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COVER PHOTOGRAPH
Church Square, Douglas, Arizona

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DR. JAMES DOUGLAS
Picture taken from C.A. Nichols' book entitled FOUR GENERATIONS OF
THE DOUGLAS FAMILY IN AMERICA.
THE SAGA OF A SOUTHEASTERN TOWN

Douglas, Arizona is located in the southern portion of the Sulpher Springs Valley at a place formerly known as BLACK WATER because of a dirty water hole. Bordering this attractive valley to the West are the Galiuros Mountains, the Great and Little Dragoon Mountain ranges and the Mule Mountains. To the East are the Graham Mountains, the Dos Cabezas Mountains, the Chiricahua Mountains, the Pedragosa Mountains and, just to the west of the Pedragosas are the Swisshelm Mountains. The soil of the Sulpher Springs Valley, which runs North and South, alternates between patches of good grass and poor scrub mesquite. A small stream bed, usually dry, however, runs the length of the valley and has been variously called the Whitewater Draw and the Agua Prieta River. For many years this area was used by the cowmen as a roundup ground to gather the cattle and drive them to Willcox for shipment to the eastern markets.

Unlike many of the towns that just happened to spring up where they did, there was a decisive reason for the founding and location of Douglas. Bisbee had reached the point where expansion proved too great an obstacle as the red hills contained rich ore bodies and a long prosperous life for the town of Bisbee. Bisbee was now ready to bear a natural offspring.

Because of all the ore strikes in Bisbee, Professor James Douglas felt that the building of a railroad was essential as this was the only means of transportation that could bring the huge quantities of ore, fuel and flux economically together. The Arizona and Southwestern Railroad went from Bisbee to Fairbanks and later on to Benson. This would connect the mines and smelter at Bisbee with the transcontinental line of the Southern Pacific that ran through Benson.

After the acquisition of the Moctezuma Copper Company’s holdings at Nacozari, Son., Mexico, it was necessary to extend the railroad. As Professor Douglas was directing the operations for expanding the railroad thru the rough wilds of Northern Sonora, a better plan occurred to him.

"We were collecting building material for our Mexican railroad, when, one day as I was driving along the Snake Ridge on my way to Nacozari that the thought struck me that we were building eastward some 20 miles in Mexico and were traversing a difficult country, when probably there was a better route by following a line due east, north of the border, and then following a north and south water grade south of the border."

"Building was suspended while new surveys were made,
The second group of men was headed by Charles Overlock, who, while on his way to the San Bernardino Ranch stopped off at one of the other ranches in the valley and learned of the visit of the surveyors and of the staked off land near the Mexican border. Mr. Overlock put this newly acquired information together with a previously overheard conservation that he had listened to and decided that a few others, mainly his friends, might as well take advantage of the offer, too.

When Mr. Cunningham, representative of the International Land and Improvement Company, went to file the claim at the Land Office in Tucson, he was surprised to learn that Mr. Overlock had already filed on their land. Rather than admit defeat, Mr. Cunningham then filed claim on the land that adjoined the original choice. Before trouble had a chance to develop, a compromise between the two groups was reached and the following were allowed to enter the company:

- C. A. Overlock
- S. K. Williams
- J. E. Brock
- L. C. Shattuck
- P. H. Whitney
- Alfred Paul

With the compromise, progress proceeded full steam and in January, 1901, Mr. E.G. Howe, an engineer, was hired to plan and map out the original townsite of Douglas.

The avenues of the town would be in a true north-south line and would be designated by letters. The main arteries of the business section would be “F” and “G” Avenues. The numbered streets would run east and west with Tenth Street being the one intersecting the main business section.

In the business section the streets were to be one hundred feet wide and the streets in the residential section were to be seventy-five feet wide. The blocks were to be of uniform size—300 x 400 feet, then subdivided into lots measuring 25 x 142 feet, thus allowing for sixteen foot alleyways through all blocks. The lots in the business section measured 25 x 134 feet.

By February, 1901, lots were placed on the market and were selling from $25 to $250, depending on their location. It wasn’t until now that the news leaked out about the building of a smelter at this new town. Then the rush was on. Long lines formed outside the land office—each man hoping to buy the land of his choice. Needless to say, the prices of the lots increased one hundred percent and over, but the rush continued. Fourteen months after
the first parcel of land went on the market, the International Land and Improvement Company realized $750,000 from the sales of the land.

The first residents of Douglas lived in “Tent City” while the town was beginning to take shape. During the early part of 1901, the streets were graded off and lots staked off. The railroad came into town and ran along what was then known as Railroad Avenue and the depot was located at the foot of Tenth Street. The first frame building was erected by Mr. C.A. Overlock.

It was not clear just where the business district would be located as buildings were springing up on both sides of the railroad tracks. But, as time went on the two parts of town were soon divided by “A” Avenue. By the end of 1901 no businesses were built north of Eleventh Street and most of the residences were located north of that point. By December, 1902, some seventy-three houses had been built east of the tracks along with some thirty tents. On the west side of the tracks, only forty-five tents were still in use and some twelve houses had been built.

With the growth of the town came also the demand for utilities. Water was the first utility considered. A shallow well was sunk at the foot of Eleventh Street and by the end of 1902, Douglas’ first crude water system served approximately two hundred customers between Sixth and Seventeenth Streets.

By fall of 1902, some eighty-four telephones had been installed and were in operation. Also about this time, the Ice Plant and Power Plant Buildings were under construction and completed early in 1903.

A narrow gauge street railway, powered by a little balky steam engine, was built and by February, 1903 was making regular runs between town and the smelter.

Saloons, gambling parlors and dance halls provided places of entertainment for the early residents.

Douglas continued to grow quite rapidly during the year of 1902. A total of 1,526 houses were constructed besides the three hundred dwellings still under construction. Two-story brick buildings began to replace the flimsy type of buildings of 1901 in the business district.

The first restaurant was a crude shack built of railroad ties.

The town received its first public gift from the Copper Queen Mining Company in 1902. The structure was called Library Hall and was located at Tenth Street and F Avenue. The ultimate purpose of this building was to house the Copper Queen Library,
but for several years, this building was the center of community life. During the week it was the school house. On Saturday nights, dancing was the order of the evening in Library Hall. On Sunday mornings, various denominations held their Sunday morning Church Services here.

The population in 1901 was estimated to be 500; in May, 1902 the population was approximately 2,000 increasing to about 3,500 in December of the same year.

Living conditions in Douglas were still very much to be desired as many residents were still living in either tents or crude houses that consisted of nothing more than a roof, four walls and a floor.

Fortunes were made in selling real estate. By 1905, certain business lots sold for over $10,000 by men who had earlier purchased the same lot for only a few hundred dollars.

Results of a building census conducted by INTERNATIONAL-AMERICAN in 1905 showed that some one hundred eighty houses had been built at a cost of $1,320,825. Rents were very high.

The population of Douglas increased, from November, 1903 to December, 1906, 4,500 to 9,000.

The railroad preceded other industry in Douglas. The El Paso and Southwestern railroad, replacing the Arizona and Southwestern line owned by the Mining Company, ran from Bisbee to Douglas.

The replacement took place when Professor Douglas learned that certain legislation had been passed which made it "unlawful for any industrial enterprise to own a transportation facility if this facility were organized as a public railroad company." Having a plan in mind, Professor Douglas urged the Phelps Dodge Corporation to comply with the law and sell the railroad.

Professor Douglas then went about setting up a dummy corporation and selling the stock of the Arizona Southwestern to the new company for $750,000. Not one bond or one piece of stock was sold to the public by the El Paso and Southwestern. Money from the stock transfer was then distributed to the mining company stockholders as a special dividend.

Professor Douglas was named President of the new Railroad Company.

The officials of the new railroad planned to build to Douglas and then branch out northward to connect with the Southern Pacific Railroad line somewhere along the valley floor. The most probable point of connection would be at Willcox as it would be too
slow and expensive to backtrack all traffic from Douglas to Benson. The needed permission for expansion was applied for—and denied.

The denial took place because of previous disputes over rates and the general feeling of animosity that was displayed between the Southern Pacific officials and the mining company. Not wanting to be dominated by the Southern Pacific, Professor Douglas decided to push his company's tracks eastward into Deming, New Mexico where a connection with the Santa Fe could be secured. On February 13, 1902, Professor Douglas boarded the train at Bisbee and disembarked at Deming.

This expansion still didn't satisfy Professor Douglas as he decided that rather than depend exclusively on the Santa Fe Railroad, the tracks would be extended to El Paso, Texas which was the nearest competitive railroad point where his company's business would have bids from all major railroad lines.

Because of a legal technicality, the Southern Pacific blocked the El Paso and Southwestern Railroad's right-of-way. So, at a cost of $1,500,000, the El Paso and Southwestern Railroad tunnelled through a mountain and reached the city despite the obstructive tactics of the Southern Pacific. Sometime later, in order for the Southern Pacific to get its share of its through traffic, they had to pay back the El Paso and Southwestern line for the increased cost entailed in gaining entrance to El Paso. By November, 1902, rail traffic on the new line began to flow through Douglas. The El Paso and Southwestern was primarily a freight line relying on mines and smelters for prosperity; however, they did offer passenger service as well.

Two great benefits were enjoyed by the town of Douglas. One was a new fifteen stall round house built during 1903 and the second benefit was the substantial payroll paid monthly to the railroad employees, representing about $20,000 per month. The passengers coming into Douglas from the east no longer had to pass north of Douglas and backtrack from Benson.

The first smelter to be built at Douglas was by the Calumet and Arizona Mining Company. During March, 1901, this company incorporated with a two and one-half million dollar capitalization. This company also proved to be the only large company capable of competing with Phelps Dodge.

