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The Alien Contribution To The History of Barton County, Kansas

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THE ALIEN CONTRIBUTION TO THE
HISTORY OF BARTON COUNTY, KANSAS

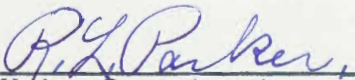
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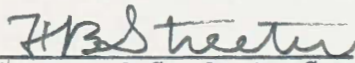
A thesis presented to the Graduate Faculty
of Fort Hays Kansas State College in partial
fulfillment of the requirements for the de-
gree of Master of Science

by

Mearle S. Hoover, B.S., 1930
Fort Hays Kansas State College

Approved by:


Major Department

Acting 
Chairman of Graduate Council

Date APR 24 1939

TO

those people from many countries
who for various reasons left their
native land and settled in Barton
County and to those of foreign birth
who have contributed to the history
of Barton County, this thesis is
sincerely dedicated.

PREFACE

In the preparation of this thesis I have hoped to gather together and to present some facts of historical value, especially to those who reside in Barton County. Few of us realize that people from more than twenty nations met the huge problem of adjustment and united for the advancement of Barton County.

The facts which I have gleaned in the assembling of this material have been of much interest to me. In dealing with the alien's contributions to the history of the county, I have in no way intended to slight the native born American and his contributions. I have tried to present these contributions impartially and have tried to give each nationality and each religious group its proper place. My interest in the foreign element was aroused when I began to teach in the Claflin High School in the fall of 1930.

Much of the material used in this thesis was secured from the Kansas Historical Society Library at Topeka. The librarians were kind and helped me in every way possible. Some material was secured from the Great Bend Public Library. The teachers of Barton County cooperated well in response to my questionnaire and some of the old residents

of the county have helped me. Dr. F. B. Streeter, Professor R. L. Parker, Dr. R. L. Welty, and Dr. W. D. Moreland of the Fort Hays Kansas State College and Judge Ruppenthal of Russell have been a constant source of help. To all these and to all others who have helped in the preparation of this thesis I extend my appreciation and thanks. It is only through their cooperation that I have been able to write this thesis.

I sincerely hope that this work will prove of interest and value to the future citizens of Barton County.

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CHAPTER I
THE INTRODUCTION

In the year 1822 there lay between Independence, Missouri, and Santa Fe, New Mexico, a vast stretch of comparatively unknown land, a land of mystery and of adventure for the brave. In that same year wagon trains began a lucrative trade between the eastern states and the western territories and supplemented their earnings by trading with the Indians who roamed the prairies. Josiah Gregg dates the beginning of the Santa Fe Trail in this same year.

The last outpost of civilization on the Santa Fe Trail at this time was Council Grove, Kansas. When the wagon trains left this settlement they faced a vast plain of waving grass. Hardly a tree broke the monotony of the landscape or afforded a landmark to guide the unseasoned traveler. The approach of the trains could be seen for miles by hostile Indian tribes who lay in ambush ready to attack at an opportune time.

One hundred and twenty-five miles west of Council Grove lay an area of land which did not differ greatly from the rest, but it did afford the traveler two distinct landmarks, the big bend in the Arkansas River and Pawnee

Rock. These two landmarks are within the bounds of Barton County.

Barton County is located just a few miles west of the geographic center of Kansas and is an area thirty miles square. The south part of this area was a favorite hunting ground for several tribes of Indians and it was the scene of many bloody battles. Buffaloes roamed in huge herds in the fertile Walnut Valley where grass was abundant and of an exceptionally fine quality. Because of the several tribes of Indians, this area was also considered the "most dangerous point on the central plains in the days of trade on the trail."¹ In 1826 when Kit Carson made his first trip over the trail, it was at Pawnee Rock that he killed his first Indian. The story goes that Carson was stationed as sentinel. The company had sighted some Indians earlier in the day, and that evening strict orders were issued as to the alertness of the watch. In the night a shot rang out across the prairie and everyone was immediately prepared for an Indian attack. No Indians appeared and upon being questioned, Carson said that he saw something rise up out of the grass so he fired. The next morning the mystery was solved. Kit Carson's mule lay dead.²

The trade on the trail was the only thing of any importance for forty years. September 6, 1864, General Samuel R. Curtis established Fort Zarah at the point

1. Henry Inman, The Old Santa Fe Trail, p. 410.

2. Ibid., pp. 408-409.

where the trail crossed Walnut Creek. The fort was built of sandstone quarried about three miles north of the site and had a natural defense in a small wash of the creek which almost completely surrounded it and could easily be filled with water. The fort was named for General Curtis's son, Major Zarah Curtis, who was killed in the Baxter Springs massacre, October, 1863.³ The fort was completed in 1867 and was a well known outpost. At the same point there was established by order of the president, "Fort Zarah Military Reservation" on September 30, 1868. The reservation contained 3,698 acres.⁴ Not even the establishment of the fort induced the settlers to come to this particular section of Kansas. The fort was dismantled in 1869 and part of it was moved to Fort Harker in Ellsworth County.⁵

The earliest settler in Barton County was a man named Peacock. He had a ranch on Walnut Creek about three miles east of the big bend in the Arkansas River. He lived in an adobe hut. In the fall of 1860 he and five others were killed by the Kiowa Indians. The Indians drove off the stock.⁶

Two Germans settled on Walnut Creek in April, 1869. They were John Reineche and Henry Schultz. These two men settled on section 10, township 19, range 15 west, about

3. Biographical History of Barton County, Kansas, p. 17.

4. Ibid., p. 18.

5. Idem.

6. Cyclopedia of State History, Blackmar, Editor, p. 153.

six miles northwest of Great Bend.⁷ These men came from Hanover in protest to Bismark's policies,⁸ and these were the only people in Barton County in 1870. The county was organized in 1872, but it was not until the completion of the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railroad through Barton County in the spring of 1875 that settlement began in earnest. This settlement was very rapid and included men of many nationalities. In 1880, according to the United States Census, there were 2216 foreign-born residents in the county. Of these 2216, 1027 were from Germany and the next largest group, 262, was from Russia.⁹

This rapid foreign settlement was due in part to compulsory military training in Europe, the desire for religious freedom, the lack of opportunity for economic independence and coupled with these, the exaggerated reports made by the land agents of the railroad companies who desired to sell their land.

These people left their homes and moved into a region scarcely explored, built their homes, tilled the soil, and established their families. They have watched the country grow, in fact, they have made it grow into the prosperous section that it is. The contributions of these people, taken separately or as a whole, have aided materially in the advancement of Barton County.

7. Ibid., p. 154.

8. Nell Waldron, Colonization in Kansas from 1861-1890, p. 83.

9. Tenth United States Census Report, Pop., Table 14, p. 508.

CHAPTER II
NATIONAL GROUPS IN BARTON COUNTY

Of the twenty nationalities represented in Barton County the German is the predominating one, both in numbers and in contributions. Besides those who came direct from Germany, there are Germans who came from Russia, Austria, and Switzerland. All of these groups spoke high German.¹ There were also a great many Germans who came to Kansas after having spent a short time in some eastern state. Of the 1037 persons who have completed their naturalization in Barton County, 349 renounced their allegiance to the Kaiser of Germany. In the early years of settlement there were also fifty-one who renounced their allegiance to the King of Prussia.² The Prussians were also of the German race.

According to calculations made from the United States Census Reports, the German element made up 47.8% of all the foreign-born population in 1890, when it was most predominant, and 29% of the foreign-born in 1910. At no time has any other nationality exceeded the German in number.³ It is evident that their influence would be strongly felt.

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1. Kansas Historical Collections, Vol. 13, p. 527.
 2. Table No. 3, pp. 50-52.
 3. Table No. 2, p. 49.

The German element was strongest in the southeast part of the county, Ellinwood being the center of the early German settlement. The reason for Ellinwood being a German settlement is told in the following quotation taken from the Ellinwood Leader. "C. B. Schmidt, probably the ablest German immigration agent who ever did business in the state of Kansas . . . selected this locality as one of the points on the Santa Fe road where he would colonize German buyers of real estate. . . . He caused this part of Kansas to be Germanized. . . . He was non-Catholic is the reason Ellinwood . . . is so largely Protestant."⁴ The names of the streets of Ellinwood are mostly German names. The first mayor of the town was Mr. F. A. Steckel, a German, who was elected May 1, 1878.⁵ A German democratic newspaper, Volksfreund, was started in 1878.⁶ The Germans as a race of people have been thrifty and industrious. "Our Germans . . . almost universally cherished the great virtues of honesty, industry, thrift, temperance, piety, love of children, and respect for elders and for those in authority."⁷ The Germans have made good citizens.

Most of the Germans who came to Barton County came to make that county their home. This nationality did not immigrate in large colonies as did some of the other groups but came in smaller groups. Since they came to make homes,

4. The Ellinwood Leader, Vol. 8, No. 41, p. 28.

5. Ibid., p. 28.

6. G. P. Townsley, Barton County, Her Growth, etc., 1879.

7. Kansas Historical Collections, Vol. 13, p. 532.

they were willing to fight and a large number of Germans fought for the Union during the Civil War. Eight Germans secured their naturalization papers in Barton County by showing an honorable discharge from the United States Army. The Germans were not a clannish people and were open-minded and willing to be taught what was right. These people were interested in education, business, and religion. This type of people were sure to make a worthy contribution to the growth and progress of any county.

An influence which was hard to separate from the German was the German-Russian. These people were nearly all Germans who had emigrated to Russia. There were three distinct groups of German-Russians who came to the United States. The distinction was in religion. These religions were the Roman Catholic, the Mennonite, and the Evangelical. The German-Russians settled in groups as they had lived in Russia.⁸ These Germans had gone to Russia to escape military service, in fact, Catherine had exempted them from military service to induce them to come to Russia. The Czar revoked the exemption in 1871, and when the Germans learned this, they were ready to look for another place to move. This colony sent men to the United States to investigate and to find a place to go in order to get away from military training.⁹ These committees made very favorable reports about this new land.

