



DECEMBER, 1957

LOS ANGELES CORRAL

NUMBER 40

## A YEAR OF REAL ACCOMPLISHMENT

**L**OS ANGELES CORRAL of Westerners, in 1957, marked up one of the most successful years in its history. Outstanding meetings and outstanding speakers have been a consistent feature of the Corral's life under the able leadership of Sheriff Harvey Starr and his energetic group of officers. Credit for the lively and interesting subjects presented across the rostrum are, in large measure, due to the tireless efforts of Deputy Sheriff "Steve" Dolley. And there have been some outstanding meetings, indeed.

Sheriff Starr has given unstintingly of his time to the very considerable task of keeping Los Angeles Corral alive and healthy. With full support of his hard-working officers the task has been more than accomplished.

The one great feature of the year, and one which every Westerner can take justifiable pride, is the publication of the Corral's Seventh Brand Book. From every part of America is coming praise for the quality and magnificence of the volume. Many readers unhesitatingly state that it is the most beautiful book ever produced by any Corral or Posse. Editor Will Robinson, and his associates Paul Bailey and James Algar, chose its subject matter and illustrations with loving care. Homer H. Boelter topped every previous effort in making it an outstanding example of the finest in lithography. Everything in the book indicates the solid labor of love of every Westerner who had any part to do with it. Brand Book VII would make any Corral year an outstanding one.

But neither was 1957 without its loss. In June the sad passing of our genial and beloved oldtimer, Percy L. Bonebrake, left the same gaping hole in our remembrance as did that occasioned by the death of Dr. Frederick Webb Hodge in the closing year of 1956. Their chairs in our circle can never be filled. They are still a part of Los Angeles Corral, and they are sorely missed.

But life, in its fulfillment, must always go forward. The great ones who were with us, and



RETIRING SHERIFF HARVEY E. STARR

In the above picture Sheriff Starr is seen presenting the beautiful Westerner certificate (illuminated by Clarence Ellsworth) to William Perlberg, on "Tin Star Night."

—Paramount Studios Photo.

who are now gone, only strengthen the resolve in every true Westerner to lift up his eyes, and make his own life, and the part he plays in the activities of his Corral, measure in strength with the wonderful men of the past who have added

(Continued on Page 4)

# THE BRANDING IRON OF THE LOS ANGELES CORRAL OF THE WESTERNERS

\* \* \*

*Published Quarterly in*  
March, June, September, December

## OFFICERS — 1957

HARVEY E. STARR, M.D. . . . . *Sheriff*  
1401 S. Hope St., Los Angeles 15, Calif.

FRANK "STEVE" DOLLEY, M.D. . . *Deputy Sheriff*  
2010 Wilshire Blvd., Los Angeles 5, Calif.

HOMER H. BOELTER . . . . . *Deputy Sheriff*  
*in Charge of Branding*  
828 N. La Brea, Hollywood 38, Calif.

BERT H. OLSON . . . . . *Keeper of the Chips*  
619 N. Rexford Dr., Beverly Hills, Calif.

CHARLES RUDKIN . *Registrar of Marks and Brands*  
1490 Lorain Blvd., San Marino, Calif.

PHILIP J. RASCH . . . . . *Assistant Registrar*  
567 Erskine Dr., Pacific Palisades, Calif.

CARROLL FRISWOLD . . . *Asst. Roundup Foreman*  
419 W. Foothill Blvd., Altadena, Calif.

BOB DOHRMANN, CLARENCE ELLSWORTH.

JACK REYNOLDS . . . . . *Wranglers*

LONNIE HULL . . . . . *Daguerreotype Wrangler*

DON W. HAMBLIN . . . . . *Representative*  
823 Security Bldg., Pasadena, Calif.

*Brand Book Committee:* WILL ROBINSON, *Editor*;  
PAUL BAILEY, *Asst. Editor*; JAMES ALGAR, *Art*  
*Editor*; PAUL GALLEHER, *Sales and Distribution.*

*Address Material for Publication to*  
The Roundup Foreman  
PAUL BAILEY

P. O. Box 41073, Los Angeles 41, California

# From the Mailbag . . .

*Excerpt from a letter received by Will Robinson, chairman of the Brand Book Committee:*

My copy of the BRAND BOOK arrived today and I have gone through it very carefully.

