



Twins' birthday party at Camp Baldy, 1932. Seated: "Mother" Curry, twins and unidentified man. Standing: Ruth and Foster Curry. Photo courtesy of author.

Curry's Camp Baldy

by Willis Osborne

Camp Curry in Yosemite Valley is one of the most recognized names in western hospitality. David and Jennie Curry opened their business at the base of the spectacular Glacier Point in 1899. Now known as Curry Village, although no longer under the management of the Curry family, it remains today as one of Yosemite's most popular tourist hostelrys. Few realize that from 1928 to 1948 the Curry name was also an indelible part of the San Gabriel Mountains' tourist scene. Curry's Camp Baldy became arguably the outstanding mountain resort in Southern California during those years. The place was advertised as the "Yosemite of the

South." Narrow San Antonio Canyon, the location of Curry's Camp Baldy, certainly is no Yosemite, but one could find similarities; both were at elevations a little over 4,000 feet, and canyon walls rose several thousand feet above the lodging site. At the eastern head of Yosemite Valley, Clouds Rest rose 6,000 feet above Camp Curry while Mt. San Antonio rose a similar height above Camp Baldy. There was even a small waterfall a few miles above Camp Baldy. "The Yosemite of the South" was indeed located in a spectacular setting.

How Southern California's "Yosemite"
(Continued on page 3)

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THE MONTHLY ROUNDUP

NOVEMBER MEETING

Dr. Gloria Lothrop, W.P. Whitsett Professor of California History, CSUN, entertained the Corral with an illustrated lecture on women of the Gold Rush. Dr. Lothrop is considered one of the authorities on women in the West as well as other areas of history. A member of the Corral for many years, she received the George Daniel prize for one of her presentations to the Corral. She is a fellow of



Photograph by Frank Q. Newton

November Meeting Speaker Dr. Gloria Lothrop

both the Historical Society of Southern California and the California Historical Society.

In the 6,000 years of written history, there have been only 80,000 metric tons of gold mined. This gold would cover a foot ball field two and a half feet deep; of this
(Continued on page 15)

came about is not a totally pleasant story. David and Jennie's son, Foster, became the heir apparent to the family's famous Yosemite resort when David died in 1917. Foster immediately showed enthusiasm and ability in managing the camp. He lobbied in Washington D.C. for the Curry interests, expanded the lodging facilities, encouraged natural history programs and was responsible for the popular nightly entertainment programs. Though a good worker, personable and very popular, Foster and his first wife Cherry occasionally exhibited unconventional behavior. Actually, Foster had a drinking problem. Park Superintendent W.B. Lewis received complaints from tourists about Foster's conduct towards them. Eventually, Lewis told Foster he had to leave. Foster, however, told the *Oakland Tribune* his withdrawal became necessary because of dissension with stockholders. At any rate, his departure in 1921 was not on good terms, and he vowed never to return to his beloved valley.

After a couple of business failures, a divorce and remarriage in 1925, Foster and his wife of three years, Ruth Higgins Curry, purchased Camp Baldy in upper San Antonio Canyon. With their three children, David and twins, John and Jeanette, they immediately set about to make the already popular mountain resort the finest in Southern California.

A young graduate of Pomona College, Charles Baynham, originally opened the camp in 1907 and soon sold it to the San Antonio Water Company but remained as manager. Two Upland businessmen, Arthur Neff and R.S. McMullen, purchased the camp in 1910. Herbert McCullough purchased the camp in 1920 and managed the resort until the Currys purchased it.

Foster, with his excellent resort management experience at Yosemite's Camp Curry and the maturing influence of his marriage to Ruth, set about to model the resort after the famous national park hostelry. Foster greeted visitors with the same "Welcome" and his famous stentorian "Farewell" sent them on their way as in Yosemite during ear-

lier years. Brochures advertising the camp as "The Yosemite of the South" further tied the resort to the famous Sierra Nevada resort.

By 1932 Curry's Camp Baldy not only had lodging and eating facilities for hundreds of vacationers but it also had a heated swimming pool (built during McCullough's ownership), soda fountain, beauty shop, grocery store, drugs and sundries, bowling, garage and a post office. Dan Alexander's photo studio was also on the property. His hundreds of photos, many pictured on post cards, left an outstanding visual history of the canyon. There was dancing with a live band every night beneath a beautiful old oak tree under the stars during the summer and indoors on Saturday nights during the winter. Campfire entertainment was offered during the summer months that included top entertainers. Glenn Hood, known as the "Songbird of Yosemite," was the master of ceremonies. Nick Harris, a well-known detective, was pictured on an advertising folder as another entertainer. A fan dancer also performed for the audience; her name was not Sally Rand but Jean Fay.

Tragedy hit Curry's Camp Baldy with Foster's death at 44 from leukemia on November 21, 1932. For a while Ruth managed the camp alone. In 1933, Edmund Burns, who had appeared in motion pictures as leading man with famous actresses such as Gloria Swanson, Constance Talmadge and Leatrice Joy, visited the resort as did many other film stars, including John Barrymore. There he met Ruth. "Ed came up and fell in love with my three little kids, and then me," Ruth said later. They were married on September 8, 1934.

During the mid-1930's Camp Baldy advertised 84 cabins for overnight or longer stays. Those with fireplaces, toilet and shower went for \$4 to \$5 per day. Cabins without these amenities cost \$2.50 to \$3 per day, while tent cabins were \$2 a day. The resort also offered dormitory facilities for \$1, camp sites for 50 cents and free picnic grounds. For active campers, horseback riding, volleyball, badminton, tennis, ping pong



CAMP BALDY DINING ROOM

Curry's Camp Baldy

On roaring San Antonio Creek, 49 miles from Los Angeles

An ideal year 'round Resort for week-end or vacation

84 CABINS

Trout Fishing . Horseback . Swimming . Tennis . Bowling . Dancing

Starting point to "Old Baldy" and
many other interesting trails

CAMP FIRE ENTERTAINMENTS

LIKE CAMP CURRY IN YOSEMITE

RUTH CURRY and EDMUND BURNS

Managers

Camp Baldy, California

and horseshoes were on the list of activities.

Hikers could aim for the summit of "Old Baldy" (real name, Mt. San Antonio), San Antonio Falls, Bear Flats, Sunset Peak, Lookout Mountain, Ice House Canyon and several other destinations, some requiring overnight camp outs.

But Camp Baldy was not all business and growth. David Curry, eldest son of Foster and Ruth, remembers tricycling around the camp store, hunting ground squirrels, hiking and building a tree house with some of the 13 Hager kids who lived nearby. "Among my fondest childhood memories," David told the author "was tricycling around the camp store with a parrot on the handlebars. Bozo lived over 40 years and developed a laugh like Aunt Minnie ('Ahhhh-ha-ha-ha') who frequently visited to help cook, clean, and manage the sprawling resort."

A Native American, Sky Eagle, was among Camp Baldy's entertainers. He initiated the Curry kids into the Ottawa tribe giving David the Indian name "Deerfoot," Brother John was "Thunderbird" and sister Jeanette, "Fawnskin." According to David the animal population included a lovable and long-lived German Shepherd, Queenie, who befriended and protected their pet fawn, Skippy, after Skippy's mother was hit by an automobile. He also recalled a St. Bernard named Spike and later a litter of St. Bernard/Newfoundland pups who were equally at home in the water or snow. Life was indeed fun at Curry's Camp Baldy.

During the winter months, Camp Baldy was the center of snow play for many flatlanders who came for the day or to stay overnight. Since Camp Baldy's elevation was a little over 4,000, a heavier snow pack was found four miles up the road at Manker Flat. Some skiers simply sped by the place on their way to the serious ski slopes of Baldy Bowl, just under the summit of Mt. San Antonio. "I don't remember stopping at Camp Baldy. It was just a place we passed through on our way to the Sierra Club ski hut below Baldy Bowl," stated Glen Dawson, former owner along with brother

Muir of renowned Dawson's Bookshop and an outstanding Sierra peak bagger in the 1930's and 40's.

