

Walker Journal B – 14

**Program
La Fiesta del Rancho San José
1836 – 1936
Homer L. Duffy**

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Covered Wagon Train

Eight-Mule Freighters

Travois

Political Parade

V. De Brunner Grocery Store, West Second Street

Story of the Murchison Letter

Pomona Water & Power Plant

The Beginnings of Pomona – Roy Fryer

Pomona Fifty Years Ago – Homer Duffy

Sweet San José

La Fiesta del Rancho San José

En Comemoracion

Del Primer Centenario de la Entrada de Espanoles

1836 – 1936

Homer L. Duffy
Pomona, California

La Fiesta del Rancho San José
of
Los Angeles County Fair

Commemorating
The one-hundredth anniversary of the
Arrival of the Spanish in Pomona Valley

A
Procession of Golden Memories
presented
in
chronological order
with
a narration of historical facts
and musical accompaniment
in keeping with each theme.

Old California will live again
with

Music

Dancing

Pageant

Carnival

sponsored by

Pomona Valley Historical Society

Miss Marion Parks, Supervisor

The pages of history will be turned back to depict the march of early days from the swift, silent tread of barefoot Indians, the patient beat of the Padres sandaled feet, the swift-staccato of the horses of the Caballeros, the rumbling of the wooden wheeled, ox-drawn carretas, the complaining roll of the covered wagons, the six horse transportation of the Concord stage coach days, the elegance of surrey, landau, victoria and the gayety of the Tally Ho.

This historical pageant-parade will present colorful episodes from California's romantic and dramatic background depicting the entrance of famous explorers, conquistadors, and adelantados. It will also portray distinguished governors, famous missionaries and notorious bandits, reacting the simple and gentle life of the Dons, bringing out tragic stories of the immigrant trains and depicting the golden dream days of "Forty-Nine."

It will carry across to the coming generations the romantic atmosphere of old California, the elusive flavor of the old days and the famous traditions of the Spanish era.

Pomona, California
September 20, 1936

Everyone concerned with the production and management of La Fiesta del Rancho San José, an historical pageant-parade, and the narration that briefly relates the incomparable drama of California is deeply indebted to the men and women who have written books about the early history of the Golden State.

We are especially grateful to the descendants of the early Californians, who have done so much to perpetuate the romantic Spanish traditions of their ancestors.

Pomona Valley Historical Society

Homer L. Duffy,
Chairman, Parade Committee

Reviewing Party arriving in Fancy Carriages

Occupied by guests of honor and representatives of pioneer Spanish families of Rancho San José.

Mr. Roy M. Fryer, President Historical Society of Pomona Valley
Mrs. M.C. Kennedy, Secretary, Historical Society of Pomona Valley
Senator R.F. Del Valle, Historical Society of Southern California
Señora Luisa Arenas de Stanchfield

First Carriage

Señora Cristina Palormares Garcia
Señora Clemencia Palomares de Walker
Señora Constancia Vejar de Yorba

Second Carriage

Señora Manuela Price
Señora Frank J. Palormares
Señora Carolina Palomares de Soto
Señora Josefa Palomares de Garcia

Third Carriage

Senorita Estrella Vejar
Señora Trinidad Carpena
Señora Nina R. Smith
Señora Adelaide Le Meaux

Trumpeters
Banner
La Fiesta del Rancho San José

Grand Marshall
Honorable John G. Mott

One of the states' best known native sons, a representative descendant of one of California's pioneer families. His devotion in preserving California history and traditions has been an enormous influence in the protection and perpetuation of this glorious heritage for the citizens of this state.

Aids to Grand Marshall
Don Adolfe Camarillo, Hugh McGrath, Fredrick Noble, Señor Frank Camarillo

American Flag
Dr. R.W. Crosby

Flag of Spain
Don Andres Lugo

Flag of Mexico
Don Alonzo Yorba

California Bear Flag
Don Vicente Lugo

Pasadena Tournament of Roses Band
playing
"I Love You, California"

Legendary California

California, with a past more glamorous than any other state in the Union, was born in romance. The chivalric tales of the old Spanish writers, no doubt, influenced the Spanish mariners who were in quest of that fabulous island where Queen Calafia reigned, and where those fabulous creatures called Griffins, half eagle and half lion, guarded the land.

In the list of names of the States of the Union, one name, California, remained for years a mystery. Every other name was known to be Indian in origin, or to be transplanted from the homeland of the white discoverers.

Never did a mystery result in wilder or more fantastic attempts to solve. All of which turned out to be very wide off the mark.

The true explanation came to light in 1862, when Edward Everett Hale drew attention to the occurrence of the remarkable name, California, in an ancient Spanish romance, *Las Sergas de Esplandian*. This book was written by Garci Rodriguez de Montalvo and published about the year 1492.

Las Sergas de Esplandian is one of those impossible romances of chivalry which grew out of the Crusades of the eleventh century. All the world, and particularly the people of Spain, went mad over these romances in which traditions were born, Amazons created, and giants, griffins and other fabulous creatures were made to live on land and in sea and air. This craze ran to such extremes in Spain during the sixteenth century that there was talk of prohibiting their publication.

Our interest in this second rate novel of chivalry, *Las Sergas de Esplandian*, lies in the fact that in it appears for the first time the unusual and pleasing word—California. It was used as the name of a beautiful island of Amazons ruled over by a pagan Queen named, Calafia.

The description of the island runs as follows: “Know ye, at the right-hand of the Indias there is an island named California. Very close to that part of the terrestrial paradise which was inhabited by brash women without a single man among them and they lived in the manner of Amazons. They were robust of body with strong and passionate hearts and great virtues.”

