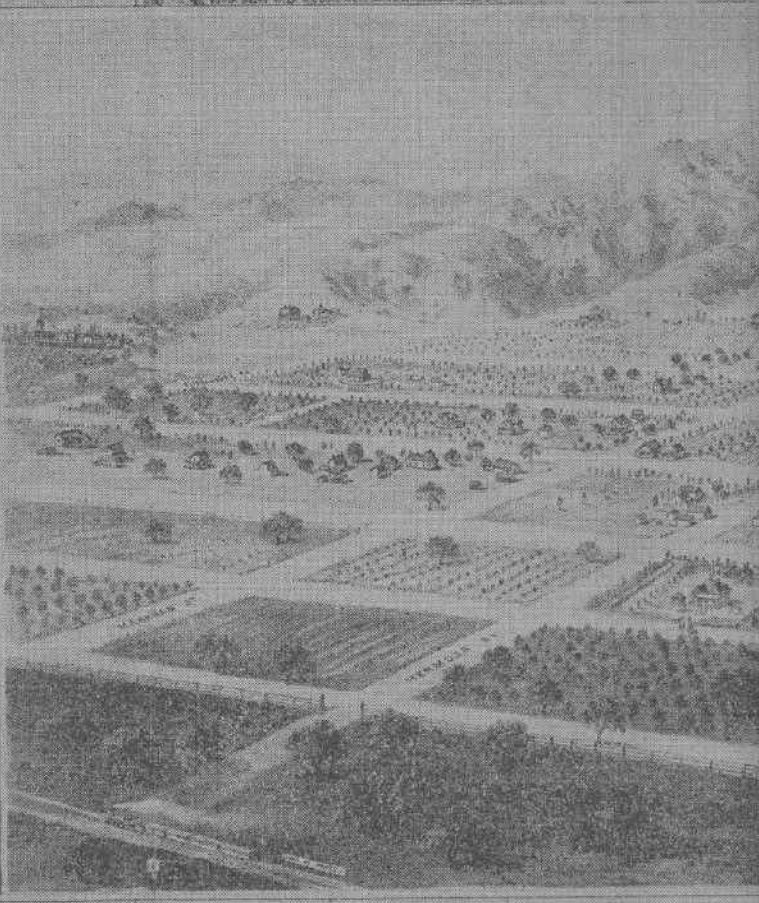
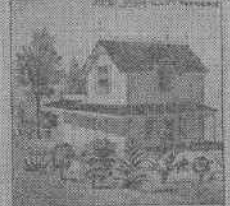
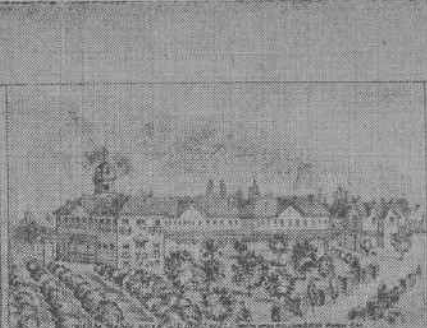
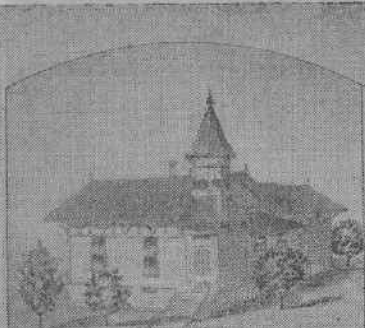
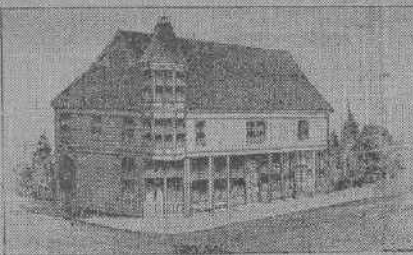


Annals of
Early Sierra Madre

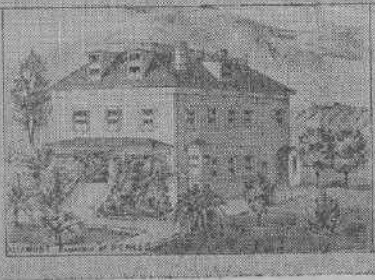


BIRD
SIERRA
 SAN GA
 LOS ANGELES
 ELEVATION
 Now and then the sun comes out and
 SHINE

SIERRA MADRE.



VIEW
MADRE
 VALLEY,
 COUNTY, CAL.
 1890-1900 F.



ANNALS OF
EARLY SIERRA MADRE



CHARLES WORTHINGTON JONES

President

Sierra Madre Historical Society



Annals of Early Sierra Madre



COMPILED BY
EDITH BLUMER BOWEN
HISTORIAN OF
SIERRA MADRE HISTORICAL SOCIETY



PUBLISHED BY
SIERRA MADRE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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DEDICATED
TO
THE HONORED MEMORY
OF
THE MEN AND WOMEN
PIONEERS AND FOUNDERS OF SIERRA MADRE
AND TO THE
SIERRA MADRE CHILDREN
OF TODAY
BUILDERS OF HER FUTURE

ILLUSTRATIONS

C. W. Jones, Frontispiece
Yucca, "The Lord's Candle"

- | No. | No. |
|---|---|
| 1. N. C. Carter | 32. Congregational Church |
| 2. Frances Hawks | 33. First Schoolhouse |
| 3. Andrews Store | 34. Central School |
| 4. Mrs. N. C. Carter | 35. Fan Drill |
| 5. Percy Wilson | 36. J. G. Blumer |
| 6. First House | 37. Mrs. E. B. Ross |
| 7. Pack Train, Lumber | 38. Library |
| 8. Dr. Norman Bridge | 39. W. S. Andrews |
| 9. Bridge Home | 40. Edith Blumer as "Inez De Las Rocas" |
| 10. Monte Lado Tract | 41. First Mayor |
| 11. Pegler House | 42. C. W. Jones Home |
| 12. Pack Train, Provisions | 43. Miss Thomasella Grahams Home |
| 13. Tennis Club | 44. Mrs. E. T. Pierce |
| 14. N. H. Hosmer | 45. Mt. Wilson Snow Scene |
| 15. Clarks Store | 46. Mrs. C. J. Osgood |
| 16. Town Hall | 47. Woman's Club House |
| 17. Park Avenue | 48. Wistaria Vine |
| 18. Trussell House | 49. Live Oak |
| 19. Drying "Cots" | 50. S. R. G. Twycross |
| 20. Scene, Corner Baldwin and Central Avenues | 51. Historical Society, 1949 |
| 21. Tourist Hotel | 52. C. E. Cook and Wife |
| 22. Mrs. Chloe B. Jones | 53. M. W. Copps |
| 23. J. C. Dickson and Wife | 54. A. D. Hawks Family |
| 24. E. T. Pierce | 55. Scene at Dedication of Woman's Club House |
| 25. Professor Hart | 56. The Gregorys |
| 26. E. H. Vannier | Sylvan Way—Tailpiece |
| 27. Gibson House | Sierra Madre in the Eighties— |
| 28. Carterhia | Pictorial Map—End Papers |
| 29. Ranches | |
| 30. First Episcopal Church | |
| 31. New Episcopal Church | |

TABLE OF CONTENTS

CHAPTER		PAGE
I	Foreword . . . Edith Blumer Bowen.....	13
II	Trails . . . Arthur N. Carter.....	17
III	Early Days . . . Annetta M. Carter (interviewed).....	27
IV	First Things . . . Arthur O. Pritchard.....	29
V	Reminiscences . . .	
	Mrs. N. C. Carter.....	41
	Miss Frances H. Hawks.....	46
	Mrs. N. H. Hosmer.....	50
	S. R. G. Twycross.....	53
	George B. Morgridge.....	56
VI	Water . . . C. W. Jones.....	59
VII	Post Office . . . Isabel Pierce.....	71
VIII	Street Names . . . Arthur O. Pritchard.....	75
IX	Businesses . . . Stella Norris Dennison - C. W. Jones.....	82
X	Schools . . . Mary A. Dickson.....	86
XI	City Boy In Sierra Madre . . . John W. Hart.....	90
XII	Town Hall . . . Elsie Blumer Hart.....	110
XIII	Episcopal Church . . . Daisy E. Hawks.....	115
XIV	Congregational Church . . . John C. Dickson.....	119
XV	Cultural Beginnings . . .	
	Music . . . Belle W. Cook.....	126
	Literature . . . Edith B. Bowen.....	128
	Drama . . . Edith B. Bowen.....	130
XVI	Public Library . . . Walter Wright Alley.....	135
XVII	Pooh Bah . . . Charles Matthias.....	140
XVIII	Sierra Madre Becomes a City . . . C. W. Jones.....	144
XIX	Woman's Club . . . Maybelle Caley Barker.....	147
	Extract From the Mayor's Address.....	152
	The Flora of Sierra Madre.....	154
XX	Wistaria Vine.....	157
XXI	Our Heritage . . . Jessica Wright.....	159
XXII	Sierra Madre Historical Society . . . Edith Bowen.....	161
Epilogue	. . . George B. Morgridge.....	163
	Brief Biographies.....	167

SIERRA MADRE

Thy sleepy streets of pepper trees;
Wistaria swaying in the breeze;
Thy houses roofed with warm red tiles
On which the summer sunshine smiles.
Thy nights of subtle orange-scent,
Which drifts along, its fragrance spent
In swooning evening's half-veiled light,
Where mockers sing throughout the night.
Thy rugged, brooding gray-blue hills,
Whose soothing restful shadow stills
The lust for wealth, with their gray calm
That sheds on us their healing balm.

(From *Vagrant Thoughts of Sentiment*,

by MRS. IRVING (MARY) WARD)

Sierra Madre 1906 - 1949

PREFACE

THE PAPERS HERE presented as a factual history of our little Community have been written for the most part by those who took part in the events recorded. The editors have taken pains to identify spots mentioned, in ways familiar to the present residents. The original form of the papers will be made a part of the collection of Local History at the Public Library. They were first prepared at various times for presentation orally before meetings of the Historical Society or the Woman's Club.

The enthusiasm of Edith Blumer Bowen for the place which became her girlhood home, coming here with her family from England, underlies the collecting of these stories. She remained in Sierra Madre for the greater part of her life and while her great desire to see this volume completed could not be satisfied, she lived to assist directly, particularly by writing the material in the first chapter and the Historical Society story.

The keen historical sense of Dr. Arthur O. Pritchard, a later comer of New England birth and schooling, was one force in the organization and growth of the Historical Society in his adopted town where he made his home for over twenty years. He, too, was eager for the preservation of these records in permanent form. He devoted much time to learning the history of his community and in collecting authentic information concerning its beginnings. He derived much enjoyment from his association with the friendly folk, old and young, who helped in his search.

In editing this volume every effort has been made to secure accuracy. The presence on the editorial committee of persons not only vitally interested in Sierra Madre, past and present, but some who were part of the development of the beginnings into the present City has been invaluable. It is a great satisfaction to the other members of the committee that its chairman, whose record as first Mayor not only testified to his indefatigable contribution to the organization of Sierra Madre, but whose undaunted ability as an organizer has again been proved (in his eighty-third year!) by his seeing this book through the press.

Its accuracy of detail is largely due to his careful verification of points questioned by anyone and by his own keen memory of events, persons and places.

Recognition is here also made of the work of Mrs. Edna Hewitt who for a time assisted in the editorial and financial launching of this project.

For the

SIERRA MADRE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

EDITORIAL COMMITTEE

EDITH BLUMER BOWEN (Deceased 1950)

ELSIE BLUMER HART

ARTHUR O. PRITCHARD (Deceased 1948)

MARTHA CAROLINE PRITCHARD

ELIZABETH STEINBERGER

C. W. JONES, *Chairman*

CHAPTER I

FOREWORD

IN COMPILING these "Annals of Early Sierra Madre" my helpers and I have tried to give a vivid picture of the little town and its inhabitants in the eighteen eighties. We have endeavored to avoid dry statistics and too much detail, and have tried also to make all statements authentic and have spared no trouble in doing so. Our new Library plans include a Sierra Madre Room in which local history materials will have a place, and the original accounts of many individuals who made up the early settlers will be available to those who wish to read them, since space in this volume does not permit the inclusion of all interesting stories.

In order to form a picture one must visualize a little village lying on the foothills of the Sierra Madre Mountains. It might have been called the village of sunshine and sagebrush for there was sagebrush everywhere and sunshine flooded everything. Stretching far to the south lay the broad San Gabriel Valley—a wonderful panorama.

Sometimes on a clear day we could see through the "Gap" in the Puente Hills, the ocean glittering in the sunlight, and sometimes the sail of a ship, then 30 miles out to sea rose Sheba's Breasts, the two highest peaks of Santa Catalina Island. No factory smoke obscured the view and the air was clear, sweet and healthful.

The roads, all of them grandly called avenues, were originally plowed and graded and kept hard by constant use. In summer they were thick with dust and full of chuckholes made by heavy wagons hauling hay and grapes and perhaps eucalyptus wood. In winter they were not so bad unless the rains were heavy and they were washed out entirely.

The roadsides were often lined with tall, wild sunflowers and sometimes were deeply cut by the water dashing recklessly down from the mountains.

It was a peaceful little village in the eighties—a rooster

ANNALS OF EARLY SIERRA MADRE

crowing or the distant tap of a hammer, and now and then the clatter of horses' hooves and wagon wheels were the only noises likely to disturb the afternoon siesta. The silence of the long summer evenings was broken only by concerts of frogs and crickets, the occasional tinkle of a piano, and now and then the bark of a dog. There were few trees in the valley and only the occasional glow of a light in some window.

We had no gas, no electricity and no telephones, but we were happy even though oil lamps were troublesome to fill and trim and we baked our bread in wood-burning stoves.

Mr. William Robinson ran the first grocery store and later had the Post Office in it. The butcher from Lamanda Park drove to the door three times a week and the "Wash Chinaman" called for laundry once a week; "sixty cents a dozen, finished."

The Chinese laundry was on Auburn Avenue opposite where the school auditorium now stands. It always smelled soapsudsy as we passed. We could hear the clatter of tongues and irons and sometimes some of the Chinamen were outside sitting on their "hunkers" near a hydrant, cleaning their teeth with green sticks.

"The Tract," as Sierra Madre's 1100 acres was usually called, was divided by N. C. Carter, the founder of the town, into forty and twenty acre ranches, later it was subdivided into smaller parcels of land.

The seventeen families in 1883 were a happy, friendly group and tried to stand for what was right and fair. When a neighbor from an adjoining ranch tried to steal their "water right" the men lost no time in protecting it armed with righteous indignation and shotguns.

Recreation was healthful and simple. Church suppers and sociables, bazaars, amateur theatricals, picnics, concerts, dances and tennis parties brought the people together.

The inhabitants of Sierra Madre were no "country jakes". they were an intelligent group of people transplanted from their homes in New England, the Middle West, northern California, the British Isles, Norway, and Canada; doctors, lawyers, musicians, professors, business men and farmers. They all

FOREWORD

came with their families to California to settle and start a new life in Sierra Madre.

The following chapters will tell you how they succeeded. In this "Foreword" I am merely setting the stage for the many interesting scenes which follow (in the words of the people themselves who lived the recorded events).

EDITH BLUMER BOWEN.



NO. 1

NATHANIEL COBURN CARTER
Native of Massachusetts
Founder and developer of Sierra Madre Tract



NO. 2

FRANCES H. HAWKS
Settled in Sierra Madre in 1881



NO. 3

SECOND GROCERY STORE
At Central and Markam Avenues, operated by W. S. Andrews



NO. 4

MRS. ANNETTA PIERCE CARTER
Native of Massachusetts
Wife of the founder of Sierra Madre

CHAPTER II

MT. WILSON AND STURTEVANT TRAILS FROM SIERRA MADRE

By ARTHUR N. CARTER

Oldest Son of N. C. Carter

THE BUILDER OF the Mount Wilson Trail, Benjamin D. Wilson, or Don Benito as he was familiarly known, was born in Nashville, Tennessee. He arrived in Los Angeles in November, 1841, and settled where the Huntington Library and gardens are now located. Here he planted vineyards and orange orchards, and his cattle ranged where Pasadena later grew up.

Early in 1864, in order to obtain timber from the stands of sugar, pine and incense cedar on "Wilson's Peak," Don Benito had Indians and Mexicans start working on a trail beginning in Sierra Madre (however, there was no town there then) and following, in a rough way, the canyon of the Little Santa Anita. By July or August of the same year the trail was completed, and E. S. Hereford, a stepson of Wilson, had charge of the first pack train bringing down fence-posts, pickets, and shingles to the town of San Gabriel in the valley. Before the completion of the trail Wilson and his children's tutor had made the ascent to the top of "Wilson's Peak". In the narrative of their trip, mention is made of their following an old bear trail to a spring of pure, cold water on the north-west slope of the mountain.

The original trail did not keep to any fixed grade, but followed the top of the spur along whose west side it now runs, and then continued from saddle to saddle in order to gain elevation. The first water found along the trail was from a spring west of and above what is now known as the Quarter-way House. From this point the trail followed comparatively easy grades through the oaks and madrones to the Half-way

ANNALS OF EARLY SIERRA MADRE

House, now called Orchard Camp. From here the trail passed through the flat, later the site of the orchard which gave the camp its name, then continued up the main Little Santa Anita Canyon to the head where it crossed over, and in short steep stretches climbed the manzanita-covered ridge to the point where it now joins the old Mount Wilson Toll Road on the east side of Martin's Peak, now Mount Harvard. Around Mount Harvard the trail was comparatively level, there was a steep grade up to the saddle between Harvard and Wilson, then level again for a short distance and another steep climb of half a mile to the summit.

This early trail over Mount Wilson did not end at the peak, but continued down the back side to the West Fork of the San Gabriel and up the canyon to where Valley Forge Camp is now located, thence up to Barley Flats, Pine Flats (Charleton Flats), Chilao, Horse Flats and the Buckhorn country. This trail from the West Fork to Barley Flats was one of the steepest trails I have ever traveled. A pack burro hardly knew whether his next lunge would carry him forward or tip him over backwards.

In the spring and early summer of 1893 in order to get rid of this bad stretch of trail, John Hartwell, one of the first rangers in the San Gabriel Reserve, and I built a new trail along a route which had been laid out roughly by Louie Newcomb. This trail started up a canyon which headed towards a low saddle in the ridge between the West Fork of the San Gabriel and the upper Tujunga Canyon, climbed onto the center ridge at the fork of the canyon, and by a fairly easy grade reached the low saddle on the ridge east of Barley Flats. It then dropped down into the upper Tujunga where it connected with the old trail to Pine Flats, thereby eliminating a long, tiresome trip up the West Fork and over Barley Flats. "Shortcut" was the name given to both canyon and trail.

In the spring of 1889 Harvard College established the first observatory and telescope on Mount Wilson and the trail was widened in places to facilitate the transportation of the heavy castings and other large pieces of observatory equipment. In 1891, to accommodate the increasing tourist travel to Mount Wilson, long stretches of the original trail from the beginning

MT. WILSON AND STURTEVANT TRAIL

to Martin's Camp were abandoned and replaced with easier grades.

The first buildings along the Mount Wilson Trail were at the Half-way House and were built by Don Benito Wilson during the construction of the trail in 1864 and consisted of a three-room cabin, stable, blacksmith shop and a small building later used as a chicken house, all built of timbers and long split shakes. The property was later homesteaded by George Islip and George Aiken, who planted the orchard of apples, cherries, plums and chestnuts, some of which still remains. In 1880, on my first trip up the trail, there were still piles of unused shakes and fence posts about, and hanging up in the shop was a long pit saw used in ripping out timber for building purposes. By this time, Islip and Aiken had abandoned the property and it had reverted to the government.

Before 1889 the Half-way House property was again homesteaded, this time by Captain Fred Staples, an old forty-niner, who lived there for some years and then sold the property to A. G. Strain who leased it to various people for resort purposes.

James McNally was the first one to make use of the Half-way House (Orchard Camp) as a resort. He was followed by James Beard, Foster Huston and several other lessees. M. A. DeTemple is the present occupant (1931). Orchard Camp was a favorite destination of week-end hikers.

The only other early building along the Mount Wilson Trail, presumably built for men hired by Wilson to get out lumber, was a large log cabin on the north slope of Mount Wilson and on the west side of the ravine some distance below where Strain's Camp was later built. This cabin was later destroyed by a fire which burned over the entire peak, including numerous piles of fence posts and pickets on the top of Mount Wilson which had not been packed down.

The old Quarter-way House, one and three-quarters miles from Sierra Madre and between the present trail and the stream was built by Emile Deutsch in 1888 and was used by the family for many years. Later the property was leased to George A. Damon, then Dean of California Institute of Technology, and several other cabins were built nearby to be used by his rela-

ANNALS OF EARLY SIERRA MADRE

tives and friends. It was later the week-end home of G. K. Simmons.

At about this time Pete Stiel and his wife started Stiel's Camp at the saddle between Mount Harvard and Mount Wilson and here a daughter was born, the first American baby of this part of the San Gabriels. She was named Alta Montana Stiel. The camp was later owned and operated by Clarence Martin and known by the more familiar name of Martin's Camp.

During the World War I others were added to the few remaining camp buildings, and the site, together with Harvard Peak, was used as a signal station in connection with the balloon school at Ross Field. Later it was a construction camp during the building of the road from Mount Wilson to Red Box. Several years ago the buildings were all removed and there remains little today to mark the site.

Prior to the locating of the observatory on Mount Wilson, A. G. Strain had homesteaded there, and in the spring and summer of 1889 had opened Strain's Camp which consisted of one log cabin, tents and a canvas-covered dining room. In the fall of '89 he built another log cabin and made extensive improvements in preparation for the summer of 1890 as the opening of the observatory brought many people up to Mount Wilson.

Some time later the Pasadena and Mount Milson Toll Road Company obtained property on the peak and built the Mount Wilson Hotel and cottages. Then the company built a trail from Eaton's Canyon to Mount Wilson via Henniger Flats. From this trail one could look down onto the uncultivated uplands west of Eaton's Canyon where Altadena now stands. There below, thousands of golden California poppies bloomed in the spring. General Stoneman of San Gabriel once told my parents of having seen, when he was at Wilmington, this poppy field spread "like a golden sheet" at the foot of the San Gabriel Mountains some thirty or forty miles away. This trail was widened later into a stage road, the famous Mount Wilson Toll Road.

The first lumber and building material used in the con-

MT. WILSON AND STURTEVANT TRAIL

struction of the Mount Wilson Hotel and cottages was packed up the Sierra Madre-Mount Wilson Trail by William M. Sturtevant who came into Sierra Madre from Colorado with a string of twenty-three burros which had been used for packing ore and supplies for the mines there. The history of the burro corrals is inseparably linked with that of the trails. The trails, on the whole, were not objectionable, but the corrals, from time to time, caused considerable disturbance in an ordinarily peaceful community. Even as late as 1920 burro "zoning wars" cropped up in Sierra Madre. The first burro corral at the foot of the Mount Wilson Trail was operated by George Carter (not related to the writer) on property leased from N. C. Carter. Then the lease passed into the hands of Deutsch and Robinson. From them it went to Sturtevant, and later to Holmes, Staats and Wright of the Mount Wilson Hotel Company.

About 1908 N. C. Carter sold the property to Rich and Beard who erected the larger stable buildings. At first all the traffic was on the Mount Wilson Trail, but later when the Sturtevant Trail was built, the same corral served as packing headquarters for it. From here, when the mountain resorts were at the height of their popularity, pack trains of twelve to fifteen or twenty burros made daily trips up the Sturtevant Trail to the Big Santa Anita Canyon and on to Sturtevant's Camp. Food, lumber and household supplies were the principal materials packed up the trails. Pack trains also traveled up and down the Mount Wilson Trail, but not so frequently as on the Sturtevant Trail.

One of the "rules of the trail" when a pack train came along was for the hiker to stand on the outside edge of the trail while the burros passed. Timid people, however, often sought the apparent security of the inside bank, and as a result, sometimes got badly bruised, as a burro always plants his hoofs stubbornly in the rut worn in the center of the trail no matter what obstructions his pack may encounter. Burros could be hired as saddle animals for trips up the trail. More than once I have seen ladies who had mounted burros at the foot of the trail and who had not budged from their backs the entire ten or eleven miles to Sturtevant's Camp. By that time it was all

ANNALS OF EARLY SIERRA MADRE

they could do to get off the animals, much less move after they had dismounted. Today all that remains of these burro stables and packing headquarters at the head of Mountain Trail Avenue in Sierra Madre are the buildings—now used for parking automobiles.

The original Sturtevant Trail was that which crosses upper Winter Creek and passes through Hoegee's Camp. It was first known as the Burlingame Trail and was built as far as Winter Creek in 1886 and 1887 by a grading contractor, Burlingame, who intended hauling out the heavy stand of big cone spruce which is above Hoegee's Camp. The trail started in the canyon north of the Lannon property (just west of Double Drive at the eastern boundary of Sierra Madre), and had been completed nearly to the stand of timber when the entire San Gabriel Range was made into the San Gabriel Forest Reserve.

Not until 1897 when Sturtevant and Strain developed the idea of building a short cut to the Antelope Valley was any further interest taken in the trail. At this time, articles of incorporation were taken out and the trail was known as the "Sierra Madre and Antelope Valley Toll Trail." Officers of the corporation were A. G. Strain, president; A. N. Carter, secretary. In the spring of the same year, work commenced on the trail again. Overgrown brush was cleared away, slides were removed, a new section of trail was built, from where Carter's Camp was later established in the Little Santa Anita Canyon to the original foot of the trail on the Lannon ranch, and the trail was extended to what is now Sturtevant's Camp and then to the West Fork of the San Gabriel Canyon. For a while toll was collected from people going beyond Sturtevant's, but the idea was soon dropped.

In April, 1897, in order to establish a preliminary grade for the trail beyond Sturtevant's Camp, L. T. Newcomb and I went up the Mount Wilson Trail and down into the West Fork of the San Gabriel where we stayed over night at Newcomb's hidden cabin. Joseph Grinnell, Professor of Zoology at the University of California, tells how the young men of Pasadena who frequented the San Gabriels at that time welcomed every opportunity to learn about the mountains from

MT. WILSON AND STURTEVANT TRAIL

Louie Newcomb. He laid out many of these early trails, and in recent years his knowledge of the San Gabriels has been invaluable to engineers building roads into the "back country".

The next morning we went on down the West Fork and then turned south, up a side canyon to what is now known as Newcomb's Pass. From there we worked out a preliminary grade into the canyon where Sturtevant's Camp now stands. We had intended to camp that night at Santa Oline Canyon, where blankets and provisions had been left previously, but nightfall overtook us just as we reached the foot of the Sturtevant Falls. We gathered wood for the night and ate a biscuit and some jerky left from our lunch. The April night was far from warm; so until early morning it was a matter of alternately freezing one side and thawing the other as we attempted to sleep by the fire. By nine o'clock the next morning we reached our blankets and provisions, and from there we had a good trail to Sierra Madre.

Early in the summer of 1898, William Sturtevant and his family opened Sturtevant's Camp to the public. The camp consisted of a dining room, store, tents and two or three small frame buildings and was, for many years, one of the most popular resorts in the San Gabriel Range. Numerous families regularly spent their vacations there and many hikers made it a stopping place on trips over Mount Wilson and into the back country. Later the camp was operated for a time by J. M. Beard and in 1915 was sold to Edward J. Killian and for several years past has been managed for him by V. B. Hoopes. The lease, buildings and equipment were later sold to F. C. Thomas who was in active management. It may be that Sturtevant's Camp, known to all mountain folks of the old days as one of the most beautiful spots in the range, will regain its old popularity.

The old cabin, constructed of squared logs, which was long used as library and recreation room at Sturtevant's, was built by Louie Newcomb and others in 1903 and was occupied by him as Ranger for that district. It has always remained the property of the U. S. Forestry Department.

Hoegee's Camp, on the original Sturtevant Trail, was

ANNALS OF EARLY SIERRA MADRE

started in 1908 by Arie Hoegee, now senior member of A. Hoegee and Sons, of Los Angeles. It has a beautiful setting on Winter Creek, one and one-half miles up from Big Santa Anita and has been a popular resort for nearly thirty years.

Fern Lodge, near the foot of Sturtevant Falls, was started in 1916 by Earl Topping of Sierra Madre who managed it for four years. In March 1920, he sold it to Mr. and Mrs. R. B. Hosford. The later trail to Sturtevant's, and beyond, passes through Fern Lodge and here also starts the East Fork Trail to Spring Camp and Monrovia Peak.

Across the stream and nearer the falls, the Sierra Club, Southern Chapter, built their first mountain home and dedicated it "Muir Lodge", in October, 1913.

Roberts' Camp, once the largest resort in the canyon, was started in September, 1912, by Otto L. Roberts and Joe Clark. Though the buildings are still standing, many of the cabins have been sold for private recreation homes, and the resort has been closed for several years.

First Water Camp, where Santa Anita Trail first meets the canyon stream, was started in 1919 by Lee F. Tigh who at that time purchased three private cabins on forestry lease and began construction of the present store, restaurant and recreation hall. Facilities were gradually increased until there were twenty-three cabins and accommodations for one hundred and eight persons. In May, 1928, the lease was transferred to P. J. Benson; in March, 1929, to A. D. Choate, and in July, 1932, back to Benson again. In December, 1933, it was purchased by James A. Steele, and his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Steele, were installed as managers. Many additions and improvements have been made since and First Water Camp is regaining its old popularity.

Most mountain areas give shelter to at least one recluse. The Hermit of the Big Santa Anita Canyon was an Armenian who came to Sierra Madre about 1898 with an old horse and an even older buckboard. He built himself a small stone house in Big Santa Anita Canyon downstream from where First Water Camp is situated. His house, built without windows, was ventilated only by small openings between the mortar and

MT. WILSON AND STURTEVANT TRAIL

the rocks. Here he lived in seclusion and, among other things, made medicines out of native herbs. About once a week he came down the trail, at first with his old horse and later with a wheelbarrow, for necessary supplies. When the Forest Service opened Santa Anita Canyon to cabin owners, the Hermit did considerable work in helping build cabins, and in a blasting accident he lost one eye. Until his death in about 1929 this wiry little man with his long dark hair, his shaggy dark beard, and with a black patch over one eye, formed a picturesque figure in our mountains.

The first of many recreation and week-end cabins now in Big Santa Anita Canyon was built in 1908 by a group of Sierra Madre boys who formed the Swastika Club. Among the active members were Dale Bowen, Roy Bowen, Henry Olsen, Ray Bravender and Leonard Tucker. Cement, other building materials and equipment for their stone and log cabin were packed in by the old trail and down into the canyon through Winter Creek on the backs of the boys. "Swilliken Den," as the cabin was called, because of some joke on Bravender, was torn down in the summer of 1936.

At the foot of the mountains in the Little Santa Anita Canyon a camp consisting of thirty-seven tent-houses and five cottages was opened to the public by the Carter brothers in the spring of 1906. After the first year it was run by Mr. and Mrs. A. N. Carter. In 1913 the property was sold and subdivided into building lots. Carter's Camp was very popular with people who did not wish to make the more strenuous trips into the mountains on the backs of patient burros. Many families stayed at the camp as long as one or two months each season, the head of the family commuting to his work each day. On January 1, 1906, the Pacific Electric Railway began its passenger service to Sierra Madre, thereby adding greatly to the success of Carter's Camp and to the popularity of the nearby trails and mountain resorts.

For several years, up to about 1916, hundreds, and perhaps even thousands, of hikers used to travel up and down these trails every week-end. The procession of laughing and singing hikers would begin early Saturday afternoon and continue until

ANNALS OF EARLY SIERRA MADRE

dusk, or, on moonlight nights, far into the night. Then Sunday afternoon the hikers came down, many of them foot-sore and subdued, and climbed onto the special Pacific Electric cars waiting to take them back to Los Angeles and adjacent towns. But now, auto roads have slashed into the mountainsides, and only those people who hike for the love of hiking use these trails.

CHAPTER III

EARLY DAYS OF SIERRA MADRE

By MRS. N. C. (ANNETTA M.) CARTER

NATHANIEL COBURN CARTER, the founder of Sierra Madre, was born in Lowell, Mass., in 1840. He came to California first in 1871 on account of ill health.

Nature, aided by climate, however, accomplished what other remedial agents failed to do. Returning to Lowell in the spring of 1872 and settling affairs as much as possible, he again came to California to make it his permanent home.

In 1873 he located near San Gabriel on the Flores Ranch, which is now a portion of the Hotel Huntington grounds. Few of the pioneers spent more time than he in making known to eastern people the virtues of the great West, and it was he, who in 1872 organized the Carter excursions, first of the thousands of excursions that were later conducted for bringing prospective settlers and tourists to the coast. He was among the first to lay out lots in Pomona and Monrovia, and in many ways to promote the general welfare of Southern California.

In February, 1881, he bought from E. J. Baldwin (Lucky) 845 acres, 108 acres from the Southern Pacific and 150 acres from John Richardson, making in all the 1103 acres which now make up Sierra Madre.

Mr. Carter paid Mr. Baldwin \$33,880 for the land and one-half of the water rights in the Little Santa Anita Canyon, the water being distributed in pipes throughout the tract. In the "Withrow Water Right", one of the "Foothill Stories" written by Margaret Collier Graham, is mentioned the "Flutter Wheel Spring". The water from this spring is now running into the swimming pool in the Little Santa Anita Canyon.

Sierra Madre was first laid out in twenty and forty acre lots. There were only three main avenues running east and west—Live Oak, Central and Grand View. Baldwin Avenue, run-

ANNALS OF EARLY SIERRA MADRE

ning north and south, was the central business thoroughfare. Sierra Madre was connected with the surrounding towns by adobe roads on which one would mire in the winter and be covered with fine soil in the summer. A day's shopping in Los Angeles then meant six or seven hours on the road and up the hill home.

The first purchasers of land were W. S. Andrews, C. E. Cook, E. T. Pierce, W. A. Spaulding, Mrs. C. B. Jones, A. D. Trussell, Adonijah Gregory, C. W. Clement, Miss Frances Hawks, N. H. Hosmer, and R. E. Ross. Mr. Carter built a school house on Live Oak Avenue near Hermosa. The home place was built in the summer of 1882, all of the building materials were hauled from Los Angeles by four-horse teams.

It was his untiring personal work with Mr. H. E. Huntington and the securing of important rights-of-way that made it possible for the Pacific Electric Railroad to build into Sierra Madre, others completing the work after Mr. Carter passed away in 1904, at the age of 64.

CHAPTER IV

THE FIRST THINGS OF SIERRA MADRE

By REV. ARTHUR O. PRITCHARD

Pastor of the Congregational Church 1926-1940

JUST SIXTY YEARS ago this spring (1941) Mr. Carter bought the first land from Mr. E. J. Baldwin and began the sale of land to future Californians. This is well within the memory of living men and women and we ought to save the record of these beginnings. How best can we do it?

Our Historical Society has begun a worthy collection of authentic material. When asked to write this paper I read the splendid papers gathered by our Historian, Mrs. Edith Blumer Bowen, on the early history as seen through the eyes of those who were here when Sierra Madre was born and still young. Also I have interviewed Mr. Arthur Carter (son of N. C. Carter), Mrs. E. T. Pierce, Mrs. C. E. Cook, Mr. W. A. Spalding (all of whom were original settlers); Mrs. Bowen (daughter of Mr. J. G. Blumer), Mr. John W Hart (son of Prof. J. J. Hart), Mr. James Hawks and his sister Miss Daisy Hawks (children of Mr. Ammi Hawks) who came to Sierra Madre by 1887. In addition I would say that Mr. C. W. Jones and Mr. George B. Morgridge threw light on several points in the story. We thus seek to preserve for future generations cause to love our city not only for its climate and scenery but because of its traditions and the character of those who made it possible.

In order that we clarify our thinking, let us look carefully at the beginnings of our beautiful city. When Mr. N. C. Carter acquired the tract of 1103 acres, there were two houses or cabins on the place built ten to fifteen years earlier, in the sixties. The first was the one where John Richardson and his wife lived, standing under the eucalyptus trees at the upper

ANNALS OF EARLY SIERRA MADRE

end of Mountain Trail Avenue, about opposite Sturtevant Road. The other was the cabin in which the James M. Smith family lived, standing about where the Chinese house is on the Churchill Road.

Mr. Richardson was a rough and ready pioneer who came across the plains in a covered wagon, and who claimed one of his sons was scalped by the Indians on the way. Richardson held a government claim to a tract on the west side of the Canyon. John Richardson and Betsy Richardson deeded his government claim of 151 acres to Levi Richardson December 29, 1879. Accordingly Mr. Carter bought 150 acres from his son Levi when he opened "The Tract" in 1881. Richardson continued to live in his house for a time, but after a few years it was moved to 18 Cypress Court where it stands at this time now (1950), owned and occupied by Mrs. Lillian Smith. The Smiths and the young Richardsons were related; Mrs. Richardson being Smith's sister. James M. Smith was a man who lived on the fact that he was a veteran of the "War between the States" as they say in the South, and who helped to serve his country by raising a family of ten or twelve children. The family was so under the influence of the Civil War that Smith wore his Grand Army of the Republic emblems frequently and they called their youngest child "Adalissa Godfrey Post Smith". the Godfrey Post of Pasadena being the unit of the G.A.R. to which Smith belonged.

On the opposite side of "The Tract" was another pioneer family. Their name was Learned, and they lived in the house which was built by the Baileys in the sixties and occupied by Mr. Albert Gregory for many years, when Superintendent of the Hastings Ranch. Mrs. E. T. Pierce, who boarded with the Learneds until her house was built, and who then had them as neighbors, said they were a cultivated family which had come from Boston because of their father's health. They lived here but a few years and their house was outside the Carter tract. It was between these two houses, Richardson's and Learned's, that Sierra Madre was to grow.

Let us begin our investigations by asking, "Who built the first house?" At first this seems simple to answer, but several

THE FIRST THINGS OF SIERRA MADRE

complications appear. First, several of the houses were temporary abodes. They were occupied only long enough to complete a more permanent home. For instance, Miss Frances Hawks' first dwelling was a one-room structure erected in one day. The Gregorys camped in a tent or tents until their house was finished, and the Trussells, of whom there were seven, swarmed in a two-room bee house waiting for their abode. Should these be counted as houses?

In the second place, the first families came so near together their records became interlocked and confused. It is interesting between early fall 1881 and January 1st, 1882, no less than eight families moved into the Sierra Madre Tract. These were the Trussells, Hawks, Gregorys, Spaldings, Clements, Cooks, Pierces and Hosmers.

I put our question regarding the first house to Mr. Spalding and he said, "I built the second house on the tract and I think it still remains." It is at present occupied by Mr. and Mrs. H. W. Glidden, 305 West Laurel Avenue. When I asked him who built the first, he replied, "Mr. A. J. Gregory, a Quaker, who lived below me on Central Avenue, and who helped me build my house. I paid him \$1.00 a day, no hours stipulated, and that was all he asked." Mr. Spalding also showed me the deed to his property; it was dated December 12, 1881. Mrs. Spalding followed the next month, which meant the house was completed. He may have begun building before the deed was executed as he holds an Agreement to Convey the land dated October 1, 1881. In his story found in the Bowen papers he says he began "about Christmas time". It is interesting to note that Mr. Cook and Mr. Clement moved their houses from Florence and San Gabriel respectively at just about this same time. My call on Mr. Spalding was very enjoyable. He showed me two paintings of Sierra Madre made by a Mr. Lewis, an English artist who sojourned for a year or two with friends in the tract. One is a picture of his home and another of the mountains to the east. Mr. Lewis also painted the picture of Miss Frances Hawks which hangs in the Parish House of the Episcopal Church. Mr. Spalding was here only four or five years, but he has always retained a deep interest in Sierra

ANNALS OF EARLY SIERRA MADRE

Madre.* He laid out Lima Street and named it Markham for Gov. Markham. For many years he served on the Los Angeles Times and the Los Angeles Herald and he claims to have planted the first orange grove in Los Angeles on the site of the Library.

Mrs. Cook gave me definite data as to her own home. She came to Southern California from Lowell, Massachusetts, on one of the Carter excursions in 1878. Going straight to the town of Florence, now a part of Los Angeles, she was married to Charles E. Cook, to whom she was engaged before coming to California. While in Florence, Mr. Cook became interested in land in Sierra Madre because his asthma was so much better there. Their daughter, Gertrude, was born in their home in Florence, and six weeks after that event Mrs. Cook and the baby came to Sierra Madre. Meanwhile the house had been sawed in two and moved to Sierra Madre on wheels. This was about December 1, 1881. She and the baby came about December 15, 1881.

Mrs. E. T. Pierce is living in Pasadena with her daughter (1941).* Though troubled with poor eyesight, her mind is as active as that of a young woman. She came to Sierra Madre with her husband, Prof. Edward T. Pierce, November 19, 1881. Mr. Hosmer and Mr. Twycross who afterward came to Sierra Madre were on the same train with the Pierces from the East. They took property on the west side of Sierra Madre above Central Avenue (now Sierra Madre Boulevard), extending from Central to Grand View. While Mrs. Pierce boarded with the Learneds, Prof. Pierce and his carpenter built a house on what is now the Barlow property. Prof. Pierce planted the eucalyptus and olive trees which are now such an ornament to the place, and later he divided the property by putting in Highland Avenue. Prof. Pierce was the first school teacher in Sierra Madre, the first post office was in his home, and he is credited with having suggested the name of Sierra Madre to the new settlement. In 1883, only two years after his arrival, the Pierces

*Ed. Note: Mr. Spalding died 1941, aged 89.

*Ed. Note: Mrs. Pierce died in Pasadena in 1948, aged 97.



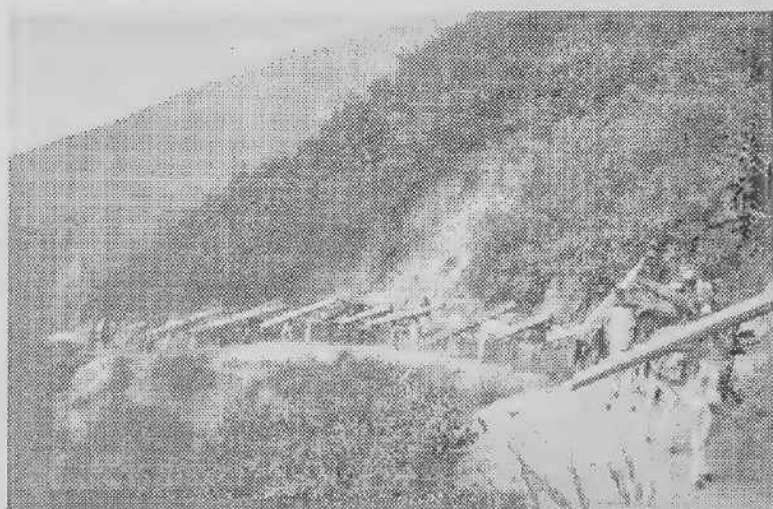
NO. 5

Percy W. Wilson home and family. The house is still standing at 397 West Montecito Avenue.



