Ohhh Saturday night

The Saturday night binge is a universal institution or very nearly. After a long week grafting to keep body and soul together the Saturday night blow-out is a safety valve, a reward. Alquerian Saturday nights follow a similar pattern except the term graft has little meaning outside of plastic surgery circles if of course such circles existed in Alqueria.

The village republic of Alqueria produces by far the best Remitroot anywhere in the world. The bad drainage is said to be a major contributing factor. The variety of products which can be made from the plant is staggering. Remitroot Whisky and Wine are by far the most popular. Addictive and very strong aphrodisiacs they sell at premium prices on the international markets. Alquerians simply don't have to work. This of course leaves ample time to plot subversive activities to keep the barrio feud going and adequate opportunity to carry them out. This is the preoccupation of all able bodied Alquerians who owe allegiance to one of the two barrios. So when Saturday night arrives the disruptive folk of the Pueblo believe they have earned their evening's spree.

Saturday night in Alqueria is not for the faint-hearted. Showing the world that they are alive and kicking is a serious business for the young folk of the Pueblo. The Bar La Casa Devante is thronged with the ablest and most resilient of the Hill People. To the south of the Village similar scenes are played out at the Bar La Golondrina Verde which is besieged by Newcomers.

On the fringes sneaking a clandestine drink are those too young to consume alcohol in the eyes of the law. Fortunately the law in Alqueria is in the charge of Jóse Cabrasilbido, and he was feeling no pain. The eyes of the law were bleary and fast closing due to the effects of his favourite Remitroot tipple. Then we have the youngsters of drinking age. Consuming vast quantities and swearing on stacks of

bibles that they weren't in any way intoxicated this pledge was usually taken from the horizontal position.

The seasoned drinkers. These leather livered veterans put the world to rights while bemoaning the modern age and all it has to offer. Manuela holds court surrounded by the fittest and most hopeful of the young men. She drinks in moderation as selecting an escort for the evening is a serious business. Especially when you are as dedicated to your task as Manuela is.

Sunday morning is a time for the revellers to try and find the roof of their mouths and to try and remember who they need to apologise to.