



Volume 11

Winter 1971

Number 1

WOMEN IN JOURNALISM

The California frontier newspaper often became a family affair after the Gold Rush period ended and permanent settlements were established. It was not unusual to find women working at the editor's rolltop desk and hand setting type. One family has a record of four succeeding generations of women in California journalism.

Horace G. Wright came to Santa Clara from Illinois a hundred years ago. In 1872 he married his childhood sweetheart, Christie Muirson, and they entered the newspaper business, working side by side as publishers of the Santa Clara Messenger. They later bought the Santa Clara Journal and merged the Messenger with it.

In 1886 they sold the Journal and went to the new town of El Paso de Robles where they established a weekly, the Leader. The Leader's first home was a box car resting on a Southern Pacific railroad siding.

A daughter, Mabel Wright Street, grew up learning all phases of country newspaper publishing. In 1907, while her father was in Sacramento as an attache of the state legislature, she took his place at the Leader as editor, type compositor and printer's devil.

Her daughter, Olive Street Engwicht, in 1935 became the first girl to be graduated from the new journalism department at San Jose State College. She served as news editor of several weekly newspapers in California, including the Paso Robles Press and the Morgan Hill Times. She is now a free-lance writer and lives in San Jose.

Mrs. Engwicht's daughter, Christie, started working at the San Jose Mercury and News as a high school student, first in the newspaper's library and later in the circulation department where she is currently employed.

Mrs. Olive Street Engwicht is one of our newer members. Her late husband, Harry Mead Engwicht was a pioneer in the development of radio.

* * *

MYSTERY HOUSE

Arthur M. Fisk

A lady often ridiculed as being peculiar or queer arrived in Santa Clara Valley, and it became quite a sensational event. It was the dramatic entrance of a millionairess.

The Winchester name was probably best known for the Winchester Repeating Arms Company. My first recollection of the Winchester name was in 1902 when I purchased a 22 caliber Winchester rifle, model 1900 from Sears, Roebuck & Company for \$3.75. (no tax).

Sarah Pardee was born in New Haven, Connecticut, in 1837. She was a highly cultured person, an excellent student, an artist and an accomplished musician. She was socially prominent before her marriage to William Winchester. William was the son of Oliver Winchester, owner of the Winchester Repeating Arms Company and manufacturer of the famous Winchester rifle.

The sudden death of their only daughter, Annie, was a great tragedy for the Winchesters. Shortly after Annie's death, Sarah's husband passed away on March 7, 1881 at the age of 43, leaving her a \$20,000,000 fortune. She felt his loss so deeply that her doctor advised her to move to a milder climate, perhaps California and to find a time-consuming hobby.

Mrs. Winchester arrived in San Jose, California in the summer of 1884 and bought the Caldwell place on Santa Clara-Los Gatos Road (now within the city limits of San Jose and known as Winchester Boulevard). Her hobby became drawing up and making intricate plans for improving and building additions to her new home, which she named "Llanda Villa."

Eventually she employed a plumber, two painters and six carpenters as a full time crew in addition to her gardeners and house servants, with an annual payroll of \$42,000. Before her death Mrs. Winchester had spent approximately \$5,000,000 on her house and garden. The home and outbuildings had 13 bathrooms, 47 fireplaces, 2,000 doors, 160,000 window panes, 9 kitchens, 40 stairways, a communication system and three elevators.

The house was furnished with expensive silks, linens, grand pianos, imported furniture and bric-a-brac. Building materials were also imported from Europe and the Far



East. Stained glass windows and art glass panels were imported from New York and Austria. Decorations were made from pure gold and silver, bronze and crystal. The storerooms were filled with imported wood paneling, wall paper, chandeliers and jewel studded doors and windows worth a fortune.

President Theodore Roosevelt while visiting in San Jose in 1903 to plant the City of Campbell's famous redwood tree, stopped by the Winchester mansion for a visit, but to the President's astonishment was told by the butler, "Mrs. Winchester is not at home!"

Mrs. Winchester gave constantly to charitable organizations, churches and orphanages. She also donated over \$1,500,000 to establish a memorial hospital in her home town of New Haven. Twentieth century stories about her being eccentric are not true. Quoting her attorney, "she was not eccentric or mentally unbalanced before her death." A quote from her personal physician, "her mind was keen to the very end."

Sarah Pardee Winchester died in her "Llanda Villa" September 5, 1922 at the age of 85 years. The house was later sold to an amusement park owner, who opened it to the public and called it "The Winchester Mystery House."