NO. 6

First house, built in the sixties
Still standing at 18 Cypress Court



NO. 7

PACK TRAIN
Lumber for mountain cabins



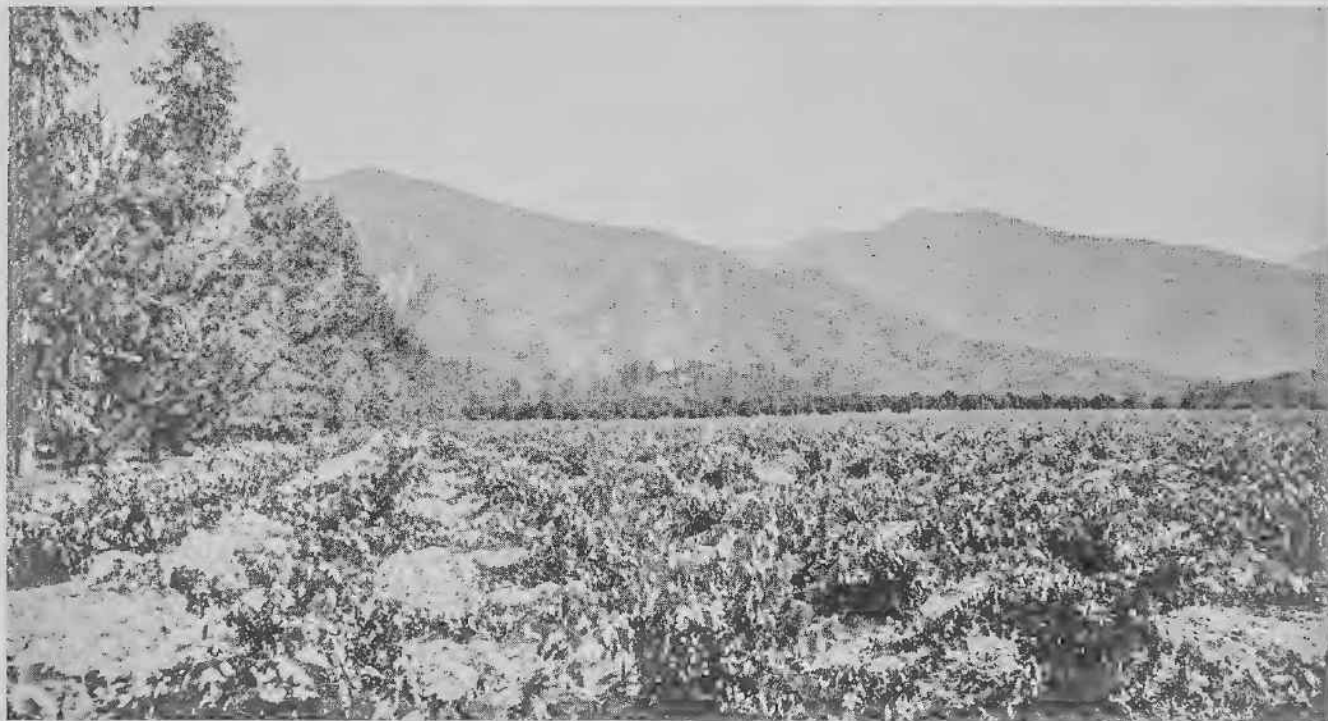
NO. 8

DR. NORMAN BRIDGE
Distinguished physician from Chicago



NO. 9

His home at Southeast corner of Auburn and Mira Monte
Razed in 1945, grand old trees remain



NO. 10

Monte Lado tract as it was. Vineyard and citrus grove lying between Grandview and Carter Avenues.

THE FIRST THINGS OF SIERRA MADRE

moved to Pasadena where he took charge of the Pasadena High School. He retained a house on his property at Sierra Madre Boulevard and Michillinda for many years, to which they came for week-ends, vacations, and so forth. After serving with distinction as Principal of the Normal School in Chico and at Los Angeles, he retired here and built the house now owned by the Moote family (689 West Sierra Madre Boulevard). During this second period he served the City as President of the School Board and Mrs. Pierce was a member of the Library Board. Coming to Sierra Madre November 19, 1881, and building his house after this date rules him out as the builder of the first house. Indeed, Mrs. Pierce says that the Learneds, Smiths, Richardsons, the Trussells and the Gregorys were here when they came.

Let us now examine the claim of the Trussells. According to Mrs. Pierce they were here November 19, 1881, when she arrived; the Bowen Notes state they moved here in July 1881; the record left by Miss Hawks says they were living in temporary quarters when she moved onto the tract September 1, 1881. Mr. Spalding thinks their house was built after his. But the Cook house, 147 West Sierra Madre Boulevard, of which he makes no mention, and Miss Hawks' small cottage were certainly here at Christmas time 1881. The Trussells took up land north of Grand View, along Auburn and west beyond what is now Adams, twenty-two acres in all. Mr. Trussell built a house about in the middle of the tract. Later he sold the lower portion, including the house, to Mr. J. G. Blumer and built another farther north, later bought by Mr. George Humphries. This was at 214 West Carter, across the street from the Wistaria Vine.

Whatever may be said about the date of their home, the Trussells were a fine enterprising family, the father being a native of New Hampshire, and the mother of Ohio. The first wedding in Sierra Madre was that of their daughter, Winona, who married Edward B. Jones of El Monte, March 7, 1883. The ceremony was performed by the Rev. A. G. L. Trew of San Gabriel. This young couple built the original house where the Wistaria Gardens now are on Carter Avenue.

ANNALS OF EARLY SIERRA MADRE

While the Bowen Notes record that Mr. Trussell was the first to "purchase land and take up his residence in Sierra Madre", a little different story is told by Miss Hawks as to the purchase of the first place:

"My brother, Nelson G. Hawks, was the first purchaser of land in the Sierra Madre Tract, having arranged with Mr. Carter before the latter received his conveyance from Mr. Baldwin (Spring 1881). When Carter was ready to execute deeds, my brother Nelson turned his interest of forty acres over to my brother Ammi D. Hawks, and myself, twenty acres each, and Carter deeded to us direct."

Miss Hawks in an entertaining story* of the coming of her family makes the following contribution to the problem of first settlers:

"When my mother and I came September 1, 1881, the only families here were the Richardsons and Smiths. The Trussells were living in a two-roomed old bee house while waiting for a better house. The Gregorys were living in tents while waiting for their home. Other families came soon after. The year 1883 we numbered seventeen families."

One of the earliest immigrants into Sierra Madre was Mr. Charles N. Clement, a native of Fall River, Massachusetts, whose first wife was a sister of Mr. N. C. Carter, the founder of Sierra Madre. In the fall of 1881 he bought the forty acres running from Sierra Madre Boulevard to Orange Grove Avenue, where the city park now is. He moved a building from San Gabriel which had been a butcher shop and added to it. When Mr. and Mrs. Hosmer came to Sierra Madre in December 1881 they spent their first night at the Cooks but the next day moved to the Clement place where they remained until their own house was built, and which still stands (1950 on the rear of lot at 52 West Sierra Madre Boulevard).

Mr. Clement later sold his forty acres to Mr. J. J. Hart and bought a small holding from Miss Fanny Hawks on Grand View. Here he lived until his death in 1900. Mr. Hart laid out Hermosa Avenue.

Regarding the Gregory house, later known as the Fowler

*Ed. Note: Found elsewhere in this volume.

THE FIRST THINGS OF SIERRA MADRE

place, at 451 West Sierra Madre Boulevard and now at 450 West Montecito Avenue, we have several witnesses to the fact that this is one of the oldest houses, if not the oldest, built after Carter laid out the Sierra Madre Tract. Mrs. Pierce, Mrs. Cook, Mr. Spalding and Mr. Arthur Carter all agree it antedates their houses. If we look at the Hawks house as a recognized temporary abode, the question of a permanent abode rests between the Trussell and the Gregory houses. Certain it is that Mr. Gregory came with his family here in the summer or early fall of 1881, that he was an industrious, honest, God-fearing Quaker; that he acquired land from Mr. Carter on Central Avenue and built a permanent house and being a carpenter assisted others to build their houses. As to which was actually the first house built in Sierra Madre, we must answer as a college professor used to say, "In the light of further research".

The first public building erected in Sierra Madre was the school house, built on the northwest corner of what is now Hermosa and Orange Grove Avenues, by Mr. Carter. It was erected as a school to serve a wide area—the Baldwin ranch, Chapmans, a mile toward Lamanda Park, as well as Sierra Madre. The land was owned by Mr. Carter, but soon was sold to Mr. Clement and by him to Mr. John J. Hart. During Hart's ownership it was still used as a school. A graphic description of this school building may be found in the reminiscences written by Mr. John W. Hart,* who as a boy was a pupil in that school.

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The teachers in this school were first Prof. Pierce who taught during 1882 and 1883; second Mrs. Chloe B. Jones, who had been previously principal of the Los Angeles High School. In 1887 the school was moved to a new building on a new site, the northwest corner of Central and Baldwin where Kersting Court now is. Numerous pepper trees were planted around the school grounds, those now by the Pacific Electric station being among the few remaining.

The first store in Sierra Madre was the grocery store of Mr. W. H. Robinson, opened in 1884 in his own house. He first

*Ed. Note: In this volume.

ANNALS OF EARLY SIERRA MADRE

lived on a tract of land east of Baldwin on the south side of Central. In the fall of 1886 he built a house at 65 North Baldwin. In this house he used one room as a store, but as the town grew he had to expand so he rented the corner store in the New Town Hall, northeast corner of Baldwin and Central, erected in 1887. Later he became postmaster and the post office was installed in the rear of his store. I say "he" but I should have said "she", for his wife, Mrs. Sarah A. Robinson, became postmistress. As he carried the mail from San Gabriel two or three times a week, he could not be appointed postmaster. The Robinsons were Republicans, so when the Cleveland administrations came along Mr. Crisp and Mr. Norris served four years each.

Mr. W. S. Andrews and his brother Oliver established a grocery store at Lima and Central in 1886. Shortly after this C. M. Clark & Company started a hardware store next to Andrews' grocery. In 1887 Mr. Crisp built "Central House" on the corner of Central and Lima. (S. E.). The same year, 1887, the "Sierra Madre Hotel" was completed on Lima and West Laurel, still standing (1950). The "Ocean View House", the first hotel in Sierra Madre, had previously been built by Mr. Carter on the northeast corner of Auburn and Mira Monte. Mr. Arthur Carter says this hotel was in process of building when the Carters moved here in 1883. About 1885 Mr. Emile Deutsch, a native of Belgium, moved here and built a house and cigar factory on Baldwin between Laurel and Victoria Lane. He continued this work until he died in 1920. Mr. Martin Olsen opened a shoe shop in 1887 on East Central and it is interesting that the business is still maintained by his son Henry in 1941. Miss Fanny Hawks built a business block on North Baldwin now occupied by the book store, and the apartments above. Mr. S. R. G. Twycross opened his office for real estate and insurance at his home on Esperanza and Baldwin in 1887. Later he inaugurated the bus line to the Santa Anita station of the Santa Fe Railway.

Why all of this activity in 1886 and 1887? THE BOOM! All of Southern California was in the throes of a tremendous boom. Houses, lots were bought and sold at fabulous figures.

THE FIRST THINGS OF SIERRA MADRE

Tracts were subdivided even part way up the mountain. Everyone went wild over land. One fair day the bubble burst, and the depression which followed kept the economic life submerged for many a day. But our paper has to do with days before the boom. We have referred to Prof. Pierce as the first postmaster. What of the post office?

In the earliest days of the settlement the mail came to San Gabriel. Each rancher was responsible for his own. Of course neighbors helped neighbors, but it was not long before Mr. Levi Richardson of Santa Anita Canyon was employed to go regularly two or three times a week and get the mail. After the office was transferred to Robinson's store, Mr. Robinson himself went after it. It was agreed in the beginning that Prof. Pierce's house should be the rendezvous where all might come to receive the precious messages from eastern friends and relatives. Prof. Pierce naturally became postmaster at the handsome salary of \$150.00 a year. By common consent the name Sierra Madre, which is the appellation of the sheltering mountains to the north and "the source of our life-giving water" was given to the new settlement. The post office remained in the Pierce's home until they moved away when it was moved to Mr. Robinson's store.

In 1890 Mr. S. R. Norris acquired the grocery business founded by Andrews Brothers, which meantime had passed through the hands of Hart and Norris and Spear and Norris. In 1895 Norris was appointed postmaster and in his desire to serve the people, installed the first system of lock and call box. On his retirement as postmaster in 1897 he retained the boxes in his store and maintained a quasi sub-post office until free delivery was established in 1918.

The first religious organization in Sierra Madre was a Sunday School which met in the schoolhouse at Hermosa and Orange Grove Avenues in 1882. The first superintendent was Mr. Adonijah Gregory, a Quaker, then followed W. S. Andrews, a Baptist, C. E. Cook, a Methodist, and John C. Dickson, a Congregationalist. To this school came people of all faiths. Occasionally preaching services were held by Rev. L. P. Crawford, a Presbyterian; Dean Trew, an Episcopalian;

ANNALS OF EARLY SIERRA MADRE

Rev. Mr. Fisk, a Baptist, and others. From the very start the two types of churchmanship were strongly represented in the settlement—those who had been trained in a ritualistic service, and those who were accustomed to a freer service. Naturally each group followed its own bent and early the Episcopal group began to work for a church. The leading spirit in this was Miss Frances Hawks, who gave her time, money and finally the land to build an Episcopal Church.

On September 30, 1885, the mission was formally organized by Bishop Kip. Services were first held in the school house at Baldwin and Central, but during the Fall and early Winter a small building was erected on the land given by Miss Hawks. The building was finished in February, 1886, having cost \$1760 not including the furnishings which were largely gifts. The first services were held February 10, 1886, and the building was consecrated May 6, 1886. On the night of October 10, 1887, a severe wind-storm arose and the little church collapsed under the strain. As other buildings were not severely injured, the conclusion has been reached that the design was faulty. The next day, amid the ruins, a meeting of the church was held and \$1300 was subscribed toward a second building fund. This was built larger and was first used November 11, 1888. This is substantially the present building (1941).

The non-liturgical group continued to meet in the school-house, but under the leadership of Rev. M. Lafayette Gordon, a missionary from Japan, home on furlough, they organized a Congregational Church March 27, 1886, with a charter membership of thirteen. Soon Mr. Gordon returned to Japan and Rev. Lucius Frary became the minister. Under his able care and that of his successor, Rev. E. P. P. Abbott, the church grew and a building was planned. On land donated by Mr. W. S. Andrews and Mr. C. E. Cook on Sierra Madre Boulevard opposite Hermosa Avenue the church was erected and first occupied April 7, 1890. On December 14, 1890, the sanctuary was formally dedicated to the Glory of God at a total cost of \$3366. This building was occupied until 1928.

A company of the "brethren" met weekly in the Town Hall

THE FIRST THINGS OF SIERRA MADRE

before 1906.* Father Barth began Catholic services about 1907. Bethany Church and the Jewish congregation both appeared much later in the century.

Inasmuch as our Library has played such an important part in the town life, no historical paper would be complete without a reference to its beginnings. It was founded by a group of the original settlers and incorporated under the laws of the state July 1886. The present building was erected the following year, a project in which forty families joined. The land as well as \$2000 of the original cost was donated by Mrs. R. E. Ross in memory of her husband. For many years it was supported by annual dues and subscriptions but in 1910, under the presidency of Mr. Potter, the city took charge of its support.

Further reference should be made to Mr. Potter for he is in danger of being lost sight of in Sierra Madre history. He was a friend of the Gregorys, Dr. Lee and Mr. Schlessenger, a retiring man of strong literary tastes who in later years had sought refuge in quiet Sierra Madre from the stress and strain of life. Naturally reserved he lived alone at 208 N. Grove Street, most of his days here, but interested himself much in the library. Due to his efforts many valuable books were acquired at little cost and the general scope of library service was greatly broadened. For instance, under his leadership the city tax for library maintenance was imposed and the children's department was strengthened.

The first doctor to come into the settlement was Dr. Frederick C. Gresham, who built a house on the eminence south of the Humphries and west of the small canyon. As Dr. Gresham came from Bromley, England, he called his estate Bromley Knoll. The house was subsequently torn down. Mr. and Mrs. Ayles, parents of Mrs. Gresham, built the house to the west now occupied by the Seilings. Dr. Gresham lived a few years and then his brother, Dr. Arthur Gresham, succeeded him as the town physician.

The first boy born in the Sierra Madre area was Lewis Reed, son of Mr. and Mrs. Palmer T. Reed. The first girl was Anita

*Ed. Note: And still meets (1950) in store room at 32 N. Baldwin.

ANNALS OF EARLY SIERRA MADRE

Carter, born December 3, 1882, youngest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. N. C. Carter, and in true story book form she married Holt Gregory, who was the first boy born in Sierra Madre proper, September 11, 1883*.

Sierra Madre was destined to become a ranching community unless transportation facilities were improved as it took three hours to drive from Sierra Madre to Los Angeles. In 1885 the Rapid Transit R. R. was built from Los Angeles to Lamanda Park and Monrovia. These points were much more convenient to embark from than the San Gabriel station of the Southern Pacific. Furthermore, this new line gave the service of two trains a day. In June 1886 the Santa Fe building in from the East absorbed the Rapid Transit, thus giving a direct line to the East. The Santa Anita station was at first an open platform with bench seats, but in 1888 the station was built. In 1906 the Pacific Electric line was completed through the efforts of Mr. J. G. Blumer and his committee, for which improvements the citizens paid all told \$25,000. From this time on the city has made steady and substantial progress.

Mr. C. W. Jones was elected the first mayor, which office he held for seven successive terms.**

*Ed. Note: Anita Carter was born soon after the family moved into their new home, Carterhia. Holt Gregory was born soon after his parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. N. Gregory, occupied their new home now standing (1950) at 468 W. Grand View Ave.

**Ed. Note: Elsewhere in this volume is a chapter briefly covering those years.

CHAPTER V

REMINISCENCES

The Town's Founder

By HARRY BURKE

Reporter for Sierra Madre News

"Private—No Trespassing."

Going in the gateway at the head of Baldwin Avenue that is only a sign to the stranger. Coming out, it is an emblazoned symbol of all that lies within. The little wooden sign is on the winding path that leads to the home of a woman who, in her privacy without trespassing, encompasses and typifies every chapter in the rugged history of California, all the way from the covered wagon days down through the Aladdin-like transition of Sierra Madre into the garden spot of the South.

On a knob at the top of the hill is the home of Mrs. N. C. Carter, widow of N. C. Carter, whose vision made Sierra Madre. He bought the site of the present city from "Lucky" Baldwin back in 1881.

Mrs. Carter was eighty-four years old in 1930. She lived alone in the big house she and her husband built in 1882. On chilly nights Mrs. Carter sat by her wood-burning stove—the same one she and her husband placed in the "sitting-room" nearly fifty years ago.

"I am not as active as I used to be," she said.

"I did not feel I was getting old until I was eighty; now I am eighty-four." Sixty years away from New England, her birth-place, she still talked with a Coolidge drawl.

"Oh, I don't know any r's," she said.

"Yes, Sierra Madre has passed through many stages since we came here." She looked out of the window to the south, over the wide sweep of the San Gabriel Valley, and its polka-

ANNALS OF EARLY SIERRA MADRE

dotted lights marking the cities that have sprung up since she first glimpsed the vista.

"It is not the same, even in daytime," she said. "Why, I remember when we could see the Pacific every day. It was like a silver ribbon way off there. But the cities have brought smoke to screen it and we don't see it as often now."

Mrs. Carter sat in the living-room of her home and turned back the pages of her history. Her son, Arthur Carter, who lived on Alegria Avenue, Sierra Madre, helped with the story. He was twelve years old when the family arrived here.

"We came from Lowell, Massachusetts," his mother began. "My husband was ill and he was advised to come West. They called it consumption in those days. He weighed 134 pounds when he came here, and when he got well and weighed two hundred pounds he was so well pleased he went back East to show them. He talked so much about the climate that many families from New England came here.

"The first time Mr. Carter came down here into this part of the State was in 1871. He came down to the San Gabriel River to fish with a Mr. Fowler and Mr. Moseby. Mr. Moseby was the superintendent of the Elgin Watch Works. Mr. Carter liked the country and we decided to come South. We left Danville in 1872 in a wagon and made about thirty miles a day, just took our time. There were trading stations on the way and we would aim to make one each day.

"When we arrived at the present site of Pasadena there were only two Mexican adobe houses there, one near the Southern Pacific and the other on Monk Hill in the northern part.

"Mr. Carter bought seventeen acres and a real old Spanish adobe house. It was just below where the Hotel Huntington is now.

"The first acreage Mr. Carter obtained in Sierra Madre was ten acres of the old John Richardson* place. He held a mortgage and was forced to foreclose so he got the ten acres. The Richardson homestead was where Cypress Court is now. The old house is still a part of the Court.

*Ed. Note: John Richardson was Levi's father.

THE TOWN'S FOUNDER

"You know Mrs. Richardson was a very hardy woman," said Mrs. Carter in a tone that indicated a fear that she might be dropping a bit of neighborhood gossip. "She used to cart wood and honey in an old wagon to Pasadena.

"Mr. Carter later bought 845 acres from "Lucky" Baldwin. Then he bought the George A. Macomber place. Macomber was a homesteader and his land was right here.* Then, of course, Mr. Carter bought all of the Richardson land. The Macomber land had government protected water rights. Mr. Carter entered into an agreement with Baldwin for half the rights from Little Santa Anita Canyon. He paid about forty dollars an acre. When he sold part of it he got sixty dollars an acre.

"The first thing Mr. Carter did was to provide water. They brought it from the stream and a tunnel in the Canyon. That water served the acreage below us, but we were too high here and Mr. Carter built his own reservoir and brought us a private water supply from the little canyon back of our house.

"The water, of course, assured the future of this section. We decided to bring people here to cultivate the land. He subdivided it into twenty and forty-acre plots, with Baldwin Avenue as the dividing line. People began to come in here then, and Mr. Carter made frequent trips to the East to bring others out.

"It was good to see them come in. Why, when we came here there was only the Richardson house, the Learned homestead on part of the Hastings Ranch, and the Smith family in the Canyon. Pasadena had grown somewhat by that time.

"At that time Los Angeles had about 7000 people, and it was a day's trip to go there from here for supplies. We would drive, just start right down the hill in a straight line. We turned no corners, we cut to Foothill through what is the Hastings watermelon field now. There were no roads. It would take us three hours to drive in. I remember Los Angeles in the rainy season was a terrible place. The mud in the streets was hub deep and we would have to hunt around for a dry

*Ed. Note: Meaning a part of this homestead.

ANNALS OF EARLY SIERRA MADRE

spot to get out of the wagon. When they put in plank walks it was considered quite an event.

"The first school house here was on Live Oak Avenue. Mr. Carter built it. It was just a square room with a hip roof and wood benches. The first church services were held in the school room. They would get a preacher to come over from Pasadena. He had to come in the afternoon because he held services in Pasadena in the morning. During six days of the week he worked in a planing mill.

"Services were held in the school until the Town Hall was built at Baldwin and Central. The hall was upstairs and services were held there. Then our teacher, Professor Pierce, became postmaster.

"Over there," said Mrs. Carter, "to the east you can see Monrovia with all its lights. Mr. Carter sold that townsite to the founders. He acted as agent for Mr. Baldwin.

"The boom came in 1886. That was when the new streets were laid out. Everyone was excited and the streets didn't track much as you find here now, for some streets don't jibe. After that first boom things settled down and the growth was slow but sure. People came here and built their homes.

"Dr. Norman Bridge, of Chicago, boarded with me when he first came here," said Mrs. Carter. "Mr. Carter thought he was the sort of man who would be a credit to Sierra Madre, and to encourage him to stay here he gave him an acre of ground at the southeast corner of Mira Monte and Auburn Avenues. Dr. Bridge built the house later sold and known as the Mira Monte Hotel.*

Mr. Carter also gave two acres for the new school on what is now known as Kersting Court, the ground on which Mrs. Chloe B. Jones planted the pepper trees."

Mrs. Carter was the official government weather agent in Sierra Madre for many years, and kept the rainfall record in spite of the fact that Col. H. B. Hersey, a nearby neighbor, had a complete U. S. Weather Bureau station here and recorded the

*Ed. Note: Razed in 1948.

EARLY DAYS OF SIERRA MADRE

data early every morning to take to the Los Angeles district headquarters.

"I sent in my rainfall report every month," said Mrs. Carter, "and they have complimented me for being so prompt. Before Col. Hersey came I used to send in the temperature and wind record too."

Ed. Note: Mrs. Carter died 1937, aged 91.

REMINISCENCES OF THE EARLY DAYS OF SIERRA MADRE

By MISS FRANCES H. HAWKS

One of Earliest Settlers

*"Backward, turn backward, O Time in your flight,
Make me a child again, just for tonight."*

* * *

My memory is ever clear in regard to the important events of long ago.

The life so simple was peaceful, though not exactly restful at all times. My dear mother's contentment was a constant joy to me—together we would stand and admire the mountains which mother said seemed to her as a sheltering arm protecting us from all harm.

The rapid growth of vegetation was a never ending surprise, the early sunrises were pictures of great beauty. Each day brought new delights as well as added cares, but my health was returning, which we considered the greatest recompense for our labor and self-denial.

Mr. N. C. Carter was opening a tract of land comprising 1103 acres, purchased from E. J. Baldwin and others, located at the foot of the Sierra Madre Mountains, nature's sanitarium. Hotel Sierra Madre Villa, one mile west of our colony, was and had been for years widely known as the finest health resort in Southern California, and its cures were heralded throughout the land.

The first state-editorial excursion on this Coast, in March, 1880, had been through this part of the country, and I had been one of the jolly crowd consisting of 75 wide-awake editors and their wives. We took in Riverside, where they were having

REMINISCENCES

their first Citrus Fair. A band of music escorted us to Redlands where a fine dinner awaited us and our lively appetites, then to San Bernardino, where we remained overnight, and after a good night's rest pushed on to Los Angeles where another banquet was in waiting.

We drove through Lucky Baldwin's ranch, sampled some of his fine wines, then on to the Sierra Madre Villa for dinner. Here I lost my heart entirely. The grand old mountains formed a beautiful background, making a picture never to forget. At the Villa, teeming with life as boarders filled it and with the addition of our lively crowd of 75, time passed quickly. After a brief rest we pushed on to Los Angeles and a fine banquet.

The following day our party separated and after enjoying the Citrus Fair we returned to San Francisco filled with enthusiasm over the beautiful country we had seen. Soon after Mr. Carter was busy with his army of workmen making ready our dear Sierra Madre to purchase, and I became an easy victim, nor have I had cause to regret my choice. There is but one Sierra Madre—that has no rival.

Upon my return to San Francisco the excursion became a theme of lively interest and we discussed it thoroughly, the verdict resulting in my return trip to Southern California later on in July, where I boarded at Willowdale with the Carters until I felt satisfied this was the country for me, and after securing a furnished cottage on Governor Stoneman's ranch I sent for Mother and our household goods. The goods were stored in the winery until we could take possession of our 20-acre ranch on the Sierra Madre Tract, in July, 1881. We could not find workmen to build our house, so had one room put up on our ranch as the house we were occupying was wanted. This indeed was a strange experience filled with thrills and adventures.

We were promised a room to be in readiness for us by Saturday night. The first load took Mother while I remained to catch the chickens and see that everything was left in good shape. Our piano was not brought until the following day. It was a most pathetic picture Mother gave me of her arrival at the ranch where our one-room castle was conspicuous by its

absence. One man had possession of the situation and only two corner boards were up and floor laid. The room was to be built in the shade of the only tree on our ranch. The sun was hot, Mother tired and anxious. An easy chair was taken from the load, and there she sat the remainder of the day awaiting my arrival with the next load of furniture and chickens, which was towards night. Mr. Taylor had come up from Alhambra to see how the room was progressing. He soon had things in shape when the door was hung, window put in, stove set up and we waded through shavings, blocks and sawdust to build a fire for our evening meal. Thus ended our first day in Sierra Madre. Coyotes and other animals were peeping Toms through the weary night, but our vigilance saved the biddies and their babies.

We soon found workmen to batten our room and build on two more rooms. With this change came a never to be forgotten surprise in the form of a fierce wind storm lasting several days and nights. A new chicken house had been built and posts set firmly in the ground, and there we spent our night, feeling it safer than our house. The chickens made us welcome. In one corner we had piled gunny sacks which served as cushions; we wrapped up well in cloaks and shawls for the night was cold, and took our worldly wealth, which consisted of a thousand dollars in gold besides jewelry. Morning came with no abatement of the wind. We then decided to try it another winter after putting more improvements on the house. Our stove pipe had taken wings during the night.

Mother, while looking after the chickens at feeding time in the early morning, met a coyote at the corner of the house on the same errand. It was hard to tell which was the more frightened; both ran in opposite directions, but only poor Mother screamed.

When in the valley we discovered our first gopher snake in the wood basket, the shock was dreadful. Shock second came the following day when I put my hand in a peach tree, nearly grasping a reptile instead of the fruit. A blood-curdling scream followed.

When my mother and I came to our ranch on September 1st,



NO. 11

HOME OF J. C. PEGLER
Still standing at 419 East Highland Avenue



NO. 12

PACK TRAIN
Provisions for mountaineers



NO. 13

Tennis Club. The game as popular then as now.

REMINISCENCES

1881, the only families here were the Richardsons and Smiths. The Trussells were living in a two-roomed old bee house while they put up a better house. The Gregorys were living in tents while waiting for their home. Other families came soon after. The year 1883 we numbered 17 families!

N. C. Carter	G. B. Renfro
A. D. Trussell	W. S. Andrews
M. J. Gregory	Robt. Hilton
W. A. Spalding	Franc
E. T. Pierce	Mrs. C. B. Jones
N. H. Hosmer	W. B. Crisp
C. W. Clement	Percy Wilson
C. E. Cook	Mrs. Hawks and
A. D. Hawks	daughter Frances

The first wedding occurred March 7th; Miss Winnie Trussell and a Mr. Jones. December 1883 brought four families—Wright, White, Montgomery, Patterson. At the close of 1884 we had 32 houses, the added names being:

R. E. Ross	Swain
Prof. J. J. Hart	G. B. Davis
Brainerd	Cates

S. R. Norris

March 1885 the writer sold the first town lot to Mr. Clement. On September 29th, 1885, the first lumber was hauled for the Episcopal Church. My brother, Nelson C. Hawks, was the first purchaser of land in the Sierra Madre Tract, having arranged with Mr. Carter before the latter got his conveyance from Baldwin. When Carter was ready to execute deeds, my brother turned his interest of forty acres over to my older brother, Ammi D. Hawks, and myself, twenty acres each, and Carter deeded to us direct.

Ed. Note: Miss Hawks died in 1925, aged 81.

REMINISCENCES

By MRS. N. H. (CLYMENA) HOSMER

Ladies, please do not think this is a newspaper story with all of the fine style that they can add to an article to make it interesting. It is only a few little instances that greeted us in our new life in this little suburban town of Sierra Madre. I am going to relate them just as they happened, for well do I remember them.

Mr. and Mrs. N. H. Hosmer came to Sierra Madre to live about the 20th of December, 1881. Mr. Hosmer had previously helped Mr. Cook to move his house up here from Florence. We arrived here one night at 8 o'clock with our household goods, furniture, farming implements, cook stove, groceries, etc. We stayed that night in Mr. Cook's house. The men brought the box spring mattress into the house, and with that and the blankets we made a dandy bed. The next morning after breakfast we went over to Mr. Clement's house where Mr. Hart now lives.*

It was formerly a butcher's shop, moved here from San Gabriel Mission. The ceiling was eleven feet high, the floor space was very small. Mr. Clement built a lean-to on for a kitchen and we were very comfortable. I remember that I unpacked the trunks and put things into the dresser drawers and placed the furniture in the proper places. We didn't have room for another chair even if we had had the chair.

Sunday morning we saw a small fire up in the mouth of the Canyon. That night the wind blew furiously from the north and east which spread the fire very rapidly. In a very short time it looked very frightful and dangerous. The men wanted to go and do something about it. It looked so frightful that we were afraid to be left alone. Mr. Hosmer hitched up the horses into the farm wagon. I had packed the most valuable things into the trunks again and he took us up to Mrs. Pierce's house. She lived where Mr. Felgate now does. Mrs. Cook and baby, Gertrude, slept with Mrs. Pierce and her baby, Vora. I slept

*Ed. Note: This was written about the 1880's. The site is now the City Park.

REMINISCENCES

on the couch. Mr. Hosmer and Mr. Cook came back and loaded their furniture onto the farm wagon in readiness to drive it away to a safe place if the fire came too near. They put ours out on the plowed land for safety.

Mr. E. J. Baldwin came to the rescue and sent a big gang of Chinamen up to fight it. Levi Richardson and Mr. Smith, who lived in the Canyon, helped them. We felt very grateful to Mr. Baldwin for his kindly help which saved us from going up in smoke. Mr. Hosmer came up and got us the next morning and brought us home. The house was well filled with dust and dirt. He asked me if I didn't wish I was in the East again. I replied, "*Yes, I do!*"

The only people living in Sierra Madre at that time were Mr. and Mrs. Gregory and son, Pliny; Mr. and Mrs. Pierce, Mr. Clement, Mr. and Mrs. Hosmer. Mr. Trussell and family, Mr. Irvin White and wife came very soon after. Mr. Hosmer brought all the lumber out from Los Angeles to build the house. He used to start very early in the morning and get home about 9 p.m. He did most of the work on the house himself as it was impossible to get any man to do carpentry at that time. An old man 70 years old built the chimney.

A man from Pasadena plastered the house. We lived in it quite a long time before it was plastered. One day we went into the city to get household supplies and brought out some laths for the house which made the load very heavy. When we got to Lamanda the wash was about fifty feet wide and quite deep and the horses would not attempt to cross it. They knew very well that they could not get the load to the other side. The result was that Mr. Hosmer picked me up and carried me across and I walked home to get a man to take another team to help them across the stream.

Mr. Hosmer was always very much interested in the welfare and progress of the town. He cleared and plowed the 48 acres which is now the Yerxa Ranch, also planted the orange and lemon trees, and 20 acres in the west part of town besides our own 21 acres. That was a lot of hard work.

He was very much interested in politics and enjoyed it very much. Mr. N. C. Carter said at one time that he carried the

ANNALS OF EARLY SIERRA MADRE

vote of Sierra Madre in his vest pocket. He came out on the winning side if he did work hard for it. It is needless to say that we had no neighborhood quarrels. We were like one big family ready to help each other at any time. Mr. Irvin White was sick at one time and Mr. Hosmer and Mr. Cook with some others went and plowed his 20 acres for him, all in one day.

One little incident used to happen. Mr. Carter was not able to do much work, so he went into Los Angeles quite often and came home at night. Of course it was a long and lonesome ride, so he used to talk to the horse a lot and sing a line of one of Moody and Sanky hymns, which went like this:

"One wide river to cross, One wide river to cross.

"Gid up along there, old Bell.

*"One wide river to cross, one wide river to cross, gid up
along there old Bell."*

After Mr. Hosmer set out the orange and lemon trees, the grasshoppers ate the foliage from them. He got paper sacks to save them, but the hoppers got most of them. Some of our friends came from Florence to visit us and kindly told us that they wouldn't give us two cents an acre for the land up here.

Some years later I went to Pasadena one day on business for Mr. Hosmer and when I was coming up to Sierra Madre a tramp held me up. He had a revolver in his hand and asked me if I had any money. I said, "*Not a darned cent.*" I took the buggy whip and was going to whack him in the face, he kindly faded away. After it was all over I screamed. Mr. Andrews' wood choppers heard me and thought it was the school children going home from school. I do not think I would be as brave as that today. I said to myself I would not go to Pasadena alone very soon. In a week I did go but did not see my Mexican tramp again.

One morning when I was getting breakfast I heard a coyote barking outside and looked out of the window and saw him looking up at me very longingly. I think he wanted some breakfast too.

These little instances with many others made life quite interesting in those early pioneer days in California.

RECOLLECTIONS

RECOLLECTIONS

By S. R. G. TWYXCROSS

"Most useful man in Sierra Madre"

On November 9th, 1881, I left my home on the banks of the Kennebec river in Maine to join, in Sierra Madre, California, Mr. and Mrs. N. H. Hosmer, Charles Clement, George B. Davis and several others. Miss Foote and I. B. Clapp were going to Pasadena, and the Platts to Los Angeles. Mrs. E. T. Pierce and baby, Vora, with Fred Pierce joined our party in the middle west at Galesburg, Ill. A carload of prominent Riversidens were put on the train, Mr. O. T. Johnson and family among the number.

Our trip out, which took nine days, was the most interesting of the fourteen trips across to Boston since that time; in fact, it would make a large book if all the exciting incidents were put on paper, like being held at Benson, Ariz., several hours in the middle of the night waiting for another train from California. The train crew locked up our sleepers and went up town to get something to eat when a lot of cowboys, not being able to get in the doors, built a fire of railroad ties under our car to drive us out, but we were saved by the crew returning in time to drive them away and put out the fire.

I looked out of my upper berth one night and saw a man crawling under the lower berth (occupied by Miss Foote), and I woke up the car and trainmen to get him out.

On my first visit to Sierra Madre, after Mr. Carter moved there, we lived in a small house where the Carter barn is now. I was loaned "old Belle" with a saddle to try and find the Hosmer and Pierce houses. I only succeeded in finding the Hosmers, owing to the trees and thick brush.

My nearly 35 years in taking the mail would fill several other books with hair-breadth escapes, like having a horse fall with a broken leg on the way to the train, and hitching in a neighbor's horse, tied by the roadside, and rushing on to get the train. One winter we had 12 inches of rain in as many hours,

ANNALS OF EARLY SIERRA MADRE

and while waiting at Santa Anita Station for the last mail train, we had a cloudburst and the whole land seemed a river. The little bridge between the station and the company road was washed out and I had to take my horses down to Mr. Baldwin's mill (connected with the store) for the night, reaching home on foot.

Our first station was a two-seated affair with a roof in the oaks, straight down from the county road on Baldwin Avenue. That is where Mr. L. Ferry met us with Mr. Hosmer's mules and hay wagon when I arrived with my wife and baby Convers, when they came out from Maine. For a long time the train only came to Lamanda Park.

My first real estate sale of any large amount was on July 4th. My commission amounted to over \$400. For a number of years I was about the only real estate agent here, and I was visiting my beloved cousin, Joe Goodwin, at the Carters when little Anita Carter, daughter of the N. C. Carters, made her first appearance in Sierra Madre and the flag was raised on the flag-pole of the new house the next day in her honor.

The first winter I spent in California I attended church with the Carters and my cousin, Joe Goodwin, at a little Presbyterian Church in Pasadena, but I can't tell now in what part of the city it was located. A Methodist Church about the same size was located near it. The Pasadena Post Office occupied a part of a small hardware store.

I was also one of the worshipers in the little school house on Live Oak Avenue, Sierra Madre, and the honor of being the oldest member of the Congregational Church here, I understand, lies between Mrs. J. E. Ferry and myself. I was also a charter member of the Y. P. S. C. E. of the Congregational Church and drafted the first by-laws of the Society.

I also had charge of the singing at the Congregational Church for several years, was also Superintendent of the Sierra Madre Water Company, and agent for Sierra Madre for the Reynolds & Van Nuys Undertakers of Pasadena.

Some pleasing incidents of the 25 years or so in the life of the Bus to the Santa Fe: One lady who lived where the Wistaria Vine is now, would never begin to get ready 'til the Bus was at

RECOLLECTIONS

the door, and as it had to make many calls for other passengers all over the tract and get the mail also, there was no time to wait. If that train was lost they would have to give up their trip to Los Angeles that day, so she would finish combing her hair and buttoning up her boots on the way down.

Mr. O. S. A. Sprague, who lived in Dr. Bridge's house on North Auburn Avenue, would have each winter as guests Mr. Ripley, president of the Santa Fe, and Robert Lincoln (son of our beloved and sainted Abraham Lincoln), of the Pullman Company, all worth many millions each, and it was interesting to hear the dispute among them as to who should pay the 15c bus fare.

One time when I had two runaways inside of two weeks (I had to break in horses often and they would run away if left for a minute and the expense of repairing the big bus was no small amount), Mr. Sprague came to me and said, "Twycross, I would like to pay for that last smashup. I will sleep better by so doing."

I always have had faith in Sierra Madre, and during the big slump in real estate I picked up several choice lots on Central Avenue and other good streets (from eastern parties who lost courage) at prices ranging from \$25.00 to \$75.00 each, which they had paid several hundred for; one lot I paid \$75.00 for I sold a year later for \$1100 cash. I always made a rule not to buy a lot I wasn't willing to build my home on. I resisted many offers of Uncle Henry Hosmer and others to buy lots in Monrovia, and I was fortunate in holding to that decision.

During the last four years before the coming of the electric road into Sierra Madre I had three 20-seated busses which often had to take 25 or 30 mountain climbers each, as often 100 people would come out on one train, especially Sundays and holidays, for the trail.

When I disposed of my many vehicles, on the advent of the electric cars into Sierra Madre, to a dealer in Los Angeles, it was certainly a sight going down Baldwin Avenue. The train covered over a block in length. Busses and carriages of every description, express wagons, even to a two-wheel cart.

OBSERVATIONS

By G. B. MORGRIDGE

Long-time Publisher of Sierra Madre News

That Old Settlers' picnic (1930) puts me into the "I remember when" class. Although I came to Sierra Madre to publish this "rag of freedom" after the beginning of the new era which came with the Pacific Electric, my personal knowledge of Sierra Madre antedates that a long time. For which I am thankful.

Some of my most vivid boyhood recollections concern the summer of 1894 spent here with my mother at the home of her sister, Mrs. Tufts, on Grandin Avenue (now Montecito). Boy-like, I acquired a knowledge of the landscape and the life of Sierra Madre which would not have come with more mature years. During a stay of two years in Southern California we visited a dozen other places. During the following 14 years back in Iowa none held the charm in my memory equal to that of Sierra Madre. Just what it was would be hard to analyze. But I think anyone who ever lived here would feel the fascination and find it difficult to escape.

Dr. Gilbert Bovard* may not thank me for mentioning a clear, vivid picture of him in kilts (juvenile, not Scotch) when he came down with his mother and brother from San Francisco to visit with his Grandma Tufts.

After the Boom Sierra Madre was a scattered village. The Norris store was in a two-story building opposite from his present location. Part of the lumber was used to build the house of Captain Peacock, which stands on the site. Andrews & Clark's hardware was on the site of the present Norris store. Robinson's grocery occupied the corner room of the "town hall block," of which Welsher's grocery is the successor in the same building. Martin Olsen's shoe store was in the present Olsen

*Ed. Note: Dr. Bovard, beloved physician, died in 1936, while still a young man.

OBSERVATIONS

residence on South Baldwin. We used to take our baseballs to him to sew the covers, playing Daddy Kemp against him to save nickels, which were scarce.

These, with W. D. Osgood's blacksmith shop on Mariposa Avenue, on the site of W. E. Craig's home, completed the business community. S. R. G. Twycross with his bus carried the public back and forth from the old Santa Fe. Mr. Partridge was the agent, but he resigned after sending out the strike order as secretary of the telegraphers' union.

There wasn't even a barber shop. When we wanted a haircut we walked to Monrovia—unless we could bum a ride to Lamanda Park on Dick Rasmussen's meat wagon.

Business was nil. The boom of '87 had collapsed. The panic of '93 was followed by the A. R. U. strike of '94 which tied up all the railroads. Small boys were not the only ones who saved nickels where they could.

Entertainment was not lacking. The dramatic event of the season was "The Contrabandista," staged, I believe, in the interest of the Episcopal Church. Dr. Gresham and Mr. Crisp had important parts. Dudley Gresham was a shepherd boy in a suit of gunny sacking.

Gutzon Borglum,* not so well known as a sculptor as an artist who had exhibited the year before at the Paris salon, was living in the old place on the northwest corner of Hermosa and Orange Grove Avenue. One night he gave a chalk talk in the Congregational Church. I remember his sketch of his Chinese gardener and of a hobo who had called at his door that day.

I don't remember much about the boys in my class in school, though I think young Andrew Olsen, Don De Pencier, Ralph Hilton, and Charlie Ferry were among them. The girls I remember clearly—Hilda Humphries, Virginia Blair and Evelyn Chapman who came up from the Chapman ranch. My closest friends were a grade ahead—Dick Jensen, Frank Hart, Phil Blumer, Dudley and Frank Gresham, Walter Relyea and Louis Reed. We had a ball nine coached by George Gilmore and one shining day by Arthur Copps. We played return games with a

*Ed Note: Sculptor of Presidents Washington, Jefferson, Lincoln and Theodore Roosevelt on Mt. Rushmore, South Dakota.

