

PASSWORD



THE EL PASO COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

VOL. XVII, No. 4

EL PASO, TEXAS

WINTER, 1972

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PASSWORD

Published quarterly by The El Paso County Historical Society

EUGENE O. PORTER, *Editor*

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CONTENTS

| | |
|--|-----|
| HALL OF HONOR BANQUET | 155 |
| HALL OF HONOR ADDRESS | 156 |
| <i>By Leon C. Metz</i> | |
| TRIBUTE TO MRS. OLGA BERNSTEIN KOHLBERG | 159 |
| <i>By Mrs. Charles A. Goetting</i> | |
| TRIBUTE TO AMBASSADOR JOSEPH F. FRIEDKIN | 163 |
| <i>By Charles H. Leavell</i> | |
| THE RANKS OF DEATH: | |
| A MEDICAL HISTORY OF THE CONQUEST OF AMERICA | 167 |
| <i>By Eugene O. Porter</i> | |
| A GRAVE QUESTION | 173 |
| <i>By Robert N. Mullin</i> | |
| SOME HEALING HERBS OF THE SOUTHWEST | 175 |
| <i>By Elise W. Stevens</i> | |
| LETTERS HOME: W. W. MILLS WRITES TO HIS FAMILY | 177 |
| <i>(Part Four of Four Parts)</i> | |
| PASSWORD SALUTES RUSSELL WATERHOUSE | 191 |
| <i>By Helen Hicks</i> | |
| HERITAGE HOMES OF EL PASO | 193 |
| SOUTHWEST ARCHIVES | 196 |
| BOOK REVIEWS | 199 |
| <i>Walker, C. L. SONNICHSEN: GRASSROOTS HISTORIAN</i> | |
| <i>Adams, TOM WHITE: THE LIFE OF A LAWMAN</i> | |
| <i>Farrar, THE CHINESE IN EL PASO</i> | |
| HISTORICAL NOTES | 204 |
| CONTRIBUTORS TO THIS ISSUE | 205 |
| INDEX TO VOLUME SEVENTEEN | 206 |

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The institution of laundresses existed in the U. S. Army from 1802 until 1877 when it was finally abolished. The 1802 law authorized each Company four laundresses who could accompany the troops. The Army supplied their rations and transportation and the men paid for their laundry.

"All kinds of women were employed in this occupation. Some were the upright wives of enlisted men who could not otherwise afford to accompany their husbands; others who may have first been employed when single had acquired a husband in the company either through marriage or common law. Most of the laundresses, however, seem to have been a hard-bitten lot who supplemented their incomes through prostitution. Called 'spikes' they were usually the source of trouble, fights, and disease."

—John M. Carrol, *The Black Military Experience in the American West*, 274.

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EUGENE O. PORTER, *Editor*

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HALL OF HONOR BANQUET

The El Paso County Historical Society held its twelfth annual Hall of Honor Banquet on Sunday evening, November 19. A capacity crowd filled El Paso Country Club to honor the late Mrs. Olga Bernstein Kohlberg and Ambassador Joseph F. Friedkin. Mrs. Charles A. (Betty Mary) Goetting paid tribute to Mrs. Kohlberg and Mr. Charles H. Leavell to the Ambassador. Accepting the honors were Mrs. Leonard Goodman, Jr., for her grandmother, Mrs. Kohlberg, and Ambassador Friedkin.

Mrs. Carl C. Rosenbaum was general chairman for the affair. Assisting her were Mrs. Wallace Brucker and Mrs. William Burgett, decorations, and Miss Marjorie Graham, publicity. Presiding at the guest books were Mrs. Eugene O. Porter, Mrs. I. B. Goodman, Mrs. Fred Bailey and Mrs. B. F. Stevens. Alternating at the punch services were Mrs. Stacy Hinkle, Mrs. William Hooten, Mrs. Leonard Goodman, Sr., and Mrs. Chris P. Fox.

The Hospitality Committee was composed of Mrs. Aaron Brenner, Mrs. Louis Breck, Mrs. William Becker, Mrs. Yvonne Greear, Mrs. Charles Hancock, Mrs. Paul Heisig, Mrs. Page Kemp, Mrs. R. L. McCarty, Mrs. Martin Merrill, Mrs. Harvey Meston, Mrs. Bud Newman, Mrs. Fred Pritikin, Mrs. W. W. Schuessler, Mrs. Russell Van Norman, Mrs. B. C. Wright, Mr. James Crook, Dr. Eugene O. Porter, Mr. Steve Kent, Dr. Russell Van Norman, Mr. Charles Hancock, Dr. James Day, and Mr. Bud Newman.

The honor table as well as the guest tables were decorated to carry out the color scheme of gold, bronze, yellow and brown. Women members of the committees and the honored ladies were presented corsages which gave emphasis to the color scheme.

Seated at the honor table were president Leon C. Metz and Mrs. Metz; Ambassador Friedkin and Mrs. Friedkin; Mr. and Mrs. Charles H. Leavell; Mrs. Leonard Goodman, Jr., granddaughter of Mrs. Kohlberg, and Mr. Goodman; Dr. Branch Craige, grandson of Mrs. Kohlberg, and Mrs. Craige; Mrs. Charles Goetting; Dr. Floyd S. Fierman, who gave the Invocation and Benediction, and Mrs. Fierman; Major General Raymond L. Shoemaker of Fort Bliss, and Mrs. Shoemaker; Mr. James Crook, incoming Society president, and Miss Joanne Brown.

Presented from the floor were former honorees Mr. Chris P. Fox, Dr. J. Carl Hertzog, and Dr. Eugene O. Porter.

WHAT IS A HISTORICAL HERITAGE?

by LEON C. METZ

El Paso's best kept secret by far is its historical heritage. One would think that we are desperately trying to be last in the nation when it comes to honoring our past. As a result of this incredible reticence, to most Americans the name El Paso conjures up only vague mental images of cowboys with six-guns, Rosas' Cantina, Indians selling beads, and Mexico. I won't go into the first three classifications because these stereotypes are all too common already.

What I do find significant is that the average tourist comes here not to explore El Paso, but to visit Mexico. While the reasons for this are many and varied (and I for one am in favor of people visiting Mexico), I am not necessarily convinced that it is a desire for naughtiness or cheap liquor that attracts Mexican visitors, but rather a healthy and natural curiosity about how people live and talk in a foreign country.

In spite of this mania for crossing the river I regret the paucity of statistics which would back up my personal contention that about half of the tourists planning to see Juarez never actually go. The reason, I am convinced, is that tourists generally enter this community completely unaware of the cultural elements which thrive here. Travelers find that a bountiful supply of Mexico exists in El Paso. What I'm trying to say is that El Paso is a unique, one of a kind American city. While you cannot find the White Sands National Monument anywhere else in the country, you cannot find another El Paso anywhere else either. El Paso is both domestic and foreign, romantic and ordinary, unusual and common. It is not Main Street, U.S.A., and I hope that it never becomes so. It should remain a combination of Overland and 16th of September Avenue. For it is the blending of languages, the smiles and the sarapes and the boots and the levis and the business suits, the plaza, the bilingual culture, these in the final analysis are our greatest historical assets. And we do not even realize it.

However, it is not our people, but the traditional landmarks that so identify and illuminate our history that I am concerned with here tonight. Most of us find it hard to believe that Interstate 10 handles approximately 20 percent of the United States cross-country traffic. It alarms me, and it should alarm you, that large numbers of people whiz through here each day on their way east toward San Antonio or west toward California where they hope to examine and admire "an old Spanish mission."

We've never told these visitors that they are unknowingly zooming by the oldest such cathedrals this side of the Mississippi. My friends, if our lower valley missions, which date all the way back to the 1680's, were anywhere else in America they would be considered national shrines and half-a-million goggle-eyed tourists would be wandering through them each year.

It is tragic that El Paso, which has a history worth bragging about etched on practically every street corner, chooses to largely ignore its heritage. Meanwhile other communities which have forfeited their past by subjecting it to the destructive wrecking ball, still attract visitors by the carload. Witness Dodge City, Kansas, and its fraudulent "Boot Hill." The only thing buried in those phony graves is tourist gold.

On the other hand El Paso has a genuine Boot Hill right here in Concordia Cemetery, and instead of cleaning it up and publicizing its more controversial residents, we reduce it to a ramshackle mess and attempt to hide its shame behind a partial stone enclosure. Now I am well aware that many of you do not regard a graveyard as a legitimate tourist enterprise, but nevertheless if I had a dollar for every person who has written me a query, or telephoned me for directions to John Wesley Hardin's grave, I could buy all of your lunches here tonight and drive home in a Cadillac. We may not be much interested in our late, unlamented, hard-drinking, woman-chasing, man-killing, ex-residents, but Mr. Average John Q. Citizen and his candy-bar eating children are. Maybe if they paused here to view the graves of a few gunslingers, we could keep them here a day or two longer for tours of more "respectable sites."

One of our problems, of course, is that we ourselves do not always recognize or appreciate our historical heritage. I would make a wager that over 70 percent of the 400 plus people here tonight have never been inside the Magoffin Homestead, have never thoroughly explored the Hart's Mill-Old Fort Bliss area, have never considered the real significance of Pioneer Plaza, or have ever taken a trip out to the abandoned Tin Mine.

Almost none of us is familiar with the International Boundary Marker Number 1 Park. I am very proud that the Historical Society, in cooperation with Commissioner Joseph Friedkin, tonight's Hall of Honor selection, had a large part in developing this site. It marks the spot where three states and two nations come together. It is located where the International Boundary leaves the Rio Grande and marches overland. During the Mexican Revolution a rag-tag but victorious army camped there prior to its assault upon Juarez. Can you imagine what Philadelphia, Florida, California, or even Phoenix and San Antonio would do if they had such a historic location?

And naturally when we discuss landmarks, we cannot do so without

including that granddaddy of them all, the *Pass of the North*. By way of comparison let us consider Cumberland Gap which is a natural gateway through the Appalachians and was used by westward-bound pioneers beginning in 1775 when Daniel Boone blazed his "Wilderness Trail." Cumberland Gap is now the nation's *largest* national park.

The *Pass of the North* is every bit as significant. It is a natural gap through the mountains. It too is a funnel, the Southwest's largest and best known gateway out of Mexico whereby hardy and determined pioneers poured through and settled a desolate western region almost as large as man's imagination itself. The *Pass of the North* was in use for over a century before Daniel Boone ever put on his first pair of buckskin diapers. Settlers were streaming through here almost 25 years before Jamestown. The tragedy is that not only has practically none of the nations ever heard of the *Pass of the North*, but two-thirds of El Paso, hasn't heard of it either and wouldn't recognize it if they were pitched into the Rio Grande near the smelter where the Pass begins.

I could go on and on with citations of El Paso's unique and remarkable historical heritage. The problem is, "What do we do about it?" First we need to awaken ourselves to what we have, and then we need to publicize and preserve it. For if we don't know, and if we don't care, and if we don't do the preservation that needs to be done, then we cannot logically expect that others will know or care or maintain it either.

It is regretable that so many of our landmarks have been converted into that great American dream of asphalt covered parking lots, but perhaps we should take the long view of history and consider ourselves lucky that worse fates haven't come about. As former El Pasoan, the noted writer and military historian General S. L. A. "Slam" Marshal recently observed, "Too often we begin vast projects and wind up treating them in a half-vast manner."

As an example, show me a roadside or inner city historical tourist trap that did not begin with high ideals and expectations. Somewhere along the line, when problems and expenses mounted, when criticisms (both just and unjust) mushroomed, the enthusiasm for greatness, for going first class, seeped out of the project like tequila through a cracked drinking glass. My friends, if there is anything that my two years as your President has taught me, it is that the road to saving our historical heritage is paved with difficulties and mounds of research, it is traveled with controversy and misunderstanding, and it is maintained with pride.

So in answer to my topic question of "What is A Historical Heritage?", I can only answer in this manner. A Historical Heritage is whatever we choose to make it.

TRIBUTE TO OLGA BERNSTEIN KOHLBERG

by MRS. CHARLES A. GOETTING

The building of a city is not entirely the work of men. There are phases of city building when the work of courageous, well-educated women overshadows that of their husbands, fathers, brothers. Yet, pioneer men are often honored; pioneer women rarely are. Schools, churches, charitable institutions, libraries, art museums, symphonies, all enduring values in our community life were promoted extensively by women. El Paso has a rich heritage in the work of its pioneer women and we proudly pay homage to one of them tonight, Olga Bernstein Kohlberg, leader in most worthwhile movements in El Paso for more than fifty years.

It was in 1884 that Olga Kohlberg, bride of Ernst Kohlberg, businessman in El Paso since 1875, came from the green Rhineland country of Germany to the barren village of El Paso. The first train had made its way in our town of 761 souls only three years before. El Paso was a thriving city in 1935 when Mrs. Kohlberg died, leaving her mark on nearly every civic project.

To paraphrase Congressman Richard White, former president of the El Paso County Historical Society and originator of the Hall of Honor Awards, "We live as history; history does not happen, it is made, partly by the collective action of many, but greatly by the direction of some few strong personalities. They are a choice few, who by their very exemplary lives deserve above all others to be honored and remembered." Olga Bernstein Kohlberg was one of these. She qualifies in every respect for the full criteria set forth by the Historical Society for the Hall of Honor Award.

Mrs. Kohlberg was one of the first to see the need and to take steps toward establishing a hospital in El Paso. In 1892, stirred to action by the death of a sick man left on the platform of the depot, she led a group of women under the name of The Ladies' Benevolent Association and opened our town's first hospital. It was in the former Larkins home which would now be in the 700 block of North Oregon Street. A while later, when a county hospital was opened at Old Fort Bliss, near the smelter, these same women continued with their help. Not only did Olga Kohlberg lead in helping to set up a hospital in El Paso but she was foremost in sponsoring charitable projects throughout the years. Known by various names, they were: The Charity Union, 1903; Health League, 1908; Women's Charity Association. The Associated Charities, 1915 (by then

composed of men as well as women) continues today under the name of the Family Service of El Paso.

Mrs. Kohlberg stressed the need for a kindergarten in the public school and again was a leader in a "Study Circle," 1889, to promote interest in the education of very young children. These women bought equipment and employed a teacher from St. Louis, Missouri. They offered their materials and teacher to the El Paso Board of Education if it would make the kindergarten part of the public school system. As a result, in 1892, in this remote section of Texas, El Paso became the first city in the state to have a free public kindergarten.



Mrs. Olga Bernstein Kohlberg

The small "Study Circle" of 1889 was reorganized and its name changed to the "Current Topics Club," forerunner of the El Paso Women's Club. Owen White, El Paso writer and historian said: "The Current Topics Club was the most useful organization in city history." From this group came the El Paso Women's Club in 1898. Olga Kohlberg was president in 1899-1900 and again in 1901-1902. She was an honorary board member for the remainder of her life; she was also a vice-president of the State Federation of Women's Clubs.

Under the guidance of Mrs. Kohlberg, the restoration of the city's three parks was undertaken. The Mayor and Council had allocated \$100 per year for upkeep on all three parks. Olga Kohlberg is quoted as saying to her group of women, "We will plant, dig and weed." Our San Jacinto Plaza soon became a garden spot.

When the first free public library was started in 1895 by Mary I. Stanton, it was run and financed by a women's group until a regularly tax supported library was established. Mrs. Kohlberg was a member of this first board and later became president, in 1903, of the El Paso Public Library board, serving in that capacity for more than a quarter of a century. During that time she encouraged Maud Durlin Sullivan, librarian, to seek only the best for the library even though the city allocated only a meager amount of money. The library was built into one of excellence.

Olga Kohlberg joined with her husband in helping to organize the Mount Sinai Jewish congregation in 1898, followed by the building of Temple Mount Sinai at Yandell and Oregon Streets in 1903. She was a member of the Jewish Welfare Association.

Serving on many and various boards, that of the Cloudcroft Baby Sanitorium was especially appealing to Mrs. Kohlberg. Not a few El Pasoans, some present here this evening, were taken as almost dying babies from the intense heat of El Paso on the little mountain-climbing train to the cool pines of Cloudcroft. A young doctor out from North Carolina, Dr. Branch Craige, father of our present Dr. Branch Craige, took charge when the Baby Sanitorium opened in June, 1911.

The small town of El Paso, far removed from the more settled areas of our state, was enriched by the citizens who came here. They brought with them customs, culture and charm from East Texas, the deep South, the Eastern seaboard and the Pacific coast. When the shooting had almost died down in our unsettled little El Paso, the wives came forward with their books, portraits, china, fine linens, good cuisine and, now and then a piano, to make their homes places of gracious living. So it was with Mr. and Mrs. Kohlberg, who brought European culture to the banks of the Rio Grande. When Olga Kohlberg came as a bride, age 20, she was already a college student, and had been reared in surroundings of old world dignity and beauty. She became a charter member of the

American Association of University Women in El Paso. Mr. and Mrs. Kohlberg's last home, built in 1909, was the scene of such gracious living and stands today at 600 East Yandell on the corner of Corto.

The death of Mr. Kohlberg in 1910 left Olga Kohlberg a widow for the last twenty-five years of her life. Their children were three sons, Walter, Herbert and Leo and a daughter, Else (Mrs. Branch Craige), now all deceased. Their grandchildren are Mrs. Leonard Goodman, Jr. and Dr. Branch Craige, both of El Paso, and Dr. Ernest Craige of Chapel Hill, North Carolina. A daughter-in-law, Mrs. Walter Kohlberg, resides in El Paso. However, she is unable to be present tonight.

It is difficult to summarize the more than fifty years of Olga Kohlberg's leadership and influence in making our rough little town into the city it is today. However, those of us who knew her, whose lives she touched, can vouch for her indomitable spirit, her dignity, her tolerance, her integrity, her calm, courageous manner and her persistence in working for the best for the community. She was zealous in her efforts, yet when the majority in a group voted against something she had sponsored, she graciously acceded to their wishes, never harboring any ill feeling.

Her sense of fairness and her good judgment were illustrated in an incident which took place in the El Paso Public Library many years ago. A young teenager, a volunteer apprentice, impetuous and lacking in experience, made a quick, thoughtless, unauthorized decision involving the policy of the library. Learning of the matter, Mrs. Kohlberg, President of the Board, with her understanding of and fondness for young people, stood firmly on the side of the young girl. This was the beginning of an association that grew into a rewarding friendship, culminating in the writing of this tribute to her tonight.

What Olga Kohlberg did will be treasured in the memories of those who knew her. For those who did not know her, evidence of her work and contributions live today in the city's benefits, heritage and culture. As a leader of the far-seeing pioneer women of El Paso, Mrs. Kohlberg's living monuments may be seen in one of the finest libraries in the West, an efficient and progressive school system, modern hospitals and clinics, beautiful parks and charity institutions.

Ten years ago, in the second year of the existence of the Hall of Honor, your speaker paid tribute to Maud Durlin Sullivan, Librarian, first woman to receive this award. Tonight, we salute another woman, her close associate and friend, Olga Bernstein Kohlberg.

TRIBUTE TO AMBASSADOR JOSEPH F. FRIEDKIN

by CHARLES H. LEAVELL

Mr. Chairman, members of the Historical Society, distinguished guests—it is a privilege to introduce to you my lifelong friend and professional associate, Mr. Joseph F. Friedkin, Commissioner of the United States International Boundary and Water Commission — United States and Mexico. Also, Mr. Friedkin holds the personal rank of Ambassador.

