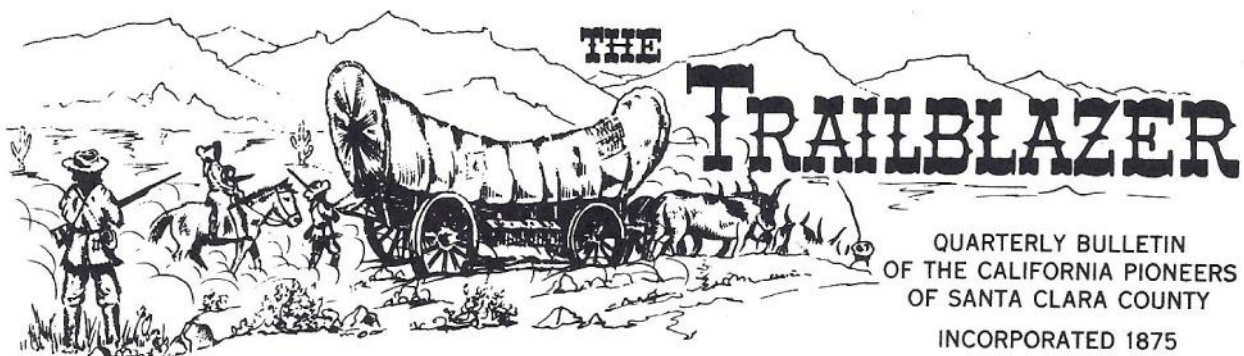




QUARTERLY BULLETIN
OF THE CALIFORNIA PIONEERS
OF SANTA CLARA COUNTY
INCORPORATED 1875

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**MAGNOLIA AVE. CHILDHOOD
HOME REVISITED**

WHALE BLAZERS

SAN JOSE, January 1888: — County Hospital Superintendent J. B. Church filed his monthly report. It revealed 26 patients as being admitted during the month of December 1887. Fifteen were discharged with 3 deaths leaving 67 patients at the close of the year. Kitchen hospital expenses totaled \$245.57.

SAN JOSE, December 1902: — Buying a live turkey or goose for the holidays was the usual practice. Along with your feathered purchase went recommendations on how to keep the critter fat until oven time.

SAN JOSE, December 1913: — Postmaster Byron Millard had been receiving mail from girls concerning men eligible for marriage. The letters appeared to be properly signed and addressed according to the annoyed postmaster. Millard stated he was not running a matrimonial bureau, and suggested the local Chamber of Commerce take the lovelorn matter in hand.

SAN JOSE, September 1928: — Traffic signals came to downtown. The motoring public were informed they would soon be rolling to the musical tinkle of traffic signals and glowing light commands.

SARATOGA, September 1921: — Folks here launched a campaign to rid their town of a bothersome practice. Bay area motorists were using their lawns as picnic grounds while making uninvited inspection tours about their property, picking flowers, building campfires and leaving rubbish was the mass annoyance.

LONDON, December 9, 1931: — Mrs. Mary Hughes, 91, who claimed she was the immortal Mary who had the little lamb, died at Worthing, England.

H. C.

MAGNOLIA AVE. CHILDHOOD HOME REVISITED



by Elisabeth Bean Telfer

Until I was nine years old, in December of 1902, we lived in a cottage on Magnolia Avenue, in San Jose. It was #3 then, the first house back from The Alameda, but it has since been renumbered. It was on a large lot, surrounded on three sides by a high board fence. There was a fancy wrought-iron fence across the front, and my father always took the gates off and hid them in the cellar on Halloween. There was no "treat" then. It was all "trick," and gates regularly disappeared.

There was a full cellar under the house, and in the fall there were a dozen or more boxes of apples and a large crock of mincemeat stored there, from my grandparents' home, and there were shelves stocked with jars of canned fruit my mother put up every summer.

From the kitchen there were stairs up to the full attic, which was floored, but otherwise unfinished. It was a wonderful place to play in rainy weather. My two imaginary playmates, Yiyo and Junjun, lived there. And there was a bed for my aunt to sleep in when she came to visit.

There was a gas line up the street and we had a two-burner gas plate attached to the side of the wood stove in the kitchen. I remember watching my father pipe gas lights into the kitchen and sitting room. We went to bed with candles.

