

THE CAPITAL CITY

It's a Wonderful Town, this Town of Phoenix.

ITS HISTORY UP TO DATE

Pen Picture of the Growth of Arizona's Chief City—Founded Thirty Years Ago Its Progress Has Been in Keeping With the Hopes of Its Pioneers—An Entertaining Story.

It has been said that western towns are either miniature cities or exaggerated villages. Her residents consider Phoenix included in the former class. She is essentially modern, founded though she be on the ruins of a pre-Columbian civilization.

ous on the load from the railroad north, bearing supplies to the mines. The freighter was the most important of beings, and lived in a freighter's gastronomic paradise on a diet of canned goods, straight. Freight freights to Prescott had a tariff of four cents a pound, and fast freight meant making the 170 miles in two weeks. There was a strong Mexican flavor to the community, and a knowledge of Spanish was almost essential.

Phoenix has not been exempt from the usual "wild-west" experiences of border towns. In its earlier days there were occasional chases after Indians in the northern or eastern hills. There is a tale of how a posse of citizens ran down a band of horse thieves at the junction of the Gila and Salt, and buried them. Attila-like, in the sands of the river bed, it is remembered that three "rustlers" were found hanging one morning from trees in the northeastern part of the village. Then there was the Mexican who was lynched on the cross-beam of Jim Monihon's corral gate and the killing of the fellow who shot Lew Bailey through the window at a dance in the old adobe back of Goldman's corner.

In '79 the town was at its roughest. In August of that year it reformed, much to the detriment of the news col-

lectors, but the churches and church work of Phoenix having been dealt with at length by the Rev. Lewis Halsey, D. D., in his able article in another part of this issue it is needless to here enlarge upon the church organizations of the city.

While there are other very good hotels in Phoenix the Adams hotel has the distinction of being the largest. It was opened in December, 1898, the cost of the building and furnishing being \$200,000. It is built of pressed brick and brown stone, is four stories in height, with wide verandas on every floor and is modern in all respects.

The hotel contains 150 rooms, comprising spacious parlors and halls, dining room 52x55 feet, and office 40x69 feet. Sixty-six of the suites of rooms have private porcelaine baths; there is an elevator service and the entire establishment is run upon an liberal and elaborate a scale as any hotel to be found in any eastern city of four times the size of Phoenix.

THEATERS. The Patton Grand Opera House—This handsome structure was erected during the year of 1898, the plans and specifications being drawn by S. E. Patton, the owner and builder. The building has a frontage of 52 feet on Washington street, between Third and Fourth avenues and extends through to the alley, 138 feet. The main part for a structure four stories in height stores high with basement, having stores on either side of the entrance to the theater. The second third and fourth stories are occupied as flats.

The auditorium is 52x55 feet on the ground floor, having a balcony and gallery on the second and third stories, reached by stairways from the foyer. The balcony has two extra stairways leading down on the outside to be used as fire escapes. The house seats one thousand and fifty persons and has twelve private boxes. The stage is 22x62 and 50 feet to the gridiron and is fully equipped with all modern stage appliances and scenery and is capable of handling the largest scenic productions on the road, the proscenium opening being 28 feet high and 59 feet wide. The side walls have a large number of openings so that the building can be used as a summer theater by opening the windows and putting in fans, which it is intended to do the coming summer. The building cost \$27,000 and the equipment \$5,000, the opera chairs being of the latest and best design. The class of bookings this season has never been excelled in Phoenix.

There is a theater also at Phoenix park which is sometimes used in the summer months. Here also is a racetrack, ball ground and bicycle racing

track. The park, which covers an area of some twenty acres, is a favorite spot for picnics and other social out-of-door gatherings.

Phoenix has a first-rate water supply, an efficient system of sewerage, two gas plants, two foundries, two ice factories, two steam laundries, two steam flooring mills, a soap factory and a cannery. Notices of the chief mercantile establishments in all lines will be found elsewhere.

RAILROADS. The Maricopa and Phoenix and Salt River Valley railroad (Phoenix short line) connects the city with the Southern Pacific system at Maricopa Junction. The depot is on Seventh street near Harrison.

SECRET SOCIETIES. There are four lodges of the several degrees of Masonry—F. and A. M., Royal Arch, Knights Templar and Mystic Shrine; four of Odd Fellows, and one each of Knights of Pythias.

CLUBS. The Maricopa club has a large membership and handsome quarters in the Hotel Adams building. There is a comfortable reading room, spacious billiard room, card rooms, etc., and a large ball room and gymnasium.

