

Peninsula Diary Mayo Hayes O'Donnell

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Fabulous San Simeon Castle

The California Historical Society has announced the publication of a history and guidebook of the Hearst Castle entitled. "Fabulous San Simeon." The book will be ready about the end of May in time for the public showing of the newest State Historical Monument. The book was written by Oscar Lewis, a member of the historical society's publication committee. In addition to his text, there will be about fifty photographs, taken by Philip N. Frasse of Sacramento. It will be paper bound, with color photograph on the front cover, and will be a tall, pocket-size volume, 9x5 inches. Besides the photographs there will be a drawing and a map by Mallette Dean. Lawton Kennedy, the society's printer, is the designer. Booksellers and the California Historical Society will have the publication, which will sell at \$1.50 a copy.

Donald C. Biggs, the director of the California Historical Society headquarters in San Francisco, with his wife and young daughter, Carrie, and son, Franklin, spent last weekend in the Carmel Valley as the house guests of Mrs. Frances Andrews. Mr. Biggs motored south Sunday morning while Mrs. Biggs and the children motored north to their San Francisco home. He visited San Simeon and the Hearst Castle, and Monday noon spoke to the Channel City Club in Santa Barbara, which, we understand, is organized solely to present distinguished visitors as luncheon speakers. During Mr. Biggs' tour of the southlands he has engagements to speak twice each day for the next ten days.

If residents of the Monterey Peninsula happen to visit San Francisco between now and June 15. we suggest that they view the exhibition of ancient and contemporary art and handicraft of Indians from the United States. At different periods during the exhibit, Hopi, Navajo, and Rio Grande Indian artisans from Arizona and New Mexico are scheduled to demonstrate their crafts. Three Navajos - a silversmith, a weaver and a sand-painter - worked daily there during the first part of May.

This presentation departs from the usual Indian exhibit, since the pottery, rugs, paintings, baskets, jewelry and other materials which span 100 years of Indian craft making, have been chosen solely for artistic excellence rather than for anthropological or social significance.

There will be a large showing of Hopi Kachina figures, beautifully carved and decorated wooden dolls representing supernatural beings.

T. R. Balentine of Carmel has written us the following letter: "I forgot the name of the professor at the University of Oregon who tried to teach me American history, but I remember that he considered the explorations of the American West chronologically sissified.

"Your column about Jedediah Smith brings up the fact that Lewis and Clark were the first white men to reach the Pacific overland. They arrived tidewater on the Columbia Nov. 15, 1858, 198 years after Jamestown was settled in 1607. "Nearly two centuries passed before our forefathers crossed the continent.

Agreeing that the Indians made individual and small group explorations suicidal, I continue wondering why well-armed military and private expeditions were not on the Pacific coast a century earlier."

The announcement of the placing of a Monterey History and Art Assn. marker on the Casa Buelna on the Monterey Mesa, the historical adobe home of Mr. and Mrs. Leo Ross, caused this note to be written to the Mr. and Mrs. Ross: "In March of 1957 another member of the Buelna family passed away, Mrs. L. H. Schmidt (Jennie McIntyre Schmidt) died. She lived in Watsonville and had been in residence in a rest home for some years. Jennie was my mother's first cousin. Her grandfather, Guadalupe Buelna, and Jennie's mother were brother and sister. The two were grandchildren of Antonio Buelna. Signed, Clarence and Emily Adair."