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# ARIZONA

## WOMEN'S HALL of FAME



by  
*Rosalie Crowe and Diane Tod*

DEPARTMENT OF  
**LIBRARY AND ARCHIVES**  
ARIZONA  
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**A R I Z O N A**

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**W O M E N ' S  
H A L L o f F A M E**

by  
Rosalie Crowe  
and  
Diane Tod

**Arizona Historical Society  
Museum Monograph  
Central Arizona Division  
1242 North Central  
Phoenix, Arizona 85004  
1985**

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# 1985 Arizona Women's Hall of Fame

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## Foreword

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Established by the Arizona Women's Commission in 1981, the Arizona Women's Hall of Fame is now in its fifth year under the joint sponsorship of the Arizona Historical Society and the Arizona Department of Library, Archives & Public Records. Each year nominations submitted from across the state are reviewed by a Selection Committee, a learned and impartial body. Recommendations for induction to the Arizona Women's Hall of Fame are then received by the Steering Committee, which oversees the annual meeting and public educational programs.

The Steering Committee felt strongly that a publication containing the biographies of the twenty-eight inductees was needed in 1985, proclaimed "The Year for All Arizona Women," by Governor Bruce Babbitt. The Arizona Historical Society accepted the challenge of compiling this monograph, which was made possible only by the generous donations of time and talent from a score of volunteers.

The writers, Diane Tod and Rosalie Crowe, are chiefly responsible for the completion of this project. Both are employees of *The Phoenix Gazette*, which, with the cooperation of Lynne Holt, Mary Weingart and Bill Shover, made available typesetting time and equipment. Editing assistance was provided by Carol Freeman. Final printing of the monograph was made possible through a grant from the Arizona Humanities Council. Arizona Historical Society staff in Phoenix, Tucson and Yuma freely offered their research, editorial, and photographic expertise — special thanks to Patricia Callahan, Pierce Chamberlain III, Beth Dewitt, Susan Luebberman and Joan Metzger. Finally, the staff of the Arizona Department of Library, Archives & Public Records and Director Sharon Turgeon deserve much credit for their role in coordinating the Arizona Women's Hall of Fame programs.

**Andrew E. Masich**  
Director  
Central Arizona Division  
Arizona Historical Society  
October 19, 1985

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## Introduction

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Each of the women described on the following pages has a story worth telling. Their individual achievements, taken singly, may not seem extraordinary. None of them won the Nobel prize. None of their names is commonly known across America.

And yet, with *each individual act of courage* these women succeeded in changing the society we live in. Taken together, their achievements in artistic, social political and scientific fields are significant. For the progress of women, and of society in general, comes about through the cumulative effect of thousands of small acts of rebellion. Each time these women stood up and demanded justice, or their rights, or accountability, or freedom, or charity, they made our world better.

Susan B. Anthony's words, spoken in 1873, have validity even today: "Cautious, careful people always casting about to preserve their reputation or social standards never can bring about reform. Those who are really in earnest are willing to be anything or nothing in the world's estimation, and publicly and privately, in season and out, avow their sympathies with despised ideas and their advocates, and bear the consequences."

You do not have to look far to find courageous acts in these pages.

There is Nellie T. Bush, who challenged the University of Arizona when it banned women from attending law classes where rape cases were discussed. If rape doesn't concern women, who does it concern, she asked.

There is Ana Frohmiller, state auditor, who refused to pay a \$1,804 claim for a buffet luncheon that benefited the officials who ate it, but not the public. She was determined that the state's money would not be misspent. Did it matter that she was taking on the power elite, again and again?

Elise Toles sat on a parole board that decided who should live and who should die. She did not shirk the responsibility, although society at the time was shocked that a woman would even want the job. Her critics charged that because she was a woman, she would cave in to sentiment and release the worst of criminals from prison.

How did these women accomplish so much?

What in their backgrounds or heredity pushed them to greatness?

Shakespeare, in his play *Twelfth Night*, said, "Some are born great, some achieve greatness, and some have greatness thrust upon them." The individuals in the Arizona Women's Hall of Fame achieved greatness because they were determined. If they saw a need, they filled it, and when they were confronted by an obstacle, they got around it - one way or another. They did not shy away from challenges.

It is interesting that our definition of heroism is an act above and beyond the call of duty. Yet in countless interviews with heroes, they say, "I was only doing my job," or "It was just something that had to be done."

And those two lines seem to echo through these biographies. These women, more often than not, spoke of their achievements with understatement and a certain matter-of-factness that says, "I was only doing my job."

It is with hope that these women will serve as inspiration and as role models to us today that we have presented their biographies. These were outstanding individuals – not just outstanding women. When we read of their determination and triumphs it is easy to believe that something we thought impossible yesterday, is possible today.

A voice speaks in unison from these courageous women: Don't stop to question. Forge ahead.

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Perhaps a few words are in order about how we have presented the biographies.

They have not been organized chronologically, or by the year of induction into the Arizona women's Hall of Fame, but rather we have attempted to present them in an order that will be interesting and will draw you forward to see who shall surprise you next.

The photos were chosen to illustrate a time in the state's history when many of these women lived, and do not necessarily document incidents in the biographies. We have also included pictures of historical artifacts as a tangible reminder of the past.

The biographies were written based on information supplied in the nomination files of the Arizona Women's Hall of Fame. Often the material left questions unanswered or suggested the need for further research. We trust that these biographies will serve as a starting point for those interested in the history of Arizona women.

Although journalists and historians both strive to present the facts accurately, some of the style conventions used by the two professions differ. Because we are journalists, we took the liberty of letting our conventions prevail and used Associated Press style. Where our differences show, be lenient, historians!

**Rosalie Crowe and Diane Tod  
October 19, 1985**

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# Nellie Cashman

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1844 — 1925

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*"My boy, I've got it this time, and when I hit the pay streak in the shaft I'm sinking now, I'll strike it so damned rich that I won't know what to do with my money."*

— Nellie Cashman, talking about prospecting in Coldfoot, Alaska

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**T**he English writer George Eliot once wrote that the growing good of the world is partly dependent on small acts of kindness from those who rest in unvisited tombs.

She might have been writing about Nellie Cashman, who is buried in a lonely grave in Victoria, British Columbia, far away from Arizona, where she spent more than two decades, first running a restaurant in Tucson and then operating a boarding house and restaurant in Tombstone.

A pioneer, prospector and businesswoman, Miss Cashman lived her life serving others and abiding by the Christian values of kindness, mercy and charity. So widely were her good deeds known, especially among the miners in the West, that she was known as "the miner's angel."

What record we have of Miss Cashman's life is largely thanks to John P. Clum, her friend and the editor of *The Tombstone Epitaph*. When Clum was 80 years old, he decided to set down an account of Miss Cashman's life in an essay entitled, "A Modest Tribute to the Memory of

a Noble Woman Whose Energetic, Courageous, Self-Sacrificing Life Was an Inspiration on a Wide Frontier During Half a Century.”

“Nellie Cashman led a humble life,” Clum wrote. “Her principal business was to feed the hungry and shelter the homeless, and her chief divertissement was to relieve those in distress and to care for the sick and afflicted. She persisted in good deeds through half a century, and her helpful activities were distributed over a broad field, which extended from the arid deserts of Mexico to the bleak and inhospitable regions within the Arctic Circle.”

Miss Cashman was born in Queenstown, Ireland, in 1844. She and her sister came to America around 1867, landing in Boston and then traveling to San Francisco. There, Nellie’s sister married Thomas Cunningham.

In 1877 Miss Cashman joined the stampede to find gold in the Yukon Territory. She was among the group of hardy adventurers who trekked to the Cassiar District, which extended across the northern border of British Columbia and into the Yukon Territory.

The trails were new and difficult. The winter in this region near the Arctic divide was harsh. Before long, scurvy broke out.

It was due to Miss Cashman’s heroic effort that vegetables were brought to the remote region and many lives were saved. The grateful miners carried the story of Miss Cashman’s courage with them as they moved from camp to camp. And throughout her life Miss Cashman often encountered persons who had heard of her courage. The stampede to the Cassiar District was remembered largely for the hardships experienced; practically no gold was found.

Miss Cashman’s taste for adventure then led her to the silver mines in Nevada. Those camps were in decline, however, and she soon headed for Arizona.

She went to Tucson in 1879 and opened Delmonico’s Restaurant, where she did a good business with her excellent cooking.

In 1880 Miss Cashman moved to Tombstone where she took over the Russ House, a boarding house and restaurant. That same year, her sister died, leaving “Aunt Nell” to raise the five young Cunningham children. Miss Cashman, who never married, thus assumed the responsibility for supporting and educating her “acquired” family.

In the 1880s Tombstone was without a hospital. Yet illness and accidents were common in the bustling mining camp.

“There were many opportunities for generous, self-sacrificing, willing hands to help in these cases of illness or accident or pressing need, and we soon found that Nellie was prompt and persistent and effective with plans for relief,” Clum wrote in his account of Miss Cashman’s life. “It might be a simple contribution, or an entertainment of some sort, but whatever it might be, Nellie’s plan met with immediate and substantial support. If she asked for a contribution — we contributed. If she had tickets to sell — we bought tickets. If she needed actors for a play — we volunteered to act. And although Nellie’s pleas were frequent, none ever refused her.

“Her benefits were many and varied. One I can never forget. A prospector had been sinking a shaft single-handed and had fallen into the

shaft and broken both legs. He was discovered in a most pitiable condition. Nellie rushed to his aid and within a day or two secured nearly \$500 for his care and comfort.”

Miss Cashman was instrumental in building one of the first schools in Tombstone and it was largely through her efforts that funds were raised for the town's first Catholic church.

In the summer of 1884, Miss Cashman joined the rush to find gold in southern California and Mexico, according to her nephew M.J. Cunningham of Tombstone. She donned a flannel shirt and overalls and joined the group of men who took off for the Mexican town of Muleje.

Along the way, the group of prospectors ran out of water. Nellie, who was in better shape than any of the men, volunteered to go in search of water. After a long, hot search in the isolated region, she found an old Spanish mission. She returned to her party carrying the water that saved her companions' lives.

In 1897 Miss Cashman left for Alaska to join the prospectors in the Klondike. There, she ran a store and grubstaked many a prospector.

In 1924, at the age of 79, Miss Cashman set a record as the champion woman musher of the world. She mushed her dog team 750 miles, breaking her own trail from Koyukuk to Seward, Alaska, in 17 days.

At Coldfoot, Alaska's northernmost mining camp, Nellie became ill in the summer of 1924. She was sent to Fairbanks where she was diagnosed as having double pneumonia. She died a short time later — on Jan. 4, 1925 — in Victoria, British Columbia.

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# Ida Redbird

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1892 — 1971

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**T**he clouds gathered, and the skies wept when Ida Redbird, master potter of the Maricopa Tribe, died Aug. 10, 1971, in Sacaton, Ariz.

“She had just finished shaping some pots and had put them in the sun to dry,” recalled her brother Ernest Bill, who lived across the street from Mrs. Redbird’s Gila River Indian Reservation home.

“Then she went to lie down on the bed under the tree. The tree just broke,” he said, although there was no wind at the time. A large branch fell on her and she was killed.

Soon after she died, the storm began. Bill’s wife, listening as he recounted the events of that day, quietly said: “Old people believe there will always be a storm when a person dies. Something happens in the sky.”

It was not unusual for Mrs. Redbird to be outside working on her pots, although an air-conditioned workroom was available to her. Friends at the Heard Museum in Phoenix recounted the times she spurned the indoor facilities while teaching children’s potting classes, preferring to take her students and their clay to a place on the patio shaded by a cluster of palm trees.

The tamarisk tree that had shaded Mrs. Redbird in the late afternoon when she died was an old friend — almost as old as her 79 years.

“Ida was always outside under that tree with her pottery,” her brother said. “Her children used to tell her to come inside, but she always wanted to be outside.”

Not long before she died, she told her brother, “I might just end my life under that tree.”

“That’s the way it is with old people,” Bill said. “They have ways of understanding.”

Ida Redbird was born March 15, 1892, in Laveen on the Gila River reservation where she spent almost all her life. Despite the fact that she lived and died in one small geographic area, her artistic influence was felt in ever-widening circles. Her pottery was known nationally and collected by many prominent people and museums. News of her death was carried by newspapers as far away as Washington, D.C., and editorials were written in her memory.

Anna P. Kopta, widow of the late Arizona sculptor Emery Kopta and a former teacher at the Phoenix Indian School, had Ida Redbird as a student. She recalled that Mrs. Redbird was “a good student...shy but very serious in all her activities...”

“Like other Maricopa women, Ida early learned to make pottery,” Mrs. Kopta said. “However, she was not satisfied with the art as practiced. By painstaking effort and persistence, she sought improvement...”

“Ida not only created loveliness, but stimulated other women of the Maricopa to strive to improve their wares,” Mrs. Kopta said. “The movement that she began is still moving forward. From the skill and vision of this talented woman, Maricopa potters are reaping a rich reward.”

In the mid-1930s, Mrs. Redbird became well-known for her role in the effort to raise the prices paid to the Maricopa potters. In those early days, Mrs. Redbird earned five cents each for the small ollas she sold to dealers in Los Angeles.

Even in the Depression that was extremely low pay, considering the time and work involved in the production of pottery, noted Mary L. Fernald in her 1973 master’s thesis for the Arizona State University Department of Anthropology.

Mrs. Redbird also played a major role in the 1937-1940 revival of Maricopa pottery.

Elizabeth Hart, a home extension agent with the United States Indian Service, had encouraged the potters to ask more for their wares and to accept ideas for improving their pottery. Mrs. Redbird was one of the first to adopt Miss Hart’s ideas; many of the other Maricopa potters followed her lead, Fernald said in her thesis.

In 1938, her fellow potters elected Mrs. Redbird as the first president of the Maricopa Pottery Makers Association, an organization formed to find a better way of marketing the members’ wares.

Even before Mrs. Redbird’s name became synonymous with Indian art,

she had become active in the preservation of her people's history and culture.

In the late 1920s, she did translations for Leslie Spier, who was doing research for a book on the Yuman people living along the Gila River.

"Altogether an exceptional woman," was how Spier described Mrs. Redbird in the preface to her book, *Yuman Tribes of the Gila River*. "Much of my success was due to her understanding and sympathy with my purpose and to her enterprise in voluntarily ferreting out information."

"Although she had had little formal schooling, her English vocabulary was very wide and her understanding of modern American culture as full as that of her own people," Spier wrote. "To only one characteristic could I take exception; none of the good-humored obscenity, so characteristic of the Yuman speech, was ever translated without being toned down."

Mrs. Redbird was an articulate woman who liked to talk about her art. But her modesty compelled her to note that fellow potter Mary Juan was really the best potter.

Mrs. Redbird conceded that she might be better known, but it was only because she "talked too much," she said.

Nonetheless, it was this trait that drew people to her, fostering a greater understanding of her art, friends noted.

"One cannot think of Indian pottery without thinking of Ida," said Paul Huldermann, founder of the Scottsdale National Indian Arts Exhibition.

"In her heyday she was outstanding. And she's especially noteworthy — historically and anthropologically — since she used the paddle-and-anvil method of the ancient Hohokams rather than the coiling method of pot making."

She was truly worthy of her title, master potter of the Maricopas, said Tom Cain, Heard Museum curator.