The Phoenix Athletic club is quarters in the Irving block. The officers are Mr. Walter Talbot, president; Mr. H. N. Pratt, vice president; and Mr. W. N. English secretary.

THE CITY SCHOOLS. The high school building, a three-story brick structure, is situated on East Van Buren between Fifth and Sixth streets. It has a seating capacity of 150 and the average attendance is 125. A new building adjacent to the high school is now in course of erection, which, when completed will with the existing structure provide accommodation for 450 scholars.

The Central school, on Monroe street between Center and First avenue, is a commodious two-story building 100 feet by 75 feet and contains sixteen recitation rooms with a total seating capacity of 800. Principal, Prof. J. C. Cole.

THE MEXICAN SETTLEMENTS in the vicinity of the Catholic church and on the south side of the city have no longer their former prominence but are sufficiently in evidence to be of great interest to eastern visitors who, having traveled so far to escape the monotony of modern ways of living, are naturally more interested in the picturesque remnants of the past than in present improvements and embellishments.

Having described the city it only remains to state that well kept driveways extend far into the country and afford the tourist and health seeker every opportunity of enjoying delightful and invigorating outings. There is scarcely a day throughout the season when it is not sufficiently warm and bright to make a trip into the surrounding country very enjoyable. The trees with which the roads are lined on either side afford a grateful shade and the vast fields of alfalfa stretching for miles in every direction are a delightful rest for tired eyes. Altogether for the health or pleasure seeker and for the over-worked man or woman who needs rest, a winter residence in Phoenix is a continuous delight, to be ever looked back to with fond remembrance, and especially when winter lays its icy rights upon them in their eastern homes. But a good many such visitors, unable to resist the seductions of this climate, have remained here and become permanent residents of the territory, and their less fortunate friends who have had perforce to turn their steps eastward are doubtless looking eagerly forward to another visit to this sun-kissed land.

Phoenix will be always glad to give such returning visitors a warm and hearty welcome.

Special offices are also provided for

CAPITOL BUILDING AND GROUNDS

The plans for the new capitol call for a structure four stories in height and 184 feet by 84 feet in size. It has been finally decided that the first story is to be of granite from the granite quarries near Phoenix and the superstructure of tufa stone from Kirkland, Skull Valley.

The style of architecture is classic but not severely so, and the building on completion will, as will be seen from the engraving on the cover of this issue, present a handsome and imposing appearance.

The rotunda is 44 feet in diameter and extends from the ground floor through all the stories of the building to a height of 78 feet, being surmounted by a dome which is crowned by a statue of Liberty 16 feet in height.

The dimensions of the halls provided for the legislative bodies are 33x26 feet, and special attention has been given to the acoustic properties of these halls and their efficient ventilation. The gallery space in each hall has a seating capacity of between 200 and 300 and surrounding the halls will be the committee and other rooms required for the accommodation of the legislators.

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FIRST STREET PHOENIX, LOOKING SOUTH.

The inception of the city is within the memory of many of its present residents. It was in 1868 when a small number of pioneers landed together to form its nucleus. In 1870 it was platted. Among the original American residents were W. A. Hancock, John T. Dennis, Ben Block, Thomas Barum, Jacob Starvo, E. Irvine, C. H. Gray, J. D. Monihon and J. P. Osborne.

The valley had been occupied for several years, since Jack Swilling, one of the noted desperadoes of the time, had come from the Rich Hill diggings to cut a ditch from Salt River and to locate the sites of the Pinal and Maricopa tribes. Indians were to the south and wild Apaches on the north and east. John T. Dennis, who then lived near the present water works site, in the late sixties lost a large number of cattle and horses through a raid of the Yavapai Apaches, and only proximity to the friendly Pima and Maricopa tribes saved the infant settlement from continued depredations. The first store was started not far from Dennis' ranch by J. M. Murphy, after whom Murphy's addition was named. In '71 a trader wrote that Mrs. J. M. Gardiner was the only American woman in the village, there being at the time about seventy-five American men. In '77 Hinton wrote that Phoenix was a town of about 500, half the population being Mexican.

