

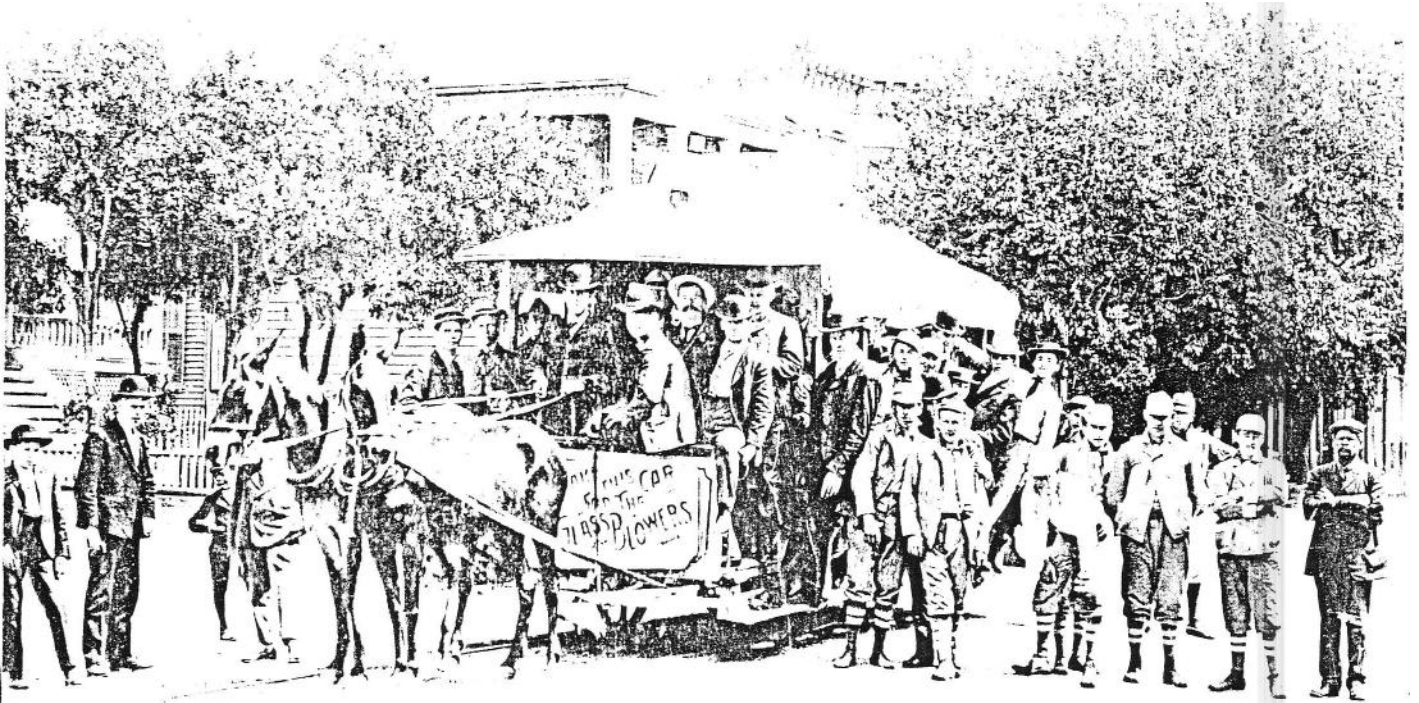
SUTTER COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

NEWS BULLETIN

VOL. I. No. 1

YUBA CITY, CALIFORNIA

JULY, 1958



CAN YOU IDENTIFY YOURSELF?

SUTTER COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY — SPONSORS MUSEUM AND FASHION SHOW OF 50 YEARS AGO
DURING CELEBRATION OF 50 YEARS OF YUBA CITY. SEPTEMBER 26-27-28

COMMITTEE IN CHARGE: MRS. IDA DOTY
MR. RANDOLPH SCHNABEL
MRS. ELEANOR REISCHE

MEETING OF
SUTTER COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
JULY 15, 1958 - 8 P.M.
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS CHAMBERS

An interesting program
will be provided
Watch the local papers

Schedule for Golden Jubilee Celebration

<u>Saturday Night</u> September 20, 1958	Street Dance - Downtown Yuba City Crowning of Queen
<u>Monday Night</u> September 22, 1958	All residents start wearing period costumes Historical building open - Downtown Kangaroo Court for Whiskerino
<u>Friday Night</u> September 26, 1958	6:00 P.M. Open Midway at Fairgrounds * 7:00 P.M. Circus - Fairground Arena
<u>Saturday</u> September 27, 1958	10:00 A.M. Kids Parade - Downtown-Decorated wheels and Pets Free rides for kids, free soda pop and cracker jacks 1:00 P.M. Old Time Fashion Show - Downtown 2:30 P.M. Parade - Downtown 6:00 P.M. Midway at Fairgrounds - Judge Whiskerino 7:30 P.M. Rodeo - Fairgrounds Arena 10:00 P.M. "Name Band" Dance-Awarding a "Lot" and other prizes - Fairgrounds building
<u>Sunday</u> September 28, 1958	* 10:00 A.M. Sports Car Gymkhana at Fairgrounds 'Fly-In' - Yuba City Airport 1:00 P.M. Open Midway - Fairgrounds Outdoor Bar-B-Q - Fairgrounds 2:00 P.M. Rodeo - Fairgrounds Arena 6:00 P.M. Inter-denominational Vesper Service - Fairgrounds Arena

* Pending Until Confirmation

QUEEN CONTEST

1. Open to all girls over 18 years, single or married. Yuba City residence not required.
2. Winner will be determined by largest number of tickets sold.
3. FIRST Prize, on tickets, will be a \$3,000.00 house lot in Rancho Camino Subdivision, Live Oak Highway, and other prizes.
4. Tickets will be sold for \$1.00 each.
5. Queen prizes - 1st Prize-\$300.00 Cash; 2nd Prize-\$100.00; 3rd Prize-\$50 Cash
Queen will also receive 10% of all tickets sold. Queens will also share clothing and merchandise prizes.
6. Any organization or group may sponsor a Queen.



PANELISTS—These distinguished Sutter County citizens are six members of a seven-man panel which will lead a discussion entitled "Were You There?" at the mid-winter session of the Sutter County Historical Society at 8 p.m. Tuesday in the supervisors' room at the county Offices Building. They are (from

left) Bert M. Ullrey, Frank G. Bremer, Hugh D. Moncur, Arthur W. Coats Sr., Eugene M. Boyd and Edward Von Geldern. The seventh member, Herman Wolfskill, was not present when the picture was taken. Earl Ramey is program chairman, and Randolph Schnabel will be moderator.

PANEL DISCUSSION, January 1958

Participants:

Randolph Schnabel - Master Ceremonies
 Bert Ullrey
 Frank Bremer
 Hugh Moncur

Arthur Coats
 Eugene Boyd
 Edward Von Geldern

Sam Brannon started a typical real estate development, typical to the United States, typical to our own west, or Florida. In our discussion this evening there will be several points which will be brought up. We can't bring up everything because time would not allow. When we do bring up a point, five, six or seven different places along the line of interest to some and to all in general perhaps, feel free to put your two-bits worth in too. We would like to get all this recorded if we can because this is one way we collect history. Some of the subjects that we would like to bring up tonight to those of you who are my age or younger. The Farmer Cooperative Union of Sutter County; never heard of that; The Flood of 1907; I have heard of that; The Northern Electric; the Fire of 1907; must have been an eventful year in those days. The movement of incorporation started someplace along in 1907 and 1908. One of the things I remember is the instigation and bringing forth of a high school in Sutter county, in Yuba City the county seat. We all knew that Sutter was long established, how they used to beat Marysville in most everything.