With the discovery of a rich ore body in the "Irish Mag" mine at Bisbee, this provided the Calumet and Arizona with the initial assurance of success and necessitated the erection of a smelter capable of handling the ores that were to be extracted. On December 18, 1901, the officials of the Calumet and Arizona Mining Company decided to build a smelter just west of Douglas, citing as their reason for building here the availability of water.
The construction of a small reduction unit capable of handling some two hundred fifty tons of ore a day began immediately. On November 15, 1902, eleven months after the beginning of construction, the first bars of Douglas-produced copper were cooling in the molds. A second reduction unit was started shortly after the first one was completed and when these two units were in operation, the total capacity was raised to five hundred tons a day. By the middle of 1906, a total of five furnaces were in operation and these furnaces were capable of handling fifteen hundred tons of ore per day from the Calumet and Arizona mines located at Bisbee.

It wasn't until March, 1904 did Phelps Dodge make the announcement that they would be building a smelter at Douglas. This new smelter would replace the one at Bisbee as this smelter was considered to be obsolete and unfit for conversion to more modern labor-saving methods. The value of the old smelter was set at $1,100,000. This value would simply be written off the books, the plant torn down and scrapped.

The Copper Queen's new furnaces doubled that of the smelter at Bisbee and production jumped from approximately thirty-seven million pounds of copper in 1903 to more than sixty-one million pounds in 1904. By 1906, ten furnaces were in operation, thus raising the daily ore capacity to 3,500 tons.

By 1913, the Copper Queen Mining Company had a three million dollar enterprise sprawling over a great expanse of land just west of Douglas. The main building was about the size of a city block. The other buildings housed the power plant, boiler plant, machine shop, smithy, boiler repair shop, foundry and sawmill. The power plant not only served the needs of this smelter but also sent power over a sixty-seven mile line to a mine located in Mexico.

The Copper Queen Smelter was served by a receiving and distribution system complete with tunnels, trestles, electric cars and cranes, and a high ore bedding system. The brick smoke stack, located over the bedding system towered some three hundred feet into the air.

In 1913, the old smelter of the Calumet and Arizona Mining Company was replaced by a new one at a cost of two million dollars. On July 2, 1913, the first unit of the smelter was blown in and when capacity production was reached, the plant was handling some three thousand tons of ore daily from the Shattuck and Arizona Mine at Bisbee. Employment at this time (1902) was one hundred seventy-five men and in 1913 the smelter employed seven hundred men.

Employment at the Copper Queen Smelter was one thousand men.

Many Mexican Nationalists from Agua Prieta were on the payrolls of both companies during the early years.
As the community of Douglas grew, demands of the citizens for improvements were heard and met. In April of 1901, a post office was authorized for Douglas which meant that mail would now come direct to Douglas and not first to Bisbee. Charles Overlock finally accepted the position of Postmaster. As Douglas grew, so did the services of the new post office. Money Orders left town in a steady stream—money being sent home by the smelter workers. When the train service improved, better mail service came with the improvement, too.

In 1902, the INTERNATIONAL published its first issue under the leadership of its first editor, George Meeks. At first the paper was printed in Bisbee, then sent to Douglas for distribution. Later, when a suitable building was erected, the presses, etc. were sent to Douglas where it was published for a number of years, first as a weekly then as a daily.

Later this paper became known as INTERNATIONAL-AMERICAN when it combined with C.E. Bull's AMERICAN of Tombstone.

The first issue of the DOUGLAS DISPATCH came off the presses on March 15, 1902. The first editor was A.F. Banta who later sold out to Franklin Dorr. The paper was at first a weekly but later it became a daily.

With the steady growth of Douglas came the need to have a good banking system. The first bank to be established in Douglas was on June 19, 1902 when the Bank of Douglas was established. The first officers were: President-William Brophy; Vice President-James S. Douglas; Cashier-Mr. Cunningham; Mr. C.O. Ellis was hired to do the work of managing the bank. Opening capital stock was $25,000. The bank was housed in a brick building on the corner of Tenth Street and G Avenue.

Largely through the efforts of George Mitchell, in July, 1902, the Douglas City Bank was organized. Under the national banking laws, this bank was re-organized and in March, 1903, it became the First National Bank. At the time of re-organization, the deposit account just topped $109,000.

In order to meet the personal needs of their employees, Phelps Dodge built the Copper Queen Store at the corner of Tenth Street and G Avenue. It stood almost three stories high and measured 100 x 125 feet. The store sold everything from groceries to jewelry. There was a large warehouse in the rear of the store that had railroad sidings running to the doors which made the handling of freight easier. The store was completed in 1903 at a cost of $125,000.

As more people moved to Douglas in search of work, the demand of hotels came into being. The Ord Hotel was the first

3. ARIZONA NEWSPAPERS 1859-1911 by Lutrell
hotel to be built. It was a rambling frame structure and was located at the corner of Tenth and G Avenue until the First National Bank forced its removal from this location.

Other early hotels were the International, the Roy and the Queen.

In 1906, the Gadsden Hotel was built at a cost of $180,000 and pretty well monopolized the hotel business from that time on.

By May, 1902 there were ten restaurants open for business. They were all equally bad as they were none too clean and the food’s flavor imparted nothing more to the diner than the taste of stale grease. Most single men preferred the meals at the boarding house where the atmosphere was more congenial and the food somewhat better.

Another of the early businesses that opened up in Douglas was the Copper City Brewery. The thirsty citizens of early Douglas were well pleased with this early business enterprise. During the first year of operation, it experienced several expansions. The product was shipped throughout the country and only state prohibition kept it from becoming a permanent business fixture in Douglas.

The first automobile was introduced to the citizens of Douglas when Frank Elvey, in 1903, bought a Cadillac and opened up an automobile repair shop on G Avenue. By 1906 he had acquired a total of five cadillacs and rented these cars with drivers to the citizens of Douglas.

Other small businesses that opened in Douglas were: a small gypsum plaster factory, planing mills, lumber yards, a brick yard, several laundries. In January, 1903, Ed Tovrea opened a new meat market that was to be the forerunner of Arizona's largest meatpacking house with headquarters in Phoenix. This venture made Tovrea one of the state's wealthiest businessmen.

During the first years of growth, there was a never-ending race between the ever increasing number of children and schools in which to educate them. It took several years to build enough schools so as to eliminate the seam-bursting loads in any school building. The first school house was a small frame building located on the corner where the Phelps Dodge Store now stands. It opened its doors on November 4, 1901 with Miss Daisy Maude Lincoln, later Mrs. A.C. Lockwood, hired to instruct nineteen charges of various ages. The school was soon overcrowded and a twelve-foot addition was extended onto the building.

The number of students increased to a point where Miss Lincoln's sister, Norma, was contacted and asked to help out. Before the spring of 1902, the student enrollment increased from nineteen to eighty-five. Needless to say, conditions were so crowded that three students shared a desk at a time. During nice weather, Miss
Lincoln would take the smaller children outside and sit and read in the shade of the little schoolroom. The cost of operating the school for the first year was $342.50.

When Miss Lincoln left, she was replaced by Mr. H. Hendrix. By this time school enrollment increased from 100 to 240 students (January, 1903). By the end of the school year, there were over 300 students under the guidance of five teachers.

Realizing the importance of education, a $20,000 school bond issue was proposed and voted upon in 1903 and the funds voted upon was used to construct a two-story building on Seventh Street. While the construction of this building was going on, temporary quarters were opened at the Copper Queen Library on Tenth Street.

Five teachers used the same room. There were so many students that the younger children attended classes in the morning and the older children attended the afternoon sessions. The few desks that were available were supplemented by benches borrowed from the Methodist Church. In January, 1904, the eight-room Seventh Street School was completed and put into use. Some four hundred seventy-eight students and several instructors moved into the building. By May 25, 1904, enrollment increased to 1,021 and the school costs increased to $4,478.29.

Three more school buildings were authorized to be built in 1905. A sum of $15,000 was voted to construct a school on Fifteenth Street and one on Second Street. A smaller bond of $1,800 was proposed, voted on and passed to build a small school in the Pirtleville section.

Douglas still faced the problem of not having enough class rooms to meet the needs of the growing population. In September, 1905, the Fifteenth Street School was opened as an Elementary School. During December of that year, the decision was made to include high school training at this school as well. On May 29, 1908, the first graduation class of seven was honored with commencement exercises.

Through the school bond issues of 1906, in the amount of $40,000, and of 1908, in the amount of $20,000, a large grammar school and a smaller elementary school was added to the growing school system. In 1909, a school bond issue in the amount of $60,000 was voted upon and passed to build a high school which opened its doors only a few weeks before commencement in 1910. Two smaller outlying elementary schools were also built as the rest of the bond issue.

The religious growth of Douglas was not to be forgotten. When the town was laid out, an entire block was set aside so that the church people would have land available to build their houses of worship. This land was to be given to any denomination planning to erect a substantial type building on the property.
Two of the earliest church groups active in Douglas were the Catholic and Episcopal churches. The Rev. B.G. Lee, from the Bisbee Episcopal parish, made regular trips to Douglas to help meet the religious needs of some of the residents of Douglas. The Rev. Father Gheldof came down once a month from Bisbee to conduct mass. Other denominations followed suit with most having only temporary meeting places and visiting ministers.

In 1903, both the Methodist and Episcopal Churches built church buildings—the Methodists building on the Northwest corner and the Episcopalians building on the Northeast corner. In 1905, the Baptist Church built its building on the Southwest corner of the block; in 1906 the Presbyterian Church built their building on the Southeast corner. This block now had a church on each of the four corners. In 1906, the Catholics built their large church building on their own land located at the corner of Tenth Street and C Avenue.