The island itself is one of the wildest in the world on account of the bald and craggy rocks. Their weapons were all of gold. The island everywhere abounds in gold and precious stones and upon it no other metal was found. They lived in caves well excavated. On this island named California, there were many griffins. In no other part of the world can they be found. There ruled over the island of California a Queen of majestic proportions, more beautiful than all others and in the very vigor of her womanhood. She was desirous of accomplishing great deeds. She was valiant and had ambitions to execute nobler actions than had been performed by any other ruler.

As far as can be known, it was in this book that the name, California, was coined by the author and from that hour the quest of the island began. It was the goal of deep sea wanderers and soldiers, conquistadores and dreamers of dreams.

In glittering gold and flashing red this float will depict the reign of Queen Califia and her Amazon Court.

FLOAT

The Flags of California History

The first flag of civilized nations to appear in California was that of the Spanish Empire carried by Juan Rodriguez Cabrillo.

In 1542, Cabrillo sailed from Navidad on the west coast of Mexico with two tiny vessels. He discovered San Diego and on October 10, 1542, he took possession of the land for Spain.

The second flag to appear was the Cross of St. George, the prevailing sign of England, raised by Sir Francis Drake. Drake reached California during a freebooting voyage around the world, in his now famous ship the *Golden Hind*. He anchored on Drake's Bay on the northern coast of California on June 15, 1579. Here he raised the English flag and took possession of the land for England by the curious formality of nailing a sixpence to the post he erected. Drake called the land New Albion.

The flag of Russia, first flag of any nation other than Spain to remain in California for any length of time, was raised September 10, 1812 by Ivan A. Koskof, a Russian explorer. It was flown at a point on the north central coast which Koskof named Fort Ross. Aleuts were employed in the construction of new buildings which Russia hoped would prove the beginning of her sovereignty over the northwest coast of America, but the Russian settlement proved to be a failure and on December 13, 1841, Russia sold her property at Fort Ross to John Sutter and the last of the colonists departed in January 1842.

November 10, 1818, Hippolyte Bouchard, a privateer, captured Monterey. There he raised the revolutionary flag of Argentina, a three barred flag, the outer two being blue and the center white, bearing a yellow sun. Bouchard looted Monterey and then proceeded down the coast, stopping at Refugio Rancho. He plundered the coast as far as San Juan Capistrano. His flag flew in California for over a month. On December 16, 1818, he departed never to return.

With Mexican independence established after eleven years of warfare, California automatically came under the Mexican flag. On April 11, 1822, the flag of the Mexican Empire was raised at Monterey. When news of the downfall of the Empire was received, the Imperial flag was struck down. For a time the Spanish Californians were in a state of confusion. But on March 26, 1835, they accepted the union of the states and the flag of the New Mexican Republic was raised at Monterey.

In defiance of international law, the ensign known as the Fremont flag was flown over the various camps established in the Mexican province of California by John C. Fremont, U.S.A. Fremont was in command of a troop of engineers sent out to survey the Rockies and to discover a shorter and more feasible route to the Pacific.

The Indians mistook stars for arrows so Fremont designed a flag. Instead of having a field of stars, this flag had a calumet or a "pipe of peace" clutched tightly in the claws of an eagle. This flag Fremont carried with him on his many exploring expeditions into California during the years 1844 to 1846.

The American settlers in Northern California, greatly alarmed at the condition of things and dissatisfied with the treatment accorded them by the Spanish Californian authorities, decided to rebel.

On June 14, 1846, a group of twenty-four men established an armed force, captured the Sonoma garrison and issued a proclamation declaring California to be an independent republic. They then raised a crudely designed flag. The flag raised was made of white muslin emblazoned with a lone star and the enormous grizzly bear. It was called the Bear Flag. This flag flew over the plaza in Sonoma for twenty-six days; then, Captain Fremont ordered it taken down and replaced by the flag of the United States.

On the morning of July 7, 1846, at ten o'clock Commodore John D. Sloat, commander of the United States naval forces on the Pacific, ordered some two hundred and fifty marines and seamen to land at Monterey. Under the command of Captain Mervine they marched directly to the Custom House.

Commander Sloat's proclamation was read, the United States flag raised and furled, a salute of twenty-one guns fired from each American vessel in the bay, and in this manner the regular force took formal possession of California.

This Float presented by The Historical Society of Southern California under the direction of Mrs. H.L. Bentley.

Marching Group

California Indians:

The aborigines of California stood lower in the scale of humanity both physically and morally than any other tribe in North America. John Stephen McGroarty, author of the *Mission Play* says, "The Indians of California, when found by the Franciscans in the year 1769, were little above the level of the most degraded physical beings and they were the most mentally slothful human creatures on the face of the earth."

The Indians of each village spoke a different language. They had not even learned to clothe themselves. Men dressed in nature's garb. The women wore a makeshift skirt of tule grass reaching from the waist to the knees. In cold weather a cape of rabbit skin was thrown over the shoulders.

The houses, built in the crudest way, varied according to the climate. In the north they were excavated in portions, while in some of the warmer parts of the state the natives were satisfied with a shelter of brush piled on the windy side.

Whatever style of habitation, they were all alike in one respect. They were filthy. When conditions became too offensive, the tribe set fire to the houses and built new ones in another location.

The food of these primitive Californians was more vegetables than animal. The food staple was the acorn. This was gathered in season and stored in raised crypts.

The first sound to be heard on approaching the Indian village was the everlasting pounding of the pestles on the mortars.

The Indians ate the flesh of animals when they could get it, but this was not often possible because of the crudity of their weapons. Their method of catching a deer was to run him down with relays of tribesmen until he fell from exhaustion. Pits and traps were used to catch larger game. The Indians were excellent fisherman and fish formed an important part of their food.

Out of this pathetic material, the Franciscans made civilized men and women. They taught them to read and write, to read music, to sing, to play upon musical instruments, to carve in wood, to paint pictures, to speak Spanish clearly and correctly, to follow agriculture, and the crafts of the artisans. The Fathers built so well that their achievements almost deserve to be called a miracle. The work was done well within a generation.

