ALL AROUND THE TOWN
FINDING YOUR WAY IN A NEW (OLD) CULTURE

You are a person of the 1870s! Your family is moving from Indiana and plans to purchase a farm just outside of Wichita, in Sedgwick County. Your father is excited at the prospect of a new beginning. Your mother does not want to leave a perfectly good life for a place that is rough and has coarse people living in it. You are sad to be leaving your friends, but are excited about the adventure of moving near a developing city.

Answer the following questions as you explore and learn about your new community. (The number in parentheses ( ) next to each question indicates the building where the items can be found. [Refer to the map on the back of this booklet.]).

1. **Drovers’ Camp. (near #2)** You passed a cowboy camp, and your farmer father is not pleased to see them here. The Texas cattle are a problem and so are the cowboys.

   What are two reasons the farmers and cowboys did not get along? 1._________________________
   2._________________________

2. **Munger House. (5)** Your father wants to get ideas on the proper way to build a house.

   The Munger house was built of native wood by a master carpenter.

   List one feature that tells you it is a well-built house. __________________________________
   ___________________________________________________________________________________

   What native wood was used to build this house? ________________________________________
   ___________________________________________________________________________________

3. **Saddle and Harness Shop. (7)** Now that you have picked a horse and have a wagon, you will need to buy the harness to attach the horse to the wagon. Your mother had heard that ladies in this part of the country used the same saddles as men, but was very pleased to find that this man sells a proper ladies saddle. Can you locate a riding apparatus that would be made especially for women in dresses?

   What evidence do you base this idea on? _____________________________________________
   ___________________________________________________________________________________

4. **Dress Shop (8)** Your mother wants your sister to be dressed in the latest fashion so she takes her to the Dress Shop. Your brother she takes to Mr. Fechheimer’s store (34). When you compare the two, which store sells ready-made clothing? **Fechheimer or Dress Shop**

   Who can buy ready-made-clothing? **MEN AND BOYS** **WOMEN AND GIRLS**

   What must those who can’t buy ready-made clothing do to acquire clothing? ________________
   ___________________________________________________________________________________

5. **Fechheimer Clothing Store. (34)** How much does a new suite of clothes cost? ______
6. **Bank. (10)** Your father goes to the bank to get a loan to buy farm property. The price for the 160 acres he wants is $1.25 per acre.

What is the total cost of the land? ____________

At an interest rate of 4%, how much simple interest per year will he pay to the bank for the loan to buy the land? Hint (total land x .04) _______________________________

Having not saved enough, he must also get a loan to run the farm until his first crop is harvested. With high demand and little competition from other lenders, banks charge high interest rates for this type of loan. The lowest interest rate you found was 36%! How much simple interest will you pay on your loan of $2,000? __________________

To keep cattle brokers coming to their banks, they usually charged 4% interest. How much money would your family save if they only have to pay 4% simple interest on your crop loan? ______________________________

7. **Jail. (11)** Last night two men got into a fist fight. The police broke it up and took the men to jail to calm down. They could be fined $5-$8 (Cowboys earned about $1/day)

Do you think it would be worth it to fight if it would mean you would have to go to jail? Why or why not? ______________________________________

8. **General Store. (12)** Your mother thinks she could sell her butter in town at the General Store where she can buy a wide variety of things. What brands of chocolate are sold here?

1. __________________________ 2. __________________________ 3.________________________

The storekeeper orders items from the largest city in the area, Emporia. What are two reasons he is glad that things are shipped to him by railroad now instead of freight wagon?

1. __________________________ 2. __________________________

9. **Blacksmith. (19)** Your father notices that a tire on one of the wagon wheels is loose, so he takes it to the blacksmith for repair. After the blacksmith has told you about his work, list a good and a bad aspect of his work.

Good ____________________________ Bad ____________________________

10. **Marshal’s Office. (20)** Stop at the Marshal’s office and see where the cowboys placed their guns while they were in town.

11. **Meat Market. (21)** After the crops are planted, your father who is a good hunter might make money by selling wild game to the meat market. What did the cowboys have to sell that required a lot less effort than your father would use to hunt? ____________________________ Why would your father be angry that the cowboy could sell what he did? ____________________________

This store sells also sell seafood from the east coast. What type of fresh seafood is sold here? ____________________________ How do they keep it from spoiling? ____________________________
What method was used to ship fresh seafood quickly enough to keep it from spoiling?

12. **1880s DEVORE FARM. (15)** Your father wants to see the farm of Mr. DeVore, a modern, progressive farmer who is well established with many outbuildings, animals, and machines. Many of your fathers’ friends teased him about going to farm in the “Great American Desert.” Do you think a desert would be a good place to have a farm? 

Does Kansas actually look like a desert? If you knew how to farm, would you consider farming here? Does it look possible? Why? Yes No 

The 2 main crops farmers grew were corn and wheat. Name 3 products made from each.  
**CORN/CORNMEAL**  
1.  
2.  
3.  
**WHEAT/FLOUR**  
1.  
2.  
3.  