All history resolves itself very easily into the biography of a few strong and dedicated men. The historical pageantry of El Paso has been written by the acts of such men. Thus the accomplishments of Joseph Friedkin during his full and active life by all measures make him worthy of the honor being bestowed tonight. Simply because he has been and always will be one of our strong and dedicated citizens. A man makes history.

Young Joe Friedkin was probably one of the greatest intramural athletes in El Paso. He was a crack soft ball player and prior to that time was captain of the basketball team at Texas Western. Joe was known as a take charge fellow and he never stopped hustling and talking it up to the boys.

Joe had a problem, however. Thad Steele tells the story that one time they were playing a tough team in a small circular gymnasium. Half time had just passed and Joe made a shot at a basket. Thad trying to make the rebound was dumped so hard he came up real wozy. He was so confused that he got mixed up on what end of the court was TW's. He called Joe and said, "I think we're playing the wrong basket." Joe in turn called time and told the referee he thought they were playing the wrong basket, whereupon the tough old Ref promptly took Joe out of the game and sent him down to have a cold shower and have his head examined. Joe was so frustrated he was almost as the fellow who threw himself to the ground and missed.

Many people don't know that Joe has a cultural side. As a young man he was a musician—played a clarinet and the highlight of his career was the time he played in the El Paso symphony. Part of the reason for this was that the director owed Joe's father some money. Soon as the debt was ended Joe's association with the symphony was ended and the symphony has improved ever since. Joe later helped organize the first T.W. band.

Mr. Friedkin's mother and father moved to El Paso when he was very young. After elementary school education, he attended El Paso High



Ambassador Joseph F. Friedkin

School. Incidentally, it was the only high school in the city at that time. From there he entered the Texas College of Mines (now the University of Texas at El Paso). He was elected student body president in 1932 and that same year received his undergraduate degree in mining engineering. He did post graduate work later at Mississippi State University.

Joe's professional and civic affiliations are many and distinctive. He has been chairman of the National Water Policy Committee of the American Society of Civil Engineers. He has been a member of the United States Executive Committee of the International Commission on Irriga-

tion and Drainage. He is a member of the International Society of Professional Engineers and is a Registered Professional Engineer in Arizona, California, New Mexico and Texas. In addition Mr. Friedkin has served on the Board and has been a member of many El Paso Civic and Charitable organizations.

A brief resume of Mr. Friedkin's professional assignments starts in 1934 when he was commissioned as a hydraulic engineer, doing field and office work for the Boundary Commission, serving under Commissioner L. M. Lawson.

At the time World War II came along he enlisted and was given the rank of lieutenant in the U. S. Army Engineers. He served primarily on projects relating to flood control and navigation on the lower Mississippi River, leaving the Corps of Engineers in 1946 with the rank of major. He then went back with the Boundary Commission serving until 1952 as resident engineer in San Diego, following which he became principal engineer in the headquarters office in El Paso. After the retirement of Commissioner L. H. Hewitt in 1961, Mr. Friedkin was appointed Commissioner of the International Boundary and Water Commission by President John F. Kennedy.

Following this appointment his principal achievements were in the negotiation for the United States on agreements for and the construction and operation with Mexico of International Amistad Dam and Reservoir on the Rio Grande near Del Rio. Commissioner Friedkin was the contracting officer representing the United States portion of the ensuing project. This was a highly complex engineering and diplomatic endeavor which I can testify was accomplished efficiently and fairly for the United States, Mexico and the private sector of our construction industry. He was also technical advisor to the Department of State in negotiations for the treaty for the settlement of the Chamizal Boundary dispute and in the most recent boundary treaty to settle all remaining disputes and to avoid them in the future.

He coordinated United States interests in the seven Colorado River basin states for the international Colorado River salinity agreement reached in 1965. He is currently a member of the task force headed by Herbert Brownell, the former attorney general, who has been appointed by President Nixon as his special representative to reach a solution to the salinity problem with Mexico. His assignments extend westward to and also include the Tijuana Flood Control project near San Diego.

Recently Commissioner Friedkin negotiated an agreement with Mexico and directed plans and supervised works on the lower Rio Grande River to guard against recurrences of flood damages. He negotiated an agreement last year involving the responsibility for construction of International Nogales Clean Water Project.

By the terms of the new boundary treaty ratified earlier this year, 1972, he is responsible for the U. S. implementation of the boundary treaty to resolve pending differences with Mexico, establishing the Colorado and Rio Grande Rivers as the boundary between the two countries.

Commissioner Friedkin's awards have been many. He received the Army Commendation Ribbon from the Chief of Engineers. Several El Paso associations have recognized Mr. Friedkin, naming him Federal Civil Servant of the Year, Engineer of the Year, Citizen of the Year, and Outstanding Ex-Student of Texas Western College.

He was awarded a superior honor award by the Department of State for his services while with the International Boundary and Water Commission. The Kiwanis International named him Public Works Man of the Year and the Texas Highway Branch of the Texas area, Associated General Contractors of America, named him West Texas Public Works Man of the Year.

Ambassador Friedkin has written one major work and has been the author of several technical articles on civil engineering, some of which have been published.

Joe Friedkin married the lovely Nellie May Berry in 1937, with whom he has enjoyed a life of fulfillment and happiness. They have two fine daughters, Jonell and Kim.

He leads a dynamic life but it is evident that his biography is part and parcel of the history of El Paso.

Ladies and Gentlemen, Commissioner and Ambassador Joseph F. Friedkin.

David Ramsey's *History of South Carolina* (Philadelphia, 1783) and Jeremy Belknap's *History of New Hampshire* (Philadelphia, 1784) were the first of the American state histories. Their importance lies in the fact that they not only set the norm for state histories but also gave impetus to the organization of state and local historical societies.

Jones State Forest near Conroe, Texas, was named for W. Goodrich Jones, founder of the Texas Forestry Association.

The frontiersman loved his rifle and generally gave it a name. Daniel Boone called his rifle "Old Trick-Licker" and Davy Crockett called his, "Betsy."

The Mississippi River is well known for changing its course. To cite only one example, Delta, Mississippi, at one time was located three miles below Vicksburg, but in the 1870's the river took a sudden cutoff and Delta found itself two miles above Vicksburg.

THE RANKS OF DEATH A MEDICAL HISTORY OF THE CONQUEST OF AMERICA

by EUGENE O. PORTER

Medical history is the most difficult of all histories to research. The sources come largely from men who wrote in their own terms with their own meanings. They wrote about things they did not understand and they set down results in complete ignorance of causes. Nor were they trained in medicine. But even if they had been trained, they could not have done any better because medicine, until rather late in the nineteenth century, was a primitive art, not a science. Consequently, many of the great and fatal diseases in history are so poorly described as to be unidentifiable. What, for instance, was "white flux"? Medical men do not know. Some doctors believe it was diarrhea without blood in the stool. Or what was "modorra"? Was it cerebrospinal meningitis, as some medical historians believe? No one can say with any degree of certainty.

Other examples of unidentifiable diseases include pulmonary tuberculosis, pneumonia, typhoid fever, diphtheria, and leprosy, to name only a few. Pulmonary tuberculosis and pneumonia were, in the sixteenth century, commonly confused with pleurisy, *mal* or *dolor de costado* ("pain in the side"), while typhoid fever and diphtheria were not recognized as distinct diseases until the nineteenth century. Another example is yellow fever. Contemporaries at the founding of Isabella, the first permanent Spanish settlement in America wrote that the colony experienced epidemics of yellow fever in the years 1493, 1494, and 1495. The evidence offered was that the victims turned yellow. But that is not conclusive evidence because people also turn yellow with hepatitis.

As for leprosy, the Bible makes frequent mention of that infectious disease as do also the chronicles of the Middle Ages. But the leprosy of the Bible and of the Middle Ages is not identifiable today. Early writers mentioned two kinds of leprosy—*gran* and *pequeña*. Some medical historians believe that *gran lepra* was actually smallpox and that *pequeña lepra* was measles. Other medical historians believe that Biblical leprosy was syphilis. At any rate, as syphilis became more generally recognized, *leprosy ceased to be common.*

Thus it is seen that the medical historian is confronted with problems of gigantic proportions. Many of his conclusions must necessarily be based on educated guesses. But to make educated guesses he must be doubly

trained. He must be trained in the science of modern medicine and also in the art of historical research. Fortunately, such a man was Colonel P. M. Ashburn, author of *The Ranks of Death: A Medical History of the Conquest of America* (New York: Coward-McCann, Inc., 1947).

Colonel Ashburn was born in Batavia, Ohio in 1872. He took his medical training at Jefferson Medical College and, with the Spanish American War in 1898, entered the Army Medical Corps as a surgeon. He served during the Philippine Insurrection and subsequently had two tours of duty on the Board for the Study of Tropical Diseases in Manila. He also served in Panama where he succeeded General Gorges and in China and Liberia as well as in several parts of the United States. He was at various times commanding officer of Walter Reed Hospital. For his services in World War I he received the Legion of Honor. After the war he served as the American delegate to the International Conference of Prisoners of War in Berne, Switzerland. In addition to *The Ranks of Death* he wrote *Elements of Military Hygiene* and *A History of the Medical Department of the United States Army*. The manuscript of *The Ranks of Death* was found after his demise in 1940 and prepared for publication by his son, Frank D. Ashburn, founder and first headmaster of Brooks School, North Andover, Massachusetts. Most of the material for this article, it should be noted, came from Colonel Ashburn's important study.

THE CONQUEST

The conquest of America offers an excellent laboratory for the study of disease transference from one race of mankind to another. Here in America at the time of the discovery was one race, the red. With the discovery and conquest came two others, the white and the black. The three races collided, mixed, and struggled "with their religions, their weapons, their cultures and, most of all, with their diseases." It was with this tripartite problem of racial contacts in the field of disease that Colonel Ashburn spent twenty years of his life in an attempt to learn the truth and to record it.

After examining all available sources Colonel Ashburn arrived at the conclusion that the pre-Columbian Indians had very few diseases, possibly only malnutrition, scurvy which is a lack of vitamin C, and perhaps tuberculosis. The Spaniards introduced to this well-nigh disease-free society a host of diseases of which smallpox, typhus, and measles were of prime importance. Colonel Ashburn called the three "the shock troops of the conquest." Smallpox, he stated, was the captain, typhus the first lieutenant, and measles the second lieutenant. They were the "forerunners of civilization, the companion of Christianity and the friends of the invaders."

Smallpox, Colonel Ashburn pointed out, was common in Europe at the time of the conquest. It was everywhere and, like measles today, was especially a disease of childhood. In fact, the child who grew to adulthood without having had smallpox was possibly as rare as the modern child who grows up without benefit of measles. Wherever Europeans went, therefore, they carried smallpox. The result was death and destruction. Bernal Díaz del Castillo in his *True History of the Conquest of Mexico* noted that for every Aztec killed with weapons, one thousand were killed by smallpox. In his description of the capture of Mexico City Díaz wrote: "The streets, the squares, the houses and the courts of Tlatelucó were covered with dead bodies: we could not step without treading on them, and the stench was intolerable." This condition was true not only in Mexico but also throughout the Americas. Wherever the whites went smallpox followed and the natives died in swarms—"in the West Indies, Central America, Peru, New England and Canada."

Typhus, second of the "three terrors," was known in England as jail fever, famine fever, ship fever, and in Spain as *taberdillo* or *tabardete*. It is a louse-borne disease and very much like typhoid fever with which it was confused until well into the nineteenth century. Typhus fever, it should be noted, is the one disease whose introduction by Europeans is most disputed by modern historians and "it is the only one about which serious dispute seems justifiable." After examining all available sources, however, Colonel Ashburn concluded that Europeans did indeed bring it to America. It was not so handy a weapon, however, as either smallpox or measles because it was as dangerous to the whites as to the reds. Nevertheless, since there were more reds than whites and since the reds had, if anything, less tolerance than the whites, it wrought greater havoc among them. To make his point, Colonel Ashburn quoted one of the conquerors: "one epidemic of typhus fever killed two million people in Mexico."

The third of the shock troops, measles, was not so constantly and universally present as smallpox or typhus, or else it did not excite so much comment because it was less revolting. Nevertheless, it was a persistent cause of invalidism, death, and destruction. Fray Toribio de Benavente Motolinía, in a letter to Charles V, named it as among the ten great afflictions of Mexico. He wrote that "eleven years after the *gran lepra* of 1519-20 there came a great epidemic of measles like it in severity. The Indians called this the year of *la pequeña lepra*." Colonel Ashburn believed that the same epidemic extended itself elsewhere, especially to Honduras and Nicaragua where half the native population died.

The whites, of course, introduced other diseases to the Amerinds but the trinity of smallpox, typhus and measles were the most destructive. As Colonel Ashburn noted: "More terrible than the conquistadores on horseback,

more deadly than sword and gunpowder, they made the conquest by the whites a walkover as compared with what it would have been without their aid." Actually, it is very doubtful if the conquest would have succeeded without the white man's diseases.

THE BLACK TRAGEDY

The introduction of African slaves into America was an event of tremendous importance. Not only did the blacks bring their superstitions, their magic, and their voodooism but, most important, their diseases. As the Indians succumbed to white man's diseases, Negro slaves were needed in ever increasing numbers. The first slaves arrived in the West Indies in 1501 or 1502. By 1522 slaves were being taken to Cuba by the shiploads. Incidentally, the first slaves on United States soil arrived at Jamestown, Virginia in 1619, at New York in 1626, and in New England, 1636.

The diseases introduced by the blacks were not important in the conquest but they later had a tragic economic effect. Colonel Ashburn believed that the Negro introduced malaria, yellow fever, hookworm, leprosy, dysentery and suppuration. This last named disease is an infection by germs that cause pus formation. Most medical historians are in agreement that suppuration was unknown in Europe and America at the time of the conquest. As evidence they cite *La Noche Triste* when the Spaniards were cut to ribbons in their retreat from Tenochtitlan, now Mexico City. But after resting outside the city for two or three days they were once again on the march and eight days after the retreat they defeated the natives in the decisive battle of Otumba.

Malaria was the most devastating of the diseases introduced by the blacks. It was a slow killer and a great disabler. It was of great subtlety and if left unchecked could debilitate a people, ruin a nation, and destroy a civilization. In fact, there is some evidence that "the glory that was Greece, and the grandeur that was Rome" succumbed to malaria.

Malaria, however, was by no means the only intermittent fever to affect American history but it was the most important. Too, its introduction proved ironic. Had the Negro not brought the disease, it is very likely that he would not have been needed so badly as a labor force and slavery therefore, might not have reached the proportions it did, especially in the United States. This thesis has led some historians to assume that malaria caused the Civil War. This assumption may be extended further to include the civil rights disturbances of today.

THE KISS OF DEATH

A few months after the discovery of America, Europe suffered from a widespread epidemic of a new disease. At the time it was variously called *morbus gallicus*, *mal franzoso*, bubas, English disease, German dis-

ease, Polish disease, Turkish disease, Spanish disease, Neapolitan disease and disease of Hispaniola. It is now known as syphilis. It received its present name from an Italian narrative poem which related the story of a young shepherd named Syphilos who visited Florence where he contracted the new disease. It was no respecter of rank or station, however, as not only were commoners infected but also such persons as Henry VIII, Francis I, and Emperor Charles V. Rumor has it that Pope Alexander VI was likewise a victim.

Be that as it may, the problem is not what worthies or non-worthies contracted the "kiss of death" but where the disease originated. The dubious honor of infecting half a world with a horrible plague that visits the sins of the fathers on the children unto the third and fourth generation has been claimed for both Europe and America. And continuing research during the past four centuries has failed to dispel the clouds of obscurity that hide its origin. Opinions, therefore, remain deeply divided.

Historians on both sides of the controversy agree that syphilis spread widely soon after the siege of Naples (February to May, 1495) by the troops of Charles VIII of France. Charles's army suffered a frightful morbidity and mortality and as syphilis became better recognized in 1495 and 1496, it became a commonly held belief that the army's mortality was due to syphilis and that the scattering of the disbanded mercenaries, French, Swiss, Spanish, English, Hungarians, Italians, and Slaves, spread it over Europe. The generally-held belief of the time was that the disease was taken to Spain from America in 1493 by Columbus's men who infected Spanish prostitutes, that the prostitutes infected Spanish soldiers who later served in Charles's army at Naples where they in turn infected the women camp followers; and that the camp followers infected the rest of the army which in turn infected all of Europe. (It is claimed that 800 prostitutes accompanied the army of Charles VIII.)

There are variations of the American origin theory. Burton Thom in his *Syphilis* (Philadelphia, 1922) advanced the theory that syphilis originated in Asia in time immemorial and that it was brought to America by the East Asiatic stock from which the American Indians were descended. A German writer, Ferdinand Thugut, advanced the theory that syphilis originated from the union of white and red races, that the disease had not existed in the world before 1492. But when the Spaniards reached America either they or, more probably, the Indians were carriers of a harmless saprophytic, spirochetal parasite, the ancestor of the *treponema pallidum*, the germ of syphilis. "In the new and strange incubator and culture medium of the bodies of the other race," Thugut wrote, "it developed pathogenic properties and caused a new disease." In other words, syphilis was conceived on the bridal night of the two races.

Incidentally, a theory first advanced in the seventeenth century by the Englishman Thomas Sydenham was that syphilis and yaws have many points of clinical resemblance, both being caused by organisms morphologically indistinguishable and both giving cross reactions to immunity. Colonel Ashburn as well as other authorities dismissed the theory with few words and little regards.

Those who accepted the Old World theory of origin supported their views with literary, official, and medical writings but, according to Colonel Ashburn, the weak point in their arguments was that of nomenclature, the meaning of certain terms such as *grosse oérole*, *gros mal*, and *morbus gallicus*. It is true that some of these terms in later times meant syphilis but what they meant prior to Columbus's first voyage is not certain. As was emphasized at the beginning of this article, the uncertainty as to the meaning of early medical terms applies to many diseases as well as to syphilis.

It is very doubtful if the problem of origin will ever be solved to everyone's satisfaction. Scientists, for instance, have examined the bones of pre-Columbian Indians and some have insisted that they show definite evidence of syphilis while others have insisted just as vehemently that they do not. Colonel Ashburn noted that he had not made any original observations on the subject but that he was inclined to believe that "venereal diseases were^h brought to America by the whites." He further noted: "The sad fact is that in a sense it does not matter in the least, so far as the result is concerned. For a result of the conquest of America was that venereal diseases, including syphilis and gonorrhoea, spread over the world."

SONGS OF YESTERYEAR

| | |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Go Tell Aunt Rhody, the Old | Pony Boy |
| Gray Goose is Dead. | Red Wing |
| The Fisher's Hornpipe | Dill Pickle Rag |
| Irish Washerwoman | Silver Bell |
| Buffalo Girls | Dancing the Grizzly Bear |
| Swing Old Adam, Swing Old Eve | Pop Goes the Weasel |

The Natchez Trace, "the most perilous thoroughfare in the world," stretched 501 miles between Natchez and Nashville.

Gainesville, Texas, and Gainesville, Florida, were each named after Major General Edmund Pendleton Gaines (1777-1849).