Remembering the contempt with which the Indians were regarded, it is strange that nine California counties: Colusa, Modoc, Mono, Napa, Shasta, Tehama, Tuolumne, Yolo and Yuba have kept their names which were from the Indian language. The meaning and origin of most of these names have remained a mystery. Scientific investigation was not instigated until the greater part of the aborigines were dead and those still living had forgotten everything connected with their historic past.

Aboriginal inhabitants of California as they were before Cabrillo came, will be presented by The Indians of Sherman Institute, Arlington, California under the direction of Mr. R.E. Johnson.

FLOAT

Cabrillo's Flagship, *The San Salvador*

Juan Rodriquez Cabrillo was a man of medium height with keen hazel eyes and curly chestnut hair. Little is known about the courageous navigator's background except that he was born in Lisbon and that for twenty-five years he served with that great conquistador, Hernando Cortez. Cabrillo was at Cortez's side battling the Aztecs, and with Cortez braved the perils of navigation on the Pacific.

Don Antonia de Mendoza was appointed Viceroy of New Spain to replace Cortez, who had returned home to defend his administration in New Spain. His Excellency, Don Antonia, summoned Cabrillo to report to him. In the palace at Mexico City, Cabrillo learned that his friend, Cortez, would never return and that Pedro de Alvarado, an old comrade and a former Lieutenant of Cortez had died. He also learned that he, Cabrillo, had been chosen to succeed Cortez as navigator and conduct other explorations in the Pacific.

On June 27, 1542, with two ships, the *Victoria* and the *San Salvador*, Cabrillo set sail from Navidad. Three months later his ships entered the beautiful bay which is known today as San Diego Harbor.

This is the first record of the presence of a white man on the shores of California, and history acknowledges that the discovery of California belongs to Cabrillo.

Cabrillo's voyage thrills us with its adventure. Cabrillo succeeded in navigating parts of the Pacific which had baffled the daring attempts of many other fine mariners. He met with many adverse tides and was buffeted and beaten by furious storms, yet he sailed on and on with a dauntless heart until he had mapped league upon league of shoreline that the eyes of white men had never before seen. He visited the sites of the present cities of San Pedro, Santa Monica, and Ventura.

Cabrillo then proceeded to the three Channel Islands lying off the coast of Santa Barbara. During his stay on the island, which he named San Miguel, Cabrillo sustained a fall and fractured his arm near the shoulder. Although suffering intense pain he sailed northward with his ships to return and anchor again in Cuyler Harbor.

Cabrillo never returned from the new bright empire which he had discovered because death cut short his brave and splendid career. He was laid away in a sailor's grave by his loyal and grief stricken crew in the sands of San Miguel Island.

Juan Rodriquez Cabrillo, the Portuguese navigator and soldier, was a brave and adventurous man. He voyaged not for self-glory nor for selfish power, nor to inflict cruelties on helpless natives. He was true to the best traditions of his craft, and his memory will always be honored by all Americans, and especially by Californians.

An exact replica of Cabrillo's flagship, the *San Salvador*, drawn to a one-third scale and manned by a splendid crew costumed as were the sea-rovers of four hundred years ago; and portraying Juan Rodriquez Cabrillo will be presented by the City of Santa Monica under the direction of Mr. M.W. Guiney.

FLOAT

Queen Elizabeth Knighting Sir Francis Drake

The man after Cabrillo who appears to have left footprints in California was the famous English gentleman-adventurer, Sir Francis Drake.

On June 17, 1579, thirty-seven years after the voyage of Cabrillo, his ship anchored at the place still called Drake's Bay, north of San Francisco, where he remained thirty-six days overhauling his vessel for the return voyage to England. He was laden with the supplies of a very successful privateering campaign on the Spanish Main.

Drake's presence in California was purely accidental, but he took advantage of the accident by claiming the country for the English sovereignty.

His presence, so far north of the scene of his adventures on the coast of South America, is accounted for by the fact that he was looking for a shorter way to England.

During his stay in California, Drake established friendly relations with the Indians. He ordered religious services to be performed with the Indians as witness to convey to their minds the idea of the Supreme Being who reigned above. This is thought to be the first Christian service in California.

His arrival in his native land was made a matter of great acclaim. He was regarded as a hero. The Sovereign and the courts heaped great honors upon him. It was thought that the time might come when California would become an English possession.

This float is to be presented by the City of San Francisco under the supervision of Mr. Eddie Borcharding.

FLOAT

Mission San Diego de Alcala

This float will depict the first of the missions to be built along the King's Highway and also will portray Fra. Junipero Serra, the mission builder.

Miguel Jose Serra was born November 24, 1713. He was fifty-six years of age when he left La Paz to become the founder and first president of the Franciscan missions in Alta California. As a child, he had a very imaginative and impressionable mind. Young Serra early determined to become a missionary among heathen savages. Upon entering the Franciscan Order, he chose the name of Junipero, the name of a quaint character who tried to outdo St. Francis himself in ministering to the poor. At the first opportunity, he left Spain and Mexico to assume his boyhood desire to become a missionary. For several years he labored as a missionary in Mexico.

In January 1769, he was chosen to accompany the newly appointed Governor, Don Gaspar de Portola, on the expedition to Alta California. Traversing wild mountain districts and desert plains of Lower California, on July 1st they arrived in view of the long sought port of San Diego and established California's first settlement. The whole expedition consisted of one hundred and thirty souls. Many were sick after the long journey; the most serious were put on board the *San Antonio* and sent back to Mexico. Father Serra remained to build his first mission.

Portola proceeded overland to Monterey returning eight months later, deeply discouraged. As many of the wanderers were incapacitated by sickness, he ordered the entire expedition to return to Mexico. Serra was dismayed and pleaded with all his soul against the abandonment. At last they gave him one more day. Then he must put away his dream and sail south with the ship.

