

"ALL THE WORLD SEEMED SINGING":
A Celebration of Folksong in Observance
of the Sesquiquartacentennial of Kansas

by Tom Isern

Introduction

We issue this anthology of Kansas folksongs in celebration of the 125th anniversary of Kansas's statehood. This we do in concert with the sentiments of William Allen White as expressed in his novel, A Certain Rich Man. "Perhaps this land of ours was younger than it is now and sang more lustily, if not with great precision; for to the man who harks back over the years, those were the years of song," wrote White of early Kansas. "All the world seemed singing--men in their stores and shops, women at their work, and children in their schools." Should this collection encourage a revival of the singing heritage of the state in connection with its sesquiquartacentennial, that will be worthy of celebration indeed.

Table of Contents

<u>Title</u>	<u>Page</u>
The Kansas Emigrants	2
Quantrell	4
Kansas Boys	6
In Kansas	8
Kansas Land	10
Old Chisholm Trail	12
The Cowboy's Lament	14
Lane County Bachelor	16
The Old Bachelor	18
Little Old Sod Shanty on the Claim	20
The Dewey-Berry Feud	22
The Jail of Ellinwood	24
The Mortgage Foreclosed	26
Way Out West in Kansas	28
Home on the Range	30