We had a barn, and a cow and chickens, and my father raised a patch of alfalfa in the yard to feed them. He would pedal home from his work at the Farmer's Union, a combined grocery and hardware store, and eat his supper, milk the cow, and go back to work for a couple more hours.

Mother would strain the milk and fill several jars which she put in a toy wagon. My brother and I would pull it up the street, delivering milk to some of the neighbors.

We had a fine playground in the back yard—a rope swing, a wooden swing, a slide, a playhouse for me, and a merry-go-round made by inserting one end of a heavy wagon axle in cement in the ground and placing a round wooden platform over the wagon wheel at the top end of the axle. We would push it 'round and 'round and then jump on. And we had a little dog named Fritz for one of the Katzenjammer Kids.

There was a small shopping center on The Alameda, across from Hester School, about a block away, a butcher shop, a notion store, and a small grocery. I remember going to the butcher shop for five cents worth of salt pork for the baked beans we had every Saturday. The butcher always gave me a thick slice of bologna to nibble on the way home.

My mother baked all our bread, and liked to use the brewers yeast which was given freely at the nearby Fredericksburg Brewery. But Mother wouldn't go to the brewery to get it. Our washerwoman would stop and get a lard bucket full for us when it was needed. An occasional five-cent loaf of store-bought bread was a big treat.

Between our house and The Alameda, the main thoroughfare between San Jose and Santa Clara and part of El Camino Real, there was a large wooded lot. Every spring a band of gypsies would come and camp there for a week or so. In spite of the wild tales about what gypsies would do to little children, curiosity gave us courage to climb up on the fence and watch as they set up camp and went about their business. They never bothered us.

Behind the row of houses on our street there was a large open space in which one of the neighbors grew a crop of hay every year. It was a lovely place to play when the hay was high. But the neighbor failed to appreciate our nests and hiding places. He would come storming out and chase us away. We would retaliate by chanting "Old man Dazey, he's half crazy"—when we

were a safe distance away. I think he had a french name that sounded to us like 'Dazey.'

In the fall, after the hay was harvested, the Barnum and Bailey circus arrived and set up for business. My brother and I were too young to help water the animals—for a ticket to the show—but we sat on top of the back fence and watched as they set up the big tents and wheeled in the wild animal cages. We admired the camels and elephants and beautiful horses. It was almost as good as the show itself. It was a wonderful circus, with clowns and acrobats, and horses, lion and elephant acts, and even Buffalo Bill himself.

The few automobiles that mysteriously appeared on The Alameda made so much noise that we were alerted in time to climb up on the side fence and watch as they chugged along stirring up clouds of dust and frightening horses so that they reared and sometimes ran away.

There were no magnolia trees on Magnolia Avenue until my father planted three in front of our house, but they are gone now.

The hay field is filled with homes that are no longer new, and the homes that were built on the gypsy lot have been replaced by a large office building facing The Alameda, with a parking lot behind it.

And Hester School is now occupying the second new building since the two-story frame one from which I was graduated in 1908.

Magnolia Avenue is just one long block, running from The Alameda to Park Avenue. The present residents have evidently appreciated the value and beauty of the old Victorian homes, and have painted and renovated them in fine style. To walk the length of the street now is a pleasantly nostalgic experience.

* * * * *

The photo heading this story shows the Bean girls at their childhood home. From the top of the stairs down are Pioneer members, Edith Hitchborn, Alice Stelling and our author Elisabeth Telfer. The two brothers, James and Albert Bean, were not available for the picture.

Mr. and Mrs. Ronald Halvorson are to be congratulated for the extreme care extended to the lovely old home. The ornate old iron fence that fronted the home for years has been removed and stored to ward off vandalism and the possibility of its being stolen, say the Halvorsons, who believe they are the second owners since the Bean family. . . . Editors

A 1911 CAMPAIGN PLEA



"I WISH MA COULD VOTE"

M.C.

October 10, 1911 was a time of jubilation nationally and state-wide when California women won their long fought right to the ballot box. The passage of State Constitutional Amendment No. 8 ended a struggle that had been underway in California since 1869.

This was accomplished by the vote of the electorate and not by legislative action.