The relief ship Galvez had promised was long past due. All but Serra thought it lost and with the fishes at the bottom of the sea these many, many months. But Serra would not give up. On the morning of the last day, he went to the top of Presidio Hill and turning his eyes to the sea watched the sunrise. All day long he watched the waste of water as it lay in the changing light. It was a scene of marvelous beauty as he watched and prayed. Junipero Serra doubtless felt that he drew very close to the infinite—so devout a soul in such desperate need—facing such a scene of nameless sublimity. Could he have doubted that somewhere just below the curve of the sea lay a ship with God's help pushing it on to starving San Diego. And as the sun went down he caught sight of a sail—a ghostly sail—in the far distance.

Who can ever look upon the heights above the old Presidio when the western sky is glowing and twilight is stealing over the hill without seeing Father Serra on his knees pouring out his prayer of thanksgiving. If it were not for that day there would have been no Mission San Diego de Alcala or none of the twenty-one marvelous missions along the King's Highway between the Harbor of the Sun and the Valley of the Moon.

This float will be designed to represent both the Mission and the historical event on Presidio Hill portraying Junipero Serra dressed in his brown robe and Governor Gaspar de Portola dressed in the costume of that period.

This entry will be presented by the Historical Society of San Diego and The Heaven and Earth Club, under the direction of Mr. Wallace F. Hamilton

MOUNTED ENTRY

Jose Maria Amador

Accompanying the float entry from San Diego will appear a horseman in the role of Jose Maria Amador who, in 1834, rode from Mexico City to Monterey to foil a plot for despoiling the missions.

Amador, history shows, carried word from President Santa Ana of Mexico to Governor Figueroa of California not to recognize as governor of the province, one Hejar, then en route to San Diego and Monterey with two shiploads of colonists.

Hejar had planned to confiscate the missions and with the aid of conspiring padres to convert the mission property to their own use. It was the hugest swindling scheme of the country.

The role of Jose Maria Amador will be portrayed by Mr. Fred H. Thatcher.

FLOAT
Mission San Gabriel Archangel

A past, rich in romance, will be recalled as the tuneful pealing of the old mission bells ring out from a replica of Mission San Gabriel Archangel's belfry, the fourth mission to be built along the King's Highway.

San Gabriel Mission was the center of activity and civilization in what is now the Los Angeles County. From it went the groups of pioneers who settled Los Angeles and other trade communities.

Traders came from Santa Barbara and from as far east as the Colorado River. In these trading centers, the hides were tanned and tallow made into soap and candles.

In 1820, San Gabriel had the largest number of cattle of all the missions. In 1830, the Mission owned forty thousand head of livestock.

Poetry and romance still linger around San Gabriel. The San Gabriel Indians left their mark. One sees it in the warm tile reflecting the sun, in the old mill upon the hill, in the pond and dam of their manufacture and in the great buildings of the church.

It was to San Gabriel Mission that the adventurous Juan Bautista de Anza and the doughty Jedediah Strong Smith were headed as they passed over the beautiful San Jose Hills. It was from here that Don Felipe de Neve went to found Los Angeles and it was from here that Don Ygnacio Palomares and Don Ricardo Vejar traveled to look over the broad acres that later became Rancho San José.

This entry will be presented by the San Gabriel Chamber of Commerce.

MOUNTED ENTRY

Juan Bautista de Anza

Juan de Anza, the famous Captain of Tubac, was a sturdy noted figure. He was the first to blaze the inland trail from Sonora, Mexico to Monterey. He crossed trackless deserts and made a trail where no man had ever been before.

Captain Anza, determined that the easier way to get stores in the new colony was by an overland route, set out in 1774 from Sonora over the scorched deserts and through wild mountains. To guard sixty-five cattle, saddle and pack animals, guards and muleteers, he had twenty soldiers. Two padres accompanied him, Friar Juan Diaz and Friar Francisco Carces.

The desert sun blazed down and Indians attacked but onward marched Anza and within two months' time, from Sonora, he came to the Mission of San Gabriel where he was welcomed by the padres. Then he hurried to Monterey where he found the little garrison. He rested for four days, then hurried back to Sonora.

In October 1776, Anza set out again, this time with two hundred and forty settlers for Spain's new colony. Thirty were seasoned soldiers. There were one hundred and sixty women and children, eight hundred and twenty-five head of horses, mules and cattle. Icy streams had to be forded but Anza always got his people across, carrying his expedition through without the loss of a single life.

It is especially fitting to have Captain Miguel Estudillo portray the role of Captain Anza. He is the son of Don Jose Estudillo, the grantee of San Jacinto Ranch where Captain Anza camped on his several expeditions. Many Riverside County pioneers will be among those participating in the Anza group.

This episode will be presented by the de Anza Trails Association directed by Mr. E.C. Howell.

List of Riders

Miguel Estudillo – Anza
Rex Estudillo – Soldier
E.C. Howell – Monk
Carl Lerch – Soldier
Corlis Wilkinson – Soldier
Cooper – Soldier
Tom Clay – Soldier
John Jensen – Soldier
Robert Warren – Soldier
Claude Chamberlain – Soldier
And pack animals.

FLOAT
Founding of Los Angeles
by
Felipe de Neve

It was the policy of Spain to build towns near all the missions. It was the intention not only to Christianize California but to colonize it. Governor Felipe de Neve, a soldier and a statesman, was selected to found the pueblos. After establishing the first pueblo in California at San Jose, he left for San Gabriel to found the pueblo which was named "The City of our Lady, the Queen of the Angels." The founding was a most impressive ceremony. Governor de Neve conducted the ceremony in person.