Panel Discussion - continued

These gentlemen have kindly condescended to help us in this discussion but we need your help too. Please feel free to hold your "mit" up and be called on. Mr. Boyd, I believe the Farmer's Cooperative Union of Sutter county has something to do with a name that you carry from years gone by.

Boyd: I don't know of any name. Eventually the name of Boyd became enmeshed in the banking business up here. C. R. Boyd was manager. They got their by-laws in 1873 then in 1912 the First National Bank was organized from the Farmer's Cooperative Union. Then in 1927 Bank of America bought it over. C. R. Boyd was Assistant Cashier, Cashier and then President.

Schnabel: C. R. Boyd, what relation to you was he?

Boyd: 1st or 2nd cousin, I don't know which. I was raised with George and the rest of the kids, just one of the family.

Schnabel: The Cooperative Union in Sutter County, what was the prime purpose of that particular organization?

Boyd: It was organized more for the farmers. They used to buy all their grain bags and handling their grain through their warehouse where King's house is now, the big brick one, down where Mrs. Barr lives, the wooden warehouse along the river. They used to ship grain out on the steam boats.

Schnabel: How about this levee?

Boyd: Very small. There was a levee here.

Schnabel: Where was First Street?

Boyd: Never knew. Located on the maps in the office.

Schnabel: Judge, where was First Street?

Judge Moncur: The levee was about three feet high prior to that time. First Street was right where the levee is now. The old Bickley house was a store for a time and all along there was First Street. When my father came in 1868, the levee was about three feet high, old First Street.

Schnabel: The Farmers Cooperative Union went out Jf business, changed over to the First National Bank, is that correct?

Judge Coats: It was a bank and just changed over the name. Organized under state laws.

Schnabel: Does anyone else have more information on that?

Mr. Cooper: I don't know anything about Farmers Cooperative but I know a little about that guy you have been talking about. We used to wrestle when we were kids about 14 years old.

Boyd: It was part of the bankers business to go out and work in the warehouse. In front of the First National Bank there was a big public scale where load after load of hogs, coal and hay kept us busy all day. Only one in the back to be out at the

Panel Discussion - continued

scale. Couldn't see in the back at all. The back door was open, the money was all there, you could go in and help yourself, but no one ever went in in those days. People were honest in those days. I showed Mr. Jack Dooley over at the office one day, some literature they filed showing their overdraft. In those days you had to file them and Jack, I can't use the expression, but he said people were honest in those days. The overdraft was far more than the low ones. Secured loans were practically nothing. The farmer never came to town but once a year and that was in the fall. He collected his money and the grocer got his money then. Settlements were made once a year. It was entirely different than it is today, I can tell you that.

Schnabel: Any questions? Feel free to ask.

Boyd: The Farmers Cooperative Union was first organized for the buying of grain bags and shipping the farmer's grain? They got into money lending business while using their surplus to loan to the farmer. Current rate of interest in the 80's and 90's ran as high as 1% a month. If we figured it out it was about 12% a year.

Schnabel: Guy, what was your father's name?

Guy Walton: They called him B. F. Walton, but Benjamin Franklin was his name.

Schnabel: Where did he live at that time?

Guy: He lived down at the corner of Walton and Bogue Road. The place is still there.

Mrs. Gibson: My grandfather was a director of the bank.

Gene Boyd: B. F. Walton, Henry Best, W.F. Sanders, Mr. Ohleyer and Mr. Carpenter were the five directors when I was in the bank. Mr. Carpenter was president.

Mr. Ramey: Did anyone recall about one item I read about this bank, it was one of the few in the state able to weather the panic without issuing the script?

Schnabel: Which panic was that?

Mr. Ramey: 1907.

von Geldern: They continued to do business through that panic. They did not issue any script.

Coats: It was the panic of the 90's. It was earlier than 1907.

Gene Boyd: There was none issued here in '94. The money, as I understand it, was from the mining industry. They backed stocks up with gold dust from the mines.

Bremer: It wasn't legal or anything, but people accepted it. The people took it for a period of only about 60 days. Rideout Bank had no trouble at that time.

Tom Gianella: Half of Butte County was issuing script. I thought Rideout bank went through it fine. Rideout Bank and the Bank of Butte County issued script. I don't remember much about that script. Some of it today would be worth it's weight in gold. Northern Electric were issuing script and paying off their employees. Everyone was issuing and accepting the script during the panic of 1907 and 1908.

Panel Discussion - continued

Schnabel: Mr. Moncur, when did the Northern Electric get started in our community?

Moncur: I will date that back to where it made an impression on my mind. The year when I was the second or third person in Yuba City to join the M.A. Club, that means "Minus Appendix." I suffered the loss of mine in 1907. When I came back from the hospital, the first car of the Northern Electric ran over the bridge. It was about 1907.

Schnabel: Where did it start and end their run?

Moncur: In Sacramento and eventually from San Francisco to Marysville, Live Oak to Gridley and Chico ended the line. That was the Northern Electric, Sacramento Northern or something like that. In my memory that was in 1907.

Mrs. Baun: In 1906 they were buying the right of way. They came down through our property and they couldn't get the right of way but in Yuba county, they had given it to them on that side of the river. I think Dad can remember because they bought most of Yuba City right of way from his father which cut our ranch in two. It was about that time. Jimmy Rory was the main guide.

Von Geldern: The Sacramento Northern was in operation on July 4, 1907 because I rode from Marysville to Yuba City to take a look at the town.

Schnabel: On this Northern Electric did they try to sell stock?

Bremer: That was the main thing, stocks and bonds.

Schnabel: Judge, do you know anything about the stocks and bonds on that Northern Electric deal?

Judge Moncur: No, I was never in the position where I had to do anything with stocks and bonds.

Bremer: Some big monies in San Francisco held the first stocks in the Northern Electric then they went through the process of reorganizing and would sell stocks in the company to local people.

Schnabel: Prior to this time in getting back and forth between the two cities we had well some what of a description, my mother said they were quite a fascination. The horse-drawn busses, Mrs. Bill Green, your father was in on that wasn't he?

Mrs. Green: He was the driver of the team.

Moncur: Horse-drawn busses were before the mule street car. I have a picture in my pocket my father took the picture in 1906.

Schnabel: Prior to that time had they been running for a number of years?

Moncur: I remember the busses we had that had tracks but we had horse-drawn wagon busses prior to that.

Panel Discussion - continued

Schnabel: Did these mule drawn street cars put the horse drawn busses out of business?

Moncur: Mr. Pearano was the driver, the conductor and everything on the bus. They put the horses out of business quick.

Gene Boyd: What year did they run the motor bus or whatever they tried to get across the bridge?

Moncur: That came along after the mule cars went out of business. They had a big gas one that they couldn't get across the bridge.

Cooper: It was made in Stockton by Best Tractor Company and E. E. Knight brought it up and tried it. It was much heavier than street cars were. Tom Pearano who was the manager in Marysville and myself and old D. E. Knight started from Marysville with it. It took us about three or four hours to go from C Street over to the end of the track, which was up by the cannery, then we couldn't go around the loop. We came back on the same track. It took three or four hours to go from C Street to the car barn.

Schnabel: Did it get through the covered wagon bridge?

Cooper: Yes, right through there, it was much wider than the car. The tracks were so light every once in awhile it would just ride right off.

Von Geldern: I saw the car years after.

Cooper: I was driving one of the mule cars at that time was how I happened to get a ride.

Von Geldern: It was used on the Briggs ranch for a summer house. It was about the same size as the street cars, wider and heavier. The motor had been removed. It only made 6 trips on the circuit. They ran it for less than a week. It made one trip across the bridge. They were lucky to get it back to Marysville. When the car would run off the track, it would hold up the traffic between Yuba City and Marysville for Yours until they got the car back on the track.

