



## The Last Frontier

MRS. SAMUEL HUGHES

Truly a daughter of pioneer days, native to Arizona and Tucson, Mrs. Samuel Hughes died in the town of her birth, November 12. She was eighty-three, one of the oldest pioneer women of the State.

Mrs. Hughes, christened Atanacia, was a daughter of John Santa Cruz, born in the family home, then situated across the street, south, from the present Tucson Woman's Club. Her father died when she was ten months old; her mother when she was in her eighth year.

By her marriage in 1862, Mrs. Hughes succeeded into her own estate, one having its origin in the midst of gun fighting and Indian raids. Of fifteen children born, eight reached maturity. Schooled in the east they were accomplished and attractive. They gathered about them the young people of the community; were encouraged to do so by their parents.

Hers was the lot of a pioneer mother and wife who shared fully her husband's life throughout the early period of Arizona history-making. She shared his every confidence. Plans for an attack on Camp Grant Indians who had grown overly bold in cattle steal-

ing, which resulted in the famed Camp Grant Massacre of 1871, were made in the Hughes home; and, with others, Mrs. Hughes made bullets for use by civilians on the expedition. She was hostess to Generals Miles and Lawton, General Crook and other soldiers and civilians who conferred with her husband on ways and means of subduing the Indians who were so bold as to venture to the very doorsteps of the settlers.

Burial was in the Catholic plot of Evergreen cemetery at Tucson.

ROBERT M. BOLLER

Robert M. Boller, seventy-one years old, died February 7, in Prescott, where he had been a guest of the Arizona Pioneers' Home since August, 1934. He was a miner, quarryman, and railroader; native of Ogden, Kansas. He reached Arizona afoot in 1881, then a seventeen-year-old boy. For three years he drove oxen and hauled lumber from the Chiricahua mountains to Tombstone. Later he turned to mining which he continued for the greater part of his life.

WILLIAM FOURR

"Seventy-four years in the saddle," might well be a tribute to William Fourr, known the length and breadth of the Territory, later the State, as Billy Fourr, who died at his Dragoon mountain ranch home, January 9, the last of the Arizona pioneers of the Indian wars.

Seeking adventure, Billy Fourr, a twenty-two-year-old, came to Arizona Territory in 1861, a herd driver from Cooper county, Mis-

souri, for cattle destined to become food for bluecoats, U. S. cavalrymen sent to protect the fast advancing frontier people and their stock from marauding Indians. For seventeen years he was in turn, miner and freighter in Prescott, mail rider and owner of successive stage stations along the Gila river. In 1878, the same year Tombstone came into notorious existence, he settled with his wife and five children on the west slope, at the north extent of the Dragoons in south-central Arizona. He remained a rancher for the rest of his life.

Billy Fourn's adventure did not end, however, with the establishment of his ranch, known as Buena Vista. For many years he fought the onslaughts of the diminishing rustlers, until eventually the lean years grew to fruitful ones. At Buena Vista his wife, who survived him and had for sixty-three years been his companion through all the rigors of frontier life, bore him seven more children. She, Miss Lucinda Nunn, at the time of their marriage in 1868, was the daughter of an immigrant family, and remained to share Billy Fourn's adventurous life while her parents went on to California.

All through the later years of his life, Billy Fourn remained a vivid and accurate raconteur of the Indian skirmishes of his early years spent near Prescott and on the freighting trails through southern Arizona. Fortunately, Indians bothered him little at his ranch.

Billy Fourn would have passed his ninety-sixth year June 11. For nearly three-quarters of a century, seventy-three and one-half years, he endured the hardships and pri-

vations known only to the pioneer of frontier years. He was one of the few to succeed, of the many who attempted, in carving their empires out of an apparent wasteland beset only with obstacles.

Beside the grave of his son, Roy, who was killed during the World War, Billy Fourn was buried January 11, in the Benson cemetery.

### ALBERT STEINFELD

Thoroughly a friend to the struggling prospector and enterprise, whether it was of mining or of the range, immigrant boy and Arizona pioneer of 1872, born in Hannover, Germany, December 23, 1854, Albert Steinfeld died on the morning of February 8, in Tucson, after an illness of eight weeks.

