



JUNE 1959

LOS ANGELES CORRAL

NUMBER 49



DR. MARK R. HARRINGTON

Archeologist, Anthropologist, Writer, and Distinguished Westerner
CURATOR OF SOUTHWEST MUSEUM, LOS ANGELES

—Lonnie Hull Photo.

THE BRANDING IRON OF THE LOS ANGELES CORRAL OF THE WESTERNERS

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Many Prominent Speakers Promised for Year

Past meetings, and the calendar for meetings ahead, indicate the special effort being made by Deputy Sheriff Henry Clifford to secure top caliber speakers for L.A. Corral.

June—Gordon Williams: "Randsburg—Birth and Life of a Mining Town"

July—Dr. John A. Carroll: "The Mosaic of Western Historical Literature"

August—Remi Nadeau: "Life and Times in the Gold Rush"

October—Miss Ruth I. Mahood: "Artist With a Camera—The Story of Adam Clark Vroman"

November—Dr. Raymond E. Lindgren: "Lords and Tin"

December—Arthur Woodward: "Historical Background of Cowboy Gear"

January—Charles F. Outland: "The St. Francis Dam Disaster"

February—Dr. Lawrence C. Powell: Dana's "Two Years Before the Mast"

Corresponding Members Added to L. A. Corral

Dr. George J. Collings, 316 S. E. 80th Ave., P. O. Box 5125, Portland 16, Ore.

Lewis Ketring, Jr., 5939 Hazelbrook Ave., Lake-wood, California.

Mrs. Edward Novitski, 3625 Glen Oak Drive, Eugene, Oregon.

Dr. Andrew Rolle, 3109 Palmer Drive, Los Angeles 65, California.

S. H. Rosenthal, 5070 Gloria Ave., Encino, Calif.

Edward S. Spaulding, Santa Barbara Club, Santa Barbara, California.

Irving Wills, M.D., The Santa Barbara Medical Clinic, 1421 State Street, Santa Barbara, California.

From the Mailbag . . .

"Dear Mr. Rudkin, Registrar:

"Thank you for your letter of February 14th and the membership card for the year 1959 in the Westerners of Los Angeles. I am now looking forward to receiving my first issue of the *Branding Iron*.

"I would be glad to get together an article on my grandfather, W. R. Williams for your paper. An article was written on him a number of years ago which stressed his "Freighting Days." He freighted for the government for a number of years as well as contracting out to others. To my knowledge nothing has been written on him in regard to running the Aberdeen Angus cattle. To me he was farsighted in turning to the Angus cattle for today many ranchers have turned to raising Angus. But even when I was growing up I can remember how many people laughed at Angus cattle. (I was born in 1918.)

"There is an Old Time Ranch Tour each year which is sponsored by the Denver Westerners and a couple of other groups. This tour leaves Laramie in the morning (Laramie, Wyo.) and takes the whole day touring historic spots and historic ranches. This year will take in the old W. R. Williams ranch (my father, C. A. Williams is living there now), old Dale Creek Bridge, The Old Virginia Dale Stage Station and other spots of interest in that vicinity.

"Mr. A. S. (Bud) Gillespie and Robert Burns (Ph.D.) are in charge of this trip. Mr. Gillespie was a guest at our home just today. He is the son of an old pioneer family of Wyoming and so is Dr. Burns.

"If you would be interested in contacting Mr. Gillespie in regard to the tour, or as for that matter, any historical fact on Wyoming, I know he would give you all the information at hand. His address is: Mr. A. S. Gillespie, 1620 Rainbow Ave., Laramie, Wyoming.

"Again, thanking you for the warm welcome into your group.

"Most sincerely,

"MRS. FORREST S. BLUNK.

FOOD, FUN AND FELLOWSHIP

WESTERNERS who imagined that Indians, pioneers and bad men made up the core of the historical West had a few ideas changed at the March meeting, held at Costa's Grill. The speaker, Dr. L. G. Wilson of the U.C.L.A. Medical Center, took the assembled group back to 1769, and talked learnedly and interestingly about the earliest scientific instruments of the West Coast and the men who used them. His paper, "Early Scientific Instruments of the West Coast; the History of the Measurement of Time and Place in the West, 1769-1889," became a fascinating revelation of the instruments used by our early navigators and land travelers. He told about the first observatory in California, set up by Laparuse at Monterey in 1786. From that point he traced the course of astronomy through Lick Observatory down to the mighty instruments at Palomar. Those who heard this excellent talk were ready to admit that Western history had taken on three dimensions—land, sea, and very importantly, in the skies—and from it California emerging as the astronomical center of the world.