Leaving the San Gabriel Mission early in the morning, he fared forth at the head of a party of soldiers. Padres from the mission, neophyte Indians and the Pabladores, who were to be the bulwark and the pillars of the new town, journeyed with him. Twelve house lots were located on three sides of the Plaza, each lot having a frontage of one hundred varas and a depth of two hundred varas. The original population was arranged to consist of nine families. The ceremonies attending the founding of the pueblo consisted of the raising of a cross, music and singing by the Indian chorus and a firing of a volley by the soldiers.

This entry to be presented by the Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce through the Women's Committee and the auxiliary under the direction of Miss Grace Stoermer.

MARCHING GROUP
First of the Ranchos

Rancho San Rafael was the first land grant in California. Now the site of the city of Glendale, this grant was given by King Charles the Third, King of Spain to Jose Verdugo in the year 1784.

Members of the Glendale Historical Society, together with the San Rafael Park Association, will march in the parade authentically costumed as the early residents of this rancho.

These organizations will present an exact replica of Casa Adobe of Rancho San Rafael.

This entry sponsored by the Glendale Chamber of Commerce.

MOUNTED ENTRY

Jedediah Strong Smith and Party of Trail Blazing Trappers

The hardships, suffering, and trials, which outshine in their grim glory the memorable march of Juan Bautista de Anza, will be recalled as the entry depicting the heroic Jedediah Strong Smith and his adventurous mountain men appears. They crossed this valley on their way to Mud Springs and they pitched camp there the evening of November 26, 1826.

Jedediah Strong Smith, Pathfinder of the Sierras and the first man to make his way overland to California, was born in 1789. He was one of fourteen of a New Hampshire pioneer family. At the age of twenty-seven he joined the first migration to the Mohawk Valley and from there, by successive stages, he journeyed to Pennsylvania, Ohio and on to the far western outposts of trappers and fur traders at St. Louis.

Smith had but six more years to live after he reached twenty-seven, but in that brief remaining period he crossed and re-crossed afoot and on horseback the American West from the upper Missouri River to the Platte, and from the Columbia to the Colorado and westward to the Pacific. Once on the western coast he traversed it from the Mojave Desert to Puget Sound. He was the first American to enter the San Joaquin and Sacramento Valleys, and to find his way out through the Sierras back to Salt Lake. He was the first American to make his way across the great desert between Salt Lake and Southern California. The Union Pacific now follows his trail. He was the first to disprove the theory that a mighty river ran direct from the Great Salt Lake to the Pacific. He was the first to navigate the Colorado.

The "Pathfinder of the Sierras" was a gentle, kindly man, yet he engaged in almost continuous warfare with nature and with the Indians. He was a Christian; he knew how to pray. When lost, nearly famished and harassed by the savages in the woods of Northern California, while establishing the first route of communication between Oregon and this state, he wrote, "O God, may it please Thee in Thy divine providence to still guide and protect us through the wilderness of doubt and fear as Thou has done heretofore. And be with us in the hour of danger and difficulty as all praise is due Thee and not to man. Oh! Do not forsake us, Lord, but be with us and direct us through."

Trapping animals and trading in fur was Smith's business. He became head of the firm, "Smith, Sublette and Jackson, Rocky Mountain Trappers." They controlled the fur trade in Green River County and decided to expand operations. It was decided that Smith would direct a party of picked men into an unknown area in the vast triangular section between the Snake and Colorado Rivers and, if possible, open commercial relations with the missions of California. Smith started on August 26, 1826, with a company of fifteen men equipped with fifty horses and a stock of merchandise. They pushed their way over the steep heights of the Rockies and across uncharted, un-watered wastes of the desert.

In desperate circumstances and practically without food, they succeeded in reaching the always welcoming doors of the padre's old adobe at Mission San Gabriel. Here they rested,

enjoying their visit with the padres, whom they began to admire. They were appreciative of the way in which they were taken in when they were destitute, fed and clothed. They attended the weddings and the fiestas. They enjoyed the hunting and the fishing. Smith was a staunch defender of the Calvinistic creed and thoroughly enjoyed debating with the old padres.

When hunting with the padres, they told Smith that he was treading upon forbidden ground. They told him that under the reign of Louis Antonia Arguello, the first Mexican Governor, the Californians and especially the missions had prospered. And that this courageous governor had the good sense to disregard the foolish and destructive laws put in force by the Mexican government, especially the law passed prohibiting Californians from conducting any kind of trade whatsoever with foreigners. Smith was advised that Governor Arguello's splendid service and good work were at an end and that Jose Maria de Echeandia had been appointed Governor. The new governor had come to California with definite instructions to enforce the policy of the Mexican government and to discontinue all trade with outsiders and drive foreigners from the province.

Captain Smith directed a well worded letter to Governor Echeandia at San Diego in which he frankly set forth the predicament in which he found himself. The governor immediately ordered Captain Smith to San Diego that he might give an account of himself. Smith's explanation did not satisfy Echeandia. Fortunately for Smith, the captains of the American trading vessels in the harbor appealed to the governor to permit Smith and his men to depart. Echeandia consented, but with the proviso that they leave California by exactly the same route over which they entered.

The trail blazing traders, remembering their terrible experiences on the waterless desert, disregarded the governor's orders to retrace their steps. Instead they marched northward intending to cross the Sierra Madres, but due to the heavy snows they found this task impossible. They returned to the valley and continued in a northerly direction until they arrived at Mission San Jose. The appearance of this bearded group of trappers caused considerable commotion as foreigners, particularly Americans, were looked upon with much suspicion and distrust. However, they were allowed to proceed northward to the Columbia River and finally they reached Salt Lake.

A year later, Smith again found himself on the great Colorado desert. This time ten of his men were massacred by Indians and all of his horses stolen. With the remaining eight men, he escaped and made his way to San Bernardino Rancho, a little southwest of what is known as the City of Redlands.