A GRAVE QUESTION

by ROBERT N. MULLIN

Many writers and researchers have sought information in the small deserted graveyards in remote places in the American West. Much information has been found—and some misinformation. There are many interesting examples of how the searcher may be misled.

Several burying grounds in southwestern New Mexico contain tombstones carved by a sculptor name Brookshire, an artist with remarkable talent for beauty of design. Marble was hard to come by in that era during the 1870's and 1880's, and sandstone was the only material available. Windborne sand and the passage of time have blurred or obliterated many of the carved letters and figures. An O may have come to appear a U, or a C; what was a B has become an E or an F, and so on throughout the alphabet. Figures, too, have changed, such as the 8 which is now a 3.

Another trap for the fact-finder comes from the latter-day replacement of grave markers which have disintegrated or vanished. Typical is in a tiny cemetery near what, a hundred years ago, was the booming mining camp of Sunol, east of New Mexico's San Andres mountains. Here, granite headstones have replaced some of the long-gone wooden markers of an earlier day. Unfortunately, certain of the engraved dates do not jibe with contemporary newspaper accounts and legal records.

The famous "Boot Hill" at Tombstone, Arizona, has not been exempt from question. In 1916, Mrs. Ethel Macia, a lifetime resident of the town, complained to this writer that what was then identified as "Boot Hill" had been created as a tourist lure; she questioned the accuracy of some of the inscriptions, and did not know which, if any, bodies were buried beneath each of the various head boards.

For many years there has been displayed at the state-owned Lincoln County Museum at Lincoln, New Mexico, a wooden marker from the grave of Catherine (spelled Katherine on the marker although she signed her name Catherine) Antrim, mother of Billy the Kid. The painted inscription gives the date of death as September 8, 1874. The mortuary records¹ and the newspaper obituary² state that she died September 16. Unraveling such discrepancies, major and minor, offer an intriguing challenge to the researcher.

The Antrim grave marker was presented to the Lincoln County Museum in 1951 by Raymond McCoun (McCune) who had secured it from L. C.

Raines, caretaken at the Silver City cemetery where Catherine Antrim was buried.³ Below the painted inscription the words *Mother of Billy the Kid* had been burned into the wood. Why the mix-up in dates? Some years after Mrs. Antrim's death the bodies at the little cemetery had been moved to another location, one less threatened by flash floods.⁴ Later, three fraternal organizations joined in having the grounds fenced, but by the turn of the century the old cemetery had suffered from neglect and presented a desolate appearance. It was then that the women of Silver City raised funds and arranged for the weeds and brush to be cleared out and the remnants of the fences to be taken away as firewood. In the process the four-foot brick wall around Catherine Antrim's grave was demolished.⁵ The inscription on many of the graves had so faded as to be almost illegible, and some had disappeared entirely. Those with the blurred inscriptions, including that at the Antrim grave, were replaced with new markers, duplicating the originals as nearly as possible.⁶

The second of the markers at Catherine Antrim's grave remained until 1947 when Ernest Pollock, Sidney Curtis, and two or three other public-spirited Silver Citians had the present granite tombstone placed at the grave of Billy the Kid's mother. The second marker, that with the wrong date of death, is unquestionably the one seen by thousands of people at the Lincoln County Museum.

Researcher, beware of tombstone information.

REFERENCES

1. Records, Cox Mortuary, Silver City, New Mexico, examined by writer, summer, 1916.
2. Silver City *Mining Life*, September 19, 1874.
3. Mrs. Belle Wilson, Lincoln County Museum, letter to writer, June 24, 1971.
4. Louis Abrahams, letter, April 22, 1932, in writer's file.
5. Wilson Porterfield, who was born and reared in Silver City, to writer, February, 1926.
6. *Ibid.*

Charles Goodnight, the well-known rancher of pre-World War I Texas, unsuccessfully crossed buffalo with cattle in hopes of producing a superwonder-beast, the "cattalo."

In the early days, boats on the western rivers and especially the Mississippi were of various sorts and designs but they fell into three general categories—rafts, flatboats, and keelboats.

Rafts, which were just that, were square or rectangular, most of them dependent upon the current in the middle of the stream, with no sort of steering device, and equipped with poles only so that island or the shore at curves could be staved off. Tents and sometimes log cabins were erected on them as sleeping quarters and the cargo was lashed to the deck.

Flatboats were rafts with some kind of rail or sides. They were sometimes rowed but in large part they were dependent on the current of midstream.

Keelboats were flatboats with a keel. They could be rowed or poled, and most of them had masts and spread sail when the wind was right.

—Chidsey, *Louisiana Purchase*

SOME HEALING HERBS OF THE SOUTHWEST

by ELISE W. STEVENS

To live in the Southwest is to enjoy two cultures, two languages and the folklore of the Indians. The Spanish brought traditions and customs of the Old World, including some Moorish knowledge of herbs used in medicine.

Plants that grow by the roadside and in the drainage ditches are known by many names. *Alamo de hoja redonda* is really the valley cotton-wood. *Alamo* bark, leaves and branches all have their uses. The ashes from the bark mixed with cornmeal and water make poultices for boils. The bark is also boiled in water until a thick syrup forms. It is then spread on cloth which is wrapped around a broken bone. The poultice hardens and serves as a cast until the fracture heals. Flowers from the *álamo sauco* are steeped in cold water for several hours and used as a tea to cleanse the blood.

Alfalfa is a Spanish word of Arabic derivation.* Well-known as a food for livestock, it can also be used as food for man because of its nutritional properties. Too, it is used, when green, as a repellent of bedbugs. If placed around the walls and near the door of a room, bugs will not enter as they dislike the odor.

The cattail, called *aguapa*, has many valuable properties. The roots, grown in marsh lands and ditches, contain a starch equal in food value to rice and corn. The stalks and leaves may be woven into mats and baskets. They may also be used to thatch roofs and, mixed with adobe mud, to build houses. And the silky down from the cattail tips make good pillow stuffing.

One Southwestern plant is known by many names, *cañutillo del campo*, *popotillo*, *tepopote*, desert tea and Mormon tea. The herb grows in dry and semi-dry areas. It has many jointed tubular twigs and for that reason is classified as a member of the joint fir family of the genus *ephedra*. Some botanists believe that the Spaniards' trade with China gave them their knowledge of this medicinal plant. Any way, Chinese doctors have used the Asiatic variety for centuries as a cure for aches, colds, fevers and skin eruptions.

Cardo santo is the name given to the purple thistle and also to the beautiful thistle poppy. Some call the purple thistle St. Mary's thistle.

*[Editor's note: Most Spanish words beginning with "al" as *alcalde*, *alcazar* and some English words as alchemy and alcohol are of Arabic derivation.]

It may be seen in the Cloister Gardens of the Metropolitan Museum in New York labeled *cardus benedictus* or, at least, it was growing there a few years ago when this writer visited the gardens. Teas and poultices are made from this pretty desert plant.

The above-named plants are just a few of the many that grow in the Southwest. For a complete discussion of Southwest herbs get a copy of *Healing Herbs of the Upper Rio Grande* by L. S. Curtin, published by the Laboratory of Anthropology, Santa Fe, New Mexico. It is a collector's item in rare books.

FRONTIER REMEDIES

Headaches.—Bathe the forehead and temples with a mixture of harts-horn and vinegar, equal parts, and snuff a little of it up the nose. Sick headaches must be cured by an emetic, as it proceeds from a foul stomach.

Sore Mouth.—Mix together honey and white borax, equal parts, and with a linen rag tied to the end of a skewer, rub the mouth three or four times a day.

Sore Throat.—Take twenty drops of spirits of turpentine on loaf sugar every night till cured. Black currant jelly hastens the cure.

Bilious Complaints.—Take forty drops of Balsam of Peru on loaf sugar, or in a glass of water, every day at eleven o'clock.

Inability to sleep.—Take a grain or two of camphor at bed time: this is a surer and safer remedy than laudanum.

Night Sweats.—Drink a gill or more of warm water, at night in bed.

Consumption.—Persons afflicted with this disease are said to have been cured entirely by inhaling Iodine. A writer in the Philadelphia Ledger, (supposed to be a physician) cites several strange cases in which this simple remedy has been tried with success.

—Quoted in *Missouri Historical Review*, vol. lxvi
No. 4 (July, 1972), 624, from Palmyra
Missouri Whig, May 13, 1843.

LETTERS HOME: W. W. MILLS WRITES TO HIS FAMILY

notes by

EUGENE O. PORTER

(PART FOUR OF FOUR PARTS)

[Editor's Note: the footnotes are numbered sequentially throughout the series. For that reason it is necessary to state that if the material in the notes comes from the text of W. W. Mills, *Forty Years At El Paso 1858-1898*, edited by Rex W. Strickland (El Paso, 1962), the citation will read "Mills"; and if from the introduction or notes of Dr. Strickland, the citation will read "Strickland." It should also be repeated that the letters are published as they are in the original, with *italics* and without corrections in spelling, punctuation, capitalization or with the use of the tedious (*sic.*).]

El Paso, Texas

January 30, 1863

Anson

We are about to have another texan stampede. El Paso is our frontier post and we have only two companies (of Infantry) here. Musick⁹⁵ writes from Chihuahua that he has seen a letter written by Mesitt (Quarter Master in Bayers army) written to a secesh in Chihuahua which convinces him that Baylor left San Antonio about the last of December. Mr Miller⁹⁶ a Union man from San Elyasio⁹⁷ reports today that there was a party of 25 texan cavalry 50 miles below here on the Mexican side of the river day before yesterday. This may be only a scouting party but I would not be surprised at seeing a large texan force on the river in less than a week. I do not think Gen Carlton⁹⁸ is very well prepared to resist them, but by retreating to Fort Craig⁹⁹ again he may be able to do so. of one thing you may be assured, I will take no such desperate chances as I did before except in battle. I have not such unbounded confidence in men generally as I had though there are some in whose hands I would be willing to risk my life.

I see you have had some hard fighting in Tennessee and I hope you have come out of it all right. Col. Anderson of the 93d Ohio is the father of our friend Capt. Anderson, I see he was wounded at Musfreesborough. the Capt. left here for Mesilla this morning.

The texans use the other side of the river as they please even now while our officers are afraid to take the responsibility of crossing the river. Whenever our people get *in earnest* as the rebels are we will whip them; not before.

I should dislike very much to have to leave this place again but if we do and the prospects are that we will have a repetition of the scenes of last year I am not sure but I will go home in disgust. This may however all be a false alarm.

The citizens here are very much frightened and look to me to do some thing for them but I can only advise them to take their property out of the way and then come back and fight.

Asever

You must write oftener.

W. W. Mills

El Paso Texas
March, 12, 63

My dear Brother

Why dont you write oftener? I have lost sight of you. I can write no news about the war but you can. I am geting along very well here and like my office very much, but no one knows how long it will last. Saml J Jones¹⁰⁰ has gone to Washington City, what he will do there I cannot guess I think though he will dind that Judge Watts¹⁰¹ has stacked the cards on him.

I get along better with the Powers that be than I did at first but I do not like them any better.

Genl West¹⁰² is going to move District Head Quarters to this place. I rent my house to the Q.M. at 16\$ a month and charge 25\$ for yours as a Customs House.

Mr. Stephenson¹⁰³ moved to El Paso while the Texans were here and now refuses to come back and takè the oath of Allegiance. We are friends as before but I fear he is [illegible]. Miss Adalida¹⁰⁴ is in favor of the Union *but not with John Gillette.*¹⁰⁵ Judge Watts will be home in this month and I trust he will come down here, he wrote me that he would.

I am slowly paying up our old debts.

The Diffenduffers¹⁰⁶ have your home. The Doctor sayed he would hunt you up and wanted a letter to Father. they are not bad men but they are not the men for the times and I do not like them.

Write often

Asever

W. W. Mills

El Paso Texas
April 4, 1863

My dear Father

I have heard nothing from home for a long time and have not written lately. I am geting along very well here but am spending a great deal of money.

The Governor¹⁰⁷ of New Mexico is here staying at my house. Nat Webb¹⁰⁸ from La Fayette is sutler at this place; he is a clever man and was married lately. say nothing about him. The Territory of Arizona is at last organized and I have the inside track for Congress but if I run I will have to move to Tucson which I do not like. We are trying to form a new Territory here which I would like to represent much better and nobody would oppose me. If by friends at Tucson write me to go out there I will try it, the election will come off during the summer.

Asever

W. W. Mills

El Paso Texas
April 8, 63

My dear Brother

Your little letter of Feb 28th is rece'd. I wrote you some time ago that I would be a candidate for Congress from Arizona and my friends are already at work, but I am unfortunate in one respect, the new Territory does not include the Merilla¹⁰⁹ Valey nor even Pino Alto so that I must make the race in a country where I am a comparative stranger. Tucson is the most important place in the Territory and I have some friends there at work for me. if it did include the Merilla Valey my election would be a foregone conclusion for there is only one man here who could pretend to oppose me (John Lemon)¹¹⁰ and he would not do it under any circumstances. There is only one thing I hesitate about; we are forming a new Territory here out of the Merilla Valey and El Paso County Texas which I have no doubt will be organized at the next session of Congress. now this Territory will have four times the population and wealth of Arizona, it is my home and I am sure that I would have no opposition for Delegate. my friends here wish me to wait and try it from here and I would much rather do so if I were sure that it would be organized, but there is nothing certain in these times.

Mr Cuniffe¹¹¹ says he will spend five hundred dollars in the canvass wherever I am candidate and you know he will do it and you know also that that is the way to win here.

just think what a nice little place this proposed "*Territory of Montayana*" would be! and if it should be organized I could represent it as long as I wished. El Paso would be the capital, Coniffe would be one of the Territorial officers and the expence to Government would not be felt.

I have paid off the \$300 mortgage on my house and will have to pay \$200 on yours after a while. I have also paid Buckhanan¹¹² & Diffendoffer what we owed them and several debts which I contracted while I was a prisoner so you see that I do not save much money.

I am going to San Elyorio¹¹³ in a day or two to hold a meeting and pass resolutions in favor of a new Territory.

As soon as the Arizona officers arrive here I will go with them to Tucson. I presume one of these officers will be my opponent for Congress and I can beat any man who is "green from the States" and you know it.

The Callifornians have killed "Manyos Collorados"¹¹⁴ the Indian chief who murdered Emmet & party. they sent me his necklace and a piece of his scalp which I will send home.

The 3rd US Cavalry is at Memphis, if you ever serve with them find my friend Leu'nt Meinhold, he will tell you all about me, the same if you meet Gen Roberts.¹¹⁵ Asever W. W. Mills

El Paso Texas
May 1st 1863

My dear Father

One letter from Caroline is all that I have received from Thomtown¹¹⁶ or from Anson for a long time.

I have had one letter from Allen and am glad to learn that he is at work and contented.

Anson & I may make more money than he but we are spending it all I expect and there is always danger that we will be out of employment.

There is nothing new to write from here except that we expect another visit from the Texans this summer and we may have a brush with them soon. Their advance is within two or three hundred miles of now.

I have not given up the idea of running for Congress from Arizona but the election will not come off till next fall.

I have a little contract to deliver wine vinegar to the Government by which I think I will make some money.

My friend Jones¹¹⁷ was at Washington at last accounts but he was snubbed at the Treasury Department in consequence of my charges and evidinse. I have a presentiment that he and I will fight some day though I know him to be a coward for that very reason I fear him. He is a desperate man and when he finds that I have foiled him in every thing he will try to take the advantage of me and kill me but I will watch him and he will be smart if he shoots me in the back.

Nat. Webb and I have got to be very good friends, he says he remembers you when you used to buy tax land at La Fayette. He is a Gentleman.

It is rumored that my friend Gen Roberts is to be assigned to the command of this Department. God grant it.

If we fail in our attempt to subdue the rebels I am determined not to live in the United States.

Please write often and send me some Indianapolis papers.

Asever

W. W. Mills

El Paso Texas
May 10, 1863

Mr dear Brother

I have heard nothing from you for a long time. There is nothing new here except that we expect another Texan invasion during the summer. I am doing very well and have plenty of friends but I may as well tell you that I have been badly treated by those who should have been by friends. You know that by the stand I took here I made enemies of all the secessionists in the valey and that among the americans I stood almost alone. Well, had the troops from New Mexico (who know me) come down nere it would have been all right but the Californians who came in after the fight was over knew nothing of these people and some of them have been disceived. This is not the case with Gens Curleton¹¹⁸ & West, they are both selfish schemeing men and for the sake of popularity have taken sides with the secessionists against me because I am an independent man and will not fall down and worship them. I am glad to be able to say however that their subordinates take no stock in this crusade against me but they are nearly all afraid of their Generals who would try to drive any officer out of the service who would dare to have a mind of his own. They favored Jones in every possible way & at last by their assistance he has been able to make a sort of settlement of his accounts at Washington. I presume Jones will now come back to the country *iron* clad and as Gen Curleton says Jones is a rebel a peyon and a thief and is as much as any other man responsible for the murder of our brother. Now I do not intend to allow him to murder me.

The mexicans here are loyal and the loyal americans are my friends to a man. When our new Territory is organized they cannot prevent by going to Congress and they are determined to have me out of the way.

It is rumored that Gen Roberts is coming out to command the department; God grant it, if he comes I will be all right and some of Carletons favorite friends and contractors will find thousands in irons.

If the texans come I fear that Carleton will fall back to Fort Ceniy¹²⁰ again, if he does I will visit home and leave him to fight it out. But I am not discouraged; this is only one little [illegible] General.

I am going to pay \$300 for a horse.

Asever

W. W. Mills

Write often)

Send to
Anson

Santa Fe N. M.
June 2d 1863

My dear Father

I came here on a flying visit and will remain about a week; the mail closes soon but I will write you a long letter by the next and will send Sister Caroline's Jewelry.

I came to consult with my friends about running for Congress from Arizona this summer. The present indications are that I will be elected almost without opposition but some thing may turn up to prevent it.

They are making a desperate effort to defeat my friend Watts here and I am helping him. I have plenty of friends here and am having a pleasant time.

Saml J. Jones succeeded in settling his accounts at Washington and "now" he says he intends to call me to an account. he sayd so here but I met him as I came up and he sayd not a word; I am afraid of this man and always have been *because* I know him to be a coward.

I have done nothing in his case that I would not do again and I intend hereafter to take the advice of Judge Watts and should any thing happen I refer you to him to tell you that I do nothing wrong.

Jones threatened Watts also and as soon as he arrived here Watts went to him and told him to "do it now" but he was afraid, he will not fight unless he has the advantage.

I am trying to draw my pay as Lieutenant and think I will get it \$630.00. I made \$400.00 on a vinegar contract at El Paso. I have heard nothing from any of you lately.

Asever
W. W. Mills

Send to Anson)

Santa Fe, June 6th 1863

My dear Father

Judge Watts, Governor Connelly, Judge Benedict¹²¹ and all my friends advise me to go to Arrizona and run for Congress and they all believe I will be elected. I intend to go out and try it. it will be a long dreary journey all the way to Fort Uma¹²² California but I think it worth while to make the effort. I will have one opponent at Tucson but my friends write me that he will not amount to much, he is about half Secch. then there are three ex members among the new territorial officers for Arrizona now on the way out one of whom will want to go to Congress but I will have the start of them and as Govenor Connelley says they will have to wait two years and learn to speak Spanish, smoke shucks and ride a mule before they can beat me. I have been here nearly two weeks and I never have been better treated or passed a more pleasant time. I do not think

there is a man of my age in the country who has as many influential friends as I have.

