



*CHUCK
CHUCK
CHUCK*

MUSEUM

Graphic

SUMMER

1962 VOL. XIV NO.3

Published by the

ST. JOSEPH MUSEUM

ROY E. COY, Editor

St. Joseph, Mo., U. S. A.

Copyright 1962 — St. Joseph Museum



COVER —

Huskies waiting for the race to start. The Pas, Manitoba.

The Museum Graphic wishes to express thanks to the following persons and organizations for their assistance in preparing this issue: Joseph Sturek, Art Work; Engravings by Graphic Services; Journal Publishing Co., Composition and Press Work; Mr. D. L. Reynolds, Photography; St. Joseph Library; Mrs. Isabel Evans, Research; Mrs. Claude Madison, Mrs. Donald Wristen; Mr. F. W. Kent, S. U. I. Photography.

MUSEUM OPEN FREE

Weekdays, 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.
Sunday, 2 p.m. to 5 p.m.
Closed All Day Monday

Take Messanie Bus

FROM BERING SEA TO INDIAN TERRITORY.....Page 3

By Bartlett Boder

DOCTOR GUSTAV A. LAU, BENEFACTOR OF SAINT JOSEPH MUSEUMPage 6

By Bartlett Boder

HOME OF THE WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP DOG SLED RACEPage 7

By Roy E. Coy

DEFENSE OF THE S. U. I. MUSEUM DEPARTMENT.....Page 13

By Dr. Homer R. Dill

NEW TELEGRAPH EXHIBIT IN PONY EXPRESS MUSEUMPage 15

By D. L. Reynolds

One dollar a year makes you a member of the Museum and gives you MUSEUM GRAPHIC, plus other Museum publications. Send your dollar to MUSEUM GRAPHIC, Eleventh and Charles Streets, St. Joseph, Missouri.

Single copies of this issue THIRTY-FIVE CENTS

FROM BERING SEA TO INDIAN TERRITORY

by

BARTLETT
BODER

We have always been accustomed to think of races of men only as they are placed on modern maps, or as they are told of in our history books that start with the discovery of America by Christopher Columbus.

The American Indian, as we know him, with his language and legends and customs, had dwelt upon American soil for a very long time, but in all probability he came from the Old World when it was possible to come by land, certainly as many as twelve thousand years ago.

There have been abundant opportunities for men to get into America from the Old World without crossing salt water. Geologists for a long time have pointed out that a lowering of the ocean level caused by water's absorption into ice during the latter stages of the Ice Age, or a raising of the earth's crust by less than two hundred feet would uncover a plateau-like strip of land across Bering Strait, linking Siberia and Alaska. Animals and humans could pass freely back and forth along this land, warmed by the waters of the Pacific Ocean.

It appears that horses and camels originated in the Western Hemisphere, and the mastodon, predecessor of the elephant, and perhaps numerous other species of animals existing in the Eastern Hemisphere evolved in the New World.

The numerous American Indian tribes had certain things in common with the people of Asia. Racially, they were mostly of Mongoloid stock. Their speech suggests that they came to the New World at a time when all speech itself was in its infancy.

Many distinctive mental and physical features were common among Asians, Mongolians and American Indians. Their hair was black, coarse, glossy and long, and always straight, never wavy. Their eyes were small, black, and somewhat deep-set, always horizontal; eyebrows were very arched and black; they had prominent noses and cheek-bones.

Because the native American was spoken of as "The Red Man", and because he came from the same regions of the Old World presumably, it might be supposed that colour should be included in the list of common characteristics, but there is perhaps no other region of the globe where so great a variety of colour prevailed. The skin of the Dakotas, of the Upper Missouri, was a leather-brown or cinnamon colour. The Mandans of the Middle Missouri were fair.

In the field of folk-lore the resemblances were extremely close, showing a past and extensive contact between the tribes of Northeastern Asia and of Northwestern America, the Bering Strait area, which, according

to every indication, was the gateway through which man first entered the American continent.

This entrance across Bering Strait possibly took place during the last stages of the Pleistocene Age, the latest Glacial Epoch, which, in Wisconsin, is dated at about 9500 B.C.

