

## HISTORY OF PITTSBURG, KANSAS.

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A thesis submitted to the Department of History and the Faculty of the Graduate School in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the Master's degree.

July 10, 1916. Approved: \_\_\_\_\_  
Department of History.

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SECTION I.

EARLY HISTORY.

## SECTION I.

EARLY HISTORY.

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Pittsburg, one of the important cities of southeastern Kansas, is located in Baker township of Crawford County, eleven miles southeast of Girard, the county seat. It is three miles from the Missouri line and one hundred thirty-four miles from Kansas City.

Mr. R. E. Carlton, a pioneer of southeastern Kansas, settled on his present farm at the southeast corner of what is now the city limits, in March 1872. He gives the following as to the beginning of Pittsburg.\* "In the early winter of 1875-76, Ed Brown, of Carthage, Mo., and Col. Budlong of Joplin, railroad promoters, presented to me, as trustee of Baker township, a plan to build a road from Joplin to Girard, the route to be through our township. Their plans necessitated the raising by bond of \$7,500 by Baker and \$12,500 by Crawford township, to aid in the construction of the road. Under the law at that time only five

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\* Prosperous Pittsburg, 1915.

percent of the taxable property could be voted for such purposes. There was also a provision which allowed all of the county and township taxes collected from the railroads to be paid to the county treasurer. This money was to be used in the payment of interest and in taking up of the principal of bonds issued for railroads.

"Because of this, the proposition met with my immediate approval. I then presented the plans to J. H. Rodenburg, John Schnackenburg and A. J. Georgia, after which we made a thorough canvass of citizens in the township. This work was necessary at the time as a majority of our people known as Leaguers were prejudiced against the railroads. The Leaguers of the county had gone through a long fight with the government over the ownership of the neutral strip of land consisting of Cherokee, Crawford, and the south ten miles of Bourbon counties also known as the Cherokee ceded lands. James Joy claimed ownership of the land by purchase from the Indians through the secretary of the Interior. The Leaguers claimed that the land could be claimed only through preemption or homesteading as it was government land. Because of the ill feeling created by this dispute it was necessary to pave the way to successful carrying of our bond by personal canvass. We succeeded in convincing a majority of our people that the proposition was for the best interests of the township at large. The promoters were then

given this information.

"A petition drawn up by them was presented to me by E. W. Majors and E. R. Ridgley, their representatives. The petition stated that a station would be built and maintained somewhere within the township. As the coal operators were then being pushed only in the northeast corner, it was evident that the company's intention was to build there. I thought that in justice to the balance of the people it should be required that the station be located near the center of the township. A petition was then drawn up by the promoters agreeing that the station be located within one mile of the center of the township. This petition received the hearty support of the majority, after which an election was called. The bonds carried by a large majority. The road and station were built and trains were running by September, 1876. The bonds and interest were paid for entirely by the taxes paid by the railroad company."

This road passed through the extensive coal fields in the southeastern part of Crawford County. The coal interests had to a certain extent been tested, but had no convenient outlet until the building of the road. The reasons for building the town were the extent of the coal interests and the probability of its being the site of manufacturing enterprises.

The land upon which the site was located was

originally the property of Jacob Pugh. It comprised 160 acres, made up from adjacent forty-acre tracts in sections 19, 20, 29 and 30, in Township 30, Range 2, South. When the site was laid out, there was but one building on the land, and that belonged to Jacob Pugh. J. R. Lindburg's Drug Store occupies this site at the present time.

The post office was established in 1876 with George Rickey as postmaster. The first dwelling was built by J. T. Roach in July, and the first business house was erected about the same time by G. W. Seabury & Co., who started a general store. This was a one story frame house, twenty feet square, and was erected where the Globe building is at present. By the fall of this first year there were one hundred inhabitants. During the first year, there were two stores, two blacksmith shops, and two wagon shops established.

The town of Pittsburg was incorporated in 1880. As there was another Pittsburg in Kansas, the postoffice was first known as New Pittsburg. The first officers were; Mayor, M. M. Snow; councilmen, J. R. Lindburg, W. McBride, F. Kalwitz, P. A. Shield and D. S. Miller.

The Girard and Joplin Railway Company connected Pittsburg with adjoining towns. In 1880, the railroad was sold to the St. Louis and San Francisco Company.

The land owned by Moffett and Sargeant was sold to the Pittsburg Town Company for \$50,000. This company was composed of C. M. Condon, president, and

B. F. Hobart, who thus became owners of the town site. This company held business lots of 170 feet depth, at from \$8 to \$2 per front foot, and residence lots varying in price and location from \$100 to \$225 per lot. It has been remarked: "Pittsburg started out a box car town." At first the town consisted of a few box cars, in which the men lived who worked on the railroad; and a tent store, which supplied these men with provisions. Little interest was taken in New Pittsburg until Pat Coyle opened up the first coal mine at Second and Olive Street. Zinc was also found in this locality and the first smelters were founded in 1879 by Robert Lanyon on East Fourth Street. The streets at this time were improved by cinders from the smelter. A new addition of forty acres was platted in 1880 and in 1882 another like addition.

By a steady and prosperous growth the town soon became a city. The development of the various natural resources attracted capital and enterprises.

SECTION II.  
WHY PITTSBURG GREW.

## SECTION II.

WHY PITTSBURG GREW.

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One of the chief reasons for the growth of this city is the coal. C. M. Condon and B. F. Hobart of the Town Company became members of the Oswego Coal Company, and began developing the coal interests on their land. They soon sold about fifty-five percent of the stock to the St. L. & S.F.R.R. Co. and a new coal company became organized under the name of the Rogers Coal Company. In 1883, the capital stock of the company was \$200,000. Two shafts were used, fifty cars of coal were produced daily and four hundred men employed. The sale of the coal was confined mainly along the St. L. & S.F. R. R. in Missouri, Kansas, and Arkansas. The early shipment of the Pittsburg Coal Company was from seventy-five to one hundred cars per day.

Prominent coal companies are: Weir Coal Co., Mt. Carmel Coal & Mining Co., Western Coal & Mining Co., Pittsburg and Midway Coal Co., Kansas and Texas Coal Co., Central Coal & Coke Co., Nevins Coal Co. and Labette Coal & Mining Co. Nearly all the companies have their headquarters in Pittsburg. This is the center of a district many miles in extent underlaid

with high grade bituminous coal. Expert engineers give their opinion that it will last at least 200 years. One hundred thirty-three deep shaft mines, employing 11,000 men, and forty-two steam shovels employing 1500 men, produce 8,000,000 tons of coal annually, valued at \$15,000,000. According to statistics of 1911, these mines furnished one-tenth of all the bituminous coal mined in the United States.

The railroads and interurban lines make Pittsburg easily accessible as a trading center for the army of miners in the district. The coal affords a cheap and practically everlasting fuel supply for factories. The field of which Pittsburg is the center, is the largest in the state and extends in a northeast and southwest direction, covering a strip about forty miles long and ten miles wide.

In the last few years the steam shovel has been taking the place of coal mines to a great extent. The first steam shovel was brought to Pittsburg nearly four years ago and since that time thousands of acres of coal land have been reclaimed. These shovels uncover the coal which lies under the surface, a vein averaging 42 inches in thickness. This vein is too close to the surface to make underground mining safe. With the shovel, this earth is removed for five cents a square yard, while men and teams cannot do this for less than thirty cents a square yard. In this district is one of the largest steam shovels in the world. It is

larger than those in common use on the Panama Canal. The capacity of its bucket is over six cubic yards or nine tons. It has two boilers and ninety foot beams. The cut made by these shovels creates a channel 115 feet wide. One dip of their buckets gathers from six to nine tons. First they are used in cleaning the surface, of which there is sometimes but eight feet to be disposed of. They are then moved directly into the "pit" thus formed. The steam shovels have made it possible to produce more coal for less money than was possible before.