PAST PRESIDENTS

Several members have asked me if we have a complete list of the Presidents of our society. Marjorie and I are pleased to state that we do have such a list and are proud to print the names of the men and women who have served our society so well during the past 96 years:

Judge Augustus L. Rhodes	1875 - 1876
Coleman Younger	1876 - 1880
Robert Page	1880 - 1881
Homer Prindle	1881 - 1882
Coleman Younger	1882 - 1894
D. J. Porter	1894 - 1895
Jonathan Coykendall	1895 - 1897
James E. Gordon	1897 - 1898
David Wight	1898 - 1899
J. B. Church	1899 - 1900
J. B. Leaman	1900 - 1902
A. R. Woodhams	1902 - 1903
Rev. J. W. Hines	1903 - 1904
John S. Selby	1904 - 1905
John Z. Anderson	1905 - 1911
L. D. Stevens	1911 - 1912
John Z. Anderson	1912 - 1914
Alexander P. Murgotten	1914 - 1916
John F. Pyle	1916 - 1921
William E. Gage	1921 - 1927
F. E. Caton	1927 - 1930
William Dampman	1930 - 1931
Albert M. Crittenden	1931 - 1932
Mrs. Rosalie Andrews	1932 - 1937
Mrs. Hector De Smet	1937 - 1938
Mrs. C. E. Hailstone	1938 - 1941
Mrs. Maurice J. Graham	1941 - 1944
Mrs. John B. Ogier	1944 - 1945
Hon. Allan P. Lindsay	1945 - 1946
Dr. A. T. Leonard, Jr.	1946 - 1948
Mrs. James Chloupek	1948 - 1950
Mrs. Albert Carabal	1950 - 1953
Mrs. Albert Luhrman	1953 - 1957
Percy H. Thompson	1957 - 1960
Austen D. Warburton	1960 - 1962
Minnie L. Clark	1962 - 1963
Alice M. Vetterle	1963 - 1965
Minnie L. Clark	1965 - 1966
Jessie E. Black	1966 - 1968
Laurence E. Bulmore	1968 - 1969
Leland M. Boruck	1969 -

FROM HORSES TO HORSE-POWER

Laurence Bulmore

The 1900 Santa Clara County Directory shows that, at the turn of the century, there were twenty-six livery and/or boarding stables in San Jose. In those stables horses and vehicles were kept for hire. They also boarded privately owned horses by the day, week or month.

Merchants, and others, who required horses in their business rented them, usually by the month. The delivery clerks called for the team or horse and vehicle on the way to work and returned them in the evening. The horse drawn cabs found at street corners about the city, were also kept there.

Remember how the "cabbies" put a nose-bag of oats on their horses' heads at noon and how the sparrows flew down to feast upon the oats that fell from the bags? Those were also the days of the "white-wings;" white-coated men, with brooms and trash cans on wheels, who swept the streets.

A livery stable an aid to courtship? Certainly. If a young fellow wanted to take his "best girl" for a moonlight ride or to a picnic, he went to a stable and hired a horse and buggy.

When you entered some stables you would see a vehicle covered with white sheeting. Under the sheeting would be the ornate hearse used by one of the local undertakers. There was a special harness for the horses that drew the hearse. Black (white for children) plumes on the bridle and collar and a fish-net like covering over the entire animal, dropping to the knees.

The passing of the livery stable began in 1910. The directory of that year records that the Garden City Auto Company at 230 E. Santa Clara Street offered "Autos for hire." Two years later, Hanes, at 21 South Second Street and the Occidental Stables at 30 South Second St., were in the "Auto livery" business.

Taxi cabs, per se, came in 1917, so the directory of that year states. They were owned by the following: Michael Martinelli at the Southern Pacific Depot, F. L. Keller at 40 No. Fourth Street and Herb Stockton at 23 No. First Street.

1918 brought the first Taxi Cab Company. The White Star Auto Company located at 36 Bassett Street. The number of livery stables in San Jose had dropped to ten. Ten years later there were four taxi cab companies in San Jose, among them the Yellow Cab Company of today. Only one livery stable, that of W. N. Stewart, 124 No. San

Pedro was still in business.

GOODBYE DOBBIN. HI, TAXI!

* * *

Dear Arthur: The article by Inez Green Getchell in a recent issue of The Trailblazer about the Normal School brings back memories to me.

