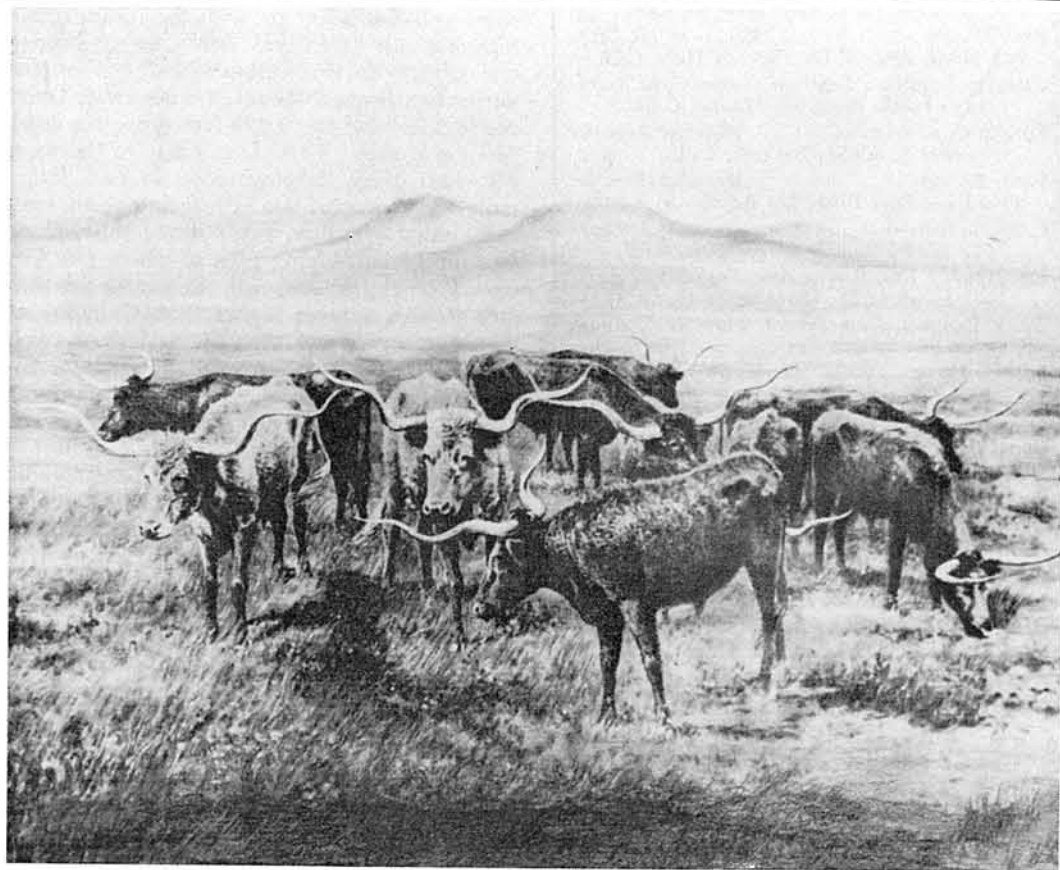




SEPTEMBER 1959

LOS ANGELES CORRAL

NUMBER 50



LONGHORNS OF 1880

These steers were a part of a large herd of Old Mexicos that came up the trail via Texas, to Wyoming grass in the early 1880's. They belonged to J. W. Hammond, and because of their unusual horn-spread they were never sold, but kept on pasture on the old Hammond Ranch near Cheyenne, Wyoming. They were photographed there. It is said that eventually every head was mounted. The buckskin steer, center, was named Geronimo by the trail drivers, because like the wily old Apache, he escaped so often. He could clear the highest pole corral with ease whenever he wanted to, or became excited. The dark steer, center, was said to carry near record horns.

Here you have the old Longhorn as the oldtime trail driver cowboys knew them—not entirely vanished now, but never have the wide spread of horn they used to have. This photo was given me by John Clay Commission Company. At the time they were Clay, Robinson Commission Company. I knew John Clay well—he always came out to our wagon—the Matador wagon—every fall during shipping time, from the Dakota ranges.

Hope you like this photo.

Sincerely,

IKE BLASINGAME, CM.

THE BRANDING IRON OF THE LOS ANGELES CORRAL OF THE WESTERNERS

* * *

Published Quarterly in
March, June, September, December

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PAUL BAILEY

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

Corresponding Members Added to L. A. Corral

The roster of Corresponding Members of Los Angeles Corral of Westerners continues to grow month by month. To the new members below, we say welcome to the Range.

Mrs. Ann Wright Hepp, 1410 Graynold Ave., Glendale 2, California.

Dr. John H. Kemble, Pomona College, Claremont, California.

H. E. Lindersmith, 3946 Wilshire Blvd., Los Angeles 5, California.

Robert E. Lynds, 14908 La Cumbre Dr., Pacific Palisades, California.

The Westerners Foundation, Atten. Glenn W. Price, Western American Library, Stockton 4, Calif.

Lewis G. Wilson, M.D., 1022 Tiverton Ave., Los Angeles 24, California.

Thomas L. Wright, 1410 Graynold Ave., Glendale 2, California.

Dr. John D. Yarbrough, 2200 West Third St., Los Angeles 57, California.

From the Mailbag . . .

"El altísimo nido"
Morelia, Michoacán

"My Dear Sheriff Glen:

"I wish you might be here with me, at the moment, here in the loftiest of all the apartments atop the scarp of the Hills of Santa Maria. 'The Highest Nest' I call it and as one friend who recently visited with me a few days, said 'Charley, one of these sunsets is worth a month's rent!' and so it is. Just now it is a beautiful pattern of sunlight and shadow with the city of Morelia a mile away across a level valley and some 150 feet below us, with the rolling green hills beyond: the Cerro Azul further beyond and slightly to the west—Whoa! east of due north. Northwest some seven miles away, Quinceo lifts its head to 10,878 feet above sea level. Morelia is about 6,234 feet. Away to the west, (we have three large windows in each living room and bedroom; two each facing north, west and south), Pátzcuaro way, miles of valley blend into higher and higher hills to where Los Cirratos form the skyline, with the nearer San Andres—which appears higher than Quinceo—at the extreme S.W. of my view as I sit. As you know, I have been studying the Purépecha Indians (the antepasados of the present Tarascans) for the past eight years. They gave Quinceo (KeenSAYO) its name, 'Lofty Place.'