ANNALS OF EARLY SIERRA MADRE

nine from Monrovia. The home team won. It would not have been safe otherwise in the presence of the larger gang.

One form of sport was to explore the Santa Anita canyon (before the days of Carter's Camp), and then come down the pipe line, through the tunnels 'n' everything. A favorite ramble was down through the Baldwin ranch, where old Rey El Santa Anita, winner of the American Derby, was then in his prime at "Lucky" Baldwin's training stable.*

During the summer we earned spending money cutting apricots and peaches for drying at the Outhwaite place (now Dr. Barlow's), and the Hastings ranch.

"Looking over the first issue of the "Sierra Madre Vista" I find many things which bring back old memories too numerous to mention. The history of Sierra Madre has been romantic from the beginning.

*Ed. Note: In the present numerous Derby racing meets, \$100,000.00 is a frequent purse, but when Rey El Santa Anita won the \$50,000.00 Derby purse at Washington Park, Chicago, in 1893 it was a record-breaker for its amount. A privilege to have seen that win.

CHAPTER VI

SIERRA MADRE WATER HISTORY

By C. W. JONES

First Mayor of Sierra Madre

IN GATHERING information on my subject I encountered many interesting things pertaining to early and "pre-Sierra Madre" days, which might prove interesting as well as informative to this organization, so I make some of the outstanding ones as a sort of preface to the general discussion of my subject, namely the history of our Water Supply.

In the first place, I was quite discouraged when I was unable to locate the minute books of the Sierra Madre Water Company or any of its records, being informed they probably were burned in a three-day conflagration of old records at the time the city offices were moved from the old rented "City Hall" in the Bank Building to the new and municipally owned City Hall. I searched the vaults at the pumping plant and in the basement in the City Hall, finding only municipal records and data. However, in my search I ran across some information that proved interesting and helpful to me at least. The earliest records of Santa Anita Rancho were confusing and incomplete; however, I found some survey maps that shed light on dates and conditions.

In the early pioneer days of every section of our country the first settlers took what they wanted and circumscribed their possessions by natural boundary lines and sometimes not all of *them*. I remember seeing some years ago a deed of a grant or sale of land in New England which read: "Beginning at a corner stone on the bank of a river (I forget its name) and running down stream so many chains to a corner stone at the base of a white oak tree 18 inches in diameter, thence north parallel to the eastern line which also runs north." No mention was made of its length or the number of acres contained, sometimes

ANNALS OF EARLY SIERRA MADRE

saying "three hundred acres, more or less." "More or less" has come down through the years and still is found in many deeds of today.

So Santa Anita Rancho was first taken up by the padres and held in trust by them for the Indians, probably late in the eighteenth century, and was so held until it was secured by Hugo Reid. Reid made application to the Mexican Territory of California in 1841 and was granted same without cost, but was not confirmed by Mexico until 1845. He sold it in 1847 to Dalton, but not until 1858 was it officially surveyed, and in July of that year, E. W. Mandeville, U. S. Surveyor General in San Francisco approved the same and so the official boundaries were thus established of Santa Anita Rancho. (Do not confuse Santa Anita *Rancho* with Santa Anita *Tract*, as it contained 13,319-6/10 acres, Santa Anita *Tract* 8,500 acres.)

This Rancho first acquired by Reid was without cost; he sold to Dalton after seven years at 15c per acre, who in turn sold, and again it was sold two or three times, until in 1872 it (Santa Anita Tract of 8500 acres) was bought by H. Newmark of Los Angeles at \$10 per acre, and "Lucky" Baldwin purchased it in 1875 at \$23.50 per acre. Baldwin sold Sierra Madre Tract to N. C. Carter for \$40 per acre and today it sells as high as twice that per *front foot* in town lots.

It has generally been stated that the 1100 acres comprising the Sierra Madre Tract were bought from Baldwin by N. C. Carter, but the records show only 845 acres came from Baldwin; 108 acres from the Southern Pacific Railroad Company (in northern part of city), and 150 acres from Levi Richardson (in northeast part of city, in what is commonly known as Churchill Ranch and Cypress Court), making in all 1103 acres.

In looking over some of the early surveys, of what now comprises these two purchases, which are dated 1873, it is noted that a witness "corner" mark in two cases is "the corner of Mrs. Richardson's house" in one case, and a "corner of Mrs. Bailey's* house" in another. Hence we must accept as a fact that these two houses, both still standing (1950), one at the head of

*Ed. Note: The Baileys' Canon owned by them was purchased by the Sierra Madre Water Co. for water supply.

SIERRA MADRE WATER HISTORY

Michillinda Avenue and the other in Cypress Court, were here in 1873 (other records show they were occupied in 1870 and built in the sixties), and were of course the first houses in what later became Sierra Madre. Mr. John Richardson and son, Levi, were living there probably ten years prior to that time, from other data observed. One notation reads, "Owing to the rough and broken character of the ground it is impracticable to continue the line farther north so we quit and went home." One witness corner was "An oak 32 inches in diameter." The Bailey house was later acquired by a Mrs. Learned.

One of the most interest-absorbing discoveries is a diary kept day by day for the years 1871-72-73 by George B. Islip, for whom Mount Islip, with an altitude of 8300 feet and situated just north of Crystal Lake, takes its name. This diary was kept in a ledger or cash book of the Los Angeles Water Works in the 1850's, and in some way fell into Islip's hands and for three years he recorded his everyday life. It reveals the fact he probably conducted the *first* pack train outfit on the Mount Wilson trail, for he had some 10 or a dozen jacks, he called them, and mules, making daily trips up and down the Canon trail freighting fence posts, pickets and shakes for valley users. He attempted homesteading a section on the trail at what afterwards was known as Halfway House or Orchard Camp, where he built cabins, shops, corrals and established quite an orchard, planting out all sorts of fruit trees, berries and had an apiary of several hives, and chickens, etc. Eventually he deserted the Canon life and the homestead reverted to the Government, later to be acquired by a Mr. Strain.

When N. C. Carter purchased the 845 acres from Baldwin he received a half interest in all the water rights in the Little Santa Anita Canon, Baldwin retaining the other half interest. Because of there being two seasons of rainfall in California, it was necessary to use water from storage during the dry season, and it soon became evident there was not enough water in the stream to meet the needs of the increasing population and the extended use of the land for fruit culture, so a tunnel was driven in the side of the mountain on the east side of the creek.

When Mr. Carter began selling off acreage to newcomers

ANNALS OF EARLY SIERRA MADRE

and homeseekers he found it necessary to include water rights with every parcel of land sold, which soon brought about a complicated ownership of said water, so a company was formed and known as Sierra Madre Water Company (a mutual, non-profit organization). This company filed articles of incorporation October 20, 1882, with capital stock of \$11,000 and 1100 shares, one share of stock being allotted to every acre of land owned. The following were named as Directors or Trustees for the first year: N. C. Carter, W. A. Spalding, E. T. Price, N. H. Hosmer, Mrs. J. E. White, A. D. Trussell, M. J. Gregory, and the following subscribers took stock in said corporation: W. S. Andrews, W. B. Crisp, R. E. Rop, George P. McLain, Charles W. Clement, George B. Davis, George B. Renfro, J. W. Goodwin, Robert Hilton, A. D. Hawks, Fannie H. Hawks, C. E. Cook, William Burlingame, Chloe B. Jones, A. J. Freeman, E. Roberts, W. W. Seaman, John B. Kercheval, J. E. Sangster, J. W. Wood and E. H. Packer.

An assessment of \$1.00 per year was levied each year and a charge of 75c per month for domestic purposes. The first Zanjero (Water Superintendent) was N. H. Hosmer. Then, George Conant, Pliny Gregory, Arthur Carter, James Hawks, Frank J. Gresham, J. A. White, C. E. Cook, and lastly, Grant Morgan.

The following were successive presidents of the Water Company: N. C. Carter, Dr. Norman Bridge, John George Blumer and W. S. Andrews. Secretaries were Percy Wilson, Charles Conant, J. C. Dickson (fourteen years), S. R. Norris and James G. Madden.

Reservoirs and pipe lines were constructed to serve the stockholders with the water so necessary to sustain life and produce crops. In time, dry cycles appeared in the amount of rainfall and the Canon stream dried up, and the only source of supply was the tunnel which, too, failed to produce enough water for the needs. It began to be a sort of paraphrase of "Water, water everywhere and not a drop to drink" by the plaint, "Water, water nowhere and everybody wants a drink."

Water *was* flowing through the pipes 24 hours of every day but in such limited amount that ever user had to store his share in his own containers in order to have it for use when needed.

SIERRA MADRE WATER HISTORY

Tanks were erected on derricks at a high point of each home or ranch and many even used their sinks and hand vessels for a storage and it had been said this water many times was stolen, because of its scarcity. In 1906 when I came to Sierra Madre, many of these storage tanks still remained as evidence of former days, while today, 1946, only one or two still may be seen.

The Water Company felt the great need of increasing the supply of water and counselled with "Lucky" Baldwin regarding the boring of another tunnel and on the west side of the stream bed. Mr. Baldwin was adamant and finally refused to participate financially in this attempt to increase the water supply. However, necessity compelled the Water Company to undertake the plan. Upon its completion a material increase in the water supply was their reward. In time Mr. Baldwin claimed the West tunnel was cause for the East tunnel (in which he had a half interest, and no interest in the other), falling off in its flow of water, and brought suit against the Water Company for adjudication. Mr. Baldwin loved the courts, or at least he seemed to, for he was almost constantly at law on one basis or another, it being claimed he would even fail to pay his laborers in full until suit was brought and then try to compromise.

I wish to quote from the memoir of Dr. Norman Bridge his account of the court action above mentioned. "After our first year in Sierra Madre, 1891-92, I became the president of the Water Company of the village and soon found that we had on our hands a dispute over water rights and business with our near neighbor at Santa Anita, 'Lucky' Baldwin. Three lawsuits grew out of it, all of which were finally decided in favor of the company. The business was annoying to me and to all of us; and the success of the suits seemed only part compensation for the trouble; but the experience in life, in the law, in courts and in human nature, probably were sufficient reward for all our efforts." Again he says: "It was on arrival from the Grand Canon with Dr. Haines that I was taken at once to our water works, where I smashed the water pipe that Baldwin's agent had surreptitiously installed to appropriate the water from *our* tunnel. It was for this act that the agent sought to have me ar-

ANNALS OF EARLY SIERRA MADRE

rested." Defeated, Baldwin thereafter was Enemy Number One of Sierra Madre, and in order to prevent it ever expanding beyond its boundaries and including any part of his land, he incorporated the city of Arcadia and included all of the vacant fields lying south and east of our boundaries.

With the increase of population and the realization of recurring dry cycles it again became necessary to search for more water supply.

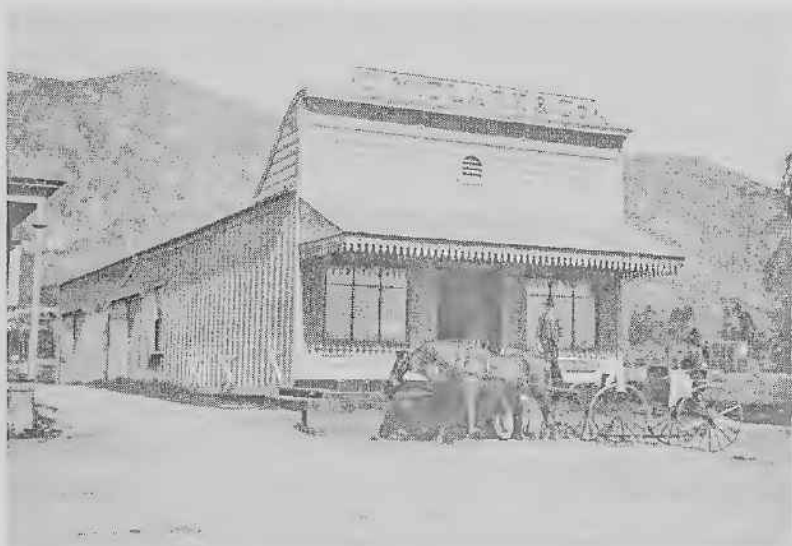
In 1894 a meeting of stockholders of the Sierra Madre Water Company was called to consider and create a bonded indebtedness of \$25,000 and authorize an indebtedness of \$10,000 and to increase the capitalization from \$11,000 to \$88,000. This was to purchase water-bearing lands and digging a well, which was accomplished, and 35 acres were purchased, which we now recognize as the pumping plant and water land between Grand View Avenue and Sierra Madre Boulevard; and Bailey Canon west and north of Lima Street.

With all these efforts to furnish water to its shareholders the demand exceeded the supply. Individuals became desperate and began putting down wells on their own property. The first was what is now known as the Watson or Morton Well in the southeast part of Sierra Madre near Orange Grove Avenue, driven 160 feet deep and furnished a fair amount of water. That was in 1897. About the beginning of the new century, J. C. Pegler dug a well on Canon Avenue near Highland, going down 235 feet with a shaft 4x6 feet which supplied about 22 miner's inches—an unusually good and profitable well. Mr. Pegler furnished water for practically all that part of Sierra Madre lying south of Sierra Madre Boulevard and east of Sunnyside. A well was put down by Emile Deutsch near a Chinese laundry on Auburn Avenue south of Victoria Lane and he was much encouraged by moisture as an indication of a good flow of water deeper down, but learned later this moisture was seepage from the laundry and the well was abandoned. Another well was put down on the Churchill Ranch in the northeast part of town and also one in the Canon near the present swimming pool by Carter Brothers. Still another was dug at the foot of Mountain Trail Avenue by Mr. T. E. Yerxa. Now owned by Mr.



NO. 14

NATHAN HENRY HOSMER
Active citizen.



NO. 15

First hardware store in town



NO. 16

Town Hall. Built in the eighties, razed in 1940. Auditorium on second floor.

SIERRA MADRE WATER HISTORY

Ralph Jones, this, by the way, is the only one of all the wells still in use.

A tunnel was bored on the east side of Bailey Canon and supplied water for years to Piedmont Heights, now Scenic Point, the property owners being: Humphries, Brugmans, Henszeys and others, all of whom have abandoned it except Mrs. Julia Henszey. There are springs in Carter Canon which supply the Willis estate (former home of the Carters).

The well dug on the newly acquired water-bearing land by the Water Company produced ample supply of water at that time. In the beginning of the twentieth century, however, in January, 1906, the Pacific Electric Company extended its lines to include Sierra Madre, which immediately brought many new residents, thus increasing the consumption of water. In 1907 the village having reached a population of about 500, it was discussed and decided by a group of leading citizens to incorporate and to call an election to determine the wishes of the people, which was held in February, and a majority of the voters expressed a desire to so incorporate. Early in the life of the city many perplexing issues arose about water and its necessity by the municipality, and as *such* it owned *not a drop of water*. Public use, such as fire protection, street sprinkling and public improvements found difficult problems to disentangle, so early in that first year of existence, October 10, 1907, the City Trustees considered the matter by appointing a committee of three to meet the Board of Directors of the Sierra Madre Water Company, whereby the city might obtain control of the water plant and its "liquid" assets. That committee, composed of C. W. Jones, J. Krafft, and J. C. Pegler, met and had a cordial reception; and when plans could be studied and worked out by attorneys, a report would be made. However, not until three years later had anything of *record* been done.

Baldwin and the Water Company owned jointly the entire water rights of the Little Santa Anita Canon. Because of the feud created over the construction of the west tunnel in the canon, it was not a pleasant partnership to contemplate between the City of Sierra Madre and the "Enemy Number One" of the Water Company, which in fact was Sierra Madre. The Water

ANNALS OF EARLY SIERRA MADRE

Company owned an inadequate half interest which would not only be insufficient for the expanding city but it would hitch us up with a balky horse whereby we could never know what to expect. The city, owning *no* water, might meet a much more favorable consideration of the court in condemnation proceedings, so the negotiations with the Water Company were halted (except *off* the record) and a court action was instituted against the Baldwin Estate (Baldwin having died March 1, 1909), and the Administrator, H. A. Unruh, nephew of Mr. Baldwin, on February 15, 1910.

After the city had been incorporated, the Trustees worked in complete harmony with the directors of the Water Company, planning improvements and expansions as needed, which worked to a common end of final ownership by the city. The well, known as No. 1, was powered with electric machinery, replacing the gasoline engine, and deepened. Well No. 2 was developed in 1912 and reached a depth of 500 feet. Well No. 3, known as a "standby", was dug in 1944.

During the interim between the city's incorporation and the filing of the suit to condemn the Baldwin water rights, negotiations were carried on between the city and the Water Company whereby a purchase price (\$96,000) was agreed upon; improvements and extensions were to be paid for by the city and everything arranged for consummation of the transfer following the termination of the suit in court. However, many complications did interfere with our plans and it was not until 1914 that the city acquired title to all water rights, lands and distributing system of the Baldwin Estate and the Sierra Madre Water Company, at a total cost of approximately \$151,000 plus cost of suit in Superior Court and many incidentals. The Water Company thus was under two ruling heads for seven years. The Water Company liquidated with a final dividend of \$7.50 per share, which at that time numbered several hundred stockholders, there having been given eight shares of stock for every full acre owned in the Sierra Madre Tract.

Following the filing of condemnation proceedings there were the usual court maneuvers of demurrers and replies, and also denials of the court, for nineteen long months before hearing

SIERRA MADRE WATER HISTORY

of trial began, on September 18, 1911, without jury, and that trial was no minor contest of short duration. Many of the country's most expert engineers were called to give technical testimony on rainfall, dry and wet cycles, watersheds, possible water flow by extending tunnels in the mountainsides and every possible angle of cause and effect that might affect the total amount of the precious fluid that Sierra Madre might be benefitted. Many recesses were taken and those of us who were guardians of the city's interest became both weary and worried as to the court's verdict, for it was not until January 31, 1913 (nearly three and a half years after filing suit) that judgment was rendered favoring the city's action and awarding the Baldwin Estate the sum of \$50,072.05. The court analyzed the engineers' appraisal of quantity of water (minimum flow, of course) in the stream and tunnels, and awarded the judgment upon the following conclusions:

COPY OF COURT DECREE

"East tunnel flow is 22 miner's inches.

"West tunnel flow is 13 miner's inches.

"Stream flow is 7 miner's inches, making a total of 20 miner's inches for stream and west tunnel, and exclusive of the 22 inches in east tunnel. The Court also finds undeveloped water in stream and Canon is 21 miner's inches. The Court also finds the value of developed water is at the rate of \$3500 per miner's inch. And the value of undeveloped water is at the rate of \$1000 per inch. That the total value of said 20 inches of developed and flowing water in said stream and Canon (exclusive of the 22 inches from East Tunnel) was at time of commencement of this action and is the sum of \$70,000 and total value of said 21 inches of undeveloped water is \$21,000 making a total of \$91,000 and undivided half interest of Baldwin was \$45,500\$45,500.00"

ANNALS OF EARLY SIERRA MADRE

Judgment carried also damages for:

"Interest in West Tunnel.....	\$ 667.80
"Interest in 4287 feet joint pipe line.....	1,071.75
"All of right to 5150 feet pipe line.....	1,545.00
"Right of way to City Limits.....	1,287.50
"Making a grand total of.....	\$50,072.05"

On December 13, 1910, the city held an election to authorize a bond issue of \$40,000 which it optimistically thought might be enough to pay for Baldwin's half interest in the water rights. When judgment was given for more than \$40,000 by 25%, over two years after the authorization, the city was placed in the very awkward position of buying an urgent necessity with only enough money authorized to pay 80 cents on the dollar, and the money still in someone's else pocket (for the bonds had not been sold). Much scurrying around followed. An S.O.S. to the Court appealing for an extension of time in which to make payments gained us six months.

Another election calling for an additional bond issue of \$20,000 was held January 14, 1913, which carried by a good margin of ten to one—the second bond election for \$111,000 to pay for the Sierra Madre Water Company interest was held and carried November 7, 1911, making a grand total of \$171,000 which was to pay Baldwin, the Water Company and all improvements since November, 1907, and Court costs.

The next step was to sell the bonds and consummate the two deals, which was "easier said than done". The law provides that Municipal bonds may not be sold for less than par, plus accrued interest. At that time there was a let-down in demand for municipal bonds and no one would bid, after two or three advertisements, and our worries, we thought well provoked at the long drawn-out trial, were nothing to what we had cause for worry now. We surely had bought a bargain and had no money to pay for it.

To make a long story short, Judge L. R. Hewett (our attorney) and the Mayor made a trip to Sacramento and laid the matter before Governor Hiram Johnson in an effort to persuade

SIERRA MADRE WATER HISTORY

the Board of Control of the State to buy the bonds. After many anxious days they agreed to subscribe for a part of the issue and the First National Bank of Sierra Madre took the remainder, all during March 1914, thus permitting us to satisfy the judgment before we were delinquent and also to consummate the purchase of the Water Company. Since that time the City of Sierra Madre has owned and had full and autocratic control of all water rights and equipment in our city.

In 1940 and '42 the city bought the patented claims of the Strain lands at what is known as Orchard Camp, comprising 900 acres more or less, at a cost of \$10,000, thus securing fee title to all water existing in the upper Little Santa Anita Canyon. In 1944 all buildings and fire hazards, which might be the source of a disastrous mountain fire, ruinous to our water sheds, were razed, thus wiping out all evidence of the dream and attempt by George B. Islip seventy years earlier to establish a homestead and fruitful enterprise at what later became a cynosure for hundreds of pleasure seekers and trail climbers for many years, until the automobile robbed most people of their yen for hiking.

Much has been said and written and lawsuits instituted over water in the Raymond Basin. This Basin is an underground lake or body of water held in place by an impervious dike or submerged natural dam, taking its name from its most prominent outcropping at Raymond Hill on South Fair Oaks Avenue and Columbia Street in Pasadena. The eastern barrier is exposed in that ridge lying between the vacant land just east of the Double Drive in Arcadia and Monrovia and which is a natural screen between Sierra Madre and Monrovia. From this Basin we pump all our well water and it might be considered our principal source of supply—especially in the dry months of every year.

After having attended weeks of testimony by expert aquatic engineers on water resources in the Sierra Madre Tract, I am convinced we are definitely limited in our water resources of present and future supply. Very little additional water can be obtained by tunneling the mountains and that at a prohibitive cost. The water level in the Raymond Basin is subject to fluctua-

ANNALS OF EARLY SIERRA MADRE

tion with the annual rainfall and the number of active wells extracting its fluid for the rapidly increasing population in all the cities now sharing its waters—Sierra Madre, Monrovia, Arcadia, East Pasadena, etc. Pumping costs also vary according to this water level in an inverse ratio, but more noticeably by the lift above the ground level at the well. Sierra Madre Water Distribution is now being pumped from the wells to a reservoir, where another pump boosts it to another reservoir for those who live on higher ground, and the higher up any section of consumers live, the more costly it is to furnish them water. If any section of the city lies above the level of our tunnels, and becomes built over with homes, every *day* of the *year* their supply of water *must* be *pumped*, whereas that part of the city lying below the level of our tunnels gets gravity flow and without cost for delivery in power, an item of much value in establishing water service rates and general cost.

When the Metropolitan Water System was formed, Sierra Madre was invited to join. Careful investigation into its advantages, costs and objections, followed. Conclusions reached were that the cost would materially add greatly to our taxes, the water which we might receive would have a questionable quality in comparison to our own splendid mountain supply, and under existing conditions we did not need such an auxiliary.

For the entire length of Grand View Avenue the Metropolitan Water System has a conduit ten feet in diameter carrying the Colorado River water to those who belong to the organization. That conduit in the center of our city may be a guarantee of ours against water shortage in the future, if we choose to join this Colossus, but would cost the taxpayer almost a prohibitive levy.

CHAPTER VII

THE FIRST POST OFFICE

By MRS. E. T. (ISABEL W.) PIERCE

TO ENVISION THE beautiful Valley of the San Gabriel, some forty years ago, one must erase from consciousness almost all that our eyes behold today of the handiwork of man.

All the villages with school house and church spire that dot its surface; all the small bungalows with their patches of orchard and garden, as well as all the lovely homes and palatial mansions of Pasadena and her sister towns; all the telephone poles and wires, as well as the oil derricks that adorn or disfigure our horizon; all the electric lights that rival the stars at night time; all the suburban railways and even the transcontinental Santa Fe; all our wonderful boulevards and the automobiles speeding over them; think of it! All these must disappear as a picture fades from the screen; and in their place you must see a land of almost primitive, pastoral simplicity; a few great ranchos with wide adobe houses; large flocks of sheep attended by shepherd and dog; many horses and cattle, and thousands of acres of grain which seemed at times a billowing sea.

For, strange as it may seem to you, stranger indeed as it seems to us, we pioneers of Sierra Madre were privileged to see this peerless Valley as it was "Before the Gringos Came." Does this write us down Methuselahs? Not so! It simply shows the transformation wrought in that forty years and that we were part of the advance guard of that army of Easterners by whom the transformation has been wrought.

As for what is now our own little city, you must think of a thousand acres of mesa, covered with spreading oaks and pungent sage brush, where were only the beginnings of a few streets and the yet unfinished houses of three or four of its earliest settlers.

We were young and enthusiastic and animated by a spirit of

ANNALS OF EARLY SIERRA MADRE

confidence and hope and high endeavor; yet our hearts turned lingeringly toward the friends and loved ones we had left "back East", and oh, how we longed for letters from home! Our nearest post office was the old Spanish settlement of San Gabriel, and the busy hours of our workaday life left small opportunity for a drive of ten or twelve miles to get the mail. The receipt of home letters was, therefore, precarious and irregular. So, as soon as our numbers grew large enough to warrant the expense, we adopted the plan of employing a man to go to San Gabriel and bring up the neighborhood mail. The man so employed was Mr. John Richardson, whose family lived on a government claim (now the Churchill Ranch), which they had taken up in the Little Santa Anita Canyon before our colony was even thought of.

I cannot explain why the Pierce home, which stands at the extreme west of our mesa, should have become a sort of center, but it was. Perhaps because it was the first house encountered by the stranger who, coming from Los Angeles, ventured so far into the wilds of the foothills. At any rate, when the neighbors made the plan for a regular delivery of the mail, they fixed upon our house as the place of its distribution. So the mail bag was opened in our dining room and its contents spread out on the table. Mr. Richardson's arrival was the event of the day. Representatives of the few families were generally waiting and all helped in sorting the scanty contents of the bag. What studies for an artist in the facial expressions of that group!

The blessed spirit of neighborliness prompted each to share with all whatever bits of impersonal news the letters contained, so the coming of the mail sometimes became a social gathering and a symposium of home news combined.

But the little settlement soon outgrew such childlike simplicity, and some of the more ambitious began to talk of having a real post office. The application was made and approved, and then arose the need for choosing a name. What should it be? Someone, still strongly influenced by Eastern notions of place-names, suggested using the name of the projector of the colony, Mr. N. C. Carter, and christening the place "Cartersville". But our adventurous argonauts had been captivated with the ro-

THE FIRST POST OFFICE

mance of California, and the music of the old Spanish names all about us. The commonplace suffix "ville", with whatever name attached, seemed a discordant note and not quite appropriate to our peerless mesa with its little cluster of homes, which forever reminds one of the hill-towns of Italy. What, then, should the name be? The perplexing question was uppermost at our gatherings for the mail, and whenever the group dispersed it left echoes in the minds of the Pierce family that disturbed our dreams. At last there came to my husband the thought, "Why not adopt the name of our Mountains, the Mother range that shelters us from the north and that gives us the pure water which is our life?" The suggestion was offered for the neighbors to talk over; and this first important topic of public interest lacked nothing in the way of full and general discussion.

I cannot say whether the question was ever put to a formal vote, but the consensus of the neighborhood opinion found voice around the table at the distribution of the mail, and there the question reached a unanimous decision.

Thus, in the simplest style of pure democracy, was Sierra Madre named.*

But now another problem demanded solution. The post office must needs have a postmaster. No eager candidate competed for the office; no letters begging patronage of our Congressional representatives swelled the outgoing mail. Even the munificent official stipend of a hundred and fifty dollars a year tempted nobody. None of us wished to be bothered—we were all too busy. The people, doubtless from the force of habit, urged that our house continue to be the distributing center; and to this proposition the natural corollary was—my husband's name proposed as postmaster. He already combined the work of both rancher and school teacher, which seemed to us enough for one man to carry. But the spirit of neighborliness tipped the scale: our home became the post office, and Prof. Edward T. Pierce the first official postmaster of Sierra Madre.

The change from neighborhood to official regulations

*Ed. Note: According to Mr. Arthur Carter, his father had named the town "Sierra Madre" before the above meeting was held.

ANNALS OF EARLY SIERRA MADRE

brought a variety of experiences, amusing, disquieting, and inconvenient to the little household of the P.M. A case of pigeon-holes disfigured the wall of our dining room; and the family peace and quiet were subject to irregular and unexpected invasions.

It is said that the ancient Royal family of France breakfasted in public; if so, there is certainly one point in which the Pierce family once rivalled Royalty.

Plumbing was an unknown quantity with us in those days. Our bathroom, like our city, was yet to be. Even our fireplace had existed only in imagination until kind Providence sent to our door one day a poor mason in search of health, whom we lodged and boarded and let work as he could, while he built it for us, and it stands today in the home of Mrs. W. W. Felgate, southeast corner of Michillinda and Montecito. In front of its cheery blaze I used sometimes to set the portable tub for my baby's bedtime bath. Fancy yourself looking up from this engrossing occupation to find a perfect stranger, a stately, well-dressed gentleman, looking rather quizzically down on you? A visiting friend of one of the neighbors had obligingly come for their mail.

Again, one of those living on the outskirts of our colony, drove up to our door at noontime and called for us to bring out her mail. Were we not now public servants? Most assuredly! My sister gathered the contents of the pigeon-hole and took it out to the carriage, only to receive a testy complaint rather haughtily delivered, because a telegram sent up in the mail from the Mission had not been instantly dispatched to her home, a mile away. She had yet to learn the basic virtues of the pioneer, sweet reasonableness and adaptability.

CHAPTER VIII

THE NAMES OF THE STREETS AND AVENUES OF SIERRA MADRE

By ARTHUR O. PRITCHARD

Pastor Congregational Church

SOURCES: Conversations with Walter S. Andrews in 1933; John C. Dickson in 1937; Arthur N. Carter in 1937; Mrs. Stella Norris Dennison in 1937; Miss Daisy E. Hawks in 1937, and the blueprints of the subdivisions on file in the City Hall.

When I was invited to prepare this paper, I realized that sources of information were available largely in the minds of the older residents, and in the maps of sub-divisions which might be preserved. I therefore took out the notes of a conversation I had with the late Walter S. Andrews on October 11, 1933. This conversation was inspired by the words of Mr. Rhoades who impressed upon us the necessity of getting information from the older residents of the city. In this conversation Mr. Andrews talked freely about the naming of the streets, the coming of many of the older families, and his own part in the city life. I went home and wrote out the notes for future reference. When the matter of this paper came up I started again, and had an interview with Mr. John C. Dickson who verified many of the facts stated by Mr. Andrews, adding a few of his own, particularly his reference to the development of the Mrs. C. B. Jones tract and the naming of Montecito. Later I had a conversation with Mr. Arthur Carter and his mother, the widow of Nathaniel C. Carter who first laid out the city of Sierra Madre. Mr. Carter referred in his conversation to several old maps and spoke of the fact that he assisted Captain J. A. Osgood in the early surveys of Sierra Madre. Early in July, I called on Mrs. Stella Norris Dennison. She read from a note-

ANNALS OF EARLY SIERRA MADRE

book kept by her father, the late S. R. Norris, who was one of the early settlers and who wrote for a Los Angeles newspaper. Through the courtesy of Mr. William Schwartz I was introduced to the Book of Maps in the city engineer's office. Here we have the blueprints which were filed in the city as these various subdivisions were made, and wherever necessary my statements are checked by these maps.

If we were approaching Sierra Madre in 1886 or 1887 from the west, we would ride by horse and buggy over a dirt road winding through what is now Lamanda Park, moving northeast across the fields to a point near the west end of Live Oak Avenue. Following along this road by what is substantially now Orange Grove Avenue, we would come to a point near the present city limits where we would wind southeast toward Monrovia.

Sierra Madre comprised the tract north of this Orange Grove Avenue. Its streets were developed very much as all cities originally began, namely, according to the plans and desires of real estate promoters. The city was first laid out into twenty-seven plots of forty acres each; these were in three tiers, Live Oak to Central, Central to Grandview, and Grandview to the mountains. There were five plots in each tier west of Baldwin and four in each tier east of Baldwin. The original streets were laid out to divide these tiers of lots and give access to them. North and south these were Baldwin Avenue and Sierra Madre Avenue, although Sierra Madre* Avenue was not put in for three or four years after the original layout. The oldest map shows Baldwin stopping at Grand View Avenue, but Mr. Arthur Carter says it was laid out clear to Carter Avenue, originally Piedmont Avenue. The original streets east and west were Live Oak, Central and Grandview, and all were named by Mr. N. C. Carter who laid out the tract. It is a pity that these names could not be retained, as they all have significance and are well adapted to their location.

Beginning in 1886, continuing through 1887 into 1888, Southern California had a big land boom. During this period

*Ed. Note: Now is Michillinda.

NAMES OF STREETS AND AVENUES OF SIERRA MADRE

the subdivision of the city south of Grandview Avenue was pretty generally carried out. The first subdivision was made by Mr. Brainard and Mr. N. H. Hosmer and comprised the tract bounded by Central, Baldwin, Live Oak and Hermosa. They subdivided in 1886 and put in two streets east and west, called by the Spanish names Esperanza and Bonita, or translated into English, "Hope" and "Pretty".

The four owners to the west of Mr. Hosmer, Andrews, Crisp, Steinberger and Hart, did not like the deep lots on the Hosmer ranch, so they decided to have three streets, making four plots. When it came to naming these streets, Mr. Andrews wanted one named Alden because he was descended from John Alden, and also had lived on Alden Street in Hartford, Connecticut, but Mr. John Hart, one of the four owners also, was strong for Spanish names, and the other two agreed with him, so we have Mariposa, Ramona and Manzanita.

When Mr. C. E. Cook and Mr. Norris and Mr. Hawks divided their tracts north of Central, they went back in their family history for names. Auburn was so called by Mr. C. E. Cook, who owned the property on the west, and Mr. Irving White, who owned the property to the east of the avenue. Mr. Cook came from Auburn, Maine, and Mr. White from Auburn, New York, so they agreed to call the street "Auburn". That section of Montecito which was in the Cook tract he called Grandin.

Mr. Norris in 1887 put in two streets across his tract which extended from Central to Grandview on the east side of Auburn, and gave one the name of Laurel, named for his sister. The other street he named Victoria because he was a loyal Canadian. It was called "lane" because of the county requirements as to width. Mr. Hawks' tract was on the east of Baldwin from what is now Montecito, to Grand View. Miss Fanny Hawks (his sister) named one street in honor of her niece "Laura". Another he named Highland and the third "La Belle"; this was in honor of Lake La Belle near Oconomowoc, Wisconsin, the home of Mrs. Hawks, and the scene of their early acquaintance. The name Dixie was given to that section of Montecito which lies

ANNALS OF EARLY SIERRA MADRE

between Auburn and Baldwin, thus you see the present Montecito had three names: Grandin, Dixie and La Belle.

Such a confusion of names is bound to result from any hit-or-miss plan such as leaving names to promoters. How could it be simplified? The occasion came when the city was incorporated on February 2, 1907, then Laura gave way to Laurel throughout. Under the leadership of Captain Osgood who was interested in property to the west, a petition was circulated and the names of the three sections were dropped and Montecito was applied to the full length of the avenue.

Another influence in giving unity to the names of the city was the coming of the Pacific Electric Railway. Before that day Sunnyside had two names, Lima was called Markham Avenue north of Central Avenue in honor of Governor Markham, while south of Central Avenue it was called Prospect. Hermosa Avenue was called Wildon north of Central, and Hermosa, south. The railroad company deposited freight at the various corners, and they had a switch at the corner of Markham. Owing to the confusion in designating corners, the railroad company decided to name the streets, and give them all the names of Spanish fruits. One of these was the Spanish for prunes. The people objected to the names, but they saw the reasonableness of having a single street name both north and south. Accordingly, Sunnyside was adopted for that street. Hermosa supplanted the name of Wildon on the north and retained it on the south. But it was not as easy with Markham. Being of a different political party, the owner abutting the south end of the street refused to allow the name of a Republican governor to be applied to his street; being a strong Republican, the owner to the north refused to change, hence the Pacific Electric name of Lima was adopted by both sections, and we have this name to remind us of this historical incident.

The land which comprises the northeast section of Sierra Madre was owned by a Mr. Levi Richardson and also by the Southern Pacific Railroad. Mr. Carter bought this land from Richardson and incorporated it into his original piece. The northern line of the Santa Anita Rancho ran along what is now Grandview Avenue to a point just west of the Catholic

NAMES OF STREETS AND AVENUES OF SIERRA MADRE

Church, then it ran in a northwesterly direction towards Eaton's Canyon. This section of Sierra Madre, north of Grandview, was laid out as the Monte Lado tract in 1905. The developers gave the name of Mira Monte to one street, but the street which we call Alegria was unnamed on their first map. The section of Alegria west of Baldwin appears under the name of Granite Heights. Mr. Arthur Carter says that Mr. Darling who developed the Monte Lado Tract named Alegria and Mira Monte, which in English mean "Happiness" and "Mountain View".

In 1887 Mr. Carter laid out his vineyard into house lots. This was the tract north of Central beginning about opposite where Sierra Place comes into Central. Of the streets running to the north one was named Mountain Trail because it led to the trail, and I think is one of the most satisfactory names we have; Canon was so named because it led to the canon, and when the northern section is properly developed and the streets rightly paved we shall have a direct access to the canon which is very much needed. The street to the west of the cemetery Mr. Carter called Coburn. It was an old family name, his own initial "C" standing for Coburn. I am pleased to see that the planning commission recently approved that name and from now on it will be so designated. The names running east and west were taken over from the already existing streets.

In 1887 the Pixley Tract was developed. This lay south of Central along Mountain Trail, the cross streets running east and west were called Arlington and Lowell. Arlington was never opened. Lowell is little known among the people of Sierra Madre, but it will soon be opened through the Yerxa Tract to Baldwin. Later this tract was sold as a unit and re-subdivided, the new owners giving the names of San Gabriel and Santa Anita to the two courts.

In passing, it might be well for us to think of some of the prominent streets outside of the city limits. Grandview and Central stopped at the city limits. The double drive was opened by Mr. Baldwin about the time Sierra Madre was started in 1882. He early planted the eucalyptus trees which are such an ornament to the boulevard. Mr. Andrews thought that he also

planted the eucalyptus trees on Baldwin, but it is doubtful. The question of the Foothill Boulevard extension is interesting. As I stated in the early part of this paper, the road from Pasadena led through the fields along what is now Orange Grove Avenue to a point near our city limits, and then diagonally southeast toward Monrovia. When Arcadia was incorporated, the Foothill boulevard (called County Road) was put through on substantially its present lines, but the city of Arcadia did not wish to assume the responsibility of this road and so in order to keep it a county road, a strip one-fourth of a mile on each side of the boulevard was excluded from the city limits, and remained until recent times.

In the boom days of 1886 and 1887 many tracts were laid out and names given to streets which were never opened and dedicated. Thus Oak and Park were streets planned on the east of Sunnyside, north of Highland—later this tract was sold to Mr. and Mrs. Lawless as a unit and no streets were run. Concord was a street planned to cross the Yerxa property but never opened. In 1887 when the Pixley Tract was opened, Mountain Trail was planned to run south clear to Live Oak. The section below Lowell was not developed, but the city dedicated a strip thirty feet wide, and today there is a right-of-way there. Some time it will be put through as a street.

Within the past few years the necessity of planning our cities and counties on a large scale has become evident. The automobile is requiring a system of boulevards which will go directly to various points and be clearly labeled so that once the driver starts on a road, he may have some idea of where he is going. Examples are the Foothill Boulevard along the bases of the Sierra Madre Range, Valley Boulevard up the middle of San Gabriel Valley, Huntington Boulevard through the famous Huntington property, and particularly to the Huntington Library, and naturally therefore there should be a Sierra Madre Boulevard. But such improvements and necessities bring their corresponding drawbacks. Central Avenue has gone, but when the change serves no useful purpose, why make it? Michillinda means nothing except that somewhere immigrants from Michigan, Illinois and Indiana, settled in a sec-



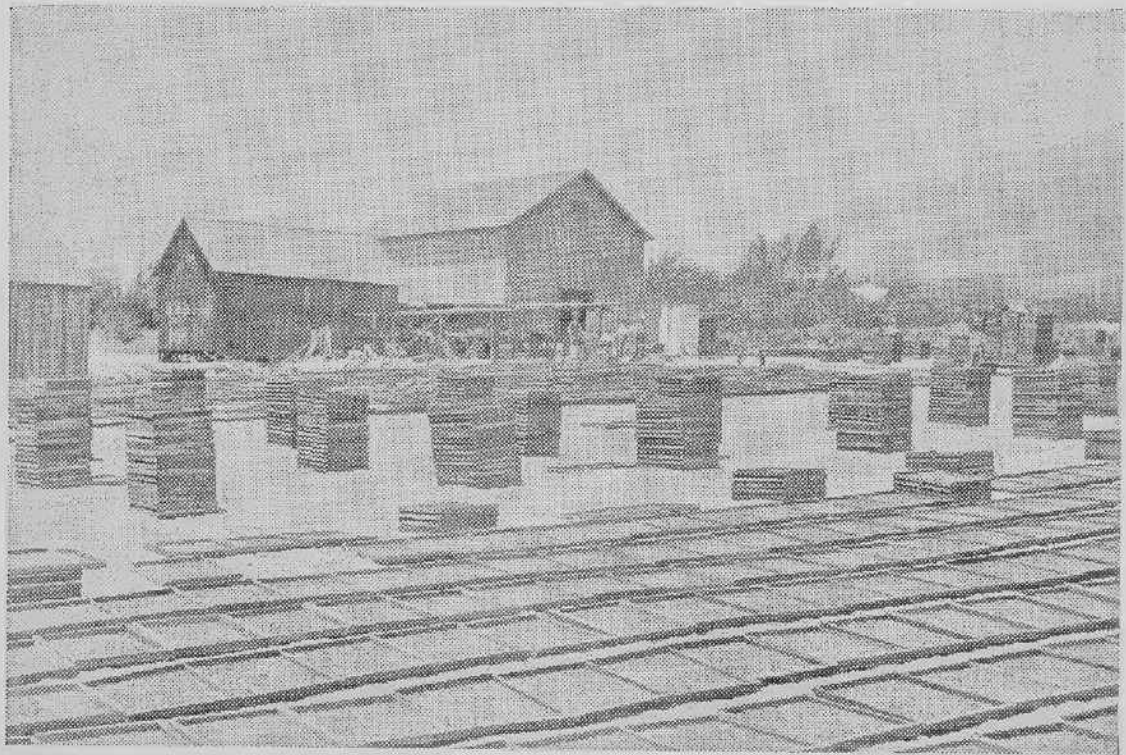
NO. 17

Characteristic street scene in the Nineteenth Century



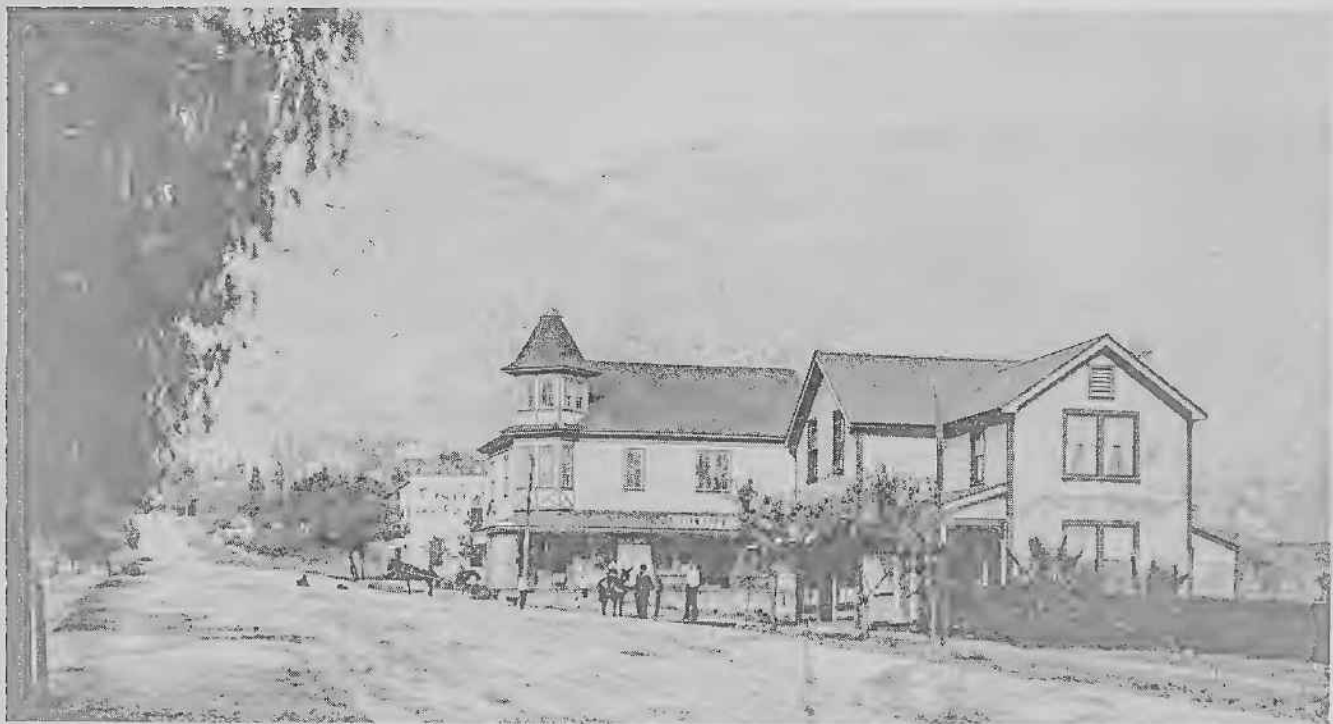
NO. 18

Trussell House. Erected in the eighties and still standing with additions.



