

## **W. S. MCKNIGHT**

Contributed by Elizabeth Burns

Arizona, The Youngest State, 1913, page 757

W.S. McKnight, who is now capably and satisfactorily filling the office of sheriff of Santa Cruz County, being the first to hold that office under the state laws, was born in White County, Illinois, October 12, 1864. He spent his childhood and youth in that section, coming to Arizona on the 12th of April 1887, and associating himself with mining interests which held his attention for many years. For a time he was connected with the Hudson and Bent Company at that time operating the Humboldt Camp gold and silver mine. He remained with them for six years and then went to the Arinoca mine in the old Con-Arizona mill. He remained there for two years, finally abandoning mining and turning his attention to the butcher business in the Oro Blanco district. He afterward resumed his mining operations in Montana camp, where he helped to erect the Old Glory Stamp Mill, of which he later became superintendent. He worked in the Oro camp as milman for some time, going finally to Crittenden, where he acted as ranch foreman for R.R. Richardson on the Pennsylvania ranch. Two years later he went to Patagonia and formed a partnership with W.H. Barnett in the butcher business, with which he was connected until 1899 when he came to Nogales.

After spending a year in the butcher business in Nogales, Mr. McKnight was appointed mounted customhouse inspector for three years, then received the government contract to furnish beef and grain to Fort Huachuca for four years. In 1910 he established himself as a general merchant in Tubac and in the fall of 1911 he was elected sheriff of Santa Cruz County and again took up his residence in Nogales.

Mr. McKnight married Miss Geneva Crocomb, a native of California and they have nine children: William M., Josephine, Edmund, Raymond, Edna, Earl, Mabel, Earl and Wilber.

## **CHARLES J. MEHAN**

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History of Arizona, 1896

Charles J. Mehan was born in the town of Franklin, Province of Quebec, Canada, May 15, 1860 and his education was received in the public schools. He left that place for Chateaugay, New York when eighteen and there learned the carpenter

trade; went to Leadville, Colorado, in April 1880 and there worked at carpentering until May 1882 and then went to Idaho. In September 1882 he went to Tombstone, Arizona where he first engaged in mining, but later resumed his trade, which he continued until his removal to Nogales, in February 1886. He continued his former occupation until June 1886 when he was given the position as clerk in the International Hotel. In August 1888 he engaged in mining at Sonora, Mexico but the fall of 1892 was elected to the Territorial Legislature and after serving his term embarked in the ice business in Nogales. This business he continued but one year when he was appointed U.S. Chinese Inspector for Arizona.

His home is at Nogales and he is engaged in stock ranching. Mr. Mehan was married March 27, 1895 to Miss Ada Exton, a native of England but a resident of California when married.

## **EDWARD L. MIX**

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Arizona, The Youngest State, 1913

On the roster of county officials in Santa Cruz County appears the name of Edward L. Mix, clerk of the Superior Court and Court Commissioner. Practically his entire life has been spent in Nogales and his history is well known to his fellow townsmen who have always found him a reliable and enterprising citizen.

He was born in Fargo, North Dakota, October 31, 1888, but when two years of age accompanied his parents on their removal to Nogales where he has since resided. He acquired his education in the graded and high schools of the city and after laying aside his textbooks worked for two years for his uncle, L.W. Mix, in the mining district of Sonora. After for six years he was identified with the Roy and Titocmb Company in Nogales, severing this connection in 1911 when he was elected Clerk of the Superior Court.

On July 20, 1915, Mr. Mix was married at Nogales to Miss Clara Lona Lerg of Phoenix.

## **ADOLPHUS H. NOON**

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Arizona, The Youngest State, 1913, page 660

Dr. Adolphus H. Noon, physician and surgeon, pioneer of Arizona, mine developer and able politician, was born in London, England, in 1838. He spent his childhood in his native city and at the age of fifteen years went to South Africa, where he began the study of medicine under Dr. John Eglinton, an East Indian physician. He completed his medical course, however, in San Francisco, and there practiced his profession until 1878, in which year he came to Arizona, among the early settlers of the state. He remained for a short time in Tucson and then settled in Nogales, where he has since resided.

He was one of the first settlers in the Oro Blanco district and has since given a great deal of his time to the exploitation and development of the region. He has large mining interests in Oro Blanco and extensive property holdings there. He was the Chairman of the Board of Supervisors when Santa Cruz County was formed. He has held the positions of Clerk of the District Court and Court Commissioner and was later elected first representative to the Territorial Legislature on the democratic ticket, an office which he held for one term, beginning in 1901. He served for two years as Mayor of Nogales, his administration extending from 1910-1911.

Dr. Noon married Miss Emma C.E. Slaughter, a native of England and they have five children: Adolphus S., Arthur H., Edward E., Samuel F. and Mrs. Sarah Renshaw. Dr. Noon has also twenty two grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

## **SABINO OTERO**

Contributed by Elizabeth Burns

Arizona, The Youngest State, 1913

Sabino Otero, now deceased, was a descendant of one of the early Spanish settlers in Arizona and was a representative of the fourth generation of his family, his great-grandfather having located here when this section of the southwest was still the property of Spain. He was born on the old historic family ranch at Tubac, in the vicinity of Nogales on the 29th of December 1846, a son of Manuel Otero. This old family has but one surviving representative, Teofilo Otero, the brother of our subject.

