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SUTTER COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

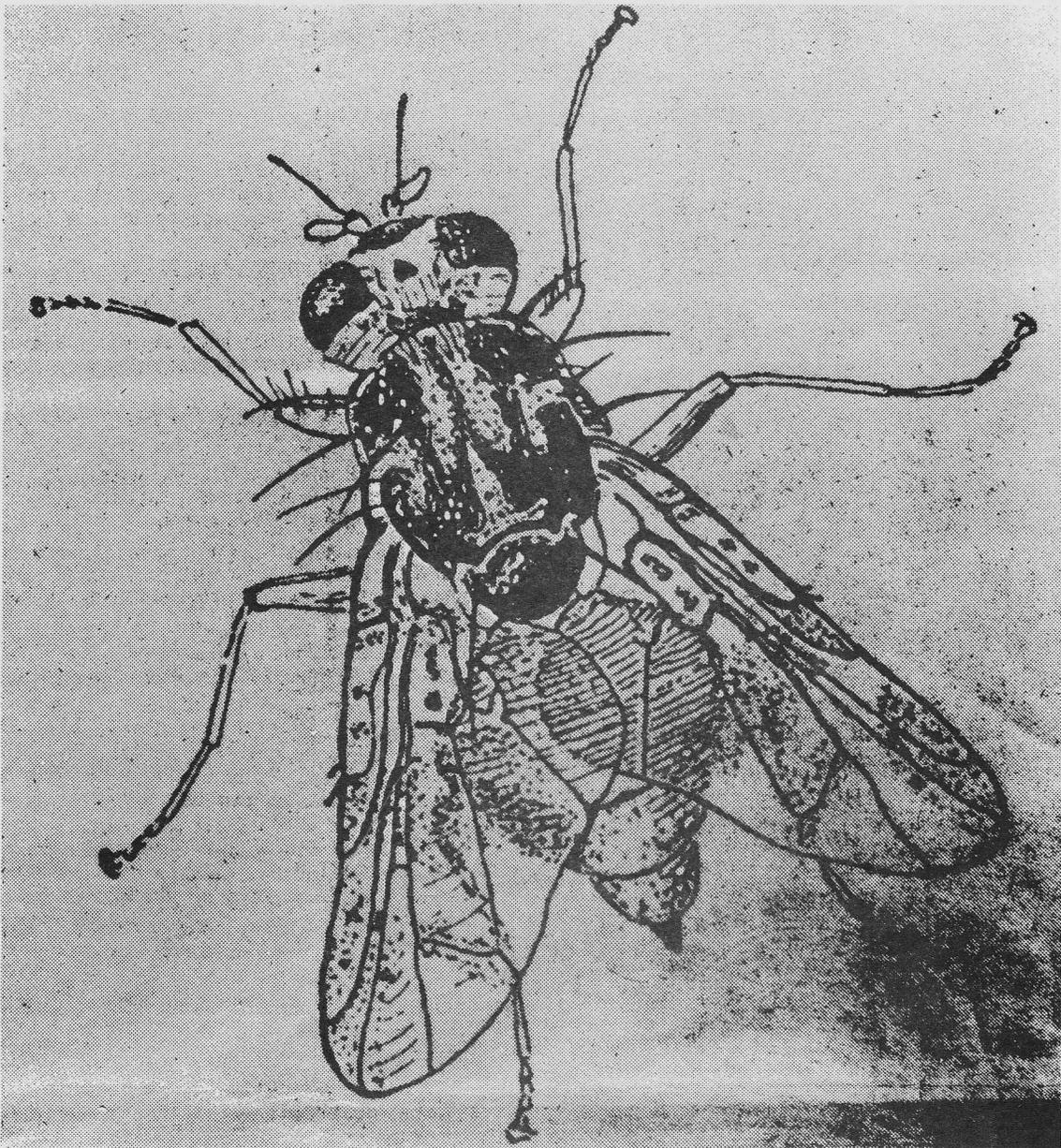
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NEWS BULLETIN

Vol. XVIII No.3

YUBA CITY, CALIFORNIA 95991

July, 1979



Heroic measures led to the defeat of the Mediterranean Fruit Fly, the Medfly that threatened Florida orange groves in the 1920's.

HISTORICAL SOCIETY BUS TOUR

Sutter County Historical Society will sponsor a bus trip to Grass Valley Tuesday, July 17, and will include a tour of the Empire Gold Mine which dates back to pioneer days.

The trip will be not only for members of the organization but will be open to the public. Reservations must be made in advance, with payment for each participant of \$10 to cover bus fare, addressed to Sutter County Historical Society Tour, P. O. Box 1004, Yuba City, CA 95991.

Departing at 9:15 a. m. from the Community Memorial Museum of Sutter County, 1333 Butte House Road, Yuba City, the bus will return there at approximately 4 p. m. Each participant will bring a bag lunch.