You will see by the papers I send you that Watts is not out as a candidate for Congress but he will be; Perew will withdraw in his favor; the Judge is going down to El Paso and La Mesilla with me, not only in assisting me but in giving me advice and being truly and unselfishly my friend, his family are and are as much respected as any in the Territory. I expect to find a great many letters from you when I get home I will stay there two or three weeks before starting for Arrizona.

Judge Watts has just been to see me to say that he cannot start for a week and that he will be detained a week on the way so that I think now I will start tomorrow; but he will be down soon after me and I may conclude to wait for him; if I do I will write you again from this place, the mail leaves tomorrow.

Now I wish I could close this letter here and I ought to be able to do so, but I cannot. Jones has gone down the country and I will meet him at Mesilla. he sayed here that *now* the time had come when he would call me to an account and my opinion is that we will fight in some way. I will not attempt to describe the feelings I entertain toward Generals Carleton and West for allowing this *Liar Traitor Perjurer Rebel & Theif* to run at large and to threaten my life for no other crime than that of being faithful to my Government, especially as General Carleton says that Jones made these threats to him and that he (the Gen) believes Jones will attempt to execute them. it is strange that I an officer of the Government am denied the protection which would be granted to a secessionist, but such is the fact. But after bearding the full grown secession in his very den at Mesilla I am not the man to shrink now from his whelps; I will go to Mesilla will retract nothing and will act Strictly on the defensive unless he should challenge me and in any event I refer to the three men whose names commence this letter to prove that I have done right throughout.

Now a word for Anson, should Jones defeat me in a fair fight or in a duel *consider it the same as though I have fell on the field of battle against the enemies of my country* which I believe I am willing to do whenever it may be necessary. But should he take any cowardly advantage of me Anson shall make it the business of his life to revenge me; nor shall he appeal to any law except his own right arm nor shall he give Jones any more chance than he gives to me.

But do not give yourselves any undue uneasiness, I will do nothing but what is right and we must leave the rest to providence.

Asever

W.W.Mills

Send to Anson)

El Paso, June 20, 63

My dear Father

I arrived here from Santa Fe day before yesterday; had a narrow escape from the Indians crossing the "journey of death."¹²³ Two men were killed within a mile of me, they were a Lieutenant with 6 men, I had only four men but the Indians did not attack me.

I have not seen Jones since I came down but do not think I need fear him much, I will go to La Mesilla in a few days when I will meet him.

I still intend to go to Arrizona and run for Congress, my friends there continue to write me that I can be elected.

In haste

W.W. Mills

El Paso Texas June 27, 1863

My dear Father

I have been to La Mesilla since I wrote you and met Jones several times. I do not think I have any more need to fear him and am sorry that I ever attached any importance to his threats.

I will start to Arzona about the 1st of August. the election comes off in September.

I hear *nothing* from home. The fruit is just getting ripe. Judge Watts will be here in a few days.

Asever

W.W. Mills

El Paso Texas July 17, 1863

My dear Father

Although I have not yet gone to Arrizona I am fairly in the field of Congress with better chances of success than either of the two other candidates. You will hear something of these candidates soon so I will tell you who they are. Col Dobbins is a discharged Colonel of the California volunteers and is a man of ability but he is a great drunkard and can do nothing with the Mexican population. Mr Rogers of Tucson has lived a long time in the Territory and ought to run well but he is a copperhead and that will not do among people who have seen what secession really is.

Ever since my name was announced I have been surprised at my own popularity and I feel confident that if the election should come off now I would get a majority of the votes against the field. Evry body seems to agree that *the place belongs to me* and that it is *wrong* in any one to oppose me. Evry officer in the 5th Regt. Cal. Vols. has signed a letter to the people of Arrizona telling them that I *must* be elected notwithstanding many of these officers are [illegible] personal friends of my opponents.

I do not know a California officer who will oppose me except Genls

Curleton & West and their opposition would do no more good than harm.

The next express from Tucson will decide whether I go out and make the race; it will be a terrible journey and I will not go at all unless I am nearly certain of success.

Nat Webb is sutler here, he is lately married and is to day moving into my house. We are great friends and are going to live together. He & I are about closing a contract to furnish 25 thousand Gallons of vinegar to Government, it is the best contract in the Department and if we get it it will set me on my pegs.

Send to Anson, I have not heard from him for four months.

Asever

W.W.Mills

El Paso Texas August 12, 1863

My dear Father

A new candidate is announced for Congress. Lieut Col Coult of the cal. vols. He is a man of influence and ability and as he has been for a long time in command at Tucson and is a very clever Gentleman he has made many friends in the territory. he has been absent from Tucson for some time and is now here on his way back and will enter at once into the contest. he is now stoping at my house. he will have the start of me as to time for I cannot go out for some time yet but with all these advantages I think I will beat him. I will tell you why, those who bring him out and support him do so not because they care any thing particularly about him but in order to beat me. They are a sort of Copperhead clique and they are determined to beat me because I am *the* uncomprising unconditional administration Union man of the country. Coult himself is all right on the main [illegible] but Union men will see that like poor Troy he has fallen into bad company. Now let me state a fact which will show you whether I have any friends or any strength; all the officers of Coult's own Regiment are here and at Mesilla, they all respect their Lieut Col as an officer & a Gentleman but they have known me for a few months and they will every one from the Colonel down sign a letter to the people of Arrizona recommending me as the proper man and *expressing a preference for me over Coult*. They will also try to induce Coult to withdraw in my favor. Besides I will have the Governor and all the civil officers in my favor. I will go out with them as soon as they arrive at Mesilla. the election cannot come off till they arrive. True we cannot tell about these things till the votes are counted but I am as hopeful as ever.

I hear *nothing* from home. it must be the fault of the mails for some of you certainly write. Nothing from Anson. Send this letter to him.

As ever

W.W.Mills

El Paso Texas
Sept. 8th 1863

My dear Father

I have today signed a contract to deliver to the Government 5500 gallons of wine vinegar at \$1.70 per gallon which will amount to \$9350. I have 1000 gallons already made. I buy the Grapes at 5 cts per pound and as 16 lbs make a gallon the prime cost is 80 cts per gallon. I pay \$5 each for 40 gallon barrels which adds 12-1/2 cts to the cost of each gallon. My press cost me \$75 and my expenses for labor & care about \$8 a day; all of which will add about 12-1/2 cts more to the cost of each gallon which will make the total cost - Say - \$1.05 per gallon. This would leave me a clear profit of 65 cts per gallon or \$3500.75 on the whole. But in order to turn the wine to vinegar I will have to use some water - say - 1/4 which will reduce the cost to about 75 cents per gallon which will leave a profit of about \$5,000. The only difficulty is in procureing barrels which cannot be had even at \$5 each but I am working at it harder than I have worked at any thing for the last two years and think I will come out according to my calculations.

I was obliged to take my friend Webb (Natt Webb) as a partner in the contract and he will of course share half the profits. As it is I am confident that I will clear two thousand dollars before Christmas. I intend also to make a quantity of fine wine while I am in the business.

Asever

W.W.Mills

Send to Anson)

P.S. During the last few days I have been making out my account with this wicked world and find that I am about two thousand dollars ahead of the hounds, on half of this amount is in *coin*.

Anson says Lieut. Plummer sends regards to me!!! I never spoke to Lient. Plummer *but I know him well* and I hope some day to see him dismissed the service for *his share* in the Fort Fillmore affair.¹²⁴ He advised Lieut. Lane¹²⁵ to *cowhide* me for reporting him to Gen Canby but *now* not knowing *that I know this* he sends his regards. Strange that an officer & a Gentleman will crawl on his belly and eat dirt. I hope Anson will tell him all this. Please send this to Anson; I hope he and all of you will write often.

Asever

W.W.Mills

Kind regards to Lieut Jones. I remember him well. he is the fellow who sayed he would bombard Cincinnatti if ordered to do so.

Custom House El Paso Texas
September 3d 1863

My dear Father

I have not heard a word from Thorntown for three months though I have written several letters lately. I have rec'ed three letters from Anson but one of them dated "Murfiesburrough May 21st" was only received last night. it was so torn to pieces by the Indians who killed the expressman that I cannot read it. it was forwarded to me by a friend in Santa Fe.

The Governor of Arzona has not arrived yet and I will not go out till he does.

Mr. Webb & I are closing a contract for 5500 gallons of wine vinegar at \$1.70 per gallon. I am busy this morning makeing the vinegar at Anson's place; I have bought 12 thousand pounds of Grapes and can make the vinegar at a cost of one dollar per gallon so you see if we have luck we will make some thing. It is the niceest business I was ever in; I will make some fine wine while I am at it.

I have now the best Horse on the Rio Grande. I paid \$250 *in coin* for him. he is a milk white mexican horse and can out run any horse in the valey. I have a Mexican Saddle and Bridle which cost me \$150. This is as fine an "outfit" as Santa Anna ever mounted and I intend to ride it up Pennsylvania Avenue.

Gens Curleton & West are now my friends and have both sayed to me that they were deceived in Col Jones. They know now that he is a coward and a scoundrel.

Mr Cuniffe sends regards to Anson; he and I are great friends, he is one of the best and truest men I ever saw. he is consul at El Paso in the place of Diffendeffe.

El Paso Texas
Sept. 25, 1863

My dear Brother

Your letter dated Union Alabama Aug. 25th is just rec'ed being thirty days on the way.

I have written often of late to you and to Thorntown and therefore have nothing new to communicate. I have just finished making wine to fill my vinegar contract and am now trying my hand at making some first rate wine for my own use and I hope that you will be here to take a glass of it before it is all gone. We have more Grapes and fruit this season than ever before.

Mr Cuniffe has rented Harts Mill¹²⁶ and is furnishing flour to the Government. He and I are more friendly than ever before; I see him evry day; he often speaks of you and I know he would be glad to receive a line from you. Mr St. Vrain has moved to Toas¹²⁷ above Santa Fe and I hope you will write to him. Ward is Deputy collector at Tucson and asks about you evry mail. devote half an hour to writing to these Gentlemen. Cuniffe is Consul at El Paso and is duly proud of being an officer of the Government. We had a splendid dinner at his house on the 4th of July; the band, speeches & c & c. the second toast was by Col Bowie of the Cal. Vols. "The Union men of the Rio Grande valey, Mr Mills and his compatriots." calls for Mills and a Speech. The Schutzes¹²⁸ still live across the street from me; they are doing well.

Rohman¹²⁹ & Hornick¹³⁰ are here yet. You would also recognize many of your old mexican friends¹³¹ "Chico" and Marcellina & Delores among the rest, they often enguire for *el otro* Mr. Mills. Juana went down into Mexico about six months ago but will probably return. Paca, Andrea & Jucoba are here.

The Diffenderffers are about Lancaster Pa but I do not feel much interest in their movements.

I have the pleasure of drinking your health occasionally with Don Juan Gubisan, Don Juan Ma Sanchos and Don Guadaloupe Misanda.¹³²

I have learned to shake the light fantastic and attend all the "Jinta¹³³ fino" bailes; I gave one some time ago which cost me \$150.

The feast commences at San Elzario¹³⁴ on the 24th Mr Cuniffe, Col Bowie¹³⁵ and I will go down to spend three or four days.

I will not go to Arzonà till the territorial officers come out.

I hope to hear oftener from you and from Thorntown hereafter.

A party of us are going to the canntilla on a hunt when we return from the feast. I could find no trace of "Bull" when I returned, I left him with Dr Nanzle when I left. Nanzle died of whisky at Chihuahua. Adkins "Old Dad"¹³⁶ is here I gave him a little stock of goods to buy grapes with in El Paso and he did very well.

Some time ago ten texan refugees from Collin Grayson & Fannin counties came to this place over the overland mail route. I knew one of them, his name is Owens he lived near Pilot Grove³¹⁷ and knew Uncles people but could give no late account of them. they say there is a strong union sentiment there. Throckmorton is a Union man. New and ritch gold mines have been discovered near Tucson.

We have a fine Brass Band here.

Asever

W.W.Mills

EXPLANATORY NOTES

95. Charles Music.—See *PASSWORD* (Fall, 1972), 132, 71n.
96. El Paso County records show a T. J. Miller was County Clerk in 1850 and in 1852. Another notation lists Miller as a resident of San Elizario. The two names very likely applied to the same man.—See Strickland, 185.
97. Mills very likely means San Elizario which at that time was the seat of El Paso County. — See Richard K. McMaster, "The Evolution of El Paso County," *PASSWORD*, vol. iii, No. 3 (July, 1958), 120-122.
98. General James H. Carleton, commanding general of the California Column, also called California Volunteers.—See Strickland, 194.
99. Fort Craig was situated halfway between Fort Fillmore and Albuquerque, New Mexico, on the west side of the Río Grande near the present site of Elephant Butte Dam.
100. Colonel Samuel J. Jones.—See *PASSWORD* (Spring, 1972), 22 fn25.
101. Judge John Sebrie Watts.—See *PASSWORD* (Spring, 1972), 21 fn13.
102. This is very likely Colonel Joseph R. West of the California Column. At the time his headquarters were in San Elizario.—Sonnichsen, *Pass of The North*, 160.
103. This is very likely Hugh Stephenson, a Kentuckian who came to the El Paso area in 1823/24. He settled at Concordia, now a part of El Paso. He also engaged in mining in the Organ Mountains. He died at La Mesa, New Mexico, in 1870 and was buried in Las Cruces. He fathered two sons and four daughters.—Strickland, 191.
104. Adalaida Stephenson, daughter of Hugh Stephenson, married James Albert Zabriskie, a native of New Jersey. He came to El Paso with the California Column. He moved to Tucson, Arizona, in 1878 where he lived until his death in 1904.
105. John Smith Gillett was brother of Henry Smith Gillett. Natives of Missouri, they came to El Paso in 1849 where they opened a business partnership. An ardent secessionist, John lost his property after the Civil War and was reduced to abject poverty. Consequently, he took "to the bottle." He engaged in a bloodless duel with Samuel Magoffin.—Strickland, 181, 184.
106. David R. and Frank B. Diffenderfer, brothers from Lancaster, Pennsylvania, came to El Paso in the early 1850's. They were engaged in the mercantile business.—See *PASSWORD* (Spring, 1972), 21 fn22.
107. Dr. Henry Connelly was governor of New Mexico Territory from 1861 to 1865. He along with James Magoffin and others had been active on the side of the United States in the War with Mexico. He is described as "a weak man, of good intentions, who, notwithstanding his loyal sentiments, made no very brilliant record as 'war' Governor."—H.H. Bancroft, *History of Arizona and New Mexico* San Francisco, 1889), 704-05.
108. Nathan Webb was partner with W. H. Moore, post suttlers with headquarters at Fort Union, Webb was the company's manager in El Paso.—Strickland, 192.
109. Mills surely means Mesilla Valley, or perhaps Mill's s's look like r's.
110. Mills, page 73, describes John Lemon as "a gentleman of about my own age, [who] resided with his wife and children at La Mesilla, New Mexico." When the Confederates occupied La Mesilla they arrested Lemon along with others considered "Union men." Lemon was able to escape and make his way to Fort Craig where Mills met him. Lemon was clubbed to death at Mesilla by a man named Kelley, an employee of the *Mesilla Borderer*, a Democratic Newspaper, in a riot. Kelley was shot to death on the spot.—Mills, 82.
111. Henry Joseph Cuniffe (sometimes Cunniffe and also Carniff) was a business partner of Vincent St. Vrain. Born in Ireland, he died in Las Cruces in 1896.—Strickland, 177.
112. James Buchanan was born in New York City in 1813 and came to the Southwest in the late 1830's. He came to El Paso sometime in 1849 or 1850 and lived at Concordia. He was a merchant and early engaged in the Chihuahua trade.—Strickland, 175.
113. One of Mill's way of spelling San Elizario.
114. It is Mangas Coloradas (Bloody Sleeves). He along with Cochise led the large band of Apaches at Cooke's Springs where Mill's brother Emmett, 19 years old, was killed.—Strickland, 195.
115. General Benjamin Stone Roberts.—See *PASSWORD* (Spring, 1972), 21 fn16.
116. A misspelling of Mill's hometown of Thorntown, Indiana.
117. Colonel Samuel J. Jones.—See above, fn100.

118. General James H. Carleton.—See above, fn98.
119. See above, fn102.
120. Unable to identify. Richard K. McMaster, "Southwestern Military Posts 1849-1862," *PASSWORD*, vol. iv, No. 1 (Spring, 1964), 34-36, makes no mention of any fort the spelling of which is remotely similar to "Ceniy."
121. Unable to identify.
122. Perhaps Fort Yuma. McMaster (see above, fn120) makes no mention of a Fort Uma or a Fort Yuma.
123. "Journey of Death" (*Jornada del Muerto*), a waterless plain stretch—97 miles from Doña Ana above Las Cruces, New Mexico, to the south of Fr. Cristobal where the road again meets the Río Grande.
124. Mills refers to the surrender of Fort Fillmore "without a struggle" on July 27, 1861 by Major Isaac Lynde. For further information see *PASSWORD*, (Spring, 1972), 21 fn18. See also Kenneth A. Goldblatt, "The Defeat of Major I. Lynde, U.S.A.," *PASSWORD*, xv, No. 1 (Spring, 1970), 16-20.
125. Captain William Bartlett Lane whom Mills came to distrust, was the husband of Lydia Spencer Lane who wrote *I Married a Soldier*. This has become a Southwest classic.—Mills, 108, 108n. Also see *PASSWORD* (Spring, 1972), 22 fn29.
126. Hart's Mill, called *El Molina*, a landmark on the Río Grande, was the only mill in the El Paso area. Mills unsuccessfully tried to have the judgement for false imprisonment against Simeon Hart, satisfied by forfeiture of the mill. For accounts of the complicated case see *Hart vs. Mills*, 31 Texas 304; *Hart vs. Mills*, 38 Texas 513; *United States, Appellant vs. Simeon Hart*, 18 Law Ed. 914.
127. Taos, New Mexico.
128. Brothers Joseph and Samuel Schutz. Joseph was born in Prussia in 1834 and came to El Paso in 1859 to join his older brother. Samuel was born in Westphalia in 1828, came to the United States in 1848 and wandered about the country until 1854 when he settled in El Paso and began merchandising. Samuel was among those who helped to bring the electric streetcar to El Paso.—Strickland, 189.
129. A. B. Rohman and his wife, Emily, were born in Bavaria. He came to El Paso around 1853 and his wife and their daughter, Amelia, and a niece, Alice, followed shortly thereafter.—Strickland, 187.
130. Andrew Hornick was born in Bavaria about 1827. Not too much is known about him. The Masonic records, beginning in 1854 and running through 1899, the year of his death, show that he was here during those years and active in the Masonic lodge. He was a cabinet maker and carpenter.—Strickland, 182.
131. It is impossible to identify the "old Mexican friends" with any degree of accuracy. Thus the following identifications are guesses only: "Chico" may have been Chico Barela of San Elizario. During the Salt War he refused to go along with the suggestion that all Americans be shot. Marcellina offers no clue. "Delores" may have been Dolores Valdez, second wife of James W. Magoffin. Juana may have been Juana Ascarate, wife of Hugh Stephenson; or Juana Marquez, wife of Benjamin S. Dowell and a full-blooded Tigua Indian. This latter, however, is unlikely. Paca may have been Paca Alarcón who married William (Bill) Conklin, merchant, gambler, adventurer, and occasional driver for the Butterfield mail. Andrea and Jucoba are not identifiable.
132. Gubisan, Sanchos and Misanda are not identifiable.
133. Should be "junta."
134. This is very likely the *fiesta* of San Elzear, held on the Sunday nearest to that Saint's Day of September 27.—Eugene O. Porter, "San Elizario: The Celebration of the Saints," *PASSWORD*, vol. x, No. 1 (Spring, 1965), 19-20.
135. Colonel George W. Bowie, Union Commander of Fort Bliss.
136. The 1860 census of El Paso County lists a Lindsay Adkins, age 42, a native of Kentucky and occupation clerk. The 1870 census lists a Lorenzo Atkins, age 52, office clerk, native of Kentucky. He was known as Old Dad" and as "Dad Atkins."—Mills, 35n.
137. Pilot Grove, in eastern Grayson County, Texas, was conspicuous landmark in early days. It was originally called Lickskillet but took the name Pilot Grove in 1858 when it became a post office. W. W. Mills taught school that in the spring and summer of 1858.—Mills, 35n.

