

Peninsula Diary Mayo Hayes O'Donnell

October 19, 1950

History of Local BPWC

"Measure Up for Full Partnership" is the slogan for Business Women's Week, October 15 to 21, with further advice to the membership of the National Federation of Business and Professional Women to keep informed, be active and take part. The Monterey Peninsula Club is celebrating its twentieth birthday this week, having been organized on October 17, 1930.

When the charter of the local group was closed on December 4 of that year, 50 business and professional women had signed the charter and paid their dues. The official charter was presented and accepted at a quarterly meeting of the state board in Los Angeles on December 7, 1930.

Mrs. Edna McKinlay, the first president, appointed the following members as standing committee chairmen: Miss Martha Pierson, education; Mrs. Betty McVay, emblem; Mrs. Harriett Haughton, finance; Miss Helen Carr, health; Miss Emma Waldvogel, international relations; Mrs. Katherine Boline, legislation; Mrs. Mary Hunkin, magazine; Miss Edith Steiner, membership; Mrs. A.C. Heiderick, program; Mrs. Robert Gottlieb, program; Mrs. Christine Raynsford, public relations; Miss Etta Eckhardt, research and Miss Josephine Brucia, transportation.

Serving as officers with Mrs. McKinlay were Miss Eckhardt, vice-president; Mrs. Edith Bartlett, second vice-president; Miss Muriel Black, recording secretary; Miss Marjorie Brown, corresponding secretary; Miss Elizabeth McCoy, treasurer. Other charter members were Mrs. Caroline Barney, Mrs. Agnes Brooks, Mrs. Vida Calkins, Mrs. Ida Rose, Mrs. Pauline Walling, Mrs. Weeks, Mrs. Billie Young, Mrs. Olive Calvert (White) and Misses Clara Eckhardt, Laura Harper, Rubye Hooke, Annabel Hopping (Mrs. Donald Jaques) Ellen Jane Smith now Mrs. Down, Frances Sturdevant, Ella Thomas, Lillian Fisher, Linda Follette, Zelma Roberts and Marian Adams.

The first dinner meeting of the club membership was held at the San Carlos Hotel on November 15, 1930, with 40 present plus eight guests from the San Jose club. The Christmas party was held at Asilomar when Mrs. Edythe Dungan told of Christmas in various

European countries and Mrs. Anne Norwood Peterson recited.

When the state president, Dr. Florence May Morse, made an official visit, the membership gathered at Hotel Del Monte for a grand banquet. Officers were installed that evening and mayors Dr. Sandholdt, Monterey, Herbert Heron, Carmel and J.P. Pryor, Pacific Grove; Rotary President Dr. Harry Brownell; Howard Walters, Kiwanis; Roy Wright, Exchange; Roudi Partridge, Lions; A.C. Jochmus, Pacific Grove Chamber of Commerce and William M. O'Donnell, the Herald, all made welcoming talks. Mrs. Elmarie Dyke led the singing.

In February of 1931, the first meeting of the club was held at the House of Four Winds, which has been the home of club almost ever since. Dr. R.A. Kocher was one of the club's first speakers, discussing "Proper Reduction of Body Weight" at a dinner meeting at Pine Inn in Carmel.

On April 21, 1931, Ken Lyman's orchestra played for a dance given in the Masonic Temple by the club.

Miss Helen Davis who passed away during the past year, was made an honorary member in April of 1931. Mrs. McKinlay was re-elected president that year and Mrs. Sanborn Young (Ruth Comfort Mitchell) was a speaker. That year the club sponsored a survey: "Do You Approve of Women Working After Marriage."

With a small membership, little funds in the treasury but great ambition, the membership decided to ask the state federation to meet in Monterey in 1932 and the invitation was accepted. "Whose Baby," a musical comedy was put on by the club in the Pacific Grove High School auditorium on September 2, 1931 to raise funds for the entertainment of the convention. A bridge party with 30 tables in play was also given for the same cause.

The first birthday party was celebrated at the La Ribera Hotel in Carmel on November 31, with 80 members present.