

SUTTER COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

NEWS BULLETIN

\$1.00

COMMUNITY MEMORIAL MUSEUM
1333 Butte House Road
P. O. Box 1555
Yuba City, CA 95991

VOL XVIII, NO 1

YUBA CITY, CALIFORNIA 95991

JANUARY, 1979



The Marysville Appeal
MARYSVILLE, CALIFORNIA, TUESDAY MORNING, OCTOBER 11, 1921—EIGHT PAGES
NO. 51

DRY ORDINANCE IS ADOPTED

UTAH'S BUNTS LOSE TO GIANTS
HO LOSE TO

Richards Makes Record on Golf Course at Chico

ROBBERS HOLD UP G.W. BRODAHL IN PRIVATE GARAGE

FRANK BACON IS SOON RETURNING TO CALIFORNIA

Hightower Denies Participation in Heslin's Murder

CITY COUNCIL PROVIDES WAY TO RID CITY OF BOOTLEGGERS

Dry Ordinance Ordered Drawn For Marysville

Upon recognition of reports that flagrant violations of the prohibition laws are apparent in Marysville, the mayor and city council last night instructed City Attorney W. P. Rich to draw up an ordinance, under the provisions of which means of enforcement will be in the hands of the city authorities.

The action of the council follows a plea by Councilman [name] for [reason].

SUTTER COUNTY HAPPENINGS

YER MAYBE A PIGGER

YUBA CITY PERSONAL

IN THIS ISSUE ---- Early Days Of Prohibition By Eugene Gray
RECOLLECTIONS Of Early Rice Harvesting By G.A. Gibbons

SUTTER COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
NEWS BULLETIN

Vol. XVIII, No. 1

January, 1979

OFFICERS OF THE SOCIETY

Mrs. Thomas E. Nason, President
Donald E. Beilby, Vice President

Mrs. John W. Cary, Secretary
Mrs. C. W. Rankin, Treasurer

DIRECTORS

Mrs. Dick Brandt
Donald Beilby
Mrs. Ida Doty
Mrs. Walter Ettl
Mrs. John Cary

John Heenan
William Greene, Jr.
Mrs. David Lamon
Mrs. C. W. Rankin
Mrs. Claire Stevenson

NEWS BULLETIN EDITORIAL STAFF

William Dawson, Chairman
Jessica Bird
Winifred Greene
Earl Ramey
Lonnie Wheeler, Lithographer
Alice Dawson, Secretary

Helen Schepman
Randolph Schnabel
Avis Strawnun
Sarah Swinney
Carol Withington
Peggy S. Meyer, Typist

The NEWS BULLETIN is published quarterly by the Society at Yuba City, CA 95991. The annual membership dues includes receiving the NEWS BULLETIN. JANUARY 1979 dues are payable now. Your remittance should be sent to Sutter County Historical Society, P. O. Box 1004, Yuba City, California 95991. To insure delivery of your NEWS BULLETIN please notify the Treasurer of any change of address. Dues are \$7.50 per person, \$10.00 per family, \$ 5.00 if over 70 years.

The NEWS BULLETIN is not copyrighted. Use of the material is invited, unless copyrighted by others. Mention of the source will be appreciated.

An index and file of all the past issues of the NEWS BULLETIN may be found in the Sutter County Library and in the Marysville City-County Library.

NOTE: THE APRIL ISSUE WILL INCLUDE AN ARTICLE BY H. W. HOFFMAN ON STEAMSHIPS AND EARLY RIVER TRAFFIC AND RECOLLECTIONS OF EARLY GERMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH BY HOWARD KING.



HOWARD HAIN HARTER

Howard Hain Harter, 84, a lifetime resident of Sutter and Yuba counties, died November 4, 1978 at his home, 1510 Honor Oak Lane, Yuba City, following an illness of several months. He was a son of Sutter County pioneers, Clyde B. and Flora Hain Harter. He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Norma Dolores Petro Harter ; a daughter, Mrs. Norman Piner of Yuba City; three grandchildren; a brother, Dr. Gordon H. Harter of Modesto and a sister, Mrs. Ruth Hudson of Walnut Creek.

Funeral services were conducted in the Marysville First Presbyterian church, of which he had long been an active member. Interment was in the Sutter Cemetery.

During his long-continued membership in the Sutter County Historical Society he served actively in various capacities. Mr. and Mrs. Harter not only donated the site for the Sutter County Community memorial museum in the vicinity of their home, but provided a substantial sum to erect the structure.

He was widely known as a civic leader and formerly was a councilman of Yuba City, with several terms as mayor. He was a veteran of the Marine Corps in World War 1. He was affiliated with numerous fraternal, industrial and business organizations and was the retired president of the widely-known Harter Packing Co. Since his youth he had been an agriculturist, specializing in fruit growing and developed a canning peach which he named for his daughter, Loadel.

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Welcome to the Sutter County Historical Society. Nineteen Seventy-eight has completed its course, and various changes begin with seventy-nine. Prior to the New Year, the Board received a large response to our necessary request for a change in the cost of our dues. Whether your vote was Yes or No (and the "No" votes were extremely limited), I had the distinct feeling that the future of our Historical Society is very strong. On some occasions, we received the 1979 membership fees in advance, and some of these had an extra contribution also included. My confidence in the success of the Society has been renewed and enlarged. Thank you all.

During the past year, the speakers we have had have been very impressive and our Vice-President, Don Beilby of Rio Oso, has been responsible for this. Our October gathering was addressed by Walt Anderson of Colusa, artist and naturalist, on the varied features of the Sutter Buttes. Mr. Anderson is the director of the West Butte Sanctuary Company, which operates a gallery in Colusa, and conducts research trips to the Buttes and along the Sacramento River, for persons interested in natural history.