With the growth of the town came the desire for social organizations. The first lodge to be established was the Ancient Order of United Workmen and Fraternal Brotherhood. Soon chapters of the Elks, Masons, Odd Fellows and Knights of Pythias were established in Douglas.

The most active social organization was a purely social organization known as the "Thirteen Club" which was an outgrowth of the club at Tucson. Membership was limited to bachelors only and many of the leading citizens were members of this club.

Other early organizations included baseball teams, volunteer fire departments as well as a brass band complete with fine broadcloth uniforms. The Douglas Country Club was later organized with a large club house for social activities.

All was not peaceful and calm in Douglas as for at least half a decade Douglas was considered to be one of the last gathering places for the diminishing lawless element of the old West. In 1902, Douglas had some fifteen saloons. These establishments rarely closed their doors and the bartenders and gamblers worked in shifts around the clock. Gambling was wide open in most of the fifteen saloons with the play usually being long and heavy.

Because of the lawlessness in Douglas, the Arizona Rangers established their headquarters here. These Rangers were former Texas Rangers, Spanish-American War "Rough Riders" and veteran Arizona law enforcement officers. All were hard-riding and straight shooting men.

A total of twenty-six Rangers were stationed here at Douglas. Their membership consisted of a Captain (Thomas H. Rynning), a Lieutenant, four sergeants, twenty privates. The town toughs challenged the authority of the Rangers so much that between September 1, 1902 and January 1, 1903, the Rangers made one
hundred four arrests. The Rangers also handled some of the county law enforcement problems along with the County Constable, Justice of the Peace and a few deputy sheriffs.

In the fall of 1902, the residents of Douglas experienced the first political campaign and election. This was actively pressed by the Democrats who, early in October, 1902, formed a club. Some two hundred and sixty persons joined this organization with John Slaughter lending support. The Republicans were not as well organized as their opponents but it did have its backers.

A week before the elections, a Republican rally was held in which most of the County Republican candidates were present. The local newspapers discussed and published, in length, the platforms of both parties. Interest in the election was very high as the town took on a rather festive air. Businesses closed their doors as if it were a holiday.

During the course of events, a rather confusing hitch developed as the voting progressed because of the large number of voters registered in other precincts. At first these people were not allowed to cast their ballot. Later, however, this ruling was changed, thus allowing anyone previously registered to vote providing he would be willing to swear that he had been a resident of Douglas for at least thirty days. When the votes were counted, the Democrats had made a complete sweep of all county offices—a procedure that has continued with few exceptions throughout the years.

It soon became apparent that a City Police System and a jail were desperately needed. A make-shift jail was set up in a cellar located behind a downtown store. It was easy for prisoners to escape as they were chained to the post that stood in the middle of the cellar.

J.A. Saxton, an early Douglas pioneer, recalled that so many gamblers and toughs were attracted to Douglas that a meeting of fifty law-abiding citizens was finally held and a vigilance committee was proposed. Members of this committee would patrol the streets and clear out any undesirable persons who could not give a good account of themselves. Captain Rynning strongly suggested that it would be better if the men, who were members of this committee, be deputy rangers. After this was done, he, Captain Rynning, proceeded with a plan to clean the town of undesirables. Some twenty-six hoodlums were run out of town and another five were taken to the cemetery.

At first, the law enforcement campaigns and later with the incorporation of Douglas, the rougher elements were soon put in their place.

Other serious health problems also faced the residents of Douglas. One of the most dreaded disease was “black heart,” a
form of pneumonia. It acted so quickly that many died as soon as they showed symptoms.

Another of the dreaded diseases that seemed like it was a constant visitor among the Mexican population was smallpox. This disease was particularly serious because these people were difficult patients as they feared hospitals and doctors more than the illness itself.

The prevalence of typhoid fever during the early years posed serious obstacles to having good health for the town's population. Often times this disease would reach the epidemic stage before being brought under control. Some of the trouble was traced to the town's first shallow well at the foot of Eleventh Street. The ground that surrounded the well was saturated by nearby cesspools which, in turn, brought clouds of mosquitoes during the summer months making life unpleasant.

Finally, in 1906, efforts were made to curb the rampaging diseases with the installation of a $75,000 sewer system. This marked one of Douglas's greatest strides toward becoming a modern and healthful city.

From the very beginning, the dust had been a serious problem for the residents of this young community. One of the operators of one of the town's first eating houses on Railroad Avenue recalled how the backs and shoulders of her waitresses' black uniforms would always be coated with a thick settling of the yellow stuff. She also saw many early arrivals pack up and leave after several weeks of living amidst the swirling clouds of dust.

One of the featuring elements of the homes of Douglas citizens was the feather duster located on the front porch. It was part of the Douglas etiquette to completely brush one's person before entering a home.

The dust was so bad that any surgery that had to be done was scheduled for six in the morning before the dust got too thick. Also, surgery was kept to a minimum.

In order to combat the dust problem, the town was paying $300 a month in 1903 for having some of the streets sprinkled. This helped some but not enough for it seemed worse after the dust dried off and began to circulate again.

When the rains did come another problem was present. The streets became mud and impassable quagmires, knee deep in places with the very, very sticky stuff. Boys would scurry around laying plank walkways or crosswalks and then wait to collect nickels from the grateful street crossers. Oftentimes burros were pressed into street crossing service.

On May 15, 1905, the Incorporation of Douglas took place. On May 22, 1905 the first ordinances were passed and Charles
Overlock was appointed Mayor of Douglas until one could be duly elected. Elections were held in April, 1906 and William Adamson was the first elected mayor.

During the year of 1906, other marked improvements for the small community of Douglas were made. The City Hall was built at a cost of $9,000 and would house not only the City offices but also a stout jail. The Volunteer Fire Department was vastly improved—there were now six full time employees, twelve part-time employees and six volunteer firemen. The equipment now included a fire alarm system, pumps, chemical and hose wagons and a fair system of fire hydrants.

In 1906, two franchises were awarded by the Douglas City Council. One of the franchises called for a complete new electric trolley system and the second franchise provided for a gas system.

In 1909, a sewer system was installed at a cost of $325,000. In October, 1909, the water system was purchased from the original owners. This provided better service and proved to be a good move as the municipal water system has always been more than self-supporting while providing water at a reasonable rate.

Agua Prieta's history dates back to approximately the same time as does the history of Douglas. When Douglas became the junction point of the Nacozari Railroad and the El Paso and Southwestern Railroad, this lured a few brave individuals to build a few adobe buildings on the Mexican side of the line and settle here.

In 1901, a sub-port was established on the international boundary line between the two infant towns. Because no trade arteries extending southward from Agua Prieta had been established, the port handled very little business during the first years other than ores and supplies that flowed between Pilares and Douglas.

By 1902, only a score or so of buildings had been built and by 1903, the village population was barely 400.

The relationship between Douglas and Agua Prieta, for the most part, characterized a relaxed, cordial attitude thus making Douglas' many Mexican residents feel equally at home on either side of the border. Occasionally, however, something would happen to set one group against the other.

In 1902, for example, mob violence was narrowly averted following an accident in Agua Prieta’s railway yards. An American train crew was in the process of switching cars and failed to notice two drunken Mexicans asleep on the tracks. In the process of switching the cars, the Mexicans were hit and killed. The train crew were promptly arrested and placed in Agua Prieta’s jail.
When the news of the accident and arrest crossed the line, a mob of armed and incensed Americans made plans to storm the jail and rescue the imprisoned train crew. Before the threat of rescue could take place, a few cool heads prevailed and mob action was averted and within a few days, the crew was released.

Although smaller than Douglas, the growth of Agua Prieta was slow although Northern Sonora had become a rich field for American exploitation, especially around the two great copper producing areas of Nacozari and Cananea. By 1903, some six Sonoran mining companies had their headquarters located in Douglas.

During the dictatorship of Porfirio Diaz, and prior to 1910, the American capitalists took advantage of the chance to develop their holdings unmolested and increasing the valuation of the mining and smelting areas of Northern Sonora.

During 1910, however, the peaceful mining development came to a halt when Madero led the first of Mexico's many attempts to achieve a just government and political maturity for her people. By January, 1911, the rebels received much support and were said to be quite strong in the Cananea and Sakuaripa areas. Because of the uncertain and unsettled conditions in Northern Sonora, the mining and commerce businesses struggled along for survival during the next decade.

Diaz's federal troops feared that Madero planned to establish a foothold along the United States Border by establishing a republic in Sonora.

This thought was considered to be good logic because the MADERISTAS needed desperately to control some ports of entry for the importation of arms and ammunition. This made towns like Agua Prieta a primary target for revolutionary movements. This caused the federal garrison stationed at Agua Prieta to set about the task of erecting adobe barricades around the town.

Gun-running, it was believed, was being carried on in Douglas at a fast pace. It was also believed that a fast growing MADERO junta was being formed among the Mexican population of Douglas. The Mexican section of Douglas soon became quite overcrowded with refugees that fled daily from Sonora and federal military service.

After crossing the border, the refugees organized themselves into groups, armed themselves and waited for a chance to re-cross into Mexico and join up with one of Madero's bands. It was rumored that many Mexicans planned to revolt against the local federal garrison just as soon as Madero's rebels attacked Agua Prieta.

The Madero leader best acquainted with the town of Douglas
was a man by the name of "Red" Lopez (so nicknamed because of the reddish-brown freckles that was liberally sprinkled on his fair skin). Lopez spoke excellent English and felt completely at home on either side of the border.

The peaceful years of profitable operation were now gone and troubled times lay ahead at the hands of foraging bands of the many irregular armies whose mere existence was dependent on tributes and confiscated supplies. All indications show that the revolution in Sonora was well under way.