From this point he made his way to San Jose. There he was received with mingled feelings of surprise, fear and bitter resentment. He was placed in jail.

Once again he wrote to the governor. Echeandia ordered Smith to report to him at Monterey. His reason for this second appearance in California was demanded. He was sentenced to prison.

American sea captains at Monterey interceded for him and gave bond that he would leave California never to return.

On the 27th day of May, 1831, while on his third westward journey he was killed by Comanche Indians. His arrow pierced body was found by the River Cimarron between the Arkansas River and Santa Fe.

This entry will be presented by the San Dimas Chamber of Commerce under the direction of Mr. and Mrs. Harry E. Walker.

FLOAT

La Golondrina

This entry will depict the famous romance of Spanish times, the celebrated courtship between the Russian diplomat, Resnoff and California's fairest beauty, Doña Concepcion Arguello.

In the year 1805, Nicola Petrovic Resnoff, in the capacity of Imperial Inspector of the northeast establishments, found famine stalking in Alaska. Owing to the wreck of a vessel with supplies and the failure of another to arrive, the situation was critical. Hunger, misery, despair and death rode the dismal scene.

Resnoff purchased a ship and with a cargo of goods likely to tempt the Californian's taste, and set sail for San Francisco. Trade with foreigners in California was forbidden. But starvation was a harder thing to face than Spanish law as administered on the Pacific.

Upon his arrival the diplomat answered to the satisfaction of the Commandante for his appearance in the harbor. Resnoff and his officers were invited to dine at the Presidio. They were entertained by Señora Arguello and her family.

Resnoff was deeply impressed with life in sunny California where to eat, to drink, to make love, to smoke, to dance, to ride, to sleep, seemed to be the whole duty of man. It was like a pleasant dream.

Resnoff paid daily visits to the Commandante's house where he was kindly received by all members of the Arguello family. Doña Concepcion, the Commandante's sister, had the name of being the most beautiful girl in California. Her sparkling black eyes won the heart of the Imperial Chamberlain. The handsome stranger told her of the fascinating court life at St. Petersburg. Resnoff proposed. Doña Concepcion consented. So did her parents.

The father and brother now kept no secrets from him. He finally secured permission to dispose of the cargo and to secure grain and provisions for starving Alaska.

Having accomplished his object, Resnoff delayed his departure as little as possible. He sailed out of the harbor promising the father of Doña Concepcion that on his arrival at St. Petersburg he would go to the Russian court to remove all misunderstandings between the two powers, then he would return to San Francisco to claim his bride.

Let us hope he was true to his California love. That his promised diplomatic sacrifice of himself to matrimony was yet a sweet dream as he whirled over Liberian snows on his way to St. Petersburg. His constancy was never to experience a final test as he was seized with a violent fever en route and died.

Doña Concepcion did not learn of her lover's death for several years. She was constant to his memory refusing to listen to words of love from other suitors and finally, when it became evident that her betrothed was either dead or false, she took the robes of a Beata and dedicated her life to deeds of charity.

This entry will be presented by La Fiesta de Los Angeles Association and will be personally directed by Mr. John G. Mott.

MOUNTED ENTRY

Founding of Rancho San José

In reverent memory of the pioneer trail blazers and to recall the romance of Rancho San José, Southern California's pioneer and historical groups are joining with the Pomona Valley Historical Society to give recognition to the descendants of the courageous Spanish families who, with dauntless hearts, settled the land of Indians so far from the center of civilization.

Just a century ago two illustrious caballeros, Don Ygnacio Palomares and Don Ricardo Vejar, in the prime of early manhood, dreamed of ownership of one of the huge land grants called ranchos, which the Mexican Governor of California was making to leading citizens in return for military service rendered by their fathers.

They knew that the rancheros were hauling enormous loads of hides and tallow to the Americans and other traders along the coast and, in exchange for these, Californians were attaining wealth and buying luxuries unknown in their earlier pioneering days.

Most of the land, better suited for grazing, near the pueblo of Los Angeles was occupied by the grantees or the Spanish families who had come from Mexico in the several expeditions which had arrived to colonize the country. Yet the land in the outlying districts was being overlooked.

Don Ygnacio and Don Ricardo learned from their good friend, Padre Zalvia, of the beautiful valley laying some leagues east of Mission San Gabriel. In this valley there were several Indian settlements located near the large springs, rich cienegas and flowing streams. Palomares and Vejar decided to see this valley the padres called San José.

Leaving San Gabriel Mission at daybreak, these two sons of old Spain, Don Ygnacio and Don Ricardo, on their fine mounts, accompanied by a military escort and a few Indians, followed the trail that led from the old mission to the branch asistencia at San Bernardino. They crossed the Rio San Gabriel and followed the low lying hills, and at sunset they reached the east end of the hills where a small stream flowed around the point. They dismounted and camped for the night at what is now known as Ganesha Park.

Early the next morning, they mounted their horses and rode to the top of the hill. A scene of wondrous beauty met their eyes. League upon league of virgin country lay before them; snowy mountains, rich cienegas and rolling hills, where nature had woven with lavish hands its warp of sagebrush and chaparral.

Seated upon their horses and drinking in the beauty of this picture, the hearts of these Spanish Californians must have thrilled. They must have thought that in all this fair province of California there was not a fairer place than this, yet no one had ever claimed this valley as their own.

On March 27, 1837, Ygnacio Palomares and Ricardo Vejar placed in the hands of the Governor of California the following petition: "We have a considerable number of cattle and horses being our only means for the support of our families which are now upon a place very small and inconvenient where they do not thrive, and the place being vacant, which is now

known by the name of San José, distant some six leagues, more or less, from the mission of San Gabriel, a map of which we will lay before your Excellency as soon as possible.