Schnabel: On the so called flood of 1907. Mr. Bremer could you recall for us?

Bremer: The flood situation in Yuba and Sutter county has been very vital in building up the community. Our floods started in 1851. It wiped out the town of Yuba City. Believe it or not, we had a town, in fact larger than the city of Marysville. There was quite a rivalry between them. In 1851 we had a flood which wiped the whole town off the imp. All the people left the city and all the business in Yuba City went to Marysville and got into hauling of mining supplies to the diggings. We have had a series of high waters for years. We had one in 1853, in 1861 - in 1866 and 1875. In '75 Marysville was flooded. It did a lot of damage in Marysville. It very near buried the city. We had a series of floods. We had no major floods until we came to 1907. We were just starting to raise the small levee we had here by manual labor, shoveling dirt into cars and hauling it in some steel tram cars up to the levee where the donkey pullies could string the cars up and dump the dirt along the levee. It was a very slow process. That started in 1906. The water came in March 19th. We had a big flow of water. The levee broke by the Hock Farm,

Panel Discussion - continued

the Holmes place, broke north of town, the Starr Ranch, about the other side of where the California Seed and Fertilizer property is now. Not a big break. All the water missed lower part of Yuba City and went out west. In those days we had no by-pass, no levee to restrict the water. Part of it ran off very rapidly. There was no back wash - like in 1955. It came out the same way as in 1909, ran back into the Sacramento River. They had boards on top of the levee, some places two - one foot planks and sand bags and they couldn't hold it any longer. We had three breaks on levee District 9. A lot of water was coming down, but went no further east than Gilsizer Slough. All the water covered up the county, part of town, Plumas Street. It was just about as high on Plumas Street as it was in the 1955 flood, but it didn't last very long. We had a number of breaks in 1909. It broke at the Gum Tree where it broke in 1955. Then it broke again this side of Shanghai Bend. These levees which they put up were full of sand and broke very easy. They used very little dirt. The levee had no chance to pack. It broke when they were building, the levee, trying to convert the water at Shanghai. They had pilings in it. It broke right at Shanghai and washed off south as far as the Berg Ranch, or Spangler Ranch. I remember I was at the Hock Farm fighting a break there. It was nip and tuck whether we would hold it or not. When the flood came Von Geldern came down in a boat and picked me up a couple days afterwards. We have had lots of high water for many years. In 1915, 1927, 1928, we had about as high water as in 1955. In March 1928, we had 211,000 acre feet of water, that means one foot of water over an acre of land. In 1955 we had about 227,000 acre of foot deep water in the flow of water. We have been going through this off and on. We have raised the levee after the 1937 flood, the U.S. Engineers helped us build our levees. Our levee District was practically broke. Levee District #1 was the first one established in the state of California by an act of Legislature it was created in 1866, and was called the Swamp Land District #1. Comprised about 47,500 acres. Allowed to assess 500 an acre or 122' on each dollar for improvements. After that we went through many floods spending millions of dollars to maintain our levees. We have something now that will stand up. If we ever get our Feather River Project through, we will not have any more problems.

Schnabel: In this 1907 flood, in the Starr Bend Break, did you notice the swall on the ground?

Starr: The same swall is there to this day. That was created in 1907.

Schnabel: My grandfather Skinner came down through there from Gridley. He and the old Swede foreman of his ranch in a boat. The story goes, I think, the Swede foreman was at the oars and grandfather and the brown jug were in the back seat. They came down through the break and tied up at their home on Live Oak Highway. Only to find that most of the neighborhood was staying in their barns and in their house for the duration. So 1907 flood is nothing new.

Schnabel: Can anybody add to the 1907 flood?

Boyd: That was when our great old Dr. Perry did the horseback riding trick. When the levee broke up north of town he got on his horse and rode all over town. He put on a real act there and woke up everybody in town. The Paul Revere of Yuba City.

Panel Discussion - continued

Bremer: They ran steam boats with plenty of depth up to the Marysville Bridge and I understand they went as far as Gridley with it before the bridges were in.

They hauled grain. The only transportation that we had. Afterwards the hydraulics stopped the steam boats. The debris came down, filled up the river full of sand and today you can wade across them in the summer time.

Mr. Cooper: They called them inspectors. My father was an inspector during the debris trials. I can say that. I have a beautiful piece of gold that a miner gave to me and I still have it.

Von Geldern: I will tell you one on Fred. I am surprised that his father was in that kind of business. Coats and I were in the same business up until 1911.

Moncur: That was when they caught up with you.

Coats: It was in '18 or '19.

Von Geldern: I was the engineer for the Anti-Debris Association in 1907 and I know how the spy racket worked. It is an interesting subject but it is something you could devote the whole evening to. It has many interesting facts.

Schnabel: We can put the flood subject to rest. Now lets burn the town. About the fire of 1907. Ed, do you remember the fire?

Von Geldern: I know all about it. The Levee District #1 had a little office on the levee back of the tire shop on Second Street which was a livery stable at that time, north of the Masonic Temple. I was working at that time on some cross sections when I had paper across the windows to shield the rays of the sun and didn't know what was going on at the start but heard this crackling noise. I stepped outside to see the hotel on fire. That was the Windsor Hotel run and operated by Hugh Moncur's father. And I ran over there to see what was the matter and found the blaze from the fire fanned by a pretty strong north wind, the flames were going diagonally across the street. The next building to burn was the water works. The water works consisted of a two story building, the top floor looked like a block house, overhanging the side. There were several large metal tanks inside the building itself, probably not more than 40 feet above the ground to the bottom of the tanks. In the first place it gave no pressure and in the second place because of the water works being destroyed there was no water. Second Street was practically at the mercy of a strong north wind. The only reason it didn't burn out entirely was the fact the people south of B and C Streets by their own efforts, getting on the roof with wet sacks and stuff and putting out the fire when they started and it might be well to mention here that if it weren't for the Deputy Sheriff, Ben Shillig, there wouldn't have been any court house. I think he put out no less than 5 or 6 fires that had already started on the roof. That fire extended south as far as the Odd Fellows Hall and as far as the Masonic Temple. There was a small cottage occupied by Potter, a shoe repairman from Marysville, the fire extended down as far as the Potter place, where the Masonic Temple stands, and as far south on the west of the street as the Odd Fellows Hall. Walls of the building kept the fire from going farther south because of the gap. There were no buildings in between. Crosby owned the lot with no building on it and the Kimball house which is next to Barr's Title Company on the south was far enough away and with the efforts of those people who kept it from burning. Otherwise they were helpless because the fire was cutting into the building to the north and behind where the old bank building was, east of the present bank

Panel Discussion - continued

building. If it wasn't for the fact the Marysville Fire Department came over with their steamer and backed it over the levee, down to the waters edge, pumped out of the river and ran 4 lines of hose over to this part of the city, and that is all that saved it. The destruction to the south was as far as Odd Fellows Building. The destruction in the west was just behind the building occupied by Crosby's Drug Store and the Windsor Hotel and several other store buildings. One of the interesting recollection on that building of Hewitts, where Mr. Hewitt in his anxiety to save everything in the last minute tried to move some furniture into the vault and couldn't get the door closed, so the contents of the vault burned up. There were many other amusing things happened. One was the city had gone on for years never anticipating a fire of any extend and they didn't have anything to cope with the fire if they had had one. The water works, the little inadequate water works, with 2 and 4 inch mains at the largest and no pressure, so they just played in luck. Following that, one of the things that occurred, we might state is the leading up to the incorporation of the City of Yuba City. It was one of the things that brought that about, was the need, at least for a fire department. Their fire fighting equipment consisted of one two-wheeled hand-drawn rig with a reel of fire hose which was destroyed at the water works. That is the fire of October 7, 1907.

