

houses on The Alameda at that time were those of Judge A. L. Rhodes, J. R. Johnson, Judge C. P. Hester, John Morse and Mr. Appleton.

In 1867 the Saratoga & Pescadero Turnpike Company received a franchise for a toll road over Saratoga Summit. The Company was owned by Charles McClay and Hiram Thompson who spent \$16,000 building this road and erected a toll-house at Long Bridge. This road was purchased by the county in 1880 for \$5,000 and declared a free road.

The road from Gilroy to Watsonville was originally a toll road, this was purchased by the county in 1874 and made a public road.

The road from Los Gatos to Santa Cruz over the mountains was a toll road, under franchise from the State. In 1878 that part of the road from Los Gatos to the county line was purchased by the Board of Supervisors and declared a public road.

The Pacheco Pass Road from Gilroy to Los Banos was originally a toll road. In 1879 the franchise was purchased by the county for \$6,000 and it was proclaimed a public road. The purchase of the Pacheco Pass Toll Road by the Board of Supervisors in 1879 wiped out the last toll road in Santa Clara County.

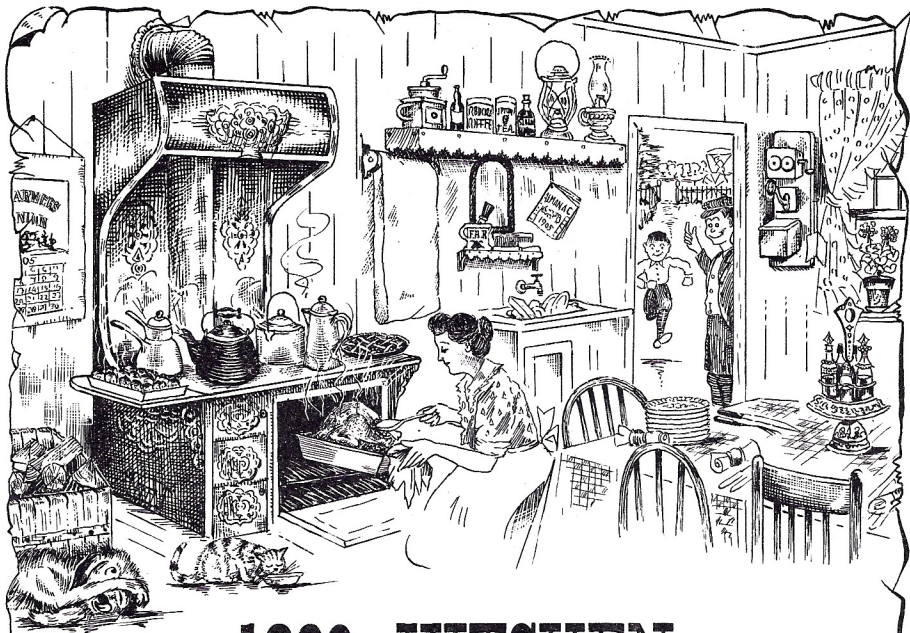
* * *

George Butterfield McKee

My Grandfather George Butterfield McKee was born in Ottawa, Ill., July 27, 1838. In 1853 at the age of 15 he joined the Moody, Winchell wagon train at Milwaukee, Wis. and arrived in San Jose, California in 1854, finding only a small Spanish Town. After a try at mining on the Kern River at Greenhorn Gulch and Keyville he returned to San Jose in 1868 and went into the paint and building supply business located on South First Street. About 1882 he purchased the old Court House and Jail on the corner of South Second and San Fernando Streets. He then became the only man in California to own a court house and jail in his own name. A new building was erected on the property and he then opened his business "The George B. McKee Paint Co." which was the largest business of this kind in Santa Clara County.

He was President of the San Jose Water Works, a Director of the First National Bank and President of the Nucleus Building & Loan for many years. He was a charter member of the San Jose Consistory Scottish Rite Masons, receiving many honorary degrees.

