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LOS ANGELES CORRAL

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SPENCER CRUMP TELLS ABOUT "THE BIG RED CARS" AT THE JUNE ROUNDUP

— Iron Eyes Cody Photo.

SUMMER ROUNDUPS MAKE WESTERNER HISTORY

FOR WESTERNER OLDTIMERS who remember the venerable village as it once was, the June Roundup at Taix was a nostalgic trip into the past. On this particular night the speaker at Los Angeles Corral was Spencer Crump, author of many railroad books, but more particularly of *Ride the Big Red Cars*. His subject was "Henry E. Huntington and the History of the Pacific Electric." Not only did his most excellent and informative talk bring back the memory of the P.E. "red cars" that clanged and thundered over a thousand miles of track-age, but was poignant reminder that—

believe it or not — Southern California once actually *did* possess a rapid transit system of remarkable efficiency, and which was actually the largest municipal electric system in the world. Now the big red cars are no more. Not even the rights-of-way exist of this sadly remembered transit system — once the pride and joy of Henry E. Huntington.

Spencer Crump, who regaled us this night, is a man of many facets. He is a newspaperman, and a confirmed railroad buff. He is chairman of journalism at

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The Branding Iron

OF THE LOS ANGELES CORRAL OF
THE WESTERNERS

Published Quarterly in
March, June, September, December

OFFICERS—1967

SID PLATFORD.....*Sheriff*
152 W. Duarte Rd., Arcadia, Calif. 91007
AUGUST W. SCHATRA.....*Deputy Sheriff*
2090 Los Robles Ave., San Marino, Calif. 91108
EVERETT G. HAGER.....*Registrar of Marks & Brands*
681 Terminal Way, Box 6, Term. Is., Calif. 90731
ERNEST M. HOVARD.....*Asst. Registrar*
3255 Paloma St., Pasadena, Calif. 91107
PAUL D. BAILEY.....*Roundup Foreman*
5040 Eagle Rock Blvd., Los Angeles Calif. 90041
WILLIAM F. KIMES.....*Asst. Roundup Foreman*
418 Snug Harbor, Newport Beach, Calif. 92660
BERT H. OLSON.....*Keeper of the Chips*
619 No. Rexford Dr., Beverly Hills, Calif. 90210
E. I. EDWARDS.....*Past Sheriff Trail Boss*
P.O. Box 1078, Yucca Valley, Calif. 92284
ERVIN STRONG.....*Past Sheriff Trail Boss*
228 E. Navilla Pl., Covina, Calif. 91722
WEBSTER A. JONES.....*Editor of Brand Book No. 13*
15934 Valley Vista Blvd., Encino, Calif. 91316
CARROLL FRISWOLD.....*Librarian*
519 W. Altadena Dr., Altadena, Calif. 91001
H. GEORGE McMANNUS.....*Representative*
1011 E. Lexington Dr., Glendale, Calif. 91206
IRON EYES CODY.....*Daguerreotype Wrangler,*
and Chief of Smoke Signals
2013 Griffith Park Blvd., Los Angeles, Calif. 90026
HARVEY E. STARR, M.D.....*Membership Chairman*
1401 S. Hope St., Los Angeles, Calif. 90015
DWIGHT E. VANCE.....*Wrangler Boss*
THOMAS McNEILL, WILLIAM NEWBRO. *Wranglers*

Address for Exchanges
and Material Submitted for Publication:

The Roundup Foreman
PAUL BAILEY

5040 Eagle Rock Blvd., Los Angeles, Calif. 90041

THE BRANDING IRON solicits articles of 1500 words
or less, dealing with every phase of the Old West.
Contributions from members and friends welcomed.

The *Branding Iron* is in receipt of volume one, number, June 1967, of *The War Chief*, published quarterly by the Indian Territory Posse of Oklahoma Westerners. The lively eight-page publication features, in its first issue, a fine article by Henry Bass, on "The Chisholm Trail." Other contributors are Dr. A. M. Gibson, "Organization of the Posse," and Savoie Lottinville, on "Cholera Morbus." A great job, and a promising start, for this fine Posse.

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From the Mailbag...

Dear Sheriff Sid:

Thanks very much for your very kind note of the 20th and the photograph of the boys at Bob Woods funeral.

It was good to see so many of my old friends (I know them all but Walt Wheelock) and do you know what pleased me so very much. Almost without exception every one had a smiling face — and that is just the way he would have it. You had to be happy when that guy was around. And it is evident, that his spirit still prevails. I hope that after the services, you all repaired to the nearest saloon for a drink — and Bob would have it that way also.