8. The Russell County News, Vol. 2, No. 10, p. 1.

9. Ibid., Vol. 2, No. 11, p, 5.

The German-Russians settled in the central and southwest parts of Barton County. In the spring of 1876 a group from Jagodnoje, Russia, settled west of what now is the city of Hoisington. In the spring of 1887 the first Volga German-Russians or Evangelical German Russians came to Hoisington from Narka, Russia. These had previously lived near Marion, Kansas. The Missouri Pacific Railroad was being built through the county at that time and a great number got work on the railroad. These people had to live in tents until they could rent or build houses. Many families came direct to Hoisington from the homeland. By 1906 there were about one hundred fifty living in "Russiatown" as that part of the city in which they lived was called. Better chances for railroad employment further west and the railroad strike of 1923 caused many in this settlement to move out of the county. After 1923 there were about sixty of these families remaining in the city of Hoisington.

In 1896 a settlement by people from Laurve, Russia, was made at Susank which is north of Hoisington. These people had formerly lived at Otis, Kansas, which is located one mile west of the Barton County line.¹⁰

The Catholic Volga German-Russians were also incensed over having to serve in the Russian army. Investigators were sent out by a colony of people living at Herzog in

10. Ibid., p. 5.

1874. These scouts did not like the land along Walnut Creek, so the company did not settle in Barton County.¹¹

The basic principles of the German-Russian Mennonites were non-resistance and opposition to war and so they objected to military training, also. The railroad land agents made a strong appeal to these Mennonites.¹² The Santa Fe railroad sent Mr. Schmidt to Russia in February in 1875, particularly to the Mennonites, to urge them to settle on railroad land. Many single men were induced to emigrate. Another inducement to the Mennonites was the law of March 10, 1874, which exempted them and the Friends from military service.¹³ These Mennonites had lived in colonies in Russia and when they came to their new home they settled in groups. On January 2, 1875, two hundred came to Great Bend and bought railroad land.¹⁴ This settlement was southwest of Great Bend at Dundee. There were fifteen families in this group. They homesteaded section sixteen and bought section nine from the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railroad.¹⁵ Some of this group were the Unruhs, Boeses, Schmidts, Schultzs, and Mulls.¹⁶

Mr. Schmidt, in his efforts to get settlers, made talks in fifty-six Mennonite towns in the Volga region. In his enthusiasm he was nearly caught by the Cossacks. He secured

11. Kansas Historical Collections, Vol. 11, p. 500.

12. Waldron, Colonization in Kansas from 1861-1890, p. 109.

13. Ibid., p. 110.

14. Ibid., p. 111.

15. Ibid., p. 114.

16. W. E. Stoke, Episodes of Early Days, p. 63.

the protection of the American Consul at Odessa and sailed for home.¹⁷

The railroad companies were so anxious for settlers to come that they paid all the transportation charges. The colonists brought practically all their belongings. The great movement slowed up in 1879 because Russia became alarmed at the great number of people who were leaving her country and so she again bestowed special privileges on those groups which she thought were going to leave.¹⁸

The Russo-Japanese war caused a few to come to the United States, so the main reason for the coming of the German-Russians to America was military and the second reason was economic. From 1910 until the World War many more sought new homes here. Many letters were sent back to Russia telling of the wonderful opportunities this country offered in comparison to the conditions in Russia. Many came because of this information.¹⁹

The Mennonites were sturdy, untiring, conscientious men and women. Dundee was a peaceful law-abiding community. They were a race of sturdy builders who lived frugal lives and because they managed well they soon amassed considerable money. From the foregoing characteristics it can readily be seen why such colonists would be an asset to any community and would, by their contributions, influence the

17. Waldron, Colonization in Kansas from 1861-1890, p. 112.

18. Ibid., pp. 115-116.

19. The Russell County News, Vol. 2, No. 15, p. 6.

history of Barton County. There is no way of knowing how many of the two hundred Russians who renounced their allegiance to the Czar to become naturalized were really of German stock and their contributions are practically inseparable from those of the German element.

The Russian element, which is hard to distinguish from the Catholic German-Russian element, came into the country somewhat later and they settled in the northwest and north central parts of the county. According to the United States Census reports the per cent of Russian born residents in Barton County had increased each decade with the exception of 1920. In 1880 the Russian element was 11.8% of the foreign born and in 1930 they were 26.6%.²⁰

The occupation of the Russians in their native land was farming and when they came to Barton County most of them continued to farm. The 1925 Kansas Census shows that the Russians were the predominant influence in Fairview, Wheatland, and Union townships.²¹ Galatia, a small town in Fairview township, is also predominantly Russian. Hoisington had a considerable Russian influence in 1925. A great number of these people were railroad workers.

Several families of Bracks settled in the western part of Barton County. These families accumulated a great deal of land. The older generation of Bracks was born in Russia and they were good farmers and influential and

20. Table No. 2, p. 49.

21. The 1925 Kansas Census.

progressive citizens.²² The Bracks helped organize a bank in Olmitz in 1901 and one in Galatia in 1910.

The Austrians came to Barton County in large numbers but their settlements were scattered over most of the county except the southeast. The Austrians were the second largest group of foreign born in the county until 1920. This nationality came somewhat earlier than the Russian and in 1890 they made up 21.7% of the total foreign born population. After the war, due to the organization of Czechoslovakia and Yugoslavia, the naturalization papers of the Austrians showed that they renounced allegiance to these new countries. In 1930 the Czechoslovakians made up 18.8% of the foreign born population, while the Austrians were only 9.4%.²³ In reality, most of the Czechs were Austrians. According to the Kansas Census of 1925 the Austrian element was predominant in Olmitz. This census, however, shows that there were Austrians in every town and city except Galatia. The Austrians were the second most predominant in numbers in Albert, Claflin, and Hoisington.

In the rural part of the county Albion, Beaver, North Homestead, and Independent townships were 50% Austrian. Cheyenne and Eureka townships were more than 50% Austrian. Walnut township was 75% Austrian. Grant township just north of Walnut was 75% Czechoslovakian. These percentages

22. Biographical History of Barton County, p. 299.

23. Table No. 2, p. 49.

are for the foreign-born residents in 1925.²⁴ The Austrians were more numerous in the north part of the county, except the northwest corner, which was Russian. Joseph Schneider, an Austrian and a progressive, enterprising citizen, owned 2,280 acres of land in 1912. He was president of the bank in Albert.²⁵

The remaining nationalities in Barton County were small in number. The English speaking people were probably the most important of the minor groups and although they were scattered, most of them lived in Great Bend and the vicinity near there. A few immigrants came in from Canada and they, too, were widely scattered. Most of the Irish, who came only in small numbers, settled in Albion township, northwest of Hoisington, and in the town of Hoisington. Several of the Irish were railroad workers. The percentage of foreign-born English and Irish has been decreasing slowly.

A few persons from the countries of Norway, Sweden, and Denmark have settled in scattered places in the eastern part of the county. Those who came from these countries were industrious and contributed to the progress of the county. Some of those from Sweden came as a result of a great famine in their country.²⁶ The Scandinavians built churches, schools and contributed to the cultural

24. The 1925 Kansas Census.

25. Biographical History of Barton County, p. 83.

26. Waldron, Colonization in Kansas from 1861-1890, p. 25.

and political life. The Swedes as a class worked hard for prohibition.²⁷

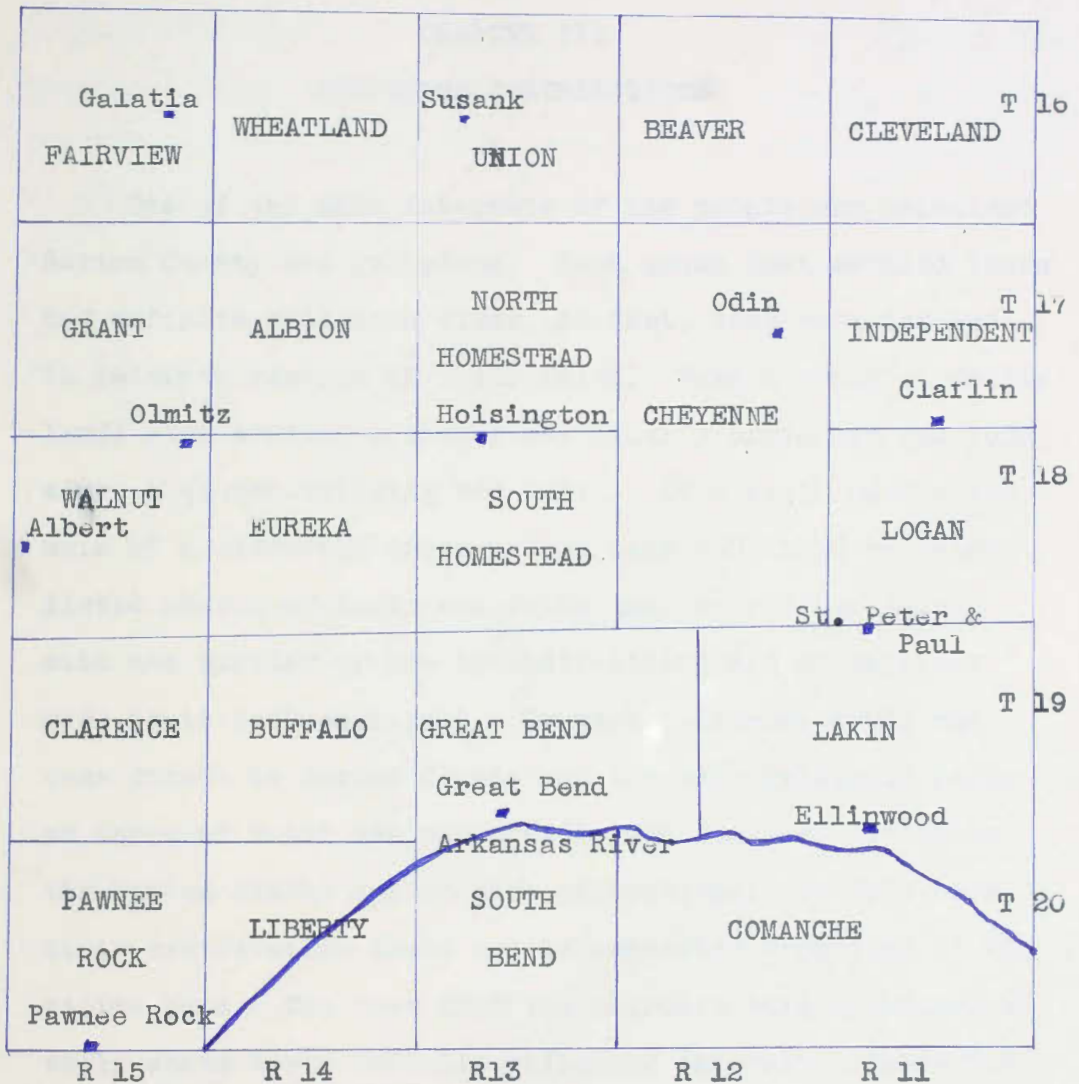
The Kansas Census Reports of 1925 showed quite a number of persons in Pawnee Rock township, Liberty township and in the town of Pawnee Rock, who claimed to be Polish. They had either come from eastern Germany or western Russia since the country of Poland was organized after the World War.