"The Woodward and we had a memorable drive down; they are ideal traveling companions, as you would know they would be. We left them at Guadalajara and they rejoined us here at Morelia, then went on to Oaxaca. We are keeping in touch and I hope to see them as they return to Calif. I will make my required month return to el Border, to El Paso as I wish to visit my old home in Carlsbad and October is about perfect for that. My Sweetheart stayed here long enough to see me comfortably located and cared for (comes under the heading of Care and Feeding of the Aged and Infirmit) and then flew back to California to attend to some matters which we have more-or-less pending. I am hoping that they will soon resolve themselves and she can rejoin me.

"We had nine days of hot weather at the end of May—first of June then the rains returned and it has been delightfully cool ever since. Even in the hot weather up here in this well-ventilated Highest Nest it didn't bother much.

"Give my best to Hank, Charley and all the gang at The Westerners and tell them that I miss them; truly and sincerely. They were a happy experience. You all were a happy experience in my life and I hope that it may be renewed.

"Cheerio!

"CHARLEY HOFFMANN."

Apartado Postal 273

THOSE OUTDOOR SUMMER PARTIES

THE June meeting ushered in Los Angeles Corral's summer season. Although it was held between the fences of the old herd-yard at Costa's Grill, it still was a summer affair. Gordon Williams was the speaker, with a topic certain to stir the interests of every Westerner: "Randsburg—Birth and Life of a Mining Town." Prof. Williams, associated with the U.C.L.A. Library, made this one of his farewell addresses before taking up new duties as director of the Midwest Inter-Library Center in Chicago. The turnout to hear the lore and gore of this California ghost town was good, and success of this meeting was augury for the interesting and worthwhile summer ahead.

First of the two outdoor meetings, which have become traditional with Los Angeles Corral, was held at the Pasadena home of Deputy Sheriff Henry Clifford, in July. After a feast of broiled capons and imported wine, presided over by our host, assisted by Holling C. Holling at the barbecue, and Noah Beery at the bar, the membership assembled were treated to a stimulating and provocative address by Dr. John A. Carroll, associate professor of history at the University of Arizona, Pulitzer Prize winner, and editor of the new quarterly *Arizona and the West*. His talk, "The Mosaic of Western Historical Literature," brought forth much discussion, and was taped for later radio broadcast. The weather was perfect, the food was good, and the speaker most excellent. It was a jovial and happy evening.

Among the honored guests present were Francis Andrews, Dr. Ted Grivas, Chuck Henning, Vernon King, Edward Silver, and many corres-

ponding members from various cities throughout the state.

Good weather likewise held for the second outdoor meeting, in August, at the East Pasadena home of Dr. Harvey Johnson. (Memory reminds us of last year's event, when a single thunder-cloud dumped its contents on the Corral's dinner party at the same residence.) Another genial Westerner host outdid himself to make it a memorable affair. A number of Westerners arrived early enough to take advantage of a swim in the Johnson pool. Only casualty from this bonus feature was the one suffered by an Ex-Sheriff when he jumped into the pool wearing glasses, hat and Hamilton watch. Speaker was CM Dr. Irving Wills, from Santa Barbara, who fascinated the members with his talk on "The Jerk Line Team." His knowledge on this little-known subject was astonishing, and much time after his talk was spent in answering questions from an aroused and interested audience.

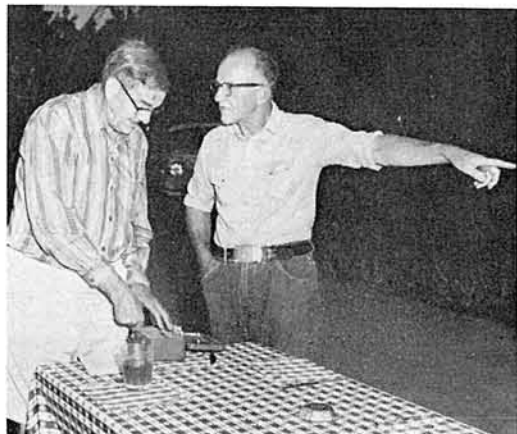
Barbecued steaks, served outdoors, amid the happiest kind of surroundings, made this another memorable evening for every Westerner who attended. Corresponding members, who came from long distances, were very much in evidence. Among the honored guests were: Robert Bennett, Billy Hallich, Ren Hamill, Webb Jones, Caswell Perry, Lyman Johnson, Earl R. Nation, M.D., Roy Tisdale, Harold Webb, and many others.

But fall inevitably follows the lighter joys of summer, and in September the Corral moved back to its old and familiar quarters at Costa's Grill. At this meeting the members assembled were introduced to the soon-to-come reality of *Brand Book No. 8*. The editor of the project, Ex-Sheriff Don Meadows, enlightened the members as to the progress and contents of the wonderful new book; what to expect; and when. Mr. Remi Nadeau, speaker of the evening, chose for his topic "Life and Times in the Gold Rush." His talk was the gist and substance of an article by this noted author to appear in the *American Heritage*. Little-known facts of this, California's most dramatic page of history, were given to the membership in this enjoyable address.

Dr. A. M. Palmer, George Whitney, and Ted Small were among the honored guests. Although the general attendance was somewhat smaller than the roaring summer meetings, a number of corresponding members aided in swelling the ranks for this, a very interesting and worthwhile gathering.

For October the Corral will again move out-of-doors—this time to the Casa Adobe, at the Southwest Museum. For the first time in Corral history, the speaker will be a lady.

Lonnie Hull, with his camera, captures Registrar Charley Rudkin and Host Harvey Johnson amid the hectic problems of Harvey's outdoor party.



SPEAKERS AT LOS ANGELES CORRAL

PROGRAMS—1946-1959

1946

December—J. Gregg Layne—"Gun Fights and Lynchings in Early Los Angeles."

