of the association; and the furnishing of an annual program for administrators: By way of summary the guide that finances furnish as to the increased services makes an interesting study.

The official magazine. Today The Kansas Teacher finds its way monthly, with the exception of the summer months, into the hands of all of the members of the Kansas State Teachers Association. The Kansas Teacher was begun as an official publication in 1914 when Volume 1 Number 1 was published with D. A. Ellsworth as editor. Previous to The Kansas Teacher, however, a magazine was one of the big worries of the association. When the state association was organized, H. D. McCarty became the editor of the Kansas Educational Journal which was first published in June 1864. It was to be devoted to science and education and published under the

¹ D. A. Ellsworth, Kansas Teacher, "A Declaration of Principles", 1:1, May, 1914.

H. D. McCarty, "Kensas State Teachers Association," Kansas Educational Journal, 1:188, June, 1864.

direction of the Kansas State Teachers Association. It was published monthly with a subscription price of one dollar an issue. From 1864 until 1885 the magazine suffered turbulent history. 3 At the meeting in 1866 after two years of existence it was found that the Journal was not paying for itself and that fact caused much dissention among the members. In 1867 L. B. Kellogg and H. B. Norton became the editors and publishers of the magazine presumably in an attempt to give it new life. In 1868 it was found that the editors were having to draw from their own pockets to keep the Journal going. Finally in 1869 the Journal was transferred to its editors for two years. When in 1870 the magazine was again published by the Kansas State Teachers Association, Banfield and Dilworth were chosen as editors of the Journal. However the problem was not solved for in 1871 the convention again discussed the magazine which was in trouble. In 1872 The Kansas Educational Journal, as such, disappeared when it was turned over to private hands. Apparently the Kansas State Teachers Association was unwilling to forgo an official publication for in 1876 a committee was appointed to raise the Journal from the dead. Finally in 1879 The Educationist made its appearance. Its editor was G. W. Hoss and its publisher was L. A. Wright who also acted as assistant editor. The Educationist was to be devoted to the school and the home. It was to be published monthly as an organ of the state department of public instruction and the State Teachers Association. State Superintendent McCarty

John MacDonald, and others, op. cit., pp. 29-37.

⁴ Landrum, op. cit., p. 110.

said in 1830: "I am delighted with the idea of having a state organ again. Our educational interests have suffered fearfully within the last six years for want of such an organ." However, the "magazine plague" made its reappearance and in 1835 George Hoss transfered his interest in the Educationist to the Educational Publishing Company of Topeka. From then until the first Kensas Teacher the events of the association were published in The Western School Journal edited by John MacDonald. However, it was in private hands and not an official organ of the association. In 1917 after the death of MacDonald the Western School Journal was combined with the Kansas Teacher. In 1916 F. L. Pinet edited his first magazine? for the association and has continued to do so with the assistance of C. C. Wright since 1935.

The publishing of the Kansas Teacher cost from \$1,000 to \$5,000 a month. In general it reports the activities of the association and things of education interest. The changes it has gone through consist mainly of an increase in size and in the number of articles. Also in October 1935

H. D. McCarty, "Foreword," The Educationist, December, 1880, the inside cover.

John MacDonald, "Notes," Western School Journal, 1:3, February, 1885.

F. L. Pinet. "Mr. Ellsworth." Kansas Teacher, 5:16, June. 1916.

Interview with C. O. Wright, Assistant-Secretary to the Kansas State Teachers Association.

F. L. Pinet, Brief for Speakers, (Topeka, Kansas State Teachers Association, 1935), pp. 10.

the <u>Kansas Teacher</u> appeared with its first table of contents and there also began a series of covers showing some of the school buildings of Kansas which were changes sponsored by Mr. C. O. Wright.

Membership representation organs. The Constitution of 1913 provided for an Educational Council to be composed of one delegate from each organized teachers' association having an enrollment of not less than ten. January 1914 at its first meeting the Educational Council outlined a program embracing five general propositions. The Council advocated: 1. a text-book law to give the teachers the right to use supplementary texts and to put a majority of educators on the Text Book Commission. 2. a change from the district taxation plan to a county unit plan. 3. a non-partizan ballot for state and county superintendents, 4. the standardization of high schools with free tuition, and 5. definite professional standards including the certification of teachers. An editorial in the Kansas Teacher said: "For the first time in its history the Kansas State Teachers Association enters upon a state-wide campaign. "10 The Educational Council continued to meet annually until 1923 when a Representative Assembly was put in its place because of the criticism that non-members of the association were helping to form its policies. 11 The delegates to the Assembly were to be elected by each section of the annual convention according to the numbers set by the Board. At its first annual meeting in March 1924 the Representative

¹⁰ Ellsworth, "The Five Resolutions of the Educational Council," loc. cit.