Mongols reached extreme Southern Argentine about 6700 B.C., and they are associated with the now-extinct mammoth and camel which long ago disappeared in America, though they still flourish in Asia.

INDIAN TERRITORY

The Creeks, Cherokees, Choctaws, Chickasaws and the Seminoles were known as the Five Civilized Tribes, and it was primarily for these tribes that the government of the United States reserved a tract of land known as Indian Territory. It was bounded on the north by Kansas, on the east by Arkansas, on the south by Texas and on the west by Texas. The Red River formed the boundary line between Indian Territory and Texas on the south. It was a beautiful country of vast and fertile fields.

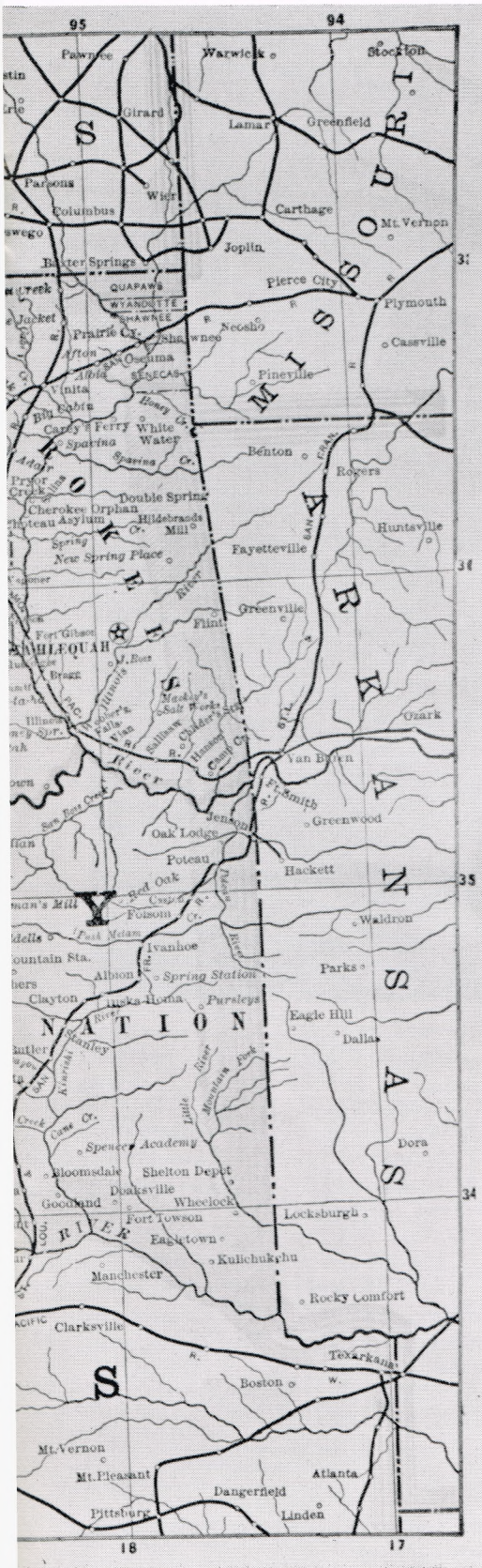
Indian Territory was divided off, and bought by the Indian tribes. These lands were called strips or outlets, and they gave the Cherokees un-hindered egress to the West. Cherokee Strip occupied the north-west area of Indian Territory, as shown on the accompanying map.

The Cherokees, of Iroquoian lineage, were one of the largest tribes in the United States. The name "Cherokee" is of Muskogi origin, and means "cave people." The Cherokees were first encountered by DeSoto in 1540.

They first came into contact with the British in the latter half of the 17th century, and they fought on the British side in the American Revolution, refusing to make peace with the newly-freed Americans until ten years after the termination of the War of Independence.

The white people pressing in on them when gold was discovered on their lands, many of them moved beyond the Mississippi. The remainder of the Cherokees, however, formed their own government in 1820. It was modelled on the United States Constitution. Soon afterwards, they adopted the alphabet, or rather syllabary, invented by one of the half-bloods, Sequoyah. In 1905 all Cherokees became American citizens. This tribe was truly the greatest of all the five Civilized Tribes.