The Bohemians, who were farmers, settled mostly in the northeast corner of the county in Cleveland Township. This was probably an overflow from the Bohemian settlement south of Wilson, Kansas. The Bohemians left their country and came to the United States so their children would be free from military training.²⁸ The Bohemians were eager to become American citizens and took part in political and citizenship meetings but have not all joined one political party. They are an industrious and prolific people.²⁹

27. Ibid., p. 33.

28. Ibid., p. 36.

29. Ibid., pp. 43-45.



TOWNSHIP MAP OF BARTON COUNTY KANSAS

CHAPTER III

RELIGIOUS CONTRIBUTIONS

One of the main interests of the people who colonized Barton County was religious. Each group that settled there had definite religious views, in fact, some were induced to emigrate because of their faith. When a group of fairly large size arrived a church was usually organized and soon after a church building was built. If a small number who were of a different denomination came and found no established church of their own faith they very often joined with one similar or one to their liking and in this way made their influence felt. In many instances those who came direct to Barton County had the same religious views as those of their own nationality who had been living in the United States one or more generations. In this case their contribution could not be separated from that of the native born. The fact that the churches were organized so early shows their definite religious interest. There are churches in the county that have continued until the present to use the German language in their services.

The Germans were of three main religious groups. The greater percentage of this nationality were either Lutheran, Catholic, or Evangelical. Of all the nationalities that

came the Germans, because of their large number and their enthusiastic activity in church affairs, have influenced the religious trend of the county most. The Germans did not confine themselves to these three denominations, however, for they also organized a Methodist Church in Ellinwood in 1886. The minister in charge of the organization was the Rev. H. H. Hackmann. There had been a missionary established in Ellinwood from 1875 until the church was organized. A German Baptist Church was organized four miles south of Ellinwood and it was dedicated May 28, 1895.¹

The first church to be built in Barton County was a Catholic Church. This church was built in the fall of 1877 in Lakin township² and was near the location of the present church of St. Peter and Paul. Lakin township is still predominantly German just as it was when the church was built. In 1879 the Lutherans built a church building in Ellinwood.³ On August 30, 1908, a constitution was adopted and the Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church of Great Bend was organized. The following were the charter members: William Gagelman, Karl Schneider, Sr., Karl Schneider, Jr., William Tinnemeyer, Edward Ziegenbusch, Albert Hartmann, Sr., Edward Penning, Sr., Louis Hans, Sr., Theodore Otto, Henry Drehle, Herman Remmert, John Mausolf, Sr., and Fred Wolf. The German language is used in the 9:45 service and English

1. The Ellinwood Leader, Vol. 8, No. 41, p. 28.

2. A. T. Andreas, History of the State of Kansas, p. 763.

3. Ibid., p. 769.

in the 10:45 services.⁴ The Immanuel Methodist Church of Albert was organized on October 24, 1892. From the names of the trustees, this church must have been organized by the Germans. The trustees were Friedrich Schultz, August Schroder, Fredrick Gruenwald, George Wilhelm, and Herman Andree.⁵ A Lutheran Church was organized in Claflin April 3, 1900. The names of the trustees were mostly German names. This church still has some services in German.

The German-Russians were divided into two groups by their religion; Mennonites from Odessa and Crimea, the wheat growing country, and the Catholics from the Volga region.⁶ When the Mennonites arrived near Dundee they soon had church in the stone schoolhouse. On March 11, 1891, the New Jerusalem Church of Pawnee Rock was organized. The trustees were three Unruhs, Boes, and Krockner. These folks were nearly all Mennonites. On February 20, 1900, the Bergthal Church of the Mennonites was organized with two Schmidts and an Unruh as trustees. While the Mennonites are losing their identity as a group they have held their religious identity longer than any other Protestant group.

Most of the Russians were of the Roman Catholic religion. The Catholics because of their strict discipline and early training have been able to hold more of the younger generation to the church. The Catholics maintain their own schools and

4. The Great Bend Tribune, Vol. 60, No. 1, Section 3, p. 4.

5. Corporation Book, No. 43, p. 333.

6. Prentis, Kansas Scrap Book, Vol. 10, pp. 182-3. From Kansas City Star, July 29, 1891.

thus make religion and education closely related. The Russians as a group are faithful to their church.

The Austrians, too, were mostly Catholic. In 1881 there was a church organized at Odin, northwest of Claflin. The first resident pastor was Father Emmerich who came from Westphalia, Germany. For some time there had been monthly meetings at Odin but there was no organized church.⁷ Father Emmerich stayed there many years and did much to build up a strong church. The Austrians have kept close to the Church. The Russians and Austrians have settled in the north part of the county which makes it mostly Catholic.

The larger percentage of the English settlers were Methodists. Most of these affiliated with the established churches. There were also quite a number of Presbyterians. The Presbyterians organized their first church in the county at Great Bend February 8, 1886. The trustees were D. Turner, J. S. McCline, J. W. Epperson, D. W. Heizer, and William Tony.⁸ The English, having been scattered widely, and being few in number, have not made any religious contribution which can be separated from the native born English.

Another minor group which has contributed in religion is the Swedes and Norwegians who were intelligent people and took an active part in church work.⁹

The religious customs of the churches have changed in

7. Barton County Clippings, Vol. 2, pp. 58-9. From the Catholic Advance, November 7, 1931.

8. Corporation Book, No. 19, p. 626.

9. Kansas Historical Collections, Vol. 3, p. 424.

some respects from those of the early churches just as their buildings have changed, but it has not been the older people but rather the younger ones who have wrought this change. All the changes have not been for the better. The county would be better off if the people believed in the sanctity of marriage, had fewer divorces and less strife in the homes, as did these religious groups in the earlier times. The religious faith and views of the foreign elements have made Barton County a better place in which to live. The views have been the same as those of other people in general. True, there have been a few splits in the churches which have caused some strife but in general the religious influence of the foreign-born has been wholesome and good.

CHAPTER IV
EDUCATIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS

Most of the foreigners with the exception of those from Russia and Austria came to Barton County from countries in which elementary education was considered essential. Many of those who were not fortunate enough to have an education wished for their children to have one. In the same year that the county was organized, the first school was organized. In the spring of 1872 a private school was organized and taught by James R. Bickerdyke. It was not long after the organization of this school that several more schools were organized, thus beginning the county school system which citizens of Barton County prize highly.

The organization of school districts began in June, 1872, when the plans for the first school district were completed. This organization was under the direction of A. Howson, Superintendent of Public Instruction of Ellsworth County, since Barton County had no County Superintendent until in July of the same year. This first school district included the town and the immediate vicinity of Great Bend. The first board members were

J. C. Martin, G. W. Nimcocks, and D. N. Heizer.¹

The second school district in the county was organized in the fall of 1872 in the German town of Ellinwood. The first term was taught by Miss Carrie Bacon. The salary for the four month term was \$125. The school was housed in a frame building owned by William Misner. Mr. F. A. Steckel was interested in education and he served ten years as a member of the Board of Education in Ellinwood, Kansas. The schools of Ellinwood made rapid progress and the educational opportunities there are as good as those at any place its size in the state.²

The south part of the county, with the exception of that south of the Arkansas river, was organized into school districts first. The early settlements were nearly all north of the river, since the land south of the river was not as desirable. This part was predominantly German and German-Russian Mennonite. The Mennonites wanted their children to have an education and they soon built schools. They taught German in their schools.

The growth of the county was very rapid. The tenth United States Census Report of 1880 showed that the population of Barton County was 10,482. Of this number, 2,316 were foreign-born and 1,289 of the foreign-born were German.³ By 1881 there had been organized in Barton County

1. Biographical History of Barton County, Kansas, p. 231.

2. Ibid., p. 205.

3. Waldron, Colonization in Kansas from 1861-1890, p. 83.

eighty-seven school districts. The school population was 3,316 and the enrollment for the term ending in 1881 was 2,264. There were ninety-seven teachers in the county and the average term was five months.⁴ Since the population of the county was one-fifth foreign-born and since it had this many schools, it can easily be seen that the "newcomers" were very much in favor of elementary education. The Germans, who made up over fifty percent of the foreign-born, must deserve some credit for the early schools in Barton County.

Secondary education did not come about as swiftly as had elementary education, for it was not until 1885, or thirteen years after the first school was organized, that the Great Bend High School was organized. William Reese with the assistance of Miss Rebecca Smith conducted the school. The graduating class of 1888 had only one member.⁵ Hoisington High School had three graduates in their first class in 1904. In the year of 1914 there were 440 pupils enrolled in the high schools of the county and these schools were progressive and up to date.⁶

According to the writings of Peter Brack most of the German-Russians who came to the western part of Barton County were anxious for an education. They realized the value and necessity of an education in order to be a success.

4. The Great Bend Register, June 22, 1882.

5. The Great Bend Tribune, Vol. 60, No. 1, p. 6.

6. Ibid., Nov. 26, 1914.

Mr. Brack received most of his education after he became a man and was living in Barton County.⁷

Some of the churches maintained schools of their own. The Lutheran and Catholic churches had schools of their own. The Lutherans have turned education over to the public schools but the Catholics still maintain their own schools. The first Catholic school was organized at Odin in the early eighties. Father Emmerich was influential in the organization of this school. Alois Streng was the first teacher and received a salary of \$20.00 per month.⁸ The Catholic high school in Odin was recently changed from a two-year to a four-year high school.

