

Peninsula Diary Mayo Hayes O'Donnell

May 24, 1950

### Early Meeting At Colton Hall

At a meeting of the Ayuntamiento at Colton Hall, January 16, 1850, which was a special session, the report of the committee which had been appointed to inquire into the ownership of El Cuartel, was received. Dr. King had communicated the need of a town hospital and had thought that El Cuartel might be available.

On motion of Mt. Boston: "That a committee be appointed to take immediate action in procuring a hospital if the house of Mr. Botts could be rented for \$60 a month, to be rented by the same committee in the name of the town for a hospital." So evidently the Common Council discovered that El Cuartel was not available, but the minutes of the meeting fail to mention it.

On motion of Mr. Boston again: "Resolved that a clerk to this board be appointed with a salary of fifteen dollars a month, he shall also be town collector of taxes with a surety of one thousand dollars, also to receive ten percent of the money collected, but when the commission shall exceed one hundred dollars per month he shall hand over the surplus to the treasury. Adopted."

On motion of Mr. Ripley: "That the books and papers of the last Sindico be examined and report made thereupon by a committee to be appointed for that purpose" Adopted.

Messrs. Diaz and Johnson appointed by his Honor, the Alcalde, as a committee to enquire into the office of the late Sindico.

On motion of Mr. Ripley: "Resolved that the lands appertaining to the municipality described and laid out on a plan entitled "Part of the Municipality Lands of Monterey" drawn by J.R. Snyder, be divided into lots of three hundred English square yards each. That public notices shall be posted throughout the town to the effect that such lands will be granted to applicants on and after the first day of February next, to such persons and with such restrictions as may have been made, hereafter."

"Petition of Mr. T.H. Bowen, Mr. Ripley and Mr. Johnson, for a building lot received and placed on table."

At the proceedings of the Ayuntamiento in Colton Hall, January 21, 1850, all the common council members were present except Boston and Diaz. The following petitions for grants of land were received and postponed until further action: Henry Gore, William S. Johnson, Aaron Lyons, Francis L. Ripley, J.A. Grey, Christian Benson, George F. Perrine, J.T. Thatcher, William Roach, James H. Miller, George S. Derby, Alex Taylor, Leonard C. Green.

On motion of Mr. Ripley: "That Judge Ord be applied to for his decision and the papers relating to the suit pending between the town vs. Diaz for duties on liquors."

Mr. Johnson notified the Council that the accounts of the late Sindico have not yet been examined because of the sickness of Mr. Diaz, he being one of the committee appointed by the same.

California historical documents, including the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo which gave the territory to the United States are on display in the public library in San Francisco.

The collection was assembled by the Library of Congress from the national archives and was released to the California Centennials Commission by special permission of the federal government.

It will remain in the library until June 14, when it will be removed to the rotunda of the State Capitol at Sacramento.

A few days ago when we were writing about the Dutra Tract and the old adobes there and on the Mesa, we mentioned that Ysidora Cervantes, a daughter of George Allen and Petra Boronda de Allen, had lived for a time on the Mesa near the present site of the Bonifacio Adobe and that later a son had built a house for his widowed mother down the hill, not far from the Boronda adobe.

Now we are happy to say that a granddaughter of Ysidora, Mrs. Lucretia Cervantes Hoffer of East Monterey, has told us that it was her father, David Cervantes, who built the house. There are also two other grandchildren of Ysidora Cervantes living on the Peninsula – Mrs. Rose Ramsey of Cass Street and Arthur Dutra Jr. of English Street in Del Monte Grove. Another grandson, Ernest Cervantes, passed away several years ago and with his grandmother is buried in the cemetery in Monterey.