I have waited a long, long time for this book and please believe me when I tell you it was well worth waiting for. The editorial selection of the articles presented; the make-up of the book; the illustrative material; everything about it, in my opinion makes it the finest Brand Book ever produced by the Los Angeles Corral. And I'll go a step farther and say that to my knowledge it is the outstanding Brand Book produced by any Corral in the United States—and I have them all.

Con Dios,

MICHAEL HARRISON.

*From Westerner Ed Carter, in chafing exile at Burlingame, California:*

Dear Editor:

When the notice about the meeting of the Westerners comes every month, I get a craving to join the crowd, but that is as far as I get.

I am especially interested in the meeting coming up (November) because I should like to hear the story about the hand carts. My mother has often told me about the carts that used to come through Fort Bridger and of the variety of motive power some of them had. Those were stirring days in anyone's book and they were interesting in my mother's telling.

Where's Arthur Woodward? I've written twice to the Old Coot; no answer. Where the hell is he? I have written several times to other Westerners since I have been up here, and with the same result. I guess it is a case of out of sight, out of mind!

Sincerely,

EDGAR CARTER.

*Ed's address is 1604 Chapin Avenue, Burlingame, California. Let's not forget our Old Timers. As living history, they are the priceless ingredients of our organization. And, Ed, see page 6 as to some of the things that have happened to Art.*

Dudley Nichols, 126 Fremont Place, Los Angeles 5, California.

A. A. Paddock, Boulder Daily Camera, Boulder, Colorado.

C. C. Powell, 260 East California Street, Pasadena, California.

Provincial Archives, Parliament Bldgs., Victoria, B. C., Canada.

Louis A. Ryder, 912 Isabel Street, Burbank, California.

Sylvester L. Vigilante, Hawkes Avenue, Ossining, New York.

# New Corresponding Members

The following new corresponding members have been added to the rolls of Los Angeles Corral of Westerners. In the spirit of the Old West, the Corral bids you hearty welcome!

Morris W. Abbott, 23 Bedford Ave., Milford, Connecticut.

Caravan Book Store (Morie Bernstein), 605 South Grand Ave., Los Angeles 17, California.

William P. Crilly, 1024 Eastridge Drive, Whittier, California.

Rev. Stanley Crocchiola, Box 456, Rotan, Texas.

Herman P. Dean, Pres. Standard Printing & Publishing Co., P. O. Box 1240, Huntington 14, West Virginia.

Elizabeth F. Dunlap, 6063 Westminster Place, St. Louis 12, Missouri.

B. A. King, Coeur d'Alene, Idaho.

Art Linden, 6717 Darby Avenue, Reseda, California.

Bert Lynch, 11613 Moorpark, North Hollywood, California.

Fred M. Mazzulla, 614 Symes Bldg., Denver 2, Colorado.

Warren Murdock, Jr., 344 Beirut Avenue, Pacific Palisades, California.

## Death of Dr. Cleland Saddens Westerners

Westerners everywhere, and Los Angeles Corral in particular, mourn the passing of Dr. Robert Glass Cleland, one of the distinguished scholars and historians of the West, and an honorary member of the local Corral. He was a native of Kentucky, and an early resident of Southern California. Illness had prevented, for the past year or more, his active participation in the academic and writing circles he dearly loved, and his presence has been sorely missed.

Dr. Cleland was a graduate of Occidental Academy and of Occidental College. In 1912 he received his Ph.D. from Princeton University. Other honorary degrees have been accorded him in more recent years. Much of his active lifetime was spent on the faculty of Occidental College, where he served as professor of history, dean of the faculty, and vice-president of the institution. At the time of his death he was serving as director of research at the Huntington Library.

As writer and historian his accomplishments were great. Among the book-length studies to come from his pen were: *From Wilderness to Empire*, a history of California; *California In Our Time*; *California Pageant, the Story of Four Centuries*; *Cattle on a Thousand Hills*; *This Reckless Breed of Men*; *A Place Called Sespe*; *The Irvine Ranch of Orange County*; *El Molino Viejo*; *Pathfinders*; *A History of Phelps Dodge*; and *A Mormon Chronicle, The Diaries of John D. Lee*. In addition he edited many works, and was author of numerous shorter articles, including *An Exile on the Colorado*, which appeared in Brand Book VI.