Our January meeting will include the report of the Nominating Committee, and the selection of a new Board. The Board will then meet, before the April meeting, and choose the officers for the next two years.

As I prepare this message for you, it is November 8, and the plans for the January 16 meeting are not complete. However, they are developing. Look in the newspapers during the week of January 8, and watch for another interesting and entertaining meeting. Perhaps you will be able to join us. Will each of you who usually attend bring an extra face to our next meeting? That will be the perfect way for 1979 to begin!

Indra Nason
President

Marysville Appeal, July 26, 1914.

Supervisors Will Repair County Jail.

Yuba City, July 25. -- As the result of the escape of John Ferrera from the county jail yesterday, the supervisors will take action at their next meeting toward having the place made more secure. The old jail which once served the needs of the county has weakened, and the top over the jail yard is not secure enough to prohibit a prisoner, aided by outside confederates, from escaping, despite the vigilance of the officers.

Continued July 28 -

In report of Meeting of Supervisors "The county jail also will be considered, as some steps must be taken by the county if it desires to keep a prisoner after the Sheriff's Office has arrested him. To make the jail secure from escapes an iron screen must be placed over the prison wall."

COMMUNITY MEMORIAL MUSEUM NOTES
Jean Gustin, Curator

The care and preservation of items made of paper is a universal problem. We all have paper items -- prints, photos, books, documents, newspapers -- that we want to preserve. The few non-technical hints that follow are from reference material on paper conservation in the museum library.

Paper should be stored where there is as little fluctuation in relative humidity as possible. A constant 30 per cent R.H. is considered ideal. Dampness leads to mold growth, weakening of adhesives, water stains, blurring of inks, and expansion in size of the paper. Dryness and heat cause brittleness. Exposure to light, especially sunlight and fluorescent light, (both high in ultraviolet rays) cause fading and brittleness. Protect paper from soot and dirt which cause primary stains and which encourages micro-organisms, insects, and mice -- these causing additional damage.

Documents of all kinds, including newspapers, should be stored flat and unfolded as paper tends to discolor and crack along folds. Ordinary "Manila" type folders or envelopes should not be used to store valuable papers because their high acid content deteriorates paper. A "barrier" of acid-free paper can be used for protection, or special storage envelopes or cases can be purchased or made.

Pressure sensitive tapes (as "Scotch" brand types, plastic tape, or masking tape) should not be used in the repair of important papers. Without exception they shrink, dry, discolor, and permanently stain paper. For mending, where it must be done, a special paper adhesive mending tape can be used. Be careful also of pastes and glues. Some are acidic and cause paper deterioration; rubber cement permanently stains. Remove all staples, pins, paperclips, and metal fasteners from documents. They cause rust stains, tears, and impressions in the paper.

Check the backings of all prints, photographs, and watercolors. If any are backed with wood or corrugated cardboard, remove this and replace it with acid-free board or 100 per cent pure rag board. The acid in wood or in cheaply made paper boards migrates directly into the paper it contacts and causes stains and brittleness. Permanently stained into the paper of many old framed documents can be seen the impression of the knots and of the grain in the wood used for backing.

Do not mount paper directly against glass. A mat of acid-free board should be used to prevent spotting in the event of condensation of moisture within the glass.

These preventative maintenance tips should avoid the need for later drastic repair jobs. Where paper has been damaged by carelessness in handling in the past, there are some corrective measures

that are easily accomplished -- others that require the abilities of a professional paper conservator. More technical information on paper care and repair, and on that of items made of other kinds of materials, is available at the museum and may be used by the public. The museum will be happy to help where it can with information on the conservation, care, and repair of items that you own.

LIST OF DONORS TO THE COMMUNITY MEMORIAL MUSEUM TRUST FUND
THROUGH OCTOBER 31, 1978 -- Contd from October, 1978 Bulletin

Mr. & Mrs. W. A. Greene, Jr.	in memory of George Scholz
Mr. & Mrs. C. A. Mills	in memory of Jessica Wadsworth
Mr. & Mrs. Randolph E. Schnabel	in memory of Jessica Wadsworth
Howard & Norma Harter	in memory of Frances McDougal
Evelyn Nims	in memory of Lucille Purenton
Helen & Pat Burk	in memory of Frances McDougal
Caroline S. Ringler	in memory of Harry Hutchinson
Mr. & Mrs. Frank W. Welter	in memory of Harry Hutchinson
Mr. & Mrs. Dick Brandt	in memory of Betty L. Brandt
Jean Gustin	in memory of Leonard J. Harter
	in memory of Myrtle Garcia
Howard & Norma Harter	in memory of Myrtle Lillian Garcia
	in memory of Leonard J. Harter
Caroline S. Ringler	in memory of Leonard J. Harter
Mr. & Mrs. James E. Hall	in memory of Myrtle Garcia
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Davis	in memory of Leonard J. Harter
Stella & Roy Anderson	in memory of Lucille Purinton
Mr. & Mrs. Leonard C. Wadsworth	in memory of Harry Edwin Hutchinson
	in memory of Doris Loraine Tribe
Gordon & Hazel Sterud	in memory of Gertrude Moen
Mr. & Mrs. George Briick	in memory of Leonard Harter
Mr. & Mrs. Yutaka Nakatani	in memory of Leonard Harter
Mr. & Mrs. John K. Winger	in memory of Leonard Harter
Roy & Stella Anderson	in memory of Leonard Harter
Mr. & Mrs. W. A. Greene, Jr.	in memory of Leonard Harter
Verna Sexton	in memory of Leonard Harter
Mr. & Mrs. Leroy Davis	in memory of Leonard Harter
Mr. & Mrs. U. E. Frye	in memory of Leonard Harter
Mr. & Mrs. Lawrence G. Harris	in memory of Leonard Harter
Minnie & Gordon Raub	in memory of Leonard Harter
Mr. & Mrs. Paul H. Maag	in memory of Leonard Harter
Yuba City Refrigerating Co.	in memory of Leonard Harter
Tom & Jolyne Williams	in memory of Leonard Harter
Roy & Estelle Welch	in memory of Leonard Harter
Elsie Walton	in memory of Leonard Harter
F. J. Gilpatric & Sons, Inc.	in memory of Leonard Harter
Mr. & Mrs. Robert L. Aston	in memory of Leonard Harter
Bachan S. Teja	in memory of Leonard Harter
The G. W. Fryes	in memory of Leonard Harter
Mr. & Mrs. Ray E. Anderson	in memory of Leonard Harter
Grace M. Rutledge	in memory of Leonard Harter