MAP



This writer has a particular interest in Indian Territory and the Cherokee Indians because his father, a banker and a native of Saint Joseph, rented 55,000 acres for the grazing of cattle near Pond Creek in Indian Territory from Chief Bushy Head, of the Cherokee Indians. That contract, signed in 1882 by Chief Bushy Head of the Cherokees, and Louis Boder, is now in the possession of the Saint Joseph Museum.

All went smoothly. Louis Boder moved his family to Anthony, Kansas, about forty miles northwest of Pond Creek. He employed Campbell Lynch, of Agency, Missouri, and of Kentuckian ancestry, to be his foreman and partner. His ranch headquarters at Pond Creek consisted of a frame structure built at the opening of a cave dug deeply into a hill at the rear.

Such Indian lands were being leased for the same purpose to others in Saint Joseph, including the Wyeth and Ballinger Cattle Companies. (Please refer to the Summer of 1956 Museum Graphic for details of the Wyeth family's participation.)

would be open for homesteading by the white men from the North until sufficient warning was given to enable all cattlemen to protect their cattle, and to safe-guard their leases with their friends, the Cherokee Indians.

In 1889, President Harrison, forgetting this promise, declared the Oklahoma district, in the center of Indian Territory, would soon be open for settlement. A mad rush of settlers or "boomers" took place immediately. They crossed Cherokee Strip on their way to the Oklahoma district to homestead land on the given date. The cattle in their path were dispersed or slaughtered. All of the cattlemen who had rented land from the Cherokees suffered financial loss.

This writer's father was far-sighted enough to have his cattle rounded up and shipped to Kansas City before the crash in cattle prices took place at the Kansas City Livestock Market. You may not believe it, but this writer, though only four years old at the time, remembers seeing his father atop a caboose on one of these cattle trains headed for Kansas City, waving good-bye to his family.

In 1890, Louis Boder, the father, returned to his home-town of Saint Joseph, and became the president of the Merchants Bank, in the Board of Trade Building at 3rd and Edmond, the oldest bank in the city. Remembered, too, was the parade for Grover Cleveland which we watched with high enthusiasm from the steps of the bank in 1892.

PRESIDENT BENJAMIN HARRISON

President Benjamin Harrison had given his promise to the cattlemen who had rented the Cherokee lands that no portion of Indian Territory

INDIAN TERRITORY (MAP)

A region west of the Mississippi set aside by the United States government for those tribes moved west of the Mississippi River as wards of the government, and for a few Indians already living there. This map is from the 1892 edition of the Encyclopedia Britannica owned by this writer.

Doctor Gustav A. Lau

by BARTLETT BODER

Gustav A. Lau, who bequeathed a large fortune to the Saint Joseph Museum, was born on July 11, 1881, in Kulm, Germany, near the Baltic Sea. He came to Saint Joseph with an uncle when he was fourteen years old. Other relatives who lived here were Herman and Fred Lau who owned a bakery, and he began his apprenticeship with them by driving a horse-and-buggy bakery wagon when Tenth Street was a dirt road.

During these young years he was befriended by a couple who had no children of their own. Mr. and Mrs. Charles Bockmeyer invited Gustav into their home to live. They helped him financially, too, when his ambition to become a doctor began to take shape. Mrs. Bockmeyer was almost a mother to him, and those who knew him best remember how he spoke of the Bockmeyers with so much affection and gratitude.

Doctor Lau graduated from the University of Saint Louis Medical School in 1905, and opened an office in Saint Joseph, but almost immediately he returned to Germany for more specialized training, and he received degrees from the Royal Frederick Wilhelm University and the University of Vienna. It was in Vienna that he received his most important training in heart surgery, although most of his work was in general surgery.

Doctor Lau's mother and father, and a sister passed away in Germany. Two sisters, Mrs. Hedwig Kremmert and Miss Margarete Lau, are still living in East Berlin. He had sent them money throughout the years, and in his will, he established a trust fund, to take care of them for the remainder of their lives.