Bill Robinson did a fine job in the *Branding Iron* and I hope you are able to prevail on Paulino to do the Keepsake.

By the way, the Hagers and the Billingtons spent last Saturday with us and when I told Ray there would be no speeches at the Westerners Breakfast he was very happy.

Thanks again, Sid.

As ever,

MICHAEL HARRISON



Dear Sid:

Thanks for the "California Star." When our notice gets out I will see that you get one.

There are still signs of Sam Brannan all around us. The facade of Brannan's store still stands at L and Front Street. The Vernon Brannan Building is still intact and will be rebuilt as part of "Old Sacramento." The Brannan store at Sutter's Fort has been reproduced after a fashion. The Brannan "White House" at the conjunction of the Feather and Sacramento Rivers was only recently removed. In 1858 Brannan built the railroad from Folsom to Lincoln called "The California Central." It was sold to the Central Pacific in 1864.

Al Shumate and Dr. Davis of the State Archives found an application for use of the State Assembly Chamber by ECV in 1855. No record on whether the request was granted. No record on whether the Assembly Chamber survived.

WALT FRAME,

Conference of Calif. Hist. Societies.



SHERIFF SID PLATFORD AND JOHN MASON JEFFREY AT THE JULY MEETING

— Iron Eyes Cody Photo.

The Summer Meetings

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Orange Coast College and, when not writing railroad books, publishes them through the Trans-Anglo Press in Long Beach, which he owns. He has A.B. and M.A. degrees out of the University of Southern California, and everyone present at the June meeting can attest that Spencer Crump is as facile as a speaker as he is at writing and publishing.

The Corral's art gallery this night was loaded with priceless examples of the work of the well known western artist and painter, Olaf Wieghorst. This splendid exhibit was made possible through the time, effort and generosity of CM Allen N. Willett, and augmented from the collection of Deputy Sheriff August Schatra. Again, as through the many months past, the art gallery has become one of the most popular features of the meeting.

Among the distinguished visitors at the June meeting were: Victor Hungerford, Harrison McCall, artist Robert Wagner, Ed Stone, John Marshall, Ken Mansker,

and CM Whitney Genns from up Santa Barbara way. Hugh Tolford came also as a guest, and promptly signed in as a CM.

JULY MEETING

Speaker at the July meeting, held at Taix Freres, was John Mason Jeffrey. The warm July night set the proper mood and atmosphere for John's dissertation on "The

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IN MAY EARL C. ADAMS CONDUCTS "CUSTER NIGHT"—AT RIGHT, DEPUTY SHERIFF AUGUST SCHATRA

— Iron Eyes Cody Photo.

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The Summer Roundups

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Arizona Territorial Prison" — which probably still holds title as being the hottest hoosegow this side of hell. The scope and research which all too evidently went into this excellent paper was indicative to many Westerners that John plans a book on this prison — one of the most fascinating and colorful in the west. When John's research turned up the fact that one of its female inmates had suffered durance there for statutory rape, one can only conclude that Yuma prison served a wild and woolly territory.

In his research, John visited archives in Yuma, Phoenix and Tucson, and thoroughly inspected the records at the Arizona State Prison in Florence. Not satisfied with that, he searched the National Archives, and wrote endless letters. John knows so much about the old Yuma bastille that, were he not an attorney by profession, one could almost believe he had done a stretch there. But he did do a long stretch in the Navy during WW II, aboard the *U.S.S. Wachepague*. He is still a commander in the Naval Reserve, a member of the Sons of the American Revolution, author of various legal books, and a loyal Knight in the ancient Order of E Clampus Vitus. Among his cohorts in the latter organization he is known humbly and simply as "Cactus Jack."

AUGUST MEETING

CM Albert Shumate, M.D., journeyed all the way from San Francisco to regale the assembled Westerners at the August meeting with "The Story of George Gordon." The room was filled to absolute capacity by the many Westerners and their guests who turned out to hear this distinguished visitor from the north. Dr. Shumate, among many other accomplishments, is President, Conference of California Historical Societies; Grand Historian, Native Sons of the Golden West; President of the San Francisco Landmarks Preservation Board; Past President, California Historical Society, and Past Sublime Noble Grand Humbug of E Clampus Vitus. In addition to being decorated by the government of Spain for his work and writings in behalf of the Spanish colonies

of America, he is probably the best informed person alive on the history and sidelights of his own city, San Francisco. This latter assumption was amply proven by his humorous and knowledgeable exhumation of George Gordon, to the delight of his Westerner audience.

