

Peninsula Diary Mayo Hayes O'Donnell

August 28, 1963

### **'Local' News From Abroad**

Two very important documents have come to me within the past few days; one a magazine section of a Paris newspaper honoring John Steinbeck and another from Mrs. Dina Moore Bowden, a native Californian, now making her home in Palma, Mallorca, near Petra, the birthplace of Father Junipero Serra. The latter consists of many clippings, publications and delightful pictures of that charming old city.

Mrs. Bowden has visited Monterey and Carmel many times in the last few years, always interested in the preservation and restoration work on the Peninsula, especially at Carmel Mission, because of her devotion to the home and museum at Petra honoring Father Serra. Through her devotion, the museum in Petra contains many pictures and treasures from Mission del Carmelo, copies of drawings of "Soldada de Monterey," the beginning of the buildings at Mission del Carmelo, Indians of Monterey, Count de la Prouse's visit here in 1786 and another of the "Forte de Monterrey."

There also are photographs of Serra's library at Carmel Mission, the French gift of the large marble plaque in the Mission grounds, Jo Mora's bronze sarcophagus at Mission Carmelo, and many other facts and pictures of Peninsula scenes and historical reports.

The reason for all this publicity regarding the Monterey Peninsula was the celebration at Petra, Spain, honoring the 250th anniversary of the birth of Fray Junipero Serra, founder of California missions, held May 29-June 4 in Petra.

The French magazine was sent to me by Marc Saporta, a member of the editorial staff of "Information and Documents," Centre Cultural Americain, published in Paris. Saporta visited the Peninsula a few months ago to gather material for a feature on the life and work of John Steinbeck. A note enclosed in the magazine reports: "This is the result of my Investigations and the final product of our joint effort. I hope you will like it. If you find in it some errors and or misinterpretations, please forgive me."

(More About These Articles tomorrow.)