This mere thought caused certain Americans in Douglas, who had capital invested in Sonora, to have a grave concern for their holdings in Sonora.

Sometime during the latter part of February, 1911, Lopez's small army began harassing the local Federals. Lopez occupied the town of Fronteras, located just south of Agua Prieta. He stalled the train causing the federal troops stationed at Agua Prieta to ride south in search of the train. This harassing continued off and on for several months.

On March 2, 1911, a band of MADERISTAS under the leadership of General Jose Blanco captured the settlement of El Tigre, just south of Fronteras. Here General Blanco's un-uniformed army captured and made off with several hundred rifles and 50,000 rounds of ammunition. They also stripped the company store and commissarios of all supplies.

On the evening of March 9, 1911, Lopez startled the federal troops by showing up in Agua Prieta which set off a wild night of excitement in Douglas. Many of Agua Prieta's residents fled across the border to safety and they soon became jammed against a southbound wall of Americans who came out to see the excitement. To add to the confusion, the Madero junta in Douglas thought that an attack on Agua Prieta was under way and had formed forces just north of the line in readiness to assist Lopez as he made his attack.

On the United States side of the line, the U.S. Cavalry troops quickly took action by surrounding and arresting this group of rebel sympathizers.

In order to prevent any loss of life from the American side, the U.S. Cavalry patrolled back and forth along the line warning the American residents to stay back and out of danger.

The Mexican Federal Officials announced that anyone caught crossing the line into Agua Prieta would be shot.

But, as silently as he had appeared, Lopez vanished without firing a shot and no doubt chuckling at all the excitement he caused.
Once again life in Agua Prieta returned to normal, at least as much as possible, until the morning of March 12, 1911 when Blanco appeared on the advance just east of Douglas. The Mexican Federalist troops marched out of Agua Prieta, leaving it unprotected, to meet the foe.

As the range closed to 500 yards, the federal troops dropped to their knees and opened fire on the rebels. The rebel forces deployed right and left, returning the fire and retreated over a ridge. The pursued rebels were continually exposing themselves on the ridge of higher ground and suffered greatly under the federal rifle fire. The Federal troops continued their movement forward and kept up the pressure until the rebel troops decided to break off the engagement. They chased the fleeing rebels some distance before abandoning the chase, the battle being over.

Since March 12, 1911 was a Sunday, some 6,000 Americans lined the border east of Douglas to watch the ensuing battle. Besides the spectators, some Americans were in the Federal lines as well as in the rebel camp. One Douglas merchant was found wandering around the battlefield by the Federal troops and was taken prisoner by them.

Mr. and Mrs. James Douglas and Mr. and Mrs. Pirtle were among the 6,000 spectators who watched the battle. After the shooting had ceased, they decided to help alleviate the suffering on the battlefield by driving the wounded into Douglas for treatment. Other spectators soon followed their lead and the wounded Mexicans plus eleven dead were taken into Douglas by car and buggy.

General Pedro Ojeda, the Federal Commandant for Agua Prieta, wasn’t satisfied with the outcome of the battle and issued orders to his army to prepare themselves to march eastward in hopes of engaging the fleeing Blanco’s army. It was believed that Blanco’s army was holding up at the Gallardo Ranch located just four miles east of Douglas.

As General Ojeda and his army left in search of their fleeing foe, members of the U.S. Cavalry and many Americans gathered around Niggerhead Mountain some nine miles East of Douglas to watch the coming battle. No fighting was anticipated as both forces were out of the vicinity.

Several weeks after Blanco’s retreat, “Red” Lopez made a surprise appearance on G Avenue. He was full of enthusiasm and “other spirits” and without much hesitation he decided to give forth with small oratory on behalf of the INSURRECTO cause.

After mounting a parked sedan, he began haranguing the quickly assembled crowd of good-natured on-lookers. When the Mexican Consul heard of his presence in town, the Consul took
immediate steps to have him arrested, but the Douglas Police were reluctant to make an arrest.

Lopez learned of his possible danger and made his escape by riding a borrowed mule to the outskirts of town where his own horse was hidden and waiting for him.

Lopez continued to torment the Federal forces of General Ojeda when on April 13, 1911, the Northbound train from Nacozari was seized at Fronteras by some 250 heavily armed rebel forces under his leadership. Lopez allowed the passengers to disembark if they so desired, but several Americans on board decided to take their chances and they rode on to Agua Prieta. One American by the name of A.P. Dickson soon regretted his decision as during the skirmish that followed at Agua Prieta, he received a painful wound in his thigh.

After stationing his men at various places in the train, he, Lopez, mounted the engine’s cab, ordered the engineer to do nothing to warn the town’s garrison and then gave the command to start rolling towards Agua Prieta. As the train reached the outskirts of Agua Prieta, Lopez ordered full steam thus allowing the train to roll into town at a terrific rate of speed. The train finally came to a stop at the Fifth Street Station. As the train came to a halt, the MADERITAS jumped from the train, firing and shouting, “Viva Madero” and “Arriba muchachos!”

Their fire was answered by some of the one hundred Federal troops that had been dispersed around the vicinity and the battle was on. For the most part, the rebel positions were a little north and west of those of the Federal troops. These positions resulted in forming a line of fire that angled right into the streets and buildings of Douglas.

The sounds of battle attracted a huge crowd of thrill mad Americans who milled around the custom house to cheer the rebels on even though bullets whined wildly around them in all directions. The fighting soon, however, broke up into wild firing duels between small groups of rebel and Federal troops.

On the American side, the Second Street School was particularly exposed to the wild flying bullets. Fearing that the children would be injured, the School Officials dismissed school and urged the children to hurry home and to safety.

Another building that received damage during the day’s fighting was that of the Copper Queen Smelter offices where one ball crashed into the superintendent’s office shattering a cabinet. The casualties for this battle on the American side were one killed (Robert Herrington, who was an employee of the railroad) and one injured (a Mr. Crowe).

It soon became apparent that the Federalist position was
hopeless because of the rebels' numerical advantage. Many of the town's defenders worked their way closer to the border where they threw down their rifles and surrendered to the Americans. One of the first to surrender was Captain Vargas, the Federal Commander for Agua Prieta. After surrendering to the U.S. authorities, he was quickly surrounded by a pro-rebel crowd and was given much verbal abuse by the throng.

Soon, there was only one small group of Federalist troops left, trapped but still holding out. The U.S. Officials feared the Federalists would be wiped out if something was not done immediately to rescue them. Charles McKeen, a former soldier, appealed to Captain Julien E. Gaujot, of the First Cavalry, to go across the line with him to rescue the hopeless hold-outs. At first Captain Gaujot was hesitant about accepting this unusual invitation, but at the same time he was quite anxious to stop the wild firing into Douglas. After much deliberation, Captain Gaujot decided to go with Mr. McKeen, but under the protection of a white flag.

When the two reached the Federalist hold-outs, they brought out some twenty soldiers under the leadership of a sergeant. Lopez's men agreed to let the captives go with the two Americans, providing they throw down their arms and march to the border under guard. The Federalists were escorted to the border by American troops called in by Captain Gaujot. As they were bringing the captured Federalists across the border, McKeen noticed five Americans who were also held prisoner. McKeen was able to obtain their release from the Mexicans after assuring them the American prisoners were not Douglas residents. The captured Federalist troops were taken to Cuartel and held there by U.S. forces until the Federal Government in Washington D.C. ordered their release.

When the battle was officially over on April 13, 1911, the townspeople were overjoyed and the victorious rebel troops were feted that evening.

Fearing what might happen, Lopez ordered all saloons closed and the liquor in them poured into the gutters. He also decreed that a fine of 500 pesos would be levied against anyone caught selling liquor.

The casualty count was as follows:

22 dead (evenly divided between the Federal and Rebel troops)

30 hospitalized with wounds.

54 Federal troops were held prisoner by the First Cavalry at the encampment located at the Douglas ball park.
1 American had been killed.
10 Americans had been wounded by the spraying rifle fire.

After the battle, one of the Douglas Dispatch reporters interviewed several men, including Mayor McGuire, who had seen most of the action. The general concensus of opinion was that most of the damage done in Douglas was by Federal rifle fire. Public sentiment was wholly in favor of the Maderistas cause.

The enthusiastic but well regulated army of Agua Prieta grew rapidly and now included over 1,000 rebels and some forty Americans, all of whom were serving the Maderista cause.

On the morning of April 15, 1911, word was received in Agua Prieta that a large federal force was moving northward towards Agua Prieta. The new army hurried to set up defense lines south of the town. The Douglas residents were becoming alarmed over the coming battle as both armies had increased in size and were now capable of causing more damage than before.

Captain Gaujot tried to spread his small troop of one hundred cavalrymen thin to meet all that was expected and demanded of them. The Port of Entry was closed and guarded and the International Line was kept under constant patrol and observation. A twenty-four hour guard was placed on the Federal prisoners at the ball park. The U.S. troops were on constant alert for gun-runners.

Earlier, U.S. authorities had seized some 17,000 rounds of ammunition at a store located at the corner of G Avenue and Seventh Street.

With conditions like they were, reinforcements were wired for and on April 17, 1911, troops began to arrive to bolster Douglas's defenses.

Determined to prevent a repetition of the wild firing into Douglas by the opposing Mexican forces, Captain Gaujot conferred with both sides, ordering them not to fire at any angle endangering Douglas and her citizens. A Red Cross train was made up for use in easing suffering on either side, and the residents of Douglas was asked for donations, including bedding, to outfit this train. A further step was taken by placing Dr. Shine in charge of the medical facilities and the twelve doctors practicing in both Bisbee and Douglas were so organized under his direction.

On the morning of April 17, 1911, the battle began with the Federal forces under the leadership of General Ojeda attacking directly from the South.

