

Volume 10

Winter 1970

Number 1

LITTLE GREY CHURCH ON THE CORNER

In downtown San José stand a number of church buildings whose lines point not only upward but to yesteryears. Among them is a little slate-grey church on a corner, adorned with shrubbery, rich in history. Beside its north wall stands a marker which reads: "Trinity Episcopal Church. Oldest church building in San Jose in constant use. First unit erected in 1863." Thereby hangs a tale--of constancy.

Shortly after their coming in 1848 the usurping American settlers surveyed the $5\frac{1}{2}$ square miles of their newly-acquired little city. They plotted new streets and set aside several areas for parks. One of these is known as Saint James; its southern boundary was a dusty little road called Saint John Street.

The opposite side of Saint John was bordered for a few blocks by a high board fence that enclosed a horse corral. Clumps of bright-flowered mustard grew inside, and alongside that fence. Other plots of thick wild mustard throughout the area awaited clearing for the building of roomy American homes, and some not so big and ornate. Soon these new homes supplanted the little adobes, just as the ayuntamiento had become the city council, the Alcade was now Mayor and the Juzgado had become the town hall, courthouse and jail. The thirty-first State was now little more than a decade old and San José, so briefly its first capital, was being called the Garden City. Its citizens, about 4000 in number, were yet to greet the first wood-burning steam train from San Francisco, and to hear about President Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation.

Among the lusty settlers at the beginning of the

sixties was a frail young newcomer who became the leader of a mere handful of like-minded believers. At first they met in each others' homes, and in public rooms. As their numbers increased they found a regular meeting place in an upstairs courtroom in Fireman's Hall on North Market Street. They had already accumulated many articles needed in their devotions, including a melodeon to accompany their reverent singing. They had organized a choir and a Sunday School. By the year 1861 they had established the first Episcopal Church in San José, and called it Trinity.

It soon became evident that they must erect their own church building. They secured a piece of the corral, opposite Saint James Park; its eastern boundary was 2nd Street. The substantial little building that began to take shape the summer of 1863 was rectangular with a broad steep-pitched roof. The two sharp-angled gables faced north and south, with the main entrance toward Saint John Street. Another entrance was roofed over and opened from the 2nd Street side. Additional space was attached to the south wall, of identical lines, but of smaller dimensions. The tall narrow windows were gothic in design, and from the roof above the north gable rose a little gothic turret, topped by a small cross.

The exterior of this brave pioneer church was built largely of local redwood lumber, and some of its tight construction still contains many of the square hand-made nails, pounded lustily into place 107 years ago this summer of 1970. Douglas fir also was used, and at least part of the interior was Oregon pine. Some of the furnishings, and the first rows of benches were of redwood, stained and varnished as of today.

The builders were ready for the large triple stained glass windows many weeks before they arrived by ship from the Atlantic coast around the treacherous tip of South America. Until late that Fall the openings were covered with muslin, stretched tight. Once in place in the south wall, above the altar, the soft radiance of the lovely windows greeted those early-day worshippers as they entered by the north door and faced the chancel.

Within a few weeks the redwood exterior had been painted the grey that continues to characterize the present building. A bit of ivy, brought from the ruins of Melrose Abbey in Scotland was planted beside the wall. It grew so rampantly the new little church soon became