The schedule for the visit to the old goldmining area will begin with the Empire Mine. There officials of the California Division of Beaches and Parks will conduct the group on the inspection and give data on the former operation of the mine.

From there the group will go the the Grass Valley City Park for a lunch hour. This will be followed by attendance at the Nevada County Historical Society Mining Museum in Grass Valley.

SUTTER COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
NEWS BULLETIN

Vol. XVIII, No. 3

July, 1979

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The NEWS BULLETIN is published quarterly by the Society at Yuba City, California 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, CA 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.

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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.

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* SUMMER MEETING *
*
* For July 17, 1979, tentative plans are being for- *
* mulated to take a bus tour to some point of interest. *
* * * * *

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The first meeting of the year was an enjoyable evening of good food, an interesting speaker and pleasant company.

In wishing to make our Society worthwhile and meaningful we must ask the question, What direction do the Historical Society members want their organization to go? The By-laws call for four meetings a year. For the past several years our meetings have been very short on attendance. Does this mean that none but the Annual Dinner Meeting is wanted? Or would a different type of gathering be desired, such as picnics or bus trips or work parties at the Museum Park?

Our Museum is in need of space. It needs storage and work room, a place to display our agricultural artifacts, an area in the Park for leisure time activities, picnic tables, lawn, paths, sprinkler systems. All of these worthwhile things call for the expenditure of dollars.

The Museum is our child, we must nourish it and keep it growing. There are so many wonderful possibilities that can come from the fruition of this "Idea."

As Chairman of the new Bulletin editorial staff, I want to thank the William Dawson's for their hard work on the Bulletin these past many years. They have done a fine job of arranging for articles, pictures, etc.; organizing it all and arranging to have it printed.

I personally want to thank them for the suggestions, helpful hints and information they passed on to those of us who are going to try and carry on. We hope they will be around for some time to help us in an advisory capacity.

After living in the Yuba City area for 26 years, our family is beginning to feel almost as if we are "old timers". Then I read about the people featured in past Bulletins whose families have been here for 100 years or more and we seem like new comers.

The history of Sutter County and its people is fascinating to me and I hope that with the help of all the others on the Bulletin Committee, I may be able to continue to bring interesting articles to those who receive the Bulletin.

If you have diaries -- family histories -- pictures or anything you feel will be interesting to others, let us know. We cannot promise to print everything, but will try to use as much as is possible.

RAONA HALL, Chairman
Editorial Staff

THE NEWS BULLETIN

THE PURPOSE OF THE NEWS BULLETIN:

To discover, present and disseminate knowledge about the history of Sutter County and the adjacent areas;

To arouse interest in the past by publishing historical material;

To make historical data available to the general public;

To aid in bringing together the people of Sutter County interested in local history;

To encourage contributions of personal history from long-time residents and relatives and friends of "old timers".

CONTRIBUTORS WANTED

Articles about old timers are needed for publication. Don't worry about the commas and periods -- we will edit the items for you. Send your items to Raona Hall, 373 Second Street, Yuba City, California 95991,

OR

Send the name of the person with a story that others will want to read about to Raona Hall, 373 Second Street, Yuba City and the Editorial Staff will make the contact,

OR

Send in a picture of people or places that would be of interest and can be used as a cover picture.

Ad in Marysville Appeal, December 4, 1860

Prices Reduced ---- Bathing 25 cents

Gentlemen wishing to have their barbering done by the month, with private boxes, brushes and towels. Five Dollars invariably in advance. D Street adjoining the St. Nicholas Hotel. (NOTE: This old hotel building was recently razed to make way for the new library).

COMMUNITY MEMORIAL MUSEUM NOTES
THE CARE OF ANTIQUE SILVER

Jean Gustin, Curator

The information below was abstracted from Technical leaflet 40 published by the American Association for State and Local History which was written by Mrs. Dean A. Fales, Jr. of the Essex Institute.

Objects made of silver tarnish through the formation of a thin surface of silver sulphide. The sulphur that can combine with silver and tarnish the surface is present in foods as eggs and mustard, is in the air because of modern-day air pollution, and is also present because of less obvious conditions as from the sulphur used in processing materials as rubber floor coverings, some paints, and even some fabrics and paper. Tarnish is easily removed with rouge cloths or polish. Repeated cleaning, however, removes a certain amount of the silver and in time tends to damage hallmarks and engraving. In plated ware eventually the thin layer of silver is completely worn away, exposing the base metal of copper.

Silver should be cleaned with soap and water. Detergents should not be used since many contain phosphorous or sulphur compounds which can stain silver. Only polishes specifically made for silver should be used. One recommended polish is Hagerty's Silver Foam, a light paste applied with a sponge which rinses away easily and does not clog in crevices of the design.

Stored silver can be protected by wrapping cleaned silver in several layers of tissue paper with an outer layer of paper or cloth containing tarnish inhibitors. Plastic bags, saran wrap, or aluminum foil can be used to seal silver away from tarnish causing elements, but, as with the impregnated cloth, they should not be in direct contact with the silver.