Doctor Lau was married in 1908 to Miss Hilda Hesse. He and his wife built the home at 2106 Lover's Lane which continued to be his residence after her death in 1935. On October 20, 1937, he and Miss Virginia Marie Hund were married. Mrs. Lau passed away on January 2, 1947.

Gustav Lau was known not only for his great skill as a physician, surgeon and medical scholar, but for an unusually deep sense of responsibility toward his family and his patients, and for his heart-warming interest in all people, regardless of their age or station in life. He was



never too serious, however, and his numerous friends enjoyed his good companionship and sense of humor.

Among his patients were those he had attended for over forty years, caring for their children and grandchildren. Doctor Lau had served his internship at the old Ensworth Hospital, and was an active staff member of both the Methodist Hospital and Sister's Hospital. Among his many duties he also acted as surgeon for the Burlington Railroad and for Swift and Company employees. He served in the latter capacity for forty years.

He was President of the Buchanan County State Medical Society, and served as Vice-President of the Missouri Medical Society. Doctor Lau was a senior active member of the American Medical Association, and of the American Association of Railway Surgeons.

He was a 32nd Degree Scottish Rite Mason and a member of Moila Temple. He was a life member of the Zion Evangelical Church.

Doctor Gustav A. Lau died unexpectedly in his office in the Kirkpatrick Building on the afternoon of August 17, 1951.

We want to thank Mrs. Claude Madison and Mrs. Donald Wristen for their gracious assistance in supplying details of the life of Doctor Lau. Mrs. Madison's father and Doctor Lau's father were brothers. Mrs. Wristen was Doctor Lau's assistant and office-nurse for many years.



①

**HOME
OF THE
WORLD
CHAMPIONSHIP
DOG
SLED RACE**

by
ROY E. COY

Photography by Don L. Reynolds

The home of the World Championship Dog Sled Race is The Pas, Manitoba, Canada and this spectacular race takes place sometime in February when there is plenty of snow and the temperature is some 15 to 38 degrees below zero. In the year 1962 it was held on February 21, 22, and 23. It is the main event of the Northern Manitoba Trappers' Festival.



②



③

1—Sign as you enter the town of The Pas.

2—A warm welcome at 29° below.

3—The Pas in winter with the Saskatchewan River in the foreground. It is colder than it looks.





11



12



13



14

In spite of the cold weather or maybe because of it, this Trappers' Festival is a lively gala affair. They dance in the streets when the weather is 15° below and the morning the dog sled races started it was 29° below. This World Championship Dog Sled racing contest is run over a 150 mile course in the wide open country west of The Pas, Manitoba, and some twenty teams and their drivers usually enter this race. It lasts three days, 50 miles per day, and the first prize is \$1,000.00. It takes tough men and tougher dogs to tackle a race of this kind. There is also a Queen contest and Northern Manitoba has its share of beautiful girls.

Don Reynolds and I were at The Pas to not only photograph dog sled racing, but to also get pictures of the people, the town, and the wildlife. We were also to collect a few wildlife specimens for the museum and were successful in all of our endeavors, no thanks to the weather.

We had nothing but snow and bad weather all the way from St. Joseph, Missouri, to The Pas, Manitoba, and the first day out we ran into a blizzard. I had a new Pontiac Tempest station wagon and believe me it took all that wagon had to get us there and back, but we made it on all four cylinders. The first thing we did was to put a block heater in the car so that it would start in the morning. All Canadians have these little plug in heaters in their motors, the smarter ones have two.

