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COVER PHOTOGRAPH

Central School, Bisbee — "First real school in Bisbee"
with all grades. Approximate date 1890.

Cochise County Historical and
Archaeological Society
P. O. Box 818
Douglas, Arizona 85607

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Membership in the Cochise County Historical and Archaeological Society includes a subscription to the Cochise Quarterly, participation in all business meetings of the society (including the annual meeting), field trips, planned programs, and (after meeting certain requirements required by law) the right to engage in Archaeological activities of the society.

Membership Categories

Individual membership	\$ 3.00 per year
Family Membership	4.00 per year
Contributing membership	15.00 per year
Supporting membership	25.00 per year
Sustaining member	100.00 per year

Dues are paid in advance and are due for each calendar year by March 15th of that year.

INTRODUCTION

In 1853 the Gadsden Purchase added our corner of the world to the United States and to the New Mexico Territory with its government in Santa Fe. Ten years later President Lincoln signed the Organic Act of 1863 which created Arizona Territory out of the western half of New Mexico. It was divided into four counties, and Tucson was made the county seat of Pima County. After the Civil War and after the Apaches were subdued, settlers poured into southeastern Arizona. Mining and ranching flourished. In 1881 Cochise County was separated from Pima County, and Tombstone was made the county seat. Wherever a few families congregated, a school was established. Most of the teachers were from the east. Most of the buildings were very primitive. Equipment was rough and text books were often missing, but school went on.

A great deal of credit should be given to Ruth D. Elliott and Kay Gregor for assembling the material for this publication. It has meant hours of work writing letters, sorting the material received, and writing some of the articles from notes received from various sources.

We are sure this is not a complete story of Cochise County Schools, so if any of you have additional information on the subject, you are invited to send your material to The Cochise County Quarterly, Box 818, Douglas, Az. 85607.

There will be other Quarterlies to follow.

Glenn G. Dunham
Publication Chairman

COUNTY SCHOOL RECORDS

by Ruth D. Elliott

Records in the County School Superintendent's office for the year commencing July 1, 1890 and ending June 30, 1891 show that Cochise County, Arizona Territory had twenty-one school districts.

District No. 1 Tombstone	District No. 12 Dragoon
District No. 2 Bisbee	District No. 13 Willcox
District No. 3 Soldiers Hole	District No. 14 Teviston
District No. 4 Huachuca	District No. 15 Dos Cabezas
District No. 5 Charleston	District No. 16 El Dorado
District No. 6 Fairbank	District No. 17 Hereford
District No. 7 Contention	District No. 18 Bohn
District No. 8 St. David	District No. 19 San Pedro
District No. 9 Benson	District No. 20 Turquoise
District No. 10 Tres Alamos	District No. 21 Marcus
District No. 11 Pool	

Total expenditures covering these twenty-one districts for the above stated school year amounted to \$21,232.52. Twenty-eight teachers were employed that year and received a total salary of \$17,219.68. Tombstone had five teachers. Bisbee, Benson and Willcox each had

two teachers. Total pupil enrollment reached 964 that year with Tombstone having 289, Bisbee 163, Benson 82, and Willcox 74. The report shows an allowance of \$50.00 for the Tombstone school library which had a total of 486 volumes. Willcox with 75 volumes was the only other school reporting a library. The length of the school year varied from five months at Soldier Hole and El Dorado to nine and a half in Bisbee. Tombstone maintained a nine month school while Willcox was in session eight months during the 1890-91 school year.

The school year 1911-12 annual report included a total of sixty-six school districts in Cochise County. Territorial days ended and the 1912-13 school year saw still more changes. The sixty-six districts remained; however, school enrollments shifted and so did the location of school houses which often took on new names. Smaller schools frequently were lapsed or annexed to adjoining districts. The faithful donkey and pony were less frequently seen making the daily trek as more advantageous transportation became available to cope with the distances to the school house.

Some of the renamed districts were:

District No. 12 Soldier Hole became Whitewater
District No. 14 Teviston became Bowie
District No. 25 Turquoise became Gleeson
District No. 28 Slaughter became McDonald
District No. 29 Black Diamond became Webb
District No. 30 Chiricahua became Bernardino
District No. 32 Tufa became Silver Creek
District No. 34 Cave Creek became Portal
District No. 38 Lee became Wells
District No. 45 Valley became Double Adobe
District No. 48 Rodeo became Lone Oak
District 59 Allen became McAlister

Annexing, consolidating and lapsing of districts has continued and now the 1974 listing of Cochise County school districts includes:

No. 1 Tombstone*	No. 27 Douglas*
No. 2 Bisbee*	No. 42 Apache
No. 9 Benson*	No. 45 Double Adobe
No. 12 Elfrida	No. 49 Palominas
No. 13 Willcox*	No. 53 Ash Creek
No. 14 Bowie*	No. 55 McNeal
No. 18 San Simon*	No. 64 Pomerene
No. 21 St. David*	No. 66 Rucker
No. 22 Pearce*	No. 68 Buena*
No. 23 Naco	No. 81 Forrest
No. 26 Cochise	** Fort Huachuca

21 are elementary school districts.

* 10 have elementary and high school districts.

** 1 is an accommodation school district.

Forrest and Rucker Districts transport their students to other districts at this time and continue to maintain their district status.

COCHISE COUNTY SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENTS

Probate Judge and Ex-Officio County School Superintendents

1881-1882—LUCAS
1883-1886—PEEL
1887-1890—MONK, E. R.
1891-1892—WOLCOTT, F. N.
1893-1894—MONMONIER, W. D.
1895-1900—BRADLEY, W. F.

County School Superintendents elected by people

1901-1902—NICHOLS, ED
1903-1904—WALLACE
1905-1908—ROCKFELLOW, J. A.
1909-1910—STOVER, E. H.
1911-1912—HOTCHKISS, H. H.
1913-1916—LINTZ, MINNIE
1917-1920—TOLES, ELSIE M.
1921-1928—BROWN, HELEN L.
1929-1930—CRILEY, MARTHA B.
1931-1956—FULGHUM, RUBY E.
1957-1962—GOREN, PATRICIA M.
1962-1966—JAMES C. HENDERSON
1966-1968—JACKSON, KEITH
1969- —GOREN, PATRICIA M.

COCHISE COUNTY

Excerpt from County Superintendent's Annual report 1886-87

For the year 1886-7, great difficulty was experienced in running the schools, on account of the scarcity of money. However for the past year, 1887-8, the County Superintendent says, in his annual report:—"The condition of the public schools, both educationally and financially considered, I can report as excellent. The attendance and interest manifested in general, has been better than was to be expected; and the financial condition of all the school districts are out of debt, and most of them with a surplus of cash on hand. The county has an excellent corps of teachers, who are giving entire satisfaction to school officers and patrons.

"The earthquake destroyed the fine school building in Saint David's District, but during the year they have succeeded in providing another that will meet all the present wants."

The County Superintendent in this County had drawn \$500 per year as salary; whereas the law allowed but \$300. Upon discovering this fact I notified him, and the acting County Treasurer, that the County Superintendent must refund the excess to the school fund, which he promptly did upon receipt of my notice.

As the law makes it necessary for the supervisors to sign these warrants upon the treasurer, I am compelled to lay the blame, in a great measure, to them, for this gross violation of the law.

In February last this County had a very successful Teachers' Institute, of which the Tombstone Epitaph of February 11th, 1888, speaks as follows:—

"The Teachers' Institute, which has been in session three days this week, brought together teachers from all portions of the county, and will doubtless prove of great advantage to the public schools. The discussions on the various topics introduced brought forth the fact that the teachers were wide awake and up to the times, and were actuated by an earnest desire to improve themselves in their noble profession. Superintendent Monk presided over the deliberations with dignity, and to his efforts much of the credit for the success of the Institute is due.

"Not the least pleasing features of the session were the lectures by Drs. Goodfellow and Dunn, and Prof Farmer, Superintendent of the Territorial Normal School.

Mrs. G. L. Pearson, who formerly occupied the position of teacher in the State Normal School of Michigan, took part in the exercises, and through her ripe experience advanced many ideas that will prove of great value to the teachers. Altogether, the session was a most successful and harmonious one.

SKETCH OF TOMBSTONE SCHOOLS 1879 TO 1974

by Mary B Price

Tombstone, once known as Goose Flats, was founded by Ed Schefflin, a prospector. He was told by the Fort Huachuca Military Outpost that he would find nothing but his own tombstone. When he struck a rich vein of silver ore in 1874 the rush was on and a tent city sprang up immediately. Ed Schefflin named it "Tombstone."

It was indicative of the kind of people who rushed in to make a "tent city" that one tent was used as a school. This first school was a private school (1878-79) taught by Mrs. Gastor, and next year by Mrs. Howe.

The first public school was started in February 1880 and was taught by Miss Lucas. It was a little adobe room with a dirt floor and mud roof. Planks were used as desks and benches, and partially finished doors and windows. The first day Miss Lucas had nine pupils, but by the end of the term she had forty. She soon left and was replaced by Miss McFarland.

In January 1881 an adobe school building of two rooms, 30' X 20', was erected on Fitch Street. Attendance reached 85 and was growing rapidly. Mr. Sherman was head teacher and he was ably assisted by Miss McFarland and Mrs. Stanton. When 135 pupils showed up before the end of the year, they were forced to use Hall of Turin Verin Assn. and the Methodist Church. So two more rooms were added to the Fitch Street building, and it was then named the Wolcott School for Frank Wolcott, a former Board member and own-

er of the largest grocery and merchandise store. In later years this store building was used as the bank, the hospital, and now as the Chamber of Commerce.

During these years, the children attended school ten months of the year from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and enrollment grew to 276. They were taught reading, spelling, writing, arithmetic, grammar, drawing, U. S. History, bookkeeping, algebra, physical geography, and physiology. The marking system was set up: "100%—excellent, 80%—good, 70%—failure" to be used for promotion.

In 1881 it was the sheriff who paid the school's bills. It was his job to collect the money, pay the bills, and keep what was left, sometimes a goodly amount. This method eventually caused a great deal of ill feeling and it was discontinued in 1886 when school board members, Dr. George Willis and Mr. Stanley Bagg, called an election to levy a school tax to raise the \$8,000.00 to run the school, build a fence around Wolcott School, and plant trees. It passed and J. H. Behan, a former sheriff, was elected Tax Assessor and Collector. A nine months' school term was guaranteed. Principal's salary was set at \$125.00 per month (had been \$200.00 per month, times were harder now) and teachers, Herring and Stowe, \$90.00 each per month, and other teachers each \$75.00 per month.

In 1883 Tombstone built a new grammar school, a large two story building (frame), which was designed by H. B. Stowe, a Civil War veteran. The three large rooms upstairs were used for the upper grades, the down-stairs rooms for the middle grades. The Wolcott School was still used for the primary grades until the Eckerman School was built in 1916, across the street from the grammar school.

The High School was finished in 1922 and it was decided by a vote of 126-19 to combine the three high school districts, No. 1—Tombstone, No. 6—Fairbank, No. 68—Buena, and seventeen days later a location election chose Tombstone as the site with a vote of 213-7. When the high schools became a Union High School, a High School Board of five members was formed, and only the elementary schools remained in District One Board. This was in effect until 1940 when there was a consolidation and a superintendent was chosen to be over both schools.

1940-1958 Mr. Walter B. Meyer, first superintendent

1958-1959 Mr. Jack Thomas, assisted by Miss Ruth Schaffer

1959-1960 Miss Ruth Schaffer, Acting superintendent

1960-1970 Mr. James K. Clark

1970- Mr. Tom Tudor, now serving his 4th year as superintendent

The Fremont Street School was torn down in 1947 and the new school was built on that location and also the new Walter J. Meyer School was built to house the elementary grades. In 1964 the Fremont Street School was renamed the John L. Wyatt Junior High School.

1959—The Huachuca City School was erected to house the children in that part of the Tombstone District One.

1958-1959—Buena School District left the Tombstone District and set up its own school system.

1961—A second building was added to the Huachuca City School.

Mrs. John Wyatt (Madeline Giacomma, 1934-1974 on to retirement) has served the greatest number of years in the Tombstone Schools, over 40 years, as grade teacher, music, dramatics, girls' physical education, principal of Walter J. Meyer and Huachuca City Schools, and now principal of Walter J. Meyer and John L. Wyatt Junior High Schools.

Board members from 1880 to 1890 were Fricas, Fay, and Pomroy, John P. Clum and Stanley C. Bagg (first and second editors of the Tombstone Epitaph), Dr. George C. Willis, W. A. Harwood, Frank Wolcott. Later board members were Charles Overlock, Ed James, Tony Giacomma, W. A. Tyler, Ray Krebs, Cheney, Wm. Fowler, R. B. Vallance, Ernest Escapule, Sr., Cecil Costello, Alvin Cook, Clayton Smith, Woody Hitt, Houston Davis, Charles Brubaker.

School Principals of District One changed often from 1886 to 1913.

SUMMARY

- 1886-1889 Mr. George Metcalf
- 1889-1890 Mr. John A. Rockfellow (later taught Engineering at University of Arizona)
- 1890-1891 Mr. T. E. Dalton
- 1891-1893 Mr. George Metcalf
- 1893-1894 Mr. L. H. Kennedy
- 1894-1896 Mr. S. S. Ray
- 1896-1901 Mr. Frank Willard, nephew of Frank Wolcott, former board member
- 1901-1903 Mr. J. N. Gains, many years on Board of Supervisors, Cochise County
- 1903-1904 Mr. H. E. Berner
- 1904-1905 Miss Christie Ruth Updike
- 1905-1908 Mr. P. D. L. McLawrin, resigned to head Pacific Mut. Life Ins. Co. for Arizona
- 1909-1910 Mr. C. W. Tristor
- 1910-1912 Miss Niblo
- 1912-1922 Mr. C. E. Tilford, 1922-1936 First High School Principal

1924-1940 Mrs. Mary B. Price, 15 years; Last Principal to serve under the Old Board of District One Elementary Schools only. Mary B. Price resigned to go with the State Department of Public Instruction for twenty years, representing Cochise County in State Education Department for ten years as Director of Rural and Elementary Education and ten years as Director of New School Lunch Program and United States (U.S.D.A.) Commodity Distribution schools and institutions.

REFERENCES

Acknowledgements: Superintendent Tom Tudor's file record of Marie Erdahl's "Tombstone School System—1879-1964" with references from Mrs. Matia Burke's Master's Thesis (University of Arizona), "History of Tombstone Schools."

A note from Mary B. Price:

Principal Mr. C. E. Tilford 1913 to 1936 (his death) contributed three outstanding services to the Tombstone Schools, namely:

A very strong music department, teaching all band, orchestra, chorus classes (training in operettas, plays, recitals, community and state programs) in addition to his administrative work as Principal.

In 1922 he supervised the building of the new high school and got the union of the three high school districts, Tombstone No. 1, Fairbank No. 6, and Buena No. 68, into one union high school district named "Tombstone Union High School District." C. E. Tilford was the first principal, 1922-1936, New Union High School Board.

In 1925 C. E. Tilford accomplished his dream of Tombstone Union High School becoming accredited by the North Central Association of Secondary Schools and Colleges.

Also, he encouraged and built a strong athletic program over the years. "Tilford Field" between the High School and Junior High School attests to his work.

SOME OF THE TEACHERS IN BISBEE FROM 1881 TO 1908

by Cora Thorp

No history of a school or a community could be considered at all adequate unless it would attempt, at least in a measure, to appraise some of those who taught in the schools.

The qualifications for teaching and the working conditions of the county schools in 1890 to 1933 were reviewed by a former Cochise County Superintendent of Schools, Ruby Fulghum. Miss Fulghum gained statewide reputation as a fine educator and was recog-

nized as an able painter Her research on the schools in Cochise County was filed with the Copper Queen Library in Bisbee. Her research reveals that the first complete annual report in the County Superintendent's office in Cochise County is dated 1890-1891 (ten years after the formation of Cochise as a separate county.) The length of school term varied at that time from five to nine and one-half months; the average length of the term for most schools was seven and one-half. Toward the back of the old record we find statistics regarding certification of teachers. A first grade certificate was awarded to those finishing a high school such as Tombstone and taking an examination from a group of designated trustees. All districts among the early schools used authorized texts which were listed in the volume of School Laws and Regulations for the Government of the Public Schools of Arizona Territory published in 1887. This list of twenty-two books included six readers, one speller, two geographies, three arithmetics, three language, grammar and rhetoric books, two histories, one natural philosophy and four health, hygiene and physiology texts. There were copy books for the seven grades and six Primary Model Copy Books. Schools were of two classes; the primary school consisting of all below the third reader and the grammar school above this. Before leaving primary school a pupil must know the four fundamental rules of arithmetic and be able to multiply by three or four figures in the multiplier and divide by three figures in the divisor, avoiding the use of decimals.