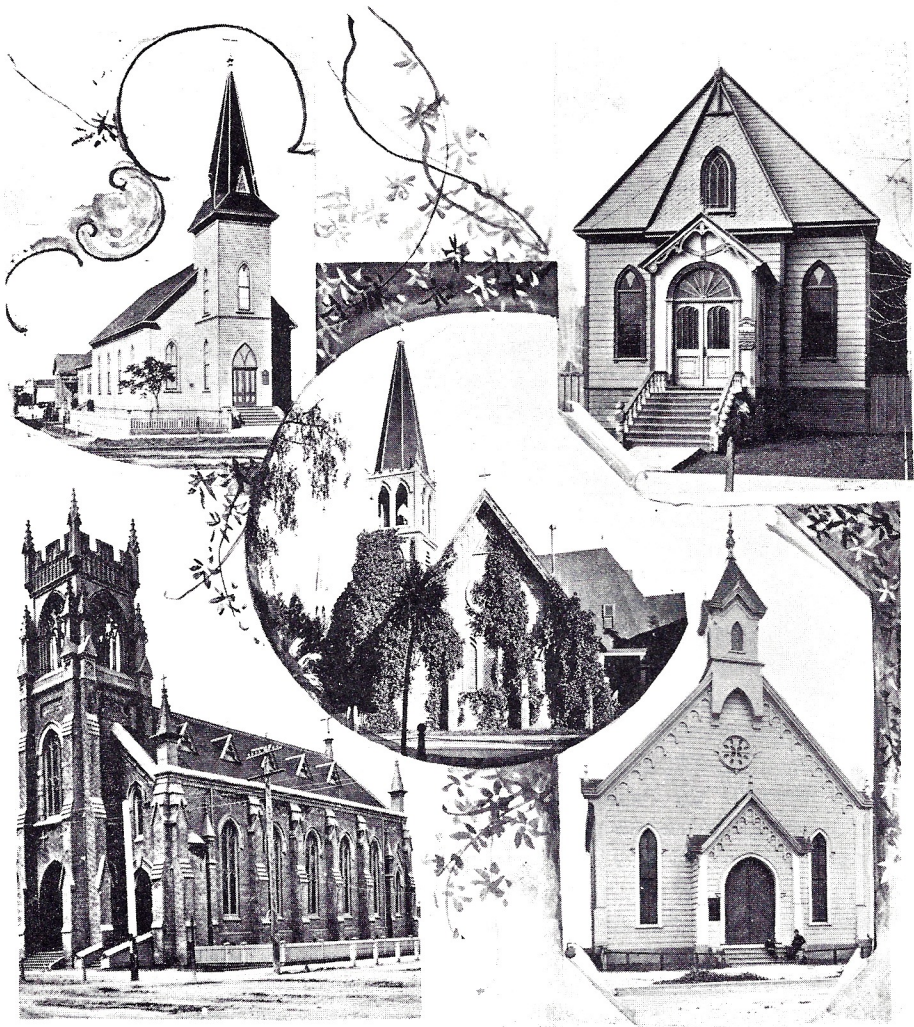
heavily draped with it. The venturesome ivy pried its way between the timbers into the interior and "festooned the beams, clustering in every corner."

The first service was held on Advent Sunday 1863, but the fragile Rector, though present, was unable to lead the solemn and joyful ritual. By the following Spring his body had been laid to rest beneath the floor of the chancel, according to his own wish, where it remains undisturbed.

The new house of worship was not dedicated until 1867 when its building costs had all been met. Meanwhile, at various times through the years personal gifts of furnishings, baptismal font, candles, chancel chairs, memorial windows of colored glass from San Francisco and improvements of all kinds were being made by special contributions. Chief among these, right from the start, was the installation of the first pipe organ on the West Coast. We quote from a yellowed newspaper clipping: "1863. First pipe organ, sent from Boston by boat to the Isthmus of Panama; carried overland by mules to the Pacific Coast; placed on another boat to San Francisco, and another to Alviso where it was transported by oxen to Trinity." Now the little melodeon was retired. The congregation never lacked for a faithful organist for the next 61 years. The farewell hymns were heard within that sanctuary in 1924 when the old organ was given to Saint James Church in Paso Robles. The replacement was brought from a Church in San Francisco and installed immediately. Alterations in the walls were needed to complete the work, much as it is seen today.