Lt. Colonel William A. Shunk, the new United States Commander, ordered the evacuation of the southern section of
Douglas. No one would be allowed south of Fourth Street without a pass granted from the army. The closed point of battle was Fifth Street and it was there that throngs of people gathered and waited for news of the day's battle.

The previous warnings given both armies in Mexico had no effect as the attackers' fire was lined up right into Douglas. The only good thing about this whole matter was the evacuation of southern Douglas paid off as that section of town was constantly under fire. Stray bullets did find their way into other parts of town. A man was shot down as he stood in front of the Copper Queen store. The Seventh Street School soon came under fire and the school was ordered closed to prevent any tragedy. A few other people suffered minor injuries mostly from half-spent bullets.

Oscar Goll, a Dispatch reporter, decided to visit the outer perimeter of Lopez's defenses for a first hand account of the battle. On horseback, he crossed the line and rode, under continuous fire, to the southern edge of Agua Prieta. He located Lopez and, during his conversation, learned that the rebel lost thirty men. According to Lopez's belief, the Federal losses were much greater. Although his horse had suffered a neck wound, Goll made his way back across the line and to what he thought was the safety of Fourth Street, for a short time later, he was struck down with a bullet wound in his head.

For the most part, the whole day's action had been confined to a rather furious small arms duel and by nightfall, the rebels still had control of Agua Prieta. During the night, however, the rebels evacuated Agua Prieta. It wasn't until one of the rebel commanders gave himself up to United States authorities that it was learned that the previous day's battle had almost depleted the rebel ammunition supplies.

Once again Ojeda placed Agua Prieta under Federal control and authority. On April 18th both Customs Houses were reopened. Douglas remained, however, a hot-bed of wild conjecture and rumor as to the rebels' next move.

Although Diaz's government was getting weaker, things remained quiet at Agua Prieta, but not in the communities south of Agua Prieta. Suddenly, on May 10th, the Federal troops evacuated Agua Prieta with elements of this force heading for Naco, Nogales and Hermosillo. By May 15th, the town was held by some eight hundred well-armed rebels. The townspeople were thankful to be rid of the Federals and many celebrations were held honoring the rebels.

Officials of Maytorena's state government were appointed to regulate and clean up this war-weary town. All cantinas were closed and many loose characters were run out of town. Once again peace and order prevailed at Agua Prieta.
For "Red" Lopez, however, his luck ran out and he fell to an inglorious death that was aided by American whiskey. "Red" had fallen from favor in the Madero cause and had taken refuge in Douglas. He knew that while he was in Douglas he was safe but risked arrest should he cross the line into Agua Prieta. Lopez, filled with whiskey, crossed the line on May 17, 1911 into Agua Prieta and began making critical remarks about Madero. He was charged with drunkenness and disorderly conduct and was placed in jail and given a thirty day sentence. A short time later, Lopez was given a "courtmartial for desertion in the face of an enemy attack." On May 26th he was sentenced to eight years at hard labor in the prison located at Hermosillo. This was too much for Lopez and while trying to escape, he was shot in the back. In a futile attempt to defend their friend, several of Lopez's supporters claimed he crossed the border on the night of April 17th in search of ammunition. Some of his more realistic friends claim that Lopez had an overpowering thirst that only American whiskey could quench and this had caused his downfall.

During the year 1912 no real fighting took place along the border, but the residents of Douglas had to read their newspapers carefully to keep up with their neighbor's political adventures and misadventures.

Just as soon as Madero had taken control, Sonora became involved with Pascual Orozco and his "red flaggers" and by July, 1912, Agua Prieta was the base for General Blanco and a Madero army. This army was searching for a strong force of Orozco rebels that was reported headed for Agua Prieta.

In order to strengthen his position in Sonora, Madero sent a personal representative named Garibaldi north with the task of recruiting another army for his government. Garibaldi established his headquarters in Douglas and began accepting enlistments for his army. He offered two pesos a day to anyone who cared to follow Madero's banner. The Federal authorities at Agua Prieta looked upon Garibaldi with jealous suspicion and did everything they could to hinder his recruitment attempts even though they upheld the same government.

By July 9th he had become discouraged with his task and after notifying his chief he turned over the new recruitments to the Agua Prieta garrison. Madero had hired a number of American detectives to keep track of Orozco's activities on the United States side of the border.

Several of Madero's secret service men appeared in Douglas and set up headquarters in the Gadsden Hotel. According to one report received by the Douglas Dispatch, "a variation of the game 'hide and seek' could be watched at almost any hour in the lobby of the hotel."
Fearing what could happen across the border, the United States Army authorities sent to Douglas equipment sufficient for five hundred soldiers, just in case.

Despite all the previous difficulties, American mining men were still in Sonora. Prospectors who worked the lonely claims did so at a great personal risk. Two such men were George Schubert and John Hartling who worked a small mine east of Cos, Sonora, which is about sixty-five miles south of Agua Prieta.

On July 31st news reached Douglas that both of these men had been found hanging from the bough of a tree near their claim. Nothing concrete has ever been learned about the deaths of these men, but it is believed that their deaths came at the hands of a roving band of bandits.

During the fall of 1915, the shifting winds of Mexico's many factioned civil strife were again blowing northward. Pancho Villa and his army were on the move and heading toward Sonora, the only route not effectively blocked by his enemies.

Although during the fall months an unnatural situation developed in Mexico, the citizens of Douglas continued to calmly perform their regular tasks. The refugee-swollen population of Agua Prieta became feverish with the realization that their town would soon again become a hotly contested battleground. Most of the Mexican population, including Agua Prieta, feared Villa's advances and favored Carranza's government and protection.

The United States government showed its first sign of uneasiness over Villa's move when, in mid-September, all United States consuls were to recommend immediate evacuation of United States citizens now living in Sonora. The United States Consuls were to leave at their own discretion.

When further work seemed impossible, the mines would give the signal for evacuation. The North-South railroad that extended from Nacozari to Douglas supplied a sense of safety by assuring a quick withdrawal to United States soil.

On September 25, 1915, Agua Prieta was designated by General Calles as the concentration point for all Carranza troops, thus leaving Moctezuma and Nacozari unprotected against a Villa attack. General Calles chose Agua Prieta as his main point of defense knowing well that the town's proximity to United States soil would effectively hamper any attacking force. By early fall, some ten thousand refugees crowded into the Mexican border city which did not include four thousand men under the command of General Calles.

The troops, for the most part, were busy erecting a system of barbed wire entanglements and earthworks that fanned out from
the border on both sides of town. Calles' weapons included six three-inch field guns and approximately thirty machine guns with plenty of ammunition.

Knowing that Villa was definitely on the move and also that Calles' troops were no longer available for protection, the Sonoran mining companies ordered all of their American employees out. The train from Nacozari was loaded with refugees heading for the safety of Douglas. By October 15, 1915, Agua Prieta's population was swollen by another three thousand refugees from the south of Mexico. Watching the developments from his office window in the Mexican town, United States Consul Simpach caught some of the worried population's anxiety and expressed a fear that Douglas might expect a shelling as well as Agua Prieta.

The Villista Agency, located in the First National Bank Building, quietly closed its doors on October 15th due to the increasing anti-Villa feeling coupled with the general expectation for an early approval of Carranza. The expected recognition of Carranza by the United States Government came on October 19, 1915. When this recognition came, the residents of Agua Prieta celebrated with such an uproar that many Douglas citizens thought that the expected attack on Agua Prieta had begun. Although the United States was enforcing a strict arms embargo on all Villistas, Carranza was allowed the opportunity to purchase supplies in the United States, thus giving the Carranza supporters much to celebrate.

During the time of celebration, the residents of Agua Prieta and Douglas learned that a force of Yaquis were occupying Naco in Villa's name. Before the fierce Yaquis took over Naco, the entire Mexican population fled and was allowed to enter the sanctity of United States soil. Because of the twenty short miles between the fallen community of Naco and Agua Prieta, anxious eyes turned to the southeast out of which came reports of Villa's advance with an army of approximately eight thousand.

Because of the imminent and inevitable battle that was coming, the United States Army began making all preparations possible to protect the citizens of Douglas and their property. Because the United States authorities were alarmed enough over the local situation, General Thomas F. Davis, Commander of the troops in Douglas, was given leeway in any action deemed necessary for the protection of Douglas. Permission had been granted to General Davis to cross the international border and assist Calles if the situation became necessary and-or critical.

Agua Prieta was now strongly fortified on all sides, the exception being the one bordering on the United States. There was a definite fear and danger that Villa might try to go far enough north into United States territory to attack from this unprotect
angle. If this should happen, the United States Artillery, now stationed at Douglas, was ordered to blast away. To discourage any further action on United States soil, a two-mile trench was dug East and West along the borderline about fifty yards inside United States territory.

By the end of October, Douglas was swarming with some six thousand troops composed of five infantry regiments (not all full strength), the Ninth Cavalry and the Sixth Field Artillery. The United States seemed willing to help Carranza deal Villa a knockout blow in Sonora, when the United States willingly violated its neutrality by granting Carranza permission to bond a strong armed force through United States territory. This permission gave Obregon's force quick and easy passage from Piedras Negras to Agua Prieta over the rails of the Southern Pacific and the El Paso and Southwestern lines. Villa's men exhausted themselves on long arduous marches across Chihuahua and Sonora while Obregon's troops would arrive fresh and alert.

The United States Army patrols kept a close watch on the El Paso and Southwestern line in the event that Villa sympathizers might try some sabotage attempts. During this time, Obregon's force of three thousand along with sixteen artillery pieces arrived in Agua Prieta to bolster its defenses.