There was no busing in those days, we had to choose the institutions of learning where our feet could take us. The nearest location to Priest and Santa Clara streets happened to be the Horace Mann School, so this was where I started and finished my early schooling.

The kindergarten was located where the Adult Education Headquarters are now. The first grades were in the building still standing to the rear of the supposedly earthquake proof building which is on the drawing boards to be demolished because it does not come up to present standards.

The two outstanding events at this institution of early learning was the hokey pokey ice cream man who was on hand regularly at recess periods to dispense his product from his metal insulated push cart for the sum of one nickel. It wasn't very often that I had a nickel to partake of this delicacy, which was a cylinder shaped, frozen concoction wrapped in wax paper, and must have been on a stick otherwise it would have been too cold to handle. The other event was my ability to draw trains on the blackboard or any place available. I do not think Arthur Fisk would recognize them as such, but while the others were drawing houses, people etc. I drew my idea of what a train really looked like, with smoke coming out of the stack and everything else.

When it was time for me to move into the high first, my Mother, Laura Bacon Bailey, who had already received her G. E. from San Jose Normal in 1896 along with my Father, decided that she wanted to get her kindergarten degree, so I transferred to Normal Training School located next door to her class room. I remember the high basement where we dried out when it rained and held recess during the winter months. Miss English was the principal and I always enjoyed her nature study class.

The assembly hall was surrounded on the north and east sides by class rooms and we really had a climb up the front steps to get to the main floor.

Mother finished her K.P. course and received her degree in 1902. She later went on to receive her Home Making degree in 1914 and in 1938 became the oldest student in the history of the school to complete a regular course

and receive a Bachelor of Education certificate at the age of 79. She received her life diploma in 1921.

My Father was also a graduate of San Jose Normal. His first assignment was in Salinas.

When Mother completed her kindergarten course in 1902 I returned to Horace Mann School where my class was the first to graduate from the present building.

John Manzer was principal of the then three story wooden structure. We would line up outside when school was to start and march to the first and second floors to the beat of a bass drum. On the third floor was the auditorium where lantern slides were projected on a screen with the help of the sun's rays.

We occupied temporary shacks on the grounds after the earthquake when the old building was condemned.

Sincerely, Curtis Bailey

* * *

(Marjorie received the following letter from Mrs. Haw Chan Jung one of the Chinese ladies who visited our Society with the Chinese Historical Society from San Francisco). Dear Mrs. Fisk: At the end of Grant Avenue just before it meets Broadway and Columbus, is an alley called Adler Place. No. 17 is a beautiful little brick and tile structure, home of the Chinese Historical Society of America. About 25 or 30 stalwarts, staff the museum on a volunteer basis and keep it open Tuesdays through Sundays from 1 to 5 p.m.

It contains among other things: a small Chinese Buddhist altar, built in 1880; clothing and slippers of the 19th century Chinese pioneers; a queue; a hand-made wheelbarrow; rare photos of the Chinese working on the Central Pacific and many other Chinese artifacts.

We would welcome you or any of the members of your Pioneer Society to visit our museum any time during visiting hours or special hours by arrangement for groups.

Sincerely yours, Haw Jung

* * *

The following interesting information was received with an application for membership from Mr. Daniel A. Yeager: "I attended Hester School living in a house that then stood on the school grounds owned by Mrs. Robb. My father was a builder of homes and built the first house in the Interurban Park tract on Boston Ave. We resided there until the earthquake and then spent the winter of 1908-'09 in Denver, Colo. We returned to San Jose in 1909 and I was one of two who graduated from the Burbank School in June of that year, the first graduates. My

parents then bought an apricot orchard on the S. E. corner of Moorpark and Winchester Road. The Fall of 1910 I registered at San Jose High School. Cecelia O'Niel was my registration teacher. Things didn't go so well and I transferred to Campbell High. Graduated from Campbell in 1914. I worked for Peninsular R.R., Ainsleys Cannery, San Jose Hardware and finally went to work for the San Jose Post Office. Worked there from July 1916 to May 16, 1918 then transferred to Alameda to a regular carrier route (Married May 27, 1917) and believe it or not the salary at that time was \$84 per month. Due to low pay and home sickness we looked for work nearer home and on Jan. 1, 1921 I became Rural Carrier on Route 1 at the Campbell Post Office and retired from that position Oct. 31, 1955.