Mr. & Mrs. Elwyn E. Watkins
Mr. & Mrs. Ernest Meyer
Harriett C. Harter
Edwina Robbins
Mr. & Mrs. Tom Nason
Mr. & Mrs. David Amarel & Family
Mr. & Mrs. Joe Alexander
Gladys Estep
Edna B. Pelton
Fidelia Chapter #56 O.E.S.
Spoto Nursery
Hansel Harter
Belle Dahlgren
Olive Sweetland Page
Art & Nancy Bristow
Mr. & Mrs. Frank Gilpatric
Mr. & Mrs. J. K. Roberts
Mrs. Robert C. Hall
Mr. & Mrs. George Lathrop
Mr. & Mrs. Tom Teesdale
Mr. & Mrs. Renzo Del Pero
Dr. & Mrs. Francis P. Wisner
Mr. & Mrs. Lonny Renfrow
Mr. & Mrs. Lonny Renfrow
Mr. & Mrs. Burwell Ullrey
Annabelle Martin
Wilhelmina Boughton
Mary Mulvany
Mr. & Mrs. George R. Post
Freda Parker
Mr. & Mrs. Robert T. Coats
Cecilia Gilpatric
Kenneth & Juanita Gordon
Mr. & Mrs. Gene Morrison
Mr. & Mrs. W. R. Dawson
Mr. & Mrs. Grady Lamon
Mr. & Mrs. Tom Crowhurst
Mrs. Emma Perkins & Esther Spoor
Howard Dryer Co.
Larry's Business Machines, Inc.
Mrs. Grace Ruth
Elmer C. & Lela Smith
Ruth & Bill Hudson
Rosemary Redhair
Bee & Dick Brandt
Mr. & Mrs. James M. McElroy, Sr.
Freda & John Monnot
Florence & Earl Ramey
George Bihlman

Norman & Loadel Piner

in memory of Leonard Harter
in memory of Leonard Harter
in memory of Leonard Harter
in memory of Leonard Harter
in memory of Leonard Harter
in memory of Leonard Harter
in memory of Leonard Harter
in memory of Leonard Harter
in memory of Leonard Harter
in memory of Leonard Harter
in memory of Leonard Harter
in memory of Leonard Harter
in memory of Leonard Harter
in memory of Leonard Harter
in memory of Leonard Harter
in memory of Leonard Harter
in memory of Leonard Harter
in memory of Leonard Harter
in memory of Leonard Harter
in memory of Leonard Harter
in memory of Myrtle Garcia
in memory of Curtis Wessel
in memory of Leonard Harter
in memory of Leonard Harter
in memory of Leonard Harter
in memory of Leonard Harter
in memory of Leonard Harter
in memory of Leonard Harter
in memory of Leonard Harter
in memory of Leonard Harter
in memory of Leonard Harter
in memory of Andrew Gust
in memory of Leonard Harter
in memory of Leonard Harter
in memory of Leonard Harter
in memory of Leonard Harter
in memory of Leonard Harter
in memory of Bessie Triplett
in memory of Leonard Harter
in memory of Leonard Harter
in memory of Leonard Harter
in memory of Leonard Harter
in memory of Phillip Chubb
in memory of Leonard Harter
in memory of Frances McDougal
in memory of Irene Bihlman
in memory of Vincent Vanderford
in memory of John Lindstrum
in memory of Leonard J. Harter

Fred & Joyce Benzel	in memory of Ada Bender
Mr. & Mrs. Chris D. Bergtholdt	in memory of Leonard Harter
Mr. & Mrs. James B. Gentry & Blythe	in memory of Olga R. Stanton
Florence Ramey	in memory of Irene Bihlman
Mr. & Mrs. Joe Alexander	in memory of Louis Sims
Edwina R. Robbins	in memory of Jeanne Forbes Carter
Frieda Dedeker	in memory of Leonard Harter
Howard & Norma Harter	in honor of Maude King Roberts on her 90th birthday
Tierra Buena Womens Club	outright gift

SUTTERANA

The Bodega Purchase.

The San Francisco Telegram publishes a bill of sale made by the Russian Company to Captain Sutter which conveys to him all the property of the company at Bodega, Sonoma County excepting the land on which the town is situated. This land is now claimed by Mr. Muldrow, who purchased it of Captain Sutter; but this bill does not show that the land was sold to Sutter. The price agreed to be paid for the other property was \$30,000 -- \$5,000 in produce each of the first two years; \$10,000 in produce the third year; and \$10,000 in cash the fourth year. The bill is dated December 13, 1841.

Marysville Appeal, July 15, 1850.

Record Peach Yield.

Yuba City, July 25 -- What is believed to be a record yield occurred on the ranch of John Eseman, well known Sutter County ranch, where 325 peach trees yielded thirty-five tons of fruit. The fruit was sold for \$35 per ton.

Marysville Appeal, July 26, 1914.

