



**Sheriff Bailey**

## A Hypo Administered

From many quarters has come the question, "Why doesn't the Los Angeles Posse continue its publication of *The Branding Iron*?" Even as far away as London, from our good corresponding member, Dr. Russell V. Steele, who says, "Alas, since *The Branding Iron* ceased issue I, as a corresponding member, have been almost completely cut off from the doings of the L. A. Corral. . . . I do hope one day you will start publication again. *The Branding Iron* was so good."

Well, the reasons were many, prominent among them being the little four-letter word "COST". Another four-letter word "TIME" entered into the picture.

However, our new officers for the year 1950 brought forth a hypodermic loaded with enthusiasm and courage and lo! the result—money budgeted for the four issues this year, and four men who couldn't say "no" (all ex-Sheriffs included) to edit an issue each. So, *The Branding Iron* will be continued on a quarterly basis. Ex-Sheriff Galleher is taking hand at this issue.

## Now Meet the New Officers

Sheriff, Paul Bailey, 1876 Chickasaw Ave., Los Angeles 41.

Deputy Sheriff, Don Perceval, 1379 La Solana Drive, Altadena.

Roundup Foreman, Homer Boelter, 828 N. La Brea Ave., Hollywood 38.

Registrar of Marks and Brands, Bert Olson, 619 N. Rexford Drive, Beverly Hills.

Assistant Registrar of Marks and Brands, Arthur H. Clark, Jr., 1214 S. Brand Blvd., Glendale 4.

Representative, Merrell Kitchen, 816 S. San Pedro St., Los Angeles 14.

Wranglers: Lonnie Hull, 339 S. La Brea Ave., Los Angeles 36; Jim Gardiner, Box 548, Manhattan Beach; John Waddell, 18611 Chase St., Northridge; Harry James, 760 E. Mariposa, Altadena, Calif.

Sheriff Bailey is an author and publisher and, oddly enough, a gentleman. The Corral is in good hands and we look for a good year. We have asked him to address a few words to you:

"Dear Westerners:

"The badge of sheriff, I can assure you, is being worn mighty humbly. The inspired leadership which has built and maintained our splendid Los Angeles Corral of Westerners is a high mark indeed to shoot at, and something one could scarcely dream of emulating. Only promise I can give is that I shall do my best.

"Whatever credit may be due thus far in keeping our herd moving over the ridges and on to the next waterhole must definitely be given to those marvelous Westerners who are riding posse with your sheriff. Where could one find more willing men?

"We hope this re-heating of the *Branding Iron* meets with approval of our Corral. Ex-Sheriff Paul Galleher, as guest editor, is father to this issue. Ex-Sheriff Homer Britzman takes next turn at heating up the *Iron*.

"Thanks, everybody, for your wonderful support.

Sincerely,

"PAUL BAILEY, Sheriff."

## THAT BAD MAN, WYATT EARP AGAIN! . . .

So long as there are students of western Americana there will be a controversy, as to whether Wyatt Earp was a hero or an opinionated bully. To date no one has presented the norm of Earp's gun-toting career. His friends—and there were, and are, many—find few, if any, human frailties in their hero. The anti-Earp group have dug around for evidence to prove he was a vicious gunman of questionable integrity. Possibly some day someone will correlate the good and the bad and come up with a balanced narrative of Earp's career.

Recently the controversy reached an interesting climax when the Chicago Corral brought two students of the marshal's life, William D. McVey, of Cleveland, Ohio, presenting the pro side, and R. N. Mullin, of Toledo, the anti, for a stimulating debate, as extensively reported in the November, 1949 issue of that Corral's *Brand Book*.

In some correspondence with Mr. McVey, we received the following communication which we felt would be of more than passing interest, and he graciously consented to its being offered here.

"After reading so many conflicting stories about Wyatt, it is rather hard to make up one's mind as to which side is right. However, after



reading extensively on the subject I have come to the conclusion that Lake's book is the most authentic of all.