For silver on exhibit a product as 3-M's Tarnishield can be used. It coats silver, is harmless, and can be removed with ordinary silver polish.

* * * * *

Marysville Appeal, July 10, 1914

After 51 Years the Town Pump is Dry.

Yuba City, July 9 -- The old town pump at the corner of Bridge and Second Streets, after a continuous service of over forty-one years has gone dry. It was installed by "Uncle Cale" Wilcoxon in 1863. It was installed at the corner of the sidewalk in front of the store of Boyd & Wilcoxon, of which "Uncle Cale" was a member, and since that time it has been visited by many thousands of people as well as animals. The pump was known far and wide, and its water was always cool and refreshing. The old pump was taken up today and a new one installed.

Marysville Appeal, February 28, 1861

Falling -- the Roaring Yuba and other one-horse streams in this vicinity are subsiding to their muddy quietude.

LIST OF DONORS TO THE COMMUNITY MEMORIAL MUSEUM TRUST FUND
February 1, 1979 through May 1, 1979

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Bogue Country Club	outright gift
Mr. & Mrs. James E. Hall	in memory of Sadie J. Smith
Mr. & Mrs. David Amarel	in memory of Sadie Smith
Delta Kappa Gamma Society, Beta Omega Chapter	outright gift
Mr. & Mrs. Joe Alexander	in memory of Sadie Smith
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The Ray Carrothers Family	in memory of Verne Fogarty & Dorothy Fogarty

SUTTERANA

California's Daniel Boone

The venerable Captain John A. Sutter has had conferred upon him by the legislature the title and immunities of Major General of the First Division of California. The popular voice has applauded and sanctioned the conferment as entirely appropriate and worthy of all parties concerned.

Sacramento Union, February 28, 1853.

General Sutter

This veteran pioneer has been sojourning in our city for a few days past, receiving from all that respect and attention so justly his due. Last evening he shared with the brilliant, beautiful and dazzling Lola, the admiration of the audience at the theatre and many an eye was averted from the one only to be fastened upon the other. The noble, benevolent and patriotic patriarch leaves town this day for his charming residence at Hock Farm.

Sacramento Union, July 9, 1853.

NOTE: The General was on his way home from San Francisco where he participated in a July 4th celebration in his capacity of Major General of the First California Division. Lola Montez was doing her wicked spider dance at a Sacramento theatre at this time.

Marysville Appeal, November 3, 1860.

The News which left San Francisco by Pony Express on the 15th of August, was received at Paris by telegraph from Queenstown, Ireland on the 8th of September -- only twenty-four days later.

TED URBAHNS -- CARMEL NONAGENARIAN

Ted Urbahns of Carmel is an entomologist and a life member of the American Society for the Advancement of Science. He became well known in Sutter County when he served as Agricultural Commissioner from 1928-1959. He also is the oldest living graduate of Colorado State University (Class of 1908.)

At 98, he is a storyteller without peer who focuses an unimpaired memory on events of 90 years past, effortlessly recalling names and pinpointing dates.

But the pivotal point in a distinguished career really hinged on a whimsical impulse to which a young teamster yielded one windy day in Colorado some 77 years ago.

It was a cold November day in 1901. At Fort Collins, Colorado, two wagons loaded with coal inched their way past the campus of Colorado College of Agriculture and Mechanical Arts (Colorado State University).

A four-horse team pulled the first wagon, two horses the second. The driver of the first wagon gave the campus only a casual glance. But the second driver, 21-year old Ted Urbahns, could not take his eyes off the activities that were taking place.

"The students were out drilling in their uniforms of blue. The flag was flying on the high pole. The military band was playing the parade music. It was a beautiful sight!"

As the two men stopped a little later to eat lunch and feed the horses, young Ted's thoughts remained back at the parade grounds.

"Some day I'd like to go to that school and get some of that military drill," he confided to his boss.

The reply was neither encouraging nor flattering. "To get in that school," he said, "you have to have brains."

"That folded me up for a while," Ted confessed. And an awkward silence followed, broken by a second comment from his boss.

"But you know, where there's a will and it's strong enough, a way will also develop."

The will was strong enough. Its motivating element was still the lure of the ramrod-straight young men marching to spirited martial music in their blue uniforms. January 1902 found Ted negotiating with a dubious college registrar. Lack of education was his biggest obstacle to admission. Finances posed a problem, too.

"I had no high school diploma to present. I never went to high school and I only had a little country schooling. I spent 10 years, all my teen age years, working on the (Iowa) farms from the first of March till Thanksgiving time."

But Ted was a Colorado resident. He lived in his own cottage, built at a cost of \$125 on his own lot in the outskirts of Ft. Collins.

As a resident, the registrar explained, Ted was entitled to attend agriculture classes on a non-credit, no-tuition basis.

Ted was delighted.

"I want to do that. I want that military drill and I want to take the agriculture courses. I want to start right away. I can feed myself," he cried out in a burst of enthusiasm.