RECOLLECTIONS

Early Days in Rice Growing
by G. A. Gibbons

The Gibbons family moved from Idaho to Biggs in 1910. Biggs was a farming community with both small and semi-large ranches. West of Biggs was at that time a large expanse of land reaching from Willows to the Marysville Buttes, called the "dobe" (adobe) country. The land was considered worthless and good only for wild geese. It was a black, sticky soil on which they could find nothing that would grow.

During the period of 1910 to 1914 the U. S. Government established an experimental station at Richvale to find out if anything could be grown on this "worthless" soil. They finally found that rice would grow abundantly on it.

The first-year crop on this "dobe" soil would yield about 100 sacks of 100 pounds each to the acre. The yield of the second year would be about 60 sacks and that of the third year from 20 to 30 sacks. At that time the farmers would let the soil rest for a year or more after the third crop. Today with chemical fertilizers a good yield can be produced each year.

Harvesting rice in those first days was a real problem. The cutting was done by plain old binders. These binders were pulled on sleds through the sticky, muddy fields by four-horse teams or by tractors. On each binding machine was a small gas engine (usually a CUSHMAN or BRIGGS). These auxiliary engines drove the sickle and belt-line. There were no wide-tracked tractors to pull combined harvesters such as exist today.

The bundles of rice were kicked to the ground and then picked

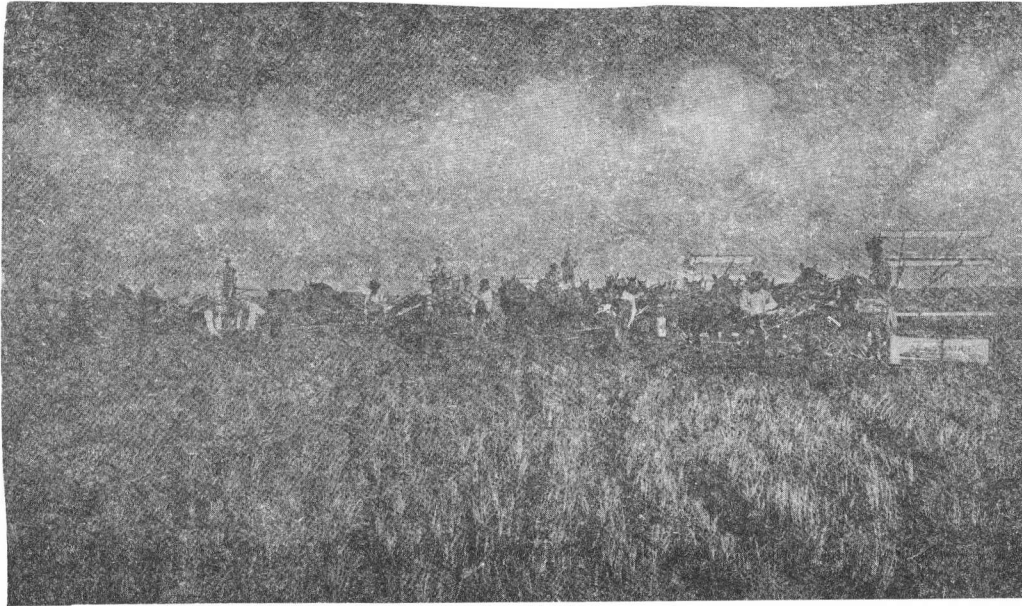
up by the wagons which hauled them to a given location where they were placed in round stacks to await the thresher. The threshing machines were like those used in the large grain fields. They were powered by a steam engine or a stationary gas engine. The Caterpillar and the combine were just around the corner.

Growing rice was anything but a sure bet. Sometimes the early winds and rains would knock the heavy-headed stalks down before they could be harvested. Nothing yet had been invented to save them after they had fallen. Usually the rice farmer fell with them.

Mr. Otto Oldham, graduate of University of California School of Pharmacy and retired owner of several drug stores in Oakland and San Rafael was born and raised near Chico, He adds the following comments:

About 1919 rice was being grown for the first time near Chico and Butte City. There was plenty of irrigation water available, and the land was reasonably flat. The variety of rice grown at first was a late maturing kind, and much of it was lost in the early fall rains until an earlier maturing variety was hybridized at the U. C. Davis farm school. Also, improved drainage practices reduced the loss.

During the depression years of the 1930's many of the old binders were abandoned. We Oldham brothers bought some of the Briggs-Stratton engines which we cleaned and put in running order. We then sold them to the gold miners who used them to operate their rockers and cradles in their claims on the Yuba, Feather and Trinity rivers.



Courtesy Marysville Library

Horse drawn binders about 1915 – 1920. After the rice was cut and bound it was dried until it was ready to thresh. The bundles of rice were hauled by wagons to a stationary harvester where the grain was threshed and put in sacks and hauled to the warehouse.

The weather at harvest time was the big problem for the early rice growers in the area as they had to rely on drying weather to get the crop in.

The first rice drier in Sutter County was built by C. M. Cerati at East Nicolaus about 1918.

THE AUTHOR

Glenn A. Gibbons was born in Nez Perce, Idaho in 1899. When he was eleven years old his family moved to Biggs, California, where he attended school several years. He eventually graduated from Marysville High School, class of 1918. After a short stint in the Navy, he attended the University of California at Berkeley and received his A. B. degree in 1926. He then joined the Commercial Credit Company, a consumer finance organization. For several years he and his wife, Sally, were sent to various parts of the United States and to Madrid, Spain. Finally they settled in Oregon and bought their own business in 1952, which they sold in 1977.

After nearly 40 years away from the Bay Area, they moved to Rossmoor, near Walnut Creek, California where they now reside.

