

was a lot of quicksand up and down the Colorado. They crossed the desert in one of those famous wet February winters they have in California. There was Indian wheat grass, weeds and water. When they got there the cattle were in better shape than when they left."

Pickrell: "About how many miles do you figure they covered?"

Harry: "You know how far it is from Tucson to Yuma - about 525 miles."

Pickrell: "It was over 500 miles they drove."

Harry: "I would say about 700 miles with the detours for water and one-thing-another."

Pickrell: "They did that because of a little disagreement on the freight rates, didn't they?"

Harry: "Between J. C. Stubbs, who was General Freight & Traffic Manager of the Southern Pacific, whose creed was 'Charge Them all the Traffic Will Bear.' That was his famous creed."

Pickrell: "When did Vail acquire the first property there at the Empire?"

Harry: "He bought it from E. N. Fish in 1876."

Pickrell: "It was just a small outfit then?"

Harry: "E. N. Fish was a merchant here in Tucson. He acquired the property by foreclosure. The former owner failed to pay his bills. There was about a half section of pattered land. He paid \$1,500.00 for the land and 300 head of cattle - more or less."

Pickrell: "That was the start of the Empire?"

Harry: "That was the start of the Empire. There was an old

adobe house there. He built the residence where he lived later just before he was married. He was married about 1888."

Pickrell: "That's what we call the Empire House?"

Harry: "Yes. That's the Empire House. Originally, there was just that big center building in the middle."

Pickrell: "It looks to me that sometime, and I recall having been told, they had a kind of court where they brought the horses in when the Indians were around. Is there anything to that?"

Harry: "Oh, yes. There was an enclosed corral with buildings all around."

Pickrell: "Had a well inside."

Harry: "The horses you were going to ride the next day were always there every night. Never had them out. The pasture was just down below. It was the custom even when I was there to have the horses we were going to ride the next day up in that corral."

Pickrell: "Feed them hay?"

Harry: "Yes."

Pickrell: "A very fine investment, wasn't it?"

Harry: "They used to cut a very beautiful crop of gramma grass right on that big flat across from Headquarters. Every year Mormons came up from St. David and put it up for \$1.50 a ton."

Pickrell: "Did you feed your horses any grain?"

Harry: "Not at all."

Pickrell: "A lot of those horses lived and died and didn't know what grain tasted like."

Harry: "They never knew what it was. I think they would have

died with a stomach-ache if they had."

Pickrell: "Did you have any roughstring riders in those days?"

Harry: "Well every cowboy had to be a roughstring rider.

They had to break their own string or else they didn't ride horses."

Pickrell: "Did they use blinds in those days to break horses?"

Harry: "Yes. We had to use them. I gave Rufus my old blinds that a fellow from Sonora gave me. You either did that or stuck your thumb in their eye and climb on. It was one or the other."

Pickrell: "I'm interested in how that ranch built up."

Harry: "Right after he bought this ranch from Fish then Mr. Vail acquired these other holdings. He commenced to acquire filings. Blas Lopez's father had a filing on the Lopez place. There still is an old adobe there. E. N. Hilton, E. R. Sanfords and other small filings scattered around through the ranch. He later acquired the Leon Conyers ranch out in Whetstone Gap which gave him control of that vast area in there. He acquired those springs along the foothills of the Whetstones. Any place he could buy a small ranch that had a spring or running water, he'd buy it."

Pickrell: "He didn't have to pump much water in those days?"

Harry: "Nobody pumped water. There weren't any pumps at all. You didn't consider the land worth anything unless it had spring or running water."

Pickrell: "Just think of that. They had the old horse power pump at the ranch?"

Harry: "Oh yes. I'm talking about these gasoline pumps, wind-mills and things of that kind. They have many of them now all through that area."

Pickrell: "What did they pay cowboys in those days? What were your wages?"

Harry: "I got \$15.00 a month and found as a new hand. After two years I got \$20.00; three years, \$25.00. The old hands ran about \$30.00. Tom Turner got \$70.00 or \$75.00 as foreman running 30,000 head of cattle. I don't think they ever really knew how many cattle they had. They tallied the calves and estimated."