Circle the crop you think he will consider more valuable to sell and want to grow more of. Why do you think the crop you circled is the more valuable crop? 

13. **SCALE HOUSE. (22)** At the scale house beside the grain elevator, your brother is pleased to see the owner is interested in his favorite sport. (Notice the picture on the back wall.)

What is it? 

14. **ARKANSAS VALLEY GRAIN ELEVATOR. (22)** As a farm family, this tallest building in town is crucial to you. One crop you can store on your farm with ease, but the other crop must be harvested right away and stored right away. Which of the two grains listed above must be handled quickly? 

How will this building help your family be successful while dealing with uncertain and fluctuating grain markets? 

15. **DEPOT. (24)** Your father is pleased to move to a town with a railroad. He will be able to sell his grain to the rest of the nation rather than just use it to feed his family.  

What railroad company is the depot linked to? 

Your mother wants to let relatives in Indiana know that your family has arrived safely. In what two ways could the clerk pass on this information?  

1.  
2.  

16. **HENRY WOLF HOUSE. (25)** The Wolf family is from Germany. Think of 2 reasons why he might have left his home Country?
You can see some German writings on the wall. Mr. Wulf wants more land and a nicer house in which to raise his family. He says “opportunities abound” so he works as a shoemaker by day and a farmer by night. What skills do you have that could earn a living in a town like this? __________________________

17. **LIVERY STABLE. (26)** Your father wants to look for a saddle horse. Here at there is someone who knows about the health of horses and who he can trust for a good deal.

Who is this person? __________________________

18. **TURNVEREIN HALL. (28)** This building was used by people from Germany. Many people, including Mr. Wulf and Fritz Snitzler, saloon keeper, came from Germany to live in Wichita. What activities did people do in this hall? __________________________

Why would people from one country gather in this hall? __________________________

19. **SOUTHERN HOTEL. (29)** Your mother does not look forward to staying in a tent on the prairie tonight and wants to stay in the Hotel. Go up the stairs on the side of the building and look at the room at the end of the hall where you would stay.

Would you like to stay here? YES NO

List 2 things that are different from a modern hotel room.

1. __________________________  2. __________________________

20. **DRUG STORE. (31)** The Drug Store also had a doctor’s office and a dentist’s office. The druggist may show you how medicine was made. Many believed that medicine had to taste bad to be good for you. Do you think medicine works better if it tastes bad? YES NO

Why do you think modern medicines often have flavors and are sweet? __________________________

21. **LAND OFFICE. (NEAR 33)** Your father visits the land office to find out what land is still available for purchase. To demonstrate the productivity of the land, there are displays of the crops from the area. Why is your father looking for land that—

Is very flat? __________________________

Has water nearby? __________________________

Has a stand of trees? __________________________

22. **BARBER SHOP. (32)** Your mother would like to send a family photograph to your grandparents in Indiana. She wants your father to look his best and sends him to the barber shop. Some MEN are *regulars* here. How can you tell?
Do women get their hair cut here, too? **YES** **NO** Why or why not? ________________

23. **LAW OFFICE.** (33) The lawyer will give your father legal advice about the purchase of land. What is the fee for drawing a deed for the property? ________________

24. **THE WICHITA CITY EAGLE PRINT SHOP.** (35) To get to know the town very quickly, you go to The Wichita City Eagle newspaper office. The printer will tell you why this newspaper was so important and how it was made. The front page, left-hand column, has basic information about the town.

What is the date on the paper in the window? __________________________________________________________________________

What time is mail sent east on the Express No. 2 train? __________________________________________________________________________

This newspaper was published once a week and cost $2.00 per year. What would be the cost for one issue? __________________________________________________________________________

25. **CARPENTER’S SHOP.** (37) Your father wants to see how the carpenter works. He may hire him to fix the inside of your soon-to-be-built house.

26. **ONE-ROOM SCHOOL.** (38) It will soon be time to enroll for the new school term and your mother wants to visit the school. *If a class is in session, please enter and observe quietly.* What do the different sizes of desks tell you about the students who will be attending with you?

______________________________________________________________________________

How did the teacher keep things orderly in this school? __________________________________________________________________________

Would you like your teacher to use the same method? __________________________________________________________________________

27. **STORY-AND-A-HALF AND MURDOCK HOUSES.** (40 and 41) Stop by these houses to see how the newspaper editor (Murdock) and those with more modest incomes lived.

28. **FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.** (43) There are two churches in town; your parents do not belong to either. The First Presbyterian Church is the largest one in town, and your mother hopes that it does not forbid the use of musical instruments. Visit the church and parsonage to find out if instruments were a part of worship at this church? **YES** **NO**

Sadly, your father decides that a night in the hotel is too expensive, and he wants everyone to take a good look at the land he has chosen to buy. Your horse is well, and your wagon is fixed and loaded. You are all set to go for the night.

**CONGRATULATIONS!** The day has provided you with lots of experiences, and you are well on your way to becoming an informed citizen of Sedgwick County, Kansas. If you decide that this is a very good place to live, you might send a telegram or write a letter to encourage your friends to come here, too!