

Tales Of TERLINGUA



November, 1973

Tales of Terlingua, 1902, Told

Coming to our attention as it did, just on the heels of the very interesting trail ride into the Mexican state of Chihuahua in mid-September, the discovery of an interesting published account of the Texas and Mexican areas within 100 miles of Terlingua was especially interesting.

The book is "Pioneer Surveyor — Frontier Lawyer." It is especially rec-

Hunt Club Area Representatives

The Hunt Club rules governing the 1973 hunting season were drawn up by a special Terlingua Hunt Committee composed of Terlingua Ranch property owners. The rules and regulations adopted by that committee were mailed to property owners earlier this year, and are reviewed elsewhere in this issue.

Your area representatives may be contacted about questions concerning the adopted rules pertaining to hunting in the Terlingua area. They are:

Houston — Mr. Earl L. Wilson, 745 International Blvd., 77024.

San Antonio — Col. Kenneth Ports, 910 Northridge, 78209.

El Paso — Mr. Leland E. DeFord, 4627 Harcourt, 79924.

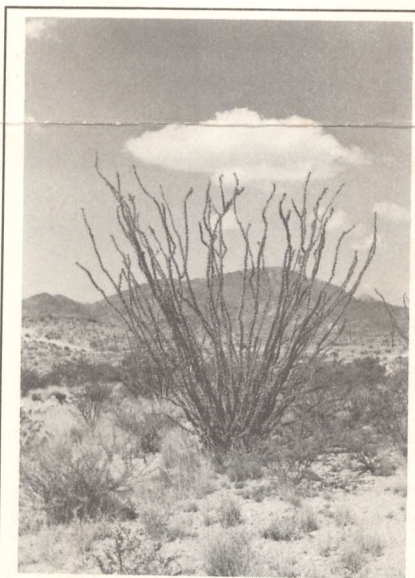
Austin — Mr. Roy Van Cleve, Rt. 9, Box 737-E, 78703.

Dallas — Mr. C. G. Young, 3738 Walnut Hill Lane, 75229.

Corpus Christi — Mr. Van A. Rousseau, 2401 Retta St. 78418.

ommended reading for those who would like to get an authentic and fascinating perspective on the folklore — rich in Indian and Mexican tradition — and commentaries about the geology and the flora and fauna of the Terlingua area in the period reported, some 70 years ago, in 1902.

S. D. Myres has done an excellent job of assembling, editing and providing amplifying footnotes, references, explanatory passages and bibliography. He has taken the writings of Oscar Waldo Williams, who was a lawyer, surveyor, and eventually a county judge at Fort Stockton, in Pecos County. These writings consisted of a diary, or journal, and of letters written to family and friends. Myers' work is an important reference source for much of Texas, and his compilation of Williams' material is of interest to the casual reader or serious historian. It is published by Texas Western Press.



This is an ocotillo plant, a familiar sight in the Big Bend country. Many of the native plants at Terlingua have exotic names of Spanish or Indian origin.

William was a Harvard law school graduate. His formal education prepared him uniquely to observe, interpret and record a wide spectrum of activity, from historical and political to cultural and scientific. Texas historians are indeed fortunate that a person of such qualifications came to the state and left the impressions of a keen mind and an acute observer.

Since Williams was part of a surveying party in Brewster County, his opportunity to make exact and unhurried observations was ideal. One example of his attention to detail and analytical curiosity is revealed in his identification of a tree known as bois d'arc, also known as osage orange, not native to the Big Bend. His speculation about how they came to be there is interesting.

He also writes at length about the native plants, such as sotol, lechugilla, lantana and ocotillo. Again, he investigated, to some extent, evidences of old Indian dwelling sites, finding numerous flint flakes in one location, which led him to speculate that here was where arrowheads, spear heads and other stone implements were made.

But the passages that make the most interesting reading for anyone who has made the trip from Lajitas, Mexico to San Carlos, Chihuahua are those telling of Williams' own journey over approximately the same route taken on the recent trail ride made by Terramar Adventure Club members.