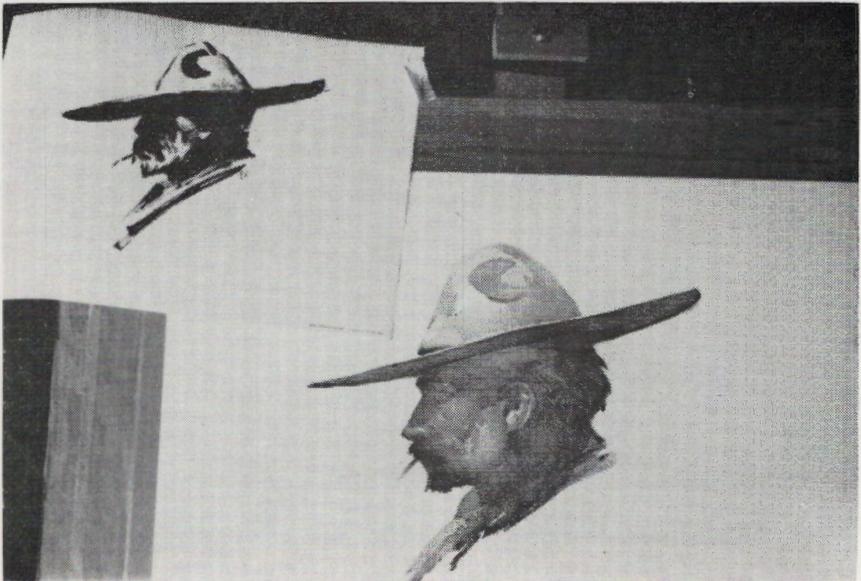
PASSWORD SALUTES RUSSELL WATERHOUSE

by HELEN HICKS

Beyond the city limits of El Paso, Texas, on Farm Road 260, a telescope rests on a tripod in the drying loft of an artist's studio. The studio belongs to native El Pasoan, Russell Waterhouse, and the stars he watches are the same stars that graced the heavens on August 11, 1928, the night he was born. Two paintings in the process of drying bear witness that the influence of Leo was strong.

Russell Waterhouse did not grow up with a burning desire to become an artist, his dream was to own and operate a ranch. Boyhood summers were spent as a working cowboy and he received a degree in agriculture from Texas Agriculture and Mechanical University. The stars of Leo had allowed Russell to pursue his own interests up to this point and now he must do something new.

The military claimed him and while serving as an armored infantry officer overseas, a longing for the changing desert and raw mountains of home prodded him into doing drawings of the Southwest as he knew and remembered it. These drawings awakened a latent ambition, the desire to paint and the need to learn all he could about painting. Returning to the states, he attended Art Center College of Design in Los Angeles. There his natural talent was sharpened to the fine edge of professionalism.

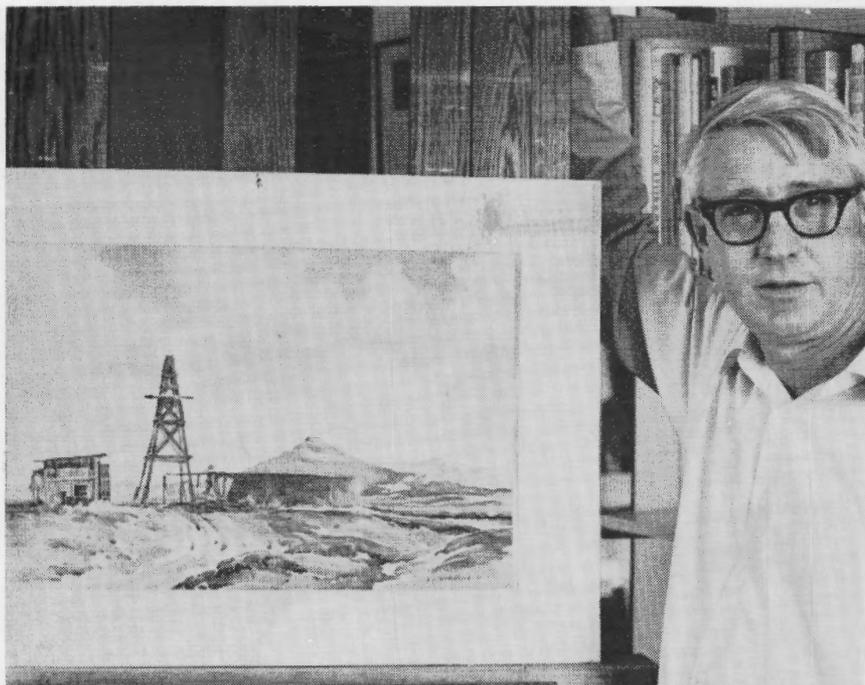


Evolution of a Portrait (Photo by John Herren)

An impatient man and a fast painter, he found oil too slow and turned to watercolor. Two paintings, top to top, taped securely to a piece of masonite will be found on his easel at the same time. He partially completes one, then the board is turned and the second progresses while the first dries. This process finds two paintings completed simultaneously and placed in the loft to dry thoroughly.

Leo continues to smile on his cub. Waterhouse paintings and drawings are a part of the permanent collection of the El Paso Museum of Art and the West Texas Museum of Art at Texas Tech University. He has illustrated several books with Southwestern themes published by Alfred A. Knoph, Inc., New York, and the Texas Western Press, University of Texas at El Paso. In 1970 he was appointed by the Governor of Texas to the Texas Commission on the Arts and Humanities for a five year term.

His feeling for and knowledge of the Southwest has enabled him to impart a sense of truth to his work and he has become a favorite of ranchers and cowboys, as well as museum directors and collectors. Still a young man, there are many great paintings in Russell Waterhouse waiting to be born. El Paso, along with Leo, is justly proud of her son.



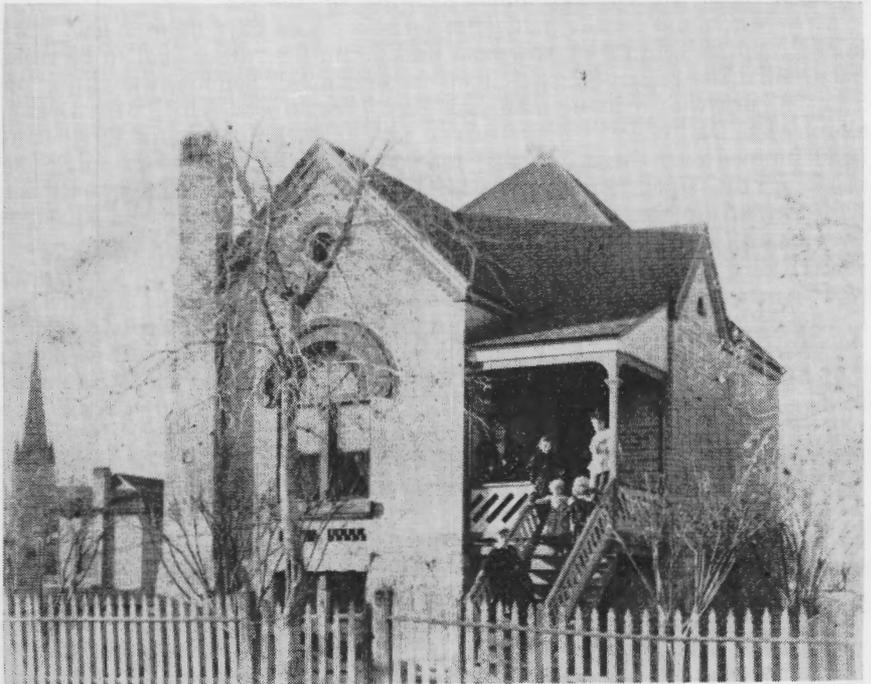
*Russell Waterhouse beside one of his paintings (1970)
(Photo courtesy of the El Paso Herald-Post)*

HERITAGE HOMES

THE B. F. DARBYSHIRE HOME

The house at 811 East Overland Street was built in 1889 for Benjamin Franklin Darbyshire. Ernest E. U. Krause was the architect and builder and, typical of Mr. Krause's work, it was built to *last*. It is still in good condition. It is of brick construction, originally natural red brick, but has since been painted many times and is now white with turquoise-green trim. The original cedar-shake roof has been replaced by one of asphalt shingles. (Wooden roofs are not permitted by El Paso fire laws.) The base of the house is quarried rock.

The plan is rather unusual in that it is actually a two-story house, the basement with windows at ground level contained the kitchen, dining room, a storage room and one other room. The upper floor contained the parlor, several bedrooms and a bathroom. There is a small porch at the upper level (see accompanying photograph) where the main "front door" is, and one either went up a dozen steps to enter the main door or down seven or eight steps to enter the lower level. There is an inside staircase. The original parlor had double windows surmounted by a fan-light and brickwork arch.



Mrs. Darbyshire and her children on porch at 811 East Overland Street. A friend, Mrs. Curtis, is in shadow. The tall, slender spire of the First Baptist Church is seen at the left background.

There is also an arch over the small round window above the parlor windows. Fancy woodwork trims the edges of the roof and railings of the little porch. Today the house is occupied by two families—Mr. and Mrs. Lorenzo Aguilar live upstairs and Mrs. Martha Hermida and her children live downstairs.

Benjamin F. Darbyshire was born in Clinton County, Ohio in 1862 and died in El Paso in 1949. He married Miss Mary Catherine Martin Spencer of Dallas, Texas. They had four children, three being born in Dallas where Mr. Darbyshire was general manager of Western Union. These were: Esther (Mrs. Kenneth W. McCallum), Russell Oliver, and Marguerite Anna (Mrs. C. C. Stevens). The youngest child, Martin Spencer, was born in the El Paso home.

When Jay Gould bought the Texas and Pacific Railroad, he asked Mr. Darbyshire to come to El Paso as general manager. This he did. It was then that he had Mr. Krause build the home for him and his family. The old Texas and Pacific Depot, a handsome building, is still standing, about a block from the house.

Esther Darbyshire McCallum vividly recalls living in the East Overland Street house. She says that there was an orchard in back, with trees bearing delicious apples and peaches. There were also some grape vines. There was a playhouse for the children and a room for the maid.

Mrs. McCallum recalls that there were in those days quite a few "varmints" such as centipedes, scorpions and tarantulas, which had to be reckoned with. She remembers that their faithful maid, Belinda, was sitting on a log in back with a young man. She gave a frightful scream: "Mrs. Darbyshire! Mrs. Darbyshire!" Everybody in the house ran out, while the gallant beau jumped over the back fence and ran away! Belinda was grasping one thigh tightly. Upon examination Mrs. Darbyshire found that a centipede had crawled up the maid's leg under her dress but that she had squeezed it to death, so no harm had been done except to Belinda's pride.

According to Mrs. McCallum, this was the prettiest part of El Paso, with nice homes, trees and flowers. Their close neighbors included Dr. and Mrs. George Higgins, Dr. and Mrs. O. C. Irvin, Judge and Mrs. Allan Blacker, Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Fassett, Mayor and Mrs. Charles Kelly, Mrs. E. E. Windsor and Mr. and Mrs. Tibbetts. Farther down the street lived the McKelligon family with their handsome son Maurice who was very popular with the young ladies. Colonel and Mrs. James Marr and their children lived down East Overland Street towards town. Others who lived in the older part were the Gaither family, the John Cole family and the H. L. Newman family.

The Gaithers owned a large dairy and when Carl Gaither brought milk to the Darbyshires he would allow the children to ride in the back of his wagon for a couple of blocks down the street. This the children considered a great treat. The iceman also allowed the children to ride a few blocks and he gave them small pieces of ice to suck. About two blocks east of the house was a large pasture where beautiful horses grazed. The children would take apples or cake to feed the horses that came to the fence for the treats and allowed themselves to be petted.

Almost every spring the Río Grande flooded. In 1897 there were warnings that a massive flood could be expected. Mr. Darbyshire obtained sand bags in an effort to protect his home. It was night and Mrs. Darbyshire was on the lower floor. She thought she saw a snake coming in under the kitchen

door, so she picked up a lamp and ran up the stairs. She fell but managed to place the lamp on the step above her. She called to her husband who came running. Just then the kitchen door burst open and a wall of water five feet high poured in. The walls of the dining room were paneled but the panels burst from the water pressure. The land in back of the house was higher than in front and there was an exit at the second story level. The family peered in a window and in the light from the lamp which was still on the stairs, were able to see the dining room furniture floating around. Mrs. Darbyshire had an old trunk down below in which she kept her treasures—her wedding dress, the children's baptismal robes, photographs, old books, etc. The trunk filled with water and everything was ruined.

The Texas and Pacific Depot was on slightly higher ground and Mr. Darbyshire was able, by loud shouting, to attract attention and ask that a hack be sent by a round-about route to the back gate to take the family to dry land. The family stayed at the Pierson Hotel until the flood subsided enough for the railroads to run again. Then Mrs. Darbyshire took the children to Dallas to the home of their grandparents to wait until a new home could be built at the corner of North Florence and Overland Streets. Mrs. Darbyshire did not want to go through another flood. But the house survived, was repaired and later sold.

The State National Bank held the mortgage on the El Paso Smelting Works which failed in 1904. Soon thereafter Mr. Darbyshire bought the smelter from the bank and re-named it The Darbyshire Steel Company. The company is still in the family. After Mr. Darbyshire's death his son Oliver became president to be succeeded later by his brother Spencer. At present Jack Darbyshire, son of Oliver, is the company's president.

The population of El Paso in 1880 was 736.

162 West Point graduates born in seceding states remained with the Union.

The population of El Paso in 1889 numbered 11,069, as follows: American 7,846; Mexican 2,069; Colored 810; and Chinese 344.

The San Patricio Battalion of the Mexican War was composed of American Army deserters. Many historians have described them as Irish Catholics who refused to fight their co-religionists. Recent research shows, however, that they were neither as Irish nor as Catholic as has been generally believed.

On a cattle drive the *remuda* was under the control of a wrangler whose title came from the Spanish *caballerango*.

There were four Chinese grocery stores in El Paso in 1889.

During the 1880's and 1890's El Paso was the largest smuggling center of Chinese on the border.

Childress County, Texas, was named in honor of George C. Childress who is credited with writing the Texas Declaration of Independence.

SOUTHWEST ARCHIVES

The Amador Collection at New Mexico State University

by MILDRED A. BARRETT and J. LAWRENCE McCONVILLE, *Guest Editors*

[EDITOR'S NOTE: Martín Amador lived in Las Cruces, New Mexico during the final half of the last century. He had a livery stable there and ran a freighting business between that town, Silver City, Chihuahua and Santa Fe. After the county seat was moved from Mesilla to Las Cruces, Amador erected a one story building which was used as a courthouse. He kept title to the building, however, and the following year, in 1885, added a second story which he used as a hotel. In its heyday, it was one of the most famous hostleries in the Southwest. Amador became a leading citizen and served the community at various times as probate judge and president of the school board. A few years prior to the construction of the hotel and across the street from it, Don Martín built a nine-room adobe mansion with ornate handcarved wooden pickets on the porch. It was here where he and his wife, Doña Refugia Ruiz de Amador, raised seven children to adulthood. It was known as the "Garden House" and "Casa de Amador." Don Martín died on February 27, 1903, in his sixty-third year, and eventually the house passed into the hands of his daughter, Clotilde. She was the wife of Antonio Terrazas, a member of the patrician Chihuahuan family. He died in 1920, leaving no heirs except his widow. Clotilde was unable to maintain such a large house by herself and it eventually fell into a dilapidated state. When she died in 1960, the house was condemned to make room for a major construction project. The papers which had gathered in the basement, but which are in excellent condition, were turned over to NMSU upon settlement of the state.]

When first brought to the library at New Mexico State University the Amador Collection strongly resembled an enormous collection of trash. During the last ten years the collection has been subjected to a succession of sortings, a task not yet complete due to the discovery of several additional boxes of materials which were overlooked during the 1966 cataloguing effort. During these various sortings, newspaper and periodical fragments, bundles of empty envelopes, and other materials of dubious value were sifted out and discarded.

The bulk of the collection consists of newspapers, periodicals, and trade catalogs. The newspapers, many of which are in a fragile condition, have been microfilmed. A detailed analysis of the newspaper collection shows a total of 293 titles: 14 published in Arizona, 11 in Colorado, 129 in New Mexico, 46 in Texas and 93 in Old Mexico. On the local level, 23 were published in Las Cruces and 34 in El Paso. The oldest issue of any paper is the April 29th, 1875 issue of *El Fronterizo*. The next oldest are issues of *Eco del Río Grande*, of which we have five scattered throughout 1876 through 1878, and Newman's *Thirty-four*, published in Las Cruces from 1878 to 1881.

The library is fortunate in having a microfilmed copy of the volume of *Thirty-four* which S. H. Newman, the editor, gave to the Pioneers Association of El Paso in 1905. Several of the issues from the Amador Collection proved to be additions to this volume and the films are being spliced together to put them in chronological order.

The longest runs of the newspapers found are those of the *Mesilla Valley Democrat* and of *El Tiempo*. Both of these have added years to the files which were maintained in the Doña Ana County Clerk's office, and which are now stored in the Library and have been filmed for general use. There are a number of issues of the *Mesilla Valley Democrat* for the years 1886 and 1887, while the County Clerk volume does not start until 1889. The first issue we have of *El Tiempo* is volume 1, number 6 for November 9, 1882. This, unfortunately, is the only issue for that year; the years following are not too well represented and the County Clerk volumes begin in 1904. Most of the other titles are very incomplete, sometimes including only one or two issues for each title.

