June, 1951

march and a n. With the trate mounted here all could

eering throng "ship of the paraded the ing thrills de her the mayor d and followed us crowd. In 'on the came!" he necessary to two additional those lined up e bar

ecome tipsy, if fumes that for in the last the knees, re the mayor at pe.

stampeding the tion with his of Gold" ora rst nomination his party, Wil our of the west Incidentally he

r George W ive Democrat d in Knachel's y issue. Then as to the ratio by Bryan. By holding out for when Knachel bout accepting ted by exclaim l do is go after Wall Street g to New Mer York stock es I may.

nt on to Albu ed by a continook to entertain Bryan was fully reception com on.

t along the har 🗸 inks. All except n later years of r alcoholic being served, the t of honor and ryan?"

tuation in which "Well, in order r roof, I'll have

City, was also loons, as were er of the cattle he territory. ducted by a set sheriff of Grant the Apache In taken an active f his experience turesquely chai in the thriling iss Nobody of

ering Gunter. ding on the sta hen a train way ashout. Author from the train sation, "for les to Harvey. "And one of his books nd send me the

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one with his compliments and name writ in

Cowboys from the surrounding cattle ranges would visit Silver City for a period of relaxanon from arduous roundups or relief from ranch routine before cattle were bred behind barbed wire and when huge herds freely grazed at large over many miles of broad, open country.

Those were the days when "roundup" was the general term and "rodeo" scarcely ever beard, even at the tournaments: when cow-tors were not called "cowpokes" and a pistol as that, or a revolver, gun, "hogleg" or sixshooter-never a "six gun."

And the mining camps. . . . Whatever the number of inhabitants none were without an dequate-often excessive-supply of saloons. Bland, with a population at its peak of less Bland, with a population at its peak of less than five hundred persons, had seven—Pax-ton's in a tent, Andy Home's a nule down the canvon, "The Lobby," Arthur Henry's, "O'Connor's Place," "The Option," and "The Philippine," the latter owned by Tom Kline, who was one of those on coming west who and given up their original purpose to save wuls and had gone into the business of quenching thirsts.

"The Option" was conducted by Phil Barber, who had formerly been deputy warden of the territorial penitentiary. He and the **Rev.** Fred T. Bennett, of St. John's Episcopal church of Albuquerque, were both British born natives of the Isle of Jersey, the home of Lily Langtry, an actress famous for her beauty and known as the "Jersey Lily," and the island where Jersey cows originated.

Father Bennett, as he was affectionately called, sometimes visited his fellow countryman, and on one occasion he was seated apart "The Option" while Barber was serving a bunch of boistcrous customers who were whooping it up" at the bar. Their language was loud and loose-and might be expected to shock the religious sensibilities of a man of the cloth.

To avent having his friend offended at something his customers might do or say. Barber approached the elergyman and said: "Father, wouldn't you rather sit outside?"

"Oh, no, Philip; I like to be among the boys.' They can't hurt me, you know.'

It was not unusual for someone to stick his and in the Bland Herald office door and movite: "Come on, Mr. Editor, and have a

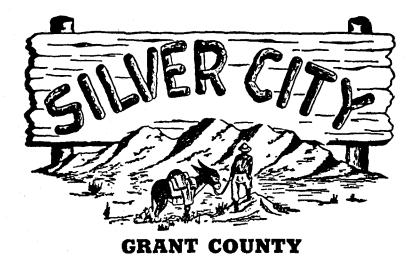
However, the editor was not imbibing, alcoblically. But to refuse was to offend. At the he would pour into his glass the smallest, moticeable quantity of whiskey, tip it into mouth, pretentiously cough and spit it a cuspidor. Now and then more cusers would drift in; more drinks would be them, which was then the manner of a, the wily editor repeated the same process ever swallowing a drop of the contents of 🖬 glass.

As the others were becoming "drunk as the would manage to slip back to his to soler as a judge."

The prevailing magnetism of the saloon of € "gay" days was wittily put by Bill Nyc, celebrated hairless humorist, who would this public appearances with the remark: the work of the most notorious bald-and man in America." On one of his lecture tience. he was addressing an Albuquerque

Do you know?" he exclaimed, "down in no the wind blows so hard that it actually a man past a saloon one day.'

" Gay Days on the Frontier" Lay Front M. Wyntoop, New Mexico Magazine, Vol. 39, no. 6 New Mexico



The Caunty Seat is located in the rolling faothills of the mauntains. The altitude is 6,200 feet. The town came into existence early in 1869 and has a calarful histary, spiced with tales of Apache raids, sagas af Billy the Kid, a silver and gold bananza, saft-handed gamblers and twa-gun cawbays. One af the ariginal settlers af the City, Jahn Bullard, made the discovery of the Chlaride Flat silver bananza; rich packets af almost pure silver were faund. Millions af dallars af virgin silver were removed almost at grass raots. A smelter was erected and the ance sleepy little settlement became a riproaring mining camp.

Today Silver City is a prasperous cammunity with a net papulatian af 8,000. It has a long recard as the shapping center of Sauthwestern New Mexico. It boasts a trade territary af approximately 50,000 persons.

With a climate unexcelled; a beautiful cauntry af rangeland, farms and forest; and untald millians af wealth in the ground, this partion af New Mexica has been truly blessed by a beneficent nature. Far hundreds of years the Indians roamed the rugged mountain country and left much evidence af their having been here. Many fine specimens of pattery and other Indian retics can be found by even the most casual taurist.

The populatian of Grant Caunty is 21,286. It stands third among New Mexica's counties in tatal assessed valuation. The principal industry is mining. The tatal value of metals mined is approximately \$38,792,425.00 annually, aut of a tatal of \$42,350,200.00 for the entire State.

Fram the earliest days, cattle raising has been ane of the major industries in Grant Caunty, the caw cauntry atmosphere still persists. There is an annual cattle crop of aver \$1,500,000.00. This being an arid section of the country, a successful ranch necessarily has to be very large, usually 50 sections or more. Ranches cam-prising 350 sections of land are nat unusual. Alang the Gila River, where there is irrigatian, there are a number of prosperaus forms and fruit archards.

Bank deposits of the American National Bank in Silver City and the Grant County State Bank at Bayard tatal aver \$8,000,000.00.

Silver City **Murray Hotel**

NEW MEXICO'S GREATEST METAL MINING DISTRICT Home Furniture Co. American National Bank

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