Frank H. McKee



1900 KITCHEN

FOR MAMA OR GRANDMA, HERE THEIR THEME SONG COULD BE HOME ON THE RANGE. COMPARATIVELY SPEAKING IT WAS A HOT, INCONVENIENT PLACE OF DRUDGERY. FORTUNATELY TODAY'S DREAM KITCHEN COULD NOT THEN BE EVEN IMAGINED. WHY HERE DESCRIBE THOSE OLD FAMILIAR DISHES OR THE UNBELIEVABLE BAKERY AND CANNERY PRODUCTION THIS SMALL ROOM PRODUCED? WHY NOT MAKE A 60 YEAR LAPSE COMPARISON, FOR INSTANCE, PREPARATION OF A CHICKEN DINNER FOR FOUR? START THE FILM AND CRANK RAPIDLY. FIRST, DAD CHASED DOWN A LIKELY LOOKIN' RHODE ISLAND RED OR PLYMOUTH ROCK. (NO YOUNGSTER, NO PILGRIMS INVOLVED). MEANWHILE THE RANGE WAS STOKED UP TO HEAT SCALDING WATER FOR PLUCKING AFTER THE CHOPPING BLOCK TRAGEDY. THEN CAME CLEANING, DISJOINTING, WASHING, FLOURING AND SKILLET FRYING IN DEEP FAT. POTATOES WERE DUG, WASHED, PEELED, BOILED, MASHED.

GARDEN PEAS WERE PICKED, SHELLED AND STEWED. FOR PIE APPLES WERE PICKED, WASHED, PEELED, CORED AND SLICED. FOR PIE CRUST, FLOUR SIFTED, SHORTENING ADDED, MIXED, ROLLED, PLACED IN PIE TIN FILLED WITH SEASONED APPLES AND ARTISTIC LATTICE TOP ADDED. RANGE AGAIN STOKED AND PIES SHOVED IN TO BAKE AT A BY-GUESS AND BY-GOSH TEMPERATURE, - ELAPSED TIME, 3 OR 4 HOURS AND EXPENDITURE OF ABOUT FOUR BITS FOR STORE STAPLES. CHANGE THE FILM AND PRESS THE BUTTON FOR TODAY. SO AS NOT TO MISS THAT RE-RUN OF GUNSMOKE OR WAGON TRAIN, WE CRAWL INTO OUR UNPAID FOR CAR AND RACE THREE BLOCKS TO THE NEAREST SAFEWAY. WE GRAB FOUR GRANDMA JONES TV FROZEN CHICKEN DINNERS, A PACKAGE OF AUNTY MARY'S FROZEN PEAS AND A MOTHER MCKREE'S FROZEN APPLE PIE. THEN ELECTRIC OVEN FOR 30 MIN. @ 400°. SIMPLE. AND NOTE GRANDMA, AUNTY AND MAMA ARE STILL AVAILABLE!



(Reproduction of page 27 in Ralph Rambo's "Almost Forgotten" now in Sixth Edition. Permission to use is granted by the author.)

SANTA CLARA PUBLIC LIBRARY

Frances M. Klune

(Continued from the Spring issue)

The County also trained and supervised clerical assistants under its Works Progress Administration program. Upon the retirement of Miss Mulhall, Mrs. Nell Curtis was made librarian in October 1943. She had been one of the several W.P.A. clerks employed in the County.

In 1951 the City adopted the Council-Manager form of government. Joseph F. Base was the first City Manager. He deplored the subminimal library service in a community of 10,000 inhabitants and studied other methods of financing the building after the third bond proposal for \$85,000 failed in January 1953.

Then came a "quiet revolution." The distaff side of the Library Board chaired by a trained librarian, Mrs. Thelma Keech, Miss Dorothy Dossee and Mrs. Alice Squires sparked a series of events which raised the library to a new status in the community and gave impetus to its development. The first trained librarian, Miss Frances M. Klune was appointed in October 1953 and a dynamic program of library service was outlined which included an investment in a library building.

The firm of Higgins and Root was chosen to design the 26,000 volume library. The plans were accepted by the City Council in January 1955, construction started in March, and in the fall of 1955, a library of 7,900 sq. feet, located in the city Plaza at Main & Lexington streets was opened to the people of Santa Clara. City Manager Joseph Base arranged to finance it with a loan from the general fund which was to be repaid from the library's annual operating budget over a ten year period. Before the debt was paid, the library, which had been planned for 20-year growth, was too crowded to give effective service.

With the new population explosion indicative of our space-age activity, came new demands for, the greater appreciation of, library services. In 1959, the City floated a 22½ million dollar bond issue to finance much-needed improvements. The library bond for \$800,000 was included and passed with an overwhelming majority.

In 1960, a bookmobile provided library service to suburban areas. In order to insure the best possible service within the tight budget limitation, a library consultant of national repute was retained. In 1962, Mr. Joseph L. Wheeler submitted site recommendations for the

new library and his "Report of a Survey and Proposed 25-Year Program for Santa Clara Public Library" to serve as a blueprint for future development. His survey showed that Santa Clara had the smallest per capita appropriation and spent the least per registered borrower of any library in the Bay Area. Since the Wheeler report, the library budget has increased, but not enough to keep up with increased population and its demands.