1947

H. E. Britzman, *Sheriff*
Jack Harden, *Deputy Sheriff*

January—Ernest V. Sutton—"The Custer Fight."
February—M. E. Brininstool—"Billy the Kid."
March—Percy Bonebrake—"Old Los Angeles—the City of Angels."
April—Jack Rollinson—"Open Range Days in Old Wyoming."
May—Ramon Adams—"Cowboy Lingo."
Clarence Ellsworth—"The Indian as a Seer."
June—Billy Dodson—"The Men of El Llano Estacado."
Bruce Kiskaddon, Cowboy Poet—"Poems."
July—H. E. Britzman—"Jeff Milton."
August—Edgar N. Carter—"Old Fort Bridger Days."
September—Paul Galleher—"Stern Whacks at a Famous Westerner." (Oofy Goofy).
October—Noah Beery, Jr.—"Col. Kosterlitzky."
November—Don Hill—"Notes on Some Artists In the Early West."
December—Arthur Woodward—"The Garra Revolt of 1851."

1948

Paul Galleher, *Sheriff*
John Goodman, *Deputy Sheriff*

January—Roscoe P. Conkling—"Butterfield Route to California."
February—Prof. Rodman Paul—"California Gold."
March—Frank Schilling—"Al Sieber, Chief of Apache Scouts."
April—Carl Dentzel—"Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo."
May—Dwight Franklin—"Gun Totting in the Old West."
June—Bert H. Olson—"Gold in Placerita Canyon and Other Facts."
July—Ernest Sutton—"The Sun Clan of the Hopi Indian."
August—Dr. Marcus E. Crahan—"California and its Place Among the Wine Nations."
September—Glen Dawson—"Collectors of Western Americana."
October—Al Jennings—"Reminiscences."
November—Paul Bailey—"Holy Smoke."
December—J. Gregg Layne—"John Charles Fremont."

1949

Homer Boelter, *Sheriff*
Arthur Woodward, *Deputy Sheriff*

January—Dr. F. W. Hodge—"Charles Lummis."
February—J. Frank Dobie—"Truth About Coyotes."
March—Arthur Woodward—"Fancy Pants in Old California."
April—Gen. Frank Ross—"Indian Influence on the U. S. Army."
May—Lindley Bynum and his Guitar—"Western Ballads."
June—Iron Eyes Cody and Indian Friends.
Charles Yale—"Sagebrush Parson."
July—Holling C. Holling—"Interpreting the Western Scene for Children."
August—Jack Harden—"Last Buffalo Roundup."
September—Clarence Ellsworth—"Bows and Arrows."
October—Harry C. James—"Lewis and Clark."

November—Don Perceval—"Horse Sense Art."
December—W. W. Robinson—"Sound Law for the Mother Lode."

1950

Paul Bailey, *Sheriff*
Don Perceval, *Deputy Sheriff*

January—Neal R. Harlow—"The Mexican War in California."
February—Henry H. Clifford—"Western Express."
March—Frank Schilling—"History of Imperial Valley."
April—Hugh Schick—"The Kentucky Rifle, Its Origin and Development."
May—Dr. Frederick W. Hodge. (Arthur Woodward, Iron Eyes Cody, Clarence Ellsworth, Harry James.)
Four papers on Indian Topics.
June—Loring Campbell—"Magic Show."
July—Marion Speer—"Life on the Old Bell Ranch."
August—Merrell Kitchen—"Paper on 'Belle of Peoria.'"
September—J. Gregg Layne—"Adobe Days" and W. W. Robinson—"California's One Hundred Years of Statehood."
October—Claude C. Inman, Sheriff of Goldfield—"Early Days in Goldfield."
November—Warren Lewis—"Chief Tendoya of the Bannocks." Charles I. O'Neil—"Lumbering as I Have Seen It."
December—John H. Waddell—"Colorado River Characters—Outlaws of the North Rim, etc."

1951

Bert Olson, *Sheriff*
Carl Dentzel, *Deputy Sheriff*

January 18—Frank A. Hubbell—"Folk Music of the Southwest."
February 15—LeRoy A. Hafen—"Mountain Men Who Came to California."
March 15—Robert K. Ellithorpe—"Guns that Won the West."
April—Col. Tim McCoy—"Indian Sign Language."
May 17—"Special Western Pot-Pouri with several surprises."
June—Col. William A. Graham and Gen. Frank Ross—90 minute discussion of Custer on the Little Big Horn. Sam Garrett—Rope Spinning, and His Life as a Cowboy and with Wild West Shows. Tony Lawrence—Standard Oil Co. Film "Injun Talk" with Tim McCoy.
July—Marion Speer—"On Western Trails."
August—Henry Clifford—"The Sonora Trail."
September—Art Woodward—"Trip to Alaska" (Russians in North America).
October 18—Edwin F. Walker—"By Burro from Llano Estacado to Los Angeles in 1895."
November 15—Loring Campbell—"Western Outlaws and Books about Them."
December—"Las Posadas"—Christmas in the Southwest. In Old Mexico—Don Meadows. In Old California—Gregg Layne. In New Mexico—F. W. Hodge.

1952

Carl S. Dentzel, *Sheriff*
Arthur H. Clark, Jr., *Deputy Sheriff*

January—Dr. Austin E. Fife—"Collecting the Songs that the Western Pioneers Sang."
February—Lee Shippey—"The Story of Los Angeles."
March—Judge Ernest Tolin—"Romance of the West in the Courts of California."

THIRTEEN YEARS

a compilation by
EX-SHERIFF LORING CAMPBELL

April—Dr. Robert G. Cleland—"An Exile on the Colorado."
May—Frank Schilling—"Sequoia: the Tree and the Man."
June—Gilbert Cureton—"Literature of the Southwest."
July—Mark R. Harrington—"Adobe in California."
August—Muir Dawson—"Printing in California."
September—Dr. Jay Monaghan—"Battle of Glorieta Pass."
October—W. H. Hutchinson—"The Appaloosa Horse."
November—Dr. John W. Caughey—"Los Angeles' First Ghost Writer." (Judge Ben Hazen).
December—Iron Eyes Cody—"A Great American Indian Chief: Gen. Ely Parker."