Pickrell: "What did they keep the ears on? Wire?"

Harry: "That was the best way to do it."

Pickrell: "You got to be manager eventually?"

Harry: "I got to be manager in 1900. Mr. Vail went to California in 1896. Tom left. We got a fellow, H. J. MacFaddin from San Luis Obispo County, to act as foreman and run the ranch."

Pickrell: "How old were you at that time?"

Harry: "I was 26 when I became manager."

Pickrell: "You had had experience in every part of the ranch by that time, hadn't you?"

Harry: "I guess I had. Everything from horse herder on up."

Pickrell: "You hauled your supplies from Tucson?"

Harry: "Always from Tucson. With six mule teams."

Pickrell: "The skinner of the team was the Irishman you were telling me about?"

Harry: "Jim Brady. He had retired when I came there. I put on another boy to drive the team. A California boy drove the team."

Pickrell: "The Irishman was the fellow that couldn't read or

write."

Harry: "That was Jim Brady. He had a little store at Pantano where he used to sell Anheuser-Busch beer, sardines, tomatoes and things of that kind. He was quite a character himself."

"This is a story about his bookkeeping that was told to me by Tom Turner and which I think is true."

"He kept his money in two buckskin pouches. One he kept in his pocket on the right and the other in the left pocket. From the pouch on the left side he deposited the daily receipts from his business and from the pouch on the right he paid out the money for the supplies for his store. When the pouch on the right side became empty he replenished from the other side."

"He had a wonderful memory. The boys at the ranch ran accounts at the store. Sometimes it was three or four months before they drew their pay. They would then go down to Jim's to pay their bill. He knew just what it was."

"Jim had to keep everything right in his head. He knew the total of each boys bill at all times."

Pickrell: "B. A. Packard has told me about stopping overnight at the Empire Ranch when he lived at Tombstone enroute to Tucson."

Harry: "He used to stop there many times. He and Mr. Vail, you know, were great lovers of driving horses. One of my functions there which I used to do was break teams for Mr. Vail so he could out point Packard in driving to Tucson."

Pickrell: "It was a pretty good drive from the ranch in for a day."

Harry: "All day, yes. Forty-five miles down hill. Take us a

day to come in and about a day-and-a-half to go back. It was all up hill going back."

Pickrell: "Did they have a race?"

Harry: "Oh no. They didn't do that. They gloried in having a good team and getting in town here and putting them up at Chris Christenson's old livery stable and getting them all shined up; then going out in the evening here and showing off a little bit down the Main Street."

Pickrell: "Daddy Packard told me about that one time."

Harry: "They were both good horsemen. Both those fellows. Splendid drivers."

Pickrell: "I first knew Daddy Packard when he had the Turkey Track Ranch over at Tempe. Daddy told me once about having difficulty getting something to eat there at the ranch when Mr. Vail was gone. Mr. Vail had told the Chinese cook to quit feeding the tramps."

Harry: "I don't know about that."

Pickrell: "And so Daddy had quite a time getting something to eat. The Chinaman didn't know him. It was quite a story he told me years ago."

Harry: "I don't know about that. You see I was in camp most of the time when I was there. I wasn't hanging around the ranch house very much."

Pickrell: "Did you have any trouble with rustling during that period?"

Harry: "No."

Pickrell: "In those days before we had brand inspection laws you

had to be at the railroad and do your own inspecting if anybody shipped?"

Harry: "Yes. That really brought about the creation of the Livestock Sanitary Board. Inspectors were appointed."

Pickrell: "You were there when they had the Arizona Rangers, weren't you?"

Harry: "Oh yes."

Pickrell: "Were they good or bad for you people?"

Harry: "We thought they were wonderful because after all these local sheriffs around here were subject to political control. The Rangers weren't. They had the right of entry anywhere throughout the territory."

Pickrell: "They didn't last too long though, did they?"

Harry: "No. They weren't too popular."

Pickrell: "Bert Mossman was the first Captain?"

Harry: "He was the first Captain. Tom Rynning succeeded him. I think they were invaluable but they were not popular. You can imagine. They jailed too many fellows and did away with too many. Sent them on their way to Yuma. I don't know what happened to them. They said they ran away. What do you call it? What do the Mexicans call it? It means you're escaping. Let's see. 'The Law of Flight.' But all these fellows, queer to say, were shot in the back."