The coal has been a means of bringing many foreigners to this city, Greeks, Italians and Assyrians predominating, but they have been law abiding and are interested in the welfare and advancement of Pittsburg.

Closely related to the coal mining industry is the manufacture of powder. The Hercules Powder Company operating a plant at Turck, and the Atlas Powder Company with one at Kirkwood, employ about 150 men and produce much of the explosives used in the mining of this district. Both have their offices in Pittsburg. The Hercules Powder Company's plant consists of a number of substantial buildings scattered over a 500 acre tract. The capacity is 1825 pound kegs of blasting powder daily. The pay roll, when at full running capacity, averages \$60,000.00 per year.

The Kansas City Southern Railway has meant much to the development of Pittsburg. The Main Shops and

Division Point are located there. This railroad was built through Pittsburg twenty-five years ago. It was there known as the Kansas City Pittsburg and Gulf Railroad, but was generally called the "P and G." In a few years they built their main shops but at that time the road did not have much business. In a short time business increased so that there were additions made to the old shops. About this time the name was changed to the Kansas City Southern. The shops covered fifteen acres before the addition was built, and consisted of two large buildings, but now it carries an area of thirty-five acres and has ten large buildings. They are among the largest railroad shops in this part of the country. The buildings are inclosed by a board fence eight feet high and above this there are three or four barbed wires, so it is very hard to get in except by way of the gate. The buildings are built almost entirely out of cement and stone.

Mr. M. O. Cornelisen, Superintendent, has been located with the Pittsburg office since 1910; Mr. G. F. Hess, Superintendent of Machinery, since 1911, and Mr. F. M. King, Agent, has been with the road since 1894, and as Agent in this city since 1911.

The K. C. S. pay roll for the year ending June 30, 1914, was \$896,568.69, over 500 men being employed. Of all receipts collected by the entire road, in every branch of service, eight points out of every dollar were spent in Pittsburg. For every dollar collected

by the Company in Pittsburg during the last year, \$6.31 was paid out in the city.

How can a town grow without railroads? They have become a great industrial value to Pittsburg. There are the main lines of the Kansas City Southern; Missouri Pacific, the St. Louis and San Francisco, and Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe. The K. C. S. operates six daily passenger trains, and thirty-two freight trains, and employ 300 men exclusive of the shops. The Frisco System runs eighteen passenger trains and fourteen freight trains daily, while they employ about 280 men. The A. T. and Santa Fe is a terminal and runs four daily passengers and eight daily freight trains, while they employ about 54 men. The Missouri Pacific runs four passenger trains, and two freight trains daily, and is the terminal of eleven freight crews. There are about 50 men employed.

One must not forget to consider the Joplin and Pittsburg Railway Company. In 1886, the Crawford Co. Street Car Company secured the first franchise for street railways. The electric system of the present time is managed and owned by J. J. Heim of Kansas City, and known as the Joplin and Pittsburg Railway Company. This company with headquarters in Pittsburg, connects with over twenty-five towns and cities and serves 150,000 people. This of course increases the value of the city as a trade and distributing center. The Air Line Division between Joplin

and Pittsburg, a distance of 26.7 miles, makes the trip including all stops in a trifle over one hour. All divisions give freight as well as passenger service.

The manufacture of zinc is an important industry. In 1882 there were three large zinc smelters in operation. The zinc ore is shipped from the mines in Missouri and Cherokee County, since it is cheaper to ship the ore to the coal than the coal to the ore, as it takes about three tons of coal to smelt one of zinc. The first smelter was built south of East First Street. In a short time the second smelter was built on East Fourth Street, around which East Pittsburg was built. The smelter occupying the plot west of Broadway and north of Eleventh Street was one of the old land marks.

The Pittsburg Zinc Companies have recently installed modern roasting ovens and distillation furnaces and are being used at the present time. Pittsburg will become a great smelting center on account of fuel. The gas fields are giving out, and the price of gas for fuel is advancing to a prohibitive figure. The smelters now employ 250 men.

"Pittsburg is destined to become, in the next three years, the smelting center of the Middle West," says A. O. Ihleng, a millionaire mine operator and smelter man of Los Angeles. He and his partners have signed contracts with the Chamber of Commerce,

secured ground, arranged for switch tracts, contracted for lumber from local firms, and have made a contract with a local contractor for the construction of a building to house Pittsburg's third smelter. This work will be on the twenty acre site north and west of the Pittsburg Zinc Smelting Company's plant. The cost of the new plant will be \$150,000 and the company will employ about 150 men. There have been people in Pittsburg making investigations for a fourth smelter.

Another important industry of Pittsburg is the Pittsburg Paving Brick Company. This business is located at Sixteenth and Catalpa Streets. This plant has turned out over 20,000,000 pieces of material yearly and this is sent to Missouri, Kansas, Arkansas, Texas, Oklahoma, Nebraska, Louisiana and all points on the Kansas City Southern. The plant covers over fifteen acres and controls one hundred fifty acres in the immediate vicinity which ensures a supply of raw material for years to come. The plant is one of the largest and best equipped factories west of the Mississippi River and has the latest machinery. The payroll will average close to \$70,000. This business was established twenty-two years ago by Robert Nesch, now the president and general manager of the company.

There is another quite similar industry, the U. S. Dickey Clay Manufacturing Company. The plant and works of this company cover over six hundred acres, and are located just east of the city limits. Seventeen

kilns are kept burning day and night with an output of approximately 54,750 tons of tile and clay products. This company generally employs about 120 men.

Another business that has helped to build up Pittsburg is that of the United Iron Works. The product of this company is shipped to all parts of the United States, Canada and Mexico. Their payroll averages over \$60,000 yearly.

The Standard Ice and Fuel Co. is certainly worth considering. It has two large plants employing fifty men. The capacity of both plants is 150 tons of ice daily, and 5,000 tons of storage space. The total holdings amount to over \$175,000. The best machinery is used by this company, and they have ready sale for their produce.

All cities find that a packing house is a good addition. So it has been with Pittsburg. The Hull and Dillon Packing Company first began business in 1885. The first killing took place under a large tree on the present site of the Douglas School. From there they moved near to the Kansas City Southern Shops. At the present time the packing plant is located one mile west of Broadway on the western bank of Cow Creek. The plant is just outside the city limits. They employ about 49 men, including lard refiners, sausage makers, teamsters, mechanics, and office help. This firm has the Federal Meat Inspection Service with veterinary and meat inspectors. The

machines of the plant used to be run by steam but now they are run by electricity which is cheaper. The fertilizing department is being improved and the boilers, vats and the refrigerating department have been improved. The plant, with its different buildings, has forty acres. The capacity of the plant is 30,000 hogs, 12,000 head of cattle, and 10,000 tons of ice annually. Southeastern Kansas, eastern Oklahoma, north-western Arkansas and western Missouri patronize this establishment.

The annual pay roll is about \$40,000. The business was incorporated Dec. 24, 1904 under the laws of the State of Kansas, and with a capital stock of \$150,000.

The Crawford County Creamery Company should not be omitted. This creamery was established fourteen years ago and is located at 107 West First Street. This plant is equipped with the latest machinery for turning out butter and ice cream. The daily capacity of the plant is over 1,500 pounds and is shipped as far east as Chicago and Philadelphia and south through the various lumber camps of Louisiana. The ice cream department has a capacity of 400 gallons daily and is shipped to all points within a radius of fifty miles. The president of this corporation is N. H. Skourup.