September 5, 1872, the first public school was started, the teacher being J. D. Doroche, and the trustees W. A. Hancock, J. D. Ramberg and J. P. Osborne. It was placed in a long adobe building on what is now First avenue, about fifty feet south of Washington street, the same edifice serving as court house. A few years later, little, adobe, one-roomed building was erected on what is known as the Central school block, on North Center street. The first school in the new quarters was taught by Miss Nellie Shaver, soon after wedded to John Y. T. Smith. A valued instructor, later was R. J. Long, now territorial superintendent of public instruction, his assistant being Mrs. Beverly Cox.

In 1873 the county was established, carved from the southern portion of the giant county of Yavapai. The first county record filed was a deed in which was transferred the ownership of the ground on which the Porter block now stands. The price was \$100. The present value of the same ground is about \$20,000. The location of the first court house has been told. Later the hall of justice was moved to a site on Washington street, the one-story, built county building occupying about one-half the frontage of the southern half block east of Center street.

In 1878 the village developed into a town. A sprightly weekly newspaper, the Salt River Valley Herald, was established by Charles E. McWhorter. In the spring of '79 the Southern Pacific, building eastward, reached Maricopa, and through Phoenix flowed the entire commerce of northern and central Arizona, then rejoicing in the greatest degree of mining activity ever known to the region. Dusty freight teams, not infrequently with twenty mules to a team, were almost continu-

ums of the town weekly paper. In the mass of miscellaneous crime there had been two stage robberies and seven killings in a single week. Then the vigilantes came out, about 100 of the best citizens. They took two prisoners from Jaffor McDonald and hanged them to cottonwood trees on the Washington street side of the plaza, just about in front of where the city's official artillery now muzzles Mars. The fellows hanged were McCloskey and Keller, murderers respectively of John Lohbar and Luke Monihon. That good job accomplished, the vigilantes assisted Sheriff Thomas in clearing the community of "tin-horn" ramblers and of all who had no visible means of support. This action not only was tough on the other Arizona towns, but materially abridged the value of Phoenix as a new center.

July 4, 1887, the Maricopa and Phoenix railway materialized, giving steam connection with the world, and Phoenix became a city. In '89 she took a further step in becoming the territorial capital. March 12, 1895, she assumed the place of southwestern center, and metropolis, upon the completion of the Santa Fe and Phoenix railway, through which she not only secured competitive freight rates, but was given outlet for her products to the northern part of the territory.

The Phoenix of today—the county seat of Maricopa and capital of the territory—has 15,000 inhabitants, and its people are an enterprising and progressive body of citizens. The large transient population, principally composed of pleasure and health seekers, adds much to the busy appearance and makes Phoenix the city, while rapid progress has of late been made in the erection of buildings of substantial character as well as architectural beauty. The streets are wide and level, and Washington street, the principal thoroughfare of the city, is three miles in length, lined on either side for many blocks with handsome business establishments.

West of Center street are the avenues, running north and south, which are numbered. First avenue being immediately west of Center street; and on the east are the streets, also numbered. First street being the one nearest Washington street. These streets are named after the presidents, alternately in the order of their succession, and keeping this in mind the city of Phoenix is not a difficult place to find one's way about in.

A. Jobs, treasurer; Samuel Davidson, assessor; Thomas Prescott, assessor and tax collector; Dr. William Duffield, health officer.

The United States Indian industrial school (next to the largest one of its kind in the country) is situated three and a half miles north of the city. The various buildings of the institution make a very charming picture in the midst of their pleasant surroundings, and the school is well worthy of a visit. No further description is here necessary, however, the subject of the Indian population of the territory and the Phoenix Indian school having been extensively dealt with elsewhere in this issue by Prof. S. M. McGowan, the superintendent of the institution.

The territorial asylum for the insane is on the Tempe road three miles east of the city. Dr. J. Miller (whose most interesting and authoritative article on the archeology of the territory will be found elsewhere) is medical superintendent, and J. P. Kelly is steward.

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The East End school is on East Washington street at the corner of Arizona avenue and is a building about 60 by 50 feet, with accommodations for 200 scholars. Principal, Prof. C. O. Cuse.

The West End school on West Madison street, between Sixth and Seventh avenues, is similar in size and seating capacity to the East End school. The principal is J. W. Stewart.

A new school building near Five Points in the northwest part of the city will be erected during the coming summer.