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# Elsie Toles

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1888 — 1957

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*"As soon as we got accustomed to our work, the difference of sex had no bearing on our decisions. But it is doubtful if anyone else, besides ourselves, realized this.*

*". . . undoubtedly clear to the end, the people of Arizona credited my male colleagues with all paroles denied and held me responsible for every parole granted."*

— Elsie Toles, commenting on her two years on the State Parole Board in an April 1965 interview in *True West* magazine

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**E**lsie Toles, Arizona's first woman superintendent of public instruction, was ready for the job when she began her statewide campaign in 1920.

What she wasn't ready for was "the dark responsibility victory would carry with it," the life-or-death responsibility she would assume as a member of the State Parole Board.

By a quirk in state law, the superintendent of public instruction was automatically a member of five boards, including the parole board.

"Campaigning through the lovely golden days of an Arizona fall, I enjoyed the prospect of the top job in school work, with the added excitement of trying my hand at things that only men had done," she recalled years later.

Her full responsibilities didn't hit home until she received a postcard from a death-row prisoner in the state prison in Florence. His message read: "Please save my life. I am sentenced to be hanged September ninth."

"Receiving that was a terrific shock," Miss Toles said in an interview with Phyllis W. Heald for *True West* magazine in 1965. "For the first time I actually realized that in my new position I would have the power to send a human being to his death.

"I can still remember the expression in the stenographer's eyes that morning when she handed me the mail with this on top. She waited while I read it. Her silence was eloquent in asking 'How could you, a woman, want such a job?'"

With the passing months, Miss Toles learned just how hard the job was. Each plea for mercy was aimed at her, and all followed essentially the same theme: A woman wouldn't condemn a man to die. A woman wouldn't let a man stay in prison. A woman would understand.

Her only recourse was to strive for justice and mercy and reject sentimentality, she said.

And the prisoner who wrote the postcard?

"There was no choice," she said. "He was guilty. He paid the penalty. But I'll never forget the day we faced him across the parole board table..."

Born in Bisbee on Sept. 19, 1888, Miss Toles grew up hearing her parents' and grandparents' hair-raising stories of Apache raids, stage hold-ups and early-day life in the Cochise County mining camp.

She was one of four girls that made up Bisbee High School's first graduating class. Later she attended Pomona College in California for one year before her mother died, forcing her to temporarily give up her studies. She returned home to care for her 12-year-old sister Myriam and 8-year-old brother Silas.

She had, however, received her teaching credentials from State Normal School at San Jose, Calif., and was able to teach for two years at Bisbee before taking her brother and sister with her for a year of specialized studies in education at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor.

Returning to Arizona, she taught for another year in Bisbee and two years in Douglas.

It was at that point in her career that the Cochise County Republican Party talked her into running for county superintendent of public instruction. Although she was a candidate in a strongly Democratic county, she won, because, as her sister said, "she was a native daughter...with well-known qualifications."

Miss Toles held the post for two terms and spent four years supervising rural schools. It was "a formidable task that meant driving over dirt roads in a Model T Ford," she later recalled.

"I carried tools to repair and inflate a flat tire and also a five gallon emergency can of gas..."

One school was perched on top of a mountain at the end of a winding

road. The gas tank, located beneath the car's front seat, was lower than the carburetor when she tried to drive up the steep mountain. So the only way she could get to the school was to drive backwards for three miles.

All the schools were plagued by a lack of trained teachers, poor equipment and ramshackle buildings. They were as poverty-stricken as the homesteaders they served, Miss Toles observed.

Added to these problems was the fact that some of the school board members tried to use the school as a place to settle personal grudges.

In one such instance, recalled Miss Toles' sister Myriam, Miss Toles refused to fire a teacher who had managed to get on the bad side of a board member.

"So he burned down the school house and gleefully announced that the teacher would now have to leave," Myriam said. "Elsie decided that since the teacher had a contract and had violated no law the board would have to pay her salary for the rest of the year. There were no more fires."

Miss Toles is credited with starting a school health service in Cochise County. And at the state level she initiated a long-range program to raise teacher certification standards.

She also worked to increase financial-aid for schools, particularly rural ones, and supported a movement to make the state superintendent of public instruction an appointive position.

In 1923, at the end of her term in state office, she completed work on her master's degree at the University of California in Berkeley and taught as a demonstration teacher for two years. Later she became a professor of education at San Jose College, a position she held for 17 years.

During World War II, Miss Toles helped establish child-care centers for mothers working in California's war production plants.

After her retirement in 1945, she co-authored with her sister two children's books, *Adventures in Apacheland* and *The Secret of Lonesome Valley*.

She died in Douglas Aug. 29, 1957, at the age of 69.

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# Mary Bernard Aguirre

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1844 — 1906

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*"...we began to meet herds of buffalo and had quantities of meat. The tongues were something delicious after they were pickled. We had plenty of them as my husband was a great buffalo hunter and kept us well supplied. I can never forget the first one (buffalo) I saw. It had just been killed and we rode to where it was, off the road. I had a curiosity to measure the hair on its neck, which I did with my arm, and it covered it from my finger tips to the shoulder."*

— an account of a wagon trip across the Great Plains, from the journal of Mary Bernard Aguirre

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**M**ary Bernard Aguirre's journal began: "Our lives are through highways and byways — some over rugged ground and some 'down blossoming ways.'

"I have been a traveler all my life and have seen many highways and byways in my time."

The journal is a vivid account of many of the experiences in her life, including her years as one of the first teachers in Tucson's public schools. It is considered an important documentary record of a time when travel was by steamboat, railroad and stagecoach.

Mary Bernard was born on June 23, 1844, in St. Louis, Mo., which at

the time was a small town with narrow, muddy streets and no gas or city water.

"When I was six months old, my travels commenced — my parents moved to Baltimore, Maryland, (my mother's birthplace) and we went as far as Wheeling, Virginia, by steamboat and from there to Baltimore by stage," Mrs. Aguirre wrote many years later in her journal. "Imagine what a trip that must have been over the Allegheny mountains in a stage with three small children."

For the young Mary, it was the beginning of a life of travel. After 12 years in Baltimore, the family again packed its bags — this time moving to Westport, Mo., where Joab Bernard owned a large store.

"So, in April (1856), we started on our long journey 'out West,'" Mrs. Aguirre recalled. "I can well remember hearing it called the 'jumping off place,' having in my mind's eye an immense bank from which one could look down into space."

This time the family, which had grown to seven children, traveled part of the way by railroad car. According to the account in her journal: "With us went the servants, two Negro women and a white housekeeper, and no end of luggage. I can remember the immense lunch baskets and the delight of lunching on the cars and the wonderful views as we sped along."

In 1862 Mary met and married Epifanio Aguirre, a wealthy Mexican trader. Aguirre, whose family owned a large amount of land near Chihuahua, Mexico, quickly made a name for himself in the business world. By 1864, he owned the bulk of the government contracts for freighting along the Sante Fe trail between the Colorado and Missouri rivers. The hundreds of mules and oxen he owned carried supplies to Army posts throughout the Southwest, and he is said to have employed more than 300 men as teamsters and roustabouts.

The year after her marriage, Mrs. Aguirre traveled extensively — visiting Chicago, New York, Philadelphia and Baltimore — before embarking in September 1863 on a trip with her husband across "unknown lands" — The Great Plains.

She traveled in a wagon train that "consisted of ten wagons, each one drawn by ten fine mules and loaded with 10,000 pounds of freight."

Her journal documents the trip in detail: "We journeyed on for weeks and weeks. Went through Council Grove, Fort Larned and many other points where there are towns now, on the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe railroad, but then (it) was only a wilderness. There was nothing to be seen but grass for miles — one long unending road with not a shrub even and never a tree except for an occasional small one near a water hole.

"We made thirty miles a day when we drove a good day's driving. The tall grass was turning gray with the cold that came upon us very gradually. The very monotony of it became pleasant at last. There seemed nothing more to expect, nothing to look forward to and nothing to do."

The Aguirre family continued to travel extensively during the next seven years. During this time, Mary bore three sons, Pedro, Epifanio and Stephen.

Then in January 1870, her husband was killed by Apache Indians near

Sasabe, Ariz. Mrs. Aguirre returned to Missouri to be with her family.

In 1875 she decided to come back to Arizona to take a teaching job in a small town called Tres Alamos.

But an Indian raid in April 1876 closed the school, and so she moved back to Tucson, where in May of the same year she was named head of the public school for girls.

"There were about 20 girls in the school when I took charge," she recalled later. "With a few exceptions, they were the most unruly set the Lord ever let live. They had an idea that they conferred a favor upon the school and teacher by even attending. . .

"The recess bell was a signal for those girls to climb out the windows into the street, to whoop and scream like mad, and to generally misbehave. I let the first recess pass, but when the afternoon recess came, I would not allow a girl to leave her seat. Of course, there was rebellion and muttering dire, but I told them that the first one who left her seat should go home and stay there. So order was restored and no one left the room."

Mrs. Aguirre continued her disciplinary measures, sending home students who misbehaved. At the end of a week, her class of 20 students had dwindled down to five.

"Governor Safford, who had been a personal friend of mine since 1869, came to visit the school at the end of the first week," she recalled. "He asked me how I was getting along. I said, 'Governor, I have broken up your girl's school, trying to keep order' — I also said that unless I can have order, I will not teach this school even for \$500 a month — (I was getting \$100).

"He laughed 'til the tears were in his eyes, but I was dead earnest. Then he said, 'Mrs. Aguirre, you just go on breaking up the school that way; you shall keep this school if you never have more than five scholars.'"

Mrs. Aguirre's determination paid off. The next week the girls returned and by the end of the month she had 40 students. In 1879 when she resigned, the school's enrollment stood at 85.

Mrs. Aguirre's achievements in the field of education continued, and in 1895 she became head of the Spanish language and English history departments of the University of Arizona.

She died on May 24, 1906, in San Jose, Calif., of injuries suffered in a Southern Pacific train wreck on May 9.

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# Isabella Greenway King

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1886 — 1953

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*"I think the American people... would welcome a plan that began to pay the bills as we go and in so doing relieve industry of the suspense and uncertainty that must be holding back the recovery program."*

— Isabella Greenway, talking about issues facing Congress in 1935

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**I**sabella Greenway King was in her mid-30s when she came to Arizona in 1922. She was on her honeymoon, and it was her first real visit to the state.

Just 10 years later she was so well-known in the state that she was called "Arizona's sweetheart." She had made her name through business and civic activities in Tucson and as Arizona's Democratic National Committeewoman and the state campaign chairman for Franklin Delano Roosevelt.

In 1933 she won a special Congressional election, thus becoming Arizona's first and only congresswoman.

Isabella was born into a family that had wealth, fame and social standing. Nevertheless, her life was not an easy one; each corner she turned in life was marked by personal tragedy.

She was born Isabella Selmes on March 22, 1886, in Boone County, Ky. Her father, Tolden R. Selmes, was not a healthy man, so when Isabella was still a young girl, the family moved to a North Dakota

horse-and-sheep ranch co-owned by her father and Theodore Roosevelt.

Isabella attended Chapin School for Girls in New York City, where she became close friends with Roosevelt's niece Eleanor. In 1905 she was a bridesmaid in the New York wedding of Eleanor and Franklin Roosevelt.

Not long after that, Isabella herself was married to a former Rough Rider, Robert Ferguson, who came from a wealthy and titled Scottish family. The couple had two children. With a family and a home in New York, Isabella must have thought her life was set.

But in 1910 history repeated itself for her. Just as she and her parents had been forced to leave Kentucky because of her father's health, the Fergusons had to move to New Mexico; Robert Ferguson had contracted tuberculosis.

The family homesteaded near Tryon and Isabella became active in state affairs, chairing the Women's Land Army of New Mexico in 1918.

Three years later, Robert Ferguson died, and Isabella moved her children to Santa Barbara, Calif. There she met an old friend of Robert's and another former Rough Rider, John Greenway. They were married in 1922 and Greenway, who managed the New Cornelia copper mine in Ajo, Ariz., moved his family there.

Greenway had developed a new method of refining copper that made copper mining more profitable. He was a wealthy and prominent man, one who could provide a comfortable life for Isabella and the children, including their son, John F. Greenway.

Unfortunately, tragedy again struck Isabella's life. In 1926, four years after they were married, Greenway died in New York from complications after surgery. Once more Isabella was left a widow.

Moving to Tucson with her children, Isabella turned her energy to business, operating the Double X Ranch near Williams and Gilpin Airlines, based in Los Angeles. In 1934 she built the Arizona Inn, an elegant Tucson resort often visited by the wealthy, the great and the famous.

With her wealth, political connections and business acumen, she was naturally drawn to Arizona politics. She was elected to Congress in 1933 to fill Lewis W. Douglas' unexpired term. She was re-elected for a second term by an overwhelming majority.

During her years in Washington, D.C., she was instrumental in obtaining protection for the U.S. copper industry from foreign producers whose low prices had forced the shutdown of some American mines.

She worked to secure public health relief for transient families, fought cutbacks in veterans' benefits, and, with the aid of New Deal funds, saw that homes were found for destitute families in Phoenix, Mesa and Casa Grande.

By 1936 Isabella was tired, however, and decided against a third congressional term in favor of going home to Tucson. She married Harry O. King in 1939, and the couple made their home in New York City, returning to Tucson for occasional visits with her children. It was on one of those visits in 1953 that Isabella Greenway King died on Dec. 18 at the age of 67.

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# Cordelia Adams Crawford

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1865 — 1943

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**C**ordelia Adams Crawford was three years old in 1868 when she came by wagon train with her parents, brothers and sisters to present-day Phoenix.

She had been born on Feb. 27, 1865, in Lampesas, Texas. Her father, John Quincy Adams, a captain in the Confederate Army, lost everything, including his farm, in the Civil War. At the end of the war, he was asked by neighbors to lead a group of settlers West.

This group was the first to settle permanently in the Phoenix area. John Adams made a home for his family on 90 acres near the end of the Swilling Ditch and what is now Van Buren Avenue. There he planted corn, oats, barley and hay.

The Adams family, in addition to Cordelia and her father, was composed of her mother Emily, a sister Saphrona, and three brothers — James Monroe, Andrew Jackson and Jefferson (Jeff) Davis. Another sister, christened Texas, was born about five months after the family's arrival in Phoenix.

Cordelia was 15 when she married Bushrod Foley Crawford in 1880. The couple established a ranch in the Tonto Basin. They grew hay and oats, which they used for their cattle, mules and horses.

Crawford sold his cattle in San Diego, and the trip over there and back

took six months. During the times he was gone, Cordelia was left in charge of running the ranch. She had to deliver her own babies — three times — because the nearest ranch was 40 miles away.

With neighbors and towns so far away, it was only natural in those days that Cordelia learned to deal with sickness and injuries.

Over the years, she developed a great friendship for the Apache women in the area. Because they trusted Cordelia, they would bring their sick children to the Crawford ranch for her to heal.

Family reminiscences tell how the Apache women would sit under a tree at the bottom of the hill in front of the ranch house. Cordelia would go down to meet them, and they would lay the sick child in her arms. Sometimes it took several days before the child was well enough to go home, but the women waited there under the tree.

“I asked her what she did,” recalled a grandson, Emery Crawford Johnson of Tucson. “First, she bathed the child in warm water, then she administered a homemade tea or whatever medicines she thought suitable from her homemade remedies.”

