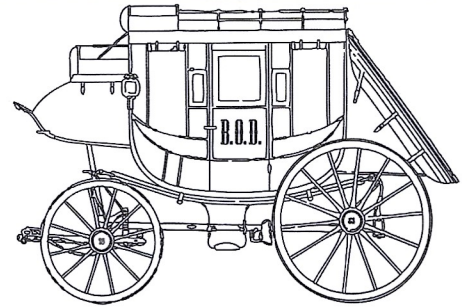


OVERLAND DESPATCH



Volume VIII No. 1

Remember the Smoky Hill Trail

Autumn 2015

DORMAN L. LEHMAN

Members may recall last year that Dorman Lehman, with the assistance of Vern Osborne, donated a valuable collection of maps and research to the SmHTA. It is our sad duty to report on the passing of Mr. Lehman.

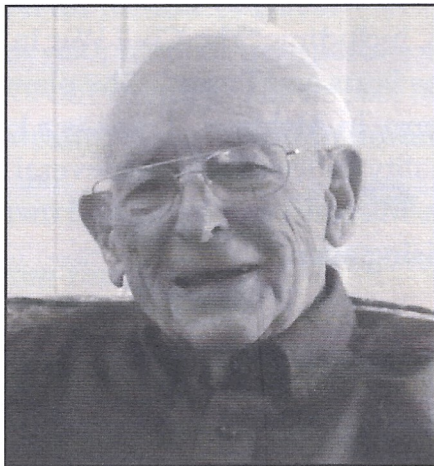
Dorman L. Lehman, 88, of Greeley, CO, passed away June 1, 2015 of vascular dementia at his home.

He was born and raised in Minnesota and lived in California, Kansas and Colorado.

He was a draftsman, home designer, historical researcher and a museum director. He worked at the Greeley Museum and Centennial Village in Greeley. He ran The Old Mill Museum in Lindsborg, KS and the Central School Museum in Grand Rapids, MN.

Dorman is survived by his daughter Kathy (Ken) Cochran of Greeley, son David Lehman of Flagstaff, AZ, two grandchildren and two great grandchildren.

Internment will take place in Itasca Cemetery in Grand Rapids, MN at a later date.



PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

We are still working on getting the upcoming conference plans all together. In spite of some bumps in the wagon road we have almost reached our destination. We started on this journey last October, 2014, at the end of the conference in Russell. Fortunately, we had an experienced and enthusiastic crew who volunteered to see the journey through to its end. The theme for the 2015 conference was chosen and we all rolled up our sleeves went to work. Among that hearty crew were Jim Gray, Mike Baughn, Kay Homewood, Jody Zeman, Bob Wilhelm, Sam Chestnut, Lem Marsh, Joanne VanCoevern, Ken Cole, and Leo Oliva. Along the way we lost the company and skills of Jody Zeman due to health challenges. We wished her well and a successful and speedy recovery.

A small group travelled to Atchison in late spring to make an onsite survey of the facilities there. We chose venues for the meetings, a site for the Friday night dinner, and met with city officials regarding the placement of a BOD marker at the approximate site of David Butterfield's operation. All of the officials welcomed us warmly and spent considerable time with us. They explained the necessary steps required to get approval for placing the marker. Several of those officials shepherded this project through the channels of city government and their help was invaluable. We are extremely indebted to them for making our dream come true. The marker will be prominently displayed in view of people driving the winding road through the riverfront park and those

(continued on page 3)



OVERLAND DESPATCH is the official publication of the Smoky Hill Trail Association, Inc., a nonprofit, 501(c)(3), corporation chartered in the State of Kansas. Primary missions of the Association are to preserve, protect, promote, and interpret the Smoky Hill Trail for the benefit of present and future generations, and to promote awareness of the historical legacy associated with the remnants and locations that represent the historic trail and Butterfield's Overland Despatch (BOD) and its successors as well as the railroad that replaced the overland trail. Letters and articles are welcome, and they become the property of SmHTA and may be edited or abridged at the editor's discretion. All rights reserved.

Membership in the Association is open to all individuals, families, institutions, and businesses. Annual dues are \$25.00 for individuals, \$30.00 for families, \$40.00 for nonprofit organizations, \$50.00 for businesses, and \$100.00 for patrons. Life membership, individual or family, is \$500.00 (may be paid in quarterly installments during one or two years). Membership fees should be sent to Smoky Hill Trail Association, PO Box 978, Hays KS 67601. Other donations are always welcome.

