

Peninsula Diary Mayo Hayes O'Donnell

February 11, 1957

### **Open House Tomorrow**

Mrs. Joseph R. Knowland of Oakland and the Monterey Peninsula Country Club is to be hostess tomorrow at the California Historical Society's seventh annual reception and open house for the membership and their guests. The party will be held in the Society's new home, 200 Jackson St. in San Francisco. As a special exhibit the committee will have on display in the library "A Bit of Sentiment," showing some of the extravagantly designed mementos, of California Social life between 1865 and 1905.

The listing of California artists and their works appearing in early San Francisco catalogues is a volunteer project by Miss Thekla Wurlitzer as an important addition to the California Historical Society library catalog. This unique catalog will be invaluable to the great number of students and art historians, who, until this time, have had very little material on the subject of California art and artists. Should any of our readers have in their possession exhibition catalogs dating before 1907 from California galleries, museums, or other exhibiting organizations, the librarian of the California Historical Society would be very grateful for the gift or temporary loan of such items.

The College of the Pacific at Stockton has sent out appeals for the preservation of valuable items of historical interest. "Do not destroy old letters, newspapers, or documents before asking if they have historic importance."

More and more it is appreciated that history is not confined to a few years during the Gold Rush - important as was that period. The beginnings of irrigation, the organization of schools and churches, the start of agriculture and industrial activities, and the record of many other projects for each community should be preserved, is the opinion of Reginald R. Stuart, director of the California History Foundation.

The California committee for the Overland Mail Centennial has during the past four years accomplished some worthy objectives. Without any official sponsorship or recognition, and without any budget or any drive for funds, a group of interested historians and historically minded citizens have formed this committee, and spread general information of the

coming centennial; set up a regional organization to cover California; initiated legislation which is now before the Assembly, to create a commission to supervise the California's Overland Mail Centennial observances; interested the State's 58 county Boards of Supervisors in the projects and laid before them a program which can easily be adapted to any county or community. San Diego's 1957 celebration has already been inaugurated to take place August 31, the date the first mail arrived in 1857 from San Antonio.