In 1902, his first year, Ted never missed a class. To his delight the military drill was compulsory. He would stay with it for six years as a member of the National Guard.

After putting in a second non-credit year, Ted enrolled as a bonafide freshman in 1904 at the age of 24.

In 1908 he graduated with a degree in entomology. He had supported himself in part by working on insect control in a sugar beet project under university sponsorship. It gave the new graduate valuable working experience.

Ted went to work for the Federal Bureau of Entomology in Kansas in July, 1908, at \$900 a year. It was the initial campaign in a 15-year war he was to wage against crop insects in a dozen states.

After Kansas he was sent to the Rio Grande Valley of Texas to study native scrub and wild grass insects that might prove hazardous to domestic plants.

Sitting in the lobby of a hotel in Brownsville where he had checked in for his first night in the area Ted watched curiously as the night clerk handed each retiring guest a paper-wrapped package. When Ted retired he was handed one too. It was flea powder. The clerk instructed Ted to dust himself

with it, sprinkle some on his sheet and to be sure to wrap himself tightly in the sheet.

Ted followed the instructions to a letter, but it did not insure the good night's sleep as intended.

Most of the following day he spent looking for vermin-free lodging. He settled for a private residence, paid two weeks advance rent and moved his trunk in. Bedtime found him exhausted.

"I dropped into bed and slept like a log. In the morning I was very sick to my stomach. I was breaking out in little hives all over. I thought of small pox, but I decided to try to walk my sickness off."

All day Ted tramped the streets pitting his will against his affliction. In the evening he took a bath in a barber shop and rubbed his body with witch hazel. He felt better when he returned to his room to retire for the night.

"But when I lit the oil lamp on the bed stand, the bedspread came to life. It was just solid with bedbugs scurrying for cover from the light. They were the culprits responsible for my nausea, fever and rash. I was so tired from the night before I just slept right through it."

Ted's landlady insisted on an explanation for his abrupt departure. Reluctantly he told her.

"I know what's the matter with you," she cried, throwing up her arms, "You're a Northerner, and you just can't take it."

Ted had another Texas story with a personal twist. He tells of flagging down a night train in the Texas Panhandle

with a lighted newspaper, and boarding the Pullman coach with his suitcase full of army worms.

He was taking them back to his laboratory in Dallas. They had been ravaging the alfalfa fields, and a quick and effect control had to be devised. Ted placed the suitcase beneath his bunk and retired for the night.

He awoke in the night to find the Pullman in an uproar. A harassed porter was attempting to placate the irate passengers. "We have been travelin' all night through big fields of them army worms," he kept explaining.

"Well," Ted relates, "I knew what was wrong. First I reached under my bunk and tightened the straps on my suitcase. Then I dressed and joined the other complaining passengers. I was the first one off the train."

Back in Dallas he opened the suitcase. The lining had been entirely consumed. Only a few of the worms remained. The others were riding a deluxe Pullman car across the Texas plains.

The stories of the fleas, bed-bugs and army worms were the leaven of humor in the narrative of a life spent battling crop pests. At one time or another the entomologist took on the chinch bug, grasshopper, Hessian fly, alfalfa weevil, the green bug and a host of others. In the process he discovered five hitherto unknown insect species.

The most dramatic of all his campaigns was against an invader from overseas, the Mediterranean Fruit Fly (the Medfly). In 1929 an infestation was discovered in the citrus groves

around Orlando, Fla. Florida called for help.

California recognized the threat to her own orchards, and she rushed her 10 top entomologists into Florida. Ted Urbahns, who was living in Yuba City, and had been working for the California Department of Entomology for a number of years, was one of them. The infestation had to be checked before it spread. A drastic plan that had the approval of Florida and the Federal government was put in operation:

1. They mobilized pickers to gather and ship to cold weather states all non-infected fruit outside the infested area.
2. They picked and destroyed all fruit within and near the infested area.
3. They uprooted and destroyed all young, non-bearing orchards belonging to absentee owners.
4. They destroyed wild relatives of domestic fruits all across the State of Florida.

In some cases, huge crushers and hot steam were used to destroy the picked fruit. In other places, the fruit was dumped into dry lake beds, sprayed with oil and dozed over with sand. It took Ted and his fellow scientists two months to check this major threat to the entire U.S. fruit industry. There has been only one mild outbreak since.

It is impossible to overstate the importance of the victory over the Medfly. The future of America's citrus industry hung in the balance. In fact, all tree fruits were endangered.

In 1952 Yearbook of Agriculture rates it as the most effective campaign ever waged against a crop insect.

Ted's initial crop foe when he became a government

entomologist had been "the green bug" (peach aphid).

In Kansas it had conformed to conventional insect life pattern. In Texas it took a bizarre turn. Ted did his best to explain it to our non-scientific minds.

"In April I started a project with one potted wheat plant and one 'green bug.' I carried it through until December."