"Earp had an excellent reputation in Kansas. Even Bob Wright, one of the founders of Dodge City, Kansas, has a very good word for him, notwithstanding the fact that Wyatt once arrested him. After the Civil War thousands of ex-Confederate soldiers and sympathizers emigrated to New Mexico and Arizona. When the Tombstone mines were put out of operation by underground floods in 1887 the town dwindled from 10,000 to about 500. All of the better class of citizens (business men, miners, lawyers, etc.) departed, leaving only a few ranchers, cowboys and rustlers, many of whom were friends and relatives of the Clanton-McLowery-Curly Bill gang of criminals. They naturally resented these "northerners" who came down and cleaned out the rustlers.

"The anti-Earp legend has been handed down from father to son something like the werewolf in Europe. I have been in Tombstone and find that many anti-Earp people have never read about him. One lady told me she met some of the descendants of the rustlers who said that they did not know much about the OK Corral battle, but they had always been told that those killed in that affair richly deserved their fate. Even anti-Earp writers state that the better element of Tombstone was strong for the Earps.

"In carefully reading the anti-Earp literature I find that practically all of it is very vague. No real proof is offered for statements made. No denial has ever been made that Sheriff Behan was crooked and was run out of Tombstone, shortly after Earp left, for malfeasance in office. It has never been denied that many of his deputies were criminals, *i.e.*, Frank Stilwell, Ike Clanton, etc. It was Behan who suggested to Ike Clanton that he swear out a murder warrant against Wyatt for the killing of Stilwell when everybody knew that Stilwell was in the Tucson railroad yards that night to get a shot at the Earps who were sitting in a lighted coach. He was too cowardly to face Wyatt. The latter, hearing that Frank was in the yards, got off the train and killed him.

"The reason Wyatt left Tombstone was because if he had surrendered to Behan and had been disarmed, he would have been murdered by Behan's criminal deputies. The governor of Colorado thought likewise and would not extradite Earp.

"I think Wyatt Earp, Herbert Hoover and Charles Lindbergh have one thing in common. They detested publicity and never took any measures to deny the many unkind and utterly false statements made about them. Lake's book is well documented and the anti-Earp writers have never attacked the reputation of any of the dozens of men who are quoted in Lake's book substantiating what Lake wrote about Wyatt."

### Contribute To The Brand Book

Corresponding members contributing to our new *Brand Book*, to be issued soon, include Ramon (cow country author) Adams, Mrs. Elizabeth B. Cox, Earle R. Forrest, and Colonel Edward N. Wentworth. The *Brand Book* staff will, at all times, welcome contributions from corresponding members.

### Slips That Pass in the Bindery:

Seen on Backstrip: "OUR WESTERN BOARDER."

# AN INTERESTING REMINISCENCE . . .

THE FOURTH OF JULY AT LOS ANGELES IN 1847.

*First celebration of the glorious anniversary of our National Independence, in California, by order of Col. Stevenson; the Stars and Stripes unfurled from the heights of Los Angeles.*

Head-quarters Southern Military Disirict,

Ciudad De Los Angeles, July 2d, 1847.

Order No. 1.—The anniversary of the birthday of American Independence will be celebrated at this port in a manner as worthy of the occasion as our means will admit, and if we cannot greet its return by a display of as much pomp and ceremony as will no doubt be made at many ports within our own native land, we will be unsurpassed by a proper demonstration of that pure heart-fell joy, which should animate the heart of every lover of freedom and free institutions throughout the civilized world upon the happy return of this glorious day.

At sunrise a Federal salute will be fired from the field-work on the hill, which commands this town, and for the first time from this point the American standard is displayed.

At 10 o'clock every soldier at this post will be under arms. The detachment of the Seventh Regiment of N. Y. Volunteers and the first Regiment of U. S. Dragoons (dismounted), will be marched to the field-work on the hill, under the command of their respective senior officers present, when, together with the Mormon Battalion, the whole will be formed at 11 o'clock A. M. into a hollow square, when the Declaration of Independence will be read.

At the close of this ceremony, the field-works will be dedicated and appropriately named, and at 12 o'clock a national salute will be fired, which will close the ceremonies of the day.

Lieutenant Smith commanding detachment of U. S. Dragoons, will cause a proper detail to be made from his command to fire the salute.

