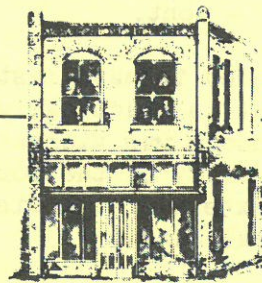


# The WHITTIER GAZETTE



WHITTIER, CALIFORNIA

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THE NEWSLETTER OF THE WHITTIER HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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Volume 7

December 1981

Number 5

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## Once Upon a Time

.....!Christmas morning in Southern California was ushered in with one of the severest earthquakes this section of the Pacific Coast has experienced in many years. It occurred at an hour, 4:25 o'clock in the morning, when most people were in bed, but, sleeping or waking, few persons in the convulsed region failed to notice it.

The sleeping populace was not literally shaken out of bed, but many nervous individuals tumbled out in great haste when the heaving began and scrambled for doors and stairways, but aside from the early-rising record, nothing was smashed in this city and vicinity. From the interior, however, notably from San Jacinto, Hemet and other points in Riverside county come more serious reports.

In this city the quake was quite pronounced, but not as much damage was done by it as by the one last summer. One citizen in the West End, whose house was recently robbed by burglars was awakened by the pounding of the window weights against their cases, when the earthquake came. He thought burglars were again trying to get into the house, and started up, revolver in hand, to give them a warm reception. While he was tip-toeing through the parlor in search of the imaginary burglars, his little son emerged from his sleeping-room and said, "Papa, the burglars are under my bed; I felt them shaking it." By this time the old man observed that the whole house was shaking, and that he was gunning for an earthquake instead of burglars.

The earthquake seemed to center at San Jacinto, and the business portion of that town, lining one side of a block with two-story brick buildings, is in ruins. The shock was felt at 4:29 o'clock a.m. It is generally

cont.



Once - cont.

conceded to have lasted nearly one minute. Every brick building on the main street is practically demolished. Roofs, fronts, backs and sides fell in. The shock was violent. Everybody was terrified, and, within a few minutes, a majority of the populace were on the streets, hastily clad, and inquiring the extent of the disaster, the noise of falling walls and roofs creating general alarm.

No one was hurt. Some of the building knocked down were occupied, and some escapes were almost miraculous. One woman rushed to the door to escape from the building. The key had fallen on the floor, and while she was hunting for it the walls in the hallway toppled in. Had exit been effected it would have meant certain death. Electric wires are down, and one at the power house has fallen in. The walls of the County Hospital, erected recently at the cost of \$10,000, are badly damaged.

At the Saboba Indian Reservation six squaws were killed by falling walls, two fatally and many seriously hurt. They were mostly old and were present at a dance. They were horribly crushed by the adobe walls.

The shock caused dry artesian wells to flow larger streams than ever before.'

(and so it was the day after Christmas in 1899 according to the front page of the Los Angeles Times as reprinted in their 100 year anniversary book Front Page: text by Digby Diehl and published in Nov. 1981 by Harry N. Abrams, Inc. New York. And you might wish you could take advantage of this.)

'Tournament of Roses at Pasadena - Monday, Jan. 1 - Parade begins at 11 a.m. - Santa Fe trains go at 8:30, 9:30 and 10:10 a.m. Returning trains leave Pasadena at 12:30 or after the parade and 5:05 p.m. Ample accommodations will be provided. - 25¢ round trip - five round trips \$1.00.

or

Mount Lowe Railway - Grandest trip on earth - Echo Mountain House situated on the summit of Echo Mountain 3500 feet above sea level, commanding a grand panoramic view of Southern California. A high class hotel, beautifully furnished apartments with or without bath, table unsurpassed. Hotel rates \$12.50 and up per week. Special commutation ticket rates from Echo Mountain to Los Angeles and return for guests remaining one week or more. Telephone Main 960.

or

Carbons - Every Picture a Work of Art - 16 - Medals - 16. Visitors should not miss the opportunity to have photographs taken under the most favorable condition of atmosphere in the world.