As with the newspapers, the most interesting items in the periodical collection are those published in New Mexico and El Paso. While most of them

were probably short-lived, they were not all printed just for local consumption. There is the one called *Adobeland*, which began publication in Albuquerque in 1891, an event notable enough to bring forth comments in some of the newspapers in the state, the comments then being reprinted in *Adobeland*. The *Rio Grande Republican* said: "*Adobeland* is the name of the first and only illustrated paper published in New Mexico, a copy of which has just reached us. It is published weekly by Stevers and Butler, Albuquerque. It is a handsome little paper and deserves support of everyone, and is well worth the \$3.00 a year subscription price." The *Chloride Black Range* was optimistic over the future of the little publication: "Volume 1, number 2 of "*Adobeland*, a "funny" paper published in Albuquerque by Stevers and Butler is a new member to our exchange list. The *Adobeland* is a healthy publication and in time may become a fair rival of the sarcastic *Judge*." The three issues in the collection are all from volume 1, so we have no assurance it ever went beyond the first volume. Its jokes and cartoons obviously gave *Judge* no very serious competition—even in the Amador Collection. There were numbers of copies of both *Judge* and *Puck* with their lusty political cartoons, but so mutilated only a few of the better ones were kept as examples of the magazine. Both of these titles, of course, are held complete by many libraries in the country so there would have been little point in cluttering our files with fragments of them.

Several other magazines are of interest because of the photographs in them. The 1908 issue of *Revista Ilustrada*, published in El Paso, has a good picture of either Main or Church Street, and the *Southwest Illustrated* magazine, published in Albuquerque, has an article on the University, while another issue has photos of the houses of Judge John R. McFie and H. D. Bowman.

The oldest magazine in the collection and one of the most interesting because of its specialization is the *Monthly Musical Review*, published in Las Vegas by the Las Vegas Temple of Music. It is issue 2 for 1882. It is possible that this is a "canned" periodical issued by the dealers in musical instruments and sheet music whose ads are carried in it. There is another magazine of the same name and same general period published both in Indianapolis and Warren, Ohio. I might be doing Las Vegas an injustice, though, in suggesting that this is not an original Las Vegas publication.

Among the magazines published in Las Cruces is the *Southwestern Farm and Orchard*. Shortly after it was discovered in the collection we had a call asking us to provide full bibliographic information about an article in it by T. D. A. Cockerell, who had been the entomologist on the college staff about 1894. It was quickly located and was the first reference question answered from the collection. The same issue, September, 1894, also contains an article on the Shalam colony then in existence just north of town. This adds a very important item about the colony and one I have never seen referred to in any discussion of it. There is a very good description of the children who were living in the colony:

The children at the present time are mostly about eight years of age, and are fed entirely upon vegetable food, with a liberal allowance of fruit and nuts. Their clothing consists of a little linen tunic, and they wear no hats or shoes. They receive a bath twice a day, but no religious teaching of any kind. We believe they are later on to be taught to work and will receive an education in reading, etc., but the Shalamite religion is, we should imagine, on too high a plane to be grasped by a child's intellect. At least it is too high for us and we have studied it carefully. The children look

healthy, although not robust, and there is one noteworthy fact about them. We have made several visits to the colony and never saw one of the children crying or looking unhappy. They are always running about at play and they are the most cheerfully obedient lot of children we ever came across.

One of the best things about this issue of the *Southwestern Farm and Orchard* is that we have found several copies, and, contrary to many items, they are all in excellent condition.

One or two of the magazines listed are rather slight and undoubtedly were not published for more than a year or two: *Shopper's Guide*, for instance, whose main purpose was advertising. The *Home Evangel* was privately published in Albuquerque to arouse interest in and to raise money for a home and hospital for crippled children years before the Carrie Tingley Hospital was built. And so it goes, each title adding a little to the local color.

During the summer of 1966 J. Lawrence McConville catalogued those portions of the collection not included under periodicals and newspapers. Three large divisions emerged: (1) commercial records; (2) personal records; and (3) special materials. The commercial records, consisting of trade catalogs and brochures emanating from Chicago, St. Louis, Kansas City, St. Joseph, New York City, Denver, El Paso, San Francisco and Albuquerque, make up three-fourths of the catalogued materials. The commercial correspondence includes shipping and freighting transactions of the Amador Transfer Company, and it would appear that considerable information concerning commercial activity in the El Paso-Las Cruces area can be extracted from these materials. The library has a card file showing all of the items included in the commercial records section.

Apart from the biographical value of the Amador family correspondence, the personal records section includes an interesting packet of letters from a José María Falomir, a native of Chihuahua, containing humorous and candid observations about life in the United States while Falomir was studying at the University of Notre Dame, as well as a wealth of material having a bearing on the Chihuahuan upper classes' adjustment to the political and economic repercussions of the Mexican Revolution of 1910-17.

The special materials section of the collection was divided into several classes, including personal materials of special interest; legal and political documents; travel brochures; fashion and pattern catalogues and brochures; regional materials dealing with Southern New Mexico, Northern Chihuahua, and Trans-Pecos Texas; and New Mexico materials [not included under "Regional Materials"]. The latter two categories were sub-divided into minor groupings based on content areas such as religion, education, agriculture, organizations, natural resources, medicine, politics and government, developmental and promotional brochures, telephone directories, and fairs, conventions, and expositions. The legal and political documents group includes wills, Indian depredation claims, and the probate court proceedings of Judge Martin Amador.

In addition to what the collection reveals of one of Las Cruces' leading families, the collection provides a panoramic perspective of socio-cultural conditions in this region of the Borderlands during the last quarter of the nineteenth and the first third of the twentieth century. The frequently-noted historical unity of the northern portion of the Mexican Central Plateau on both sides of the border reasserts itself in a vivid, unmistakable fashion through the medium of the Amador Collection.

BOOK REVIEWS

C. L. SONNICHSEN: GRASSROOT HISTORIAN

by DALE L. WALKER

(El Paso: Texas Western Press, Southwest Studies, No. 34. Hard cover \$5.00, paper, \$3.00.)

Dale Walker's book about a truly remarkable man is a concise, sharply focused biography and study of the Sonnichsen writings, with the emphasis on the latter. He disclaims any attempt to cover the colorful and friendly personality of his many-faceted subject, but that is a lost cause from the outset: a quote here, a turn of phrase there, a line from an ivied or a Stetsoned critic, and there goes any chance GRASSROOTS might have had for scholarly dullness. There isn't a dull line in the book.

Walker's perspective, insight and rapport with "Doc" Sonnichsen make up in depth for what is lacking in breadth in the monograph form—even an expanded one. He is certain to have much excellent Sonnichsen material left over, and that bodes well for future explorations of many phases which could be merely outlined in the present book.

The biographical material is important and well handled. The pioneer background and inborn work ethic explain much about an outstanding teacher who yet found time to publish a shelf of books roughly as long as the King Ranch is wide. It explains too his determination, quiet but tenacious as a bulldog's, to uncover and assemble his primary source material, to revise and revise it into manuscript form, and to stick with it until reluctant publishers finally put his efforts between book covers. Chance played a part in the conversion of a Minnesota farm boy with a Harvard Ph.D. into an outstanding teacher and Southwestern historian, but good strong character underlay his success in those fields and in the greater one of human relations.

E. A. Drake and Anton Berkman were Sonnichsen's mentors when he first came to College of Mines in El Paso in 1931. They installed him in the dormitory in Kelly Hall, took him across Scenic Drive—where he held a handkerchief under his nose in case the altitude induced nose-bleed, as someone had told him it might. College of Mines had been a topnotch mining school and the Miners were less than happy to see it become a College of Mines and Arts, which was bad enough, and a haven for women students, which was infinitely worse. (A woman in a mine is considered an ill omen. The early Mines co-eds shared something of the same obloquy on campus.) Relations were strained all over.

Sonnichsen meant to stay only a few months. He was still there to deliver the commencement address to the class of 1972. He had retired once as a graduate school dean five years earlier, and was on the eve of his second retirement as an H. Y. Benedict professor, with plans for writing a detailed study of Western fiction and another opus which he categorized as Sex on the Lone Prair-ee. Then a new career opened as editor of the Arizona Historical Society Press at Tucson, and he and Carol were off to make their new home in the Catalina foothills. The third retirement seems anything but imminent.

Several of C. L. Sonnichsen's books cover in a highly personalized style the usual Western subjects: boom towns, bad men, worse women, bartenders,

cowboys and cattlemen, Judge Roy Bean, frontier types rural and urban, and one interesting character who claimed to have been Billy the Kid. But the really untouched field he uncovered in his grassroots research was that of the Texas and Southwestern feuds.

Here was regional history with a vengeance. Literally. The feuds were bloody, lethal, closely guarded family and factional secrets. Courthouses had been burned along with their records, second and third generation members walked with mouths clamped shut and their six-shooters handy. The ashes might look gray on the surface but the coals beneath were red hot. It was no place for a man who had once been cautious about nosebleeds.

But Sonnichsen sailed right into it, collected his source material and ended with four feud books plus *THE SALT WAR*, reprinted from *TEN TEXAS FEUDS*. He probably penned his words with a quill tweaked from the wing of a grassroots historian's guardian angel. More far-sighted than his peers, and certainly than his publishers, he recognized a side of Southwestern history where men of necessity enforced their own laws. The door on that era was fast closing as the old timers died off.

In the end, the fair-minded approach and the listening ear proved stronger than the shut mouth. Now the Sonnichsen feud books are the outstanding peaks in the ridge which includes the great *PASS OF THE NORTH* and his forthcoming *COLONEL GREENE AND THE COPPER SKYROCKET*; the definitive *ROY BEAN: LAW WEST OF THE PECOS*. *THE MESCALERO APACHES*, *BILLY KING'S TOMBSTONE*. *COWBOYS AND CATTLE KINGS*, *THE STATE NATIONAL BANK*, *WHITE OAKS* and the ace anthology, *THE SOUTHWEST IN LIFE AND LITERATURE*.

Good books all, some undeniably great, but in the final analysis Sonnichsen's unique contribution may well be *I'LL DIE BEFORE I'LL RUN*. *TEN TEXAS FEUDS*, *TULAROSA: LAST OF THE FRONTIER WEST*, *OUTLAW* and *THE EL PASO SALT WAR*—the five feud books. This is the Southwestern history on which C. L. Sonnichsen staked his own claim.

Dale Walker's outstanding book is another tall mountain range, the distinguished Southwestern Studies series. It is hard to imagine a happier combination than Dale Walker writing about "Doc" Sonnichsen, and the book well deserves the success which is headed its way.

El Paso, Texas

MARY REDFORD

TOM WHITE: THE LIFE OF A LAWMAN

by VERDON R. ADAMS

(El Paso: Texas Western Press (The University of Texas at El Paso), \$8.

No one could have had a solidier frontier education in the ways of law enforcement than Tom White had. His father, Emmet white, served 12 years as sheriff of Travis County, Texas (and as Mayor, County Judge, and County Road Commissioner later on) and would never assign to others tasks too odious for himself. Thus, young Tom witnessed four hangings that his father presided over, saw his dad's blood-soaked shirt the day a prisoner stabbed Sheriff White in the back in a futile escape attempt (Emmet White got his thumb in the prisoner's eye and popped the eyeball out, whereupon the thug wisely surrendered), and in other ways learned of the dangers, as well as the recompenses—mostly in terms of respect, rather than salary—of upholding the law.

The White family has had an exemplary record in the law through three generations. Judge White's son Dudley served as a Texas Ranger and was shot to death from ambush in the Big Thicket country of East Texas. (When Tom White became warden of Leavenworth Penitentiary, he found one of his brother's murderers an inmate there—but Tom, true to his fashion, never mentioned it to anyone.) Tom's brother Coleman followed his father's footsteps and served as sheriff of Travis County, and James (or "Doc" as he was best known) carved out a fine career as city policeman, Texas Ranger, Customs, Prohibition and FBI Agent, and played a part in the running to bay of John Dillinger, aiding in the capture too of Machine Gun Kelly, and participating in the famous gunbattle in which Ma Barker and her gang were killed. The tradition goes on today: Dudley White, Jr. became a Texas Ranger; Tom White's son, Tom, Jr., retired after 27 years as Special Agent for the FBI and is now Chief Security Officer for a New Mexico race track corporation; and Tom's other son, Robert, is a prominent attorney in Dallas.

Tom White's own career, as traced by El Paso author Verdon Adams, was as spectacular as any recorded anywhere and perhaps as intriguing as the career is was his ability to remain faithful, through the horrors and misery he witnessed, to his own simple precepts of living: "Help people when you can. If you can't help them, don't hurt them." As author Adams puts it, "One would need to go a long way before finding a person with a more wholesome outlook on life generally, and more compassion for his fellow human beings, than this son of Sheriff Emmet White . . ."

Tom's career began with the Texas Ranger, mold of many a mighty minion of the law, then he became Special Agent for the Santa Fe Railroad, then agent for the Federal Bureau of Investigation. As one of J. Edgar Hoover's principal trouble-shooters, White's most famous case was his solving of the series of brutal murders that occurred on the Osage Indian Reservation in Oklahoma. After that, at the urging of Mr. Hoover and others, White took on the enormous task of cleaning up the Atlanta Federal Prison—rife with mismanagement, cruelty and kickbacks—and he did it. He served too as warden of "Big L"—Leavenworth—and survived a prison riot as well as a break in which he was taken hostage and shot in the arm while trying to break away from his captors. He knew such murderers as Gerald Chapman, Robert Stroud (whose "Birdman" activities began at Leavenworth, not Alcatraz), and Carl Panzran—the first person to be executed in a federal prison, as well as such relatively harmless prison notables as Dr. Frederick Cook, the man who fraudulently claimed to have discovered the North Pole a year before Peary.

Through it all, Tom White served the cause of law and order for a year over half a century and his service was marked with dedication, selflessness, compassion, a flair for the innovative (though he was not truly a crusader), and as close to absolute fearlessness as anyone could expect of other man. He was especially proud of one record: he never had to kill anyone.

Verdon Adams handles Tom White's extraordinary story with grace and feeling—and an obvious love and respect for his subject—as well as with humor and a fine ear for the good anecdote and colorful tale. (You have to read about the legendary cockroaches of Leavenworth to appreciate this talent.) Adams' writing style tends toward, perhaps appropriately, the old-timey in flavor: many interjected remarks, studded with exclamation points; the sometimes labyrinthine paragraph; the gathering of the reader into the

text as if embarking on an adventurous voyage: "It is here that we will pick up our story," etc.

The reviewer faults Adams on only one point, his rather nettling tendency to moralize, seemingly quite apart from his subject's thinking, on matters such as the mistreatment of the Indians by the whites, on the penal system, capital punishment, and other issues. He likens the sale of "fire-water" to the Indians with the sale of drugs to youngsters of today, a dubious comparison at best, and does this apparently outside the context of Tom White's own thoughts and statements on the matter. If White thought they were comparable, that is something worth recording, of course, but it would have to be clear that it is White's thinking, not the author's.

But clearly, here is a book of worth on a man of worth—Tom White, man of the law.

University of Texas at El Paso

—DALE L. WALKER

THE CHINESE IN EL PASO

by NANCY FARRAR

(El Paso, Texas: Texas Western Press: Southwestern Studies, 1972, \$2.00).

All of us who are interested in El Paso history are vaguely aware that there have "always" been Chinese people in our area. But few of us have ever thought much about the local Chinese—how and why they came to El Paso, what they did after they arrived, how they lived, what they were thought of, why they stayed (or didn't stay). Miss Nancy Farrar, a history teacher at El Paso's Coronado High School, is one who has obviously wondered about them. And more than wondered. She has inquired, searched, and researched. The result is a splendid monograph: *The Chinese in El Paso*.

She tells us at the outset that the story of early El Paso's Chinese must necessarily be drawn from secondary sources ("newspaper accounts and public records") because these people, "unlike some other sojourners in the West, possessed little, if any, education" and therefore left "few personal records . . . regarding their lives in or impressions of El Paso." What this means is that *The Chinese in El Paso* amounts to more than a chronicle of this particular minority group; it is also a rendering of the "impressions" which this tiny minority made on the dominant majority. This aspect of the monograph makes it a valuable contribution to El Paso historiography.

The Chinese in El Paso covers roughly four decades: from 1881, when several "imported" Chinese laborers arrived with the Southern Pacific Railroad and stayed because apparently they were no longer needed in the construction gangs, to about 1917, when "as a result of several factors, the Chinese colony began to decline." Miss Farrar brings out the fact that during those decades there developed in El Paso a rather large Chinatown, which "represented a refuge to the Chinese," but which "was regarded by many El Pasoans as a place of evil—of gambling joints, opium dens, hatchet-men, tong wars, unsanitary conditions . . ."

The evidence does indeed strongly indicate that El Paso's Chinatown, which occupied the area extending from St. Louis (present-day Mills) south to Fourth Street and from Stanton to El Paso Streets was "a place of evil." The newspapers of those decades frequently reported the presence of disease, drug traffic, violence, a fact which leads the author to the conclusion that "the citizens of El Paso took notice only of the worst aspects of Chinese society here."

And further research led Miss Farrar to a realization that Chinatown was also a "refuge" for the homeless Chinese abandoned by the exigency of the completion of a railroad line. It was a place where these homeless people established businesses (hand laundries, restaurants, barber shops, merchandise stores), where they came to each other's aid, and where they preserved their ancestral customs.

As Miss Farrar reports her findings, these customs, especially the celebration of the New Year, must have brightened the tapestry of our raw, new desert community with their threads of ancient ceremony: "silken lanterns [glowing] all over," "quince twigs [burning] in the tea shops," "sandalwood . . . fumes," "prayers offered for the good luck of the past year," "bright red cards," "firecrackers . . . almost continuously, indoors and out," "flowing robes," "cups of rare and costly tea . . . placed upon the altar before Buddha." And occasionally, a journalist's or editor's comment that "The Chinese never get drunk like Americans and are never loud," that "Hospitality and generosity are two of his virtues he is seldom given credit for," that "The Chinese . . . are wise, and can readily distinguish between the good and the bad."

To read this monograph is to be enriched by the many insights it offers: into a phase of long-neglected El Paso history, into the psychology of an "in-group" responding to "mysterious" outsiders, into the complex behavior of an alienated people—far from home, often frightened, frequently berated, yet quietly possessed of dignity, responsibility, patience, and pride.

University of Texas at El Paso

—LILLIAN COLLINGWOOD

In 1889 there were 18 laundries in El Paso, all owned and operated by Chinese.

Cloudcroft, New Mexico, derived its name from the crown of clouds that hover over the "croft," an Old English word meaning field.

Indian Chief Geronimo died of old age on February 17, 1907, at Fort Sill, Oklahoma.

President Chester A. Arthur in his first message to Congress (1881) asked for authority to cope with bands of cowboys who were terrorizing the Southwest and the Mexican border.

Stephen F. Austin organized the Rangers in 1823 to protect the colonists from renegades and outlaws.

The Constock Lode in Nevada was discovered in 1859.

Saint Barbara is the patroness of artillerymen. She lived and died about 300 A. D. and was venerated as early as the seventh century. The legend of the lightning bolt that struck down her persecutor caused her to be regarded as the protector against thunderbolts, fires, and sudden death. When gunpowder made its appearance in the Western world, St. Barbara was invoked for protection against accidents resulting from explosions, as some of the earlier artillery pieces often blew up. Because of this, in time she became the patron Saint of artillerymen. The feast of Saint Barbara falls on Dec. 4.

HISTORICAL NOTES

An Important Announcement

The El Paso County Historical Society is proud to announce the publication of a book, an interesting book, an important book, a beautiful book. It is by, for and about El Paso and El Pasoans. It tells practically everything about the city and its people as they prepare to celebrate the city's HUNDRETH ANNIVERSARY in 1973. Its title—EL PASO: A CENTENNIAL PORTRAIT.