1953

Arthur H. Clark, Jr., *Sheriff*
Henry Clifford, *Deputy Sheriff*

January—Donald W. Hamblin—"The Sharon Cases, or the Woman Finally Pays."
February—Edward Kaufman—"The Yellow Aster Mine."
March—Dr. Erwin G. Gudde—"California Names." Frank Schilling—"Folklore of Native California Plants."
April—Don Meadows—"The Filibuster Invasion of Baja California, in 1911."
May—Elliott Arnold—"The Twilight of the Dons." Phil Rasch—"Wm. H. Antrim, Stepfather of Billy the Kid."
June—Iron Eyes Cody—"General Hugh Lenox Scott, Sign Talker and Indian Friend."
July—Col. Ed. N. Wentworth—"Sheep Trails in California."
August—Dwight Franklin—"Guns of the Gold Rush." Sedley Peck—"Gold in the San Gabriel Canyon."
September—Lee Shippey—"California History that is Not Fine."
October—Jack Reynolds—"Tibercio Vasquez."
November—Robert G. Cleland—"The River of the Road that Leads to the Land of the Buffalo."
December—John Hilton—"Following De Anza's Trail in Mexico."

1954

Robert J. Woods, *Sheriff*
Loring Campbell, *Deputy Sheriff*

January—C. N. Rudkin—"Piracy Isn't All Velvet, or How Not to Circumnavigate La Isla de California."
February—Col. Tim McCoy—"The Indian Messiah and the Ghost Dance."
March—John D. Gilchriese—"Life and Times of Wyatt Earp."
April—Phil Johnston—"Navajo Language Code for Secret Communications in the Marine Corps."
May—Dr. Harvey Starr—"The California Medical Story."
June—Art Woodward—"The Custer Battlefield Today."
July—Percy Bonebrake—"Arizona Range Life More than 60 years ago." Jack Reynolds—"History of the Westerners Corrals."
August—W. W. Robinson—"Ranches of California."
September—Glen Dawson—"California All the Way Back to 1828."
October—Noah Beery, Jr.—"They Went That-a-Way, or the West and the Motion Picture Industry."



Ex-Sheriff Loring Campbell, who compiled this valuable list of meetings and speakers.

November—Paul Bailey—"Slavery and the Slave Trade Among the Indians of the Southwest."
December 1—Extra meeting. J. Frank Dobie—"Literature of the Range."
December—Henry Clifford—"Letters of Sylvester Mowry."

1955

Loring Campbell, *Sheriff*

January—Dr. Frank S. Dolley—"Colorado River Pilots."
February—Don Hamblin—"A Silver King and His Estate."
March—Walter W. Gann—"A Boy Below the Caprock in the '90s."
April—Dr. Andrew Rolle—"The Life and Times of Wm. Heath Davis."
May—Lawrence Clark Powell—"Writers of the Southwest."
June—Leo Creagan.
July—Lindley Bynum—"Spanish Occupation of California."
August—Ardis Walker—"Stories of the Kern River Country."
September—Maj. Gen. Frank Ross—"Trans-Railway Surveys of 1853."
October—Harry James—"Fort Union."
November—Marion Speer—"Narrow Gauge Railroads of Colorado."
December—Arthur Woodward—"The History of the Channel Islands."

1956

Don Meadows, *Sheriff*
Dr. Harvey Starr, *Deputy Sheriff*

January—Frank Schilling—"The Founding of San Francisco."
February—Iron Eyes Cody—"Picture: Will Rogers in 'The Ropin' Fool.' Also a film of his own Indian Family."
(Continued on Next Page)

Speakers for 13 Years

(Continued from Previous Page)

March—J. Frank Dobie—His Own Experiences.
 April—Jonreed Lauritzen—"High Mesas and Deep Canyons."
 May—Dr. Frederick Webb Hodge—"Anthropolywogs I Have Known."
 June—Holling C. Holling, Moderator. Carl Dentzel—"Titian R. Peale." Earl C. Adams—"Charles Russell." James Algar—"Walt Disney." Arthur Woodward—"Earl Schuchard."
 July—George Fullerton—"Footnotes on California History."
 August—Dick Nelson—"The Old West as I Saw it and Lived It."
 September—Glen Price—"Los Angeles on the Northwest Frontier."
 October—Dr. Rodman W. Paul—"Bonanza Grain Trade with the United Kingdom."
 November—Dudley C. Gordon—"Charles F. Lummis, Mr. Southwest."
 December—Billy Dodson—"Trail Herds."

1957

Dr. Harvey Starr, *Sheriff*
 Dr. Steve Dolley, *Deputy Sheriff*

January—Col. C. W. Hoffmann—"Villa Raids Columbus, March 9, 1916."
 February—Webster A. Jones—"The Conflict of Oregon History and the Remarkable Books They Inspired."
 March—Carl S. Dentzel—"Indians and the Pioneer Frontier; Westward Tradition in the 19th Century."
 April—Phil Rasch—"The Rise of the House of Murphy."
 May—Dr. Allan Nevins—"The Services and Errors of Fremont."
 June—Dr. Harvey Starr—"Early Day Medicine and Doctors in Southern California."
 July—L. Burr Belden—"In and Out of Death Valley by Ox-Cart in 1849."
 August—Paul Wellman—"What Became of Charlie McComas?"
 September—Paramount Picture Corp. Party—previewing the picture "The Tin Star."
 October—Dr. John Kemble—"Coastwise Steamers of the 1850's."
 November—Paul Bailey—"Westward by Handcart to Utah."
 December—Harry C. James—"James Willard Schultz."

1958

Arthur Woodward, *Sheriff*
 Col. Charles Hoffmann, *Deputy Sheriff*

January—Don Meadows—"Some Notes on Baja California."
 February—James Fassero—"California as the Astronomical Center of the World."
 March—Thomas Temple—"San Gabriel Mission in Colonial Days."
 April—Rev. Father Stanley Crocchiola—"The Private War of The Stocktons."
 May—Frank Schilling—"Military Posts of the Old Frontier."
 June—Sergeant Edward Vega—"Narcotics."
 July—James E. Serven—"Death Valley Days Were Tough."
 August—Col. Charles Hoffmann—"The Punitive Expedition against Villa."
 September—Arthur Woodward—"Mountain Men."
 October—Don Ashbaugh—"There are a Helluva Lot of Ghosts in Nevada."
 November—William A. Hildermann—"Weapons of the Civil War."