In the Spring of 1964, the firm of Edward Durell Stone was engaged to design a Central Library "of quiet dignity, possessing distinctive architectural quality, warmth and friendliness."

Plans were approved by the City Council in 1964, but instead of proceeding immediately to call for bids, the Council decided, in face of strong citizen opposition, to delay construction in order to apply for additional federal funds under the Library Services and Construction Act of 1964.

Conditions for qualifying for the LSCA funds depended upon the formation of an inter-jurisdictional library system. And so the San Jose-Santa Clara Municipal Co-operative Library System was formed and approved by the State Librarian in June 1965.

Five months later, a large crowd of enthusiastic patrons gathered on the first day of October 1965 for the groundbreaking. The dedication ceremony was held April 2, 1967.

Santa Clara's modern concept of library service is a far cry from that first Free Reading Room of some 90 years ago, housed in the old Groves Building, which shared literary pursuits with the sale of quilts, tamales and baked beans by the Women's Christian Temperance Union.

* * *

RECOLLECTIONS OF COLLEGE PARK IN THE '90's

Herbert C. Jones

(Mr. Jones' family came to College Park in the Fall of 1894. He entered the old Hester School in January, 1895 and was graduated from there in June of that year.)

Strictly speaking, College Park is made up of the four-block square originally housing the College of the Pacific, extending from Hedding Street to Emory and from Stockton Avenue to Elm Street, where Bellarmine Preparatory School is now located. In those days there was no delivery of mail and those living in the entire area from east of Stockton as far as Union (now Park) Avenue and extending to the Town of Santa Clara, all used the ad-

dress of College Park. At that time this area was not a part of the City of San Jose and was itself unincorporated.

There was one grocery store in the area, on Emory Street, operated by a Mr. Shafer. The store also had a section of its east wall devoted to Post Office boxes. Every afternoon the residents of the area gathered at the Post Office while Mr. Shafer distributed the mail. The mail sack having been thrown off the train at the College Park depot. The bag containing the outgoing mail was hung up on a crane close to the railroad tracks. The train would slow down enough for railroad mail clerk to swing out a hooked arm which would grab the bag and he would then swing the arm around to deposit the bag in the mail car. This required quick and accurate timing on the part of the mail clerk as the train would keep moving.

Adjoining the grocery store on the west was a stationery store operated by Mr. P. R. Wright. Adjoining Mr. Wright's store was a barber shop operated by a College student during his years at College of the Pacific.

The College Park station was an open structure, with four posts supporting a roof and a wall on the west side, situated near Stockton Avenue at the east edge of the College grounds. The trains would stop there to pick up passengers upon being flagged. There was quite a group of us who took the train at this depot to go to Stanford University. We always took the same early morning train, and a young man who lived near the station and took the train to his job in San Francisco would eat breakfast while watching for our group to go by and then he knew it was time for him to leave too. We played an April Fool joke on him one year -- we all waited out of sight until the very last minute then made a dash for the train. He could not gather himself together in time that day and so missed his train.

In those days the enlarged area was served by three street car lines. One operated along The Alameda between San Jose and Santa Clara. A second began at North First Street adjoining the Vendome Hotel grounds, went out Spring Street and Hedding to stop at The Alameda. These two were operated by an overhead electric trolley. The third line was a horse car which started at the intersection of Stockton with The Alameda, running out Stockton to Emory, thence west to Union (Park) Avenue, north on Union terminating at the Pacific Manufacturing lumber yard. The cars on this line could be bounced off the tracks by mischief-minded riders. Dr. E. O. Pieper could

tell some interesting tales about this!

When the line along Hedding Street was losing money, the company had its crew of workmen attempt to dig up the rails and ties; whereupon Mr. J. E. Fisher who lived on Hedding in the second block off The Alameda, rushed to court and procured an injunction which stopped the attempt to dismantle the track for the time being. The Company, however, bided its time, and in its second attempt waited until Court was closed on Saturday, put its crew to work Saturday night and Sunday, and when Court opened Monday morning the track was entirely gone and it was too late to do anything about it.

(Continued in the Fall issue)

* * *

HOTELS and RESTAURANTS of EARLY SAN JOSE

Leo Sullivan

(My appreciation to the following: Clyde Arbuckle, Mrs. Ray Col, Mrs. Irene Gairaud, Louis Dietz, Miss Gertrude McCabe, Ralph Rambo, Miss Lucile Diedier and the San Jose Public Library.)

Hotels and Restaurants played important roles in the history and development of El Pueblo de San Jose de Guadalupe.