The halcyon days at Curry's hit a snag when the main lodge known as the Camp Baldy Casino burned to the ground in July 1936. However, Edmund and Ruth Curry Burns immediately began work on a new and much larger casino. The new Wagon Wheel Casino opened less than a year after the fire. The beautiful, rustic building featured a 7,000 square-foot dance pavilion, large stone fireplaces at each end of the casino, a stage large enough for a band and entertainment and a sizable dining room that extended over the San Antonio Creek. Curry's Camp Baldy was at the height of its glory. It was easily the most popular spot in the mountains and according to longtime resident Bob Chapman, it paid for itself by the following March, nine months later. Chapman also said that Ruth Curry had a wonderful foresight to know what people enjoyed and people came from all over Southern California to enjoy it. The Wagon Wheel became the showcase of the canyon and created a well centralized place of fun that employed twenty-two summer entertainers.

Then disaster struck. On March 1 and 2, 1938, following several days of rain, Southern California and the San Gabriel Mountains were hit with a huge storm, the worst in the area's recorded history. The violence was nowhere worse than in San Antonio Canyon. The mild creek became a rampaging monster. Mud, rocks, boulders the size of a house, shrubs, trees and remains of upstream cabins roared down the canyon wiping out everything in its path. David Curry remembered the storm, vividly recalling the roar of the water as it undermined the banks and rolled boulders down the canyon. Bob Chapman stated, "When you hear the roar and see the immense power of a flood you will never forget it. The great tonnage the water moves creates vibrations that feel like the aftershocks of an earthquake. I remember the water filled with boulders pushing over oaks and cedars.



Camp Baldy Cabins before the flood. This area was totally destroyed. Photo courtesy of author.



Hotel/lodge after flood, March 1938. Taken from site of destroyed Wagon Wheel Casino. This building is today's Buckhorn Lodge. Photo courtesy of author.

The trees would lean over and 'Puff!' down they went."

According to an eyewitness newspaper account, the destruction of Camp Baldy began with mud a foot deep in the kitchen and two feet of water in the dining room. "Water started running out the front door of the cafe and down into the Wagon Wheel across the street. It broke down the door in the lower part of the Wagon Wheel and took out the back end. While that was happening, part of the cafe building-the office and store-went out." John Pawluk, a 16-year-old dishwasher at Camp Baldy told the *Pomona Progress Bulletin*: "Three hours later, about 3 pm, huge boulders, some of which weighed a ton, began pounding against the concrete foundations of the Wagon Wheel. They knocked down the side wall in about 10 minutes. After that, the building went piece by piece, one section at a time. All the cabins by the river went out right after the Wagon Wheel." The lovely, popular resort was almost completely destroyed. Pawluk said that Ruth Curry took the destruction bravely

until she saw the beautiful Wagon Wheel demolished by the torrent, then she broke into tears. Further, the peaceful tree-shaded canyon bottom, the pride of the Burns', was no longer. What remained was a treeless, boulder covered canyon. Today, 60 years later, the canyon still has not completely recovered.

Curry's Camp Baldy lost all but three acres of its previous forty-five. The rest had been swept downstream. Edmund and Ruth lost over \$250,000 and two lives were taken. All that was left of the resort were ten of its poorest cabins and part of the 49er Bar. Nothing was left of the beautiful Wagon Wheel Casino or the swimming pool. In fact, the spectacular timber that once hung over the door of the Casino was found down in the valley in Claremont; it now hangs over the door of the Chapman home just above Baldy Village.

Despite the tragedy of the flood, David Curry said in a way he enjoyed the experience and to this day revels in heavy storms. He added, "I feel that the flood actually pro-

longed the lives of my mother and step-father. Also, since the flood destroyed so much of the resort, there was little left to manage and they had more time for us kids. They put us to work helping. Brother John became Superintendent of Used Foods (garbage collector)."

Ruth's mother-in-law, Yosemite's "Mother" Curry, came down to assess the damage. She advised them to go to Idylwild in the San Jacinto Mountains. Following five unsuccessful months there, Edmund and Ruth returned to Camp Baldy, and on borrowed money, fixed up the 49er Bar and the ten small remaining cabins and reopened for business. With the help of friends and loyal former customers the Burns brought Camp Baldy back, though on a much smaller basis.

Ruth's sunny and courageous spirit was demonstrated by a poem she wrote for a postcard advertising the camp when it reopened. Alongside a photo of a smaller main building she wrote:

*Over rocks, over rills,
through the canyon and the hills,
Our Camp Baldy went floating one day.
By the sea you could see,
that we had a catastrophe,
As Camp Baldy went floating away.
But it's HI, HI, Hee
with a heart chock full of glee,
We have come out victorious
There's no more grief
and we're not on relief.
And Camp Baldy is still GLORIOUS.*

Edmund and Ruth sold the resort to Bill Sager for almost \$100,000 in 1946. Sager changed the name of the 49er Bar to the Buckhorn Restaurant and the saga of Curry's Camp Baldy was complete. Edmund Burns died in 1980, while Ruth passed away in 1981. Following over fifty years of ownership, Sager sold the property late in 1997. The property had become run down over the years. Gary Finley and Chris Unruh, widow of the former California Democrat assembly leader, reopened the Buckhorn on Halloween 1997. Finley purchased the lodge as a wedding gift for Mrs. Unruh, as she prefers to be known. They are restoring the place with the goal of it becoming the finest resort in the canyon. Better days seem ahead for the resort.

Although Foster Curry had vowed never to return to his beloved Yosemite when he left in 1921, on June 10, 1933, the eight anniversary of Foster's marriage to Ruth, a plane flew over Yosemite Valley with Ruth as passenger. Foster's ashes were distributed as the plane flew above a cloud. Foster finally returned to his beloved home. Curry's Camp Baldy may be gone, but to many old time Southern Californians who remember the wonderful resort the spirit of the Currys still lingers in the upper San Antonio Canyon, the "Yosemite of the South."

How to Build A Poor Man's Library

by Michael Harrison

Ed note: Although this article was originally printed in the Book Club of California's *Quarterly News-Letter*, Winter 1969, it still contains useful information and suggestions. Mr. Harrison celebrated his 101st birthday in December 1998. Reprinted with permission of the Book Club of California.

A salary of \$110.00 per month, from which was deducted \$2.00 per day for board, precluded purchases from Eberstadt's or participating in the auctions of Western Americana at the Anderson Galleries. This was my salary when I entered the National Park Service with station at the Grand Canyon National Park in Arizona. As a youngster born in the town graced for a relatively short period by the inventor Samuel Colt, later disgraced as the home of the assassin of William McKinley, it had always been a boyhood dream that some day I would follow Horace Greeley's injunction and go west. In the army after World War I and faced with an economy-minded Congress, the word got out that there would be drastic cuts in appropriations with consequent reductions in the services, and learning of vacancies in the National Park Service, I took a Civil Service examination, passed and was accepted, with a choice of Yosemite National Park or Grand Canyon National Park. I chose the latter for to me it meant the frontier, Indians—the West. Seven days after severing my connection with the army, I found myself at the Grand Canyon. This was in July, 1922.

Almost immediately I started gathering material on the history of the southwest and the Indians of the region. This material consisted of not only the written word but of the Indian arts and crafts. The Grand Canyon was the Mecca for men in the sciences—anthropologists, geologists, paleontologists, botanists, ornithologists and those representative of kindred sciences—and artists, good

and bad. Because travel to the Parks then was not what it is today, it was possible to meet and make the acquaintanceship of many of these men, friendships which last until today, even with the passage of almost 50 years. It was from these men and women that I received my early training in collecting and the knowledge that excellent materials could be obtained with an expenditure of little money and in many instances, none at all.