His description of one place in particular, Matadero Ranch, is absorbing. The Adventure Club riders stopped at Matadero to have lunch and rest. There they saw the very same pomegranate, peach, pear and apple trees that Williams described in his 1902 visit.

It is certainly a valuable book for anyone whose interests lie in that area of Texas.

TERLINGUA SCENE

Patrol Service

K. D. West, who is in charge of security at Terlingua Ranch, is planning to establish a private security force that will offer property owners a means of having their tracts and improvements thereon checked, on a regular patrol basis. It will be known as Comanche Trails Security Service.

West says he will soon receive his license from the State Board of Security Guards and Private Investigators. Once the firm is established, qualified, professional men will be employed, using fully-equipped vehicles with two-way radio to look after the interests of the property owners who engage the services on a contract basis.

West is interested in receiving an indication from property owners who desire to engage these services. He has quoted a \$25 yearly contract for the regular patrol service. Those interested in learning more details may write to him at this address: K. D. West, Comanche Trails Security Service, Terlingua Ranch Rte. Box 220, Alpine, Texas 79380.

New Package Store

The newest addition to the Terlingua Scene is the Corazone Package Store, owned by Mr. Howard W. Johnson, of Houston, and operat-

ed by Mrs. Walter (Jimmie) Harper. Although they do not yet have electric power, the store is open for business, carrying popular brands of liquors and beer. The store is located about 10 miles from the highway on the main ranch road, or about seven miles before reaching the Ranch headquarters. They are closed on Tuesdays.

Field Dressing Deer

The Texas Parks and Wildlife Department has consented to the use of a reprint of an article they published, "Now That You've Killed It...", which gives step by step detail, with illustrations, about field dressing deer. This article will accompany this month's mailing of Tales of Terlingua. Many will probably want to file this helpful information, or pass it along to someone who needs it.

Halloween Carnival

The Terlingua school will hold a Halloween carnival on October 27, 1973 to raise funds for school activities. A spooky atmosphere is assured for this event, as it will be held in the old commissary building in the ghost town of Terlingua. Make plans to include this in your activity schedule if you are in the area on that date. It's for a good cause and should be a memorable occasion.

Great Chili Cookoff

The Halloween carnival is held on the weekend preceding the Great Chili Cookoff. This fabulous culinary contest will be held in Terlingua Town on November 3, 1973 according to our sources. All in all, the two weekends have something to offer everyone, in case you'd like to be there.

Unclaimed Items

The following items are being held at the sales office at Terlingua ranch, awaiting identification and claiming by their owners. If you recognize an item you misplaced at the Ranch, contact the Customer Relations Department of Terramar, and you will receive their assistance. Of course, you may also reclaim them by identifying them as yours on your next visit to the Ranch.

Brown leather wallet, containing one dollar, with the name, "Billy" in it.

Gold frame prescription glasses.

Polaroid Land pack film, black and white.

Man's or boy's western belt with steer head buckle.

Coin purse, brown leather, five cents in it.

Sunglasses, black frame, may be prescription..

Glasses case, black leather, with blue sunglasses.

Don't be a No-Show

A continuing problem of "no shows" is being experienced with regard to Terlingua facilities. It has been necessary occasionally to turn away persons who desire accommodations at the Ranch when apparently all the facilities had been spoken for, only to find later that they have remained unused when those reserving them did not show up to claim them.

Please, when you find that you will be unable to use the facilities you have reserved at Terlingua, pick up the telephone and advise the Terramar Customer Relations Department on one of the toll-free numbers. For Texas residents the toll-free number is 800-292-5219, and for residents of other states it is 800-531-5515. Please be considerate of other property owners; who knows, next time YOU might get one of those last-minute reservations!



UP-TO-DATE HITCHING RAIL has parking meter, but it's all in fun. This unusual parking arrangement is in front of Snake Smith's place, The Big Bender.