Moncur: I will tell you just exactly how that fire started.

I was born in Yuba City on the corner of Fairman and Yolo Street, where Ora Heiken lives, and my father having come over from Bonnie Dundee where he was a craftsman, sheet metal workers now, but he was just an ordinary tinsmith, that is where we lived. He finally traded that business he had along with some other things. You know he was quite a trader too. Old Man Butler owned the Butler House. My father, being from Scotland, renamed the hotel "The Windsor." That is where he lived from the time I was five until I was twenty while we operated the hotel.

It was a family affair, everybody worked. All we hired were the cooks. We had a Chinese cook and a Chinese dishwasher, and my sister and my two brothers until they "flew the coop" and left me "holding the bag." We used to deal them off the arm there. I had the pleasure many and many of times of "throwing the hash" along with Gene's Uncle George when he came in there. But anyway, that is beside the point. We had an immense long French range in the hotel. It seemed to me it was a mile long, but of course, it wasn't. It was about as long as from here to the wall over there. It had two ovens and three fire boxes and great big coils in there with 300 gallon hot water boiler behind. That was fired with wood, and how well I remember on Saturday when we boys had to pile enough wood behind the stove to last the cook for a few days. Then came the Southern Pacific along and introduced the burning of coal from Utah, which they would deliver at your door for \$6 a ton.

Well, we immediately changed from wood to coal because wood cost three times that much money and that was what we were burning until we sold the place in 1906. The place was purchased by Mrs. Parkhurst who opened up the Parkhurst addition out there along with the Forbes addition. They immediately modernized the place and they put in what was then a very fine oil burner. They discharged the Chinese cooks and hired white men, two white men. They put the oil burner in and it was one of those kind that had to fill the reservoir underneath and get it good and hot so you could generate it before you could turn the oil on to heat for cooking.

The story goes that the white man cook was over to Marysville and he had a little time to spare and he proceeded to get himself "liquored up" and he suddenly decided

Panel Discussion - continued

he had to get back to the hotel so he rushed home and he did not heat the burner enough so when he turned the oil on it did not go like it should, it just simply burned a little bit but the oil kept running and ran all over the floor and then next thing they knew the whole thing was one solid mass of flames. I was working for a living those days, they say I don't work now, but I had just got in from work and I unhitched the horses and put them in the barn and the fire broke out.

We owned the property right across the street. You were all wrong about that water works building, that was a five story building and had 100,000 gallons of water up on top. We built those tanks out in the shop. It was five stories high and we called it the "Barricks." On the ground floor was nothing but cheap apartments where people could live. That was the last thing up until the time the water works caught fire our building was perfectly intact. We had just finished the house on top. I was contemplating committing matrimony with a young lady, and had to have a place to live, so we were going to live up there, but we didn't get moved in. But anyway, the fire burned the whole thing from the Masonic Temple to the Odd Fellows Building, gutted the whole thing. The site of the Masonic Temple was at Johnnie's Quick Lunch. That was the first temple built in the town in 1869. Anyway, that is the way the fire started and it jumped down and burned the water works and it just fell over and collapsed. If it had fallen this way, it would have put the fire out on our place - no such luck. Then it burned the livery stable and the little Potter house across the street and that is where the Masonic Temple stands today. The fire started at about 4 o'clock in the afternoon. I was alive and going to school when the courthouse burned the second time. That was in about 1889. That was burned by an insane man who had some matches in jail. They had him in a padded cell and they didn't search him good enough. The first courthouse was burned in 1858, the second fire was 1871, December 20. In 1872, a new and better building was completed and was destroyed by fire in 1899.

Ullrey: The alterations were made in 1922-23. Still stands as it is.

Schnabel: How come liquid refreshments were not purchased in Yuba City.

Moncur: On the front of the Hall of Records - 1891 was the year the county went dry. Local option took effect in California and Sutter County voted dry, in 1891. I can remember, all the men voted at our hotel. That was the year prohibition came in. Twenty five years later the people got so dry at that time they could stand it no longer so they incorporated the town at that time and that was the way we got the first saloon. The day we opened the saloon was the day Gene Boyd got married. I don't remember if Gene was at the celebration that night or not. That was a great day in the town when the saloon was opened.

Schnabel: If you go through the past records of Yuba City you will not see any records of hotels having free lunches or anything of that nature. It was always across the river in Marysville where that took place. The movement for incorporation was the natural outgrowth of the floods and the fires and other things which the people desired. Von, as a result of the fire we had incorporation. Was the first thing the water works?

Von Geldern: That brought about the construction of the water works and the matter of financing it was a factor that made some kind of an organization and they were talking then of incorporating the town of Yuba City. The County of Sutter was dry, that is comparatively dry, except when the boats came up the river and stopped along side the levee at the town of Nicolaus. Nicolaus was pretty wet then. Bootleggers in those days were like they were in prohibition, but outside of that it was dry.

Panel Discussion - continued

Then along with the proposition of incorporation of the town was the matter of getting a hotel in Yuba City to replace the one that burned. They had some fine ideas of a hotel but no one would finance the hotel unless they were given the privilege of having a saloon in the hotel. So the issue at the time of incorporation was whether or not they could incorporate Yuba City and giving them local option, but there was so much opposition to the wet side of the deal that they finally pinned it down to one saloon and one hotel and there was no other saloon allowed in Yuba City, and they voted that. When they voted that they had a dry side and a wet side and you speak about the celebration at the time of incorporation, I don't think they had anything on the celebration when they opened the hotel. They had two factors, two banquet tables on the street besides the hotel, they reached almost into the middle of the street. They hung a tent on the street side of the hotel and they had two sets of tables, a dry and a wet table. Before it was over they kind of got mixed together. It was the hotel that we have right here today.

Moncur: They had a big two story flour mill where the Sutter Hotel sits today.

Schnabel: After the water department was settled was the matter of streets, gas, lights or anything like that?

Von Geldern: It was primarily a water works. They had a good system. The mains on the principal streets were 8 inch mains. The pumps were installed under the water tower at Reeves and Plumas Streets. They had a system of pumps so that they could pump from one pump through another and compound the pressure and at the time we tried the water works out, we could put a stream of water on the court house flag pole with two streams of water from two hydrants at the same time. That ended in a water fight before it was over. It was at the time, considering consumers and the length it was, a very efficient plant and I might also say that the fire department itself graduated from one two-wheeler and one reel to two two-wheeler with two reels and one at the lumber yard and one down here. The first Yuba City fire department consisted of two hose reels on carts which were pulled by human beings then Frank Bremer finally got high-toned enough to buy a Ford pick up for a delivery wagon and we used that to go to fires. We hooked one of these things behind it and took off.

Schnabel: How about the street improvement?

Von Geldern: That followed later on. They went into the paving programs and paved a considerable area of the main streets.

Moncur: The contractors contacted my father one day and said "How come they plowed up down the street here and Second Street is nothing but big cobble stones?" My father said "I will tell you just how that happened. During the winter time up and down this street, you know it would mire up to the saddle blankets, so the men volunteered with buggies, carts and whatever they had and went out to the Buttes and hauled in big boulders, dumped them down Second Street there." They were there when they paved the street because they plowed them up and dug up the big boulders. Otherwise they couldn't run it.

Von Geldern: The paving program started about 1919 (the permanent paving)

Panel Discussion - continued

Moncur: Corrected Von Geldern by telling him that out in front of the lit justice court when they built the new county office building, carved in the pavement was the letters E.V.G. 1916.