An outline of the teachers in Bisbee are as follows: **From 1881 to 1904**

1881 (For one month) Miss Clara Stillman taught in a miner's shack in Tombstone Canyon with five pupils.

1881-1882 Miss Stillman moved to a one room building in Brewery Gulch with twelve pupils.

1883 Miss Stillman taught in a one room adobe building where the present Central School now stands.

1883-1884 Miss Daisy Robinson, one room adobe (cited above).

1884-1885 Miss Daisy Robinson, same place as above.

1885-1886 Will McComas, same place for seven months; Lizzie Ewalt for two months.

1887-1888 P. D. Schultz, same place.

1888-1889 Horatio McIntyre, same place.

1889-1890 Professor Brown, Minnie Hill, assistant with one room added.

1891-1892 W. S. Varnum, Miss Hill, assistant.

1893-1894 W. S. Varnum, Edith Stowe, Ella Fike; four room adobe built on old site in 1892.

1894-1895 George A. Metcalf, one-half year, S. R. Ray, one-half year, Margaret Hill, Gertrude McCormack, and Edith Stowe.

- 1895-1896 George A. Metcalf, Margaret Hill, Gertrude McCormack, and Edith Stowe.
- 1896-1897 J. W. Stewart, Margaret Hill, Harriet Warning, and Edith Stowe with 225 pupils.
- 1897-1898 J. W. Stewart, Margaret Hill, Harriet Warning, Edith Stowe, and Ella Fike; a fifth room was added to rear of building.
- 1898-1899 S. P. McCrae, Margaret Hill, Harriet Warning, Edith Stowe, and Flora Cohn; upper story of five rooms added.
- 1899-1900 S. P. McCrae, Mrs. A. M. Dyer, Margaret Hill, Edith Stowe, Louise Howe, Marilla Merriman, Minnie Davis, and Harriet Warning.
- 1900-1901 Claude Smallwood, Mrs. Dyer, Minnie Davis, Minnie Minus, Edith Stowe, Harriet Warning, Bella Cassin, Margaret Hill, and Carrie Pfaffenberger.
- 1901-1902 Claude Smallwood, Mrs. Dyer, Minnie Davis, Minnie Minus, Edith Stowe, Inez Coffey, Irene McClennan, Mary Moore and Harriet Warning.
- 1902-1903 Claude Smallwood, Mrs. Dyer, Minnie Davis, Minnie Minus, Edith Stowe, Inez Coffey, Irene McClennan, Mary Moore and Harriet Warning.
- 1903-1904 Mr. Smallwood, Martha Hosmer, Minnie Evans, Dovie Patterson, Gertrude Bolton, Anne M. Perley, R. Rachael Cox, Florence Messner, Vernonica J. White, Mamie Kelsey, Inez Coffey, Marion S. Thomas, Mabel Hammersley, Ruby Hatley, Edith Stowe.

From 1904 to 1908 (Teachers' Registers and Files, Bisbee Public Schools)

- 1904-1905 Mr. Charles F. Philbrook became the first superintendent of Bisbee Schools, Central School Building; teachers were Anna Hellmann, Hattie Thomas, Mamie Kelsey, E. D. Tinker, Mabel Goldsworthy, Vernonica White, Miss Hosmer, Dovie Patterson, Inez Coffey, Kathryn Reilley, Edith Stewart, Ruby Hatley.
- 1905-1906 Mr. Philbrook, Kathryn L. Reilley, Anna Wilmer, Hattie Halam, Annie Stagner, Louise Bailey, Vessa Wright, Catherine Finnegan, Carrie L. Barber, Edith Edwards, Creola Black, Anna Phillips, Nano P. Smith, Sadie Glasgow, Dovie Patterson, Margaret Jones, Adele Kindred, Adele B. Lewis, Ethel Harmon, Edith Stewart, Fannie Harley, Pearl Harmon.
- 1906-1907 Gussie Griggs, Miss Hosmer, Louise Bailey, Jerrie E. Perkins, Edith Stewart, Helen B. Mills, Wilhelmena Fritz, Florence Messner, Catherine Finnegan,, Margaret Jones, Adelaide Kindred, Stella F. Miegel, M. T. Fisher, Adelaide B. Lewis, Estella R. Harmon, Edith B. Edwards, Elizabeth M. Smith, Ethel R. Harmon, Laura Schlatterer, Roxie E.

Perkins, Vessa E. Wright, Helen Mills, Carrie L. Barber, Julia B. Lewis, Edith E. Blakemore, Hester Wallace, Alma L. Cowan, Edna A. Walker, Nano P. Smith, Hattie Malam, Dovie Patterson, with Mr. Philbrook as Superintendent.

1907-1908 Mr. Philbrook, Superintendent, Kathryn L. Reilley, High School Principal,, Hester Wallace, Alice Campbell, Mary Studley Stewart, Edith B. Edwards, Jessie E. Perkins, Stella F. Miegel, Adelaide B. Lewis, Edna B. Newman, Carrie L. Barber, Laura Schlatterer, Alma Cowan, Georgine B. Minder, Florence Messner, Gertrude Milligan, Catherine Finnegan, Anna M. Quick, Oma V. Wescott, Mabel Langdon, Ella Wagner, Leta M. Scott, Creola M. Black, Cora E. Hefernan, Gertrude Secrest, Ethyle Jones, Olga H. Ekern, Helen M. Trmple, Mrs. E. H. McEachren, Lucy Kenney, Vessa E. Wright, Ethel M. Harmon, Louise Bailey, Elizabeth Smith, Carrie L. Barber, Elizabeth M. Kentner, H. A. Lusk, Dovie Patterson Thomas, Marie Trambley.

During the twenty-seven years accounted for in this summary of teachers in Bisbee from 1881 to 1908, fifteen were men and one hundred twenty-five were women.

The account of the teaching record of Miss Clara Stillman has been recorded many times. However, it bears repeating. "The original Pima County in Arizona was a very large county lying south of the Gila River, and the present site of Cochise County in which Bisbee is located was a part of that original Pima County. Against the opposition of Pima County, Cochise County was created by the Territorial Legislature in 1881. The Southern Dragoon Mountains, now called the Mule Mountains, were situated in that area called Cochise County. They were called the Mule Mountains because of two prominent peaks which look like the ears of a mule when viewed from the upper end of Sulphur Springs Valley. Through these mountains lies the Mule Pass, long the undisputed territory of the Apache Indians. Into this pass in 1877 came Lieutenant Rucker with a company of scouts. In looking for good drinking water where they might camp, they located a spring flowing out from a high rock, now called Castle Rock in Bisbee, Arizona.

The first traces of mineral were found by this party of Lt. Rucker's, and because of their find, George Warren came into this canyon the same year, and located ore in the south side of the canyon, below which the town of Bisbee was born. The canyon and surrounding hills were covered with a heavy growth of timber; the scene was wild and rough and Indians felt as if they owned the place. The early history of the camp tells of the hardships and privations endured by the early adventurers who came to the area in search of easy wealth. Provisions, supplies and materials were hard to get, and the trails were treacherous because of the rugged unpopulated terrain as well as the Indians. It was necessary to haul supplies long distances with mule teams over rough mountain roads. The four-horse stage carried mail and passengers over the same routes. Into this primitive wilderness in 1880 came the first men with their fam-

ilies, intent on establishing their homes. What is now Main Street in Bisbee, with its frame buildings, saloons, stores, and restaurants, a few houses constituted the whole town. These buildings were built on either side of a deep canyon with a road running through the middle. A few scattered houses lined the stage-road which came down into the Canyon from the present site of Hereford. Where men with their families gather, one of the first thoughts is of schools and education. A place in which to teach a small group, with someone to teach them was hard to manage; but to the sturdy stock of people who endured the hardships of a mining camp at that time, nothing seemed impossible! In 1881, a committee was appointed to make application for a school district, and Bisbee became County School District No. 2, second to Tombstone's No. 1. From among the most interested of citizens the first school trustees were selected. H. C. Stillman, the first Postmaster of Bisbee, became chairman along with Lewis Williams and J. F. Duncan as members. The next step was to find a teacher who would be willing to come to this far-away, isolated mining camp to teach a small group of children. A sister of Mr. Stillman's had graduated from a Connecticut Academy in the spring of that year, and he suggested that she might come and take the Bisbee School. She had been teaching in Connecticut when she accepted the position offered her to teach in Bisbee. Miss Clara Stillman, the first teacher in Bisbee, was born in Bridgeport, Connecticut, and educated in the normal department of the Bridgeport High School and Terry Kindergarten Institute and the Hennecker Academy in New Jersey. After a journey of ten days constant travel from New York to Benson, Arizona, from there by stage by way of Contention to Tombstone, where a stop was made over-night, then by the way of Charleston and Hereford to Bisbee. She arrived in Bisbee about two o'clock in the early morning! This was September 28, 1881, and she began teaching five days later on October 3, 1881. In November, 1881, she rode to Tombstone on horseback to take her examination to qualify for a teaching license in the Territory of Arizona, and was told that there was little use of her having made the trip as she evidently knew more than the members of the examining committee. Money for the first three months was raised by private subscription. Patterned after the California type law, public school money was available for any territorial school after the first three months, and Bisbee drew its share when the proper time came. The first school house was a little unused miner's shack which stood in an isolated spot in the canyon just a short distance above Castle Rock, a name given to the spot by Miss Stillman. This shack was without doors, windows, or floors. The equipment of the first little school was crude. Boards supported at the ends by packing cases formed the desks; planks across nail kegs were used for seats, two each of these which made seating for four; the teacher's desk was a flour barrel turned upside down; but the teacher's chair was a real luxury! Books of any kind were used. The only real school book in camp was the old Webster's primer, and was used during that first month. No pens or inks were used because of the condition of the desks. Lead pencils and brown paper were used for writing. Five pupils gathered for that first school among whom we

find the names of Willie, Jimmy and Jack Munch whose niece, Miss Mary Bendixen, teaches in the Bisbee Schools at the present time. The Munch family, the mother and children, was the first family to arrive in Bisbee to join the father in July, 1880 when Mrs. Bendixen was only six months old! (Bendixen: 1972) This little shack was only used for about four weeks, when a safer place was found for a school on Brewery Gulch in the Miner's Union Hall. In 1881, as a precautionary measure against Indian raids, the first instruction the pupils received was the Indian drill. When the signal came from the townspeople that Indians were sighted, the children were to gather in groups of four with hands clasped, ready to march, but were not to leave the building until a second signal was given. If a second signal came, the children were taught to run, along with everyone else in camp, to take shelter in a tunnel back into the mountain through the Glory Hole. According to Miss Stillman, holding hands was simply a device to keep the children from scattering. No Indians ever came, but several times Miss Stillman took the children into the tunnel along with all the other women and children of the town. During the fortieth anniversary of Bisbee in 1919, Dr. Stillman returned to help celebrate and told of her experiences as a teacher in the first little school house. She recalled with a great deal of humor the day that the mine whistle blew and they dropped everything and ran as far as they could down the canyon to the Glory Hole tunnel and joined the women there who had rushed out of their homes to reach safety. One woman held her apron so that it looked as though it were heavy with treasures, and she announced to all that "at least she had saved her silver"! Then letting her apron fall, out rolled her weekly mending of the family stockings! Sharing laughter over this amusing incident broke the tension of this frightening experience.

What kind of a person was Miss Stillman? She must have been a very brave young woman to come out into an untamed mining camp to teach the first school far from home and friends. However, another member of her family was an adventurer, too, for her brother, H. C. Stillman was already in Bisbee. She must have been a well-educated woman for her day as indicated by the fact that the licensing board in Tombstone in November, 1881 remarked that she made the trip from Bisbee to Tombstone needlessly because it was evident to them that she was much better informed than those selected to examine her. She must have had perseverance because she taught here for two years. During that time, she managed to acquire a meager supply of books and encouraged store keepers to stock slates and pencils. She was thrifty, no doubt, as it is recorded that she counseled the children to break the pencils into several pieces in order to make them go around and to last longer. She was very resourceful for she made a blackboard of two broad-surfaced boards nailed together and painted black, and for chalk she used talc from the mine. She was not easily discouraged, for each Friday afternoon, the homemade chalk board would have to be repainted because even water would not remove all marks of the talc! She encouraged the children to enjoy music and freely shared her school room with the community for their activities. She must have been a religious person for she organized the Protestant Sunday School

and served as its superintendent for two years. Miss Stillman resigned in June, 1883, and continued her education in California where she became a practicing osteopathic physician and surgeon in Palm Springs, California."

In 1883, the Copper Queen Mining Company built and gave to the community a one room adobe school building, located on the present site of Central School and it was in this building that Miss Daisy Robinson came to teach in the fall of 1883. She was a graduate of Houghton Seminary, Clinton, New York. Toward the end of 1884 enrollment had increased to the point that Miss Robinson's sister assisted her with four classes. Miss Robinson's step-father came to Bisbee before Miss Daisy arrived.

Miss Lizzie Ewalt finished out the term started by William McComas in 1886.

The next teacher in line to be remembered is Miss Minnie Hill. She was a graduate of Tombstone High School and came to teach in the Bisbee Schools in 1889. She taught two terms in Bisbee from 1889 to 1891.

Most of the individuals interviewed in Bisbee remembered with affection Miss Edith Stowe who came to teach in Bisbee in 1893. Each of them remarked, "Miss Stowe was my first teacher." Miss Edith Stowe is described as being a small woman, short in stature with a very gentle way and pleasing personality. Miss Stowe taught in the Bisbee Schools from 1893 to 1905, a period of twelve years for seventy-five dollars a month, and did not receive a raise until the year she resigned to accept a position on the historic San Bernardino Ranch operated by John H. Slaughter located near Douglas, Arizona. In 1906, Miss Stowe accompanied the Slaughters to Phoenix, Arizona to attend Slaughter's first term as legislative representative from Cochise County. She was appointed the fifth committee clerk for Arizona's twenty-fourth territorial legislature. Miss Stowe was bridesmaid in the wedding of Addie Slaughter to William Arnold Greene on September 9, 1903 at the Episcopal Church in Douglas, Arizona. Mr. Slaughter managed to get the Slaughter School District established at his ranch on October 8, 1902, and Miss Stowe became the first teacher. She was educated at Tombstone along with Miss Minnie and Maggie Hill, and attended the first teacher's institute held there. Miss Stowe lived at the Slaughter Ranch most of the time after her mother died. For a time, she was the ranch's bookkeeper and helped to run the commissary. Her speciality in teaching was grammar. When John Slaughter died he left Miss Stowe six thousand dollars in his will. Miss Stowe and her mother are both buried in the Old Masonic Plot in Evergreen Cemetery in Bisbee. The following information was taken from her headstone:

EDITH M. STOWE

Age: 66 years

Born May 27, 1872

Died November 4, 1938

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EDITH M. STOWE

Age: 66 years

Born May 27, 1872

Died November 4, 1938

Her mother's headstone gave the following information:

MRS. SARAH E. STOWE

Age: 66 years

Born May 29, 1832

Died December 10, 1898

Miss Margaret (Maggie) Hill came to Bisbee to teach in 1894 and taught here until 1901. Miss Maggie Hill was a sister of Miss Minnie Hill mentioned earlier. She was also educated in Tombstone and taught in the Tombstone Schools before coming to Bisbee. No one in Bisbee was able to give as vivid a description as was found in the following excerpt from the Minutes of the Meetings of the Board of Trustees of the Tombstone School District No. 1 of February 2, 1894, "Miss Hill received, reporting Robert Winders for persistent misconduct and impertinent behavior. On motion it was ordered that Robert Winders asks Miss Maggie Hill's pardon, otherwise he will be suspended from school until further notice." Since this incident occurred in the spring of 1894, it could be the reason that she came to Bisbee in the fall of 1894. At least, she was not afraid to call the boy's hand on misconduct!

Miss Louise Howe was a teacher in Tombstone before she came to Bisbee. She was listed as a teacher in a private school in Tombstone about 1879, and later in 1880 as a public school teacher in Tombstone. She taught in Bisbee in 1899-1900.