Our first stop in Canada was at the Neepawa Motel in Neepawa, Manitoba. It was 25° below, but let me say there is no better motel in Canada, summer or winter. We wore deep freeze clothes and we never

-
- 4—Street Dancing at 15° below zero at The Pas Trapper Festival.
 - 5—Huskies anxiously waiting for the dog sled race to start.
 - 6—Taking off.
 - 7—Just a second after the Starting Shot is fired.
 - 8—Trying for the lead.
 - 9—Out in the open.
 - 10—Returning Home several hours later.
 - 11—Cutting Ice on Clearwater Lake, 11 miles north of The Pas. This ice is 41 inches thick.
 - 12—Cutting ice with a large deep cutting saw on Clearwater Lake.
 - 13—Getting the large chunks of ice out for storage on Clearwater Lake, Manitoba. This lake ice is the finest.
 - 14—Farming and living northwest of The Pas in winter.



took any chances on getting caught out in the open without the proper clothes. Proper clothes are more important than a lot of clothes.

When we arrived at the Pas we found it to be a typical northern town and a cold one. We stayed at the La Verendrye Motel and found it warm and very satisfactory.

We photographed the starting of the dog sled races and sometimes our cameras worked, but sometimes they would just slow down or quit. We then had to warm them up a bit. Film, too, would break because of the severe cold. Both Reynolds and I had these difficulties. How we ever got pictures, I don't know, but we did. In between dog races we took pictures around The Pas, itself, and on occasions went north into the wilderness for wildlife pictures, some of which illustrate this article and others are in my movie film of this trip. We watched ice cutting on beautiful Clearwater Lake and drove our car out on the 41-inch-thick ice covering of this lake. The ice was crystal clear and looked like an uncut blue diamond.

We received permission from the authorities at the Clearwater Hospital to photograph the Eskimos there that do the very splendid carvings in soap stone and ivory. Most of these Eskimos are from up around Churchill. The pictures illustrating this article tell the story better than words. I am happy to

- 15—Clearwater Lake Hospital—Clearwater Lake, Manitoba.
- 16—Eskimos at Clearwater Lake Hospital. Standing left—Willie from Lake Harbour. He is single and carved the Small Walrus. Standing right and waving is Thomas Suwark of Baker Lake. He is married and has one child. He carved the large soap stone carving of the Polar Bear attacking a Walrus.
- 17—Eskimo cutting soap stone with a saw and shaving it down with a rasp.
- 18—Some of the Eskimos busy at work in the hospital. The man in the foreground is carving an ivory ring. The boy in the center is 14 years of age and is from Pangnirtung, N.W.T.
- 19—Soap stone walrus carved by Willie with his hospital number E 3711 on the base.
- 20—A very fine large carving of a Polar Bear attacking a Walrus by Thomas Suwark of Baker Lake.
- 21—This Eskimo is putting on finishing touches. Notice finished Canada Goose carving on table.
- 22—Rapidly moving water fall near Snow Lake, Manitoba—About 100 miles north of The Pas, Manitoba.
- 23—Canada Lynx—(Lynx canadensis) near Snow Lake, Manitoba.
- 24—Scene near Snow Lake Manitoba, February 1962.





report that not many of these Eskimos have to spend more than one year at the hospital before they are released. They are tuberculosis patients.

Mr. Cecil Patterson, Northwestern Regional Supervisor, Department of Mines and Natural Resources in The Pas was helpful in securing a Timber Wolf, Artic Fox, Marten, Fisher, Raccoon, Ptarmigan, Spruce Grouse, and other specimens for the St. Joseph Museum. We delivered them frozen to taxidermist, Ralph Velich of Omaha, Nebraska. Ralph does most of the taxidermy for our museum.

On our trip home we drove through beautiful Riding Mountain Park. Although the Park is closed in winter, some of the roads were open. We were able to get some beautiful scenic and wildlife pictures in the Park.

Northern Manitoba has plenty of Moose and they can be seen in the park, and on up around The Pas. Near The Pas we saw Ptarmigan, Spruce Grouse, Canada Lynx, and Wolves. At Riding Mountain Park one can always see White Tail Deer, Elk, and, if lucky, Moose. Bear, Otter, Fisher, and Marten are present, but not so easily seen.

The people of Northern Manitoba are the best to be found anywhere. They are democratic, friendly, and as a rule, healthy and hardy. The Little North Museum was open to greet us and Mr. Sam Waller, the Director, helped to make our visit a memorable one.

If you ever visit The Pas, by all means go to Herman's General

25—White Tail Deer in Riding Mountain National Park. Manitoba.