Schnabel: Ed, how about the dog situation in Yuba City?

Von Geldern: I don't know whether I can tell you about the dog situation unless it is some particular thing you were referring to that I can't recall. If it was coons or rattlesnakes I can tell you all about them.

Schnabel: Taxation, bond issues, pay for these things, how would that come about?

Von Geldern: They voted bonds for the paving of Second Street and sewer s stem. Other streets the property owners did their own paving.

Schnabel: More and adequate school system. The closest high school was across the river and it was disdainful for some of the people to go over there to high school and certainly they wouldn't go out to Sutter because that was too far out. The Northern Electric might have taken them out but school busses weren't hat they should have been. They would get together and build a high school here. Judge Coats I can remember, how about you?

Judge Coats: In looking over this crowd here tonight, I am thankful for what I got out of, but not so thankful what I got into. The chairman, our president, of this club, called me up a few weeks ago and talked to me about fifteen or twenty minutes. I asked if I was to give a speech, 'Anita, are you asking me to give a speech on the history of Yuba City?' and she said, "yes", and I replied, if so, that was out of all reason, but I would be glad to answer questions." But she got the idea of bringing in some more people on this program and I guess I'm responsible for the rest of you fellows being here. When I went to school I went to Marysville High, as did most of the people in Yuba City and I'll tell you Mr. Schnabel, Sutter didn't beat us very often. The Marysville High School that was about 1907 when I graduated, was located on E Street about where a church is located - E and 8th. There was about 90 pupils in the school. As time went on the school got over-crowded; they needed new buildings. At that time I was District Attorney of Sutter County. The Superintendent of Schools was Minn Gray. She knows more about the formation of the Yuba City Union High School district than anybody because she was the prime mover in it. She was the person who went around and got the organization going and formed various committees.

Carl Schnabel, father of Randolph Schnabel, was one of the committee men. Elija Davis down in Barry district was another member of the committee; Harry McMahan, now an insurance broker in Marysville, was another; Bert Cooley, who was a farmer, married to a Littlejohn, I don't think any of his children are here now, but the Littlejohn family is still here. They went to work about 1922. We had an election and a district was organized. Then came up the question of who was to be the trustees. I made out the slate and kept my name out of it but some reason or another I got on it. Carl Schnabel, Eliza Davis, Bert Cooley, McMahan and myself were the trustees. First thing to do was erect some temporary quarters. On the Bridge Street, a school just south of the Bridge Street school, on part of he property which is now occupied by the Bridge Street School, were three houses, one fairly large and two small ones owned by Ben Manford, the Constable and afterwards became Sheriff of the county. We purchased that sight from him - we purchased instead of renting it. We held school in that building until the high school was

Panel Discussion - continued

built. The first question arose as to location of a site for the high school. There were two sites in contention: the Van Arsdale property, out where the high school is now located, and the Jackson property, owned by Dr. Jackson, where the airport is now, which was then called Jackson's Bottoms, which was surrounded by the back levee. About the only other thing about it was Carl Schnabel was generally on one side of the argument, Bert Cooley was on the other and when everything appeared in the paper it was what Mr. Schnabel and what Mr. Cooley said and no one knew I was on the board for two elections, and when they found out I was, I quit.

Schnabel: Mrs. Gray were there any differences of opinion in regards to necessity of a school in Yuba City when there was one so close in Marysville?

Mrs. Gray: I was a graduate of Marysville High, but Carl will help you.

Schnabel: As I remember, Tierra Buena District was one of the hold outs.

Mrs. Gray: We couldn't get three families to sign. They were forced in three years later.

Schnabel: They were the only hold outs as I remember. Mrs. Fillmore, when did you join the staff up there?

Mrs. Fillmore: I was not there for the opening, 1924. We moved in the new high school just after the new year. I came the following semester. We moved into the main building. They used the shop building in connection with the houses on Bridge Street.

Mrs. Gray: The shop building was constructed first. In February 1924 they had the new buildings sufficiently finished.

Schnabel: Do you remember the number of children in the first graduation class?

Mrs. Gray: We had no graduates in 1923. In 1924 there were two graduates, one was Thelma Fine. Mildred Lang was one of the first graduates, also Mildred Hansen. 1925 was the first real graduation, the first 4 year class. In 1927, Mr. Work had completed his 5 years and was replaced by Dr. Thomas Nelson who had just retired from the Berkeley Schools; Dr. Nelson was replaced by Mr. Marion McCart who was principal for 15 years.

Moncur: One question concerning the earlier agitation for a high school in Yuba City. I am going to ask Mr. Fred Cooper, isn't it a fact that your father set aside a large acreage of land that he would give to the county of Sutter for a high school if they would build one there?

Cooper: No, he sold them a 5 acre piece of land right at the end of Bridge Street and he charged them \$200 an acre for that land but in 5 years they must have a high school on it or it would revert back to the owner. He gave them the right of way for Bridge Street.

Judge Coats: Every time they have a football game between Yuba City and Marysville they published a big list of how many times each team beat the other. We lost about the first 8 games, but that was because most of the Yuba City boys were playing on the Marysville team.

Panel Discussion - continued

Schnabel: I have that trouble every day at school they still think I am from one or the other place. I keep them that way.

Ullrey: Ask Mr. Von Geldern in regards to the first survey of Yuba City in 1849 are those pegs still there?

Von Geldern: No, there is no trace of the original survey. It was made by a man called Joseph Ruth in 1849, and there is no part of the original survey. Hudson came along years later and made what he termed a real survey and followed somewhat the streets names, but none of the lots are the same as the original survey.

Ullrey: The first school was here in Yuba City.

Von Geldern: The first school was on C Street in back of the courthouse, C Street and McRae Avenue.

Moncur: When I graduated from the school on C Street there were 70 pupils and three teachers.

B. Gibson: There are now 75 teachers and over two thousand children.

Schnabel: For the 16 subjects you passed tests in twice a year. How about the law end of this, Mr. Ullrey?

Ullrey: There were several sheriffs appointed and refused to act in the early days. The people appointed them. I haven't that down or the names.

Schnabel: Mr. Cooper when was your father sheriff in this county?

Cooper: In 1870 and 1871. I have his records right here.

Schnabel: Prior to Cooper, who was sheriff?

Ullrey: Sam McClure was right after Cooper.

Schnabel: Mr. Ullrey, tell us about the early founding of Yuba City?

Ullrey: The most that I have information on is from early history dated back to the time that the trappers and the Indians worked their way up the Feather River to what was then known as the town of Yuba City and was one of the first county seats. Nicolaus, Auburn, Verona back to Nicolaus then in '56 was finally decided upon Yuba City and which it is to the present day. The Indians occupied the biggest part of the city. There were about 100 - 125 called the Yubans. In very high water they moved to the Sutter Buttes. The land where Yuba City now stands was deeded to Samuel Brannon, Reading and Clevis by Capt. John A. Sutter, July 27, 1849 and that is at the time that Joseph Ruth was to survey for the future of the town. And there were stores and different buildings put up being that this was a high point of land this side of the river. The boats unloaded their cargo which was brought in from San Francisco and finally they put a ferry across the river which helped quite a bit for the two cities. Marysville at the time that Yuba City was surveyed was called the Nye Ranch and was built another year after Yuba City. The first school was built here in 1854.

Panel Discussion - continued

Moncur: Not to give away my age, they are now building across the Feather River here in Yuba City, the 5th bridge that I have seen built in my lifetime.

Schnabel: If you have enjoyed our meeting tonight we would like to see you at future meetings. We don't have such an illustrious panel as tonight but we would like to see you at our regular meetings.