NO. 19

Drying "Cots." Andrews and Clark dried fruit business at Markam and Central Avenues



NO. 20

Scene at corner of Baldwin and Central Avenues. Note means of transportation.



NO. 21

Tourist Hotel. First downtown hotel, on lot occupied by Gas Company.

NAMES OF STREETS AND AVENUES OF SIERRA MADRE

tion of the valley and named their streets with a barbarous title, in token of the fact. Why should this name be continued into a section where there is no connection with the original settlers, and where the name means nothing? Doctor Barlow wanted such a name as Mount Wilson Boulevard and certainly that would have dignity and meaning.

May it be in the future that we give consideration to the names that they may preserve historic significance, geographical meaning, and a respect for the English or Spanish languages.

CHAPTER IX

FIRST BUSINESSES IN SIERRA MADRE

By MRS. STELLA NORRIS DENNISON and C. W. JONES

TEN TO FIFTEEN years prior to the purchase of the Sierra Madre Tract in 1881 by N. C. Carter there was carried on in the Little Santa Anita Canyon an extensive apiary by Levi Richardson who supplied honey to many customers in Los Angeles and San Gabriel Valley. Another first business was that of freighting lumber and mountain products to valley users. One George Islip carried on the business of a pack train, from 1870 to 1873, delivering fence posts, shakes and other building materials down Mt. Wilson Trail to customers in San Gabriel Valley.

The nearest source of grocery supplies for the first settlers of Sierra Madre from 1881 to 1884 was San Gabriel. William H. Robinson put in a stock of a few groceries in his home on East Central in 1884. In the fall of the same year he built a residence at 65 N. Baldwin, at Montecito Avenue, and used one room for his store of groceries, until 1887, when upon the completion of the Town Hall (built by a stock company of citizens at the corner of Baldwin and Central) he moved the stock of groceries and the post office into the corner store room of the building. His was the first store in Sierra Madre and he continued to operate for over twenty years.

About the year 1885 Emile Deutsch built his cigar factory on North Baldwin and Victoria Lane, later moving to the Town Hall Building, but eventually returning to his original location where he had built larger facilities for his factory. He and his son, William E. Deutsch, continued this for over thirty years. In 1886 W. S. Andrews and his brother established a grocery business and packing house on the northeast corner of Central and Markham (S. M. Boulevard and Lima), and for many years thereafter did an extensive business of shipping fruits to

FIRST BUSINESSES IN SIERRA MADRE

local and eastern markets. A. D. Hawks built an adobe brick building for "curing" lemons on Montecito Avenue and also entered the field of shipping lemons, oranges and tangerines. Another packer of fruits was E. H. Vannier.

In 1887 C. M. Clark, who had been in the hardware business in Sandwich, Massachusetts, sent his stock of merchandise around Cape Horn to Sierra Madre and established the first hardware store, next to the packing house of his cousin, W. S. Andrews. Later Mr. Clark went into the fruit-drying business and erected a large two-story warehouse* just north of his hardware store on Lima Street, where during the fruit harvest he had hundreds of trays of fruit desiccating in the sunshine. On the southeast corner of Central and Lima there was built in 1887 a two-story business block by W. B. Crisp, which was occupied by a billiard and pool hall, a restaurant and a hotel. Farther north on Lima, the same year, there was built the rather ornate Sierra Madre Hotel (still standing, 1950). However, these two hostelries were antedated by the Ocean View House on Auburn and Mira Monte which was built by N. C. Carter in 1886.

Martin Olsen opened the first cobbler shop on East Central in 1887 and later moved and enlarged his business into a shoe store and repair shop on South Baldwin across the street from the present post office, which he conducted the rest of his life, being succeeded by his son Henry who later moved the store to 34 North Baldwin.

S. R. Norris arrived in Sierra Madre in the late '80s and soon thereafter purchased the grocery business of W. S. Andrews, and later moved the store to his residence a short distance east, where he continued until after the arrival of the Pacific Electric Railway. Later he built the brick store on the corner of Lima and Sierra Madre Boulevard and moved his store there, which he operated until his death. Professor John Hart owned and operated a winery in what is now (remodeled) the Park House in the City Park, southwest corner of Hermosa and Sierra Madre Boulevard. Jacques and Richardson had the

*Ed. Note: See picture this volume.

ANNALS OF EARLY SIERRA MADRE

first carriage and blacksmith shop on East Suffolk Street. Later they sold to W. D. Osgood who moved the shop to Mariposa just south of the present City Park, where a succession of owners continued to do horseshoeing and iron work until the general use of motor cars demanded garages.

There were always real estate agents in Sierra Madre, the earliest being Captain Ayles, S. R. G. Twycross, N. H. Hosmer, W. F. Hatfield, Sierra Madre Realty Company and others. Bowers and Brooks built and operated the first livery stable on Central Avenue. "The Vista" published by L. T. House, Sierra Madre's first newspaper, began its publication March 17, 1888, but did not survive for long. In October, 1906, a Mr. R. T. Cowles opened a print shop in his home on Ramona Street and began the Sierra Madre News which survived all difficulties in its early life and has never missed an issue since.

San Gabriel Valley Railroad was built from Los Angeles through Pasadena to Lamanda Park in 1885. Later this line was extended to Monrovia where it remained as the terminal point for some time, thus giving Sierra Madre a convenient two-daily train service to Los Angeles. In 1886 the Santa Fe, building in from the East, absorbed the lines from Monrovia, thus completing a transcontinental system to Los Angeles. Santa Anita station was built in 1888, replacing a mere platform which was used for passengers and "freight at owners' risk".

When the Sierra Madre Tract was purchased there was accumulated within the Little Santa Anita Canyon Wash an asset that attracted Los Angeles builders. Said asset being the huge granite boulders that had been carried down the Canyon through ages by cloudbursts and heavy freshets. These proved to be valuable for retaining walls, foundations and building of office and store buildings. The Hamburger Department Store, located on North Spring Street about where the present City Hall is standing, was one notable example of Sierra Madre's contribution to early Los Angeles structures, being faced by cut slabs of said boulders. Another, according to Louis Newcomb, was the foundation of the old red sandstone court house in Los Angeles and the present retaining wall which originally

FIRST BUSINESSES IN SIERRA MADRE

surrounded the Court House and now supports the open park, after the razing of said Court House some few years ago.

In December, 1893, S. R. Norris was appointed postmaster and in fitting up his post office he installed Sierra Madre's first system of lock and call boxes. On retiring from the postmastership in 1897 he retained the fixtures and maintained an accommodation post office for his customers until free delivery was established.

In the fall of 1888 William Kemp opened a boot and shoe store on West Central near Lima. Robbins Bros. had the first meat market; however, H. C. Hotaling of Pasadena and Schweikart Bros. of Lamanda Park maintained a door-to-door meat wagon route which supplied fresh meat to the housewives many years, even after the coming of the Pacific Electric. Another early business was developed in 1888 by Mr. J. G. Blumer. Many times those years citrus products encountered a paralyzed market and to salvage something from the surplus fruit Mr. Blumer made orange and lemon flavoring extracts in his workshop near Auburn and Olive Streets. Later he made vanilla extract. When synthetic products began to find a ready market, making the pure vanilla extract proved unprofitable and was discontinued.

In the boom days of the late '80s Upland, Ontario and Monrovia were enjoying street car privileges from up the hill to the Santa Fe Railroad, always running through the lower part of these towns. The novelty of these was in the fact of mule-power uphill and gravity operating on all downgrade runs, permitting said mule free rides on the rear platform. Sierra Madre, being over a mile from the railroad station, was anxious to enjoy just such a transportation system. Mr. Emile Deutsch undertook to form a corporation for that purpose, and to stimulate subscribers went so far as to lay a track on Baldwin Avenue, the remnants of which were uncovered when Baldwin was first paved in 1907. The completion of Sierra Madre's first street car line failed with the bursting of the real estate boom.

CHAPTER X

THE EARLY SCHOOL DAYS OF SIERRA MADRE

By MRS. J. C. (MARY A.) DICKSON

THE SIERRA MADRE School District was formerly a part of the Santa Anita District, which at one time included the Chapman ranch, Lamanda Park District, the Villa, the Arcadia and Monrovia Districts, a large territory.

In 1880 the school house was situated on Baldwin's ranch, south of the Santa Fe tracks. A colored man, J. R. Lattimer, was clerk of the board and his records, though crude, are at least interesting. In the summer of 1882, soon after Mr. Carter secured the tract, and to better accommodate the children of Sierra Madre, he erected a small school house on the corner of Hermosa and Live Oak Avenues where are now situated the beautiful house and grounds of Mrs. E. C. Newton. This was a rude structure of one room, with modern benches extending around it, and one long table through the center, which served for desk to teacher and pupil alike. There was a small shelf of books which formed the nucleus of a future school library.

There were only six or seven children attending, mostly Mexicans and Indians from the ranch, when the late Prof. E. T. Pierce began the school, as first teacher. But the number rapidly grew, for according to the school census three years later there were sixty-eight children of school age and thirty-four between one and five years of age on the Tract. Mr. W. H. Robinson was census marshal for many years and always did his duty faithfully, going from house to house and asking, among other questions, "Well, how many new babies you got this year?"

Among the children who attended here were Arthur Carter and his sisters, Florence and Julia; Pliny Gregory, three Trus-

EARLY SCHOOL DAYS OF SIERRA MADRE

sells, Charles Hastings, now owner of the Hastings ranch;* several Chapmans and the children of W. M. Monroe, for whom the city of Monrovia was named; three Smith children from the Canyon, and later two sons of Prof. John Hart. These children were never detained at home on account of snowdrifts, but did sometimes take a vacation when the fields around the building were ploughed. They did not have the nice smooth roads that we have now, and one little girl tramping through the wet grass (or was it from wading in the brook?) from the farthest northeast corner of the tract got her feet wet one morning and didn't want to go home when the teacher tried to send her, but was willing to sit on the table by the fire, in her bare feet, while the teacher dried her shoes and stockings.

Among the first Trustees of the school were Messrs. Carter, Cook, Wilson, Andrews and Spalding, some of whom were on the board for many years.

When the district had outgrown this little building, it was moved near the mountains and used in connection with the Ocean View House, a hotel at that time.

After teaching two years, Prof. Pierce was succeeded by Mrs. Chloe B. Jones of Los Angeles, who did much faithful work in preparing many of our young people for their life's work. Mrs. Jones soon moved to Sierra Madre with her daughter Alma and made her home, and still resides here (in 1920).*

On September 13th, 1884, a meeting of the electors was held at the school house to vote for a new site and building. There were fifteen present, namely, Messrs. Carter, Richardson, Jones, Renfro, Andrews, Hosmer, Smith, Crisp, Cook, Robinson, Wickland and Wilson, all voting favorably. Mr. N. C. Carter offered to sell two acres of ground at the northwest corner of Baldwin and Central Avenues. This was accepted and bonds voted to the extent of \$3000. A building of two rooms with a large door between, which could be lifted, was built on said site. At one time Mrs. Jones had charge of the two rooms with the door lifted between; there were seventy

*Ed. Note: Mr. Hastings died 1942.

*Ed. Note: Mrs. Jones died 1929, aged 86.

ANNALS OF EARLY SIERRA MADRE

scholars in the two rooms. A fence was built around the whole section with an entrance at the southeast corner, one from Central and one from Baldwin Avenues. Later a third room was added. A shed stood at the back, also an iron railing to accommodate the burros and shetland ponies which brought the children to school. A pavilion was built on the east side.

Mrs. Jones persuaded the trustees to plant pepper trees around the grounds and lining the walks with two rows on the sidewalks outside the grounds, she guaranteeing to care for them through the term if they would care for them through the vacation. The boys thought it a great treat when she asked certain ones to bring their garden hose on certain days to water the little trees. When the streets were widened and graded one of the rows was removed from the sidewalk. Several of these trees are now standing, one east of the P. E. Station, one in front of Mr. Pettit's cigar store* and several on Windsor Lane, two of which were badly damaged by a recent fire.

Here is where a great many of our Sierra Madre men and women passed their school days. Many of them have become very successful in their chosen lines of work and made names for themselves. Richard Chapman, a well known doctor; William Smyser was a beautiful singer of note in Los Angeles until he was killed in an automobile accident a few years ago; William Bixby, as a civil engineer; Alfred Osgood, proprietor of three large markets in Los Angeles; Everett Minor, as superintendent of all schools in Porto Rico; John Hart, at one time chief deputy in District Attorney Jerome's office in New York City; Dr. Geo. Blumer, now (1920) dean of the medical college at Yale University.

Mrs. Anita Baldwin, who did such excellent work during the late war, and whose name was known on both continents, was also a pupil here. Many teachers, too, could be mentioned. Mrs. Jones resigned from her position here to take a place in the Los Angeles High School.

Sierra Madre always procured the best, and Miss Abbie Michaels, Mrs. Regina Dixon and many others were excellent

*Ed. Note: Replaced 1940.

EARLY SCHOOL DAYS OF SIERRA MADRE

teachers. ~~Miss N. E. Tuttle, now Mrs. R. L. T. Craig, the head~~ of one of the largest wholesale grocery houses in Los Angeles, was a member of the School Board and is also a very prominent club woman in that city. *Nancy*

Many a good time was connected with the school, such as picnics and entertainments in which the whole community joined.

In 1889 the faculty increased to three teachers. In 1902, the name Santa Anita School District was changed to Sierra Madre District, including Sierra Madre, Hastings Ranch and the Villa. Mr. E. W. Camp was elected as a trustee at the time and served on the board for many years.

In 1905 the District assisted in securing the P. E. Railroad by selling the southeast corner of the grounds at a nominal price. In 1906 the building was sold to Mr. J. D. Tucker, who moved it to his home place, west end of Santa Anita Court, where he built a fine house from it. The land was then exchanged for four acres on Highland Avenue and the present business section of the town is built on what was once the old school grounds.

A building of five rooms, designed by the late C. H. Brown of the Villa, was erected on the new location, West Highland Avenue between Auburn and Hermosa, and shortly after Sloyd and Domestic Science departments were established. Later buildings were erected for these and the kindergarten.

Mrs. J. A. Osgood was the first kindergarten teacher in Sierra Madre, having a class in her home on Esperanza Avenue, about 1887, and how the children did love her and the school as well.

Associated with the School Board of which he was a member for many years, and the school life of the past so intimately was N. H. Hosmer, or "Uncle Henry" as he was called by everyone, including the children, and this article would not be complete without speaking of his aid, interest and cooperation in school affairs, especially his planning many of the good times so dear to the children and the memory of which and himself still live in the minds and hearts of those children now grown to maturity.

CHAPTER XI

A CITY BOY IN SIERRA MADRE IN THE 1880's

By JOHN W. HART

Oldest son of Prof. John J. Hart.

Lawyer in Department of District Attorney, Los Angeles.

MY FATHER AND MOTHER brought my younger brother, Edwin, and myself to Southern California in the latter part of February, 1884. I was eleven years old and my brother nine. There came with us also a cousin who had lived with us for many years, and who later became Mrs. Stephen R. Norris.

Our train, at some point west of Kansas City, was diverted on account of washouts to the Southern Pacific line, passing through Deming, New Mexico. We arrived at the Old River Station in Los Angeles. I have always been told that ours was the last train to come in before railroad communication was entirely cut off from Los Angeles for a period of three weeks because of washouts.

It was the greatest flood year in Los Angeles since the establishment of any reliable government records. Those records show that the rainfall in February, 1884, was 13.37 inches, and in March, 12.36 inches, or 25.73 inches within two months.

We were escorted by a friend and former pupil of my father's to the home of a fine German family living in a large frame house on the southwest corner of Olive and Second Streets. There we boarded for a number of weeks and, as I had not to go to school, I found, between rains, boys to play with, and joined them in tobogganing on boards down the wet, muddy hills, which were covered with a lush growth of grass and weeds.

Los Angeles at that time had a population of about twenty

A CITY BOY IN SIERRA MADRE

thousand, and there was not a single paved street in the town. The horses toiling up the steep Second Street hill often fell in the mud.

During that period of our boarding at Second and Olive Streets, I remember walking with my mother along the hills to visit her girlhood friend, Lizzie Jaynes, who was then living on Temple Street. Many times we lost our rubbers as we worked our way through the mud. Lizzie Jaynes later became the wife of Gutzon Borglum, the painter and sculptor, and they both lived several years in Sierra Madre. I shall have more to say about them later.

As soon as my father had completed his investigation of the various districts in Southern California and had debated their respective advantages and disadvantages with real estate agents and others, he decided to buy a forty-acre place in Sierra Madre. I believe the real estate agent through whom the sale was made was Jim Gregory, brother of Al Gregory and of Pliny Gregory, with whom I later went to school in Sierra Madre. I remember that the price paid for this property was \$9,000.

It is not easy to cast the mind's eye back fifty-four years and, without notes of any kind, to be precise and at the same time graphic and comprehensive, but on the other hand, it is well known that we remember the events of childhood or youth better than we do those of our later years.

Our family came from Cleveland, even then one of the great cities of the country. I knew little or nothing of country life of any kind; consequently, everything I saw in Sierra Madre and the surrounding country was new, vivid and interesting.

Mr. Walter S. Andrews hauled our furniture and personal belongings from Los Angeles, and I remember how impressed I was with his ability to drive three horses, guiding the lead horse partially, if not entirely, by a system of whistles. He was a good-looking, tall, thin, bearded man, with a sizeable sharp New England nose.

The forty acres which my father bought was the property of an old gray-bearded man named Clement. It extended from Central Avenue to Live Oak, now called, I believe, Orange

ANNALS OF EARLY SIERRA MADRE

Grove. Later, when subdivided, it was bisected north and south by Hermosa Avenue.

Our house was situated at the present City Park. Mr. Clement called the place "The Variety Rancho" because, apparently, he had the habit of planting every kind of tree or shrub he could get his hands on. I understood that both the ornamental and the fruit trees were two years old.

The upper, or northern, twenty acres of the ranch were improved; that is, planted to orchard and vineyard. The orchard was mostly apricots, but there was a double row of orange trees from Central to the house and around it, extending south half way to Live Oak. The orange trees were of several varieties, some of which we hardly hear about now. In addition to the Washington Navels, I recall the Mediterranean Sweets and St. Michaels. There was a considerable acreage planted to wine grapes.

I cannot forget, although I cannot adequately present, my impressions of this new environment. Vineyard—orchard—great oak trees—brush—a horse and cow—new fruits, such as I had never seen or tasted—a milk house filled with pans of milk from which the cream was to be skimmed and churned into butter—the increasing discoveries of nature; for instance, that peanuts grew like potatoes underground—the smells of the soil and the brush—the wild things: rabbits, quail and doves; all had an intoxicating effect. I even asked Mr. Clement to give me something to do, and I distinctly recall how promptly he gave me a hoe and led me into the young vineyard.

I also remember his showing me how to stake out the cow in the wild parts of the place where the grass was rich. This was done by working a long, pointed stake, made of one-inch pipe and about six feet long, into the soil. If properly done and the rope pressed well down to the earth, the cow would find it difficult to get away. But this cow seemed to know how, for on numerous occasions she would pull out the stake and start travelling.

This meant that I had to approach her by stealth, seize the rope, only to be dragged behind her till she, or both of us, were at the point of exhaustion. On those occasions the man

A CITY BOY IN SIERRA MADRE

in the seven league boots had nothing on me as I tore or was torn through the brush. The only way to stop her was to get to the side of her and pull her head sidewise. This was difficult until she had slowed her pace so that I could overtake her.

I mention the driveway passing by the house particularly, because it was the only access that the children of Sierra Madre had to the school house which was on the lower part of my father's place, among the oaks and sumachs.

This school house consisted of one room, about twice as long as it was wide, and not larger than many living rooms of the present time. It was built of redwood boards up and down, both battens over the cracks. It had several windows but only one door, which was at the south end. The teacher sat at the north end and, of course, faced the door. The door was perhaps fifty yards from the north boundary of the Lucky Baldwin Ranch, along which ran an open flume carrying water which, I believe, was taken from the Little Santa Anita Canyon and carried in a pipe in a southwesterly direction to a point some distance west of Sierra Madre Avenue, and flowed from there by gravity along the northern boundary of the Baldwin Ranch to Baldwin Avenue, and thence southerly to a reservoir. This flume furnished the water supply for the school. Every so often one or two boys would be delegated to fill a good-sized galvanized iron pail and place it inside the door. A tin dipper floating in it was used to serve all comers. After a drink, what might be left in the dipper was tossed outside the door . . . very shocking to the modern ideas of hygiene.

In front of the teacher's desk was a long table, placed crosswise, around which the older pupils sat and did their studying. The little ones sat on plain benches along the wall, with slate and books beside them. When I arrived it was suggested that I get some sort of desk or table from home, and a chair. This I did, and joined the intermediate class between the big-table-old ones and the little benches. I remember quite well the pleasure I felt when Mrs. Jones, a remarkably able and well-educated woman who had previously been principal of the Los Angeles High School, announced that my brother and I came from the Cleveland schools which were considered, with

ANNALS OF EARLY SIERRA MADRE

those of Boston, to be the best in the country, and that she thought that probably Cleveland's really were the best.

For those who may be interested, I may mention that the older pupils were Alma Jones, Constance (Pink) Trussell, Jake Trussell, Arthur Carter and Pliny Gregory.

The three Chapmans—Lucy, Ruth and Richard—drove up in a cart, the thills of which were wrapped with cowhide—hair sides out—and carried with them a number of ears of dried corn for the horse's lunch.

Their cousin, Alfred B. Chapman, and nephew of the owner of the Chapman Ranch, about my age, rode his own little horse named "El Grulla". Several Mexican and one or two white children came from the Baldwin Ranch. All except the Chapmans walked, and this included some members of the Butler family whose home was on the County Road (now Foothill Boulevard), about one-half mile east of what is now Lamanda Park. The total daily mileage footed by these youngsters must have amounted to a goodly figure. Some of those from the Baldwin Ranch must have spent two or three hours on the way, fooling and playing as they slowly approached their objective.

Our games at this school were simple. We had no regular baseball, for the good reason that we lacked the money to buy one, and not enough boys to make up two teams had we had one, but we used to play "Long Tom" with a hard rubber ball; also "One Old Cat". Arthur Carter made an excellent bat out of oak which we used, but it was rather heavy. "Prisoner's Base" was another favorite game. Pliny Gregory's spotted, homely dog Nero was always on deck, and there were times after he had stirred up some sort of argument with a skunk when he had the field entirely to himself.

In the school the different classes were called in rotation. At one time the little ones would be lined up in front of Mrs. Jones' desk to spell their little words, and shortly after she would be teaching algebra or advanced arithmetic to the older pupils. One had to learn to study—if we ever did—while recitations were going on a few feet away.

I think the new school at the corner of Baldwin and Central (now the City Hall and stores) was built during the fol-

A CITY BOY IN SIERRA MADRE

lowing year, the old school house moved away and the lower twenty acres cleared and planted.

I should add that the old school house as well as the new were used for Sunday services, and I well recall that my first experience of going to a Sunday School was had in the old school house on my father's place.

This may be an appropriate place to sketch the geography or topography of Sierra Madre as I first saw it. The tract had been bought by Mr. N. C. Carter from E. J. Baldwin and apparently divided generally into forty-acre parcels, though there were a number of twenty-acre places and a few smaller ones.

Central Avenue was the main street east and west, and Baldwin Avenue north and south. On the south side of Central, beginning at the east end, was a place owned by George B. Renfro, who just recently died in Savannah at ninety-odd years of age. The next house was owned by Mr. Hilton; next was a small house set back in the brush occupied (but I believe not owned) by W. H. Robinson and family. This takes us to Baldwin Avenue. Then came the Hosmer twenty-acre place, planted to trees but so overgrown with weeds that you could hardly see the trees. (All the planted trees in Sierra Madre were probably not more than two, or possibly three, years old.) Then came my father's forty acres; then Hook's forty-acre place and the Ross forty acres; W. B. Crisp's twenty acres, and W. S. Andrews' twenty acres.

On the north side of Central Avenue, again beginning at the east end, was a vineyard owned by N. C. Carter, running nearly up to his house. The only other home I recall in that area east of Baldwin was Miss Fannie Hawks' little cottage with land, the acreage of which is unknown to me. The A. D. Hawks family came some years later. The first house west of Baldwin Avenue on the north side of Central was that of C. E. Cook. Mrs. Jones owned the next twenty acres and W. A. Spalding, later editor of the Los Angeles Herald, the next. Then came the Percy R. Wilson and Adonijah Gregory places, of ten acres or more each; a small house later owned by my father on a ten-acre piece, and lastly the Pierce place, the upper part of which was later owned by Mr. Outhwaite, and still

ANNALS OF EARLY SIERRA MADRE

later by Dr. Barlow. Above Grandview and along the foothills was a house, used as a boarding house later by C. B. Relyea, and called by him the Ocean View House. I don't know who owned it, but it is safe to presume in the absence of proof to the contrary, that the property belonged to N. C. Carter. Then came the Trussell place, part of which was later purchased by Mr. J. G. Blumer, and the next house I recall was known as the Learned Place; then the Palmer T. Reed home, and that takes us to the Hastings Ranch.

I think it must have been the first summer that we were in Sierra Madre that a plague of grasshoppers descended upon the place. There were millions of them. They came in a cloud and spread themselves over the vineyard and orchard, devouring everything in their path. If you have seen the film, "The Good Earth," you will know how they looked. All of the people were active in beating them down with gunny sacks, and we set fire to the brush on the lower part of the place and destroyed great numbers of them in that way.

It did not take long for my father to discover that to make a living by ranching in Southern California was at that time practically an impossibility. The grapes which were harvested were sold for as low as \$3.00 a ton, delivered at the L. J. Rose winery.

As a result of the depletion of my father's resources, he decided to experiment with making wine and, with his usual thoroughness, he procured all the literature he could upon the subject and, at first, made a very small quantity. I don't recall the year, but I suspect that it was in 1885 or 1886. The result of this was that in time he increased his production and established a very fine reputation as the maker of really excellent wines. Eastern tourists and local connoisseurs used to order cases of it sent to their homes.

My father, who was a graduate of the Leipzig Conservatory of Music and founder of the Cleveland Conservatory of Music, was compelled, by the lack of income from the ranch, to resume his profession by taking on pupils for violin and piano in both Pasadena and Los Angeles. Among his Pasadena pupils were Mr. and Mrs. Carl Thomas (Katherine Nash), and Alice Cole-



NO. 22

MRS. CHLOE B. JONES
Long time teacher in Sierra Madre



NO. 23

MR. AND MRS. JOHN C. DICKSON
Residents of Sierra Madre over sixty years



NO. 24

EDWARD T. PIERCE
First teacher in Sierra Madre and
first "paid" postmaster



NO. 25

PROFESSOR JOHN JACOB HART
Native of Ohio
Gifted musician, Vineyardist.



NO. 26

EMILE HOGUET VANNIER
Born in New York City
Long time resident and citrus grower

A CITY BOY IN SIERRA MADRE

man Batchelder. Later, Isabel Morse Jones, now music critic for the Los Angeles Times, was another of his pupils.

So far as sports and amusements of the boys in Sierra Madre were concerned, they were comparatively few and simple. A few personal reminiscences will serve as illustrations.

We boys soon spotted all the reservoirs. I have swum in all of them . . . Pierce's, a tiny one on Spalding's, but I think the favorite was the Learned reservoir because the house was not occupied. I remember on one occasion that as we dived and swam there we heard a rattlesnake sounding off in the bush and, as he seemed to get nearer and nearer, we searched him out and killed him. The rattler was in a no more complete state of nature than we were.

When I was between fourteen and fifteen, many things happened that were, to me, quite important. In fact, nearly everything seemed to break in that year. My father bought an additional ten-acre place from two brothers named Amerige, and they left in his care a big Mexican saddle with a very high, strong pommel. I asked permission several times to be allowed to use it in place of our low, McClellan saddle with almost no pommel, but was always refused by my father. On one particular Sunday I decided to disobey and put the Amerige saddle on Charlie, the horse I was accustomed to ride. On the road leading south from Baldwin Avenue which had been used by the public for years there was a slight diversion made through the trees. Apparently this displeased a foreman on the Baldwin Ranch and he stretched a barbed wire across this improvised road from one oak tree to another at about the height of a horse's head, and tied nothing to it to indicate its presence.

As it was late afternoon or early dusk when I rode down the road, I did not see the wire and galloped into it—with the result that the fingers of my left hand were torn to the bone and my right leg badly lacerated. The wire was broken by the momentum of the horse and I was thrown to the ground. When I got up, I saw Charlie standing trembling about twenty yards away, with one end of the broken barbed wire curled around his neck, so tangled in his mane I had to cut it loose with my pocket knife.

ANNALS OF EARLY SIERRA MADRE

I remounted him and rode home where, after some delay, I was properly sewed up with silver wire by a competent surgeon, Dr. Fred Gresham. I remember it quite well for that was before the day of local anesthesia. The thick cowhide on the front of the pommel was so ripped to pieces by the barbs that my father bought the saddle from the Ameriges. The high pommel and general strength of the saddle undoubtedly saved my life. I suppose the moral, if any, is: Disobey your father—particularly on a Sunday.

It was that same year that I made my first trip beyond Wilson's Peak with Alfred Chapman for a two weeks' stay. First we had to ride our horses into the San Gabriel Canyon in order to find a burro to rent. It was an all-day job to get that burro back to our place. The following day we packed our provisions and blankets on him and set forth for the Peak, where we spent the night. The only person we saw there was an old prospector digging a hole in the ground. The next day we went down into the West Fork of the San Gabriel and, during the two weeks we spent there, we saw no one.

We, of course, slept in the open beside the stream, with our trusty weapons by our sides. A little hole in the sand for our not very prominent hips was our only indulgence. We caught more trout than we could eat, and salted and dried the surplus to take home. Our poles were cut from the trees beside the stream. An ordinary cord, a hook and grasshoppers, which we caught each day, constituted our equipment. After cleaning and salting our surplus fish, we strung them across the stream with the stakes in the water to prevent ants from reaching them.

Al Chapman, about a year older than I, had been in the mountains before and was eternally quoting Ike Cooper, a mighty hunter and an old-timer. I later came to know him; he was related to some of the local nobility—*l'ancien regime* as it were.

Our rations would not now be called balanced. Tortillas, flapjacks, fish and some bacon, coffee and condensed milk and sugar, I remember. If you don't know how to make tortillas, your education has been neglected. On my return I showed the

A CITY BOY IN SIERRA MADRE

members of my family how to do this, and also how to turn flapjacks by tossing them in the air; their enthusiasm was not all that I had hoped for. My talent as *chef de cuisine*, now well recognized, showed itself at an early age.

I must relate one incident that happened on this trip. In the first place, I had to use all the arts of an advocate to get permission to take firearms and finally prevailed, and we went into the mountains with a rifle each and, in addition, I had a Remington 38-caliber revolver.

A day or two before leaving I called on my schoolteacher, Mrs. Chloe Jones. She warned me to be careful and related an accident that happened to the son of a friend of hers while he was on a trip in the mountains. It seemed that a revolver had fallen out of his pocket, the hammer struck a rock, exploded the cartridge and killed him. I was much impressed and promised to be careful.

During the first part of our trip, I carried the revolver in the back pocket of my overalls, but a big hole appearing, I removed it to my right front pocket. One day while Al and I were fishing, I hooked a big trout but he disengaged himself while in the air and fell into a pool beside the stream. I was determined that he should not escape and dashed to the pool, leaned over to capture him, and the next instant an explosion occurred within a foot or two of my face. I felt the shock and heard the bullet crashing in the trees behind me, and looked down into the muzzle of the smoking weapon. I was unhurt, but what I should have been told was, never to carry a revolver with the hammer over a loaded cartridge.

Most of the residents of Sierra Madre were from Massachusetts, the native State of Mr. Carter, the promoter of the settlement and the Leading Spirit of the place. Lowell and Concord, Massachusetts, were the names most frequently mentioned. Mr. Clements and the Cooks, however, came from Maine. I think the Andrews came from Connecticut.

The settlement in the beginning was predominantly New England, with a sprinkling from other states, until the English began to arrive. The Greshams and their kinfolk, the Ayles family, were followed by the Lewis', Pratts and Handysides

ANNALS OF EARLY SIERRA MADRE

and, most important of all, the Blumer family which arrived in 1886 with three lovely girls, in brown velveteen dresses tied with sashes, in time to enter the new school.

While on the subject of the new school, I should mention the fact that Mrs. E. J. Baldwin, the last, I believe, of the wives of that lively old boy, used to drive Anita Baldwin to school, a daughter of E. J. Baldwin by a prior marriage, and her (Mrs. Baldwin's) younger sister, Alba Bennet, and a still younger small brother. Mrs. Baldwin was very young, pretty, plump and pink and white and, as one might expect, shapely. Anita was a serious faced, rather colorless girl. They did not come to school for long.

I next met Mrs. Anita Baldwin when, at the early period of our entry into the world war, as a member of a committee of several citizens, including John S. Cravens of Pasadena, Don O'Melveny and Colonel Ball, U.S.A., retired, we met her on the field subsequently dedicated by her to the Government for an air school. Later, I went with Colonel Ball and Mr. O'Melveny to San Francisco to present the offer, with our recommendation for its acceptance, to Major General Bell. I remember Mrs. Baldwin at that time was particularly desirous that her offer should obtain no publicity. She looked much as one would have expected after the lapse of so many years.

To go on, in September or October of 1887, I entered the Los Angeles High School, which was then situated between Fifth and Sixth Streets, running from Spring Street to Fort Street (now Broadway), the site is now occupied by the Arcade Building. Within a few weeks my schooling was interrupted by a severe illness, pleurisy, and my fifteenth birthday was spent in bed.

I did not go to school again until the Fall of 1889. I ask my readers to please excuse any of the obvious rhetorical and literary shortcomings in this production, and attribute them to that interregnum. Who knows what I might have become had I gone to school?

Sierra Madre seemed to pass from a New England colony into a sort of old England colony. We celebrated, on picnics in the canyons, July Fourth and the Queen's birthday in love

A CITY BOY IN SIERRA MADRE

and harmony and unity, although I think I remember some of the English had a certain calm condenscension which at times was a little irritating. Later, we had grand dances in the new Town Hall, with a trio from Los Angeles for music—lancers, quadrilles, the polka, schottische, the ravishing waltz and the Virginia reel, or, if you were English, the same dance was the Sir Roger DeCoverly.

But I must stick to the 80's and not wander into the gay 90's. There was no morbid, rhythmic sensuality about these old square dances, but just a lot of good, rollicking fun. Please don't let this deceive anyone into thinking I am delivering a pious preachment. The waltz probably has rhythmic sensuousness, and lots of it. Byron thought so and said it in words not appropriate to this script, intended as it is for austere Sierra Madre readers.

The country surrounding Sierra Madre was composed of large ranches. On the east and south, that part of the old Santa Anita Ranch owned by E. J. Baldwin; west of the Baldwin Ranch, the Chapman Ranch; and next to that the great L. J. Rose Ranch. On the west was the comparatively small Hastings Ranch, which has much the same appearance now that it had then. The vineyard is fifty-four years older; that is all, so far as I can see.

Monrovia, Arcadia and Lamanda Park did not exist nor, do I suppose, were they even thought of.

There was no Santa Fe Railroad, and no electric lines. The nearest railroad station was San Gabriel on the Southern Pacific.

There were no telephones, gas, coal or electric lights, and no ice, of course.

Cooking was done generally on stoves and wood was the fuel. We had, in addition to the woodstove, a gasoline stove, but I think there were but few of these. Kerosene lamps were our only lights.

There were other things we were without for which we should have been duly thankful—rabies, for instance; potato bugs and many of our present-day insect pests. Pneumonia was almost never heard of.

Once or twice a week a butcher from San Gabriel brought

meat to the door. While some vegetables were grown at home, most persons bought from a Chinaman who sold vegetables very cheap. Most things were "fi cents", it seems to me. The public was not used to the standards now prevailing. The asparagus was not of the fat, tender kind we now expect, and the heads of lettuce were not so firm and white inside as now. Pennies were not known. The smallest coin was the nickel. Robinson kept a small stock of canned things, first at the place on Central where he and his family lived when we first arrived, and, soon after, at a house just above the new school at the corner of Baldwin and Central. Provisions were obtained from Los Angeles (Pasadena was only a rural settlement) or, to a certain extent, from the Baldwin store, kept for the benefit of the laborers on the ranch. Did I say *benefit of the laborers*? Well, perhaps, but it was generally believed that those workers were always in debt to the store no matter how hard and long they had worked.

Trips to Los Angeles were a hard day's work. If anyone was planning to make the trip, the fact became generally known and the neighbors needing something or other, cloth or provisions, were likely to drop in and ask to have that something or other brought home. My opportunities were when I needed clothing or shoes, or a haircut. These rare trips were, of course, a great treat to me—eating lunch in some restaurant, and the life generally. We had some sage plants at home and I used to clip and dry the leaves and sell them in Los Angeles for a little spending money. It seemed to me that it took about one hundred pounds of green leaves to make one of dried.

I have mentioned the fact that there were no paved streets in Los Angeles. I might truthfully have said that there were none outside Los Angeles. When trips were contemplated, neighbors debated as to whether the Mission Road or the other was freest from chuck holes and dust—whether to go via the Old Covered Bridge over the river, or not.

Road tax might be paid in money or in services. I remember well the plowing each year of Central Avenue in which our team and man participated. With scrapers it was turnpiked and dragged and then left to be beaten down by traffic. As may

A CITY BOY IN SIERRA MADRE

be imagined, in the long dry summers there was plenty of dust, especially in the chuck holes that developed by the end of the season. In the old steel-tired buggies, when you dropped ten or twelve inches into these holes, concealed as they were by a filling of finely powdered dust, you knew you had been somewhere. Perhaps it was good for the liver.

I think it took two hours to drive into Los Angeles, and considerably over that, before our old Ned walked, with a slow clippety-clop, up the Sierra Madre Avenue hill at the end of the day. Later we had a team of fine young horses who did the trip without so much effort. Because of the dust, it was customary to have a feather duster hanging at the front doors, to dust the shoes of callers.

The first really great event in our family after going to Sierra Madre in, I think the month of May, 1884, was the birth of my youngest brother, Frank, in June. Ed and I were sent away for a day or so, but I can't for the life of me remember where we were. Of course, the baby was an excitement and delight, but I found him later, when I had to keep flies off him for one or two hours, which time might otherwise have been devoted to more important matters, something of a nuisance. After all, the thrills of hunting for birds' eggs throughout the length and breadth of the Baldwin Ranch, or in swimming in the pool of the upper falls of the Big Santa Anita, or perhaps in the reservoir west of the Baldwin headquarters, or in the reservoir on the Chapman Ranch, were not to be underrated.

In those days the mail was brought by Mr. Robinson from San Gabriel twice a week. It may have been three times, but I think not. On those days, late in the afternoon, men and boys on foot or horseback would gather in front of the little white house in the brush and wait for our postmaster to sort the mail. And was he deliberate! I don't suppose he actually read the postcards, but he certainly took time enough to do so. In the meantime, the men and boys chatted and told yarns outside. At last, at about dusk, when we had got our mail, we boys would race our horses home—Arthur Carter on old Belle, Pliny Gregory on Birdie, with nothing to guide her but a thin switch, and I on old Ned, the biggest and fleetest of them all

ANNALS OF EARLY SIERRA MADRE

but a little too old for the best work. Mr. Wilson had a good fast horse, but he, as befitted the dignity of a grown-up and a lawyer, rode home alone. I can see him now with his shirt ballooned out by the wind as he raced home at top speed. None of our mounts could equal his.

I can't remember just when the following incident occurred, but if it were to be given a title, it should be "The Bee Tree and the Bellyache."

In my ramblings among the oaks of the Santa Anita Ranch—looking for hawks' and owls' nests—I came across an old oak with a big hollow branch evidently inhabited by bees. My father's old friend of his Leipzig days, Mr. E. H. Vannier, had come to Sierra Madre and, enlisting his cooperation, we raided the store of honey. We got a dishpan full and more. We divided it and, though I was surfeited with strained honey, I had never had a sufficiency of comb honey. So when I took my share of our pillage home, I lit into it. The result (I suppose on account of too much wax) was the tallest, widest and most pretentious bellyache I have ever experienced. For days after I could not stand up straight and when, forty years later, an appendectomy was performed, with much post-operative discomfort, I cross-examined the surgeon and obtained the admission that he had spent a pleasant twenty minutes after his important work was done in finding and breaking down adhesions. This led me to consider first causes, and as I did so I remembered my crime against the storehouse of the bees, and the subsequent cramps. Probably this caused all my trouble, and I might well have exclaimed: "Oh, Bee, where is thy sting? 'The Wax—there is thy Victory!'"

THE LAND BOOM

By 1886 the Santa Fe, under the name of the San Gabriel Valley Railroad Company, had been partially built and a land boom was started. New arrivals had considerably increased the population and one subdivision after another was mapped and advertised. Free picnics, with a brass band from Los Angeles, were not uncommon, and the loud voice of the auctioneer was



NO. 27

Gibson House. Ranch house located where Roberts Market now stands



NO. 28

CARP
Home of the four



A
Sierra Madre



NO. 29

Ranches covering eastern slope of Sierra Madre from Baldwin Avenue

A CITY BOY IN SIERRA MADRE

heard in the land. It was regarded as an obligation, a sort of local patriotism, to attend these sales and to buy one or more lots. In other words, the inhabitants engaged in the pleasant compliment of buying each other's lots. Little or no money changed hands. Contracts of sale were signed with perhaps a very small, if any, down payment. Many tales were told of how Sam bought lots from Bill for \$300 each and resold them the same day for \$500 each, etc., etc. Men who had shown every sign of poverty before the boom now walked the streets with heads up and chins out, wearing good clothes and talking proudly about plans for starting a bank or a trip to Europe. If any one ventured to point out that booms in other parts of the country had exploded and brought disaster, the answer was always ready that conditions here, as to climate and this and that, made the situation entirely different. Nevertheless, it blew up in 1887, and left many persons impoverished.

