

1-9-1941

Work Half Complete On Bottleneck

*90 Employed On Canyon Route Between
Keddie, Quincy*

Construction on the realignment of the Feather River Highway between Keddie and Quincy is about 45% complete, according to C. H. Sweetser, district engineer of the public roads administration, federal work agency, San Francisco.

Work began on the stretch last Aug. 26, and probably will not be completed until late next summer, Sweetser said. Work still is in progress, but operations probably will be suspended within the next few weeks because of weather conditions, he added.

The project when finished will provide a standard highway all the way between Oroville and Quincy.

A total of 5.652 miles is being graded and treated with a roadmix of bituminous subgrade treatment. Approximately 90 men are employed on the California forest highway project.

Equipment being used on the project includes:

Six caterpillar tractors, one 415 c. f. m., one 110 c. f. m. and one 220 c. f. m. air compressors; two wagon drills; one sheepsfoot roller; one 9 cubic yard, three 7½ cubic yard and three 6 cubic yard dump trucks; one 2½ cubic yard shovel; one 1780-gallon tank truck; two 20 cubic yard and one 12 cubic yard scrapers; one 3 cubic yard concrete mixer (transit); one 3-4 cubic yard dragline and one heavy duty ripper.

Hills Dismisses Murder Charge Against Roy Scott Of Pulga

A murder charge against Roy Scott accusing him of the killing of Dan Johnson, who was found dead in a creek near Pulga, December 8, was dismissed yesterday by Harry S. Hills, justice of the peace, on a motion filed by Gregory and Richardson, attorneys. He was released from the county jail.

The charge was dismissed on the grounds that a preliminary examination had not been held in justice court. The grand jury, which was investigating the case, failed to indict Scott.

The charge had been filed by Dixie Johnson, famed Indian tracker and father of the dead man.

Johnson, who was found with

his head down in a creek below a bridge, died from drowning. Witnesses claimed that Johnson and Scott had been in a fist fight.

District Attorney McPherson said today that unless new evidence is found no further action will be taken in the case. He said he knew of no such evidence at present.

The grand jury investigated the case a week ago last Friday, but failed to return an indictment.

"The jurors were practically unanimous in the opinion there was not sufficient evidence to return an indictment and I'm in agreement with them," McPherson said. "I don't feel justified in holding Scott any longer."

Oroville Mercury Register

1-15-1941

Walter Fields Enters Plea Of Not Guilty

Walter Fields, 40, of Feather Falls, charged with furnishing liquor to Clyde Beatty, 15 accused of the murder of Benjamin F. Clark, 31, during a charivari near Feather Falls Saturday night, pleaded not guilty late Tuesday. Fields entered the plea in justice court here. No date was set for the trial.

The complaint was signed by the boy's mother, who gave her name as Mrs. Alta Clark, and said she was the wife of the murder victim.

Beatty told members of the sheriff's office, however, that his mother and Clark were not married. The youth's father and his mother were said to be separated.

Funeral services for Clark, who died early last Sunday morning, will be held at 2 p. m. Thursday at the graveside in Yankee Hill cemetery under auspices of Hamilton and Riley's.

Oroville Mercury Register

1-16-1941

Held In Slaying



Mercury Photo and Engraving

CLYDE BEATTY

15, charged with the murder of Benjamin F. Clark, 31, during a charivari near Mooretown Jan. 11.

Clyde Beatty Hearing Set For Monday

A juvenile court hearing in the case of Clyde Beatty, 15, charged with the murder of Benjamin F. Clark, 31, was postponed today until 2 p. m. Monday.

Lish Pcol, county probation officer, asked that the case be continued so a further study could be made and witnesses summoned.

Questioned at the county jail by the probation officer, Beatty insisted that he remembered nothing of what happened at the charivari at Mooretown last Saturday night, when he assertedly fired a rifle bullet into Clark's chest. Witnesses said he had been drinking and Walter Fields, 40, is charged with having furnished him liquor.

The youth was represented in court by Attorney Ernest Clewe.

Oroville Mercury Register

1-22-1941

Eye Witness Tells Jurors Of Shooting

A grand jury inquiry into the fatal shooting of Benjamin F. Clark, 31, near Feather Falls, Jan. 12, was being continued here this afternoon.

Several witnesses, including Jack Gilbert of Rogerville, who has said he saw Clyde Beatty, 15, fire at Clark with a .30 calibre rifle during a charivari, were called during the morning. William Gaylord, deputy coroner, who removed a bullet from Clark's body, also testified.

Beatty was certified to juvenile court, but the court referred the case back to justice court last week. However, it was placed before the grand jury by the district attorney's office. Meanwhile, Beatty is being held in the county jail on a justice court complaint charging murder.

2-13-1941

Clear Creek School Hosts At Interesting Meet

Mrs. Maude Crawford, Clear Creek school instructor and the entire school yesterday entertained parents and friends of the school and pupils of Messilla Valley school at Pentz and their parents.

Clear Creek school is located on the Clark road below Paradise. Frank Whitlock of Chico gave an interesting address on the history of Butte county and northern California. He told of early his-

tory of the Clear Creek region including the dramatic tale of the capture of the Lewis children by Indians in 1863, mentioning that the children are buried in the cemetery there.

Whitlock related the story of Indian raids around Clear creek, Messilla Valley, Magalia and Concow. Clear Creek was an old stage stop and formerly was a postoffice.

In connection with yesterday's program was a display of articles from the early days, and among them was a cancelled stamp of the Clear Creek post office. There

were powder horns, buck shot pouches, Dutch ovens and quantities of articles which had crossed the plains.

The children at Clear Creek have been making a detailed study of their community and since there are no books to be perused on the subject, they have interviewed old settlers.