Special Business Meeting

On Thursday, August 20, Sheriff Glen Dawson called a special membership meeting to consider and vote on the articles of incorporation and the new Range Rules for Los Angeles Corral. The meeting was held at Dawson's Book Shop, was an evening affair, and was attended by a representative turnout of the membership. After considerable discussion, and a number of amendments, the documents were voted on and approved. Refreshments, courtesy of our Sheriff and his renowned establishment, were served to the membership present.

Corral Chips . . .

Ex-Sheriff Harvey Starr escaped some of the sticky heat of summer by entering the California Hospital late in July, for a little embroidery work on his hernia. It was an inguinal hernia, perilously low on his left side, but being a doctor himself Harvey was able to make medically sure there was no monkey business about the operation. He emerged from the ordeal unscathed. And all is well that heals well.

Dr. M. R. Harrington returned early in September from a revisit to Old Mexico. Accompanying him on the flight south was Mrs. Harrington. Besides Mexico City, and ancient sites dear to the heart of a great archeologist and anthropologist, Dr. and Mrs. Harrington visited Oaxaca and Ex-Sheriff Arthur Woodward who has been sojourning and luxuriating for months in that faraway place.

December—John Gilchriese—"Gunfighters in Fact and Fiction."

1959

Glen Dawson, *Sheriff*
 Henry Clifford, *Deputy Sheriff*

January—Dr. Harvey Johnson—"Our Vanishing Ghost Towns."
 February 19—Henry Clifford—"Pioneer Gold Coinage."
 March—Dr. L. G. Wilson—"Early Scientific Instruments of the West Coast; The History of Measurement of Time and Place in the West 1769-1889."
 April 16—Dr. Andrew Rolle—"The Italians in California."
 May 21—Harry C. James—"The Cahuilla: Southern California's Most Independent Tribe."
 June 18—Gordon Williams—"Randsburg and Johannesburg."
 July 18—Dr. John A. Carroll—"The Mosaics of Western Historical Literature."
 August—Dr. Irving Wills—"The Jerk Line Team."
 September—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."

Active Membership In L. A. Corral Increased By Five

Five new members have been added to the roster of the active members of Los Angeles Corral, filling all vacancies occurring this past year. Most of the candidates were already corresponding members of the Corral, all are of high caliber, and all are deeply interested in the projects and aims of the organization. At the recommendation of the Membership Committee, headed by George Fullerton, with the assistance of Philip J. Rasch and Dudley Gordon, the names and qualifications of the five candidates were submitted to the entire membership for vote, by mail. The ballots were returned with overwhelming approval, and all were welcomed into full membership at the August meeting.

The new resident members are:

JOHN D. GILCHRIESE

John was a former associate member, when that category was briefly instituted in the Corral, and since that time has served as a corresponding member. He has been a speaker at two of our meetings, and his main interests have centered around the history of Arizona, its people, and especially the early towns.

For the past ten years he has been researching the lives of the six Earp brothers and their escapades on the frontier. His talks before the Corral have been centered on this subject. "I am willing at all times to help with the program of the Corral," says John. His past interest and activity is proof of that.

ERNEST M. HOVARD

Ernest has been a corresponding member for some time. His interest in the West has been primarily the collection of Indian artifacts and beadwork. He has worked on Santa Rosa Island with the Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History, and with the Carson State Museum in its explorations at Lovelock, Nevada, etc. In his museum-den, at his home in Pasadena, is his own fine display of archeological collections, guns, western books, and branding irons. For years he has served as Merit Badge counsellor on Indian lore for the San Gabriel Valley, and has worked with many youth groups in this respect.

During World War II he spent 3½ years in the U. S. Coast Guard. He joined the Pasadena Police Department in 1943, and was a motorcycle officer for ten years. His present work is in the capacity of detective, working commercial burglaries.

"Collecting and study of Western and Indian lore has always, and will continue to be, my first interest," Ernest declares.

ERVIN STRONG

Before petitioning for regular membership, Ervin had been a corresponding member for over a year. He was born in Chicago, and finished school at Lake Forest, Illinois. Immediately thereafter he came west on a vacation and never returned to Illinois.

After a number of years with the Union Oil Company, in the wage and salary administration department, he opened for himself a hardware store in West Covina, and for twelve years he has been a merchant in that city.

Ervin's interests have included the study and culture of Cactaceæ, and he has served as president of The Cactus and Succulent Society of America, and on the Nomenclature Committee for Xerophytic Plants, with William Hertrick and William Taylor Marshall.

"For the past five years I have been interested in Western and Indian Art and in reference books pertaining thereto," says Ervin. "This interest in the Indian Arts includes the building of a collection of Navaho and Pueblo handcraft, such as paintings, pottery, baskets and rugs."

WILLIAM B. UPTON, JR.

Bill Upton is another corresponding member who waited long for his opportunity to join the selective circle of the regulars. Things Western have always been his hobby. "After much research while a district engineer with the U. S. Geological Survey in the Rocky Mountain area I was instrumental in having historic trails placed on government topographic maps for the first time," says Bill. "These included the Oregon, Bozeman, Overland and Santa Fe Trails. I made numerous treks across the state with Wyoming State Engineer L. C. Bishop (a Westerner), and with members of various state historical societies, when historic markers were dedicated and headstones placed on old graves."

Bill was born in Washington, D. C., attended George Washington University, and served in World War I. In 1936 he retired from the U. S. Geological Survey after 42 years, and joined Los Angeles County Flood Control District. He is a corresponding member of the Denver Posse, and a member of the Wyoming Historical Society. He is proud of the fact that his grandfather was an Argonaut, arriving in San Francisco in 1852, from England.

WILLIAM LAWTON WRIGHT

For thirty odd years Bill Wright has been a Western history hobbyist, generally interested in the American pioneers who won the West, and specializing in the Butterfield Stage Road. His researches on the latter subject have proven to most authorities that the Warner Ranch House (not the Wilson Store, as now marked) was the actual Butterfield station for that area.

Bill has served as newspaper reporter, columnist, and part-owner in Oakland, San Francisco and San Diego. He was a press-agent and junior executive in public relations for the San Francisco World's Fair 1937-39, and Lockheed Aircraft 1942-45. From 1939-42 he was writing articles for *Saturday Evening Post*, *Colliers*, *Liberty*, *Scientific American*, and some penny-a-liners. He is author of two books: *Pop Warner's Book for Boys* (McBride, 1942, and Dodd-Mead, eight or nine printings, last in 1949) and *Democracy's Air Arsenal* (Duell, Sloan & Pearce, 1947), a history of West Coast aircraft builders.