Pickrell: "You were the first Secretary of the Arizona Cattle Growers?"

Harry: "Yes."

Pickrell: "Tell us how that came about."

Harry: "The Rangers were not popular at that time at all. They weren't being supported so B. A. Packard and this man from Phoenix - "

Pickrell: "Heard?"

Harry: "Heard."

Pickrell: "Dwight Heard?"

Harry: "Dwight Heard, Colin Cameron, Walter Vail and Sturges of the Los Osos, who was the chairman of the Livestock Sanitary Board, decided the Rangers needed some moral support. They proposed a meeting of the Cattlemen here at the Elks Club in Tucson in February of 1904 to see if they couldn't organize an Association. The name wasn't determined at that time. There was an informal meeting here at that time. None Bernard presided."

"Sominiego was there and other local cattlemen. Dick Brady was in on the deal. From that meeting (that sort of an impromptu meeting) developed the desire to really organize an Association legally and have it called the Arizona Cattlemen's Association. It was suggested then that we move on to Phoenix for the next meeting in February of 1905 and perfect it properly. By that time we got J. H. McKittrick of Willcox interested and Billie Riggs and others from that area. We also got some from northern Arizona; Manford Cartwright and others. They all met at the courthouse in Phoenix in February, 1905."

Pickrell: "My father was in the legislature of that year."

Harry: "Was he? They proceeded to organize. They had Frank

Cox there as an attorney to advise them. He was interested in cattle in a small way too."

Pickrell: "He had a brother who was quite an extensive rancher."

Harry: "It was launched with McKitrick - Captain McKitrick of Willcox as President and myself as Secretary."

Pickrell: "What salary did you draw as secretary?"

Harry: "Zero."

Pickrell: "What salary did Captain McKitrick draw?"

Harry: "Zero too. All our services were donated gratis at that time. We only had sixty members to start with."

Pickrell: "What was the membership fee?"

Harry: "Membership fee at that time, as I recall it, was \$10.00. It was the nominal fee just for joining. You paid according to your pocketbook the rest of the time."

Pickrell: "Through that activity you knew quite a good many of the leaders in the cattle business."

Harry: "Eventually I got to know them. Just from contacts and letter writing and associating with them."

Pickrell: "Who were some of the ones you recall - those old timers?"

Harry: "In my immediate area around here as I mentioned, Colin Cameron, R. Richardson and Sominiego, None Bernard and Dick Brady. Here at Tucson, Pusch and Zellowieger, Bayless and Berklew."

"The Northern fellows Captain McKitrick was really better acquainted with. He knew more of them than I did. I was pretty busy and he had more time. He was a cattle owner. I was an employee."

He had plenty of time to travel around and get acquainted with these fellows. I was being paid a salary to work out at the Empire. Not to day anything else. Mr. Vail just let me go."

Pickrell: "You kept the books and allocated the money?"

Harry: "I didn't do that really. I had a secretary to take care of that. She got nothing. Just a girl that volunteered her services up there in Phoenix."

Pickrell: "Before you got in the cattle business how far had you gone in school?"

Harry: "Me? Oh, I quit school when I was fifteen. I went first year of high school that's all. My father died when I was fifteen years old and left my mother very heavily in debt. There wasn't anything for me to do but quit school and go to work."

Pickrell: "But you did develop quite an ability in bookkeeping, didn't you?"

Harry: "Oh, I know some."

Pickrell: "Somehow I have the impression that you knew more about the Empire accounts than anybody."

Harry: "I did that because the bookkeeper, J. C. Oliver, died shortly after I came there in 1893. I brought him into St. Mary's Hospital here. He had difficulty in getting a bookkeeper those days to live out at the ranch. He had married Mrs. Vail's sister, Charlotte Newhall, and there was quite a turmoil then to get a new bookkeeper. We finally got one to care for the books. The main books of the outfit were kept in Los Angeles."

Pickrell: "You didn't have to figure on income tax in those days."

Harry: "Oh no. We had no foresters then either. We had no