President:

Elton Beougher, 2608 B Augusta Lane, Hays KS 67601, 785-625-5703, <ebeoughe@fhsu.edu>

Vice-President:

Kay Homewood, 1223 N Front St., Russell KS 67665, 785-483-4796, <khomewood@ruraltel.net>

Secretary:

Mike Baughn, PO Box 159, Brewster KS 67732, 785-694-2278, <prairielawman@yahoo.com>

Treasurer:

Sam Chestnut, PO Box 313, Quinter KS 67752, <schest@ruraltel.net>

Newsletter Editor:

Robert Wilhelm, 413 Big Creek Dr., Hays KS 67601, 785-650-2074, <rjwilh@gmail.com>

Directors:

Ken Cole, 99 South Windsor, Russell KS 67665, 785-483-4713, <ken_cole@hotmail.com>

Jim Gray, PO Box 62, Ellsworth KS 67439, 785-472-4703, <kansascowboy@kans.com>

Lem Marsh, 402 N Ingalls Ave #1, Oberlin KS 67749, 785-673-6193, <smht1859drifter@ruraltel.net>

Joanne Van Coevern, 4773 N Wasserman Way, Salina KS 67401, 785-825-8349, <jvancoevern@juno.com>

SMOKY HILL TRAIL ON TV

Member Lem Marsh reports that two segments of the TV show "Around Kansas" (based out of Topeka) will feature the Smoky Hill Trail. Historian Deb Goodrich and her costar Frank Chaffin produce



programs dealing specifically with the people, towns, and events of and in Kansas. In Topeka, tune in to KTMJ-TV 43 at 5:00 am and 6:30 pm. In Wichita it is on KSCW-TV 33 at 6:00 am and in Joplin, MO it is on KSNF-TV 16 at 5:00 am. Segments can also be seen on the web by going

to www.aroundkansas.com and typing "smoky hill trail" into the search box. The first segment was broadcast on September 2, 2015 (we have no information on when the second installment will be broadcast). For those Facebook users, you can also access the show by searching for Around Kansas.

Deb has a BA in history from Washburn University and is the author of several books about Kansas, including "The Civil War in Kansas" and "Kansas Forts and Bases." She plans on attending our conference in Atchison. Frank is a local radio personality in Topeka, owns several stations in Kansas, Missouri and Iowa, and owns a successful advertising agency.



NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

The deadline for articles to be included in the next edition of the Overland Despatch is **November 30, 2015**. Please have your articles, announcements, notes, etc. sent to the newsletter editor either by US mail or E-mail by that date (addresses in box at left). Please note that you do NOT have to write an article for it to be included in the newsletter. If you come across an interesting article during the course of your reading or research and you think the membership might enjoy it, please consider photocopying, scanning, or transcribing it and send it to me. Thank you.



(President's Column continued from page 1)

pedestrians who saunter through the park. The site of Butterfield's warehouse will be in view from the marker, about 100 yards distant.

The small group also traveled on to Leavenworth to select venues there. The site for the annual banquet was chosen. Plans developed over time to make a tour of Fort Leavenworth, including the Frontier Army Museum, the Buffalo Soldiers monument, and the National Cemetery. A plan to have a memorial ceremony at the National Cemetery fell through due to red tape tangles. This was somewhat disappointing, but inevitable, I suppose. We will have guides on our bus who will give a running commentary about what we are seeing. We are also indebted to officials in Leavenworth for their assistance in making this visit possible.

The sessions during the conference will be presented by a group of distinguished authors and speakers. I am certain we will come away with a greater appreciation for the role of David Butterfield in the development of transportation across the middle of our country. The impact of the fruition of his dream, though short in duration, will impress all of us.



From the Atchison

Daily Champion

October 1, 1865

Butterfield's Column

BUTTERFIELD'S
Overland Despatch,
to all points in
COLORADO,
UTAH,
NEW MEXICO, ARIZONA
IDAHO,
AND
Montana Territories.

AND THE STATE OF NEVADA

Contracts can be made with this company through
it's agents, to transport freight from all the
EASTERN CITIES

To all localities in the Territories the rate to include
Railroad and Overland carriage and all commissions upon
the Missouri river.

