

Peninsula Diary Mayo Hayes O'Donnell

November 16, 1960

An Exhibit In Santa Ana

We proudly relate that two persons well known on the Monterey Peninsula are now making themselves well known In Santa Ana. Merton E. Hinshaw, formerly curator of the Pacific Grove Museum of Natural History, is now the curator of the Charles W. Bowers Memorial Museum in Santa Ana, and Lillian Grace Paca is presenting an exhibit of "Bird Paintings in Hard Pastel" at that well known museum upon invitation of its board of directors.

Mrs. Paca was a resident of Pacific Grove, a contributor to the Monterey Peninsula Herald with her bird pictures, and is a member of the Carmel Art Assn, where she has also exhibited. She was born of English army parents in Jamaica, British West Indies. With them she experienced the extensive travels normal to army families.

She studied art in London prior to the First World War. During that war she turned her efforts to British Intelligence and the United States quartermaster. With her new husband, E. Tilgham Paca of the AEF, she came to the United States.

With family obligations at a minimum, Mrs. Paca took up her painting again in 1950. Shortly prior to that she wrote, illustrated and published two books, "Pelican Personalities" and "Sea Lions of California." A few years later, climaxing a rapid climb to popularity and acclaim. Sunset Magazine published her "Introduction to Western Birds." Her monumental work on Swans, entitled "The Royal Birds" is pending at a New York publishing house. In the intervening years she has sold all the pictures she has produced. The bulk of her work is done in hard pastel pencil. She has exhibited on both American coasts.

Mrs. Paca is a member of conservation and art groups including the National Audubon Society, Nature Conservancy, the Society of Western Arts, the Miniature Painters of Washington, DC., as well as the Peninsula groups already mentioned. She is also a Patron of the Conservation of Wildlife federation.

Mrs. Paca's exhibit in the Bowers Museum opened Nov. 10 and will be hung there through Dec. 31, 1960. Excepting Monday, the museum is open daily from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and Sundays, from 1 to 5 p.m.

Mrs. Norman Walker, president of the Monterey Peninsula Garden Club, will go to Santa Barbara to attend a Roadside Council meeting on Nov. 18 to represent Monterey County. She will be particularly interested, as all members of the club are, in what the organization will have in mind for all roadside rests and of course, conservation.

The Garden Club is happy to announce that it is to participate in the decorations of the Pacific Grove holly trees down the middle of Lighthouse avenue. The club has been assigned the eighth tree, in front of Wright's Hardware Store. It is to be a Christmas theme and all decorations must be waterproof.

The next Garden Club meeting will be held at the USO on Nov. 17, when Mrs. E. Dleterie, a former president of the Ukiah garden group, will show pictures and demonstrate how to make articles for the Christmas season.

The Colton Hall Museum has been enhanced with several gifts during the past few months, according to Mrs. Pauline McCleary, the curator, and the members of the museum board for the city of Monterey. Louis A. Sanchez has given six Colton Hall schoolbooks and Ralph Babcock, son of a city employee, has presented a copy of a print of a 300-year-old map showing California as an Island. These gifts are now on display in the museum on the upper floor of the Colton Hall.