We respectfully ask you to grant us the said place, considering the smallness of the place in which we now are, for which cause it is that we appeal to your Excellency's goodness, praying that you will receive this on common paper, there being none of the proper seal. For myself and for Ricardo Vejar, who does not know how to write." (Signed) Ygn. Palomares

On April 15, 1837, Governor Alvarado wrote, "The citizens, Ygnacio Palomares and Ricardo Vejar, are disclosed owners of property of the place called San José. Let the proper decree be issued and recorded in the proper books."

Accordingly, on August 2, 1837, Jose Sepulveda, Alcalde, accompanied by two chain bearers and a surveyor, proceeded to place the proper land marks and took formal steps to perfect the Mexican title.

No sooner had judicial possession been given them, then Palomares and Vejar took actual possession and built their homes.

Don Ricardo Vejar built his adobe house by the south hills, a few feet north of the present Pomona City Disposal Plant.

Don Ygnacio Palomares built his home near the San Jose hills, a section of this house is still standing near the corner of Walnut and Park Avenues.

Soon these two partners, Palomares and Vejar, were joined by a third, Luis Arenas, a native of Sonora, Mexico, who had married Josepha Palomares, a sister of Ygnacio.

Juan B. Alvarado, then constitutional governor of the Department of California, issued a grant for another square league of land adjoining the rancho on the west. Arenas built his home on the Old San Bernardino Road near what is now the present corner of Gibbs and McKinley. Nearby was a large spring where the freighting teams stopped for water.

This land was held intact until the turbulent year of 1846.

Between the original owners there had been no differences, no thought of separation, no question of boundaries. Arenas, wanting to sell his interest to Henry Dalton, the problem of dividing took definite shape.

The San José de Arriba was Palomares', the San José de Abajo was Vejar's, and the remainder belonged to Arenas.

During the "fifties," and of course before that time, there were no merchandise stores outside of Los Angeles. Ranchers were obliged to ride or drive to Los Angeles for every necessity that could not be made or produced on the rancho. Some of these earliest shop keepers were French, but more were of German descent, and all were shrewd businessmen. Those of integrity established great business houses, but there were others whose names are still remembered with associations not so pleasant.

There were two merchants who are more closely related to this historical period than others. Their pursuit of business took them all over the valley. They were always alert for bargains in cattle or in land.

Many of the rich land owners were their regular customers and these they encouraged to trade on long-time credit, never urging a settlement, but from time to time taking their notes for some hundreds of dollars. Among the regular patrons of these two merchants were Ricardo Vejar and his friends of the San José Rancho. They were always welcome, for they were easygoing men who bought freely and whose large estates were ample security for any amount.

Honest themselves, they were not suspicious as to the accounts against them and did not examine or verify items charged. As time ran on, these accounts grew. Nothing was specified as to interest, and rates of three and four percent per month were boldly charged and frequently compounded. Finally, the day of reckoning came and an account of some \$20,000 was presented against the old ranchero, Don Ricardo Vejar.

The two merchants demanded prompt settlement. They obtained the signature of Senor Vejar to the mortgage they had prepared as security for the promissory note, due in 90 days with interest of 2 ½% per month. This was in April 1861; by April 1864, note and interest amounted to \$30,000. The years 1863 and 1864 were years of great financial stress, especially in Southern California. The general depression of the country was keenly felt. Three years of drought and following seasons almost without rain had wrought terrible havoc in a country whose sole major productions were grain and cattle. Horses and cattle died by the thousands and there was no possibility of the sale of land. At such a time as this, \$30,000 was a large fortune. Although every effort was made to delay the issue and raise enough to satisfy the mortgage, the Vejars were powerless. The mortgage was foreclosed. The final deed was signed by Señor Vejar. Dona Maria, his wife, realizing that was a conveyance of all their lands, refused at first to sign the papers.

By this transaction the half-interest in the San José Rancho belonging to the Vejar family passed into the possession of the two merchants. It was a sad day for the family when at last they were compelled to leave the old place, a princely estate of more than 10,000 acres of the finest land in the world, with trees and buildings, which had been their home for so many years; nor is it strange that a feeling of resentment and hatred was fostered not only in the immediate family but also throughout the whole populace of Spanish rancheros and all their people.

Neither of these two merchants lived long to enjoy their ill-gotten gains. But while they were removed by the hand of an avenging fate, there was no restoration to the old Spanish owners of their fair acres. These were lost to them forever.

Just how these merchants met their fate is of more than passing interest, but the fate of one, at least, will probably always be somewhat of a mystery. One lost his life in the *Ada Hancock* explosion while sailing to San Francisco. His interest in El Rancho San José was purchased by his former partner who was not inclined to risk visiting his new holdings and later sold them to Louis Phillips for \$30,000. It is said that he sailed at once for San Francisco, but nothing is known of him after that time. If he was not killed by the enraged Mexicans, as was so persistently rumored, he doubtless suffered from constant fear of attack and perhaps from a guilty conscience. It was this, doubtless, which drove him from the scene of his operations and from the land he had coveted and had wrested by dubious means from its original owner.

Grandsons and great-grandsons of these picturesque Dons will represent their grandfathers and the characters that rode out on that eventful day to become owners of this Rancho.

Señor Porfirio R. Palomares, the youngest living grandson of the Vejar family, will represent the character of his grandfather, Don Ricardo Vejar, while other grandsons and great-grandsons will accompany them as officers and friends.

FLOAT

Social Life at Rancho San José

There will never again be seen upon this earth perhaps, a life so ideal as that which was lived in California in the early days of the Rancho San José. Dancing was a passion with the Californians. It effected all from infancy to old age. Grandmothers and grandchildren were seen dancing together. Their houses were constructed with reference to this amusement and most of the interior space was appropriated to the Sada.