Among the guests present at the March meeting were Vittorio Bodrero; "Doc" Otis Marston, of New York City; Ex-Sheriff Forbes Parkhill, of the Denver Posse; Dr. Edward Novitski; and George Griffin.

"The Italians in California," was the paper delivered at the April meeting by Dr. Andrew Rolle, Associate Professor of History at Occidental College, and was a preview of a section of his forthcoming book, *Italy Out West*. Costa's Grill was a perfect and sympathetic setting for this most interesting study of the remarkable part the Sons of Italy have played in bringing California and the West to greatness. The question and answer period was especially lively and,



Three Ex-Sheriffs in a line—Bert Olson, Paul Galleher and Art Clark. The fourth Westerner in the line is CM Sid Platford.

—Lonnie Hull Photo.



Sheriff Glen Dawson calls a meeting to order.

—Lonnie Hull Photo.

like the March meeting, the attendance filled our room to capacity.

Among the honored guests were the following distinguished Italo-Americans: Vittorio Bodrero; author Leo Politi; Filiberto Toselli; Nino Romano; and Cleto Boroni, Italo-American newspaper publisher and editor.

At the May meeting a policy was inaugurated of especially inviting a segment of our corresponding membership to share the fine meetings at Costa's. Result was a packed house on hand to hear CM Harry C. James discuss "The Cahuilla—Southern California's Most Independent Tribe," a preview of Harry's important new book on the same subject, scheduled for publication in the fall. Harry's talks are always a delight to the Corral, and this one was no exception. Many members came a long way to hear it, and none were disappointed. Besides hearing a first-rate talk, members and corresponding members made the most of this opportunity to get better acquainted. Ex-Sheriff Homer Boelter brought with him a number of his exquisitely executed paintings of Hopi Kachina figures. Those present were thrilled by the artistry of Homer in catching the authentic colors and whimsical patterns of this great but little-known folk craft of one of our most interesting Indian tribes.

Besides member Don Perceval, and the many corresponding members who also came considerable distances to be present, the following honored guests were noted: Dr. Irving Wills; Dr. Ward G. DeWitt, author of the new book *Prairie Schooner Lady*; Milton Christensen;

(Continued on Next Page)

THE GORY CASE OF PIERRE BUISSON

By PHILIP J. RASCH

Frank Warner Angel, a New York lawyer, assured himself of a permanent place in the history of the Southwest by his investigation of the Lincoln County War. It is not generally realized that this was only one—and perhaps not the most important—of his activities in New Mexico. The original instructions given him by the various Government offices cannot be located in the National Archives,¹ but it is clear from his letters that his assignments included investigations of the killing of John H. Tunstall;² the charges which had been preferred against Frederick C. Godfroy, Agent of the Mescalero Apaches; Thomas B. Catron, United States District Attorney; Samuel B. Axtel, Governor of the Territory of New Mexico; the Surveyor General; the facts in the Una de Gato land grant; and the death of Pierre Buisson. Of them all the latter was surely the least important. Yet it is not without interest, and an airing of the facts in the case will at least serve to correct the badly confused account which appeared in Otero's autobiography.³

On November 30, 1877 Pierre Buisson (Boisson, Brisson) and a woman named Tomasa Gallegos were murdered in Las Vegas, New Mexico, by one Giovanni Dugi (Dagi, Duqué).⁴ Reading an account of Buisson's death in the *Las Vegas Gazette*, his relatives at Chalons sur Lavne, France, asked the American Consul General in Paris to provide a certified death certificate.⁵ Attorney General Charles Devens in turn directed Angel, then in New Mexico, to obtain the desired form.⁶

Upon his return from Lincoln County Angel obtained from John H. Thomson, Clerk of the U. S. District Court for the First Judicial District, Territory of New Mexico, a transcript of the legal records regarding Buisson's murder. Unfortunately, these are not very informative. They tell us but little more than the bare facts that Dugi obtained a double barreled shot gun of the value of \$5.00, charged it with gun powder and leaden bullets, held it in both hands, and "then and there feloniously and wilfully and of his malice aforethought" did "kill and murder" Buisson and Gallegos "contrary to the form of the Statute in such case . . ." Buisson was shot in the back, between the shoulder blades. Presumably his information satisfied Buisson's relatives. For a wonder, they did not demand an indemnity from the United States and no more appears to have been heard from them.

Dugi seems to have been sentenced to death but to have obtained a stay of execution.⁷ He was still languishing in the city jail on June 4, 1879, when Manuel Barela, of Mesilla, New Mexico, who had been hanging around Las Vegas making a general nuisance of himself, walked into Flores' saloon and asked for a pint

of wine. While the barkeep was drawing the liquid, Barela suddenly drew a pistol, mumbled "To see if I can do it," and shot Jesus Morales, who was standing talking outside the saloon, in the face. Morales' companion, an old man named Benigno Romero, asked "Why did you shoot him?" Barela's reply was to kill him.