¹¹ Cf. ante., Chapter II, p 10, Revisions of the 1913 constitution.

Assembly drew up these resolutions to be submitted to the next Kansas State Teachers Association meeting: 1. They urged the creation of a National Department of Education, 2. They urged the legislature to pass an annuity law, 3. They favored a retrenchment of extracurricular activities to the end "that children may maintain a speaking acquaintance with their parents," 4. They urged more efficient teachers for rural schools. 12 In 1925 at a meeting in March the Assembly adopted a code of ethics for teachers which the association printed and sent out to the schools. By the time of the second annual meeting 13 of the assembly there had appeared committees to deal with resolutions, legislation, new plans, and code or ethics. By the fourth meeting they had added a research committee and a committee on group insurance. At the sixth annual meeting the Representative Assembly asked that the constitution be amended to let the assembly nominate three persons for the presidency of the association and then let the sections of the convention vote on those nominees instead of letting the Board do the entire selecting. In 1950 the Assembly deplored the brief and uncertain teacher tenure and the lack of provisions for teacher retirement. In May 1933 the attitude of the Assembly had changed toward extracurricular activities because they resolved that: "The schools should not be allowed to retrograde by the elimination of extracurricular activities." By this time the Assembly had had the constitution amended to allow them to elect three

Proceedings of the First Annual Meeting of the Representative Assembly of the Kansas State Teachers Association, (Topeka, Kansas State Teachers Association, 1924), pp. 8.

¹³ Taken from the Reports of the annual meetings as published by the Kansas State Teachers Association in pemphlet form.

members to the Board of Directors. 14 Gradually since that strong point in 1926, however, more and more power was taken from the assembly until in 1933 it was abolished by constitutional amendment. However, apparently criticism resulted from the complete lack of representation for in the 1936 constitution representation of the members was again provided for in the form of Delegate Assemblies. Also the Sectional Assemblies were given the power to help select members of the Board of Directors as the Assembly once did.

The Council of Administration. The Council of Administration held its twenty-second annual meeting in Wichita on February 2, 3, and 4, 1939. Since its first meeting in 1918, the Council has produced programs for the administrators of the state. The 1939 meeting consisted of the following departments: college, city superintendents, county superintendents, high school principals, elementary school principals, and supervisors. Before the 1936 constitution the Council also included a department of the class-room teacher. However, the State Delegate Assembly, presumably representing the classroom teacher meets at the same time as the council. Also a department for boards of education has been eliminated since the first meetings. In 1939 there were two general sessions, one Friday morning and one Friday evening at which three out-of-state speakers were featured. Also four out-of-state speakers appeared before the department meetings which were held in two sections. Some of the invited speakers who have

¹⁴ Cf. ante., Chapter II, p.11, Revisions of 1913 Constitution.

¹⁵ Twenty-Second Annual Meeting-Council of Administration, (Topeka, Kansas State Teachers Association, 1939, pp. 8-17.

appeared before the Council since it was inaugurated are: President L. D. Coffman of the University of Minnesota; Dr. W. W. Charters of the University of Chicago; Dean R. A. Kent of Northwestern University; Dr. Thomas Alexander of Columbia University; Dr. H. L. Caswell of George Peabody; R. M. Hutchins of the University of Chicago; Walter E. Myer of Washington, D. C.; Governor Paul V. McNutt of Indiana; Chancellor F. M. Hunter from the University of Denver; John Cooper, commissioner of Education of United States; and Professor E. Hudelson of the University of Minnesota. In connection with the Council there meet a number of allied groups including the Kansas State High School Activities Association, National Youth Administration, and various teachers groups.

Summary: Finances of the association as a guide to services: The expense account and income account of the Kansas State Teachers Association indicate, in general, the way in which the services have expended. In 1870 sixty-one dollars in dues and fees were collected, by 1878 these receipts from memberships had risen to one hundred and three dollars. 17 The total income 18 of the association in 1916 was about \$8,000, this had grown to \$15,000 in 1932. In 1936 membership fees brought in \$34,497.24. During that year \$113,771.05 was receipted as income and \$73,601.69 as spent. Approximately the total income of 1916 or \$8,000 was spent for the speakers

Taken from the programs of the Council of Administration as printed by the Kansas State Teachers Association.

¹⁷ John MacDonald, and others, op. cit., pp. 80-57.