One of the first institutions I learned of was the Government Printing Office and what it had to offer by way of publications of the Bureau of American Ethnology, a subdivision of the Smithsonian Institution. I learned, for instance, that the Bureau published an annual report—a weighty tome—plus occasional Bulletins—separates—of material dealing with Indian life, habits and customs, beautifully illustrated, written by men who were authorities in their particular fields of anthropology or ethology, and which could be obtained for little cost. To cite a few examples, *The Journal of Friedrich Kurz*, a contemporary of George Catlin, sold for 60¢; Swanton's *Indian Tribes of North America*, a relatively expensive bulletin, sold for \$3.50; Culbertson's *Journal of an Expedition to the Upper Missouri in 1850* cost 75¢; Benedict's *Tales of the Cochiti Indians* could be purchased for 40¢. All of these bulletins in the present market will bring from \$10.00 to \$40.00. In all, 48 volumes of annual reports were published which ended this series, and 200 bulletins, most of which are now out of print and can only be purchased at a premium.

The National Park Service is responsible for a series of handbooks dealing with National Parks in the system and with the history and development of not only the west, but the entire United States. Again, these documents are relatively inexpensive, ranging in price from 25¢ to \$3.50, for the handbooks.

The Bureau of Indian Affairs is producing a series of handbooks on the various Indian tribes in the United States and these can be purchased from the Superintendent of Documents at prices ranging from 15¢ to 25¢.

The Government Printing Office is a veritable treasure trove of informative materials, from that mentioned above to *Safe Use of Hand and Portable Power Tools* at 35¢ to *Hall Effect Magnetometers in Scientific Rocket Payloads* at the same price. All one has to do in order to get these lists, which are mailed out weekly, is to ask the Superintendent of Documents to place one's name on his mailing list.

The various states also carry on a publishing program and here again documents concerning the history and development of a particular state are obtainable in many instances at little or no cost. To cite a few examples: The Division of Mines of the State of California has, over the years, published a series on the geology of the state. In addition to geological information contained in these bulletins, one will also find much of the history of the region involved. Some of these bulletins are *Geological Guidebook Along Highway 49—Sierran Gold Belt—The Mother Lode Country* which was published in 1948 and sold for \$1.00. It was reprinted several times, but unfortunately is now out of print. However, the State Division of Mines hopes to get out another reprint, for it is a publication very much in demand. Another such Bulletin was the *Elephant As They Saw It* published in 1949, also selling for \$1.00. This was listed as *A Collection of Contemporary Pictures and Statements on Gold Mining in California*. Another bulletin is *Fabrics* published in 1952, and described as *A Collection of Pictures and Statements on the Mineral Materials Used in Building in California Prior to 1850*. A bulletin, #154, published in 1951, is of local history, being *Geologic Guidebook of the San Francisco Bay Counties: History, Landscape, Geology, Fossils, Minerals, Industry, and Routes To Travel*, all of this encompassed in 392 pages, plus dozens of illustrations and a geologic map, for \$2.50.

The California State Division of Beaches and Parks has produced a series of leaflets covering the various State Parks and Monuments, as well as a very authoritative set of bibliographies of Indian tribes. The former are distributed gratis as were the bibliographies. In addition, they have published a series of archaeological reports which sell for \$1.00 to \$1.50 each.

The State of Washington has published an *Official History of the Washington National Guard* in seven volumes. These volumes, which are mimeographed and in wrappers, tell the complete military story of Washington from territorial days to the Korean conflict. They have also produced a volume titled *Collection of Official Documents on the San Juan Imbrolio, 1859-1872*. This details the events leading up to "The Pig War" with Great Britain and covers also the final arbitration of the incident by the Emperor of Germany. This volume and the seven volumes of military history are available upon request, without charge.

Collectors for many years have overlooked material in popular periodicals. In many instances, the collector will find the first printing of material which later appeared in book form, in such periodicals. To cite a few such instances: Ruxton's *Life in the Far West* first appeared in *Blackwood's Magazine* in the June to November, 1848, issues; J. Ross Browne's *A Tour Through Arizona* in *Harper's New Monthly Magazine*, October 1864, to March, 1865, issues; *My Life on the Plains* by General George A. Custer originally appeared in *Galaxy Magazine*, January, 1872, through October, 1874; Brewerton's *Incidents of Travel in New Mexico and Overland With Kit Carson* in *Harper's New Monthly Magazine* August, 1853, April, 1854, and September, 1862. These articles were published in book form by Coward-McCann, Inc., in 1930, with editing by Stallo Vinton. Incidentally, part of this series was reprinted by our own Lewis Osborne earlier this year, as was Godfrey's *Custer's Last Battle* which appeared originally in *Century Magazine* for January, 1892. This is to name but a very few—there are many, many more.

Are you interested in the work of the men who illustrated the west? Then go to the periodical literature. Here you will find Remington, Russell, Schreyvogel, Bierstadt, Thomas and Peter Moran, Lungren, Dixon, Tom Hill, and on and on ad infinitum. It would be safe to say that just about every painter of the western scene who reached prominence in his field at one time or another illustrated for periodicals of the day.

Sometimes obscure periodicals carried articles that have become quite rare. *The Nickell Magazine* is a case in point. The December, 1896, issue ran an article by W. Kent Thomas on the Custer fight and the author's interview with Rain-in-the-Face. Although what was said in the interview has been discredited in part, yet a student of the Custer fight will find reference after reference to this article. In passing, perhaps mention should be made that the last time I saw this item quoted in a catalogue, the price was \$35.00, and that was three years ago. Let me cite one other instance. This being a centennial of Major John Wesley Powell's first trip down the Colorado River, it would be apropos to refer to his writings which appeared in popular periodicals. Many such appeared in *Scribner's*, *Century* and *Popular Science*, and with illustrations by Thomas Moran.

A great bargain in western materials is obtained by membership in state historical societies and the various Westerner groups throughout the country. Annual dues, for which one receives the quarterly publications, run from \$2.00 to \$5.00. These are state supported institutions; membership in privately endowed and operated societies, for the most part, runs considerably more. Corresponding memberships in Westerner groups (Corrals and/or Posses) will average \$4.50 per year. Some of these groups publish monthly, others quarterly.

I was never one to turn my nose up at revised editions. For study purposes an edited revised edition was often more valuable than the first printing. A case in point would be Bonner's *Life and Adventures of James Beckwourth* published in 1856. On today's market this book would bring in

excess of \$50.00; I prefer the DeVoto edition of 1931 for study purposes. The *Benavides Memorial Of 1630*, originally published in 1916, fetches about \$125.00. However, one can get the 1954 edition for \$4.00, and in 1965 a facsimile edition was brought out for \$7.50. This Memorial originally appeared in *Land of Sunshine*, September 1900-March 1901, and can be purchased for considerably less. Connelly's *Overland Stage to California*, Conrad's *Uncle Dick Wooton*, Marsh's *Four Years in the Rockies*, Alter's *James Bridger*, Bourke's *On the Border With Crook* were all reprinted by Long's College Book Company of Columbus, Ohio, at prices ranging from \$5.00 to \$10.00.

There were many other titles in this collection, including a reprint of the Wagner-Camp *The Plains and the Rockies* which sold for \$15.00, and the Cowan *A Bibliography of the History of California and the Pacific West* which sold for the same price.

The University of Oklahoma Press and the University of Nebraska Press are performing a great service for the collector in reprinting in their Frontier and Bison Series respectively, many of the old western classics that, in the original editions, would be beyond the means of a young collector, or one whose means are, of necessity, limited.