The murderer was promptly jailed. About midnight a group of men appeared before the building and told the jailor they had a prisoner to be locked up. As soon as the door was opened the crowd pushed in and took the jailor's keys away from him. Barela and Dugi were taken to the plaza, where Barela was hung from the windmill in its center. After he was quite dead, Dugi was hauled up. A few minutes later the plaza was clear of people and the town as quiet as the proverbial graveyard. Only the two bodies slowly swinging in the morning breeze remained as mute evidence that the Las Vegans definitely disapproved of cold-blooded murder.⁸

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Fun, Food, Fellowship

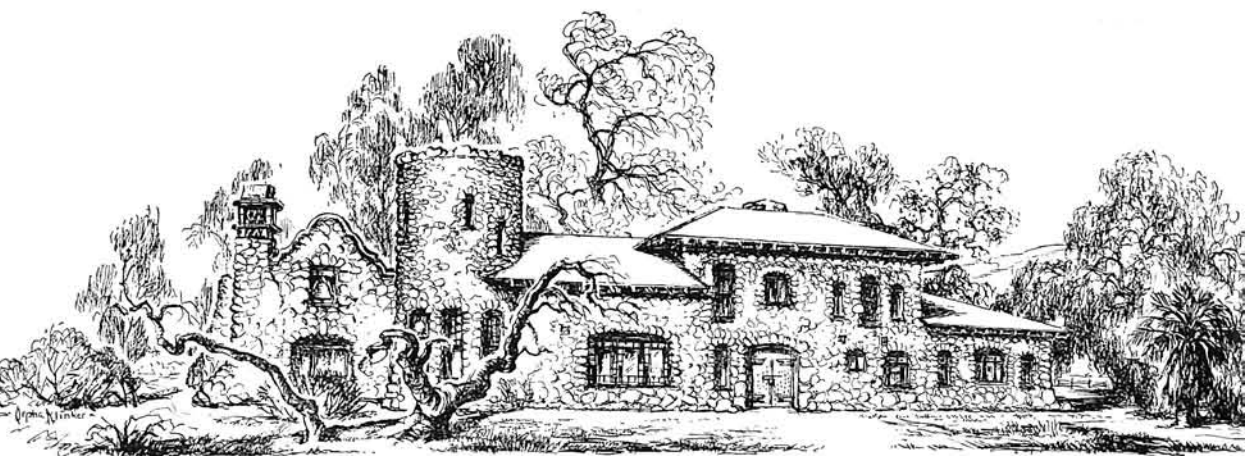
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Stanley Hundorf; Herbert Childs; Harry Van De Kamp; and Jerry Discus.

As the first half of the year draws to a close, the membership can look back at a solid season of happy and worthwhile gatherings. If the meetings continue at this high caliber for the year's remainder, 1959 will go down as one of Los Angeles Corral's finest.

History Begins at Home

Ex-Sheriff Loring Campbell has been given the responsibility of making a chronological list of all programs, speakers and topics of Los Angeles Corral throughout its history. Missing are the programs for the year 1949, and those for January, May and November of 1951. Any members who appeared as speakers at these times, or who can aid in piecing together this important chronology, please contact Loring.



'EL ALISAL' THE PLACE OF SYCAMORES

By ALTHEA WARREN

The Charles F. Lummis home is at 200 E. Avenue 43 in Los Angeles just off the Pasadena Freeway. It is a California State Historical Monument (administered by the Department of Recreation and Parks, City of Los Angeles). The building is open to the public Sunday afternoons from one to five.

This sketch was written by Althea Warren who, like Lummis, was Los Angeles City Librarian. Miss Warren was president of the Charles F. Lummis Memorial Association, an organization which continues to seek to preserve the Lummis home and make it available to the public. A memorial scholarship is being established in the name of Althea Warren at the School of Library Science, University of Southern California.

"WHO BUILT THIS HOUSE"

The building of the Lummis home is a romantic story. It is also a story of persistence and courage. The house stands today as a monument to a man who never gave up.

When in 1897 Charles Fletcher Lummis determined that his family should have a home, he was a poor young editor supporting four people with \$50 a month, but he did not let finances stop him.