Often the child had suffered a broken bone, and Cordelia set and splinted it, Johnson said.

She was their friend, and because of this, the women always warned her of Apache raids. Cordelia took her babies and hid in the fields until the attack was over.

The Crawford ranch, however, was never burned or damaged in any way by the Indians. In all likelihood, it was because of Cordelia's kindness to the Apache women that the ranch — and the family — was saved from destruction and death.

Cordelia Adams Crawford, who died at age 77 on Jan. 31, 1943, is remembered by family and friends as a “remarkable woman of courage, tall and straight as an arrow, who was as easy on her horse as she was in a rocking chair.”

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# Angela Hutchinson Hammer

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1870 — 1952

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*"I liked typesetting. When I learned to set type on the early-day newspapers I had no idea that I would ever become so identified with the Fourth Estate and publish newspapers of my own, but from that one little excursion out of my chosen profession of schoolteaching, I got into something I have never been able to get out of."*

— Angela Hutchinson Hammer talking about how she began her career  
in newspapers

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**A**ngela H. Hammer has the distinction of holding membership in two Halls of Fame in Arizona. In addition to the Women's Hall of Fame, she was named to the Arizona Newspaper Hall of Fame in 1965. The members of the Arizona Newspaper Association conferred that honor on her in recognition of her long and colorful career as publisher of weekly newspapers in a number of Arizona towns.

Angela Hutchinson was born on Nov. 30, 1870, in Virginia City, Nev. In 1883, at the age of 13, she and three sisters traveled by rail to Arizona. They were met by their father, who took them by covered wagon to Picket Post, where the family home was located.

Mr. Hutchinson was a mine construction engineer and the family lived in several small mining towns, including Silver King and Wickenburg.

In 1889, at the age of 19, Angela obtained her teaching certificate from

the Clara A. Evans Teachers' Training College in Phoenix. During the next few years, she taught school in Wickenburg and Gila Bend.

In the 1890s, while she was living with her family in Phoenix, she had her first taste of journalism, taking a job as a typesetter and proofreader for *The Phoenix Gazette* and *The Arizona Republican*, forerunner of *The Arizona Republic*.

She wrote of the experience: "I liked typesetting. When I learned to set type on the early-day newspapers I had no idea that I would ever become so identified with the Fourth Estate and publish newspapers of my own, but from that one little excursion out of my chosen profession of schoolteaching, I got into something I have never been able to get out of."

In 1896 she married J. S. Hammer, a building contractor. The couple had three sons before they were divorced after eight years of marriage.

In 1905 Mrs. Hammer made the first of her newspaper purchases, buying the *Wickenburg Miner* for \$500. At first it looked like a poor investment, but after 1½ years of hard work she had turned it into a money-maker and was able to support her family on the profits.

From 1908 to 1910 Mrs. Hammer worked to establish a chain of newspapers at four rapidly growing mining towns. In her printing plant at Congress Junction, she published the *Wickenburg Miner*, *Swansea Times*, *Wenden News* and *Bouse Herald*.

Then in 1912 she moved her printing plant to Casa Grande and joined Ted Healey to publish the *Casa Grande Bulletin*. The partnership, however, was not made in heaven. The two took opposite sides during a bitter dispute over water reclamation for the Casa Grande valley.

According to one newspaper account, during the night of Dec. 23, 1913, Mrs. Hammer had all her printing equipment moved out of the *Bulletin* building, and when Healey came to work the next morning all he found was his desk.

Determined to have a newspaper in which to express her opinions, Mrs. Hammer founded the *Casa Grande Dispatch* on Jan. 1, 1914. The *Dispatch* supported the Casa Grande Water Users Association and the Democratic party. For nearly 10 years, the *Bulletin* and the *Dispatch* tangled over political and water issues. Mrs. Hammer quickly earned a reputation for aggressive, honest reporting and her strong editorial opinions.

In 1925 Mrs. Hammer moved to Phoenix and the following year established the Messenger Printing Co., operated by her two sons, William and Marvin. That company merged in April 1951 with Arizona Printers Inc. and Mrs. Hammer became a board member of the combined operation.

In 1938 she was appointed by Gov. R. C. Stanford to the State Board of Social Security and Welfare, a position that she held until 1943.

Having earned the respect of journalists throughout the state, she was a valued member of many professional organizations, including the Phoenix Business and Professional Women's Club, the Phoenix branch of the National League of American Pen Women and the Phoenix Writers Club.

Mrs. Hammer died April 9, 1952, at the age of 81.

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# Grace M. Sparkes

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1893 — 1963

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**T**here was a time when progress in Yavapai County was spelled S-P-A-R-K-E-S. Grace M. Sparkes.

Matter of fact, there was a time when progress in the state was spelled the same way, and Sparkes was synonymous with the terms Arizona booster, patriot and public servant.

That time is long past; Arizonans as a whole no longer recognize her name, but Grace M. Sparkes continues to touch their lives — even today.

Do you like sightseeing in northern Arizona? Have you driven to the West Coast on I-10? Then say thank you to Miss Sparkes. It was she who campaigned for good roads across the state, including a shorter, more direct route — and bridge — to California.

She coordinated and bossed the Prescott Frontier Days rodeo, becoming known throughout the West as “the girl who bosses 200 bronco busters.” And she helped establish rodeo rules, many of which are still used by professionals today.

In 1920, she threw her efforts behind a group of Prescott citizens who wanted to build a first-class hotel in town. By February of that year, \$30,000 had been raised for the newly organized Hassayampa Hotel Co., and by June, 1925, the Prescott Kiwanis Club had raised \$150,000 toward the \$350,000 goal.

The hotel, which opened in November 1927, is on the National Register of Historic Sites today.

Born Feb. 23, 1893, in Lead, S.D., Miss Sparkes was 14 years old when she came to the Arizona Territory with her family in 1906. She graduated from St. Joseph's Academy in Prescott and Lamson's Business College in Phoenix before going to work for the Prescott Chamber of Commerce, forerunner to the Yavapai County Chamber of Commerce, in 1911.

She became secretary for that organization, continuing in the job until August 1945, when she resigned to oversee her own mining interests in Cochise County.

In 1921 she helped organize the Smoki People of Prescott, a group of business and professional men and women dedicated to the preservation and perpetuation of Indian lore, rituals and dances. To promote Prescott and the Smokis, she went to Washington, D.C., in 1924 and made President Calvin Coolidge an honorary member of the organization.

She joined Sharlot Hall, noted historian, author and poet, in efforts to establish a permanent reservation for the Yavapai Indians near Prescott. Of that effort, Murray Bemis wrote in 1938:

"The spot preferred by the Yavapai group was a picturesque location about a mile north of the city of Prescott. This was formerly a part of Whipple Barracks Military Reserve. Through the efforts of Miss Hall and Miss Sparkes approximately 75 acres were transferred from the Department of Interior by Act of June 7, 1935. This 75-acre tract is held in trust for the Yavapai Indians as the Yavapai Reservation. Thus, the ancient tribal designation, Yavapai, dropped for several decades from the census rolls of the Indians, is once more included."

Eight years later, Nov. 17, 1943, more land was added to the Montezuma Castle National Monument, thanks to Miss Sparkes, and a year later, she began her campaign to get the Coronado Entrada area in Cochise County proclaimed a National Monument.

While known mainly for her work in local and state chambers of commerce, Miss Sparkes also served on the Arizona State Board of Welfare, was coordinator for a special Arizona exhibit at the Chicago Century of Progress World's Fair of 1934, and was volunteer secretary of the Northern Arizona State Fair Association.

She worked to secure approval of many federal projects, including the establishment of a Veterans Hospital at old Fort Whipple, the renovation of Tuzigoot Indian Ruins and the restoration of the Old Governor's Mansion on west Gurley Street in Prescott.

Upon her retirement in 1945, she moved to Cochise County to oversee her own mining interests in Texas Canyon near Benson.

She died at age 70 on Oct. 22, 1963.

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# Louisa Wetherill

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1877 — 1945

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*"As a guest in a land where most white people are regarded with suspicion, always remember that your acceptance by The People will depend on your ability to accept with dignity, sympathy and honesty the Navajo way of life."*

— Louisa Wetherill, giving advice to a visiting journalist

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**L**ouisa Wetherill was not a trained linguist or ethnologist, yet she pursued her interest in the Navajo culture with diligence and a passion that attracted both scientists and artists.

In the early 1900s, she researched a history of Navajo blanket designs; she translated tribal legends and songs; she collected 300 medicinal and ceremonial herbs used by the Navajo; she compiled a list of the 56 tribal clans she had identified; and she amassed an impressive collection of sand-painting drawings.

Today, she is given credit for being one of the first people who recognized the need to understand and preserve the culture of the Navajo people.

Mary Louise Wade, who would later be known as Louisa, was born Sept. 2, 1877, in Wells, Nev., the daughter of U.S. Army Captain Jack Wade and his wife, Julia Frances Rush Wade.

When she was about 2 years old, Louisa traveled with her family through Kayenta, Ariz., located about 20 miles south of the Utah border on the Navajo Indian reservation. She could not have known it at the time, but Kayenta was to be her home for most of her adult life.

The family continued on to Mancos, Colo., where they established their home. About the same time, another family, the Wetherills, also moved to Mancos.

"It was there that the destinies of the two families became intertwined — the Quaker Wetherills from Pennsylvania and the military Wades originating in Virginia," wrote Mary Apolline Comfort in her book, *Rainbow to Yesterday: The John and Louisa Wetherill Story*.

On March 17, 1896, 18-year-old Louisa married John Wetherill. A son, Benjamin, was born on Dec. 26, 1896, and a daughter, Georgia Ida, followed 13 months later on Jan. 17, 1898.

In 1900 the young couple took over the management at the Ojo Alamo trading post on the Navajo reservation, thus beginning a period of 45 years in which they traded and associated with the Navajos.

It was at this isolated trading post that Mrs. Wetherill began to learn the Navajo language — first to ensure that she was not cheated by the traders, and later because she had a genuine interest in the people, according to Comfort's biography.

Mr. Wetherill was often away, and Louisa, along with her young children, explored the desert around the trading post and became acquainted with the Indians.

Unfortunately, a severe drought badly affected business at the Ojo Alamo trading post, and soon Mr. Wetherill began looking for a location where they might establish a post of their own. In 1906 the Wetherills set up a trading post at Oljato, or "Place of the Moonlight Water" near the Arizona-Utah border.

In 1910 the couple moved south to Kayenta, where they opened another trading post and began doing business from a rather unsubstantial-looking collection of tents and wagons.

The Wetherills later built a lodge at Kayenta and it became a stopping off place for many important visitors.

"The Wetherills' guest books at Kayenta during the 1920s and 30s were filled with the names of scientists and students, writers and artists, Easterners getting glimpses of the last frontier, and other persons intensely interested in Indian lore," Comfort said.

Teddy Roosevelt and Zane Grey were among their visitors.

Louisa's knowledge of the Navajos attracted the attention of the general public as well as scholars. She became a popular speaker and her lectures on the Navajos were in demand on the West Coast.

Around 1906 she began her collection of herbs, which eventually numbered more than 300 specimens. She made notes about which plants the Navajos used for food, healing purposes or in sacred ceremonies.

She was also collecting sand paintings, and by 1909 had amassed a considerable collection. Mrs. Wetherill had befriended a medicine man

named Yellow Singer and persuaded him to reproduce the paintings on paper using crayons.

Mrs. Wetherill also collected the legends and translated the folk tales of the Navajos.

"Relatives have told that it was not an uncommon sight in the summer to see as many as one hundred Indians sitting on the lawn under the trees at Kayenta, telling stories, with Louisa in their midst, laughing and chatting as volubly as any of them," Comfort wrote.

Among her original translations was "Prayer to the Big Black Bear," a prayer to ward off evil. The folk tales she translated include "The Woman Whose Nose Was Cut Off Twelve Times," "How the Raven Got His Coat," "Story of the First Lie," and "Creation of the Burro." It is not surprising that her children preferred these stories to Mother Goose rhymes.

Louisa's knowledge of the language helped her become an intermediary between the military, the Bureau of Indian Affairs and the Navajos. The Indians trusted her, and because they believed she would be fair, they abided by her judgment.

In 1918 Louisa won national recognition for the drive she made on the reservation to help the Red Cross war effort overseas. Although the Navajos had no money to donate, they gave a sheep or a goat from their flocks as their contribution to the war effort.

Beginning in 1921, Louisa made a number of trips to Mexico, intent on proving a theory that certain Navajo clans had migrated northward. Although she intended to write a history of the Navajo people, she never completed the project and whatever material she collected on her trips has been lost.

From the 1920s on, Louisa suffered from a variety of illnesses and was unable to continue life at her old pace. Her husband died in November 1944; lonely and unhappy, she died less than a year later, on Sept. 18, 1945, in Prescott.

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# Sarah Herring Sorin

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1861 — 1914

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**I**n the early 1900s Sarah Herring Sorin, Arizona's first woman lawyer, became the 25th woman to argue a case before the United States Supreme Court.

In that appearance, Mrs. Sorin was representing the Phelps Dodge Corp. One newspaper wrote: "The case was that of James H. Work against the United Globe Mining Company, a contest for the possession of the Big Johnny mine. As a result of Mrs. Sorin's victory before the highest court of America, the Phelps-Dodge interests, owners of the United Globe, have undisputed possession of the Big Johnny and it is expected that they will proceed without delay to develop the mine, which gives rich promise."

In making her appearance in Washington, Mrs. Sorin was following in her father's footsteps; in fact, it was under his tutelage that she first studied law.

But by the time she stood before the Supreme Court, it was clear to everybody in the Arizona Territory that Mrs. Sorin was standing beside — not behind — her father. The father and daughter were partners in a Tombstone law firm called Herring & Sorin.

Mrs. Sorin practiced law throughout the Arizona Territory, developing a specialty in mining law and arguing many of the state's important mining cases. In her practice, she represented a variety of clients before

local, state and federal courts.

We can only imagine today what it must have been like to be on a jury and hear a case argued by Mrs. Sorin. Certainly, wherever she appeared in court, she attracted the public's attention — not only because she was Arizona's only woman attorney at the time, but also because of her "innate dignity and charm of manner," according to the *History of Arizona* by Richard E. Sloan.

Another account, this one from *The Tombstone Epitaph*, gives us a glimpse of her talents. "Mrs. Sorin is at perfect ease in a courtroom and commands the respect of both judge and jury and wins the admiration of the bar for the graceful manner in which she handles her case," the newspaper wrote. "She is never at a loss for authorities, being so thoroughly prepared as to have references at her fingers' end, and no matter how complicated the issue, she possesses that happy facility of elucidation that most generally wins for her client a favorable verdict. . ."

Sarah Herring was born in New York City on Jan. 15, 1861. She was educated in New York and in 1881 moved with her family to Arizona.

Like many women of her time, she began her career by teaching — becoming the first woman teacher in Tombstone.

Later, she studied law under her father and returned to New York City to attend law school.

Her studies were interrupted briefly in 1893 when she married Thomas Sorin, a prominent Tombstone miner.

In 1902 Mrs. Sorin was admitted to the bar in Arizona.

Colonel Herring and Mrs. Sorin eventually moved their law practice to Tucson. Later, when her father died, Mrs. Sorin moved to Globe where she became the attorney for the Old Dominion Copper Co.

