

"BOURBON'S PART OF THE HEFFERSON HIGHWAY IS ASSURED, " Kansas City Star,
March 29, 1916.

The petition for the last mile of the Jefferson Highway in Bourbon County, Kansas, has been filed. Bourbon sets up claim to being the first county in the eleven states through which the highway runs to provide for its entire part in all rock construction.

The new roads now provided for bring the total mileage of the county up to one hundred. Fifty miles of this is already built, and the remaining fifty miles will be completed as soon as possible this summer at a cost of approximately ten cents an acre a year for ten years to the land owners. The benefit districts extend two miles on each side of the highway.

The history of rock roads in Bourbon County shows how one good road leads to another. Ten years ago the first short stretch of rock road was built because at certain seasons of the year the mud became so deep that Fort Scott people could scarcely get to the cemetery to bury their dead. Then they began building roads for the living.

The township in which Fort Scott is located built macadam roads at an average cost of \$3,720 a mile. Some of those roads, ten years old, are still in fine condition.

The completion of the Bourbon County part of the Jefferson highway is considered by the Kansas enthusiasts to be a victory in the race of the rival Missouri and Kansas routes for official recognition. The routes in Western Missouri and Eastern Kansas have both been adopted temporarily, and on next Labor Day the choice will be made between them, the official marking going to the route having the most miles of permanent 365-day roads. While nearly every county on both routes has definite plans for the improvement of its part of the highway before that date, yet the Kansas route now claims the distinction of having the first county actually to qualify.