The book contains 24 chapters and 300 pages, all written by members of the Society, and 70 well-chosen and often rare photographs. It was compiled and edited by Harriot Howze Jones who edits the feature, "HERITAGE HOMES," for PASSWORD.

The price of the book is \$10.50 to members of the Society and \$12.50 to non-members.

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The Texas legislature officially extended "its grateful thanks of the people of our State, and particularly the citizens of our frontier" to General Ronald S. MacKenzie for "prompt action and gallant conduct" against the Indians along the Texas border.

CONTRIBUTORS to this ISSUE

LEON C. METZ is completing his second year as president of our Society. For a detailed biographical sketch see *PASSWORD*, xvi, No. 1 (Spring, 1971), inside back cover.

MRS. CHARLES A. (BETTY MARY) GOETTING as a young librarian knew and loved Mrs. Kohlberg. She was one of several persons who nominated Mrs. Kohlberg for the Hall of Honor.

This is Mrs. Goetting's second nominating address. In 1963 she paid tribute to El Paso's great librarian, Maud Durlin Sullivan. (See *PASSWORD*, vii, No. 1, 11-14.) Incidentally, Mrs. Goetting served fifteen years as Curator of our Society.

CHARLES H. LEAVELL was born in El Paso where he was graduated from El Paso High School. He attended Texas College of Mines (now UTEP) where he and Ambassador Friedkin were classmates and basketball teammates. Mr. Leavell left Mines for Stanford University where he earned a degree in engineering. In the 1930's the two men served with the Boundary Commission as young engineers. Mr. Leavell left the Commission to organize a construction company of which he is president. The company, general contractors, operates on an international scope.

ROBERT N. MULLIN, a native El Pasoan, is now retired and living in South Laguna, California. He is the author of a number of articles, several of which have been published in *PASSWORD*, and one book, *The Strange Story of Wayne Brazil*. Another book, *History of the Lincoln County War*, was researched and partly written by Maurice G. Fulton, Professor of History at New Mexico Military Institute. He died before completing the book and Mr. Mullin completed writing and editing it.

The present article was published in the San Diego Westerners *Wrangler*, September, 1971. It is published here with the kind permission of the author.

ELISE W. STEVENS, the widow of Dr. B. F. Stevens, came to El Paso in 1924. After retiring as a Registered Nurse, Mrs. Stevens was active in civic and intellectual endeavors. She served on the Boards of the Public Library, the Museum of Arts, Historical Society, Woman's Club, the Cloudcroft Baby Sanitorium, and the Daughters of the American Revolution. She was a member of the El Paso Press Club, the Writers League, Garden Club and the American Rose Society. Her poems have been published in national magazines. This is her first contribution to *PASSWORD*.

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J. LAWRENCE McCONVILLE is from Buffalo, New York. He graduated as a Phi Beta Kappa from the University of New Mexico in 1965 with a B. A. in Latin American Studies. He received his M. A. from the same in-

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MARY REDFORD, an Iowan by birth and a Southwesterner by election, is widely experienced in the art of book reviewing. She has reviewed for the *Dallas News*, the *El Paso Times* and, more recently, for the *El Paso Herald-Post*. Later she reviewed for the *Yuma (Arizona) Times* and the Yuma Radio Station KYUM. In addition to reviews she had contributed articles to a number of garden magazines. She is presently committed to the Journal of the American Horticultural Society for some articles on *spuria irises*.

In October past Mrs. Redford served as a discussion leader in the Historical Writing and Research Workshop, sponsored by the Research Committee of the Yuma County Historical Society.

DALE L. WALKER is Director of the News and Information Office of the University of Texas at El Paso. He is a regular contributor to *PASSWORD*. He is also the author of several books, his most recent being *C. L. Sonnichsen: Grassroots Historian*, reviewed in this issue of *PASSWORD*.

LILLIAN COLLINGWOOD is Ass't. Professor of English at the University of Texas at El Paso. She is a frequent reviewer of books for *PASSWORD*.

In El Paso in 1895 there were two Chinese temples, called in Pidgin English, "joss houses." Joss is a Chinese household god.

The columbine is the state flower of Colorado.

Avocados are so large and cheap in Mexico that they are called "*mantequilla de pobre*," poor man's butter.

—Amigos.

The "Georgia Battalion" came to Texas equipped with arms and accoutrements issued by the State of Georgia. All were lost to the Mexicans in the massacre of Goliad. In 1856 the State of Texas repaid Georgia for her loss.

Gold was discovered at Pinos Altos, New Mexico, in the summer of 1851.

Uvalde County, Texas, organized in 1853, was named after Juan de Ugalde, a Spanish soldier and explorer.

Index to Volume Seventeen

- Adams, Lt. John, 61.
 Adams, Mrs. John, 61.
 Adams, Verdon R., *Tom White: The Life of a Lawman*, rev. 200-202.
 Aero Corporation of California, 112.
 Aguilar, Mr. and Mrs. Lorenzo, 194.
 Ainsa, Edin (Mrs. Eugene Callahan), 85.
 Ainsa, Francis, 85.
 Ainsa, Mrs. Francis (Evelyn Fraser), 85.
 Ainsa, Frank S., 84, 85.
 Ainsa, Mrs. Frank S. (Roselle McNamee), 84, 85.
 The Ainsa House, 84.
 Ainsa, Marian (Winkie) (Mrs. John Breitling), 85.
 Ainsa, Patricia (Baroness Istban de Korranyi), 85.
 Alcibar, José de, 102.
 Alconedo, José Luis Rodrigues, 102.
Alegria, 30.
 Almaraz, Dr. Félix Diaz, 104.
 Alton, Illinois, 51.
 American Airlines, 114.
 American Association of University Women, 162.
 "Angrytown and its Beacon: A Reminiscence," by Chris P. Fox, art., 106-109.
 Antone, Evan Haywood, 34, 47.
 Antrim, Catherine, 173, 174.
 "Art By and For the Bilingual," by José Cisneros, art., 99-105.
Arthur E. Stillwell: Promoter with a Hunch, by Keith L. Bryant, Jr., noted, 37.
 Ashburn, Frank D., 168.
 Ashburn, Colonel P. M., 168, 169, 172.
 Ashford, Gerald, *Spanish Texas: Yesterday and Today*, rev. 91-92.
 The Associated Charities, 159.
 Baby Sanitarium, 161.
 Bailey, Mrs. Fred.
 Baines, George W., 43.
 Ballantyne, Margaret Neff "Heritage Homes: The Beall House," art., 39-40; note, 47.
 Barrett, Dr. F. O.
 Barrett, Mildred A., and McConville, J. Laurence, Guest Editors, "Southwest Archives: The Amador Collection," 169-197; notes, 205.
 Bate, Jorge, 95.
 Baylor, Colonel John R., 13, 31, fn. 18, 78.
 Baylor University, 138.
 Beall, Captain Thomas Jeremiah, 39, 40.
 The Beall House, 39-40.
 Becker, Mrs. William, 155.
 Bennett, Dr. J. Travis, 26.
 Berry, Nellie May (Mrs. Joseph F. Friedkin), 166.
A Bibliography of Writings and Illustrations by Tom Lea, comp. by Glennis Hinshaw and Elizabeth Lovelace, rev., 33-34.
Big Men Walked Here: The Story of Washington-on-the-Brazos, by Stanley Seigal, note, 37-38.
The Big Thicket: A Challenge for Conservation, by A. Y. Gunter, rev., 145-146.
 Billy the Kid, 173.
 Black, Dr. Arthur, 26.
The Black Military Experience in the American West, ed. and ann. by John M. Carroll, rev., 90-91.
 Blacker, Judge and Mrs. Allan, 194.
 Blake, J. Warner, *Don Caliche's Gardening Book: Especially for the Southwest*, rev., ¶147-148.
 Bode, Elroy *Elroy Bode's Sketchbook: Portraits in Nostalgia*, rev., 146-147.
 Boone, Daniel, 158.
 Boundary Commission, 165.
 Bowden, J. J., "The Captivity and Suffering of Mrs. Jane Wilson," art., 51-67; *Spanish and Mexican Land Grants in the Chihuahua Acquisition*, rev. 92-93.
 Bowie, Colonel George W., 188, 190 n. 135.
 Braddy, Haldeen, 87, 104.
 Brady, Dr. James B., 69.
 Brazos River (Texas), 53.
 Breck, Julia, 95.
 Breck, Mrs. Louis, 165.
 Breitling, John (Marian) (Winkie) Ainsa, 85.
 Brell, Mrs. Thomas, 121.
 Brenner, Mrs. Aaron, 155.
 Brooks, Lt. Edwards J., 17, 22 fn. 28.
 Brooks, S. P., 43.
 Brown, Dr. C. P., 27.
 Brown's Hotel (Washington, D. C.), 119.
 Brown, Miss Joanne, 155.
 Brown, Postmaster General, 112.
 Brown, Dr. W. L., 25.

- Brucker, Mrs. Wallace, 155.
 Brunner, Dr. George, 26.
 Bryant, Bob, 106.
 Bryant, Keith L. Jr., *Arthur E. Stillwell: Promoter with a Hunch*, noted, 37.
 Buena Vista, Battle of, 81.
 Burckhalter, Marietta Mills, 80.
 Burges, Richard Fenner, 87.
 Burgett, Mrs. William, 155.
 Burleson, Postmaster M. L., 114.
 Burleson, Rufus, 41.
 Butterfield Overland Mail (Stage), 6, 55.
 Cabrera, Miguel, 102.
 Callaghan, Eugene, 85.
 Callaghan, Mrs. Eugene (Enid Ainsa), 85.
 Calleros, Cleofas, 87, 135.
 Calleros, Mrs. Cleofas, 135.
 Camp Morton, 119.
 Canby, Colonel Edward Richard Sprigg, 15, 21 fn. 23, 78.
 Canby, General E. R. S., 122.
 Canutillo (Canutilla), New Mexico, 17, 22, 32 fn. 1.
 "The Captivity and Suffering of Mrs. Jane Wilson," by J. J. Bowden, art., 51-67.
 Cardero, Juan, 102.
 Carleton, General James H., 177, 189, n. 98.
 Carmichael, Norman, 40.
 Carpenter, Malcolm, 113.
 Carroll, John M., ed. and ann., *The Black Military Experience in the American West*, rev. 90-91; 154.
 Castañeda, Dr. Carlos, 104.
 Cathcart, Dr., 26.
 Chamizal Boundary, 165.
 The Charity Union, 159.
 Charles V, Emperor, 169, 171.
 Cheyenne, Wyoming, 112.
The Chinese in El Paso, by Nancy Far-
 rar, rev., 202-203.
 Chipewa (Chippewa), Battle of, 81.
 Chloride, New Mexico, 87.
 Church of Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe (Juárez), 70.
 Cisneros, José, "Art by and For the Bilingual," art., 99-105; note, 151.
 Clarke, J. I., 74.
 Clear Fork of the Brazos (Texas), 53, 54.
 Cloister Gardens (New York), 176.
 C. L. Sonnichsen: *Grassroots Historian*, by Dale L. Walker, rev., 199-200.
 Cockerell, T. D. A., 197.
 Coldwell, George, 41.
 Cole, John, 194.
 Collingwood, Lillian, 90, 96, 203, 205.
 Colorado River, 165, 166.
 Colorado Volunteers (Pike Peakers), 62.
Comancheros, 59.
 Communities of Religious Women (El Paso Catholic Diocese), 45, 46.
 Conklin, Bill, 40.
 Connelly, Dr. Henry, 178, 188 n. 106.
 Connor, Seymour U., ed., *Dear America: Some Letters of Orange Cicero and Mary America (Aikin) Connor*, noted, 38.
 Cook, Lt. Colonel Philip St. George, 61.
 Cooke's Spring, 6
 Cordula, Sister M., 134.
 Corps of Engineers, 165.
 Costa, Father Lourdes F., 134.
 Coues, Elliott, 98.
 Cowboy Park (Juárez), 71.
 Craige, Dr. Branch, 27, 155, 162.
 Craige, Mrs. Branch, 155.
 Craige, Dr. Branch, Sr., 161.
 Craige, Mrs. Branch, Sr. (Else), 162.
 Craige, Dr. Ernest, 162.
 Cramp, Postmaster H. C., 114.
 Crane, William Carey, 41.
 Crook, James, 155.
 Crosby, Josiah Fraser, 8, 20 fn. 6, 63.
 Crouse, Dr. Hugh, 26.
 Cuniffée, (Cuniffe), Henry Joseph, 125, 131.
 Cuniffe, Henry H., 6.
 Cumberland Gap, 158.
 "Current Topics Club," 161.
 Curtis, Sidney, 174.
 Darbyshire, Benjamin Franklin, 193.
 Darbyshire, Esther (Mrs. Kenneth W. McCallum), 194.
 Darbyshire, Jack, 194.
 Darbyshire, Oliver, 194.
 Darnell, Linda, 4.
 Daughters of the American Revolution, 141.
 Davis, Jeff, 78.
 Davis, William Watts Hart, 61.
 Day, Dr. James, 99, 155.
Dear America: Some Letters of Orange Cicero and Mary America (Aikin) Connor, ed. by Seymour V. Connor, noted, 38.

- Del Rio, Texas, 165.
- Deming, New Mexico, 6.
- Díaz del Castillo, Bernal, 169.
- Díaz, President Porfirio, 68.
- Dickerson, Donna Lee, *A Typstick of Texas History*, rev., 34-36.
- Diffenderfer (Diffendorfer), David R., 13, 21 fn. 22, 75.
- Diffendorfer (Diffenderfer), David R., 13, 21 fn. 22, 75.
- Diffenduffer Brothers, 178, 188 n. 106.
- Dobie, J. Frank, 87.
- "Doctors I Have Known," by Anne Kemp White, art., 23-29.
- Don Caliche's Gardening Book: Especially for the Southwest*, by J. Warner Blake, rev., 147-148.
- Douglas, Arizona, 111.
- Dowell, Benjamin S., 7, 20 fn. 3, 129.
- Duncan, Dr. Ernest, 27.
- Eagleton, N. Ethie, *On the Last Frontier: A History of Upton County*, rev., 32-33.
- Edwards, Peyton, 87.
- El Conquistador*, 4.
- El Paso Aero Club, 113.
- El Paso High School, 163.
- El Paso in Pictures*, by Frank Mangan, rev., 32.
- El Paso, Mexico, 10, 21 fn. 15, 12.
- "El Paso's Municipal Airport: 1929-1936—A Family of Firsts," by Stacy Hinkle, art., 110-115.
- El Paso, Texas, 51.
- Elroy Bode's Sketchbook: Portraits in Nostalgia, by Elroy Bode, rev., 146-147.
- Escudero Column, 72.
- Eveler, Catherine, "Mount Cristo Rey," art, 134-136; note, 136.
- Eveler, Laura Ann, 134.
- Eveler, Peter, 134.
- Eveler, Mr. and Mrs. Pete V., 134.
- Eyres, (Eyre), Colonel E. E., 122.
- Farrar, Nancy, *The Chinese in El Paso*, rev., 202-203.
- Fassett, Mr. and Mrs. C. W., 194.
- Fick, Alvin S., 147, 152.
- Fierman, Dr. Floyd S., 155.
- Flood Control Project, Tijuana, 165.
- Folk, Robert G., 113.
- Forbes, Mrs. Stewart, 134.
- Fort Bliss, 6.
- Fort Bliss (Old), 157.
- Fort Craig (New Mexico), 9, 21 fn. 14, 116, 120, 121.
- Fort Fillmore, 6, 7, 9, 21 fn. 11, 16, 74.
- Fort Quitman, 128.
- Fort Selden: May 1865-June 1891*, by Hugh M. Milton II, rev., 93-94.
- Fort Union, 116.
- Fort Washita (Oklahoma), 62.
- Fox, Chris P., "Angrytown and its Beacon: A Reminiscence," art., 106-109; note, 151, 155.
- Fraser, Evelyn (Mrs. Francis Ainsa), 85.
- Friedkin, Joseph F., 155.
- Fox, Mrs. Chris P., 155.
- Friedkin, Mrs. Joseph F. (Nellie May Berry), 155.
- Gallagher, Dr. Paul, 24, 25.
- Galvan, Margaret (Lipscomb, Mrs. John P. O'Connor), 140.
- Garibaldi, Colonel Jose, 71.
- Gaylord, Cliff, 106.
- George Peabody: A Biography*, by Franklin Parker, noted, 38.
- Gibson and Company (contractors), 84.
- Gillett, John, 126, 129, 178, 188 n. 105.
- Goetting, Betty Mary (Mrs. Charles), 88.
- Goetting, Mrs. Charles A., "Tribute to Olga Bernstein Kohlberg," 159-162; 205.
- Gomez, Dr. Severo, 104.
- Goodman, I. B., 149.
- Goodman, Mrs. I. B., 155.
- Goodman, Mrs. Leonard, Jr., 155, 162.
- Goodman, Leonard, Sr., 3.
- Goodman, Mrs. Leonard, Sr., 155.
- Graham, Marjorie, 4, 155.
- "A Grave Question," by Robert N. Mullin, art., 173-174.
- Greear, Mrs. Yvonne, 155.
- Gressley, Gene M., 5.
- Guadalupe Peak, 51.
- Gunter, A. Y., *The Big Thicket: A Challenge for Conservation*, rev., 145-146.
- Haddox, John, 104.
- Hale, E. E., 114.
- Hall of Honor Banquet, 1972, 155.
- Hamilton, A. J., 6.
- Hancock, Charles, 155.
- Hancock, Mrs. Charles, 155.
- Hardy, Dr. John, 27.
- Hart, Jesse E., 114.
- Hart, Martin, 51, 52, 53.
- Hart (Judge) Simeon, 8, 20 fn. 5, 11, 17.