This special election was by no means a political landslide. The man on the street voted 125,037 to 121,450 for the amendment's existence by a margin of 3,587. San Francisco and Alameda Counties failed to pass it. The southern counties made the difference. Santa Clara County allowed the amendment 3000 votes in conferring upon women equal rights with men in governmental affair.

According to the San Jose Morning Times of October 19, 1911, equal rights was already making headway. For the first time in California, two Santa Clara County women, Alice Vale, 37 and Mrs. Imogene Saveker, 52, then on the Great Register, were summoned to do jury duty.

California was now hand-in-hand with Wyoming, Utah, Idaho, Colorado and Washington State already vested with full woman suffrage.

"We couldn't make a worse mess of it than the men and we might do better," said one fair voter-to-be.

Yellow was the color signifying suffrage alliance as shop keepers and window dressers made the most of it. Merchants were wrapping parcels in yellow ribbon while railroads planned Yellow Specials to somewhere.

For the most, the "nitty-gritty" of this right arrived on November 5, 1912 when women, for the first time in San Jose and California, had the opportunity of voting for a president of the United States. The presidential candidates being Teddy Roosevelt and Woodrow Wilson.

San Jose was reported to be wriggling with election fever as impatient lady voters, who now as full fledged American citizens, prepared their choices.

According to figures released by the County Clerk, qualified registered voters numbered 34,121. Of these 14,604 resided in the city limits of San Jose and 19,517 outside the City; 18,787 were men and 15,334 being women.

Area fences and barns erupted with posterred "Ma and Pa have gone to vote."

In many precincts flowers were a surprising addition to the occasion.

Voting booths at 9th and San Antonio Streets boasted of moving outdoors later in the day under mild sunny skies after a wintry 6 a.m. opening.

The Burbank school house precinct reported how enthused neighborhood housewives, who were now voters, prepared trays of tempting sandwiches with mugs of coffee for friend and foe.

The Willow Glen precinct was rated as having the most serene polling site around. It was the Methodist Church where during voting lulls the election board was entertained with selections on the church organ. A number of women organizations added a musical note or two with the placement of Victrolas and Grafanolas at voting locations.

Word was also spread insisting on nurses to oversee baby while mother attended to the proper marking of her ballot. Marking her ballot in haste in order to get back to her child could upset the political machinery of the nation.

With electioneering set at rest the President-elect became Democrat Woodrow T. Wilson and Thomas R. Marshal Vice-President elect.

Republicans swept Santa Clara County with every candidate on the local Republican ticket from Teddy Roosevelt down to supervisors given a large plurality.

H. C.



President's Message

Our December quarterly meeting should be of great interest to everyone. For entertainment we will have the Madrigal Singers and Dancers from Monte Vista High School and their performances will be augmented by our first Vice President Omar Margason giving us Christmas Readings.

Your board of directors is considering a summer picnic in September 1981 for the general membership to commemorate Admission Day. We are hoping to have the picnic at the San Jose Historic Museum. It would be a revival of the many successful picnics held by our Society in years past on a holiday that is nearly forgotten by our recent politicians. The date would be either Admission Day or the nearest Saturday to Admission Day. We are also considering extending the invitation to the Native Sons and the Native Daughters of the Golden West as a joint celebration. We would appreciate guidance and suggestions from the membership as to whether you would support such a picnic by attending. Written or verbal comments, either positive or negative will be appreciated.

Leonard McKay

Admission Day Picnic Survey – September 1981

Please complete and mail to the California Pioneers P. O. Box 8208, San Jose, CA 95155 or turn in at Christmas Meeting December 6, 1980.

- ☐ Yes, I think the idea of an Admission Day Picnic at the San Jose Historic Museum is a good idea and I would attend if one were held.
- ☐ No, I would not attend.

We should ☐ or should not ☐ invite members of the Native Sons and Native Daughters of the Golden West to attend.

- ☐ I would rather have the picnic on Admission Day or ☐ the closest Saturday to Admission Day.