Miss Harriet Warning came to Bisbee in 1896 as a teacher in the old schoolhouse. In 1902, Miss Warning became the wife of Dr. W. E. Hankin. She was born August 23, 1874, in Beloit, Kansas, and died in Bisbee, May 11, 1933. This information was given to the Brewery Gulch Gazette by Ned White, a celebrated "Poet Laureate" of Bisbee and the father of Mrs. Marion McKinney, who still resides in Bisbee.

The next teacher to be remembered well by many became quite a celebrity, Miss Marilla Merriman, who taught in Bisbee for one term in 1899-1900. She resigned in the spring of 1900 to marry Dr. Frank Nelson Guild who was a professor at the University of Arizona at Tucson.

The Brewery Gulch Gazette carried this story on June 25, 1959 written by Rose Stein Ferber, who grew up in Bisbee and went to school around the turn of the century in this community. Mrs. Ferber presently resides in New York and Miami Beach, Florida. She spoke of Mrs. A. M. Dyer who taught in Bisbee from 1899 to 1902. Mrs. Ferber said, "To reach the school from our house we had to go up a small alley called Broadway, about four feet wide, which went from the Gulch directly up to the school. In 1896, when our family first came to Brewery Gulch the Bisbee Public Schools had five rooms downstairs and five upstairs. School sessions started at nine o'clock and ended at four o'clock with two twenty minutes periods for recess, one in the morning and one in the afternoon. A loud bell clanged and all the kids lined up according to grade, the

shorter ones first with taller ones in back, and marched into that school to the strain of a military march played on the piano by one of the teachers in the downstairs hall. If one pupil talked, shoved or got out line, the teacher would come down off the porch and take him out of line. Discipline was strict. After we got into the classroom, we had a song period for about twenty minutes. We always had a man principal, and imagine my surprise when I went back to Bisbee twenty years later and found one of my classmates, Addie Wittig, as one of the principals! We had good teachers—many were imported from San Francisco—and good instruction. Physical punishment was used and the teachers did not hesitate to use it. Came the day when our eighth grade class graduated; our teacher was Mrs. Anna Dyer, one who had been brought in from San Francisco. She was a sweet, grey-haired little lady—rather plump—treated us kids like human beings. She was also the music teacher. She taught seventh and eighth grades and we were not very smart! We went to the Opera House for graduation and had to practice ahead of time. It so happened that the previous night there had been a dance given by the Elks Club. There was some refreshment left over in the form of punch, which, had been spiked and standing over night grew in potency. As soon as we had learned where to sit and what to do that night of graduation, the kids started fooling around and found right in the middle of the dance floor, a nice large glass bowl full of punch, all set up with glasses. So we all helped ourselves and drank it all up. Suffice it to say that we went reeling out of the Opera House!" Mrs. Dyer must have had great emotional stability and a keen sense of humor to weather that one!

Mr. C. F. Philbrook, of Rochelle, Illinois, became the first superintendent of schools in Bisbee in 1904, and before the end of the year, 1905, he reorganized the entire school system to provide modern, adequate educational advantages for about 1200 to 2,000 pupils, including all grades from the kindergarten through the twelfth grade. A seventy-five thousand dollar bond issue for schools was voted on February 20, 1905. The bond issue was bitterly discussed on all sides. The Copper Queen Mining Company had been willing to meet all expenses of building and re-building the schools and to sponsor all educational interests, rather than have a bond issue. This was the first time the taxpayers had been called upon to vote a school bond. The campaign, directed by Supt. Philbrook and the Board of Trustees, was in reality won by the school children themselves, who, on the day of the election, paraded the streets with banners and drum corps. The bond issue passed, the Central School Building was erected as it stands today; the high school was organized, and various grade schools were established throughout the district. Miss Kathryn Reilley had the honor of being the first principal of Bisbee High School in 1906. (Bisbee School Records: 1906) Miss Reilley spent many years in the Bisbee High School as principal and as a teacher of English. All those who were interviewed and had gone to school to Miss Reilley remembered her as a very strict disciplinarian. Those who liked her, liked her very much, but there were some who did not! In talking with Miss Reilley's great-nephew who is the County Attorney for Cochise County at the present time, he

gave this information: Miss Kathryn L. Reilley (better known as Kate) came to Bisbee from Prescott, Arizona around the turn of the century. She did not begin teaching in the Bisbee Schools until the year of 1904-1905. She was the first high school principal. She was one of ten children and came from sturdy Irish stock. The family felt that she had a great deal of self-discipline and expected others to share that feeling. She did not hesitate to use physical punishment when she taught school. She is described as being a very loyal person to her friends and family. She was a very practical person as well as strong-minded. Due to a disagreement with the superintendent of schools, she resigned her position in the public schools after many years and opened a private school located on Tombstone Canyon near Castle Rock in competition with the public school. This private school was highly successful both academically and financially. Miss Reilley is remembered today as a tall, big-boned woman with a very commanding personality and shrewd business sense. In 1921, she left Bisbee and went to Tucson, Arizona where she made some very wise investments and left a considerable fortune to her favorite nephew, Mr. Joe Reilley, today a successful Tucson attorney, when she died in 1945. Upon examining the Bisbee School reports for 1904-1908, Miss Reilley's reports were accurate, neat and complete; she had a beautiful handwriting.

Miss Hattie Malam is described today by her pupils living in Bisbee as being a woman of very high moral character. She taught Latin and history in the high school. (She was reported to be very strict, but the pupils loved her as well as respected her. She came to Bisbee in 1905, one year after the arrival of Miss Kate Reilley. Many of her former students are still living in Bisbee as she taught her last year in Bisbee in 1938. It was said that Miss Malam did not really like to teach; that she was in her senior year in college when she found out that she really wanted to be a nurse, but since she had spent this much time and money in preparing to teach, she felt that it was best to go ahead and she gave everything that she was capable of to the art of teaching. When she left the Bisbee Schools to return to her native Michigan, her past pupils all went together and made up a purse of money as a parting gift to Miss Hattie Malam—to show a little of their appreciation for the many years of undying service and love that she had given to them. Miss Malam was a charter member of Epsilon Chapter, Delta Kappa Gamma, an international honorary society for outstanding women teachers. The last time that Epsilon Chapter records her as paying dues was in 1938 when she left the Bisbee District.

The first high school graduating class of Bisbee was composed of four girls who received their diplomas in the spring of 1906. Three of these four girls earned a life certificate entitling them to teach in the territory of Arizona and these three girls came back to teach in Bisbee in the fall of 1907. They were Edna Newman Thomas, Oma Wescott Brewster, and Mary Studley Stewart Moffit. The fourth

graduate, Elsie Toles, attended a four-year college at San Jose, California, and returned to teach in Bisbee some years later.

Oma Wescott Brewster taught in Bisbee until she was married. She was a member of Epsilon Chapter, Delta Kappa Gamma. She was active in church activities, and community affairs. She became a world traveler. She passed away in 1969 and left a considerable fortune. Mrs. Brewster had great wit, and possessed a great talent for business investments.

Mary Studley taught in Bisbee until she married Mr. Stewart, raised a family, and when Mr. Stewart passed away she returned to teaching in Cochise County Schools. She married a Mr. Moffit the second time. Her last year of teaching was done at Fort Huachuca, Arizona, in the Colonel Young School in the second grade in 1952-53. She retired, lived in Bisbee until her death in 1957. Mrs. Moffit was a very attractive, large woman with a delightful sense of humor and big heart which embraced all those with whom she came in contact.

Mrs. Vessa Wright Merrill resides in Bisbee at the present time. She began teaching in Bisbee in 1905-1906. She also grew up in Bisbee and attended school in Bisbee until she finished the tenth grade, then she was sent to Tempe where she graduated from High School and established her credentials to teach. The Wright and Warren families of which she is a member produced many fine teachers in the state of Arizona. She belongs to the Anona Club, composed of women who grew up in Bisbee. She is a member of the Latter Day Saints Church. She is charming and congenial. After Mr. Merrill's death, she taught in the county schools surrounding the Bisbee district.

Mrs. Dovie Patterson Thomas is described by those who knew her well as a very out-going, lively, capable woman and teacher. She handled eighty children in the classroom with ease. She came here from Texas, and returned to Texas after she married. During her stay in Bisbee, she was an active member of the Order of the Eastern Star and served that organization as Worthy Grand Matron of the Grand Chapter of Arizona in 1914. Even though she returned to Texas to live and devoted herself to writing, she always kept her membership in the Bisbee organizations. She died in Texas, December 15, 1970.

Mrs. Edna Newman Thomas probably taught in the Bisbee Schools longer than any other person. She is presently residing in Bisbee. She is extremely able and well informed. She has served in many capacities in Church and Community activities. Her two great interests outside the Church are the Order of the Eastern Star and the Y.W.C.A. She is a member of Epsilon Chapter, Delta Kappa Gamma and is an excellent representative of that honorary organization. Mrs. Thomas is considered by many to be one of the most outstanding teachers in Bisbee of all times.

A PIONEER SCHOOL

Excerpt from a paper by William E. Moore

Opie Burgess relates the first Christmas held in Bisbee. The miners collected money in order to buy gifts for each child. Miss Stillman took the stage to Tombstone and spent one hundred dollars in one store on presents and sweets. The tree in turn was obtained from Juniper Flats and trimmed with red paper and popcorn. "Each received a practical gift, a toy and a sack of candy." (Burgess: 1967: pages 81 and 82)

As the town grew there was an obvious need for a larger school building and a site for community activities. It was in 1883 that the Copper Queen Company constructed a one room adobe building on the site of our present Central school and donated it to the community. (Cox: 1938: page 87) This new school was much larger than the original shack and was uniquely decorated with a bell, on a small platform fixed to the top of the building near the front. The bell was a gift from the miners of the Copper Queen. Five windows and a door provided adequate ventilation and access to this building. (Wentworth, quoted Barkell: 1938: page 194).

Barkell continues with a description of the building's interior: The room had a rough board floor, ten foot walls and a rather high pitched ceiling open to the roof, through which near the center was an opening for the stove pipe. This pipe—of necessity long, to reach from the tiny sheet-iron stove, which lacked two legs and was propped up with pieces of slag, to the high roof was very apt to become disjointed on occasion of a jar to the building from any source. It was no uncommon thing to have to stand guard with a broom over such a separation, until aid could be summoned. This was never allowed to interrupt any school work which might be going on at the time; and the picture so made, of the teacher supporting the broken stove pipe with a broom in one hand, and the other holding a book from which she conducted a recitation, is really worth recording. (Wentworth, quoted from Barkell: 1938: page 194)

Some improvements were made as far as equipment is concerned. We see the use of homemade blackboards, constructed from two surface boards nailed together and painted black. Talc from the mine was used for chalk and necessitated the repainting of the boards each week. (Cox: 1938: page 88)

This one room building did become an active community center to the dismay of the teachers who served during this period. Lodge meetings, dances, lectures, religious services and a number of other activities were carried on between its walls.

One story is told by Burgess concerning its use for a lodge meeting. It seems that the Woodmen of the World Lodge built a wooden storage area connected to the building. This frame room gave them adequate room for their lodge materials. It was related that a boy who attended the school was informed that the storage

area housed a goat, which was to be ridden by all new members of the lodge. The following incident is recorded:

One morning after a lodge meeting, the men did not put the benches back in order, nor did they empty the filled cuspidors and put them away. The young boy upon entering the school room saw the tobacco juice and said to the teacher "that goat sure chews a lot of tobacco." (Burgess: 1967: page 83)

This one room adobe schoolhouse helped to meet the many and varied needs of a growing community. Religious services were carried on by a number of denominations located in the town. According to Cox, public worship was available only through Catholic Priests in the early days. During Miss Stillman's stay in Bisbee, she held Protestant Sunday School classes on Sunday morning in one part of the building, while Catholic ladies instructed a group of children in Catechism in another part. Before school, mass was held and in the evening Methodists and Presbyterians gathered for their religious meetings. Mrs. Lewis Williams donated an organ which was used at these gatherings. (Cox: 1938: p. 91) In time a Union Church Association was formed combining Episcopalians, Methodists, Baptists and Catholics. (Wentworth, quoted from Barkell: 1938: p. 197).

Another popular community activity was the local dance. There was a lot of bustle involved in unscrewing benches and in waxing the floor. Too often things were not replaced for the next school session and the children enjoyed using the benches as rocking chairs to the dismay of the teacher. Those in charge were even encouraged to hold their dances in a different location. (Wentworth, quoted from Barkell: 1938: page 197)

After serving for two years, Miss Clara J. Stillman resigned in 1883. A graduate of Houghton Seminary, Clinton, New York, Miss Daisy Robinson was selected to replace Miss Stillman.

The enrollment for the school in September, 1883, was twenty and showed a sizable increase during 1884 when it rose to sixty-four. The exact attendance record is somewhat obscured by the irregular attendance of the Mexican children. (Cox: 1938: p. 89). It is recorded by Barkell that Mexican children would come and go as they pleased without any regard for consistent attendance. They would occasionally drop in and often would leave if they didn't like what was being taught. Each time they reappeared they would have to be enrolled. This made attendance taking very haphazard. Due to this situation attendance could vary from ten to twenty from month to month. (Wentworth: 1938: p. 199).

During 1883, improvements were made in the interior of the building as brought out by Barkell:

By this time the interior had been nicely plastered and green shutters placed on the windows. The frames of the doors and windows were of finished redwood. The long stove pipe had

been changed to pass out through the side of the building. (Wentworth: 1938: p. 198)

Miss Robinson's salary was seventy-five dollars a month. It was somewhat guaranteed by the Copper Queen Company, since she could cash her check with the miners if there wasn't any cash available in the county treasury. The company would hold the check in turn until the county reimbursed them.

ST. DAVID

by Calvin S. Bateman

1877-78

Mrs. Maria McRae taught the children in her one room in the Rock Fort. The room was small, dirt floor and low flat roof, one door, and a very small window. Only 15 to 20 children. Parents paid \$3.00 a month. Mrs. McRae claimed to be the first teacher in Cochise County. Tables were used for desks with boards across 2 boxes for seats.

1878-79

Two teachers were hired and school was held in the best room of Maria McRae's house. The home was located about a half mile north of Rock Fort. This home was adobe and lumber. Susan Curtis and Maria McRae taught here. This home is across the highway a little north west of the cemetery.

1880-81

The County was formed. A teacher from Tombstone came, a Miss Lizzie Felter, and another teacher that didn't stay too long.

April 9, 1881, the settlers petitioned for a school district. There were 20 families and 35 children of school age. All 20 heads of families signed the petition and brought about District No. 8. An adobe church was built and used for a public school. It was used till 1887 when it was shaken by an earthquake.

By 1882 schools were provided for by the territorial and county funds. That year St. David District drew \$2,000. Teachers received \$86.00 to \$100.00 a month.

The first school building built with tax money was a large one room lumber building. This building stayed at the old St. David town site (near present cemetery) till about 1900 when it was moved to Marcus (present St. David) a few miles north west. This building became the first school house in the present Marcus School District No. 21.

Farther north a few miles was the San Pedro School District. Here at one time school was held in the Curtis yard in a building used for a honey house. There was also a small community called McDonald south of the Curtis home. The Curtis children also at-

tended school here. Later the San Pedro District built a one room lumber building near the present Chester Brown home.

After 1900 there was still a school held at the old St. David town site. The lumber building was moved and school was held in a rock church building but took its name as the Old Rock School house.

Later on the San Pedro and St. David School Districts were consolidated into the Marcus School District.

A Mr. Williams and Peter A. Lofgreen were teachers at the time of the earthquake in 1887. Peter A. Lofgreen made St. David his home; he moved with the school to Marcus and continued to teach. His son Edward T. Lofgreen also was an early teacher that stayed in the community. He, along with Alexander McRae, taught in the early 90's. Two teachers were usually kept in both the early St. David and Marcus Schools.

Many of the early teachers were from Utah and had a good formal education. The early parents were from the eastern part of the United States and had come west to Salt Lake City. They had established homes and businesses there. In 1876 and afterwards, they were called by Brigham Young to go and colonize in Arizona on the San Pedro. These people were from good homes. Many were born in England. With their Mormon religious background they were very concerned about education.

