

Peninsula Diary Mayo Hayes O'Donnell

November 30, 1949

The Tragedy of war has brought a delightful family to Monterey to make their home. Mrs. Anita Spitzer and her two children, Claude, age nine, and Michele, who is seven, arrived a week or so ago to remain here with her aunt, Mrs. Bertha Dulout. The little family sailed from France on October 24 and after a few days visit in Washington D. C., they proceeded on their western journey

Mrs. Spitzer is the widow of Antone Spitzer who was an accomplished pianist and a native of Vienna, where he performed before going to France. When the World War broke out, Mr. Spitzer was interned for more than eight months, after which he was allowed to join the French working army. But on May 30th, 1944, because of his Jewish ancestry, he was again taken from his family and finally disappeared in Auschwitz the horror prison in Poland.

Mrs. Spitzer, although born in Germany, is a citizen of France. She received her bachelor's degree in German and Hungarian languages at the college in Budapest and her teaching degree in French at the Sorbonne in Paris. She spent one year in England where she became proficient in the English language.

When the war was over and UNESCO opened headquarters in Paris, Mrs. Spitzer became a member of the organization's library staff in the department of subject heading and card division, working under the direction of Miss Dorothy Norberg of the Library of Congress, loaned to UNESCO to set up the library. Mrs. Spitzer left her position, after more than two years' service, on September 1 to prepare for her departure from France.

Claude and Michele do not speak English, but already they have enrolled in the Bay View school and are enjoying the new experiences in this, their adopted home. Mrs. Spitzer thinks that the greatest joy she has experienced here is the view of the trees and the bay which she is privileged to see from the windows of the cottage which Mrs. Dulot has built for her niece and her children at the rear of her property on Lottie Street in New Monterey.

Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Beall opened their home on the Del Monte Fairways on Sunday afternoon, entertaining about 150 friends at tea. Eye-catching floral arrangements were used to give the attractive living and dining room a holiday air, with autumn colorings predominating in the chrysanthemums and candle combinations.

Mrs. John Gratiot, Mrs. Charles Gratiot, Mrs. Pierce Parsons and Mrs. Walter Schultz assisted Mrs. Beall at the tea table.

Miss Catherine Cameron, the eight-months-old daughter of Lt. Col. and Mrs. William P. Cameron of Maxwell Field, Alabama, was christened on Sunday by the Reverend K. Fillmore Gray in the Church of the Wayfarer in Carmel. Little Miss Cathy, as she is affectionately known by her family, is the granddaughter of Mrs. Joseph Stilwell of Carmel, Colonel and Mrs. Cameron (Alison Stilwell) and Cathy have been the guests of Mrs. Stilwell at her home on Inspiration Avenue for several weeks.

Mrs. Lee Aydelott of Carmel is Cathy's godmother and Lt. Col. and Mrs. Ernst F. Esterbrook (Nancy Stilwell) of Kingston, Ontario, Canada, are the other godparents. The crystal bowl used when Mrs. Stilwell was christened was again brought into use at the ceremony, as it has been at each succeeding christening in the Stilwell family.

Mr. and Mrs. R. L. Underhill have returned to their Berkeley home after a holiday visit at the La Playa in Carmel. Mr. Underhill is the author of "From Sheepskin to Golden Fleece," the story of the life of Thomas Larkin and is also an enthusiastic member of the Monterey History and Art Association.

Mrs. George Carr of Vallejo has been the guest of her sister, Mrs. R. K. Turner, and Admiral Turner in their Monte Regio home for a few weeks.

Commander and Mrs. Robert R. Ferguson have as their house guests in their Carmel home Miss Ollie Lind of Honolulu, for whom many informal affairs have been given during her stay. The group enjoyed the play at the First Theater on Saturday evening.

Mr. and Mrs. Armando Andreozzi have returned from a seven-week stay abroad. They visited relatives in Italy and toured that country, as well as France and Switzerland, by motor car. They are again greeting their guests at Cademartori's.

Mrs. Louis Martin of the Presidio in San Francisco is the house guest of Mrs. F. L. Knudsen in Monterey. Mrs. Martin was Miss Elizabeth Fonda before her marriage to Colonel Martin, who is at present in the east on business connected with his duties as an officer in the US. Army. Mrs. Martin's father was the late Harry Stuart Fonda, one of Monterey's most prominent artists of the former years.