☞ The Company Owns its own
Transportation ☞
AND GIVES

Through Bills of Lading,
Which protects the shipper from the extreme East to the
Far West

Exp. Departm't

About August 1st, 1865 the Company
will have a line of Express Coaches running daily between
Atchison, Ks., & Denver, Col.

and about September 1st to
SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO
and as soon in the spring as soon as possible tri-weekly
between Denver and Salt Lake City, over which
merchandise will be carried at fair express rates.

Time to Denver 8 Days.

MARK GOODS for Cattle and Mule Trains
"BUTTERFIELD'S OVD DESPATCH."

MARK GOODS for Express
"B.O.D. EXPRESS, Atchison

October 10, 1865

Indian Troubles.

A private letter from Bishop's Ranche states that the Indians are again getting troublesome on the Overland Route. On the the 4th inst. they fired into the coach at O'Fallon's Bluff, and the day before a night herder at Plum Creek was shot through the coat collar by one of the savages.

Butterfield's Express Coach from this city to Denver was also attacked near Monument Station, 250 miles this side of the latter place, on the 2d inst., by thirty Indians. The coach was plundered and

(Continued on page 6)

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO ASSOCIATION BYLAWS, 2015

This publication of the proposed amendments, approved for submission by the governing board, serves as the official notification to the membership that these proposed amendments will be approved or rejected by vote of members present at the annual membership meeting in Atchison, Kansas, October 16, 2015.

PROPOSED AMENDMENT 1

Delete Article III, Section 2, which reads as follows:

Section 2. DUES

Membership dues shall be established by the governing board of officers and directors, hereinafter referred to as the Board, at any regular meeting of the Board. The membership year shall coincide with the original membership request. Membership dues shall be payable by the 1st of the renewal month. Any member who has not renewed membership within three months of their renewal date shall be deemed delinquent and dropped from the membership rolls of the Association. Any delinquent member may be reinstated without penalty by paying dues for the current year.

Replace Article III, Section 2, to read as follows:

Section 2. DUES

Membership dues shall be established by the governing board of officers and directors, hereinafter referred to as the Board, at any regular meeting of the Board. The membership year shall coincide with the calendar year. Membership dues shall be due and payable by January 1. Any member who has not renewed membership by June 1 shall be deemed delinquent and dropped from the membership rolls of the Association. Any delinquent member may be reinstated without penalty by paying dues for the current year.

PROPOSED AMENDMENT 2

Change Article V, Section 4, which currently reads as follows:

Section 4. CONFERENCE PLANNING

The program coordinator shall submit to the Board on a regular basis a progress report of all aspects of the conference planning.

to read as follows:

Section 4. CONFERENCE PLANNING

The conference planning committee shall submit to the Board on a regular basis a progress report of all aspects of the conference planning.

(continued on page 5)

(Proposed Amendments continued from page 4)

PROPOSED AMENDMENT 3

Omit Article VII, which currently reads as follows:

ARTICLE VII--APPOINTIVE OFFICERS

The appointive officers of the Association shall be a publications editor and a publicity director. They shall be appointed by the president with approval of the Board. Additional appointive officers may be authorized with approval of the Board. Each appointive officer shall be a non-voting, ex officio member of the Board, and each shall report to the president and the Board. The duties and responsibilities of appointive officers may be defined by the president and the Board. Each appointive officer shall serve at the pleasure of the president and may be removed by the Board.

and renumber all subsequent article accordingly, so that current ARTICLE VIII becomes new ARTICLE VII, and so on through the remainder of the bylaws.

PROPOSED AMENDMENT 4

Revise current Article VIII, Section 1, which currently reads as follows:

ARTICLE VIII--COMMITTEES

Section 1. NAMES, AUTHORITY

The standing committees of the Association shall be a National Historic Trail Committee, Nominating Committee, Awards Committee, Budget Committee, Mapping/Marking Committee, Membership Committee, Preservation Committee, and Publications Committee. Additional committees may be constituted by the Board as deemed necessary to carry out the purposes of the Association.

to read as follows (it becomes ARTILE VII with omission of old ARTICLE VII--see Proposed Amendment 3 above):

ARTICLE VII--COMMITTEES

Section 1. NAMES, AUTHORITY

The standing committees of the Association shall be an Executive Committee (comprised of the President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer), Membership Committee, Nominating Committee, Awards Committee, Conference Planning Committee, Budget/Finance Committee, National Historic Trail Committee, Historic Preservation Committee, and Public Relations Committee. Additional committees may be constituted by the Board as deemed necessary to carry out the purposes of the Association.



