

Peninsula Diary Mayo Hayes O'Donnell

October 15, 1958

### **October Anniversaries**

Anniversaries this month are very important to California history.

Oct 1, 1891, opening services were held at Stanford University, founded by Mr. and Mrs. Leland Stanford as a memorial to their son, Leland Stanford Jr. On Oct 10, 1911, California voters ratified a legislative enactment providing for suffrage for women. The first woman in California to cast her vote was Mrs. Sadie E. McLeod, wife of a Stockton publisher.

On Oct 20, 1784, the first land grant in California, Rancho San Rafael, was made to Jose Maria Verdugo by Gov. Pedro Rages. This grant contained portions of the present cities of Glendale and Burbank. The grant was confirmed by Gov. Barica in 1798 to Julio Verdugo for 36,403 acres, patented Jan. 28, 1882."

Oct. 29, 1796, the first American vessel to touch a California port, the "Otter," commanded by Capt. Ebenezer Dorr, anchored at Monterey. Dorr secretly landed ten men and one woman - English convicts from Botany Bay who had smuggled themselves aboard the Otter. The Spaniards were incensed at first, so reports say, but the convicts proved capable artisans and an asset to the community until they were ordered sent to Cadiz. Dorr was a northwest trader and visited Monterey to replenish supplies before proceeding to China.

The 16th annual meeting of the Western Museum Conference of the American Assn. of Museums is to take place at Cambria and the Hearst San Simeon State Historical Monument this Friday and Saturday. The conference theme is to be: "The Museum Sponsor - From Historic House to Enchanted Palace." Luncheon will be held at Cambria Pines Lodge dining room, after which the members will return to the castle to tour "La Cuesta Encantada" under the supervision of James Whitehead, monument supervisor, and his assistants. Dr. Aubrey Neasham, historian of the State Division of Beaches and Parks, will preside over a discussion panel "Preparing the Castle for Public Use." J. T. Chaffee of Monterey, district park superintendent and James Whitehead, supervisor of the castle, will be members of the panel. Dinner will be followed by a ten-minute

statement from directors of the Western museums and general discussions from the floor.

At 9:30 a.m. a return to the castle will be made and a tour will again be made of the library and other areas not generally open to the public. Old business, new business and election of the officers will precede a picnic luncheon on the grounds.

The California Historical Society is announcing to its members the proposed tour on Nov. 15 and 16, of Monterey adobes, a gala dinner and regional meeting in Monterey, featuring a distinguished speaker, a picnic lunch in San Luis Obispo County Park in Cambria, climaxed by a specially arranged tour of the Hearst castle. The Monterey History and Art Assn. and the Division of Beaches and Parks are cooperating with the society to achieve a successful and rewarding outing. The history and art association is arranging a historical adobe house tour for the guests.

The tour of the Hearst monument sponsored by the history and art association is scheduled for Oct 30 and 31. There are still a few tickets available. Members are asked to call Claude Faw, or send requests together with a self-addressed stamped envelope with check for \$10 for each ticket to Mr. Faw at Box 865, Carmel.