Watching "remainder house" catalogs can be very rewarding. Just recently I purchased a copy of Miles' *Indian and Eskimo Artifacts of North America* published at \$25.00, for half that. This was a mint copy, first printing. Robert Taft's *Artists and Illustrators of the Old West, 1850-1900*, published by Scribner's in 1953, to sell for \$8.50, the definitive work in my opinion in this field, was remaindered at \$4.98, and a bit later on at \$1.98. Recently, a dealer has offered to pay \$35.00 for a copy. A Los Angeles dealer in a Spring, 1968, catalogue listed it at that price also. A number of years ago, Chittenden's *American Fur Trade of the Far West* in two volumes, and Sabin's *Kit Carson Days* were remaindered at \$7.50 for each set. Within the past couple of years, I have seen the first listed in catalogues at \$52.50 and the Sabin at \$48.50. These sets were first printings of the

titles by The Press of the Pioneers. I'm sure others have had like experiences.

Many times I have found that taking time to write a letter and asking questions can be very rewarding. For instance, not too long ago I saw quoted in a catalogue Howay's *Voyages of the "Columbia" to the Northwest Coast, 1787-1790 and 1790-1793*, at \$22.50. This was a publication in 1941 of the Massachusetts Historical Society. I wrote the Society asking if this publication was still available and if so, the cost. It was, and I paid \$10.00 for it, which was the price it was originally sold for. On another occasion, after seeing a quotation on a volume in the *Contributions to North American Ethnology* at some \$28.50, I wrote to the Department of the Interior asking if this publication (1890) was still available and if so, the cost. The reply to my inquiry stated that if I sent them 25 or 30¢ in stamps—I have forgotten which—they would be happy to send me a copy. I did and they did. The volume was still in the plain, brown paper wrapper, brittle with age but the volume in mint condition. These are just two instances of what I like to term "rewards" for being interested enough to take the time to write a letter and ask questions. The results are usually good.

Don't overlook the publications of various corporations, such as the California Inter-State Telephone Company of San Bernardino, the PGE, Wells Fargo Bank and the productions of the Title Insurance and Trust Company under the able authorship of our friend, W. W. Robinson. These publications are distributed gratis and if you are under the delusion that because they are free, they are worthless, take a look at dealer's catalogues quoting prices on some of them after they have gone out of print. And better still, just try to get some of them. You will find in many instances that they are scarcer than the proverbial hen's teeth.

I shall close this dissertation with the telling of an incident that happened some 18 years ago. For some time, I had been trying to obtain the June to November 1848, issues of *Blackwood's Magazine* which contained Ruxton's *Life in the Far West*, previously men-

tioned. I was in Southern California and asked a dealer friend of mine if, by chance, he had this run. Without answering "yes" or "no" he said "Would you, by chance, be after the Ruxton papers?" and when I told him I was, he said "I have the set, but I'm afraid they are too rich for your blood." Upon my return to Sacramento, I wrote Blackwood's a letter to which they replied in nine days, stating they had the run and were sending them to me. An invoice was inclosed for 15 shillings for the six issues, plus 2 shillings postage, a total of 17 shillings. This came to \$2 and some cents. Not having nerve enough to send them the exact amount the invoice called for, I sent them my check in the amount of \$3.00, with my thanks. By return mail, I received a reply acknowledging receipt of my check—as gracious a letter as I have ever received—and informing me that because they received 1 pound sterling for my \$3.00 check, they were placing 3 shillings to my credit, assuring me of their "best attention should you, at any future date, favor us with a further order." Two years later, in 1953, I became interested in the Louis Riel Rebellion of the Metis in Canada. In my reading, I found a bibliographical reference to a series in Blackwood's "By an Officer of the British Expeditionary Force" who I later found out was First Viscount Garnet Joseph (Wolseley). This series appeared in the December, 1870, and January and February, 1871, issues of the magazine. I had picked up in a shop the December, 1870, issue so what I needed were the January and February, 1871, issues. So I decided to try my luck again. After all, I had been assured, hadn't I, that "best attention" would be paid to future orders? So, I wrote Blackwood's asking if the two numbers lacking were available. I wrote on December 18th. Their reply was dated January 9th stating they could only furnish me with the February 1871, issue, as the other was out of print, closing with their regretting their "inability, on this occasion to have been of better service" and inclosing an invoice in the amount of 2 shillings, 9 pence. By this time, I was curious to know just how far our British cous-

ins would go, so I wrote them calling attention to the fact that I had a credit with them of 3 shillings. This letter was dated the 30th of January; their reply is dated February 23rd, and to be appreciated I shall quote it in its entirety:

Dear Mr. Harrison:

Thank you for your letter of 30th January.

Your statement anent the 3/- (three shillings) at your credit is definitely cor-

rect and we tender you our sincere apologies for rendering an account for the February 1871 issue of Blackwood's Magazine.

Thanking you for your courteous treatment of this error on our part.

Yours Sincerely,
(C. A. Archibald)

For William Blackwood & Sons,
Limited."

Protecting the Gold

by Norman S. Marshall

In the first three and one-half years of the Civil War, \$173,083,098 passed through the Port of San Francisco from the California mines and the Comstock lode of Nevada. This immense treasure fed the coffers of the Union in its trials with the Confederacy and marked California as a prime target for Southern sympathizers. To seize such gold shipments was the subject of at least two plots.

The CSA lacked the capacity to produce men-of-war and had to rely on European shipyards to produce the ships needed to run the blockade of the Southern ports to export cotton which was sold to provide funds for ships and other armaments. Two of the most famous raiders, both purchased from British ship yards, were the *Florida*, captained by John Newland Moffit, and the *Alabama*, under Captain Raphael Semmes.

The *Florida*, originally named *Oreto*, was armed in the Bahamas by British suppliers and was rammed and sunk at Bahia, Brazil, by a U.S. warship in October 1864 in flagrant violation of International Law, but an action dictated by wartime necessity.

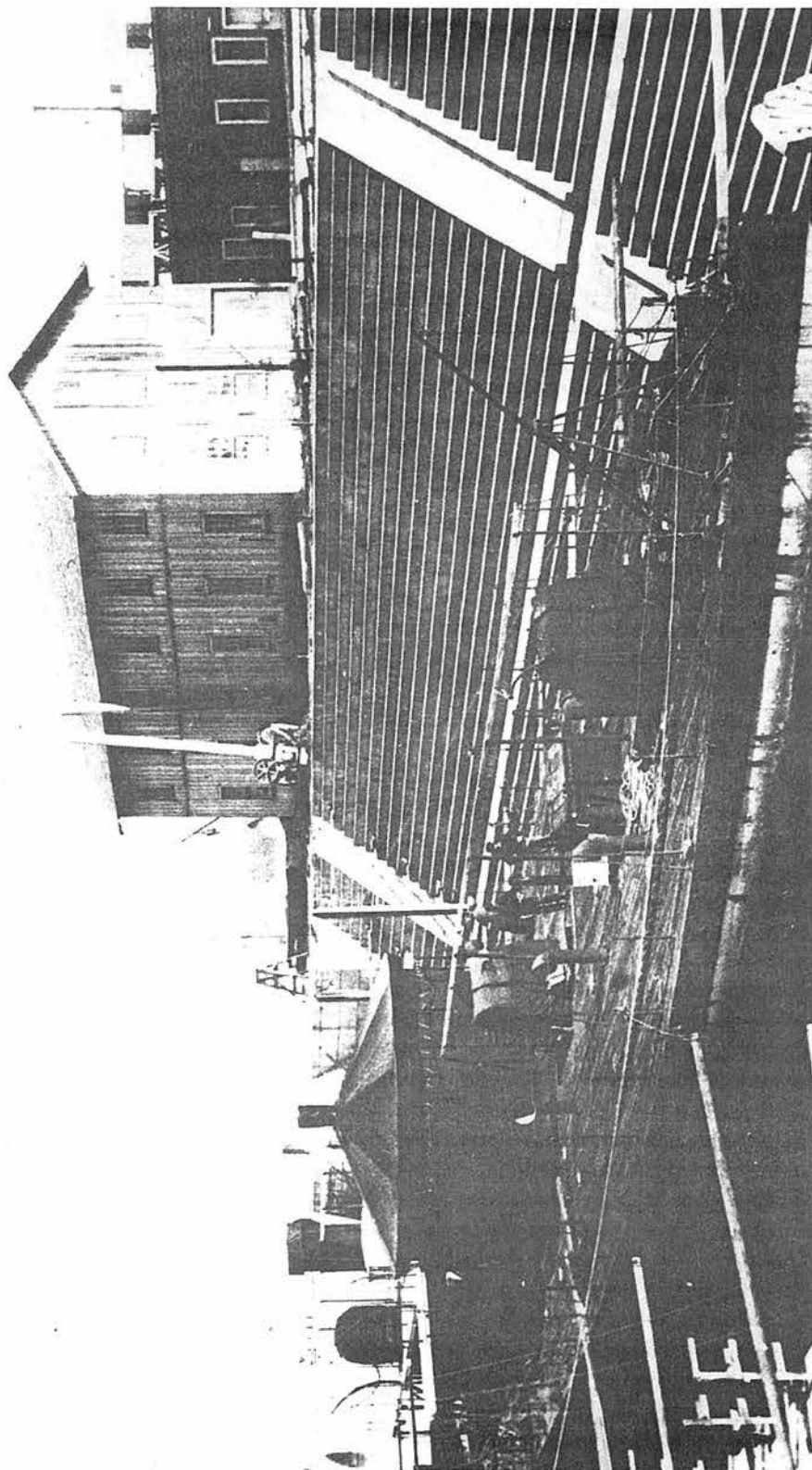
The *Alabama*, in the winter of 1862-63 sank 70 United States ships after steaming from Birkenhead, England, over strong American protests, and armed herself in the neutral Azores to begin her career as a commerce raider. The *Alabama* was sunk off Cherbourg by the U.S.S. *Kearsarge*, skippered