Because of the helpless masses crowded inside Agua Prieta, plans were made by the United States authorities for their evacuation. Before any shooting developed, the refugees would be marched, under guard, to a relocation site in Pirtleville and this camp would be operated under guard until Agua Prieta was again safe.

On the night of October 31st, as the night skies reflected fires of Villa's army, all last minute preparations were made. The trench just north of the border was occupied by United States troops with all artillery pieces unlimbered, ammunition supplies broached and caissons filled.

General Davis cancelled all passes to the border area with the hopes of avoiding casualties. He issued the following proclamation in warning:

"I wish you would request every man, woman, and child in Douglas to remain off the streets and in their homes in the event of fighting across the border. Tell them to get behind adobe walls and not trust the wooden ones. The penetration of a high power rifle ball is too great for any reliance to be placed on wood." (Dispatch 10-31-15)

One newsman took advantage of this lull to approach Villa's campsite where he arranged for an interview with the colorful commander. A noteworthy outcome of this interview was Villa's
reaction to the news of Agua Prieta’s recent reinforcement over the American line. Villa questioned the reported bit of information and when he realized it was true he was heard to remark that he was through with the United States, with Americans and that he would fight his own battles and asked the United States to fight their own battles. Later on Villa remarked to one of his aides, “Well, money did it... money did it.” Villa’s observation had a ring of truth as the newspaper reports estimated Carranza had paid $400,000 (Mexican) in gold for using the American railroads.

Agua Prieta was now the closest source of food, water and supplies for the thirsty, starving Villistas. An attack must be made to ease their suffering and discomfort. Villa realized that capturing Agua Prieta would be no easy task as the town was guarded by some ten thousand well-armed men.

By 1:00 p.m. the Villista artillery was placed in position just east of Agua Prieta and the first uncorrected rounds were fired harmlessly over the town, exploding in the open areas just to the west. These shots served as signals to evacuate the civilian population of Agua Prieta. This was also the signal for many of the adult population of Douglas to go to pre-arranged vantage points on roof tops, etc. and field glasses were a premium that night. Thus began a brisk two hour duel between the two positions. As the line of fire was parallel with the international line, no shells fell into Douglas.

At approximately 8:00 p.m., Villa ordered an attack in force, along the eastern flank of the town that was being defended by a force under the leadership of Lazaro Cardenas. Cardenas, who later became President of Mexico, deserted the Villa cause during March of 1915 and marched into Agua Prieta adding some 450 men to Calles’ force.

Hoping to divert some of the defenders’ attention and fire, Villa sent small forces against other places along the line simultaneously with his main thrust from the east. This was a failure as a hail of rifle fire met Villa’s main thrust forcing them into a retreat in short order. As the attackers tried to rush the trenches, the search lights that were mounted inside the town, were turned on making their bodies stand out against the black night. At 10:00 p.m. Villa ordered another charge and again the blinding searchlights and barbed wire slowed the attackers and caused heavy casualties.

But Calles had yet another surprise for Villa. Powerful mines that were controlled by electric fuses had been buried in front of the trenches and as the attackers neared the trenches, the wires were charged and the exploding mines felled many of the Villistas. No more attacks were tried that night, but the town was subjected to a heavy bombardment. The searchlights continued to
work and an occasional round from the defenders kept the besiegers at a safe distance.

After 3:00 a.m., silence prevailed as both forces decided to wait until dawn. When the first rays of light broke over the battle field, it could be seen that the grenades, artillery, landmines and rifle fire had done their work well as dead horses and broken bodies were piled in front of the entanglements.

For those who survived, the hot sun took its toll as from time to time, thirst-crazed, sick and wounded Villistas were seen making their way to the old custom slaughter house on the borderline that was being used by U.S. Officials as an observation post and begged for water.

Thirst, hunger and a somewhat lessened will to fight won out and during the night of November 3rd, Villa began retreating towards Naco without making another effort to storm Agua Prieta. Despite his anger and frustrations toward the United States, Villa made no effort to fire on Douglas and only stray rifle fire found its way into the town.

There was only one fatality reported and that was Corporal Harry Jones of the 18th Infantry who died of wounds received while guarding an ammunition wagon that stood behind the U.S. border trench that extended along the border. It was reported that several citizens of Douglas suffered flesh wounds as the result of being struck by stray bullets.

General Obregon was anxious to pursue and crush his mortal enemy, the fleeing Villa. Obregon travelled by private car to Douglas on the El Paso and Southwestern and then on to Agua Prieta where he established his headquarters and formulated his campaign plans. On November 15th, Obregon rode out of Agua Prieta at the head of 6,500 troops in pursuit of Villa’s army. As a safety precaution, Obregon left 1,500 men in Agua Prieta as a rear guard and, shortly, these men were joined by four thousand more Obregonistas who came from Piedras Negras. These men were to be used to block attempts made by Villa if he should retreat towards the west.

The battle for Sonora raged on for a while before the remnants of Villa’s broken army fled back into Chihuahua but the border area around Douglas remained quiet and peaceful.

In 1920, however, Douglas once again found herself on the frontier of a revolution. Sonora, demonstrating her political and military power in Mexican affairs, headed a revolution that unseated a president from his chair of government and placed Sonora’s own governor in that precarious seat.

A quarrel over Sonora’s states rights was nothing more than a cover used by Obregon’s friends to overthrow Carranza and make
ready to raise Obregon to the presidency at the next election. Adolfo de la Huerta, Sonora’s governor was its political head and Plutarco Calles was the military leader.

Agua Prieta’s customs house was quietly seized on April 10, 1920 by the Sonora revolutionaries, and with all of Agua Prieta’s population solidly behind Calles’ leadership, plans were made for calling all able-bodied men into a militia to aid in resisting Carranza. Inside of a week, some eight hundred Sonora troops arrived to reinforce Agua Prieta, and these troops were soon followed by a Yaqui force of four hundred men. On April 21, 1920 General Calles arrived on the border to take personal command of his troops.

Carranza was worried over the affairs in Sonora and sent his personal delegates from Mexico City to Douglas to arrange talks with Calles. Carranza’s position grew more and more perilous as the revolution spread. The United States government turned down his request to send Federal troops from El Paso to Douglas via the El Paso and Southwestern Railway.

Calles took no notice of the attempts at negotiations and on April 23, 1920, the Plan de Agua Prieta was set down on paper and signed by the state’s foremost officials, businessmen and military leaders. In essence, this plan called for Carranza’s removal and the appointment of a provisional president until a regular election could be held.

Carranza’s Federal troops made a feeble pass at Agua Prieta but was met and easily turned back at Pulpito Pass, located south of the town.

State after state reaffirmed the Plan de Agua Prieta as rebellious bands met those from the South and their army swelled into a large wave of allegiance to Obregon. The citizens of Douglas enjoyed a first-hand view of a political organization that was to control Mexico for the next fifteen years.

Many in Mexico soon became dissatisfied with Calles’ long domination of their country’s politics. In March, 1929, open rebellion broke out against President Gil and Sonora took an active part in the revolution with Fausto Topeto, the Sonoran Governor, declaring himself for the revolution. On March 3rd, a bloodless coup carried out during the night placed Agua Prieta in the hands of the rebels. As the town seemed to favor the rebellion, the Federal garrison formally joined the revolutionary movement. General Gonzalo Escobar was named the commander of all revolutionary forces and Rogerio Loretto acted as Agua Prieta’s local leader under Governor Topeto.

For the most part, the United States did nothing other than to request more troops for protection for Douglas.
Governor Topeto quickly pledged friendship toward the United States. Local authorities in Agua Prieta seemed anxious to keep a firm and orderly hand on the situation. Both custom houses remained open as did the Consulate in Agua Prieta. Local feeling seemed strictly neutral concerning the affair.

Agua Prieta's rebel forces were now under the command of a Yaqui named Yocupicio whose loyalty fell under enough suspicion to cause several of Agua Prieta's rebel officials on March 13th to flee into Douglas for safety. Yocupicio, however, remained loyal to the rebel cause and Agua Prieta remained quiet and orderly.

Escobar was in trouble in Chihuahua and for awhile it looked as if he might make a retreat into Sonora, the Federals hot on his heels.

Early in March, 1929, the citizens of Douglas learned that Police Chief Gatliff and Police Captain Morris sold to the rebels in Agua Prieta two machine guns and approximately forty thousand rounds of ammunition. An investigation of this sale was carefully conducted by two special agents from the United States State Department as it was believed that the sale was an infraction of the neutrality of the United States. It was learned that on March 8th, Chief Gatliff paid the City Clerk five hundred dollars from this sale.

The charge of infraction of the arms embargo was made against both Gatliff and Morris. It seems that on March 3rd, the rebels declared themselves and the sale took place on March 7th, thus grounds were laid for the charges against the two men. On April 9, 1929, Gatliff and Morris were indicted by the Federal District Court at Phoenix and were allowed to raise bonds for their release. On the 17th of November, 1930, the indictment was dismissed without coming to trial—reasons for the dismissal was not given.

The Dispatch conducted its own investigation into this matter and learned that the probable market value of the guns and ammunition was approximately $3,200.

The rebels could consider themselves fortunate as the price could have been even higher to the hard-pressed rebels like the Agua Prieta rebel garrison.

By the 5th of April, things were quiet in Agua Prieta but the residents of Douglas were concerned over the battle raging in Naco. On the 6th of April, the Dispatch printed a special issue that called for additional protection for Douglas.

For Escobar, things looked very grave and uncertain as he was forced to flee into Sonora in the face of heavy Federal attacks. On April 9th, he arrived in Agua Prieta where he took charge of the various rebel groups that included Yocupicio's Yaqui troops and
On December 15, 1918, a break in the case came with the arrest of a group of Villistas headed by Dr. Manuel Huerta. The suspects were quietly rounded up on the United States side of the line during the middle of the night and carried across to Agua Prieta to where Calles was waiting. In order to assure complete privacy, Calles took the accused to a lonely ranch some miles South of Agua Prieta and held his investigation there.