The *History of Arizona* tells us Mrs. Sorin was "a woman of strong character" who opposed the suffrage movement but who stood "for those things which she felt were right and good."

That account of her life concludes: "She was constant and dependable in everything and her innate dignity and charm of manner gained for her the sincere respect and admiration of all who came into contact with her."

She died of pneumonia on April 30, 1914 in Globe.

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# Sharlot Hall

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1870 — 1943

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*"This old house has a soul — and that soul was born of the pioneer life of Arizona and I long to restore and reveal it to the Arizona of today and of the future."*

— Sharlot Hall, speaking of the Old Governor's Mansion, which she restored and turned into a museum

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**S**harlot M. Hall was a historian, but more than that, she was a dreamer and a romantic — a teller of tales whose stories and poems have helped keep the early days of Arizona alive.

Born in Lincoln County, Kan., Oct. 27, 1870, Miss Hall came to the Arizona Territory in 1882, settling with her family at Lynx Creek, 12 miles southeast of Prescott. She had been writing songs and poems almost from the time she had learned to talk, so it was only natural that she would record her impressions of that time.

"In mid-February of 1882 I rode into Prescott on a long-legged dapple gray mare who had just left her footprints the full length of the old Santa Fe trail. We had been three months coming — three winter months with covered wagons and a caravan of loose horses — like Abraham and his family seeking new grazing grounds. . .

"As I followed down the trail that is now East Gurley street I looked over across Granite creek to a sprawling gray log building in a cluster of

tall pine trees — and I was told that it was the first governor's house — a governor's mansion of hewed pine logs with a 'shake' roof — but grand enough to me who remembered the sod houses and 'dug outs' of the Great American desert which we had just crossed."

That was the beginning of her life-long fascination with the place she called "a house of memories," the house that became the Sharlot Hall Museum.

"It seems to me worthwhile to have one place just for remembering and holding in honor the simple but great things of the past. . . I have tried and am still trying to hold here the memories of the past on which the present rests. . ." she once said of her efforts.

The first article she published was in the regional magazine *Land of Sunshine*, which was headquartered in Los Angeles. Four years later, in 1902, the editor asked her to write a poem in honor of the magazine's name change to *Out West*.

Her poem by the same name was so popular that it was widely reprinted, set to music, collected in anthologies and even made required reading for students.

Her most notable work, however, was the poem, "Arizona," which she wrote in 1906. It ridiculed eastern lawmakers for planning to admit Arizona and New Mexico into the Union as one state. Arizona's territorial leaders saw that a copy of the poem was placed on the desk of each member of Congress. Not only that, they had it read on the floor of both houses and it was reprinted in several publications.

Who can say just how much the poem and articles written by Miss Hall in 1906 swayed Congress? This much can be said: Congress amended the joint statehood bill that year and permitted the two territories to vote separately on the issue.

Miss Hall became an associate editor and continued to write for *Out West* magazine until 1909, when she was appointed territorial historian by Gov. Richard Sloan. She thus became the first woman to hold public office in Arizona.

Her official duties were to collect documents, books and other written records of Arizona's history, however, she felt the gathering of oral histories was more important. So for the next 14 months, she visited every city and nearly every mining camp in Arizona collecting reminiscences.

She resigned her position in 1912, returning home to the family ranch where she cared for her ailing parents.

There she remained until their deaths, re-entering public life briefly in 1924 when, as one of Arizona's presidential electors, she was chosen to hand-carry the state's vote to Washington, D.C.

Meanwhile, Miss Hall's "house of memories," the Old Governor's Mansion, was bought by the state and given to Prescott in 1917. In 1927 Prescott leased the house to Miss Hall for life.

While she lived there, Miss Hall used her own money and raised public funds to restore the home.

"I asked for no money, either from the city of Prescott or from the

state," she said later. "I began with the sale of a few cattle that bore the brand of my father's ranch, a brand he had used for 40 years."

Miss Hall was drawn to the house by what she called "the sweetest and saddest story." It had been told to her years before by an old caretaker who tended the roses in the yard.

Margaret Hunt McCormick, wife of the second territorial governor Richard McCormick, had come to live in the house as a young bride. She planted a red rose bush with cuttings she brought from her home in Rahway, N.J.

About a year later she died in childbirth and was buried with her baby in her arms — the buds of the roses on the homemade coffin.

Remembering the days when she passed the house on her way to school, Miss Hall later said, "... I seemed to see a lovely young face behind the window of the room where she had died — a face that had been as sweet and friendly as the roses. . ."

Despite her romantic nature, Miss Hall never married. In a letter to a friend, she explained: "In all the homes I knew, then and over most of my life. . . I saw women crucified by the insatiable passion of men so dull and stolid and stupid that it was a calamity to the race that they were able to reproduce their kind. . . I tell you honestly that the very thought of love became an abomination to me."

Perhaps her feelings sprang from watching her mother work so hard all her life and the fact that her father, though he was proud of her, never understood her desire to write and not to work in a field alongside a farmer-husband.

"I had a fatal gift for logic — even at ten," she wrote once, "and used to point out to my father that his hired help all chewed tobacco and 'cussed' and never took a bath except when it was warm enough to go in the creek. . .and even then had to get me to print out their love letters. . ."

No matter. The romance in her soul helped her to love the women — and men — who built the state, so much so that preserving their memories became and remained her one true goal.

Sharlot Hall died April 9, 1943, in Prescott at the age of 72.

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# Eulalia Elias

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1786 — 1865

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**C**apt. Francisco Elias Gonzalez de Zaya, a Spaniard, came to Mexico in 1729 at the age of 12. From this Spanish army captain descended the Elias family that for six generations produced important figures in the military, religious, governmental and economic life of Arizona and the Mexican states of Chihuahua and Sonora.

The family contributed a president of Mexico, two governors of Sonora, a governor of Chihuahua and several priests of the church in Mexico.

As landowners and ranchers, the various members of the Elias family acquired and operated no less than 30 large land grants and ranches in Sonora and southern Arizona between 1766 and 1855.

One member of this remarkable family was Eulalia Elias, who was born in Arizpe, Sonora, in 1786. She spent 16 years managing the Babocomari land grant in southeast Arizona. It was the first major cattle ranching operation in what would eventually become a major industry in Arizona.

The family's expansion into the area began in 1827. That year, Eulalia and her brother Ignacio Elias took advantage of Mexico's 1824 Law of Colonization to purchase a tract of land on the San Pedro River. The following year they purchased approximately 130,000 acres a few miles north of the present-day city of Sierra Vista. This land was referred to as

the San Juan de Babocomari grant. The title to the grant was issued by the treasurer general of Sonora, Mexico, on Dec. 25, 1832.

In the spring of 1833, the Eliases began construction of a fortified hacienda on Babocomari Creek. The hacienda was built of adobe and consisted of 15-foot-high walls that formed a square about 100 feet long on each side. There was only one entrance, a gate on the east side. The interior of the square was lined with rooms, the roofs of which formed a fighting platform behind the wall. The layout was typical of the early fortified haciendas on Mexico's northern frontier.

The administration of the ranch at Babocomari was handled primarily by Eulalia and her brother Juan Elias, a priest. The Elias women were not the secluded and protected ladies of old Spain; they played an active role in managing the family's ranches, stores and agricultural holdings.

The Eliases grazed thousands of cattle and horses on the lush grasslands that extended from the Santa Rita Mountains to the San Pedro River. By 1840, the Babocomari ranch apparently supported 40,000 head of cattle. But after 18 years of relative prosperity, the family's fortunes turned.

By the end of the 1840s, Ignacio had died and two of the Elias brothers had been killed by Apaches. The Indian raids, which were more and more frequent, took their toll. In 1849 the family was forced to abandon the hacienda and return to Arizpe in Sonora.

Just two years later, J.R. Bartlett, head of the U.S. Boundary Commission, which was charged with establishing the international boundary line between the United States and Mexico, stopped at the Babocomari ranch. He wrote the following account:

"The valley of the Babocomari, is here from a quarter to half a mile in breadth, and covered with a luxuriant growth of grass. The stream which is about twenty feet wide winds through this valley, with willows and large cottonwood trees growing along its margin. . . This hacienda, as I afterwards learned, was one of the largest cattle establishments in the State of Sonora. The cattle roamed the entire length of the valley, and at the time it was abandoned there were no less than forty thousand head, besides a large number of horses. The same cause which led to the abandonment of so many other ranches and villages, had been the ruin of this. The Apaches encroached, drove off the animals and murdered their herdsmen. The owners, to save the rest, drove them (the cattle) further into the interior and left the place. Many cattle and horses remained, however, and ranged over the hills and valleys nearby. From these, numerous wild herds have sprung which now cover the entire length of the San Pedro and its tributary, the Babocomari."

Eulalia died in Arizpe on Aug. 6, 1865, at the age of 79. She was buried with the co-founder of Babocomari, her brother Ignacio, in the cemetery at Arizpe.

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# Ana Frohmiller

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1891 — 1971

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*"I do not have a big political organization to conduct my campaign. Nor do I have big signs nailed to trees, fences and posts to disfigure the countryside. I do not want such a campaign. My habits and desires are in keeping with my resources. They are plain and devoid of all pretenses."*

— Ana Frohmiller speaking in a radio broadcast during her 1950 gubernatorial campaign

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**I**n 1950, when Ana Frohmiller became the first woman in Arizona to be nominated for governor, her campaign was launched with the slogan: "I offer the voters experience, not an experiment."

It was a claim she could justly make. She had held public office since 1922 — winning 14 consecutive elections — and, as the state's auditor since 1927, earning a reputation as a tough administrator. No matter how small the sum, Mrs. Frohmiller felt it was her obligation to see the state's money was not wasted.

She was outspoken. She was willing to take on the establishment if she believed it was wrong.

"Ana Frohmiller, state auditor, refused yesterday to honor claims totaling \$1,804 covering expenses of a buffet luncheon given in connection with the recent inauguration of Dr. Byron McCormick as president of the

University of Arizona," stated an article in the June 12, 1948, issue of *The Arizona Republic*.

"Mrs. Frohmiller questioned the expenditure on grounds it was not for a public purpose and further, that it in no way benefited the educational progress of university students.

"The luncheon guests reportedly dined on cold turkey, baked ham, potato salad, rolls, spiced peaches, ice cream and cake."

Mrs. Frohmiller's ability to say "no" to officials made her a perennial favorite with the public. During her last six terms as auditor, she didn't bother to campaign, a fact that didn't stop her from swamping the Republican competition — when there was competition — in the elections.

By 1950, when she announced her intention to run for governor, she was among the two best-known women in the state — her only rival being Jacque Mercer, a Miss Arizona who had gone on to become Miss America.

As it often is, the road to success was paved with hard work for Mrs. Frohmiller.

Born on July 28, 1891, in Burlington, Vt., she moved with her family to Phoenix when she was 7 years old. When she was a sophomore at Phoenix Union High School, her mother died, leaving a baby boy three days old and six other brothers and sisters younger than Ana.

She was only a teenager, but Ana took charge of the family. She quit school to take a position as a bookkeeper in a meat market.

Then in 1916, at the age of 25, she was offered a better bookkeeping job in Flagstaff with the Babbitt Brothers Mercantile Co. Taking "her" children with her, she accepted the job.

She worked for six years as a bookkeeper for the Babbitt company, continuing her education at night school and with correspondence courses.

By 1922, when the Coconino county treasurer resigned with his term uncompleted, she had established herself as an expert auditor. She was appointed to complete his term, and in the fall of the same year was elected in her own right to a two-year term.

She served as Coconino County treasurer until 1926, when she was elected state auditor. She would serve 12 terms in all — 24 years.

As auditor, Frohmiller received, investigated and passed judgement on financial claims against the state, including payrolls, expense accounts, contractors' bills and pensions. She handled about 45,000 claims a month and during her years in office authorized an estimated \$400 million in legitimate claims. She rejected about one in a thousand claims — often attracting headlines when she did so.

"State auditor Ana Frohmiller disclosed today she is holding up payment of a \$7,500 appropriation to Phoenix College because the institution has dropped the word 'junior' from its name," said a story in the Jan. 9, 1948, issue of *The Arizona Republic*.

"In making the disclosure, Mrs. Frohmiller pointed out that the legislature last spring appropriated \$30,000 apiece for the state's two

junior colleges — in Phoenix and Gila.

“However, early this fall Dr. Robert J. Hannelly, dean, announced that Phoenix Junior College was going to change its name and make plans for starting a four-year course.”

If it was no longer a junior college, she reasoned, it was not going to get money earmarked for junior colleges.

She took on the Arizona State Legislature in one case, the governor in another, the entire Pima County contingent in the House of Representatives in yet another case. She took on anybody she felt was incorrectly using the state's money.

It took her 10 years to bring about a complete audit of the state's books. Recovery of the funds misspent and the enactment of a modern financial code for the state took five more years, with frequent setbacks and defeats.

She became a moving force in the National Association of State Auditors and was consulted by many states on modern accounting procedures.

On May 16, 1950, Mrs. Frohmiller announced her candidacy for the Democratic nomination for governor. In a characteristically concise statement, she said: “Economy has been my watchword in the office with which the people have entrusted me 12 times.

“I believe no one questions that I have always fought to get a dollar's worth for every tax dollar spent.

“As auditor, I have never hesitated to reject what I considered an unjust claim against state funds. As governor, I will have authority to strike at waste and extravagance at their source.”

Although she won the Democratic primary, Mrs. Frohmiller was defeated in the general election by Republican Howard Pyle. The margin was slim; less than 3,000 votes.

Her friends urged her to demand a recount. But to do so would require a great sum of money, which Mrs. Frohmiller — naturally — could not see spending. She announced that she would not pay for such a venture, and would not ask her supporters to pay for it.

“I am out of politics,” she declared.

She went on to become the founding secretary and treasurer of Southwest Savings and Loan Association, a post which she held until 1962.

She died on Nov. 25, 1971, in Prescott.



*The Arizona Historical Society*  
Biology students at the University of Arizona, c.1895.