The Austrians and Russians were predominantly Roman Catholic and they aided in the establishment of the parochial schools of the county. There are ten parochial schools in Barton County and the one at Dubuque is just south of the Barton-Russell county line. More than half of these schools are in the north half of the county. These ten schools have built up a reputation for excellence in educational standards and are an important factor in the cultural development of the young people of the county.⁹ There is a parochial school at nearly every town in the north part of the county. The southwest part of the county has no parochial schools.

7. Peter Brack, Trips, p. 106-107.

8. Barton County Clippings, Vol. 2, pp. 58-9, taken from The Catholic Advance, Nov. 11, 1931.

9. The Great Bend Tribune, Vol. 60, No. 1, Section 3, p. 6.

To aid in the advancement of education, a Barton County Teachers Association was formed in the spring of 1874. There were about twenty members in the organization and they were to meet each month. B. B. Smythe was the first president.¹⁰ A group of Great Bend men also formed an organization called "Great Bend Improvement Association". The main purpose of this organization was to organize a college. The first year the college was mostly under the control of the Congregational Church. In 1888 the school opened under the name of Central Normal School. German was taught, and this encouraged the German element to attend. D. E. Sanders was the first president.¹¹ The school continued until 1902 when it was sold to Bishop Hennessy of the Catholic Church. The Catholics opened a boarding school in the college building and the St. Rose Hospital was opened in the dormitory. The Great Bend Tribune stated that the college was outstanding in its Christian influence. One man of prominence in Kansas today was a graduate of Central Normal College of Great Bend and that man is Senator George McGill.¹²

The Bohemians of the northeast part of the county were in favor of elementary education. The Swedes and Norwegians have also favored education and the few English settlers were among the leaders in the field of education.

10. The Great Bend Register, Vol. 3, No. 15, p. 1.

11. The Great Bend Tribune, Vol. 52, No. 258, p. 4.

12. The Wichita Eagle, Vol. 95, No. 175, p. 20.

An investigation shows¹³ that the pupils attending the rural schools which were organized earliest have the least number of foreign-born parents and grandparents and those who attend the schools organized later have more foreign-born progenitors. It is evident from the map of school districts that the north part of the county was organized into school districts much later than the other sections. Part of this delay was due to the fact that this part of the county was hilly and was not settled until later but part was due to the fact that the Russian and Austrian who settled this part of the county were slower to organize.

The table on page 67 shows that the pupils of the parochial schools have a greater percentage of alien ancestry than do those in public schools. The pupils of Holy Family School at Odin have the greatest percentage of foreign-born forefathers. The table gathered from the rural schools shows a few startling facts. In districts 95, 43, and 90, all the grandparents were foreign-born. In district 90, 55% of the parents were foreign-born. District 90 was settled mostly by the Russians. In district 95, 90% of the grandparents were foreign-born.

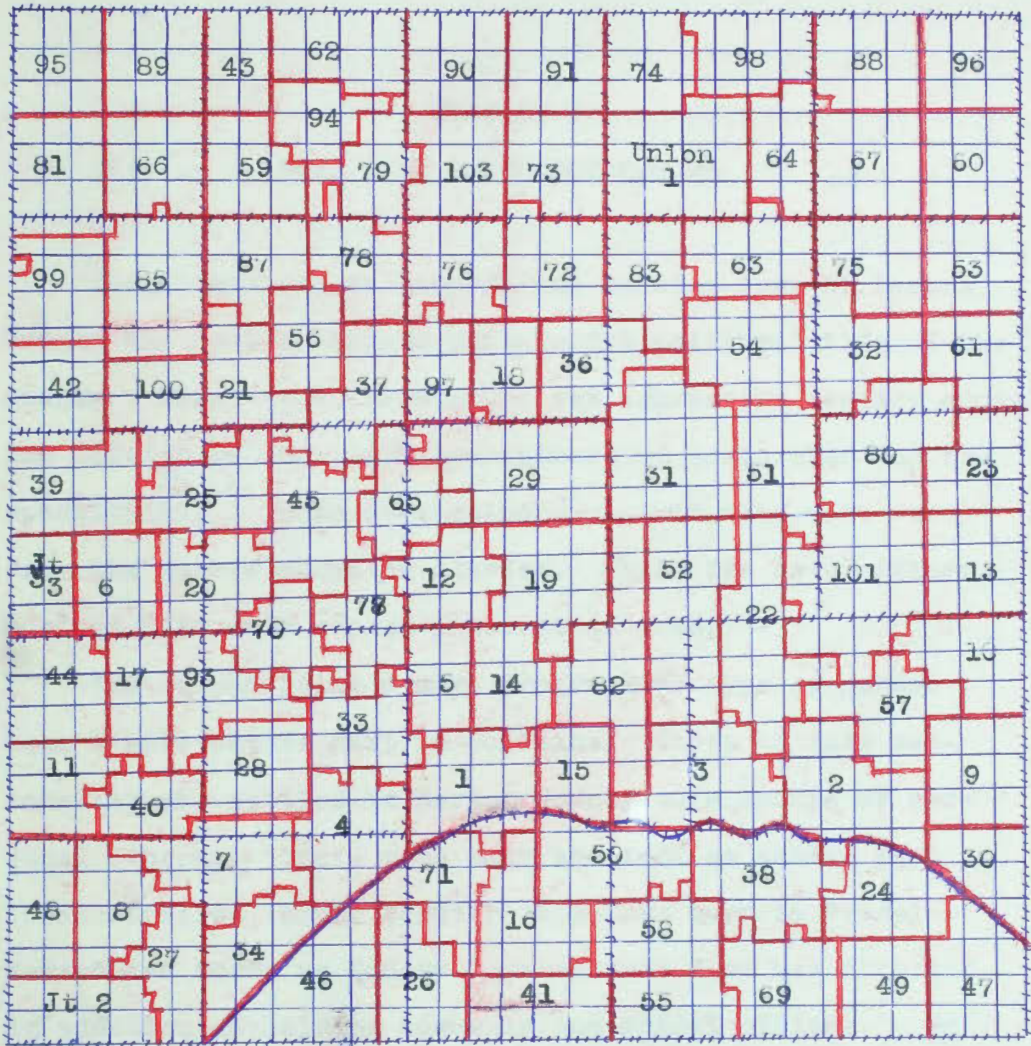
Several of the parochial schools and rural districts have an unusual arrangement about housing and teachers. District 101 rents one room from the St. Peter and Paul Parochial school and hires a Catholic Sister to teach in

13. Table No. 5, pp. 65-67.

that room which consists of the four upper grades. This Sister is contracted with by the board the same as any other county teacher and is classed as a rural teacher. The same thing applies to district 54 and Holy Family School at Odin, except that the district teacher teaches only the seventh and eighth grades. The same situation has existed between district 98 and St. Catherine's School at Dubuque. When the enrollment is so small that only one teacher is required the district furnishes the teacher and the church the fuel and building.

These are only a few of the most unusual facts about the alien contribution to the education system of Barton County. A careful perusal of the tables will show many more interesting comparisons, but one will be impressed by the fact that the people have clung tenaciously to the old system of education. Consolidation has been spoken of for years and yet has never been realized, even in a small way.

There should be a deep appreciation for the efforts which the early settlers made in bringing educational advantages to the county and though some may feel that these efforts have not been a complete success, at least, they began the movement for more education. Some of the foreign groups were slow to advance and do their part and there remains much to be done in the educational system of the county.



BARTON COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICTS

Section Lines —————

Township Lines ++++++

School District Boundaries —————

CHAPTER V
POLITICAL CONTRIBUTIONS

There were not so many of the foreign-born of Barton County who took a leading part in the political life of the county. There were, however, a few aggressive leaders among the foreigners and these took places of leadership and responsibility. Those foreign-born who did take part were from the better educated classes. While few held offices, most of them took enough interest to vote.

The German being a more progressive type of person took a more active part in politics. Those of this nationality who settled in Barton County were lovers of personal liberty. There were many who took an active part in local affairs. Henry Schwier, a German born in Prussia, served two terms as County Commissioner from his district in addition to holding township and school offices.¹ Mr. N. W. Klepper, German-born, served six years as County Commissioner.² Mr. J. H. D. Bosse, who was born in Hanover, Germany, came to the United States at the age of nineteen and to Ellinwood at the age of twenty-five and

1. Biographical History of Barton County, Kansas, p. 102.
2. Ibid., p. 85.

later served two terms as County Treasurer.³ Alois Schwager was elected County Treasurer two terms and he died during his second term.⁴ L. M. Krause held a township office for twelve years and served four years as County Treasurer.⁵ Mr. Bruesser, a German-born staunch Republican, served three years on the city council in Great Bend.⁶ Several of the mayors of Ellinwood have been foreign-born. F. A. Steckel, a German served as mayor for six years, Gustav Toepke, an Austrian, served one year, and J. R. Zecha, an Austrian, served two years. Several other names on the list of mayors are German names.

Several Austrians held minor offices in their districts. One of these was Joseph Schneider of near Albert who served on the schoolboard and as township clerk and as trustee.⁷ Mr. Gruber from northwest of Great Bend served on the schoolboard and township board. J. A. Schneweis of Claflin served four years as County Commissioner.

A few Englishmen took places of leadership. E. L. Chapman, who was born at Bath, England, and who came to the United States in 1873, served six years as Probate Judge and resigned to accept the appointment as postmaster in Great Bend in 1881. He was appointed by Garfield and served as postmaster five years. He was a presidential elector in the

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3. Biographical History of Barton County, Kansas, p. 209.
 4. Great Bend Tribune, Nov. 26, 1914.
 5. Kansas, Vol. 1, p. 144, compiled by Jno. Lethem.
 6. Idem.
 7. Biographical History of Barton County, Kansas, p. 83.