The Campbell Rural Route was the first route established in California. I was not the first carrier however. When the route was established it was No. 1. Later there were two additional routes added as the community grew. Mr. Hawley who was Postmaster in the early days could not stand to see Campbell's Routes numbered 1, 2 and 3, so he numbered San Jose Routes 1 to 6 and Campbell came out with #7, 8 and 9. In 1916 after the big shake up and the birth of Civil Service, Campbell emerged with one route and again it was numbered 1.

* * *

While clearing the ground in an old, overgrown, weeded garden at 955 Lenzen Avenue for expansion of the Park-Alameda Hospital Complex a tall sandstone column was found in the brush. It was apparently quite old and thanks to Mrs. Theodora Baumgartner and Mr. Clyde Arbuckle it was identified as the work of Theodore Lenzen, a noted San Jose architect of the 19th century. Mrs. Baumgartner is the granddaughter of Mr. Lenzen and she recalled that the column was erected as a memorial to his daughter Katrina, who died November 5, 1887. The column has been preserved and now stands in front of the hospital at 976 Lenzen Avenue.

Theodore Lenzen born in Prussia in 1833, came to San Jose from San Francisco in 1862 to build Santa Clara College (now University of Santa Clara). He later built the Auzerais House, San Jose City Hall at Market and San Fernando streets, the original O'Connor Hospital, the first Normal School at San Jose and many other prominent buildings in this area. He was married April 12, 1865 and had four children. Mr. Lenzen was a member of Friendship Masonic Lodge No. 210 in San Jose.

* * * *

BY-LINES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Leland M. Boruck

We wish to take this opportunity to thank all those who were present at the December meeting for their generous contributions for the benefit of the children at the county hospital, which totaled slightly over one hundred and fourteen dollars. This money will be used to purchase two orthopedic tricycles so essential to the rehabilitation program for these children.

The year 1970 is now fond memory and as we embark upon 1971 let us continue to support the ideals of the officers and directors. Our membership has remained practically static, with the addition of new members offsetting our losses by those who have passed on. Having survived the Flu-bug, Holiday activities and the frosty mornings, we now welcome Spring with its flowers and the birds and bees and the anticipation of some more pleasant times together.

* * *

Dear Arthur: In the Fall issue of the Trailblazer you mentioned Dr. Stanley Fuller. His close friend was Lee deForest who invented the radio vacuum tube in Palo Alto. It is interesting to me that Ora Schrenk, a member of the Pioneer Society, worked as Dr. Fuller's secretary for the Federal Telegraph Company formerly known as Poulsen Wireless Telegraph and Telephone Company. In more recent years it changed to McKay Radio and Telegraph.

The only contact Ora now has with radio communications is the adjusting of her TV receiver. Bob

* * *

LOOK FOR IT HERE

28 members 85 years of age or older were honored at our quarterly meeting in December. Those present were: Joe Antine, Embert Brown, William Calvert, Isa McIntyre, Tina Miner, Violet Oliphant, Kate Owen, Ida Skow, J. Winter Smith, Georgie Swall. Those who could not be present were: Violet Allison, Harriet Burnett, Pearl Castle, Mary Ferry, Josephine Franklin, Georgie Hanjes, Louise Hardwick, May Kirk, Lavinia Lindeman, Helen Mignon, Addie Miller, Nina Moon, Dora Owen, Ernest Pieper, Naomi Pinard, Edna Ridley, Mildred Robinson, Anne Topham.

\$114.56 was donated by the members present at our December quarterly meeting for the handicapped children at the Santa Clara Valley Medical Center Pediatric Ward. Members of the Board of Directors and committees donated many gift wrapped toys. The toys with a check for \$114.56 was presented to the Medical Center by Miss Bernice

Van Gundy, who reports that the money will be used to purchase equipment for the new Rehabilitation Playroom for children. An orthopedic tricycle and developmental games will be purchased immediately. The hospital, through Miss Van Gundy wishes to express their sincere appreciation to the members of the Pioneer Society. ***

March 6, 1971 our quarterly meeting will be held at Lou's Village at high twelve. An interesting program has been arranged by our chairman, Jack Blackmar. ***

Tony Sapena and Martha Bulmore two of our members have been elected President and Vice President respectively of the San Jose Historic Landmarks Commission. This commission is concerned with various civic affairs, among them our Pioneer Town at Kelley Park. ***

Mr. and Mrs. James H. Morton celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary in Upland, California, Dec. 1st. ***