Bill was born in Omaha, Nebraska, with schooling at Lawrenceville and Stanford. "Now I am retired, with a lot of time and maybe a little skill," says Bill. "I hope to be a real volunteer worker in historical fields, and a willing hand in Los Angeles Corral."

Editor's Note

Our popular and valuable series of bibliographies of Westerner writers has been omitted this month in the *Branding Iron* in order to bring to the Corral members an eleven-year history of topics and speakers before the Los Angeles group, compiled by ex-Sheriff Loring Campbell, and to allow space for announcement of *Brand Book No. 8*. The bibliographical series will be resumed in the next issue.

From Billy Dodson To a Friend

The following letter came into the editor's possession. It is a letter from Westerner Billy Dodson to his friend A. C. Newton in Cody, Wyoming, upon Billy's hearing of his friend's hospitalization due to a stroke. Because all the Corral loves Billy for his kindness, we thought we would pass his letter on to the members.

"Dear Old Saddle Pal:

"Information has just reached me that you are bedded down with city man's miseries. I have been worried about you ever since I heard that you had packed your bed-roll and headed for TOWN, for old cow-pokes like you and me are not constituted to cope with city-man's vic-tuals, and his delicate way of living. Our stom-achs have been educated to consume large amounts of juicy steaks, cooked just enough to keep them from jumping out of the skillet, seasoned with the right amount of wind-filtered sand to make them digestible; with sufficient thickened gravy to lap up five or six four-inch-high sour-dough biscuits and a generous helping of chili beans and stewed prunes.

"And when the herd is bedded down, and your tarp, soogan and blankets are spread on the warm bosom of Mother Earth, canopied with the blue heaven studded with millions of twin-klng stars and soft breezes fanning your sun-tanned cheeks, then a man can think clean thoughts and dream sweet dreams—well! that is—in case the herd doesn't run or it rains or snows. But then, you still have your tarp and slicker.

"No wonder a cow-puncher gets sick when he has to sleep, surrounded by four walls, covered with a roof, bedded down on a Beautyrest Mattress that makes him sway-backed, with a feather pillow that makes him hump-shouldered!

"Well, A. C., it's only an old ranny like you that could overcome a handicap like this and I'm betting my boots on you. So—as soon as your saddle-sores are well, fork one of those sky ponies and high-tail it for the Dodson Ranch, and, as you always say 'there will be straw in the stall and hay in the manger'.

"We'll be looking for you.

"BILLY DODSON."

Attend Historical Meet

Ex-Sheriffs Paul Galleher and Arthur Clark made the trek to Salt Lake City, the second week in September, to attend the annual meeting of the Pacific Coast Branch of the American Historical Association. Among other Westerners taking part in this important affair were CMs Dr. LeRoy Hafen and Dr. John A. Carroll, both college professors, and both historians of note.

What Do You Mean By 'Western Wagons'?

By BOB ROBERTSON

Hollywood and the Wild West shows of Pendleton, Calgary and other places exhibit "authentic" prairie schooners, freight wagons and chuck wagons rigged up on the running gears of clumsy farm wagons, but the low wheels, wide tires, thin, flat felloes and light running gears of farm wagons were not suited to the shock and strain of hauling done by freight, ore and ranch wagons in the West.

While ordinary farm wagons served fairly well on the prairies and, by the Bureau of Indian Affairs, were considered "good enough" for red-skinned wards on reservations, the "Texas wagon," made of oil-seasoned wood, was designed for use on the high, dry Southern Plains where hot weather and rough roads—or no roads at all—soon shrunk and broke down vehicles of less sturdy construction.

In the Rocky Mountains and from there west-ward, originated and developed the "mountain wagon" with high wheels, comparatively narrow tires, heavy, thick felloes, big hubs, stout run-ning gears and oversize brake, which was the choice of freighters and ranchers.

Local wagon makers and wheelwrights built most of the wagons used in the early days in the West but, later, factory-made vehicles were im-ported. Of the factory-made wagons used in the West, the Shutler (often called "Shetler") was popular on the prairies and plains but, from the Rockies west, the mountain wagons of Bain and Studebaker were more common. In still later times the "swivel-reach" Weber became popular with teamsters who hauled freight, ore and roundup outfits over rough trails and steep grades.

The "California rack bed" was best adapted to use on mountain wagons and was generally used except for hauling lumber, poles, pipe and such other loads as might be bound to the run-ning gears without using the bed or wagon-box.

Besides the light and heavy models of Shutler and mountain wagons there were, of course, special-purpose vehicles built for the specific uses of hauling rock, gravel, borax, logs and other materials, which required special design.

Fullen and Louise Artrip, CMs, have launched a noisy and newsy little publication called *The Desert Clarion*. Its eight pages, newspaper tab-loid style, is packed with everything from ghost towns to the philosophy of Pot-Gut Grumpy and book reviews. Single copies are 20c, sub-scriptions are \$1.00, and it can be reached at Box 138, Yermo, California.

AN INDIAN'S PLEA . . . EPILOGUE

By MICHAEL
HARRISON

IN the December 1948 issue of the *Branding Iron* (Publication No. 5) there appeared a letter from a full-blood Pit River Indian named Ray Johnson, dated February 12, 1947, and which had been sent to the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Chicago, Illinois. It should be remembered that the Office of Indian Affairs, during World War II, together with many other non-military agencies had been transferred out of Washington to cities in the west and middle west.

Mr. Johnson, in his letter asked the government to live up to the promises made in a treaty many years before by and between General George Crook and the Pit River Indians in northern California. Unfortunately, there is no record of General Crook having made such a treaty, but Mr. Johnson firmly believed such a treaty existed and no one could convince him otherwise. As far as he was concerned all Indian Service policies and administrative decisions affecting the Pit River Indians should hinge on the provisions of the treaty with Crook.