With the spirit of constancy that characterized the membership of Trinity from the beginning, they went steadily forward from one project to another. Soon the first rectory was built on the west side of the church. A lamp post was set in the corner--the only street light in that tree-darkened neighborhood. A picket fence was built to keep the domestic animals out of the churchyard. Now the horse-drawn carriages lined the fence along both streets. Other transportation was supplied by horse-cars, as noted in old pictures showing tracks that curved from east Saint John into Second Street. Gas lights were installed inside and two pot-bellied stoves. They were replaced 25 years later with new ones that used 2-foot length cordwood.

Continued in the Spring issue.



The above picture shows the Trinity Episcopal Church in the center, as described in the preceding article. Circa early 1890's, after the lofty spire had been added to the tower. Other churches: upper left, Swedish Lutheran. Upper right, Christian. Lower left, St. Patrick's. Lower right, Cumberland Presbyterian.

RESTAURANTS OF EARLY SAN JOSE

Leo Sullivan

Samuel Appleby, a San Josean since 1903 and a hotel man by profession, opened a restaurant on East Santa Clara Street shortly after the local seismic disturbance.

Clyde Appleby, a son and prominent local Band Leader reports old menus. "Appleby serves excellent food at reasonable prices," and to prove the assertion an "Extra Special" is listed: "Prime Rib Steak 15¢."

Appleby later, assumed the lease of the three-story San Carlos Hotel at 26 South 2nd Street, eventually taking over The Winton at 108 South 2nd and the Colonial Hotel at 110 South 2nd. The popular Coffee Club occupied the ground floor beneath the Colonial Hotel.

Appleby sold the Winton Hotel to Ben Piola in 1920 and opened the Mission Hotel at 339 South 1st Street.

Samuel Appleby passed away in 1944.

* * *

The big attraction on 2nd Street from 1907 thru 1915 was the new "Jose Theatre," under the management of William Nolan and Joseph Blum. Dramatic Stock Plays and Vaudeville made up the theatrical fare served the San Jose public at 10, 20 and 30¢ prices. To prevent monotony six months of Stock would be followed by a like period of Vaudeville--keeping everybody happy. Movies were crude affairs, feature-length films, as yet, were unknown --single reel travelogues (scenes from Nature or National Shrines) ran 8 to 10 minutes, killing time while the audience was being seated and enjoying their goobers.

While the actors role in life was to bring pleasure and entertainment to others, they themselves, for the most part, led removed, lonely lives. Thru the years the Winton Hotel acted as a temporary home to hundreds of homesick troopers craving and longing for the sight, or touch of distant loved ones night after night. To mention a few that made the Big Time, Thurston Hall, Paul Harvey, Alta Phipps, Charles Gunn, Roscoe Karns, Al Jolson, Kernan Kripps, Lander Stevens, etc.

At the time of which we write, all travel was by train and performers were usually exhausted after an all-night jump. If an act had not checked in 30 minutes before show-time, a call to the Winton galvanized Appleby into action and Sam would hustle the sleepy culprit to the Jose in jig-time. As leader of the Jose Orchestra from 1907 until 1921, the writer speaks from experience.

* * *

Paul Maggi (Madjee) opened his fashionable "Maggi's Restaurant," at 335 South 1st Street, a few doors north of the sparkling new "California Fox Theatre" about 1929.

It was the fabulous 20's, money was no object. The Stock Market was booming--Lindbergh conquered the Atlantic; "Talkies" (Al Jolson in the Jazz Singer) had consigned "silents" to the limbo of the Dark Ages. The world no longer was mystified by the miracle of wireless, even Radio was "Old Hat."

Maggi's catered to the theatrical trade and featured a new fad in eats--the 3 Decker Sandwich with excellent financial results.

"Fanchon and Marco" weekly units were packing 'em in at the California Theatre, while Jay Brower the current "Rave" and stage idol, acted as Master of Ceremonies and leader of the Versatile California Stage Band.

Without warning October 29, 1929, the storm struck--the bottom dropped out of the Stock Market. A sadder but wiser world faced a long bleak, frightening period of travail--the Depression was on in Full Swing.