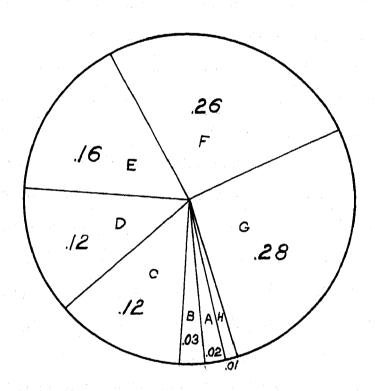
¹⁸ Rarick, op. cit., p. 5.

invited to the conventions. 19 The membership fee until 1912 was fifty cents a year. At that time, however, the fee was raised to one dollar a year. In 1919 the membership fee was raised to two dollars but in the same year the membership almost doubled due, perhaps, to the four-convention-cities plan. If plans now under consideration are put into operation, the fees will be increased with a minimum of two dollars and a maximum of three dollars according to a scale graduated on the basis on the salary of the teachers. The 1924 business report listed as sources 20 of income: membership, advertizing in the Kansas Teacher, and commissions from the Kansas Teacher Placement Bureau. As expenditures were listed: general admission, Kansas Teacher, Kansas Teacher Placement Bureau, platform talent, council of administration, Representative Assembly, and reserve fund. In the Kansas Teacher for March 1936 there appeared a division of the Kansas State Teachers Association dollar which is reproduced in Figure II which showed the amount of money allotted to various services from the average Kansas State Teachers Association dollar. This "pie" included: general admission. Kansas Teacher, research-legislation-publicity-organization, speakers for meetings, Kansas State Reading Circle, maintenance of building, office cars, and council of administration. Comparing these expenditures shows that since 1924 the Placement Bureau had been discontinued as a service, but a building, the Kansas State Reading Circle, and research-legislations publicity, as expenditures had been added.

F. L. Pinet, Report of the Secretary of Kensas State Teachers
Association to the Board, (Topeka, Kansas State Teachers Association, 1936),
pp. 1 et seqq.

Annual Business Report, Fiscal Year Ending November 30, 1924, (Topeka, Kansas State Teachers Association, 1924), pp. 1 et seqq.

(Figures to the nearest cent)



- A. Office Cars
- B. Maintenance of Building
- C. Kansas State Reading Circle
- D. Speakers for Meetings

 E. Research Legislation Publicity Organization

 F. Kansas Teacher

 G. General Administration
- Council of Administration

DIVISION OF K. S. T. A. DOLLAR

CHAPTER V

THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF THE KANSAS STATE TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

Statements indicating accomplishments. In the seventy-five years of the history of the association many persons have attempted to indicate its accomplishments. State Superintendent of Public Instruction Fresier said of the 1875 meeting: "The ability and earnestness with which important practical questions relating to the improvement of our common school system were discussed at the meeting do credit to the association and to the state." State Superintendent of Public Instruction Speer said in 1880 in his biennial report: 2 "Through its instrumentation (the Kansas State Teachers Association) much has been done toward unifying and systematizing the work of the graded schools, rural schools, and county supervision." In 1893 John MacDonald wrote: "Our excellent institute system, improvements in the law relating to county superintendents, a better examination law, the county high school act...can be traced directly to the resolutions and efforts of the association." F. W. Blackmer in his Cyclopedia of Kansas of Kansas History said: 4 "The general program of the state association brings before the teachers many of the best educators and lecturers of

A. T. Andreas, History of the State of Kansas, (N.P.) R. R. Donnelley and Sons, (N.D.) p. 274.

^{2 &}lt;u>Ibid., p. 274.</u>

³ John MacDonald, and others, op. cit.k p. 29.

F. W. Blackmer, Cyclopedia of Kansas History, (Chicago: Standard Publishing Company) (N.D.) 1:480.

the country." In 1912 the resolutions committee chairmaned by W. S. Heusner said:

"We look back upon the work of fifty efficient and valuable state associations...the three denominational schools increased to almost forty...the state institutions of learning multiplied in number from a single building or two to great cities of stone or brick, with an aggregate enrollment of 8,000...her high schools growing from a rude beginning into the hundreds, and offering the best known training and advantages to the young people of city, town, and village; more than 100 normal training schools for teachers, and domestic science and manual training offered in many cities;...teachers better qualified and buildings better equipped;...some significant and hopeful steps in consolidation of rural schools, compulsory attendance...truancy laws; extension of the course of study to meet modern needs, state aid for weak districts; longer terms of school; increased salaries for teachers-all this and much more."5

Additional accomplishments. Besides those mentioned these are achievements: the placing of about twenty-five hundred teachers in positions through the Kansas Teacher Placement Bureau which was created in 1921 and served until 1933; the buying of a headquerters for the association in 1926 and making the final payment in 1929 so as to establish permanent centralization at 315 W. 10th Street, in Topeka; the publishing of the Kansas Educational Journal, The Educationist, and the Kansas Teacher combined with The Western School Journal; the sponsering of the School Code Commission which investigated needed changes in school laws in Kansas; the aid in financing the Kansas State Program for the Improvement of In-

⁵ Heusner, op. cit., p. 2

⁶ F. L. Pinet, "The Kansas State Teachers Association Closes its Seventieth Year," <u>Kansas Teacher and Western School Journal</u>, 58:18, March, 1934.