"Live offspring appeared in four to five days. I reared 25 generations of them and kept accurate notes on each batch of bugs -- up to 10 in a litter -- as they were born. And they were all females -- no males, and all reproducing." We didn't mean to challenge this rather startling statement. We just wanted to make sure we had heard what we thought we heard. Ted repeated patiently, but with convincing authority.

"They gave birth to living young without the presence of males. They were all females."

In 1912 the young entomologist became a roving troubleshooter for the government. He set up headquarters in Glendale.

On January 2, 1913, he married Estelle Moyes in Salt Lake City. They returned to Glendale and have been California residents ever since, living successively in Glendale, Pasadena, Martinez, Berkeley, Sacramento, and in Yuba City from 1928 until they moved to Carmel in 1965. They live at the corner of Camino Real and Santa Lucia.

In 1921 they bought land along the Bear River in Sutter County on which they established peach, English walnut and

almond orchards. About the time Urbahns became a California fruit farmer, he left U.S. government employment to take a similar job with the State of California, supervising the departments of 17 northern counties. Urbahns retired in 1959 at the age of 79, after 51 years of continuous service in his chosen profession. In addition to his entomology work and fruit raising he has acquired considerable expertise on irrigation. He has been a consultant on flood control projects, where he has not always agreed with government engineers and other planners. He anticipated the devastating Yuba City flood of 1955 and has strong feelings about any building program that flirts with flood risks, Carmel River floodplain not excepted. He feels that a dam serving a dual role, flood control and water supply, should be limited to two-thirds of its storage capacity, reserving the top third for retaining unexpected flood waters.

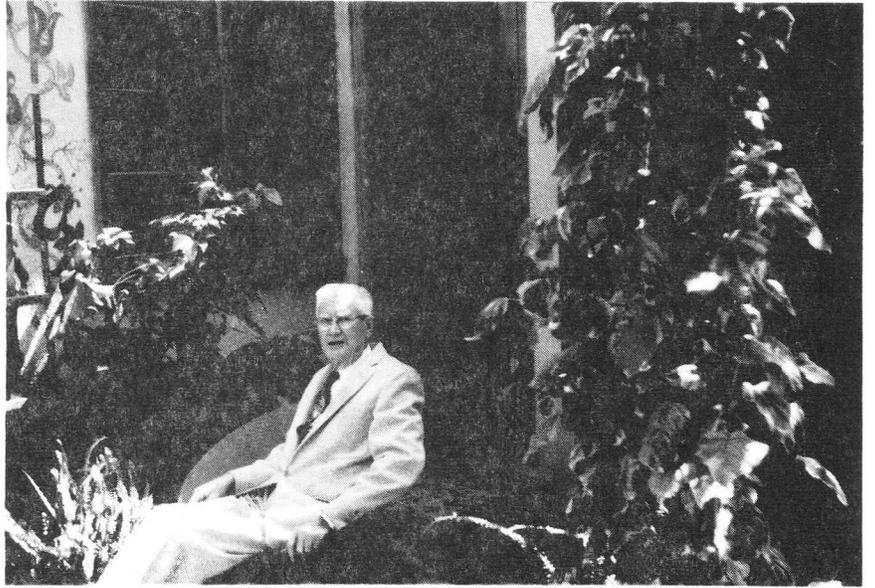
The Urbahns have been married 66 years. They have one daughter, Barbara Blaser, three grandchildren, Don Blaser, Suzy (Jerry Pomeroy), Julie (John Bidegain) and six great grandchildren.

For many years Mrs. Urbahns wrote children's stories for The Child's Garden, Wee Wisdom Story Arts and the children's page of the San Francisco Examiner. Two of her books, "The Tangled Web" (1943) and "The Little Red Dragon" (1947), were named best children's stories of the years. "The Little Red Dragon" was one of 20 to be included in a list of best children's stories in the preceding two centuries.



Mr. Ted Urbahns, former Sutter County Agricultural Commissioner.

1928-1959



Mr. Urbahns relaxes on the patio of his home in Carmel.



Mr. & Mrs. Ted Urbahns take a stroll on a college campus.

MORE RECOLLECTIONS
By Verna Sexton

In looking over one of the Sunday Editions of the Independent Herald, I saw the picture of an old Northern Electric train which brought back memories of the days in Tierra Buena around 1912-14. At the time, my parents managed the general merchandise store and my father also had one corner for the Post Office.

Our living quarters were in back of the store. There was a six or eight foot wide porch across the front and it extended along the east side, where the passengers waited for the train, going either toward Chico or Marysville. The third rail ran along this side, parallel with the rails. It was not dangerous as long as the ground was dry, but a dangerous thing if the ground was wet.

At night the freight train used to roar past and shake the porch. The first night, about 1:00 a.m. that freight train roared past only about eight feet away. I was sure it was the end of the world.

One time my seven year old cousin was visiting us. I looked out the window and saw the boy standing on the third rail. I didn't want to frighten him so just walked to him -- took his arm and said, "step back a few steps." If it had been wet weather, I really would have been nervous.