Another enterprise of Pittsburg is the Modern Milling Plant situated east of Broadway. There are three buildings, the mill which is three stories, the elevator and the warehouse. It has a capacity of 150

barrels of flour per day, grinding both soft and hard wheat. In connection with this it has the capacity of making 20,000 pounds of corn meal per day and 25,000 pounds of bran and shorts. The soft wheat and the corn which is used are bought from local farmers, while the hard wheat is received from western Kansas. The mill's output is sold to neighboring towns and to all parts of Oklahoma, Missouri, Arkansas, and Kansas. The mill gets its power from an 80 horse power motor which furnishes power to all the machinery.

Other important industries of Pittsburg are the cornice works, tent and awning factory, boiler works, sewer pipe works, factories for the manufacture of knives, mattresses, straw hats, gloves, mittens, garments, cigars and polish; stone works, bottling works and three refrigeration factories.

Could any one question the part the Chamber of Commerce has had in the upbuilding of Pittsburg? This organization has always been ready to assist any legitimate enterprise, seeking a location in this section of great natural resources. It was organized in 1879 and most of the industries of the town have received support from this club. It was founded for the purpose of maintaining a club for social enjoyment; to promote the commercial and industrial advantages of Pittsburg and vicinity; to enhance the city's credit; to collect and diffuse information concerning the commercial advantages; to invite and secure foreign capital and labor, and to make the city and vicinity a better place in

which to live. The year of its organization, it induced the Kansas City, Fort Scott and Memphis Railroad Co. to build the second railroad through Pittsburg, and later was able to induce the foundry to this city.

The present Chamber of Commerce was organized May 19, 1910 and at the present time has over three hundred members, representing every business, professional and mechanical pursuit. Its offices are located in Room 323 Globe Building. Meetings are held the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month; and any man in good standing interested in the progress and development of Pittsburg, shall be eligible to active membership and pay annual dues of twelve dollars. Mr. C. B. Spicer is president and Mr. G. B. Kidder secretary of this organization.

A similar association is that of the Retail Merchants, the object being for the betterment and closer relation of the merchants of Crawford County. This was organized in Oct. 1911 and began active work in November, with 45 members. This association represents the largest and most substantial business firms in the city. There are only two such associations in the state that have a larger membership than Pittsburg. These are in Wichita and Topeka. The first officers were, A. H. Shafer, A. Deruy and H. Degan. The association furnishes its members with all legal and proper information which may be of interest, value

or protection to any member or members in his or their business. The present officers are M. M. Hartzell, president; J. M. Liepmann, vice-president; G. W. Kidder, secretary; H. Degen, Sr. treasurer.

The financial institutions have had their part in the growth of Pittsburgh. There are five banks, The Pittsburg Building, Savings and Loan Association, and The Mortgage Investment Company.

The following are the banks and their deposits:

First National Bank,	-----	\$1,070,000.
The National Bank,	-----	1,000,000.
First State Bank,	-----	650,000.
Bank of Commerce,	-----	500,000.
Pittsburg State Bank,	-----	150,000.

The capital stock, surplus and undivided profits amount to \$750,000,000; deposits, \$3,370,000; and cash on hand, \$1,500,000. The National Bank of Pittsburg was the first bank in the city, and was established in 1880.

The Pittsburg Building, Loan and Savings Association was incorporated March 1883, and chartered for a period of twenty-five years. This was renewed in 1908 for an additional twenty-five years with a capital of \$1,000,000. The association was capitalized at \$500,000, consisting of 2,500 shares of \$200. each. The association advances money to share holders for the purpose of erecting a residence, under direction of Board of Directors.

Without a good city government these industries could never have developed to what they are at the present time.

SECTION III.  
CITY GOVERNMENT AND ACTIVITIES.

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Pittsburg had the old council form of government until 1912. There was a petition circulated, signed by 396 legally qualified voters to call a special election for the adoption of the Commission form of government. The results of the election were, E. B. Hoyt, Mayor; James Oliver, Frank Cumiskey, E. J. Byers and Wm. Lanyon, Jr., Commissioners. This form of government has done more for Pittsburg than the old form of city government. Taxation is much lower, and there has been much improvement done in the city. The salary of the mayor is \$1500 a year, and there are four commissioners with a salary of \$1000 a year. The elections have not been along party lines as is shown by the following.

	Democrats	Republicans	Socialists
First	3	2	0
Second	4	0	1
Third	4	1	0
Fourth	3	2	0

Pittsburg in state elections generally goes Republican.

The following are the present commissioners of Pittsburg: William Lanyon, Mayor; A. Messenger, Streets and Public Improvements; J. A. Nichols, Water Works and Street Lighting; A. F. Huffman, Finance and Revenue. Each commissioner, at the head of the department of Parks and Public Improvements, and also of Water and Lights, has the power to employ an assistant with a salary of \$900 a year.

All employees are appointed by the mayor, and confirmed by the Board of Commissioners. One of the important organizations of the city government is that of the Fire Department. Mr. T. W. Howe, Chief of the Department, gives the following history of the fire department.\* "When the volunteer department was first organized in 1882, J. C. Murrell organized one hook and ladder company and two hose companies. After W. H. Holmes' appointment as chief, there was organized two more hose companies, making J. S. Rogers foreman of the hook and ladder truck, and C. A. Watson secretary. The first fire alarm of the department was that of the Garva flats on Second and Olive Streets. The men at that time were paid by the number of fires, each man receiving one dollar for each fire he attended.

"A Gamewell fire alarm system with eight fire alarm boxes was installed in 1887. In the latter part of 1898, the city installed a paid department consisting

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\* Personal communication with T. W. Howe.

of the chief and three regular firemen. The first apparatus purchased for the paid department consisted of one horse drawn hose wagon and one thousand feet of hose.

"In 1902 a horse drawn hook and ladder truck was built on the rear of Central Station. In 1906-07 a station was erected at Fifteenth and Joplin Avenue.

"The apparatus at the present time consists of one Chief's buggy, two hose wagons, one hook and ladder truck, five thousand feet of fire hose, and eight horses. All apparatus is fully equipped, including Siamese sets and turrett pipes.

"The men employed at the present time are Chief, Assistant Chief, Captain, and nine regular firemen. The present officers are: Chief, F. W. Howe; Assistant Chief, F. O. Robertson; Secretary, Ira Main; Captain of Station No. 2, S. J. Urichs.

A Chief's motor car has been ordered from the White Motor Car Company and the department expects to purchase two motor trucks, also one hook and ladder truck during the coming year. The department responds to an average of 140 fire alarms per year."

Today, Pittsburg has a well equipped department for a city of its size.

The police department is not a matter of little importance. Although this city and adjoining camps have a decidedly cosmopolitan population, law and order are maintained. The department has

done and is doing very efficient work. The officers are Roll Rakestraw, Chief; Louis Moore, Assistant Chief; George Prell, Eli Corlott, Charles Kickel, D. Butler, A. Tennant and J. Farrimond.

The government of Pittsburg acted wisely in that it recently took the Water Department into its own hands. The Water Works was first established about twenty years ago. Pittsburg first owned the plant but sold it to a Mr. Playter, providing he would pipe the city and build the tower. Mr. Playter soon sold it to Mr. McCormick, who in turn sold it to the Emerson and Harrison Company.

In 1912 when the franchise ran out, the Company either had to sell the plant to Pittsburg, or the city would build its own independent plant. The Company first demanded \$300,000. but when the city refused to pay and began to plan for the independent plant, the company lowered its price. The purchase price finally agreed upon was \$225,000. The first bonds issued consisted of \$185,000. but the total cost, including the improvements, amounted to \$235,000.