# What's Happening?

Between Marygene Wright, program, and Virginia Boles, fund-raising, we need to keep these dates free in our calendars:

January 24 - Winter quarter meeting at the Museum - 3 P.M. Sunday. The speaker Trent Steele of Montebello will be presenting the Mt. Lowe slide program. This is annual election meeting, also. (Anyone with a large screen they can get there call Marygene.)

February 9 - Valentine Luncheon at the EW Womans Club. A program on Shirley Temple Memorabilia will be presented by Lucille McClure of the local dance studio.

March 24 - Annual Dinner Meeting at the California Country Club.

April 16 - Quilt and Needlework Show at the EW Womans Club. This will be an all day affair with light refreshments. The Lone Star Quilt that is under construction which will be raffled at this affair will be on display at the Jan. meeting. Virginia asks that you call her to let her know what needlework items of yours you will be willing to display at this show, or of your offer to help with refreshments.

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## *Associated*

The mid-winter meeting of the county-wide Associated Historical Soc. will be January 16 at Azusa Pacific University. The whole day program will include: a talk on Henry Dalton, British Ranchero; a slide show on Covina and Citrus Empire; a tour of the California Collection at the university; lunch at Don Jose's; tours of the azusa, Covina and Glendora Museums. For further information call Mary Ann Rummel, Owen Lampman, Claire Radford or Virginia Mathony.

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## *Membership*

Membership now stands at 390 with the addition of these new and renewal members: Mr. and Mrs. Garber, Betty Hull, Mr. and Mrs. Ray Sugg, Donna Roach, Kathleen Symons, Jack Corcoran, Helen DuShane, and Mr. and Mrs. Don Kruse. A hearty welcome and we hope to meet you all in January at the Museum meeting.

And the name Trometer should be Trompeter on the last published list.



# By The Way

A quick review of our election process: There are twelve board members who serve 3 year terms and may be re-elected once before remaining off the board for at least one year if they wish to continue serving. Four members are elected each year so there is a revolving membership. Sylvia had appointed two board members - Virginia Boles and Francine Rippy - and three members at large - Lee Woodward, Tom Irving and Mildred Krummel - to serve as the nominating committee as required. Chairman Virginia reports that these people have agreed to run for board members:

Barry Kerns - current recording secretary - for second term

Phyllis Pearce - past president and membership chairman - for second term

Sylvia Foltz - current president - for second term

Thomas "Ed" Irving - Ed's grandparents came to this area from England in 1912 and Polly has watched many of her great grandchildren grow to maturity around her. Ed and his wife, Claire, are known to many of our members for the enthusiastic way they wade in and lend their volunteer time to the "good deed" projects in other local service organizations besides being helping hands to our group - for first term.

Nominations will be accepted from the floor at the January meeting with the prior consent of the nominee. Courtesy requires that you notify the nominating committee in this event so they may prepare for the proper balloting. The newly elected members meet with the existing board at the February meeting to aid in electing the officers of the board who will be installed at the March Dinner meeting.

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To clarify the last report on the phone committee; Eleanor DuLac, Viola Hall, Miriam Lillevang, and Chloris Newsom are the newest members of that group which still includes Mary Carty, Deedee Seright, Laura Perkins, Pat Clevenger, Beverly Carlson, Audrey Henninger, Mary Johns, Marie Greene, Nancy Claxton, Eleanor Comroe, Betty Evans and Jean Denton with Betty Licht as their chairman.

We are hoping to begin publishing the Gazette from the museum soon. It sure would be handy if we had a drafting table and a long-necked lamp. Also any tools of the printers trade would be most useful: some kind of copy setting device, T squares, triangles, etc. We also need a crew to help in research, writing, set up time and mailing time. Let Owen or Mary Ann know if any of this applies to you.