Albert Steinfeld, the youth of eighteen years, came alone by boat and stage to San Francisco, California, thence overland to Tucson where, in the space of sixty-three years he was to pace his transition from an immigrant boy to successful merchant, miner, banker, and philanthropist with that of a southwest outpost to a bustling city. Neither would have been quite possible without the other.

The mercantile store to which he had come merely to clerk for his uncles, A. and L. Zeckendorf, became his own in 1904. A canny judge of human nature, good-hearted toward his fellowmen, Mr. Steinfeld, literally, started hundreds on their way to mining and cattle-growing livelihoods; with unlimited credit carried many of them through misfortune and drought. In many cases he received no return from his investment—apparently wanted none. But while

countless of his ventures, which he backed with steady faith in Arizona copper and mankind, were short-lived, others prospered for those who assumed their responsibility after he had seen them safely on their way. Principal of these are the Ray mines at Ray, and the Copper Queen at Bisbee. The entire State in mining felt the force of his early backing.

The chronology of Mr. Steinfeld's life is the story of the physical growth of Tucson where he made his home for the span of his life in his adopted country. Tucson's first banks were built and opened because Mr. Steinfeld proved the mainstay of their inauguration. His hand was extensively put to real estate. A few years ago his dream of at some time providing Tucson with the most modern in hostelries took form in the Pioneer hotel. Its naming was in his honor. Unfailingly he re-invested his earnings for the benefit of the community. Throughout the years, however, he remained identified as a merchant. As Tucson grew, so grew his mercantile business which, at his death, stood the leading and sole establishment of its amplitude in Tucson.

Mr. Steinfeld was married to Miss Bettina Donau, daughter of Simon Donau, in February, 1883. To them were born four children, two daughters, Irene and Viola, and two sons, Lester and Harold.

Following Masonic funeral services, February 10, Mr. Steinfeld was buried in Evergreen cemetery north of Tucson.

### FRANK GIRAGI

After nearly half a century an Arizonan, Frank Giragi, seventy-seven year old, died November 19, at his home in Winslow. Mr. Giragi came to Tombstone when the town was in its most thriving years. For thirty-seven years he worked in mines of Tombstone and of Mexico, after which he retired. His sons, Columbus, George and Louis later came to be known as prominent northern Arizona publishers. He was a native of Northern Italy. Burial was at Prescott.

### MRS. NEIL WILSON

Mrs. Neil Wilson, for forty-two years a resident of Mohave county, died Sunday, January 27, in Kingman. She was a native of England.

### THOMAS COWPERTHWAIT

Mining engineer and legislator, Thomas Cowperthwaite, fifty-seven years old, for many years a Cochise county resident, died in a Phoenix hospital January 25. He had been an Arizona resident for twenty-seven years. Native of Northumberland, England, Mr. Cowperthwaite came to this country when a youth. He was schooled in mines in Missouri and mined in Colorado before taking residence in the State. He served as Cochise county representative in the eighth, ninth and tenth legislatures; had served for many years as safety director for the Calumet and Arizona Mining Company. At the time of his death he was safety director for the Federal Emergency Relief Administration in Arizona.

## MRS. MARY RIGGS

Mrs. Mary Riggs, ninety-seven-year-old pioneer, and head of one of the most prominent families of the Willcox region of southern Arizona, died on the afternoon of February 5, at the Riggs Ranch. A native of Alabama, Mrs. Riggs came to Arizona in 1877. With her husband, Brannick Riggs, with whom she had weathered the Civil War days, she settled in the Willcox district at a time when neighbors were few and far apart. Burial was in the family private cemetery.

## HARRINGTON BLAUVELT

Native of Harrington, New Jersey, pioneer Arizonan of 1882, Harrington Blauvelt died in Prescott, January 2. He was seventy-two years old. Well known in mining circles, Mr. Blauvelt settled first in Tucson where he lived for four years. He moved to live three years in Pinal county, after which period he re-moved to Yavapai county to spend the remainder of his life.