BENSON SCHOOLS

by Clara Ann Eder

San Pedro Valley Historical Society

My late husband, Pierre F. Getzwiller, told me once of an early effort by his father, Joe Getzwiller, and Dave Adams to establish a school for their children near their ranches in Dragoon. They had a one room school house built. Water had to be carried by pupils from a well about a half mile away. There were no rest rooms. Boys had to "go" in the bushes on one side of the building, the girls on the other. Mrs. Martha Adams was hired as teacher. I have a certificate for perfect attendance awarded to Pierre at this school on June 7, 1912. It is signed by the teacher, H. H. Hotchkiss, School District No. 63 and by the County School Superintendent. Pierre told me that things didn't work out well at this school, and it was abandoned after a couple of years. The children went to Benson to school.

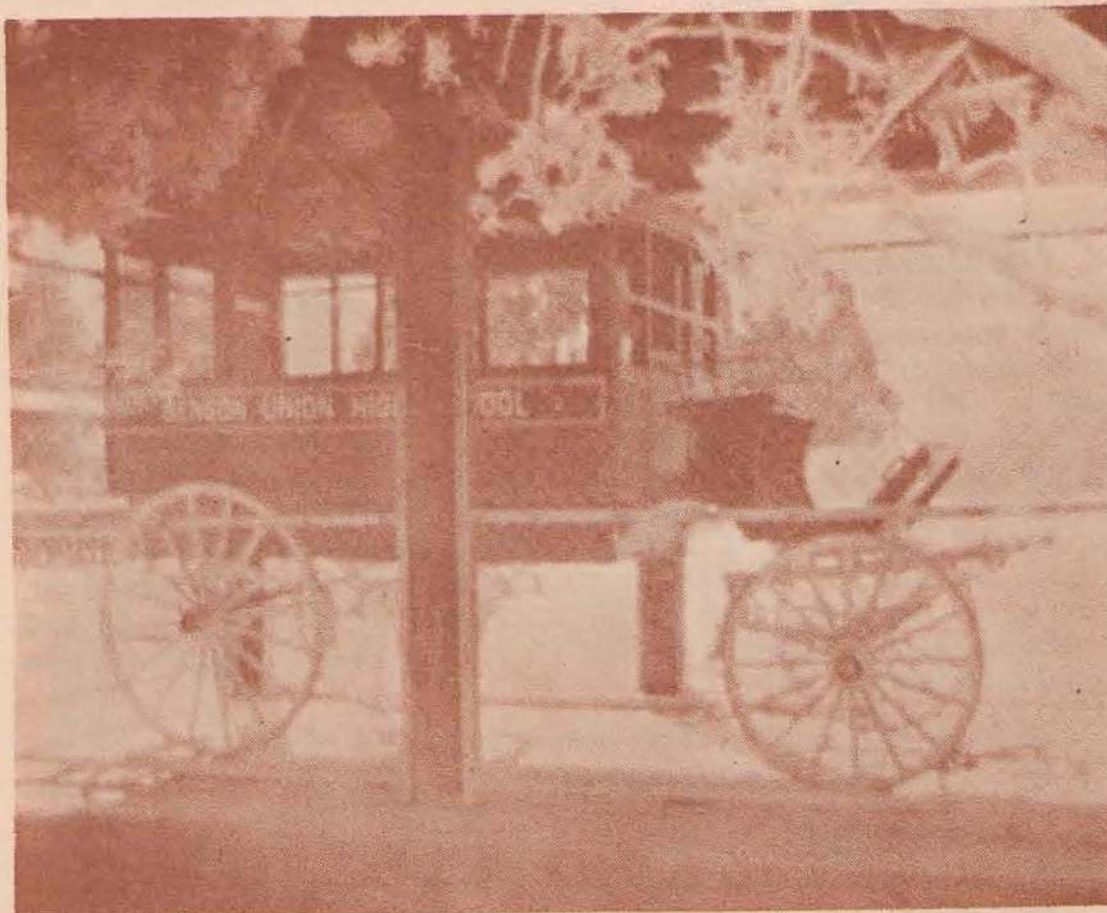
In those early days before automobiles and paved roads, ranchers were allowed a certain sum of money from the county to rent a house in town so that their children could attend school. Those who were financially able to buy a second house in town to live in during the school year did so. Joe Getzwiller was one of these.

The first school in Benson was a frame building located across

from the present Woman's Club on San Pedro Street. It had two rooms and an "outhouse." It was heated by a woodburning stove. It was called a "charted school" rather than a grade school, and the course of study was "mostly reading." As enrollment increased the building became too small, and so it was cut in half and hauled one block north to Fifth Street to form two small houses.

The second elementary school was built by the railroad at the corner of Sixth and San Pedro Streets. In those days of steam engines Benson had a round-house for servicing the trains. Large crews were employed, and many of them lived in Benson. The school was heated by a large rectangular stove. There were five teachers in 1914 when Mrs. George Kempf (Miss Gladys Holcomb) taught there for \$75.00 a month. Pierre had a second certificate for perfect attendance awarded on May 5, 1914, and signed by Lon M. Hyde, teacher, and D. B. Spitchens, county superintendent.

This school was demolished after the Benson Grade or Grammar School was built on Patagonia Street in 1926. This building is still in use as the Middle School, housing grades five through eight. When I came to Benson twenty-five years ago, it contained grades one through five. As I recall there were two first grades, one for Mexican children taught by Mrs. Fannie Redfield because she understood and spoke Spanish. The other one was taught by her sister, Mrs. Florence Roberts. There were two second grades which were

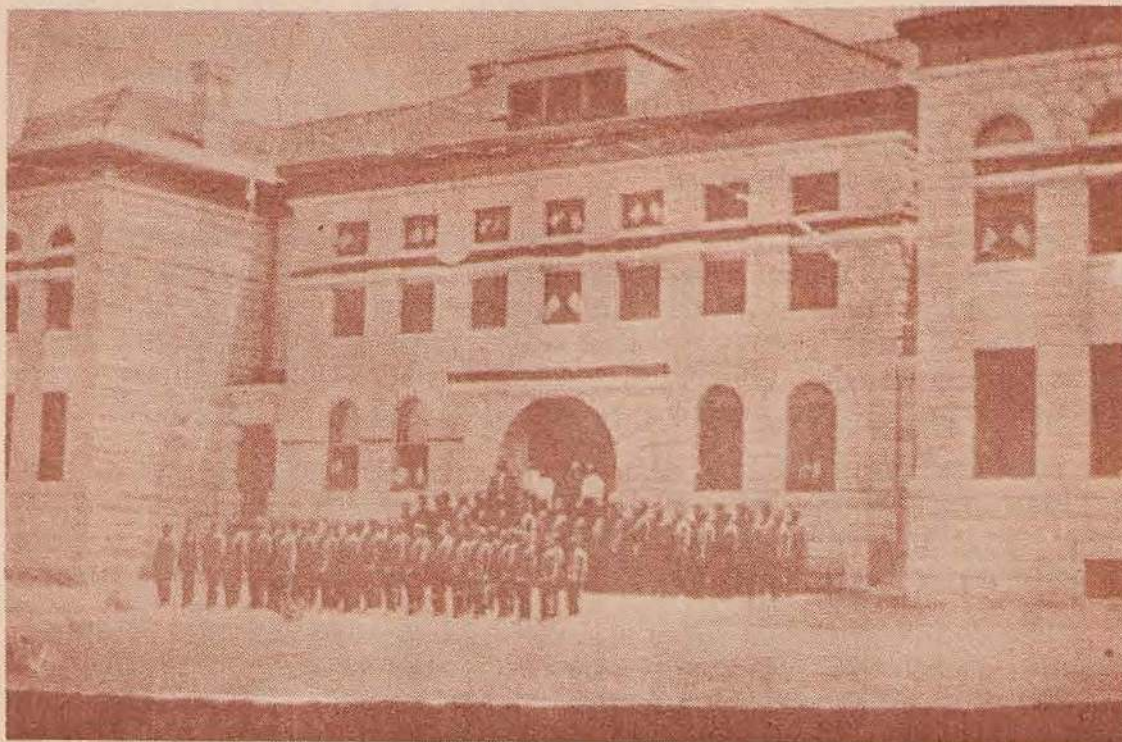


First school bus in Benson was horse-drawn.

integrated, and two third grades taught by Mrs. Emily Parker and Mrs. Sadie H. Martinez. I was then Miss Clara Ann Hellen and I taught fourth grade for three years before marrying and leaving to keep house. Miss Adele Breech, Mrs. Washburn, and Mr. Early were other teachers in this school. Mrs. Rosa Swab and Miss Mildred Middleton served as principals and Mr. Franklin Benedict was superintendent.

STATE INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL

In 1901 plans were approved by the Arizona Territorial Legislature for a Territorial Reform School to be built in Benson at a cost of \$25,000. Steve Roemer, Wells-Fargo agent at Benson and a member of the territorial legislature, was given credit for what was considered a political plum. An old map on file at the Cochise County Recorder's Office labels the land on which all the Benson schools are located as Reform School property. Later the name Reform School was changed to Industrial School. When the territory became a state the name was changed to State Industrial School. In 1913 the school was moved to Fort Grant. The building in Benson was converted to use as our first high school. After a few years cracks in the building of heavy quarried-stone became so great that it was declared unsafe, and it was demolished. The new high school was constructed on the same site and some of the large blocks of stone were used to form the lower part of the one-story building. The State Industrial School Gymnasium still stands behind what is now the old high school building. The bricks have been stuccoed over and painted a pale orange color. It is currently used for storage. The San Pedro Valley Historical Society hopes that it may be preserved and used as a museum.



First Industrial School.

BUENA DISTRICT SCHOOLS

by Rosa Farrell

Schools in Cochise County have been in session for 100 years, and perhaps much longer than that. In 1865 Mrs. Mary Bernard Aguirre taught at Tres Alamos School. Tres Alamos was once a flourishing farming community built around the Butterfield Stage station on the San Pedro. The once impressive adobe buildings have disappeared. Treasure hunters knocked them over, and the adobe bricks, made on the spot, have crumbled back to the earth.

It is also my understanding that Mary Aguirre was the first teacher hired in the county after the Gadsden Purchase.

In 1881 Cochise County was formed from a part of Pima County. That same year the county started collecting taxes, and if you think your taxes are high you would not like it then. Each voter had to pay \$2.50 each for school and road tax; 50c per hundred assessed valuation of property; for schools an additional 10c was added for redemption of Territorial Prison bonds; and 25c for territorial purposes.

The sheriff assessed property and collected taxes and it was evidently assessed at full value.

The probate judge was the school superintendent and in 1884 the county supervisors "on motion" announced the school districts and numbers.

Between 1881 and 1913 schools in Buena District were taught at Ramsey Canyon, Charleston, Lewis Springs, Carr Canyon, Ash Canyon, and Camp Stone. Camp Stone school was taught in one room of the Al Turner's home. This building still stands. Harriette Blackmer was the teacher. To get to this site one crosses the bridge over the Barbocomari stream, on the main road through Huachuca City, and turn left and you will soon be there. Bud Moson told of going to school at Crystal Springs.

Both the Ramsey School and Charleston Schools were in use in 1881. Ramsey Canyon School was five miles up the canyon, so kids had a long hike or longish trot on a trusty pony—to and from school. Professor McCabe taught the Ramsey Canyon School and Professor Witherspoon taught the Charleston School. Both were dynamic intrepid frontiersmen, well educated and excellent teachers.

McCabe, mindful that the country teemed with Apaches, desperados and bandits, all on the warpath, wore a six-shooter at all times, and kept a sharp look out for danger even during class. Four Charleston boys were murdered by Apaches in 1884 near the school.

He financed extras for the school by sponsoring real Western dances. A temperance man, he settled liquor inspired disputes during the dances by shackling disturbers to a huge tree in the school yard. The tree can still be seen on the Wallace Haverty ranch. The dances were held weekly.

Professor Witherspoon had his classes so disrupted by students target shooting out of the windows that he built a special shelf and inaugurated a pistol checking system for students who came to school armed as a matter of course.

Buena School is located on the rim of a valley originally settled and farmed by Indians of the Moquis and Sobapuri tribes and fragments of their pottery is still about. In 1539 Fray Marcos de Niza and Estevan, a Negro, traveled through the valley. Later the Spaniards established a presidio at the present site of Fronteras, and Southern Arizona was mapped, and San Pedro given the Indian name, the Rio Quiburi. The site of the Buena School was in Quiburi valley. There was a large Sobapuri town called Quiburi between where the Buena School now stands and Tombstone.

The vicinity of the Buena School was thoroughly explored by Jebediah Smith, Felix Aubrey, Alex and James Pattie, Bill Williams, and Kit Carson. Carson and a party of mountain men trapped beavers several winters in this vicinity.

Mexico revolted from Spain and later in 1853 Arizona passed from Mexico to the United States as a part of the Gadsden Purchase. The present Buena School District was then in Dona Ana County, New Mexico Territory.

In 1913 the Southern Pacific Railroad built a branch line from Lewis Spring to Fort Huachuca. The settlement near the gate of the fort, called Pangingo, was renamed White City. Three years of unprecedented rainfall caused this area to be declared suitable for dry farming, and was settled up with homesteaders. A railroad construction camp was located at Buena City. A new building to be used as a store and post office, but never used, was allotted to become the first school. September 11, 1913, Hurlbert Plimmons quit-claimed four acres described as the southwest corner of the southwest quarter of section township 21, range 22 to the school trustees.

The school district was organized in 1913. The first school had been a hastily built adobe room. A second room of cheap planks and battens had been added, joined to the original building by a hall, and the building was entered by wide, rickety steps. The hall was also used as a cloak room and contained a sink cluttered with tin cups. Lunches were stored on a shelf with great confusion. A few fist fights developed from time to time over who was eating whose lunch. Water was hauled in milk cans by contracting \$15.00 per month for 15 gallons each day. This provided for an average of 45 students and two teachers. Underneath the hall was a cistern built when the building expected to house a store and post office, and still had enough water for a few salamanders and noisy frogs. The two rooms were heated with wood stoves, and as the wooden room was rickety, vibration brought down the stovepipes and a shower of soot amidst the screams of singed students. The fuel was also by contract, and when the wood boxes were empty, the teachers and students were forced to rustle wood near the school or shiver.

The corner room of the high school administration is all that is left of the short lived Buena City. It has been in use since that year.

Mrs. Hattie G. Whittemore was the first teacher in Buena, and taught for three years. Ruby Fulghum, deceased County School Superintendent, taught the fall term of 1916 and 1919-18.

Information came from Mrs. Grace McCool, Buena District. Mrs. McCool has edited several books, **Guns smoke** is one. Also has articles in several newspapers.

WILGUS SCHOOL

By Irene Knott Sproul

In October 1882 the B. F. Smith family, his brother Will and his wife's oldest son, David William Knott, moved from San Diego to Tombstone and on to west Turkey Creek. There they purchased a small ranch and a large orchard from the Chenoweths. There was school there at the time, and so when their youngest daughter, Annie, was school age, they sent her to the Riggs Settlement for several terms to live with the Riggs family who had a tutor for their children. It was while Annie was at Riggs in 1887 that Cochise County had a severe earthquake which frightened Annie and Lucy Riggs out of their wits, besides toppling trees and sending huge boulders crashing down the mountain sides.

By the late 1880's enough families with school children were living in the area so that School District No. 17 was formed and a school building was erected about one-half mile east and a little south of John Ringo's grave marker on the south side of the road that goes up Turkey Creek to the Coronado Ranch. It was a one room school for eight grades. The B. F. Smith family had enlarged their home to a two story building, and as theirs was the only house

big enough to accommodate an extra person; the teachers in succession roomed and boarded with them. The first teacher was a man, very strict and the second was a woman. B. B. Riggs signed the register as teacher in the spring of 1893, and S. Raven the next year. Some of Gale Price's aunts and uncles attended this Wilgus School, along with Annie Smith, Gabe Choate's children, Bill Sanders' children and the C. P. Smith family. The first building burned down and was replaced by a lumber building.

There is some question about where the name Wilgus came from. It is possible that it came from Will Smith who was the only victim of the Indians in the area after 1882. He was found dead with an arrow in his back, probably killed by a renegade Indian passing by, as there was no other depredation. Wilgus School, like most rural schoolhouses of that time, was a community center. Itinerant preachers used it for church services in the evening or on Sunday afternoon. It was also used for dances and was the voting place until the school lapsed in 1941. Then the building was moved about six miles west and was used by a road construction crew. The few children left in the area were transported by their parents to Ash Creek School.