---

### Want a Brand Book? Your Last Chance!

The Seventh Brand Book now goes into its final phase with few copies remaining unsold. It is suggested by the committee that those members and corresponding members who have not availed themselves of the opportunity to purchase their copies at \$12.50, do so without delay. The last day of February is the deadline for books available at this price. As a protection to those dealers who have invested with the membership at the cost price, any copies remaining unsold at that time must carry the full non-member price of \$17.50.

Lee Shippey has remodeled the auld homestead at Del Mar, and he and the Mrs. have moved themselves hence. "With the family all grown up, six empty bedrooms, and a large and weedy lot, the Sierra Madre place was a mite too much for us oldsters," says Lee.

## Inscription Rock

By W. H. HUTCHINSON

Death costs us all a friend or two before our own turn comes. When the grinning jester costs us Gene Cunningham the cost is cruel hard. The good thing about Gene's cash-in was its suddenness. It would have been an exquisitely agonizing Gehenna had he dragged out his days. So, when Mary found him a scant seven hours after they had said "Good Night," he had a quizzical smile on his lips and an expression on his face that said: "The wine was good, what now?"

The wine of life was good to Gene, no matter where he found it or how he drank it. Few men and even fewer writers about the American West ever lived so much of it so deeply or so actively as did Gene Cunningham.

A "tin-can" sailor at fourteen, because he thought he had killed a man and figured enlistment was the best way to get out of Texas, Gene never looked back nor never turned his head from the bright face of danger. After World War I, he peddled machine guns in the Banana Republics, Lee Christmas being his opposite number in the field of salesmanship and, very often, his opposition when the guns they sold began to shoot. When Gene wrote about those places and those people, he had seen them through the smoke. His advertising agency in El Paso became the headquarters for the surviving Long Riders who had written red entries in the ledgers of the West from Montana to Ciudad Chihuahua. He knew them, knew their breed, and they knew that he knew. Thus, they talked and he listened and prodded and skillfully extracted what he wished to know with the aid of Dixie cups filled with *Straight American*. He did his government certain services in this period, too, that never will be told; and always and always and always he wrote.

What he wrote was true to the country, the people and the psychology that ruled them both. It was not, is not, as directly taken from life as were the entertainments of Gene Rhodes because Cunningham was the better craftsman, one of the finest literary mechanics who ever used our language. If there be flaws in his work, they are flaws that stem from his lapidary skill at preparing the life he knew for the market-place. His *Diamond River Man* is the Lincoln County War; his *Spiderweb Trail* is one version of Colonel Fountain's life and disappearance. As "Alan Corby," his *Deep Soundings* is as fine a novel of the sea as can be read. He marketed some of his Western output as "Leigh Carder" just to confuse his editors and publishers. And *Triggerometry* will remain his greatest monument. In the thirty-five years that have passed since it first saw print, the esoteric metaphysicians of

(Continued on Page 6)



#### YOUR DEAL, PARDNER!

Dwight Franklin and Holling C. Holling pause at one of the green-topped tables in the faro palace on "Tin Star" set at Paramount. Looking down, or kibitzing, is Ex-Sheriff Loring Campbell, a real whiz with cards and master of legerdemain.

—Lonnie Hull Photo.

(Continued from Page 1)

so much to the glory and honor of this dedicated group.

Through the months the fine meetings, the excellent talks, the good times, the new regular and corresponding members welcomed to the Corral, have been chronicled in the *Branding Iron*. The summer get-togethers were outstanding, and certainly no lag of pace was in evidence as fall rolled around. September meeting, held at the lot and on the sets of Paramount Studios started off the Corral's programs with a "bang"—western style.

For this meeting—called Tin Star Night"—

(Below) On the "Tin Star" set at Paramount Studios, Westerners mix it with cast, producers, and old-time greats of Western movies.

—Lonnie Hull Photo.

## 'TIN STAR NIGHT' ADDS LUSTER TO AN EVENTFUL '57

the Westerners of Los Angeles were guests of Perlberg-Seaton Productions, and the spread itself was on the very sets used for the Paramount picture of that name. Mingled with the Westerners assembled at the chuck-wagon style dinner were many of the cast of the movie, including Anthony Perkins, Michel Ray, Neville Brand and Mary Webster. William Perlberg, co-producer, acted as host to the gathering, and Charlton Heston was master-of-ceremonies. Food, and drink (on a help-yourselves-basis), were on the house, and Westerners felt quite at home on the main street of the mythical cowtown where the food and cheer were dispensed.