*The Arizona Historical Society*  
**Clara Fish Roberts supervises mealtime at a  
backyard picnic in Tucson, 1897.**



*The Arizona Historical Society*  
**Sarah Wilson Walker in her kitchen at Benson, Arizona.**



*The Arizona Historical Society*

**Mary Hughston at her desk at the Consolidated National Bank, Tucson, c.1910.**



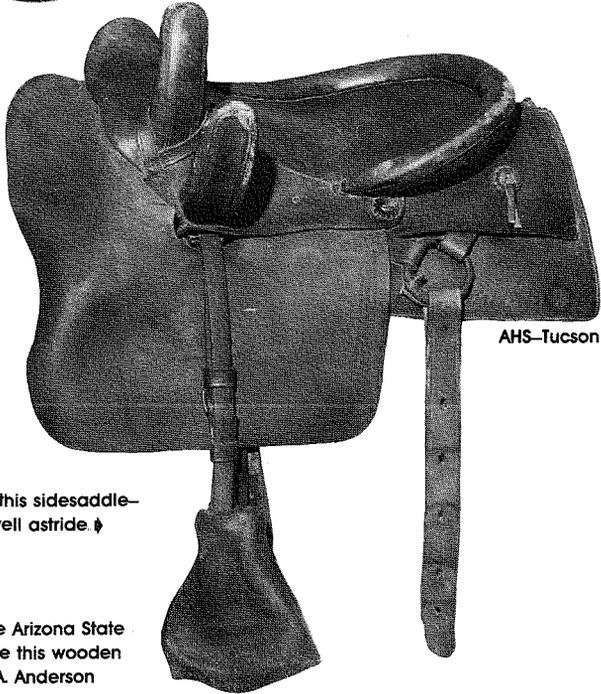
*The Arizona Historical Society*

**Southern Pacific Railroad workers during World War II.**



AHS-Tucson

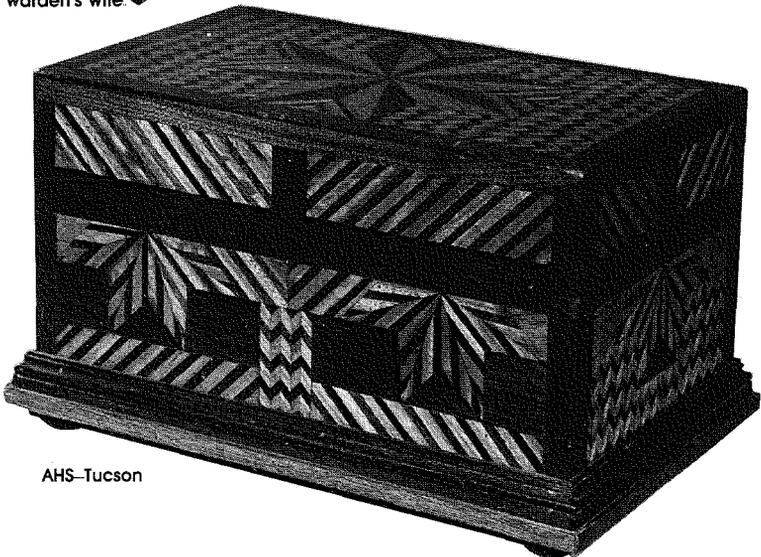
Mathilde Hampe was a sure shot with this .38 caliber Merwin and Hulbert revolver at her Rucker Canyon ranch, c. 1890.



AHS-Tucson

Edith Stratton Kitt used this sidesaddle—she rode equally well astride.

In 1917, a convict at the Arizona State Prison in Florence made this wooden sewing box for Mrs. A. A. Anderson the warden's wife.



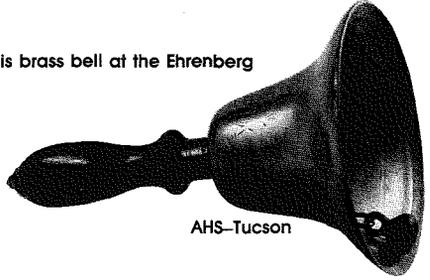
AHS-Tucson

## VOTES FOR WOMEN

This satin sash is typical of those worn by Arizona suffragettes before they "got the vote" in 1912. ↵

AHS-Tucson

Mary Elizabeth Post used this brass bell at the Ehrenberg Schoolhouse, c. 1875. ♣

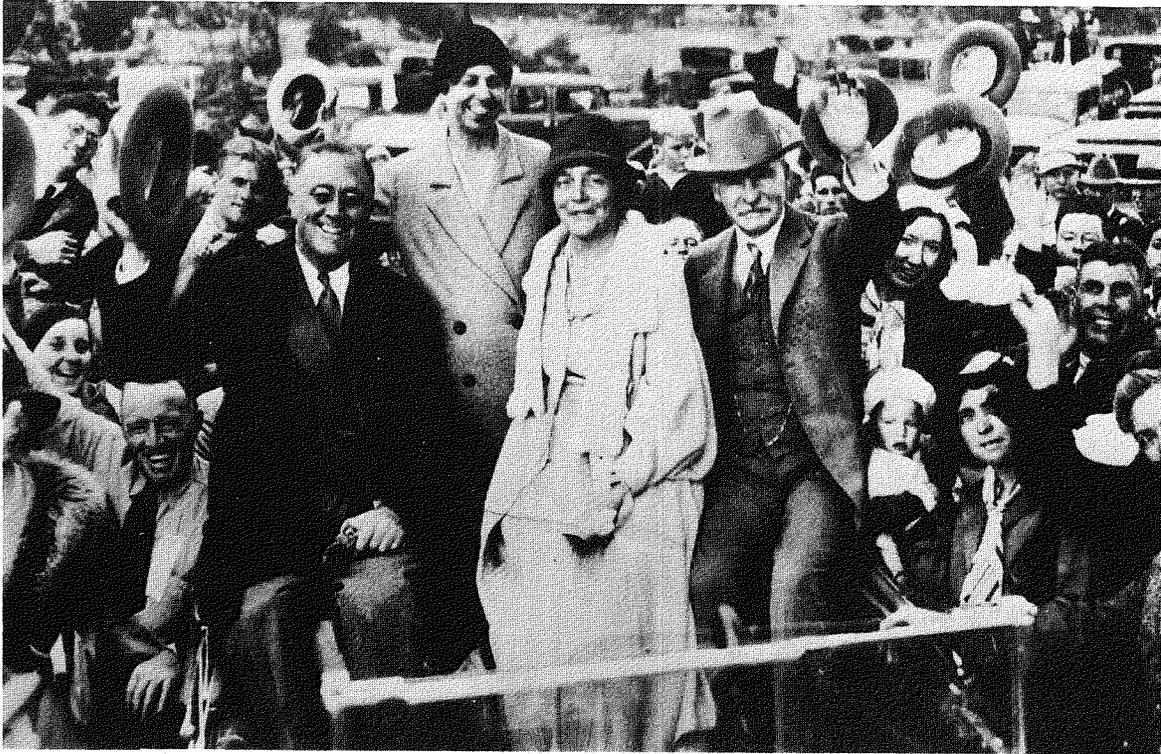


AHS-Tucson

Addie Slaughter played with this china-head doll on the San Bernardino ranch, c. 1880. ↵



AHS-Tucson



*The Arizona Historical Society*

Isabella Greenway is flanked by Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt and Arizona Senator Thomas Walsh at the Greenway's Williams ranch in 1932.



*The Arizona Historical Society*

A musical interlude in the Figueroa family garden, Tucson, c.1905.



*The Arizona Historical Society*

**"From cow to consumer direct" near old Camp Rucker, Arizona, c.1900.**



*The Arizona Historical Society*

May Clark and her six children at the Liberty Mine school in 1899.



*The Arizona Historical Society*

**Papago women with ollas at the community well.**



*The Arizona Historical Society—Yuma*

"Votes for Women" rally on Main Street in Yuma, c.1910.

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# Mary Elizabeth Jane Colter

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1869 — 1956

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**M**ore than two million people visit the Grand Canyon each year, many of them passing through one of the buildings designed by Mary Jane Colter. Colter's buildings there include Bright Angel Lodge, Phantom Ranch, Hermit's Rest, Lookout Studio and Desert View.

If you visit the Grand Canyon and at first you do not notice these buildings — if the architecture seems to blend in with the surroundings — do not be surprised: *That* is what Colter intended.

“Colter’s philosophy was that a building should grow out of its setting, embodying the history and flavor of the location,” wrote Virginia Grattan, Colter’s biographer.

“It should belong to its environment as though indigenous to that spot.”

An incident that took place in 1914 illustrates Colter’s philosophy. She was asked by her employer, the Fred Harvey Co., to design a refreshment center at the end of Hermit Rim Road. The Sante Fe Railroad operated stagecoach tours along the road and the new building, to be called Hermit’s Rest, would be a place where travelers could buy refreshments and relax before their return trip to Grand Canyon Village.

Colter’s idea was to make the building look as if it had been put

together by an untrained mountain man. It was built into the side of a hill and constructed of stone and crude posts. Inside, the furniture was made of twisted tree stumps.

Grattan tells us: "Some of the railroad men teased Mary Colter about the building's rustic appearance. It was so dingy and full of cobwebs, they complained. 'Why don't you clean up this place?'"

"Colter laughed, 'You can't imagine what it cost to make it look this old.'"

It had cost \$13,000 — no small sum at the time.

How did this woman, who was born on April 4, 1869, in Pittsburgh, Pa., come to be an influential architect — not only in Arizona — but throughout the Southwest?

As a child, Colter had hoped to be an artist. After her father's death in 1886, she urged her mother and sister to use some of the money her father had left to send her to art school. Reluctantly, they agreed and Mary was enrolled in the California School of Design in San Francisco (now the San Francisco Art Institute).

While she was there, she worked as an apprentice architect to help pay for her studies. She was exposed to — and adopted — the new architectural theories that said buildings should be sympathetic to their environment rather than copies of European styles.

Upon graduation, Colter sought a teaching job. In 1892, at the age of 23, she began a 15-year teaching career at Mechanic Arts High School in St. Paul, Minn.

While on a vacation in San Francisco one year, she visited a friend who worked at a Fred Harvey gift shop and indicated her interest in working for the Fred Harvey Co. And in 1902 she received a telegram offering her a summer position. Her job was to decorate the interior of the "Indian Building" adjacent to Harvey's new Alvarado Hotel in Albuquerque.

In 1904 another commission followed; this time she was to design the Hopi House at the Grand Canyon. Colter wanted to create a building that would fit the natural setting and reflect the history of the region. Hopi Indians had lived in the Grand Canyon area for hundreds of years, so she decided to pattern the building after Hopi dwellings in Oraibi, Ariz.

When work on the Hopi House was finished, she returned to her teaching job and then took another job in Seattle as a department store decorator.

In 1910, the Fred Harvey Co. offered her a permanent position as designer and decorator for Harvey facilities. She moved to Kansas City and worked at the company's headquarters.

During her 46 years with the company, she was responsible for 21 projects, including La Fonda Hotel in Santa Fe, N.M.; the Painted Desert Inn in Arizona's Painted Desert; and the Union Stations in Kansas City, St. Louis and Los Angeles.

In 1985 the Bright Angel Lodge at the Grand Canyon celebrated its 50th birthday. Colter's interest in history is demonstrated in her design for the lodge. Although most of the cabins there are new, two were adapted from existing historical buildings. One had been the first Grand

Canyon post office; another had been the cabin for Buckey O'Neill, Yavapai County sheriff in the late 19th century.

In what is now the lodge's History Room, she had a "geological fireplace" built. Mules were used to haul rock up from the canyon floor. The fireplace was then built, floor to ceiling, with the rocks in the same order as the strata of the canyon's walls.

Bright Angel was listed on the National Register of Historic Places on Nov. 20, 1975, partly because of its connection with Colter but also because of its sensitivity to the land.

From Colter's work a style of architecture known as National Park Service Rustic evolved. Many of the National Park structures built between the 1920s and 1940s used native stone and rough-hewn wood reminiscent of Colter's early Grand Canyon buildings.

On Jan. 8, 1956, Colter died in Santa Fe, N.M.

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# Sallie Davis Hayden

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1842 — 1907

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*"Mr. Hayden, though extravagant in large business matters, was thrifty in small New England ways. On a day of strenuous house cleaning, she (Mrs. Hayden) had accumulated a pile of household rubbish. Mr. Hayden came in and saw some moth-eaten yarn on top. He said to her: 'This ought not to be thrown away — where shall I put it?'*

*She replied with asperity: 'Eat it!'*

*The Judge went away with the yarn in his hand and shortly returned, offering it to her and saying mildly: 'Won't you take the first bite?'* "

— from Carl Hayden's reminiscences in *Sallie Davis Hayden —  
Thoroughbred Pioneer*

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**F**rom the state's earliest days, the Hayden name has been associated with progress.

Charles Trumbull Hayden established the Hayden mill and ferry along the banks of the Salt River in Tempe. Carl Trumbull Hayden served Arizona for 56 years in Congress.

Less well-known, but equally as important, was Sallie Hayden, wife of Charles and mother of Carl (and three other children). She played an important role in Arizona's development and is remembered as a woman

of enormous vitality, intelligence and wit. She created a home where education and religious tolerance were taught. She took an active interest in national as well as local politics — an interest that was passed along to her son.

According to an account of her early life written by her son, Sallie Calvert Davis was born July 12, 1842, near Forrest City, Ark. Her father, Cornelius Davis, did not believe in formal education — and certainly not for his four daughters.

When Sallie was 12 years old she ran away from home because her father, a strict disciplinarian, threatened to whip her with his bridle reins. She took refuge at an aunt's home, where she presumably found more freedom to pursue her interest in books and an education.

During the Civil War the Davis family found its finances strained, and it became necessary for all of them to go to work. Sally obtained a position as a teacher in an Illinois elementary school.

“Although she had received such limited and episodic schooling, she educated herself by reading serious books, a habit that she continued in later years whenever books were to be had,” her son wrote.

Several years later, an uncle in California wrote to tell her that schoolteachers in that state were well-paid. He advised her to move West.

She taught briefly in Nevada City, then continued on to Visalia, a little town in central California. There, she met the Alford family.

“Dr. Alford and his wife were people of breeding and education who realized that the young Southern teacher should not live in her uncle's rude cabin on the sheep ranch,” Carl wrote.

They found her a teaching job and with their love and guidance she “rapidly matured into an attractive woman.”

It was at the Alfords' that she met Mr. Hayden, who was visiting the doctor while on a trip to San Francisco.

“It took him two years to persuade Miss Davis to marry him,” according to their son's account.

“She was not then passionately in love with Mr. Hayden, but she had a profound admiration for his gentle dignity and his scholarly temperament and was interested in his dream of building up a civilized community in southern Arizona.”

Mr. Hayden, who was 17 years her senior, provided the intellectual companionship and the challenge that she desired. The couple soon settled at the Hayden House in Tempe.

Mrs. Hayden was embarking on a new life, and from her son's account we know she was “terribly depressed” by what she found in Tempe. She hated the hot weather. Her new home had a dirt floor and was cheaply furnished. There were few companions for conversation. And Mr. Hayden was often occupied with his business, neglecting his new wife.

The desert seemed desolate to her, so she sent away for Bermuda grass seeds; the grass quickly spread and became a pest in the garden.

She imported a cow to provide milk. In short, she set about making this new place a home.

Gradually, she came to share her husband's dream of building a community along the Salt River and making it a place where she could raise her children.

She served as postmistress of Hayden's Ferry (later renamed Tempe) from Dec. 19, 1876, to July 28, 1878.

She became a member of the local school board and worked to bring better teachers to the region; she campaigned to see that the "right" politicians won; she established a library in her home that included many of the English and American classics, books that could not easily be found in the Southwest; and she entertained suffrage speakers whenever they came to Tempe.

While her children were young, she moved the family to a new home two miles outside of town. The home would become known as the "Hayden Guest Ranch" because it served as a hostelry for teachers, writers, lecturers and many other distinguished Tempe visitors.

It was also a place where persons with tuberculosis could convalesce.

"There was scarcely ever a time when some such unhappy person was not being entertained at the Ranch House throughout the winters, and often without charge," her son wrote. "Delicate teachers, poor college professors, any educated person with limited means, and lame ducks of every sort, appealed to her sympathetic, generous heart."

It was Mrs. Hayden's sound management that kept the ranch going. She made it profitable by bringing in cattle and she defended her water rights when they were challenged.

When Carl was old enough for college, she insisted on borrowing the money to send him to Stanford. Even after the death of her husband in 1900, and despite the severe financial problems that he left behind, she managed to find the money to provide for her daughters' education.