The field-work at this post, having been planned, and the work conducted entirely by A. A. Quarter-Master Davidson of the 1st Regiment Dragoons, he is requested to hoist upon it, for the first time, on the morning of the Fourth, the American standard.

It is the custom of our country to confer on its fortifications the name of some distinguished individual, who has rendered important services to his country, either in the councils of the nation or on the battle-field. The Commandant has therefore determined, unless the Department of War shall otherwise direct, to confer upon the field-work, erected at the port of Los Angeles, the name of one who was regarded, by all who had the pleasure of his acquaintance, as a perfect specimen of an American officer, and whose character, for every virtue and accomplishment that adorns a gentleman, was only equalled by the reputation he had acquired in the field for his gallantry as an officer and soldier, and his life was sacrificed in the conquest of this territory at the battle of San Pasqual. The Commander directs, that from and after the 4th instant, it shall bear the name of Moore.

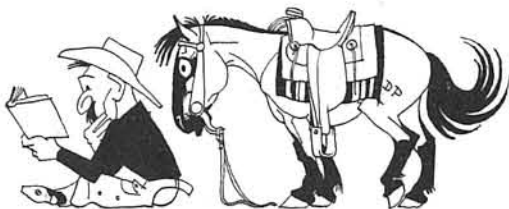
Circumstances, over which we have no control, have prevented the command at this port being completely uniformed, but each officer and soldier will appear on the Fourth with the perfect equipments of his corps as far as he has them, and most perfect cleanliness, as well in arms and accoutrements as in person, will be required of all. Each department will be minutely inspected before assembling on the hill. By order of

COL. J. D. STEVENSON,  
J. C. BONNYCASTLE,  
*First Lieut. and Adjt.*

[from Clark (F. D.) *First Regiment New York Volunteers Commanded by Col. Jonathan D. Stevenson. Appendix. New York, 1883.*]

# DOWN THE WESTERN BOOK TRAIL

By CHARLES YALE



Those of you who read Susanna Bryant Dakin's *Scotch Paisano*, published in 1939 by The University of California Press, will want to read her latest book, *The Lives of William Hartnell*. During the thirty-two years (1822-1854) preceding his death, he was California's outstanding rancher, diplomat, peacemaker, politician and, above all, intellectual. Mrs. Dakin has drawn upon Hartnell's papers, now a part of the Mariano Guadalupe Vallejo documents in the Bancroft Library, to present Hartnell true to life—displaying his faults as well as his many virtues. A readable, attractively printed book, by Stanford University Press. \$5.

On November 12, 1949, The Library of Congress placed on exhibit a collection of well over four hundred books, prints, pictures, manuscripts and broadsides depicting the history of California (catalog available at \$1.00). The material was selected from the Rare Books Division of the Library, the National Archives, the National Gallery of Art, and from schools and other institutions in California. This entire collection is being brought to the west coast and will be shown in four California cities this summer. Dates and places of exhibition will be: State Building, Los Angeles, April 12 to May 10; San Francisco Public Library, May 15 to June 14; State Capitol at Sacramento, June 19 to July 24; Electric Building at Balboa Park, San Diego, August 1 to September 15. This is an opportunity for historically-minded persons to see one of the largest collections of California material ever assembled for a single exhibition.

Another, but much smaller, exhibition will be traveling about the state during the year. This is a collection of fifty items selected by the Southern California Group of the Antiquarian Booksellers' Association of America. Its intent is to emphasize the vast field of collecting open to those of moderate means. Interesting, colorful, and historically valuable books, pictures, broadsides and manuscripts—no one of which has a retail value of more than ten dollars—are included, under the general subject *One Hundred Years of California Statehood*. WESTERNERS Clark, Dawson, Galleher, or Yale will be glad to send information to anyone interested in knowing just when the exhibit may be available near you. Copies of the hand-list covering the items may be had at ten cents each.