by Semmes' classmate, Thomas Winslow. Ultimately, in 1885, an international tribunal awarded the United States \$16,145,830 damages to be paid by Great Britain as claims made against the *Alabama* and *Florida*.

In California, southern sympathizers named the mining district near Independence the Alabama Hills, which later became the site of numerous western and adventure movies. Northern sympathizers similarly celebrated the defeat of the *Alabama* by naming the Sierra Nevada pass Kearsage.

To protect the area, some 17,000 Californians were brought into military service. Practically all enlistees in the army, except for 500 sent to Massachusetts as cavalry, served on the western front to thwart Southern incursions and keep peace among the Indians, but as was obvious from the Alabama hills, there were strong pro-southern persuasions which demanded military force to counter. Secessionist "hot beds" were located in Los Angeles, San Bernardino and El Monte which led to counter-steps of stifling the free press and suspension of the Writ of Habeas Corpus which were tolerated by the general populace.

Those "hot heads" were not slumbering malcontents. A real plot to seize the California gold shipments was discovered and thwarted with the seizure of the ship, *J. M. Chapman*, in San Francisco Bay by the U.S.S.



The monitor, *US S. Comache*, in dry dock.

Cyane, revenue officers and San Francisco police. A like effort was thwarted by seizure of the S.S. *San Salvador*.

At the outbreak of the war, the United States Pacific Squadron consisted of only six ships. Their tonnage was under 7,000 and there were only 100 guns among them with scarcely 1,000 sailors manning the ships. Their job was to cruise the Pacific Coast protecting commerce from California to Panama and guarding the whaling fleet from Alaska to Hawaii. Their story is told in Aurora Hunt's book, *The Army of the Pacific*. Though supplemented during the war to an event-

al squadron of 15 ships with crews recruited from San Francisco, their vigilance was very important.

The arrival of the monitor, *Camanche*, in 1863 offered protection to the Port of San Francisco, but only after she was raised from the harbor bottom from her sunken carrier *Aquila*. There was even a movement to install a giant chain barrier across the Golden Gate similar to the West Point model during the Revolutionary War.

The efforts proved successful and California's wealth was saved to help the Union.

(*Monthly Roundup continued from page 2*)

amount, 829 tons have come from California. All of California's gold would form a cube nine feet on each side. The influx of the vast amount of wealth greatly influenced the life and people of California.

In the early part of the Gold Rush, women were only 7.5% of California's population; by 1857 there were only 65,000 women in the State, and by 1859 they were only 17% of the population. Because of this scarcity, women were honored, showered with gold and able to break the traditions and restrictions that bond them in the past. In the new State Constitution, women were granted the right to own property in their own name; however, the Constitution also provides that common law which prohibited their ownership was also to be in effect.

Women came here by the same methods as men. The more fortunate were able to come by sea. While the sea routes were easier than overland travel these women still faced dangers and unpleasant conditions—yellow fever, mutinies, poor food and months in the cramped space of a ship. The women who traveled overland in 1849 only composed 2% of the travelers, but by 1857 they were 50%. These women faced great hardships—cholera, thirst, storms, poor food and the task of walking across half the continent while performing the domestic chores

allotted them.

In California some women turned these domestic skills into an economic asset. One woman made \$15,000 baking pies Others did laundry, repaired ragged clothing, ran boarding houses and capitalized on what most males considered their normal duties.

Others entered less traditional occupations. Because of the Typographers Union, women were able to enter into the printing business; by 1850, there were 50 women printers in San Francisco. They also managed theaters, and one became the famous teamster, Charlie Parkhurst.

Other women were forced to the edges of society becoming dance hall girls, actresses, daughters of joy or card dealers. Many of this group are still well known today, especially Lola Montez.

Because of their scarcity and determination, women were able to expand their horizons, rights and economic status. While few were able to enter the professions, others entered non-traditional occupations and some gained complete economic independence.

DECEMBER MEETING

Corral Member Abe Hoffman spoke on the topic "The Mono Lake Oil Boom," a story of oil promotion rather than oil production. In



Photograph by Frank Q. Newton

December Meeting Speaker Abe Hoffman

the early 1900s promoters and speculators, acting on slim evidence, proclaimed the Mono Lake area rich in oil deposits. They formed companies, sold stock and ordered drilling equipment. The *Bridgeport Chronicle-Union*, the main newspaper in Mono County, predicted an era of prosperity once the wells came in.

Unfortunately for investors, the boom was more puffery than petroleum. Despite drilling hundreds of feet—including drilling on Paoha Island in the lake—efforts yielded nothing more than a little natural gas. Promoters persisted in proclaiming Mono Lake as a petroleum source long after the boom ended. In a bizarre postscript, a self-styled radium expert announced the existence of radium deposits on Paoha Island, provoking a brief armed conflict between rival company thugs in an event that may have been staged for publicity. In the end, no oil was or would be commercially produced at Mono Lake. Dreams die hard.

The Corral also announced the officers for 1999. They are/will be:

Sheriff: Ray Peter

Deputy Sheriff: Mike Gallucci

Registrar of Marks and Brands: Eric Nelson

Keeper of the Chips: Warren Thomas

Publications Editor: Robert Blew

Past Sheriffs: Glenn Thornhill, Abe Hoffman



Corral Chips

Arash Hashemi won the 1998 Student Essay Contest Award. Arash is a graduate of Fairfax High School in Los Angeles and CSU, Northridge. He is now attending La Verne University Law School.



Photograph by Frank Q. Newton

1998 Student Essay Contest Winner Arash Hashemi

Among those seen at the Western History Association Conference in Sacramento were **GORDON BAKKEN**, **ROBERT BLEW**, **MARY GORMLEY** and **MICHAEL HARRISON**. Others there were **ROBERT CLARK**, who was a member of one of the awards committees and is on next year's local arrangements committee; **MARTIN RIDGE** and **RICHARD DILLON** were moderators of sessions, and **LARRY BURGESS** was a presenter.

MARY GORMLY recently gave two talks on "Kachinas and Their Influence on Hopi Religious and Social Life" at the Southwest Museum and the Pasadena Women's Club. At the National Convention of the Navy League she was awarded the Meritorious Service Award for her work with the CO-MAR Council; she later received the same award from the California Air Force Association.