Water is pumped out of the wells and then distributed over the city. The Water Works has a force of twelve employees. There are five wells, but only two are in use, the others being corked. Two of these wells are 1,000 feet deep while the remaining three are 1,500 feet deep. The wells are of

artesian principle, forcing the water up within 146 feet of the surface. From there the water is lifted to the reservoir by pumps. There are two reservoirs, one being 13 feet and holding 9000 gallons of water, and the other being 15 feet and holding 2,000,000 gallons of water. Twice each year the water is drawn out of the reservoirs to give them a good cleaning. Two years ago the reservoirs were inclosed by a strong cement wall. The tower and tank are 180 feet high. The tank is 20 feet deep, 32 feet in diameter, and holds 100,000 gallons of water.

During the last year, the city made extension of 19,550 feet, mostly 6, 8 and 12 inch mains, and put in eleven hydrants. The city bought \$4,500 additional property and purchased with the surplus, \$20,000 of bonds. During the last year, 434,306,800 gallons of water were pumped and the net earnings of the year were over \$25,000.

The water is distributed over the city in cast iron pipes. The pipes along the main streets are twelve inches in diameter, and the balance inlaid with pipes from ten inches down to three inches. The pipes which run to the house are all about one inch in diameter.

The water works has a heating system for the purpose of heating places where steam heat is desired, but this is not used by many residences.

This artesian water is not only pure and clear but contains minerals which are particularly benefi-

cial to the human system. Prof. U. G. Waring in his recent analysis, classes it as bi-carbonated alkaline - saline sulphated water.

Pittsburg in the last few years certainly has not neglected the paving of her streets and alleys. The first paving in Pittsburg was in 1892 on Broadway from Second to Eleventh Street, the yardage of which was 26,219 square yards; length 2150 feet; width 76 feet; and the price \$1.58 a square yard. This paving was constructed on the old style double course system. There was no more paving started until 1899, which was under the same engineer, C. G. Waite, and Robert Nesch, contractor. This paving was on Third Street, from Locust to Olive, price \$1.29 $\frac{1}{2}$  a square yard.

The next work, completed December 1902 was on two different streets, one on Third, from Locust to Olive and the other was an alley. This work was contracted by Pittsburg's Vitrified Brick Company. The next paving, completed in 1903, was in the following order, on Fifth from Locust to Pine; on Pine from Third to Fourth; the alleys east and west of Broadway; alleys on blocks Twenty-two and Twenty-seven; and on Nine, Fifteen, Sixteen and Twenty-one. These pavements were all made on the same plan, the old style double course being used; but in October 1912, Jefferson Avenue was paved differently.

In April 1909, Broadway from Second to Seventh was repaved. That is, the top layer of brick was

removed and then replaced by new brick. The paving on Jefferson Avenue was constructed on a concrete base. The subgrade on which the concrete was placed, was rolled with a steam roller weighing about seven tons. This paving has proven entirely successful so far. The first concrete pavement in Pittsburg was on Euclid, from Catalpa to Georgia. It was completed in Nov. 1912 under contractors, Thogmartin and Gardiner. The new style Double Course Pavement was first laid in the alley between Locust and Elm from Fourth to Fifth Street.

Pittsburg during the year 1914, was surpassed in Kansas in the number of miles of paving laid, only by Kansas City. At the present time there are more than thirty-five miles of paving laid and contracts out for several miles more. While paving the streets, Pittsburg has not been neglectful of storm sewers. During the year 1914, storm sewers were constructed in all of the main parts of Pittsburg. The following will show the number of miles of paving laid in the different years.

1892 - .592	1906 - .892	1911 - .64
1899 - .218	1907 - 1.800	1912 - 2.39
1902 - .383	1908 - 1.068	1913 - 4.315
1903 - .602	1909 - 1.820	1914 - 3.
1904 - .238	1910 - 1.622	1915 - 2.
1905 - .824		

The lighting and heating system is worth consid-

ering in the development of Pittsburg. The city is lighted by electricity and gas. It was first lighted by gas, the franchise being granted to J. R. Braidwood. The electric light system was first installed by O. T. Boaz, December 15, 1880. The next franchise was granted to The Pittsburg Gas, Light and Coke Company, Oct. 14, 1896 by R. E. Carlton, Mayor and A. S. Casad, City Clerk. Under this franchise there was to be thirty arc lights, with capacity of 2000 standard candles. During this same year a franchise was granted to the Frontenac Railway Company, with power to use streets, lanes and alleys for erecting poles, laying cables, and stringing wires for the purpose of conveying electricity for lighting and motor uses to the inhabitants of Pittsburg.

The last franchise was granted February 3, 1915 to Morris Cligget, in the name of the present Home, Heat and Power Company. It was during this year that the present Electric Light Plant was erected on Second and Locust Streets. The contract was held by C. A. Burton of Kansas City, Missouri. Recently there has been the installation of a new steam turbine at the Home, Heat and Power plant, which doubles the capacity of the plant. The mines are rapidly coming to the use of electricity and the local plant is well situated to handle such an increase. The company has spent \$100,000 in improvements. There

have been constructed a new cooling tower with a capacity of cooling 300,000 gallons of water per hour and a new 70 by 50 addition made of brick and cement.

The machines at the plant require six men to run and keep in order in the daytime, and three at night. The amount of current used for the electric power of the city is registered on ten meters. Before the White Way was constructed the arc lights were used to light Broadway.

The present lighting system has been greatly improved by the installing of the great White Way. The franchise for the new system was passed April 17, 1914 to the Home, Heat and Power Company, the length being ten years. The United Iron Works of Pittsburg had the contract for the work. This system consists of 173 poles, each of which has one-one hundred watt light, and three-sixty watt lights. The Way extends on Broadway from Euclid to the Missouri Pacific on Eleventh Street. It also extends to Locust, East of Broadway and to Walnut west of Broadway. Pittsburg is the best lighted city according to size in the State of Kansas.

The Home Light, Heat and Power Company also furnishes the natural gas used. Gas was turned into the twenty-six miles of main Aug. 1, 1905. The plant is owned and operated by the Kansas Gas and Electric Company and a good steady pressure is available.

Pittsburg is not neglecting the health of its inhabitants. It is one of the few cities in Kansas that has a city pure food inspector. Mr. J. C. Linthicum was appointed to this position in March, 1911, according to the civil service rules. Mr. Linthicum investigates the weights and measures of all doing business, thus taking the tricks out of trade. Hotels, bakeries, milk supply, ventilation and plumbing are all investigated by this individual. There never has been an epidemic on account of the milk supply. On Fourth of Julys there are from 25 to 30,000 extra people in Pittsburg, but there has not been an epidemic on account of the food supply.

The United States has realized the importance of Pittsburg by giving it one of the best post-offices in the state. As was mentioned before, the first post office was established in 1876, and George Rickey was the first postmaster. It was made a money order office July 1, 1879, and the first order for \$2.50 was issued on the seventh of that month to Dr. W. W. Watkins in favor of C. C. Archer of St. Louis, Mo. The office began to issue foreign money orders July, 1882. This first office was on Fourth Street and Broadway. It was next found on the corner of Third Street and Broadway, then Sixth Street and Broadway; from whence it was removed to a building between Seventh and Eighth Streets on Broadway. Here it remained until July 1911, when it was moved to the new building on

the corner of Seventh and Locust Streets. This building is really an ornament to the city. It is of red sand finished brick and Bedford Stone and is 56 by 93 feet and occupies a lot 150 by 170 feet. It is of Grecian architecture. This is a first class office and was designated as the first Postal Savings Bank in the State of Kansas.