Notwithstanding the boom and its collapse, the place continued to grow. It was at first advertised principally as a suitable place for persons with lung troubles. A large proportion of the early residents came to Sierra Madre because they were victims of tuberculosis. Many who came early enough lived to a good age, but there were many ghostly victims in the last stages of the disease to be seen, not only on the streets of Sierra Madre, but in Los Angeles and on trains.

No reminiscences would be complete without a mention of the Osgood family. Captain and Mrs. Osgood and John arrived in the late eighties. John was about my age and furnished a delightful addition as a playmate to my brother and self. He was always good-natured and, among other distinctions, liked the taste of castor oil and would take a small swig when he oiled the wheels of his father's buckboard. Mrs. Osgood made a new kind of cornbread, which I took to immediately, and had a talent for throwing a tasty meal together, apparently made out of nothing at all.

In the storm on the day before Christmas, 1889, it happened that Mrs. Osgood and I were on the train which was stopped at the Santa Fe bridge at Highland Park on account of the heavy rains. We had to get out and walked to Sierra Madre, a

ANNALS OF EARLY SIERRA MADRE

distance of about fifteen miles. We walked across the trestle at the Arroyo Seco, getting a little lunch from a family named Crist, who lived on the east side of the Arroyo, as I remember it. We were pretty tired when we got home very late in the afternoon, but that was only the beginning—at least for me. That evening a celebration and distribution of presents for children was held at the Town Hall. Some of us went and, coming home, found that the torrential rain had caused a deep wash across Central Avenue, at about where Hermosa Avenue is now. It was so wide I had to throw Frank, then four years old, across this wash into the arms of Mr. Cook, and later, as storm waters had been diverted down through Mrs. Jones' place directly against the front of our house, my father and I fought the water practically all night and managed to keep it out of the front room. The next day the devastation of Mrs. Jones' place was sad to look at. The men of Sierra Madre offered to help restore it, but she was too proud to accept the service.

Mr. H. W. O'Melveny, in an interesting article in the Los Angeles Times of March 6, 1938, says, after referring to the flood of '83-'84: "The next major flood was that of 1889-90. In that year in the month of December, 1889, the records show there was a rainfall of 15.80 inches followed in January, 1890, by 7.83 inches, making a total of 23.63 inches for the two months. This flood swept out every bridge across the Los Angeles River from end to end."

That is why Mrs. Osgood and I had to walk home.

Mention should be made of some of the citizens of the eighties.

We sort of inherited a man named Wickland from Mr. Clement. Wickland was a bearded, shaggy fellow and seemed pretty old to me, though probably then not more than fifty. He was quite ignorant and had ridden to California from Texas at a time when there was considerable danger from Indians. He used to utter an explosive grunt when chopping wood, just at the moment his axe struck the wood. He explained that this made it easier. I subsequently observed that other woodsmen did the same, so I suppose there is something to it.

A CITY BOY IN SIERRA MADRE

Wickland referred slightly to "blue-gummed niggers", and said of his former employer, Mr. Clement, that he was a "damned blue-bellied Yankee". I gathered that blue was not his favorite color. He boarded at the Hosmers, and it used to be said that he had killed a man years before and was wont to cry out in his sleep, presumably from remorse. This rumor only gave romantic color to him in my eyes, and I used to enjoy chatting with him while he worked, regaling him with information which I had gathered from the newspapers. I recall that there was a controversy between France and some South American country discussed in the newspapers which I repeated to Mr. Wickland, at the conclusion of which he exclaimed: "Them Frenchmen is only savages anyway!"

The last word I heard of him was that he had joined the Salvation Army in El Monte. So far as I know, he was an honest man, and probably the tale about his killing a man was due entirely to his shouts of distress at night.

Here is as appropriate a place as any to say that most outdoor labor was performed by Chinese, who were paid about \$1.00 per day. Several years after we came to Sierra Madre, the top wage for a white man was \$1.50 per day, and it was not an eight-hour day either. Household servants were rare indeed. Some of the more affluent kept a Chinese cook, who also did other household work.

Probably I should next mention Mr. N. H. Hosmer, later called "Uncle Henry". When we arrived he looked like a lively little man who had been overcome by the weeds and other adverse factors. He was a daily caller at our place and would squat down on one heel, chip off some plug tobacco and fill his clay pipe and then talk. He had a keen sense of humor and was good company. Later, when he became roadmaster and a sort of local Republican boss and was more prosperous, he was less attractive. Still, I always liked him, though some years later he helped defeat me as a delegate to the County Convention. I had circulated a petition to have the County condemn a road through the Baldwin Ranch to the Santa Fe station, a necessary thing. This was deeply resented by Unruh, Baldwin's manager, so at the election he brought up the men working on the ranch.

ANNALS OF EARLY SIERRA MADRE

They were lined up with the ballots which had been given them in their hands and did as they were told. Hosmer's ticket was their ticket, and the combination was too much for me. It was before the day of the Australian ballot, and was a fine demonstration of how votes could be delivered.

I have made some reference to the Borglums. This should be amplified. My mother went to Oconomowoc Seminary, Wisconsin, with a girl named Lizzie Jaynes. She must have been about my mother's age (thirty-two years, on our arrival) and, as I have said, was living on Temple Street, painting and giving lessons in that art. She was recognized as an artist of real merit.

Soon after we had settled in Sierra Madre, she came out to visit us, and before long she brought with her a pupil, then known as Johnnie Borglum, now famous as Gutzon Borglum, being between five and six years older than I. He was many years younger than she. In fact, he was just a rough Nebraska boy—sturdy, energetic and interesting. In a comparatively short time, but just when I cannot say, Lizzie Jaynes and her pupil were married.

He soon outdistanced his teacher in their art, and she began to speak of him as a universal genius. Later when the sale of some of his paintings enabled them to do so, they went to Europe for at least a year or two. I think it must have been soon after 1890, when, in the Santa Fe train out from Los Angeles, I noticed them in the same car with me. They were headed for our modest home, accompanied by a Spanish servant named Manuel and, out of the baggage car when the train stopped at Santa Anita Station, leaped five huge thoroughbred Great Danes. Where we put them all, I can't imagine, but it was done and we were delighted to see them again. As soon as possible they rented a house and moved into it. Still later, they bought a piece of father's land at Live Oak and Hermosa and built a home and studio there. They separated after years of seeming happiness. He went on in a successful career as painter and sculptor. She died a number of years ago in her home in Sierra Madre, where she lived attended by a French girl. Her eyesight had failed her and she was compelled to lie

A CITY BOY IN SIERRA MADRE

on her back for hours at a time. She was a very fine, warm-hearted woman of decided talent.

During the several years of intimacy with Borglum, he developed the idea that I had sufficient talent to be made into an artist and urged me to take up that profession. He even had me drawing horses' legs and other objects. This only shows that we all make mistakes. As I look back, it seems that some one has always been trying to make something out of me. My wife has not given up. Hence these notes of some of my early experiences.

Sierra Madre has had many distinguished residents at one time or another and, if I permitted myself to bring in those who came here after 1890, I should most particularly have to mention Mr. E. W. Camp, Dr. Norman Bridge, Mr. O. S. A. Sprague, and others who followed at later dates. But restricting myself to those who came before that date, I cannot omit the name of George Blumer. He was one of the boys who went to school at Central and Baldwin Avenues. A graduate later of Cooper Medical College, San Francisco, he became a member of the Medical Faculty of Johns Hopkins and assistant and associate of the famous doctor, Sir William Osler. A contributor to Osler's cyclopedic work on medicine and later the editor of one of his own; Professor of Internal Medicine at Yale Medical School and later its Dean, he is undoubtedly one of the outstanding figures in the medical profession of the present time.

In writing this bit of history of Sierra Madre, I have left out much. I naturally feel a reluctance to speak too freely of all the characters of the old days. It is all bitty and haphazard and done under pressure of time. It will be noted, of course, that I have devoted more time and space to myself than to any other personage. Perhaps when all of the older generation are gone and those of my own have reached that degree of senility insuring that their feelings will not be hurt, I may write a second chapter—that is, providing my own senility is not so far advanced as to prevent my doing so.

CHAPTER XII

THE TOWN HALL

By MRS. J. W. (ELSIE BLUMER) HART

Daughter of John George Blumer

THE OLD "TOWN HALL" stood at the corner of Baldwin Avenue and Sierra Madre Boulevard—then Central Avenue. It was a two-story frame building facing on Central Avenue, with a wooden platform running the whole length of its front, reached by steps at the corner.

The lower floor was divided into three stores. The upper one was one large room, a stage at the east end with a dressing-room on either side of it. At the west end there was an ante-room over the stairs and they ran up from north to south along the west wall.

The building was financed by a Stock Company and built in 1887. That was the peak year of the great boom when subdivisions were opened with flags flying, bands playing and free lunches served to prospective buyers and the neighbors bought lots from one another at \$50.00 down.

Fortunately orchards were not uprooted and roads paved before putting the land on sale. Most of it became ranch property again after the boom burst. The buildings put up at that time survived of course, among them the Library and the Hotel on Lima Street (then Markham), built by a Mr. Pinney.

As soon as the Town Hall was finished W. H. Robinson moved his grocery business and the post office from his home—now 65 N. Baldwin Avenue—into the corner store. Emil Deutsch, who already had been manufacturing cigars, established his factory in the center store, and a restaurant was opened at the east end, for which a kitchen was added to the building.

In the course of time Mr. Robinson became the owner of

THE TOWN HALL

the building. Later he sold the business to Mr. Russell whose son-in-law, Mr. Gregory, ran the post office for a while. Mr. Russell sold out to Mr. Fred Yerxa but the building did not change ownership until it was sold to Mr. A. N. Adams by Mr. Robinson's estate.

The name "Town Hall" had no official significance but the building shared with the churches, the school house and the library the public activities of the "Tract" as Sierra Madre was always referred to by its inhabitants at that time.

The uses to which the hall was put were very varied. The Congregationalists who were meeting in the school house moved across Baldwin Avenue in June, 1887, and held services there until January, 1889.

The Episcopal Church collapsed under a high wind October 10, 1887, and services were held in the Town Hall in the afternoon from then until their new church was finished November 11, 1888.

All political meetings were in the Town Hall during Presidential campaigns and patriotic speeches were delivered there on national holidays. There the Water Company held its annual meeting which could be as exciting as a political one and much more turbulent, for water was a live question as it is now, and hard times and dry seasons made plenty of room for differences of opinion as to policy in the management of the company.

The restaurant did not occupy the east room of the hall for long, and at the end of the 80's the Sierra Madre Athletic Club was organized and held its meetings there. It started as a strong and popular club and was generally referred to as the Gymnasium (Club). Occasionally athletic contests were staged in the gymnasium upstairs.

Some time in the 90's John W. Hart started the custom of having such contests on Thanksgiving Day. These consisted at first of foot races and high and broad jumps. Central Avenue between Lima and Hermosa was used as the track. Later baseball was added to the programs, played in the morning usually between married and single men's teams. In the evening prizes were donated by the merchants of the town and were distributed

ANNALS OF EARLY SIERRA MADRE

among the winners at the Town Hall. An amateur vaudeville show, organized and arranged by Wilfred Humphries, very often added to the gaiety of the occasion.

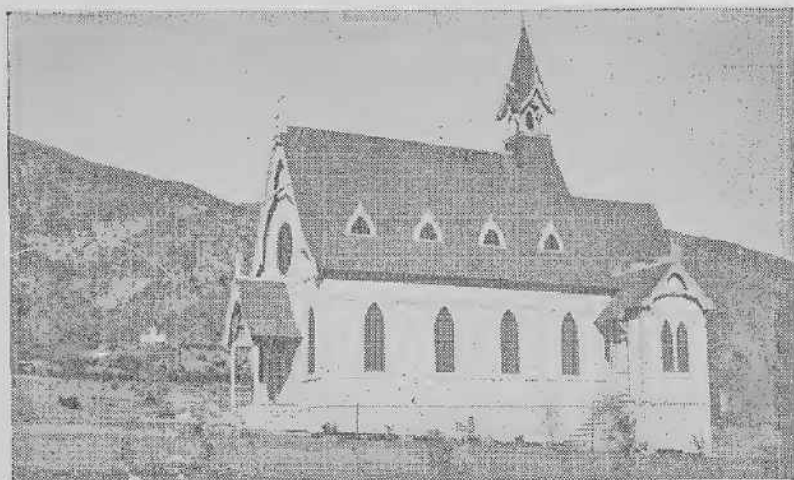
Sometimes the school children held their exercises in the hall when a stage was needed, and on Christmas Eve, 1889, a party was given for the whole Tract, with a Christmas tree and a present for every child. That was an extremely wet winter and some Sierra Madreans, returning home on the Santa Fe that night, found the bridge over the Arroyo Seco washed out and had to complete the journey on foot in order to attend the festivities. After the party was over small children had to be thrown across the stream which flowed down Baldwin Avenue past the entrance to the hall.

Rarely did an entertainment come to Sierra Madre. One such was a lecture on "Magnetism", now called hypnotism. One shy and very inarticulate young man was persuaded to submit to being magnetized and gave a voluble and highly entertaining account of a trip to Wilson's Peak, much to the delight of the audience. Sierra Madre provided practically all its own entertainment in those early days and most of it was undertaken to raise funds for some cause or institution.

Amateur plays were given in the school house built at the corner of Baldwin and Central Avenues in 1885. The Dramatic Club was formed in 1887, after the building of the Town Hall. No doubt its upper floor was planned to improve conditions for the presentation of plays.

Mr. John Hardwick Lewis, an English artist, contributed greatly to the professional appearance of the stage by painting a handsome backdrop and decorating the proscenium with one of the Muses on each side and a portrait of Shakespeare over the center. Mr. Lewis was also a very good amateur actor and added much to the success of the plays in which he took part. Money for buying books for the Library, except for the modest subscription fees and an occasional concert, was raised by these performances.

Sierra Madre became quite a theatrical center and every winter people drove from neighboring towns to attend the plays that were given. These were usually English comedies,



NO. 30

Episcopal Church built 1886
Destroyed by windstorm



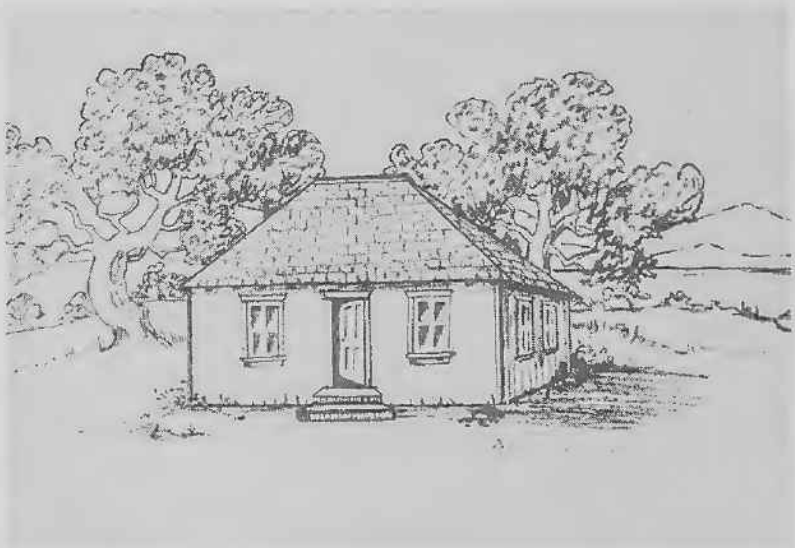
NO. 31

New Church built 1888
Still in use



NO. 32

Congregational Church built 1890
Now property of the Nazarene Church



NO. 33

First schoolhouse built 1882
Northwest corner Hermosa and Live Oak Avenues



NO. 34

Central School built 1887. At Central and Baldwin Avenues until 1906.



NO. 35

Fan drill. Typical recreational activity of the eighties.

THE TOWN HALL

as the American playwright had not yet come into his own. Several Gilbert and Sullivan operas were performed and a play and opera by Mason Thompson. The opera was called "The Zanjero," and it created much amusement, as it was written at a time of great drought. Water was rationed, and some respectable citizens were caught slipping out at midnight to water their lawns. Needless to say that the scene in which the chorus crept onto the stage in semi-darkness, each member of it carrying some vessel to hold water, brought down the house.

Every year the women of the Episcopal Church held a bazaar in the Town Hall. It was an elaborate affair, lasting two or three days and ending with a play. Booths were put up and they had the whole hall artistically decorated. In those days few things could be bought ready-made, and quantities of articles, both practical and fancy, the work of a whole year, were put on sale.

A ball was given at the hotel soon after its opening, but later all such affairs were held in the Town Hall with one exception, when the safety of the building was questioned and a dance was held in the Library. The foundation of the building was strengthened but it was not realized until the center acetylene lamp burst into flames one evening that it was a fire-trap. The blaze subsided, and there was no stampede, but the two doors, one into the building and the other at the head of the stairs and opening into the hall, had to be rehung.

The early dances were very simple affairs. The young men hired the hall and the girls provided the refreshments which were placed on tables on the stage and usually consisted of sandwiches, cake and lemonade. Together the young people decorated the hall and those who could play the piano furnished the music. Part of the time a trio, Mrs. Laura Hawks Stevenson, piano, Edith Blumer, violin, and Tasker Webster, cornet, shared the burden of playing for the dancers. Later music from Pasadena was hired.

The Woman's Club, organized February 23, 1907, met in the Town Hall from the time of its second meeting till the opening of its own clubhouse July 2, 1909. As the clubhouse contained a large assembly room and stage in attractive and

ANNALS OF EARLY SIERRA MADRE

convenient surroundings, it supplanted the Town Hall as a center of amusement. The upper floor of the old building was divided into offices and in 1937 it was torn down to make way for an oil station.

CHAPTER XIII

HISTORY OF THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH

By DAISY E. HAWKS

Daughter of Mr. and Mrs. A. D. and niece of Frances Hawks

EARLY IN THE spring of 1885, the first meeting of Episcopalians, with the view of establishing a Mission, was held in the home of Miss Frances H. Hawks. Those present, besides Miss Hawks and her mother, were Mrs. Ayles and her four daughters, Dr. and Mrs. F. C. Gresham, Mr. and Mrs. Hardwick Lewis, Mrs. William Robinson, and perhaps a few others.

As a result of this meeting, Mrs. Ayles and Miss Hawks drove down to San Gabriel to interview Rev. A. G. L. Trew, Rector of the Church of Our Saviour, and Dean of Southern California. He was impressed with the enthusiasm of the little band of church people, and gave them help and encouragement.

On April 19, he conducted the first service in the small frame school house amongst the trees on Live Oak Avenue. Services were held there once a month until the new school house was built on Central and Baldwin Avenues, where services were held every Sunday afternoon.

A building committee was formed, headed by Dr. Frederick C. Gresham and Mr. Hardwick Lewis. In September, 1885, the plan of a building, designed by Mr. H. Ridgeway, a Pasadena architect, was accepted. The church was erected on land donated by Miss Hawks.

The opening service was held on February 10, 1886. The clergymen participating were Rev. A. G. L. Trew, Rev. Elias Birdsall of St. Paul's Church, Los Angeles, Rev. J. D. H. Brown, Pasadena, and Rev. Britton. The church was crowded. Visitors came from all over the valley. Lunch was served on the grounds. A substantial sum was added to the building fund. The total cost of the building was seventeen hundred dollars. The sum was soon raised and the church was free of debt.

ANNALS OF EARLY SIERRA MADRE

On May, 1886, Bishop Kip of the Diocese of California, came down from San Francisco for the consecration service. He also administered the rite of confirmation to three members of the congregation.

Kind friends donated many of the furnishings of the church. The stained glass chancel window was the gift of Mr. Abbot Kinney. The altar cross was donated by the Altar Guild of St. Paul's Church, Oakland. The chancel carpet came from the Woman's Guild of a church in Stockton. The altar, from Mrs. Russel, the wife of the Commandant of the Presidio, San Francisco. The lectern Bible, from Mrs. Frederick Sturgis of New York.

The Communion vessels, from the Woman's Auxiliary of St. Luke's Church, San Francisco. The Communion linen, from the Sisterhood of the Holy Nativity, Boston. The white chancel hangings, from Mrs. Brainard, Cleveland. The organ was the gift of the vestry of the Church of Our Saviour, San Gabriel. James Pott of New York, secretary of the Bible Society, sent one hundred prayer books and one hundred hymnals. The bell, presented by Chaplain Kendig of the Presidio, San Francisco, was from the wreck of the steamship City of Dublin, which had been washed ashore on the Oregon coast.

Dr. F. C. Gresham was the first senior warden of the church. A Woman's Guild was formed. Mrs. Ayles was the first president, and a tireless worker for many years. Dr. Trew drove up from San Gabriel every Sunday afternoon to conduct services. His wife played the organ.

All was going well until the night of October 10, 1887, when an unusually heavy wind came. The sides of the church gave way, and the building collapsed. Fortunately, the altar and the altar furnishings were not damaged.

A meeting was held on the ruins the next afternoon. It was decided that a larger and more substantial building should be erected on the same site. Thirteen hundred dollars was subscribed that day to start the building fund. At the cost of five thousand dollars, a stone church, designed by Ernest Coxhead, was erected. The stones for the building were hauled up from the Little Santa Anita Wash by voluntary labor. Church serv-

HISTORY OF THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH

ices were held in the Town Hall during the construction of the building.

On April 10, 1888, the corner stone was laid. The first service was held in the church on November 11, 1888. The chancel windows were the gift of Mr. Charles Clement. The window in the south transept was given by James Sullivan of New York City.

Rev. Milton C. Dotten was the first resident rector, and within a year accepted a call to the church in Riverside. He was followed by Rev. William Sherman, who left in 1894, and was succeeded by Rev. John H. McCracken, who lived at Sierra Madre Villa. He came over on his bicycle every Sunday to hold morning and evening services. He had an afternoon service in Monrovia, which was held in an empty store building.

The beautiful granite altar, together with the stone tablets of the commandments between the chancel windows, were given by Mrs. C. P. Murray in 1896, as a memorial to her husband, Charles Pemberton Murray. The granite font was given by the Sunday School children, and was dedicated by Bishop Johnson, July 6, 1896. A bell, also a gift of the children, was named Bethlehem, and installed in December, 1898.

Mr. McCracken was obliged to go to Europe in 1899. He fully expected to return, but circumstances ordered otherwise. He died while he was in charge of the church in Munich, and was buried in Oberammergau.

The land around the church was secured in 1899, due to the generosity of Mrs. Webster.

Mr. Louis R. Dalrymple supplied the pulpit for a time during Mr. McCracken's absence. He died January 30, 1904.

The rectory was built in May and June, 1904, and was first occupied by Rev. Charles E. Bentham and his wife.

Mrs. Trew, who was the first organist of the church until 1887, played on a little folding organ which Dr. Gresham had brought from England. Later the Vestry of "The San Gabriel Church of Our Saviour" donated a small cabinet organ.

When Miss Laura Hawks succeeded Mrs. Trew as organist, she played on a larger cabinet organ donated by her grandmother, Mrs. Hannah Hawks.

ANNALS OF EARLY SIERRA MADRE

When Miss Hawks was married in 1893, Dr. Arthur Gresham took her place as organist and choir director until 1906 when he moved to Long Beach with his family.

During those thirteen years Dr. Gresham was very active in giving amateur theatricals and light operas, in order to raise money for a pipe organ fund. A few years before he left a pipe organ was installed.

Mr. Thwaites succeeded Dr. Gresham and during his time, a generous donation by Mrs. M. A. Webster in memory of her daughter Alice, and other large memorial donations made possible a new four thousand dollar pipe organ. This organ is still in use (1949). Later organists were Charles Hall Perry and Miss Frances Webster.

In 1910, Bishop Johnson wished Mrs. Bentham to become principal of the Bishop's School for Girls, which had been established in La Jolla. Mr. Bentham was to be the secretary and chaplain. So, they were obliged to go there to live.

Rev. Frederick H. Goodman became rector for a short time before he left to do missionary work in Alaska. Rev. George H. Cornell and his wife then moved into the rectory.

In January and February, 1913, the north transept of the church was enlarged, a new organ chamber built, and a choir room and Sunday School room were added to the church.

After nine years of active service, Dr. Cornell felt obliged to retire because of failing health.

Rev. Carson Shaw accepted a call from the Vestry, and became the rector of the Church of the Ascension in 1921, and during his rectorship, the parish house was built.

(Editor's Note: It seems fitting after reading this history of the Episcopal Church, that a few of the many elderly families of Sierra Madre, who helped so greatly both financially and by giving so generously of their valuable time for so many years, in carrying on "The Church of the Ascension", should be mentioned here:

Mrs. Hannah C. Hawks and daughter, Miss Frances Hawks; Mr. and Mrs. A. D. Hawks and family; the Doctors Fred and Arthur Gresham and families; Mrs. M. A. Webster and daughter, Miss Lydia Webster; Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Vannier and family.

CHAPTER XIV

HISTORICAL SKETCH OF THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

*Read by J. C. DICKSON, Clerk, at the 35th anniversary of its
organization, Easter Sunday, March 27th, 1921.*

THE CONDITIONS leading up to the organization of this church were very closely allied with the early settlement of Sierra Madre, in the Fall of 1881.

It has been said that people coming from the East to California, leave their religion the other side of the Rocky Mountains. But this is not always true, especially in the case of the pioneers of Sierra Madre, for no sooner were they settled in their new homes than they decided to establish religious services.

As is the case with many of our churches throughout this western country, the Sunday School was the mother of *this* church, having been organized in 1882, four years before the church was organized. The Sunday School met in the public school house, which was a small building located at Hermosa and Live Oak Avenues.

Occasional preaching services were held there by Rev. L. P. Crawford, a Presbyterian; Dean Trew, an Episcopalian; Rev. Mr. Fiske, a Baptist, and others; some of the residents driving to San Gabriel or Pasadena for the clergyman. This union of various denominations was also carried out in the Sunday School. Adonijah Gregory, the first Superintendent, belonged to the Friends church, followed by W. S. Andrews, a Baptist; the third, C. E. Cook, was a Methodist; he was followed by J. C. Dickson, a Congregationalist.

The audience evidently enjoyed good music, for we are informed that W. S. Andrews was in the habit of driving to church each Sabbath accompanied, not only by his good wife and child, but by the family organ and wood for the fire as well.

ANNALS OF EARLY SIERRA MADRE

In the fall of 1885, regular preaching services were held in the old school house, located on what is now the business portion of the city, the corner of Central and Baldwin Avenues, by the Rev. M. L. Gordon, a missionary from Japan, who was on a visit to this country. In 1886, Rev. D. H. Colcord, who has so often assisted this church, moved to Sierra Madre and was a great help.

On March 7th, 1886, an invitation was extended to all interested in the organization of a Congregational church, to tarry at the close of the morning service. The matter was brought before the meeting by the late James T. Ford, Superintendent of Home Missions, who, in company with Mr. Gordon, had received much encouragement in presenting the subject at many of the homes.

A form of confession of faith and covenant was adopted, and steps were taken toward calling a council to advise and assist in the formation of the church.

Sunday, March 14th, a committee was appointed to further the object. March 21st, a constitution was adopted, and on Saturday, March 27th, 1886, just thirty-five years this morning (1921), a number of Christian believers, having become persuaded that it was God's will for them to associate themselves together and to organize as a Congregational church, and having agreed among themselves for such a purpose, have requested neighboring Congregational churches to examine their condition, and advise them in the premises. By invitation from them, an ecclesiastical council assembled at the school house at eleven o'clock a.m. and organized the First Congregational Church of Sierra Madre, with a membership of thirteen persons, as follows: Mr. C. Edward Cook, Mrs. C. E. Cook, Mrs. Mary A. Abbey, Joseph W. Goodwin, Mrs. Mary A. Reed, Mrs. Fidelia Blanchard, Mrs. Josephine E. White, Irving A. White, Herbert A. Whitehead, Mrs. Fannie A. Andrews, Mrs. Annetta M. Carter, A. Florence Carter and George B. Davis. Moderator, Rev. J. S. Ford; Scribe, W. R. Blackman.

Although they organized under Congregational rules and usages, it was evidently their intention that the church should, in reality, be a Union Church, made up of all persons who rec-

SKETCH OF FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

ognized the Lord Jesus as their Saviour, for we find of the original members, three were from the Presbyterian denomination, three from the Methodist, three from the Congregational, two from the Baptist, and two came in on Confession of Faith. Among the present membership of one hundred and ninety, those who have united with us by letter, came from these denominations in about the same ratio, so that today this is practically a Union Church.

Altogether six hundred and ten persons representing twelve denominations have united with the church. Many have moved away, and some have been called on high. Among the latter we recall those faithful workers in the service, viz.: Rev. L. H. Frary, Rev. C. W. Camp,* lovingly called Father Camp, Rev. and Mrs. E. E. P. Abbott and Mr. James M. Campbell.

On January 2nd, 1887, the Rev. Mr. Gordon, who was about to return to his work in Japan, tendered his resignation.

There is no doubt that the church was needed and that Mr. Gordon's labors were successful, for the record says, "That God has seen fit to bless it, and we can see its effects already in our midst."

In connection with the early history of the church, Mr. Gordon, writing from Japan, says: "I remember well the solicitude that filled all our minds at its organization. My own stay was limited. After my departure, what? was a question in many minds and on some lips. Would it be possible for so small a church to secure a pastor or must it go back to a state of uncertainty like that which preceded the organization? When we recall how serious these questions were to us all and then place alongside of them the fact that even before my departure the Master sent Brother Frary, who can doubt that we were divinely led when we decided to organize the church?"

The church was fortunate in immediately securing the services of that genial, Christian gentleman, Rev. Lucian H. Frary.

That the little band of Christian believers were longing for a building which they could call their own, and were praying, planning and working for it, is shown from the fact that at the

*Ed. Note: Father of Edgar W. Camp.

end of the first year they had started a building fund and owned a lot of land, the proceeds from the sale of which was later added to the fund. This certainly speaks well for the members, for we must remember that at that time there were no orange trees here, no city lots to resell at increased prices, scarcely anything but sagebrush and jackrabbits.

Regarding the inconvenience at the school house, Mr. Frary writes from Pomona in 1891, as follows: "Then the minister, preaching from a platform at the center of the congregation, attempted the remarkable feat of facing north, east, south and west in the same moment of time. This conduced to great freedom in the delivery of his sermons, and I doubt not, served to fix upon him the eyes of his hearers. But I have often admired the ingenuity and perseverance of the six-footers who in those days succeeded in winding themselves inside the children's desks and remaining there for the space of one mortal hour. I never could see how the thing was done unless there were one or more joints in their legs than are usually vouchsafed to man."

When we think that among the men Mr. Frary referred to as possibly having double joints were Prof. Colcord, Bro. Twycross, Mr. Andrews, Prof. Pierce, etc., we are not surprised that they made a quick move to the Town Hall upon its completion in June 1887. Here the attendance was good and the membership increased rapidly.

On March 15th, 1888, the church very reluctantly accepted the resignation of Mr. Frary, that he might accept a call to the church at Pomona.*

Rev. Mr. Frary was immediately followed by the Rev. E. E. P. Abbott, whose two pastorates continued nearly ten years, until December 18th, 1897, with the exception of the year 1892 and a portion of 1893, when the pulpit was supplied principally by the Rev. H. P. Higley of Washington, D. C. During about three years of his pastorate, Mr. Abbott also supplied the church at Monrovia.

The ladies have always been active workers in this church

*Ed. Note—Mr. Frary became one of the founders of Pomona College. Frary Hall there is named for him.

SKETCH OF FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

and without their assistance, it is doubtful if the work could have gone forward successfully.

Early in 1888, the Ladies' Social Union was formed, with Mrs. Frary as President. This name was afterwards changed to the Ladies' Aid Society.

December 9th, 1888, the Y.P.S.C.E. was organized; J. C. Dickson, President.

January 13th, 1889, the church made another move, this time to the Public Library, which made a very comfortable place of worship, where the attendance was good. In the fall of 1889 the little band having increased in numbers, but still without a permanent abiding place, and believing that the great head of the church would be honored by the erection of a house of worship, took active steps to secure a location, and on December 10th, voted to build on Central Avenue. This was made possible by the generous gift of two lots of land by Messrs. C. E. Cook and W. S. Andrews. A building committee was appointed, plans were adopted, and on April 7th, 1890, the little church was able to praise God in its own building for the first time.

December 14th, 1890, the building was publicly dedicated with appropriate exercises, to the service of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

It was through the efforts of Mr. and Mrs. Abbott that we received a gift of \$550.00 from the Hon. and Mrs. Dexter Richards of Newport, N. H. This amount with a loan from the Church Building Association; \$250.00 cash from the Ladies' Aid Society, and other subscriptions, enabled us to complete the building at a total cost of \$3336.00 including seats.

Those of you who were here at that time, will recall the many pleasant, as well as anxious times, in connection with the raising of the fund.

The small windows in the annex were presented by the Y.P.S.C.E. The large one at the north, by the late Charles W. Clement. The one on the west by Capt. J. A. Osgood, in memory of his daughter; on the east by Mrs. R. E. Ross as a tribute of respect to her pastor and his wife. Those in the Pastor's study by Miss Eleanor Norway, in memory of Miss Margie

ANNALS OF EARLY SIERRA MADRE

Frery. The children as well as the older people, were deeply interested in the erection of this building and gladly lent their assistance. The window at the south is very appropriately called the "Children's Window". The Sunday School children were each given five cents and by their business ability contributed over \$60.00. Five young girls held a sale of fancy articles made by themselves, and raised over \$20.00. Thus the children contributed over \$80.00 for the purchase of the south window.

With the completion of this building the church took on new courage and activity, for the year ending March 28th, 1891, the average attendance at the morning service for fifty-one Sundays was seventy-two. In June, 1893, Mr. A. S. Bixby very generously presented the church with the bell, which now calls us to worship. While the church was necessarily the recipient of many gifts, it, on its part gave liberally to the various societies connected with our denomination and also for special objects.

On Sunday, December 13th, 1896, all day services were held in commemoration of the tenth anniversary of the church and the fifth of the dedication of the building.

March 11th, 1898, Rev. Otto Andersen accepted a call to become the pastor. January 21st, 1900, Rev. S. C. Kendall assumed charge, followed in January, 1902, by the Rev. Chas. Rich.

April 28th, 1901, one of our members, Mr. David Lyman, offered to contribute a sum of money equal to what the church would raise, but not exceeding \$600.00. This liberal offer was promptly accepted and the Lyman Parsonage Fund soon reached \$1300.00. Two lots were purchased at the corner of Central and Auburn Avenues, one of which was afterwards sold and the amount added to the fund.

At times when the church was without a pastor, the pulpit was supplied by Rev. C. W. Camp, Prof. Colcord and others. The church was greatly indebted to Father Camp for his wise council and guidance in both spiritual and temporal matters, as well as his active assistance in the various lines of work. For three years he was Superintendent of the Sunday School; he also held the office of Deacon.

SKETCH OF FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

The years immediately following 1898, were anxious ones for the church. Its numbers were still small and discouragements many, but a few earnest workers held on and with the coming of Rev. W. H. Stubbins, January 1st, 1904, it again took on new life and interest. Steps were soon taken toward building the parsonage which was completed in December 1904, free of debt, at a cost of \$1661.00.

June 4th, 1905, Rev. Mr. Stubbins tendered his resignation in order to return East, and once more we were without a spiritual leader. During the summer and up to November 1st, Prof. D. H. Colcord, of Claremont, was acting pastor and very ably filled the pulpit.

November 1st, 1905, Dr. James M. Campbell commenced his labors and continued until May 1912.

In 1910 and 1911 an addition was made to the church building and an old indebtedness paid off. Dr. Campbell, who remained with us nearly seven years, was followed by the Rev. W. H. Hannaford. April 1915, Rev. Fred Staff became pastor. Rev. Staff has been called the Human Dynamo; certainly he endeared himself to all.

This church has done much toward the development of Sierra Madre in a moral and religious sense. It has stood for the cause of Christ, for temperance and all that is good and true.

It did much to shape the moral tone of the town, when the people looked almost entirely to the churches, not only for religious services, but for public entertainment as well.

CHAPTER XV

CULTURAL BEGINNINGS

The Early Music of Sierra Madre

By MRS. C. E. (BELLE W.) COOK

THE FIRST MUSIC not in the homes was in the Sunday School which was organized in the early part of 1882. Mr. Adonijah Gregory was the first Superintendent, and being a "Friend" objected to singing in the Sunday School, but later gave in to the majority.

Gospel hymns "No. 1, 2, 3, and 4" were first used and later Gospel Hymns "No. 5".

Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Cook led the singing. Mr. Cook gave the pitch by the aid of a tuning-fork. No instrumental music was available until the fall of 1882, then W. S. Andrews and family moved here and Mrs. Andrews played *her* organ each Sunday afternoon which was carried in a farm wagon to the school house, situated where the Newton home on Live Oak Avenue is now.

Mr. W. B. Crisp and wife also came in the fall of 1882 and Mr. Crisp contributed much to the vocal music.

From time to time others came to live here and assisted. Captain Osgood, who came in 1886; later Hattie Goodwin Miller, William H. Spear, Florence Carter Mead and Mr. Mead, who played on the flute and who later was a member of and soloist in the Los Angeles Symphony Orchestra.

The first musical concerts were given for the benefit of the two churches and the library.

About 1892 Dr. Arthur Gresham gave choruses to raise funds for the first small pipe organ in the Episcopal Church. At this time the people participating were from both churches.

Dr. Gresham also gave several operas, "Trial By Jury,"

CULTURAL BEGINNINGS

"Contrabandista," "Sorcerer," etc. These were for the Episcopal pipe-organ fund.

The first piano in Sierra Madre was brought here by Miss Fannie Hawks.

The very first entertainment in Sierra Madre was both dramatic and musical, given in the unfinished home of Mr. and Mrs. N. H. Hosmer, the winter of 1883. The musical part consisted of a duet by Mrs. C. E. Cook and Mr. Percy R. Wilson—"O Restless Sea," also a solo—"Waiting At the Brookside," by Mrs. C. E. Cook. Both numbers were accompanied by Mrs. W. S. Andrews on an organ.

The audience was seated on boards and boxes.

Mr. Nelson Hawks of San Francisco, who was visiting his mother and sister, was in the audience. Between thirty and forty persons enjoyed this entertainment. This was given entirely for the pleasure of those living in Sierra Madre at that time.

Percy R. Wilson was an attorney living here about four years, the last two years he opened an office in Los Angeles.

Prof. Hart gave for the Library fund some of our finest concerts and once gave much pleasure in presenting Haydn's Children's Symphony. This was most unique.

One of the concerts given in the early days was by Mrs. Palmer T. Reed in the Town Hall, where two pianos were used.

Capt. Osgood also gave one in the spring of 1891, the proceeds going to buy a stained glass window in the Congregational Church as a memorial for his daughter.

"Queen Esther" was presented here in a most admirable way, being directed by Prof. Hornby. This was for the benefit of the Congregational Church. All concerts given were of a very high order and much talent displayed.

Those teaching music in the early days were: Prof. Hart, piano and violin; Mrs. P. T. Reed and Mrs. Laura Hawks Stevenson, piano.

ANNALS OF EARLY SIERRA MADRE

EARLY LITERATURE OF SIERRA MADRE

EDITH BLUMER BOWEN

Historian of the Society

For so small a town, Sierra Madre has always had a generous quota of authors and poets.

Among the pioneer authors were:

Chloe Blakeman Jones (one of Sierra Madre's earliest school teachers)

Compiled *The Lover's Shakespeare*. A. C. McClurg & Co.
Translated short stories and poems from the German. Pub.
in *S. F. Argonaut*.

She also read for the great Oxford Historical Dictionary,
sending in about five hundred slips.

Alma Blakeman Jones (daughter of the above)

Translated from the French of Alexander Dumas: *Black*
(the story of a dog), *Tales of the Caucasus* (*The*
Ball of Snow, *Sultanette*), *Sylvandire*, *The Horo-*
scope. Pub. by Little, Brown & Co.

Also stories from Daudet, Andre Theuriet, Pouvillon, de
Maupassant and others pub. in *Overland Monthly*,
Harpers' Young People and other magazines.

Edith Walford Blumer

(came to Sierra Madre in 1886)

"Little Content" and other stories.

Compiled "Table Talks of Napoleon" and "Words of
Wellington".

Translated from the French "The Life of the Chevalier
Bayard". "Self-Haunted" short story pub. in *Over-*
land Monthly.

Dr. Norman Bridge (came to Sierra Madre in 1887)

The Penalties of Taste

The Rewards of Taste

The Marching Years

Fragments

"Tuberculosis"

Pub. Herbert S. Stone, Chicago.



NO. 36

JOHN GEORGE BLUMER
An honored pioneer from England



NO. 37

MRS. ELIZABETH BANON ROSS
Donor of the Public Library site
and endowment



NO. 38

Sierra Madre Free Public Library
Built 1887 and still in use



NO. 39

WALTER S. ANDREWS
Native of Massachusetts
Resident of Sierra Madre over fifty years



NO. 40

EDITH BLUMER

as "Inez De Las Rocas" in "Contrabandista," one of many plays in which she starred in the amateur theatricals of the town

CULTURAL BEGINNINGS

- Eleanor Tucker* (came to Sierra Madre in 1887)
Illustrated and wrote Book for Children
Mr. Snippydoodle of Kandy-land
Christmas in California
- Rev. James M. Campbell* (Pastor of Sierra Madre Congregational Church 1905-1912)
Grow Old With Me
Heart of the Gospel
Heaven Opened
Clerical Types
What Christian Science Means
- Rev. Sidney Kendall* (Pastor of Sierra Madre Congregational Church 1900-1902)
The Lady of Mark
Among the Lorentious
- Henry E. Twose* (Chas. Saxby) 1900
Short Stories Collins Magazine
Captain and the Kings Depart
Flying Mercury
House on the Bayou
Opal String
Prince of Escape
Survival
Little Mercy of Men

Among the stories written about Sierra Madre and vicinity are "The Withrow Water Right," written by Margaret Collier Graham of South Pasadena, the scene being laid in the Little Santa Anita Canyon, later known as "Sierra Madre Canyon". The story was largely founded on fact.

"The Cats of Connaloe" by Helen Hunt Jackson, was written while she was visiting Mr. and Mrs. Abbot Kinney at the Kinneloe Ranch. In "A Kanuck Down South" by Mr. Arthur Wier, written about 1898, he gives quite a long and elaborate description of our wonderful scenery and tells many incidents of his life here.

Mr. Mathais, a noted newspaper man, who lived at the Sierra Madre Hotel on Lima Street, in the late nineties, wrote

ANNALS OF EARLY SIERRA MADRE

sketches of some of the characters of Sierra Madre for one of the big Chicago papers.

Before 1888 N. C. Carter brought out several issues of "The Sierra Madre Vista," and when Mr. L. S. House started a paper in 1888 in Sierra Madre, Mr. Carter allowed him to use the name. He was a very able editor.

Later a Mr. Lawrence edited the paper and after a time he went to Alhambra and published The Valley Vista in which he gave Sierra Madre a social column.

The paper went into the discard for some years, when a Mr. R. T. Cowles revived and edited it, calling it "The Sierra Madre News". Mr. C. W. Hill bought it from Mr. Cowles in 1907 and Mr. Geo. Morgridge took it over in 1908.

Here the history of the Literature of *Old Sierra Madre* comes to an end. The history of its literature up to date may be found in another volume.

