

**IN 1870—**

The weekly Walnut Valley TIMES was first issued March 4th, 1870. It was a 7-column folio. Murdock & Danford, the last of unsavory bank fame, were editors and proprietors.

Dr. Edwin Cowles, still a resident and practitioner in El Dorado was then practicing and probably resided on his farm just east of the city which he still owns.

J. B. Shough, now of Prospect, was proprietor of the Shough House, Chelsea, the old hotel, now used as a store.

J. K. Finley, who laid out Finley's addition to El Dorado, advertised in the TIMES "a fund on hand for general speculation."

Mrs. M. J. Long, now Mrs. E. H. Clark, and Mrs. M. E. Close were the milliners of the town.

According to the TIMES there was "no politics in Butler county."

The TIMES referred to Gen. A. W. Ellet "of Philadelphia" and "father of our townsman Ed. C. Ellet, of the firm of Knowlton & Ellet." The General was trying to have a new district formed with the land office at "Eldorado." Civilization hadn't progressed enough to require the proper spelling of the town's name.

Ralph Lambdin, now of Denver and Joshua Lambdin, now deceased, were bashing it on Little Walnut, described as a paradise. Josh. had a log cabin of one room which "served as parlor, bed room, dining room, kitchen and nursery." The log cabin was the "residence" of '70. Peter Johnson, himself an old timer in Butler county, owns the Ralph Lambdin claim, now worth say \$5,000.

E. L. Lower, then the owner of 160 acres, beginning at the present city building and extending half a mile west and half a mile north, laid out the east 180 acres into Lower's addition; and later platted the west 80 acres which extends half a block west of the Central school building.

Dr. J. P. Gordon laid out Gordon's addition on south Main street.

Judge J. C. Lambdin, now of Caldwell used his sons Ralph and Joshua were leading citizens. The TIMES says, that the Judge came to Butler county in 1857 and in '59 was elected a member of the territorial council and served with honor for two years. His "claim" is now the Joel Benson farm, Chelsea. They built in '69, says the TIMES, "their large two-story, frame store-house on the north west corner of Main street and Central avenue where they are still engaged in general merchandising. Their store-house is 22x40 feet, with four rooms upstairs and contains a stock of about \$6,000. The Judge has done much for El Dorado and his influence being always exerted in the cause of churches, school and temperance should ever be remembered by the good people of Butler county." The site of the store was where the Exchange National Bank now stands.

Betts & Frazier—Mayor J. H. Betts and Banker N. F. Frazier were "from Leavenworth and opened a first-class

ability they challenge comparison with any building in the southwest." Bennett & Aultman now use that same building for a meat market but it was first erected where Setzler & Newcheck's carriage works now are on north Main street.

W. R. Brown, of Cottonwood Falls, was Judge of the District Court; H. D. Kellogg, afterwards of Arkansas City and we believe now dead, was county clerk; Henry Martin, now deceased, who had a general store on the Tolle corner (Sunderland building) was county treasurer; W. A. Sallee, deceased, was register of deeds; James Thomas, deceased, was sheriff; J. W. Strickland, father of Mrs. James Thomas, now Mrs. B. F. Helm, was coroner; J. E. Buchanan, now of Chelsea, was county superintendent; D. M. Bronson, deceased, was county attorney; A. L. Petrie, clerk of the district court; T. R. Wilson, county surveyor; Wm. Harrison probate judge and Sam'l C. Fulton, of Towanda, M. A. Palmer of Little Walnut, now register of deeds and Martin Vaught of Ness City, Ness county, Kansas, were county commissioners.

Lumber, "1st clear" and box boards, were worth \$65 per 1000 feet and fencing was worth \$40. The cheapest shingles were \$5.00 per 1000. At Emporia "1st clear" lumber was quoted at \$85 per 1000 feet.

The TIMES of '72 abounds in names of citizens now forgotten or remembered only by the old settlers—Gerhart, Holt & Warner, Mallory, Stanley, Plotts, Dixon, Sneathen, Hawkins and many others.

Item: "A. M. Burdett is putting up a little beauty of a residence at 39 Central avenue. It is 16x28 with an addition on the north. Cost, \$3,000." Location of the Masonic hole and it was really the first residence in the city.

"Pitcock's mills grind on Wednesdays and Saturdays."

"E. Howe, of Michigan," put in an appearance, bought lots and gave evidence of "locating here."

S. P. Barnes, now deceased, removed here from Emporia and entered the lumber business.

There were eleven houses and a (the) school house 26x38 on the town site of Chelsea.

O. E. Sadler and J. C. Becker were engaged in "merchandising" at Chelsea.

J. B. Parsons, now of Sycamore township, "located permanently" in El Dorado as a painter, glazier and paper-hanger.

Dr. J. A. McKenzie, of Topeka, was registered among 41 other guests at the El Dorado House—on the corner where The State Bank of El Dorado now stands. The Doctor is now dead but he is

rated as one of the best physicians in the state. J. L. Cupples living just west of town, John Heath, of Towanda, J. W. Cameron now of the Indian Territory, were also among the hotel's guests.

They were retained under the protection of persons cutting timber from the "Peek" lands."

Arkansas City was known as "Del-