

Peninsula Diary Mayo Hayes O'Donnell

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Stevenson Rocker

The Stevenson House in Monterey is to receive another appropriate gift for the Robert Louis Stevenson collection of fine old furniture which, once graced the family home of the famous author in Scotland, in the United States and in Samoa.

The gift is a rocking chair which Stevenson took to Samoa and used in his home there. Eventually it got back to the late Mrs. Salisbury Field ("Teuila") who was the daughter of Mrs. Fanny Stevenson who made her home in Santa Barbara. Mrs. Field gave the chair to the late Mrs. Sarah H. Fleishmann, widow of the late Max Fleishmann of Fleishmann yeast fame.¹

Mrs. Fleishman had intended to make this gift during her lifetime but her long illness prevented this and now her estate is presenting the chair to the Stevenson House through the Monterey History and Art Assn.

A note from Nancy L. Schlagee, Sandy Hills Rd., Laurel, Md., conveys this bit of praise for the Merienda and its sponsors - the Monterey History and Art Assn.

"I was very fortunate, indeed, to have returned to Monterey in time for the Merienda this year. Never before have I spent a more enjoyable day - the lovely hostesses, the beautiful table decorations, the delightful music, the delicious barbecue and the tasty cake, will long be remembered. Everything was just wonderful.

"My sincere thanks to all of the association members who worked so hard making the Merienda a success, consequently, making my day at the Merienda such a grand occasion."

Enclosed was a filled out membership card and \$4 for a year's dues.

Dale Lowell Morgan, leading scholar on the American West, received the Henry R. Wagner Memorial Award at the third annual Wagner Memorial Award dinner held on the evening of Sept. 27, in the ball room of the California Historical Mansion. One of the most important marks of recognition in the field of Western American history, the award is made annually to the author of the work published within the preceding two calendar years in the field of history, cartography, or

bibliography which the Awards Committee shall deem most worthy of recognition.

Historian John Caughey, chairman of the awards committee, stated: "The award is specifically for Mr. Morgan's editing and annotation of the Overland Diary of James A. Pritchard (Denver, 1959), and California as I saw It, by William McCollum (Los Gatos, 1960). They were masterly editing in the spirit of Wagner's great bibliographical studies."

Mr. Morgan joined the Bancroft Library staff at the University of California in 1954 and is now editor of the Guide Program to the Pacific and Western Manuscripts (other than California) in that library. He is also compiling a comprehensive bibliography of Mormon materials and sources of information to Mormonism.

Other Morgan publications include The Humboldt, Highroad of the West (1943); The Great Salt Lake (1947); The West (1952); Jedediah Smith and the Opening of the West (1953); Jedediah Smith and his Maps of the American West (with Carl I. Wheat, 1954); and Rand McNally's Pioneer Atlas of the American West (1956).

"History News" published by the American Association for State and Local History, in Madison, Wis., recognizes Monterey in the following news item: "Monterey History and Art Assn., Monterey, Calif. As in previous years, honors went to historical societies and agencies, books, newspapers, individuals and organizations. Entries were judged in eight categories from ten regions in the United States and Canada. The awards committee sat all day August 29th in making final selections.

"The Monterey History and Art Association was the sole historical group in California to get a record for arousing civil consciousness for retaining the spirit and color of Old Monterey and for preserving and marking existing adobe structures." We might go farther and say it was the only society west of the Rockies to receive such an award.