Otto Oldham was born in Afton around the turn of the century and raised in Chico. He attended the U. C. School of Pharmacy, graduating in 1924. He worked as a pharmacist in various places before owning his own stores in San Rafael and Oakland. He retired in 1973 and moved to Golden Rain Road, Walnut Creek, California.

Marysville Appeal, December 9, 1915.

U. S. Department of Agriculture Sends Query.

Yuba City, December 8. -- The U. S. Department of Agriculture has become keenly interested in the results obtained from the growing of the Phillips cling variety of peach, and has now sent inquiries

(cont. p. II)

here to obtain information as to the origin of this kind of fruit and the name of the first propagator of it. Pictures and records concerning the Phillips cling peach will now be sent immediately to Washington, D. C. by County Horticultural Commissioner H. P. Stabler to whom the query was sent.

The Phillips variety of peach was first discovered by Joseph Phillips of this County in the early eighties and was propagated by J. T. Bogue after whom the town of Bogue is now named.

Phillips was born in Scotland October 21, 1830, but came to America when a youth and migrated to California in quest of gold. Turning his attention from gold to agriculture he sought to raise grain, but found more profit in the growing of fruit. It was while experimenting with varieties of peaches that he succeeded in discovering a peach which surpassed all others for preserving purposes and he was honored by having it named after him. He died in Marysville October 24, 1906, after having succeeded in spreading the fame of his peach from one end of the country to the other.

The Phillips cling peach is now universally sought by cannery associations and companies in preference to other varieties.

Marysville Appeal, October 31, 1860.

Windy. -- Not the political orators, but the weather, was very very windy yesterday. Ladies dared not venture out, as we conclude from their scarcity on the street. Windy days and crinoline are not harmonious.

LOOKING BACK ON DAYS OF PROHIBITION

By Eugene L. Gray

It has been suggested that I write briefly of such happenings of the Prohibition era as may have stuck in my memory. The suggestion did not specify any particular city or county; so I can start where my memory leads me.

My first encounter was at a very early age. I was working as a rodman for the Hannah Ore Mining Company at some of their properties in northern Minnesota. Mining operations had been going on peacefully for many years. Then the Sioux and the Chippewas got to arguing about who owned the land and in any event where was the boundary. They could not agree, so they put it up to the "great White Father" in Washington.

He told them, "You're both wrong. That land is mine, but you can stay on it as long as you behave yourselves and don't let anyone sell no liquor there because that's against the law in Indian territory." Nobody took it very seriously at first and things went on pretty much as they had before. Our engineering crew used to stop at a saloon in Buhl. Marcus would set the transit head on the bar and we would have a few beers.

But then came the word from President Wilson. We were in the war to end all wars and we had to shape up. He gave the saloonkeepers just thirty days to get rid of their stock and go out of business.

Well, we all pitched in and helped. The proprietors got a lot of old boards and built additional bars along the other side of the room and they all stayed open all night. The war was on and everybody had to do his best. And so we did, working at it

until the last minute of the last day, at which time we had made serious inroads into the merchandise and were a little the worse for wear.

I had to get back to the Shenango Location and it was snowing hard. As I recall it, I got stuck in a drift and might have been there yet if Ray D. Nolan had not pulled me out. He was my boss, and was later the director of Natural Resources for the State of Minnesota. I got a letter from him about five years ago. I answered it, but have heard nothing from or of him since. He was a good man.

In California things were different. There was an item in the Democrat in January 1922 - "Officers raid Cliff House Bar." The signs had read "Last Chance," and "First Chance" -- an appeal to travelers crossing the Feather from either direction.

Of the two towns Yuba City was the more law-abiding, with the judicial and police officials taking Prohibition seriously. For a while they even had local option. I can remember only a few places in Sutter County where liquor was sold. The Cotton Club stands out. Taking full advantage of the palms and the lush and beautiful vegetation, it provided a place to dine, dance and drink for the discriminating.

On the other side of the river there was less discrimination and one could buy a drink almost any place. One of the most popular resorts was said to be located just across the street from the police station.

In the Appeal of January 1, 1921, Chief of Police Smith reported that he suspected a leak. "When the officers get there,

the booze is gone. Some of the bartenders keep it in a pitcher so they can dump it before the officers get to it." However, this was not always the case. The paper for July 6, 1921, reported, "Officer Allread with the spryness of a cat sprang over the bar and seized the evidence;" and it is to be presumed that the culprit was suitably punished.

It should not be implied that liquor laws were broken only on the east bank. There were scoff-laws on the west bank and the main channel of the Feather as well. "Blind Pigger is again in the hands of Law. W. H. Prather must again answer charges of selling liquor from his houseboat", read the headlines. And further that "on several occasions he has been in the toils of the law for 'blind pigging' both at Knight's Landing and at Sutter City." He admitted the act but claimed that the Feather was a navigable stream and the U. S. rather than the justice of the peace had jurisdiction. The judge did not buy it. So he paid his fine, although he probably "had something."

The situation was confused. The 18th Amendment was ratified on January 20, 1919 and became effective a year later. It was a federal law which did not directly affect the states nor require them to enforce it. So far as law enforcement went it was not certain who could arrest whom -- nor for what. So enforcement was left to the "feds." But they were always arresting the wrong people -- paying no attention to who was the culprits - uncle, cousin or girlfriend. You would not believe the financial and social leaders who were roped by the Volstead cowboys. It appeared that home rule should be restored. There had been no

city ordinance on the subject, and clearly one was needed. January 22 papers said "council and Chief called before grand jury."