The old David Umbarger home on Monterey Road south of San Jose has been moved to Kelley Park to become part of our Pioneer Town in the Historic Museum Complex. Umbarger was born in West Virginia in 1815 and had moved to Kentucky in 1846. On April 2, 1849 he set out for California, the party took a circuitous route which brought them into San Diego, from there they continued their journey by boat to San Francisco, arriving January 11, 1850. He spent several years in the mother lode country and in 1851 came to Santa Clara County and bought 138 acres along Monterey Road. He then returned to the mines and in 1853 came back to his farm where he built his home and lived until his death, May 23, 1891. He was buried across the road from his farm, in Oak Hill Cemetery. ***

The towering redwood tree south of San Francisquito Creek and east of the Southern Pacific tracks for which the City of Palo Alto was named, will be saved. The Division of Highways has agreed to build the new Willow Freeway connecting highway 101 with Palo Alto at least 100 feet from the base of the tree. The redwood marks the site of Portola's Camp in 1769, and is the oldest living historical monument in California. The tall tree is on the seal of both the City of Palo Alto and Stanford University. It is located on the Southern Pacific right of way and leased to Palo Alto for permanent care. ***

* * *

WELCOME

Congratulations to our new members: Allen T. Amstein, Gertrude D. Amstein, Elizabeth M. Berger, Ann E. Birmingham, John R. Brokenshire, Elmer L. Christian, Rose Christian, Dudley S. Davis, Leona Prout Davis, Doris E.

Dimmey, Charles J. Finley, Helen Finley, Homer S. Hall, Minnie Yeager Hall, May C. Hilton, James D. Holbrook, Opal R. Holbrook, Nellie Pitman Lindsay, Thomas I. Lindsay, Robert B. Maxwell, Ura V. Maxwell, Eva V. McGuire, Gladys C. Olsen, Cecilia C. O'Neil, Lolita Paiva, Carmen Pascoe, Frank E. Pascoe, Clifton Price, Alice A. Smith, Christine M. Sund, Elmer W. Thomas, Frank Tregoning, Evar W. Wenburg, Violet E. Wenburg, Florence H. Work and Daniel A. Yeager.

* * *

BEYOND THE SUNSET

Lyla G. Richardson

November 5, 1902 - October 23, 1970

Katherine S. Richardson

May 20, 1884 - October 24, 1970

Florence C. Baugh

May 15, 1896 - November 2, 1970

Robert E. Nelson

September 22, 1890 - November 7, 1970

Azalie Rider

October 7, 1892 - November 7, 1970

Leah Hatch Hanna

February 24, 1889 - November 27, 1970

Walter A. Billeter

February 23, 1890 - December 12, 1970

Dora Kelley Owen

March 25, 1881 - January 8, 1971

Thomas E. Daugherty

November 30, 1899 - January 11, 1971

Leo Sullivan

September 26, 1885 - January 12, 1971

In behalf of the officers and members of the California Pioneer Society of Santa Clara County, the TRAIL-BLAZER extends their sincere sympathy to the relatives and friends of our departed members.

Issued in February, May, August and November
 Editor: Arthur M. Fisk, 390 N.Winchester Bv., Santa Clara
 Associate Editor: Marjorie B. Fisk
 Assistant Editor: Henry J. Calloway
 Staff Artist: Ralph Rambo
 Subscription rates to non-members \$1.00 per year. Single
 copies 25 cents each.

Officers for 1970-71

President Leland M. Boruck
 1st Vice President. Jack Blackmar
 2nd Vice President. Lynn L. Vermillion
 Recording Secretary Marjorie Rusht
 Corresponding Secretary Esther Adams
 Financial Secretary Madeline Smalley
 Treasurer Curtis Bailey
 Directors: Clyde Arbuckle, Laurence E. Bulmore, Martha
 L. Bulmore, Ramona W. Moxley, Henry C. Stout, A. Bernice
 Van Gundy, Austen D. Warburton and Howard L. Worcester.

* * *

SEND APPLICATIONS for membership to Bernice Van Gundy,
 561 Fuller Ave., San Jose, CA 95125.

SICKNESS and DEATHS please notify Martha Bulmore, 2221
 Coastland Ave., San Jose, CA 95125. Phone 264-2104.

BUS TOUR information for members of the Pioneer Society
 may be obtained from Mrs. Effie M. Hawkins, phone 295-
 2868, 9 a.m. until 12 noon Monday thru Friday.

* * *

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