The women of Spanish California were noted for their beauty. They were exceedingly well shaped, clear skinned, with black, sparkling eyes and teeth of the whitest color. They carried themselves with indescribable grace and ease. They were passionately fond of fine, showy dresses, gorgeous colors, silk shoes and beautiful shawls.

The dress of the men was most showy and elaborate. They wore broad-brimmed hats which had colored cords, linen shirts with a profusion of lace and embroidery, silk jackets of the gayest hues. The pantaloons were split on the outside from the hip to the foot in which was inserted vivid colored silk or satin. Their high-heeled boots were embroidered with gold and silver thread.

To reveal the picturesque life reminiscent of the gracious hospitality of older days, the Pomona Chamber of Commerce will enter a float on which will ride members of that outstanding organization, the A La California Club, whose members consist of only direct descendants of California's pioneer families.

These dark eyed señoritas and handsome caballeros elaborately clad in gorgeous Spanish costumes will authentically present a vivid picture of halcyon, pastoral California. The days when the doors of the old white adobes were flung wide with welcome to whosoever might come.

This entry will be presented by the Pomona Chamber of Commerce and A La California Club under the direction of Mrs. Manuela Or'Nellas de Arrigoune.

MOUNTED ENTRY

California Dons

The greatest era in the romance of California were the days of the Dons. Nowhere else in the world could anything be found that compared with the happy, prosperous and carefree life led by the Californians in the splendid idle thirties.

Land was held in large, loosely defined tracts called ranchos. These grants were gifts from the King of Spain or the Mexican government. A white walled adobe stood on each one of these ranchos. Every door opened alike to friend or stranger with never failing hospitality.

The leading occupation and business was cattle raising. Their amazing long-horned cattle roamed the hills and multiplied in great numbers.

The Yankee trading vessels sailed into the California ports bringing shiploads of silks, satins, linens and jewelry. Their officers had no trouble in quickly exchanging their wares for the hides and tallow for the men, as well as the women, were fond of dress and pleasure.

It was the glorious age of gaiety, contentment, splendor and happiness with clicking castanets and strumming guitars. The beautiful senorita who had not a satin shoe was hard to find. Richly attired girls and gorgeously clad caballeros would be seen coming out of the most humble dwellings.

Nowhere else in all the world could be found so many beautiful horses, such skilled horsemen, and such a fortune in saddlery. These old Californians wanted only the best. Boots, saddles, bridles and martingales, all of leather, were hand-carved with designs of flowers and riding scenes. Their mountings and spurs were of sterling silver. Their horses were trained to be guided by the slightest pressure of a bridle rein on the neck. The Palominos were reserved for the masters.

Wherever one saw the golden horse with silver mane and tail, it meant that Don Amigo was nearby or else Senorita Estrallets was preparing for her great day.

One hundred Caballeros, clad in the most handsomely embroidered Spanish costumes, will bring to the Fiesta their finest horses, beautifully arrayed with silver mounted equipment to relive those glamorous days and present a living picture of the days that are gone.

This entry will be presented by that loyal group of horse owners under the personal direction of Señor L.A. Rico.

Bay Horses

Alonzo Yorba
Thomas W. Temple
Robert Chambers
J.W. Gallem
E.R. Plune
Paul Palmer
Mrs. C.N. Killingbeck
Mr. & Mrs. Park Atwood
Leonard Ross

Pinto Horses

Delos Patterson
Mrs. Delos Patterson
Merle H. Little
Mrs. Merle H. Little
Bettie Lawrence
Mrs. A.L. Hancock
Andrew Lugo
F.E. Davis
Mrs. Leo Eckard

Sorrel Horses

George B. Boye
Bettie McClintock
James Fagan
G. Hart Chesley
W.H. Jones
Miguel Estudillo
E.C. Howell
Mrs. Gerald English
Mrs. Rita Gilman

Black Horses

John G. Mott
Andres Lugo
Vincente Lugo
Fred H. Thatcher
Thomas Velarde
George Stokes
Mrs. Margaret McClure
Gene Thomas
L.W. Ward
Mrs. Louise A. Ward
Harold McBeth
Dr. P.F. Haskell
Mike Lang

Robert E. Clark
L.C. Curtis
Joseph A. Denni
Dick Dickson
Haskell Green
Louis W. Kohl
George Rasmussen
J.S. Sepulveda
Lee Sturges
Thomas Sanchez
Elmer Avel
W.P. Pyles
Joe Fuentes

F.W. Waer
G. Hart Chesley
Mr. & Mrs. Henderson
Phillips Senegram
W.L. Woods
Newton Liggett

John M. Onsby
G.F. Duffy
Leonard Trainer
Walter Cameron
Mrs. C.O. Graham

White Horses

Adolfo Camarillo
Frank Camarillo
Hugh McGrath
Fredrick Noble
Teddy Arragoni
Ygnacio Palomares
Porfirio Palomares
L.A. Rico
Mrs. Anna Cook
Leo Eckard
Buck Jones

Margaret Clams
Kay Keith
Betty Jean Martin
P.H. Waters
Peter Kahn
G. Hart Chesley
Mr. & Mrs. Hendrickson
Thomas P. Gordon
C.N. Killingbeck
Dr. Gordon Wheatley

Palomino Horses

Reed McAllister
Dr. R.W. Cosby
A.P. Machris
William G. McAdoo
Dwight Murphy
John E. Wagner
Arthur Holliday
Don Weaver
Maurice Macharas
Rosemary Lick
Reginaldo Vejar
Ramon Vejar
General Walter F. Story
James B. Rickard
Earl Chapman
Hardy McAllister

L.R. Hull
H.O. Shultz
Eugene W. Biscailuz
Raoul de Ramirez
Jack Davis
Edward Gaines
Walter Lamb
E.A. Stokes
Edward Seale
Carl Ward
Don Williams
Ted Shultz
Mrs. Leon Peck
John Jensen