26—Spruce Grouse — (*Canachites canadensis*) near Snow Lake, north of The Pas, Manitoba.

27—Moose are numerous in Northern Manitoba. This one is in Riding Mountain National Park.



Store for here you will be greeted by Mr. and Mrs. Herman Premachuk, two of The Pas' finest people. If you are interested in genuine Cree Indian items, you can find them in Herman's Store. Herman Premachuk is The Pas' number one booster and outstanding citizen.

The weather may be cold, but I

can promise you will get a warm welcome. There are plenty of Cree Indians that join in the fun and add color to the festival. If you don't mind cold weather, a trip to the Trappers' Festival can prove interesting and worth while, but keep your camera warm and wear proper clothing.

Dr. Homer R. Dill, Professor and Director Emeritus Comes to the Defense of the S.U.I. Museum Department



Editor's note—We join Professor Dill in his remarks contained in the following letter. This letter should be of interest to all Museum minded persons and especially directors and boards of trustees.

At a recent meeting of the American Association of Museums a man complained that the Museum Department of the University of Iowa had not turned out any trained museum workers for a number of years.

The complaint was not only unjust but entirely wrong. As I happen to be the one who organized the first courses ever taught in Museum Technique, and for fifty-three years conducted the courses, turning out such men as Dr. Breckenridge, Dr. Bailey, Dr. Butsch, Mr. Coy and many others I am still interested and keep in touch although I am retired.

At the present time at Iowa, Professor Thietje has the largest classes in Museum Technique ever registered, with every table full. Any qualified person may take as many hours as his time will permit. It is possible to get training in any technique used in any of the modern museums.

Good taxidermists or preparators have always been scarce. At the present time even Commercial Taxidermists are advertising for experienced help.

This may all seem like a paradox. The answer, however, is simple. The trend of the present day is to crowd out the artist, to get things done quickly and cheaply and to spend as

little time on work as possible. The artist who did his work for the pleasure and satisfaction of doing a thing well can no longer live on the salaries paid. Museum directors and boards are to blame, as they do not offer salaries that will attract men who have spent four years or more in college.

The last year that I taught at Iowa there were a number of good taxidermists in our classes. At that time there were museums looking for trained men. One of our men took a position with a museum because he loved museum work and was willing to pass up nearly twice as much salary in another field. The others were not willing to work for the money offered by the museums so went into other fields of work.

Whether the taxidermist is to disappear along with other craftsmen such as engravers, sculptors, senic-artists and wood carvers, is a matter that rests largely with museum directors and boards.

No one should blame the Iowa Museum staff as they still offer the work and train the students. Finding them positions at good salaries is up to the museums that want trained workers.

In training students for museum work it is not possible to take 50 or 100 students as they come and make

experts out of all of them. To get one or two fine experts out of a hundred is doing well. The same thing is true in medicine, dentistry, engineering or fine arts. All of the students in a class get something out of the training but one cannot expect all of them to be superior. It just does not work out that way, as any instructor knows.

The problem facing the commercial taxidermist today is different from the situation in the museum. In the first place the average patron of the commercial taxidermist is usually satisfied with a very mediocre piece of work which can be done in a short time and at a price that is satisfactory. Such work would not be acceptable in a museum. While the taxidermist could do a better job he has to meet competition and live.

Some of the commercial taxidermists of fifty or more years ago were real artists, who took pride in their work and turned out specimens that were superior to some of the work of today. Some of them were very jealous of their methods and were not only proud but even secretive. In an old burying ground I noticed the name of John Wallace, Taxidermist, on a grave stone.

If the museums are not taking trained workers, one may ask; why

train them? I would say for the same reason that the Art Departments are training artists. The art of Taxidermy is a fine art that some people enjoy. After fifty years of teaching it I still enjoy a fine piece of taxidermic work.

In the old houses such as were owned by the well-to-do people,

largely in the east, there were large rooms and extensive front halls where mounted trophies were kept. Even cases of mounted birds were to be seen. Such things were for people who had money. They cherished them and gave them loving care, having plenty of help.