The "Mansion House," a caravansary, housed in a large, substantial brick structure at 28 North 1st Street, enjoyed its palmiest days before the advent of the Southern Pacific's "Iron Horse," February 16, 1864.

Managed by Abram S. Beaty, the "Mansion House" had taken an added prominence when it was officially designated as a stopping place for the historic "Butterfield Overland Stage."

Weary travelers welcomed the comfort of Beaty's accommodations, finding it a veritable haven of peace and quiet after bouncing around for days in a Butterfield Stage Coach. During meal times, piping hot food was available in the "Mansion's" spacious dining room. Late dinner, a formal, dressy affair, was served under the soft, mellowing gleams of candle light.

This mode of Hotel Life became known as the "American Plan" and prevailed not only in the Far West but also in the entire United States.

With the natural increase in population and the appearance of a goodly number of eating establishments, the "European Plan" gradually came into being -- this meant many hotels discontinued the serving of food entirely and provided only sleeping quarters for permanent and tran-

sient guests.

The Mansion House in later years became "Music Hall" and, as the name implies, was the scene of Musical, Athletic and Social activities. Music Hall witnessed another event that was to prove of great historical significance, the opening of San Jose's first "Pacific Telephone and Telegraph" office in 1879. A staff of six, composed mostly of young women, proved inadequate when 131 subscribers signed up as willing to try the new gadget. 28 North 1st Street also became the Home of Aerie Lodge #8 of the Fraternal Order of Eagles from 1903 to 1920, then being taken over by the Sciots, according to Victor Corsiglia.

(Continued in the Fall issue)

* * *

MOTHERS DAY AT YOSEMITE PARK

Curt Bailey

On Saturday May 11th about 32 of us met at the Greyhound Bus Depot, where Effie Hawkins presented us with our identification tags, and with Ed McCullough in the driver's seat we were on our way. We reached Yosemite Lodge about 2 p.m.

Our sight seeing trip for the afternoon was to Glacier Point where we really got the impact of the beauty of the Dogwood Trees in full bloom, claimed by many to be the most beautiful display ever. On our way to the more than 7000 ft. elevation, we passed many snow drifts among the Ponderosa, White and Sugar pines, so common in this area.

We did not waste much time in our rooms getting ready for dinner in the Cafeteria, because in addition to the regular Ranger talk we were to be treated to a concert by the Glendale Junior College Choir.

After a hearty breakfast served in the same efficient manner as the dinner the night before, we boarded the bus for a tour of the Valley and to work up an appetite for luncheon at the Awahnee Hotel, which had been arranged for. This tour included stops at Mirror Lake, Happy Isles, Camp Curry and the Village.

We then headed homeward via Wawona and the south entrance, still being favored with the beauties of sculptured peaks and domes; waterfalls tumbling from hanging valleys, down the faces of shining granite cliffs; groves of giant sequoias and extensive forests of pine, fir and oak, all shrouded in a feathery mist, making Yosemite a truly outdoor paradise. It will be long remembered.

* * *

By-lines from our Presidents

Jessie E. Black (outgoing)

These past two years have gone by so quickly that it doesn't seem possible this is my last letter to you, as President. I have enjoyed serving you and want to thank all for just being you, and for being so friendly. I feel that I have gained many new friends.

My particular thanks to Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Fisk, co-editors of our Trailblazer; Jim and Edna Lake for taking over the mailing of same (and it is a job as we found out when Jim became unable to do the work any more); the Social Group for the beautiful decorations they have furnished at all the luncheons; all the members of the Board of Directors for their wonderful help and support; those that helped with the trips while Miss Bernhardt was ill, and Effie Hawkins for the outstanding job she is doing, and as I said at the beginning, to all for just being you.

Mrs. Laurence E. Bulmore (Martha) is the new chairman of the Sunshine Committee. Any reports of ill members or deaths please contact her, phone 264-2104.

God bless you all and have a wonderful summer.

* * *

Laurence E. Bulmore (incoming)

Fellow members of the California Pioneers of Santa Clara County.

This is my first greeting to you as President of our Society.

When my wife and I returned to Santa Clara County, after an absence of forty-five years, I never dreamed that this honor would be bestowed upon me. Many thanks and, with you, I look forward to an enjoyable year.