After a prolonged and fruitful question-and-answer period with Dr. Al, the Westerners turned attention to the panels of the art exhibit, where some of the rare and little known magazine illustrations of western artist Maynard Dixon were on display. Tom McNeill, to which the Corral is indebted for this and many other fine displays, explained some of the sketches on exhibit.

The untimely passing of two of our beloved Westerners this summer — Ex-Sheriff Bob Woods, and our Daguerreotype Wrangler Lonnie Hull, was remembered by silence and a few choice words by some of the Westerners, who echoed the feelings of all the Corral members who knew and desperately miss these fine men.

There were many distinguished guests present to hear Dr. Shumate. Among them were: CM Manuel P. Servin, editor of the California Historical Society Quarterly; Larry Meyer, the new editor of Westways Magazine; Rev. Francis Weber, author of numerous books on California Catholic history; Dr. Richard A. Bartlett, Florida State University, and Dr. Jack Filipiak, Wisconsin State University, both famous authors doing research at the Huntington; Ellis K. Baker, publishers' representative; Bruce A. Gregory, CM Tony Lehman, Price Walker, William E. Ballard, and many others. Welcomed again in Corral circles was Homer Boelter, one of our great oldtimers, and founding father of the Corral's long and distinguished list of Brand Books.

As the *Branding Iron* goes to press, September's big rendezvous meeting — an outdoor hoedown — was held on the spacious south forty of Dr. Alden Miller, on Rancho Drive, in Glendale.

Press time arrived before we could cover everything scheduled for Saturday, September 9. But the speaker was Dr. Harvey Starr; the food and drink was overwhelming; and included were swimming, grousing, horse-trading, and a book auction.

ALONZO "LONNIE" HULL

1893-1967

"Blessed are they who have the gift of making friends, for it is one of God's best gifts. It involves many things, but above all, the power of going out of one's self, and appreciating whatever is noble and loving in another." —THOMAS HUGHES.

By HOMER H. BOELTER

LONNIE HULL, Honored Westerner, bade our earthly corral adieu July 3, 1967 and joined the galaxy of Westerners in the Celestial Corral. What an aristocratic group will welcome him. Percy Bonebrake, jovial Deputy Sheriff Emeritus, in charge of Law and Order, may call that illustrious roll: Homer Britzman, Gregg Layne, Ernest Sutton, Dr. Frederick Hodge, "Billy" Dodson, "Pinkey" Bynum, Edgar Carter, Clarence Ellsworth, Bob Woods, and on and on as all our late friends answer "Here," as their names are called. We shall miss Lonnie, but somehow I believe they must have needed a Daguerrotype Wrangler up there to help Saint Peter record the activities of that Heavenly Corral.

Lonnie Hull was born, March 21, 1893 in Seattle, Washington, when that frontier village was a lusty and rough logging and shipping center of the fast growing northwest. One of his Seattle neighbors and playmates was Harold Curtis, son of Edward S. Curtis, the world renowned photographer of the American Indian and author of the momentous history of Indians in twenty volumes, *The North American Indians*. When Lonnie was about nine years old his friend, Harold Curtis, took him for a visit through the Curtis studio in downtown Seattle. The impact that this visit made on a small boy is best stated in a letter to me in 1965: "On that day the Curtis family and their employees (at the studio) helped a boy to get started on an interesting and life-time avocation." Lonnie's photographs certainly bear witness to his success and proficiency in this avocation.

Lonnie graduated from high school in San Diego, and then attended the University of Redlands.



ALONZO "LONNIE" HULL

—Iron Eyes Cody Photo.

In Coronado, he met, fell in love, courted, and there, on September 17, 1913, married Ada Virginia Shaw. They have shared life's joys and sorrows, its trials and successes, happily together for over fifty-four years. They rejoiced in their four daughters, and son, and later in life were thrilled as they were blessed with nineteen grandchildren and later with two great-grandchildren. After living four years in Seattle, they returned to Coronado, and in 1919 moved to Los Angeles.

For the past forty years Lonnie has been in the automobile business here in Los Angeles. He owned the "Lonnie Hull, Dodge and Plymouth" agency, located at 339 South LaBrea Avenue. For many years he was active in the affairs of the Automobile Dealers Association of Los Angeles, and in the Wilshire Rotary Club. He was ever ready to help any deserving cause and contributed generously with time and aid to the "Pacific Lodge" Boy's Home in Woodland Hills. There he set up a complete darkroom, and enjoyed many hours instructing the boys in the photographic arts.

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ALONZO "LONNIE" HULL . . .

