



SEPTEMBER, 1950 LOS ANGELES CORRAL PUBLICATION 11

SUMMER ROUNDUPS OF WESTERNERS CARRY PUNCH



WESTERNERS AND FRIENDS AT PLACERITOS RANCH

The Los Angeles Corral were the guests of corresponding member Ernest R. Hickson at his Placeritos Ranch in June. Many of the Western movies are shot at this ranch and now that television has revived some of the early Westerns, you will not only recognize the ranch but also see Ernie taking part in them. The Posse turned out in festive mood and many were dressed in authentic garb and habiliments of the old west. Noah Beery, Jr. and Hugh Shick revived the war between the states—the former as a "Damned Yankee" and the latter a "Johnnie Reb." Dwight Franklin's portrayal of a mountain trapper was so real that one could almost smell the perfume from an all winter camp. Art Woodward, nicknamed "Droopy" because of nose, couldn't make up his mind, so divided his choice of character between Blackfoot, Navajo, Piute and Arapahoe, ending up by being a quarter-breed.

We were delighted that all our honorary members could attend this meeting: Frank King, old time cowman and author of many salty books based on his experiences; Frederick W. Hodge, curator of the Southwest Museum; Bruce Kiskadden, western poet; Lee Shippey, famous author and columnist, and Percy Bonebrake, a Westerner who will never grow old.

(Continued on Page 2)



THE BRANDING IRON
of LOS ANGELES WESTERNERS

Published Quarterly

This issue edited by HOMER H. BOELTER

Address Material to
DON PERCEVAL

1379 La Solana Drive, Altadena, Calif.

OFFICERS LOS ANGELES CORRAL

PAUL D. BAILEY, Sheriff; DON LOUIS PERCEVAL, Deputy Sheriff; HOMER H. BOELTER, Roundup Foreman; MERRELL A. KITCHEN, Representative; BERT H. OLSON, Registrar Marks and Brands; ARTHUR CLARK, JR., Asst. Registrar Marks and Brands; Wranglers—LONNIE HULL, HARRY JAMES, JOHN WADDELL and JAMES GARDINER

Editorial Staff Changes In Order

This is the last edition of the BRANDING IRON of 1950 that will be edited by an ex-sheriff, simply because there ain't no more ex-sheriffs. We are coming close to the time where we will have another ex so maybe the Sheriff will finish his year as editor of the December issue. Being a lazy cuss by nature and knowing full well that the previous issues were tops, it is with pleasure that I am able to present the rogue's gallery of the Los Angeles Corral. Throwing my lariat across the broad shoulders of one Westerner that don't know how to rest, I slyly added a couple more pounds to his saddle-bags. He has delivered one of the most outstanding photographic collections of unphotogenic hombres that has ever been published. My deepest gratitude to Lonnie Hull, the most indefatigable wrangler I have ever known. Lift the flagon and we will all drink a toast to Wrangler Hull.

H. H. B.

More About Earp

A corresponding member writes:

In case you have not read it, I am quoting below excerpt from TIME of July 31, 1950, page 19, article concerning General Walto Harris Walker, commanding General of our forces in Korea. "Walker is an admirer of Wyatt Earp, famed Marshal of Tombstone in the old West, who (says Walker) did most of his work for law and order with a shotgun, not a revolver." This just adds one more to the growing list of students of the old West who believe that Wyatt Earp was the right man in the right place at the right time.

WILLIAM D. McVEY
Cleveland, Ohio

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.

Summer Roundups (Continued)

Loring Campbell, Westerner and book sleuth that will not be denied, entertained the group—demonstrating and proving that anything can happen, but warned us not to believe it because it ain't so. A token of appreciation in the form of a reward poster, handsomely illustrated by our own Clarence Ellsworth and signed by all the Westerners, was presented to our host and fellow member Ernie Hickson.

July

Our July roundup was highlighted by the reminiscing of our member Marion Speer. He told of his early life as a boy on the old Bell Ranch in Texas. Marion left a feeling of nostalgia in the hearts of many of the Corral. What a treasure house those memories are to these men! Westerner Speer might be likened to a pack rat. He has combed the west for mementoes and relics all his life. This tremendous collection of western lore is housed in Speer's own Museum at Huntington Beach, California that was built entirely by himself and his good wife. He holds open house at the Museum the year round and it is free to all, especially Westerners.

