

Some of my most exciting flashlight experiences occurred some years ago when I was exploring the wilds of Western America with a camera. The photograph reproduced below was taken on the plains of New Mexico, one hundred and fifty miles from the nearest railway station, and had an exceedingly curious sequel. I had been travelling all day, and in the evening discovered a party of cowboys who were rounding up a large herd of cattle. Fellow-lip

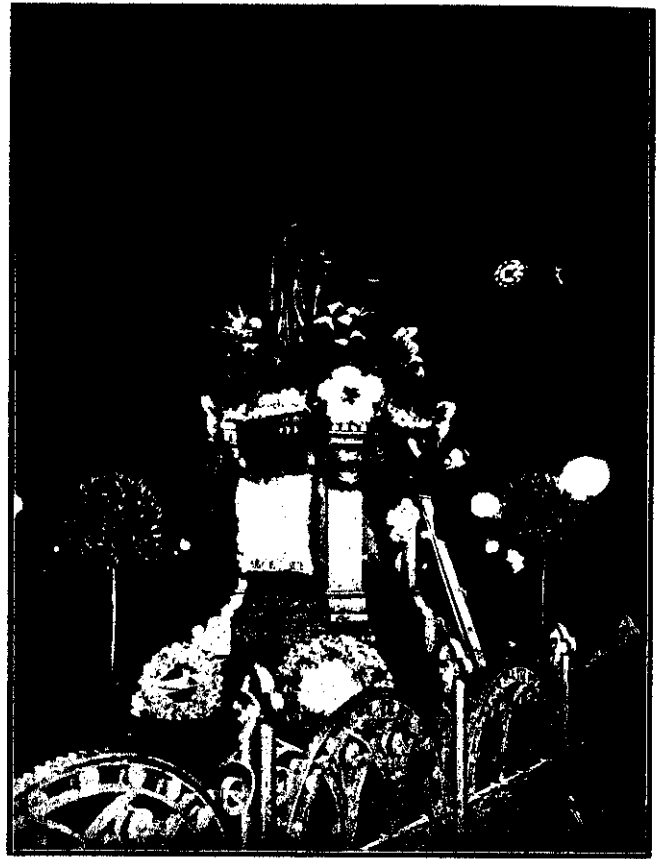
the operation, much to their delight and astonishment. Naturally enough, they had never seen a flashlight photograph taken before, and were quite unprepared for the brilliant spurt of flame and loud report. The night was a dark one, and the plains were illuminated for a great distance around, and, although the cowboys soon recovered from the shock, the effect on the cattle was much more alarming, for they promptly stampeded. Off across the plains they dashed in all



THE INTERIOR OF A WESTERN GAMBLING SALOON.  
This meeting ended with a pistol-shooting affray.

on the plains is proverbial, and I was soon enjoying a sumptuous repast of yearling beef, molasses and biscuits at the camp. The cowboys, who were a rough looking lot, most of them with several months' growth of beard, were keenly interested in my camera, and very much wanted me to take their photograph. As it was too dark for anything else I suggested taking them by flashlight, grouped round the camp fire. They readily agreed, and about twelve o'clock I fixed up my apparatus and performed

directions, mad with fright, and there was a wild scene of confusion as the cowboys rushed shouting and cursing to their ponies, and, saddling up in the dark, started in pursuit of the runaways. The terrified cattle, however, had a good start, and, scattering for some miles round, it took several hours' hard and exciting work before they were headed off and brought back to camp. The cowboys, I am thankful to say, took the incident quite good-humouredly when they returned, which was fortunate for



AT TWO O'CLOCK IN THE MORNING—A FLASHLIGHT SHOWING DECORATORS AT WORK ON THE BEACONSFIELD STATUE IN LONDON.

Note the time by Big Ben.



A FLASHLIGHT PHOTO, OF AN ENTERTAINMENT GIVEN TO 800 OF LONDON'S POOR CHILDREN.