

Peninsula Diary Mayo Hayes O'Donnell

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USO In Its 19th Year

During the month of April a nation-wide educational effort will be underway to tell the story of the great organization of USO. Now, in its 19th year, the USO was organized as a volunteer federation of agencies through which the American people assist in serving the off-post recreational, spiritual and welfare needs of the men and women in the Armed Forces.

The Monterey Peninsula USO has also become a center around which many of the activities of this community rotate. Many community services have been established at the USO to meet needs of our rapidly growing cities.

As one phase of the "USO Month," the USO is extending an invitation to civic organizations to hold one of their weekly or monthly meetings at the club during April. The building is equipped with two rooms which seat forty, and Wilkinson Hall, which seats over two hundred.

The February issue of the California Herald, the official publication of the Native Daughters of the Golden West, contains an article: "R.L.S. in Monterey," a story of the history of the Stevenson House and of Robert Louis Stevenson who roomed there during his stay in Monterey. The article is accompanied by a picture of the old two-story adobe building on Houston street as it looked many years ago.

Postmaster David R. Trevithick of Salt Lake City, Utah, announced recently that commemorative postage stamp honoring the centennial of the Pony Express will be issued July 19, 1960. Trevithick, a vice-president of the National Pony Express Centennial Association, made the announcement following a meeting of the association's board of directors in Salt Lake City.

The issue date of the new postage stamp was determined on the basis of a decision by the association to re-enact the pony express run of 100 years ago on July 19 from both St. Joseph, Missouri, and Sacramento, California, the terminal points of the express.

Solano County's first Historical Society, started four years ago, is assurance that generations to follow in that community, will have a catalogued history of the footprints of citizens who forged ahead to new heights of progress in the "super 60's."

A pioneer register has been established in which the names, biographies, genealogies and habitual data of Solano County pioneers and their descendants are filed.

"Vigorous efforts have been made to acquaint the public with the organization and to assure that family papers, documents, pictures or other articles of historical importance now in private hands will be carefully preserved if they are not carelessly destroyed without submitting them to the Society for approval and appraisal," according to the statement of the president appearing in the Vallejo Times-Herald.

David Magee, noted bibliographer and bookdealer, was elected president of the Book Club of California at its annual March meeting held in San Francisco. Also re-elected were: Oscar Lewis, vice-president; Joseph Bransten, treasurer; and Mrs. Elizabeth Downs, secretary.

Directors re-elected for second three-year terms were: J. Terry Bender, George P. Hammond, Michael Harrison, and Oscar Lewis. Other directors, now serving, are: Arthur L. Bloomfield, Glenn S. Dunke, Warren Howell, John A. Hussey, Martin S. Mikau, A.W. Robertson, Alfred Shumate, and Carl I. Wheat.

The Book Club of California is a non-profit association of book lovers and collectors who have a special interest in Pacific Coast history, literature, and fine printing. Founded in 1912 it has become one of the best known of the organizations publishing books in fine editions. Its most recent publication, "Finger Prints of Old Japan" designed and printed by the Grabhorn Press is already internationally acclaimed. Mr. Magee announced at the annual meeting that the past year had been one of the most successful in its history.