Instead of the usual speaker, the evening was given over to frolic and good fellowship. Music, western skits, and an amazing exhibition of marksmanship and gunplay by Rodd Redwing, gun coach and technical advisor on guns for the production, made up the evening's program—culminated by the appearance and introduction of such old-time western screen stars as Broncho Billy Anderson, Raymond Hatton, Hoot Gibson, Bob Steele, Rex Lease, Ken Maynard and Tom Keene. Present also were Mrs. Tom Mix and Mrs. Harry Carey.

After the evening's fun, all Westerners, guests and movie folk present moved from the movie street to the movie projection room for the studio preview of "Tin Star." All in all it was quite an evening.

For the October meeting the Corral trekked back to Costa's Grill. Speaker was Dr. John Kemble, Department of History, Pomona College. Dr. Kemble chose for his topic "Coast-







#### PULCHRITUDE APLENTY

Solemnly stag organization of Westerners suddenly finds itself mixed up with the fair sex, when stars and starlets of Hollywood join with it, at Paramount, for "Tin Star Night." —*Lonnie Hull Photo.*

wise Steamers of the 1850's," a subject which proved of intense interest to the Westerners and guests assembled. The speaker, with his wide and intimate knowledge of the subject, told of the ships that made history in the west, the maritime wrecks, the battle for passengers, and the comforts and discomforts of the little tinpot vessels which plied up and down the golden coast through the past century.

An innovation of the November meeting, also held at Costa's, was the nominating committee's report on its proposed slate of new officers for 1958. Chairman of the committee, Ex-Sheriff Paul Galleher, proposed the following as his committee's selection: Sheriff, Arthur Woodward; Deputy Sheriff, Col. Charles Hoffman; Deputy Sheriff in Charge of Branding, Homer H. Boelter; Keeper of the Chips, Bert Olson; Registrar of Marks and Brands, Charles Rudkin; Assistant Registrar, Glen Dawson; Round-up Foreman, Paul Bailey; Assistant Roundup Foremen, Dr. Harvey Johnson and Carroll Friswold; Representative, Jack Reynolds; Daguerreotype Wrangler, Lonnie Hull; Wranglers, Steve Halstad, Dwight Clark, Paul Wellman, Billy Dodson. All names proposed were unanimously accepted and sustained by the Westerners assembled. Speaker of the evening was Ex-Sheriff Paul Bailey. His topic, "Westward by Handcart to Utah," was concerned with the tragic Mormon handcart disaster of 1856, the greatest single tragedy in the

history of western migration. This important meeting was enhanced by one of the largest turnouts of the year.

With December's meeting, featuring as speaker Harry C. James and topic "James Willard Schultz," a year of splendid activity and great accomplishment draws itself to a close. Because this last meeting occurs during press-time the Branding Iron must give it a detailed report in our next issue, but the caliber of the speaker and the importance of his topic can only add luster to an already bright year.

To Sheriff Harvey Starr and each and every officer who have so successfully ridden herd through the twelve months past, the Corral salutes you. It has been a great year!

Two real Westerner old-timers, Walter Gann and Billy Dodson, go at the movie chuck-wagon grub like they mean it. —*Lonnie Hull Photo.*



# The Resurrection of Pony Deal

By PHIL RASCH

According to Lake,<sup>1</sup> the noted Arizona rustler Pony Deal was killed in a gun-fight near Clifton, Arizona, not long after the mysterious death of John Ringo on July 13, 1882.<sup>2</sup> Myers<sup>3</sup> makes the thoroughly confusing statement that he was killed "in Greenlee County, north of Cochise" prior to November 14, 1882. Since Graham County interposes between Cochise and Greenlee County, it seems likely that he meant Clifton rather than Cochise. Either way, as in the better known case of Mark Twain, the reports of Deal's death appear to have been greatly exaggerated.