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Lonnie was, in his words, an "interested supporter" of the Los Angeles Orthopaedic Hospital, especially in their clinic for crippled children at Mexicali, Mexico. Many times he accompanied Dr. Charles Lowman and his staff of volunteer doctors to the small, cramped quarters of this clinic, where hundreds of crippled Mexican children hopefully waited for these doctors of mercy with their trained and healing hands. Lonnie, the "interested supporter" naturally had his camera along, and made many dramatic and heart-rending pictures of the doctors and their patients, which he gave to the clinic to use as they saw fit.

He enjoyed books, music and art and was sincerely appreciative of the varied talents of his many friends.

Lonnie was a member of the fun-loving, historically minded E Clampus Vitus. He could not always attend their robust clambouts and endure the primitive, rock-hard bed and spartan accommodations that these entailed. However, he enjoyed the camaraderie of the brethren, and faithfully saved all their publications and clever announcements.

When CM John Gilchriese, field historian of the University of Arizona, conceived and organized his Earp Museum in Tombstone, Arizona, he sought Lonnie's aid in restoring many old, faded and rare photos of people and scenes pertaining to that turbulent period in early day Tombstone. With skill and ingenuity, Lonnie was able to revive these important records, which greatly enrich the exhibits in the museum.

For some years past Lonnie suffered through recurrence of a painful malady, along with other physical disabilities, but he always veiled these infirmities from his friends when visiting and mingling with them. His joy in serving never faded; he loved people, and in turn people loved him.

Lonnie Hull became an Active Member of the Los Angeles Westerners in 1948. The Corral was still in the embryonic stages as it entered its second year, with its future strength an unknown quantity. It was my pleasure at this time to intro-

duce my friend Lonnie to the Corral, and subsequently to sponsor him for membership in the Westerners. From the moment of his induction into the Westerners until his health failed him, Lonnie was a devoted and beyond question an *active* Active Member. He sincerely believed in the principles and the concept of membership participation upon which the Westerners were founded, and he enjoyed every hour he spent living up to that belief. His genial smile and friendly greetings to everyone, and his ever ready camera, were as much a part of the meeting as the Sheriff's call to order.

During some of our intimate conversations about the Westerners and their endeavors, he would express a concern over, "his inability to contribute something more historically important," than just his candid camera records of the activities of the Corral: I use this quote because it is so typical, and because it portrays the humble character of a man whose works will long be remembered.

In 1966 Lonnie was elected to an Honorary Member of the Los Angeles Westerners. He was delighted and movingly surprised to be awarded this token of esteem by his fellow members and friends. Unfortunately, he was never able to meet and break bread with his friends after receiving this salutary honor, but it sustained his hopes through the last long months of his suffering.

It is nigh impossible to enumerate or appraise his contribution and talented service, but every Active Member enjoys a cherished personal file of candid photographs that Lonnie graciously made and presented to him throughout the years. Here certainly was a man delighting in giving tangible tokens of friendship and goodwill.

Soon after Lonnie became a Westerner he began a series of portraits of the Active Members. Clarence Ellsworth prepared the backdrop for these intimate studies, and Lonnie gleefully shot a wonderful "Gallery of Rogues" as each either entered or left the Westerners' private "Chick Sale." Our Branding Iron and other publications were constantly enlivened by Lonnie's intimate snapshots of people and activities of the Corral.

One of his enduring accomplishments is the series of exceptional photographs of the Russell bronzes and models that illustrate Homer Britzman's outstanding article, "The West in Bronze," in the rare, much sought-after, 1949 Brand Book. He worked diligently and closely with Homer Britzman to record all the Russell sculptures. "Britz" was an indefatigable perfectionist himself, and the photographic problems that Lonnie faced would have discouraged most professionals, and only an enthusiastic and tireless Westerner was able to complete this task. Most of the bronzes were photographed in the home or study of the owner and at his convenience. This certainly was no photo-studio project where proper backgrounds and lighting could be used. Lonnie's patience and talent continued through the careful printing of these negatives, bringing out all the details of each subject so that they would be perfectly balanced for the final reproduction in the Brand Book. Few men, except those involved directly with this effort, can appreciate the labor of love that Lonnie so graciously gave in this outstanding article and pictorial catalogue of the Russell bronzes.

