

Peninsula Diary Mayo Hayes O'Donnell

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As Paris Sees Steinbeck

(This Is the Second of Two Articles.)

Recently I received two important publications: one a group of clippings, printed matter, and delightful pictures of the city of Palma, Mallorca, from Mrs. Dina Moore Bowden and the other the magazine section of a Paris newspaper honoring John Steinbeck.

Both bring the Monterey Peninsula "local" news from abroad, for the interesting Mallorca arrivals show and describe scenes both of the mission in Carmel and of the birthplace of Father Junipero Serra, in Petra, Mallorca.

The French magazine was sent to me by Marc Saporta, a member of the editorial staff of "Information and Documents," published in Paris.

He recently visited the Monterey Peninsula to gather material for the feature on the life and work of John Steinbeck. A note enclosed with the magazine says:

"This is the result of my investigations and the final product of our joint effort. . .

"Many thanks to all those, who made my trip so enjoyable and cooperated with me in so many ways. Best regards to everyone in and around the 'world of John Steinbeck.'"

The tribute to Steinbeck is first headed by a panorama picture of "La Valley de la Salinas." Saporta first mentions La Rue de la Sardine, Cannery Row; Tortilla Flat, still existent in Monterey; the ranches around Gonzales; Salinas, birthplace of the famous author; an air view of Cannery Row; a likeness of George Leutzinger in front of the Monterey Pine Shop on the Row; La Maison de Doc Ricketts, the Bear Flag Building showing the York Shop the Steinbeck Theater, etc.

There also are several photographs of Tortilla Flat and the homes of the paisanos who lived there, when John Steinbeck wrote his book "Tortilla Flats," views at Corral de Tierra, views of the Salinas Valley at harvest time and the migrant workers, used as material for several of his famous books; the dust storms of Oklahoma, the "Oakies" en route to California in long caravans.

There also is a review of "East of Eden" and photographs of the senior Steinbeck home in Salinas.

Moss Landing is illustrated with a picture of all the small boats in the harbor there, Fishermen's Wharf in Monterey, and the Salinas Rodeo.

A complete list and brief reviews of all Steinbeck's books in which the scenes are laid in California and the West, ending with a question and answer interview with Steinbeck himself and a picture of the author with Charlie, the full-size black poodle, featured in his latest book.

We compliment both the French and the Spanish publishers on these two important publications featuring Monterey County, its historic buildings, its history and its great authors who have made this region of California famous.