

Peninsula Diary Mayo Hayes O'Donnell

April 11, 1966

A Letter From Mrs. Bonilla

A letter from Mrs. I. A. Bonilla of Santa Barbara conveys the information that she and Mr. Bonilla have returned to their Santa Barbara home after a visit in Monterey—an historical journey trying to find “our Garcia Adobe” site in Monterey. They had also visited Berkeley and the Bancroft Library where they found Dr. Aubrey Neasham’s map of historic sites in Monterey.

“On this map a No. 2 adobe (with no name), most fits the description in Bancroft, it being one half mile east of the old presidio site, in the middle of what is Fremont street now, where Via Mirada intersects in front of the cemetery. After we receive the copy of the map which we have ordered we will write Dr. Neasham and give him the references in Bancroft about the flowers from Felipe Santiago Garcia’s garden being used at the reception for Governor Sola.

Also, Monsignor Culleton’s reference to the houses outside the presidio, one being Garcia’s.”

Mrs. Edith M. Stover of North Las Vegas, Nevada, is attempting to compile a family history but has been stopped by one branch due to scanty information on Nancy Ellen Cain of Selma, California, and her marriage to Livingston Lucas of Monterey, probably in 1883. Their son was Robert Livingston Lucas, born August 22, 1884 in Monterey.

The only information Mrs. Stover has concerning the father of Livingston Lucas is “that he was a Methodist minister and probably lived in Monterey and was drowned in San Francisco Bay when he accidentally drove his horse and buggy off the ferry slip. Some members of the family say that he was born in Spain and held a Spanish Land Grant near Monterey.”

Max Rafferty, Superintendent of Public Instruction and Director of Education, has announced the formation of an organization of Young Historians of Californians.

In the foreword to the recent publication of *The Original Constitution of California, 1849*, it may be observed that California was on the verge of a series of celebrations marking the 200th birthday anniversary of many California cities and communities beginning with San Diego in 1969. The time is therefore propitious to involve new teachers and students in the exciting role of historians. Some school districts already have History

Clubs which, helped by community groups, conduct contests for the best essay or biographical sketch of a figure important in the establishment of their community.

The Conference of California Historical Societies was held at the University of the Pacific in Stockton. Mr. Walter Frame, the president of that society, announced that the Stockton office will serve as the headquarters of the new organization.