# Special Collections

THE DISPLAY AT THE MUSEUM NOW UNDER DEVELOPMENT NEEDS THESE ARTIFACTS.  
ALL ITEMS SHOULD BE FROM THE 1900 ERA - PLUS OR MINUS 10 YEARS.

locks - padlock or door  
door knocker or ringer  
iron mailbox - flat  
light fixtures  
outside knife switch  
doorknobs  
porcelaine faucet handles  
coal bucket - skuttle  
pickling crocks  
mason jars  
can sealer  
bottle capper  
apple peeler  
stove - coal oil or other  
buggy seat or  
porch swing  
clothes drying rack  
rug beater  
carpet sweeper  
pump vacuum  
adult and boy's clothes  
ironing board  
iron and iron stone  
copper tub  
wash board  
pails  
picture frames  
oval convex frames  
eye glasses  
writing equipment  
portable writing desk  
hat stand  
bowl and pitcher

ice box  
cracker - cookie tins  
mirrors  
sideboard  
Hoosier cabinet  
rocker  
overstuffed chair  
player piano  
barber pole  
water pump

sewing equipment  
bottles  
items pertaining to:  
businesses  
Indian or Mexican life (re: Whittier  
Nixon  
oil industry

wall thermometer  
periodicals  
fireman's equipment  
railroad type scale  
stereo viewer  
flour sifter  
rolling pin  
ice cream freezer  
foot stool  
braided rug  
mantle clock  
bed

buggy jack  
block and tackle  
horse shoes  
horse grooming tools  
sheep and cow gear  
feed bag  
horse tack  
churn  
separator  
milk cans  
milk stool  
sythe - sickle  
hay rack - pitch fork  
field packing box  
orchard ladder - 3 leg  
peck and bushel baskets  
forge and bellows  
bee equipment  
smoker  
frames  
extractor  
wax knives - kerosene  
hay hook  
small animal traps  
goat or pony cart  
seed spreader - chest type  
chaps, lariat, spurs  
hurricane lamp  
incubator  
egg candler  
blow torch  
tree felling saw  
carpenter tools - planes

water pump  
surveyor's equipment  
smudge pot  
toys  
coffee grinder  
food grinder  
bread box  
bicycle  
tricycle  
dolls  
Brownie - box or folding  
phonograph - cylinders

PLEASE CALL ONE OF THESE NUMBERS  
FOR ARTIFACT DONATIONS

Owen Lampman	-	693-4751
Claine Radford	-	691-0468
Pat Scheifly	-	696-8282
Museum Office	-	945-3871



# Museum Articlefacts



O.A. LAMPMAN  
Whittier, California

The Museum Board on the recommendation of the committee assigned the task of locating a director has voted Owen A. Lampman serve as Interim Director. Last issue mistakenly credited the university at Santa Barbara with Owen's upper division work when it should have been Brooks Institute of that city and his major is History which has led him on into museum work. Owen has a good grasp of what one should and should not do with museum collections and has many plans and ideas for creating a properly run museum. All he needs now is time and a lot of help from all of us.

Bob Bates has been pouring over the drawing boards designing the first group of display areas. Many helpful Buffs erected the partitions for this section in early December. The date for representation in this first area is to be 1900 (plus or minus) and will use a house and barn to display the history in Whittier at that period. Before detailed exhibits are designed, Bob must have a good idea of what artifacts will be coming in for display. Attached is a lengthy list of some specific items that would be appreciated.

Our Mini-Museum of 1976 had as its purposes to be a temporary display and to show the great variety of artifacts that have been preserved by our local residents. Now we are looking toward permanent display and preservation. One does not just simply unearth a relic from a trunk and set it on a table for people to observe in a 'real' museum. Once an artifact is accepted it must be catalogued in with all the information that can be gained about the item, then it should be isolated for a period of time so that any foreign bodies in it will not contaminate other items. Next it is cleaned and repaired (if possible) and treated with the proper preservative for that kind of material. Lastly, it is arranged with other pieces to help tell some kind of story; to teach, to remind. Or it must be correctly stored so that when its turn comes for display it will be in top shape. 'Do it right the first time' is the by-word. Pieces of our past might not hold up to give us a second chance.



WHITTIER HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
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Phyllis Pearce (79-82)

Claire Radford (79-82)

Francine Rippey (81-84)

Membership year is April 1 to March 31 and open to all persons interested in the history and future of the Whittier area.  
Dues -\$5 individual, \$7.50 family, \$25 institutional, \$50 sustaining, \$100 individual life, \$175 life for husband and wife

Society President

Mrs. Kenneth Foltz

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The Whittier Gazette is the official publication of the Whittier Historical Society.

Editor-Mary Ann Rummel-696-7850

## Whittier Historical Society

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Bulk Rate  
U. S. Postage  
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