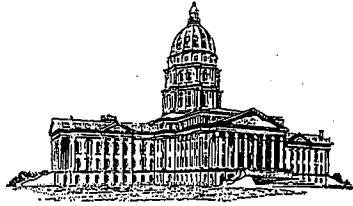


State of Kansas
House of Representatives



Vince Wetta

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SAFETY BUDGET

March 13, 2012.

Chairman Taddiken and members of the Senate Agriculture Committee
Concerning HB2563:

Thank you for allowing me this opportunity to speak on behalf of our community of Wellington. We are in Sumner County which is in South Central Kansas. Our Wheat Festival steering committee represents the Kansas wheat farmers. The festival has been celebrated since 1900 and will hopefully continue to honor wheat producers for generations to come.

"When the business men of Wellington decided to inaugurate a Sumner County Jubilee and Wheat Carnival to celebrate the record breaking wheat crop of 1900, it says they embarked in an enterprise without local precedents to guide them."

That is a quote from the original Jubilee Souvenir program from the 1900 celebration which began as the Sumner County Jubilee and Wheat Carnival and has now 112 years later has come to be known as the Wheat Festival.

The Wheat Festival of today is a five day celebration that we, the Wellington Area Chamber of Commerce, pull off with the help of a lot of volunteers and support from our businesses and community. However, the festival has always struggled with our current name...are we the Sumner County Wheat Festival...well no, there is already a County Fair in Caldwell. Are we the Wellington Wheat Festival, no, this festival represents so much more than just our town. So why not be the Kansas Wheat Festival...a celebration that encompasses the rich history of farmers all over this great wheat state of ours. But why the Wheat Festival in Wellington...in the heart of Sumner County? *"It is said that Queen Victoria, when the first yacht race was sailed in 1851 was told that an American yacht was the first to cross the finish line...when she inquired, and who was second" She was told There is no second your Majesty. Equally true is it of Sumner County that in wheat raising no other county in Kansas is really in her class...and wheat is the stuff out of which the staff of life is made."*

We believe in our Kansas Wheat Farmers and we believe it is time to take this festival to the next level and make it the official Kansas Wheat Festival...a celebration of all farmers in our great state. We already hold an Agriculture and Energy luncheon during the festival. We crown a Wheat King based on samples brought in by area farmers which will now be open to the whole state. We are planning to have an implement show

and antique tractor display along with our car show...and we are in the works of putting together a wheat beer tasting...just to give you a sample of some of the things we are doing to bring more attention to all that Wheat represents to our state. We have made contact with the Kansas Farm Bureau and the Kansas Wheat Commission.

So in closing, I once again refer to the Jubilee program...

"A county of 25,000 people with a crop of a single cereal worth four million dollars is pretty well fixed. It is worth a visit if you have the price of a railroad ticket and the week of the big Jubilee and Wheat carnival or hopefully, we can say, during the Kansas Wheat Festival...is a good time to come!!"

Thanks for your consideration and we ask that you pass out HB2563 favorably.

Thank you.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Vince".

Vince Wetta

THE MONITOR-PRESS' Illustrated

Anniversary Souvenir

Devoted to
COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL
INTERESTS

CAMPBELL & HOOD
PUBLISHERS.

WELLINGTON, KANSAS, SEPT. 18, 1900.

PRICE 10c

VIEWS IN WELLINGTON, KANSAS



COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL



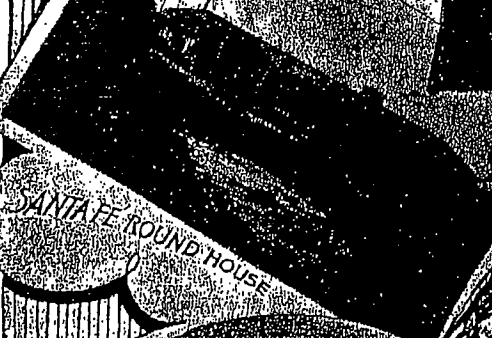
WELLINGTON HIGH SCHOOL



THIRD WARD SCHOOL



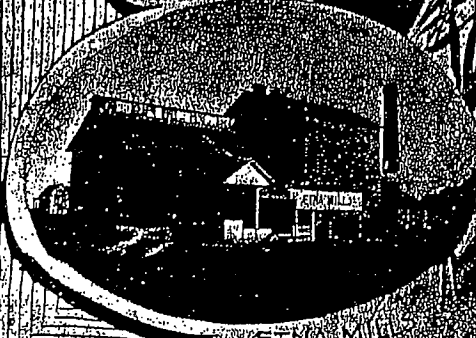
DENTALE DRUG STORE



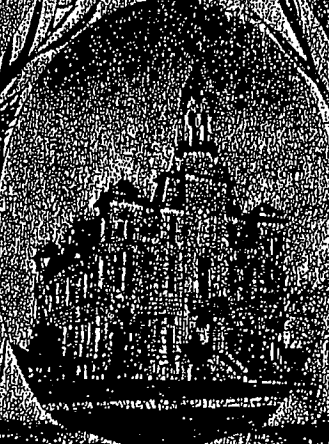
SANTA FE ROUND HOUSE



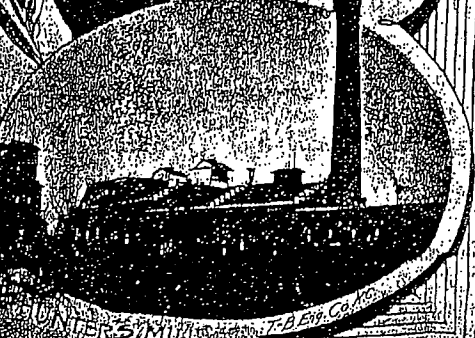
FREIGHT HOUSE AND YARDS



COUNTY JAIL



COUNTY SEAT OF SUMNER COUNTY



COUNTY JAIL

THE BANNER WHEAT COUNTY OF THE WEST

*Unpublished
Illustrations
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