He spent many months searching all over Los Angeles for an ideal site. When he discovered this three-acre tract of land on the bank of the Arroyo Seco, he put to work his capital of Yankee ingenuity and native intelligence. He dug the material out of the very ground the house was to stand on. He used his sensitive hands that had assisted a famous surgeon. He relied on the steely sinews of legs and back that had been toughened by his tramp across the continent. He built El Alisal with the love of a man for his creation and with the joy of knowing

that it would endure. Each year he brought one or two Indian boys from Isleta to help with the heavy digging, and his two young sons gathered boulders and followed his directions. But in fifteen years the fourteen rooms were not all completed. The foundations are deep. The front door weighs 2000 pounds. The walls are from 2 to 4 feet thick, every yard hand-tamped, reinforced and of the hardest concrete. In structural problems he consulted with two authoritative California architects, Sumner Hunt and Arthur Benton. This house must stand against time. In the final quarter of his life he conceived the broader vision of the Lummis home as a working museum, a place of pilgrimage for his community and for all who adopted the slogan he invented, "See America First."

He is no longer here, but El Alisal is rich with memories of his fiestas and Spanish banquets, times of wit and song. The shades of great dancers, singers, artists, sculptors, and scientists still seem to throng its halls.

Today El Alisal welcomes you with the same courtly gesture with which Don Carlos himself would. Cross its threshold! John Muir has been here before you and also Schumann-Heink, Mary Garden, John Burroughs, Maud Allan, David Starr Jordan, Charles Cadman, Douglas Fairbanks, Will Rogers, Carrie Jacobs Bond, William Allen White, Helena Modjeska, Gutzon and Solon Borglum, Henry Van Dyke, and hundreds like them.

"Pasen, amigos," its builder says to you "La casa est suya!" Enjoy its treasures. A man who cared what might come to you and your American heritage preserved them for you. Find here, like those earlier visitors, something of his inspiration and courage. The old stone castle is not just another California landmark. It is a

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CHARLES LUMMIS

The builder of "El Alisal," and founder of the Southwest Museum.

—*Courtesy Southwest Museum.*

symbol of the spirit of one who could say in the midst of paralysis, "I can be bigger than anything that can happen to me."

WHAT KIND OF A MAN WAS HE?

"My name is Lummis, I'm the West!
For culture I don't give a hang!
I hate the puny East although
I can't conceal my Yankee twang.
My trousers, they are corduroy,
Likewise my jacket and my vest,
For I'm the wild and woolly boy,
My name is Lummis, I'm the West!"

This doggerel from a San Francisco newspaper caricatures three of Lummis' most dramatic traits:

1. His knowledge and love of the Southwest.
2. His courageous challenge to pretense and convention. He dared to be different when there was a good reason to be. Instead of the black frock coats and stiff hats of his contemporaries, he dressed to suit the life and climates of Southern California and New Mexico. In winter he wore a corduroy suit which he called his "senior

greens" and in summer, white jeans and a mesh shirt. His shoes were usually moccasins. For the festivities at El Alisal which were known as "Noises," he had a handsome doeskin charro costume with a draw-work shirt made for him by the Indians, a red Pueblo belt, and his silver bracelet.

3. His third dominant quality was his power of getting things done. He had the power to let himself go, but his enthusiasms were grounded on knowledge and scientific accuracy. Layers of energy and endurance enabled him to bring a long procession of "impossible" projects to fulfillment.

He was a small, slight man (5 feet, 7 inches height) with blue eyes, a staccato speech and a figure like a hickory sapling. None of his other achievements excel his originality and charm as host in this house. On March 1st he often held a March Hare party to celebrate his birthday. An invitation to one of these occasions reads as follows:

Dear Bunny,

The hounds are after you, and the April Fool's next! Here's the only safe place! Postpone Death, Marriage, Taxes, and all other Disasters, particularly your own and scurry to this Warren at Rabbit Time 6 p.m. sharp. Cabbage at 6. Madness begins later.

THE GREY HARE (C.F.L.)

Long tables were set up in the patio. Hassenpfeffer was sometimes one of the appropriate dishes.

Don Carlos played Spanish or Indian songs on "Acomita," his guitar. All sorts and conditions of men and women were the guests of this many-lived, myriad-minded, golden-hearted reveler, from leaders in the arts, politics and affairs and his cherished neighbors to his Mexican and Indian friends.

He had a most endearing habit of naming the inanimate companions of his daily life. His Blickendorfer typewriter was "The Blick" in his diaries. A redwood cabinet which he made for his writing materials was called "Miss Minerva Allwood." His correspondents numbered over a thousand, and he often wrote until sunrise. Then he'd drink a cup of chocolate and, after a few hours of sleep, would rouse himself relentlessly with a cold shower and eat what he called "breklunch," which usually included chicken gumbo or mock turtle soup. There is a tradition that he coated his pies with mustard and lighed his cigarettes with a flint and steel. It is sure that when he was public librarian he branded the valuable books with a hot iron.