Following this yeomanlike service, Lonnie assumed another difficult and time consuming project for the Westerners. The staff of the Southwest Museum, under the direction of fellow-member Carl Dentzel, was preparing a story of the Museum to be used in our Brand Book No. 6, and desired a number of photographic studies to illustrate the article. Enthusiastic over this interesting project, Lonnie again displayed his talent in photographing the important and rare Indian artifacts preserved in this remarkable museum. This again presented a problem sans studio and its accessories. It entailed climbing tall ladders to get the proper coverage without distortion, other times crouching low to make a detailed close-up or experimenting and using a polarized filter to get a shot through glass cases. All requiring the continual checking of various lighting for different filters, and shooting the subject at different angles and arrangements so as to make the best possible illustrations to be reproduced in the Brand Book.

One of Lonnie's favorite candid portraits was that of Dr. Frederick Hodge, and he was thrilled and flattered when Lawrence Clark Powell requested an enlargement of it to be hung in the Library at U.C.L.A.

Lonnie became a most enthusiastic and sympathetic ally when I told him of my desire to reproduce some of the important photographic studies from Edward S. Curtis' unparalleled volumes and portfolios, *The North American Indians*, including a narrative and excerpts from his writings. He immediately offered his help and began diligently searching for important facts and published information covering the thirty years that Edward Curtis worked to produce this master-work on Indian history. Lonnie's lifetime friendship with the Curtis family naturally influenced his zeal to help, and together we enjoyed many interesting and productive visits with the son and daughters of Edward Curtis. Lonnie then aided me in transcribing our notes and recordings of these intimate visits which were of great help in preparing the narrative of the "Edward Sheriff Curtis" chapter in the Number 12 edition of the Brand Book.

Lonnie was nearing the completion of a monumental task that he had conceived as a pictorial history of the Los Angeles Westerners when his health failed him and he became bedridden. He had completed five beautifully bound, 20x24 inch albums embracing all his photographs of Westerners and the activities of the Corral from 1948 through 1962. He had completed most of the prints of the year 1963 and many of 1964, but these were still to be sorted, identified and mounted in albums, and he was ever hopeful that he soon would be up and able to complete this wonderful legacy he planned to present to his beloved Corral of the Westerners.

Within the covers of these portfolios are pictures of many renowned historians, authors and scholars who have contributed much to our study of Western history. Preserved for posterity are portraits and candid snapshots of many "old timers" who were a part of that fabulous era in Western history following the Civil War, and many of us were privileged to hear them tell of their experiences in that historical past

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ALONZO "LONNIE" HULL...

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and, best of all, to have enjoyed associating with them as friends and fellow Westerners.

Heading each successive year with the Sheriff and the officers of that year, Lonnie has compiled an incredible collection of pictures of the VIPs, the speakers, the members and their guests and the activities throughout the past sixteen years. Many of the portraits and group pictures were posed, and recorded the serious side of the working Corral, but the whole is spiced and high-lighted by those interesting, entertaining and sometimes revealing candid shots when Lonnie slyly focused his camera and snapped the shutter during an off the record discussion or debate, as well as snapping a picture of a spontaneous burst of hilarity among members and their guests. Our Daguerrotype Wrangler had a field day at the outdoor shindigs and meetings away from the home corral. The pictures he made at our "Ladies' Nights," and of the wonderful programs at the Casa Adobe, enhanced this pictorial history.

Thus does this wonderful friend and honored Westerner, whose affection and devotion knew no bounds, bequeath to the Los Angeles Westerners an everlasting testimonial of his love.

Corresponding Members Welcomed to L.A. Corral

Over the past several months many new names have been added to the nationwide membership of Los Angeles Corral. Among the new Corresponding Members are the following, and we bid them a hearty welcome:

Major Victor Hungerford, Rtd., P.O. Box 335, Carpinteria, Calif. 93013.

Anthony L. Lehman, 121 Brown Dr., Claremont, Calif. 91711.

Charles D. Sacconaghi, 1242 E. Drachman St., Tucson, Ariz. 85719.

Walter J. Thomson, 3275 Wilshire Blvd., Los Angeles, Calif. 90005.

Hubert C. Tolford, 14226 Runnymede, Van Nuys, Calif. 91405.

Allen N. Willett, 12171 Arroyo Dr., Santa Ana, Calif. 92705.

Richard Coke Wood, 120 West Elm St., Stockton, Calif. 95204.

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TWO BELOVED WESTERNERS

During a recent vacation at La Jolla, two of the three last remaining Honorary Members of Los Angeles Corral—Dr. Mark Raymond Harrington and Lee Shippey—took time out for a visit at Lee's house, at Del Mar. These beloved old-timers had much to say about Westerners in general, and Los Angeles Corral in particular, on this historic rendezvous, caught by the alert camera of Marie Harrington.

