

*Did the Reality Match the Expectations for Kansas Homesteaders?*  
Kansas Farmers: Evidence (Group 6)

**Directions: Analyze the historical sources and complete the chart and questions found on the Kansas Farmers: Document Analysis Worksheet. Be specific and detailed in your answers.**

Thomas Osborn (Republican) was the governor of Kansas from 1873 to 1877. Osborn was involved in state and national politics throughout his life. In 1874, the grasshoppers came to Kansas and ate most of the vegetation in the state. Some regions were hit harder than others, but overall the state suffered. Without crops, plants, grass, or trees people and livestock suffered tremendously from lack of food. The proclamation was released in a newspaper to notify the citizens of Kansas of this government action.

### Grasshopper Relief proclamation

*Resolved, That the public funds of the United States be sacredly held for the use and benefit of the actual settlers, and we condemn and disapprove of any further grants of the public domain to railroad or other corporations.*

#### PROCLAMATION.

BY THE GOVERNOR OF KANSAS.

WHEREAS, The western and new settled portion of the State has been invaded by an army of grasshoppers, which have, in some sections, destroyed the growing crops on which the people relied for subsistence, thus rendering destitute very many of our citizens and threatening great suffering among the people in the localities so affected unless speedily relieved. And

WHEREAS, The State has no power to afford the necessary relief in the absence of legislation providing therefor.

Now, therefore, know ye, that I, Thomas A. Osborn, Governor of the State of Kansas, regarding as the first duty of the State, a fostering care and protection for all her citizens, and believing the present to be an extraordinary occasion, as contemplated in the constitution, do hereby, in virtue of the power vested in me, CONVENE THE LEGISLATURE.

The members of the Senate and House of Representatives are, therefore, summoned to assemble in their respective chambers at Topeka at 12 o'clock, noon, on Tuesday, the fifteenth day of September, 1874; then and there to consider and determine such measures as will best accomplish the object for which they are hereby convened.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the great seal of the State. Done at the City of Topeka this twenty-eighth day of August, A. D. 1874.

[L. s.] Signed, THOMAS OSBORN,  
By the Governor.  
W. H. SMALLWOOD, Sec'y of State.

#### NOTICE.

All temperance people throughout the State are requested to send

the probable cost of furnishing the work of legislation will be. If they go to work without other ledge on the subject than the each member brings from his district, they will in all probability blunder along for weeks before law is passed.

#### PERTINENT QUESTION.

Mr. Louis Walker, editor of Register, endorses Col. Phillips' paper. Mr. Walker is too good to approve of the nomination known corruptionist like Phillips. Mr. Walker would take the acquaintance himself with the case, he would not. That Phillips is notoriously unable to represent any people in Congress. Phillips is a salary grabber and against the repeal of the increase of his salary when he knew that of his Kansas constituents favored immediate repeal. Does Mr. Walker endorse a man who votes that way? Mr. Phillips drinks eating liquors to excess, and in a drunken condition fell from his buggy and broke his arm. This is idle rumor. It is truth corroborated by the sworn testimony of decent and upright citizens of Northern Kansas. Does Mr. Walker endorse that? Mr. Phillips has received \$7,500 from the Cherokee since his election to Congress. Does he manifest that he received the

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### Mr. G. Hopper, Kansas

The political cartoon was created in 1875, a year after the grasshopper plague. The cartoon was given to the Library of Congress in 1875 by Vance, Parsloe and Company.



