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Article Summary: The first annual Sellers Memorial Award winner was John R Schlebecker. His article on early twentieth-century agriculture in western Nebraska appeared in *Nebraska History* in 1967.

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THE JAMES L. SELLERS MEMORIAL AWARD

One year ago, the Nebraska State Historical Society Foundation announced the creation of an annual James L. Sellers Memorial Award. Instituted for a period of five years, the award is given to the author of the most outstanding article published in each volume of *Nebraska History* from 1967 to 1971.

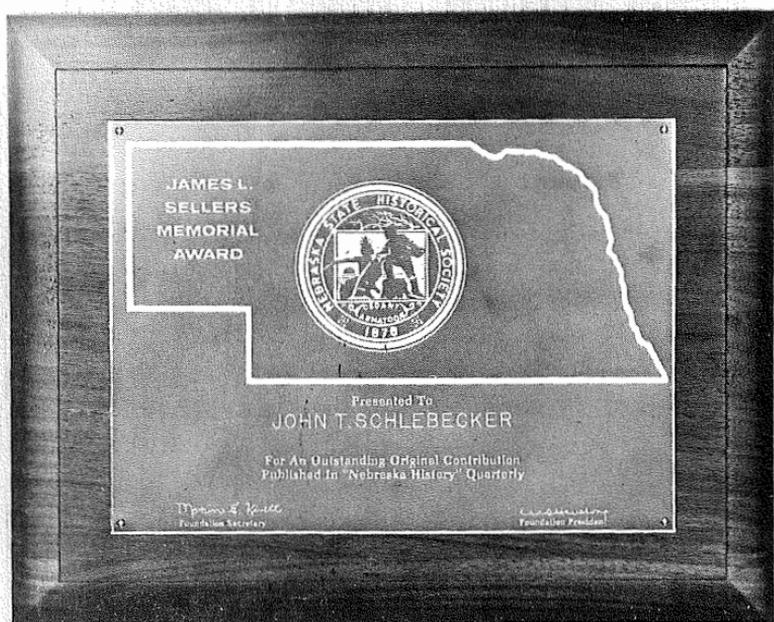
John T. Schlebecker, Curator of the Division of Agriculture and Forest Products of the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, D. C., has been named the recipient of the 1967 award. His prize-winning article appeared in the autumn, 1967 issue and was entitled "Agriculture in Western Nebraska, 1906-1966." Mr. Schlebecker was awarded the plaque pictured below and given a check for three hundred dollars.

The James L. Sellers Memorial Award was created to encourage quality scholarship and writing in the Society magazine. In making their selection, the awards committee gives primary consideration to articles which result from the utilization of primary sources and represent original contributions to the history of Nebraska. Consideration is also given to the quality of writing and to reader interest.

It is fitting that such an award should be named in honor of James L. Sellers, a man who devoted more than thirty years to history and education in Nebraska. From 1930, when he first arrived in Lincoln to join the faculty of the University of Nebraska, Sellers also took an active interest in the affairs of the Nebraska State Historical Society. From

1930 to 1932 he served as Associate Editor of *Nebraska History*. After the death of Society Superintendent Addison E. Sheldon, Sellers became acting superintendent of the Society and editor of the magazine. From 1946 until his death in 1966, he served as a member of the Executive Board and during the years 1958 to 1959 was President of the Society.

This year, the awards committee was composed of three faculty members from the University of Nebraska, Miss Bernice Slote, Professor of English; R. Neale Copple, Director of the School of Journalism; and James A. Rawley, Professor of History. The committee was unanimous in its selection of Mr. Schlebecker's work.



The first annual James L. Sellers Memorial Award.