*This Reckless Breed of Men* (Knopf, \$4), the intriguing title of Dr. Robert Glass Cle-

land's most recent work, covers the trappers and fur-traders of the southwest. Dr. Cleland writes of the contributions made by the seekers after pelts as they extended their search beyond the Alleghenies and into the area bounded roughly by Fort Vancouver, Great Salt Lake, Santa Fe, and thence to the coast. He devotes a considerable chapter to the beaver and to the techniques of the fur trade and then takes up the careers of those individuals—Jedediah Strong Smith, Ewing Young, the Patties, Wolfskill, Kit Carson and the Santa Fe traders—who were prime movers in the exploration and development of the region. Twenty-one reproductions of contemporary prints add interest to the volume.

Books written, edited, or produced by WESTERNERS keep showing up with unfailing regularity. Warren Lewis has produced a fine bit of book-making to provide a vehicle for Art Woodward's *The Jayhawkers' Oath and Other Sketches* (\$6). Woodward dug into the files of old papers and magazines to unearth and issue for the first time in book form Manly's original account of the Death Valley Party, his later experiences in the region, his accounts of early mines, and, for good measure, pertinent writings by others such as John B. Colton, who traversed the region. More recently J. Gregg Layne, whose short articles in *Westways* on the early pathfinders deserve preservation in bound form, has found time to compile a bibliography titled *Books of the Los Angeles District* (\$5). Layne covers, as the title indicates, only such works as deal exclusively with the city, and omitting fictional presentations, surveys the scene from 1872 to 1948. The fifty-five titles are commented upon at length and, in the case of six items, facsimile title-pages are included. The finely printed little volume comes from The Auk Press of William Cheney, Los Angeles, and was produced for WESTERNER Glen Dawson in an edition of 200 copies.

Looking forward a bit, we note that in April, Greenberg will publish at \$3.50 S. H. Babington's *Navajos, Gods and Tom-Toms*. Dr. Babington recounts his personal experiences among the Indians of our southwest mesas, giving a doctor's eye-view of the mysterious doings of the wise Navajo medicine men, of Indian philosophy, religion and daily life. It combines the story of his exciting expeditions among the Indians with an appreciative analysis of their history and their lands.



# IRON EYES CODY AND WESTERN MOVIES

Television viewers have had an opportunity to see our own Westerner, Iron Eyes Cody, in action on Saturday nights with Tim McCoy. Iron Eyes is actually half Cherokee and his characterization of Indian Chiefs in motion pictures is natural and genuine. His good wife is more than half Abnaki and has appeared with him in pictures and in television shows.

Some of our best Western movies include the work of our good member. We asked Iron Eyes to give us a list of some of the work he has done, and he has provided the following. Some of the pictures have not yet been released. If you are interested in good Western motion pictures, we urge you to be on watch for Iron Eyes as he appears on the silver screen.

Played "Yellowstone" in *Massacre River* with Guy Madison, Rory Calhoun, Carol Mathews. From the book *When a Man's a Man*,



by Harold Bell Wright. Location, Chin Lee, Arizona. Served also as technical advisor.

Played "Johnny," Indian cowboy, in *Sand*, from Will James' Book. Location, Durango, Colorado.

*Blood on the Moon*, played "Toma." Went to Silverton, Colorado. Robert Mitchum, star.

*Iroquois Trail*, Iron Eyes played a Huron. Location, Big Bear. George Montgomery, Monte Blue, Brenda Marshall, stars. James Fenimore Cooper book. Served also as technical advisor.

*Ambush*, Saturday Evening Post novel. Star, Robert Taylor. Location, Gallup, New Mexico.

*Unconquered*, played "Red Corn." C. B. DeMille picture from book, *Judas Tree*. Went to New York, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Allegheny River and Ashton, Idaho. Served also as technical advisor.

Played lesser chief in *Comanche Territory*, with Maureen Ohara, from book *Bowie Knife*, by Corey McDonald. Went to Flagstaff, Ariz. Served also as technical advisor.

*She Wore a Yellow Ribbon*, John Wayne, star. Location, Monument Valley, Arizona.

Played "Chief Iron Eyes" in *Mrs. Mike*, star-

ring Dick Powell, Evelyn Keyes. Location, Sun Valley, Idaho. From book *Mrs. Mike*.