At first the office was fourth class but within ten years it was a third class one. The office became second class in 1896 and a first class in 1906. It has grown to an institution employing nearly fifty people and has an annual business of one-half million dollars. There is an average of 13,000 pieces of mail handled daily and the mail is distributed twice daily to each patron and four times daily to the business districts.

Pittsburg by means of her newspapers is able to tell the outside world what she is doing. The first newspaper was the Pittsburg Exponent, established in June 1862, by L. C. Hitchcock. After one year it was sold to the Flint Brothers of Girard, who began the publication of the Pittsburg Smelter. It was a five-column quarto, Republican in politics.

The following newspapers are in circulation: Headlight, Kansan, Labor Herald, Cyclone, (a monthly fraternal paper), and the Sun. The Headlight published by Moore Bros., has its quarters at the corner of Seventh and Broadway. This newspaper was established

in 1887, and has a circulation of over 6,500 daily papers, and about 6,000 weekly papers. Both papers are metropolitan running full telegraphic news and the plant gives employment to about sixty persons, not including carriers.

The Pittsburg Kansan is a Democratic weekly which was established in 1889 by J. C. Buchanan. This was sold in 1906 to the present publishers, J. F. and E. W. Callen.

It is interesting to note the growth of Pittsburg in population and assessed valuation of property. The following gives the population of the city since 1896:

1896 - 10,172	1903 - 13,116	1909 - 16,335
1897 - 12,195	1904 - 14,368	1910 - 15,037
1898 - 12,323	1905 - 15,012	1911 - 15,153
1899 - 12,347	1906 - 15,964	1912 - 15,419
1900 - 12,381	1907 - 17,337	1913 - 15,635
1901 - 12,676	1908 - 17,267	1914 - 17,796

The following gives the assessed valuation of Pittsburg:

1909 - \$11,619,767.	1913 - \$11,278,406.
1910 - 11,159,945.	1914 - 11,614,414.
1911 - 11,017,519.	1915 - 12,258,011.
1912 - 10,960,770.	

Real Estate, \$7,670,035.

Personal, 2,582,330.

Railroad, 2,005,648.

The following is the property owned by  
Pittsburg:

Fire Station No. I,	\$ 9,000.
Fire Station No. II,	7,000.
Fire Dept. Furniture and Fixtures,	10,730.95
Lots No. 333-334 - Block 21,	9,000.
Lincoln Park,	53,400.
City Hall, Furniture & Fixtures,	45,000.
Equipment, Weights & Measures,	250.
Library and equipment,	60,000.
Euclid Avenue Park,	3,000.
Water Works Plant,	
Furniture & Equipment,	306,849.93
Street and Alley Department,	3,425.
Engineer's Department,	545.
Police Department,	519.95
Country right of way	75.
4 city blocks in additions,	<u>175.</u>
Total,	\$508,970.83

The improvements during the year ending 1915 was up to the million mark. There were 174 residences constructed at a total cost of \$394,695. Bungalows and cottages comprised two-thirds of the homes constructed. The average cost of new residences was \$2,268.36. The total cost of other buildings was \$337,800 and of remodeling, \$237,040. The city at the present time has no ordinance providing for the issuance of building permits outside the fire limits, but such an ordinance has been proposed and may be passed at an early date.

Pittsburg has been one of the first cities in the good road movement. The Good Roads' Association has been organized for five years, but especially during the past year has much been done. The present

officers are president, J. H. Seeley; Secretary, George Kidder, and Treasurer, C. B. Spicer. These officers have especially boosted good roads. During the last year, there has been graded the seven miles of road from Pittsburg to Opolis and plans are under consideration for graveling the entire. Four miles on East Fourth Street have been graded and will also be graveled.

Pittsburg is interested in the Jefferson Highway and sent four delegates to the convention at New Orleans. There it was decided that both Missouri and Kansas were to establish a good road and at the end of the year the best would be considered a part of the Jefferson Highway. Pittsburg is doing her best to make the Kansas road the better of the two. They are graveling the old Military Road from the County line on the north to the County line on the south.

For recreation and for developing the aesthetic part of life, Pittsburg has Lincoln and Lakeside Parks. Lincoln Park is situated about six blocks west of Broadway on Ninth Street. This park has an auditorium with a seating capacity of more than twelve thousand, which was completed in the spring of 1911. This building is used for the Chautauquas, Baccalaureate sermons of the High School, Community Band Concerts and other public gatherings. Until the spring of 1915, car service did not extend to the park but at the present time the car service enables the people

to get more benefit of it.

The park is an ideal place of recreation and enjoyment for both old and young. One of the good features of the park is that it is well lighted. It is kept in an excellent condition by the efficient park commissioner, Mr. H. N. Lindsey. In the fall of 1915, a green house was added so that flowers can be seen throughout the year. This ground was originally the property of the G. A. R. Veterans of this vicinity, but was purchased from them by the city for \$7000. There are forty acres of tree-covered slopes and natural streams. An attractive feature of Lincoln Park is the natural stream winding its way through the grounds east and west. North of the stream, man has made changes, but the entire southern part is nature's own work. In the northeast portion is located the separate play grounds for boys and girls. This park certainly would do credit to a city of much greater size than Pittsburg.

Plater's Lake or Lakeside Park is in the southwest part of the city and is a favorite place for boating, bathing, and fishing. In winter the lake is used for skating. The park is a private concern and at one time the city contemplated buying it. This park is not so large or as much used as Lincoln Park but for real rest and enjoyment could not be surpassed.

Pittsburg is interested in baseball, so we find League Park located at Michigan and 27th Street, and is on the street car line.

The seating capacity is from 1500 to 2000. As the people in Southwestern Kansas are very enthusiastic for baseball, this is one of the popular places of that part of the state.

Along with athletics should be mentioned the amusements. The largest amusement house was the Orpheum Theater located at Fourth and Locust. This building had a seating capacity of 1,600 people, but was burned in November 1915. As yet no steps have been taken for rebuilding it. This was a great loss to Pittsburg, as it is difficult to secure the best talent without a good theatre. Of course another one will be erected if the Orpheum is not rebuilt.

There are five moving picture shows, all running the year around, and there are three air-domes in the summer. Pittsburg has a board of censorship for the pictures, thus the pictures of a questionable element are eliminated. This city has a paid matron to investigate the amusement houses and also the public dance halls.

Pittsburg has a Board of Welfare to investigate civic and sanitary conditions. This Board is composed of three members who are appointed by the mayor and serve without pay. Many people believe that this board will be a means of making conditions along many lines much better.

SECTION IV.  
CHURCHES AND SCHOOLS.

## SECTION IV.

CHURCHES AND SCHOOLS.

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In 1882, five churches were established, the Methodist, Episcopal, Christian, Catholic and Baptist. Only the Methodists and Episcopalians were supplied with buildings. At the present time there are eighteen churches valued at about \$500,000, with a total membership of over 6,000.

Methodism has long been in existence. It began when New Pittsburg was but a small mining camp of 500 people with Rev. E. C. Boaz as a visiting pastor. By 1879 the site for a church was selected on the corner of Fifth and Pine Streets and the church was dedicated in the fall of 1880 with the Rev. C.S. Jeuness as pastor. This building was called the "Tabernacle Methodist Church" as it received a donation from the Methodist Tabernacle of Philadelphia, Pa. There were eighteen members at that time. The Rev. R. H. Sparks became minister in 1889, and during his ministry more room was needed, so the Methodists decided to erect a new structure. This building was erected on the corner of Eighth and Locust Streets.