(Daily Champion continued from page 3)

burned, but the passengers escaped, and arrived in this city on Sunday afternoon. The Indians also ran off a number of mules. This is the first coach on this line that has been attacked. A.W. Spaulding and J.L. Butterfield went out on the coach yesterday morning, to see about the depredations committed. Gen. Dodge left Denver on the 30th ult., with a large escort, coming in on this route. The coaches will hereafter have a military escort with them.

The coach from Denver has not yet arrived. The one which came in and brought the news was a coach that had turned back on account of the difficulties.

October 14, 1865

Butterfield's Overland Dispatch [sic] Express took out more men yesterday morning to put up hay for that company at the stations on the route. There will be a large number sent out in a few days.

October 17, 1865

Two of Butterfield's Express Coaches arrived here yesterday from Denver. The passengers report that all damage done by the late raid has been repaired, and no Indians were seen on the route.

Butterfield's Overland Despatch Company loaded a mule train of twenty wagons yesterday. The wagons carried 80,000 lbs. the freight being machinery belonging to Ford & Danforth, of Colorado.

October 21, 1865

New Route to the West,

We have been shown by Mr. Butterfield, an elegantly drawn map of his new Overland Route via the Smoky Hill River. It is from actual surveys made by J.R. Fitch, Engineer Corps, U.S.[A.] copied

from the original map of the [?] of New York, who, we understand, will have it lithographed for use.

[?] presents a very fine appearance, [?] streams and timber in abundance. Stations of the Express Company are located from ten to fifteen miles apart, and are [being] rapidly built. They will all be [completed] in three or four weeks. The route [begins at?] Atchison and running through Grasshopper Falls, from thence runs directly west [?], Pottawatomie county, and then through Manhattan and Fort Riley to Junction City. Here it crosses the Republican [river and] follows along the north bank of the Smoky Hill river by Salina, Fort Ellsworth, Monument Station to the north fork of the Smoky Hill, which it crosses, leaving there [?] Pike's Peak road, and still continuing [?] the south fork past Cheyenne Will [sic], and crossing over to the Big Sandy fork of the Arkansas river. This branch of the Arkansas it follows along its north bank to its [?]ear Point of Rocks, and then runs in a western direction to Denver, numerous [?] of the Republican and Platte rivers along its course.

[The] route from Atchison to Denver makes [?]ew and short deviations from a direct [?]ne. It is nearly equi-distant between [the] Platte and Arkansas routes, and its [?]ful opening is a great triumph of enter[?] and energy. It is now fully stocked, [the] Express coaches are running over it [daily?] between this city and Denver. Al[?] of course it is not now as well supplied [with] stations as the old routes, the Despatch [?]ny is using every exertion to have this remedied, and will, in the course of four weeks have comfortable houses built at stopping place [sic] along its whole length.

(The microfilm copy cut off a portion of this article. The brackets indicate those passages in question or that cannot be deciphered by the editor.)

The following persons left for Denver yesterday by Butterfield's Overland Express: S.F. Newell, P. Faaris, W.F. Stanley, B. Lambard, J. Strain, and W.B. Blackwell. The coach arrived in at 4 o'clock p.m., from Denver, with the following passengers: D.B. Baker, F. Wornick, H. Briggs, T.P. Grimes, Mrs.

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(Daily Champion continued from page 6)

W.N. Byers and three children, Mrs. H. Melliman, S.B. Hortman, W. Thurmand and W.G. Davis.

October 25, 1865

The Lawrence Tribune says that the military post of Lawrence is now entirely abandoned, the last load of plunder having been transferred to Fort Leavenworth yesterday. Major Thompson, who has been in command for [sic] the past eight months, leaves this morning under orders to report to Ft. Leavenworth.

The luminous "light of the church," the Rev. Chivington, the author of the Sand Creek massacre, has impudently announced himself as a candidate for Congress from Colorado. Will the people there reward or honor the murderer of women, the scalper of babies, the preacher who makes war without regard to sex?

