

Peninsula Diary Mayo Hayes O'Donnell

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### **More About Mariposa Hall**

"Mariposa Hall" in New Monterey, now Rudolph's furniture store, had a series of names before the above one was finally settled upon on the evening of Dec. 12, 1891. In an item in the Cypress a few days before its christening at a bazaar given by the ladies of Pacific Grove and Monterey Episcopal churches, the hall was referred to as Diversity Hall, the name Buena Vista was suggested by the news editor, but Mariposa has stuck to the building for 63 years, as attested by the sign over the entrance.

In the 1891 issue of the Cypress the building, just completed, is described as a handsome two-story edifice, erected on an elevation overlooking the bay and commanding a grand view of the water, Hotel Del Monte and surround country. The editor states that the enterprise is entirely experimental and is intended to supply what many residents of Pacific Grove and Monterey term a long felt want. He further states that the lower floor of the edifice is divided into several cheerful and well-lighted rooms, the one to the left of the main entrance fitted up with a nice billiard table for the benefit of the ladies, and to the right the men's billiard room and cigar stand. A bowling alley and dining room were to the rear, the reporter observed.

The owners, Holman, W.W. Jubb and Oyer, had plans for a first class family hotel if the experiment with the new hall proved a success. They revealed in the newspaper story. They had also planned to erect a suitable bathhouse on Arena Gorda beach (considered the finest beach on the bay) and also to add a system of hot salt water baths to the house. These plans have long ago been added to dreams of Monterey's historic past—to the dreams that were never fulfilled.

Ray Rudolph, the present manager of the furniture store, has loaned us a directory of Monterey, Seaside and Carmel printed by Weybret-Lee Co. in 1913. Within the directory we have found a baggage tag, one side of which advertises Luis Rudolph, dealer of furniture, carpets, etc., Mariposa Ave., New Monterey; on the reverse side, leaving room for the name of the baggage owner and address, is the advertisement of T.A. Work Co., transfer and storage, with offices in both Monterey and Pacific Grove and telephones listed as Red 623 and Main 2104.

Glancing information in the front of the directory we have found that Monterey had three grammar schools, one high school, and the San Carlos school in 1913. There were six churches, two banks, five blacksmiths, but only three automobile dealers, and three carriage and wagon businesses. There was a glove and carpet manufacturer listed in New Monterey. C. Ingles had a harness and saddlery business on Alvarado street. Dr. McAuley had the only hospital listed, but there were 21 retail liquor stores and four wholesale; two livery stables only six real estate offices, three tamale parlors and one hat cleaner.

A street directory must have been a boon to the tourists who visited the old town. The streets were listed alphabetically and told the location and direction, for instance "California (now Munras), southeast from south end of Alvarado street."

Probably the most interesting few pages in the entire directory is the list of officers and men at the Presidio of Monterey in 1913. Col. W.H. Bowen was in command of the 12 Infantry, then stationed here. Among the first lieutenants listed was J.W. Stilwell, who later became Gen. Joseph W. Stilwell who chose Carmel as his home for his retirement years. The general died several years ago and Mrs. Stilwell still makes the house on Carmel Point her home.

During Gen. Stilwell's tour of duty at the Monterey Presidio, he, with Alvin C. Gillem Jr., then second lieutenant, and other officers, had a basketball team and had a great time playing with other teams around Central California, Mrs. Stilwell remembers. She also recalls their friendship with Gen. J.M. Wainwright, then a first lieutenant in the cavalry garrison at the post. The late Wainwright was a Japanese prisoner for several years during the war after serving in the Philippines and at the fall of Corregidor. A street in Monterey is named for this Army officer who began his career at the Presidio.