Charles Ray, *alias* Pony Deal or Diehl, was born in Rock Island, Illinois, and first obtained a measure of fame as a badman in the troubles in Lincoln County, New Mexico. He afterwards transferred his operations to Arizona, where he became a member of Curly Bill Brocius' gang of rustlers and desperadoes. Arizona becoming too hot to hold him, Deal fled north to Wyoming. In due course the climate here also became uncomfortably warm and he moved back to the greener pastures of New Mexico, where he became affiliated with the famous John Kinney gang of rustlers.<sup>4</sup>

When the New Mexican militia was mobilized to repress Kinney and his henchmen, Deal escaped to Mexico. In due course he was extradited from Chihuahua by Governor Lionel Sheldon and turned over to Sheriff Guadalupe Ascarte, of Dona Ana County.<sup>5</sup> In April, 1884, Deal was tried on charges of buying stolen cattle and larceny of cattle. (Causes No. 895, 896, and 909, Dona Ana County.) He was found guilty of larceny and sentenced to five years in the territorial penitentiary. On March 14, 1887 Deal was pardoned. What became of him thereafter "deponent saith not."

## REFERENCES

1. Lake, Stuart N., *W'yatt Earp, Frontier Marshal*. Boston: Houghton Mifflin Company, 1931, p. 358.
2. Rasch, Phil, *The Mysterious Death of John Ringo. Corral Dust, II:1 et seq.*, March, 1957.
3. Myers, John Myers, *The Last Chance*. New York: E. P. Dutton & Co., Inc., p. 237.
4. *Santa Fe New Mexican Review*, April 8, 1884.
5. Office of the Secretary of the Interior, Patents and Miscellaneous Division, *Proceedings of the Executive Office of the Territory of New Mexico, 1875 to 1896*. In National Archives.

NOTE: The writer is indebted to Mrs. Geraldine S. Mathisen, Clerk, District Court, Dona Ana County, and to T. M. Woodruff, Warden, Penitentiary of New Mexico, for assistance in compiling this paper.

# New Officers Chosen for Coming Year

Having been duly appointed by Sheriff Harvey Starr, the nominating committee charged with the responsibility of selecting officers for the year 1958 met on October 31st. Serious consideration was given to every name on the Corral's membership list. Every name came up for discussion, and the choice of the following officers was a unanimous choice of the committee. At the November meeting the Corral, in turn, unanimously accepted the slate as its officers for 1958:

Sheriff, Arthur Woodward; Deputy Sheriff, Col. Charles Hoffman; Deputy Sheriff, in Charge of Branding, Homer Boelter; Keeper of the Chips, Bert Olson; Registrar of Marks and Brands, Charles Rudkin; Assistant Registrar (mailing *Branding Iron* and directory editor), Glen Dawson; Round-Up Foreman, Paul Bailey; Assistant Round-Up Foreman (local corral news for *Branding Iron*), Dr. Harvey Johnson; Assistant Round-Up Foreman (keeper of Branding Iron files), Carroll Friswold; Representative (inter-corral correspondence and news), Jack Reynolds; Daguerreotype Wrangler, Lonnie Hull; Wranglers: Steve Halstad, Dwight Clark, Paul Wellman, Billy Dodson.

The Nominating Committee was composed of: Chairman, Paul Galleher, Robert J. Woods, Paul Bailey, Bill Robinson, Don Meadows and Harvey Starr.

## Inscription Rock

(Continued from Page 3)

the Powdersmoke Cult have been unable to change its basic interpretations.

Truly, he carved his name high in the enduring, living stone of Inscription Rock. He was my friend and no man had a better to stand at his back in a dark place with a chill wind blowing. It is as writer—novelist, critic, essayist, historian and student of the American West—that he earned the epitaph here given him: *Howl dogs: Here lies a wolf!*

## Corral Chips . . .

Sheriff-elect Arthur Woodward, the first week in December, landed in surgery for the third time in the last two years. The gallstones he has packed since he first discovered them in New York and Washington D. C. early in the year, started to rattle his anatomy when he got back to California. On the morning of December 1 an acute attack, with other complications, made necessary an emergency operation at Huntington Memorial Hospital in Pasadena. Art, having been a very sick Sheriff-elect, has no brief with the old saw that "rolling stones," etc. He says that his had gathered plenty of moss.

# DOWN THE WESTERN BOOK TRAIL . . .

THE DIARY OF ENSIGN GABRIEL MORAGA'S EXPEDITION OF DISCOVERY IN THE SACRAMENTO VALLEY, 1808. Translated and Edited by Donald C. Cutter. Los Angeles: Glen Dawson: \$6.00. Early California Travels Series, No. 41.