About this time, 1914 or 1915, I was teaching school at Sutter. Each morning I walked down the track to a flag platform about halfway between the store and the C. B. Harter home. It was the junction where the electric train sped north to Chico, south to Sacramento or west to Colusa. My brother, Stanley McLean, who had a store and the Post Office in Sutter, met the train at the junction each morning and picked up the mailbag. Luckily, I met my brother there, and he gave me a ride to Sutter, so I had only a block to walk to school.

One morning while walking down the track, I took too long a step and split the fashionable (?) hobble skirt. There was nothing to do but go on. When I got to school, I did a fast sewing job and it held until school was out for the day.

Just some of the trials and tribulations of a school teacher in those days, but there were many, many rewarding experiences to remember during my teaching career.

* * * * *

Marysville Appeal, June 1, 1861

A lady returning from Georgia describes the hardships suffered by the formerly well-to-do families. Butter is 80 cents a pound, sirloin beef 28 cents, eggs, 75 cents per dozen. But the cruellest hardship is the 50 per cent decline in the value of the negroes which commodity was a cash crop of some of the best families.

HISTORY OF THE STOHLMAN CEMETERY IN SUTTER COUNTY
By Rainous T. Todd

The cemetery is situated almost in the center of Donald Meyer's holdings, on a point of a ridge coming down out of the Sutter Buttes; close to South Butte Road, about 1/4 mile East of the old "Long Bridge" over the Sutter Bypass, which has been abandoned for a good number of years now.

As far as is known, there has been no one of the Stohlman family buried there. The Cemetery is in the Meridian Cemetery District and the taxes are credited to the Meridian District, but the Stohlman Cemetery has been taken care of by the Sutter Cemetery District since it was set up in 1925.

It has never been declared a public cemetery as far back as records have been kept. All the past and present owners have paid and are paying taxes on the property on which the Stohlman Cemetery is situated.

The land was claimed by a Mr. Johnson in the early 1860's, and he buried a daughter there in 1866. The earliest burial, according to the grave stones, was in 1860. This burial was for Elzer B. Gray, son of B. G. Gray, drowned in 1860, July 9th, at the age of 7 years, 8 months, 28 days. In his memory the following quotation is found on the head stone "Boast not thyself of tomorrow, for thou knowest not what a day may bring forth."

On record we have the fact that Mr. Johnson sold the land to a Mr. Isaacs on September 1, 1869. Isaacs held the land for a year and sold it to Peter Charge on October 25, 1870.

The land was purchased by Henry Stohlman from Peter Charge on October 17, 1887. The property has come down through the Stohlman heirs to the present owner, Donald Meyers, who is the great Grandson of Henry Stohlman.

It is reasonable to assume that Mr. Johnson set the site for a cemetery. At the time of the setting aside of the cemetery area or shortly thereafter, a small one-room church was built. The pastor was known as Father Crepts who was a circuit rider, traveling from one small church to another in the area. Miss Johana Meier's father, Chris Meier went to the church at the Stohlman Cemetery. It was told on Father Crepts that when he sang, his voice was so strong that no one could hear any voice but his. The church was built by the people of the community, using square holes and pegs instead of nails as we use today.

Research indicates the building was built around 1870, is still in good shape and must be around 100 years old. Christain Frye, father of the original Sutter County Frye family, at that time was a carpenter and worked among his neighbors when they needed help. It was thought he helped with the church building.

The church building was moved probably during 1905-1910 period, incorporated with buildings that Henry Stohlman built on the ranch.

The church was always open. The children of the area played in the cemetery and church, cousins Henry and Fred Stohlman among them. The first order of the day was

settlement of an argument, by fists between the Stohlman cousins to see who would be the preacher for the time. When that was decided, the winner did the preaching and the girls were the choir and had to sing. Mrs. Christine Summy (Billy Summy's mother) and Mrs. Nau (Peter Nau's wife) were among the choir. The church had regular pews and hymn books. We have not been able to find any records or any one that remembers what became of the pews.

Miss Meier tells of when she and Mrs. Fred (Ruth) Tarke stopped by to visit Mr. and Mrs. Martin (Lena) Charge, she was the second wife of Martin Charge, on the day they were celebrating their 60th year of marriage to wish them well. Mrs. Charge had been in an automobile accident and got around with crutches, but her home was spick and span. They had no comforts as we today think necessary; no drapes, rugs; an old Home Comfort wood cook stove, etc. Mrs. Charge told the visitors that in the 60 years they had had no troubles. What faith she had, as they lost four children in death and two of the others were in ill health out of seven children.

The care of the cemetery was left to the families of those buried there and the farmer farming the land. When Sutter County formed the Sutter Cemetery District in 1925, the Stohlman Cemetery and Noyesburg Cemetery were included with the Sutter Cemetery in the Sutter Cemetery District and the County took over the care -- what up keep was done was usually just trying to keep the weeds down. There was not

enough funds available to put down a well and try to keep lawns, etc. The first Directors were Jack Lamme, Doc Howard and Ed Proper.