EARLY DRAMA IN SIERRA MADRE

EDITH BLUMER BOWEN

As far as I am able to ascertain the first Dramatic entertainment in Sierra Madre was given about the year 1884 at the home of Mr. and Mrs. N. H. Hosmer.

The partitions had not yet been put up in the house, making it very convenient for holding the performance.

Among those who took part were Mr. Hosmer, Mr. and Mrs. Wilson, who used to own what is now the Evans house; Mr. Joe Goodwin and many others, but the one who stands out in the memory of the pioneers was Mrs. Belle Cook, who was said to have made quite a hit on that occasion.

She sang a song entitled "Waiting At the Brookside" and also a duet with Mr. Wilson.

It is a curious coincidence that in Sierra Madre ever since the early days, there has always been some enthusiastic and competent person to put on Dramatic Entertainments, direct them, sometimes even write the plays or operettas themselves.

In the late eighties and nineties Dr. Fred Gresham, Sierra Madre's first resident physician, was a great enthusiast.

CULTURAL BEGINNINGS

I wrote to his wife who lives in Alameda and asked her if she could tell me the names of the first plays which he directed.

As far as she could remember, they were "Cox and Box", "Ici ou Parle Francais" and "Slasher and Crasher".

"Ici ou Parle Francais" seemed to be a favorite and was given once or twice later on.

Mr. W. B. Crisp took part in most of the plays during this period and much later too, and was a wonderfully clever actor. People who had frequented the London theatres likened his acting to that of the great Actor "Toole".

Dr. Gresham, his wife and her sister, Miss Blanche Ayles, and Mrs. Crisp were all star performers, and later Mrs. J. G. Blumer and Miss Walford and George Blumer took part in several performances.

Young men actors were scarce in those days. At the age of sixteen, John Hart, the son of Prof. Hart, was "roped in" to do the "Lovers parts", which must have taken a good deal of courage in one so young and inexperienced.

Among the many well known plays given in the earlier days were "To Oblige Benson", "Our Boys' School", "My Turn Next", "Not Such a Fool As He Looks", "Lend Me Five Shillings", and "Caste".

In "Caste" I made my first appearance while still a school girl, taking the part of "Polly Eccles".

There was a baby in the play, and some enterprising spirit suggested borrowing Edith Steinberger for the occasion. Mrs. Steinberger didn't quite see it that way, but compromised by lending Elizabeth's best wax doll.

After the performance in Sierra Madre, we gave the play at the Raymond Hotel, driving over in Mr. Twycross's bus in a real old-fashioned California rainstorm. Some of the men had to get out at the Lamanda wash and go ahead with a lantern in order to ascertain whether or not we could cross without being drowned.

The fashionable New York audience seemed to enjoy the performance very much, the chief criticism being made on the ancient vintage of the Chimney Pot Hats.

ANNALS OF EARLY SIERRA MADRE

My chief recollection of the play was the leading lady (who aspired to tragedy) shaking the none too steady mantel with her wild sobs, and in her excitement behind the scenes, packing the baby away (fortunately *not* Edith Steinberger) so that I was rushing madly about looking for the baby when my cue came to take it on the stage, and Dr. Slocum, one of the performers, insisted on turning that wax-faced infant to the audience.

After the death of Dr. Gresham, his brother, Dr. Arthur Gresham, took his place both as a physician and play director. Dr. Arthur aspired especially to Light Opera, and under his direction as well as many plays, "Trial By Jury," "The Sorcerer" and "Contrabandista" were given with great credit to performers and director.

Miss Mabel De Pencier at the age of fourteen sang the star part in "Contrabandista" with great success.

"The Sorcerer" was repeated years after and "Trial By Jury" was also given not many years ago under the direction of Mr. Patterson, Captain Osgood singing the leading tenor part.

In April, 1898, Mr. Percy South of London, England, a cousin of Mr. J. G. Blumer's, who came here for his health and was an excellent actor, put on "The Private Secretary" and during that same year Mace Thomson, son of Mr. J. W. Thomson, who lived for many years on Esperanza Avenue, near Mrs. Copps, wrote a three-act play called "The Fairchilds".

He wrote it and put it on in three weeks, and after giving it in Sierra Madre we gave it at the Hotel Green, Pasadena, when Mr. James Hawks made a wonderful hit with his part of "Little Willie", a simple-minded boy who never spoke a word during the whole performance. Some of you may remember the inimitable fly-paper scene.

In the Autumn Mr. Thomson wrote "The Zanjero", his famous Comic Opera in two acts, taking the part of the Zanjero himself. This was written during the dry years, when water was scarce, and the Opera opened with the indignant ranchers holding shriveled lemons in their hands, clamoring loudly at the Zanjero's door for water, and one scene showed them sneak-

CULTURAL BEGINNINGS

ing into the Zanjero's kitchen with various sized pails to steal water.

Signs were put up all over Sierra Madre, "Look out for the Zanjero," and people with guilty consciences thought the *real* Zanjero was coming to dun them for unpaid water bills.

The music was catchy and pretty and Mr. John Osgood, son of Capt. Osgood, sang a song entitled "Under the Shade of the Pepper Tree" which made quite a hit. The pepper tree was popular in those days, too.

Mrs. Laura Stevenson was the musical director.

Mace Thomson wrote two other plays, "Our Happy Home," in which Mr. Wm. Deutsch starred as Lord Chump, and "Tantrums," and in 1905 he and Edith Blumer wrote together a wild and western melodrama entitled "Dead Dog Diggins," in which Dr. MacKerras took the part of the hero and Mr. H. I. Hawxhurst the villain, and Miss Edith Blumer took the lead as "Long Sal".

In 1907 Mr. Henry E. Twose, whose nom de plume is Chas. Saxby, wrote an operetta in two acts, "Lovely Leonora," and a one-act farce "The Slave".

Mr. Merle Manning sang the leading tenor part and Mrs. Marjorie Rice Ashmore starred as Lovely Leonora. In "The Slave" Miss Lottie Humphries, Miss Hilda Blumer and Mr. Twose took the principal parts.

Later he wrote "His Royal Highness", a musical comedy in which Mr. W. J. Lawless made his debut, and the proceeds of this bought the outdoor stage scenery for the Woman's Club House.

In 1907 Chas. Saxby wrote "The Gypsies", a romantic musical drama, which was given on Mr. Camp's grounds and the proceeds donated to the Congregational Church. In 1911 he wrote "The Princess", in which Miss Dorothy Humphries sang the leading part and Mr. Paul Baugh took the part of the prince. They are now living happily ever after.

Among the many actors and actresses of those days were Mr. and Mrs. Camp, Mrs. Bannatyne, Florence and Daisy Vannier, Miss Daisy Hawks, Mr. James Hawks, Frank Gresham, C. F. Lewis, Hilda and Edith Blumer, Anita Carter, Lottie,

ANNALS OF EARLY SIERRA MADRE

Edith and Dorothy Humphries, Mr. Hawxhurst, Mrs. Caroline Collins, and among the singers were Mrs. Edith Humphries Hawxhurst, Mabel De Pencier, Gertrude Cook, Marjorie Rice, Elsa Krafft, Mabel Olsen, Edna Staples and many others.

The best amateur Minstrel Show I ever saw was given by Mr. and Mrs. Charles Ferry about 1906.

It was so good that I am going to give you a list of the people still living here (in 1921) who took part so that you will know where to go for good material. Capt. Osgood, Mrs. Anita Carter Gregory, G. K. Bourke, Mrs. Caroline Collins, Mr. and Mrs. Ferry, Mrs. Edna Staples Yerxa, Mrs. Irving Ward, Miss Lydia Webster, Mr. Tasker Webster and Mr. and Mrs. E. W. Camp.

Mr. E. W. Camp took part in many of our plays and was a splendid actor. He was probably one of the busiest men in Sierra Madre, and consequently always knew his part and always had time to come to rehearsals.

From 1887 until the Woman's Club House was completed in 1909, all these entertainments were given in the Sierra Madre Town Hall, owned by Mr. W. H. Robinson, and over what is now Mr. Welsher's store. The hall has been divided up into smaller rooms by Mr. A. N. Adams, the present owner.

Enthusiastic amateurs made and painted the scenery and the footlights were oil-lamps with tin reflectors around them, the main hall being lighted by an acetylene lamp.

Many were the dances, plays and bazaars held in that old building, and in spite of its many inconveniences we were sorry, for old times' sake, to leave it for the more modern and up-to-date Club House, where the good times still go on.

But I have now reached the year 1911, and fear if I go further it will no longer be "Ancient Drama".

But the good work is still going on, for after Mr. Twose left town Mr. McGregor and Mrs. Jack Wright took his place, also Miss Marjorie Maughlin, Mrs. Milton Steinberger and Mrs. Harold Allen are most ably carrying on and keeping up the reputation of Sierra Madre as a town of

Great Histrionic Ability.

CHAPTER XVI

FIFTY YEARS OF LIBRARY SERVICE

By WALTER WRIGHT ALLEY, *Architect*

President, Sierra Madre Public Library Trustees—1928-'42

THE SIERRA MADRE LIBRARY is the fourth oldest city library in Los Angeles County and the tenth oldest in Southern California. It was founded by some of the original settlers of the city, and in July 1886 it was incorporated under the laws of the State of California. The present building was built in the following year.

This Sierra Madre institution, established as a cooperative effort, has grown ever since, steadily and as a rule at a more rapid rate than the city itself.

In the early days an intellectual and progressive imprint was given to our city that has never since been obliterated. When Sierra Madre was but a community of ranches lying at the base of the mountains, the need of an intellectual and study center was recognized. Inasmuch as there was no method by which public financial support could be supplied, the leaders in the community banded themselves together and by cooperative effort achieved what otherwise would have been impossible to them all, acting as individuals.

At the time the library was started (1887) there were only about fifty families in Sierra Madre, living in as many homes. Approximately forty of these subscribed \$3,041.00 to the fund for the erection of the library building. The land, as well as \$2,000.00 of this amount, was donated by Mrs. R. E. Ross in memory of her husband. The community at that time boasted of but one church building, the Church of the Ascension, located about where the present building stands; one school house which stood where Kersting Court now is, for the whole northwest corner of Baldwin and Central comprised the school

ANNALS OF EARLY SIERRA MADRE

grounds; the Town Hall which is still standing (1935) on the northeast corner of Central and Baldwin, and five or six store buildings. At that time it was thought that the future business section of the growing community would be located at Markham (now Lima), and Central (Sierra Madre Blvd.). This was indeed a small settlement to undertake a cooperative task such as a Public Library, which was destined, for many years at least, to be supported by the annual dues and subscriptions of its members and users.

Nevertheless, the first directors of the Sierra Madre Library Association were far-sighted enough to plan wisely and establish soundly the principle of community service which has since marked the history of the Public Library. Of these original directors but one is still here with us, Mr. W. S. Andrews.* As one of the original subscribers to the fund to erect the library building he took an active part in all the early proceedings of the Association.

The others of the first board of directors who were elected and served through the second year without change, were Professor John J. Hart, the Chairman; Mr. W. B. Crisp, Mr. P. T. Reed, Mr. J. H. Lewis, Mr. N. H. Hosmer and Mr. Percy R. Wilson.

Many of the directors of the Library Association, in those early days, served for many years. Among all of the Association's directors, those who held office for a term longer than ten years were as follows:

Professor John J. Hart.....	21 years
Mr. John G. Blumer.....	19 years
Mr. S. R. Norris.....	18 years
Mr. W. S. Andrews.....	18 years
Mrs. L. E. Steinberger.....	14 years
Mr. H. J. Potter.....	14 years
Mr. W. B. Crisp.....	13 years
Mr. C. E. Cook.....	13 years
Mr. E. H. Vannier.....	13 years
Mr. D. C. Ashmore.....	11 years

*Ed. Note—Mr. Andrews died 1937—age 86.

FIFTY YEARS OF LIBRARY SERVICE

While Mr. Blumer was responsible for the Library he used to cover each book with brown paper, and when the cover was worn out, replaced it with a fresh one.

The building in which the Public Library has always been located, was completed in the summer of 1887 and the first social gathering, held in celebration thereof, was a book-social held on the evening of October 12th of that year. Miss Steele was the first paid librarian and she served the Association until December of 1889. She received the liberal salary of \$12.00 to \$15.00 per month. (Miss Steele married Mr. Pratt, E.B.B.) Mrs. Pratt, one of the members of the Association, acted as regular librarian for the first three months of 1890. At that time it was clearly seen that it would be financially impossible to continue with a paid librarian upon a stated salary.

Thereafter, the scheme of having different members of the Association act as librarian for one month each, in rotation, was used. This unique arrangement worked successfully for twenty years. The only remuneration these volunteer librarians received for their services was an annual membership in the Library Association. It was not until July 1908 that a regular librarian was employed again, and this time the monthly salary was set at \$12.00 per month. Mrs. F. B. Wheatly was the first of this new series of paid librarians and she served the Association and the Public Library until August of 1918. (The City has been in control of the Library since 1910.) Miss Marion L. Gregory followed Miss Wheatly, but only served nine months, or until June 1919, when Miss Minna M. Wolfe became the regular librarian. Miss Wolfe acted in that capacity until March 1922, when Miss Elsie Rogers succeeded her. Miss Rogers, however, only served for four months when Miss Lulu Moore was appointed to the position. Miss Moore still remains as librarian, and on August 17th she will have served the City of Sierra Madre thirteen years, the longest period of continuous service of any of the librarians, either under the old Association or under the municipality.

While figures and statistics are boresome, two comparisons with figures showing the growth of the Sierra Madre City Library during this fifty year period, are not without interest.

ANNALS OF EARLY SIERRA MADRE

The total number of volumes and the total annual expenditures, at ten year intervals, prove conclusively that the Library has been far from standing still. It should be noted that our annual circulation of books has been close to four times the total number of volumes on the shelves. That is to say, if the circulation was evenly divided, each volume would circulate four times each year.

<i>Year</i>	<i>Total Volumes</i>	<i>Total Expenditures</i>
1888	600	\$ 335
1898	1,187	230
1908	2,732	292
1918	7,625	1,502
1928	11,142	3,323
1935	14,500	3,800

During the above period of forty-nine years which have elapsed since the Sierra Madre Library Association was incorporated, the service rendered by the Library compares well with that given by other branches of the Sierra Madre City government. At present, besides Miss Moore as our full-time librarian, we have the following persons on the regular staff: Mrs. Addis is acting as assistant librarian; Harold Spears is our part-time janitor; and we also have a part-time page. It is to these loyal employees that the thanks of the community should be tendered. They have served faithfully these past years, and since the depression, particularly so. For strange as it may seem, to the average person, with the slowing up of most activities the Library's work has shown a consistent increase. This is because people have turned to reading and study as a relief from the worry and cares of the daily problems of life. Though our staff has suffered a cut in their compensation, they have all given increasingly of their effort and attention, thus the citizens of Sierra Madre have had full use of all the facilities which the Public Library has to offer.

The time is fast approaching, however, when the Library will be unable to keep up with the demands for service from the limited space we have available. A building fifty years old can scarcely be expected to render a service which its original builders could scarcely have imagined possible. Every bit of

FIFTY YEARS OF LIBRARY SERVICE

space is being used now and we are actually in need of additional shelf space.

It is out of the question to expect the citizens, under existing conditions, to supply a new house for their books, by any normal or accustomed method. Bond issues or assessments for such a purpose would be unthinkable. While the present Library Trustees have been giving much thought to this very pressing problem for some time past, there seemed to be no possibility of an immediate solution. Fortunately, however, the proposed activities of the Federal Government under the Relief Appropriation Act of 1935, just signed by the President, may provide a possible solution to our difficulty. The Board, through the City Planning Commission and the Mayor, have put in an application for a grant of \$35,000.00 for a new Public Library building, to be built as a part of the new drive towards recovery. It is still too soon to say just what the final outcome of this application for financial aid will be. We have nevertheless put in our request, now we must await the determination as to just how these new unemployment relief measures will be worked out.

The Board of Public Library Trustees now consists of the following members: Miss Ella Shephard Bush, Mrs. Ethel H. Hawks, Mrs. Cecily A. Allen, Mr. E. D. Burbank, in addition to the president. We are all determined in no way to burden the citizens of our city, either now or in the future, with financial commitments to which any large number of them object. Should our Federal Government, however, through direct grant or loan or relief labor make it possible for the City of Sierra Madre to possess a new library building more fitted to its needs, we, as Board members, would be strangely remiss in our duties were we to fail to do all in our power to aid in the consummation of such a worthy object.

WALTER WRIGHT ALLEY,
President.

April 18th, 1935

CHAPTER XVII

POOH BAH OF THE FOOTHILLS

WHEN CHARLES MATTHIAS, the witty paragrapher of the Chicago Chronicle, was out here last winter, he wanted a cottage at Sierra Madre, from which coigne of vantage he and his charming wife made semi-weekly forays on Los Angeles. In a recent issue of the Chronicle, on the editorial page, he prints a character study of "Sammy" Twycross, than whom no one man is better known or more honorable in the foothills. Writes Mr. Matthias:

"I note that my versatile and ubiquitous friend S. R. G. Twycross is still doing business at the old stand. This time he has sold a cottage on Esperanza Avenue to a pilgrim from the effete East and I am prepared to wager that he sold it at a good price. My friend Samuel is originally from away down Maine and he took with him to the land of sunshine and flowers all the astuteness and frugality for which the natives of the 'dirigo' state are celebrated.

"Let me not be understood, however, as impugning the probity of Mr. Twycross. On the contrary, his word is as good as his bond throughout the San Gabriel valley and his reputation as a man of substance and of commercial capacity is famed from Santa Monica to 'San Berdoo' and from Sturtevant's Camp to El Monte. Even in a horse trade it would be safe to trust to the good faith of my California friend. Of course, however, it is always advisable to know something about horses when you undertake to dicker in those useful and noble animals. There are temptations to which even the best of us are likely to succumb.

"But, as I have remarked, my friend Samuel is trusted and honored by all and singular the dwellers in the valley and in the foothills and eke upon Wilson's peak. If he were not he could not in his proper person combine more functions and

POOH BAH OF THE FOOTHILLS

duties than ever fell to the lot of the late Poo Bah of the village of Titipu.

"Mr. Twycross is the official and commercial staff of the hamlet of Sierra Madre, with the exception that he is not postmaster. He cannot be postmaster because he carries the mail between the post office and the railroad station at Santa Anita. This provision is the fly in Mr. Twycross's ointment, and it is understood that he means to apply to congress for special legislation enabling him to combine the functions of mail carrier and postmaster, thus rounding out and completing his list of honors, offices, occupations and distinctions.

"To begin with, Mr. Twycross is the real estate agent of the village. He knows all the titles, all the water rights, all the mortgages from Lamanda Park to Monrovia. He is a sort of perambulating abstract office and no one would dream of consummating a real estate deal unless Twycross drew the papers—and a commission.

"It follows, of course, that Mr. Twycross is a notary public and an insurance agent—life, fire and accident. He is the local undertaker. He has a monopoly of the fuel business in the village, selling wood in stove lengths or coal as desired at rates so reasonable as to inspire the fear that Deacon Baer will some day swoop down upon him and cite him for lese-majeste in cutting the scale fixed by the divinely inspired ones of the anthracite region.

"My California friend is likewise the local liveryman. He is the Sierra Madre employment bureau. He will supply you with a Chinese cook or an Irish chambermaid or a Mexican ranch hand or a dozen orange pickers. He will sell you a dozen gopher traps or a carload of fertilizer.

"He is a deputy sheriff of Los Angeles county and constable thereof. He is a deacon in the Congregational church and its sexton likewise. Even the rumor runs that he can preach upon occasion and I have no doubt that he can.

"It is, however, as the driver of the Sierra Madre and Wilson's peak stage that my friend exercises his greatest influence and usefulness.

"The road from Santa Anita station on the Santa Fe to the

ANNALS OF EARLY SIERRA MADRE

foothill hamlet of Sierra Madre is broad and white and dusty and it is uphill every foot of the way. Up this road some four times a day toils a long, black, lumbering omnibus drawn by two horses of dubious pedigree and uncertain age. Within are divers citizens of Sierra Madre and vicinity. Without, upon the driver's seat, is my friend, Mr. Twycross, wearing a straw hat of ancient vintage and wielding a whip with a stock two feet long and a lash of equal length. With this he occasionally flicks the toiling steeds, meantime keeping up a running fire of comment, news, and common rumor for the benefit of his passengers.

"'Feller over from Duarte to see you this morning,' he remarks to the landlord of the local hotel, who has been down to Los Angeles on business. 'Think he wanted to sell you a horse. Not much of a horse, either. Hem. Git up!'

"The landlord is uninterested. Mr. Twycross turns his attention elsewhere.

"'Hope you'll come down to the sociable at the church tonight, Mrs. Blank. Oysters. We want to paint the church and need the money. Haw! Haw! Git up!'

"At this point a woman comes out from a cottage beside the road and signals for the stage to stop. She demands to know of Mr. Twycross when he intends to bring her the wood he promised the day previous and inquires how he expects her to cook supper without it. Mr. Twycross apologizes profusely, pleads a lapse of memory, promises to repair the omission forthwith and once more invites his steeds to 'gitup'. The stage proceeds.

"It goes up side streets and through lemon groves. It cuts through back yards and across vacant lots. It stops at a kitchen door, and Mr. Twycross produces a box of groceries and exchanges a word of gossip with the housewife. It draws up before the house of the village doctor and Mr. Twycross leaves word for the man of pills and potions to go and see a sick boy on Piedmont Heights. It stops at the post office and Mr. Twycross throws off the mail bags. It stops at Norris' store and he inquires of the storekeeper whether there are any orders on the slate for the 4:15 train. It stops at the hotel and

POOH BAH OF THE FOOTHILLS

Mr. Twycross hands out a telegram for one of the guests. It drops passengers here and there, and it disseminates information and acquires the same wherever it goes.

"By the time Mr. Twycross has made his rounds he has traversed pretty nearly every street in the village and he has picked up all the news of the community en route. This is not only serviceable locally, but it has a certain metropolitan interest, for I forgot to say that Mr. Twycross is likewise the correspondent of the Los Angeles newspapers. From time to time he records the happenings of the community and his literary style is as happy and cogent as his conversational powers.

"When the stage has completed its route Mr. Twycross turns the horses' heads homeward, and by the time supper is ready he has sold an orange ranch, written an insurance policy on a cottage, sold six bags of wood—that commodity is handled in bags locally—he has taken an order for a funeral, another for a cook and still another order for a buggy horse. After supper he proceeds to the church sociable where his constabulary powers render him the proper custodian and corrector of small boys who may be disposed to become obstreperous.

"It is a tribute to the versatility and greatness of my friend that he neither staggers under the load of his responsibility nor is he puffed up nor arrogant over the honors which have fallen to him. He is still the public-spirited, progressive citizen of his chosen hamlet and long may he wave."

"MATT."

CHAPTER XVIII

SIERRA MADRE BECOMES A CITY

By C. W. JONES

THE SIERRA MADRE TRACT was originally laid out in twenty and forty-acre lots and early settlers engaged in fruit raising, including grapes, apricots, prunes, peaches, walnuts, figs and citrus fruits, and for twenty years this horticultural industry thrived.

In 1906 one of the many Pacific Electric tendrils out of Los Angeles seeking support, reached this community, then a village of less than five hundred population. With this new convenient rapid transit system to the outside world there was conceived a city. Little by little the citizens, recognizing the disadvantages of an unorganized village and those to be gained under a charter, would find themselves in frequent groups agitating the question of incorporating as a city.

On October 27, 1906, a meeting of the Improvement Association was called for the purpose of general discussion of incorporating. Mr. John George Blumer and Mr. R. D. Richards made strong arguments supporting such a movement. A petition to the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors, asking for incorporation, was signed by forty-one of those present. Additional signatures bringing the number up to the required number by law (ten per cent of the minimum population of five hundred) were promptly secured and the necessary legal steps were taken.

On January 29, 1907, at a citizens' meeting, nominations were made for city officers to be voted upon at an election to be held February 2, 1907. The following citizens were elected to serve as the first officers of the new city: Trustees, Edgar W. Camp, Justus Krafft, N. Henry Hosmer, Charles W. Jones and John C. Pegler; Treasurer, Louis C. Torrance; Clerk and As-



NO. 41

C. W. JONES
As first Mayor, 1907-1914



NO. 42

CASA DE MONTE LADO
Home of the first Mayor, built 1906 and still his home



NO. 43

MIA ITALIA

Home of Miss Thomasella Graham
For successive years awarded national
first prize for outstanding achievement
in home grounds beautification



NO. 44

MRS. ISABEL WOODIN PIERCE
Notable pioneer mother



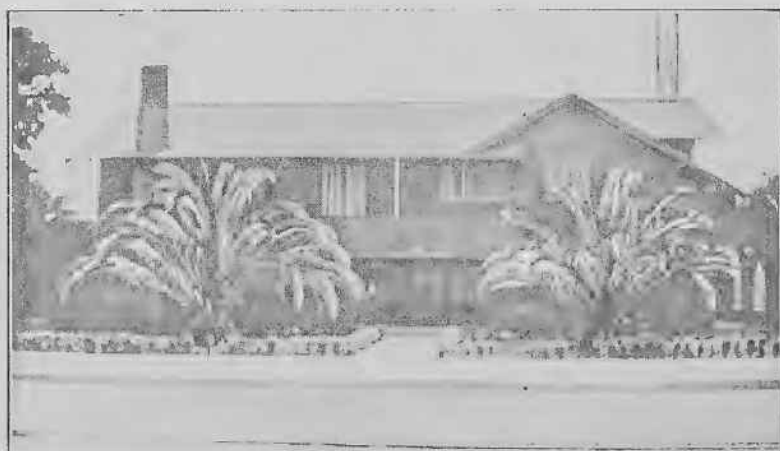
NO. 45

Mt. Wilson snow scene, Center for winter sports.



NO. 46

MRS. CAROLINE JENNIE OSGOOD
Founder and President Emeritus of the
Sierra Madre Woman's Club



NO. 47

WOMAN'S CLUB HOUSE
Erected 1909. Still center of social activities.

SIERRA MADRE BECOMES A CITY

essor, John J. Graham; Marshal and Tax Collector, William P. Caley.

On February 20, 1907, the new city of Sierra Madre was born. The above named electors met in the office of the Sierra Madre Realty Company, 26 North Baldwin Avenue, and were duly sworn in by John H. Wright, Deputy County Clerk. C. W. Jones was elected Chairman of the Board, or Mayor, and Walter Haas of Los Angeles was appointed City Attorney. Since the date of birth, the city government has been carried on in accordance with the laws governing cities of the sixth class.

Sierra Madre then in swaddling clothes, without a home, without nourishing sustenance and like a babe on a door-step, had no means by which to survive except borrowed capital. A couple of long tables, half a dozen chairs, a couple of stools (all discarded furniture by the County Supervisors) were purchased for the sum of \$5.00. Eventually a "City Hall" was established in a room in the Kersting Building on Kersting Court (not at that time possessed of a name), where it remained until the erection of the present city-owned City Hall on Sierra Madre Boulevard in 1927.

Taxes did not begin to come in until toward the end of 1907 and then in small infrequent amounts. Ordinances were passed at every meeting of the Trustees for many months and many of them were of a trying nature, such as the one eliminating tent houses, controlling burros on the public streets, regulating sanitariums and their practical prohibition, within specified zones.

During the years antedating the incorporation Sierra Madre citizens had lived a sort of laissez faire freedom and many now found much to criticize in some or many of the ordinances which they felt cramped their style. However, few arrests occurred for violations of ordinances and the good people of the city were quick to adjust themselves to such regulations and the city has, throughout its many years' existence, become recognized as exceptionally peaceful and law-abiding.

During the first seven years after incorporation the new city had paved and curbed eleven miles of its streets, built culverts over deep dips, many of which automobiles could not

ANNALS OF EARLY SIERRA MADRE

pass; condemned the E. J. (Lucky) Baldwin water rights* and purchased the Sierra Madre Water Company's interest in all water rights in the Little Santa Anita Canyon, its reservoirs and distributing system; granted franchises for electricity, gas and telephone services and many other proper foundations for a prosperous and favorable community in which to live.

*See article on "Sierra Madre Water History" in this volume.

CHAPTER XIX

ORIGIN OF THE SIERRA MADRE WOMAN'S CLUB

MRS. MAYBELLE CALEY BARKER

ON A CRISP, moonlight night early in the month of January, 1907, Mr. and Mrs. Marcus Copps and Mr. and Mrs. Louis Dietz wended their way to the Captain Osgood lemon ranch on South Lima Street, where they had been invited for supper and an evening of Five Hundred.

As they sat around the table of their genial host and hostess, Mrs. Osgood remarked that the previous day she had attended a meeting of the Friday Morning Club in Los Angeles, she being a charter member, and had been asked by Madame Severance, president-emeritus of the Club, if Sierra Madre had a Woman's Club. Mrs. Osgood had answered, "No, Sierra Madre cannot support a Club."

The Osgood dinner guests immediately started to take exceptions to this answer of their hostess. Mrs. Copps and Mrs. Dietz were sure that if the right people in Sierra Madre were contacted, a Woman's Club could be organized. They even offered to make a canvass of the town, interviewing women who might be interested in such an organization. Mr. Dietz said that he, too, would conduct an interview of all merchants in town to see what they thought of the idea.

On the following Monday, Mrs. Copps and Mrs. Dietz started out to canvass the town for prospective members. Among those interviewed was Miss Lydia Webster, then president of the Women's Guild of the Episcopal Church. She promised to bring the subject up at the next meeting of the Guild. This she did, and found the women very enthusiastic, as were the ladies whom Mrs. Copps and Mrs. Dietz had contacted. Mr. Dietz also found the merchants in town in favor of this community affair. So intensely interested was Mrs.

ANNALS OF EARLY SIERRA MADRE

Chas. E. Bentham, wife of the Episcopal Rector, that she extended an invitation to all women of the community who were interested in such a project, to meet at the rectory on February 23rd, 1907.

February 23rd turned out to be a day for a California cloudburst, but in spite of the downpour thirty women met at Mrs. Bentham's invitation. Mrs. E. T. Pierce had prepared a Constitution and By-Laws, which she read and which were adopted. This was signed by those present, but on account of the heavy rain which had kept many prospective members from attending, it was decided to keep the charter membership open until the March 7th meeting.

Mrs. J. A. Osgood was elected president at this meeting, and Mrs. Charles Ferry secretary pro-tem. The ladies decided to ask Mr. A. N. Adams for the use of the old Town Hall for a future meeting place. Mr. Adams agreed to allow them to use the hall and he, with the assistance of Messrs. L. E. Steinberger, Capt. Osgood and Louis Dietz, gave the old hall a thorough cleaning in readiness for the second meeting of the Club on March 7th. On that day the charter membership roll was brought up to 54 names, the following having signed:

Mrs. W. S. Andrews	Mrs. Louis Dietz
Mrs. Burton Andrews	Mrs. J. E. Ferry
Mrs. C. H. Baker	Mrs. Chas. Ferry
Mrs. C. E. Bentham	Mrs. Nellie Gary
Mrs. Minnie Bronson	Mrs. Edith Hawxhurst
Mrs. W. F. Brugman	Mrs. C. W. Hill
Mrs. M. A. Cadwell	Mrs. N. H. Hosmer
Mrs. Wm. P. Caley	Mrs. Kate Holmes
Mrs. Jas. M. Campbell, Sr.	Mrs. Catherine Humphries
Mrs. Edith Crisp	Mrs. Anna Jackman
Mrs. R. S. Criswell	Miss Alma Jones
Mrs. S. C. Collins	Mrs. C. W. Jones
Mrs. Marcus W. Copps	Mrs. C. S. Kersting
Mrs. E. W. Camp	Mrs. George Letteau
Mrs. Cora Costello	Mrs. Lee Lyons
Mrs. J. C. Dickson	Miss Alice Lockwood

ORIGIN OF SIERRA MADRE WOMAN'S CLUB

Mrs. M. I. Maxgood	Mrs. Alice Staples
Miss Hattie Marvin	Mrs. Ivor Thomas
Mrs. A. D. Morgan	Mrs. Eva Thornburg
Miss Julia Nichols	Mrs. L. C. Torrance
Mrs. J. A. Osgood	Mrs. E. H. Vannier
Mrs. Ida Potter	Mrs. I. N. Ward
Mrs. J. C. Pegler	Mrs. Tasker Webster
Mrs. E. T. Pierce	Miss Lydia Webster
Mrs. Maggie Steinberger	Mrs. Martha Williamson
Miss Elizabeth Steinberger	Mrs. Harriet Wright
Mrs. Laura Stevenson	Mrs. Nellie Yerxa

The following regular officers were also elected:

President.....	Mrs. J. A. Osgood
Vice-President.....	Mrs. L. C. Torrance
Secretary.....	Mrs. Minnie Bronson
Treasurer.....	Mrs. W. S. Andrews
Directors.....	Mesdames Marcus Copps, J. C. Dickson, Geo. Letteau and Louis Dietz

For over two years the Club met in the old Town Hall. Many fine programs were enjoyed and many outstanding social affairs took place. Remembered by many was the Club's first Christmas party, given for the children of Club members. Santa Claus, dressed in a red suit, came riding down the hill on a burro and up the steep steps of the hall into the auditorium, where he distributed gifts from a huge gunny sack thrown over his shoulder. Another, a grandmothers' party, was held on the lawn of the home of Lawyer and Mrs. E. W. Camp. Madame Severance, president-emeritus of the Friday Morning Club of Los Angeles, was the honored guest. She was then 89 years old.

Also a Colonial Tea, held at the Town Hall on Washington's Birthday, February 22nd, 1908, with the guests in Colonial fashions dancing the minuet. From 1908 to 1909 Mrs. C. E. Bentham directed the Club as its second president.

ANNALS OF EARLY SIERRA MADRE

In the fall of 1908 we find the Woman's Club acting as hostesses to the street cleaning gang. On Saturday, November 9th, Mayor C. W. Jones proclaimed a holiday for "Street Cleaning Day". At 6:30 in the morning Uncle Henry Hosmer, of Revolutionary stock, shot off several sticks of dynamite to awaken the people so they would get ready for work, then the church bells and school bells were rung. Bert Andrews called up City Marshal Caley and wanted him to arrest Mr. Hosmer for disturbing the peace. One hundred men turned out to clean the weeds from the streets of Sierra Madre. Those who could not help sent a day's wages of \$3.00 and Japs were hired to assist with the work. White-collared men of Sierra Madre, such as the editor of the News, C. W. Hill, appeared dressed in their best bib and tucker including stiff collar and tie, to pick up one weed at a time and carry it like a bouquet to the wagon and throw it in. The Woman's Club served a fine lunch at noon at the Town Hall to the workers, free of charge. Menu included escalloped potatoes, baked beans, cold meats, pies and cakes and hot biscuits and lots of good hot coffee. The affair was such a success Sierra Madre decided to make it a yearly affair.

Just about this time Monrovia built their Woman's Club House and our club ladies were invited to the opening program. When they returned home that night it was unanimously agreed that "if Monrovia could have a Woman's Club House, so could Sierra Madre." This started a huge money-earning campaign. First, there were lots to buy, and they selected two fine lots across from Norris' store on West Central Avenue. Ways and means of earning money in those days were limited. Chicken pie suppers were popular. The club women worked under great difficulties as the Town Hall had no facilities for serving suppers, there being neither gas nor electricity. The ladies carried their oil stoves up the steep and narrow stairway, also pots and pans and dishes and silver. In summer, ice cream socials were popular. The Steinberger, Lawless and Letteau families owned cows and donated the cream. Club women had peaches and strawberries in their gardens. Mrs. Nellie Yerxa

ORIGIN OF SIERRA MADRE WOMAN'S CLUB

and Mrs. Elizabeth Dietz mixed up the concoction for the ice cream, while Freddie Hinton, Louie Torrance and Don Baxter turned the crank of the freezer and were rewarded by being allowed to lick the dasher when the ice cream was frozen. Food sales and card parties were also given for benefits. Mr. E. H. Hoffman of the Hoffman Hardware Company, wholesale, Los Angeles, owned a lovely home on West Central Avenue, and offered his spacious grounds to the ladies for a lawn party, saying he would match every dollar they raised by selling tickets. The whole town turned out and the receipts were enormous, enough so that a down payment on the lots could be made, leaving a balance of \$1800. A few months later this was raised by selling stock certificates of \$100 each to eighteen charter members. With the lots clear, efforts were made to raise money for the clubhouse. Mr. Hoffman came to the front again, saying he was sure that he knew a man in Los Angeles who would finance the clubhouse. This man was contacted and agreed to furnish the \$10,000 which I believe was the cost of the original club building without any of the annexes which were added in later years.

On May 10th, 1909, the laying of the cornerstone took place. It was a sizzling hot day and Mrs. Lawless suggested serving orange jello and home-made cake after the ceremony, at the old town hall where they were to adjourn. By the time the program was over and the guests had gathered at the hall, the orange jello was back to its liquid form again and Mrs. Andrews and Mrs. Dietz, with much laughter poured it into glasses and served it as a beverage with the home-made cake. For years, this was a standing joke among the ladies. On this memorial day for the Club, one of the Charter members, Nellie Ingram Baker (Mrs. C. H. Baker) wrote the song of dedication used in the ceremony. The program was as follows:

ANNALS OF EARLY SIERRA MADRE

PROGRAM

Sierra Made Woman's Club

Laying of the Corner-stone.

May 10, 1909

Mrs. George H. Letteau, President

Estudiantina.....	(Lacome)	—Monday Musical Club
Invocation.....	Rev. Jas. M. Campbell, D.D.	
"Our New Home".....	Mrs. J. A. Osgood, President Emeritus	
"Our City".....	Mayor C. W. Jones*	
"Organizations".....	J. W. Keys, Pres. Board of Trade	
Address.....	Father Barth, of the Catholic Mission	
President's Address.....	Mrs. Chas. E. Bentham	
Laying of the Corner-stone		
Music—Dedication Song.....	Nellie Ingram Baker	
Benediction.....	Rev. C. E. Bentham, Rector of the Church of the Ascension	

The club house was completed on July 1st, 1909 and a big ball was held in celebration of the opening. Mr. Frances P. Conrad had the honor of taking the first photograph of the new club house. The Club joined the General Federation of Clubs in this year.

For over forty years, now, the Sierra Madre Woman's Club has been most active in all civic affairs of the city, carrying out faithfully and tirelessly the Object for which they were organized: "To stimulate intellectual development; to promote unity and good fellowship; and to strengthen individual, philanthropic and reformatory effort."

MAYBELLE CALEY BARKER,
Club Historian.

The Mayor's address on "Our City" carried weight as can be seen in reviewing the following bits from it in the light of Sierra Madre of today:

*Ed Note: See extracts following.

ORIGIN OF SIERRA MADRE WOMAN'S CLUB

"Suffice it to say the few early ranchers who located upon this favored spot had much to do with the final setting. . . . They preserved the grand old oaks, they planted numerous and beautiful shade trees along the highways, adorned their door-yards with choice tropical plants and flowers, they developed the profitable orange and lemon groves. . . .

"Nature and our worthy pioneers have done much to make of this place an earthly Paradise . . . but today . . . Civic Pride . . . seems to me to be . . . lacking among a goodly number of our citizens . . . an asset no city can afford to overlook . . . a thing no citizen can afford to be without. A city whose inhabitants possess a high standard of Civic Pride is a city of beauty and attractiveness no matter how much or how little the cost of her buildings.

The humblest home in our city can be made attractive and beautiful. . . . The public highways and parkways belong to the city, therefore your share of the care of these is that portion which lies directly in front of your property. . . . The children should be imbued with the idea of Civic Pride and there is no more appropriate place nor way, than upon the Public School grounds by example and precept. . . . Plant trees and flowers where only weeds now grow.

"No organization has done so much to further the cause of Civic Pride as the Sierra Madre Woman's Club, and if the men would keep pace with their wives they must needs stir! . . . With such an organization as the Sierra Madre Woman's Club, with its influence and its coterie of women who know HOW and have the CHARACTER to LEAD, . . . the rainbow of optimism for a city beautiful glows with unusual splendor."

SIERRA MADRE WILD FLOWERS

Editor's Note

After the Woman's Club was well established in their new building they initiated many civic activities, prominent among them being an annual flower show. One outstanding feature of this show was the exhibit and classification of wild flowers, the profusion of which so colorfully blanketed the whole landscape

ANNALS OF EARLY SIERRA MADRE

of Sierra Madre. Prizes were offered to school children who exhibited the largest number of varieties and the best specimens of local wild flowers.

Interest in these contests grew from year to year and soon the displays became quite as beautiful and informative of the flora of the community as the exhibits of cultivated flowers.

The accompanying table of native flora was compiled in the early years of Sierra Madre by one of her teachers, Mrs. Chloe B. Jones, and may be instructive and interesting to botany students any time. The sad fact is, however, that many of the specimens have given way to the builders as they have turned vacant property into homes and cultivated gardens.

THE FLORA OF SIERRA MADRE

By Chloe B. Jones

- Arbutus, Menziesii Madrono
- Amsinckia, Spectabilis
- Brodiaea, Capitata
- Bloomeria, Aurea
- Clematis, Ligustici Folia (Virgin's Bower)
- Columbine, Aquilegia truncata
- Coliusia, bicolor
- Castilleja, parviflora
- Compositae, represented by Sunflowers, Daisies, Thistles,
etc.
- Cream Cups, Platystemon Californicus
- Clover, (bur) Medicago denticulata
- Currants, (wild) Ribes aureum
- Conifers, (several species)
- Datura Stramonium, (Jamestown weed)
- Euothera, bistorta
- Erythraea, venusta
- Eriodictyon, tomentosum
- Eriodictyon, glutinosum (Yerba-Santa)
- Filaria Erodium, moschatum
- Fuchsia, Zanschneria, Californica
- Geranium, Carolinicum

ORIGIN OF SIERRA MADRE WOMAN'S CLUB

- Gooseberry, (wild) *Ribes Menziesii*
 Greasewood
 Godetia, *quadrivulveria*
 Hosackia, *Maritima*
 Kale, *Brassica campestris*
 Lupines, (several species)
 Larkspur, (red) *Delphinium Cardinale*
 Lathyrus, *palustris*
 Lily, (tiger) *Lilium Humboldtii*
 Lily, (Mariposa) *Calochortus lyoni*
 Lily, (white) *Calochortus albus*
 Linaria, *Canadensis*
 Lilac, (wild) *Ceanothus thyrsiflorus*
 Laurel, (mountain) *Falmia glauca*
 Manzanita, *Arctostaphylos tomentosa*
 Menlla, *Martima*
 Mimulus, *glutinosus*
 Mustard, *Brassica nigra*
 Mountain Maple
 Nightshade, (black) *Solanum Nigrum*
 Nightshade, (purple) *Solanum umbelliferum*
 Nemophila, *insignis*, (Baby blue-eyes)
 Orthocarpus, *purpurescens*
 Oak, (several varieties of)
 Peony, *Peonia Brownii*
 Phacelia, *grandiflora*
 Phacelia, *Whitlavia* (blue bells)
 Poppy, (common) *Eschscholtzia Californica*
 Poppy, (tree) *Dendromeum rigiduni*
 Pink, (mountain) *Gilia Californica*
 Pink, *Gilia Capitata*
 Pentstemon, *cordifolius* (Wild honeysuckle)
 Pentstemon, (scarlet) *Centranthifolius*
 Pentstemon, (purple) *Spectabilis*
 Pimpernel, *Anagelis Arvensis*
 Radish, (wild) *Raphanus Raphanistrum*
 Rose, (wild) *Rosa Californica*
 Sorrel, (yellow) *Oxalis comiculata*

ANNALS OF EARLY SIERRA MADRE

Snapdragon, *Antirrhinum glandulosum*
Sumac
Shooting Stars, *Dodecatheon media*
Sage, (thistle) *Salvia Carduccea*
Sage, (blue) *Salvia Columbariae*
Sage, (black) *Andibertia stachyoides*
Sage, (white) *Andibertia polystachya*
Shepherd's Purse, *Capsella Bursa-pastoris*
Sambuccas, *glauca*
Tobacco, (wild) *Nicotiana glauca*
Verbena, *Hastata*
Violet, (yellow) *Viola pedunculata*
Vetch, *Vicia Americana*
Yucca, *Whipplei*

CHAPTER XX

THE WISTARIA VINE

SIERRA MADRE OF WISTARIA fame must preserve the story of its Vine which attracts thousands of visitors every year.