PAUL RIPPENS has been active making a presentation on the St. Francis Dam disaster to a group at Crystal Lake, the Little Landers Historical Society and the Calabasas Historical Society; later he gave a program on the Mount Lowe Railway to the Canoga-Owensmouth Historical Society. He also helped **JOHN ROBINSON** with a tour of Switzers Camp for the Historical Society of Southern California. As vice president of the Associated Historical Societies of Los Angeles County he arranged a meeting at the Greystone Mansion. He has also been elected Sheriff of the San Dimas Corral.

SIG DEMKE has been elected the President of the Historical Society of Southern California replacing **MARTIN RIDGE** who completed his term.

JOHN ROBINSON spoke at the dedication ceremony for the Old Spanish Trail Plaque placed in *La Plaza de Los Angeles*. John is chairman of the Southern California Chapter of the Old Spanish Trail Association. Also present at the dedication were **STEVE BORN, RAMON** and **MARY ANN OTERO, WILLIS OSBORNE** and **BILL OSBORNE**.

Directory Changes

New Members:

Patricia Sims Mayner
1023 Glendon Way
South Pasadena, CA 91030

Changes in Status

Paul Bryan Gray to associate

Address Changes:

Glen Dawson
842 East Villa Street, Apt. 350
Pasadena, CA 91101-1259

Robert Ebinger
128 So. Yellowstone Street
Livingston, MT 59047

Sandra Burton Greenstein
1397 Wicks Road
Pasadena, CA 91103

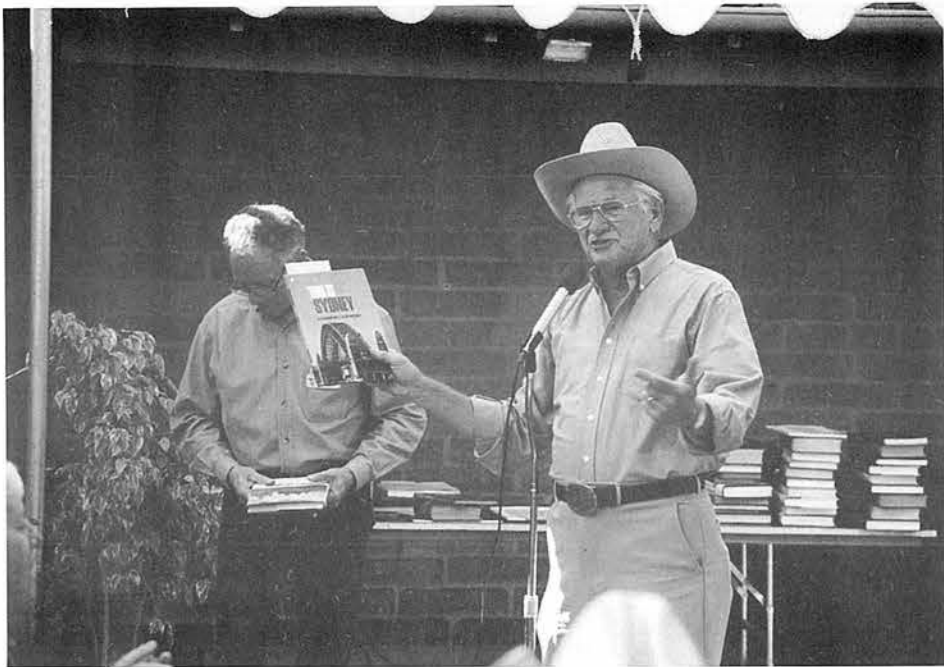
John S. Ferguson, Jr.
1212 Firmona Avenue
Redondo Beach, CA 90278

Victor E. Larey
6292 Jasmine Drive
Huntington Beach, CA 92648

Todd Peterson
P.O. Box 661117
Arcadia, CA 91066

Denise Ruhlow
2705 No. Myers Street
Burbank, CA 91504-2130

Michael Torguson
754 Hedy Jayne
Medford, OR 97501-1725



Photograph by Frank Q. Newton

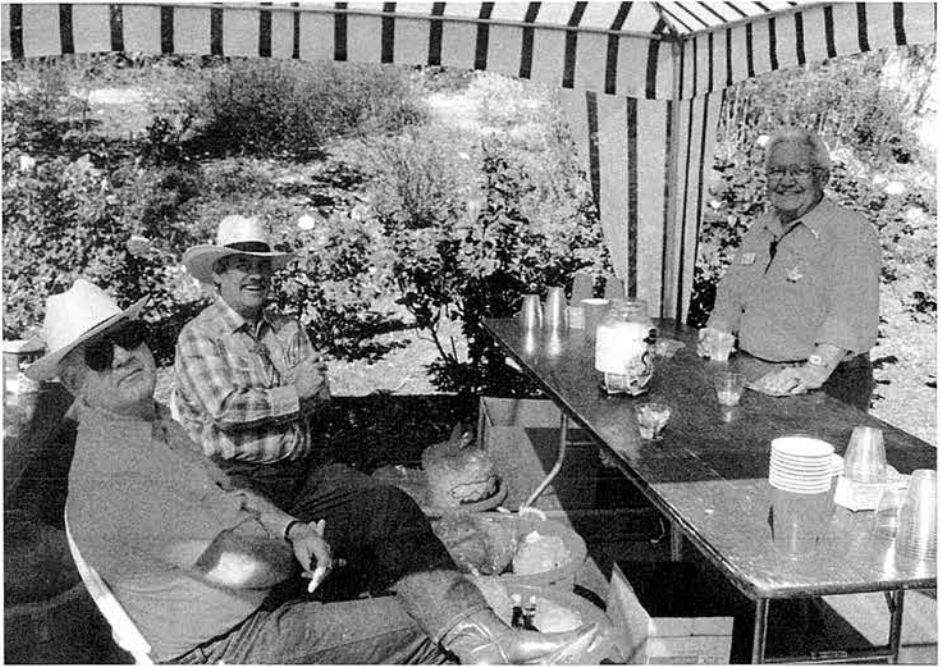
Assistant auctioneer, Loren Wendt, and runner Paul Rippens.

Rendezvous 1998

Saturday October 17, 1998, was one of those perfect Southern California days for which the people shivering in Vermont hate us. Tom Bent again offered the hospitality of his Sierra Madre home to the Corral. Westerners and their spouses, friends and significant others participated in the auction, the silent auction and convivial fellowship. Proceeds from the fundraiser go to the Corral's publication fund. Books, art and artifacts enjoyed spirited bidding, and many Corral members now have a pile of books to sustain them through the winter nights. The Corral bestowed Honored Guest status to John Robinson for his many contributions to the Corral.

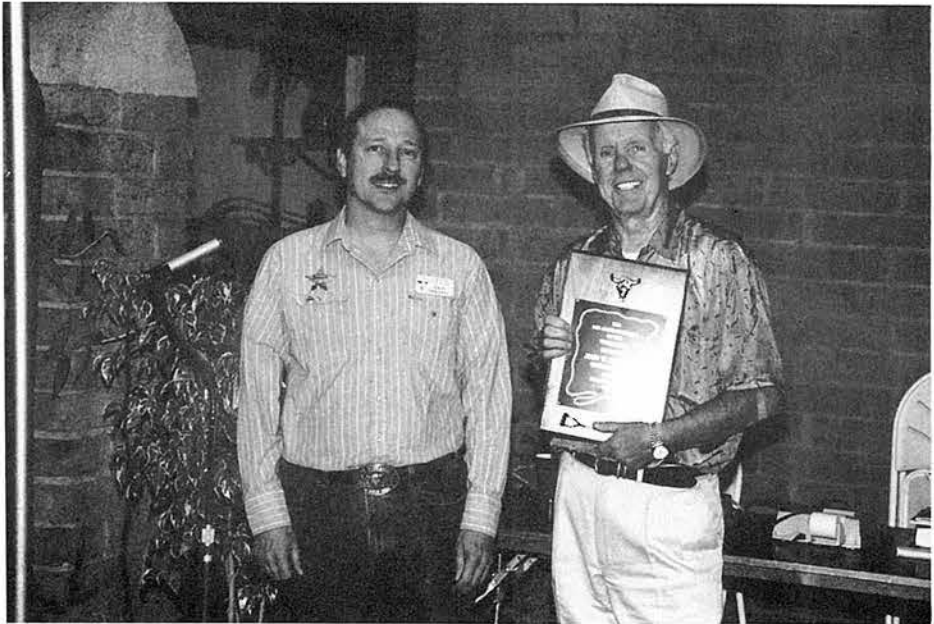
Head Wrangler Eric Nelson did a masterful job of keeping everything under control. Bartenders Gary Turner and Dick Thomas helped slake thirsty throats. Hugh Tolford and Loren Wendt displayed their