Huerta claimed he took no part in the episode and denied the charge, but to no avail as Calles brushed aside his plea and accused him of planning the whole thing and sharing in the loot.

When Calles questioned another of the accused, a former Villa general, he admitted everything and even took the opportunity to hurl insults at Calles—calling him a mere arm chair general.

Calles acted as prosecutor, judge and jury as he handed down the death sentence. He wanted to use these men and their act as an example of what happens when someone goes against his authority. The grim sentence was carried out only a few hours after the so-called trial. Thousands viewed the bodies as they dangled from the telephone poles in Agua Prieta’s plaza.

The Douglas peace officers were shocked and chagrined at what their cooperation had brought about even though the hanged men seemed undeniably guilty. Needless to say, the American authorities were very dissatisfied with the way the Mexican authorities crossed into Douglas and “shanghied” the suspects over to Agua Prieta. Although a portion of the loot was recovered by the Mexican authorities, none of the American peace officers received any of the reward even though they were instrumental in bringing about their capture.

The greatest of all news stories to cross the line was on the datelines of the world’s leading newspapers and concerned the sudden and mysterious appearance of Aimee Semple McPherson, the missing founder of the Church of the Four Square Gospel.

In the wee hours of Wednesday morning, June 23, 1926, an American woman appeared at the outskirts of Agua Prieta and collapsed on the porch of a Mexican home. The Mexican police arrived on the scene but could do nothing as the woman understood no Spanish and was also in a state of hysteria. A Douglas taxi driver, J.B. Anderson, happened to be near by and was called on for assistance by the nervous policemen.

Mr. Anderson agreed to relieve the bewildered policemen of the hysterical woman. He crossed the line, stopped long enough to pick up a Douglas peace officer and headed for the Calumet and Arizona Hospital where the woman was admitted for observation. It was here that she identified herself as Aimee Semple McPherson.
After hearing her story and making a positive identification, Police Chief Percy Bowden placed police guards in and around the hospital to prevent any further foul play. She told tales of torture and extreme mistreatment at the hands of her abductors.

When the news of her sudden appearance broke, hundreds of people lined the streets around the Calumet and Arizona Hospital and talked of the “resurrection” in varying degrees of awe and excitement.

The law enforcement officers on both sides of the line were busy combing the area believed to be described by Aimee and to prevent the abductors’ escape, should they still be in the area. A cordon of Mexican Federal Troops were thrown around a wide area and every known pass and trail were closely guarded. Aimee’s trail was backtracked for approximately seven miles. No trace of the shack where she was kept captive was found. Results of the search parties were negative and this fact began to create doubts in some of the searchers’ minds.

Deputy Sheriff Charles Cross, who declared that he knew every foot of this territory, said that he had never seen the shack Aimee described. Sheriff J.F. McDonald praised the assistance rendered by various Mexican officials and also added to the feeling of doubt by remarking about the condition of Mrs. McPherson’s clothes. He pointed out the fact that her clothes were clean and untorn and her white shoes unsoiled. He also pointed out that the territory Mrs. McPherson was supposed to have travelled through was very rough.

The finest officers on both sides of the border finally had to admit that the case baffled them as they failed to find any evidence to support or disprove Aimee’s story.

During her stay in Douglas, Aimee turned the full force of her magnetic personality and feminine charm on the town officials and residents of Douglas. Before her departure, Aimee held an open air prayer meeting in the Tenth Street Park. Over 5,000 people jammed into the park to hear her prayers and farewell to Douglas.

Another international incident that not only proved costly to the United States, but also kept the immigration authorities at Douglas busy the fall and winter of 1931 was the sudden and illegal influx of Chinese across the border.

In 1904, Chinese laborers were brought into Mexico to help build the last section of the Nacozari Railroad, and since that time the Orientals have continued to increase not only in number but in wealth as well throughout Sonora. Because they continued to cling to their own habits of speech, dress and culture, the Orientals were never assimilated into the Mexican population.
They were remarkably successful as vegetable growers and shopkeepers and Agua Prieta had its share of Chinese farmers and business men.

In 1930, numerous demonstrations broke out against the Chinese and since the Mexican government didn't seem to want to offer them protection, they made ready to leave the country.

Among those who were making ready to leave the country were the merchants of Agua Prieta who realized that to continue in business there was an impossibility. Because they were self-sufficient, these merchants were able to obtain United States passports and, after putting up cash to bond their passage over United States territory, they made their way to the West Coast, boarded ships and headed for home.

For the poorer Chinese who eked out a living off rented Mexican land, lady luck was not so kind as she had been for the more wealthy. These people were caught between the fear of violence at the hands of the Mexicans and inflexible immigration laws. They had no other choice but to cross the United States line and suffer deportation.

By September 26, 1931, Douglas’ jail housed some 25 Chinese, all charged with illegal entry. A special train was made up and these prisoners, as well as those captured at Bisbee and Nogales, were taken to Tucson where they were brought up for Federal trial and sentencing. After the trial they were escorted to the West Coast and placed on ships bound for China.

For a time, the Chinese crossed the line in such numbers that they not only swamped the immigration authorities with work but also crowded all of Douglas’ lock-up facilities. The National Guard Armory was used to house the Orientals; it was necessary to have three guards keep the armory under close check.

Because similar conditions existed at both Bisbee and Nogales as well as Douglas, the Federal District Court planned one day sessions in each of the towns to speed up the deportation process. On January 9, 1932, and for the first and only time in her history, Douglas served as the site for a Federal Court. One hundred and forty-nine Chinese were tried and convicted of illegal entry by Judge Sames. The prisoners were handed over to the immigration authorities and started on their long journey home, thus ending a unique episode in Douglas’ border history.

When prohibition was law in the United States, Douglas and Agua Prieta found themselves in the center of a considerable amount of tourist activity. The novelty of Mexico’s wide open cabarets and dance halls was a great lure to a population used to “homebrew” and “bathtub” gin. People would drive to Douglas from considerable distances and find their way across the in-
ternational line. Needless to say, weekends were busy times for the border officials as they were constantly plagued by smugglers all during the prohibition era.

Thru the years, as a customs port handling import-export trade with Mexico, Douglas has never approached the importance of Nogales, Arizona. The offices of the United States Collector of Customs has always been located at Nogales and Douglas' port of entry is directed by a deputy collector of customs.

The main reason for Douglas' secondary position is because Douglas does not have any trade arteries extending into the populated centers of Mexico. Almost all of the imports coming from Mexico into the United States thru Douglas has always been the ore and ore concentrates from Nacozari and the cattle shipments from the ranches of Sonora.

Because Douglas has one of the two bonded customs smelters on the Mexican border, Douglas is of considerable importance. Prior to World War II, the customs port at Douglas handled a relatively prosperous trade. Douglas' position on the border has been the source of much international history between Mexico and the United States.
THE MERGER AND OTHER PHELPS DODGE ACTIVITIES

Expansion programs of 1913 by the Copper Queen and Calumet and Arizona Companies came at a good time for one year later the Great War in Europe began and there was an increased demand for American Copper. The war started a four year cycle of high copper prices as in modern warfare copper is one of the indispenesables.

Labor troubles caused by the International Workers of the World (IWW) during the World War I era never affected the smelters here at Douglas. Efforts to gain entry into Douglas was made by the IWW, but was frustrated by “indignant authorities and citizens.”

During 1918 the Copper Queen Smelter employed approximately 1,600 men and the Calumet and Arizona Smelter employed approximately 700 men. In order to handle effectively the terrific wartime traffic, the El Paso and Southwestern Railway employed over 600 men to keep the tracks and equipment in repair and the rolling stock moving.

The population of Douglas at this time was said to be approximately 17,000. Over $300,000 worth of building was finished in 1918. With the $1,000,000 road bond issue for the paving of the
twenty-five mile stretch between Bisbee and Douglas, these two towns were more closely connected. Phelps Dodge gave a helping hand to this project by subscribing for half of the bond issue. Because of this action by Phelps Dodge, the contracts were let in July, 1918.

After the war, the Douglas residents began to feel the pinch between over-production and disappearing markets. As the price of copper dropped, the production at the smelters steadily decreased. Operating costs were lowered via a series of wage cuts, some reductions as great as twenty percent, that involved all smelter employees.

Acting together in all such matters at this time, the Calumet and Arizona and the Copper Queen let the real blow fall on April 15, 1921 when both smelters closed for the first time since their construction.

The Copper Queen was able to keep several hundred men on the payroll using them for maintenance and repair work. The Calumet and Arizona also kept a few of their employees working by keeping their crushing and boiler plants going for awhile and also some repair work was done at this time as well.

Both companies told their employees as well as the businessmen of Douglas that the shutdown was temporary and work would resume as soon as possible. All employees who waited for the smelters to resume operations would be placed back on the payrolls with their seniority and pension rights intact. For those employees who decided to stick it out, both companies lent financial assistance.

The Salvation Army carried out relief work whenever possible. Some of the harder hit Mexican families were taken to Phoenix where work was available in the cotton fields as workers were needed to harvest the crop. Any further relief was denied any Mexican if he refused this offer of work. Things were so quiet here in Douglas that even the General Manager's office at the Phelps Dodge plant was closed.

On February 1, 1922, after a nine month shut-down, improved market conditions enabled the companies to reopen. The Copper Queen smelter employment was increased to a total of 500 employees. The Calumet and Arizona smelter had a total employment of 320 men. For several years, production was held at less than capacity but by the end of the 1920's, both smelters were once more producing at a busy rate.