THE BOGA GRANT 1843-1881

Research - by Earl Ramey

This paper began as a biographical account of one of the pioneers at Sutter's Fort in the forties. It was of interest because the subject appeared, upon first acquaintance, to be the first settler of Sutter county other than Sutter's employees whom we know to have been the very first. But this early settler did not last long enough, either in Sutter county or in California, to furnish us much of a biographical story. However, the land upon which he proposed to settle has a history pertinent to that of the county; so this land will be the main subject of this account. But as will be noted later, the destiny of this land was somewhat determined by certain actions of our would-be settler. Therefore, a brief biographical account of him will supply an appropriate background for the land history.

Charles William Flugge was born in Hanover, Germany about 1813. We know nothing of his European background; but we do know that he received exceptional schooling in law and languages. He came to the United States around 1834 when he was twenty-one years of age. The first exact information we have about him after he came to America is that given by John Sutter who became acquainted with him in St. Louis, Missouri, where Flugge was operating a small stationery store and a circulating library.

It is fairly certain that Sutter was responsible for Flugge's decision to come to California. Sutter had left Missouri in 1838 and had settled in California in 1839. Flugge left Missouri with the famous Bartleson party bound California and Oregon in 1841 in company with John Bidwell, Michael Nye, and a dozen other pioneers prominent in the early history of Northern California. When this large party divided at Fort Hall, Flugge chose to take the easier and better known route to Oregon, rather than risk the direct, and then unknown route to California. Consequently he did not arrive at Sutter's Fort until December of that year coming down from Oregon with a group of trappers.

Sutter knew that Flugge was coming as is shown in a letter which the former wrote to Governor Alvarado at Monterey regarding some official business. Sutter apologized for the necessity of writing in English but said that soon he would have a clerk who would be able to translate all official communications into Spanish. Flugge was perhaps the only person in California at that time who was both fluent and literate in the four principal languages of the day; English, Spanish, German and French. And his legal training allowed him to use these languages to great advantage.

The Boga Grant - continued

But not only was Flugge able to write well, Sutter declares that he was a good diplomatist using diplomacy and courtesy in all of his dealings with others. And Sutter soon made good use of this talent of his new clerk.

In 1843, the Mexican government sent a new governor to California to displace the native Governor Alvarado. Sutter feared that the natives (Alvarado, Vallejo and others) might try to persuade the new Governor Micheltorena that Sutter's enterprise was bad for California. So Sutter sent Flugge to Los Angeles to meet the new governor in order to assure him of Sutter's loyalty to him and the Mexican government. Later events prove the unusual success of Flugge's mission.

Flugge was not content to spend all of his time in the employ of Sutter. He moved about the department carrying on a trading business of his own. During the summer of 1842, he was in Monterey when Theodore Cordua arrived looking for a place to settle. Flugge persuaded Cordua to settle on some of Sutter's land and drew up the novel contract governing this settlement. And he also persuaded Cordua to take him in as full partner in the new Mecklenburg venture which later grew into the town of Marysville. He came with Cordua to the Yuba River location but soon withdrew from the partnership having become interested in the land across the Feather from Cordua's settlement. So later in 1843 Flugge applied for a grant of five square leagues of land to be located in the region which was the home of the Boga Indians. Governor Micheltorena approved the petition in 1844, and the Departmental Assembly confirmed the grant in 1845. The exact location of the grant will be noted later.

Whether or not Flugge ever made any definite plans to occupy and use his grant we do not know. He continued his miscellaneous trading, but during the year 1845 he became seriously ill. Not finding adequate medical treatment in California he went to Hawaii where he spent a year or more regaining his health. After returning to California in 1846, he became interested in Los Angeles as a trading location where he established his first permanent place of business.

During the forties, Thomas O. Larkin of Monterey was the leading merchant of California. His business was largely wholesale, and all other merchants on the coast found it necessary to deal with him. Just what circumstances made it necessary or desirable we do not know, but on January 21, 1847 Flugge sold Larkin his Boga Grant of five square leagues for \$2,800.

There is little more to be told about Flugge before continuing the account of the land. His illness recurred, and in 1848 he liquidated all of his assets which then amounted to about \$30,000. Then his friends became aware of a marked change in his conduct. He became sullen, morose, and rude, not recognizing his closest acquaintances on the street. Soon he disappeared entirely, the general belief being that he had returned to Europe. But four years later, in 1852, he reappeared as suddenly as he had disappeared not having changed his strange conduct however. One day during the hottest part of summer the coroner was told that a dead man was to be found in the country some distance from the town. It was Flugge. He had wandered aimlessly from the town, had removed his clothing, and had died exposed to the sun's rays. No doubt, modern psychiatrists would have diagnosed his case as dementia or schizophrenia.

The Boga Grant - continued

At this point, some general land history must be recalled. The treaty by which the United States had acquired California provided that Mexican land titles, including grants, should be respected by the United States government if these titles and grants were legitimate. Congress established a special commission in 1851 to judge the validity of claims, and all claims were to be submitted to this commission.

Accordingly Larkin submitted his claim to the Boga Grant, or Flugge Grant as it was also called, in March, 1852.

The commission promptly declared Larkin's claim valid and ordered a preliminary survey to be made. But making an acceptable survey proved to be a difficult task complicated by several conditions which must be explained in some detail.

Under the Mexican government in California an applicant for a grant of land was required to state what quantity of land he wished, and to give a description of the general location of the land, which description was to be illustrated by a *diseño* or map showing necessary landmarks of the general location. The exact boundaries of his grant could be located at anytime after the grant was confirmed. But when Flugge applied for his grant, legal habits caused him to give a far more exact description of the land he wanted than was normally required. And this precision on the part of Flugge was to be of great importance in the period from 1852 to 1873 as we shall note later.

In his petition Flugge asked that his south boundary be an east-west line at latitude 39° 33' 45" north. His east boundary was to be the Feather River, and his west boundary was to be a line parallel to the river one league to the west. The north boundary was to be another east-west line five leagues north of the south boundary. These four lines were expected to enclose five square leagues.

John Bidwell, who was then working for Sutter, and who was well acquainted with the region now including Sutter, Yuba and Butte counties, made the *diseño* for Flugge. On this *diseño* the relative positions of the Sacramento, Feather and Yuba Rivers, the Honcut Creek and the Picos or Buttes were shown. The course of the Feather River was carefully delineated including a peculiar bend which was shown to be the south-west corner of the tract. The last detail proved to be the determining feature.

At the time this *diseño* was made (1843) the only geographical survey in the Sacramento Valley was one made for Sutter by Jean Vioget. But he had come no further north than the junction of the Feather and Sacramento Rivers. So Flugge and Bidwell, estimating the distance from that point to the south-east corner on the Feather, arrived at the figure 39° 33' 45". But this calculation was wrong largely because the survey by Vioget was inaccurate. Consequently, the preliminary survey located the south boundary of the Boga Grant far north of the location shown on the *diseño*.

Now yet another complication resulted from a second grant which had been made in the same general location. In June 1846 Governor Pio Pico, who had succeeded the deposed Micheltorena, granted to two brothers, Dionisio and Maximo Fernandez four square leagues of land to be located in the same general region which included the Boga Tract. But the description was not exact. The east

The Boga Grant - continued

boundary was to be the Feather River; the south boundary was to be the north boundary of Sutter's grant; the west boundary was to be the "vacant lands"; and the north line was to be "las faldas" meaning the sloping lands or foothills.

At the time this Fernandez grant was made (1846) Sutter occupied the official position called guardian of the frontier which made him a sort of agent of the governor. It was his duty to give or withhold approval of petitions for grants. Flugge was in Hawaii where Sutter believed he had gone to die. So the latter certified on the Fernandez petition that the lands to the north of New Helvetia were vacant, and that former claims had been abandoned. And again John Bidwell prepared a diseño for the Fernandez brothers.