Ensign Moraga, called by Chapman "the greatest pathfinder and Indian-fighter of his day," was the chief explorer of Upper California during the period from 1805 on, when the attention of the Spanish administration was turned again to a desire for knowledge of the interior.

This second period of energetic exploration began under Governor Arrillaga in 1805 and continued for several years. Moraga is credited with more than forty expeditions in this period.

His trip to the lower San Joaquin and up the Sacramento River advanced the knowledge of the country to the north very substantially.

Dr. Cutter's translation is very good and, unlike too many translations, evidences a knowledge of good English as well as of Spanish. His introduction and notes, both textual and historical, add much to the interest and value of the book.

Dr. Cutter, Professor of History at the University of Southern California, at the moment is engaged in historical research in Spain.

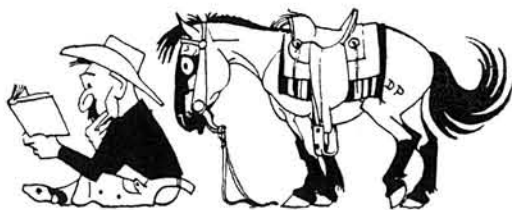
CHARLES N. RUDKIN.



GUNS ON THE EARLY FRONTIERS, by Carl P. Russell, University of California Press, 1957, Berkeley 4, California. Price \$8.50.

Seldom does a book of this calibre (no pun intended) ever hit the market. Dr. Russell has succeeded in issuing more than just "another gun book." His history of the frontier weapons includes all types of long and short arms used from the 17th century onward, culminating in the guns carried by the western explorers and mountain men. In brief, the volume is as much a history of the fur trade and western exploration as it is a scholarly treatise of the pieces themselves.

Dr. Russell to my personal knowledge has been working on this subject (among numerous others) for more than twenty years. His research has carried him all over the United States and he has personally examined and sketched most of the guns whereof he writes so well. Not alone does he give a vivid picture of the matchlocks, flintlocks and percussion locks but he also throws in gratis a chapter on "Small Cannon of the Traders and the Military" which so far as I am concerned is a subject which has remained virtually untouched by the numerous



gun experts who have gone overboard on their specialties.

The book is profusely illustrated with black and white illustrations, all accurately drawn. If any criticism of the book could be made it might be the regret of the lack of actual photographs, but this is not the fault of the author. His line drawings more than compensate for such a lack and I can truthfully say that this volume of 395 pages (including 24 pages of a selected bibliography) as well as a good index, is one book that should be in any library of western Americana.

ART WOODWARD.



CATTLE ON THE CONEJO, by J. H. Russell. (Ward Ritchie Press, L. A., 135 pp. \$3.00.)

J. H. Russell was born on the old Mexican rancho of Conejo which straddles the Los Angeles-Ventura County line in southern California. The year was 1883. For seventy-four years Joe Russell has lived on a large part of the grant which was purchased by the Russell family before he was born. Except for a few years spent in L. A. High School and the University of California Joe has been a part and parcel of the land. His book is by far the best that has been written about ranch life in southern California during the American period. With no pretense of literary composition Russell has told the story of dry years, cattle rustling, Mexican vaqueros, squatter fights, Chinese cooks, cattle drives, bronc busting, and fun on the range. During his boyhood el Camino Real was a muddy or dusty road hugging the southern hills of San Fernando and meandering through the Cahuenga Pass. Cattle were corraled where Gower and Sunset avenues cross in Hollywood today, and the Russell cattle were driven from the corral through the streets of Los Angeles to the Howser packing company. The conflict between early automobile owners and cattle men for possession of the roads is told with gusto. Those were the days when saddle leather had utility and was not an item for display at New Years' parades. Old *pisanos* will love this book. Format and composition, created by Ward Ritchie, makes *Cattle on the Conejo* an asset to any library.

DON MEADOWS.



Baja California addicts will find a new map of the state of interest and value. Published by Raul Mena of Mexico City it is entitled *Estado* (Continued on Page 8)

## Down the Book Trail

(Continued from Page 7)

*de Baja California, Mapa para el Turista.* Twenty-one by thirty-two inches in size it shows roads, pueblos, arroyos, mountains and geographic details hitherto not found in maps easily available. Dawson has a few copies for sale at \$1.25



*CATHOLIC COLONIZATION ON THE WESTERN FRONTIER*, by James P. Shannon. (Yale University Press, New Haven, 1957, 307 pp., \$5.00.)