In the fall of 1901 Miss Ella Kane, who was my mother, arrived to teach in the Wilgus School, and she, too, lived at the B. F. Smith home. She had been born and raised north of Marysville, California. On December 31, 1902 she and David William Knott were married. She continued to teach at the Wilgus School for two more years. She taught at several different rural schools in Cochise County over the next thirty years.

FORREST SCHOOL

by Ruth D. Elliott

Ada Squire Christiansen entered the Lamb School, District 51, of Cochise County in 1914. Ada and her mother rode horseback from their home to the small frame schoolhouse, the distance of five miles. The mother and her young daughter made this trek every day for two weeks, mother waiting at the school during the three-hour session for beginners. At the end of two weeks it was felt Ada was capable of managing on her own so from now on she rode her pet donkey to school alone.

Lamb School was of the typical one-room schoolhouse design with six windows along each side and with a front door entrance. This school was painted white with a green roof and trim. It housed grades one through eight with ten to twelve pupils enrolled. The school board members at that time were Andrew Squire (Ada's uncle), K. G. King and Miss Sarah Marley. The little school was on Brooks Road about four miles north on Highway 80 and it served the surrounding ranch area. Miss Marley was a ranch owner in the district and was a certified teacher, so it was then that seven year old Ada was greeted by Miss Marley who was substitute teacher for three

weeks until Mr. Hunter, the regular teacher arrived. Mrs. Patton was teacher the following year.

Two other school districts had been established nearby, one to the west near the railroad spur at Forrest Station and the other was to the east. This one was located about one mile north of the Phelps Dodge Smelter which was then known as the C & A Smelter or Calumet and Arizona. Consolidation of the Lamb district with these neighboring districts soon phased out the Lamb school and Ada then attended the C and A school. The faithful donkey continued as her transportation. Likewise, her teacher, Miss Van Skoyk, came to school by horseback from her home in Douglas. A railroad section maintenance crew was located near the smelter and this school served those families.

The C and A School was opened about 1906 with Miss Berta Webber teaching that year. The school was closed in 1920 due to the post war slump but reopened in 1922 only to be closed permanently in 1923. Miss Hall was the last teacher. The urgent need for transportation of employees to the smelter resulted in the early development of a trolley service. Miss Agnes Baker taught grades one through four at the one room C and A School in 1911 with an enrollment of about 25. Miss Baker, now Mrs. Louis E. Krentz, appreciated the convenience of the trolley very much as it ran within about a mile of the schoolhouse.

By 1916 Ada was attending Forrest School. Early teachers at Forrest School were Miss White followed by Mr. Hinds. The original Forrest school was destroyed by fire during 1915. A one room frame replacement was erected and the Lamb school house was moved by team and double wagons to the Forrest site where it was set adjoining the Forrest structure so that now a two room school was provided. The move was accomplished through the efforts of George Squire (Ada's father), Andrew Squire, K. G. King, Frank Bergmann and Arthur Bergmann. The railroad section hands assisted with unloading and placing of the Lamb school addition. These five men served the Forrest district as school board members for several years to come.

Ranching and mining were important support in this area and time soon brought development of the nearby lime deposits which became known as Paul Lime Plant, Inc. The railroad was renamed to Paul's Spur and with the influx of laborers the school became three rooms as a stone building was added. Then fire struck again in May of 1929 and a modern three room brick structure replaced the loss.

Mrs. Josephine Roark Jones taught twelve years at the Forrest School. During this span, Mrs. Jones saw the end come to the Little Lamb School and she was privileged to continue her services as head teacher in the new building. At one time, as many as 200 families lived in the Paul Lime Plant community but with automation at the plant, enrollment began to drop and the Forrest School was discontinued in 1963. However, the Forrest School District No. 81 retains its School Board and provides transportation of students to Douglas Public Schools.

DOUBLE ADOBE SCHOOL DISTRICT No. 45

by Ruth D. Elliott

Early settlers everywhere were faced with the need of schools for their children. Classrooms were set up wherever space was available and convenient for the most children. Records show that during the 1908-09 school year District No. 45 known as Valley School held a five month session with E. Richards as teacher.

John Stocks, now retired from the U. S. Postal Service, recalls this Valley School. It was in 1907 that John's father homesteaded on 160 acres in the area. The Stocks family moved from their tent home in Lowell (near Bisbee) to the ranch where the children along side of their parents helped build the new house. Then came February 1908—John's mother developed pneumonia and died. Johnnie was the youngest of seven. He was not yet of school age nor was he old enough to be left home alone so when school opened in the Fall he made the daily three-quarter mile trek with his brothers and sisters. The school was located on the William Campbell homestead and class was held in a one room frame out-building furnished only with rough benches. Young John usually spent the day in a nearby chicken pen which proved to be an ideal play-pen with its four inch layer of sand, crushed bones and egg shells.

The McDonald ranch was the site for the 1909-10 school year. This was about one mile north of the Campbell property. Range land was open and cattle drives were common sights. John well remembers one such drive during that school year at the McDonald ranch. The onrushing cattle crossed the school playground. John and his brother Bill had no time to return to the ranch house so they took refuge by the adobe walls of the school privy. Then as a last resort John was shoved inside and Bill scurried atop the tiny structure. The herd thundered by bumping the walls now and again but the adobe stood and the two young boys had a real thriller to tell.

The following year the Ving ranch housed the classroom and it was here that Professor John Johnson decided that Johnnie was ready to begin his formal education. Johnnie was handed a second grade reader and told to read and he did, thus becoming a second grader officially.

A deed in the Cochise County Recorder's office (Book 53, page 603) shows that on January 29, 1910, Charles P. Koch sold for the sum of \$10 a 350 foot square of land in the corner of his homestead to the Valley School District for school purposes. This deed was recorded February 12, 1912. During this time everyone took part in the making of adobe bricks, laying walls, and the carpentry work until a one room structure was ready for the 1911-12 school year.

County School records show that District No. 45 became Double Adobe School the year 1912-13. Mrs. Fred (Mabel) Kenney was the teacher about that time. The name Double Adobe reputedly evolved from a landmark of two large adobe buildings which stood close by and have long ago weathered away. It is said by some of

the long time residents of the valley that these two buildings were used by the army scouts who were frequently seen as they patrolled the territory.

Due to a strong community interest the district has kept this school updated with additions and improvements to accommodate the elementary grades. Double Adobe School is at the intersection of Double Adobe Road and Central Road just a short distance east of Central Bridge.

LONE OAK SCHOOL

by Ruth D. Elliott

Miss Lillie Reberds, a young coed at the University of Texas, found it necessary to postpone her senior year and accompany her ailing sister to Cochise County in the spring of 1910. Before leaving Texas she had arranged to assume the teaching duties for the coming fall term in school district No. 48 which was officially listed as Rodeo School. This name continued until the time of statehood when it became the Lone Oak School. Early day schools often had nicknames and this one was no exception. It was frequently called the Arkansas School as the area was homesteaded by settlers from Arkansas.

The one room schoolhouse was about two miles west of the Arizona-New Mexico state line not far from the eastern slope of the Chiricahua Mountains. Close by stood large beautiful oak tree. On sunny warm days Miss Lillie and the children often ate their lunch in the shade of this lone oak and it was Miss Lillie (now Mrs. C. E. Darnell) who named the school Lone Oak.

Dry farming was vastly different from the farming done in Arkansas and many of the newcomers became discouraged. As soon as they gained title to their land they sold out and returned to Arkansas. But others came and the school continued until 1929 when the district was lapsed. The north half went into the Portal district and the south half joined Apache District No. 42.

SENATOR A. R. SPIKES OF BOWIE

by Nellie Decherd Spikes

A. R. Spikes came to Cochise County as a child from Kingman. He had started school in Kingman, lived in Pearce for short time, and then moved to Douglas. He attended high school in Douglas until 1910 and then transferred to Tempe Normal School. There he finished high school and took his teacher training. In 1914 he received the Lifetime Teacher's certificate and taught one year at Gleeson, then went to Bowie where he served as teacher, principal, and superintendent until 1942 with the exception of two years spent in the army during World War I. He did some graduate work at the University of Arizona also. His interests turned to ranching in the

Bowie area and to politics. He was a member of the Arizona Legislature for many years, but he never lost his interest in education. He served as chairman of Senate Educational Committee from 1951-1968.

My one year of teaching in Bowie was in 1919-1920. I had arrived from Texas in July, secured a teacher's certificate, and got a position as teacher of the fifth and sixth grades as well as music teacher for all the school. My salary was \$90.00 a month at first, but it was soon raised to \$100. There were two other teachers for the lower grades. The principal not only taught the seventh and eighth grades, but had some students in ninth and tenth grades as well. He was also athletic coach for both boys' and girls' teams.

One of my memories of the class room is of the large coal-burning stove which stood in the corner. It was encircled by a very ornate, heat-resistant, pressed metal jacket which forced the warm air to spread out above it and also protected the children from being burned by contact. The floors of the building were oiled to help the janitor in cleaning and to keep it as sanitary as possible. Drinking water and rest rooms were outside the building. A three-and-a-half foot iron picket fence encircled the school grounds. It was the custom of the principal not to leave the school in the usual way—a turnstile in the front, but to come down the steps two at a time, make a run for the fence and clear it in one jump, then race himself to the postoffice. I remember a train trip to Douglas to attend a Cochise County Teachers' Institute. This involved a ride to Cochise on the Southern Pacific, a long wait and a trip on the branch line to Douglas.

Christmas came and went with the usual program for which I was responsible. Soon after Valentine's Day, I was wearing "the Prof's ring". Full attention to school subjects was difficult for awhile, but we managed to complete the year and to close school properly. We were married in May 1920.

DOUGLAS SCHOOLS

by Kay Gregor

The town of Douglas was laid out early in 1901 by a group of citizens in preparation for the new smelter that was planned for this location. That same year a board of school trustees was organized with A. J. Miller, W. A. Sherwood, and S. F. Meguire as members. The first school building was a twelve by twenty-four foot one-room frame "shack" located about where the Gadsden Hotel now stands. School opened on November 4, 1901.

Miss Maude Lincoln (Daisy) was hired to organize and teach this first school. She had come to Arizona Territory with her family on the first excursion train of the Southern Pacific Railroad when the line was completed between San Francisco and Maricopa City. She went to the public school in Prescott and to the Catholic Acade-

my there. Her family moved to Phoenix where Maude attended Union High School and Tempe Normal School from which she graduated in the Class of 1899. Her first teaching position was at Lynx Creek School. The next year, while teaching at Cottonwood, she was asked to come to Douglas. The only lodging which she could find at first was a partially boarded tent house that she shared with a young mother and several small children. The only available meals were served at the rear of a saloon.

Nineteen children enrolled in grades one through eight the first week, and they kept coming. When the enrollment reached eighty-five it was decided that no more children would be admitted. A twelve-foot addition was built on to the room, and Miss Norma Lincoln came to help her sister by supervising the overflow outside the school. It was necessary to alternate the classes in the school room for recitations. While inside the children had to sit three in a seat. The next year Miss Lincoln was offered the principal's position with two teachers to help her, but she didn't accept because of her coming marriage to Alfred C. Lockwood. While teaching in Douglas she initiated the collection of enough books to start a city library.

Mr. Harry Hendrix became principal and teacher of the upper grades in 1902, and Miss Edith Hess taught the primary grades. School was conducted in **Library Hall**, the same building that we now call Copper Queen Library, but in those days it faced F Avenue. Enrollment at the beginning of the year was 67. It grew to 311 within three months, and three more teachers were hired.



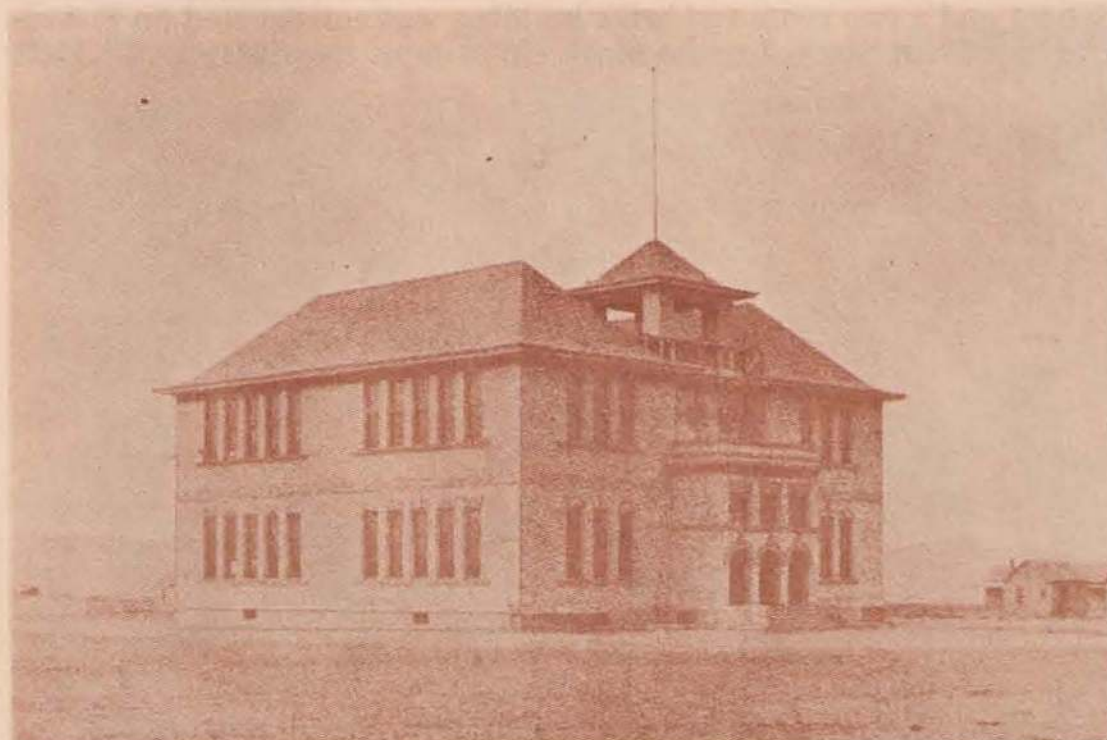
Copper Queen Library—Douglas

Early in 1903 a \$20,000 bond issue was approved for building an eight room school on Seventh Street between D and E Avenues, but it was not ready to use until January of the next year. When the 1904 school year opened, classes were again held in Library Hall. All five teachers taught in the one big room. The younger children came in the morning, and the older ones in the afternoon. Furniture was borrowed from the Methodist Church. Thomas Grindell was principal. By the time the new Seventh Street School opened in January 1904, the enrollment had jumped to 487, and two more teachers were hired.

Another bond issue was floated that year, and the Board constructed a two room school on **Second Street**, a two room building in **Pirtleville**, and a five room mission-type school on **Fifteenth Street**. Douglas continued to grow, and the school enrollment increased each year.

In 1906 a \$40,000 bond issue provided for a two room school in the C and A Addition and a new Grammar School on Twelfth Street. This last building was the show place of the Territory, built in the mission style with a red tile roof and an enclosed garden patio covered with a skylight. It is still in use as the **Joe E. Carlson Elementary School**. After many additions and remodeling jobs, it houses kindergarten through grade five classrooms as well as the Superintendent's offices.