On January 23, 1922 Marysville's "Little Volstead Act" was adopted. Maybe it was too easy. The wets qualified a petition for a referendum. Profuse and purple was the rhetoric of proponents and opponents. Judge McDaniel, Mayor Walter Kynoch, and The Rev. Mackay ran big ads which apparently carried the day, and the proponents won by 814 votes to 646 - and Marysville as well as the rest of the United States was legally dry.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

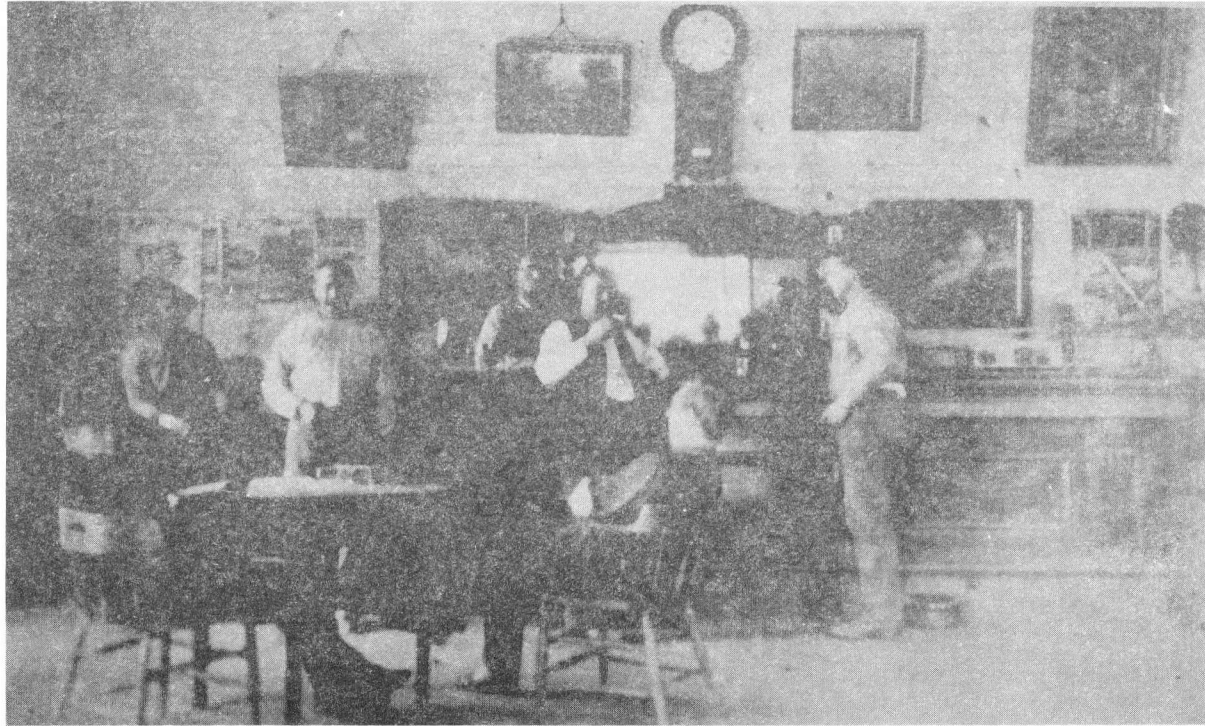
Eugene Lawrence Gray of Marysville, attorney of the Yuba-Sutter area, came to California in 1920, from his native state Wisconsin. He was destined to become prominent in Marysville community events as well as in legal circles.

When he first arrived, Gray was occupied as an accountant with a business firm.

In 1925 he met another young accountant, Miss Helen Boylan, after her arrival from the San Francisco area. They were married that year and have since made their home in the two-county community. Mr. and Mrs. Gray have two sons, Michael of Los Angeles and Christopher of Sacramento. There are nine grandchildren in the family.

In 1927, Gray was secretary for the newly organized Marysville Savings & Loan Association, of which the late Frank Aaron long was president.

It was in 1942 that Gray passed the California Bar examination and began his law practice here. Only recently has he retired from active participation in the legal profession.



Courtesy Community Memorial Museum

This pre – prohibition bar scene, we **believe**, is somewhere in Sutter or Yuba county. We invite our readers to **identify** the bar and the patrons if it is **possible** . The date could be estimated **by the** vests,the shirts without collars, the typical bar – room chairs and the pretty ladies on the wall.

BOOZE STEAMERS OBJECTS FOR HOT FIRE

District Attorney Schilling of
Sutter County Wields the
"Big Stick"

Five Arrests Have Occurred
Along Sacramento River
This Week

District Attorney Lawrence Schilling of Sutter county is waging war on the "blind pigs" which have been operating on the scows and houseboats plying along the Sacramento river. Yesterday four men, George Clotfelter, M. Clotfelter, Will Jaeger and John Doe were arrested on the charge of selling liquor in dry territory. The misdemeanor is alleged to have been committed at Verona, on the Sacramento river, where the men sold liquor from boats on the Sutter county side of the stream.

District Attorney Schilling, who is the first district attorney of Sutter county to have ever successfully put the blind piggers out of active business, stated yesterday that he had had a man employed in detecting the sale of liquor and that he intended to put a stop to its sale in the dry territory of Sutter county.

These men are alleged to have been dispensing liquor from boats regardless of dry territory and that they would anchor to the west shore. The government revenue license which they carry does not permit them to sell liquor even in a dry county and when plying up the east side of the Sacramento river they are in dry territory. The first arrest on a similar charge was made last Wednesday when W. H. Prather was taken into custody.

There has been much complaint regarding the sale of liquor on these boats, which are said to have maintained regular anchoring-places on the Sutter county side. It will be remembered that on the evening of August 2 Jeff Miles was drowned in the river while leaving one of the scows. It is stated that he was under the influence of liquor at the time.

