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Catholic Cornerstone Laid.

Sunday, May 5th, the foundation stone of a handsome new brick church, dedicated to the Sacred Heart, was laid at Larned by the Right Reverend J. H. Tihen, D. D., Bishop of Lincoln, Neb., who performed the ceremony at the special invitation of the bishop of Wichita.

Accompanied by the pastor of Seward, Rev. D. J. Healy, in whose district the mission of Larned lies, and the Rev. A. Hull of Great Bend, Bishop Tihen arrived at Larned in the early afternoon over the Missouri Pacific. He was met at the depot by the mayor of Larned, E. E. Frizell, and a special delegation of Knights of Columbus from Ellinwood and Great Bend, who accompanied his lordship in state to the site of the new church.

Over 300 Catholics from Seward and neighboring towns came in a special train to help participate in the ceremonies, and many more would have been present if the recent floods had not prevented them from coming.

The reception accorded Bishop Tihen, both by Catholics and non-Catholics, was not only cordial but enthusiastic. An excellent musical program was splendidly executed by a quartet composed of Dr. Shinneman, Mrs. L. Teal, Miss Beulah Smith and Mr. Ehrlich, who cheerfully gave their services as proof of the interest of everyone in the event.

A large crowd, irrespective of belief, gathered near the bishop when he began the imposing ceremonial prescribed by the ritual. The following documents and names were placed in the cornerstone: The History of the Church, President of the United States, Governor of State, Mayor of Larned, Bishop, Pastor and former Pastors, the two weekly papers of Larned, the Chronicle and Tiller and Toiler, building committee, also the names of the Altar Society of the church.

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After the prayer proper to the occasion, Bishop Tihen delivered a truly masterly sermon, to a most attentive audience. He spoke on "Religion and Education," showing the necessity of God's influence on men's lives and the imperative need of properly training the young, while the wonderful oratorical gifts of the bishop held the attention of all to the very last word. Fortunately, the weather was ideal and nothing occurred to mar the proceedings. A substantial collection was taken up, Protestants contributing as willingly as Catholics.

There are only about ten Catholic families in Larned, but the generosity of the business men in the town will make it possible to erect a fine Gothic structure of brick 74x38 feet. It is expected that the church will be ready for dedication the latter part of June.

Rev. Fr. Healy has been warmly congratulated on his success. A year ago he was named first resident pastor of Seward, and although he has been handicapped by serious illness during much of his time, his efforts have been remarkably fruitful. For twenty years the Right Rev. Bishop of Wichita has desired to see a Catholic church in Larned and has expressed sincere pleasure at the final realization of his desire.

J. E. McInerney is the architect and builder of the new church.

\$2.00 50 cents

May 16, 1912 Chronicle