

FIRST MUSICAL INSTRUMENT IN CITY
FIRST TENAVE MELODEON BROUGHT
IN BY THE WILLIAM ISAAC FAMILY

When the family of William Isaac... Phoenix in the spring of 1878 it brought the first musical instrument into the Salt River valley. It was a four and one-half octave melodeon. For a number of years, according to John Isaac, one of the sons, now living at the corner of 1st and 1st, the melodeon was used at the Sunday school and services in the South Methodist church, now the Central Methodist church. The melodeon was played by Mr. Isaac's brother and sister. On Sundays the boys were removed from the instrument and it could then be carried easily in a buggy. It was taken regularly to the services from the Isaac home and after the services were taken back home. Often friends gathered at the Isaac home and spent the evening of Sunday evenings singing.

Two members of the Isaac family still live in the Salt River valley. They are John Isaac and his brother, W. O. Isaac, who now live in the original homestead taken up by their father, one and one-half miles west of Phoenix on the Christy road. The family arrived in Arizona on the evening of July 1, 1875, coming from Salinas, Calif., in two wagons with four horses and a mule. The children besides the parents made the trip, which took about 60 days. An older daughter remained in California with her husband and came to Arizona later.

On the morning of July 1, 1875, Mr. Isaac and his family had breakfast in California and at noon ate dinner in Nevada. They had supper in the evening at Hardyville, Ariz., where they crossed the Colorado river. On July 4, 1875, which was Mr. Isaac's nineteenth birthday, the family spent with the Isaac family. They arrived in Prescott four days later, where they lived until the spring of 1876, when they moved to Phoenix. In Phoenix, Mr. Isaac said, his father and the sons came to Phoenix and staked out the homestead on the Christy road.

When the family moved to Phoenix they lived in a large adobe house on the corner of Seventh and Jackson streets. The house was moved into the house which they built on their ranch west of town. This house, Mr. Isaac said, was the first house of any size in the valley to be constructed entirely of lumber. It was one story in height and consisted of nine rooms. The house was built on the ground ten years after it was built. The lumber for the house was hauled from Prescott by freight teams, some of the Isaac boys, who took a load of grain to Prescott and returned with a load of lumber. They made several trips in this manner.

It was on one of these trips, Mr. Isaac said, that he and his brother, W. O. Isaac, met an Apache Indian who had left the reservation to come down as an envoy to the Pima Indians to "make heap big talk" in an effort to buy some squaws from the Pimas. The Apache was only a bunch of clout, and Mr. Isaac asked him if he did not know where the Apache asked him if his face got cold, and Mr. Isaac answered, "No, whereon the Apache said, 'I will face all over my face in the valley, I asked Mr. Isaac how many squaws he had and when Mr. Isaac answered that he had three, the Apache said, 'I will take three squaws. The Apaches, Mr. Isaac said, were not very friendly to the white men, many squaws they were able to keep and therefore believed him to be a very poor man.

About six years after he came to Phoenix, Mr. Isaac said, an old man, his two sons and a daughter came through his house. The old man, a cowboy, fell in love with the daughter and joined the family. They

camped north of town and one afternoon the two sons and their father rode in town and began to "shoot up the place." They rode their horses into a "shoot up" in which their father was in the middle. As they were leaving, Mr. Isaac said, Marshal Henry Garvis, the first marshal elected in Phoenix, started to put them under arrest. This angered the cowboy, who rode back to shoot Garvis. The latter was a bit quicker on the draw and shot the cowboy in the other's hand before he could fire. The cowboy then turned to ride back to the street with his gun at him, but his gun jammed. Dropping his own gun, Garvis seized the cowboy's gun from the street and his two companions were fined \$100 each.

Mr. Isaac said his brother, W. O. Isaac, was in Phoenix one afternoon when a Mexican known as the "Sword Slicer" rode down Washington street on a fine horse, slashing at the people with his sword. After cutting several severely the Mexican came to where W. O. Isaac was then about 17, and the latter struck back with his sword. As the Mexican started down the Mexican's eye left young Isaac and he struck at the Mexican with his sword, turned and rode back through the crowd which had run out to see the fight. The crowd fell back to the sidewalks and the Mexican rode on and made his escape.

During the entire performance, Mr. Isaac said, a number of men who were armed forgot to use their guns in the excitement. The Mexican was later arrested in Tucson by Marshal Garvis, brought back to Phoenix and put in jail, which in those days was near where the National Bank of Arizona now stands. One afternoon about 1875, Mr. Isaac said, he brought back two men went into the jail to see a friend. As they stepped into the yard the Mexican seized a horse and started to strike one of the men. The latter promptly drew his gun and killed the Mexican. A few days later the wagon was loaded to haul freight back. They used two wagons coupled together, and 10 horses were used to haul the load. With enough feed to make the trip down and back and as they went down they would deposit feed at each of the camps. The load coming back would be about 12,000 pounds. It took about 25 days to make the trip. Each camp was run by a man who had a head for the teams. The route taken to Yuma, the end of the South Pacific, was the same as the route by the way of Oatman flats to Maricopa, and then down the river to Phoenix.

In the early days in the valley, Mr. Isaac believes it was much hotter than it is now. The summer then was long and hot, and the winter was not so severe. The growth of trees and vegetation, he thinks, had the extreme heat felt in the early times. Most of the houses in Phoenix in the old days, Mr. Isaac said, were made of adobe. The houses and the city was like one big family. Everyone knew everyone and they would have picnics every day. Picnics were always held in April because of the heat.