ANTI-SALOON FORCES PLAN THEIR FIGHT

Legion Sounds Death
Of Volstead Act,
Says Britten

WASHINGTON, Sept. 26. —The American Legion's request for a referendum on prohibition brought from the anti-saloon league today a declaration that it is ready to meet the issue at any time.

F. Scott McBride, general superintendent of the league, asserted the Legion's action was "neither an index of public opinion nor an indication of any change in the prohibition situation. It is merely the culmination of years of maneuvering by the organized wets to seek advantage in a wet vote by the American Legion."

Ready Any Time

But as for a referendum, said McBride, "the anti-saloon league will be ready at any time to meet the issue of repeal exactly as it carried the fight for adoption."

The board of strategy of the national conference of organizations supporting the 18th amendment at the same time gave an indication of the intensive campaign it will direct for the election next year of dry congressmen and senators. "Thousands" of speakers will be used, the board said, and "tons" of literature distributed.

"In addition to going directly to the voters in every constituency," an outline of the campaign said, "the board of strategy intends to address itself to the national conventions of the major political parties, insisting that no platform plank shall be adopted which is unfriendly to the 18th amendment or which favors the return of legalized intoxicating beverages."

Repeal to Be Asked

Representative Fred A. Britten, republican, Illinois, announced he would introduce in the next session of congress a bill to repeal the Volstead act.

He said the Legion's vote "sounded the death-knell of the silly Volstead law and the costly 18th amendment and it is now but a matter of time and concentrated organization until the cry for a glass of wholesome beer will be answered in most of the states of the union."

Former Senator Hansbrough, republican, North Dakota, chairman of the league for modification of the Volstead act, predicted that "a nation-wide political upheaval will result from the highly momentous and progressive action of the Legion."

NEWS CLIPPINGS

Sept. 26, 1913, top rt.
Sept. 27, 1931, L.
Sept. 18, 1931, lower

Sunday School Pupils To Be Asked About Al Smith, Bootleggers, Capone

NEW YORK, Sept. 18, (UP)—Sunday school students will give their mental reactions, "pleasing," or "distasteful" to such words as "anti-saloon league, bootlegger, Al Smith, Al Capone, padlock, speak-easy, hard of hope, coast guard, cirrhosis of the liver, personal liberty" and similar expressions in tests sent out by the federal council of churches of Christ in America as an outline course of instruction in the history of the liquor

"Alcohol is a poison."

"Drinking is not a sin."

"The teaching of the Bible is against the drinking of liquor in any form."

"The eighteenth amendment cannot be repealed."

Among other words which the pupils is asked to analyze in accordance with his feeling or agreeable or disagreeable association and he is asked to reflect,

Courtesy Marysville Library
Photos John Leith Lewin

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES

The following family history of the Ricketts-McKeehan family was written by Beatrice Fish McKeehan. Mrs. McKeehan submitted it to the Community Memorial Museum to be included in the museum's notebooks of biographical sketches of museum donors. Other of these brief family histories may be included in future issues of the "Bulletin."

If you have a family history or are interested in writing a history for inclusion in the museum's "Biography Notebooks," please contact Jean Gustin at the museum for information.

RICKETTS-McKEEHAN

James Ricketts married Mary Finch, both born in Virginia. They moved to Cumberland County, Kentucky and were slave owners and released their slaves before the Civil War. The slaves, however, would not stay away but came back. Their son Henry was born in 1822 and he married Rachel Jane Stone also born in 1822. Their daughter Quintilla Belle Ricketts was born in Pleasant Hill, Illinois on March 2, 1863. They came across the prairie, arriving in Sacramento, California on October 12, 1863. They went from there immediately to Franklin, California, having camped by Sutter Fort Ground on their arrival in Sacramento. Henry established a wagon making shop in Franklin. He was greatly disappointed that there were no hardwoods in California and that there was no hardwood industry. He tried to have hardwood shipped around the Horn to him in Sacramento but this did not prove workable. Rachel Jane died in 1899 or 1900. Henry had a freight line till the railroad came through, being wagon maker, ran the shop for many years. Then, when the railroad came through he went to Richland to farm. Henry died in 1909.

Sam McKeehan and Quintilla Ricketts married and Samuel Atwood McKeehan was born in Stockton, California July 24, 1890 in the

Hospital. They lived at the time in Isleton, California, Atwood being so young when Rachel Jane Ricketts passed away, did not remember the stories she told him about the family, and Henry Ricketts only talked about things when asked questions. Guess Atwood took after his Grandfather Ricketts as, unless something important was asked, he too was rather silent.

Three McKeehan Ancestors came over on the Mayflower ship, but passed away without issue the following year. McKeehan "Scotch-Irish Pioneers" in 1682 came to Wilmington, Delaware, thence to Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. John McKeehan, born August 15, 1736, was an officer in the Revolutionary War with General George Washington at Moorestown, the New Jersey encampment. In the winter fighting he lived in one of the officer's cabins while General Washington was living at the Ford home, where extras in kitchen, office and bedroom were built onto the house to be Washington's Headquarters while he was there. John McKeehan passed away February 1783. He had 300 acres of land at Newville, West Pennsboro Township, Cumberland County, Pennsylvania, having owned this since 1765. He was considered a large landowner, as 100 acres in that country is a large acreage.