WHAT DID THE BUILDER OF THIS HOUSE DO?

Lummis was born March 1st, 1859, in the Fanny Davenport House in Lynn, Massachusetts, where both his parents taught in the high school. His mother, Harriet Fowler Lummis of Bristol, New Hampshire, died when he was three years old. His father, Henry Lummis, was a Methodist minister and teacher of splendid capacities who spent his last years as professor of ancient languages at Lawrence College, Appleton, Wisconsin. He taught his son Latin when he was six, Greek, at eight, and Hebrew when Charles was nine.

Charles entered Harvard at eighteen and made a fine record in athletics, running 100 yards in 10 seconds and competing in boxing, wrestling and walking. "Poetry and poker," he said, "were his favorite diversions." But above all else he loved fishing for trout. Theodore Roosevelt was a member of his class (1881) and never forgot "Lum's" pugnacious defiance when some of the boys posted a notice ordering him to cut his hair.

During his sophomore vacation he printed on twelve small pages of birch bark 14,000 copies of his "Birch Bark Poems" which earned praise from Longfellow, Emerson, Whittier and Andrew Lang. In his junior year, he was secretly married to a brilliant young medical student, Dorothea Roads. An attack of brain fever prevented his graduation, but twenty-five years later Harvard awarded him his bachelor's degree. His wife's father owned several farms in the Scioto Valley near Chillicothe, Ohio, and offered his son-in-law the management of one of them. He soon changed to journalism, however, becoming editor of the *Scioto Gazette* where he worked for six years. He held office in the "Young Republicans Club," introducing William McKinley to his first Ohio audience.

To escape the malaria of this low river country he wrote in the fall of 1884 to Harrison Gray Otis, owner of the *Los Angeles Times*, proposing to walk across the continent and send him weekly reports on the way. Colonel Otis answered that he would publish the articles if he liked them and a job would be waiting for him on the *Times*. He more than kept his word for on the 143rd day after Lummis left Cincinnati, he arrived in Los Angeles and was told to begin next morning as city editor.

Four glorious years of activity followed in the city which he took completely to his heart. There were 12,000 people in Los Angeles when he arrived here on February 1st, 1885. Like every frontier town the saloon owners were the "bosses" in municipal politics and vice, gambling and drinking were wide open. The *Times* started a fight for high licenses and, contrary to expectations, it won. Another success with which he was associated was a report on the Indian war going on in Arizona. He was sent

to get the truth about General George Crook, Geronimo, and the War Department. The money being misspent on government contracts was what kept the Apaches in revolt. "Lum" became a close friend of General Leonard Wood who was put in charge of the situation.

Persistent overwork brought on a stroke of paralysis which rendered his left arm useless. He went to New Mexico to recover and lived for three years at the pueblo of Isleta with the Tigua Indians. They called him "Kha-Tay-Deh" ("Withered Branch"). He learned all their customs and beliefs. One night in August, 1888 Adolph Bandelier, one of the greatest Southwest ethnologists and anthropologists, stumbled into camp in a dust storm. They became inseparable friends, Lummis expressing their relationship as "being glad together." Bandelier called Lummis "Younger Brother" and taught him as an apprentice so that when Henry Villard of New York (owner of the Northern Pacific Railroad) put Bandelier in charge of an expedition to excavate Peru, Lummis went as an assistant. They had expected to be gone three years but Mr. Villard's financial losses terminated the researches after a year and a half.

Lummis was divorced by his first wife, and in March, 1891 married Eva Douglas, a school-teacher from New England who had taken care of him during his second and third strokes of paralysis at Isleta. She is an authority on Hispanic subjects and a translator who wrote under the name of Frances Douglas. They settled down at Isleta and there, June 9th, 1892, their daughter Turbese was born. She was given an Indian name which means "Sunburst."

Ever since the later '80s, Lummis had been writing Indian legends for children and stories of the Southwest for such magazines as *Century*, *Harpers*, *Scribners* and *Saint Nicholas*. When his illness was at its worst, he had made some money sending jokes to the humorous papers, *Puck*, *Judge* and *Life*. From 1891, when his *New Mexico David*, a story for boys, was published until his death at 69 he was constantly writing.

Charles Dwight Willard, secretary of the Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce, started a magazine in 1894 called *Land of Sunshine* and invited Lummis to be its editor. He took over the little monthly rather against his will in January, 1895 and continued to head it until 1903. His column of comment in each issue he called "In the Lion's Den." His policy he stated as "trying to be popular enough to live and substantial enough to deserve to live." He developed young artists and writers who later brought fame to California, among them Edwin Markham, Charles Warren Stoddard, Charlotte Perkins, Stetson Gilman and Joaquin Miller. Later came Mary Austin and Eugene Manlove Rhodes.