October 27, 1865

Butterfield's Dispatch [sic]

The Missouri *Republican* thus appropriately notices the recent mean and disgusting attack of the Leavenworth *Bulletin* on Gen'l Brewster and Butterfield's Overland Dispatch company:

The Kansas Journal notices appropriately a despicable attempt of the Leavenworth *Bulletin* to cast discredit on Butterfield's Overland Dispatch enterprise. The cause of the ill-humor of that paper may be found in the fact that, for convenience [sic] of railroad connection, Lawrence has been made the eastern terminus of this route."

The *Republican* has struck the right reason for the ill-humor of the *Bulletin* as [it] has assigned the true cause for the ac[?] of the Dispatch Company in removing [our] stage line from Leavenworth.

October 29, 1865

The Indian Council

Judge Kingman has returned from the Indian Council on the Upper Arkansas. He reports that the treaty with the Indians was ratified, and in a very satisfactory manner. Black Kettle was present at the Council, and the Judge describes him as a man of fine intelligence, remarkable energy, and sound, practical sense. He spoke of the diabolical Sand Creek Massacre which that monster in human shape, Chivington, perpetrated, with touching earnestness and reproach. The Commission assured him that our Government regarded that affair as the foulest dishonor that had ever stained our National reputation, and was willing to do all in its power to make reparation for it. The more we hear or learn of this Sand Creek affair the fouler it becomes, and the fiend, dastard, monster and wretch who executed it stands without a parallel in his infamy. Yet miserable, polluted, reeking [sic] all over with this sickening outrage, this man or beast has the impudence to announce himself, with an insufferable swagger of importance, a candidate for Congress in Colorado. If that young State gives him even a small vote her people partake of his disgrace, and stain their history with an endorsement of crimes at which the whole civilized world stands aghast.

Butterfield's Overland Despatch Company has purchased about twenty new Concord coaches, which are now *en route* to this city. Eight have already arrived. These coaches will be run on their new Express line.

Leavenworth Daily Times

November 22, 1865

Quickest, Shortest and Best Route from Leavenworth to Denver & Central City Butterfield's Overland Dispatch [sic] Co. Will run a Daily Line of Coaches for Passengers & Express Freight to the above named points, on and after this date.

The present rates for passengers will be \$100 to Denver and \$105 to Central City. Express freight 50 cents per pound. For information regarding this line, enquire at the Company's Office, under the Planter's House. D.T. Parker, Agent. Leavenworth, Nov. 1st, 1865.



TRAIL TREASURES

Memoirs of Captain Richard Watkins Musgrove, First U.S. Volunteer Infantry, on the Smoky Hill Trail, 1865-1866: Part VI

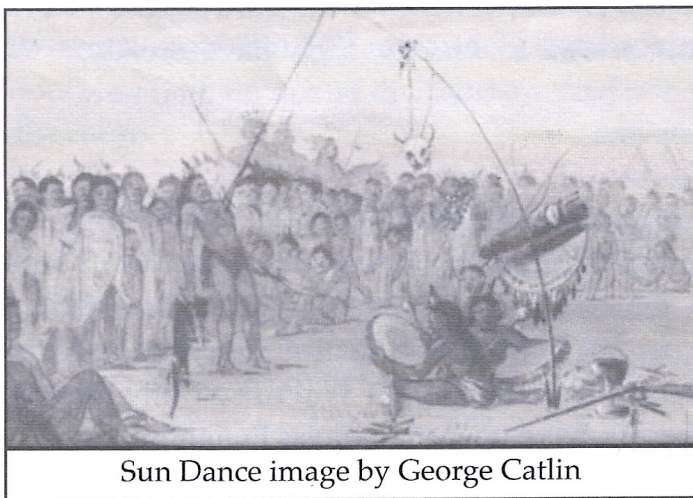
Musgrove continues his account dealing with Native Americans:

Each tribe speaks a language of its own, and though these tribes have been neighbors for an unknown number of years, they have shown no disposition to learn the language of other tribes than their own.

Intermarriage is almost unknown, and thus the several tribes preserve their individualities like distinct nations.

There is, however, what is known as the sign language that is used exclusively in their limited communications with each other. It was a common remark that the Indian could not talk in the dark. This is literally true as regards communication between different tribes, but incorrect as regards individuals of the same tribe.