Many futile hours were spent with Mr. Johnson by the writer, trying to convince him that even if such a treaty was brought to light it would not be binding on the government for the reason it had not been ratified by the United States Senate. And when one considers what happened to the 18 treaties made in 1851-2 by Commissioners Barbour, McKee and Wozencraft with a number of the California Indian groups, it is a wonder that more California Indians years ago didn't start singing Ghost songs and jumping the reservations. It will be remembered these treaties were signed in good faith by the Indian "capitans" and when taken back to Washington for ratification, the Senate laid down the injunction of secrecy on them and they were filed away in the secret archives of the United States Senate and never brought to light until 1907.

Mr. Johnson, although he always insisted on the fulfillment of the "treaty" obligations, never at any time wished to become a non-ward. Reference to the letter of February 12, 1947, will show he closed his letter to the Commissioner by saying "In closing my Claim I wish to say I want a certain Indian in Pit River to remain as Ward of the Government." What faith this man had in his Government!

Mr. Johnson never gave up his fight. I lost contact with him when I left the Indian Service in 1947, but every now and then I would hear of him and his differences with his white neighbors over occupancy of adjoining lands, which he claimed under the "treaty" provisions in which he believed.

Evidently, in the 12 years since I had last

seen Mr. Johnson he kept up his fight and then more recently went to Washington, for the papers of June 26th carried the following story, datelined Washington:

The body of a California Indian Chief, who came here to protest that white men were stealing his land, headed back home today in a rented trailer. Attached to the side of the vehicle is a large sign: "This trailer contains the body of Indian Chief Ray Johnson of Canby, California, who died in Washington, D.C., seeking justice."

Thus ends the saga of Ray Johnson—Indian.

Corral Chips . . .

Corral Representative Jack Reynolds and the Mrs. made a month-long summer jornada into Texas and the Midwest, during which they spent some time as house guests of Carl Hertzog and that beloved Westerner J. Frank Dobie.

In preparing for the summer Westerners party at his home, Dr. Harvey Johnson accidentally injured his foot. Next day it was swollen and infected. He was laid up a week from the injury.

Honorary member Lee Shippey was the honored speaker at the Authors Club, at the Hollywood Roosevelt, in August. In the talk he gave a history of the club, of which he is a past president.

Sheriff Glen Dawson took an early September vacation into Idaho, Montana and the Pacific Northwest. The drive was most beautiful, he said. And throughout the trip he was able to pay personal visits to many of his bookmen friends along the route.

CM Don Ashbaugh is putting finishing touches on his history of the Nevada ghost towns. This comprehensive and valuable study, slated to be published as a book next year, is the outcome of a long series of historical articles which Don, as Sunday editor, published weekly in the Las Vegas, Nevada, *Review-Journal*.

CM L. Burr Belden headed his jeep northward into some little-known areas of the Canadian mountains early in August. Purpose: A writing assignment—and to test some of those untested trout streams.

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Enclosed with this issue of the *Branding Iron* is an order card for your copy of BRAND BOOK NO. 8. Use it, and avoid disappointment! See ad on back page.

DOWN THE WESTERN BOOK TRAIL . . .

MEMOIRS OF (the late) DANIEL FORE (Jim) CHISHOLM AND THE CHISHOLM TRAIL, by Louise and Fullen Artrip. (Hesperia, Artrip Publications, 1959, Ltd. Ed., 185 pp.)

The Artrip writing team in 1949 brought forth a pamphlet of 89 pages, in wrappers and rather poorly printed, concerning those experiences of adventurer, cowboy and one-time outlaw Jim Chisholm, which he allowed to be printed during his lifetime. This pamphlet became very scarce, due partly to original material on the Sutton-Taylor feud for which there was demand by collectors. Jim died at the age of 88 years in Needles, California, October 1, 1954. Since then the Artrips have been checking and doing research on the memoirs of Jim Chisholm, verifying known historical facts, and presenting others at variance with the accepted, but which they believe to be authentic.

Jim, in early youth, joined John H. Slaughter in his cattle trek westward from Texas, using the alias of Jim Jack because of involvement in the Sutton-Taylor feud in which Globe Slaughter had been killed. In Tombstone Jim left Slaughter, and joined the outlaw band of Curly Bill Brocius, who headquartered at San Simon ranch near Galeyville. Here is presented the strange episode when Johnny Ringo, sober, disarmed Wyatt Earp when Wyatt tried to cold-cock Curly Bill; Ringo also grabbing Curly Bill's gun to prevent him from killing Earp.

Before he had hung up his guns, Jim Chisholm, according to the authors, had snuffed out the lives of 31 men. Among them were four Apaches of the party who had murdered Judge McComas and his wife on the Burro Mountain trail in 1883. Chisholm once robbed two hold-up men who had themselves just robbed a stage. He was involved in the Pleasant Valley sheep and cattle war in 1887.

All of this outlaw material is now presented for the first time in a new volume, a limited edition already out of print. In hard covers with gold stamping, the book was hand-set with 50-year old type, and printed on a Golding Pearl Printing Press in use since 1870.

There is likely to be some controversy over some of the incidents stated in this book which have heretofore been presented in a different light. But that is what makes the West the fascinating study that it is. Was Custer guilty or not guilty, was Wyatt Earp on this side of the fence, or the other (the consensus here is not favorable)? Because of the unexpected demand for the book there will undoubtedly be a second edition printed sometime before Christmas.

The opinion is hereby firmly expressed that

these *Memoirs of Jim Chisholm* constitute a volume indispensable to a student, historian or collector of Arizona or Tombstone Americana.

MERRELL KITCHEN.



SANTE FE, THE AUTOBIOGRAPHY OF A SOUTHWESTERN TOWN, by Oliver La Farge. 436 pp. Norman: University of Oklahoma Press. \$5.95.

Some of the richest buried historical treasure is to be found in the musty files of the pioneer newspapers of the West. In the last few years considerable spadework has been done in these deep and rewarding wells of true and accurate memorabilia, resulting in some of the most worthwhile volumes of bedrock history to come off the presses. Wise collectors are assembling these books, for within them, painstakingly recorded by honest reporting over decades, is the very pulse and life of America's historical past. The latest of these works, and certainly one of the best, is Oliver La Farge's 110-year gleanings of *The New Mexican*, Santa Fe's ancient and wonderful newspaper.

The autobiography of one of America's most colorful cities is here; told with the realism of the daily happening, with little necessity for outside coloring and editorial excursions. La Farge, acknowledged master in his craft, has wisely allowed the *New Mexican* to tell its own story, intruding only when necessary to place some forgotten but important happening in its own frame of history. This is editing at its best, and a pattern we wish other more vocal but less skillful souls would follow in handling this precious material of the past.

