

Peninsula Diary Mayo Hayes O'Donnell

October 30, 1959

### **A Living Memorial**

The California Pioneer Living Memorial Planning Committee of the Sacramento County Historical Society announces that it has completed the plan to provide a living memorial to California Pioneers by an annual planting of seeds in selected areas. Golden poppies and baby blue lupin will be used.

The United States Bureau of Reclamation and the California State Division of Beaches and Parks have made available 25 sites in park areas in 22 counties throughout California. In getting the seeding program started, it is suggested that organizations or communities near a designated site form a planning committee to act as coordinator between participating organizations and the federal and state agency in charge of the area to be seeded each year. The planning committee will contact the governmental agency in charge and work out details for dividing the area into seeding sites among participating organizations, according to information published in the California Historical Society Notes. Further information may be obtained by writing Mr. Ted Baggelman, 1849 Markham way, Sacramento 18.

The San Luis Obispo County Historical Society has opened to the public the century-old Dallidet Adobe in San Luis Obispo every Wednesday afternoon from 2 until 5 o'clock. The Dallidet Adobe was the home of Pierre Hypolite Dallidet, vineyardist and native of France, who married Maria Ascencion Salazar, a native of San Luis Obispo, in 1953 Paul Dallidet, the last surviving member of the family, bequeathed the adobe to the historical society, retaining a life interest in it. At his death in 1958, at the age of 86, the property came into the possession of the historical society. The adobe, the furniture and the gardens have been completely restored.

Plans for the restoration and utilization of the School Street Adobe in Santa Cruz by the Division of Beaches and Parks are gradually being developed. Members of the Santa Cruz Historical Society may properly feel encouraged by the interest of the District Park Superintendent, Me. Jess T. Chaffee, and his staff in Monterey. This old adobe, one-story building, is up on the hill near the old mission site. Two of the immediate problems which require major financial outlays are a

new roof and adequate sanitary facilities. The fortunate preserved condition in which the building has been found is largely due to the fact that the building has been owned and occupied by people who themselves appreciated its historic significance.

We congratulate the citizens of Santa Cruz and the Santa Cruz Historical Society in the acquisition of this historical monument and in the plans for its restoration.

The ghosts in one California town shouldn't be a bit unhappy over what happened there this year. Hobbles Magazine reports that in the 1880's when Forest City was a thriving mining camp, legend has it that the miners threw 1,400 silver dollars into a hat that they might be melted down and re-cast into a bell for their church. The bell, whether of silver or not, summoned the parish for many years until it, along with the town, was abandoned to the ghosts.

Within the past year, the old church has been dismantled and the bell brought down the mountain to serve in the new St. John's church in North San Juan.

Forest City was eight miles south of Downieville. It became one of the liveliest camps in Sierra County during the middle 50's. Forest City was known at various times, by several different names. Finally, it derived its present name, not from the magnificent forest of conifers surrounding it, as is generally supposed, "but from Mrs. Forest Mooney, a newspaper correspondent." Previous to that time it had been known as Yomana, Marietta, and Elizaville.