In the tiny houses of today, however, there is little room for a mounted head or bird. If they are there they stay only as long as the owner is alive and then they find their way to the garage after being offered to a museum and finally to the dump.



F. W. Kent, Photographer

McBRIDE HALL

Originally built to house the Museum of Natural History. Editor's Note—Unfortunately only a small part of the building is Museum. It is ideally located close to the City.

CITY BOARD

Bartlett Boder, President
Frederick O. Griffin, 1st Vice-President
Mrs. Kenyon V. Painter, 2nd Vice-President
Curt E. Kuehn, 3rd Vice-President
Roland A. McDonald, Secretary-Treasurer
Miss Orrel M. Andrews
Walter Canter
Simon Rositzky
Harold O'Reilly

INCORPORATED BOARD

Bartlett Boder, President	Miss Orrel M. Andrews
Frederick O. Griffin, 1st Vice-President	J. H. McCord, Jr.
Mrs. Kenyon V. Painter, 2nd Vice-President	Simon Rositzky
Curt E. Kuehn, 3rd Vice-President	J. M. Ford, II
Roland A. McDonald, Secretary	R. P. Jornayvaz, Sr.
Walter Canter, Treasurer	William M. Wyeth, III
Roy E. Coy, Recording Secretary	Rabbi M. M. Meyer
Robert A. Brown, Sr.	David W. Hopkins

Mayor Arthur J. Meers, Ex-officio

SUMMER HOURS

10:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. Weekdays. Closed Monday
2:00 P.M. to 5:00 P.M. Sunday

New Telegraph Exhibit in Pony Express Museum

by DON L. REYNOLDS

The Pony Express Museum exhibit, END OF AN ERA, depicts the building of the Overland Telegraph Line and the last days of the Pony Express. It is the ninth of a series on the early history of St. Joseph and the part it played in the overland mail service.

The exhibit features and is built around a 36 by 48 inch oil background painting of the Echo Pony Express and Stage station area in Echo Canyon, Utah. This setting was chosen partly because of its nearness to the point where the eastern & western lines were connected (Salt Lake City), also because of the beauty of the canyon, but most important because of discovery and excavation of items from the pioneer line at the Echo Station site.

The painting, by staff artist Harry E. Wright, shows construction of the pioneer Overland Telegraph Line through the canyon from Salt Lake City where on Oct. 24, 1861, it was joined with the line from California thus completing the first transcontinental communication electronically and putting the Pony Express out of business. A Pony Express rider is shown as he heads up the canyon from Echo Station.

Items for the exhibit were collected from many points along the Pony Express & Overland Telegraph route and in historic Echo Canyon itself. Several days last spring (June '61) were spent excavating at the Echo site. Such items

as insulators, telegraph wire and wire ties were unearthed. Also a stage coach axle which now leans against the forge in the Pony Express Museum blacksmith shop. The wire, several hundred feet in a single roll, was dug from the bottom of a caved in dug-out near the Echo Station site. It is about No. 9 or 10 gauge with a heavy rough coat of galvanizing. Near it was the beam of an old plow or similar implement with the date 1859 on it. Also a hundred pounds or so of broken and molten insulator glass of the type used on the pioneer line.

From Omaha, where the line headed west, came a key and sounder.

At the Sun Ranch, in the Sweetwater Valley of Wyoming we were given one of the Original wooden insulator covers that served to hide the glitter of the old square topped green glass insulators from roving Indians. The pioneer line traversed the ranch of our friend, Mr. Tom Sun. These covers were fastened on the insulators and the insulators on to the pole pegs with molten sulphur or 'brimstone'. The pegs were then nailed on to the pole tops with square nails or 'spikes.' The replica insulator cover and peg on the exhibit pole were made to original size and shape and also fastened with brimstone as were the originals.

On the Hoffmeister ranch, west of Split Rock Station site in the Sweetwater Valley of Wyoming, we obtained one of the original

pegs. The line also crossed the Hoffmeister ranch land.