Harrison-Cleveland campaign and later served one term as state Senator.⁸ Richard Taylor was the third mayor of Great Bend and was also County Assessor. George H. Hulme, also, held some public offices. Mr. Langham, who was born in England, was president of the city council in Great Bend in 1890 and had served two years on the council previously.⁹

Very few Russians held any offices. Tobias Unruh was township trustee two terms and served as deputy assessor twice.

While the Scandinavians were few in number and held no offices, they did take an active part in the political life of the county. They were generally found in the Republican party and most of them worked hard for prohibition.¹⁰

The Bohemians did not join any political party but they were interested in politics and held several political rallies and citizenship meetings.

There was one Scotchman who held a public office in the county. Mr. J. S. Dalziel served as sheriff from 1883 to 1887 and again from 1904 to 1908. Mr. Dalziel farmed southwest of Claflin.

The Mennonites were opposed to taking oaths and did not want to serve on the jury.¹¹ They were slow in becoming citizens for this reason. They cared neither to vote or to hold any kind of office. They leaned toward the Republican

8. Ibid., p. 279.

9. Kansas, Vol. 1, p. 143, compiled by Jno. Lethem.

10. Waldron, Colonization in Kansas from 1861-1890, p. 118.

11. Seibert, A History of the Kansas Mennonites, p. 53.

party because of that party's stand on state prohibition.¹²

In February, 1890, there was organized in Barton County an immigration bureau. The purpose of this bureau was to encourage people to come to the county.¹³

Probably the most important stand that the Germans took was in the year 1878. In September of that year the Germans held a mass meeting in Topeka. There were three citizens of Barton County at that meeting. They were P. Schmitz and C. F. Diefenbach of Great Bend and J. Hiss of Ellinwood. P. Schmitz was on the platform committee of this meeting.¹⁴

The committee drew up a rather lengthy platform composed of twelve main planks. These Germans were for those laws which were in agreement with the constitution and opposed to the laws which did not agree with the constitution. They were in favor of a pure, wholesome government. They favored separation of church and state and were against the church interference in state affairs. They were opposed to monopolies and wanted men in public office who could not be bribed. They agreed that the railroads were essential to agriculture and should be put under state control. They were in favor of paper money being issued by and guaranteed by the United States government and opposed to private speculation. They were in favor of the government issuing greenbacks and improving rivers and railroads. They favored employment for the unemployed. They favored a more

12. Waldron, Colonization in Kansas from 1861-1890, p. 118.

13. Great Bend Register, Vol. 16, No. 45, p. 2.

14. Wilder, Annals of Kansas History, p. 572.

rapid sale of public lands. Education being the best guarantee of our free institutions, they favored progress in education. They thought that the Board of Regents should be taken out of politics. They wanted laws to promote immigration. They wanted a law giving a premium for the culture of beets and the manufacture of sugar and salt. They were going to give the best man their support disregarding party lines. They urged a union of the German element and urged all Germans to go to the polls and vote.¹⁵ In 1881 the German Society did not like the way the judicial department of the county was being handled so they nominated S. W. Taylor for District Judge.¹⁶

A group of people that would draw up such a platform were certainly interested in the affairs of the county and state. The three main reasons for the Germans coming were political, economic, and religious. In America they still had to fight for these things, but here they used the ballot box. By taking an interest in politics they could make their economic interests more secure. These incidents show the Germans took the most active part in politics of any foreign group. The fact that the government of Ellinwood is as efficient as that of other towns in the county would show that the Germans are efficient. The town of Ellinwood is a clean town and the taxes are low. The Germans have shown interest in better government and clean politics.

15. Ibid., pp. 812-3.

16. The Great Bend Register, Vol. 7, No. 31, p. 1.

CHAPTER VI

SOCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS

When people migrate from a country in large groups they will take with them their customs and beliefs. So it was in Barton County. The nationalities that came brought with them their customs, their religions, their dress, their languages, and their ideas on education and home discipline. Since people from many nationalities came at about the same time there was a great influx of customs and ideas. The backgrounds from which these people sprang were very different. They varied from the cultured and educated to the coarse and unlettered. The social conditions of the countries from which these settlers came were widely different and all these things put together make a panorama of unusual interest.

Of all the groups that came the Germans have had the most cultured social background. Some families of this nationality were quite well-to-do and some had good educations. The Germans as a group were a thrifty, frugal class of people. Most of them homesteaded land or bought railroad land or relinquishments. They soon erected very nice homes with fine improvements and the building sites on these farms were generally neat and orderly. The city

of Ellinwood very strongly illustrates this trait. Many of the homes in Ellinwood are those of retired German farmers and probably no other city its size has so many fine homes. They have beautified their city with parks and have looked after the cultural interests of the community. Until those interested in the oil industry began to build in the southeast part of town, the entire city was neat and well kept.

In the home life of the German one was immediately aware of the complete authority of the father. In the pioneer times people had to work hard, long hours. The children were taught to do hard tasks and were subjected to strict discipline. Children were an asset in the pioneer farm home and there were very many large German families.

The Germans were accustomed to having beer and in 1875, soon after Ellinwood was settled, a brewery was established. By 1880 this brewery was said to be doing more business than any other brewery in the state.¹ In 1878 when the city council held its first meeting, it set \$300 per year as the cost of a license for retailing liquor.² Despite the fact that there was plenty of beer, there was very little intemperance.

Even now one can see the influence of the German customs in Ellinwood, the weekly visits to town, the great

1. B. B. Smyth, The Heart of New Kansas, p. 122.
2. The Ellinwood Leader, Vol. 8, No. 41, p. 28.

interest in card playing, the beer drinking, and the large families.³ These things are more noticeable among the older people. As one drives through the county the well kept farms are still in evidence.

The Austrians and the Russians were from a very different background than the Germans. They were, on the whole, uneducated. In their homeland they had lived in small communities and groups and when they came to their new home they tended to be clannish. These people were opposed to higher education and their entire community centered about the Roman Catholic Church. They were opposed to mixing with other groups and marriage with those of their own nationality was very common. These people are very fond of bazaars and dances. The bazaars and, very often, the dances are sponsored by the church.

The Bohemians were a very sociable type of people. They loved music and have shared their peculiar type of music with their neighbors. They were not very well educated but they did make good farmers. As a class, they were opposed to women's rights and temperance. Francis J. Swehla said of his people, "Bohemians mix everywhere, learn all languages, travel to all countries, practice all trades, and possess all vices as well as virtues."⁴

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3. Barton County Clippings, Vol. 2, pp. 54-55 from The Dodge City Globe, Aug. 13, 1913.
 4. Kansas Historical Collections, Vol. 13, p. 490.

The Mennonites were of a different type of mind. They were opposed to all types of entertainment and amusements, but they were a progressive type of people in their economic life and they soon began to take part in the political and social life of the county. They were opposed to taking oaths and to bearing arms and they took no part in government affairs. These people did not mix a great deal with the other groups because of their religion. The Mennonites were in favor of education and furthered it in their community.

Early in the life of the county the Germans formed an old settlers association. They had picnics and celebrations at the Zutavern grove during the summer months. The Germans were always interested in a good social time on these occasions.⁵ Later, there was an old settlers organization in which all nationalities participated. The reunions were held several times at the J. S. Dalziel grove southwest of Claflin and at the Zutavern grove near Great Bend. It was in this way that those of foreign birth kept in contact with their homeland and spoke of the customs which they had retained and those they had forgotten. They spoke of the common trials of pioneer life in several languages, yet they were in reality true Americans.

Those who are several generations removed from the aliens are often critical of their social life and customs,

5. W. E. Stoke, Episodes of Early Days, pp. 48-49.

but the pioneers met a problem in living that future generations will not have to meet. They showed their adaptability and their power to adjust themselves to rapidly changing conditions. They had customs and ideas which had been bred in them for generations and it was hard for them to substitute the new and sometimes not so satisfactory ways. They have influenced the social life of the county more than one realizes. Not all these influences have been good, but some good has been gleaned from the old.

CHAPTER VII

OCCUPATIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS

In early days on the Kansas plains it was necessary for the family to be a fairly independent unit. Towns were few and far between and traveling methods were not comparable to those of today. The mother in the pioneer family was often weaver, dressmaker, baker, and cook; the father was farmer, tinner, blacksmith, and carpenter. Most of the foreign-born who came to Barton County were farmers or entered that occupation upon entering their new life. Barton County had much good land and those who worked hard and were good managers prospered even in bad years. In Europe many learned trades because everyone could not farm and this accounts for the fact that these early settlers represented many different types of occupations.

The Germans entered more occupations than any other nationality. By the table number 4¹ one can see that they entered very nearly every occupation, however, the table shows that they were predominantly farmers. The Germans were good farmers and usually owned their land. Some owned much more land than they could farm. Quite a number of

1. Table No. 4, pp. 53-62. This table includes information for the other nationalities.

Germans entered the mercantile business and there were several who became laborers, carpenters, teachers, clerks, ministers, masons, and butchers. In several instances one finds that the Germans were leaders in the organization of banks, and bought stock in these banks. The census reports show that they entered over sixty different occupations. An interesting fact is revealed by the 1915 and the 1925 census figures. Each of the reports show that more than 100 Germans had retired. This would illustrate the German trait of thrift and saving.

The Russians, coming from an agricultural country, were farmers and the greater percentage of them remained in that occupation. The Russian foreign-born reached the greatest number twenty years after the Germans had reached their greatest number. Besides farming the Russian entered other occupations such as clerk, laborer, merchant, agricultural laborer, railroad worker, and many more occupations which only a few entered. The census reports of 1915 and of 1925 show that only a few of the Russians had retired in these years. A few Russians became wealthy and some aided in establishing banks.

The greatest number of Austrians made their living by farming. They reached their greatest number in 1905 which was the same year as the Russians were most numerous. Besides farming, the Austrian entered the occupations of carpenter, laborer, merchant, railroad worker, and agricultural laborer. By 1915 and by 1925 a few of the Austrians

had managed well enough so that they could retire. In these years their retired group was a larger percentage of the total number than of the Russian, but less than the German.