William Alexander McKeehan was born December 10, 1825. He left Harrisburg, Pennsylvania for California in August, 1848 by way of Philadelphia, a ship to Colon, walking across the Isthmus of Panama, and then taking ship to San Francisco, arriving in 1849. He went to Sacramento, California and then to the mines at Allegheny Town and married Flora Allen. Sam McKeehan was born February 12, 1863. He married Quintilla Belle Ricketts and

S. Atwood McKeehan was born July 24, 1890 in the Stockton Hospital. They lived on a farm on Grand Island, a ranch owned by Joseph Green at first. S. Atwood McKeehan went to Jefferson School, in Yolo County, then school at Onisbo in Sacramento County and then to the California School of Mechanical Arts in San Francisco. From Isleton, the family moved to Diamond "G" Ranch for five years, to Merit Island Ranching for five years, then to Borden, California for six years. Atwood was at school in San Francisco during the 1906 Earthquake. He came to Sutter County in 1909 on the Meridian Ranch. He met and married Lorraine Wessing of Nicholas in 1919 and their daughter Virginia was born to that marriage.

He was appointed to the Secretary of Agriculture's Advisory committee in Washington, D. C. and served from 1946 to 1959. He put managers on the ranch when the appointment was made. The ranch yielded all field crops: wheat, barley, safflower, baby-lima beans, milo, rice, all for seed crops for the University of California at Davis. He was Farmer of the Year for California in 1957. He talked before Congress as long as four hours, and in one hour question and answer session without notes, no question was asked that he could not answer. He helped organize the California Farm Bureau on his own money and, with Fred Tarke, did bean research in California.

He was interested in travel, walking, reading, swimming and dancing.

Lorraine Wessing McKeehan passed away August 22, 1967 and, a year later, he married Beatrice Fish. Atwood passed away

April 4, 1977 on shipboard (which he felt was more like home than any other way of travel) on the M. S. Kungsholm after seeing how the Suez Canal had been opened and shored up like the Sacramento River has been done by the State Engineers around Meridian, where he had his ranch. The Meridian ranch was sold January 5, 1976 to Angelo Giusti of Robbins, California. He had wanted to be on the first Cruise Ship to go through the Canal after its opening after the War.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Information herein from Word of Mouth of S. Atwood McKeehan.

William, McKeehan & Allied Families by Bessie P. Douglas, Augsburg Press, Minneapolis, Minn. 1928.

Thomas Sath Porch and Martha Ann Ricketts, compiled by Maude Davis Strange, published October, 1967.

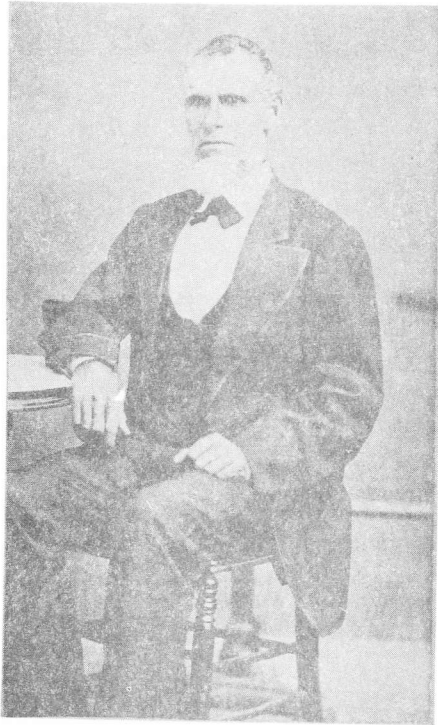
* * * * *

Appeal, November 1, 1860.

Ad quoted from an eastern paper:

A card to the Ladies

Bonnets may be bought without money at Mrs. Dickson's. She has got on hand a new stock of Summer Bonnets and Shawls which she will sell at cost price, and take butter and eggs in pay for them.



HENRY RICKETTS



QUINTELLE BELLE RICKETTS



RACHEL JANE STONE RICKETTS

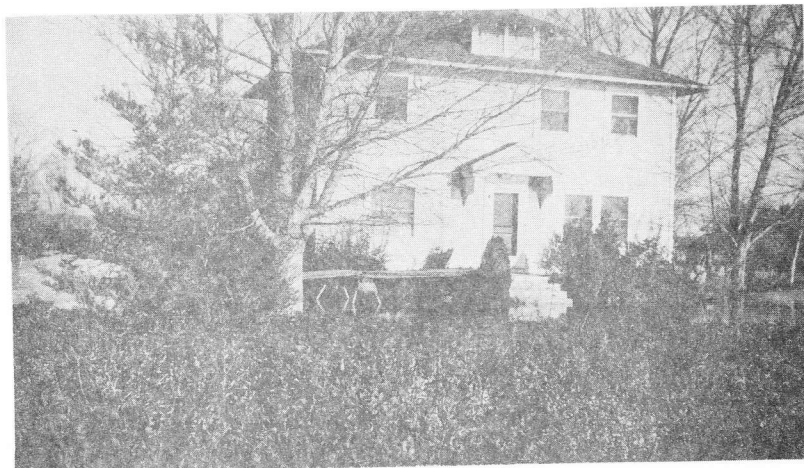
Courtesy Community Memorial Museum



LORRAINE WESSING MCKEEHAN



SAM & QUINTELLE BELLE RICKETTS MCKEEHAN
50th Wedding Anniversary



MCKEEHAN RANCH HOUSE - MERIDIAN

SUTTER COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP FOR 1979

* * * * *

* TO: Mrs. Wanda Rankin, Treasurer *
* Sutter County Historical Society *
* P. O. Box 1004 *
* Yuba City, California 95991 *

*
* _____ Please renew my/our membership for 1979. *
* _____ Please enroll me as a member for 1979. *
* _____ Enclosed is my/our check for *
* \$100 for a life membership *
* \$ 10 for our firm/lodge/club membership. *
* \$ 10 for our family membership. *
* \$7.50 for my single membership/library/school. *
* \$5.00 for members over 70 years of age. *
* No charge if 90 years of age and born in Sutter *
* County. *

*
* Signed _____ *
* Firm/lodge/club/school _____ *
* Address _____ *
* City _____ *
* State _____ Zip _____ *

* * * * *