The boyhood and youth of Sabino Otero were passed on the home ranch which formed one of the Spanish grants and when little more than a boy he participated in the Indian wars. He subsequently acquired some land six miles south of Tubac on which he installed a crude system of irrigation and raised corn. He sold his crops to the U.S. Military post established nearby for the protection of the settlers, whose safety was constantly menaced at that time by the Indians. For a number of years he also engaged in freighting for the government to Fort Bowie but the Indians gave so much trouble that he disposed of his outfit and invested the proceeds in a herd of cattle from Texas. He was still troubled by the Indians, who drove off his cattle and finally obtained permission from the Mexican government at Sonora to drive his herds across the border and for five years ranged his cattle on the prairies of Mexico. He then brought them back to his ranch, ranging them on the old home place, which comprises three hundred acres. For many years, Mr. Otero resided in Tucson which was an old Spanish settlement when he first came here and contained but few settlers. He related many interesting experiences of the early days, when the U.S. government maintained a military post in Tucson in order to protect the inhabitants from the Indians. He watched with interest the growth and development of the city which with its many beautiful residences, fine hotels and large shops bears little resemblance to the Tucson of fifty years ago.

## **HARRY J. PATTERSON**

Contributed by Elizabeth Burns  
History of Arizona, page 508

Harry J. Patterson, the very capable Sheriff of Santa Cruz County has had extensive experience as a peace officer and is performing his duties in a very creditable manner. He was born in Junction City, Texas on the 14th day of October 1888 and is a son of N.C. and E.L. Patterson. His father, who is a jeweler, is still living at Junction City and the mother also survives.

H.J. Patterson received his education in the public schools of Junction City and after graduating from high school took up the occupation of an automobile mechanic. In July 1912 he came to Arizona and engaged in the garage business at Patagonia, Santa Cruz County. Later he became a member of the Arizona Rangers and also served for four years as Deputy Sheriff at Patagonia. From 1923 to 1928 he served as under sheriff of Santa Cruz County and so satisfactory was his discharge of duty that he was then elected to the office of Sheriff in which position he is now serving.

On September 16, 1916 he married Mabel M. Sipe of Patagonia.

## **A. L. PECK**

Contributed by Elizabeth Burns

Arizona, The Youngest State, 1913, page 662

A.L. Peck, whose interest in Arizona's mining property, as a prospector, locator and developer has made him a powerful factor in the growth of this great industry of the state.

Mr. Peck was born in Chautauqua County, New York, in March 1845, but in childhood left the Empire State and went to Minneapolis, Minnesota and from there to Eureka, Nevada where he located in 1874. He afterward engaged in mining at Virginia City, going from there in 1880 to Bodie California and thence to the gold mines in Sonora, Mexico. There he became connected with the Preatus Mining Company, controlling important gold ore properties and operating a forty stamp mill. . He remained there five years and in 1887 came to Nogales, turning his attention to ranching. He bought land near the Tumacacori Mission and developed it until his wife and child were killed by Apache Indians. After this great misfortune Mr. Peck sold his ranch and his cattle and returned to the mines of Sonora, later coming to Nogales to accept the position of Superintendent of the Promontory Mining Company, located thirty miles from Nogales. After three years he purchased a part of the international strip, sixty feet wide, which ran through Nogales, and in 1899 he added to his activities by establishing a livery business, with which he has since been connected. Mr. Peck still has mining interests in this part of the country, holding seven claims in the 3rd of May grant, three miles from the famous 3R's Mine. He was the original locator of the property owned by the Crescent Copper Company, whose claims are in Washington Camp and the Four Metal district. Sometime after the murder of his first wife, Mr. Peck was again married to Miss Carmen Cainas, and they have four children, Mrs. Mary Salaido, Lola, Arthur and Natalia.

## **ANTONIO PROTO**

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History of ArizoNa, 1896

Antonio Proto, brother of Luis, was born in Beria, Macedonia in 1844 and came to the United States in 1873 and was naturalized August 19, 1875 at San Francisco, Cal. He is a member of the firm of Proto Brothers, dealers in general merchandise.

## **LUIS PROTO**

Contributed by Elizabeth Burns  
History of Arizona, 1896

Luis Proto, of Proto Brothers, general merchants and ranchers, was born of Greek parentage at Beria, Macedonia, December 24, 1854. He came to New York in 1879 and from there went to St. Louis, Mo., San Francisco and Santa Cruz, Cal., where he engaged in the drug business. He came to Tucson Arizona and then Tombstone in 1882 engaging in general merchandise and shortly afterward moved to Nogales where he has resided ever since. He here has taken an active interest in public affairs and was president of the Nogales Protective Assoc. organized to fight the Mexican land Grant upon which Nogales was situated, which was successfully accomplished.

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