The English were a much smaller group. They were here in the greatest number in 1885. While being much fewer in number they entered a great variety of occupations, but the most of them were farmers. Besides farmers, there were merchants, blacksmiths, lawyers, laborers, and carpenters. There was one Englishman, Frank Lightfoot, who was a good doctor. He had as large a practice as he could handle.² The English born were nearly all gone by 1925 but there were a few English who were able to retire and live comfortably by 1915 and by 1925.

Of the minor groups, the Canadians were farmers, carpenters, laborers, railroad workers, and a few had retired by 1915. The Mexicans, who did not show in the census reports of Barton County until the census of 1915, were nearly all railroad workers. Most of them worked on the section. The Scotch were mostly farmers but one served as sheriff for eight years. The Swiss were farmers and a few were able to retire later. The Irish reached their greatest number in 1895 and they, too, were mostly farmers. In 1875, however, there were three Irish saloon keepers. The Irish were also railroad workers and day laborers. The Bohemians were almost all farmers. The other groups were small in

2. Kansas, Vol. 1, p. 145, compiled by Jno. Lethem.

number and were generally farmers.

The Mennonites brought the hard Turkey wheat to Barton County in 1874.³ This wheat was found to be better adapted to this section of the country and soon became the predominant type of wheat sowed in the county. This new wheat changed the milling industry. The hard wheat could not be ground by the burr mill as the soft wheat was so the millers changed to the roller mill.⁴ The Mennonites also brought the mulberry tree to Barton County,⁵ but the introduction of hard winter wheat has made more change in the history of the county than any one other thing.

In Ellinwood the first directors of both the Bank of Ellinwood, which was organized in 1892, and the Peoples State Bank, which was organized in 1908, were Germans. Mr. F. A. Steckel built a flour mill in Ellinwood in 1882 and Mr. Steckel also had established a general merchandise store in 1874. Mr. W. E. Huttman opened a hardware business in 1876 and the Mangelsdorf brothers opened a general merchandise store in 1877.⁶

Brueser and Weiss had the largest general store in western Kansas. This store was located in Great Bend.⁷ R. F. Pleger was a lumber dealer in Great Bend. Langham and Sons, and C. B. Morgan, both Englishmen, had stores

3. Seibert, A History of the Kansas Mennonites, p. 81.

4. Waldron, Colonization in Kansas from 1861-1890, p. 117.

5. Seibert, A History of the Kansas Mennonites, p. 80.

6. Andreas, A. T., History of the State of Kansas, pp. 769-70.

7. Ibid., p. 767.

in which they sold leather goods.⁸

From a study of table number 4, it is evident that the foreign element had a great effect in the occupational life of Barton County. The Germans have contributed some good progressive farmers and all these occupations have contributed to the economic progress of the county. The other nationalities with their new ideas and various trades have helped to build up the industries of the county.

8. Kansas, Vol. 1, pp. 143 & 145, compiled by Jno. Lethem.

CHAPTER VIII

CONCLUSION

Just a little over half a days drive southwest of old Kansas Landing, lies an area of land which is considered one of the richest spots in Kansas. This land is exceptionally well improved farm land, but in addition to this, it is rapidly becoming a very rich oil section. At the present there are more than fifteen separate proved oil pools and many new locations testing and two proved gas pools. The interesting thing about the location of this oil and gas territory is that it makes a fringe around the edge of what was named Barton County in 1872.

How unsuspecting the land agents were! These land agents traveled far and wide looking for buyers for Barton County land. One of these land agents even went to Europe to find buyers for the land. After receiving the enormous price of \$6.00 an acre for some of the land, the land agents went about their business and allowed the poor foreigner to decide how he could make a living on such land. No wheat was grown in Barton County in 1872 and the farmers learned by the trial and error system what he could raise. But the situation presents a different aspect today. Millions of dollars have come to the county from the oil. It is

interesting to note that Fred Steckel, son of F. A. Steckel who did so much for the advancement of the county, owns more producing oil wells than any other person in the county.¹

How unsuspecting were the settlers! To own a piece of land, land so scarce and dear in the homeland, had become a reality. Many owned more land than they could possibly work but they slaved and saved, and when they died each of their children received a piece of this precious land, and now these children are reaping a harvest from under the ground.

Those of foreign birth, who settled in Barton County, have helped lay the foundation for the future prosperity of that county. These men and women helped clear the land, tilled the soil, organized the churches, organized the schools, and built up the industries.

By a study of tables one² and four³ one can see that the number of foreign-born in Barton County is decreasing. Most of the foreign-born now living in the county are older people and the influence of these will decrease as their numbers become smaller. The population of the county is increasing, and this makes their decrease greater, proportionally.

The oil industry is bringing in many people. These people are generally young men and practically none of

1. The Great Bend Tribune, Vol. 60, No. 1, Section 4, p. 7.

2. Table No. 1, p. 48.

3. Table No. 4, pp. 53-62.

them are of foreign birth. In the development of this great oil industry in Barton County the foreign element will make no noticeable contribution. In some instances they may hold the development back as some of them do not want to lease their land.

Of the three great industries in Barton County the foreign-born have contributed to the development of two. Until recently farming was the greatest industry, and it is evident that the foreign-born contributed there as such a large percentage were farmers. Then, too, it was the foreign element that brought in hard winter wheat which is better adapted to the conditions in Barton County. Hard winter wheat changed the milling industry, which was the second most important industry until the oil development came to the county.

The foreign element has made many contributions to the history of Barton County. Some of these have not been for the best. They have held back the development of education in the north part of the county. With a better system of education they could have contributed more to the development of the county. The thrifty, frugal, industrious, saving characteristics of the German born can still be seen. The Germans have made more noble contributions than any other group for two reasons, they were the greatest in numbers and were a nationality of industrious, determined people, with high ideals. Some of the other nationalities have been slower to progress and these two elements mixing

served as a balance wheel.

Too much praise can not be given to those people who left their native land, came to Barton County, and endured all the hardships of an early pioneer's life. Those people were building that the people today might enjoy the things they have. Despite all the hardships and work they seem to have enjoyed themselves.

It must be a source of contentment and pride to the pioneers who have grown old in Barton County to know they have built so well. They have turned things over to a younger generation and now that generation must continue to build on this firm foundation.

1880 TO 1930

Country of Birth	1880 ^(a)	1890 ^(b)	1900 ^(c)	1910 ^(d)	1920 ^(e)	1930 ^(f)
All Countries	2216	2547	2378	2480	1975	1333
England and Wales	146	146	102	101	53	27
Scotland	16	18	8	18	8	11
Bohemia		57	60			
Ireland	100	108	81	75	40	11
Norway		3	4	3	1	2
Sweden	17	10	12	11	17	13
Denmark		6	7	7	5	4
Netherlands		7	3	1		
Belgium			1	2	1	
Switzerland	51	29	19	22	14	6
France	17	15	13	7	11	3
Germany	1027	1217	1001	812	572	454
Poland		3			68	18
Czechoslovakia					101	251
Austria		533	493	638	426	125
Hungary		12	6	3	13	
Yugoslavia					3	
Russia	262	293	491	612	426	355
Greece				3		
Italy				2	1	1
Canada	68	68	56	46	38	37
Mexico			5	106	151	
All Others	512	2	16	11	26	15

(a) 10th U. S. Census, Population, table 14, p. 508.(b) 11th U. S. Census, Population, part 1, table 33, pp. 626-7.(c) 12th U. S. Census, Population, Vol.1, part 1, table 34, pp. 752-4.(d) 13th U. S. Census, Population, Vol.2, table 1, p. 374.(e) 14th U. S. Census, Population, Vol.3, table 12, p. 358.(f) 15th U. S. Census, Population, Vol. 3, part 1, table 18, p. 859.

PERCENT DISTRIBUTION OF FOREIGN-BORN, BY COUNTRY OF BIRTH

FOR BARTON COUNTY 1880 TO 1930^(a)

Country of Birth	1880	1890	1900	1910	1920	1930
All Countries	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
England and Wales	6.6	5.7	4.3	4.1	2.7	2.0
Scotland	.7	.7	.3	.7	.4	.8
Bohemia		2.2	2.5			
Ireland	4.5	4.3	3.4	3.0	2.0	.8
Norway		.1	.2	.1		.2
Sweden	.8	.4	.5	.4	.9	1.0
Denmark		.2	.3	.3	.3	.3
Netherlands		.3	.1			
Belgium				.1		
Switzerland	2.3	1.1	.8	.9	.7	.5
France	.8	.6	.5	.3	.6	.2
Germany	46.4	47.8	41.2	32.8	29.0	34.1
Poland		.1			3.4	1.4
Czechoslovakia					5.1	18.8
Austria		21.7	20.7	25.7	21.5	9.4
Hungary		.5	.3	.1	.7	
Yugoslavia					.2	
Russia	11.8	11.9	20.7	24.7	21.6	26.6
Greece			.1			
Italy			.1			
Canada	3.1	2.3	2.4	1.9	2.0	2.8
Mexico			.2	4.3	7.6	
All Others	23.0	.1	.7	.4	1.3	1.1

(a) This table was computed from table one.

THE NUMBER OF PEOPLE OF EACH NATIONALITY WHO COMPLETED THEIR

NATURALIZATION IN BARTON COUNTY FROM 1875 TO 1935^(a)

	1875	1876	1877	1878	1879	1880	1881	1882	1883	1884	1885	1886	1887	1888	1889	1890	1891
Austria	1	-	1	-	1	11	9	5	19	15	14	8	7	7	6	16	14
Bavaria	-	-	-	-	2	-	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Bohemia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-
Brunswick	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Canada	-	2	1	-	-	4	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	2	2	-	1
Denmark	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
England	-	5	4	2	4	10	5	4	3	2	3	-	4	3	-	-	1
France	-	-	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Germany	-	1	5	12	13	18	21	18	8	14	11	9	10	23	3	14	14
Holland	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-
Ireland	-	-	2	2	3	1	1	1	4	2	2	1	4	1	1	1	-
Luxemburg	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Moravia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Norway	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Prussia	-	2	5	1	6	3	6	6	4	1	4	1	2	1	-	2	-
Russia	-	-	-	-	1	8	11	11	6	14	2	7	-	1	1	4	1
Saxony	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Scotland	-	-	-	-	1	1	2	1	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-
Sweden	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Switzerland	-	-	-	3	-	1	1	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Totals	1	10	19	21	32	61	58	48	47	54	38	26	28	39	17	41	31

(a) Compiled from the original naturalization papers in the clerk of the district court's office at Great Bend, Kansas.