The church and Sunday School had grown to

such a size that in 1911, during the pastorage of Dr. Louis M. Potts, a larger church was found necessary. Lots were secured on the south-west corner of Fifth and Pine Streets, the ground being donated by Mr. J. Luther Taylor and Mr. Alvin H. Lanyon. The ground was formally broken by Bishop Shepard on the 12th of June, 1913 and dedicated Sept. 13, 1914. This building is one of the best churches in Kansas and is modern in all respects. The total seating capacity is about 1800 and can accommodate a Sunday School of about 1400. The church is valued at about \$80,000. There is mission work in the north and south parts of town. The South Side Sunday School was organized in 1907 with Mr. T. J. Wright as superintendent. The school has grown out of its quarters and is at the corner of Walnut and Jefferson. The North Side School, though just organized in 1912, shows a promising outlook. Dr. Geo. Satterlee is the present pastor of the Methodist Church.

The Christian Church was organized about 1880. The first building was located at Seventh and Pine. After the membership had increased to such a great extent, the present structure at Fifth and Pine was erected. Harold Bell Wright, the novelist, was pastor for a number of years at this church. The Rev. Sam I. Smith is the present minister. The Sunday School is an especial feature of this church, having an average attendance of nearly seven hundred. This congregation is badly in need of more rooms, and plans are being made

for the erection of a new church.

This church has four missions. At 19th and Grand, the average attendance is about two hundred; at Radley, the average attendance is about sixty-three; at Lone Star, forty, and there is a new school south of the city. The local membership of this church is more than twelve hundred.

The Baptist Church was organized in 1882, and at the present time is located at 7th and Walnut. The building is modern with large Sunday School rooms, besides a basement, kitchen, auditorium, and balcony. They have a splendid pipe organ, the first ever brought to the city, and the only one for three years. The church owns three missions and rents another, thus maintaining four active missions. About \$20,000 worth of improvements have been made on the church in the past twelve years and the membership has been greatly increased. Ten percent of its entire membership are engaged as teachers and superintendents in its five Sunday Schools. This church is without a pastor at the present time, due to the resignation of Dr. E. D. Eldridge.

The Episcopal Church was organized in Nov. 1881. The first building was erected in the fall of 1882, on the corner of Elm and 7th Streets. In 1894, the present church building and rectory were erected on West Euclid Avenue.

The following are some of the rectors: the Rev. Geo. Plumming, the Rev. Hudson Sawyer, the Rev.

J. C. Ferner, the Rev. W. F. Henry, the present one being the Rev. Franklin Davis.

The United Brethren was organized in a school house in East Pittsburg in 1882. Later a building was erected on South Locust. In 1913 a better structure was located at the same place. The value of this church is \$12,000. The present membership is three hundred and the enrollment for the Sunday School is 275. The Reverend Fisher is the present pastor.

The United Presbyterian Church was organized in 1889 with fifteen charter members. This organization was brought about at the home of Mr. J. W. Alexander, then living on W. Forest Avenue. Its location is at the north-west corner of Fifth and Pine, near the center of the city. The Rev. W. Thompson is the present minister. In 1911, this church ranked fifth in the United States in the magnitude of the foreign work. There is a new church, valued at \$25,000, under construction on the northeast corner of Fourth and Walnut. This church has a mission in the south part of town, called the Quincy Mission and has an enrollment of about 150 members.

The Presbyterian Church was founded by the Home Board Missions about thirty years ago. In the course of six months the old church which still stands on the corner of Eighth and Pine Streets was erected. The Home Board of Missions supported this church until

it became self sustaining. The present location is on the corner of Sixth and Pine and was built during the pastorage of the Reverend Gerret Snyder. The new church and parsonage, which stands beside it, are worth \$50,000. Dr. McDonald, who has had much experience in the slum work of the cities, is the present pastor.

The first Congregational Church was started as a mission on the corner of Kansas and Broadway. In 1890, the present building was erected on the corner of West Third and Walnut. The present membership is about 125. The Rev. Chester H. Clarke has had this charge during the last year.

The Catholic Church was established in the very early history of Pittsburg. In 1906, the new church was erected on the corner of Ninth and Locust Street. Father J. A. Pompeny is the present priest. The Catholics have their separate grade schools and Mount Carmel Hospital.

The Christian Science Church has especially grown during the last few years and has a beautiful structure on the northeast corner of Euclid and Walnut. Mr. S. E. Seymour is the first reader and Mrs. G. S. Donahay, the second reader.

There are two Lutheran churches, one being a German Lutheran. This denomination also has a school for its children.

The colored people also have their churches, which are well organized and well attended.

Pittsburg has progressed very much in this line during the last ten years and it is to be hoped that the importance of the churches will continue to be felt.

What is a city without schools? Pittsburg is considered one of the educational centers of Kansas. The first school was taught in the fall of 1877. A. J. Georgia was the teacher and there were enrolled forty pupils in this school. The schoolhouse had been erected during the summer and was a two-story frame building containing two apartments. The second building was erected in 1881, it being a one-story frame. The schools were graded in 1880 so that there were three departments. At that time there were 600 pupils in attendance. The Washington school building was the first brick structure owned by the city. The Eugene Field School building was erected from a one-story frame building. In this school, Judge A. S. Casad, one of Pittsburg's veterans, taught in 1885. The second brick building was two-story and built on the corner of Ninth and Broadway. Later it was sold and the material used in the building of Lincoln School.

There are now eight city school buildings; the Manual Training High School on North Broadway between Eighth and Ninth; the Central, at Fifth and Walnut; the Washington, at Locust and Euclid; the Lincoln at Locust and Seventeenth; the Eugene Field at Sixth and Rouse; the Forest Park at Fourth and

Chestnut; the Lakeside at College and Washington; the Douglas, (colored) at West Eleventh Street. The latter is one of the best buildings in the city.

The buildings, grounds, furniture, libraries, and apparatus are estimated to be worth over \$3,000,000, and the value of the school district is \$12,000,000. The annual cost of maintaining the school is about \$15,000,000 a year.

The first graduating class of the High School consisted of six members. This class was graduated in 1888, five years before the erection of the first high school building, the Central School. The first graduating class from this building was in 1894, consisting of eleven members. In 1895, there was a faculty of two members and a student body of sixty-five. In 1903, a new high school building was erected. This building is still in use, but Pittsburg hopes to erect a fine modern one in the future. The largest class graduating was seventy-two in 1912. At the present all schools are in a crowded condition. The enrollment of the high school is about 500, and there is a teaching force of eighteen members. In March 1914, the High School was admitted to the North Central Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools, without a single condition.

The school system is being managed very efficiently under the direction of Superintendent J. F. Bender. The following statistics will show something of the growth of the schools.

Pupils enrolled		Teachers employed
1895	-	1768
1900	-	2421
1905	-	3155
1910	-	3236
1915	-	3880
		43
		52
		64
		70
		87

The following is the number of colored and white children in the grades and high schools in 1915.

Grades	High School
White Males -	1601
White Females -	1626
Total,	<u>3227</u>
	195
	<u>273</u>
	<u>466</u>
Colored Males,	83
Colored Females,	83
Total,	<u>166</u>
	11
	<u>10</u>
	<u>21</u>

During the last year the Board of Education has rebuilt and remodeled the Forest Park building and has built a two-room addition to the Lincoln building and is now building, to meet the demands of the coming year, additional two-rooms on the Lincoln ground and on the Eugene Field ground.

For the last three years a Night School has been maintained in Pittsburgh. There were 96 adult students in the school the past year, of whom 72 were males and 24 were females. The enrollment for the present year has been 125, employing a teaching force of five members. The school is open three evenings a week, for five months in the year. The different commercial subjects, Domestic Science, the common branches, and citizenship are taught. The Night School has proven a great success in the city.