⁷ C. O. Wright, "The Historical Background of the 1937 School Legislation," Kansas Teacher and Western School Journal, 45:13, May, 1937.

struction⁸ which was headed by Miss Dale Zeller and which attempted to improve the teaching in the schools in Kansas; the fight against teachers* oath bills, tax limitation, and maximum teachers salaries; and the running of the Kansas State Reading circle which did a business of \$55,000 in 1936. In addition the association prints a directory of school administrators, and various other phamplets of use to Kansas educators.

The growth in legislative accomplishments. The legislative accomplishments are a very significant phase. F. L. Pinot said that in the early days: "If the teachers felt keenly on any matter touching educational legislation they passed a mild resolution and everyone went home and forgot about it." The legislative angle, it would seem, answers that criticism. The year of 1907 seems to be the year when money was first appropriated to obtain legislation. At that time three hundred dollars were appropriated for a Governor's Commission which later recommended normal training in high schools and compulsory fire drills which became laws. In 1920 at the instigation of the Kansas State Teachers Association a special session of the state legislature raised the levy limits on all schools fifty per cent

⁸ W. T. Markham, Thirtieth Biennial Report of the State Superintendent of Public Instruction, (Topeka, Kansas State Printing Press, 1936), p. 5.

⁹ C. O. Wright, op. cit., p. 13.

¹⁰ F. L. Pinet, Report of the Secretary to the Board.

¹¹ F. L. Pinet, "The Kansas State Teachers Association Is the Best of Its Kind in the Country," The Topeka Daily Capital, August 25, 1929, p. 6.

¹² c. o. Wright, op. cit., p. 13.

because of the low rate of taxation which was fixed by law in the face of prices still scaring from war time. 13 The School Code Commission of 1921 had as an outcome of its recommendations the community high schools provided for in 1923. The Kansas School Library Lew of 1925 sponsered by the Kansas State Teachers Association has helped to raise the standards of rural libraries by requiring that each district shall spend not less than five dollars a year for books recommended by the State Superintendent of Public Instruction. 14 The State Certification Law of 1937 reduced the number of certifying agencies from 197 to 4 and the Text Book Act of the same year transfered the duties of the State School Book Commission to the State Board of Education and its advisory committee of professionals. The State School Code Commission of 1927 developed an equalization plan with the help of P. R. Mort of Columbia University whose expenses were paid by the Kaneas State Teachers Association. 16 Today the publicity work is attempting to persuade the Legislature of the need for a teachers retirement and pension law for Kansas.

Conclusion. It would be difficult to express what may have been the results of the Kenses State Teachers Association in fostering a better professional spirit and in advancing educational interests in general.

^{13 &}lt;u>Ibid., p. 13.</u>

¹⁴ Ibid., p. 14.

¹⁵ F. L. Pinet, "Educational Gains Accomplished in the 1937 Legislature," Kansas Teacher and Western School Journal, May, 1937, p. 7-10.

¹⁶ C. O. Wright, op. cit., p. 15.

CHAPTER VI

CONCLUSIONS AND SUGGESTIONS DERIVED FROM THIS STUDY

The growth revealed. Table III shows the important dates and events in the growth of the Kansas State Teachers Association. In all of the chapters emphasis has been placed upon how the association grew from small beginnings to its present importance. The reasons for and causes of this growth have been indicated in those chapters as they seemed to be. Also each chapter indicated the long range trends that have seemed to dominate the organization.

Constitutional trends. The constitutional changes have attempted to make for better management of the affairs for the association, to provide for an expanding membership as well as to encourage it, to provide for more democratic management of the organization without seriously impairing the power of the Board, however.

Annual meeting trends. The number of specialized branch meetings of the association have gradually increased as well as the number of out-of-state speakers invited to attend the association. The meeting time and places have grown to meet the need for more members. The resolutions have gradually gone over into attempts to have them more directly turned into legislation.

Expanding services. The association had added various extra organs during the twentieth century to add income, prestige, and services to its name. The finances have grown to where an additional fee for members may be necessary or else the contracting of some services.