"I played in *Broken Arrow*, from the book *Blood Brother* by Elliott Arnold," Iron Eyes states. "Arnold is a good friend of mine. I will have him as one of our guests at a future meeting." Location, Sedona, Arizona.

## Among Our Corresponding Members . . .

J. H. EUSTON, a resident member of the Chicago Corral, is a student of American history, ethnology of American Indians, and American ethnology. He is particularly interested in history of the western frontier and in the life, religion and art of the American Indians; also in American ballads and folk dances. He has a collection of Indian weapons. By profession Mr. Euston is a consulting engineer and, in 1948, was consultant for the U. S. Atomic Energy Commission and field director of a management survey at the Los Alamos, New Mexico project. He is Vice President and Secretary of Business Research Corporation.

This versatile fellow is also interested in fine arts and is, in his own right, an etcher, painter, calligrapher and photographer. He has exhibited since 1928 in regional and national shows. Members may reach him at 105 South LaSalle Street, Chicago 3, Illinois.

NOTE TO CORRESPONDING MEMBERS: We urge you to tell us about yourself so that we will become better acquainted through the medium of this publication.

## Keeping Up With The Boys

Our good friend from Koon Krick, Perce Bonebrake, tea merchant, will soon be "flyin' down to the Corral" with his new China Clippers.

"A Life Worth Living" Ernie Sutton has been sorely missed to these several meetings.

Johnny Goodman, movie director, and our Ex-Deputy Sheriff, recently returned from location in Texas. He had some rather interesting experiences and has some swell yarns to tell. We may get him to "fess up" in a later issue.

Loring Campbell is still exploring every nook and cranny of Texas. In between shows he looks for books, and believe it or not, he reports finding them now and then.

## BYE BYE BUFFLER . . .

### Or, Let Bisons Be Bisons

The 1949 edition of *The Brand Book* of the Los Angeles Corral will include a story of a man's personal experience with the buffalo. The following account from Chamber's *Edinburgh Journal* of 1872 may whet your appetite:

#### "WASTEFUL DESTRUCTION OF BUFFALOES

"Some years ago we used to hear of vast numbers of sheep being slaughtered in Australia, and boiled down for the sake of their fat. The meat was thrown away. It always struck us as a cruel and wasteful thing to kill so many animals in order to fill barrels with tallow. The preparation of meat for export in air-tight tins has seemingly put an end to this wastefulness of



food. While matters are so far improving in Australia, intelligence arrives of a destruction of animal life in America which, if anything, goes beyond all that has been previously heard of. We refer to the hunting and killing of buffaloes wholesale, for mere sake of their skins.

"On this subject we copy the following from a late number of *Nature* and leave it to make its own impression: 'The enormous extent of the destruction of buffaloes on the western plains of the United States seems to have undergone no diminution during the present winter, and there is every reason to fear that, should this continue a few years longer, the animal will become as scarce as its European congener at the present day. At present, thousands of buffaloes are slaughtered, every day, for their hides alone, which, however, have glutted the market to such an extent that, whereas, a few years ago they were worth three dollars apiece at the railroad stations, skins of bulls now bring but one dollar, and those of cows and calves sixty and forty cents, respectively.

"A recent short surveying expedition in Kansas led to the discovery of the fact that, on the south fork of the Republican, upon one spot, were to be counted six thousand five hundred carcasses of buffaloes, from which the hides only had been stripped. The meat was not touched, but left to rot on the plains. At a short distance hundreds more of carcasses were discovered and, in fact, the whole plains were dotted with putrefying remains of buffaloes. It was estimated that there were at least two thousand hunters encamped along the plains, hunting the buffalo. One party of sixteen stated that they had killed twenty-eight hundred.'"

## THOSE SUBTLE SUPAIS . . .

MICHAEL HARRISON, a member from Sacramento brightens up our page with:

#### A COUPLE OF HAVASUPAI ANECDOTES

The Havasupai Indians who live in Havasu Canyon, a tributary arm of the Grand Canyon of Arizona, are as good as the best in the southwest when it comes to breaking horses. As a matter of fact, years ago whenever a rancher on the South Rim of the Canyon had a horse that could buck faster'n he could ride, he'd turn him over to one of the Supais for breaking.