In 1909 another bond issue was passed and two new elementary schools were built. The **Boneyville School** in the northwest part of town and the **Sunnyside School** in the northeast part of town were



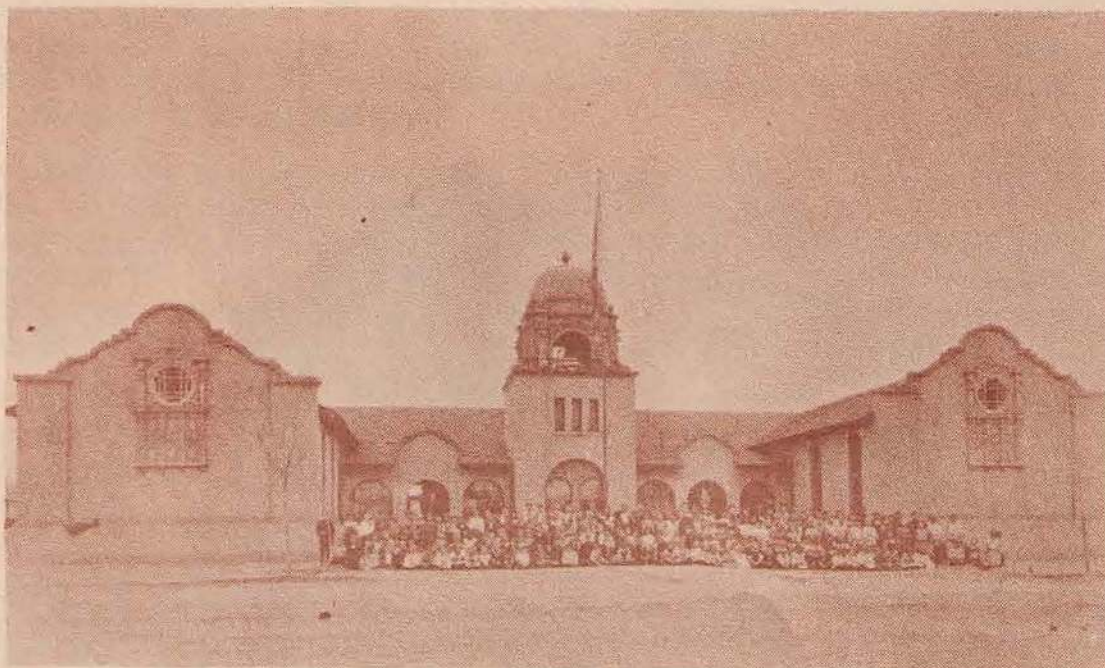
Seventh Street School Built in 1903—Douglas

used until the late twenties and early thirties when it seemed preferable to bus the few children left into the city schools.

As early as 1905 a freshman high school class had been taught in the Seventh Street School with Miss Sarah Hooper as teacher. The next year a sophomore class was added, and four teachers were hired to teach the high school students. Mrs. Anna Dyer was appointed principal, and Mr. Bowman, Mr. Wagner, and Miss Ella Roesch were teachers. In 1907 the fifty high school students were transferred to the new Grammar School Building, and in 1910 they moved into their own yellow brick, two story Douglas High School on Twelfth Street.

In 1916 two new elementary school buildings of identical architecture were opened on Seventh Street at Bonita Avenue and on Fifteenth Street at A Avenue. Clawson and A Avenue School each have thirteen rooms built in wings around a large patio. The enrollment kept growing, and during 1918-1919 the schools were so crowded that half-day sessions were necessary in some of the buildings. The Seventh Street School had been damaged by a fire in the basement and so a new Seventh Street School was built in 1919-1920. It is a one story building with seventeen classrooms. It has been renamed **Sarah Marley School** in honor of a fine teacher who came to Douglas from Nebraska in 1904. She served in the Fifteenth Street School and the Pirtleville School before she was appointed principal of Seventh Street in 1911. She remained there until her retirement in 1945—serving the children well, and giving in-service training to many young teachers who started in the local schools.

About the same time an addition was built onto the Pirtleville School and a two room red brick building was constructed on F Avenue and **Fifth Street** for the black children of the district. In 1952



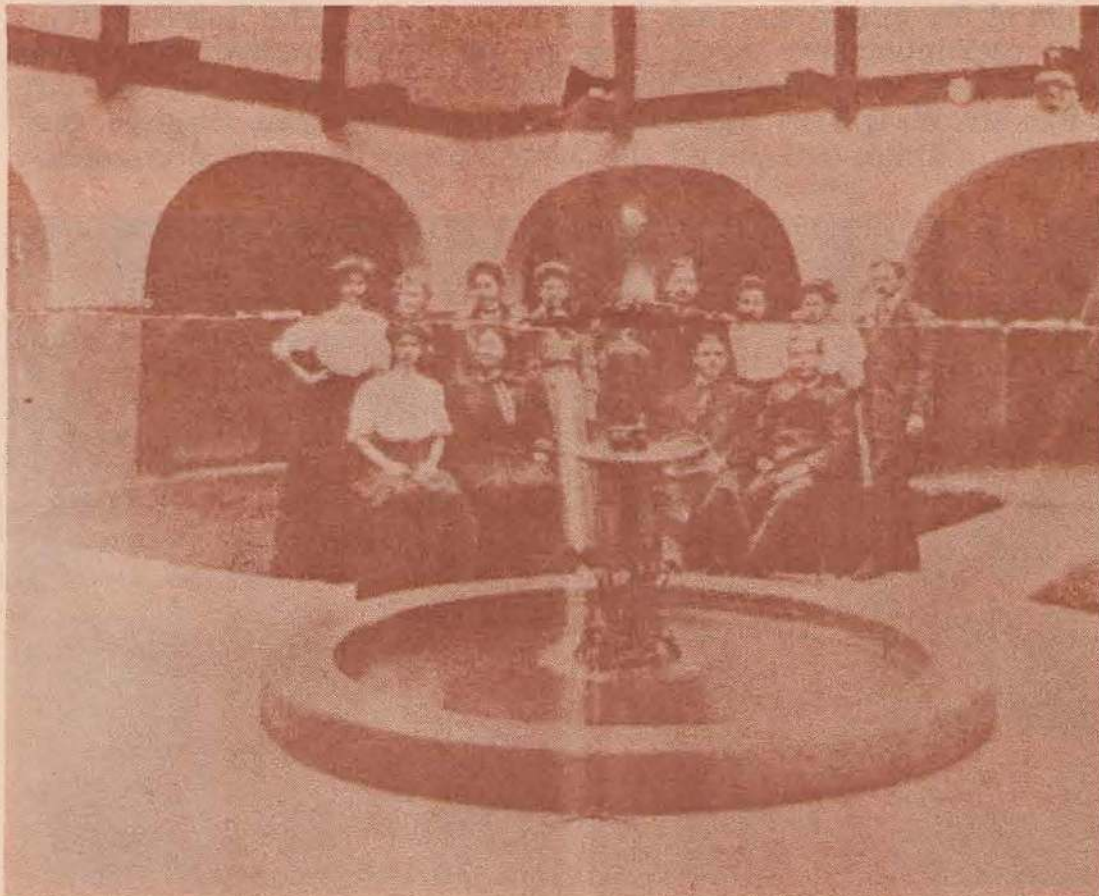
Fifteenth Street School Built in 1905

came desegregation, and the children and teachers were absorbed into other schools. The building has been used for several purposes and is currently a Head Start School.

In 1948 a \$640,000 bond issue was voted in to remodel the Carlson School and to build a new high school on Fifteenth and Florida Avenue. In December 1949 the new plant was formally dedicated. It consists of three separate wings of classrooms with outdoor halls, two shop buildings and an auditorium. The Memorial Fieldhouse, which had been purchased from the U. S. Army at Fort Huachuca and rebuilt on the campus, was opened the same month. Mr. George A. Bergfield, Principal, and 385 students in the tenth, eleventh and twelfth grades moved into the new Douglas High School. At that time the old high school building became the Junior High School.

After World War II the Douglas residential and business areas were extending eastward, and an elementary school was needed in the Foothills Addition. A new nine room building was opened in September 1964 with an enrollment of 283 in grades kindergarten through fourth. When it was formally dedicated the next year, it was named the **Hollice E. Stevenson School** for the man who had been superintendent during all the post-war expansion.

In spite of all the additions to the old high school building and the removal of the ninth grade to the Senior High School, the Jun-

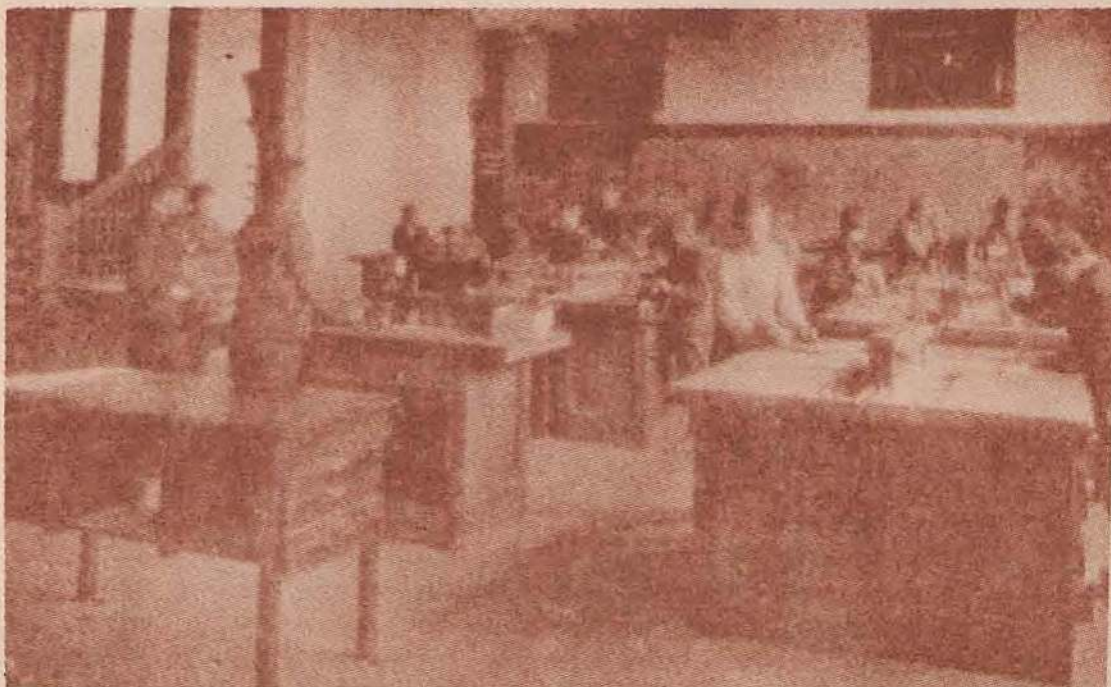


Patio in Douglas Grammar School (from Douglas Daily Dispatch) 1911

ior High became so crowded that a new building was needed. It was built on Fifteenth Street and Washington Avenue, and opened in the fall of 1968. It has five buildings which house twenty-three class rooms, a cafeteria, a library and offices. When it opened, it had an enrollment of 515 pupils in the sixth, seventh and eighth grades. In the year 1973-74 there are 570 pupils, thirty teachers, a principal and a counselor in the **Fifteenth Street Junior High School**.

Over the years new buildings and improvements have been added to the Senior High School also. There is now a large cafeteria which doubles as a study hall, and two new wings of class rooms and laboratories. In the year 1974 the enrollment is around 1,500, and there are seventy-seven teachers, four counselors and three administrators.

The first superintendent of Douglas Schools was Thomas Grindell. He had taught at Tempe Normal in 1897. During the Spanish American War he joined the Rough Riders and served under Theodore Roosevelt. He returned to Arizona and served for two years as clerk of the Supreme Court of the Territory. In 1903 he came to Douglas where he was a principal and superintendent of the emerging school system. In May of the next year he joined three other men on an expedition into Sonora. They hired two guides and set off to explore the Tiburon Islands in the Gulf. Months later one of the men returned to Bisbee, exhausted and inarticulate, but none of the others was ever heard from again. The Board of Trustees appointed Mrs. Anna Dyer to be superintendent as well as principal of the Fifteenth Street School. She served until January when Mr. W. E. Lutz was elected. He had come from Virginia, then taught in Ohio, had joined the army during the Spanish-American



Manual Training, Grammar School (from Douglas Daily Dispatch, 1911)

War, served in the Philippines and stayed on there to help organize the public schools. He was Superintendent of Douglas Schools from 1906 to 1916 during a period of great expansion, and he contributed to the high standards of education. The same can be said of Mr. R. E. Souers and the other capable men who followed in the office.

Thomas Grindell	1903-1905
Mrs. Anna M. Dyer	1905-Jan. 1906
W. E. Lutz	1906-1916
H. E. Steele	1918-1920
E. E. Wellemeyer	1920-1921
R. E. Souers	1921-1927
J. E. Carlson	1927-1948
H. E. Stevenson	1948-1964
Ronald Jenkins	1964-

Many dozens of public spirited men and women have served generously on the School Board. Many hundreds of capable and dedicated principals and teachers have contributed to our children's education and have become valuable citizens in our town.

Condensed from a complete and well documented **History of the Douglas Public Schools 1901-1965** by Gladys Genevieve Wiggins in the files of the Cochise County Historical Archeological Society.



Domestic Science, Grammar School (Douglas Daily Dispatch, 1911)

THOSE WERE THE DAYS

by Barbara Sparks

Remember September 1908? I do! That was the month and year I went gaily off to Second Street School on the southeast corner of B. Avenue and Second Street in Douglas to start my career as an educator.

Miss Sue Owens, the principal, taught the first and second grades and I was to teach the Beginners, all Spanish speaking.

There were just two rooms with a hallway all across both rooms containing a basin with running water and a few open shelves for supplies.

Each room had a desk, blackboards on three sides, a pot bellied stove in a corner in the back of the room, and two coal scuttles. The children close to the stove were too hot, the children in the opposite corner too cold. There was no built-in cupboard so the desk was always covered with supplies.

Registration that first morning was hectic. My Spanish was "muy pobre" and many, many of the mothers could speak no English and many had brought their babies and toddlers along with the children they were entering in school. Many a four year old was declared to be six years old and we took the parents word, for no birth certificates were required nor birthdates recorded.

The Beginners who attended school the previous year were to



Grammar School Patio—1937. Joseph E. Carlson Jr. Supt. of Schools.

attend the morning session and the new beginners the afternoon session.

Finally, when all the morning class was seated and the parents and the pupils who were to come back in the afternoon had departed, I saw all these little faces expectantly waiting for teacher to tell them what to do. I suddenly realized I had many theories and no idea of how to apply them to these children who knew so little English and I so little Spanish. I started with pictures of objects; they used the Spanish name and I said the English name and then I had them repeat the word over and over.

We had no books. We did have lined paper, pencils, drawing paper, and a box of crayolas for each child. The pencils and crayolas had to be collected after each session so the next class could use them. Nothing could be left in the desks.

At the end of the week, W. C. Lutz, the Superintendent of Schools, came to my room, thankfully not to observe my teaching nor to ask to see my program, but to inquire about the attendance which was very irregular in both sessions and had been irregular the year before. Mr. Lutz said, "Barbara, if you just get these children and their parents to understand that they are to come to school every day regularly that will be a big accomplishment towards our average daily attendance and a benefit to the children. Give the children some busy work, take your list of absentees and get on your bicycle, go to their homes and talk to their mothers and get the children in school." So I became Second Street School Truant Officer (without portfolio and it worked. Miss Owens would give me her list of absentees and off I would go on my "Round Up." Miss Owens would occasionally look in my room to see if all was O.K. Discipline was no problem. Children had been taught at home to respect their teacher and her requests. After visits to their homes, teacher had far better understanding and respect for her pupils, too.

When the children were absent because of no suitable clothes, I could supply the clothes. I asked friends for clean used clothing and Mrs. George Hirsh and her Presbyterian Church friends took over the gathering of the clothes and delivered them to the school on their bicycles. Miss Owens and I sorted the clothes as well as we could according to size and our shelves were soon filled. A child who came with a worn out dirty shirt was given a clean shirt. Many a little girl went home beaming with a new dress and a little boy with a clean pair of trousers under his arm so he would be sure to come to school next day.

We made our own "mimeographs" using a pan about twelve by eighteen by one half inch deep in which we poured a gelatinous mixture; the recipe I have forgotten, but one ingredient was Knox gelatin. Purple ink was used for the picture or writing on paper, the paper was pressed down on the gelatin for a few minutes and very carefully removed to avoid a smear and from this many copies could be made but the mixture had to be kept cool. The copy was removed from the gelatin by careful sponging.

Regular attendance sometimes caused a problem—a new student entering and no seat for him. A coal scuttle turned over and some clean clothes from the shelf to make it soft and comfortable to sit on and even though the scuttle would tilt back and forth it served as a seat until another box could be brought in. There was no room in which to put another regular session seat.

The four year olds frequently took their afternoon naps with their heads on their arms and were not disturbed by the other children. They would frequently draw my attention to a sleeper, but a smile from me and a finger to my lips was an indication to let him sleep and they did.

There were many transfers of children to other schools and from other Douglas schools to Second Street. Our registers had the names of every child that at sometime had been in attendance. At the close of the school year there were one hundred and seventy one names on my register and the average daily attendance was ninety eight. How do I remember those numbers? How could I forget! I loved those little tykes and I still can picture that room and see the faces of many of those children and I think they really liked "Miss Barbara," too. At least I hope they did.