Maggi's Restaurant closed in 1937.

* * *

Eating establishments that have helped mold the history of San Jose, are as follows:

- O'Brien's Candy Store, 32 S. 1st St. Early 1880's.
- Fior d' Italia. About 1900.
- Rudolph's Candy Store, 14 S. 1st St. 1902.
- Stoke's Tamale Parlor, 15 S. 2nd St. 1904.
- Saddle Rock Oyster Grotto, 98 N. 1st St. 1904.
- "Shorty" Hines Milk Shakes, 76 N. 1st St. 1905.
- Sandbo's Lunch, 29 Fountain Alley. 1907.
- Pete's Oyster, 37 W. San Fernando St. 1910.
- Wilson's Cafeteria, Montgomery Hotel. 1912.
- Mead's Dairy Lunch, 182 S. 1st St. 1912.
- *Oriental Cafe, 87 E. San Fernando St. 1910.
- Jefferson Cafeteria, 145 S. 1st St. 1913.
- Antler Grill, 96 N. 1st St., 1914.
- Hawaiian Gardens, Almaden Road. 1916.
- Hascall's Grill, 189 S. 1st St. 1918.
- Rudolph's Restaurant, 17 E. San Antonio St. 1920.
- O'Brien's Restaurant, 224 S. 1st St. About 1920.
- Savin's French Rest., 131 W. Santa Clara. 1920's.
- *Oyster Loaf, 31 E. Santa Clara St. 1920.
- Goodfellows Grill, 41 W. Santa Clara St. 1925.
- *Bohannon's, 10 E. Santa Clara St. 1943.
- *Still operating.

* * *

MODERN PIONEERS

Our treasurer, Curtis Bailey sent in a photostatic copy of a Marin County record concerning his grandfather: "Robert Bailey was born in Kentucky, December 26, 1827. In the year 1848 Mr. Bailey moved to Polk County, Iowa, and there abode until the Spring of 1850, when he crossed the plains with ox-teams reaching California in October. He worked in the mines in Placer County until 1852 and then located in Sonoma County. In 1855 Mr. Bailey returned to Iowa, thence to Missouri where, purchasing a drove of cattle, he conducted them overland to California, arriving in the Fall of 1856 and settled on his present ranch in Marin County where he built a splendid mansion two stories in height; the cornices are known as the "bracket and dental;" hot and cold water was laid throughout the building; it is lit with gas, while the front facade is protected by a broad veranda. Mr. Bailey married Mary Hickman in 1851. They had seven children, four boys and three girls." He had set a precedent for his grandson, Curt Bailey.

With a grocery background obtained at the Home Union retail and Keystone wholesale, Curt and his wife Olive, both natives of California set out for Hawaii. This was in August 1920.

His first position was with the American Factors, the largest of the "BIG 5" sugar agencies. He represented this firm's grocery department on all the outside islands.

This was the year that Joe Cramer opened the first self service store in San Jose on South Market Street near the then Home Union, now Garden City Hofbrau. He had no shelves for the merchandise, but sold from open cases on the floor.

A Chinese firm in Honolulu was catering to the white trade by undercutting the firms they would normally buy from. Curt Bailey was encouraged by the Housewives League to pioneer Cash & Carry stores under the name of Bailey's Groceterias. With this backing Bailey started by renting a stall in the King Street Fish Market and sending a stocked truck of groceries into each section of Honolulu once a week.

From this small beginning the business grew until it was necessary to build five Groceterias to handle the trade. The name was later changed to Baileys Stores, to bring them more up-to-date.

Perhaps the Baileys were born years too soon, but

Curt followed the tradition of his Grandfather by being a real PIONEER.

* * *

Dear Mr. Fisk:

In the Winter-1969 Trailblazer, Leo Sullivan told of the prominent men having offices in the Auzerais Building. Wright-Ely Printers, had their printing office in the former dining room of the Auzerais House. Edna Young Vanderhave, my sisters Laura Bertelsen and the late Ida Herschbach and I worked there.