One time, Fred W——, who ranched on the South Rim had such a horse. He turned him over to one of the Supai boys. The horse had had about three saddlings when in bucking through the rock the next time out, his leg was broken and he had to be shot. The Indians knew that Fred thought a lot of this particular horse and he didn't have the heart to let him have the bad news cold turkey, so he decided to break it to him gentle-like. He sent a letter:

Dear Fred:

I take your horse to break. He's sick. Mebbeso he not get well.

He's dead now.



Come the frosts of late fall, and the Havasupai are off pinyon nut picking. One of the favorite spots was in the vicinity of Hull Tank Hill, on the south rim of the Grand Canyon. And it was to this place that Dean Sinvella took his family. The whole outfit—about nine persons were in his old jalopy going down the hill, when something went haywire, the jalopy turned over and all but took off one of Dean's ears, which was left hanging by a thread.

He was brought in to Grand Canyon Village and to the office of Dr. Jones, the village doctor. The doctor snipped off the ear, and went about his business of treating what was left and bandaging Dean's head, after which he admonished Dean about coming regularly for treatment and replacement of bandages—not knowing that Dean, while the doctor's back was turned had slipped the ear in his pocket.

Religiously, Dean reported to Dr. Jones each week, until the time finally came when the Doctor removed the bandages for the last time and told Dean he was all through and needn't return. At this, Dean reached into his pocket, retrieved the dried ear, and handing it to Jones said, "You take 'um off, you put 'um back."

## Why The Branding Iron Again?

By DON LUIS PERCEVAL, *Deputy Sheriff*

Perhaps the reintroduction of the *Branding Iron* needs some explanation because some members may not think it worth the expense it has been in the past.

The primary reason is not to entertain members but to act as a link between members with information and members in need of that information. How often have we heard "If I'd only known he was writing about so-and-so, I could have given him this or that piece of information, this photograph or that document." And always after the talk has been given or the article printed.

Why not before? Generally, because no one knew it was wanted. We are all interested in recording valuable information about the West. Most of us have salted away all kinds of Western material and have seen a good bit of Western life. We are all interested in doing the best job we can with our talks and *Brand Book* articles and yet we are constantly passing up all kinds of additional facts we could have from the Westerner who sits at the other end of the table or the corresponding member we have never written to. Perhaps no one will know just what you want to find out, but it's likely that a dozen members will send you scraps of information of great value in rounding out your paper.

Why not give it a whirl?

To date not one single member has sent in the short synopsis of his proposed paper. You can't say you weren't asked, because you were. So for this first number I'm going to print the list of forthcoming talks and ask everyone who has some good dope on these subjects to let the member in question know about it.

But in future, if there is some piece of information that you need to complete your paper, just write it down and give it to me, or mail it (1379 La Solano Drive, Altadena, Calif.) in time for it to be included in the *Branding Iron* which will be produced quarterly — March, June, September and December.

## Excellent Calendar For Remainder of Year

APRIL—Hugh W. Schick, 10508 Woodbridge St., North Hollywood: "The Kentucky Rifle, the History and Development of, How It Came West."

MAY—Possible outdoor dinner. Want short (5 to 10 min.) talks on cattle business.

JUNE—Charles Yale: Subject undecided.

JULY—Possible outdoor dinner. Want short talks on Western characters.

AUGUST—Jack A. Harden, 12742 Highwood St., Los Angeles 24: "The Last Roundup of Buffalo to Put Them In Parks or Under Protection."

SEPTEMBER—George Fullerton, 1838 Verdugo Knolls Dr., Glendale: "Early Arizona Railroads."

OCTOBER—Robert T. Holman, 912 East Glenoaks Blvd., Glendale: "My Early Mormon Family History."

NOVEMBER—Warren F. Lewis, 707 South Broadway, Los Angeles 14: "Tendoi, Bannock Chief, Friend of Early Settlers in Montana."

DECEMBER—John H. Waddell, 18611 Chase St., Northridge: "Colorado River Characters, Particularly Outlaws of the North Rim and Early Crossings."