	1892	1893	1894	1895	1896	1897	1898	1899	1900	1901	1902	1903	1904	1905	1906	1907	1908
Austria	4	3	-	2	6	2	13	1	-	5	3	1	1	3	3	3	-
Canada	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
England	1	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-
France	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Germany	11	8	7	8	2	3	7	1	-	2	1	5	5	5	2	2	1
Prussia	2	3	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Russia	2	1	2	2	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	7	20
Sweden	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Isle of Man	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Totals	21	19	10	12	8	6	21	3	0	8	4	6	6	11	7	12	21

	1909	1910	1911	1912	1913	1914	1915	1916	1917	1918	1919	1920	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925
Austria	4	5	1	2	11	9	9	6	2	-	5	6	2	3	-	2	-
Bavaria	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Canada	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-
Czechoslovakia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	2	1	-
England	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Germany	-	3	6	-	4	3	5	5	1	1	-	7	5	4	1	15	-
Greece	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Ireland	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Italy	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Luxemburg	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	2	-
Russia	1	1	6	4	17	9	8	7	7	-	1	6	2	4	3	1	1
Sweden	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Switzerland	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Totals	5	9	14	7	34	21	24	20	11	3	6	20	10	19	6	21	1

	1926	1927	1928	1929	1930	1931	1932	1933	1934	1935	Totals
Austria	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	253
Bavaria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7
Bohemia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Brunswick	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Canada	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	21
Czecho- slovakia	2	2	3	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	17
Denmark	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
England	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	59
France	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5
Germany	3	4	3	3	1	3	7	-	-	1	349
Greece	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Holland	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Ireland	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	29
Isle of Man	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Italy	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	2
Luxemberg	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8
Moravia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Norway	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Poland	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Prussia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	51
Russia	5	1	2	5	1	1	-	2	-	-	200
Saxony	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Scotland	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	8
Sweden	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5
Switzerland	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8
Yugoslavia	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Totals	12	9	8	9	5	5	8	3	0	1	1037

TABLE 4

OCCUPATION OF FOREIGN-BORN, 1875 TO 1925 (a)

GERMAN	1875	1885	1895	1905	1915	1925
Farmer	69	374	373	369	178	99
Merchant	1	14	14	5	9	6
Postmaster	1					1
Saloon Keeper	1			1		
Baker	1	1	1	1		1
Shoe or Bootmaker	1	1	2	3	1	
Butcher	1	5	1	2	1	2
Clothier, Land Agent	1e(b)					
Blacksmith		9	8	6	5	5
Tailor		3	1	1	1	
Hotel Keeper		2		1	1	1
Laborer		27	39	22	15	12
Carpenter		13	13	4	2	4
Real Estate Agent		2		1	2	1
Cashier, Saddler, Miner, Brickmaker, Ins. Agent		1e				
Watchmaker		1	1			
Miller		2	1	1	1	
Teacher		1	3	1	1	10
Clerk		3	3	8	7	2
Restaurant Proprietor		2	1		1	1
Painter		2		2	1	1
Banker		1	3			

(a) Table compiled from the Kansas Census Reports for Barton County, 1875 to 1925.

(b) "e" is each.

	1885	1895	1905	1915	1925
Minister	2	4	8	4	7
Section Foreman	2	3	2		
Engineer	1			1	3
Mason	2	4	3	4	2
Tinner	1			1	1
Harness Maker	1	2	2	1	
Doctor	2	2			1
Boilermaker, Weaver, Peddler, Thresherman, Wagon maker		1e			
Photographer		2			
Barber, Nurseryman		1e	1e		
Marshall, Mail Clerk		1e		1e	
Cigar Maker		1	2		
Section Hand		4			
Railroad Worker			2	2	4
Undertaker, Junkman, Editor, Flour Packer, Night Watchman			1e		
Land Owner			2		
Salesman			1	2	
Retired				105	101
Agricultural Laborer				17	8
Overseer, Auto Dealer, Electrician, Dairyman				1e	
Machinist				1	1
Nurse					8
Bookkeeper, Newsdealer, Grain Buyer, Florist, Filling Station Agent, Garageman					1e

RUSSIAN	1875	1885	1895	1905	1915	1925
Farmer	23	79	125	225	170	113
Carpenter		1			4	
Clerk		1		2	9	2
Teacher, Weaver			1e			
Laborer			5	10	28	13
Merchant			2		7	5
Blacksmith			1	1	2	2
Mason, Butcher				1e		1e
Shoemaker				1	2	
Insurance Agent				1		
Agricultural Laborer					33	1
Railroad Worker					19	10
Janitor, Harness Maker, Salesman					1e	
Postoffice Employee, Banker					1e	1e
Teamster					2	
Retired					12	22
Doctor, Restaurant Man						2e
Miller, Minister, Garageman, Baker, Dairyman, Contractor, Loan Company Inspector, Machinist, Thresherman						1e

BOHEMIAN	1875	1885	1895	1905	1915	1925
Farmer	3	28	7	22	16	9
Lumberman	1					
Laborer				1		1
Cigar Manufacturer				1		
Agricultural Laborer					4	
Retired					1	2
Carpenter					1	1

ENGLISH	1875	1885	1895	1905	1915	1925
Farmer	14	46	29	29	9	4
Merchant	1	1	3	3	2	
Blacksmith	2	1	4	1	1	
Hotel Keeper	1					
Lawyer	1	2	1			
Minister		1	1		1	2
Miller		2			1	
Laborer		3	5	1		
Miner, Painter		1e	1e			
Butcher		1	1		1	
Clerk, Shoemaker		1e	2e	2e		
Carpenter		2	2	4	3	1
Stock Dealer, Brickmaker, Postmaster, Insurance Agent, Mechanic, Stenographer, Contractor, Section foreman		1e				
Doctor			1			1
Engineer			1	1		
Restaurant Proprietor, Liveryman, Saddler			1e			
Railroad Worker				2	1	1
Bookkeeper, Mail Carrier				1e	1e	
Wagon Maker, Grain Dealer				1e		
Expressman, Gardener					1e	
Agricultural Laborer					2	
Banker					1	1
Retired					9	8
BRAZILIAN						
Harness Maker						1

CANADIAN	1875	1885	1895	1905	1915	1925
Farmer	6	23	11	16	5	7
Carpenter	2	1	3			
Miller		2		1		
Stock Dealer		1				
Teacher			1			1
Laborer			4	1	2	1
Merchant			2			
Inspector, Telegrapher, Horse Doctor				1e		
Railroad Worker				2	2	3
Painter				2		
Blacksmith, Harness Maker					1e	
Agricultural Laborer, Barber					2e	
Retired					5	2
Doctor, Hotel Keeper					1e	1e
Minister, Clerk						1e

SCOTCH	1875	1885	1895	1905	1915	1925
Farmer	8	7	7	4	3	
Sheriff		1		1		
Boilermaker			1			
Station Agent, Carpenter, Commercial Agent				1e		
Minister				1	2	
Miller					1	
Well Driller						1

SYRIAN

Farmer					1	
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AUSTRIAN	1875	1885	1895	1905	1915	1925
Farmer	1	80	172	258	173	117
Carpenter		2	2	5	3	6
Weaver, Baker		2e				
Bookkeeper, Locksmith		1e				
Mason		1		1	1	1
Butcher		2			1	1
Blacksmith		1	3	1	2	1
Shoemaker		1	4		3	4
Laborer		4		10	13	13
Merchant		3	4	5	3	3
Wagon Maker, Gardener, Cigar Maker, Section Foreman			1e			
Barber			1	1		
Clerk			1	3	3	
Tailor			1	3		
Minister			1	1	1	1
Machinist			1		1	3
Restaurant Man				1	1	1
Railroad Worker			3	3	2	2
Shoe Black, Harness Maker, Team Driver, Thresherman				1e		
Grain Dealer				1	1	2
Agricultural Laborer					40	
Retired					17	32
Well Driller, Jeweller					1e	
Horse Doctor					1	1
Salesman						2
Drayman, Banker, Nurse, Teacher, Lumberman, Candy Maker						1e

SWISS	1875	1885	1895	1905	1915	1925
Farmer	2	8	6	6	1	1
Minister	1		1			
Mason		1	1	1		
Laborer		1		3		
Postmaster, Liveryman, Harnessmaker		1e				
Merchant		1	1		1	
Mail Clerk				1	2	
Cigar Manufacturer				1		
Dairyman					1	1
Retired					3	2
Clerk					1	
Mechanic						1

SWEDISH	1875	1885	1895	1905	1915	1925
Farmer		2	2	4	1	2
Laborer		1			1	3
Merchant			2	1	2	
Painter			1	1		1
Railroad Worker				1	1	
Mail Carrier				1		
Clerk, Contractor, Machinist, Miller					1e	
Retired					2	1
Engineer						1

ITALIAN

Farmer	2	1	1			
Band Master						1

IRISH	1875	1885	1895	1905	1915	1925
Farmer	13	45	45	29	8	3
Saloon Keeper	3					
Laborer	2	5	2		2	1
Teacher	1					2
Mason		2				
Clerk		1	1			
Brickmaker, Blacksmith		1e				
Doctor			1		1	
Merchant, Elevatorman, Marshall			1e			
Minister			1		1	2
Railroad worker			1	2	1	
Section Hand			2			
Janitor			1	1		
Retired					4	2
Carpenter					1	2
Painter						1

FRENCH	1875	1885	1895	1905	1915	1925
Farmer	1	2	1	5		6
Laborer, Sexton			1e			
Machinist					1	
Retired					4	4
Engineer						1

LUXEMBERG

Farmer	4
Clerk, Laborer	1e

MEXICAN	1875	1885	1895	1905	1915	1925
Railroad Laborer					13	33
Merchant, Dishwasher						1e

