Peninsula Diary Mayo Hayes O'Donnell

May 13, 1957

The Merienda

The 187th birthday of Monterey will again be celebrated by the Monterey History and Art Assn., with an annual Merienda to be held in Memory Garden on June 1st. The actual anniversary of the landing of Padre Junipero Serra and Don Gaspar de Portola in Monterey was on June 3rd, but because that date falls on Monday, the board of directors of the association decided to hold the annual observance on Saturday when more of the membership would be able to attend and the preparation would not interfere with a restful Sunday.

The directors also announced the selection of Miss Camille Stahl, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William Stahl, to be La Favorita; the Misses Mollie Costello, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James Costello, and Miss Mary M. S. Doud, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Francis Doud, to be her attendants. Miss Anita Doud of Monterey will act as "Duena" at the historic event.

Allen Knight, a director of both the History and Art Assn., and the Navy League, the sponsors, spoke of the plans for the annual re-enactment of the 1846 raising of the United States flag at the old Custom House in Monterey, by order of Commodore John Drake Sloat. According to Mr. Knight, the heavy cruiser St. Paul has been assigned to Monterey Bay for the historic event. The St. Paul was last here in 1946.

A set of colored slides, "The Pictorial Heritage of Monterey," was presented to the association by Mrs. W. R. Holman. The photographs were taken by Claude Faw of Carmel and include most of the old adobes of Monterey, exteriors and interiors, and many of the exhibits of the historical monuments — the Custom House, Stevenson House, Larkin House and others. The slides and the lecture which accompanies them are to be made available to schools and other educational projects on the Peninsula from time to time.

Mrs. Mary Greene, curator of the Custom House, chairman of the accessions committee, reported the gift of several valuable articles to the association for showing in the Custom House. Mrs. Winifred Wolf, a descendant of the Gonzales family, former Monterey residents for whom the town of Gonzales was named, gave a large and beautiful turkey platter, one smallhandled plaque, a possible stand for a soup tureen, one crystal bowl covered with double-hinged sterling silver lid with floral design. The lid was made in Monterey by an unknown silversmith of the early days. These treasures had been possessions of her grandfather, Don Teodoro Gonzales.

Mr. Edward Bolce of New Monterey gave an earring made into a pendant and hanging on a chain, in memory of his wife, Sarah Bolce, who was niece of Mrs. J. C. Lambert, whose husband was the government custodian of the Custom House for 33 years. Mrs. Bolce had inherited the jewelry from Mrs. Lambert whose father, Peter H. Masters, had a jewelry store at the intersection of Alvarado and Calle Principal. The earring was made from California quartz taken from the mines at Makolornne Hill. The mounting is also of fine California gold.

J. F. van Loben Sels, the president of the History and Art Assn., presided over the regular monthly meeting of the board of directors held in the Old Pacific Building last Monday afternoon. Present were the following directors: Mmes. R. R. Holman, F. L Knudsen. Maria Antonia Thompson. Mary L. Greene, Robert Giet, Marje Eliassen, C. D. Hyde, M. R. Gragg, Christine Raynsford, W. M. O'Donnell; Messrs. Eldon; Covell, Charles McHarry, C. L. Slusher, John Martin, Allen Knight, Fritz Wurzmann, Donald Craig, Guy Curtis, Al Coons and Claude Faw.