Paris Gets Its Buffalo Via United Air Lines

The spirit of the old west arrived in Paris, France recently in the form of a pair of year-old buffalo from Denver.

The buffalo were purchased from the Cheyenne Mountain Zoo at Colorado Springs for an old west-style park outside of Paris. The two animals—a male and a female—were flown to the East Coast by a United Air Lines DC-8 Jet Freighter and then taken to France by ship.

The buffalo, each weighing 400 pounds, were purchased by Serfe Holtz, general secretary of the Lasso Roping Club in Europe, and his wife, Monique. Holtz said the buffalo would be the only ones in Europe.

The animals were purchased for the Red Indian Valley Ranch, a park that includes Indian villages, a western town, mock brawls and gunfights and a Mexican frontier.

Ray Billington Wins Golden Spur Award

At the Western Writers of America Award Banquet, held June 23 at Fort Smith, Arkansas, Ray A. Billington won the Golden Spur, the top honor in the western non-fiction field, for his latest book *America's Frontier Heritage*.

Paul Bailey's *Claws of the Hawk*, was second place winner in the field of historical and regional fiction, receiving the W.W.A. Certificate of Merit.

L.A. Corral to Host W.H.A. Breakfast

Many members of Los Angeles Corral will be in attendance at the Seventh Annual Conference of the Western History Association, to be held in San Francisco October 12-14, at the Sheraton-Palace Hotel.

The Westerners' Breakfast, Friday morning of that weekend, will be held in the Gold Ballroom of the Sheraton-Palace, and will be hosted by Los Angeles Corral. CM Michael Harrison will preside.

Westerner Authors Honored At Dawson Open House

At Dawson's Book Shop, on September 7, Ex-Sheriff Glen Dawson especially honored two Westerner authors in a special open house at the store, in special recognition of their contribution to the world of letters, and to mark Dawson's distinguished "Famous California Trials series."

Author W. W. Robinson was a guest of honor, and Dr. Doyce Nunis was present for the public introduction of his new book *The Trials of Isaac Graham*, which is the seventh volume of this new and popular Dawson series.

Other books in presentation at the open house were *The Life and Times of Cyrus Alexander*, by Charles Alexander, and edited by George Shochat; and *Ernest Dawson*, a biography of the great bookman, by Mary Dixon. Ernest Dawson, remembered fondly by many a bookish Westerner, was the distinguished father of Glen and Muir Dawson.

Corral Chips . . .

Westerner George Koenig editor, of Brand Book No. 12, and author of *Valley of Salt, Memories of Wine, a Journal of Death Valley*, has been chosen as speaker at the Author's Breakfast, fall encampment of the Death Valley '49ers, at Death Valley in November.

James Fassero had the misfortune to land in the hospital in July, with a stroke which really struck hard. He is now convalescing at his home, at 924 Dodson Avenue, in San Pedro. Denied visitors for a time, he is now able to see, and talk on the telephone with, the friendly Westerners whom he so genuinely misses.

The John Muir trail for Westerner Bill Kimes has led him this summer to Europe. On July 17 he took off by Pan American for Paris. After ten days in France, it was Swissair to Zurich, by rented car to Salzburg, which, according to Bill's itinerary should have landed him in the Austrian Alps along about the last of August. Thence back to Zurich, and by SAS to Copenhagen, then two weeks in the British Isles. He should return early in October, in time to tell less fortunate Westerners all about it.

In the May 1967 issue of *The Butterfield Express*, published in San Diego by CM Richard B. Yale, is found an extremely fine article on the "Hopi Indian Dances," in the "Smoke Signals" column so ably conducted in that publication by Iron Eyes Cody. Los Angeles Corral is fortunate to have in its membership two of the leading authorities on the Hopis and their esoteric dances — the active and enthusiastic Iron Eyes, and that erudite and scholarly old-timer, Earle Forrest. Both have written extensively on the subject.

Ex-Sheriff Don Meadows chaired the spring meeting of the Southern California Library Council, held at the Saddleback Inn in Santa Ana.

CM Dr. Al Shumate has been named a Fellow of the University of San Francisco Gleeson Library Associates.

DOWN THE WESTERN BOOK TRAIL . . .

VALLEY OF SALT, MEMORIES OF WINE—A JOURNAL OF DEATH VALLEY: THE NUSBAUMER DIARY. Edited by George Koenig. Published by Friends of the Bancroft Library for its members, this being Number 15 in their series of Keepsakes and marking their twentieth anniversary. Foreword by J. S. Holliday, photographs by Ansel Adams, route map by Robert Becker. 1967. 68 pp.