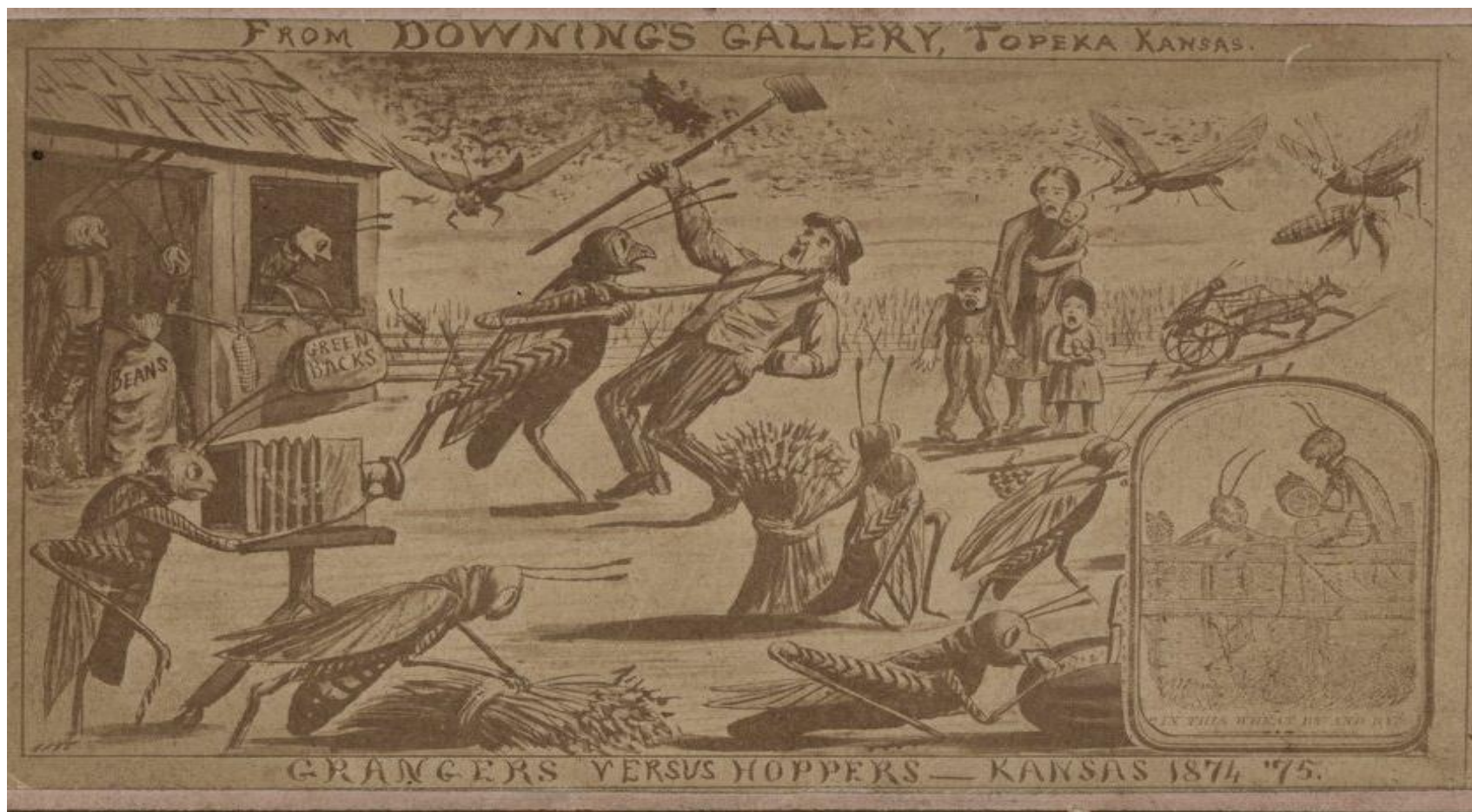
Vance, F.T. *Mr. G. Hopper, Kansas*. 1875. Kansas Historical Society Topeka, Kansas. *Kansas Memory*. Web. 29 June 2010.



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### Grangers versus hoppers

The political cartoon was created by Henry Worrall, a political cartoonist and musician. Worrall came to the United States from England in 1835 and took up residence with his family in Ohio. He created many cartoons focusing on the West. In 1868 Worrall moved his family to Topeka, Kansas. Topeka, a growing community and the capital of Kansas.



Worrall, Henry. *Grangers versus Hoppers—Kansas 1874 '75*. Kansas Historical Society Topeka, Kansas. *Kansas Memory*. Web. 29 June 2010.