During the months of June and July, 1915, a summer school was maintained for the purpose of giving a chance to those pupils who had failed by only a slight margin. Another purpose was to give children an opportunity of further study in subjects in which they were unusually weak. During the school, there were 109 enrolled and three teachers employed to teach the work. There were 94 pupils who had failed during the school year, and by special examinations sixty were promoted at the end of summer school. The tuition was one dollar a month, which paid for about one-half of the teachers' salaries. The rest of the salaries was paid by the city.

The tax levy in Pittsburg for the last three years has been .007.

One could not study the educational system of Pittsburg, without giving special attention to Manual Normal College, one of the best of its kind. The Normal was founded twelve years ago through the efforts of Senator E. F. Porter and Mr. R. S. Russ. The legislature in 1901 appropriated \$18,000 for equipment and maintenance of an industrial school. Pittsburg agreed to provide gratuitously, a suitable building for the housing of the students. School opened in what is now the Central building. At the opening of school in 1903, the enrollment was 65 and the faculty consisted of Principal Russ and four others. A new member was added to the faculty in 1904 and two more in 1905. At this time the course was increased to three years, one year being

college work; in 1910 the course to four years, and in 1913 to four years of college work.

In 1906, through the efforts of Senator E. F. Porter, the state legislature appropriated \$150,000 for a new building, \$50,000 for equipment, and \$10,000 for the purchase of a site for the building. The move was made to the new building during the holiday season of 1908. This is located on South Broadway about one and one-half miles from the business portion of the city. By the time Russ Hall was ready for occupancy the student body had increased to over 600 and it was soon necessary to ask for another appropriation. In 1912, \$60,000 was appropriated for an Industrial Arts Building, which was completed the following year. This building is 135 feet by 286 feet, and is one of the largest and best equipped buildings of its kind in the United States. The Administration building is a large and handsome structure. There is a large auditorium for housing all the assemblies of students.

Prof. Russ, the first principal, was succeeded by Dr. Geo. E. Myers. It was during his administration that the school was given its independence from the Emporia Normal. In the fall of 1913 Pres. W. R. Brandenburg, the present president, came to the Normal from Oklahoma City. In June, 1914, Russ Hall was struck by lightning and nearly destroyed, but it has been restored, and today it is the finest administration building of any school in the state.

This school, as the others of Kansas, is under the control of the Board of Administration of the State Schools. The Board has authorized the introduction of the factory system and plan for shop work, by which all shop practice and work in the shops will be applied toward the production of articles for the market. This plan would enable scores of young men to earn most of their way through the institution.

The Normal is doing a great deal of extension work in the near cities. Many of the teachers come to the Normal for work on Saturdays and the professors go to the near surrounding towns and organize classes when there are a sufficient number to warrant such. A great many students are also enrolled in correspondence courses.

#### Statistical Growth of School.

	Enrollment	Graduates	Degrees
1903-04	143	10	
1904-05	183	31	
1905-06	276	33	
1909-10	723	12	
1911-12	1183	96	
1915-14	1650	152	22
1914-15	2159	205	53

Another important school is the Pittsburg Business College, which was founded in 1894. In the rear of one of the buildings on Broadway, Mr. O. E. Johnston first established the Business College and opened the doors to the public. The school continued under the same management until 1903 when it was purchased by Mr. P. W. Errebo, the present president

and proprietor of the school.

Since the organization of the school, it has moved three times to make room for increased attendance. Ten years ago it was moved to the Headlight block, its present location. The building has a front of 75 feet and a depth of 140 feet. Oklahoma, Missouri and Arkansas furnish a large number of students. This school employs eight or more teachers, and the students are found in the most responsible places in business, many of them having Civil Service appointments. During the winter months there is a night school conducted three evenings a week.

There are excellent opportunities for music at the Normal and also excellent teachers elsewhere in piano and voice.

There are a great number of other institutions and organizations in Pittsburg that are for the uplifting of the people along material, educational and spiritual lines, that need to be considered.

SECTION V.  
HELPFUL INSTITUTIONS.

## SECTION V.

HELPFUL INSTITUTIONS AND ORGANIZATIONS.

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One of the first organizations to be considered is the Young Mens' Christian Association, which has done such good work in Pittsburg. The Merchants' Association held a meeting at the Commercial Club rooms on Jan. 29, 1907, to organize for the purpose of raising a fund of \$50,000 with which to build a Y. M. C. A. building. The Y. M. C. A. State Secretary, K. A. Shumaker of Topeka, visited Pittsburg and gave the committees ideas in regard to raising the fund. Mass meetings were held in different churches. On May 14, 1907, a Y. M. C. A. charter membership campaign was inaugurated, and seven hundred charter members were secured. By June 18, 1907, \$53,921.88 was raised. Nearly everybody gave, the lodges clubs, churches, business houses and individuals.

The corner of West Fourth and North Pine was decided as a building site. The building was begun in 1907 and was finished and accepted on September 1, 1909. Several other membership campaigns were organized to furnish the building, and on November 24, 1911, it was dedicated. Mr. F. M. Duckles was the first secretary, who unexpectedly resigned and in July 1908, J. H. Gallyon was chosen General Secretary.

The present valuation of the building and lot is \$65,000. Mr. Gallyon resigned in 1912 and was followed by C. T. McCully. Mr. O. J. Stirratt is the present men's secretary, Mr. C. C. Hartford, the boys' secretary, and Mr. Hale, the physical director. This organization and building mean a great deal to boys of all ages as well as to men. The gymnasium furnishes a place for all High School athletics. The High School Boys' Club has its weekly noon meeting at the "Y" and in the spring of 1915, the girls organized a similar club. The "Y" is always open to all activities that are uplifting and beneficial. The rooms are occupied by young men and it could be said that all of the building is in use all of the time.

Everyone acknowledges that the Carnegie Library is one of the greatest institutions of the city. Up to 1898, Pittsburg had no free library. In January of that year, great petitions for a library were circulated in every voting precinct, and an election was called, and almost unanimously carried, for the proposition. The first library board was appointed by the mayor, Edwin V. Lanyon. This board recommended a taxing ordinance, which the city council passed. Thus began the accumulation of funds to institute a library. As a result of these efforts, the Pittsburgh Public Library was opened January 18, 1902, in the west wing of the city building, and had 1601 volumes of various kinds of books.

In 1909, a request was made of a gift from Andrew Carnegie for a building. There was then \$7,279.19 in the library fund. This amount had been saved from the annual tax levy of one-half of one percent. Mr. Carnegie donated \$40,000 conditioned that the board purchase and pay for a site and provide at least \$4,000 for maintenance. At once, ground 100 by 170 feet was purchased for \$7000, and the city council adopted a resolution to make a sufficient tax levy for maintenance. The building was opened January 1, 1912. The entire cost, exclusive of the books and pictures, was \$50,385.21. There is no indebtedness upon it, and the taxes for library purposes will hereafter be materially reduced.

The library building is eighty-five by sixty-one and a half feet, with full basement, main floor and an art-lecture room twenty-five by seventy-five feet. The construction throughout is slow burning, being composed of Carthage stone, Pittsburg brick, concrete, tile, steel and copper, and finished in oak.

The number of books has each year been increased by more than one hundred percent of the original number, there being now more than 16,000 volumes. This number includes 3,345 volumes bequeathed to the library by the late Morris Cliggitt. The books are especially placed upon steel adjustable shelves capable of expanding to a capacity of three times that of the present need.