In 1926, a new reverberatory and roaster plant was added at the Copper Queen smelter and a lead smelting unit to handle lead production from the Mexican and Arizona mines was added the following year.
Pay increases and increased employment allowed the Douglas residents and merchants to again enjoy a copper inspired prosperity.

On November 17, 1924, disappointment was not only felt but also expressed by citizens of Douglas when the merger of the El Paso and Southwestern Railway with the Southern Pacific was announced as being finalized. Remembering the early differences between the two railroads as well as the hectic battle to build the El Paso and Southwestern, James S. Douglas spoke bitterly against the merger:

"The western division of the El Paso and Southwestern was built in order to get out of the claws of the Southern Pacific. It was built in 1901 and 1902. The Southern Pacific undertook to raise rates on the Copper Queen Co. and the Copper Queen Company undertook to build the El Paso and Southwestern Railroad and they did it. It was built at a cost of about one-half what it would cost to build today—perhaps. It was built to serve mines. It was built with money dug out of the mines, and it is about to be absorbed by the Southern Pacific."

(Douglas Dispatch of 6-19-24)

The one-time spur line connecting Bisbee with Benson later grew into a line boasting 1,140 miles of operating trackage and 4,000 employees. The old-timers of Douglas regarded the merger as a sentimental disappointment, for the old El Paso and Southwestern Railroad had always been regarded with local pride as a symbol of what Bisbee-mined and Douglas-smeltered copper could produce.

As the grip of the depression that followed the infamous crash of 1929, Douglas' workers began to fear a repetition of the 1921 shutdown. The price of copper dropped during 1930 and 1931 reaching a low of 6.25 cents per pound during the month of December, 1931. Production for both smelters were cut in half.

Louis Cates, President of Phelps Dodge, decided to reorganize and fight off the effects of the depression rather than close down. The first step taken by Phelps Dodge was to propose a merger between Calumet and Arizona with the Phelps Dodge Corporation.

The mines at Bisbee, the open pit development at Ajo, and the smelter at Douglas could all be economically consolidated with its own holdings. As a point of fact, Phelps Dodge was running out of copper and needed the rich Calumet and Arizona holdings.

The Board of Directors of the Calumet and Arizona split over the merger with the President, Gordon Campbell, leading the opposition. The merger was favored by the other directors, however, and after a fight that included sending appeals to the
Calumet and Arizona stockholders, Campbell resigned and the path was now cleared for the merger.

A good offer was made by Phelps Dodge to the Calumet and Arizona stockholders which included a stock transfer ratio of 3.25 shares of Phelps Dodge stock for each Calumet and Arizona stock. The Calumet and Arizona stockholders were also to get a special $2.50 cash dividend for each share of their Calumet and Arizona stock. The transaction was approved on September 21, 1931.

Phelps Dodge Corporation capital stock increased to six million shares to handle exchange and over two and one-half million shares of Phelps Dodge stock was transferred.

Some of the other changes that took place as a direct cause of this merger were:

1. The complete shutdown of the Moctezuma mines thus cutting off one supply of ore concentrates to the Douglas Smelter.

2. Train service on the once busy Nacozari Railroad was cut to one train a week. Needless to say, the town was almost totally evacuated as Phelps Dodge bought railroad tickets for some 6,800 people that were returning to the U.S. Rodolfo Calles, Sonora Governor, made a trip to Douglas and appealed the harsh treatment but was unsuccessful.

Changes as the result of the merger were also made as on October 1, 1931, the local staffs of Calumet and Arizona and Phelps Dodge were merged with some department heads from each of the two companies being retained. The Calumet and Arizona Hospital was to remain in use while the dispensary operated by Phelps Dodge was closed.

The former Calumet and Arizona smelter was designated as the one to be permanently operated by Phelps Dodge primarily because of the sulphuric acid plant. The other smelter would remain open only long enough to smelt the remaining ore stock.

Needless to say, tension mounted following this announcement as only 450 men were to be permanently retained after the transfer of operation. In the 1931 annual report, the Phelps Dodge Corporation pointed out that with the two properties operating as a single unit, the result was many economies and cost reductions but the merger made it necessary to cut back on employees and officers.

Several Calumet and Arizona employees who had over twenty-five years to their credit were given a $1,000 settlement as their severance pay.

The future of Douglas now rested on Phelps Dodge’s ability to overcome its difficulties and overthrow the effects of the
depression. Part of Phelps Dodge's problems was the low-cost copper producers of South America and Africa and the overproduction they forced on the market. Mr. Cates led the United States producers in making plans for world curtailment of copper production thus easing the market. During the fall of 1931, secret meetings were held by eighteen men who could speak for 91.9 percent of the world's copper producers. Under Mr. Cates' forceful leadership, a curtailment program was formed.

The depression, however, forced Phelps Dodge into a vast reorganizational program. Plans on controlling its product was designed to withstand the losses of digging and smelting ore. Thru the use of Stock transfers, Phelps Dodge gained control of the Nichols Copper Company and the National Electric Copper Company which welded together a complete cycle in copper making; Bisbee—digs ore with drill and dynamite; Douglas—smelts its 99.2 to 99.4 percent pure blister copper; Laurel Hill, Long Island—refines blister pigs into electrolytic copper (99.5 percent pure); Bayway, New Jersey—squeezes electrolytic copper into wire and four other plants in New York make other copper products.

Conditions had improved to a point where, in 1937, a $2,000,000 expansion and modernization program was called for at the Douglas smelter.

The mines at Nacozari were reopened during 1937 after being closed in September, 1931. As the production demand increased at the smelter, it became necessary to set up a continuous program of repair. During 1940, a program of construction was embarked upon.

A new furnace and converter was installed as well as a new dust collecting system complete with a 565 foot concrete stack. During 1942, another stack reaching a height of 572 feet was constructed at a cost of $300,000.

World War II failed to bring the great boom to the smelter that World War I brought. Low ore production at the mines and labor shortages oftentimes slowed smelter production. A serious loss of production was caused by a serious labor shortage in 1944 and 1945.

Labor troubles in Douglas are a rarity. In 1946, there was a three months strike at the smelter. The chief cause of the strike was the government's price ceiling policy which, when lifted, the wage demand of the workers was met and work once again resumed.

In 1949, a serious setback to Douglas' economy was felt when Phelps Dodge all but ceased copper mining at the Copper Queen Branch and a great many men were laid off both here and at Bisbee. The high cost of operating the Copper Queen Branch and slumping copper prices necessitated this move.
RODEO DAYS IN DOUGLAS, ARIZONA

In 1939, the Douglas Rodeo Association sponsored the first rodeo held in Douglas. It was termed, "The Biggest Little Show in the Southwest." The directors of the rodeo introduced three new features, a night horse show, Indian Days' program and the use of Brahma steers from a Texas ranch in the bucking contest. Both amateur and professional cowboys were encouraged to participate in the events in quest of gold and glory.

The citizens of Douglas entered into the festivities enthusiastically and gaily. Weeks before the rodeo an air of the carnival atmosphere prevailed and almost everyone took a part in the activities. For weeks, scores of men grew beards and fashioned them in all sizes and shapes. The beard contest was to be judged the day before the rodeo began.

Big boots, "ten gallon" hats, loud-colored shirts and other forms of western attire became the order of the day as far as wearing apparel was concerned. Women and boys and girls took an active part in helping to create the necessary atmosphere. A ruling was made that all women must display some article of western or old fashioned attire—either a handkerchief, large hat, boots or special blouse. The men must present at least two articles of western garb.

For those who didn't conform to the rules of the day, they risked being picked up by the vigilantes and promptly hauled before the court which was held on the main street of town. The offenders were then asked the embarrassing question of why they failed to enter into the spirit of the occasion. No excuses were tolerated and fines were levied accordingly by a stern judge. For the few second offenders, the punishment was even more severe than for the first offense.

The City of Douglas overlooked nothing in the way of decorating the streets for this festive occasion. Novel decorations ranging from large fabric steer heads strung above G Avenue to the more simplified street and store window decorations were used from time to time.

The citizens of Douglas overlooked nothing in the way of telling the world about their rodeo. On Sunday afternoons, for a month, the Southern Pacific trains were met with music, dances and crowds staged on the platform to the delight and entertainment of the thrilled passengers. An old time old fashioned shootout was also staged. As the train pulled out from the station, the blare of music by a western orchestra could be heard bidding the visitors a fond farewell and safe journey—also an invitation to come back again.
Western dances were held by young and old alike. Everyone wore the traditional western or old fashioned garb and the western old time dances predominated.

What would the Rodeo celebration be without the two-mile-long parade featuring almost every conceivable contraption which the old timer used for transportation purposes—ore wagons, buggies, burro-drawn carts; men, women and children dressed in the attire of yester-year. No motor drawn vehicles were allowed in this parade. Fun was had by all, and the memories . . .

Another important feature of the Rodeo show was the Livestock Show and agricultural fair also held at this time. Competition ran high and everyone had a good and fun time.

Whenever older residents hear anyone worrying out loud about the present or future of Douglas, they know that the anxious person has lived only a short time in this community. The older residents cannot explain the whys and wherefores, but they declare that after surviving each crisis, the community of Douglas is a little more substantial and confident than before.

The Douglas citizens, as elsewhere in Arizona, are independent thinkers and never hesitate for one moment to express their views. Some insist that everyone must pull together and bring new industry to Douglas. Others say that new industry will come anyhow and, that sometime, Douglas will be a big city. Still others say she is fine like she is and feel the future is assured.

The number of blows the residents of Douglas have taken on their chin sound like verses from the spiritual, NOBODY KNOWS THE TROUBLE I'VE SEEN, but at the close, the intrepid citizens of Douglas say triumphantly, "and look at her now!

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