- ☐ I normally come to Pioneer Quarterly Meetings by ☐ car
by ☐ bus

Other comments:

Signed _____

Welcome New Members

Carl D. Anderson
Gladys Anderson
Jeanne C. Ashley
Sarah Barbano
Beverly B. Doyle
Norma F. Evans
Richard Huizar

Ruth Huizar
Francia Hyland
Glory Anne Laffey
May O. Masey
Ruby M. Motter
Mary Pieracci
Arthur R. Rebello
Thelma Rebello

Beulah Scott
Gordon A. Scott
Ramona Stocking
Gene S. Tanno
Thelma Tanno
Elinor Turner
Ruth Winton



Beyond the sunset

Berget Metzger
Samuel J. Miguelgorry

Rose M. Norton

Manuel J. Rodriques
Grace Watts

A HACIENDA CEMETERY APPEAL

Adored blue-eyed Jenny Danielson was scarcely two years old when she died on July 27, 1888 in New Almaden. A gravestone, as old as Jenny's passing, marks the site at the little streamside Hacienda Cemetery there.

Through 92 steadfast years family members, devoted to Jenny's memory, still grace this miner's child's grave with floral remembrances.

In 1893 when John Danielson, Jenny's father died, he left his wife, Lydia, and two youngsters. On his death bed, his best friend, Alex Innes promised to care for John's family. Innes did so by subsequently marrying Lydia. The Inneses had three children, Lydia, Cecil and Stanley.

Today the Danielson-Innes family wish to establish a trust fund to assure continued floral memorials to Jenny and for cemetery care where many long forgotten mining families rest.

To save this distressed 1855 cemetery from oblivion our Pioneer Society took over its ownership in 1973. Thanks to Boy Scouts and volunteer help some headway was made. However,

unyielding mountain growth continues to take its toll. Frequent clean-ups along with grave restoration and fencing has been mounted. We are hopeful this will kindle our good members to participate and to help eternalize a loving segment of our Valley History.

Contributions to augment the Danielson-Innes Trust would be a grand start . . . We need you; we need the Hacienda; we need Jenny!

With Love,
California Pioneers of Santa Clara County
P. O. Box 8208, San Jose, CA 95155
Phone 294-1786



TOURING WITH THE CALIFORNIANS

CALL NOW FOR THE FOLLOWING THREE WHIRLS!

1. NUTCRACKER BALLET — matinee at San Francisco Opera House, December 18
2. NEW YEARS FROLIC IN CARMEL! Dinner and show—overnight at the La Playa Hotel—Dec. 31 - Jan. 1, 1981
3. TRANS-CANAL CRUISE ON THE ISLAND PRINCESS! Be pampered around the clock on this “end of the rainbow” vacation. March 13 - 28, 1981

For RESERVATIONS call Ruth Gross, 294-9830 between 9 a.m. and 12 noon, Monday through Friday. After Ruth confirms your reservation, make your check payable to “The Californians” and mail to P. O. Box 2007, Los Gatos, CA 95030.

NOTICE! Your Tour Committee will be trying a new system for making reservations at the December 6th Luncheon. Be watchful for instructions.

Already 1981 has these dandys peeking at us.

YOSEMITE IN THE SPRING — May 6 - 7

GRAND TETONS AND YELLOWSTONE — July

You are encouraged to sign the waiting list on a “filled trip.” Cancellations at the last minute can mean your take-off.

Do you have a few hours a month for rich and rewarding experiences? Join the Docents to give educational tours of the San Jose Historical Museum and the Peralta Adobe. Training consists of one morning a week March 2 through May 11, 1981 with lectures, in-gallery training and selected readings. Lectures are given by experts in fields of Native American and Spanish-Mexican Eras, California migration, Santa Clara Valley Agriculture, San Jose's Chinese Community, daily Victorian Life and San Jose's growth and political development. The docent commitment is 6 hours of service per month. Interested persons call Claudia Jurmain at the San Jose Historical Museum 287-2290 or 277-4017.



HOLIDAY LUNCHEON



SO WE CAN PROPERLY PREPARE

Phone **247-6606**

This is an around the clock phone service... If you must cancel... please call this same number.

..Bring a prospective member.



DOORS OPEN 10:30 A.M...LUNCHEON 12

H.C.

• Dues • Dues • Dues
Payable at Luncheon or by mail to
Financial Secretary 1900 Emory St.
San José, California 95126

Ask about Life Memberships!

Our 85 year or older Pioneer members to be honored at our December 6th Luncheon. A special table will be arranged. Please contact Mary Simas at 779-7475 or 269-5828 for this seating.

P. O. BOX 8208
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