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Editor's Introduction

Elizabeth Jameson

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Editor's Introduction

With this volume of the *New Mexico Historical Review* we inaugurate a new Documents Department. In addition to articles, book reviews, and book notes, we will print historical documents so that readers can experience first-hand the original materials that historians use in our research. We welcome your comments and suggestions on this new feature.

Our document for this issue speaks to the theme of ethnic identity that links three otherwise different articles. Nicholas P. Ciotola conducted oral history interviews to explore the experiences of Italians who immigrated to Albuquerque from 1900–1930. Roy Lujan used a more traditional source, the papers of a prominent politician, to narrate the career of United States Senator Dennis Chavez from 1933–1946. The Chavez Papers are housed at the University of New Mexico's Center for Southwest Research. Ann M. Massman, Southwest Studies Librarian and Assistant Professor at the Center, mined another of its archival collections, the Huning-Fergusson Papers, to reproduce the memoir of Clara Huning Fergusson. Her memoir, which helps introduce the Documents Department, is the retrospectively recorded story of a woman who grew up in a prominent Albuquerque German immigrant family; she later married Harvey Butler Fergusson, the state's first Congressional Representative. In a sense, Clara Huning Fergusson bridges the perspectives of the other two articles through her intimate recollections of an Albuquerque immigrant community and of her personal relationships with many prominent and powerful New Mexicans.

The three articles present a range of sources and perspectives, varying from Clara Huning Fergusson's personal and private memories of the Euro-American elite, to the collective portrait of Italian settlement Nicholas Ciotola gleaned from oral history interviews, to the public political achievements of Senator Chavez. These essays take readers from the intimate details of daily life to national arenas of public policy. They also provide a reminder of the rich diversity of New Mexico's heritage. From Italian and German immigrants to one of the most prominent Hispanic politicians of the twentieth century, we explore the distinct histories and ethnic identities of Europeans who forged two strands of our "tricultural" history.

Our new Documents Department further illustrates the connection of sources with diverse histories. We reproduce two newspaper stories from the 1907 *Albuquerque Morning Journal*, which report a robbery at the New York Saloon. The proprietor, Pete Zito, immigrated to Albuquerque in the early 1900s, and was part of the Italian immigrant community chronicled in our lead article. This public print document presents a different window into Italian business experience than the more personal stories Nicholas Ciotola collected. We thank Mo Palmer of the Albuquerque Museum who provided the biographical sketches of Pete and Angela Barbieri Zito that establish context for the newspaper documents.

On a more mundane note, we regretfully announce that with this issue, the price of subscriptions to the *Review* will increase to \$28 a year for individuals, and \$48 for institutions. The *Review* is supported by your subscriptions and by legislative funding. While we must pass on part of increased publishing costs to our readers, we also rely on state appropriations to help fund our educational mission and our student staff. If you appreciate the journal, please recognize the efforts and the talent of the UNM students who produce it; please express your appreciation and support to your legislators.

One of the unavoidable rhythms of a teaching journal is the periodic departures of our student staff as they achieve professional success. With this issue we bid farewell to both Assistant Editor Shirley Linder, who is in the process of finishing her Master's degree in the history of the American West, and Assistant Editor Carlos Solomon. Carlos is a doctoral student in Latin American history, with a minor field in the history of the American West. He recently passed his doctoral examinations and is leaving Albuquerque to research his dissertation on Pio Pico. Congratulations, Carlos. We will miss you. And we hope that perhaps you will send us a wonderful document from your research for a future Documents Department feature.

Elizabeth Jameson
for the NMHR staff

Senator Dennis Chavez
Roy Lujan

Horia Justani

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