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During his eight years as editor he himself was its most frequent contributor, supplying more than 250 stories, poems, articles and essays. He changed its name to *Out West*, saying that *Land of Sunshine* "smacked equally of Sunday School and the Immigration Bureau."

Among the valuable Spanish documents which he published in translation were:

History of Mexico (1538-1626), by the Franciscan missionary Geronimino de Zarate de Salineron.

Memorial on New Mexico, by Alonso de Benavides (1630).

History of California (1768-1793), by Viceroy Revilla Gigedo.

Diary of Junipero Serra on his March from Loreto to San Diego, (1769).

From 1905 to 1910 Lummis was librarian of the Los Angeles Public Library. He scandalized the American Library Association by going to their annual meetings wearing his sombrero and carrying his guitar. He organized a group of his solemn brotherhood of librarians into "The Order of the Bibliosmiles." His annual reports are the crispest, most amusing in library literature and their recommendations are even ahead of practices in the 1950s. He advocated, for example, advertising a library as much as a shoe store; outdoor reading rooms for our climate; emphasis on good salaries for library workers. His slogan was "In its simplest terms, the public library idea is the spread of reading that will do the most good." About censorship he said, "The modern feeling is that adult readers are responsible for their own minds. I myself have never banished any volume from the library." During his later years he concentrated on the Southwest Museum and on his writings. When in 1928 the doctors told him that his time was short, he worked heroically to complete a new edition of *The Spanish Pioneers* which had won him a decoration from the King of Spain. He collected all his poetry in *The Bronco Pegasus*, the first copy off the press reaching him less than a month before his death. A telegram told him that *Flowers of Our Lost Romance* was accepted for publication only a few hours before he lost consciousness. Two volumes that he had begun were never finished, *The Right Hand of the Continent: A History of California*, and his autobiography, *As I Remember*.

He died November 28th, 1928, at El Alisal. His daughter Turbese describes the last rites.

"Wrapped in a chief's blanket and laid on a board among joyous red flowers, he lay facing El Alcalde (the four-fold giant sycamore in the patio)."

Recognition came to him from all over the world. The Spanish Academy elected him to membership for his historical research. What he considered to be his greatest accomplishments are listed on the bronze plate where his ashes are placed in the wall of El Alisal.

CHARLES FLETCHER LUMMIS

March 1, 1859—November 28, 1928

He founded the Southwest Museum

He built this house

He saved four old missions

He studied and recorded Spanish America

He tried to do his share

Three organizations he established to attain his ardent purposes.

THE LANDMARKS CLUB

He started the Landmarks Club "to save for our children and our children's children the missions and other historic monuments of California." San Juan Capistrano was restored first and San Fernando, next. Mrs. Phoebe Hearst gave \$500 toward saving Pala, an asistencia of San Luis Rey mission where the Palatingwa Indians from Warner's Ranch were later given lands through Lummis' efforts. Lastly, in 1899, the San Diego Mission was restored. Lummis also led the club in protection of the Plaza, "the historic centre of Los Angeles." He persuaded the city council to retain more than a hundred of the Spanish street names which the War with Spain had made unpopular.

THE SOUTHWEST MUSEUM

On the urgings of the Archeological Institute of America, Lummis founded in 1903 a southwestern branch for which he secured 260 members in four years, four times as many as those in the parent society. Out of this group grew the mightiest of all his endeavors, the Southwest Museum. It stands on a wooded eminence to the northwest of El Alisal and contains not only Lummis' library and the materials amassed in his Hispanic and Indian studies, but other valuable Indian collections from the plains, the Northwest, the Southwest and even from the Mayans of Yucatan. Its Caracol tower which is 125 feet high is named for Lummis.

THE SEQUOYA LEAGUE

In 1902 Lummis was so concerned over the condition of the California Indians that he established the Sequoya League designed "to make better Indians by treating them better." David Starr Jordan was its first president. Theodore Roosevelt gave support to a bill passed by Congress to provide \$100,000 for new lands for the Warner Ranch Indians who had been dispossessed and driven onto the desert. Help was also supplied to the starving Indians of Campo through the efforts of the League. Finally, a competent special agent was secured under the Indian Bureau to look after all the tribes in California.

Turbese Lummis Fiske in her brief manuscript of her father's life, which is in the Southwest Museum, analyzes the qualities in him which made his life count for so much in the development of Southern California.