Mrs. Hayden died Sept. 15, 1907, in Tempe.

Her three children remained the visible testimony to her life. Her son Carl inherited her political acumen; her daughters carried on her service in the fields of education and social welfare.

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# Carmen Soto de Vásquez

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1863 — 1934

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**C**armen Soto de Vásquez was in her 50s when she launched her own artistic revolution, thereby thrusting Tucson into the role of Southwestern cultural center. During the 1920s the city enjoyed a cultural renaissance as music, operas, and theatrical productions became an important part of life in the desert town.

Born in 1863 in Tucson, she was a member of a prominent pioneer family. Her mother, Carmela Comaduran de Soto, was descended from Antonjo Comaduran, captain of the Royal Presidio at the Fort of San Agustín de Tucson. Her husband, Ramon Vasquez, was also born in Tucson and he later became the owner of one of the largest mercantile businesses in Nogales.

Carmen Soto de Vásquez was a businesswoman and a cultural leader. She founded El Teatro Carmen and commissioned a renowned architect and builder, Manuel Flores, to build the theater.

The building was designed in the Sonoran-mission style and was located at 348 S. Meyer, the heart of what is now Tucson's historic district. Mrs. Vásquez' purpose behind the theater project was to provide a place for the performance of outstanding Spanish language literary productions as well as operas, musicals and melodramas.

Under her guidance, the theater attracted internationally acclaimed

troupes from Spain and Mexico. Highly-touted actors and actresses performed for appreciative audiences in a western city that no longer could be dismissed as a sleepy, little cowtown.

The opening night for El Teatro Carmen was May 20, 1915. Featured was *Cerebro y Corazon*, a play by the Mexican author and poet Fardias Iassi. It was a grand night, a tremendous success, and a great social event, judging by newspaper accounts.

El Cronista, the pseudonym used by the literary critic of the Spanish newspaper *El Tucsonense*, wrote:

“The inauguration of Teatro Carmen was a great artistic and financial success, and the announcement of the forthcoming programs was received by Tucson society with much enthusiasm.”

Carmen Soto de Vásquez was the impresario of El Teatro Carmen for nine years before moving to Nogales with her husband and family.

In that time, the theater became more than just a place where high-quality productions were performed. It became the cultural center of the community. The project was very successful financially, but it meant much more than that to Mrs. Vasquez.

Armando Miguélez, in his study of Hispanic theater in Tucson, noted:

“Carmen Soto de Vásquez was conscious of her role as a culture promoter who put the theater at the disposal of the public so they would have the opportunity to enjoy art characteristic of their culture and so that by supporting these events, (Mexican) culture would be retained in the city.”

Mrs. Vásquez died Oct. 8, 1934, in Nogales.

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# Frances Lillian Willard Munds

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1866 — 1948

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*"...I want the women to realize that they will have to make a concerted demand for the things they want, and not merely present a bill and ask someone to put it through for them. I want them to get into the battle themselves."*

— Frances Willard Munds, April 24, 1915

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**B**y the time a woman reaches grandmotherhood, she's not expected to step out of her home and into a political career — even these days.

But that is exactly what former schoolteacher Frances Willard Munds did Jan. 11, 1915, when she took office as a senator in the second Arizona Legislature. She was the first woman senator in Arizona, the second in the United States.

Momentous as the occasion was, it was not her first foray into the public limelight.

Mrs. Munds had battled for years for the right to vote, serving as secretary of the first state suffrage organization and working for the 1903 passage of the Suffrage Bill by the U.S. Congress.

The bill was vetoed in Arizona by Gov. Alexander O. Brodie, but the suffrage movement did not end there.

Mrs. Munds took over as head of the State Central Committee,

directed the campaign's reorganization and appeared before every legislature until victory was achieved.

In 1912, statehood year for Arizona, a successful referendum gave women the right to vote in the state, and the following year, Mrs. Munds was nominated by Gov. J.W.P. Hunt as state representative to the International Woman Suffrage Alliance in Budapest.

Born in June 10, 1866, in Franklin, Calif., Mrs. Munds' earliest wish was to go to school. She got her chance when she moved to Maine where she lived with her sister's family, attending Central Institute in Pittsfield. Meanwhile, her parents moved from California to Prescott, where her father, John Willard, became a well-known cattleman.

In 1885, when Frances was 19, she joined her parents in Prescott, teaching school in Yavapai County.

Her paternal grandfather had been a member of the Lewis and Clark Expedition, and her maternal grandfather, Col. James R. Vineyard, was a member of the Wisconsin territorial legislature.

Maybe it was this heritage, or possibly it was her educational background, but Frances was deeply involved in the suffrage campaign by the time she was married five years later to John L. Munds.

In 1914, at the age of 48, Mrs. Munds won election as senator from Yavapai County.

"The women were splendidly loyal in the way they supported me," she said later. "There were seven candidates in the field with only two to be elected. Four of the other candidates were lawyers and one was a cattle king who was backed by the corporations and a portion of the liquor men. Fortunately, the saloon men did not support this particular candidate and so I won the race."

Her margin of victory was wide — she won 600 votes more than the second-place candidate.

The victorious new senator said, "We believe that we have proved ourselves worthy of the ballot. Women have been earnest in their endeavors to support the best candidate and to work by the right means for the right measures."

Mrs. Munds took her place in the upper legislative chambers Jan. 11, 1915, commenting to a newspaper reporter later, "Our friends, the true-blue conservatives, will be shocked to think of a grandmother sitting in the state Senate."

Shocking or no, she got right to work and introduced several bills. One that called for raising widows' exemptions was passed by both houses.

Writing in *The Woman's Journal* on April 24, 1915, she described her first session in the State Legislature:

"This session...was distinguished for being a struggle between the progressive and the corporation Democrats. The entire legislature was Democratic with the exception of one lone Republican in the Senate, but those Democrats were of very different complexions, and the corporation men did their best to undo all that has been done for Arizona in the last few years since the people have taken things into their own hands. The

people rather overdid themselves in the first two elections after Statehood, and then they went to sleep and let the corporations get in. So we women contented ourselves with helping the progressive Democrats keep the corporation men from making bad laws."

In her two-year term, Mrs. Munds served on the Land Committee, which formulated policy dealing with control and disposition of all state lands, and the Committee on Education and Public Institutions, of which she was chairman.

The women of Arizona nominated Mrs. Munds to another public office in 1918, the office of secretary of state, but she was defeated 17,325 to 12,034 in the primary election. That was the last time she ran for office, withdrawing from public life in her later years.

She died at age 82 on Dec. 16, 1948.

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# Jane H. Rider

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1889 — 1981

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*"Men were astonished when a strange woman appeared to have a look at the water plant. . . Now engineers are involved in outer space. Young women, adequately trained, have a fantastic opportunity to take part in some of the details of these new explorations. . ."*

— Jane Rider, addressing a group of young women interested in engineering careers in March 1969

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**J**ane H. Rider was blessed with a long life; she lived to the age of 91. And when her achievements are tallied, it is clear she wasted precious little time in those nine decades.

In all, she gave Arizonans more than 50 years of service in the field of health. In her 16 years as the state's director of hospital surveys and construction, she was responsible for making Arizona's hospitals the very best possible.

When she retired in 1961 from the job, she commented, "There's so much yet to be done." Her energy was still driving her forward. But she was ready to pass on the responsibilities and explore new avenues for herself.

While serving as director, she had had responsibility for deciding how to spend \$2.5 million in federal funds allocated to Arizona under the

Hill-Burton Act to assist communities in constructing hospitals and health clinics. The new building for St. Joseph's Hospital and the additions to Good Samaritan, Maricopa County General and Memorial Hospitals in Phoenix came under this program.

Even after her so-called retirement Miss Rider continued to serve in the field of health.

She worked as a consultant for hospital projects in Arizona. For 10 years she was active in the Maricopa County General Hospital Auxiliary and St. Joseph's Hospital Auxiliary.

She was an honorary member of the Arizona Hospital Association and St. Luke's Board of Visitors. She was one of the founders of the Arizona Public Health Association and a member of the Arizona Sewage and Water Works Association. She served on the board of directors for Maricopa County Hospitals and was a trustee of St. Luke's Medical Center.

Miss Rider might never have set foot in Arizona were it not for her father's job. He was a Pennsylvania Dutch mining engineer (some accounts describe him as a chemist or an assayer) who had come to Arizona for the first time in 1882.

He later returned to Pennsylvania to marry, and on Aug. 18, 1889, Jane H. Rider was born in Sewickley, Pa., a suburb of Pittsburgh. She was the eldest of three children. One brother died in infancy; another, Percy Sower Rider Jr., was killed in World War I.

When she was 6 years old, the family moved to Colorado, residing for a time in Rico and Durango. Later, Miss Rider attended a private high school for girls in Denver.

In 1904 the family moved to Tucson. From 1907 to 1911 Miss Rider attended the University of Arizona. She graduated with a bachelor of science degree in civil engineering, becoming Arizona's first woman engineer.

Her first job was as a bacteriologist for the Arizona State Laboratories at the UofA. She was later assistant director and in 1916 became director of the lab.

Describing her work, she said she "juggled test tubes in (the) laboratory and made field investigations of milk and water supplies all over the map of Arizona, traveling by train, stage, automobile and horseback."

"Water, then as now, was on everyone's mind," Miss Rider recalled years later. "I spent a lot of time in the field with railroad representatives and mining men looking for pure water sources."

She also was interested in seeing that milk supplies in Arizona were safe.

"In 1913 Arizona had the second highest infant mortality rate in the nation and a good share of the blame went to unsanitary milk," she recalled in a newspaper interview in 1966.

"Do you know what a 'dobe hole is? When people built their adobe houses they dug the material out of the ground and left the hole. They let this fill with water to water their cattle.

“The cows, on hot days, would stand in the 'dobe hole. Then milking time came but the bossies were not washed off before they were milked, and the dirt and stagnant water got in the buckets.”

Miss Rider worked to publicize the sanitation problem and played an important role in establishing the link between infant mortality and contaminated milk — convincing the dairy industry of the need for pasteurization.

In 1918 she took a leave of absence from the laboratory to work with the American Red Cross Commission for Great Britain. She returned to the lab in May 1919 and worked there until 1935.

Under her direction, one of the lab's jobs was to test food and drugs — this was years before the federal pure food and drug acts existed. She and her assistants worked to stop the sale of dangerous patent medicines and cosmetics.

In 1935 Miss Rider resigned from the laboratory to become the Arizona administrator for the National Youth Administration, an agency concerned primarily with construction work and sanitary engineering. The job included hospital construction and remodeling.

Her final job as state director of hospital surveys and construction lasted from 1948 to 1961.

Miss Rider received many honors during her career. She was the second woman to be accepted into the American Society of Civil Engineers and was a senior member of the National Society of Women Engineers.

In 1963 she was awarded the Distinguished Citizen Award by the UofA. In 1970, she was selected as the Phoenix Woman of the Year by the Phoenix Advertising Club.

Miss Rider died on March 4, 1981, in St. Luke's Hospital in Phoenix.

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# Maie Bartlett Heard

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1868 — 1951

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**M**aie Bartlett Heard was a collector. Mrs. Heard was born on June 11, 1868, in Chicago, and educated at the Loring School and Dearborn Seminary, a finishing school. When she was 14, her mother died, and she assumed the responsibility of overseeing the household and caring for three younger children.

She met her future husband, Dwight B. Heard, on a trip to Paris with her father, and the young couple was married on August 10, 1893.

Two years later when Dwight became seriously ill with a chest ailment, his Chicago doctors advised him to quit the cold and seek a warmer climate. So, Maie and Dwight loaded some possessions in a wagon, bought a team of horses and headed for the Pacific Coast. They got as far as Phoenix, decided this was home, and stayed.

Dwight regained his health, and he became an active businessman in the young community. In 1912 he bought *The Arizona Republican* newspaper, now *The Arizona Republic*, and published it until his death in 1929.

The Heards started their collection of Indian Art with a Pima basket. From there it was a short step to pottery in varying shapes, rugs, and prehistoric Indian artifacts — all to decorate their ranch house on the

western outskirts of Phoenix, around present-day 51st Avenue and McDowell Road.

The collection grew and grew, becoming so extensive that the only logical way to clean out some closets at home was to build a larger house, which they did about 1900. Finally, when the house, too, was burgeoning with treasures, they built and endowed a museum.

Maie was the circulating librarian who forded the Salt River on horseback to take books to ranch children; she was the philanthropist who donated the money to build a gymnasium at the YWCA.

But as busy as she was, her main interest centered on her family's collection of primitive art, including wonderful Hohokam artifacts and native Arizona arts and crafts.

It would have been easy to slack off, to lay down the lamp of civic and social work when her husband died. It was just months before the museum they had both worked to establish was due to open.

But Mrs. Heard continued on, working with the Phoenix Little Theater, donating land for the Phoenix Civic Center, and giving time to youth.

By the 1920s the Heards' interests had expanded to embrace the primitive arts and works of mankind.

The museum was established to preserve these artifacts, to encourage public appreciation of primitive works and culture and to promote archaeological research and investigation.

In all these years, Mrs. Heard cared for people – in big, public ways such as founding the Welfare League (the forerunner to the present-day United Fund), and in small, private ways such as extending a mortgage for a deserving family, establishing a firewood dispensary for the poor, or comforting a soldier's widow.

In May 1948 she was honored by the Phoenix Rotary Club for her service to youth, and the same year she was named Woman of the Year by Beta Sigma Phi, a businesswomen's sorority.

She was 83 years old when she died in Phoenix' Good Samaritan Hospital on March 14, 1951, the 22nd anniversary of her husband's death.

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# Laura E. Herron

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1892 — 1966

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*"Now girls we must get this batting down pat."  
We hear these words from 'Casey at the Bat.'  
Sometimes she's cross, most times she's gay,  
But she's always there to show us the way,  
To continue our studies or to improve our game.  
She's loved by all, Miss Herron is her name.*

— from a 1960 Phoenix College student publication

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**T**here is a picture of Laura E. Herron that appears in many of the newspaper clippings from the 1960s. It shows her engaged in a lively conversation and making her point by raising a clenched fist. And if you read the stories, she is described by adjectives like "peppery" and "direct."

It is not hard to imagine her on an athletic field blowing a whistle, shouting words of advice, or cheering on a team — and that is where you would have found her during much of her life.

A physical education teacher and a leader in recreational activities, Miss Herron devoted her career to instilling good sportsmanship and a love for athletics in thousands of young people.

In 1933 she was asked by Phoenix officials to help create a recreational

program for the city. Over the next few decades, she helped organize one of the largest women's softball leagues in the nation.

According to a newspaper account, there were 120 women's and girls' teams in league play and 20 more in open competition in the city's recreational program in 1962. In one month, they played 348 games.

Men and women combined, there were 15,000 participants in the city leagues, and on a rainy night as many as 200 games could be washed out.

While the public insisted on calling Miss Herron "the mother of Phoenix's recreation program," she took a more modest credit, saying she was, at most, the midwife.

In either case, she was the woman behind the outstanding program, which amazingly enough was operated by volunteer workers. There were only two paid workers in the Phoenix women's softball program, and there were no trophies, no medals — just a lot of enthusiastic players.

Miss Herron was born in Helena, Mont., on July 5, 1892. She graduated from Stanford University and from the University of California at Berkeley.