It is Westerners like Marion Speer that not only record the west but through their untiring efforts and collections, preserve the history of our West for posterity.

August

Merrell Kitchen read a most interesting article about the river-boat "Belle of Peoria" at our August meeting. It will be one of the outstanding contributions to the 1950 Brand Book. Merrell is in constant search for material for the Brand Book or Branding Iron and every once in a while he strikes gold. He is an untiring correspondent and has a host of western pen friends all over the world. Jack Harden told of his finding an ox yoke in a general merchandise store in Wyoming. Forgotten in the backroom for many years, it had aged and was dust covered but still clinging to the yoke was a shipping label of the "Belle of Peoria." He acquired the label with the yoke attached. Some fellows are just naturally lucky. Percy Bonebrake, Deputy Sheriff emeritus and custodian of Law and Order was presented with a birthday present that he will gladly show to anyone visiting his rancho at Santa Anita, providing they don't mind walking to the farthest line camp and viewing it in the light of a new moon.

We are sorry that some of our members could not attend these meetings, especially our dear friend and charter member Ernest Sutton who has been fenced in these past few months. A card or a letter (1625 Oak Street, South Pasadena) would be worth a ton of pills.

MEET THE LOS ANGELES POSSE



PAUL BAILEY
Sheriff



DON LOUIS PERCEVAL
Deputy Sheriff



BERT H. OLSON
Registrar of Marks & Brands



HOMER H. BOELTER
Roundup Foreman and 3rd Sheriff



MERRELL A. KITCHEN
Representative



PERCY L. BONEBRAKE



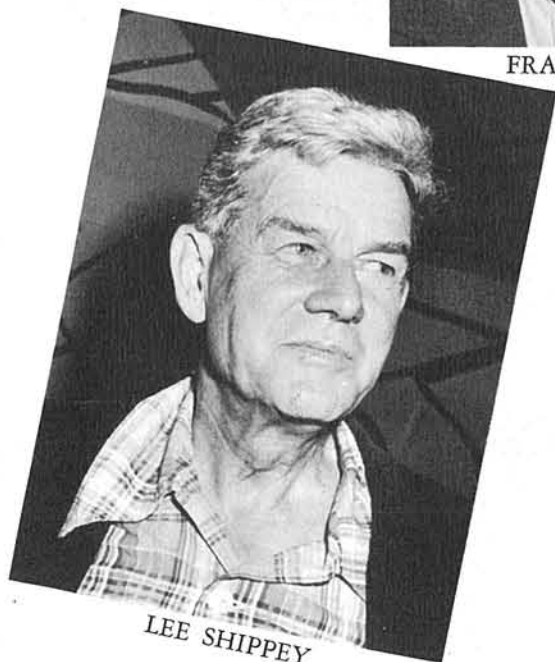
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FRANK KING