At Simpson's Springs station site in Utah and at Shell Creek Station in Nevada, we found metal hook type insulators of the type used by the Overland Telegraph Co. from Salt Lake City westward. Instead of glass as found east of Salt Lake City these were hooks of metal set in hard rubber in a wooden block. Square nails through the block were used to hold this type insulator to the pole. Mr. Joe Salvi of Cherry Creek, Nevada gave us one of these 'hook in block' insulators that he found in Egan Canyon near the site of Egan Pony Express and Telegraph Station. (Fort Egan)

At Horseshoe Station site in Wyoming we found parts of one of the old batteries that furnished power for the line. An electrode made of zinc and a piece of battery jar both of which are included in the exhibit. Horseshoe Station was the headquarters for Division Superintendent Jack Slade of staging and Pony Express fame.

At Callao, Utah, on the edge of the Great Salt Desert, was found an original "Western Union" splice for the exhibit. It was donated by Mr. C. N. Bagley, Rancher of Callao who owns the original station building there (P. E. & telegraph) in which the splice was found.

The section of barbed wire in the exhibit came from the Three Crossings Station area near what is now the new Uranium boom town of Jeffery City, Wyoming. It was giv-



New Telegraph Exhibit in Pony Express Museum.

en to us by the Home on the Range Station (long time general store and post office before Jeffery City). Early settlers clamped barbs on discarded telegraph wire, and thus, according to local historians of that area, was produced some of the first fencing in the west. Due to the heavy coat of galvanizing some of this pioneer fencing is still giving service.

Now, a century later, hardly a vestige remains to mark the route of the historic old line. There are just a few stubs of poles feebly standing. These are in remote areas and not seen except by a few ranchers that keep watchful eyes on them and trail historians that hesitate to divulge their location for fear they might be collected as souvenirs.

At Omaha (Union Pacific Museum), Ft. Laramie, Douglas, Wyoming, Fort Casper, (Casper Wyoming), Fort Bridger, and Morman Station (Genoa, Nevada) Museums, a few items from the old line can be seen. Also the pioneer Memorial Museum (D.U.P.) in Salt Lake City.

Interest in these old routes has given away to things more pressing

and the trails are getting fainter as the years pass on. Most of the people who know the old trails are seventy or over. Mr. George Flagg who, with his jeep, helped us follow trail between Ice Slough and South Pass Station sites is past seventy-five. (His father drove stage between Riverton and Rock Springs, Wyoming, and cut wood for the smelters of the South Pass mines). Mr. Tom Sun, who lives near the Devil's Gate and who worked with us in the area between Red Buttes and Plante's Station sites, is in his late seventies. He can wheel his jeep over the roughest of country. (His father hunted with Bill Cody—Tom has a Cody rifle with plate inset engraved to his father from Buffalo Bill.) Albert Sims, Douglas, Wyoming, helped us in that area. He also is in his late seventies, can still herd his sheep to the high range and sit a horse all day long. (His Grandfather was an Indian Agent). Albert also rode with the trail herds in his younger years. Joe Segora, an Indian herder of Eden Valley, Wyoming, is over ninety and still rides the range herding sheep. (He once wrangled horses

at Pacific Springs and saw stage coaches come over the South Pass). Mrs. Elizabeth Moore of Evanston, Wyoming, knows Echo Canyon history. (Her mother helped push a handcart to Utah when a child.) Another was Mr. C. N. Bagley, of Callao, Utah, rancher on whose land is the adobe station house of Willow Springs. Also in his seventies, Mr. Bagley took his high wheeled truck and driving through sage brush and dry wash, showed us Canyon and Burnt station sites. (His grandfather hauled poles for the first line). Emil Kopac of Oshkosh, Nebraska, near eighty, in his younger days covered much of the Overland Trail—a lot of it on foot. These are but a few of the old-timers who, with great pride, helped us in our efforts. To them and all the others, many many thanks.

Editor's Note: Museum staff member D. L. Reynolds and Mrs. Reynolds have spent much of their vacation time in quest of relics that served the Pony Express and the first Overland Telegraph line. They have turned up many items of interest and value for us in the Pony Express Museum.