She taught physical education and science for eight years at three California high schools before becoming head of the physical education department at San Jose Teachers College. After one year there, she moved to Humboldt State Teachers College in Arcata, Calif., where she was head of the physical education department for six years.

While in California, she became a member of the Business and Professional Women's Club and helped organize recreational centers for women in six cities in northern California.

In 1928 she was a delegate to the International Athletic Federation. The same year, she served as the U.S. official in charge of the women's track and field teams in the Olympics in Amsterdam.

Miss Herron came to Arizona in 1931 and was named head of the physical education and health department at Arizona State Teachers College (now Arizona State University) in Tempe. In her two years there, she coached winning teams in women's hockey and men's tennis.

In 1933 she became supervisor for the Phoenix recreation department, a post that she held for 3½ years. At the time of her appointment the city had only two public pools. During her years as supervisor she added to the number of pools and saw that playgrounds, tennis courts, and recreational buildings were built in the parks. All of the construction was done under government work relief programs, with Miss Herron spearheading the effort to raise bond money.

"It was the Depression, you know," she said later. "But in spite of that, almost \$1 million in bonds was raised."

She inaugurated programs in aquatics, camping and handicraft activities for children; she encouraged businesses to form teams and participate in the city leagues; she worked to establish a strong professional staff of recreation directors; and she instituted strict sanitary regulations at the pools and bathhouses.

In 1937 she left that job to become Director of Physical Education for women at Phoenix Junior College (now Phoenix College). She held that

position until her retirement in May 1963.

In addition to her job, she served on the Phoenix Parks Board and organized a basketball tournament for Indian girls. In 1959 she coached and refereed the play of 10 all-Indian teams in the tournament. One year later, the tournament drew 16 entries, including teams from California and New Mexico.

Miss Herron also was active in many organizations. She was a charter member and first president of the local chapter of the American Federation of Teachers. From 1948-1950 she served as secretary of the Phoenix Urban League and president of the Women's Guild.

After her retirement, she continued to teach physical education at several parochial schools.

In April 1966 Miss Herron received a trophy from the Phoenix District Tennis Association for her contributions to that sport.

A few months later, on July 25, Laura Herron died in St. Joseph's Hospital in Phoenix.

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# Edith Stratton Kitt

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1878 — 1968

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*"On the 29th of December, 1925, I was installed as secretary of the Arizona Pioneers' Historical Society. That title 'secretary' was erroneous, for I had to be not only the corresponding secretary but also the librarian, researcher, entertainer, welfare worker and father confessor all in one."*

— Edith Stratton Kitt writing in her book *Pioneering in Arizona: The Reminiscences of Emerson Oliver Stratton and Edith Stratton Kitt*

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**E**dith Stratton Kitt joined the Arizona Pioneers' Historical Society in 1925 when it occupied a storeroom in a building at the corner of Main Avenue and Congress Street in Tucson. Among the documents in the room were rows of government publications of all kinds, including reports on fishing in Japan and accounts of expositions in Paris and Vienna. The bookshelves contained some old schoolbooks, an illustrated edition of Dante's *Inferno* and the complete works of Sir Thomas More. In all this chaos, there was very little that had any connection with Arizona or the West.

To say the least, Mrs. Kitt, who had been installed as the society's secretary, had her job cut out. For the next 22 years, she worked to organize and expand the collection of the society. In 1963 she was named the "First Lady of Arizona's Territorial Centennial" for her historical contributions to the state.

Mrs. Kitt was a native Arizonan. She was born in Florence in 1878, the daughter of Emerson Stratton of Clyde, N.Y., and Carrie Ames Stratton of Cotuit, Mass.

When she was 2 years old, her parents moved to a cattle ranch north of the Catalina Mountains. Many of her childhood experiences on the ranch are recounted in her book, *Pioneering in Arizona: The Reminiscences of Emerson Oliver Stratton and Edith Stratton Kitt*.

"My father called it the Pandora Ranch when he took it up," she said. "He said everything was gone but hope."

However hard ranch life was, the young Edith clearly enjoyed it. In her biography she takes pleasure in describing the cowboys, the semi-annual roundups, hunting trips with her father, and afternoons spent riding horses with her sister.

Ranch life may have suited the young woman, but it was difficult for the Strattons to make ends meet. Eventually, the family was forced to leave, moving to Los Angeles where Edith graduated from the Los Angeles Normal School in 1900.

She returned to Arizona to study briefly at the University of Arizona before accepting a teaching job at a ranch school near Liberty, southwest of Phoenix.

She taught for several years in Colorado and in Tucson before marrying George F. Kitt in 1903. The couple had two children, a daughter and a son.

Although Mrs. Kitt's college education was interrupted by her teaching career and marriage, she received her bachelor's degree after attending classes off and on at the University of Arizona for 20 years.

She transcribed many oral histories over the years, including hers and her father's. As secretary of the Pioneers' Historical Society, which was renamed the Arizona Historical Society about 1970, Mrs. Kitt turned the society's office into a kind of clubhouse where old-timers would feel comfortable. And when they showed up, she took down their reminiscences.

While she was talking with these pioneers, Mrs. Kitt would inquire about old letters, documents and diaries. She was able to acquire and preserve many of these historical records that might otherwise have been destroyed.

Most of the collections that are in the Arizona Historical Society today were begun by Mrs. Kitt. She is credited with making its library one of the top research centers in the Southwest.

She also worked to expand the society's membership and to institute an annual membership fee that helped pay for expenses.

In addition to her research work and contributions to the Arizona Historical Society, Mrs. Kitt was an incorporator, director and president of the Tucson Woman's Club. She also belonged to the Arizona Federation of Women's Clubs, the American Legion Auxiliary and the Business and Professional Women's Club.

She died on Jan. 18, 1968, at the age of 89 in Sacramento, Calif.

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# Rachel Emma Allen Berry

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1859 — 1948

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**A**rizona was one of 15 states that legislated women's right to vote long before suffrage was obtained nationally in 1920. The first assembly of the Arizona Legislature enfranchised women in 1912.

Having won the right to vote, women quickly recognized the equally important right to hold office.

In 1914, Rachel E. Berry became one of the first women in the United States to win election to a state legislature. A Mormon who lived in St. Johns and represented Apache County, she took her seat in the Arizona House of Representatives on Jan. 11, 1915.

There, she successfully advocated the adoption of the state flag we have today. She fought for bills concerned with education and child welfare. She served as chairman of the Good Roads Committee. And she created a bit of a rumpus over her attempt to banish cigars and chewing tobacco in the Legislature. (She did not win that battle.)

Rachel Allen was born on March 11, 1859, in Ogden, Utah, the daughter of Mormon pioneers. She grew up in Kanarrville, Utah, and taught school there before her marriage to William Berry in 1879.

The couple started to Arizona in the fall of 1881, traveling in covered wagons with a party of 18 other members of the Church of Jesus Christ of

Latter-day Saints.

The party followed the tortuous Mormon Trail into the Territory, ferrying the Colorado River at a point near the present Navajo Bridge. Mr. Berry drove a large herd of cattle and about 50 horses into what is now Apache County, where he became a leading rancher and cattleman.

After a three month trip, they arrived in St. Johns on Jan. 27, 1882. At first, they set up housekeeping in the wagons and tents. Later, they built a log cabin and in 1886 they built the first brick house in the county.

Mrs. Berry had seven children — four daughters and three sons.

Life in the Territory was hard — especially on young children. In later years, Mrs. Berry showed little sympathy for those who bemoaned “the good old days.”

In 1889 she nursed her four children through an epidemic of diphtheria, then she herself got the disease while she was pregnant with her fifth child. The child was born, but lived only 16 days.

Then in December 1903 tragedy struck again. Her eldest son Wiley was taking sheep through the mountains to the winter grazing land in the desert, according to an account written by Mr. Berry.

“He had with him as herders Santiago Vigil and his 16-year-old boy Juan Vigil.

“When he reached Gisela in Gila County he camped about seven miles from the town on the public sheep trail. On the morning of the 22nd of December, after Santiago Vigil had left camp with the herd and was about three-quarters of a mile away, two brothers, John and Zack Booth — goat men who our son or the others had never seen before — rode up to the herder and pointing their guns at him ordered him to leave. He answered them that he was not the owner of the sheep, but that the boss was at the camp.

“They rode to camp and in a few minutes the herder heard shots and hurried to camp where he found both boys dead. . .”

Zack Booth was later convicted of the crime and hanged.

After her term in the Legislature, Mrs. Berry focused her energies back in Apache County. She was appointed chairman of the county’s Child Welfare Board and was involved in Mormon church work as president of the local Relief Society and the Mutual Improvement Association. She served many years as a trustee of the school in St. Johns.

In 1928 she purchased a home in Phoenix, where she spent her winters, returning to St. Johns each summer.

Many of her friends and relatives — including 18 grandchildren and 23 great-grandchildren — gathered in Phoenix on March 11, 1948, to celebrate her 89th birthday.

According to a newspaper account of the reunion, the family matriarch was still nimble in mind and body. She loved to sew, and during the previous year had completed nine quilts and helped finish 18 others for her grandchildren.

She said she wouldn’t dream of becoming “just an old lady with nothing to do.”

Although she was nearly 90, her mind was alert and she kept up with current events in the world, nation and state. In discussing the new fashions, Mrs. Berry dryly remarked that she “thought modern young women had more sense than to want to wear their skirts so long that they drag in the streets.

“I like to keep up with the fashions,” she said, “but I had enough of long skirts when I was a girl. My dresses suit me fine when they’re just a little below the knee, and I hope sincerely that styles never take the hemline to the ankle again.”

Later that year — on Thanksgiving Day — Mrs. Berry died at her home in Phoenix.

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# Anna Moore Shaw

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1898 — 1976

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*"Education in the white man's world is enriching and essential to economic success, but it need not mean the giving up of our proud Pima heritage."*

— Anna Moore Shaw, in her autobiography *A Pima Past*

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**A**нна Moore Shaw wrote in her autobiography, "The white man and his cities surround us — we must embrace his ways, which are good, while keeping our pride in being Indian."

Her book, *A Pima Past*, published in 1974 by the University of Arizona Press, was written in the style of a family saga, she explained. It told the story of her family and of her own experiences as a 20th Century Indian.

Mrs. Shaw was born in 1898 on the Gila Indian Reservation. "I was born near Komatke in the shadow of the Estrella Mountains on the sticks beneath the bushes," she said later in her life.

Her birth name was Chehia, but when she was 10, her father, Red Arrow, was converted to Christianity and took the name of Josiah Moore. He renamed his daughter Anna.

That ended Anna's strictly traditional Pima upbringing and began her introduction into the white man's world.

She was sent to the Phoenix Indian School and later to Phoenix Union

High School where she graduated in 1920. A short time later, she married Ross Shaw, a Pima-Maricopa who she had met at Phoenix Indian School.

The Shaws decided there was more opportunity for them and their family if they lived in Phoenix and not on the reservation. So, for the next 40 years, they raised their children and involved themselves in civic and church activities.

But they never forgot their Indian heritage. To help their children appreciate their Pima culture, Anna told them the many legends and stories she had learned as a child from tribal elders.

Because she was worried that the stories would be lost in the modern world, Anna began writing them down.

"I wrote them to preserve the beauty of them for our people," she said. "But somehow, in English — my English — the beauty just wasn't there."

So Mrs. Shaw studied writing at the Phoenix Evening Technical School. The result was a beautiful book, *Pima Indian Legends*, published in 1968 by the University of Arizona Press.

Her writing wasn't confined to books, however. After returning to live on the Salt River Indian Reservation when her husband retired in the 1960s, Anna became the editor of the tribal newspaper, *Pima Letters*.

Her other activities included being an ordained elder in the Presbyterian Church, participating in the building fund drive for the Charles H. Cook Christian Training Center in Tempe, and working to secure better housing on the reservation.

The only real regret she had in her life, she once said, was that she never had a chance to attend kindergarten.

"I was slow getting started educationally," she said. "Language was a barrier. I think it would have made a big difference in my life. . . just going to kindergarten."

Possibly she was right, but how much difference could it have made in the innate wisdom of Anna Moore Shaw, who achieved a magnificent blend of two cultures for herself and her children despite spirit-wounding obstacles such as prejudice?

"Prejudice? I experienced some," she once told writer Maggie Wilson in a story for *The Arizona Republic*. "But it never hurts you so much as it hurts when your child experiences it."

When her daughter came home from school in tears because thoughtless classmates wouldn't hold her hand in a physical education class exercise, Anna counseled:

"We must overlook the shuns and hurts and remember that the white man has given us something far more lasting than attitudes on this earth. The white man brought us the message of Jesus Christ. I'm grateful he did."

Anna Moore Shaw was 77 when she died on April 18, 1976, in Phoenix.

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# Amy Cornwall Neal

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1888 — 1972

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**A**my Cornwall Neal was not content merely to direct work that had to be done; she was the one who pitched in to make sure the job was done.

Her interests ranged from her home and her family's cattle business to historical projects and social action. And while she lived all her life in Mohave County, individuals throughout Arizona benefited from her social awareness.

Mrs. Neal was born April 2, 1888, on the Cornwall Ranch near Wikieup. Her father, Adamson Cornwall, represented Mohave County in the 11th and 14th Territorial Legislatures.

The oldest of five children, Amy was 12 years old when her mother, Jennie Cornwall, died. From that time on, Amy took charge of the Cornwall home, caring for her sister and three brothers. She did the cleaning, meal planning and cooking for the family and the cowboys who worked on the ranch.

She worked for a time as a Harvey Girl for the Santa Fe Railroad before marrying John Neal in 1910. Mrs. Neal believed in the importance of historical preservation, and was deeply involved in the establishment of the Mohave Museum of History and Art. She served as the group's first treasurer, and under her direction, enough money was raised to begin construction of a museum building.

She helped start the Daughters of Mohave County Pioneers and was active in organizations such as the Kingman Woman's Club, the Kingman Garden Club, the Mountain View Cemetery Association and the Order of Eastern Star.

A founding member of the Mohave County Cowbelles, an organization that works to promote the cattle industry, she served as the group's first president.

But Mrs. Neal's interests and work were not confined to her own community and county.

She was elected state president of the Arizona Cowbelles and was an early and ardent supporter of the Arizona Boys' Ranch near Chandler.

In fact, she combined her two interests by convincing the Arizona Cowbelles to raise money for a housing facility for the boys at the ranch. Not content just to enlist others to help on the project, she donated all the beef for a huge barbecue in Kingman to benefit the ranch.

She also served as a member of the Arizona State Welfare Board.

Mrs. Neal's helping hand was extended privately, too. More than one young person received direct aid from her, friends recall.

In later years, she worked diligently to raise community awareness of the needs of the elderly. She believed there was a need for a retirement facility that allowed older people to receive the care they needed while maintaining their dignity and a sense of independence.

Because of her efforts, a new retirement facility was named after her in Kingman.

She is remembered by friends and neighbors as someone who could "always be counted on to give her time, talent, energy and wisdom to any worthwhile cause." Amy Cornwall Neal died at the age of 84 on Dec. 28, 1972, in Kingman.