This beautiful book, designed and printed by Lawton and Alfred Kennedy, reprints for the first time the *original* journal of Louis Nusbaumer, one of the gold-seeking emigrants who crossed Death Valley in the winter of 1849-50. The Nusbaumer journal first appeared in print in *Gold Rush: The Journals of J. Goldsborough Bruff*, in 1944. It was reprinted in 1950 in Dr. Margaret Long's revised edition of *The Shadow of the Arrow*. Both these appearances are extracts from the original, based upon a 1933 translation by Nusbaumer's daughter. The present translation, as Mr. Koenig informs in his excellent prologue, "was checked against the original journal, corrected and completed, including those fragmented portions which she (the daughter) understandably noted as 'pages missing.'" The original journal to which Mr. Koenig refers "actually comprises two small pocket note books, approximately 7x3¾ inches."

Important as is the Nusbaumer journal (and I would rate it among the three most significant source documents authored by the Death Valley Forty-Niners), were it to stand alone—completely unbuttressed by the capable editing of George Koenig—it would convey little or no meaning to the average reader. It is only as Koenig correlates it with contemporary records, and with its proper historic and geographic environment, that it takes on meaning and vitality as an integrated segment in the over-all pattern of early Death Valley history. Mr. Koenig has applied himself to an intensive study of Nusbaumer, the German emigrant whose impact upon Death

Valley's early history is of considerable impressiveness.

Koenig is perhaps our most knowledgeable authority on the relatively unknown Nusbaumer, and his superb editing of this difficult journal elevates it to a conspicuous position among the West's important historical papers.

— E. I. EDWARDS.



WENCESLAUS LINCK'S REPORTS AND LETTERS (1762-1773), translated into English, edited and annotated by Ernest J. Burrus, S.J. Los Angeles: Dawson's Book Shop; 1967. Baja California Travels Series, 9; 95 pp., 4 pl.; The Castle Press, Pasadena.

Father Burrus' previous book (B.C.T.S., 5, in B.I. 82) covered a single diary and journey (1766) to near the Colorado mouth. Now the shorter letters and reports from 1762 to 1778 include all those written by and about Fr. Linck.

The first section of this book translates several of his exploratory expeditions, the first, that of his trip to the Angel de la Guarda Island, with a map of the island, the curious fires supposed to have been seen by the Indians, and the uninhabited islets with the "pestiferous winds" barely saving the life of Fr. Wenceslaus. A letter to Jorge Retz, S.J., covered the rescue of two Indian girls kidnapped by heathens, who were sent into the high mountains and who were won over by Christian Indians and Spanish soldiers, presumably with Rivera y Moncada. A second letter to Juan de Armesto, S.J., Treasurer of California missions, describes a 150-day northwardly journey actually longer than that of 1776, over a high sierra, and the final return to the Pacific side. "The good view was possible . . . as were also the areas of the seas on both sides; and the island of California is so narrow . . . that one can cross it from shore to shore in half a day. With the help of the telescope I could see that the area to the north is so low that, at high tide, all is covered by water as far as the Gulf of California." Another letter, of August 16, 1867, to Armesto describes four expeditions, unsuccessful, to seek for a port for the Manila galleon.

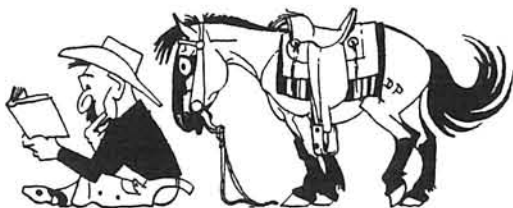
The second section covers mostly short reports on and about Linck's work. The

longest, of 1762 on the Mission of San Borja, tells of its location, soil, lack of firewood, and of the Indians, their food, religious practices, homes, baptisms, and epidemics. In general the Indians behaved very well, one hundred and eighty-two became religious, they were not frightened by epidemics, they pleaded for baptism, and were clean. They wore adequate clothing, often of otter or rabbit skins. There were four very short reports noted and a report by a Jesuit Provincial of 1765 reported to the Mexican viceroy, criticizing Linck for his failure to admit that California was not an island.

The third section contains a remarkable letter of Benno Ducrue, S.J., which tells of the "enchanted description" of Baja California as read by Portuguese, French, Spanish and even German writers. A translation of Linck's own description of Lower California tells of its importance, its "conversion of the wretched native tribes," lack of mines, forests, or productive fields. "Nothing is to be seen except rocks, cliffs, sheer mountains and sandy deserts . . . interrupted only by stony heights." The geographical position was realized by the King, who sent on soldiers, but the "peninsula can, in all truth, be termed the most wretched and most unproductive of all lands." There is very little rain, with only flash floods. A safe port was sought without any success. Linck says "I let everyone who has seen the region beyond the peninsula — also termed 'California' on the maps — describe it as he sees fit."