TABLE III

K. S. T. A. MILESTONES

Date	Event
September 29, 1863	Kensas State Teachers Association founded
June, 1864	Volume one, number one The Kansas Educational Journal
July 19, 1864	First Annual Convention
1864	Gustom of recommending a candidate for State Superin- tendent begun
1865	Critics gave a list of errors of the meeting
1867	Resolution allowing women to vote at all school meetings
1874	Common school, high school, and college sections ereated
1876	First Board of Directors elected (Kansas State Teachers Association incorporated)
1877	Stopped recommending state superintendents.
1882	Topeka becomes annual meeting place
1888	Discontinued life membership plan
1891	Primary and kindergarten departments established
1899	Door closed while a speaker was on the floor
	Association photographed for the first time
1901	A committee appointed to arrange an exhibit at St. Louis World's Fair
1907	First money appropriated for legislation
1909	Schools dismissed in November for the Kansas State Teach- ers Association
1918	Fiftieth anniversary
1913	Permanent secretary provided for in constitution
1914	First session of the Educational Council
1914	Volume one, number one of the Kansas Teacher
1916	F. L. Pinet edits the <u>Kansas Teacher</u> as new permanent secretary
1917	The Kansas Teacher and Western School Journal combined
1918	First session of the Council of Administration
1919	Four meeting plan used
1920	Rech section to elect a vice-president of the association
January 1920	First major legislative victory - raising of levy limits
1921	Kansas Teacher Placement Bureau created
1922	One gentral theme carried out in the meetings
1923	Representative Assembly replaces the Educational Council
1925	Kansas State Reading Circle orested
1929	Sir meeting plan used
1929	Final payment on headquarters at 515 W. 10th, Topeka
1933	Committee on Continuing Program in Education created
personal with Staff	

Compiled from: Columbian History, Western School Journal, Kanses Teacher.

TABLE III, CONTINUED

K. S. T. A. MILESTONES

Date		Event
December,	1933	Board suspended activities of Placement Bureau
December,	1933	Kansas State Teachers Association appropriates aid for Five-Year Program
1935		C. O. Wright added as assistant-secretary
1936		Sectional and State Delegate Assemblies created: Classroom teachers to be on Board of Directors
1937		Text Book Law and Certification Law passed
1938		Eight meeting plan used
1938		Seventy-fifth Anniversary Convention

Compiled from: Columbian History, Western School Journal, Kansas Teacher.

Suggestions. In fulfilling the meeting plan of having several meetings to serve as many teachers as possible, the Board suggested an investigation of where the meetings should be held to encourage better attendance. This suggestion, it would seem, should be carried out to encourage more complete attendance on the part of some western counties at least since two meetings generally serve the whole of western Kansas extending from, say, west of Salina. In considering the plan to increase fees according to the salary of the teacher one question must be asked by those suggesting and those who would pay is: "Does a person with a higher salary get more services from the Kansas State Teachers Association?" If he does, he should not begrudge an addition to his fees. If he doesn't, then the fee becomes merely an arbitrary means for the association to gain more money to make up any deficits. If the latter is the case, members will object to the increase. Perhaps, as previously, just a general increase to apply equally to all would be the solution.

Another question that seems pertinent is: "Is the Kansas State Teachers Association an optional or a compulsory organization for most teachers?" Since schools are dismissed on Thursday and Friday so that the meetings may be held, do superintendents more or less require that teachers attend or are they allowed a real choice? This might make an interesting topic for investigation. If attendance is compulsory, it would seem that such a state would be injurious to the morale of the association.

The new constitution, it would seem, may have set up a machinery of government that is too complex resulting in confusions and cumbersomeness. Political science today emphasizes the need for simplicity and direct responsibility. Here is how the ordinary member fits into the scheme of government of the Kansas State Teachers Association: He votes in a congressional district along with a number of others for one member of the board while the other districts are electing members from their territory. He votes in his school unit for one, two, or perhaps three members to the sectional delegate assembly while other school units of Kansas are doing the same. The sectional assembly then choses one member of the Board. While the State Assembly holds a program and resolutes. The individual member unless a voting unit gives instructions to a delegate, now has no chance to make his wishes felt. Under this system of indirect responsibility since the action of all of the assemblies is limited to resoluting unless they can at a state assembly agree to try to amend the constitution, the individual member has really very little to say about what the association does. Past history of the association might indicate that the Board doesn't

mind if it is that way.

Conclusion. This thesis may have in some way conveyed the idea of the Kansas State Teachers Association despite any defects as a fighting, growing degenization which ought to demand the interested attention and loyal support of its present members.

¹ Cf. ante. Chapter II, p. 11, "Revisions of the 1913 Constitution."

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