The starting salary for elementary teachers was \$75.00 a month for nine months with an increase of \$5.00 a month the next year if you proved worthy. One year the entire teaching staff had an increase of \$2.50 a month; that was all the budget could afford. That was a yearly raise of \$22.50.

Teachers stayed in the school building until four o'clock. Once a month we attended a meeting at Carlson School which in 1908 was the Douglas High School. At this meeting school procedures were discussed and we were given our vouchers. Next day was really Teachers' Day in town, getting vouchers cashed, paying bills, and sometimes even treating a friend at the ice cream parlor to an ice cream soda . . . "Those were the days."

DOUGLAS 1911—FINDING A PLACE TO LIVE

by Helen B. Keeling

I accepted a position in the Douglas Public Schools for the year 1911-1912 as a kindergarten teacher at the salary of seventy dollars a month. I was so notified when I was finishing my last year at Teachers College in Indianapolis, Indiana. My father had died the year before and my mother planned to go to Arizona with me. We disposed of all our furniture and some of our heavy clothing as we were told that it was never cold in Arizona. We left Indiana the first of August and visited everyone we knew who lived along the route of the Santa Fe Railroad. Mail was forwarded, but the letter from Douglas did not reach me until we arrived in Prescott. It said that, because of budget cuts, the School Board had decided not to have a kindergarten. This was a terrible blow to me, and I wanted to go

back to Indianapolis where I had been offered a kindergarten in several places. If I had not had a very firm mother and aunt, I would have gone back a very sad and unhappy person. They persuaded me that I could enjoy working with a first grade as well as living in Douglas.

We left Prescott, changed trains in Phoenix and Benson, and finally arrived in Douglas late in the afternoon of August 18th. We went directly to the Gadsden Hotel which made a great impression on us. I still think it is a beautiful hotel. The next morning I went to the Superintendent's office to meet Mr. William E. Lutz. I found him to be a most understanding and helpful person. He said that I was assigned to Fifteenth Street School and that Miss Kate Carson, the principal, would be a great help to me. I couldn't have found a warmer welcome anywhere than I received upon my arrival in Douglas.

Next we must find a place to live. Mr. Lutz took my mother and me to the one real estate office in town and asked them to take care of us. He also said that he did not like having the unmarried teachers living at the Gadsden as there were too many men hanging around. The real estate man took us around to see the places which he had listed for rent. They were terrible — mostly little wooden shacks. When we got back to the hotel, I called Mr. Lutz and asked if I couldn't live at the hotel as long as my mother was with me. He agreed to the arrangement on a temporary basis, but suggested that I keep on looking for a more suitable place. He said there was a very nice house being built across from the Episcopal Church. The woman who owned the house told us that she would have four big bedrooms for rent, and that she planned to serve meals, but then she said it would be a month before it would be ready. While I visited with two other teachers who were looking for a place to live, Mother talked to Mrs. Magerell for awhile. They planned that we could move into the house if we would not be afraid as there would be no doors or windows—only screens. All four of us moved in about the time school started, and we were very comfortable until the first cold snaps came along. Four more teachers moved in and Mrs. Magerell opened the dining room. It was all very pleasant and the food was good, but we still wanted a place of our own. Someone suggested that we watch the obituary column to see what houses might be coming vacant. I was horrified at first, but kept the idea in mind. Lo and behold, toward spring we saw that a man had died at his home on Ninth Street near A Avenue. He had hardly been buried back east someplace until four teachers and my mother moved into this comfortable, well furnished house. We lived there more than a year and enjoyed it very much. Then it was sold, and we decided to build a house of our own and make it big enough to rent three rooms to other teachers. We moved into our own house in August of 1915.

Part of the fun of teaching and living in Douglas in those early days was furnished by a group of single men—mostly young—who called themselves The Thirteen Club, otherwise known to the townspeople as The Youths' Companions. Each year they looked forward

to the coming of the new teachers. The Thirteen Club entertained at many parties, dinners, dances and picnics, and the teachers were delighted to be invited.

I spent the first ten years in Fifteenth School as teacher, primary supervisor, and principal. When the new A Avenue School was built, I was the first principal there and remained until I was elected County School Superintendent in 1920.

EARLY RURAL SCHOOLS IN COCHISE COUNTY

As told by Elsie Toles, County Superintendent
to Myriam Toles

The first rural school in southern Arizona was established at Dos Cabezos in 1879.

When Cochise County was made from a part of Pima in 1881, the new county started its school system with four districts: Dos Cabezos, Tombstone, Tres Alamos, and Charleston. Between 1881 and 1900 twenty seven more districts were established.

When I became county school superintendent in 1917, the number had increased to ninety, due largely to the tremendous influx of homesteaders in the county. One room schools sprang up everywhere. They were scattered over the six thousand squares miles of Cochise County.

As county superintendent, I was supposed to visit and supervise the instruction in these schools, a formidable task that meant driving over dirt roads in a model T Ford. I carried tools to repair and inflate a flat tire and also a five gallon emergency can of gas, as service stations were few and far between.

One school was perched on top of a mountain at the end of a winding road. To make the climb, I had to reverse my car and back up three miles of slope so the gas would feed into the carburetor.

To visit another school in a remote little goat raising community, I had to drive thirty miles, park the car, and borrow a horse to ride twelve miles to the school. My office was in Tombstone and each day I started out from there as there were no accommodations that permitted an overnight stay at any of the districts.

All of the schools were as poverty stricken as the homesteaders they served. Usually the buildings were bare little frame shacks, unpainted and with windows on two sides. Their only equipment a heating stove, old fashioned stationary desks and a bucket of drinking water.

The children were of all ages so all eight grades were taught. Teachers were scarce. Some of them were very competent but many of those available were untrained. Frequently they were the wives of homesteaders who had taken the county examinations, re-

quiring little more than an eighth grade education to secure a position that would relieve the homesteaders' straitened circumstances. Though only seventy five dollars a month for nine months, the salary was a boon to the poor farmers.

There was seldom a suitable place for a teacher to live. Often a bed was set up in the corner of the school room and she cooked her meals on the heating stove. A teacher who was not the wife of a homesteader often had to live with a family and had to share a bed with some child. The poor equipment in these schools and the lack of highly trained teachers affected the quality of education and made supervision difficult. Added to these problems, was the fact that the school boards were elected at random. Some were efficient, but some considered the school the battleground for their personal affairs. In one instance the board burned down the school to express their personal dislike of the teacher.

I had a survey made of the children and found that many of them suffered from physical defects that could be remedied.. In 1918 I organized with the help of Dr. R. B. Durfee and Ruth Fuess, a nurse, the first county health program in the state.

When I became state superintendent, my major efforts were directed to securing legislation to raise the standards of requirements for teachers, and to improve the living and working conditions for them.

The struggle to maintain these schools was grim and somehow heroic. It was inspiring to see that the parents, in spite of extreme poverty, and the difficulty of even making a living, were determined in typical American fashion that their children should have an education. The little one room schools marched steadily forward, defying all obstacles.

SWISSHELM SCHOOL DISTRICT No. 35

by Ruth D. Elliott

Some of our pioneers came from California as did the ancestors of Lois Hunsaker Caldwell. Her grandparents, Nicholas and Lois Hastings Hunsaker, had settled in Contra Costa County, California, in 1847. During the years 1852 to 1853 and 1855 to 1857 Nicholas Hunsaker served as Contra Costa County sheriff. The

family then moved to the San Diego area from where still another move was made in 1883.

This time the Hunsakers made the trek into Arizona territory. Their son Daniel had become ill and so it was decided to search for a dry climate which might benefit him. Daughters Laura and Edith and the youngest member of the Hunsaker family, James Nicholas, also accompanied their parents. Two older sons, Joseph and William, were settled and they remained in California.

Nicholas and the two sons led the way in the covered wagon while Lois and the two daughters managed the surrey. Several head of cattle were also brought along. To ease some of the hardships of the journey they waited along the way so as to cross the desert after the rainy season had begun. The trip took several months.

Once the family reached Tombstone, Arizona Territory, Nicholas and his sons scouted the area and very soon they found a spot deep in the Chiricahua Mountains in Rucker Canyon. The site was Fern Springs, about one mile up the canyon from Camp Rucker. An old hermit held the land, but being anxious to leave the place, he readily sold his rights to Nicholas and Lois Hunsaker. They set about to build a home, making use of the hermit's shack in the meantime and so it was that through the years this ranch home has been known as the "Hermitage".

James Nicholas Hunsaker grew up on the ranch at the side of his father except for some school years when he and his sister Laura had returned to boarding school in California. Then on February 4, 1897, James Nicholas Hunsaker and Miss Lola Elias were married in Tombstone. The young couple continued to live at the Hermitage for some time.

The Diamond A Cattle Company made use of the open range in the Chiricauhuas and ran large herds of cattle in the grass covered canyons. James Nicholas wished to continue the ranch efforts his father had begun so he took advantage of the Homestead Act. Then he and Lola moved to Leslie Canyon in about 1900 to establishe their home in the Swisshelm area. Over the years both James and his father were able either to homestead or buy out the surrounding acreage so that they possessed a continuous and sizeable ranch spread.

James and Lola Hunsaker became the parents of Lois H. (Caldwell), Laura H. (Conner), Harold James, Rose H. (Bradbury), and William Nichols. It was not long until they were faced with needs for a school and arrangements were made for a teacher to come from California. This first teacher did arrive by train in Willcox, but before the Hunsakers reached the train station, the teacher was promptly offered more pay by another school district, leaving the Hunsakers without a teacher. But they were not to be outdone. Aunt Laura had taught the school year 1890-91 at Turquoise and 1892-93 at Soldiers' Hole. She then married William

O. Abott, a metallurgist and pharmacist, in the Turquoise and Tombstone areas. So once again Laura Hunsaker Abott opened school, this time for her nieces, nephews, and children of the Edwards and Stanfords who were near by homesteaders.

The property lying between the Hermitage and the younger Hunsakers had been acquired by the senior Hunsaker under the Homestead Act. A two-story white frame house stood on it. In previous years it had served as an outlaw hide-away and the headquarters for gunman Frank Leslie. It was here that the Abotts took up residence and turned the second floor or attic into a school room. The walls in this attic class room carried bullet holes as proof of its past.

Through the efforts of James Hunsaker, Mr. Edwards, and Mr. Stanford the 1907-08 school year opened with a new one room adobe building. The school was furnished with regular desks and the usual pot-belly heater. Ada Delany was the teacher that year, followed by Florence L. Miller the next year. May Kane taught here from 1909 to 1913 then her sister, Mrs. Ella K. Knott, had the school for two years. Others followed and through the years each found a warm welcome and lodging with the Hunsaker family.

Families frequently took up residence in town as their children approached high school age. About 1916 the Husakers moved to Douglas for this purpose. However, the Swisshelm School District No. 35 continued for several years. Then finally the district was consolidated with the Rucker District No. 66 in 1942.

PALOMINAS SCHOOL

by Mrs. Ruth Tripp (Liendecker)

Palominas School presently occupies a site on Highway 92 between Bisbee and Sierra Vista, one mile west of the San Pedro River. Apparently the name of Palominas came from the name of the horse, Palomino, and was first given the Custom Inspection Station on the Mexican border. This information was given to me by Mrs. Rose Smith, (Rose Clinton) who was raised in the area and still resides on the original homestead. She attended the first grade in 1912 when the school first opened. Her mode of transportation was a burro, who had to be coaxed and helped to get her to school on time. One day coming home, the burro side-stepped, throwing Rose off, and a broken arm resulted. Because there were no doctors in the area, she was taken by horse and buggy to Naco, where her father worked and a doctor there pulled the arm straight, and put splints on it. Thereafter a horse was given to her to ride. Even with a horse there were problems because the neighbors complained about the children speeding home and racing the horses. It seemed that the horses had to be tied up during school, and when it was time to go home, they were hungry, and were ready to race for feed. The first teacher at the

school was a man whose name I have been unable to obtain. He stayed only a year. In 1913 Ruby Johnson came and stayed until 1916. She drove a red coupe which was quite the thing in those days. Miss Minters taught from 1916-1919. She was quite a young woman, and some of the eighth graders were not so young; romance bloomed, and Miss Minters became Mrs. Charles Stevens, moving to California. The school board did not like for a teacher to have the same school more than three consecutive years; therefore there were many teachers involved in the yearly history of the school.

The original school had the same type of construction as the Hereford School, cement blocks with red mortar. Part of the Hereford School still stands, and the Palominas School is still being used. The school was equipped with a piano, raised platform, and a wood stove. It seemed most of the teachers could play the piano and most of the hymns and patriotic hymns were sung. The older boys cleaned the ashes and carried in the wood. The "out houses" were one building - the girls on one side, boys on the other side, with the wood shed between. The roofs of the buildings were of metal shingles with a design in them. On the part of the Hereford School, they are still in very good condition.

In 1919 Mrs. Stansbury and Miss Martha Guills, later Sullivan, were the teachers. Mrs. Stansbury was an older woman who was health conscious and lived on raisins and nuts. On long week-ends she would go home to San Simon by horse and buggy.

In 1922-23 Mrs. Grace Solms, still living in Bisbee, taught the first 5 grades, and Miss Morales, who lived in the front part of the school, taught 6-10. The teachers furnished hot soup or cocoa for the children for a penny a day. The ranchers furnished soup bones, or other contributions. Many boxes would rattle against the horse as they travelled to and from school, and it wasn't long before the hinges would be ready to fall off. In 1926-29 Mrs. Rose Smith and Mrs. Parmallee were the teachers. Mrs. Annie McGowen, Rose's aunt, was one of the trustees, and was a most active member.

The present Palominas School is the result of several schools' merging. The Garces School was located near Hunter Canyon, and it is assumed the name came from Father Garces who came through the area in 1774. Also a school located in Montezuma Canyon merged. I have been told that Mr. Haverty from Huachuca Mountains went to this school, and if so I will be able to get information from him. Mrs. Smith said that before either of the above schools merged with the Palominas, there was a school at the Stark station. A store, a school, a railroad station, and a post office comprised the little settlement. The overpass is still called the Stark Overpass. The name of Mr. Greenwood was given to me as the foreman of the railroad of this section, and I was told he still lives in Sierra Vista.

Mrs. Ruth Tripp (Leiendecker) began school at the Palominas site, and went through to the tenth grade. The San Pedro River at that time did not have a bridge, nor did Greenbush Draw. One of her

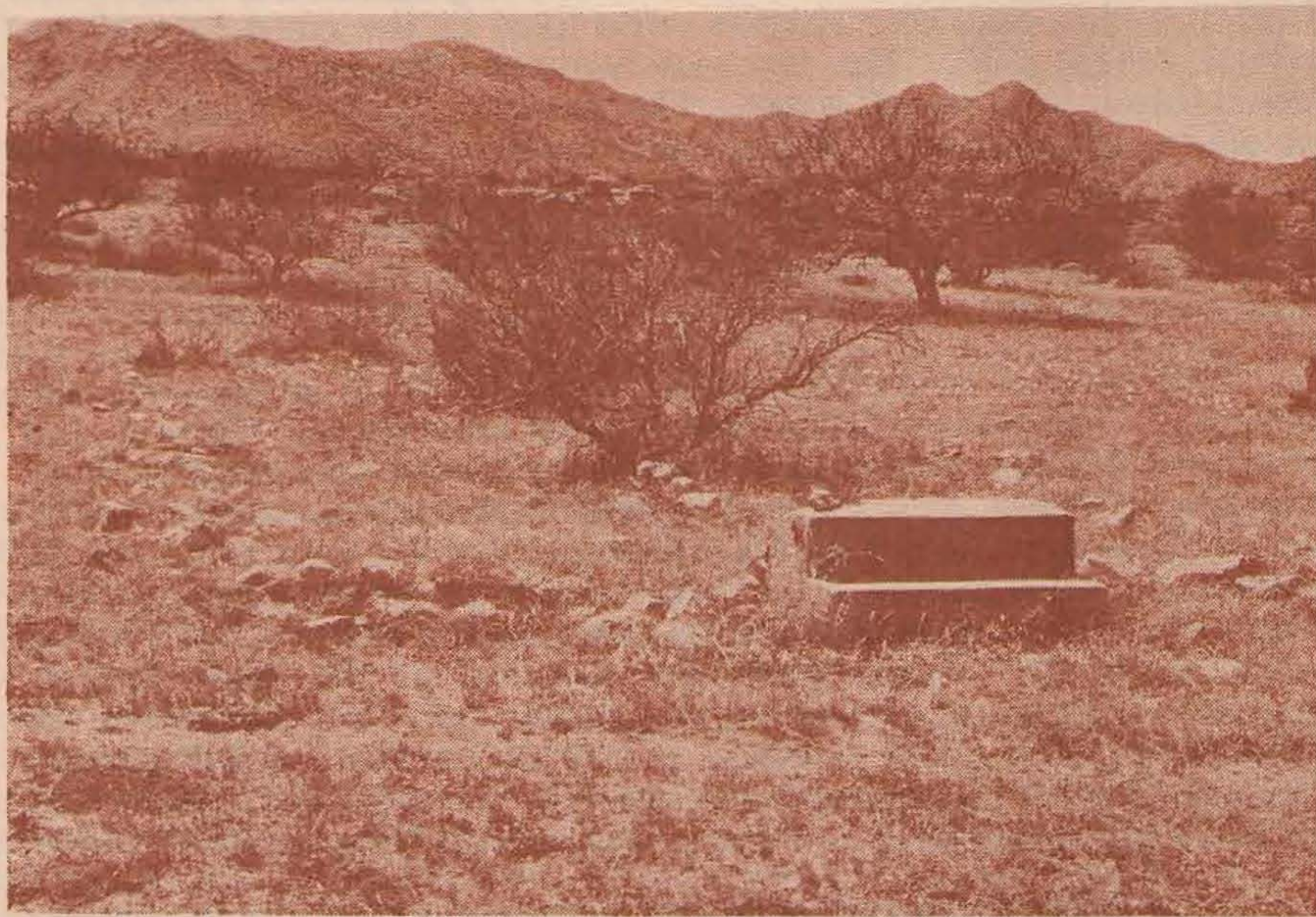
teachers missed the curve at the Draw, and his new Model T went over the bank, with Mr. Cochran's coming to school with a broken collar bone and a broken leg.