- Hart, Simon, 122.
 Hart's Mill (El Paso), 4, 157, 188, 190 n. 126.
 Hatfield, Frances, "Posadas and Piñatas," art., 30-31; notes, 47, 95.
 Hawkins, Mr. and Mrs., 73.
 Hefter, Joseph, 104.
 Heising, Paul, 113.
 Heisig, Mrs. Paul A., 155.
 Hemperly, Mrs. Carl, 134.
 Hendricks, Mrs. G. S. (Flora), 142.
 Hendrix, Dr., 25.
 Herbert, Colonel Philemon Thomas, 7, 20 fn. 2, 13. Heritage Homes: "The Beall House," by Margaret Neff Ballantyne, art., 39-40.
 Heritage Homes: "The B. F. Darbyshire Home," 193-194.
 Hermida, Mrs. Martha, 194.
 Herren, John, 191.
 Herron, W. G., 110.
 Hertzog, Carl, 105, 155.
 Hewitt, Commissioner L. H., 165.
 Hickman, Henry, 51.
 Hicks, Helen, "PASSWORD Salutes Tom Lea," art., 137-138; note, 151; PASSWORD Salutes Russell Waterhouse," art., 191-192; note, 205.
 Higgins, Dr. George, 23.
 Higgins, Dr. and Mrs. George, 194.
 Higgins, Gertrude, 23.
 Hinkle, Stacy C., "El Paso's Municipal Airport: 1929-1936—a Family of Firsts," art., 110-115; notes, 113, 151.
 Hinkle, Mrs. Stacy, 155.
 Hinshaw, Glennis and Lovelace, Elizabeth, comp. by., *A Bibliography of Writings and Illustrations by Tom Lea*, History Writing Contest, 134.
 Hodges, Mrs. Harlan (Margaret), 140.
 Hoke, Virginia, 87.
 Homan, Dr. R. B., 25, 27.
 Hooten, Mrs. William, 155.
 Hopper (Hoppin), Judge Charles A., 121, 122.
 Hornick, Andrew, 188, 190 n. 130.
 Horsley, Dr., 73.
 Hotel Dieu Hospital, 107.
 Houston, Sam, 87.
 Hueco Tanks (Texas), 51.
 Hughey, A. N. (Pop), 107.
 Hunt County (Texas), 51.
 Ibarra, José de, 102.
 Irvin, Clifford, 24.
 Irvin, Dr. Harland, 24, 25.
 Irvin, Dr., O. C., 24.
 Irvin, Dr. and Mrs. O. C., 194.
 Jackson, Lynnell, *True Witnesses*, rev., 34-36.
 Jamestown, Missouri, 51.
 Jenkins, John H., 150.
 Jenkins Publishing Company, 150.
 Jewish Welfare Association, 161.
 Jimeno y Planes, Rafael, 102.
 Johnson, Colonel A. S., 54.
 Johnson, Lyndon B., 43.
 Johnson, N., 62.
 Jones, Harriot Howze, 150.
 Jones, Colonel Samuel J., 17, 22 fn. 25, 120, 122, 124, 126, 127, 128, 129, 130, 178, 189 n. 100.
 Juan José (a Comanche leader), 59, 61.
 Juárez, Juan, 102.
 Juárez, Nicolás, 102.
 "Judge Sweeney Watches a Revolution," by Joseph Sweeney, *intro., ed., and ann.*, by Mildred Torok, art., 68-73.
 Justus, Dr. 24.
 Kelley, Mayor and Mrs. Charles, 194.
 Kelly, Elizabeth Hooks, 87.
 Kemp, Mrs. Page, 155.
 Kennedy, John F., 165.
 Kent, Steve, 155.
 Kent, Mrs. Steve, 155.
 Kit Carson, 116.
 Klutz, Dr. William Clarence, 25, 134.
 Kohlberg, Ernest, 159.
 Kohlberg, Herbert, 162.
 Kohlberg, Leo, 162.
 Kohlberg, Mrs. Olga Bernstein, 159 et. seq.
 Kohlberg, Walter, 162.
 Kohlberg, Mrs. Walter, 162.
 Koranyi, Baroness Istban de (Patricia Ainsa), 85.
 Krause, Ernest E. U., 193.
 Lane, Captain William B. (Plumer), 17, fn. 29, 74, 186, 190 n. 125.
 Langford, Dick, 110.
 Lattner, Steve, 110.
 Laws, Dr. James, 25.
 Lawson, Commissioner L. M., 165.
 L. B. J. Library (Austin), 99.
 Lea, Tom, 86, 87, 137, 138.
 Lea, Mrs. Tom, 138.

- Leavell, Charles H., 153; "Tribute to Ambassador Joseph F. Friedkin," art., 163-166; note, 205.
- Leavell, Mrs. Charles H., 155.
- Leighton, George (Pie), 106.
- Letord, Dr. Henri, 69.
- "Letters Home: W. W. Mills Writes to his Family," *intro. and notes* by Eugene O. Porter, Foreword by Bill McGaw, art., Part I, 5-22; Part II, 74-83; Part III, 116-132; Part IV, 177-190.
- Lieutenant Lee of Beale Street*, by David M. Tucker, noted 37.
- Ligon, Betty, 91, 96.
- Link, J. B., 41.
- Lipscomb, Mabel O'Connor, "Heritage Homes. The O'Connor House," art., 139-140; note 140, 151.
- Lipscomb, Mrs. Robert U. (Mabel O'Connor), 140.
- Lister, Dr. Joseph, 26.
- Lockhart, Arthur M., 113.
- Lockport, New York, 24.
- Long, Pete, 5.
- Longuemare, Charles, 86.
- Los Angeles, 111.
- Love, Dr., 27.
- Lucas, Jim, 120.
- Luke (Luque), General, 72.
- Lundy's Lane, Battle of, 81.
- Lynde, Major Isaac, 11, 21 fn. 18, 17.
- McCallum, Mrs. Kenneth W. (Esther Darbyshire), 194.
- McCamant, Dr. Thomas, 27.
- McCarty, Mrs. R. L., 155.
- McCoun (McCune), Raymond, 173.
- McGaw, Bill, Foreword: "Letters Home: W. W. Mills Writes to his Family," *intro. and notes* by Eugene O. Porter, art., Part I, 5-22; Part II, 74-83; Part III, 116-132; Part IV, 177-190.
- McGaw, Patricia, 5.
- McGaw, William Cochran, *Savage Scene: The Life and Times of James Kirker, Frontier King*, rev., 143-145.
- McGregor, Malcolm, 85.
- McKee, Dr. James Cooper, 17, 22 fn. 30.
- McKemp, Cooper (Coop), 106.
- McKinney, Texas, 6.
- McNalie (McNally or Mc Nalley), Lt., 17, 22 fn. 26.
- McNally or McNalley (McNalie), Lt., 17, 22 fn. 26.
- McNamee, Roselle (Mrs. Frank S. Ainsa), 85.
- McRae, Captain Alexander, 81, 82.
- Madero, Francisco I., 69.
- Madero's *Insurrectos*, 68.
- Magoffin Home, 4.
- Mangan, Frank, *El Paso in Pictures*, rev., 32.
- Manypenny, George W., 61, 62.
- Marcy Trail (Texas), 51.
- Marr, Colonel and Mrs. James, 194.
- Marshal, General S. L. A., 158.
- Mason, Dr., 26.
- Maverick Tales, by J. D. Rittenhouse, rev., 89-90.
- Melino del Ray (Molino del Rey), King's Mill, battle of, 81.
- Meriwether, Governor David (New Mexico), 61.
- Meriwether, Raymond, 61.
- Merrill, Martin, 155.
- Merritt, Charles, 128.
- Mesilla, New Mexico, 7.
- Meston, Mrs. Harvey, 155.
- Metz, Leon C., "The President's Message," 3-4; "What is a Historical Heritage," art., 156-158; notes, 32, 47, 104, 155.
- Metz, Mrs. Leon C., 155.
- Meyer, Margaret Schuster, 24.
- Michler (Mishler), Lt. Lyman, 81.
- Midcontinent Air Express, 111, 114.
- Miller, Dr. Felix, 27.
- Miller, T. J., 177, 189 n. 96.
- Mills, Allen, 15.
- Mills, Anson, 9, 74.
- Mills, Caroline, 18.
- Mills, Emmett, 6.
- Mills, James P., 6.
- Mills, John B., 130.
- Mills, Sarah Kenworthy, 6.
- Milton, Hugh M., II, *Fort Selden: May 1865-June 1891*, rev., 93-94.
- Ming, Virginia, "Southwest Archives: The Texas Collection of Baylor University," art., 41-44, note, 48.
- Ming, William L., 42.
- Mishler (Michler), Lt. Layman, 81.
- Molino del Rey (Melino del Rey), King's Mill, battle of, 81.
- Moore, Captain Isaiah N., 78.
- "Mount Cristo Rey," by Catherine Everler, art., 134-136.
- Mount Franklin, 99.
- Mulatto, Mexico, 72.

- Mullin, Robert N., "A Grave Situation," art., 173-174, note, 205.
- Music (Musick), Charles, 177.
- Musick, (Music), Charles, 121.
- Nangle (Nanzle), Dr. Joseph, 8, 21 fn. 9, 120.
- Nanzle (Nangle), Dr. Joseph, 8, 21 fn. 9, 120.
- Nava, Dr. Julian, 104.
- Navarro, General Juan J., 71, 72.
- Neal, Dorothy Jensen, 95.
- Neff, Eugene E., 40.
- Neff, Pat M., papers, 43.
- Neighbors, Robert S., 62.
- Neuman, H. L., 194.
- Newman, Bud, 3, 155.
- Newman, Mrs. Bud, 155.
- Nicodemus, Captain W. J. L., 127.
- Niles, Juliat, 63.
- Nolan, Philip, 85.
- O'Connor, John P., 139.
- Ohto (Southern Comanche), 54.
- Ojinaga, Mexico, 72.
- O'Keefe, John, 72.
- Old Fort Bliss, 157.
- On the Last Frontier: A History of Upton County*, by Ethil Eagleton, rev., 32-33.
- Osborn, Leigh White, 23.
- Pace, Lulu, (Texas) Collection, 43.
- Paez, José de, 102.
- Pancho Villa, 84.
- Pan Zareta (racehorse), 106, 107.
- Paris, Texas, 51.
- Parker Franklin, *George Peabody: A Biography*, noted, 38.
- Parker, James H., 86.
- Paschal, I. A., 63.
- "PASSWORD Salutes Russell Waterhouse," Hicks, art., 137-138.
- "PASSWORD Salutes Russell Waterhouse," by Helen Hicks, art., 191-192.
- Pease, Governor E. M. (Texas), 62.
- Pease, Lucadia Niles, 63.
- Perrenot, Mrs. Jane Burges, 23.
- Phoenix, Arizona, 111.
- Pike, Alexander, 98.
- Pike's Peak Volunteers (Pipe Peakers), 116.
- Pike Peakers (Colorado Volunteers), 62, 83 fn. 56.
- Pollock, Ernest, 174.
- Porter, Eugene O., "Letters Home: W. W. Mills Writes to his Family," art., intro. and notes, Part I, 5-22; Part II, 74-83; Part III, 116-132; Part IV, 179-190; "The Ranks of Death: A Medical History of the Conquest of America," art., 167-172; notes, 4, 5, 36, 92, 94, 145, 155.
- Porter, Mrs. Eugene (Mary Ellen), 146, 148, 155.
- Porter, Mary Ellen B., 146, 148, 155.
- "Posadas and Pinatas," by Frances Hatfield, art., 30-31.
- Pritkin, Mrs. Fred, 155.
- Rabajo, General Antonio, 72.
- Radford School for Girls, 4.
- Ragsdale, Margaret, 39.
- Raines, L. C., 174.
- Ramey, Dr. Robert, 27.
- "The Ranks of Death: A Medical History of the Conquest of America," by Eugene O. Porter, art., 167-172.
- Rawins, Dr. J. A., 26.
- Reade, Dr. and Mrs., 73.
- Reade, Lida, 73.
- Reddin Andrews (Texas) Collection, 43.
- Redford, Mary, 200, 205.
- Reynolds, Dr. W. J., Jr., 135.
- Rheinheimer, Dr. W. E., 27.
- Rios, Dr. Edward Enrique, 104.
- Rittenhouse, J. D., *Maverick Tales*, rev., 89-90.
- Roberts, Colonel Benjamin Stone, 11, 21 fn. 16, 14, 16, 76, 81.
- Robertson, R. L., 18, 22 fn. 34, 76.
- Rohman, A. B., 188, 190 n. 129.
- Rosenbaum, Mrs. Carl A., 150, 155.
- Roundy, Charles G., 5.
- Ruiz, The Reverend Donato, 40.
- Ruiz, Mrs. Donato, 40.
- Rusk, General Thomas J., 54.
- Rusk, Thomas Jefferson, 87.
- Safford, Dr. H. R., 27.
- St. Vrain, Vincent (Vicente), 6, 8, 20 fn. 8, 8.
- San Augustine Spring (New Mexico), 74.
- Sánchez y Tapia, José María, 102.
- Sánchez y Tapia, Lino, 102.
- San Elizario (Elyasio), 177, 189 n. 97.
- San Elizario Church, 4.
- San Elizario, (Texas), 98.
- San Marino, California, 87.

- Savage Scene: The Life and Times of James Kirker, Frontier King*, by William Cochran McGaw, rev., 143-145.
- Scarborough, Dorothy (Texas) Collection 43.
- Scherotter, Lynn, 134, 136.
- Scherotter, Mr. and Mrs. Richard, 134.
- Schuessler, Mrs. W. W. (Louise), 155.
- Schuler, Bishop A. J., 135.
- Schuster, Dr. Frank, 25.
- Schuster, Dr. M. P., 25.
- Schuster, Dr. Stephen, 25.
- Scurry, Colonel, 81.
- Scurry, Major William Redi, 19, 22 fn. 37.
- Selden, Captain (Major) Henry, 81.
- Sergent, Paul, 113.
- Shea, Stanley (Stuney), 106.
- Shoemaker, Major General Raymond L., 155.
- Shoemaker, Mrs. Raymond L., 155.
- Sibley, Captain H. H., 54.
- Sibley, Brig. General Henry H., 19, 22 fn. 36.
- Siegel, Stanley, *Big Men Walked Here: The Story of Washington-on-the-Brazos*, noted, 37-38.
- Simmons, Laura, 42.
- Slogeris, A. J., 135.
- Smiley, Eliza Jane Mills, 79.
- Smith, Caroline, 51.
- Smith, Cynthia, 51.
- Smith, Elizabeth, 51.
- Smith, Ellen, 51.
- Smith, Jane Adeline, 51.
- Smith (Cox), Jane, 51.
- Smith, Governor Preston (Texas), 95.
- Smith, William, 51.
- Smith, W. T., 63.
- Socorro Mission, 4.
- Soler, Urbici, 135.
- "Some Healing Herbs of the Southwest," by Elise W. Stevens, art., 175-176.
- Sonnichsen, Charles Leland, 87, 104.
- Sotelo, David, 134, 136.
- Sotelo, Mr. and Mrs. Fernando G., 134.
- Southern Air Transport, 112.
- Southwest Archives, 141.
- "Southwest Archives: The Amador Collection," by Mildred A. Barrett and McConville, J. Lawrence, guest editors, 196-198; notes, 205.
- "Southwest Archives: The Texas Collection of Baylor," by Virginia Ming, art., 41-44.
- Southwestern Genealogical Library (El Paso), 141, 142.
- Southwestern Genealogist (Newsletter Monthly), 142.
- The Southwesterner, 5.
- Spanish and Mexican Land Grants in the Chihuahua Acquisition*, by J. J. Bowden, rev., 92-93.
- Spanish Texas: Yesterday and Today*, by Gerald Ashford, rev., 91-92.
- Spencer, Mr. and Mrs. Charles L., 62.
- Spencer, Mary Catherine Martin, 194.
- Standard Air Lines, 111.
- Stanley, Paul, 114.
- Stanton, Texas, 53.
- Stark, Dr. H. H., 25.
- Steele, Thad, 163.
- Stephenson, Adalida, 178, 189 n. 104.
- Stephenson, Hugh, 178, 189 n. 103.
- Stephenson, Potter (Hugh), 17, 22 n. 27.
- Stevens, Dr. B. F., 26.
- Stevens, Mrs. B. F. (Elise W.), 155.
- Stevens, Elise, "Some Healing Herbs of the Southwest," art., 175-176; note, 205.
- Stevenson, Dr. Herbert, 27.
- Strain, Cranford, 113.
- Strecker, John Kern (Texas) Collection, 43.
- Stretton, R. E., 114.
- Strickland, Dr. Rex, 6.
- The "Study Circle," 160, 161.
- Sullivan, John Kevin, 86.
- Sullivan, Maud Durlin, 86, 162.
- Sweeney, John, 68.
- Sweeney, Joseph, "Judge Sweeney Watches a Revolution," intro., ed., and ann. by Mildred Torok, art., 68-73.
- Taft, President W. H., 68.
- Tanner, Mill Aleph, 41.
- Taylor, Barney, 141.
- Taylor, Mrs. Barney, 142.
- Taylor, Walter, 133.
- Tenawas Indians, 61.
- Tepotzotlán, Convent of, 104.
- Thomason, Mayor R. E., 112.
- Thompson, Don, 113.
- Thompson, Dr. Howard, 24.
- Thorntown, Indiana, 6, 9.
- Throckmorton, Jim, 129.
- Tibbetts, Mr. and Mrs., 194.

- Tigua Indians, 52.
 Timmons, Wilbert H., 104.
 Tolsá, Manuel, 102.
 Tomborel, Colonel Manuel, 71.
 Tombstone, Arizona, 173.
Tom White: The Life of a Lawman, by Verdon R. Adams, rev., 200-202.
 Torok, Mildred, intro., ed., and ann. "Judge Sweeney Watches a Revolution," by Joseph Sweeney, art., 68-73.
 Transylvania College, 139.
 Tresguerras, Francisco Eduardo, 102.
 "Tribute to Ambassador Joseph F. Friedman," by Charles H. Leavell, art., 163-166.
 "Tribute to Olga Bernstein Kohlberg," by Mrs. Charles A. Goetting, art., 159-162.
True Witnesses, by Lynnell Jackson, rev., 34-36.
 Tucker, David M., *Lieutenant Lee of Beale Street*, noted, 37.
 Tucson, Arizona, 111.
 Turner, Dr. George, 26.
 Turner, Dr. S. T., 24.
A Typestick of Texas History, by Donna Lee Dickerson, rev., 34-36.
 Uckon, Borantos, 74.
 Valdick (Valdez), Gabriel, 7, 20 fn. 4.
 Valdes (Valdick), Gabriel, 7, 20 fn. 4.
 Vallejo, Francisco Antonio, 102.
 Valverde, Battle of, 81, 82.
 Vandevere, Dr. W. E., 25.
 Van Norman, Dr. Russell, 155.
 Van Norman, Mrs. Russell, 155.
 Varney Speed Lines, 114.
 Velasco, Battle of, 87.
 Vilas, Dr., 24, 27.
 Viljoen, General Benjamin J., 71.
 Walker, Dale, L., *C. L. Sonnichsen: Grassroots Historian*, rev., 199-200; notes, 202, 205.
 Watts, Judge John Sebril, 9, 21 fn. 13, 13, 17, 74, 75, 76, 68, 178, 189 n. 101.
 Webb, Nathan, 178, 188 n. 108.
 Weisinger, Earl H., 113.
 Westbrook, Texas, 53.
 Western Air Express, 114.
 West, John O., 137.
 West, Colonel Joseph R., 178, 189 n. 102.
 West Point (New York), 6.
 White, Dr. Alward, 23.
 White, Anne Kemp, "Doctors I Have Known," art., 23-29; note, 47.
 White, Congressman Richard, 159.
 White, Dr. Hugh Spotswood, 27.
 "What is a Historical Heritage," by Leon C. Metz, art., 156-158.
 White, J. H., 111.
 White, Owen P., 23, 161.
 Wilcox, Charlie, 28.
 Wilderness Trail, 158.
 Williams, Joseph F., 40.
 Wilson, Fred, 113.
 Wilson Gorge, 55, 62.
 Wilson, G. W., 51, 61.
 Wilson, H. L., 142.
 Wilson, James, 51, 52.
 Wilson, John, 51, 53, 54.
 Wilson, Meredith, 55, 61, 62.
 Windson, Mrs. E. E., 194.
 Wingate, Captain Benjamin, 18, 22 fn. 33.
 Wright, B. C., 136, 150.
 Wright, Mrs. B. C., 155.
 Wright, Dr. M. O., 27.
 Xuárez Family Group—José, Luis, Matías, Tomás, 102.
 Ysleta Mission (Texas), 4.
 Ysleta, Texas, 52.