"He possessed the gift of seeing deep into the past, far into the future."

Author Earle Forrest Guides Publication

CM Earle Forrest of Washington, Pennsylvania sent us the 238 page Sesquicentennial edition of the *Washington Reporter*. This newspaper is one of seven in the U. S. with a record of 150 years of service. Earle is a veteran reporter, staff member and well known author, and has contributed much to the importance of this publication over the years.

From the wigwam, log cabin, and hand press days Earle has covered accounts of the story of the coal mining boom, statistical production notes of all companies, Free Masonry in Washington since 1790, histories of various businesses, a transportation story, both Conestoga Wagon and Railway, as well as the 62 years of streetcar service. These are but a few of the Forrest contributions to this excellent edition. It is a fine example of local history at its best. Earle was likewise responsible for many of the hundreds of historical pictures included in this edition.

N.B. We are saddened to record the recent death of Mrs. Forrest.

Death Comes to Colonel Wentworth

Colonel Edward Norris Wentworth, livestock specialist, and long time historian passed away on April 21 at his country home in Chesterton, Indiana. He was buried in Dover, New Hampshire with full military rites. He had served with distinction in World War I, and was Commander-in-Chief of the Military Order of World Wars.

For twenty-five years Ed was Director of Armour's Livestock Bureau, prior to which time he was Professor of Animal Husbandry at Iowa State College, Editor of *Breeder's Gazette*, Professor of Zootechny at the Chicago Veterinary College and Professor of Animal Breeding at the Kansas State Agricultural College.

Ed was perhaps best known to Westerners for his devotion to historical matters, and for his many fine published writings in that field. He also has a long record of historical contributions to learned society publications. Some of his well known books include, *America's Sheep Trails*, and three titles with his cousin C. W. Towne, *Shepherd's Empire*, *Pigs From Cave to Corncob* and *Cattle and Men*.

Ed was a very early member of the Chicago Corral of the Westerners, and contributed much to the success of the many Corrals in this organization. He was a Corresponding Member of the Los Angeles Corral, and honored speaker at our meetings. He was also a contributor to our annual Brand Books, and quarterly *Branding Iron*.

Westerners everywhere mourn his passing.

CM James W. Arrott Dies In Tucson

On the afternoon of March 6, 1959, CM James W. Arrott died in Tucson, Arizona, in the sixty-third year of his life. The funeral service was held at his ranch on the Sapello River near Las Vegas, New Mexico, on the afternoon of March 10.

Mr. Arrott received his early education in the schools, public and private, of Pennsylvania; at the Hotchkiss School in Connecticut; and at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in New York. He cut short his college studies with the outbreak of World War I to enlist as an American soldier with British Army, and served for two years in France.

Upon his return to the United States, he entered into business and finance and for thirty years followed this career with success and distinction.

He first visited New Mexico in 1904 with his father, who was interested in New Mexico enterprises. Twenty-four years later he made New Mexico his home.

Through these years in New Mexico his interest in the history and development of the Southwest has been unflagging. His interest in this area of history grew and branched in many directions—over great distances, and in strange places. The search for primary materials on the West had taken him or his agents not only to the West, but also to the eastern seaboard and the national capitol. The aggregation of documents he gathered, with the vision and care of a dedicated researcher, became the Arrott Collection of Western Americana. This collection was not a static body of information, but a growing one. It is now in the process of being transferred, as a gift, to Rodgers Library of New Mexico Highlands University, where it will be permanently housed for the use of scholars and those interested in the prime history of the West.

One focus of Mr. Arrott's interest in the West was his methodical and persistent search for information about old Fort Union. His collection on this venerable sentinel of the Santa Fe Trail is a part, of course, of the entire collection which bears his name.

His interest in making the Fort a national monument, and the fund of knowledge he has gathered together about it have been instrumental in its restoration.

CM Captain Steele Dies

On February 9, death took our corresponding member from far away London, Captain Russell V. Steele. He will be sorely missed by Los Angeles Corral, particularly by those Westerners who have kept up a lively correspondence with him through the years.

MARK R. HARRINGTON . . . AUTHOR . . .

Editor's Note—This is the third of a series of bibliographies of our Westerner writers.

Dr. Mark R. Harrington is not only one of our most illustrious Westerners, a prolific and distinguished writer, but is an archeologist of note, and curator of the Southwest Museum, Los Angeles. He was born at Ann Arbor, Michigan, July 6, 1882, the son of a professor of astronomy at the university.