MEMBERS



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BRUCE KISKADDON



H. E. BRITZMAN
1st Sheriff



PAUL G. GALLEHER
2nd Sheriff



ARTHUR CLARK JR.
Asst. Registrar of Marks & Brands



JAMES F. GARDINER
Wrangler



LONNIE HULL
Wrangler



JOHN H. WADDELL
Wrangler



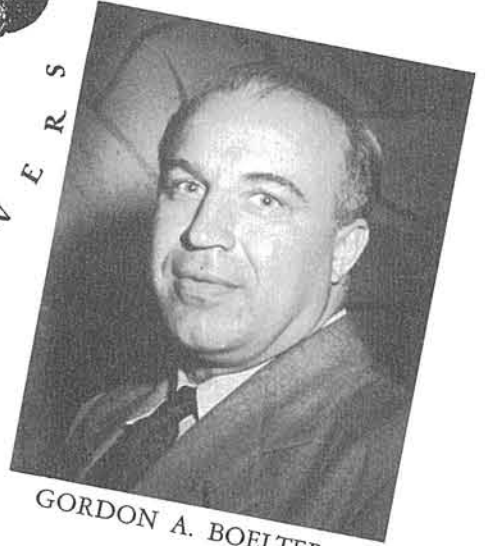
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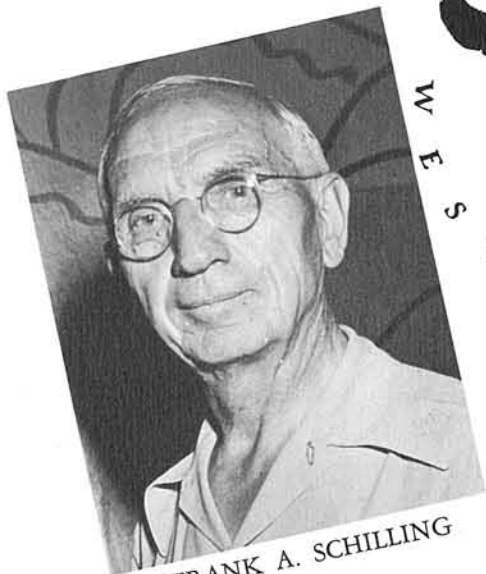
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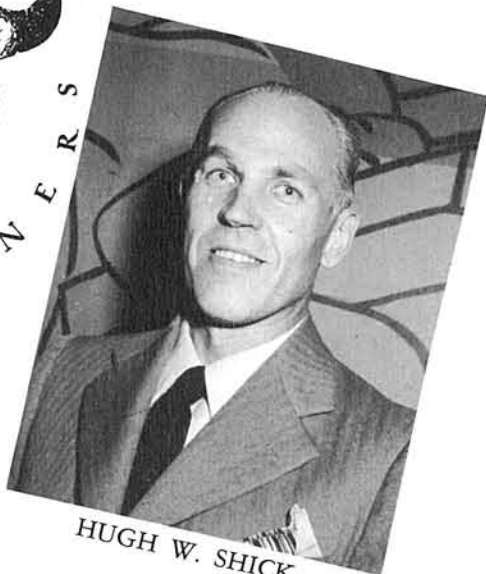
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MAJ. GEN. FRANK S. ROSS



FRANK A. SCHILLING



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ERNEST V. SUTTON



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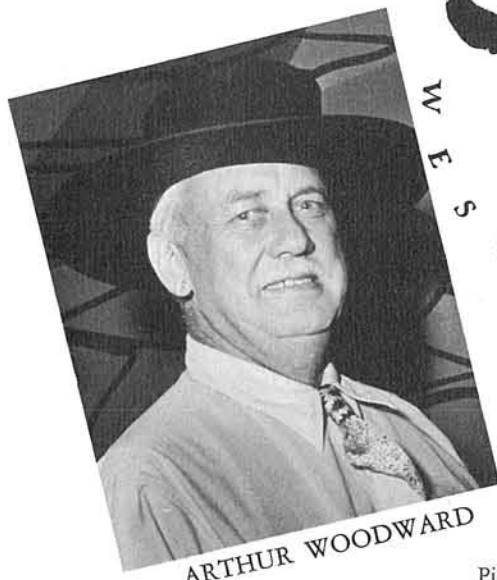
BUCK WEAVER



WILLIAM WEBER



ROBERT J. WOODS



ARTHUR WOODWARD



HARRY KEM
M. C. WENTZ
Pictures Not Available



CHARLES YALE

A RARE GROUP OF REAL WESTERNERS



OLD NAVAJO SCOUTS

The Southwest Museum in Los Angeles recently received the valuable photograph of thirty-seven old Navajo scouts "with U. S. Cavalry Geronimo Campaign—1872-1886," which is here reproduced for the first time. The photograph was a gift to the Southwest Museum by Mrs. Laura Adams Armer, noted writer on the Navajo Indians, who received it from Lorenzo Hubbell, Jr. in 1924, a "born trader" among the Navajo like his father before him. Attached to the photograph is a list of the scouts, the names of some of whom may still be identified. Most of the scouts were of advanced age, as the photograph reveals—too old, indeed, to warrant the belief that they could have been in active service when the photograph was made under Army auspices, presumably at Fort Defiance or Fort Wingate, about sixty-four years ago. The names of the scouts are:

- | | | | |
|-----------------|--------------------|------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Calavasa | 10. Hosteen Nez | 19. Canuco Pinto | 28. Jack |
| 2. George | 11. Mosta | 20. Don Juan | 29. Francisco |
| 3. Chatsosee | 12. As Keen Nez-zy | 21. Wooly Willie | 30. Marianito |
| 4. Nastagi | 13. Sombrero Ancho | 22. Mike | 31. Choiska |
| 5. Naschi | 14. Atcitty Spahe | 23. Navajo John | 32. Maya |
| 6. Frank Taylor | 15. Guerito | 24. Apachito | 33. Moqui |
| 7. Casa Miri | 16. Charley No. 1 | 25. Sam Nelson | 34. Biga |
| 8. Slim Jim | 17. Pala Cosa | 26. Dine Chili | 35. Pinto |
| 9. Navajo Tom | 18. Quintana | 27. Woolto | 36. Charley Chiquito |
| | | | 37. Bicente |

DOWN THE WESTERN BOOK TRAIL...

By GLEN DAWSON

The Los Angeles Corral of the Westerners was founded in December 1946 and already has quite a list of publications. The Bibliography of our publications is, however, somewhat erratic, so this is an opportunity to keep the record straight.

First of all was a series of the (*Bi-monthly*) *Brand Book* in unbound form, five issues of which were published in 1947 numbered Volume 1, Numbers 1 to 5 inclusive. This series has been discontinued.

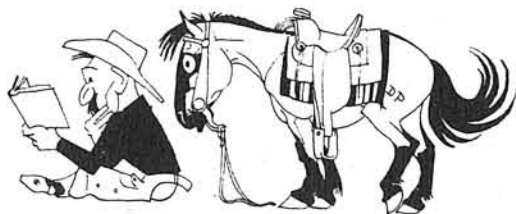
Next is our pride and joy, the bound *Brand Book*, the first for 1947 containing 176 pages, the second for 1948 with 175 pages and two folding maps. The third bound *Brand Book* for 1949, the greatest yet, will appear in the fall of 1950.

In March 1948 appeared a new publication the *Branding Iron*. There have also been some keepsakes which apparently are all part of the same series. My file, which I hope is complete, is as follows:

1. *The Branding Iron*, March 1948, (8 pages).
2. *The Branding Iron*, April 1948, No. 2, Vol. 1. 8 pages.
3. *The Branding Iron*, July 1948, 16 pages.
4. *The Branding Iron*, September 1948, No. 3, Vol. 2 (sic). 16 pages.
5. *The Branding Iron*, December 1948, No. 1, Vol. 3, 12 pages.
6. *The Old Side-Wheeler Senator* (Keepsake No. 1), (1949). Broadside.
7. *Sitting Bull*, Keepsake No. 2, (1949). Broadside.
8. *Ye Ancient Yuba Miner*, Keepsake No. 3, 1949. (8 pages).
9. *The Branding Iron*, March 1950, (8 pages).
10. *The Branding Iron*, June 1950, (8 pages).

In spite of the screwy numbering, Homer Boelter, who has produced all of the above by lithography, has included some unusual articles, reprints and pictures, as well as news of the Westerners. I wonder how many complete files exist.

The second edition of Ralph Hancock's story of Wilshire Boulevard, *Fabulous Boulevard* is now out. On page 228 of both editions is



the wording; "The Federal Government of the United States held Owens Valley while Los Angeles raped it." In the original edition it goes on to say in part: "Los Angeles is at it again. This time Arizona is the prospect for ravishment." In the second edition this portion has been changed to read "... you get the impression that Arizona imagines herself the next prospect for ravishment."

Fabulous Boulevard has a lot of lively reading but it is not documented and there are a number of inaccuracies.

For any Westerner who wants to get the accurate story of Los Angeles water he should read *The Water Seekers* by Remi Nadeau. This is a companion volume to the same author's *City Makers*. In the new book Remi has gone to many living witnesses and has made extensive use of newspapers and manuscripts to compile a really great book about the struggle for water by the people of Los Angeles, a balanced, well written account of the Owens River controversy and the more recent Colorado River developments. Included are some wild and woolly doings; dynamitings, threats, law suits, bank failures, floods and draughts.