* * *

LOOK FOR IT HERE

Mr. Leland M. Boruck, 1st Vice President and Chairman of our program committee reports that, "for our program on Saturday, September 7, 1968 the Speaker will be Dr. Philip W. Barrett, Pastor of the First Presbyterian Church of San Jose. His subject will be: Relax and Enjoy Life." Dr. Barrett is well known for his wit and humor and we look forward to a very enjoyable afternoon. ***

Your new officers elected for 1968-69 were duly installed at the Board of Directors meeting July 8th. ***

Beginning with our September meeting the quarterly luncheons at Lou's Village will cost \$2.50. ***

OUR TOUR LEADER Mrs. Effie M. Hawkins reports that, "because of the cost of mailing out announcement of tours, this cannot be continued, unless a self addressed, stamped envelope is sent in. However the Tour Notices will be handed out at the quarterly luncheon meeting as was done in the past." ***

Your editors, Arthur and Marjorie Fisk have moved to 390 N. Winchester Blvd., Apt. 16-C, Santa Clara, Calif. 95050. Phone 296-7841 ***

Someone suggested that we print more news in the Trailblazer; if you want news of the membership you will have to send it to the Editors. ***

On May 29th a State Historical Landmark commemorating the encampment of the De Anza party in 1776 was unveiled at the Monta Vista High School. The plaque is attached to a boulder near the site where the De Anza party is believed to have camped. It is a Registered Historical Landmark No. 800. ***

Last month, Hart's department store on the corner of W. Santa Clara and S. Market streets closed its doors for the first time in 102 years. Leopold Hart came to California in 1856 at the age of 27; he was born in Alsace-Lorraine. In 1866 he bought the Corner Cash Store on Santa Clara Street from A. B. Steinfeld. In 1900 Hart bought two more buildings containing a stable, meat market, tailor shop, restaurant and tin shop. In 1927 the present building was erected, with addition of the fourth floor later. Alex Hart became president of the organization in 1943. ***

Saint Patricks Church at 9th and E. Santa Clara Streets will be razed to make room for parking and a playground. The candelabra and other furnishings were auctioned on Sunday, June 30th. The first church building was a wooden structure on 8th Street between Santa Clara and San Fernando founded in 1871. A new church was erected in 1878 at the present location; this building was destroyed by the earthquake in 1906, but immediate plans were made to build the present structure, and on April 14, 1907 the new church was dedicated by Archbishop Riorden. ***

In going through the effects of Marjorie's mother we found some United States Government Thrift Stamps, the 25 cent variety purchased in 1918. When 16 stamps were purchased before December 31, 1918 they could be exchanged at the post office for a \$5.00 War Savings Certificate Stamp payable on January 1, 1923. ***

WELCOME

Congratulations to our new members:

Berniece R. Barr, Virginia S. Callsen, Zella Dickinson, Evelyn Esch, Rose M. Fogarty, Afton F. Moore, Rupert T. Moore, Natalie Morris, Margaret M. Price, Ethel E. Rogers, Leona Schumann, Pearl E. Schwind, Ruth V. Snyder, Frank M. Tate, Marion B. Tate, and Lynn Lorraine Vermillon.

* * *

UNDER THE WEATHER

Mr. Josiah E. Dewey, Mr. Olin (Jim) Lake, Mrs. Grace A. Runcie, Mrs. Luella S. Ryan and Mrs. Edna Worcester have been reported ill. Our very best wishes for a rapid recovery are sincerely extended.

Kindly keep your officers informed as to the condition of any ill member, and report any sickness or death to the chairman of our Sunshine Committee, Mrs. Martha L. Bulmore. Phone 264-2104.

* * *

BEYOND THE SUNSET

May we pause in reverent tribute to those devoted members who since last we met, have passed on, and enter into a life of fuller accomplishment. We cherish their memories here, we mourn their absence and accord them a place of honor on our records.

Ruth Marie Martin
January 25, 1893 - March 28, 1968

Theo M. Holzer
June 18, 1890 - May 19, 1968

Mercedes A. Hunt
September 24, 1899 - June 20, 1968

Robert O. Atkinson
October 29, 1885 - June 23, 1968

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

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Associate Editor: Marjorie B. Fisk

Staff Artist: Ralph Rambo

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Officers for 1968-69

- President Laurence E. Bulmore
- 1st Vice President Leland M. Boruck
- 2nd Vice President Robert E. Nelson
- Recording Secretary Alice M. Vetterle
- Corresponding Secretary Eloisa Leslie
- Financial Secretary Madeline J. Smalley
- Treasurer Howard L. Worcester
- Directors: Clyde Arbuckle, Jessie E. Black, Martha L. Bulmore, Eveleen C. Duff, Marjorie Rusht, Barbara Spedding, Henry C. Stout 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.

PIONEER SCRAP BOOK items may be sent to Mrs. Elsa Jensen, 520 Bradley Ave., San Jose, Calif. 95128.

* * *

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