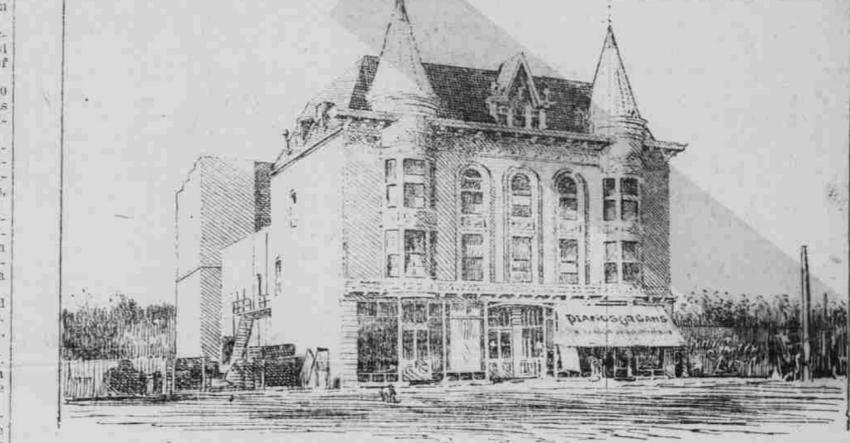
The superintendent of public instruction, Mr. R. J. Long, in an article which appears elsewhere, deals fully with the subject of education, it is unnecessary to here further enlarge thereupon, except to state that all the schools mentioned are under the efficient management of Prof. W. B. Cragger, the city superintendent of schools.

Church organizations are maintained by the following religious bodies: Baptist, Catholic, Christian, Episcopal, Methodist (Free), Methodist Episcopal, Methodist Episcopal (South), Presbyterian, Seventh Day Ad-



PHOENIX HIGH SCHOOL.

Eds. Workmen, Woodmen, G. A. R. and Good Templars. Phoenix has three banks. The Valley bank, the Phoenix National and the National Bank of Arizona. There are also several banking and investment companies, among which may be mentioned the Evans Loan and Investment company and the Phoenix Building and Loan association. Three daily newspapers are published in the city. The Arizona Republican, the only newspaper in the territory that appears every day in the year; the Phoenix Daily Herald and the Arizona Gazette. There is one weekly the Southwestern Stockman, Farmer and Feeder, and two Mexican journals published weekly, El Democrat and El Observador.



PATTON GRAND OPERA HOUSE, PHOENIX.

SALT RIVER VALLEY REALTY

The fact that the Salt River valley is the most extensive irrigable area in the United States, and one of the most productive, is now beginning to attract the attention of capitalists to an extent heretofore unknown.

Conditions were never more propitious for an active real estate market in this city and valley than at present. The long continued inactivity, superinduced by the panic of 1893, has had a depressing effect upon the market, and now at a figure precluding the possibility of further depreciation. Our farmers were never more prosperous. The products of this valley, which are always abundant, command most satisfactory prices and will continue to do so indefinitely, owing to the extensive development of the mining interests throughout the territory, adding many thousands to our population every year.

There are many instances where renters of farms have made 50 per cent net of the value of the land occupied by them in a single year. Interest rates are so low that money lenders will soon seek other sources of revenue, and real estate unquestionably offers the safest and most profitable field for investment.

For several years Phoenix has been attracting more and more attention from people in search of an equable climate, and it is now generally understood that such conditions as are most desired are to be found here. It is not only people in ill health who seek our genial climate, but many sojourn here during the fall, winter and spring for the pleasure incident to an unrestricted out-of-door life. It is this class of people who have made southern California what it now is.

Phoenix now derives not less than two million dollars a year from people who are attracted by our climatic conditions. This source alone will give us a population many times greater than we have at present. There is no section of country in the world possessing greater natural advantages than central Arizona. Nature has here placed all the elements of man's resources, which when properly developed, will result in wealth and civilization far in excess of our most sanguine anticipations. Great people will inevitably result from this.

THE ARIZONA KID. They call him tough. I s'pose 'cause why he takes his red-eye straight. But he mos'ly knows when he's got enough. An' generally pulls his freight. He can play a hand. At mos' any old kind of gam. An' will buck agin' faro to beat the band. For money, marbles or fame. An' smoke cigarets. Is right at home on the back of a horse. At all hours o' night runs loose on the streets. Fight—as a matter o' course. Loves powder smoke. At an age more fittin' for marbles and tops. He carries a gun and a wagon spoke, An' savvy's to use his props.

He sure is tough—tough as they make 'em, I reckon. But chuck full of sand, and comes a-runnin' when dangers b'ckon. Membe' the war—how the Rough Riders charged in advance? Well, he was our kids that fit and but they took a chance, An' he faltered. Made good though. Die, an'. Yes, our kids is—Herbert A. March 14 1899.

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