Breaking the prairie frontier was a knack learned by Americans through years of westward migration. It took determination, resourcefulness, a gambling instinct and a disposition to face any odds regardless of consequences. When those qualities were lacking failure was the result. This is graphically exposed in Father Shannon's book. For several years after 1875 Bishop John Ireland of Saint Paul promoted a project to alleviate poverty and famine among unfortunate Catholics in Europe. His idea was no Utopian scheme but was based on sound economic principles. Railroad land in southwestern Minnesota was cheap and productive. With church help, land and tools were purchased, and re-sold to immigrants on liberal terms. All they had to do was break the prairie sod, plant crops and repay their debts as they were able. Eight colonies were established, and all failed within a few years. The immigrants had not been tempered by years of pioneering, and European customs and traditions did not fit into the American environment. Father Shannon's book is factual and unbiased. In spite of his deep sympathy for the immigrant he shows that they alone were responsible for their failure. The book is well organized and documented. The archives of the church and libraries of Minnesota have been used with good results.

Another recent publication of the Yale University Press is a facsimile of the 1861 edition of *Gold Hunting in the Cascade Mountains*, a unique treasure of Pacific Northwest Americana in the Winlock Miller, Jr. Collection in the Yale Library. Despite the title it is really an account of the first ascent of Mt. St. Helens. Three hundred numbered copies have been printed. No price indicated.

DON MEADOWS.



CM W. H. "Old Hutch" Hutchinson, the foothillbilly of Chico, has just finished some fifteen months of work and writing on the history of lumbering in the northern Sierra Nevada. A narrative history has been prepared by him for The Diamond Match Company, Box 1037, Chico, Calif., which will pan-out at 32-pages with over 40 maps and illustrations. Entitled

## CORRAL CHIPS...

On Tuesday night, November 19, at the Arthur H. Clark Company, in Glendale, a willing group of workers from Los Angeles Corral assembled for the purpose of getting new Brand Book No. 7 into the mails. The entire job of wrapping and shipping the hundreds of orders for the book was accomplished in the one evening—the rannies keeping themselves refreshed with beer and skittles.

Among those present, working under direction of Paul Galleher, in charge of shipping and sales, were: Arthur Clark, Arthur Woodward, Loring Campbell, Bert Olson, Carrol Friswold, Glen Dawson, James Algar, Homer Boelter, Paul Bailey, Charles Rudkin, and Sheff Harvey Starr.

*California Heritage*, this may be obtained for the asking by writing Diamond Match at the address given above. Hutch says it is an honest piece of work, and has the merit of being about the only work ever done on pine logging and lumbering in the early days of the Sierra timber-beasts.



A heart-warming little Yuletide gem written by a daughter of the Rancho is Katharine Bixby Hotchkiss' *Christmas at Rancho Los Alamitos*. Printed by Lawton Kennedy for the California Historical Society (\$2.50) it tells in beautiful paragraphs how the ranch retainers gathered in the old adobe home each Christmas eve to partake of the goodwill and regard of "the Boss," Fred Bixby, in the days when the Alamitos was not crowded in by subdivisions, highways and institutions. There is nostalgia and history on almost every page. Endpapers show the ranch adobe as it appeared about 1885, and illustrations by Clement Hurd add to the Christmas atmosphere.

DON MEADOWS.



*ANZA-BORREGO DESERT GUIDE BOOK*, by Horace Parker. (Paisano Press, Balboa Island, Calif. 108 pp., \$2.75.)

Horace Parker has called the Anza-Borrego desert southern California's last frontier, then proceeds to give such intimate notes about its trails and places that no frontier exists. Here is a book that is packed with facts, maps, pictures and suggestions which no desert lover can do without. The area covered is part of the California State Park system, yet it is not one of those highly developed regions which characterizes some parks. Gumption, preparation and a willingness to rough it are necessities if the explorer hopes to follow all of Parker's directions, but by doing so the heart and soul of the desert country is discovered. This is the best of all the desert guides published to date.

DON MEADOWS.