NORWEGIAN

Farmer		1	1	1	1	1
Merchant			1			
Railroad Worker				1		1

BAVARIAN

Farmer		1		3		
Cashier		1				2
Retired						2

DANISH

Farmer		3	2	2	1	1
Butcher			1			
Carpenter				1		
Laborer					1	

HUNGARIAN

Farmer			1	2	1	1
Baker, Live Stock Inspector				1e		
Retired					1	1

DUTCH

Farmer		1	1			
Teacher			1			

POLISH	1875	1885	1895	1905	1915	1925
Merchant			1			1
Farmer				1		23
Retired						4

WELCH

Farmer				1	1	
Railroad Worker, Retired, Laborer					1e	

GREEK

Railroad Worker, Restaurant Man						1e
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CZECH

Farmer						27
Agricultural Laborer						2

AUSTRALIAN

Farmer			1			
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BELGIAN

Farmer		1	1			
Salesman						1

MORAVIAN

Farmer				2	1	
Agricultural Laborer					1	
Merchant						1

JAVA

Farmer			1			
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TABLE 5

TABLE SHOWING THE NATIVE AND FOREIGN BIRTH OF THE ANCESTRY OF SCHOOL CHILDREN IN BARTON COUNTY IN THE FIFTH GRADE AND ABOVE^(a)

Rural Dist. No.	PARENTS					GRANDPARENTS					Number of Pupils	
	Pupils Foreign-born	Both Foreign-born	One Foreign-born	Both Native-born	Not Knowing	Four Foreign-born	Three Foreign-born	Two Foreign-born	One Foreign-born	Four Native-born		Not knowing
3				4				2		2		4
4				5						5		5
5				8						8		8
* 6				6								6
8		2	2	4		7	1					8
9		2	1	4		3				4		7
10			1	6		1		1		4	1	7
11			2	7		2	1	1	1	1	3	9
12			1	5		1				5		6
13				6		4		2				6
14		2		6				2		6		8
t 15												
16				3					1	2		3
17				10		4				3	3	10
18			2	4				2		3	1	6
19				6					3	3		6
20				6		1	3		2			6

(a) This table compiled from questionnaires sent to the teachers of the Barton County schools.

* Report was confused.

t Report was not usable.

n No report received.

Rural Dist. No.	PARENTS						GRANDPARENTS						Number of Pupils
	Pupils Foreign-born Both	Foreign-born One	Foreign-born Both	Native-born	Not knowing	Four Foreign-born	Three Foreign-born	Two Foreign-born	One Foreign-born	Four Native-born	Not knowing		
n 21													
22				2				2				2	
23				6	1		4	2			1	7	
24				6			3	1		2		6	
25		2				2						2	
26				5						5		5	
27				5	2	4		1			2	7	
28				7					1	5	1	7	
30		2		5		1		4		2		7	
31		1	14			3		1	4	2	5	15	
32				3		2	1					3	
33				6				2		4		6	
34		3	7			5	1	2		1	1	10	
37				9						9		9	
38		1		5							6	6	
39				4		3		1				4	
* 41				5								5	
42				5		4		1				5	
43		1	2	9		12						12	
44				5		3		1			1	5	
n 45													
46				12			3			9		12	
47				14				8		2	4	14	

Rural Dist. No.	PARENTS					GRANDPARENTS					Number of Pupils	
	Pupils Foreign-born	Both Foreign-born	One Foreign-born	Both Native-born	Not knowing	Four Foreign-born	Three Foreign-born	Two Foreign-born	One Foreign-born	Four Native-born		Not knowing
49		1	3	5		5				4		9
50				7			1	3			3	7
51				4		3	1					4
52				5				1		4		5
53			1	5		3	1			2		6
55				12				6		6		12
57				3					2	1		3
58				9		5	2	1			1	9
59			1	5		5	1					6
60				6		5				1		6
n 62												
64				5		1	2	1		1		5
65				6				1		5		6
* 67				9								9
69				8		1		4	1	2		8
70				8			1	4	1	2		8
71				9				1		8		9
72			3	3				5		1		6
* 73				3								3
n 75												
77				8						6	2	8
78			2	10		2		4		4	2	12

PAROCHIAL SCHOOLS

	PARENTS						GRANDPARENTS						Number of Pupils
	Pupils Foreign-born	Both Foreign-born	One Foreign-born	Both Native-born	Not knowing	Four Foreign-born	Three Foreign-born	Two Foreign-born	One Foreign-born	Four Native-born	Not knowing		
St. Joseph Ellinwood		2	3	42	1	15	5	14	5	8	1	48	
St. Joseph Beaver		1	4	20		10	3	8	3	1		25	
Holy Family Odin	1	1	13	35	1	32	4	6	1		7	51	
St. Peter and Paul			7	17	1	10	1	6	3	4	1	25	
St. Rose Great Bend			6	48		6	1	10	16	20	1	54	
St. Ann Olmitz			1	20		1	1		1	18		21	
Holy Family High, Odin			1	23		2		4	16	2		24	

HIGH SCHOOLS

Pawnee Rock		2	10	76		24	5	18	12	21	8	88
Claflin			6	66		18	3	30	7	10	4	72
Ellinwood		7	13	84		24	5	24	9	27	15	104
Great Bend	3	6	26	390	2	42	30	71	48	166	67	427

GRADED SCHOOLS

Pawnee Rock		2	2	26		7	3	3	3	11	3	30
Claflin		1	1	34		7	5	4	6	11	3	36
*Galatia			2	19								21
Ellinwood		6	5	83	2	18	6	12	11	42	7	96
Great Bend		10	14	496	5	29	22	59	52	312	51	525
Hoisington High and Grades		29	58	482	9	93	20	91	35	212	127	578

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Stoke, 1926. 197p.

These episodes are told by Mr. Stoke after living in Barton County fifty years. They are interesting but likely are none too exact historically.

Townsley, C. P. Barton County, Her Growth, People, Pop-
ulation, Towns, Business Men, etc. [Great Bend,
Kansas, C. P. Townsley, 1879].

This is quite a detailed account of the very early history of Barton County including a great deal as the title indicates.

Tribune Publishing Company. Biographical History of Barton
County, Kansas. Great Bend, Kansas, Great Bend
Tribune, 1912. 318p.

This gives a large number of biographies of the early settlers in Barton County. Gives the growth and development of the towns, schools, and churches. Very interesting material.

Whittemore, Margaret. Sketches of Kansas Landmarks.

Topeka, Kansas, College Press, 1936. 125p.

Brief sketches of historic landmarks of Kansas. Barton County has one of these in Pawnee Rock.

Wilder, D. W. The Annals of Kansas. Topeka, Kansas,

Kansas Publishing House, 1886. 1196p.

A good early history of Kansas up to 1885. A few interesting things on the foreign elements in Barton County are given. Good authority.

NEWSPAPERS

The Ellinwood Leader. Ellinwood, Kansas, December, 1901.

This was a 25th anniversary number of the paper. It contains much interesting material in connection with the development and growth of Ellinwood.

The Great Bend Register. Great Bend, Kansas, July 3, 1876 to 1908.

I looked through the files of this paper.

The Great Bend Tribune. Great Bend, Kansas, 1876 to 1938.

Weekly from August 12, 1876 to 1915. Daily from December 7, 1908 to date. I used considerable material from the files of these two Great Bend papers. The August 12, 1936 issue was of especial value as it was the 60th anniversary number. It had much of the high lights of the county's development.

The Hoisington Dispatch. Hoisington, Kansas, August 13, 1936.

This was the 50th anniversary issue. It had much material in connection with the growth and development of Hoisington.

The Holyrood Gazette, Holyrood, Kansas. August, 15, 1934.

March 13 and 27, 1935.

These papers give some accounts of the celebrations for the establishment of some of the early churches. A few of the people named were from Barton County.

The Russell County News, Russell, Kansas, Vol. 2, Nos.

10, 11, 13, and 15.

This paper contains a translation of that part of Richard Sallet's, German-Russian Settlements in the United States, which deals with Central Kansas. Translated by J. C. Ruppenthal of Russell, Kansas.

The Wichita Eagle, Wichita, Kansas, Vol., 93, No. 175.

This issue contains some information in regard to the Central Normal College at Great Bend, Kansas.

The Wilson World, Wilson, Kansas, Vol. 58, No. 35.

This issue contains an article by J. C. Ruppenthal concerning the Germans who lived in Pennsylvania and then later came to Central Kansas.

MANUSCRIPTS, DOCUMENTS, and CLIPPINGS

Barton County Clippings, Vol. 1 and 2.

These are clippings the Kansas State Historical Society have gathered concerning Barton County. They have them in their library.

Kansas, District Court, 20th, Original naturalization records, Great Bend, 1875 to 1935.

These naturalization records are to be found in the clerk of the court's office in Great Bend.

Kansas Scrap Book, by Noble Prentis, Vol. 9 and 10.

These two volumes of the scrap book contain things concerning Barton County. This may be found in the Kansas Historical Library.

Kansas, Secretary of State. Corporation Books numbers, 72, 85, 43, 58, 62, 7, 38, 46, 19, 35, 59, 48, 36, and 65.

These books contain the original charters that were granted to churches, banks, etc. when they were organized in Barton County. They may be found in the Historical Library.

Kansas State Board of Agriculture, Census Reports, Topeka,
Kansas, 1875-1925.

The part of the reports for the years 1875, 1885,
1895, 1905, 1915, and 1925 which had to do with
Barton County. These were the original reports.
From these reports I compiled table number 4.

Seibert, Victor C. A History of the Kansas Mennonites
with A Study of Their European Background.
Master's thesis, Fort Hays Kansas State College,
1937. 122p.

The Mennonites settled in the southwest part of
Barton County so there was some material in
connection with their contributions I could
use.

United States, Bureau of the Census Reports, Washington
D. C., 1880 to 1930.

From these reports for the years of 1880, 1890,
1900, 1910, 1920, and 1930 I compiled table
number 1. These reports were only used in
connection with Barton County.

Waldron, Nell. Colonization in Kansas from 1861 to 1890.
Doctor's thesis Chicago University, 1932. 172p.

This takes the entire state in discussing the
subject of colonization. A very interesting
thesis.