In April, 1894, Mrs. Wm. F. Brugman and her neighbor, Mrs. W. B. Crisp, drove by horse and buggy to Monrovia and purchased from R. H. Wilson of the Pioneer Nursery, a "Chinese Lavender" Wistaria. It was in a gallon can and cost but seventy-five cents. The Brugmans had purchased the house at 201 West Carter the year before and the vine was planted as part of their improvement of the place. But it was not until 1913, when the property was purchased by Mr. and Mrs. H. T. Fennell, that particular attention was paid to the Vine.

The property had changed hands several times and though the Vine continued to grow it had not been fostered by such means as Mr. Fennell took to give the new tendrils the support without which they wither and die. Mr. Fennell built the first pergola at the east of the house, planning it (the Vine) should encompass the house, which it did.

The beautiful blossoms were shared with visitors from the Hotels Green, Raymond and Huntington in Pasadena invited to see the annual spring bloom. In 1916 the grounds were opened to the public, and Mr. and Mrs. Fennell, gracious hosts, found after two years that the increasing number of visitors was more than they could handle.

In 1918 the Sierra Madre Chapter of the American Red Cross sponsored the Wistaria Fete. Light refreshments were served; several booths were erected where various articles were sold. From this source the Red Cross was financially able to meet the War demands made upon it. After the Red Cross success various local organizations took over the affair in turn. Up to 1931 no admission fee was charged and the Woman's Club, Volunteer Firemen, Masonic Lodge, Eastern Star and Board of Trade carried on.

ANNALS OF EARLY SIERRA MADRE

The annual event was looked forward to as a social highlight of the town, and throngs who came for the occasion represented places all over the United States and the world, in fact. Many of the visitors returned year after year, interested to see the beauty of the Vine as it developed. Gradually the Street Fair type of Fete evolved and when the Woman's Club sponsored the Fete in 1931 a small admission fee was collected for the first time. Interested townsmen cooperated in building Japanese pagoda-type booths and a barbecue—not then so common as later. Five of the town's respected citizens, in costume of chefs, proved their culinary skill so well that besides the abundance of customers a Hollywood matron seriously attempted to engage one of the experts to preside at her next Barbecue! How long before she discovered she was negotiating with a weather specialist from the State Meteorological Laboratory is not recorded. The turnstile showed that 35,000 persons were admitted in three weeks of the Fete. The Woman's Club happily paid off the mortgage on its Clubhouse and besides redecorating left a substantial balance in the treasury.

The following year the Volunteer Firemen negotiated a five-year lease with Mrs. Fennell and at the end of that time Mrs. Fennell sold the property to Mrs. W. J. (Ida) Lawless. A real gardener, Mrs. Lawless added colorful spring shrubs and plants, both native and tropical varieties. She also placed extensive additions to the arbors allowing the Vine to spread over the greater part of the grounds. All the year 'round civic organizations held their meetings in the spacious dining room. After Mrs. Lawless's death the property was sold to Richard K. Thayer, the present owner (1950).

With the returning seasons, the luxurious blossoms attract crowds who make the annual pilgrimage as one of the features of spring in Southern California.

CHAPTER XXI

OUR HERITAGE FROM THE "PIONEERS"

BY MRS. J. H. (JESSICA H.) WRIGHT

Postmaster 1922-35

COMING TO SIERRA MADRE at the time when the old days were merging into the new, when the completion of the electric line opened a new chapter in the city's progress, we had the privilege of knowing the people and the spirit of the older time, and because of a very great admiration and respect for those people and that spirit, bred of that knowledge, we express an appreciation of a legacy which we of today have received from those men and women of a yesterday not quite passed.

It is rather hard to find just the words to describe that legacy, for it is an immaterial thing—not lands nor water, nor streets nor railroads, but something much more valuable than all these, a thing of the spirit without which these material things would lose much of their worth. In fact, the best name for it is "The Spirit of Sierra Madre"—the spirit of accomplishment and neighborliness, of endurance and kindness, the pride of one's word being one's bond, the giving of one's time and strength as well as money to projects for the general good.

The evidences of all this were never thrust upon the newcomer, they just soaked into his consciousness bit by bit—a few words here and there, an illuminating incident now and then, the explanation as to why some custom was kept up, generous praise of one who had gone before—line by line, and page by page, the story unfolded. Merely a story of everyday simple living and striving, but permeated throughout with an inspiring, if unspoken, conception of true citizenship and social service.

It was not called by any such high sounding names then and there weren't any reports or social surveys to record it; it

ANNALS OF EARLY SIERRA MADRE

was just driving miles through dark and storm to fetch a nurse or doctor; or sitting up night after night with the sick and lonely stranger within the gates; or leaving one's own pressing work to plow and cultivate the land of a disabled neighbor that he might be saved worry and loss; or giving days and evenings, month in and month out, to church or school or library work, just as a matter of course, because of duty.

There were so many things they did not have in those not-so-far-off days that we feel absolute necessities now. There were no trolley cars nor automobiles, no telephones or street lights, no paved streets or movies, or jazz; but they had time for delightful social intercourse and books and music and theatricals and the worthwhile things, and they had an intimate knowledge of the meaning of some words that are not overly fashionable today, such as duty and responsibility and old fashioned courtesy.

They weren't prigs or saints, but the community backbone was a very straight backbone and made for an upright community. And that uprightness and the standard they set have left a very visible mark on the community of this present. This little town has an enviable reputation in the larger world beyond our bounds for the things it does and the way it does them. The new settler here unconsciously imbibes this spirit and falls into line without quite understanding how or why, and, in the course of a few years, is claiming a prideful ownership in the tradition and passing it on to the latest new neighbor.

It is a most worthwhile heritage we have received from the "Pioneers," and we will do well to keep it unspoiled to pass on to our successors. Manners and customs change with the changing years but the vital, spiritual foundations are always the same, and though it may manifest itself in different form, so long as the spirit of the Sierra Madre of the future is the same spirit as that of the Sierra Madre of the yesterdays, it will be well with this city and those who dwell herein.





NO. 49

Live Oak. A 600-800-year-old tree, one of the few remaining.



NO. 50

S. R. G. TWYCROSS
Native of Maine
Resident of Sierra Madre over fifty years



CHAPTER XXII

SIERRA MADRE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

By MRS. C. W. (EDITH BLUMER) BOWEN

ON APRIL 21, 1931, the "Sierra Madre Historical Society" was organized at a meeting in the parlor of the Congregational Church, sponsored by the Men's Community Club. A constitution and by-laws were drafted and Mrs. N. C. Carter, widow of the founder of the town, was made honorary President.

Mr. Harold Carew of the Pasadena Star-News, a resident of Sierra Madre, was elected president, and Mrs. Edith Blumer Bowen secretary-treasurer. A board of trustees included the Reverend Arthur O. Pritchard, C. W. Jones, A. N. Carter and Mrs. J. M. Steinberger.

Various committees were appointed and a celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of Sierra Madre was planned and was successfully carried through on October 8, 9, and 10, 1931, under the efficient management of Mr. Elmer Green. The meetings of the society were held every six months and many interesting programs were presented. In 1932 Mr. Carew resigned from the presidency and Mrs. Edith Humphries Hawxhurst was elected in his place. In 1935 Mr. William Lauren Rhoades became president and continued until his death in 1948, when Mr. C. W. Jones was elected to the office. After 1935 the Society met only once a year, in May.

Among the well-known out-of-town speakers who have addressed the Society were: Mr. Lindley Bynum of the Huntington Library; Dr. Robert E. Cowan, librarian and bibliographer of the Clark Library, Los Angeles; Lewis Ransome Freeman, Pasadena author and explorer; Phil Townsend Hanna, general manager of Westways Magazine; Charles Gibbs Adams, South Pasadena author and landscape architect; Miss Frances Wills, Los Angeles pioneer, and Eugene Biscailuz, Sheriff of Los Angeles County.

ANNALS OF EARLY SIERRA MADRE

When elected Club Historian in 1935 I was asked to write a history of early Sierra Madre. Having recently received from Mrs. Edith Humphries Hawxhurst some interesting and valuable accounts of early Sierra Madre written by numerous pioneers for the "Pioneer History of Sierra Madre" meeting of the Woman's Club in 1921, I decided to use these manuscripts, add to them the Historical Society Papers and compile "Annals of Early Sierra Madre".

SIERRA MADRE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OFFICERS—1950

Charles Worthington Jones.....	President
Martha Caroline Pritchard.....	Vice-President
Convers L. Twycross.....	Secretary-Treasurer
Mrs. Maybelle Caley Barker.....	Historian
Elizabeth Steinberger.....	Custodian
Clara Sykes.....	Hospitality Chairman

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Officers named above, with

Mrs. Alfred James Dewey and

Mrs. Elsie Blumer Hart.....Members-at-Large

EPILOGUE

GEORGE B. MORGRIDGE

IF THERE IS ONE WORD to express the hold which Sierra Madre has exerted on people from every clime, I believe the word is "Charm". As told in earlier pages, they have come from the ends of the earth, to stay briefly or at length. Few have escaped the feeling, or forgotten it when away. That charm was a factor in attracting the early settlers, and was potent in the building and molding of the community through every stage down to the present.

Foregoing chapters have told the story of Sierra Madre in a series of pictures of personalities and events of early years. Through them we see the beginnings and development of a community of unusual character. Attention has been rightly focussed on the formative period, from the primitive beginnings through the first decade of this century. By that time Sierra Madre had been incorporated, the public library and the mutual water company had been acquired by the city, and the modern era was under way. Perhaps from these early sketches we can discern some of the factors which were responsible for the kind of community we have.

First and most fundamental of the physical factors were the mountains. They are the shield from the weather extremes of the desert, only a few miles to the north. Their forest and brush cover catch and hold the rain and snow water which is filtered into the great underground storage facilities provided by nature, whence comes our supply, pure and abundant. The earliest settlers found water plentiful in running streams or flowing from tunnels driven a little way into the canyon walls. Increased demands required pumping from greater depths, but Sierra Madre water is still "nature's best".

Choice of the name, Sierra Madre, was natural. Joaquin Miller, California poet, wrote that Sierra Madre was "the highest and loveliest of all the foothill communities". Life on such

ANNALS OF EARLY SIERRA MADRE

an eminence inspires a sense of exaltation which we may take for granted, but which is sorely missed when away from home. We are sometimes jolted out of our complacent acceptance by the ecstatic delight of visitors who look out and down from our elevation for the first time. May the anti-smog campaign restore the ante-smog clarity of our vistas.

Sierra Madre seems to be more effectually shielded than many other foothill areas from frost and wind damage. These vary greatly along the foothill region by reason of mountain contours, deeply cut canyons and occasional low mountain passes. The elevation likewise reduces fogs to a minimum. The foothill slopes and porous character of the soil provide natural drainage. All these things are complemented by a normally dry atmosphere, healthful and conducive to wholesome outdoor life.

These were physical factors which were attractive to the earliest buyers when N. C. Carter opened Sierra Madre tract for development. They have been potent ever since. In addition, wide publicity was given in those early days to an article from an English medical journal naming Sierra Madre as one of three spots in the world where conditions were most favorable to health, especially for ailments of throat and lungs.

Mount Wilson, most famous of Southern California peaks, was a powerful factor in Sierra Madre's growth. In the early days it was accessible only on foot or by saddle animal via Sierra Madre. Unnumbered thousands passed through Sierra Madre on their way to Mount Wilson or to the canyon resorts. Probably a large share of people who have called Sierra Madre "home" were first exposed to the Sierra Madre charm as incidental to such a mountain excursion. There was especial appeal to the nature lover in the easily accessible beauty spots in and near Sierra Madre.

Health was the goal of a good many of the early families, especially in the days when "climate" was apt to be the last recourse of the afflicted. And the fact remains that multitudes have regained their health in Sierra Madre. Among the early settlers were a number who had not been encouraged to expect

EPILOGUE

cure, or more than temporary relief, but who regained strength to resume active careers and many years of usefulness.

The early settlers had varied educational backgrounds. But from the first the community showed a taste for cultural things. Schools, churches and a public library were provided while the village was still very tiny. In fact, the free public library was housed in its own building, through the generosity of Mrs. Ross and the enterprise of other citizens, long before Andrew Carnegie began to broadcast library buildings over the land.

Life was not easy for the pioneers who planted their homes on the foothill slope. Problems of unfamiliar soil, water supply, irrigation, storm water drainage and erosion, complicated the production and marketing of crops which were entirely new to most of them. They persevered and learned the hard way in many cases. The results proved a degree of resourcefulness which is greatly to their credit.

But life was not beset solely with serious problems. There was time for fun and good fellowship. Being somewhat off the main traffic lines, the village had a degree of isolation which made it rather self-centered and the spirit of the people made it self-dependent. The varied activities so vividly described prove there was charm to the community life as well as in the natural setting.

As time has passed it is good to see that the Sierra Madre charm has been felt by the later generations as it was by those who established the earliest homes here. Third and fourth generation residents are not uncommon, and to date there is one family which is now represented by the sixth generation. This is the Hawks-Stevenson-Wood line. Among the very first settlers on the tract were Mrs. Hannah C. Hawks and her daughter, Miss Frances Hawks, who arrived in 1881. They were joined in 1887 by her son, Mr. Ammi D. Hawks, and family, which included Mrs. Laura Stevenson, James N. Hawks, Ruth and Miss Daisy Hawks. James N. Hawks was the father of Richard Hawks, now a successful Sierra Madre business man. Mrs. Stevenson's daughter Janet, became Mrs. Randolph Wood and the mother of three sons who also grew up in Sierra Madre, a fifth generation. The sixth generation is represented by the

ANNALS OF EARLY SIERRA MADRE

two young children of two of these sons: Alan and David Wood, namely Steven and Alison, respectively.

So life goes on and the charm of Sierra Madre still holds. These chronicles, at last put in print, reveal many of the reasons why our travelers are never surprised to have some stranger say, 'O, you live in Sierra Madre? That's a beautiful spot, a lovely place to live.'

Dr. Henry van Dyke visited Sierra Madre several times in the course of a distant winter. His feeling for our mountains in their intimate relations with foothill and valley was beautifully expressed in a little poem entitled "Sierra Madre". (Published by Scribner's in a slender volume, "Songs Out of Doors.") The closing lines of the poem echo a sentiment which might spring from every loyal Sierra Madre heart:

*"O mother mountains, Madre Sierra, I love you!
I murmur your name and lift up mine eyes to the hills."*

Brief Biographical
Sketches
of
Sierra Madre
Pioneers

WALTER S. ANDREWS

Walter S. Andrews was born in Bridgewater, Massachusetts, in 1851, the fourth of eleven sons. The family moved to Hartford, Connecticut, and Mr. Andrews worked as a printer there and also engaged in the insurance business.

In 1875 he married Miss Fanny Bates. They had four children: Burton, Richard, Charles and Raymond; Richard and Charles dying in infancy.

Ill health forced Mr. Andrews to leave Connecticut and he brought his family to California. After spending some time on the Chapman Ranch, in 1882 he came to Sierra Madre and bought 20 acres at the southeast corner of Central and Sierra Madre Avenues—now Sierra Madre Boulevard and Michilinda Avenue.

In 1886 Mr. Andrews opened a hardware store at the corner of Central and Prospect—now Lima—with his cousin, C. M. Clark. Later he opened a grocery store with his brothers Oliver and Chester. He sold this in 1887 to Stephen Norris and Frank J. Hart. Oliver Andrews returned to Connecticut, but Chester remained and married Miss Alice Davis. Mr. Walter Andrews then devoted himself to ranching and selling insurance.

Mr. Andrews was prominent in the affairs of the Sierra Madre Water Company and was its president at one time. He was one of the organizers of the Library Association and served on its board for 18 years.

Mr. and Mrs. Andrews were interested in the first building of the Congregational Church and with Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Cook gave the lot for it.

Mr. Andrews and Mr. James Hawks became partners in a real estate and insurance business and for some years occupied the adobe office building at 81 W. Sierra Madre Boulevard,

ANNALS OF EARLY SIERRA MADRE

which Mr. Hawks built, making the bricks himself. In 1936 the business was dissolved and Mr. Andrews retired. He died at his home in 1937, at the age of 86.

AUGUSTUS SIMON BIXBY

Augustus Simon Bixby was born in Anson, Maine, July 2, 1831, and was educated in Maine country schools. He came to California in September, 1857, and went into the business of sheep-raising; first in the Salinas Valley and later in Santiago Canyon in the northeast part of what is now Orange County.

In 1873 Mr. Bixby married Mary Louise Goodwin and they had four children: Alice M. (Mrs. Albert J. Close), Lulu A., William F. and Florence L.

After his marriage Mr. Bixby gave up raising sheep and became a horticulturist, planting and cultivating a variety of fruits. In 1887 he brought his family to Sierra Madre and bought the Percy Wilson property on Central Avenue, the home now at 397 W. Montecito Avenue, a little west of Lima and extending to Highland Avenue. The five acres were planted to oranges and Mr. Bixby devoted himself to the care of his orchard.

Mr. Bixby's son William, who graduated from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in Troy, N. Y., was city engineer of Sierra Madre for several years prior to 1918.

The Bixby family lived in Sierra Madre for 19 years and then moved to Pasadena.

Mr. Augustus Bixby died June 7, 1909, aged 78.

JOHN GEORGE BLUMER

John George Blumer was born at Harwich, England, in 1845. His father was associated as a shipbuilder with his father who was superintendent of the Royal Navy dockyard. In 1847 George Blumer moved his family to Hartlepool, Durham County, and opened his own shipyard.

After going to school in Hartlepool and attending Edinburg high school, where he was a schoolmate of Alexander Graham Bell, J. G. Blumer served as an apprentice to his father in the building of wooden ships, and after a course in ship designing

BRIEF BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES

in London, became his father's partner. On his father's death in 1864 he persuaded his stepmother to sell the shipyard as he saw that the day of the wooden ship was over. He then went into business as a colliery agent and metal merchant.

In 1871 Mr. Blumer married Julia Edith Walford of London and in 1872 they settled in Darlington where five children were born: George, Elsie, Hilda, Edith and Philip W., a sixth, Frederic B., the youngest, being born in Sierra Madre.

Mr. Blumer was a success as a business man but ill health forced him to seek a milder climate. A letter in the London "Lancet" from Dr. Fred Gresham, extolling the climate of California, led him to leave England and settle in Sierra Madre. The family travelled directly to Los Angeles and after two days they arrived at the Lamanda Park station of the San Gabriel Valley Railroad, September 1886. They were met by Dr. Gresham, at whose house they stayed for several weeks, until they moved into the Percy Wilson house. Mr. Blumer then bought from Mr. A. D. Trussell about 13 acres running north from Grandview Avenue between Auburn and the line of Hermosa Avenue. The family moved into the enlarged and remodeled house early in 1887. Later Mr. Blumer sold four acres on Auburn Avenue, retaining the oranges and lemons.

John George Blumer always had wide interests outside his business. He took a vital interest in the affairs of Sierra Madre. He helped reorganize the Water Company, advocating the use of meters. He was president of the company many times and his business experience was very valuable in the successful litigation with E. J. Baldwin.

He was president of the Library Association for 19 years and bought most of the early books, covering every one with manila paper and recovering it when dirty. There is a crayon portrait of him by Miss Ella Shepherd Bush hanging in the Library.

Mr. Blumer was very active in acquiring rights-of-way in the attempt to bring the Pacific Electric Railway into Sierra Madre and his fellow citizens showed their appreciation of his work by presenting him with a suitably engraved gold watch at the meeting celebrating the success of the project.

ANNALS OF EARLY SIERRA MADRE

In 1907 when the town was incorporated it was decided that the water system be operated as a municipal enterprise. When the transfer was made Mr. Blumer was appointed by the city trustees to fill a vacancy on the board and was elected Chairman or Mayor so that his services could be used in the process of transition. He served only a few months, ending almost 20 years of service in the water department of Sierra Madre.

Mr. Blumer died on Christmas Eve, 1918, at the age of 73.

WILLIAM FREDERICK BRUGMAN

Mr. Brugman was born in New York City in 1860. Like his father, he was a chemist, receiving his education in Germany and at Columbia University. When his health failed in his work in steel and silver mines in the East and in Mexico, he came to California for his health. In Los Angeles, where he first took his family, he collaborated with the late Frank Wiggins in preparing fine horticultural exhibits for the Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce. He came to Sierra Madre in 1893 and in 1894 bought the E. B. Jones house, 201 West Carter Avenue and the home of the Wistaria Vine, which was planted by his wife. He died at the early age of 39 in 1899.

Their two daughters and their mother lived in Sierra Madre for some time, and later in Los Angeles and Pasadena, where Mrs. Brugman died in 1937, aged 80 years. The daughter Emily (Mrs. Childs) was for some years secretary-treasurer of the Sierra Madre Historical Society. She and her sister, Mrs. Roberts, now live in Arcadia.

WILLIAM PAUL CALEY

William Paul Caley was born in Cleveland, Ohio, June 13, 1859, of English-Manx parentage.

He married Miss Mary E. Davidson of Cleveland in 1887, celebrating their Golden Wedding anniversary in Sierra Madre in 1937.

He was associated with the Cleveland Railroad lines under Mark Hanna and Tom Johnson, and moved to California for Mrs. Caley's health, settling in Sierra Madre in 1895.

BRIEF BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES

Here he became interested in ranching and real estate investments, and when the city was incorporated in 1907 he became its first marshal, tax collector and street superintendent, serving in this capacity for several terms. At this time he was also appointed a deputy sheriff of Los Angeles County.

During World War I, when the young men were called to the colors, Mr. Caley did his bit by becoming a mail carrier in the local post office for four years.

The Caley family were active members of the Congregational Church, Woman's Club, Historical Society, American Legion Auxiliary and many other civic organizations down thru the years.

William Caley passed away in 1943, aged 84 years, at his old home, 233 Ramona Avenue, built in 1898. He is survived by his widow, Mary D. Caley; two daughters, Hilda C. Noble, Maybelle C. Barker, and a granddaughter, Miss Nadine Noble.

EDGAR WHITTLESEY CAMP

Edgar Whittlesey Camp brought his family to settle in Sierra Madre in 1896. He was born in Sheboygan, Wisconsin, February 27, 1860, and spent his childhood in Fondulac and Waukesha. He worked his way through Beloit College, graduating in 1880.

For two years Mr. Camp worked in a law office in Milwaukee and in the summer of 1882 with a firm in Jamestown, North Dakota. He was admitted to the bar in Wisconsin in 1883 and became a partner in the Jamestown firm in 1885 or 1886. He was delegate to the convention which drafted a Constitution for North Dakota and was later appointed United States District Attorney. In that capacity he had a hot fight to keep the Louisiana Lottery from being transferred to North Dakota.

In 1882 Mr. Camp married Theodosia Irvin Baird. They had two children, Charles L., now Professor of Paleontology at the University of California at Berkeley, and Dorothy Elizabeth, now Mrs. Lawrence Nourse of Bakersfield.

Mr. Camp opened a law office in Los Angeles in 1896. He

ANNALS OF EARLY SIERRA MADRE

taught in James D. Scott's "Law School", now the Law Department of U.S.C.

In 1903 Mr. Camp went to Sacramento as a member of the State Assembly. In 1904 he joined the Santa Fe Railroad Company and in 1907 was head of their Law Department of Coast Lines. He was a member of the first City Council of Sierra Madre after its incorporation.

A fellow lawyer wrote of Mr. Camp:

"Self interest never had any influence on his mental operations, his intellectual integrity was impregnable. I have had the benefit of his good counsel, his wise observations on public affairs and the exalting example of his fine courage and elevated character."

After the death of his wife in 1937 Mr. Camp went to live in Los Angeles. He died there February 23, 1943, aged 83.

NATHANIEL COBURN CARTER

Nathaniel Coburn Carter, the founder of Sierra Madre, was born in Lowell, Massachusetts, in 1840. He began his business career selling groceries and as an agent for sewing machines. Later he established the manufactory of ready-made clothes and United States flags. The first flag made by machinery for the United States Government was manufactured by N. C. Carter in 1866.

In 1864 Mr. Carter married Annetta M. Pierce, a native of Lowell. They had five children: Mrs. Florence Carter Meade, Arthur N., Mrs. Julia Carter Henszey, Mrs. Anita Carter Gregory and Philip C. Carter.

In 1870 Mr. Carter's failing health demanded a milder climate and he came to California, visited different sections of the country and returned East. He came back in 1872 and bought a portion of the Flores Ranch near San Gabriel. Here he lived in a house of adobe which faced what was to be later the site of Palmas Station of the Pacific Electric Railroad on Huntington Drive. His third child was born there. The house was pulled down when the lower part of the Huntington Estate was subdivided.

BRIEF BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES

In 1874 Mr. Carter organized "Carter Excursions", bringing trainloads of people to California from all over the East and in 1881 he bought 845 acres of the Santa Anita Ranch from E. J. Baldwin, 150 acres from John R. Richardson and 108 acres from the Southern Pacific Railroad. Later when he had subdivided and sold much of the property he named the settlement "Sierra Madre".

Mr. Carter built his own home on a beautiful site high against the mountains at the head of Baldwin Avenue. He had a great sense of humor, and hearing that Abbot Kinney had named his place just east of Eaton Canyon "Kinneloa", called his "Carterhia".

Mr. Carter was one of the original incorporators of the Sierra Madre Water Company and of the Sierra Madre Library Association. He entertained Professor Pickering of Harvard University when he was here to install the Mt. Lowe Observatory. He did valuable work towards bringing the Pacific Electric Railway to Sierra Madre.

Mr. Carter was a man of great enterprise and broad vision. He had an attractive personality and made many friends. He died in September, 1904, at the age of 64.

CHARLES M. CLARK

Charles M. Clark, of Middleboro, Massachusetts, was born in 1848. In 1875 he came to California by way of the Isthmus of Panama and spent eight months in San Francisco. He then returned to Sandwich, Massachusetts, and opened a grocery and hardware store with his brother.

In 1881 Mr. Clark married Miss Jennie F. White. In 1885 he brought his wife and son, Franklin, to Sierra Madre, and the following year opened a hardware store with his cousin, Walter S. Andrews. Shortly after this his wife passed away. His son Franklin died in early manhood.

In 1892 Mr. Clark married Miss Lena Hart. They had two sons, Merton and Robert.

Mr. Clark retired from business in 1921 and died in 1939 at the age of 91.

ANNALS OF EARLY SIERRA MADRE

CHARLES N. CLEMENT

Charles N. Clement was a native of Fall River, Massachusetts. He was raised on his father's farm till he was 18 and then served an apprenticeship to the trade of blacksmith. He was also employed at the Manchester print works.

In 1848 he married Miss Julia A. Carter, a sister of N. C. Carter. She died in 1862, leaving two children. In 1863 Mr. Clement married Mrs. Martha Warren, who died in 1881.

In that same year Mr. Clement came to California in search of a milder climate and bought 40 acres of land from Mr. Carter. His property was later divided in half by South Hermosa Avenue. He built a small house, part of which was an old butcher shop moved up from San Gabriel. In 1884 he sold to John J. Hart, and moved onto a small home place he bought from Miss Frances Hawks. It was situated on Grandview Avenue just east of Baldwin. There he spent the remainder of his life, dying in 1900.

CHARLES EDWIN COOK

Charles E. Cook was born in Wellington, Maine, February 14, 1852.

He was foreman in a large shoe factory in Auburn, Maine, and left there in 1876 to come to Florence, California, to join two aunts and uncles who owned large farms.

In 1878 Mr. Cook married Belle Prince Whitman, whom he had met in Auburn when she was soprano soloist in the Baptist Church there. The baritone soloist was on vacation and Mr. Cook took his place. Miss Whitman came to California on one of N. C. Carter's Raymond and Whitcomb excursions, and she and Mr. Cook were married in 1878.

Mr. Cook made a visit to Sierra Madre and found the climate so wonderfully good for his asthma he moved here and bought property at the northwest corner of Auburn and Sierra Madre Boulevard.

Mr. and Mrs. Cook were always interested in the musical activities of "The Tract" and sang in the Congregational Church for many years. They helped start the first Sunday School which preceded the church and organized a Sunday School in Lamanda

BRIEF BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES

Park in the early years, going down there every Sunday afternoon. With Mr. W. S. Andrews they gave the lot for the original church building.

Mr. Cook was a trustee of the Public School, was on the Library Board and worked hard to bring the Pacific Electric Railroad to Sierra Madre. He was a man of fine character and much loved in the town.

He was superintendent of the Water Company at the time of his death in 1907, at the age of 55. He is survived by a daughter, Miss Gertrude Cook, a retired school teacher of Pasadena.

WILLIAM B. CRISP

William B. Crisp came to Sierra Madre from New Jersey in 1883, and bought a ranch just east of that of Mr. W. S. Andrews. He and his wife, Edith Riceman Crisp, were very much interested in both the intellectual and social life of the community. They were both great readers and Mr. Crisp served on the Library Board for 13 years. He had a fine singing voice and took part in many concerts given for the benefit of the churches and the library. He was a member of the Dramatic Club and an outstanding actor and took leading parts in the many plays that organization produced.

Mr. Crisp was for some time on the Water Board. In 1887 he built a business block at the corner of what are now Sierra Madre Boulevard and Lima Street.

He was a staunch Democrat and was postmaster of Sierra Madre for a short time during Cleveland's first administration.

Mr. Crisp had a very interesting personality and was greatly missed by the community when he died very suddenly in 1903 at the age of 54.

GEORGE B. DAVIS

George B. Davis was born in Concord, Massachusetts, in 1821. His parents, Thomas H. and Maria Barnes Davis, were both natives of Massachusetts.

Mr. Davis was in the boot and shoe business in Massa-



NO. 52

MR. AND MRS. CHARLES EDWIN COOK
Resided in Sierra Madre many years



NO. 53

MARCUS W. COPPS
Long a Sierra Madre resident



NO. 54

AMMI DOUBLEDAY HAWKS AND FAMILY

Picture taken about time family came to Sierra Madre in 1887
Shows second and third generations of six who have lived here

chusetts for forty years and was one of the representative business men of his town.

In 1854 he married Sarah Cracroft and they had one daughter, Alice, who was married to Chester Andrews, brother of Walter S. Andrews.

In 1884 Mr. Davis came to Sierra Madre and settled on a 48-acre place which he had bought in 1881. It was situated at the northeast corner of Baldwin Avenue and Live Oak, now Orange Grove Avenue. Later it passed into the hands of the Yerxa family.

After selling his ranch Mr. Davis moved to Los Angeles, where he died on April 24, 1906, at the age of 85.

EMIL DEUTSCH

Emil Deutsch was born in Belgium in 1846. At the age of eleven he went to work in a cigar factory in his native town. In 1862 he came to the United States. He lived for a time in New York, Toronto, Buffalo and in Chicago where the fire of 1871 swept away the results of his years of labor.

In 1874 Mr. Deutsch married Miss Louise Smith of Connecticut. They had five children: Emma A., William R., Margaret, Rosie and Lillian.

In 1883 Mr. Deutsch came to California and settled in Los Angeles. In 1885, after a camping and fishing trip in the little Santa Anita Canyon with Mr. Stephen Norris, he decided to buy land in Sierra Madre. The two bought from N. C. Carter 40 acres bounded by Grandview, Highland, Auburn and Baldwin. Mr. Deutsch took the east half and built himself a home and a cigar factory. He and his son manufactured cigars for nearly fifty years, part of the time in the old "Town Hall" building.

At one time Mr. Deutsch had a plan for establishing a street-car line in Sierra Madre, but the depression following the boom forced him to abandon it.

Mr. Deutsch bought a large tract of land in the mountains. It had a cabin on it built by the stream, a lovely spot, a favorite place for picnics and just a quarter of the way to Wilson's

BRIEF BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES

Peak by the old Wilson trail. It was called the quarterway house or Deutsch's cabin.

Mr. Deutsch died in 1920 at the age of 74.

JOHN C. DICKSON

John C. Dickson was born in Charlestown, Massachusetts, in 1852. The family moved to East Somerville, Massachusetts, where he spent his boyhood and was educated.

He was in the wood and coal business in Boston until he married Miss Mary Gray of Concord, and took his bride to East Somerville. In 1882 they moved to Concord. They had one child, Etta May.

Mrs. Dickson's father owned "Wayside", the home of Nathaniel Hawthorne, and Mrs. Dickson had lived there for some time before her marriage. A private school had occupied the house previously and she had attended it. It was next door to the home of Louisa Alcott, and Mary Gray with the other scholars often went there to rehearse little plays. Mrs. Dickson also remembered Ralph Waldo Emerson, a frail old man waited on by his devoted daughter Ellen.

In 1887 the Dicksons moved to California and bought a lot in Sierra Madre from Mr. Twycross and built a house, replacing it years later by another one.

Mr. Dickson was cashier in a Los Angeles bank for five years and from 1911 to 1915 postmaster of Sierra Madre. He was instrumental in having the post office moved from the rear of the meat market in the old "Town Hall" to a large store in Kersting Court, where modern improvements were installed.

Mr. Dickson was a member of the Congregational Church and was its clerk for 13 years.

He was a member and clerk of the School Board for two terms.

He was secretary and treasurer of the Sierra Madre Water Company until the city took it over. He served under Presidents N. C. Carter, W. S. Andrews, N. H. Hosmer, J. G. Blumer and Dr. Norman Bridge.

Mr. Dickson died at his home in Sierra Madre June, 1944, aged 92.

ANNALS OF EARLY SIERRA MADRE

ADONIJAH GREGORY

Adonijah Gregory, who built the first house in Sierra Madre, was born in Monrovia, Monroe County, North Carolina, in 1825. His family moved to Indiana when he was two years old. He was 18 when they moved to Iowa, where he met and married Margaret Jane Nixon, who was born in Salem in 1850. All of their children were born in Iowa: Brinton, Albert, Martha, James, Ruth, Pliny, also Mary and Emma who died in infancy.

Mr. Gregory was the first of his family to join the Friends; possibly his mother may have belonged as she was an Allen, a Quaker family from England.

Trained as a farmer, Mr. Gregory taught school and owned a drug store before he engaged in farming for himself. In 1875 on account of the health of his son Albert's wife, he moved with his wife and three younger children to Kansas, making the trip by wagon. After one year, when they could stand the heat, drought and grasshoppers no longer, they moved to California and settled in San Jose. It was during his five years' residence there that Mr. Gregory was acknowledged as a minister by the Friends.

In 1881 the family drove by team to Sierra Madre, where Mr. Gregory bought from N. C. Carter ten acres of land running from Central Avenue to Highland, between Sunnyside and Lima. His son, James, bought another ten acres a few years later.

For a time the men of Sierra Madre had to go to El Monte to vote, and it was through the efforts of Mr. Gregory that Sierra Madre was made a separate voting precinct.

Adonijah Gregory was a great lover of nature and took a lively interest in natural history and the sciences, especially mineralogy and astronomy, and was keenly alive to the events of the times. He died at the age of 71, August, 1896.

ALBERT GREGORY

Albert Gregory, son of Adonijah, was born in Iowa, September 18, 1850, and moved to Kansas in 1875 because of the ill health of his wife. Kansas climate failed them in their quest and he, with his father's family, moved to San Jose, California.

BRIEF BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES

In 1884 he moved to Sierra Madre, following his father who had driven there in 1881 from San Jose.

Albert Gregory became manager of the Hastings Ranch soon after his arrival in Sierra Madre, and continued in that capacity for 56 years, just two years before Charles Hastings, the son-heir of Charles Cook Hastings, died and left his entire estate to the foundation for a tubercular sanitarium.

Mr. Gregory died in 1940 at the age of 90.

DR. ARTHUR ERNEST GRESHAM

Arthur Ernest Gresham was born in the West Indies in 1865. He studied medicine at St. Bartholomew's in London, England, and at Cooper College in San Francisco. He arrived in California in 1884 and made his brother Fred's home his headquarters.

In 1890 Dr. Gresham married Miss Violet Ayles. They had two children, Dorothy and Ernest.

Dr. Gresham practiced medicine in Alhambra until 1893 when he came to Sierra Madre to take his brother's place.

He was organist of the Church of the Ascension for thirteen years and also trained the choir. He was much interested in music and drama and directed and took part in many musical entertainments and plays for the benefit of the Church and Library.

In 1906, on account of Mrs. Gresham's health, the family moved to Long Beach, where Dr. Gresham died December 30, 1909, aged 44.

DR. FREDERICK CHARLES GRESHAM

Frederick Charles Gresham, the first physician to practice in Sierra Madre, was born in London in 1850, the son of a prominent barrister. He received his education in London and in 1874 graduated with honors from the Royal College of Surgeons and Apothecaries Hall and received a degree from Queen's University, Dublin.

In 1875 Dr. Gresham was surgeon in the Pacific Steam Navigation Company and later practiced medicine in Bromley, London.

ANNALS OF EARLY SIERRA MADRE

He married Julia May Thorne and they had three children, Frank, Dudley and Ivy.

In 1885 Dr. Gresham left England and came to California on account of ill-health. He bought eight acres north of Grand View Avenue just west of the line of Hermosa Avenue, built a house and started practicing his profession. Later, wishing to be more centrally located, he built a home on Central Avenue just east of the present Congregational Church.

Dr. Gresham entered into all the activities of the town. He supported and was a warden of the Episcopal Church, one of the organizers of the Library Association and played a prominent part in the numerous theatrical entertainments given at that time for the benefit of the Church and the Library.

He was much liked and it was a great loss to the community when he died in 1893, aged 43.

JOHN JACOB HART

John J. Hart was born in Cleveland, Ohio, in 1843. He was educated in the Cleveland public schools.

When the Civil War broke out he volunteered at the first call for troops, but he was under age and his parents withdrew his name. He joined the Home Guards, and as a Corporal in the 150th Regiment of Ohio National Guards, fought as a gunner in the defense of Washington.

Mr. Hart showed his musical ability very early and took lessons on the piano and later on the violin. After working all day as a bookkeeper he practiced long hours at night. In 1869 he went to Leipzig and studied at the Conservatory of Music there. He returned home in 1871 and with two friends started a Conservatory of Music in Cleveland.

In 1871, in Milwaukee, he married Emma Corlett, a native of Cleveland. They had three children born in Cleveland: John W., Carl, Edwin G., a fourth, Frank H., was born later in California.

In 1875 the Hart family moved to a farm on the Russian River near Healdsburg, California, but returned to Cleveland the following year.

BRIEF BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES

In 1884, after a severe illness following the death of Carl, Mr. Hart brought his family to Los Angeles, and through Mr. James Gregory, bought 40 acres from Mr. Charles Clement. He had the house enlarged and divided the property in half by putting in South Hermosa Avenue, and sold the east half. He had the lower part of the place cleared and planted it to grapes.

As grapes brought only six dollars a ton delivered at a winery, Mr. Hart decided to make wine and developed so fine a product orders for it came to him from many parts of the country. In the course of time Mr. Hart subdivided and sold his property below Mariposa Street.

The wine making supplemented the teaching of music. Mr. Hart taught piano and violin at home and in Los Angeles and he maintained a studio in Pasadena for many years. His most distinguished pupils there were Mrs. Alice Coleman Bachelder and Professor Carl C. Thomas, and in Los Angeles, Mrs. Isabel Morse Jones.

In 1894 Mrs. Hart died. During the unhappy period that followed Mr. Hart wrote some beautiful compositions for the violin.

Mr. Hart felt his civic responsibilities. He was chairman of the board of the Library Association when organized, and served many times on the board of the Water Company. He was on the committee to get rights-of-way for the Pacific Electric Railroad. He was a Mason.

In 1905 Mr. Hart remarried and in 1918 sold his home place to the city for a park, buying a home at the corner of Park and Sierra Madre Boulevard. He died May 5, 1932, aged 90.

AMMI DOUBLEDAY HAWKS

Ammi D. Hawks was born in Binghamton, New York, in 1834. Three years later his father moved the family to Aztaland, where they lived in a log house among the Indians. A little later they moved again and helped found the town of Delafield, Wisconsin.

Mr. Hawks' early years were spent on his father's farm. He contemplated entering the Episcopal ministry and was attending

ANNALS OF EARLY SIERRA MADRE

Racine College when the Civil War broke out. He enlisted as a private in Company C, 28th Regiment of Wisconsin Volunteers, and was made quartermaster sergeant of his regiment. His father having died during the war, on his return he took over the responsibility of the farm.

In 1865 Mr. Hawks married Almariah A. Topliff. They had five children: Laura T. (Mrs. William Stevenson), Ruth, Daisy E., Allen P. who died in infancy, and James N.

In 1875 Mr. Hawks came to San Francisco and his wife and four children joined him there a year later. He was associated with his brother Nelson in the Pacific Type Foundry. Mr. Nelson Hawks was possibly the first purchaser of land in Sierra Madre. Mr. N. C. Carter having given his son Arthur a small printing press, sent to San Francisco for type and interested the two brothers in his new settlement. Mr. Nelson Hawks bought 48 acres on the east side of Baldwin Avenue and on the north side of what is now Orange Grove Avenue. Soon after he sold to George B. Davis.

Mr. Ammi Hawks, not wishing to buy land before seeing it, took a steamer to Santa Barbara, and with two men from Montecito drove by team to Riverside and then to Sierra Madre. Here in 1881 he bought 20 acres on the east side of Baldwin extending from Highland to Central, adjoining his sister's land on the north.

There were various exchanges of property between brother and sister and in 1887 when Mr. Hawks brought his family to Sierra Madre to settle they moved into the house on Grand View Avenue built and previously occupied by Miss Hawks and her mother.

In 1887 Mr. Hawks built an office building on Baldwin Avenue and went into the real estate business with Mr. Marcus Copps. After the boom his sister took the building over and ran it for a time as the Tourist Hotel.

Mr. Hawks then devoted himself to ranching. He was a grower and packer of citrus fruits and built an adobe lemon house which was later the home of the Sierra Madre Arts Guild. He imported the celebrated Oonshui orange from Japan and raised the fruit and trees for market. He received a medal

BRIEF BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES

for a display of the fruit at the Pan American Exposition in 1901.

Mr. Hawks was senior warden of the Church of the Ascension for many years, he served as a director on the Water Company board for several terms, he was vice-president of the Sierra Madre First National Bank and a director of the Sierra Madre Telephone Company.

Mr. Hawks died at his home in Sierra Madre in September, 1911, aged 78.

FRANCES H. HAWKS

Miss Frances H. Hawks was born in Delafield, Wisconsin, in 1844 and educated there. Her father died in 1863 and in 1879 she and her mother moved to San Francisco, where Miss Hawks gave piano lessons. Seeking a dryer climate they came to Los Angeles in 1881 and for a short time stayed on the Stoneman Ranch near San Gabriel. In September of that year Miss Hawks bought 20 acres of land in Sierra Madre from N. C. Carter and built the second house in the settlement. Her property ran from Grand View to Highland and from Baldwin to Merrill Avenue. Her brother Ammi bought the 20 acres south of hers and there were several interchanges of property between them, and when, in 1887, he brought his family from San Francisco to live in Sierra Madre, Miss Hawks turned over her home to them. She built a small one for herself and mother next door, later moving it to Laurel Avenue.

Miss Hawks was a great lover of nature. In 1882 she planted the pepper trees on the Baldwin side of her property. In 1886 she started a small nursery at the corner of Baldwin and Grand View Avenues. She was most successful in raising plants and flowers.

Miss Hawks was greatly interested in all affairs of the town. She took over the real estate office built by her brother in 1887 and ran it as the Tourist Hotel for a time. She was devoted to the Episcopal Church and gave the land on which it now stands. She contributed generously to the original building as well as

ANNALS OF EARLY SIERRA MADRE

to the present one. A fine portrait of her, painted by J. Hardwicke Lewis, hangs in the Parish House.