Through its pages we watch America's ancient city emerge from provincial capital to a supposedly American town, in which Spanish and Indian nationalities and idiom outweigh the Anglo-saxon cultures of the conquest. Americans, as always, make the most noise, but unitedly they stood against Indian troubles, and the turmoil left by the Civil War. Richly and accurately recorded are the times and troubles of bad men, the road agents, the bloody gunfights, the lynchings, and the gold rushes (usually no gold), and the phony diamond "discoveries" which rocked a continent. The only really successful mining, until the day of oil and uranium, was coal mining.

It tells the story of the first tourists to discover the charm and color of New Mexico, and its gradual emergence as an art and cultural center as great artists and great writers unfolded to the world the romance and wonder of its Spanish-Indian background.

Its battle of bricks versus adobe, its feud with Albuquerque, its abortive efforts to keep and hold a railroad, and the oft quaintness of the newspaper's editorial deductions in regard to

(Continued on Next Page)

politics, Indians, and general topics, are humorous and delightful. The only sad portion of the book, is the fact that the *New Mexican* was forced to suspend publication during the strange, mad days of Sibley's Confederate invasion, and the bleeding turmoil of the Civil War. What a story that would be!

Wise historians always turn to the newspapers of a period, knowing the contemporary accounts therein are more likely to yield the hard core of truth, ungarished by the cheese and salad dressing with which time and writers are prone to spread it. Here, then, is Santa Fe as it was, and is. This reviewer likes it better than anything yet to come out of its "cultural" colony.

PAUL BAILEY.



ADVENTURES OF ZENAS LEONARD, FUR TRADER, edited by John C. Ewers. 172 pp. Norman: University of Oklahoma Press. \$4.00.

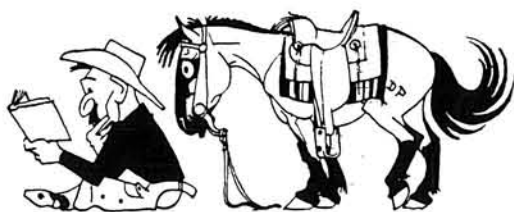
In 1839, in Clearfield, Pa., there walked into the office of the town's newspaper a roughly-clad man with a partially completed manuscript under his arm. The author was a youthful looking trapper by the name of Zenas Leonard, and the writings he offered for publication was an intimate journal of his own hair-raising experiences in the Far West. For four years he had been a mountain man, through journeyings which had taken him across the American plains, and over the mighty Rockies and Sierras to California and back. His offering was published serially, and when the reminiscences were finally completed, the newspaper published it as a book. The book became one of the rarities of the Great West.

This new volume (No. 28 on the American Exploration and Travel Series) is a faithful rendering from the original 1839 publication, with the added enhancement of the scholarly and revealing notes of John C. Ewers, of the Smithsonian Institution. Made available now to scholars everywhere, at a nominal price, it will be avidly read, because it is eminently readable. Time has stolen none of its dramatics, nor its charm. It is one of the most important history books written, and reads like a he-man novel.

Zenas Leonard, a tough and self-reliant farm boy from western Pennsylvania, joined a company of beaver trappers heading westward from St. Louis in 1831. With the precocity of youth, Leonard was seeking adventure. He found it, in abundance.

In his four years as a mountain man he braved snows in the Rockies, ate beaver skins to keep himself from starving and, with his companions, fought the Gros Ventres in the battle of Pierre's Hole—the most renowned battle ever waged between the mountain men and the Indians.

In 1833 he joined up with Captain Benjamin Bonneville, and was assigned to Joseph Reddelford Walker's first American exploring party



to travel across the Great Basin and over the high Sierras into California. Besides their perils, hardships and adventures, Leonard tells of their discovery of Yosemite and the giant redwoods of California, and of their wintering in the Spanish settlements of the Pacific Coast.

He tells of again returning westward across the Sierras with Walker's party in 1834, and of joining the Crow Indians in the fall to hunt buffalo on the Yellowstone. During this sojourn he was witness to the bitter warfare between the Crows and the Blackfoot, and his is one of the earliest descriptions of these remarkable tribes at the height of their prowess and their glory.

In this remarkable book are first-hand accounts of many of the greatest personalities of the mountain fur trade including Thomas (Broken Hand) Fitzpatrick, Walker and Bonneville. It is a glorious, informative book to come out of America's past. And it is a book deserving first place in any scholar or collector's library.

PAUL BAILEY.

The Western Presses

From the presses of western publishers are being issued books of high interest to Westerners, and to collectors and historians. Here are some samples of the late crop.

ARTHUR H. CLARK CO., Glendale, Calif. *Relations with the Indians of the Plains, 1857-1861*; and *The Diaries of William Henry Jackson, Frontier Photographer*; volumes IX and X of their renowned Far West and the Rockies Historical Series. Both volumes are scholarly edited by LeRoy R. and Ann W. Hafen.

GLEN DAWSON, Los Angeles, Calif. William Henry Boyle's *Personal Observations on the Conduct of the Modoc War*. Edited by Richard H. Dillon, from the Bancroft manuscript.

HOWELL-NORTH COMPANY, San Francisco, Calif. *History of Los Angeles County*. A magnificent reprinting of this classic of the past century, annotated and edited by Westerner W. W. Robinson.

FRED A. ROSENTOCK, The Old West Publishing Co., Denver, Colorado. *The Overland Diary of James A. Pritchard from Kentucky to California in 1849*. Edited by Dale L. Morgan. A magnificent publishing of this classic.

WESTERNLORE PRESS, Los Angeles, Calif. *Prairie Schooner Lady*, edited by Ward G. DeWitt; *Sam Brannan and the California Mormons*, by Westerner Paul Bailey (republishing); *Luckiest Man Alive*, by Westerner Lee Shippey.

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Many of our friends, including Corresponding Members, were disappointed because we could not fill their orders last year from the limited edition of 475 copies. This 8th book is limited to 525 copies, but even as this is written there is a strong indication that copies will be at a premium within a few weeks of publication. Don't be disappointed. **Return the enclosed card today.**

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