The juniper trees were planted in 1927 by Addison Schellenger, Ansel Schellenger, and Delmar Frye. The year before, 1926, the men had cleared the site of weeds using scoop shovels and wheel barrows. The job took 45 days as it had been some time since it was last cleared.

The church must have sat in the front part of the area as most of the graves are situated to the back or South and East part of the lot. That was the custom in all the old church and burial grounds at that time and the location of the graves bear this out.

The Native Daughters of the Golden West installed a monument in the Cemetery during 1935; it reads FIRST USED 1860 -- Dedicated to the MEMORY OF THE PIONEERS. Below on the same plaque is a raised picture of a covered wagon drawn by a team of oxen with hills in the background.

In Ripley's "Believe it or not" the stone of Felix Mertin was mentioned and pictured. Ripley had also written up the Sutter Buttes as the smallest Mountain Range in the World.

J. A. Friend -- former Sheriff of Sutter County, is buried there also. His stone is gone. He was the sixth Sheriff of Sutter County. His wife, Harriett, is buried there. Her stone is still standing.

Some of those buried in the cemetery are not known by those of us remaining. Listed herewith some of those resting there and what information we have on them: Peter Charge died 1871 at the age of 41 years. His wife was Mrs. Mary Magdalena Weaver from Germany. She had one daughter when she arrived in the area. The daughter married a Peter Nau. Mary Magdalena Charge died in 1912 at 88 years of age. She was born in 1824 in Germany.

Peter and Mary's son, Martin Charge, married Agnes Burgett. Martin Charge is buried in the Meridian Cemetery and Agnes is buried in the Stohlman Cemetery. She died November 10, 1885 at 19 years of age, following the birth of their child, Mamie Charge Meier; who resides in Yuba City at this writing. Mr. Milbury Burgett, father of Agnes Charge is buried here. Agnes' Mother was Lucinda Rockholt Burgett, after she separated from Mr. Burgett she married a man by the name of Davis and she is buried in the Sutter Cemetery.

Felix Mertin died at the age of 61. He was a native of Prussia. He was drowned while hauling grain to the river to be loaded on the river boats. The wagon and team were sliding into the river and Felix was trying to hold them. He was somewhat under the influence of alcohol. The men near by called (hold to him Frank). This is what is on his tombstone, with a silhouette of a man and horse cut into the stone.

Franz Nau died in 1895 at 63 years. He was from Germany. Engraved on his stone by his daughter is the following:

"We shall meet again dear father in a brighter cline than this, where the anguish of this world of ours is lost in deathless Bliss."

Dexter Wood died in 1875 at 26 years; he was from New York.

Herbert Brown died in 1864 at 32 years of age.

Edith Wilbur was born on November 4, 1864 and died in 1866, age 1 year, 8 month, 20 days.

Barthena Gray, wife of B. G. Gray, died on March 10, 1866 at 34 years of age. Included on her stone were the words: "In thou Father's house are many mansions, if it were not so I would have told you."

Marsha Burgett, born 1871, died 1960. She was the mother of Mae Burgett-Thompson-McDougal, who resides in Sutter at this writing.

David William Burgett, born 1864 and died in 1938, was Mrs. McDougal's Father. M. Burgett (Milbury) born 1832 and who died in 1910, was Mrs. McDougal's grandfather; he was also the grandfather of Mamie Meier.

Herman Erke, Sr., born 1874 and died at 38 yars of age.

Addie Johnson, daughter of T. and S. A. Johnson, died in 1866 at 16 years, 5 months, 18 days. On her stone is written: "Blessed are the pure in heart for they shall see God."

William Meier died 1903 at 67 years and he was from Germany; he was the father of William F. Meier. Christina Meier died in 1875 at 23 years; she was from Germany and she was the mother of William F. Meier.

Mary Compton died in 1873 at 65 years; she was from England. "Our Mother is gone but not forgotten," was engraved on her stone by the children -- M. J. Morrow, Bettie Maze and A. Compton.

Andrew Compton died in 1863 at 27 years and was from Missouri.

Two small boys were buried in the Southeast corner of the Cemetery. They were the George and Sarah Thompson babies. (Sarah Burgett Thompson was an aunt of Mamie Meier). There is no marker and as far as we know, had wooden markers which have long since disappeared. The graves are lost as to the location now.

This is by no means a complete list, but as far as we can verify, there never was a list of plots and who was buried in them. A lot of the markers have been destroyed and are lost.

If I seem to be dwelling too much on names of people buried in the Cemetery, please remember that I am writing history and there is no record of people buried there except in the minds of those giving me this information. Who knows, in the future, how important this may be to a relative or those interested in the history of Sutter County. Milbury Burgett, was known as Tulle Dad and visited the George Thompson ranch years ago when the area was over-grown with "tulles", before the Sutter By-pass was put in. George Thompson was the Thompson who developed the Thompson seedless grape.