persuasive talents as auctioneers, while Paul Rippens, Froylan Tiscareño, Reese Benson and Ken Pauley served as runners. Wit Ashbrook worked as tallyperson, Ramon Otero handled the P.A. system and Andy Dagosta donated the raffle paintings. Thanks also to Pat Gallucci, Joan Newbro and Elizabeth Nelson for handling the invitation and mailing. Mike Gallucci coordinated the RSVPs and the raffle ticket sales. On the next day, while everyone else balanced checkbooks and sorted through the books that they bought, Tom Bent, Paul Showalter and Eric Nelson did the Sunday cleanup. Following the money trail were Ray Peter, Pete Pettler, Tim Good and Ted Dalton. Last but definitely not least goes credit for the whole shebang to Sheriff Glenn Thornhill and Deputy Sheriff Ray Peter for seeing the whole thing through. If you missed it, there's always next year!



Photograph by Frank Q. Newton

Hard working bartenders, Dick Taylor and Gary Turner, rushing to help Don Torguson.



Photograph by Frank Q. Newton

Honored guest John Robinson and Sheriff Glenn Thornhill.



Iron Eyes Cody (1904—1999)

*Oh Great Spirit whose voice in the winds I hear,
And whose breath gives life to all the world,
Hear me.*

Before you I come, one of Your many children.

Small and weak am I.

Your strength and wisdom I need.

Make me walk in beauty.

*Make my heart respect all You have made,
My ears to hear Your voice.*

*Make me wise that I may know all You have
taught my people,*

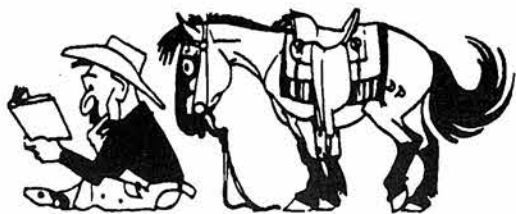
The lessons You have hidden in every rock.

I seek strength, not to be superior to my brother.

*Make me able to fight my greatest enemy—
myself.*

*Make me ready to stand before You with clean
hands and straight eyes.*

*When life fades, as the fading sunset, may our
spirits stand before You without shame.*



DOWN THE WESTERN BOOK TRAIL ...

The book should be a ball of light in one's hand.

Ezra Pound

VALLEY OF THE SHINING STONE: *The Story of Abiquiu*, by Lesley Poling-Kempes. Tucson; University of Arizona Press, 1997. 273 pp. Map, Illustrations, Notes, Bibliography, Index. Cloth, \$50; paper \$24.95. Order from University of Arizona Press, 1230 N. Park Avenue, Tucson, AZ 85719, (520) 621-1441.

The author has created an interesting historical narrative of the local area of Abiquiu (pronounced Ah-be-cue) which encompasses the geography, climate, landscape, politics, personalities, cultures, paleontology, flora and fauna loosely centered around the ebb and flow of people as they came into and left the region from the first inhabitants up to the present time. She has woven into the story the significant as well as the insignificant people, their accomplishments and failures. Included are the relationships and role played by Abiquiu in some of the well known events that affected the settlement of the entire southwestern part of the United States. Also of interest are the accurate and objective descriptions of the effects on humans and natural entities of the area resulting from diverse, distant political administrations that have controlled the area. Relationships with the far away governmental decision makers and their lack of understanding of the local diverse population, their desires and conditions is interesting and reflects the ever present struggle of locals to be heard. This book on Abiquiu and the surrounding area actually provides a

microcosm of the history of the entire Rio Grande Valley, yet is told in a close-up, more personal way than many other excellent books on the Rio Grande area history.

This book is well written and effectively retains the reader's interest through a very broad and all inclusive treatment of the history of the valley by including just enough detail of events, people, cultures, superstitions and religions, all woven together with continuity in a time format. Not easy to do. This book is a good light history with an excellent presentation of numerous historical facets of this part of the beautiful area of northern New Mexico.

B. G. Olesen



LOST IN THE YELLOWSTONE: *Truman Everts's Thirty-Seven Days of Peril* edited by Lee H. Whittlesey. Salt Lake City: University of Utah Press, 1995. 62pp. Maps, Illustrations. Paper, \$10.95. Order from University of Utah Press, 101 University Services Bldg., Salt Lake City, UT 84112 (800) 773-6672

Truman Everts entered the Yellowstone area as a member of the Washburn-Langford-Doane expedition in the summer of 1870, twenty-one years before President Benjamin Harrison established Yellowstone as the nation's first forest reserve. On September 9, 1870, Everts became separated from the rest of the expedition and began a frightening thirty-seven days lost in the wilderness of Yellowstone. The following day, his horse "took fright" and ran away with all his gear, "blankets, gun, pistol, fishing tackle, matches — everything except the clothing on his back, a couple of knives, and a small opera-glass."

The story was written by Truman Everts and was published in the November 1871, issue of *Scribner's Monthly* magazine. Everts recalls the thirty-seven days and his travels over fifty miles of unexplored area. He was scalded by hot water while sleeping among the hot springs and inadvertently started a forest fire and was badly burned on his hand.

He lost one of his shoes but continued to brave the cold rain and snow in his attempt to rejoin the expedition or find his way out. He was near death and, according to the book, weighed only 50 pounds when he was found on October 15.

The story has been printed several times, and this edition was edited by Lee H. Whittlesey who adds his own comments throughout the story through the use of footnotes. This adds to the interest of the story but, in many instances, he only can speculate as to what really happened.

The short story, only sixty-two pages including the Forward, Introduction, the story and Afterword, is extremely interesting. This story conveys a message of faith and determination on Everts's part to survive this ordeal and get back to see his daughter. Truman Everts died of pneumonia at Hyattsville, Maryland, on February 16, 1901.

Paul H. Rippens



WINNING THE WEST FOR CHRIST: by Norman J. Bender. Albuquerque: University of New Mexico Press, 1996. 165 pp. Illustrations, Appendices, Notes, Bibliography, Index. Cloth, \$40. Order from University of New Mexico Press, 1720 Lomas Blvd., Albuquerque, NM 87131-1591. (800) 249-7737.

This is the story of Sheldon Jackson (1834-1909), one of the outstanding pioneers of Presbyterianism in the United States, who climbed to a high bluff overlooking Sioux City, Iowa, in 1869, and there committed himself to "win the West for Christ." For the rest of his life, he worked tirelessly as a missionary in Nebraska, Montana, Wyoming, Colorado, New Mexico, Arizona, Utah and Alaska.

Though he is probably best remembered for his work among the Eskimos in Alaska, this book focuses on Jackson's activity on the Rocky Mountain frontier 1869-1880, in a sympathetic, yet balanced perspective. As railroads opened the West after the Civil War

and new communities sprang up along their tracks, Jackson began proselytizing on the frontier. His zeal to spread the gospel included uncompromising campaigns against "the tidal wave of wickedness, the cesspools of iniquity and the desperadoes." As allies he enlisted women's auxiliaries and others willing to pledge themselves and their assets toward taming the West through churches and schools. His efforts resulted in founding nearly a hundred churches.