Linck tells of 5,000 natives in San Borja (notes say 7,822), 7,000 more in the other missions. They love *pitahayas* and also sea food. Pearls are few and badly colored. "A loud outcry has been raised throughout the world to the point of just about smothering the California missionaries with pearls." Sea otters are found, but the natives and the missionaries do not know how to dress the fur; little of value is used.

In general Linck finds stories by other writers that are false, such as "about enchanting meadows and pasturelands, the charming plains and all the other wonders. Whoever wishes to include in California Cabo Blanco, Cabo Mendocino, or even the Archipelago of San Lázaro [in the Anian Strait], well he can write whatever



he wishes about such regions beyond Lower California, but all that must never be applied to the peninsula itself."

I note that Father Burrus has included good, moderately long, lives of many writers mentioned in the *Introduction* or in the notes.

The whole book will be read by Westerners, to find in it a valuable account of Lower California of nearly two hundred years ago.

— C. N. RUDKIN.

THE RUSH OF '89, THE BAJA CALIFORNIA GOLD FEVER AND CAPTAIN JAMES FRIEND'S LETTERS FROM THE SANTA CLARA MINES, by Richard E. Lingens. 1967, Dawson's Book Shop, Los Angeles. [8], 68 pp., 5 illus., folded map at end. (With four page article at the end, "Santa Clara Placer Fields," by Walt Wheelock.) Baja California Travels Series, VIII. General editors: Edwin Carpenter and Glen Dawson.

Although some gold was found in upper Baja California it was not much like our upper California rushes. Still the San Diego *Union and Bee* carried the gold stories from February 26, 1889, and those of big nuggets from the Santa Clara Valley. Its reporter, James E. Friend, was sent to learn what there might be there.

He went from Ensenada to La Grulla and from there tried to go by wagon to the Santa Clara field. But the trail was too stiff and four Mexican packers helped him over to the field, for pay, of course. There the "Cañada Rosario, later to be known as Mexican Gulch," stayed on from March 1st to about the 28th. His accounts of the placer fields cover the wonderful finds at first, but gradually the panned gold rather plays out.

But by March 28th the *Union and Bee* hears that Friend, whose last letter is dated March 14th, "has written some exaggerated reports about the mines, and on pain of punishment he was, at the invita-

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ON THE PORCH AT PARKY'S "HOTEL TEMECULA"

From left: LaVerne Parker, Ed Ainsworth, CM Horace Parker, Katie Ainsworth

CM Dr. Horace Parker, and Ex-Sheriff Don Meadows hosted a "going away" party for Ed and Katie Ainsworth following Ed's retirement from a lifetime of service as feature writer and editor on the *Los Angeles Times*. The affair, held July 30 at Doc Parker's famous and colorful "Hotel Temecula," turned out to be an unforgettable bash for the many close and intimate friends of the Ainsworths who were privi-

leged to attend. At the affair Don Meadows wore his buffalo chip mortar-board with true Westerner dignity, in the presentation of the "diplomas." And Ex-Sheriff Carl Dentzel, never at a loss for words, certainly lost none that day as eulogian to the Ainsworths, when, amid bubbly champagne and barbecued beef, Ed took his beloved wife, Katie, and departed into the sunset. It was a real "love-in," Westerner style.

The Western Book Trail

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tion of a duly appointed committee, requested to depart from the camp."

Walt Wheelock gives us a rather good description of the long since placers and of a reasonable way to get to the actual Santa Clara workings, but if you wish to try it — well just try it.

A very interesting part of the book is the folded Bancroft's map of 1889. It is not very accurate but must have given a very good idea of the gold mining east of Ensenada. A very good account of some real mining just south of San Diego.

— C. N. RUDKIN.

Corral Chips ...

In the August 1967 issue of the *American West*, two members of Los Angeles Corral have scholarly contributions. "Books that Won the West," is authored by Ray A. Billington. "Gold Rush Daguerreotypes," by Robert A. Weinstein is embellished by some of the most fascinating selections from Bob's great collection. As also is "In San Francisco and the Mines, 1851-1856," which he co-authored.

Ex-Sheriff Carl Dentzel has been named president of the Cultural Heritage Board in Los Angeles, with Westerner W. W. Robinson, as vice president.