Many points of interest were seen by the students of the school. The land was open, with cattle (mostly Herefords) roaming the range. To the south was Cananea with its mining. The ore was mined and brought across country to a smelter that was located north of the school on land presently owned by Edgar Dinwiddie, another student who graduated from the tenth grade at Palominas. There are still slag remains, but none of the older parts of the smelter are visible. After the ore was smelted, it was carried to Charleston and put on the train.

**BEATRICE WIEN
PIONEER TEACHER IN PROFILE**

As told to Glenn G. Dunham

Beatrice Wien, the tenth child in the Amos Wien family of eleven children, was born at the Kennedy Place in Russellville, Arizona. In 1896 Amos Wien bought the Spawn Place in Russellville, and after building an adobe house there, moved his family into the home they were to occupy for several years. The house still stands, and is lived in by Gus and Theresa, two of the five children still living. Amos Wien had mining interests in the nearby town of



The front step is all that is left today, of the school in Russellville.

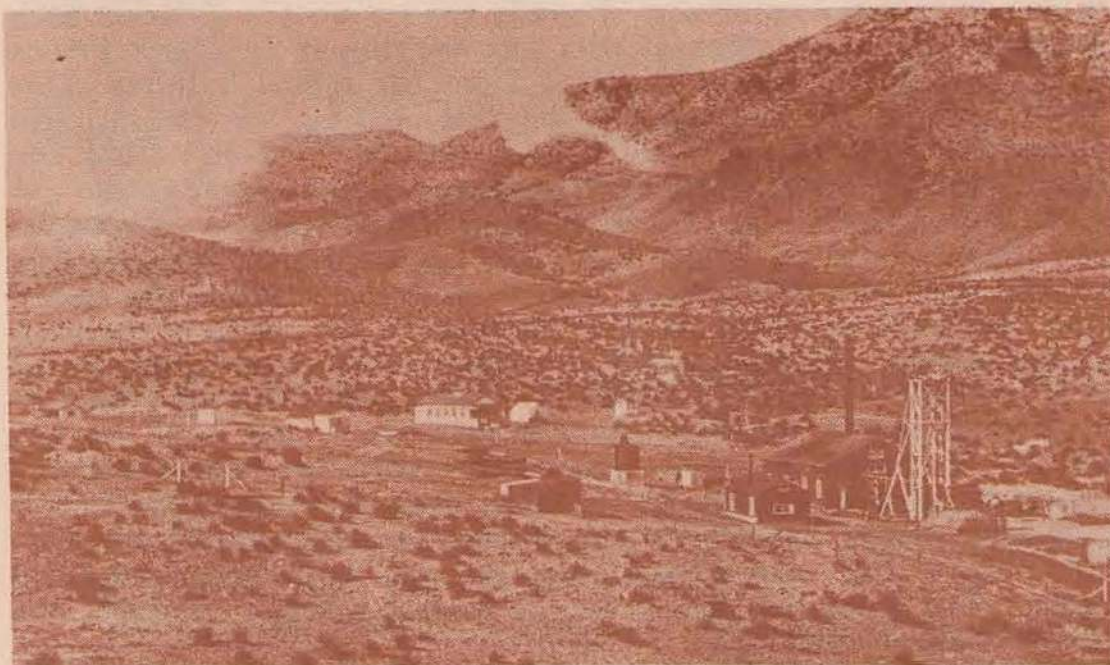
Johnson, including such operations as the Black Prince Mine, the Blue Bell, the Copper Chief, and the Peabody.

It was here in Russellville that Bea grew up and attended school, along with some of the other Wien children, at the Russellville School right across the road from the ranch home. Some of the teachers listed by Bea as her teachers included Miss Heckle, Noble Carter, Josephine Hottinger, Nora Heath, and Miss Hemphill. Other teachers mentioned included such names as Mr. Rockefeller, Mr. and Mrs. Lusk, Nettie Noble, and Miss Tuttle, all of whom appear when you read of the history of this area.

The Wien family moved to Tucson in 1906 where Bea attended school that year and then on to Los Angeles, California. In Los Angeles Bea attended and graduated from Manual Arts High School, and attended Los Angeles Teachers College. In later years she continued her education at Northern Arizona Teachers College, and San Jose State Teachers College in San Jose, California, where she received her A.B. degree. She also attended summer sessions at the University of California at Los Angeles, California, and the University of Arizona.

By 1917 Bea had acquired enough education to qualify for a teaching credential in Arizona. So the first of September of that year she started her career as a teacher of the young people of Cochise County, in Johnson, Arizona. The town was booming at that time because the demand for copper was great during the World War One years, and all operations were going full tilt.

The school system consisted of two schools with four teachers. Bea's assignment was grades one and two in the lower grade level



Black Prince Mine in Johnson, Arizona. One of the school buildings in the center, and Lime Mountain of The Little Dragoons in the background.

school. Her companion teacher in that school was Miss Hayden, who handled grades three and four. The teachers in the upper level school were Molly Brown and Leota Snyder.

In this, her first teaching assignment, Bea found herself confronted each morning with thirty-five Mexican youngsters (most of them just out of Mexico since their fathers had come to Arizona to work in the booming mining activities) who knew almost no English nor understood the way of life north of the border. Teaching these youngsters English, music, arithmetic, art, and all else included in the curriculum of those days became quite a task for a young nineteen year old. Bea says, however, that they were eager to learn and worked hard. In fact, she said, "Sometimes they seemed to want to work too hard, and would hang around after school was over trying to find more things to do!" Bea's knowledge of Spanish was limited but she says one of the first expressions she learned was "Porque no te vayas para tu casa?" (Why don't you go home?) which she used to get them out of the building and started home so her day of teaching could come to an end. Bea also stated that teaching conditions were quite good for the day and age and the conditions existing because of the rapid increase of population in the area resulting from the great boom in mining activities. Classes were large, buildings were adequate, supplies and equipment were in generous supply, the teachers and the pupils were enthusiastic, and the community supported the school. All in all it was not a bad place to live and teach in 1917.

While teaching in Johnson Bea stayed at the family home in Russellville and commuted back and forth each day. Russellville by this time was just a place to live for some mine workers in Johnson, since mining, smelting, and business activities had come to an end in that community. Usually she traveled to Johnson each morning with her brother Al who was working at the Black Prince Mine, located just across the road from her school building. This meant getting up early to get the ride, but as she put it, "No matter how dark it was, I had to do it because I couldn't crank the family car we had so I could drive alone." Sometime later she got a car of her own; in her words, "I got a 'flivver' with a self starter and then I could go where and when I wanted to." Although she usually rode with Al when he went to work, on occasion she would ride horseback to school and put the horse in the corral at the back of the school. She tells about one time when she rode her horse to school and had a little difficulty. She came out after school to bridle and saddle her horse for the ride home, and, well, let her tell it. "I chased that horse around the corral for twenty minutes trying to catch him, but with no luck. I finally opened the corral gate and started throwing rocks at him, hoping I would hit him, but I never did. He finally went out the gate and started for home." The horse beat Bea home by a large margin. In fact, Bea stayed in town that night.

Two of the other teachers, Molly Brown and Leota Snyder, had rented an old shack, and furnished it with cots and orange crate fur-

niture as well as papering the walls and fixing up in general. When Bea wanted to spend a night in town, she would bunk with these teachers, where she was always welcome. A night in town was one of fun and excitement. Amos Wien owned and operated a picture show in Johnson which was well attended. It presented shows with such acting personnel as Francis X Bushman, Theda Bara, and Billie Burke in a serial presentation which ran several weeks. Bea commented that the shows were not the first class shows of the time, but were very entertaining for the people of the area. She lamented the fact that, "We never did get any shows where Rudolph Valentino was the star." Following the presentation of the movie the floor would be cleared of chairs, a platform set up for the musicians, and the audience would stay to dance. Once the dance was started it was good for all night. As Bea said, "People couldn't see to go home in the dark of night, so why try." Very good philosophy since the people with automobiles had very poor lights and the roads were far from being safe. Then, too, the cowboys could mount up at break of day and get back to their ranches in time to put in a day's work.

Dancing was the great recreational activity of those days. It was common to follow almost any kind of meeting where there were people gathered by clearing the floor and swinging into action. This was true of such meetings as school board meetings, community efforts of all kinds, and even sometimes after church. Russellville was quite a dance center since a dancing instructor had lived there for several years and almost all of the youngsters had attended his dancing classes as they grew up. When asked what kind of dancing was the style at that time, Bea's reply was, "That was the age of graceful dancing, like the dancing of Lawrence Welk on his television show today." She went on to explain that the dances included such forms as waltz, schottische, polka, two step, rye waltz, quadrille, and the varsovienne. Music was always at hand since Amos played the violin, two or more of the Wien boys played guitars, and others with other instruments were always ready to fill in.

Bea stayed with teaching in Johnson for a full ten years, working up from a salary of \$90.00 a month for nine months of the year to \$200.00 per month for a nine month contract.

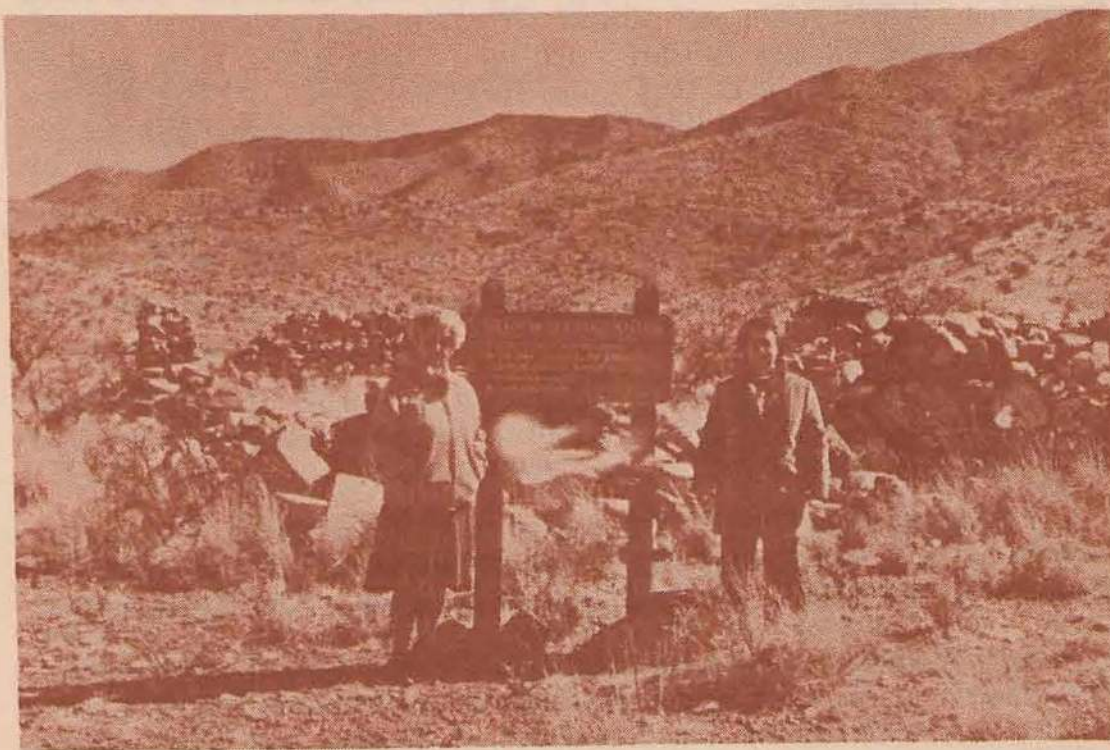
Following World War I many of the mines closed in Johnson, people moved away, and the schools dwindled to a one teacher system by the middle of the nineteen-twenties. The town was almost a ghost town and the enrollment was as low as nineteen students at times. A problem developed in trying to keep the older boys in school, so John Bright, law officer in Johnson, (better known for his activities in the Big Bad Days of Pearce) was made truant officer in an effort to keep the schools going.

During the twenties a regular visitor to the school in Johnson was Mr. R. E. Souers, Superintendent of Schools in Douglas. Mr. Souers was the chairman of the Education Committee for the school

exhibits at the Cochise County Fair, and in this capacity visited schools in the county for material to show at the Fair. Mexican children were very good in art, according to Bea, and gained a good reputation. This success impressed Mr. Souers and he invited Bea to come to Douglas to teach, if and when she wanted to leave Johnson. She stayed in Johnson several more years, however, partly because her salary there was higher than that offered as a starting salary in Douglas. In 1927 the community and the school had decreased to the place where it was plain to see there was no future in Johnson.

J. E. Carlson was Superintendent of Schools in Douglas by that time, but when Bea applied, he gave her a contract. Her first assignment in Douglas was teaching sixth grade at A Avenue School. In February of 1928 that class was moved on to what was then called the Grammar School, and Bea was transferred to Clawson School where she taught fifth grade for the rest of the year. Later she was transferred to the Grammar School where she taught geography for nine years.

When the new Douglas High School was built and the old high school building was changed to a junior high school, Bea changed over to that building, completing her teaching career, and retired from the profession of shaping the minds and attitudes of the future citizens, a job she had done so well in her tour of duty of almost two generations, forty-six years, to be exact..



Interested in History of Cochise County, Bea (left) and unidentified friend visit the site of the Old Butterfield Stage Depot at Dagoon Springs.

PAROCHIAL SCHOOLS IN ARIZONA

by Ruth D. Elliott

The Sisters of Loretto were among those religious orders that braved the hazards of territorial times and brought parochial education westward. They established the Saint Anthony Academy at Flagstaff in 1899. This school has been replaced and is now known as the School of the Nativity.

The Sisters of Loretto continued their pioneering and went into Cochise County in 1907 where they opened the Loretto School in Bisbee, which later became known as Saint Patrick's Parish School. Douglas was the site chosen for still another Loretto School which was opened in the fall of 1924. This school was made possible by Mr. and Mrs. William Henry Brophy in memory of their daughter, Ellenita.

Each of these schools began with boarding facilities including primary, elementary, and high school classes. However, in time the boarders were phased out. Then eventually the secondary classes were discontinued and stress was put on the primary and elementary levels—grades one through eight. Loretto Nuns continued these schools for many years. Then because of the urgent need of Sisters elsewhere at locations closer to other houses they left Douglas in May 1948, Bisbee in 1962, and Flagstaff shortly after that. The Sisters of Saint Dominic of Adrian, Michigan, assumed the teaching responsibilities in these schools and have continued the same dedicated service in behalf of our young people.