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# Lorna Lockwood

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1903 — 1977

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*"In our system, students may not be regarded as closed-circuit recipients of only that which the state chooses to communicate. They may not be confined to the expression of those sentiments that are officially approved."*

— from Justice Lorna Lockwood's Supreme Court opinions

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**L**awyer, legislator, Superior Court judge, state Supreme Court chief justice...ten words that capsulize the career of Lorna E. Lockwood.

Add to that, assistant attorney general for Arizona, juvenile court judge and district price attorney for the wartime Office of Price Administration, and one begins to appreciate the breadth of that career.

Born March 24, 1903, in Douglas, a small southeastern Arizona town on the Mexican border, Miss Lockwood was the daughter of Daisy Maude Lincoln and attorney Alfred Collins Lockwood. The family moved to Tombstone in 1913, and Miss Lockwood graduated from Tombstone High School in 1920.

In an age when few women continued their education beyond high school, Miss Lockwood not only graduated from the University of Arizona in Tucson (in 1923), but also from the College of Law (in 1925). She was

the only woman among 13 law students in her class and was elected president of the Student Bar Association.

"I decided when I was a very little girl that I wanted to be a lawyer," Miss Lockwood once said. "I can't say positively when, but the idea was in the back of my mind."

She had dreamed of practicing law with her father, but by the time she was admitted to the State Bar, her father had been elected to the Arizona Supreme Court. He served from 1925 to 1942 and was chief justice three times.

Miss Lockwood followed in her father's footsteps — right up to the very desk he had used as a member of the state Supreme Court. She was elected to the post in 1960 and chose to occupy her father's old office and work at the desk that had been his.

She served as vice chief justice once and chief justice twice. In so doing, she became the first woman chief justice in Arizona and in U.S. history.

But to backtrack a bit, Miss Lockwood's rise to prominence began just a few years after she left college. She was elected to the Arizona House of Representatives in 1939 and served three terms. She was chosen by her fellow legislators as vice president, and later chairman, of the powerful House Judiciary Committee.

Between her second and third terms in the Legislature, Miss Lockwood spent a year (1943) as assistant to U.S. Rep. John R. Murdock in Washington, D.C. She was Arizona assistant attorney general from 1949 to 1950 and Maricopa County Superior Court judge from 1950 to 1961.

During that time on the lower court, she served 3½ years as a juvenile court judge and became well-known in the field of delinquency control.

Interspersed in her legal and public service careers were years of dedicated work in many civic and professional organizations.

She was elected state president and western regional director of the National Federation of Business and Professional Women's Clubs; president of the Soroptomist Club of Phoenix; and president of the Arizona Judges Association. She also served on the Governor's Commission on Status of Women.

She believed in private juvenile aid agencies and was active in the Big Sisters and Big Brothers of Arizona.

Her career, her public service and her dedication to youth did not go unnoticed. In 1962 she was named Phoenix Professional Woman of the Year; in 1965 she received the Southern Pacific Coast Region of Hadassah Humanitarian Award; in 1971 she was named Builder of a Greater Arizona; and in 1974 she was given the Phoenix Woman of the Year award.

When she died Sept. 23, 1977, at Phoenix's Good Samaritan Hospital, Chief Justice James Duke Cameron eulogized her as "a good judge and a tough judge when she had to be."

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# Mary Russell Ferrell Colton

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1889 — 1971

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**I**n 1928 Mary Russell Ferrell Colton and her husband, Harold S. Colton, founded the Museum of Northern Arizona. He became the director; she became the curator of art and ethnology.

For more than 20 years the Coltons worked to expand our understanding of the Indian cultures in northern Arizona and of the history of the area.

Mrs. Colton, an artist, had a deep appreciation for the arts and crafts of the Indians of northern Arizona. She was dismayed, as were many others, to see the traditional skills being lost to the younger generations.

Determined to do something about the situation, she collected, cataloged and preserved thousands of Indian artifacts, crafts and works of art.

And she did research and wrote papers on the techniques of the Hopi craftsmen. Among other things, her writings dealt with Hopi silversmithing, pottery and weaving.

In 1965 she wrote a book called *Hopi Vegetable Dyes*. She had spent years discussing techniques with Hopi artists and conducting laboratory experiments to develop effective recipes for the dyes. Her work stimulated a renewed interest in traditional dyes among the Hopi and the book became an important reference for young Hopi artists.

Her interest in art went beyond what she could find nearby. She was undoubtedly one of the first Arizonans to recognize the need for bringing culture to the state. She arranged for special exhibitions of paintings, sculpture and crafts by outstanding artists from throughout the country. And in 1929, she organized the Arizona Artists' Art and Crafts Show, the first exhibition open to all artists in the state.

Born on March 25, 1889, in Louisville, Ky., Mary Russell grew up in Germantown, Pa. When she was 15, she enrolled in the Philadelphia School of Design for Women, the nation's first art school for women.

In 1912 she and her husband came to Arizona on their honeymoon.

"We chose northern Arizona because it has so many mountains, and we both like mountain climbing," she told a reporter.

After several summer vacations in the West, they moved to Flagstaff in 1926 and had a Spanish colonial home built north of the city.

Though Dr. Colton had taught zoology at the University of Pennsylvania, after moving to Arizona he chose to specialize in the field of archeology.

Mrs. Colton, in addition to serving as curator at the museum, earned a national reputation as an artist. Her interests extended from oil and watercolors to wood carvings and block prints. A story in *The Arizona Republic* in November 1948 reported she was carving life-size mannequins that would be used to display textiles at the museum.

According to the same newspaper story, one of her proudest possessions was an elaborate beam that she had carved and painted for use in the Colton home. It was an exact replica of a 1680 Spanish mission beam found in the Hopi village of Oraibi.

Her paintings, including Southwest landscapes and portraits of many of the Indians she met in northern Arizona, were shown with critical acclaim in Philadelphia and New York City. As a graduate of the Philadelphia School of Design for Women, she was a member of a group known as "Ten Philadelphia Painters."

Working at the Museum of Northern Arizona, Mrs. Colton initiated a program of artistic events that continues to this day.

In 1930 she launched the Hopi Craftsman Show, which had three objectives: to provide a showcase for the best Hopi artists, to stimulate public interest in Indian works, and to provide a financial incentive for the artists to improve their craftsmanship. The show was an unqualified success and has grown in popularity each year.

During the '30s only a few Hopis were working in silver and they were producing jewelry similar to that of the Navajo. Mrs. Colton encouraged the Hopis to develop a style that would be uniquely theirs. She proposed that their silversmiths use ancient pottery, basket and textile designs to create a distinctively Hopi style of jewelry — a style that became known as Hopi overlay and is extremely popular today.

In 1942 the Navajo Craftsman Show was begun. Like the Hopi show, this event not only benefited the Indian artists but also increased public awareness of their artistic contributions to our society.

Mrs. Colton died on July 26, 1971, in Phoenix at the age of 82.

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# Placida Garcia Smith

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1896 — 1981

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*"My name is Placida Garcia Smith. A good American name. A good Mexican name."*

— A favorite self-introduction used by Mrs. Smith in the Friendly House classes she taught.

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**T** here are certain characteristics common to all patriots:

- Pride — in self and in their heritage.
- Love of country — not the kind that is oblivious to a nation's faults; but rather, one that understands and seeks to correct those faults.
- A willingness to share this love and pride with others.

Above all, those who remember Placida Elvira Garcia Smith describe her as a patriot, a woman who lived her life teaching, sharing and caring for others.

Born Aug. 7, 1896, in Conejos, Colo., she began her teaching career at about age 19, shortly after graduating from Loretto Academy in Pueblo, Colo. From then until 1928 she taught, rising to the position of principal at Conejos Grade School and later becoming deputy county treasurer of Conejos County.

Meanwhile, she continued her education, studying summers at Greeley

State Teachers College and the University of Mexico in Mexico City before receiving her bachelor's degree in 1927 from the University of Utah.

In 1928, Mrs. Smith moved to Phoenix when her husband, Reginald G. Smith, took a job at what is now Phoenix Newspapers Inc.

She became involved with the community, first working as a substitute teacher in Phoenix Elementary School and Phoenix Union High Schools.

Her major civic contribution began in 1931 when she assumed the directorship of Friendly House, a center for immigrants trying to learn the ways of their adopted country. At Friendly House, men found help in getting jobs; women learned American housekeeping skills. All learned English and what it meant to be American citizens.

Mrs. Smith strived to impress those in her classes that they were special. "You came to this country because you wanted to and now you want to become citizens," she would say.

Under her tutelage, 1,400 people became United States' citizens.

"In helping them attain their goal...she instilled in them an understanding that freedom to an American is more than merely a word. It is a spirit and a way of life," said U.S. District Court Judge Valdemar A. Cordova in a letter nominating Mrs. Smith for the Arizona Women's Hall of Fame.

While much of her teaching concerned the philosophical, she wasn't blind to the everyday necessities of people struggling to make a living.

"I remember while walking past Friendly House on my way to Lowell Grammar School hearing babies and small children," Cordova recalled.

"I wondered why there were so many children there. Later I learned they were being cared for while the mothers worked. This must have been a forerunner to the modern concept of day-care centers for working mothers," he said.

But Friendly House and newcomers to the country were not her only concerns. During the 30-plus years she spent as Friendly House director, Mrs. Smith also worked constantly to build pride among Mexican-American people and to help them better their social conditions through education.

She organized the first Spanish-American Boy Scout Troop in the city in 1932 and established the Mexican Dance Project in 1934. That same year, she helped form the Mexican Orchestra under the WPA Program and participated in the Slum Clearance Project.

In her spare time, she taught Spanish for the American Institute for Foreign Trade and did social work at the Gila River Japanese Relocation Center near Chandler.

For her efforts, in 1953 she was presented with the Daughters of the American Revolution award of merit, and in 1962 she was chosen Phoenix Woman of the Year by the Phoenix Advertising Club.

Placida Elvira Garcia Smith died July 17, 1981, in Phoenix.

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# Nellie T. Bush

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1888 — 1963

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*"Waves sometimes would be 8 feet high. Often when we were caught on the river in a storm, we'd have to throw overboard some of the ore. Many a time when the sailing was dangerous and I thought about my baby in the pilot house, I've uttered a little prayer, 'Now if you'll just let me get this kid off here alive, I'll never bring him back on board again.*

*"But you forgot about that after the danger had passed."*

— Nellie T. Bush describing her experience as a riverboat pilot on the  
Colorado

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**A**s she prepared to take her seat in the Arizona Legislature in 1922, Nellie T. Bush told a reporter: "Certainly I believe that a woman can be a success, both as a politician and a mother. I'm here to prove it.

"I have a husband and a big 5-year-old son, yet I do not feel that they are being neglected because of my work. My folks take good care of the boy while I'm here, and my husband is right back of me in my public career.

"I am looking forward to the opening of the Legislature, and expect to have a good time at the capital. I am a firm believer in women going into politics — the more the better. They simply have to eliminate some of

their old-fashioned ideas regarding the difference in sexes.

“With me, I expect nothing more from a man in politics than he gives another man. If he wants to smoke, I say, ‘Go ahead and smoke.’ And if he wants to swear, I’ll sit by and enjoy hearing him do it. If it doesn’t hurt him, it certainly isn’t going to hurt me.”

No matter what Mrs. Bush accomplished in her life, she seemed to approach it with a certain matter-of-factness, and if anyone asked her why she was doing it, we can almost hear her say, “Why not?”

She was a schoolteacher, school principal, businesswoman, mother, ferryboat pilot, justice of the peace, coroner, legislator, lawyer, airplane pilot, state official and leader in women’s club activities.

Born Nellie May Trent on Nov. 29, 1888, in Cedar County, Mo., she was only 5 years old when her parents came to Arizona. She received her early education in Mesa schools and at Tempe Normal School (now Arizona State University), where she was awarded a life teacher’s diploma.

She taught in Glendale and Mesa schools until her marriage in 1912 to Joe Bush.

The couple moved to Parker in 1915 after Mr. Bush, an electrical engineer, bought the ferry business across the Colorado River. The business consisted of one stern-wheeler and one flat tunnel propeller boat.

Mrs. Bush obtained her riverboat license and worked as a pilot for 17 years. For \$3.50 travelers going between California and Arizona via the Needles-Parker highway could have their car ferried across the Colorado. The “Nellie T,” as the ferry was named, could carry either six cars or 20 tons of copper ore, gold or manganese.

During her first year in Parker, Mrs. Bush often visited Phoenix. One incident that happened while she was making the long drive alone reveals both her resourcefulness and her common-sense approach to life.

Her car broke down and she found herself stranded on the dusty, desert road. Tinkering with the motor, she determined that the spring in the timer was broken. Undaunted, she took a spring from her corset, fixed the timer, and went on her way.

In 1918 Mrs. Bush became justice of the peace in Parker, a position she held for six years. In 1920 she was elected to the state Legislature, serving a total of 16 years, 14 years as a representative and two as a senator.

Mrs. Bush’s entry into law came about partly because of an incident in which she felt she had been cheated by a banker. He had accepted her money the day before the bank closed.

Angry over her lack of recourse, she began to study law through a correspondence course. Later, she enrolled at the University of Arizona, where she studied from 1921 to 1924.

Describing her years at the UofA, Mrs. Bush said: “We lived two blocks from the university campus, and two blocks from Wesley’s (her son’s) school. We would part each morning, my son going in one direction and I in the other.

“He used to tell people, ‘Mother and I are both in the first grade.’”

While at the UofA, Mrs. Bush had some classes with Lorna Lockwood.

On some occasions, the two women were asked to leave the classroom because "certain cases involving bad women" were being discussed.

"They wanted to keep women out of the classes when they discussed rape cases," Mrs. Bush said. "I asked if they had ever heard of a rape case that didn't involve a woman. They let us in after that."

During the summer, Mrs. Bush took law courses at the University of California. After being admitted to the bar in both states, she worked in Parker as the attorney for the Sante Fe Railroad and, in addition, managed her own private practice.

In 1931, Mrs. Bush took up flying when her son Wesley, who was then 16, became interested in airplanes

"I realized that as a mother I could retain my son's interest only as long as I could speak his language," she said. "When he became interested in flying, I knew I had to know something about aviation. So we both took up the fascinating study."

They both obtained private licenses, and since the Bushes were the first to own an airplane in Parker, they built the town's first airport.

Mrs. Bush would draw up legal papers in her Parker office and then fly to Yuma or Phoenix to handle business.

In 1932 Mrs. Bush was a delegate to the Democratic National Convention that nominated Franklin D. Roosevelt for president.

Active in the state debate over water rights, she served as a member of the Arizona Colorado River Water Commission, forerunner of the state Interstate Stream Commission. Later she served as a member of the Colorado River Basin States Committee, a seven-state policy group that helped advance many basin projects.

In the 1930s she was named the "Admiral of Arizona's Navy" by Gov. Benjamin B. Moeur after the Arizona National Guard used her boats in a fight with California over Colorado River water rights. Of course, the navy consisted of the two boats operated by the Bushes.

She also was interested in women's issues and organized the Glendale Woman's Club and the Parker Woman's Club. She was president of the Arizona Federation of Women's Clubs in 1955.

In 1936 she ran for Congress but was defeated.

Of that experience and others in her life, she once said: "I haven't always won. I was defeated for U.S. Congress when I wouldn't go along with the Townsend Plan (an old age pension program) people, and I have been defeated several times for the state Legislature race, but I always bounced back."

Mrs. Bush died at age 75 on Oct. 27, 1963.

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