Don't underestimate a dull looking volume with typewriter type, entitled *California Local History*, A Centennial Bibliography compiled by the California Library Association. This is a very valuable reference work for anyone interested in California history.

Nolie Mumey's new book, *Calamity Jane*, has set some kind of record: sold out before the price has been set and sold out four months in advance of publication.

Modesty forbids more than mere mention of my own edition of Lorenzo Aldrich's *Journal* first printed in 1851.

W. W. Robinson is taking Larry Powell's place as editor of the Western Book column in *Westways* published by the Automobile Club of Southern California.

The Southern California Chapter of the Antiquarian Booksellers' Association of America has published a 24 page *Directory*. There are some leads for locating wanted books. Copies free from any of the dealer-members of the Westerners.

NOW *on the press!*

1949 BRAND BOOK

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THE WESTERNERS

Publication date
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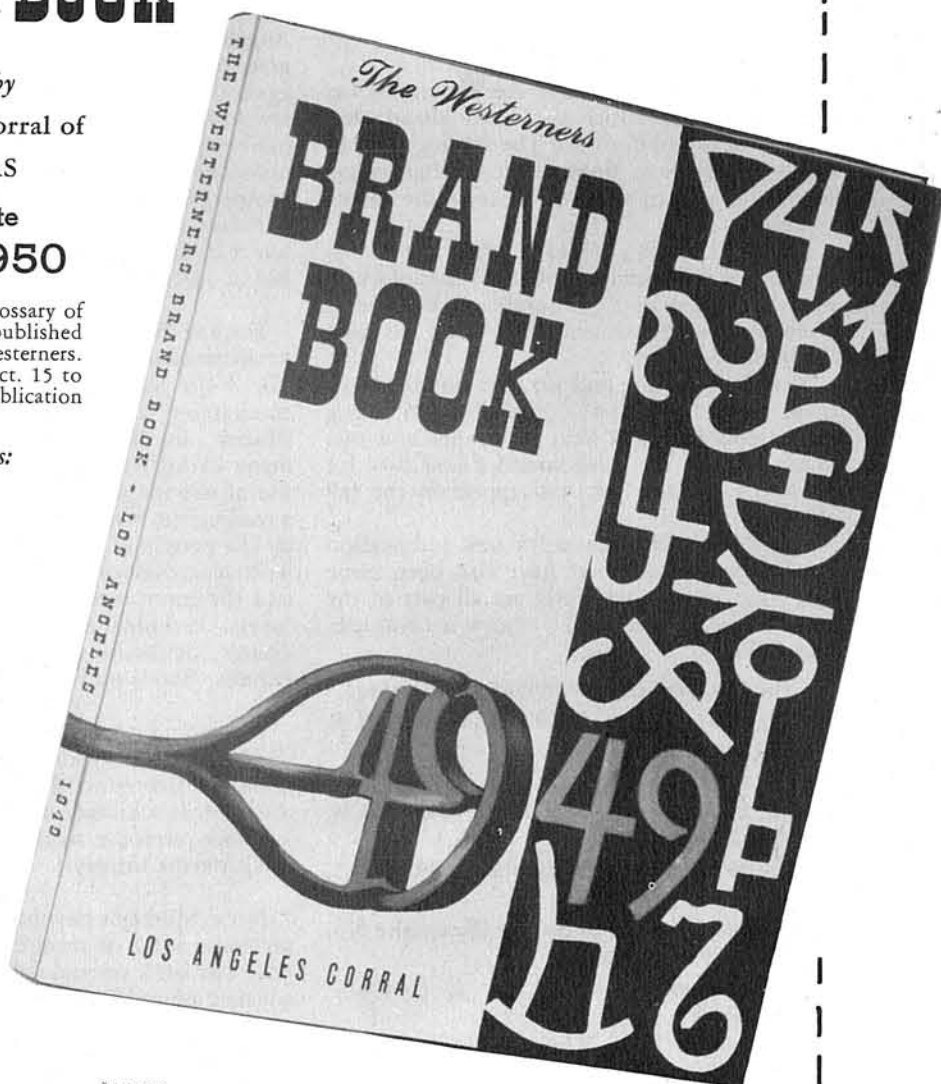
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