The author, a professor *emeritus* of history at the University of Colorado, examines the awesome task before Jackson and his associates, concluding that they "never doubted that they were locked into the age-old struggle of good versus evil."

The author is to be commended for accurately portraying Jackson's view about Catholics and Mormons, neither of which he understood or appreciated. Jackson was especially upset at the influence of Catholicism in New Mexico where he identified its practice with that fringe movement known as the Penitential Brotherhood or *Penitentes*, which one of his confreres viewed as "only one more shocking example of the kind of depraved society that was sure to evolve under the influence of a false religion."

In his newspaper, the *Rocky Mountain Presbyterian*, Jackson gave space to Julia Wright who warned readers about "Romanists" saying that "if we expect our country to be worthy of her high place and calling and to have a future creditable to her heroic past, we must make it all Protestant and righteous."

Jackson discouraged statehood for New Mexico because nearly all the natives of the area "were Roman Catholics" who were "deplorably ignorant." He contended that the Catholic Church "abhors the idea of education for the common people." Presumably, by keeping the people ignorant, the priests could extract money from them for administering the sacraments. "The avarice and extortion of their church are a by-word among the multitudes of Romanists in New Mexico." He contended that "state government would be, for some time to come, gov-

ernment by the Church."

Jackson firmly believed that "the centuries of labor of the Roman Catholic Church among them (the Pueblo Indians) has been a complete failure, and it remains for the Presbyterian Church to take hold of them at this late day and instruct, elevate and Christianize them."

Jackson's negative views about the Catholic Church and the Church of Latter Day Saints need to be taken within the context of the times and circumstances in which he lived, and they do not really diminish his well-earned status as a pioneer of Western America. This writer suspects that a reincarnated Jackson would embrace ecumenism as a more useful vehicle of proselytizing the unchurched in the 1990s.

This is truly a fine book which can be highly recommended.

Msgr. Francis J. Weber



HISPANIC CALIFORNIA REVISITED, by Francis F. Guest, O. F. M. Santa Barbara: Santa Barbara Mission Archive Library, 1996. 389 pp. Illustrations, Notes, Bibliography, Index. Price not given. Order from Santa Barbara Mission Archive Library, 2201 Laguna Street, Santa Barbara, CA 93105-3697.

Francis M. Guest, archivist, historian and Franciscan friar, contributed a wide range of serious publications on the Spanish California missions, and his research at libraries and repositories in Europe, Latin America and within California was impressive. The meticulous documentation and breadth of research are appropriately recalled in *Hispanic California Revisited*, a comprehensive volume of Guest's works, adeptly compiled and edited by Doyce B. Nunis, Jr.

Catholic archivists have sometimes been labeled as apologists, blind defenders of a captive mission system that exploited Native Americans. Guest was no apologist, and the power and strength of his writings center on an ability to forthrightly challenge

such skepticism through objective analysis. His essays provided an evenhanded historical context for understanding church policy while critically evaluating the shortcomings of the mission system within the larger flaws of European exploration and settlement. Disease, harsh punishment, failures at assimilation and racist padres are admitted shortcomings, but not unusual within a larger view of European exploration and settlement.

As an historian, Guest refused to impose contemporary morés on past events since that could lead to unfair moral judgments about mission policy. He admitted that the unfortunate result of cultural contact was a naive disregard for native lifestyles, which produced limited success in converting Indians to European-Catholic values and norms. According to Guest, these errors in judgment were based on ignorance and condescension rather than on a conscious effort to subjugate, exploit or dominate indigenous peoples. He placed the rationale of church officials within a larger world context and, to that end, the mission was a far better alternative for Native Americans than what Spanish soldiers, Aztec rulers or secular policy in the pueblo had to offer.

Francis Guest's writings were prodigious, and his research covered a wide range of topics on the Spanish Alta California frontier. He outlined the everyday hardships that Leather Jackets endured during various overland expeditions, weaknesses of the Spanish military regime, bureaucratic workings of municipal government and the flawed strategy behind the aborted settlement at Villa de Branciforte. This handsome, hard-bound edition is complemented by over two dozen vivid illustrations. Nunis provides a comprehensive introduction that clearly traces Guest's education, religious career and research experiences over the past six decades.

Hispanic California Revisited is an all embracing compilation of study by a prominent scholar-archivist of the mission period.

Ronald C. Woolsey

FREDERIC REMINGTON: *A Catalogue Raisonne of Paintings, Watercolors and Drawings*, by Peter H. Hassrick and Melissa J. Webster. Seattle: University of Washington Press, 1996. 2 vols. Illustrations, Index. Cloth, \$250. Order from University of Washington Press, P.O. Box 50096, Seattle, WA 98145-5096 (206) 543-4050.

Western Art aficionados, familiar with Frederic Remington through the works of Harold McCracken, Robert Taft, Harold and Peggy Samuels and others, will find few surprises in this monumental opus. They will, however be pleased to find included on CD-ROM an electronic Catalog Raisonne, which along with the two volumes, is an excellent interactive research tool for accessing and researching Remington's works of art and the supporting curatorial data, provenance, exhibition history and referential information. It would appear that all 3,310 illustrations, of which 110 are in color, are available interactively and can be printed. This reviewer's under \$300 HP reproduced both color and black and white illustrations with remarkable fidelity. Along with the image such details as: title, medium, size, inscription, credit line, illustration source, provenance, bibliography and in many cases, a short essay relating an interesting anecdote, are also printable. Provenance, exhibitions, bibliography and prints and copyright information are available **only** on the CD-ROM of the catalogue raisonne

Surprises notwithstanding, *Frederic Remington: A Catalogue Raisonne* becomes an excellent repository of information regarding the oils, watercolors and drawings of the man. Ably researched by Melissa Webster and sponsored by the *Buffalo Bill Historical Center* and its director, Peter H. Hassrick, this catalogue raisonne of Remington's *oeuvre* is sure to endure as a convenient source for students, teachers, historians and buffs. The catalogue is organized chronologically and by type of work. A second index by title is particularly useful. Webster and Hassrick have provided preliminary essays which offer myriad detail of Remington's finished work and artistic technique. An exhaustive

study of the criticism of Remington's work during and after his lifetime demonstrates the controversy attendant to his evolution as an artist. Remington's approach to his craft was ongoing and evolving. Whether he was merely an illustrator or a "Monet like" impressionist, Hassrick points out that his activities were well documented during and after his lifetime.

Even though it is handsomely slipcased, attractively bound and printed, book collectors and speculators should eschew the Trade Edition published in an edition of 2,700 copies and not likely to go "out of print" anytime soon. More likely to increase in value are the 250 Leather Bound Limited Edition volumes, a few of which are still available directly from the Buffalo Bill Historical Center for \$394. Call 800-533-3838 to order.

The compilers admit that this is **not** an all inclusive list. It is no doubt the **most** inclusive list to date and is destined to become a standard in the field.

Don Franklin

AND OTHER THINGS

The WILL JAMES SOCIETY was created to help share the heritage of the famous cowboy artist-writer. They hold an annual Will James Cowboy Festival along with other activities. For more information, contact the WILL JAMES SOCIETY, P.O. BOX 20382, BILLINGS, MT 59104, (406) 656-7727 or ask our own JACK WONG.

In 1994, the OLD SPANISH TRAIL ASSOCIATION was established to study, preserve and protect the Old Spanish Trail which was "the longest, crookedest, most arduous pack mule trail in the history of America." The OSTA will help preserve this great trade route by publications and an annual convention. At the present they are supporting the National Park Service study of the route for inclusion in the National Historic Trails system. The OSTA has annual dues of \$12. Contact the OSTA, P. O. Box 483, Angel Fire, NM 87710 for applications and more information.