The Land Commission naturally had to give preference to the Boga claim because it had been confirmed one year earlier than that of Fernandez. So they ruled that the Fernandez land should begin at the north limit of Boga. The surveyors who began to locate the Fernandez tract assumed that Boga would begin at Sutter's north line which, by that time, had been established. They measured five leagues up from Sutter's north line and surveyed four square leagues for the Fernandez grant.

Now back to the Boga survey. The preliminary survey which began at $39^{\circ} 33' 45''$ was found to be entirely too far north to have any reasonable resemblance to the land indicated on the diseño or described in the petition. The latitude $39^{\circ} 33' 45''$ was found to be twenty-three miles north of the line so marked on diseño. The commission therefore ordered the survey to begin at the north line of Sutter's grant. This ruling was based on the premise that in 1843 no one could have been expected to designate geographical locations with accuracy. This second survey was completed in 1855, and the Commission confirmed Larkin's claim.

All decisions of the Commission were automatically appealed to the Federal courts. If the Commission ruled against a claimant, the claimant could appeal; if the ruling was for the claimant, the attorney general appealed for the government. Accordingly the Boga confirmation was appealed in December, 1856, but in February, 1857 the appeal was dismissed and the district court pronounced the decree of the Commission to be final.

It is interesting to note here that during this period (1852-1857) while the conflict with the Fernandez claim and the question of south boundary were being decided by the Commission. Larkin was willing to allow his claim to be governed by the geographical designation $39^{\circ} 33' 45''$. The banks of the Feather south of Oroville were known to contain paying traces of gold. So the shrewd Yankee saw an opportunity to exchange agricultural lands for more profitable gold mining lands. But the Commission ruled that the diseño was clear beyond doubt that the land was not to extend so far north.

In the meantime, the Fernandez case was making even faster progress through the same steps which we have just described for the Boga case. Confirmation by the Commission came in 1855; appeal to and dismissal from the courts in 1857; then in the same year came the survey and patent. But before the patent to Boga was issued there arose a serious confusion of location.

To explain this confusion we have to note a detail of Sutter's grant. He had made his application the Mexican way. He was to have eleven square leagues located in a region between Fort Sutter and an east-west line from the Sacramento

The Boga Grant - continued

River to the Feather passing through the southern base of the Buttes. Flugge and Bidwell knew this north boundary of New Helvetia and made a point of keeping Flugge's claim to the north of it. But when Sutter's eleven leagues south of the line designated on Flugge's diseño. And this fact added further to the confusion.

When the court declared the Boga claim valid in 1857, the special commission sent the survey to the General Lands Office where a patent was to be issued. But the Land Office refused to honor the survey on the grounds that it had not observed the "calls of the grant".

It was contended that the "calls" or provisions of the grant required the south boundary of Boga to be at the line clearly indicated on the diseño, and that the survey had the line a league to the south. So the Land Office ordered the Surveyor General to prepare another survey which would observe the "calls".

The new survey was submitted in 1859. It had the south Boga line one league north of Sutter's north line and consequently the north Boga line came one league north of the south Fernandez line causing the two grants to overlap and include the same one league of land.

Before the Boga patent was issued on this new survey a law was enacted in Congress giving the federal courts the power to call in for review and examination any survey on which patents were to be issued. Inasmuch as it was generally recognized that an intolerable condition would result from the new survey, the district court called it in and the attorney general contested its validity.

During these court proceedings the entire history of the two grants was reviewed. And in spite of the fact that the Larkin family were satisfied to have their south line at Sutter's north line; that the Fernandez patent based on the former survey had already been issued; and that John Bidwell testified that he had intended to make the line on the diseño coincide with Sutter's north line -in spite of these arguments the court upheld the new survey. The decision was based on the grounds that the diseño was clear beyond doubt, that the Flugge grant made no mention of Sutter's lands, that the calls of the grant rendered the boundaries fixed, and that only that land described was appealed to the supreme court where it was upheld in 1865, and the Land Office issued a patent to the Larkin heirs signed by President Andrew Johnson October 5th of the same year.

The destiny of this overlapping league really belongs to Butte county history; so the story will not be given in detail here. One feature is of interest to us at this time however. The owners of the Fernandez grant had already sold a portion of this league, and later the Larkins sold the same land. So again the matter went to the district court in the case BISSELL vs HENSHA . But again Judge Sawyer of the northern district of California ruled that the Boga patent was the true one repeating nearly the same decision of Judge Hoff n ten years earlier. The case went to the supreme court where again the district court was upheld. Stephen J. Field, formerly of Marysville, then serving on the supreme bench, delivered a lengthy decision in which he declared that the diseño and petition prepared by Bidwell and Flugge presented the clearest of all the Mexican land claims which he had encountered in the several courts in which he had served.

The Boga Grant - continued

Thomas O. Larkin died in 1858 while the Boga claim was yet unsettled. He had provided in his will that his wife was to receive one third of his estate, and that his four sons and one daughter were to share equally the remaining two thirds. Very soon after the patent was issued in 1865, the mother sold her one third interest in Boga to the five children for \$3000.00, thereby giving them each a one fifth interest in the tract. Later, a brother sold to the other four children his one fifth for \$5000.00, leaving them each with a one fourth interest. And so the selling and buying continued until 1869 when one of the brothers, Frank R. Larkin, owned what remained of the entire grant which had been surveyed to contain 22,184 acres.

The brothers and sister had begun selling family sized farms in 1865 and by 1870 had disposed of nearly all of that portion of Boga within Sutter county, about 9,000 acres. Strangely, they sold off the poorest land first in small lots of 80 to 320 acres retaining the choicest in one piece which was one of the last to be sold.

On a map of Sutter county it will be noted that Pennington Road and Larkin Road intersect near the center of the city of Live Oak. The two roads divide the Sutter county portion of Boga into four quadrants, not equal, but convenient for reference. With some exceptions, those farms north of Pennington and east of Larkin brought two dollars per acre. Some of the land north of Pennington and west of Larkin sold for one dollar per acre; while that south of Pennington and west of Larkin brought one dollar and fifty cents. The fourth quadrant, that south of Pennington and east of Larkin, is the one held in one parcel which will be discussed more in detail later.

A list of these first purchasers (not classing the Larkins as purchasers) would include Mould, Gentry, Manaugh, McGrew, Campbell, Cole, Robbins, Galbreath, Holliday, Garber, Myers, Woodruff, Gun, Blodgett, Helmer, Sapp, McAuslin, Yalton, Cooley, McCarty, Bihlman, Ryan, Clark, Metteer and possibly a few others. But relatively few of them are yet to be found in the county.

Most of the fourth quadrant as described above (south of Pennington and east of Larkin) was sold in 1870 to Jesse O. Goodwin of Marysville. He paid Frank R. Larkin, the sole owner at the time, \$7500.00 for 3,000 acres - at the rate of two dollars and fifty cents per acre. At this time this was the highest price received, although two years later Metteer paid four dollars for some land on Pennington Road near the river, and Ryan paid nine dollars for a piece south of Clark Road near the river. The other purchases are too numerous to consider individually here, but it will be of interest to trace this largest acreage during the years from 1870 to 1881 paying particular attention to the value which the land acquired during the period.

In 1872, Goodwin was able to sell 200 acres to Valentine Witt for \$2800; and the following year he donated to the Central Pacific Railroad about 50 acres for right-of-way. With these exceptions the original purchase was kept intact.