The present librarian is Mrs. Theresa Randolph and there are two assistants. There is a Library Board

composed of eight members, who willingly give their time for the welfare of this educational center. One individual has only to stay in the library but a short time to see that the grown people and children really appreciate their advantages.

In studying conditions of Pittsburg, the Humane Society surely should not be overlooked. The organization of the Charity and Humane Society really dates back to the time when charity work first began in Pittsburg under Mrs. Sarah E. McFarlane, who is Field Secretary of the organization.

Mrs. McFarlane says that she became interested in that work about twenty years ago, at the time of the smallpox epidemic in Pittsburg. She was chairman of the committee to distribute food and clothing to the small pox people. The women became interested and through the City Federation, the office of police matron was established. Mrs. McFarlane was appointed to that position. After she ceased to be police matron, her interests were still with the needy.

In 1910, the Rev. W. Gardner of the Congregational Church came to the city, and seeing the need for a charity organization, asked his people to take up the work. His people became interested and the basement of their church was used for that purpose. Mrs. McFarlane was asked to take charge of the work. All churches soon became interested and paid her thirty-five dollars a month. This basement was used for two years.

The Women's Federated Clubs of the city became interested and took up the work. They held a meeting on November 19, 1909 at the City Hall for organization. There was a committee appointed to draw up a charter. On December 14, 1909 a second meeting was held, the charter having been granted. Officers were elected, and a membership campaign was begun, which resulted in securing a membership of two or three hundred at an annual membership of one dollar. The society organized under the name of "The Pittsburg Charity and Humane Society." The Society was permanently organized in January, 1910, with Mrs. McFarlane as Field Secretary.

This organization maintains a free medical, and also a free legal department. In January 1912, the secretary was made a member of the police force with power to make arrests. At this time the basement of the Congregational Church was needed, and the office was moved to a room in the basement of the City Hall. At the present time, the quarters are on the corner of Eighth and Olive Streets, known as the old City Hospital. A great number of men, women, boys and girls receive employment through this agency. This society, being organized as it is, is able to assist many needy families and the secretary has helped and given advice to many people who were in trouble. At the Home, many are taken care of until they are able to again go out in the world. Employment is given to the people, such as making gloves, mending shoes and doing many other things. In this way, the institution is partly

self supporting. Cities that are interested in organized charity should investigate the system of Pittsburg.

Everyone is interested in the city having the best medical aid along all lines, that can be secured. Pittsburg is fortunate in having an efficient number of dentists, doctors, and surgeons, and has one of the best hospitals in the state. Until recently, the city had two hospitals. The first one, known as the City Hospital, was situated on the corner of Eighth and Olive Streets. This building was erected during the early nineties. This was maintained by local physicians and surgeons, but is no longer in operation.

In 1902 the Catholics built Mt. Carmel Hospital about two miles northeast of Fourth Street and Broadway. Since that time the hospital has been greatly enlarged and new equipment been installed. The surgeons of the city have performed many successful operations there, and people from other places desiring efficient attention, come to this hospital.

Between 1911 and 1913, the old A. K. Lanyon Home, on the corner of Fifth and Pine Streets, was converted into the General Hospital, but this was continued but for a short time.

The extent to which culture and refinement has progressed in a community may to a certain extent be judged by the societies and organizations of which its individuals are members. There are organizations which are beneficiary

only, as well as those which are social, others which combine both, and many which include moral and ethical instruction, which cannot but aid in the progress of the city. The total membership of all orders will exceed ten thousand.

The Pittsburg Lodge, No. 187, A.F. & A.M. was instituted December 27, 1879 with sixteen charter members.

Black Diamond Lodge, No. 65, K of P was instituted December 20, 1882, by J. H. Lyon of Leavenworth, having twenty-two charter members.

Pittsburg City Lodge, No. 196, I.O.O.F. was instituted February 1, 1882, under a dispensation with twenty-four charter members.

Pittsburg Lodge, No. 56, A.O.U.W. was instituted in September 1880.

Other organizations which have established here are Odd Fellows, Woodmen, Red Men, Loyal Order of Moose, Knights of Pythias, Eagles and Knights of Columbus, the Hibernians, American Yoeman, Court of Honor, Fraternal Aid, Fraternal Order of Hustlers, Rahtbone Sisters, Mac-cabees, Knights and Ladies of Security, Modern Woodmen of America, Woodmen of the World, Triple Tie, Tribe of Ben Hur, Knights and Ladies of Honor, Anti-Horse Thief and other organizations.

The different societies have their own meeting places and buildings. Foremost among them is the Masonic Temple, located at Sixth and Pine Streets. This building at a recent dedication was declared to be the most beau-

tiful and complete building of its kind devoted exclusively to lodge purposes in the state. Its auditorium and eight lodge rooms are complete and accomodate five different lodges with a combined membership of nearly 2,800. These are the Shriners, Knight Templars, Royal Arch Chapter, Pittsburg Lodge 187 and Ladies' Auxillary, and The Eastern Star.

Mirza was the name selected for the temple, and is a Persian name selected by C. E. Mellette, meaning "A Prince of the Blood," or "Born a Prince." The Mirza Temple was granted a dispensation June 9, 1909 and the charter was granted April 15, 1910 with Arthur K. Lanyon as first Potentate. This was the fourteenth Temple in the United States, commencing with a membership of two hundred twenty-four and has grown to 1107.

A short distance from the temple is the Elks Club Building located on North Broadway, between Sixth and Seventh Streets. It is valued at \$32,000 and is elaborately furnished and complete throughout.

We must not forget the Federated Clubs which have stood for everything helpful for Pittsburg. During the last twenty years, the organization has been an active agent for civic beauty and has stood for things which are helpful to the home and social life of the city. The first president of the City Federation was Mrs. Willard. The presidents have been Mrs. W. H. Morris, Dr. Mary Gilman, Mrs. R. S. Russ, Mrs. Lavon Lanyon, Mrs. J. Luther Taylor, Mrs. H. M. Grandle and Mrs. A. C. Graves.

In 1902, a course of lectures by Prof. Bailey of Chicago on the Shakespearian drama was provided by the Federation. Through this organization the Humane Society has been made possible.

The Children's Story Hour is another undertaking of this organization. From three to four hundred children gathered in the Library Auditorium each Saturday afternoon and listened eagerly to the stories there told. This was thoroughly appreciated by the children but it has been discontinued during the last year.

Through this organization, a rest room has been provided. This is located on the corner of East Fourth and Broadway. There is a paid matron who stays here and gives her entire time to that work. This room has certainly been appreciated as is shown by the fact that from 2500 to 4000 enjoy the privileges monthly. After the city saw the results of this undertaking, it has given it financial assistance.

Some of the important clubs in the Federation are the Monday, Study, Kansas, Treble Clef, and Extension. The clubs meet weekly or semi-monthly, taking up the study of literature, civic and economic conditions, sociology and music. The Extension Club with a membership of over one hundred, meets semi-monthly in the Library Auditorium. Professors from the Normal give interesting lectures to these women. The Domestic Science and Art teachers give practical lectures and demonstrations and it is thought that this club is a means of

keeping the women interested in educational matters, in fact of increasing the sentiment in the city along that line. Generally during the year, a speaker of prominence from out of the city is procured.

Another important organization is the Parent Teachers' Association. Every building has an association which meets every two weeks. These meetings have been a means of creating co-operation between the parents and teachers. While this is new undertaking, there has been shown great interest and there has always been good attendance. At the present, the Association is considering the plan of having a community nurse. They have many other plans for the future.

Surely Pittsburg with its splendid location, good commission form of government, churches, excellent educational facilities, immense coal mines, railroad accommodations and industrious class of people, has a chance of becoming the metropolis of southeastern Kansas.

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