Reminiscing about the old days. The height of our year was a picnic every summer near Guadalupe Mines which are about ten miles from San Jose. We would go out Almaden Road to Robertsville (5 mile house) turn on Branham Lane to Lone Hill (which isn't anymore). We children would get out of the surrey as it was too hard a pull for the horse. We would walk to the top of the hill, then get into the surrey for the ride to our picnic by Guadalupe River. We children would then hike to the mines, passing the schoolhouse also the village. In the village was a company store, catholic church and many cabins. Very picturesque. The mine was in full operation. We had a chance to go down into it but suddenly turned chicken, so never did see it inside. There were quicksilver flasks outside the building. We tried to lift them (looked easy) but found out it was an effort to barely get one off the floor (76 pounds).

Not much has been said about the Guadalupe Mines. It was the sixth in production of mercury, 112,000 flasks. It was discovered in 1856 and is located on an extension of the New Almaden Ore Zone. It is situated on the banks of Capitancillos Creek, which we now call Guadalupe. There was a lot of litigation and operated under many companies. Their most productive years were from 1906-1920 under the New Guadalupe Mining Company.

The town is gone now and the underground workings inaccessible.

Sincerely, Annie T. Peters

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We solicit historical material of all kinds relating to Santa Clara County from all the members, but it must be understood that the editor reserves the right to accept, reject, cut, revise or file all material sent in for the TRAILBLAZER.

* * *

BY-LINES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Leland M. Boruck

It is with deep regret that we announce the resignation of Dr. O. S. Hubbard as a member of the Board of Directors. He was a valuable member of the Board and we will miss his good advice on matters pertinent to the best administration of the organization. However, in view of the fact that Mrs. Hubbard and he have plans for some extensive traveling in the months to come, we wish them well and hope they have a very enjoyable time together.

At the January meeting of the Board and in accordance with the provisions of the By-Laws, Mrs. Frank (Marjorie) Rusht was unanimously elected to fill the vacancy due to Dr. Hubbard's resignation. Marjorie has served on the Board before and is thus well qualified to assist in the administration and policies of the organization.

At the suggestion of Arthur Fisk we are happy to welcome Henry Calloway to the staff of The Trailblazer to assist Arthur and his wife in editing the magazine.

I wish to take this opportunity to thank those members who attended the quarterly meeting on December 8, 1969 for their generous contribution to the hospital fund for handicapped children. A total of \$93.25 jingled out of the cans to which was added \$6.75 left over from last year and a check of \$100 was given for the purchase of some much needed equipment.

* * *

LOOK FOR IT HERE

The three-story Victorian mansion built in the late 1880's by one of the world's largest seed growers Mr. C. C. Morse at the northeast corner of Washington and Fremont streets in Santa Clara may be torn down unless the fight for restoration of this magnificent structure is successful. The home has 12 rooms and a basement with a trio of main fireplaces framed by elegant woodwork and stone of Victorian luxury. It is part of the heritage of Santa Clara and if enough interest can be developed to restore the building it would be an ideal place for art shows and similar events. Mrs. Airi Kulpa is head of the preservation subcommittee. The Santa Clara City Council has shown some interest in the project and referred it to the Santa Clara Historic Landmarks Commission for study. ***

1970 DUES for the Pioneer Society may be mailed to Mrs. Madeline Smalley, 1110 Morse St., San Jose, Calif. 95126. ***

Mr. Kenneth Chow, one of our scholarship recipients read a very interesting and informative paper on the "Early day Chinese in San Jose" at our December quarterly meeting. ***