The author was interested in checking on the history of the Noyesburg Cemetery and in the process, the back history of the Stohlman Cemetery came up. It was found that it was private property and, therefore, did not qualify for County funds (taxpayer money), under the present laws. The present laws prohibit spending by county officials the taxpayers money on private property.

The Supervisors had set up a public cemetery maintenance district in 1925. The Stohlman Cemetery was thought to be included legally in that Act. Unknown, and illegally, the Sutter Cemetery District has maintained the so-called Stohlman Cemetery. This left the present Sutter Cemetery District Board in a dilemma, which they are trying to work out with the present owner of the site and the County.

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Information gathered through the courtesy of the following:

Miss Addie Meier of Yuba City.
Mrs. Mamie Meier of Yuba City.
Miss Johana Meier of Meridian.
Donald Meyer of Sutter.
Addison Schellenger of Sutter, Cemetery custodian 37 years at Sutter.
Gerald F. Allen, Assessor of Sutter County.
Historical Record Company -- printed 1923 -- Historical Record of Yuba and Sutter County, with biographical sketches by Peter J. Delay, goes back to late 1840.

To the best of my knowledge, the foregoing is information stating true facts and written by myself.

RAINOUS T. TODD
Sutter, California
January, 1976

POSTSCRIPT TO THE STOHLMAN CEMETERY HISTORY:

The Erke family plot in the Stohlman Cemetery has really perplexed me, as I can dimly remember my mother saying that several of the Erke family were buried at the Stohlman Cemetery. Yet I could find no stone marker, except that of the husband, Herman Erke.

When mother was a child, her family, the Russell's and the Erke family were neighbors.

My daughter-in-law, Sara Todd in the study of local Sutter history, found in an old Marysville Appeal newspaper, a news item that Mrs. Gardenmeyer (former wife of Herman Erke), at her death, was buried near her former husband and children.

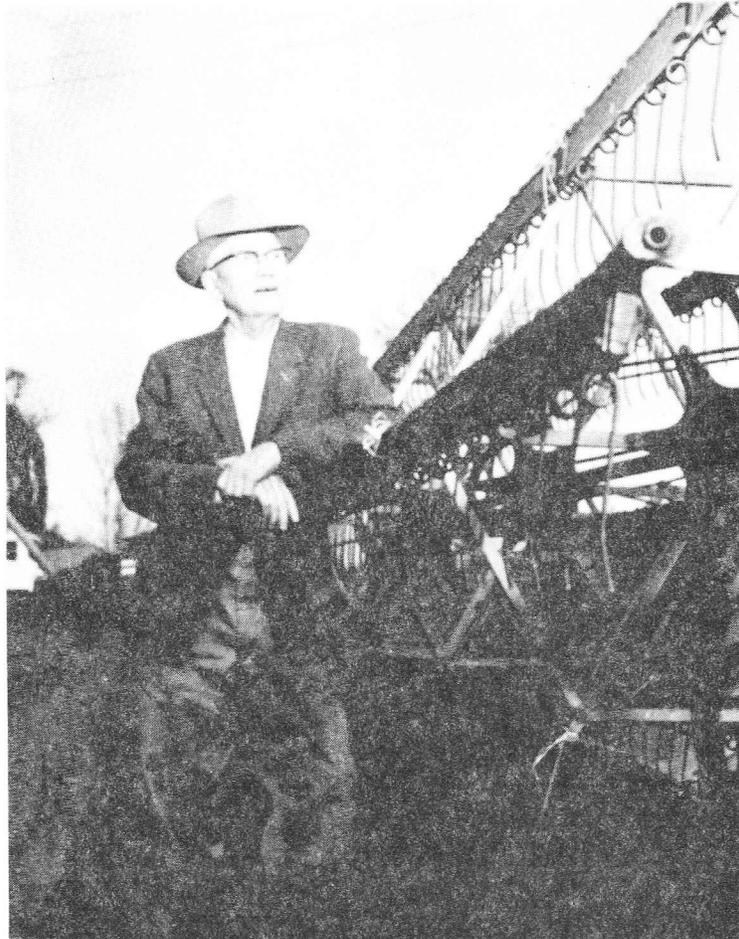
On learning this, I contacted the former custodian and we went to the Cemetery and he pointed out the spot where she was buried and where the two Erke children were buried; to the best of his memory; although there are no markers there now. The date of Mrs. Erke Gardenmeyer's burial was November 21, 1893, according the old newspaper item.

R.T. TODD

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Marysville Appeal, February 28, 1861

Early -- New asparagus has made its appearance in the market.
Price, four bits a sight -- near sighted people half price.



S. ATWOOD McKEEHAN by the rice harvester he designed and built in 1950 and rebuilt in 1968. It will bring rice out of a muddy field when the rice is down because of wind or rain.

We regret that this picture was left out when the article about Mr. McKeehan was published in the January 1979 issue of the bulletin.