During the period from 1873 to 1877, Goodwin gave a trust deed to the Sacramento Savings Bank to secure loans which were at times as high as \$16000. Then by giving a mortgage he was able to get a loan of \$25,000 from Samuel Davis. But this debt of \$25,000 from Samuel Davis at 12% compound interest was too great a burden for Goodwin to carry. His financial affairs were hopelessly involved,

The Boga Grant - continued

and his health was failing while he was serving as state senator for Sutter and Yuba counties. Furthermore, even at the age of sixty-two he was involved in a romance.

For many years Goodwin had been engaged to marry a talented woman of San Francisco (an opera singer) named Mary Wadsworth. They planned to marry during the summer of 1879, and evidently, with a premonition of difficulty he deeded to her the 2750 acres of Boga land. They were married in July and ten days later he died of a cerebral hemorrhage.

Mrs. Goodwin had trouble getting the estate probated. Other members of the Goodwin family contested her right to inherit by charging her with undue influence over her husband before the marriage, pointing out that he had suffered a stroke a few months before the marriage and was incompetent and in her care some of the time. But the Boga land was her property by deed and was not contingent upon the probate proceedings.

Evidently the widow supposed that she could evade the mortgage and debt owed to Davis by disposing of the property because in 1881 she deeded the Boga holdings to Warren Green for the nominal sum of five dollars. But in the meantime, Davis had foreclosed, and judgment was given in the Superior Co of Sutter County, the sheriff being ordered to sell the property.

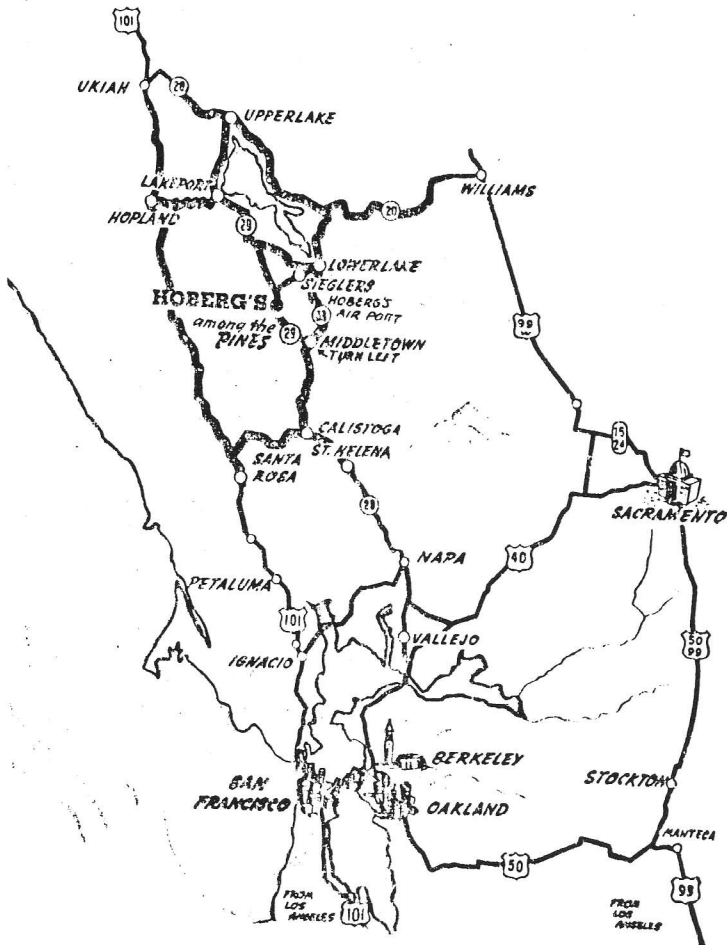
The original debt of \$25,000., plus interest and fees, amounted to \$44,141. By order of the court on June 21, 1881, the sheriff put the Bog acreage up at auction, and it was bid in for \$46,477.00 and sold to Henry, Frederick, and Herman Berg, who were given a deed by Sheriff Harkey, March 25, 1882. As can be seen a little over two thousand dollars was left for the widow.

The Bergs got about 2,750 acres for the \$46,477; so the price was about seventeen dollars per acre in 1881. When Flugge sold it to Larkin in 1847, the price was about thirteen cents.

There is another phase of this land history which is interesting and which is commonly known, but about which it is very difficult to secure specific information. This is the activity and presence of the so called squatters who were on the Boga land at the time that the Larkin family received the patent in 1865. Very likely some of the purchasers were squatters who where willing to pay the Larkins for the land if the price was equal to or not too much above the prevailing government rate of one dollar and twenty-five cents per acre. This guess is supported by the fact already noted that much of the acreage was sold at prices ranging from one dollar to two dollars. It is very difficult to find exact accounts of preemptor contests; but perhaps this is fortunate. We might trace some of our substantial and respected families back to squatter status.

Sources: The personal history of Flugge comes largely from the writings of Sutter, Larkin and Cordua and from a few scattered and brief references from other accounts of the forties. The legal contest for location and title of the Boga and Fernandez grants is to be found in decisions of the federal court available in law libraries. But the principal source of this land history is to be found in the Hall of Records of Sutter and Butte counties. The documents recorded in Butte county were made easily available through the assistance of Mr. Thomas Gianella of Marysville and the courtesy of Mr. Steadman of the Ord Ranch near Gridley. All of these documents are contained in a monumental transcript made in 1920 and now in possession of the Steadman family, owners of part of the disputed league discussed in this paper.

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Program . . .

THURSDAY, JUNE 26

HISTORICAL DISPLAY —
Lake County Museum and Lake County Fairgrounds
Lakeport

AT HOBERG'S:

7:00 p.m.—Display and Discussion on Lake County Indians' way of living.

8:00 p.m.—Board of Directors Meeting.

FRIDAY, JUNE 27

President Harold Schutt, Presiding

9:00-9:15 a.m. —

Greetings — L. D. Kirkpatrick, Chairman of the Board of Supervisors, Lake County

Announcements — L. Burr Belden, Chairman of the Program Committee

Henry Mauldin, Chairman of the Local Arrangements Committee

R. Coke Wood, Executive Secretary

9:15-11:45 — Bert Moore, San Diego, presiding

Emigrant Trails to California —

Ardis Walker, Bakersfield:
"Walker's Pass"

R. Coke Wood, Stockton:
"Middle Trails Over the Sierra"

Hector Lee, Chico:
"Northern Trails"

12:15 — Luncheon

Clyde Arbuckle, Vice-President, San Jose, presiding
State Senator Swift Beery, Placerville:
"Establishing Historical Markers"

1:30-3:30 —

Allan Ottley, State Library, Sacramento, presiding
Series of Reports on Research Facilities of California Libraries and Museums

3:30-5:30 —

Boat Ride on Clear Lake, Henry Mauldin in charge

5:30-6:30 — Hospitality Hour

6:30 — Barbecue Dinner

L. Burr Belden, San Bernardino, presiding
Entertainment by local residents

Arthur Woodward, Los Angeles:
"Mountain Men Who Came to California"

SATURDAY, JUNE 28

Dr. Frank M. Stanger, San Mateo, Presiding

9:00-11:00 — Workshop on Historical Society Publications and the Promotion of Legislation

11:00-12:00 — Panel Discussion on Problems of Historical Societies —

Mrs. Tillie Sheatsley, Tuolumne County

Mrs. Helen Foulke, Siskiyou County

Don Chase, Del Norte County

12:15 — Luncheon

Ben Dixon, Chairman of the Overland Mail Centennial, San Diego, presiding.

Waddell Smith, Chairman of the Pony Express Centennial: "Overland Mail Centennial"

1:00-4:00 — Business Meeting

President Harold Schutt, presiding

Closing Remarks by President Emeritus Rockwell D. Hunt