\$93.25 was donated by the members present at our December meeting for the handicapped children at the Santa Clara County Medical Center Pediatric Ward. The Board of Directors made it an even \$100 and also donated many gift wrapped toys. The toys with a check for \$100 was presented to the Medical Center by Mrs. Martha Bulmore, who reports that the \$100 was used to buy a light weight wheel chair for use by those children who cannot walk. Many thanks to all who helped so much. ***

26 members 85 years of age or older were honored at our quarterly meeting in December. Those present were: Embert Brown, William Calvert, Pearl Castle, M a y Kirk, Isa S. McIntrye, Tina Miner, Nina Moon, Kate L. Owen, Edna C. Ridley, Ida Skow, J. Winter Smith. Those that could not be present were: Harriet Burnett, Mary D. Ferry, Josephine Franklin, Georgie E. Hanjes, Louise G. Hardwick, Herbert C. Jones, Lavinia Lindeman, Helen Mignon, Addie C. Miller, Dora Owen, Ernest O. Pieper, Naomi Pinard, Mildred Robinson, Georgie R. Swall, and Anne E. Topham. ***

The program for our March 7th luncheon will be: "A LOOK AT THE PAST and A PEEP AT THE FUTURE." ***

Dr. and Mrs. Earl Rhoads and Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Fisk celebrated their 55th wedding anniversaries on November 26, 1969. ***

The picture and article on Wright's Station in the Fall issue brought forth many favorable comments; among t h e m one from a subscriber: "Dear Arthur: Garratt Arnold and I drove down the old Wright's Station Road last Sunday, we came to a wire fence and San Jose Water Works signs were visible everywhere. I will try to get a pass from the Water Company and take you to the mouth of the old tunnel and the area we so well remember. Bob"

The Saratoga Historical Foundation had as its speaker last November 17th Mr. Jack Dowty, who recently accepted the post of Supervisor of the Historical Museum Complex for the City of San Jose at Kelley Park. His subject was "Developing a Community Museum." ***

Snap judgment has a way of becoming unfastened.

WELCOME

Congratulations to our new members: Mayme J. Atkinson, Robert L. Cochran, Mrs. Robert L. Cochran, Clotilde A. Console, Evelyn L. Fisher, Verne Hugo, Marie M. Maurer, Peter E. Maurer, Cline Pearce, Isola Pearce and Mildred Tyson.

* * *

BEYOND THE SUNSET

Carl N. Bolfig
- August 17, 1969

Miner S. Gray
February 18, 1890 - October 22, 1969

Viola B. Lester
March 23, 1890 - November 2, 1969

Beth Brown
August 11, 1894 - November 3, 1969

Ben J. Andries
July 9, 1909 - November 14, 1969

Edward James Kelley
May 13, 1895 - November 17, 1969

Carolyn Vignolo Martin
August 18, 1894 - November 18, 1969

Hughann Leigh Cross
September 15, 1892 - December 17, 1969

Leland B. Stockham
February 5, 1919 - December 27, 1969

Dr. A. T. Leonard Jr.
- January 10, 1970

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.

THE TRAILBLAZER

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 1969-70

- President Leland M. Boruck
- 1st Vice President. Dr. O. S. Hubbard
- 2nd Vice President. Fred R. Menzel
- Recording Secretary Eveleen C. Duff
- Corresponding Secretary Esther Adams
- Financial Secretary Madeline Smalley
- Treasurer Curtis Bailey
- Directors: Clyde Arbuckle, Jessie E. Black, Laurence E. Bulmore, Martha L. Bulmore, Barbara Spedding, Henry Clyde Stout, A. Bernice Van Gundy and Austen D. Warburton.

* * *

THE SOCIAL CLUB of our society meets on the 1st and 3rd Monday afternoon of each month. Card playing and various activities highlight each meeting. For further information call Mrs. Kate L. Owen, 295-1153.

BUS TOUR information for members of the Pioneer Society may be obtained from Mrs. Effie M. Hawkins, phone 295-2868 or Mrs. Jessie Black, 295-2987, 9 a.m. 'till 12.

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