In the spring of the year these Indians have what is called the Sun Dance. At this dance the doctor, instead of bleeding his patients, is bled himself. A vein



Sun Dance image by George Catlin

is opened, his blood is caught on a piece of raw hide, and the braves pass in procession, stroke the hair of the doctor, dip the ends of their fingers in the blood and then touch the blood on their fingers to their tongues. This is done to give health to the body and strength of

heart in time of battle. As the braves pass by him, the doctor recounts the brave deeds of each during the year, and to the bravest he designates the best squaw of the village to be his wife. If the father of the woman objects, he incurs the displeasure of all the braves of the village. During this dance of the braves the squaws have a dance of their own a little way off.

In the fall of 1864, a party of six Arapahoes went into the Ute country to steal horses. Being discovered and pursued by the Utes, they took refuge on a rocky bluff and there defended themselves for six days surrounded by their pursuers. All this time they were without water. Finally they cut off their hair and tore up their blankets and made a rope, and on the night of the sixth day they let themselves down the bluff at an unguarded spot and escaped. The next spring at the Sun Dance, each of these six warriors was given a blooming squaw as a reward for his endurance and bravery.

The time of the Sun Dance is a great occasion for the fathers to give their daughters in marriage. At this time he never sells his daughter, but gives her to one who has distinguished himself for bravery.

The usual way for a brave to get a wife is to buy her of her father. Having selected the squaw of his choice, he says nothing to her, but ties a pony at the lodge of the father, or makes a present of robes or some other article, according to his ability. If the gift is accepted, he has won his suit, but if the gift is untouched, he adds to his gift or tries for a wife at another place. When such a gift is accepted, the young brave claims his wife and no ceremony is needed. Should she object, her suitor has a perfect right to inflict such punishment on her as he may wish and no one raises an objection. In one of these tribes was a woman whose nose had been cut off by the man who had purchased her, because she refused to be his wife. Still she may leave him later for another if she chooses. Marriage ties are loose, and a brave may make love to a woman even in the presence of her husband.

The food of the Indians is of the simplest. In kind, manner of cooking and serving it is generally repulsive in the extreme to a white man. On state occasions and at other great events the roast dog is the all important food. The dog is killed, when two squaws, one holding it by the hind feet and one by the head or fore feet, slowly turn its body over the fire till most of the hair is burned off. This is the only dressing it has, and it is then placed beside the fire to roast. In due time it is done, carved and served with due ceremony. On ordinary occasions a very choice dish is a stew made of an unborn buffalo calf. Next to this in point

(Continued on page 9)

(Trail Treasures continued from page 8)

of delicacy is a stew made of the entrails of any animal. When on the march or on the hunt, they would greedily devour the entrails raw, and also the liver, heart and the marrow from the bones. After a buffalo is killed, the first thing an Indian will generally do is to gorge himself with these delicacies, and he will quickly dispose of a surprising amount.

Frogs, eaten raw and without any dressing, are an important article of diet. When in pursuit of a party of Cheyennes one day, we came to a ranch which they had just visited. The ranch was supplied with flour, beans, hardtack, sugar, coffee, etc., and the Indians considered the white man's food so much better than their own that they appropriated these to their own use, and threw away a large number of frogs which they were carrying as food.

Another dish that is much prized in winter is a stew made of dried crickets and dried cherries. At times in the summer or early fall, crickets are very plentiful. Then the squaws dig a hole in the ground that will hold perhaps a bushel or more. This done, they form in a circle some distance away and beat the grass with blankets, driving the crickets inward to this hole, which is sometimes nearly filled as the result of a single drive. They are then easily placed in bags and dried for winter use. The cherries used are very small wild cherries.

The staple food of the year, however, is the flesh of the buffalo. "Jerked" buffalo meat is prepared by cutting or tearing the flesh with the grain into thin strips and drying it in the sun. In this condition it is stored away for winter use, and eaten dry or cooked in various ways. One way is to beat it into a powder and make a soup of it, but eaten dry it is very palatable, as we can testify from experience.

One cause of trouble between the white men and the Indian was the ruthless killing of the buffalo by the former. The Indian rarely killed one of these animals unless it was needed for food. In the fall of the year, before the buffalo migrated to the south, the Indians always had a great hunt, called the "surround," when large numbers were killed and their flesh dried and prepared for winter. Then the number killed was only limited to the ability of the squaws to care for the meat, for, however pressing the necessity, the men would sooner face starvation in the winter than assist in the preparation of the food. His duty ends when the game is killed, and while the squaw works he gorges himself. In this hunt, the Indians surround a small herd, which is soon on the run. Escape being cut off in every

direction the buffalo are soon moving rapidly in a circle, the Indians on all sides moving with them, killing as they fly. This continues till a sufficient number are dispatched. Then the work of the squaws commences in preparing the meat for present or winter use, while the men gorge themselves with the raw liver or the marrow from the bones.

