

Peninsula Diary Mayo Hayes O'Donnell

January 4, 1965

### Cards and Calendars

A calendar for January 1897 newly arrived and hanging beside my desk may seem all out of place when January 1, 1965 is just around the corner as I write this diary.

But Tom Brown of Carmel has succeeded again and chosen a calendar which certainly brings forth amusing comments from all his friends who received them for Christmas gifts.

The 1897 calendar is long out of print and seems incorrect---but every year in history has its "twin" when dates agree, so 1965 is its perfect "mate." Other features of this amusing calendar are the picture of "Lovely Lillian" of 1897, who made the nineties gay and information printed on the pad where you can foresee things to come in the "next century."

Some of the entertaining information in the various date squares are: "They'll be eating the first ice cream sundaes this year (1897); Jan 3, 49 stars! Alaska becomes a state 62 years from today (1959); Jan. 5, first movie newsreel in color will be released (1959); Jan. 7, no more hash! Fannie Farmer's first cookbook published (1896); Jan. 10, First UN General Assembly will open 49 years from today (1946); Jan. 12, hot dogs out! Government rationing will ban frankfurters (1943).

"Jan. 16, John Barleycorn is dead! Prohibition will become law (1920); Jan. 20, First basketball game five years ago today. Tall men wanted (1892); Jan 21, first atom sub! U.S. will launch "Nautilus" (1954); Jan. 25, wrong number? First phone call, N.Y. to San Francisco (1915); Jan. 26, no terra firma! Glenn Curtis will fly first hydroplane (1911); Jan. 30, Franklin D. Roosevelt (born 1882) is 15 years old today (1897).

Dr. and Mrs. Paul Michael and son and daughter, Paul and Virginia, added an historical card to my collection this year---the history of the Santa Lucia mountains, with a photograph of the mountains taken from the air, showing the winding road and coast line along the ocean.

Dr. Michael writes, in part: "The Santa Lucias have a legendary history of romance dating back to 1542, but 50 years after Columbus discovered America. The Portuguese Juan Rodriguez Cabrillo sailed his two ships, flying the flag of Spain, into the bay, known today as Monterey Bay. It being San Martin's day, he named the

mountains south of the area as the San Martins and the harbor Bahia de los Pinos."

"Its southern point was covered with a forest of pine trees which Punta de Pines, Point Pinos as it is known today. Cabrillo did not land on the shores, but Sebastian Viscaino in 1602 first set foot on the Monterey Peninsula. On Dec. 13, a fleet charted the San Martin mountains as Sierra de Santa Lucia in honor of Santa Lucia's day.

"Mass was said at what is now known as the City of Monterey near the present Presidio. The name Monte Rey was formerly bestowed upon the harbor in honor of Don Gaspar de Zuniga, Conde de Monte Rey, viceroy of Mexico. It was he who sponsored the expedition of exploration. Thus on Dec. 17, 1602---18 years before our Pilgrim Fathers landed on Plymouth Rock---Monterey had received its baptismal name.

"At present the Santa Lucias have retained their majestic beauty, and unending succession of canyons and mountain sides to north and south. The Sequoia sempervirens tanbark, chestnuts, manzanita, quercus densiflora---that link between the oak and chestnut---madrone and the oak trees stand among Monterey pines as of yore.

"The Coast Highway traverses the base of the mountains and hugs the sea along the route, surf-laved for many miles. This is certainly one of the few unspoiled regions of the state, for man has been kind to nature here and preserved its rugged and natural splendor.

"For as the immortal Bret Harte said of the area in "The Angelus":

Bells of the past, whose long forgotten music

Still fills the wide expanse,

Tingeing the sober twilight of the Present

With color of romance!

Borne on the swell of your long waves receding

I touch the farther Past.

I see the dying glow of Spanish glory,

The sunset dream at last!"