When we arrived in Tempe, I was very hungry. Here we stopped for the first time and store, which was run by an Indian named Hayden. He gave me a big fat sandwich, and I still remember how good it was. I was before Carl Hayden was born.

CENTER AND WASHINGTON STREETS, PHOENIX IN '70s



This old adobe stood at the southeast corner of the site of the present National Bank of Arizona. The old Cotton saloon was on the corner.

brass band. I sent to San Francisco for the instruments, which in the course of time arrived. You can imagine what fine musicians we were. In fact, a week after we received the instruments, we played at a church fair. After this we gave weekly band concerts, improving with age. Among the members of the Phoenix Brass Band still living are W. F. McNulty, G. H. Rothrock, William B. Lovitt, Frank Kirkland and myself. We certainly had a lot of amusement, and furnished a great deal of fun for the other inhabitants of the town. We were more safe and free from thieves in those days. I used to sleep with my cot half in the store door and the other half on the sidewalk, and was never molested. Our community kept growing. We would have a fair on the street, and when we had floods, and the dam was washed out, we would have a picnic and we would have to smile and wait for another dam to be made. Then, everything went.

Member of Legislature
"I have been a member of the lower branch of the legislature of Arizona for 12 years. After I was first elected, I called a meeting of all farmers and those interested to discuss the water question, forming an irrigation district and bonding ourselves, we could raise money and build the dam (now the Roosevelt dam) and I introduced a bill to help to do the same. However, I received so many requests from farmers, growing older and older, that I finally withdrew the bill. As we know, later, through the efforts of the late Governor Roosevelt, we found an easier way to accomplish the much-needed dam. I can proudly say that it was principally through my efforts that the capital is permanently located in Phoenix. I have also been a member of the city council of this city, and was in office when we installed the first, and present electric lighting system.

Celebrate Admission of State
"In 1877 we moved into a new building on the corner of First street and Washington, the present location of Korrick's New York store. For 15 years we occupied this building, growing larger and larger every year. Finally, in 1892, we were crowded for space, and on February 14, 1912, we moved to our present location on the corner of First and Second streets on Washington. "After the death of our father, 22 years ago, I took over his business. We have gone through many stages, even operating a lime kiln at one time, and in 1892, when the city was in the hands of the present city hall, the asylum, and most of the older buildings between First and Second streets on Washington. "We have always tried to do our best in the upbuilding of Phoenix and the state, and it is with pride that we announce to the people of this city, our sons, the third generation, have decided to follow in our steps, and work for the betterment of our community, and a Greater Arizona."

Baseball Dave's Story
David Goldberg, the younger brother of the late Carl Hayden, who was credited with the discovery of the first Phoenix baseball club are S. E. Patton, William Woodman, Wm. B. Lount and W. F. McNulty. Patton pitched, Woodman pitched and played in the field, McNulty in right field, while I held down first base. Others on the team were Ted Jones, Campbell, who played second; Henry Wharton, in the field; and E. R. Kirkland on third base. There were not enough players on those days to have many substitutes. "I recall several interesting baseball stories of the time. One is the trip the Phoenix bus took to Tucson to play that team on Saint Patrick's day. It snowed rather heavily on the way, and the bus was stuck in the snow. The players were forced to take cottonwood bows and drag the infield, but the outfield was hopeless, and it had just been plowed, and we were forced to wade in ankle deep. It was some game. "Another time I was in the store on Ezra Thayer, for \$500. Here we built a beautiful structure for those days. The store was built on a dirt floor, lumber being very scarce. "Dave Goldberg arrives after my arrival, my brother Dave, decided to come to Arizona, having just finished his education. He came from Salt Lake City, where he was L. P. Nash, a liverman. He came into the business with my father and myself.

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to take up the trail of Geronimo who had just killed and scalped a cowboy on a near-by ranch. The scare was great, but the Apache committed many atrocities during his period of being on the warpath. "Elizabeth started a school one mile from the ranch where the pupils were duly instructed in reading, writing, arithmetic and many other subjects. She immediately singled out a girl of the name of Elizabeth, who was her ideal and passed many school days in secret admiration of him. Elizabeth, one day, upon coming face to face with him, he pulled her long flaxen braids and called her 'Dutchy' which left and extremely disgraced her. The youth passed entirely out of her life for about 12 years. "One day as Elizabeth was taking a horse to the mill, she was accompanied by her mother, who was heard the unearthly yells of the Indians. With hearts beating high the children sought protection in a cave and watched two sturdy bucks roar and kill a calf, then throw it over one of their ponies and dash off with several wild whoops. "The first methods of the early days are described in a visit to the dentist. "Dr. Sullivan," who proved to be also the barber, Elizabeth's father, was accompanied by her mother, who was directed by the barber-dentist to sit on her while the operation was performed. The tooth being removed, he extracted but it took much labor, with only a pair of shoemaker's pliers for an instrument. "The father continues: 'The Apaches again went on the war path and while two cowboys were carrying money to a ranch a squaw encountered them and they were attracted to a trail. The cowboys, however, took the squaw in charge and brought her to the mill. The squaw was a considerable curiosity to the children as she was one of Geronimo's squaws. 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