The killing of these huge animals by the Indians with the arrow is a marvelous feat, requiring great skill and strength of arm. They usually discharge the arrow when but a few feet from the buffalo and must strike the liver or some other vital spot to kill. We read in one of our leading magazines not many months since of an Indian who sent an arrow entirely through a large buffalo and wounded another. Such a statement is simply ridiculous. We heard of one Indian on the plains of such wonderful strength that an arrow fired by him protruded through the skin on the opposite side of the animal from the Indian, but that was considered a hunter's yarn.

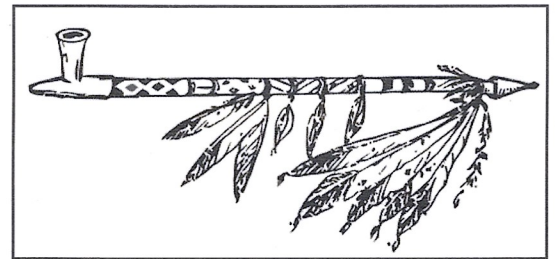
Smoking among the Indians is almost universal, but smoking alone, as the white man does, is comparatively unknown. Smoking is a social event with the Indian, and one pipe serves the entire party. Seated in a circle, as in all gatherings, even for a talk, a pipe is lighted and started on its journey. Each man in turn takes several long, strong pulls at the pipe and fills his lungs with the smoke, then passes the pipe to his left hand neighbor, and allows the smoke to work leisurely from his lungs through the nose. When the pipe has made the round, and reaches the last man in the circle, it is passed back, traveling from left to right to the starting point without being used, when it again starts on its round, traveling to the left as before.

The pipe of peace has been known since the first white man landed on the shores of America, and it is still of

importance in all councils between different tribes and nations, and between the

Indians and the Whites. This pipe is usually one kept by each tribe for council purposes. It usually has a stem three feet long, and is very costly and elaborate, finished and ornamented in the highest Indian art. The bowl is made of various materials, but the Sioux of the North make theirs almost invariably from pipestone,

(Continued on page 10)





Remember the Smoky Hill Trail

PO Box 978
Hays KS 67601

PRSR STANDARD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
HAYS KS 67601
PERMIT NO. 106

(Trail Treasures continued from page 9)

obtained from the quarry in what is now known as Pipestone county, in the extreme western part of Minnesota. The Indians would travel hundreds of miles to obtain the red stone of this quarry for making their pipes. When first quarried, this stone can be worked with a knife or file, but hardens by exposure to the air. We have one such pipe in our collection of Indian relics. They have three or four kinds of pipes, including a medicine pipe to be used on various occasions. The material mostly smoked now is the white man's tobacco, because that is easily obtained, but formerly and to some extent now, the material smoked by the Indians was kinnikinnick, made of the bark of the red willow.

Scalping the victims of war is common with all tribes for two reasons: The possession of scalps is a proof of valor in obtaining them, and the scalping of an enemy means the annihilation of his soul. No Indian can enter the happy hunting ground that has been scalped, and this explains the fact that the bodies of those slain in battle are always, if possible, carried away by their fellow warriors. Indians will perform deeds of great daring to prevent the bodies of the slain from falling into the hands of the enemy, and thus prevent their being scalped and forever excluded from the happy hunting grounds.

The burial of the dead varies with different

tribes and different circumstances. Among the Sioux of Western Minnesota, those who aped the customs of the white buried their dead in the ground, but many continued as of old to dispose of their dead on platforms erected on poles, or placed in the branches of trees. When a suitable tree could not be found, stout poles were placed in the ground, and from five to eight feet above the ground, was made a platform, perhaps four feet wide by six or eight feet long. On this was placed the body, and beside it, such articles as he would need on his journey to the happy hunting grounds, or after having reached his long abode, such as articles of food, his implements of war or the chase, and in some instances, pots and kettles to use in preparing his food.

It was on such a platform as this that a scalping knife and flint lock pistol, that now adorn my collection of Indian relics, were found. These places of burial were visited at night by the female relatives of the deceased, and a series of howls indulged in, in concert, as a means of expressing their sorrow.

Musgrove's account continues in the next issue.