Miss Hawks moved to San Diego late in life and died there in 1925, at the age of 81.

NATHAN H. HOSMER

Nathan H. Hosmer was born in Concord, Massachusetts, in 1844. In 1878 he came to California and lived in Florence. He moved to Sierra Madre in 1881 and bought 26 acres from N. C. Carter at the southwest corner of Baldwin Avenue and Central—now Sierra Madre Boulevard.

In 1872 Mr. Hosmer married Clymena W. Hathorn, a native of Maine. They had no children but practically adopted Ethel, the daughter of Mr. Bowers who ran the first public bus service in Sierra Madre.

Mr. Hosmer was road overseer for a long period and an efficient one. He served on the School Board for many years and was greatly interested in politics. His annual contribution to the town's Fourth of July celebration was a terrific blast of dynamite immediately after midnight of the 3rd.

Mr. Hosmer was active in the campaign to incorporate Sierra Madre to a city of the sixth class in 1907, and was one of the first members of the Board of Trustees.

Mr. Hosmer was very popular and known always as "Uncle Henry". He died in Sierra Madre June 7th, 1912, aged 68.

GEORGE HUMPHRIES

George Humphries, a pioneer of Sierra Madre, was born in Wootten Bassett, Wiltshire, England, June 6, 1854. He completed his education at Winfield College, Yorkshire. After his marriage in 1876 to Catherine Ellen Pictor of Box, Wiltshire, he established a home in the old Roman city of Bath, where he was in business as a grain merchant.

Due to failing health he spent the winters of 1891 and 1892 on islands in the warm waters of the Atlantic and decided that he must remove permanently to a warm climate. He had

BRIEF BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES

heard of the fine climate of Sierra Madre, small though that community was, and in the summer of 1893 the family of four daughters and one son came with their father and mother. In a short time they bought a home at what is now 214 W. Carter Avenue, though the house now standing was built much later by Mr. Wilfred R. Humphries, the son. Mr. George Humphries spent the rest of his life in Sierra Madre and his life was definitely prolonged because of the healthful place. He was interested in community activities and especially gave of his time as an officer of the Congregational Church. After a residence of 30 years here he died in 1923 at the age of 69. His family were an active part of the doings in the town and may be identified today as Mrs. A. W. Elwood (Lottie), Mrs. N. Nelson (Edith Hawxhurst), Mrs. A. P. Pratt (Jeanette), Mrs. F. P. Baugh (Dorothy). Hilda who never married became a nurse and died in 1949. Wilfred died in 1950.

CHLOE BLAKEMAN JONES

Chloe Blakeman was born near Cleveland, Ohio, July 1843. Orphaned in infancy she was adopted by an aunt and uncle. In 1864 she was married to Charles Jones (no relation to C. W. Jones, first Mayor of Sierra Madre), the son of a Baptist minister, and had two children, a son who died in infancy and a daughter, Alma, who died in middle age.

After she had divorced her husband Mrs. Jones kept house for her uncle, then a widower, until he married again.

Mrs. Jones was always studious and she attended Normal School in Ohio where she met Regina Mast (Mrs. Willis Dixon), later to become a teacher in Sierra Madre.

In 1870 Mrs. Jones came to California and taught in Petaluma and in Santa Rosa. She moved to Los Angeles and taught in the Los Angeles High School and was its principal for one year.

In 1883 Mrs. Jones came to Sierra Madre and bought 20 acres of land from William Spalding. She taught in the Sierra Madre school till 1887 when she made a trip to England where her daughter was in school. On her return she did pri-

ANNALS OF EARLY SIERRA MADRE

vate tutoring until 1892 when she was appointed by Dr. Lindley to take charge of the department for delinquent girls at the State School at Whittier. She remained there only a year and resumed teaching in the Sierra Madre school in 1893. After a few years she retired and then when she was over 70 taught again in the Los Angeles High School.

She died March 11, 1929, aged 86.

JOHN HARDWICKE LEWIS

John Hardwicke Lewis was born in Paris of English parents in 1836. He came from a family of distinguished artists. He was educated in London and Paris and became a very fine artist himself.

Mr. Lewis married Christine Andrews and they had three children. Some years after his first wife died he married Mabel Steele and they had two children, May and Clinton.

In September 1885 Mr. Lewis brought his young family and his son, Charles F. E. Lewis and his wife's sister, Miss Miriam Steele, to Sierra Madre. He bought five acres of land at the northeast corner of Grand View Avenue and what is now Lima Street, and built a home and studio on it, where he gave lessons and painted both landscapes and portraits.

Mr. Lewis took an active part in community affairs. He was a member of the first Library Board and was interested in the Episcopal Church. He distinguished himself by his acting in plays given by the Dramatic Club of which he was a member.

In October 1887 Mr. Lewis and his wife and two young children left Sierra Madre and settled in Switzerland. He died there December 1934, aged 98.

LOUIS NEWCOMB

Louis Newcomb was born in Susquehanna, Pennsylvania, September 30, 1860. His family moved to Chicago, Illinois, while Louie was a small boy, and later to went to Iowa where he spent his youth. He came to California in the early eighties, and to Sierra Madre soon thereafter.

BRIEF BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES

He was a great lover of the mountains and took up a homestead of 160 acres at what is now known as Newcomb's Camp, beyond Mt. Wilson.

He helped build Sturtevant Trail into the West Fork from Sierra Madre, and for several years was collector of tolls thereon.

When the first telescope was established on Mt. Wilson by Harvard University, the heavy 600 and 700-pound blocks for its mounting and the 16-foot tube had to be carried up the Wilson trail by pack train and manpower, and Mr. Newcomb was one of 23 men to get it there.

He was the first forest ranger in the mountains contiguous to Sierra Madre.

He and Arthur Carter married sisters (Misses Grace and Mary Crandall) and now at the age of 90 he is the only survivor of the four and the oldest of the pioneers still living in Sierra Madre at this time, 1950.

STEPHEN RENDELL NORRIS

Stephen Rendell Norris was born in Middlebrook, Ontario, Canada, in 1859, the family moving to Toronto when he was a young boy. In 1882 he was stricken with rheumatic fever and in 1884 left Toronto for a warmer climate.

Mr. Norris visited friends in Los Angeles, and after a camping and fishing trip by way of the old Wilson trail with Emil Deutsch, the two young men decided to buy land in Sierra Madre. They purchased from N. C. Carter the land lying between Grand View and Highland Avenues and extending from Auburn to Baldwin. Mr. Norris took the west half and put through Laurel Avenue and Victoria Lane. He sold the land south of this last street immediately and built a house on Grand View.

Mr. Norris kept books for Mr. W. H. Robinson for a short time and then with Frank J. Hart as silent partner bought out the Andrews brothers' grocery store. This was in 1887.

In 1888 Mr. Norris married Adda Lockhart who had come to Sierra Madre with her aunt, Mrs. John J. Hart, in 1884.

ANNALS OF EARLY SIERRA MADRE

They had three children: Stella (Mrs. William Dennison), a son who died in infancy, and J. George Norris.

In 1891 the Norris family moved from the house on Grand View to the W. B. Crisp building which had been a hotel during the boom. They occupied the upstairs and the grocery business was moved into the downstairs from across the street. In 1898 Mr. Norris moved his family and business to 297 W. Central where he had built a house and adjacent store. In 1924 he moved his business into a new brick building built on the site of the original store.

Mr. and Mrs. Norris were members of the Congregational Church.

During the second Cleveland administration Mr. Norris was postmaster of Sierra Madre. He brought the first telephone to the town, paying \$300.00 to the Sunset Telephone and Telegraph Company of Pasadena.

He was on the committee responsible for bringing the Pacific Electric Railroad to Sierra Madre. For many years he was secretary-treasurer of the Water Board before the city took over the system, and he was a member of the Library Board for a long time. He died in 1934, at the age of 75.

MARTIN OLSEN

Martin Olsen was a native of Norway and came to the United States in 1885 and settled in Concord, Massachusetts. He was a shoemaker by trade but had spent six years as a sailor. He worked in the boot and shoe stores of Concord until 1887 when he came to California and settled in Sierra Madre.

Mr. Olsen married Miss Katrine Petterson in Norway in 1882 and they had one son, Andrew. Mrs. Olsen died in 1883. In 1886 Mr. Olsen married Miss Clive Larsen. They had five children: Elida, Henry, Olga, Norman and Mabel.

Mr. Olsen established his store and home in the building formerly occupied by Sierra Madre's first newspaper, the "Vista", on South Baldwin Avenue. Later the business was moved to North Baldwin and carried on by Henry Olsen after his father's retirement.

BRIEF BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES

After the death of his wife in 1927 Mr. Olsen went to Seattle to live with his daughter Olga. He married again there. He died May 11, 1935.

CAPTAIN JOSIAH A. OSGOOD

Captain Josiah A. Osgood was born in Chelsea, Massachusetts, in 1842. He had studied to enter Harvard but enlisted in the United States Army in 1861. When the Civil War was over he entered Massachusetts Institute of Technology and spent two years there. As a young boy he had been instructed in music by an uncle and sang in the Congregational Church choir of Chelsea. He paid his entire tuition at "Boston Tech" by his singing.

In 1865 Captain Osgood went to Europe on account of his health, and on returning took charge of the Congregational Church choir of Grand Rapids, Michigan, and sang there for four years. He took singing lessons from his brother, George L. Osgood, a noted musician and composer, about this time.

Captain married and had two children, John H., and a daughter who died young. In 1877, a few years after his wife's death, he married Miss Caroline Jenness, a kindergarten teacher.

For seven years Captain Osgood worked on inventions, supporting his family with his voice. For four years he sang in Bartol's Unitarian Church in Boston, and in other churches later. He belonged to a quartette which gave concerts on a lecture course, and then joined an opera company which performed in the Bijou Theatre in Boston. He sang in *The Mikado*, *Pinafore*, etc., for a hundred performances.

Captain Osgood came to Sierra Madre in 1886. He bought a house on Esperanza Avenue and later five acres south of Mariposa on the west side of what is now Lima, and had it planted to lemons. He did some surveying for the Water Company. He was much interested in the Library and in all the musical events of the town, always ready to assist with his voice in concerts and entertainments. Mrs. Osgood started a little kindergarten in her home and continued it until the family moved to Los Angeles in 1890.

ANNALS OF EARLY SIERRA MADRE

In Los Angeles Captain Osgood worked with William Mulholland in the Water and Power Company for fourteen years. He was active in the musical life of the city, sang in several choirs and was a charter member of the Ellis Club.

Captain and Mrs. Osgood returned to Sierra Madre and lived for a time on their lemon ranch and then moved to a home on West Montecito.

Captain Osgood was one of the original organizers of the First National Bank in Sierra Madre.

He died November 19, 1927, aged 85.

JOHN CARLTON PEGLER

John Carlton Pegler was born November 29, 1847, at Bledington, England. He married Mary Bullock at Stow on the Wold, July 14, 1871. They had three sons, all born in England, and the only one now living, Carlton J. Pegler, has been a resident of Sierra Madre for the past 57 years.

Mr. and Mrs. Pegler came to America in 1880 on the Guion Line steamer "Arizona" and settled near Laurens, Iowa, where they resided for nine years. From there they went to Salem, Oregon, and remained for almost two years. While there, Mr. Pegler became a naturalized citizen. In 1893, they came to Sierra Madre and bought fourteen acres of land from H. A. Unruh and planted an orange grove at the northeast corner of Canon and Sierra Madre Boulevards.

The second summer there was a scarcity of water, only about seven miner's inches of water to supply the whole of Sierra Madre and none to spare to irrigate the young orchard, so Mr. Pegler proceeded to develop his own water. A well was dug to a depth of 235 feet on the ranch. It proved to be a good well and besides having enough for his own use was able to supply the southwest part of Sierra Madre with water for two years.

This was the first deep well developed in this area.

Mr. Pegler was one of the first trustees of Sierra Madre when the city was incorporated.

He passed away November 1, 1915, aged 68, and is buried

BRIEF BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES

in San Gabriel Cemetery along with his wife, who passed away April 13, 1932, in her 85th year.

Their son, Carlton J. Pegler, is City Treasurer of Sierra Madre (1950), having held that office since 1914.

EDWARD T. PIERCE

Edward T. Pierce was born in Meredith, Delaware County, New York, in 1851, the eldest of eleven children. As a boy he was noted for his studious habits and commenced teaching school in 1868.

In 1872 he graduated from the Albany State Normal School with honors and then became principal of the school at Orangeville, New York, and later at Linden, New Jersey.

In 1877 Mr. Pierce received the degree of L.L.B. and in the same year married Miss Isabel Woodin of Dutchess County, New York. They had one child, Vora.

In 1881 the Pierce family came to California and settled in Sierra Madre. Prof. Pierce bought 20 acres of land from N. C. Carter and divided it in half by putting through Highland Avenue. It was at the northeast corner of what are now Sierra Madre Boulevard and Michillinda Avenue.

Prof. Pierce was Sierra Madre's first teacher and first post-master. In 1883 he left to take charge of the Pasadena schools and it was after years of work in education in California, which included the presidency of two State Teachers' Colleges, Chico and Los Angeles, that he returned to spend the last years of his life here. He built a house on part of the old ranch which he had reserved for that purpose for thirty years.

From 1910 to 1919 Prof. Pierce served as president of the Sierra Madre School Board, and in this capacity established a kindergarten and the domestic science and manual training departments. He died in 1919 at the age of 68.

His wife who came with him from the East was one of the pioneer mothers in fact, as demonstrated by the accounts of her elsewhere in this volume. She lived to the advanced age of 97, an interesting woman all her long life.



NO. 55

Laying cornerstone of the Woman's Club House, 1909



NO. 56

HOLT R. GREGORY AND ANITA CARTER
First boy and girl born in Sierra Madre
Taken at time of their marriage



Sylvan Way, Sierra Madre Canyon.

ANNALS OF EARLY SIERRA MADRE

PALMER T. REED

Palmer T. Reed was born in New York in 1848. He was educated at the Brooklyn Collegiate Polytechnic Institute and traveled in Europe and in the United States before working for an uncle in the wholesale shoe business.

In 1878, on account of ill health, Mr. Reed came to California and acted as clerk and manager of the Sierra Madre Villa, a hotel which was owned by one of his relatives. He bought 40 acres of land in Riverside, then sold it and in 1880 bought the Bailey Ranch, the site of the Passionist Fathers' Monastery. He bought Bailey canyon also, which he sold to the Sierra Madre Water Company.

In 1888 Mr. Reed went to New York and was married, returning at once to California. He had two sons: Lewis and Ernest.

In 1898 the Reed family moved to Monrovia, and as Mr. Reed's health demanded outside occupation, he entered the Government Forestry Service. He worked as a ranger, and later, under T. P. Lukens of Pasadena, as a leader of reforestation parties.

Mr. Reed was a good mountaineer and packer and transported most of the material used in the construction of the original Harvard Observatory on Wilson's Peak, personally handling the telescope lens and other important pieces. Everything was carried by mules and burros.

In 1910 Mr. Reed moved to Los Angeles and in 1924 he bought a home in Eagle Rock where he lived until his death in 1927 at the age of 79.

CHAUNCEY B. RELYEA

Chauncey B. Relyea was born in Orange County, New York, in 1829. He was of French descent, his forefathers being among the Huguenots who sought religious freedom here.

From the age of sixteen to twenty young Relyea worked as a blacksmith. Later he was in the sodawater business and then was employed by the Boston Buckboard Company in New Haven, Connecticut.

BRIEF BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES

Mr. Relyea lost his first wife and in 1873 married Miss Ellen Phelan. They had five children: Helena Grace, Martha, Walter G., Josephine and Charles E. who died in early youth.

In 1885 Mr. Relyea brought his family to Sierra Madre. They lived at first in the "Ocean View House" and had a boarding house. It was situated on Auburn Avenue and what is now Mira Monte. Later Mr. Relyea bought land and built a house facing Grand View on the southeast of Hermosa.*

Mr. and Mrs. Relyea moved to Santa Monica and both died there.

GEORGE B. RENFRO

George B. Renfro was born October 9, 1843, at Centralia, Illinois, married and raised a family of four children, viz.: Alva D., Luty, Della and Etta. The family migrated to Missouri where he was engaged in livestock raising until he moved to Sierra Madre in 1881. He built a home on what now is a part of the Kentia Palms Nursery on East Sierra Madre Boulevard, where they lived until 1884 when they moved to El Monte, where he died January 10, 1939, at the age of 95.

WILLIAM H. ROBINSON

William H. Robinson was born in Lowell, Massachusetts, in 1858.

In 1875 Mr. Robinson married Sarah A. Boyd, a native of Lowell whose parents were natives of Canada. They had three children: Mabel Eva (Mrs. Carlton Pegler), a little son who died in infancy, and Albion L.

In 1883, on account of ill health, Mr. Robinson came to Sierra Madre and spent the winter with the family of Mr. N. C. Carter. He was joined by his wife and daughter the next year and they occupied a house on Central Avenue just east of Baldwin.

*Ed. Note—This house is now (1950) owned and occupied by Miss Minnie Davis and is the lot covered by the School Board for additional school playgrounds.

ANNALS OF EARLY SIERRA MADRE

Mr. Robinson bought two acres of land north of Central Avenue and adjoining the old school grounds. He built a house there, now 65 North Baldwin, in which he established a store, the first in Sierra Madre, and the post office.

Three times a week Mr. Robinson drove to San Gabriel, taking and bringing the mail. Mrs. Robinson was postmistress.

In 1887 the "Town Hall" was built. It was financed by a stock company in which Mr. Robinson had a large interest, and he moved his business and the post office into the corner store. In the course of time Mr. Robinson became owner of the building. He sold his business and retired but the building did not change hands until the settlement of his estate.

Mr. Robinson died in October, 1906, at the age of 48.

WILLIAM LAUREN RHOADES

(President of the Historical Society—1935-1948)

Mr. Rhoades' intense interest in the history of this area has roots beginning in his third year. From his narrative on "The Famous Sierra Madre Villa Hotel" we learn the following facts, much condensed.

In 1874, his third year of age, his parents, Mr. and Mrs. William Porter Rhoades, came to California from New York State with their two children and purchased with Mrs. Rhoades' father, William Cogswell, artist, some five hundred acres. The property was above Sierra Madre Boulevard and between Hastings Ranch and Sierra Madre Villa Road, and became known as "The Villa" property. Though covered with sagebrush and chaparral at the time, the view of the lovely San Gabriel Valley with the glimpse of the Pacific Ocean beyond and the surrounding Sierra Madre mountains to the north, aroused the family to the beauty of the place as a future home.

For three years the process of clearing, building and planting went on and a third child was born. By this time the need for more social life was being felt by the family and the family doctor one day introduced a gentleman and his wife and small boy who had tired of hotel life in Los Angeles and were thinking of returning to their home in Denver. These proved to be

BRIEF BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES

congenial companions for the Rhoades' and were the first guests at "The Villa" which was destined to become a noted hostelry of the time.

Emphasis on hospitality took the place of concentration on citrus orchard and vineyard—profitable though they were. An enlarged house, beautified grounds and increasing numbers of guests from far and near made busy, happy days for all. The table was noted for its fine foods and the place became known as a center for dinners, dancing parties, musicals and special gatherings. Many of the guests had their own horses and buggies. Driving, riding horseback, hunting and fishing were favorite occupations. Christmas celebrations were outstanding and winter visitors increased until the space available was stretched to the full.

The help were Chinese brought in by the "Boss Chinaman" first hired to assemble his crew when the place was cleared and later also house servants organized by Mrs. Rhoades. Some of these remained with the family for years and were prized for their honest work, industry and docility. The place was stocked with cows, horses, pigs, chickens and all the vegetables used were raised on the place. Every three or four years the Chinese would return to their homeland for six months and return with rich gifts for the family. At Christmas, too, their gaily wrapped packages of nuts, ginger and fancy cakes with all the group in beautiful native, bright-colored costumes added much to the festivity of which they were made a part.

Due to the investment value of of the old ranches and old Spanish grants, financiers from New York, Boston, and Philadelphia, as well as representatives of the Bank of England and European banking houses, were frequent visitors to California. Many of them brought their families, and "The Villa" was host to repeated visits from them. Among other notable names on the register would be found, General Grant and family, the musician Theodore Thomas, oil magnate Jacobs, C. P. Huntington, A. N. Town, and the San Francisco Crocker family. Helen Hunt Jackson was a resident part of the time she was gathering material for *Ramona*.

By 1881 several large fine homes had been built in the area,

ANNALS OF EARLY SIERRA MADRE

one by Abbot Kinney, president of the American Tobacco Company. He called his place "Kinneloa". Also Mr. N. C. Carter, originally from New England, bought the present site of Sierra Madre and started the town of that name. He built a fine home on a site overlooking the valley and called it "Carterhia".

With all this activity going on and people coming into the Valley, it became necessary to greatly increase the capacity of "The Villa" and to add a hotel manager, thus making the place a regular hotel. One of the successes of the old hostelry had been its charm of home atmosphere and genial life engendered by the cordial hospitality and the courteous host. So as time went on Mr. Rhoades and his wife decided to leave this new type of business which did not appeal to them as much as the earlier friendly life. They therefore sold to William G. Cogswell, a brother of Mrs. Rhoades, and he took over.

Lauren, now a boy of thirteen, accompanied his parents to their new home in Northern California. After his school days were over he engaged in business with the Paraffin Paint Company in San Francisco and remained there until failing eyesight caused him to retire. At that time (1933) he returned to his early haunts and lived in Sierra Madre with his devoted wife until his death. Though his sight was entirely gone in the last years, he retained his interest in the Historical Society and was its president for 12 years.

MRS. ROBERT E. ROSS

Elizabeth Banon Ross was born in Nova Scotia but her parents moved to the United States when she was young and settled in Boston, Massachusetts, where she was educated.

In 1862 she was married to Robert E. Ross of Clarke County, Ohio, and in 1869 they moved to Lassen County, California. They had no children and adopted a daughter who became Mrs. Laurel E. Steinberger.

Mr. Ross died in 1884 and Mrs. Ross came to Sierra Madre that same year. She bought a 28-acre tract south of Central Avenue extending to Ramona Avenue and east of Sunny Side.

BRIEF BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES

She gave the west ten acres to her daughter, Mrs. Steinberger, in 1885.

In 1886 Mrs. Ross donated three-fourths of an acre to the community on which to build a Library and contributed nearly \$2500.00 toward its construction as a memorial to her husband. The Library was built in 1887.

Mrs. Ross was an enterprising and public-spirited resident of Sierra Madre. She moved away and died in 1910.

WILLIAM ANDREW SPALDING

William Andrew Spalding was born in Ann Arbor, Michigan, in 1852. He spent his boyhood in Kansas City, Missouri, and came to California in 1873.

In 1875 Mr. Spalding went back to Kansas City and married Mary Dennison and they returned to California to live the rest of their lives. They had eight children. The first died in infancy and Hamilton W. died at 19, Jane in 1932. William D. and Helen G. (Mrs. Gregory Goff) were born in Sierra Madre; Volney A., Thomas R., and Mary L. (Mrs. W. T. Cooper) in Los Angeles.

In 1880 when Mr. Spalding was City Editor of the Express, the only evening paper in Los Angeles, Mr. N. C. Carter came to his office to get publicity for an enterprise he was launching; he planned to organize personally conducted tours from New England to California. The paper gave Mr. Carter the publicity he asked for and also later when he planned to subdivide the land which he had contracted to buy from E. J. Baldwin.

Mr. Spalding became so interested personally that he became Mr. Carter's first customer and bought forty acres south of Grand View from Lima to Hermosa Avenues, extending to Central Avenue. He had the land cleared and built a house, now 305 W. Laurel, into which the family moved in 1882. In 1883 he sold the east twenty acres to Mrs. Chloe B. Jones.

While living in Sierra Madre Mr. Spalding did newspaper work in Riverside and wrote a little book about growing oranges which became a collector's item. He moved his family back to Los Angeles in 1887. He died in 1942, aged 90.

ANNALS OF EARLY SIERRA MADRE

LAUREL EUGENE STEINBERGER

Laurel Eugene Steinberger was born in Jones County, Iowa, in 1858, the son of James Milton and Martha Ann (Decious) Steinberger. At the age of five he crossed the continent with his parents who joined an overland emigrant train for California. The journey was marked by many adventures and the almost constant menace of attack by hostile Indians.

The family settled in Lassen County and there Mr. Steinberger was educated and spent his early manhood.

He learned the miller's trade from his father and operated his mill successfully till 1883. In that year he married Miss Maggie G. Ross of San Francisco, who was born in Downieville and adopted by Mr. and Mrs. Robert E. Ross. They had seven children: Elizabeth, J. Milton, Harvey H., Edith (Dr. Weston), Laurel E., Jr., Robert E., and Guy.

In January 1885 Mr. Steinberger moved his family to Sierra Madre where he took charge of a ten-acre ranch, a gift to Mrs. Steinberger from her mother, Mrs. Ross. The property lay east of Sunnyside extending to what is now Park Avenue and from Central Avenue (now Sierra Madre Boulevard) to Ramona. Mr. Steinberger raised citrus fruits and was a successful orchardist and a lover and grower of fine flowers. He was always interested in anything for the good of the town and was a popular citizen.

He was struck by an automobile at Lima and Sierra Madre Boulevard and died as a result of the accident October 6th, 1940, aged 82.

AMOS D. TRUSSELL

Amos D. Trussell was born in Merrimac, New Hampshire, in 1830. His parents were both natives of New Hampshire. He was a carpenter and builder and noted for the excellence of his work.

In 1853 he married Sarah H. Reasner, a native of Ohio. They had seven children: Winona, Calvin, Dayton, Raymond, Jacob, Constance and Harry.

Mr. Trussell brought his family to Sierra Madre in 1881

BRIEF BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES

and in July of the year bought 22 acres of land from N. C. Carter, extending north from Grand View to Piedmont Avenue (now Carter Avenue), and from the line of Hermosa to Auburn. He cleared the land and planted it to oranges, lemons, apricots and some grapes. He built a house on a mesa between two blind canyons.

In 1887 Mr. Trussell sold 13 acres and the house to J. G. Blumer and built himself another home on Piedmont Avenue which he sold later to George Humphries.

Mr. Trussell's daughter Winona's wedding in 1883 was the first celebrated in Sierra Madre when she was married to Edward B. Jones of El Monte by the Rev. A. G. L. Trew, Rector of the Church of Our Savior in San Gabriel. The young couple built a house on the north side of Piedmont (Carter) against which the famous wistaria vine was later planted.

Mr. and Mrs. Trussell left Sierra Madre in 1893 and died in Los Angeles many years later.

JAMES DUNNING TUCKER

James Dunning Tucker, born in 1852 in England, was a painter of church murals and a decorator of pipe organs in Bromley, County of Kent.

In 1888, on the advice of his former physician, Dr. Fred Gresham, he brought his wife and five children, Eleanor, Florence, Fred, Gertrude and Leonard, to Sierra Madre, where another daughter, Alice, was born.

The great boom was over when Mr. Tucker arrived and he was forced to take to house-painting in order to support his family. He did excellent work.

Mr. Tucker made his home on Suffolk Street and when the school property at the corner of Baldwin and Central (now Sierra Madre Boulevard) was sold, he bought the building and built two houses on Sierra Place with the old lumber.

Mr. Tucker continued his business of house-painting until a few years before his death in 1934, at the age of 82.

EMMA BURTON TUFTS

Among the many settlers whose first acquaintance with Sierra Madre was incidental to a trip up the old Mt. Wilson Trail was Mrs. Emma Burton Tufts, who bought a lot and built a home in the late eighties. She came from Compton where she and her family had settled on arrival from Wilton, Iowa, some years earlier and where her husband had passed away.

Mrs. Tufts occupied the home at 159 West Montecito until her death in 1911, sharing it with her daughter, Miss Alice Tufts, who passed away early in 1949. The latter was for many years secretary in the office of the late J. B. Lankershim and assisted in the management of his Los Angeles business properties. She was a member of the Sierra Madre Congregational Church and a liberal supporter of every worthy community cause.

Another daughter, Philena (Mrs. William S. Bovard) spent her last years with Miss Tufts and passed away in 1948, being then the oldest woman graduate of U.S.C.

Dr. W. S. Bovard, her husband, was the youngest of seven brothers, all Methodist ministers. Two of them were presidents of U.S.C. Dr. Bovard was for many years executive secretary of the Board of Education of the Methodist Church. Their oldest son was the late Dr. Gilbert S. Bovard of Sierra Madre. The second son, Burton Bovard, is an attorney in the Department of Justice, Washington, D. C. Their daughter, Miss Alice May Bovard, is dean of admissions of Sarah Lawrence College, New York.

SAMUEL RANDOLPH GOODWIN TWYXCROSS

Samuel Randolph Goodwin Twycross was born in Dresden, Maine, in 1855. He owned land on the Kennebec which he farmed and in winter cut ice from the river.

In June 1885 Mr. Twycross married Miss Emily F. Greenleaf of Mercer, Maine. They had one son, Convers L.

In 1883 Mr. Twycross made a trip to California with Mr. Clements and Mr. Hosmer and others on one of the Carter excursions. He returned home but came back to Sierra Madre

BRIEF BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES

later and was joined by his wife and son in May, 1887. The family lived in the Percy Wilson house, just sold to Mr. Bixby, for about two months, until their own house on Esperanza was completed.

Mr. Twycross engaged in the real estate business, was a notary public and sold hay, grain and coal. He took over a bus service from James Bowers and carried the mail to and from the Santa Anita station of the Santa Fe for forty years and was never late. When he retired the Sierra Madre Post Office force presented him with a gold watch as a token of their appreciation of his long and devoted service. Mr. Twycross also supplied a general passenger service, replacing his bus by an automobile in later years. He was a very popular citizen.

Mr. Twycross was one of the oldest members of the Congregational Church. He had a fine bass voice and conducted the choir and sang in it for many years. He was a charter member of the Young People's Society of Christian Endeavor and drafted its by-laws.

In 1915 Mrs. Twycross died. Later Mr. Twycross married Miss Charlotte Lucy Dow of Pasadena.

Mr. Twycross died April 15, 1935, at the age of 80.

His only child, Convers L. Twycross, has spent most of his life in Sierra Madre, where he has been active in the Congregational Church. He is (1950) Superintendent of the El Sereno Station of the Los Angeles Post Office.

EMILE HOGUET VANNIER

Emile Hoguet Vannier was born in New York City December 22, 1849, the son of Charles H. and Sarah Knight Vannier.

He attended the Brooklyn Polytechnic Institute and studied farming, the care of animals and the management of estates at Stuttgart, Hohenheim and Halle in Germany, graduating from the College of Agriculture in Halle in 1872.

In 1874 Mr. Vannier married Miss Marion Webster. They had four children: Florence E. (Mrs. M. D. Kneeland), Marion L., Frederick Charles and William Webster.

Soon after his marriage Mr. Vannier took charge of a large

ANNALS OF EARLY SIERRA MADRE

farm of his father's in northern New Jersey and operated a summer hotel which he owned at Succasunna, New Jersey.

In 1888 Mr. and Mrs. Vannier came to Sierra Madre and bought five acres of land from John J. Hart, a friend of Mr. Vannier had made in Germany while the two were studying there. The property was on South Hermosa Avenue extending from Ramona to Manzanita Avenues, a house was built facing Hermosa.

Mr. Vannier brought his family to Sierra Madre to live in 1890. He planted his land to oranges and devoted himself to ranching. He lived a somewhat retired life but served on both the Library Board and the Water Board. He was fond of hunting and fishing and a lover of outdoors and of books and was a constant reader.

Mr. Vannier died January 22, 1921, aged 72.

Mrs. Vannier died at the age of 95.

E. WALDO WARD

Edwin Waldo Ward, Sr., was born in Elizabeth, New Jersey, in 1861. He came west in 1887 when the population of Los Angeles was about 50,000 and the leading hotel on the top of Bunker Hill.

He visited a boyhood friend who had settled in Lamanda Park two years previously and from there rode by horseback many times over the land which now consists of Sierra Madre and finally bought ten acres from N. C. Carter in 1891. Planting this to citrus, he later purchased an additional 20 acres.

Working for a New York importer selling fancy food products thruout the Western States for 35 years he was only able to spend two to three weeks some three times a year on his ranch in Sierra Madre, and consequently was not active in community life.

Retiring in 1915, he started experimenting in making orange marmalades, and in 1917, at the age of 55, he established the present Ward Preserving business with nationwide distribution, including service on all the leading railroads, and brought the name of Sierra Madre to the attention of thousands of people.

BRIEF BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES

He brought to his Sierra Madre groves two trees of the best variety of Seville oranges direct from Seville, Spain, in order to make the finest possible marmalade.

He became a member of the First Congregational Church about 1920.

Death came in 1941 at the age of 79.

His only child was a son, E. Waldo Ward, Jr., who continues the business. He has held various offices in the Congregational Church and has been for many years a member of the School Board, part of the time as chairman.

IRVING NOBLE WARD

Irving N. Ward was born in Elizabeth, New Jersey, in 1864. He moved to Sierra Madre in 1906 from New York City where he was established as a professional portrait artist. He gave up his art work after coming to Sierra Madre and started the Ward nursery and florist business, still running under that name. A great many of the older trees and shrubs growing in Sierra Madre were started in his nursery. Mr. Ward died in 1944, aged 80.

His wife, Mary Nichols Ward, was a well known poet whose verse appeared regularly at one time in the Los Angeles Times. Her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Frederick O. Nichols, came to Sierra Madre to live in 1908.

Mr. and Mrs. Ward had three daughters, Jessie Ward Russell, who carries on the business established by the father; Marguerite Ward Heidrich of Los Angeles, housewife, and Beatrice Ward McIvor, of Sierra Madre, a successful portrait artist.

ADDITIONAL EARLY RESIDENTS

In the early 80's the Amerige brothers came to Sierra Madre and bought ten acres from N. C. Carter at the northeast corner of Sunnyside and Central Avenues. They built a house on it and in 1886 sold the property to John J. Hart and moved away, founding the town of Fullerton.

In 1885 Mrs. Ayles came to Sierra Madre with her son-in-

ANNALS OF EARLY SIERRA MADRE

law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Gresham. She and her four daughters lived in the Ocean View House for a time and then moved into their own home, built at the head of what is now Adams Street, on property extending north from Grandview Avenue. Mrs. Ayles was joined by her stepsons, John J. L. A. Ayles and Norman Ayles. Later Mrs. Ayles moved to Bonita Avenue and in 1893 to Long Beach.

Marcus Copps came to Sierra Madre from Massachusetts in 1887 and built a home on Esperanza. His wife was a sister of N. H. Hosmer and they had two sons, Fred and Arthur. Mr. Copps engaged in the real estate business with Mr. Hawks until the boom was over, and then returned to the wholesale shoe business.

Mrs. Ferry and her son Charles came to Sierra Madre about 1883. Mrs. Ferry built a home at 41 South Baldwin Avenue which she later turned into a boarding-house which was noted for miles around for the excellence of its cooking.

The Reverend Lucien Frary was the Minister of the Congregational Church in 1886 and lived in the house now 305 Ramona Avenue. Mr. and Mrs. Frary moved away after the death of their little daughter Marjorie. Frary Hall at Pomona College is named for Mr. Frary.

Mr. and Mrs. Willis Dixon and their daughter Lucille came to Sierra Madre in 1887 when Mrs. Dixon became head of the public school. She was a remarkable teacher. The family lived at the southwest corner of Ramona and Lima Avenues.

In 1885 the Handyside brothers, Vernor and Arthur, came to Sierra Madre from England and built a house on North Lima. They were joined by their sisters, Agnes and Alice, in 1889. Mr. Arthur Handyside married Miss Florence Pratt and Miss Alice was married to Mr. Charles F. E. Lewis.

Andrew Olsen, a brother of Marten, and Hans Olsen, a cousin, came to Sierra Madre in the 80's. Mr. Andrew Olsen married and had two children, William and Esther, and built a home on Suffolk Street. Mr. Hans Olsen married and had two children, John and Signa. He built a home on Manzanita Avenue.

Joseph Outhwaite of Cleveland, Ohio, bought that part of

BRIEF BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES

the Pierce property which extended from Highland to Grand View on what is now called Michillinda Avenue. He built a large house on it and brought his bride to it. He lived here only a short time and the property was sold to the Hill family.

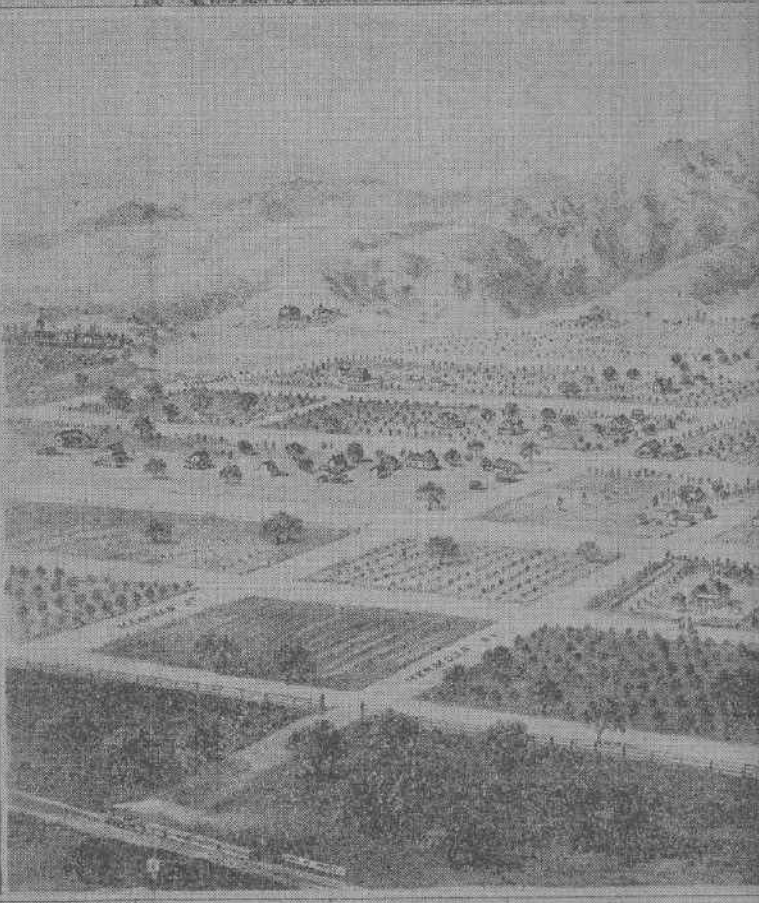
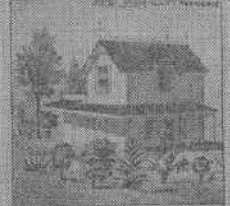
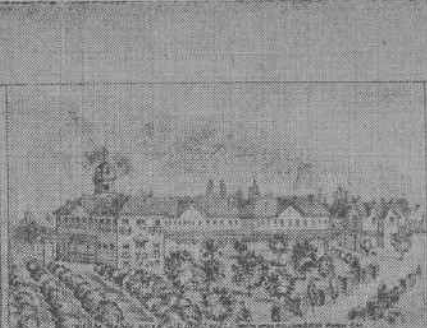
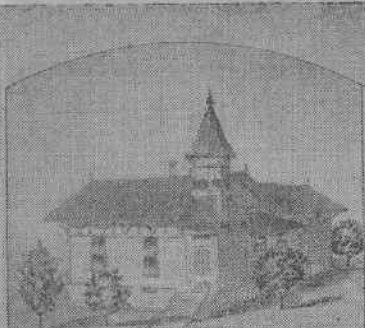
Mr. Torrens Pratt came to Sierra Madre in 1884 and was later joined by his sister Florence. He engaged in ranching for a time and then took a position in Los Angeles and commuted on the Santa Fe. He married Miss Miriam Steele and they moved to Ontario where they bought a ranch.

The Houston family with two sons, Chester and Foster, came to Sierra Madre early in the 80's and owned a ranch at the east end of Grand View Avenue. They moved to Laurel Avenue a short time before leaving the town.

Mr. Percy Wilson, a lawyer, bought five acres on Central Avenue a little west of Lima and extending to Highland. Mr. Wilson was married and had four children: May, Percy, Aileen and Horace. He was active in the affairs of the community, taking part in the formation of the Water Company and the Library Association. In 1887 Mr. Wilson sold his property to Augustus Bixby and moved to Los Angeles to live.

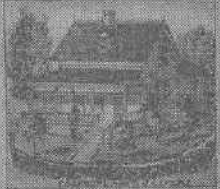
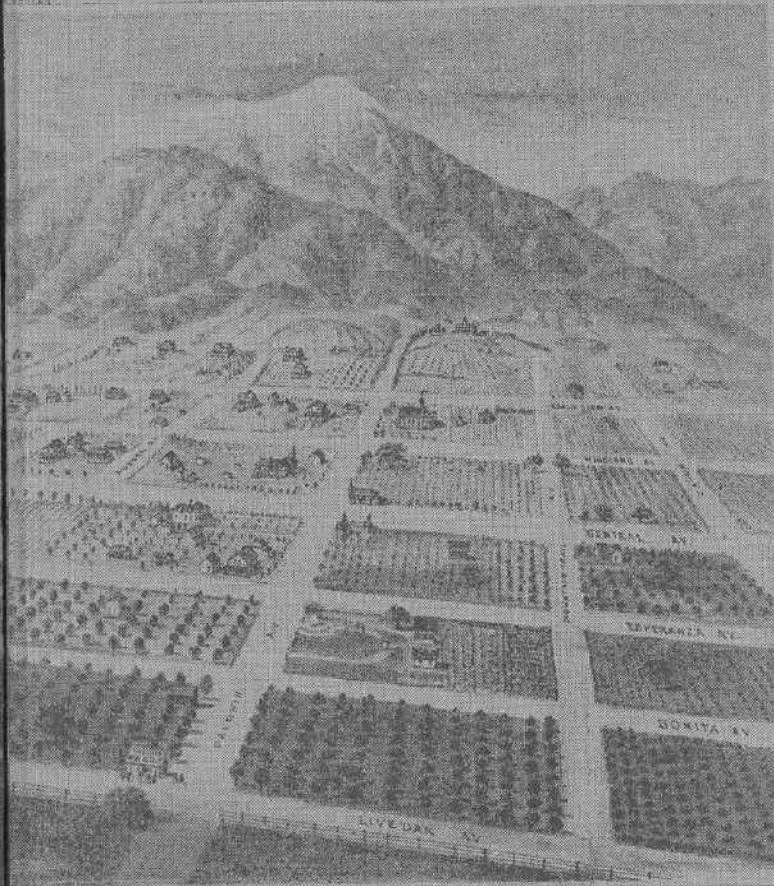
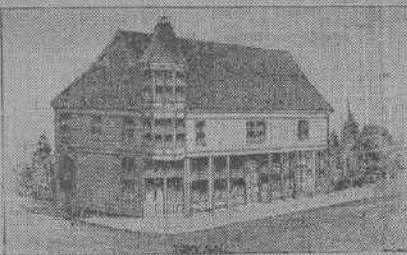
Justus Krafft, born in Frankfort, Germany, 1864, came to Sierra Madre about 1903 or 1904. He had been in the employ of the Haas Baruch importing, wholesale grocers of Los Angeles, for 67 years when he retired in 1948. Mr. Kraft was one of the members of the first Board of Trustees of the City of Sierra Madre.

His family, consisting of his wife and daughters, Elsie and Gladys, are living in the family home, 448 W. Highland. A son, Earl, lives in San Marino.



BIRD
SIERRA
 SAN GA
 LOS ANGELES
 ELEVATION
 Now and then the sun comes out and
 SHINE

SIERRA MADRE.



VIEW
MADRE
 VALLEY,
 COUNTY, CAL.
 1890-1891

