

# The Bisbee Daily Review

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## THE GREAT STATE OF ARIZONA

is enjoying a wonderful era of prosperity. Every portion of the magnificent trade territory tributary to this section is fairly reveling in good times. The great mining interests of Arizona have entirely recovered from the depression incident to the European war. Copper is selling for gilt-edged prices and the men who dig and delve in the mines are the recipients of a just share of the prevailing prosperity. They are paid good wages and are in turn able to pay for what they get and contribute materially to the general prosperity. New mines are being developed and all along the line of our mineral resources there is renewed life and irrepressible activity.

No other state in the Union is so signally blessed at this time. In Arizona there is no talk of hard times. Money is easy for all legitimate enterprises. New people are constantly locating in the state and expressing wonder at the prosperous conditions that prevail here. All these economic blessings prompt the

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## ARIZONA—A FORCEFUL FOREWORD

By FREDERIC E. STURDEVANT

**W**HEN the question of Statehood for Arizona was first broached, a protest arose from many of those men who constituted the pioneer element; men who had conquered almost insurmountable obstacles in reaching the Territory and whose unconquerable spirit alone kept them here to continue the struggle for success. Fortune meant much, perhaps most, to these men. Fame did not attract them. That might follow if it would. This does not signify that these men were mercenaries and nothing more. To the joy of fortune-hunting was added the zest of fighting against handicaps imposed by Nature. Arizona not only hid her prizes deep in the earth but covered them with crushing barriers of age-old rock. If wealth was found, well and good. If failure was encountered, it did not matter overmuch. Arizona's pioneers met Destiny with a smile.

These men loved Arizona almost passionately. It was a man's work to overcome the handicaps she imposed. They actually resented the elimination of such handicaps as were within human power to reduce. They had little liking for salutary laws or living easements. They were content to continue a scheme of things in which each man was a law unto himself. Acceptance of conditions which would smooth their paths was regarded somewhat as a sign of weakness. They were willing, nay insistent, to endure under primitive rules in this game of life.

Many of these pioneers are living in Arizona today. The spirit of those who have passed lingers here. Ghosts of Territorial days haunt every mountain range, every far-flung desert, every broad-bosomed valley.

Is Arizona of **TODAY** living too little in the present and too much in the past? Shall Arizona wait until the glamor of tradition abates; until tradition is devitalized, before entering unanimously into a new era which will make for a better and a bigger State?

There is waiting at our portals today a force which stands for progress. This force is **CAPITAL**. Traditional sentiment and **CAPITAL** are not good bedfellows. **CAPITAL** turns a cold shoulder to romance-gilded tradition although the web and woof of such romance may be woven in deeds whose accomplishment entailed noble sacrifices. **CAPITAL** stands for higher standards along every line. It seeks laws for the protection of its home and chattels. But **CAPITAL** is no more than a co-partner in a firm which bears a short name, "**INDUSTRY.**" The other partner is **LABOR**. **CAPITAL** cannot hope to succeed if it fails to play fair with **LABOR**. The home of **INDUSTRY** will pull the roof down upon its occupants if **LABOR** fails to work in harmony with its housemate.

Anyone sincerely interested in the welfare of Arizona blinds himself to facts by refusing to admit the absence of such a degree of industrial harmony as should prevail. The old spirit of the chase exists today. The predatory instinct of the pioneer who took all he could secure by right of might, has not been overcome. Also, malcontents from other states—agitators who have been outlawed from other communities—are taking advantage of Arizona while she is passing through the formative stage. They persist in influencing untutored minds.

Something of the nonchalance of the gambler still possesses Arizona. The play is for high stakes. Winnings and losses are reckoned in copper, in silver, in gold, in zinc and other metals, precious or base. Mining is **THE** industry. Cattle raising and agriculture are largely localized. Even the professions flourish or decline in response to the fluctuations of mining.

It would be idle to deny that commercialism reigns in Arizona to the exclusion of amenities. Arizona industry has a way of going about its business coatless, collarless and with its sleeves rolled up. In such garb, our pioneers were active. Industry devotes all too little time to affairs outside its mart.

Reluctantly and with misgivings, Statehood was undertaken and votes were placed in the hands of the people. But for whom would they vote? Elementary qualifications in candidates were about all that people sought. If a man had proved in Territorial days that he was commercially successful or possessed qualities indicating that he was a leader of men, it was taken to mean that he was eligible for office. Hence, a Chief Executive was brought forth from an obscurity in which he should have never been disturbed. But how were the people to know this without trial? Men woefully ignorant of laws and their drafting were made legislators. But how were the people to discover their unpreparedness in the absence of test? Citizens best qualified to act as public officials refused to serve. They either declined to volunteer business sacrifices which would result from time spent in public service or they knew their chances of election were almost nil. They were not of the original stock of Arizona.

Candidates unqualified for office sought acclaim by appealing to ignorance. Ignorance responded with acclaim. Half-baked ideas which their sponsors believed were adaptable to statutory enactment were moulded into so-called laws. That these vaporings might run counter to the Constitution of the United States, was not taken into consideration. That they might profit a class at the expense of the mass, was ignored. Prejudice received a welcome while brotherly-love, pleading for the common cause was turned away. Men were not ready to accept as true that "a little knowledge is a dangerous thing."

But that was **YESTERDAY**. Arizona of **TODAY** is looking courageously and with merited confidence to the future. Arizona is **AWAKE** and **THINKING**. Arizona is correcting the faults of the heart by bringing the head into consultation. It is not easy to say good-bye to the wild, glad ways of other days. But **PROGRESS** cannot be denied, nor should it be. The mantle of uncouthness must be dropped from Arizona. Uncouthness is not a virtue. Men fitted for public office must make personal sacrifices when called upon to serve Arizona. Summary treatment must be imposed upon brazen enemies of the Commonwealth. Huntism—in distinction from Hunt, the man—has been proven an abomination. As a malign factor contributing to the adoption of ridiculous laws, to discord and extravagance, Huntism must be relegated to the chamber of horrors as an object lesson for Arizona's posterity. Necessarily, Hunt will return to the obscurity out of which he was lured by vanity and surplus sentimentality.

Capital must be guaranteed against confiscatorial perils and in recognition of just treatment must make return in just treatment of Labor. Labor must deal squarely with Industry, and as the price for prosperity and contentment make payment in the coin of loyalty and efficient co-operation.

Economic discord and legislative riot no longer have places in Arizona's progress. The entire State is aroused to the needs of **TODAY**. Tomorrow's dawn will find Arizona acting more truly toward herself; conserving as much of the substance of those vital and vitalizing traditions as is good for practical use; dismissing without regret those erstwhile glamors whose values had to do with the picturesque but not the practical.

Arizona of tomorrow will be infinitely bigger and brighter and more liveable than the Arizona of yesterday even suggested.

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