He received his M.A. degree from Columbia University, of which he is a graduate, and recently was honored by a doctorate in humanities, by Occidental College, for the great achievements which add luster to his name. His life work in archeology and anthropology has been spent with the American Museum of Natural History, the Peabody Museum of Harvard, the Heye Museum, the University of Pennsylvania Museum, the Museum of the American Indian, Heye Foundation, and his long years with the Southwest Museum.

He has visited and studied forty Indian tribes; has made archeological expeditions to many parts of the United States and Cuba, and is author of the numerous articles and books noted in the following bibliography—writings which cover a vast field of interest including anthropology, popular articles, fiction, and even a novel with an Indian background. One of his great interests is in the restoration of historic adobe buildings and missions in California, and he serves in advisory capacity on a number of extensive restoration projects now in progress. One of his published books is *How to Build a California Adobe*, and to prove that he knows what he is talking about, he lives in a California adobe house of his own construction. But more important, he lives in the hearts of Westerners, as the kindly, grand old man of Los Angeles Corral.

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Dr. Harrington talks Indian lore with two motion picture and TV stars and fellow Westerners: (left) Noah Beery, and (right) Iron Eyes Cody.
 —Lonnie Hull Photo.

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DOWN THE WESTERN BOOK TRAIL . . .

THE LOG OF THE COURIER, 1826-1827-1828, by William Cunningham. Illustrated by Don Louis Perceval. Printed by Paul Bailey at his Westernlore Press. 75 pp. Glen Dawson, Los

The reader here has a never-before printed day to day log of a typical "Boston Ship" trading along the California-Mexican coast from Bodega to Mazatlan during nearly three years in the interesting period before the Conquest. She was in and out of most of the harbors, some of them repeatedly. Since the log entries for the days at sea are omitted, what we have are Captain Cunningham's reports on anchorages and weather, negotiations with officials, hide and fur transactions, a mutiny and its quelling, as well as notices of other ships and persons met from place to place. Altogether he reveals the diligence and patience required of a good ship master in surmounting the crude conditions and the natural and man-made frustrations common to the period and the places. One cannot but admire his uncomplaining devotion to the work in hand. To and fro along the coast he sailed until his ship was filled and finally, on Monday, September 15, 1828 he "got under way for Boston."

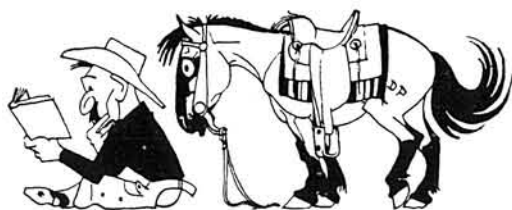
While not mentioned in the log, Captain Cunningham had opportunity to be of service to Jedediah Strong Smith during the latter's difficulties at San Gabriel and San Diego, also to lend money to James Ohio Pattie in the summer of 1828. The good captain seems to have been a tireless and busy Yankee who brought his ship safely back to her home port. Subsequently, the Courier survived for many years in Atlantic and Pacific voyages.

This is volume 44 in the Early California Travels Series and one of the best both in contents and format. It is a handsome little book, competently edited, with occasional and helpful side notes and refreshingly enhanced by the illustrations of Don Perceval. Since it fills in some dates and bits of history not otherwise recorded, it will undoubtedly earn the high regard it deserves of collectors of Californiana.

DON HILL.

GREAT TRAIN ROBBERIES OF THE WEST, by Eugene B. Block. New York. Coward-McCann, \$5.

Train robbery is a phenomenon peculiar only to the United States—a thing practically unheard of in Europe and the continent. After reading this book, one can almost believe it was a popular diversion, and one which began practically with the inception of the rail haul into the Far West. From 1870 to 1933 the Southern Pacific alone, along with its predecessor Central Pacific, was victim of 59 holdups; most of them on the grand scale. The one in 1933, however,



was the last one in this nation, and heralded the final windup of an era where Colt and shotgun were the persuasive pieces in forcing the baggage car safes of American railways.

The road agent of the stagecoach days had it easy when it came to persuading the driver to heave down the Wells-Fargo strong box. The Dalton Gang, Cassidy's Wild Bunch, "Big Nose" Parrott, the Jennings Gang, and the D'Autremont Brothers were specialists in this newer and more exacting profession. For skill and ingenuity in bringing an express train to stop, and making off with the kitty, they have earned a justifiable fame for reckless daring.

Eugene B. Block has brought together the gory highlights of this noble profession throughout its long period of popularity. Some twenty episodes of this once regional sport are reviewed in detail throughout an era of blasted mail cars, frantic chases, bloodshed, and sensational courtroom trials. *Great Train Robberies of the West* is a humdinger of a western book. It reads like a novel, and yet every word in it is true.

PAUL BAILEY.

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