## Los Angeles Corral Edified By Fine Talks By Members

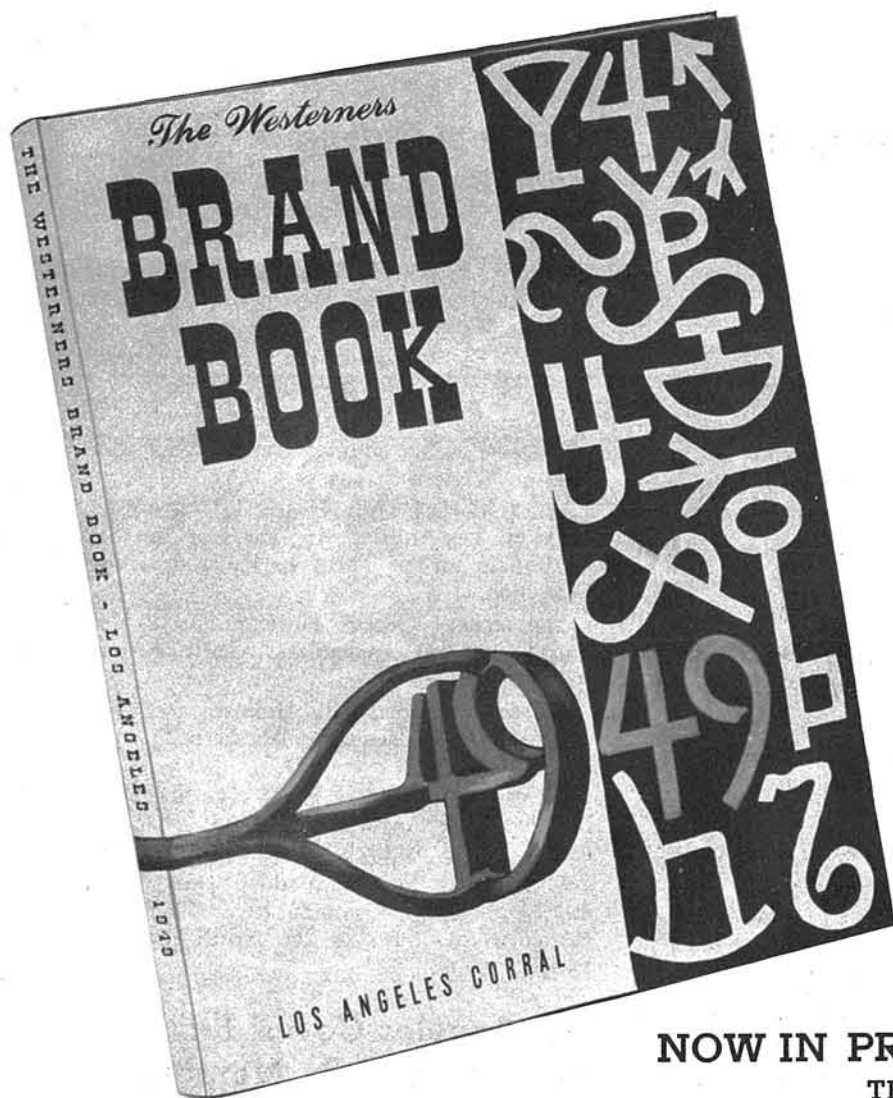
The January Roundup heard Neal R. Harlow give his paper on "The Mexican War In California" and bring order out of the involved events that took place during the last months of the Mexican era. Neal did a swell job, well documented, and the product of very considerable research.

At the February meeting Henry H. Clifford showed to what detail a man will go when he has a consuming interest in his subject. His "Western Express" was an extremely good study of Gold Rush communications, the whys, the hows, the whos and the whens. His collection of Western Express covers and envelopes allowed us to handle the very letters we were hearing about.

## An Invitation

Anyone wishing to become a corresponding member of Los Angeles Corral of Westerners is invited to contact Registrar of Marks and Brands, Bert Olson, 619 N. Rexford Drive, Beverly Hills.

Dues are only \$3.00 per year.



NOW IN PRODUCTION

THE

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OF

**"THE BRAND BOOK"**

THE WESTERNERS...  
LOS ANGELES CORRAL

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