Last November there was a meeting of old timers when tales of crossing the plains in prairie schooners were told. Mrs. Lucy Richards, former Butte county auditor, was present at that time. She had taught at the Clear Creek

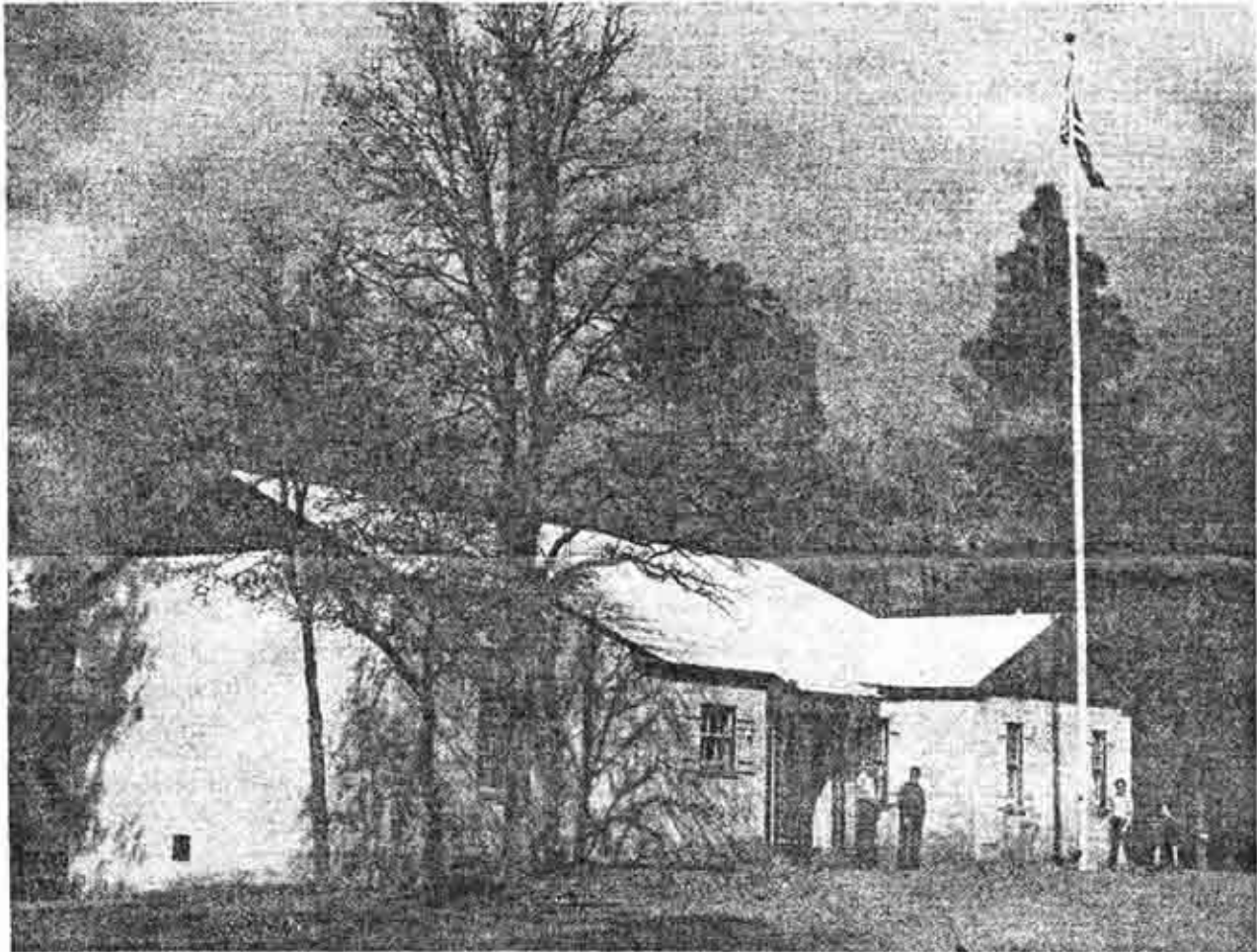
school in 1894 and two of her former pupils were present at the gathering also.

The pupils of the school will progress from the study of their community to the study of Butte county, then California, the United States and the world.

Oroville Mercury

3-22-1941

Scenes Along Featherlog Over Table Mountain



Mercury Photo and Engraving

These pictures are two of a series that were taken by a Mercury cameraman on the Featherlog over Table Mountain. The Mercury's first Featherlog will be found inserted in this edition. (See story at bottom of this page.) Pictured above is the new concrete-veneered Concow school completed in December, 1939. The school will see an influx of students, it is believed, when the PGE power plant projects at Cresta and Pulga get underway. There are now 21 students at the school which is taught by Robert Wilbur. Below is D. L. Vintin, pioneer storekeeper of Cherokee, who operates Vintin's general merchandise store. Vintin is shown holding a pan in which he has a one-carat diamond found in the Cherokee diggings. The old mine is one of the highlights of the motor trip.



Child Martyrs to Indian Vengeance



THE Hickoks lived on Rock Creek, near Cohasset, twelve miles north of Chico.

They probably were distant relatives of "Wild Bill" Hickok of Pony Express fame.

Mrs. Jonathan Thompson, nee Frances Hickok, who crossed the plains on a honeymoon trip in 1852, was the first of the clan to come to California, but during the same year her parents, Franklin S. and Elvira Colwell Hickok, and the rest of the children, left their home in Painesville, Ohio, to travel in a covered wagon to the land of gold.

The Hickoks were like hundreds of other emigrant families.

The men folk mined at first and later established farms and the women kept house and reared their families, frontier fashion.

Only three grandchildren of Franklin Hickok and his wife survive.

They are Charles Maynard Hickok of Oroville, Dr. Homer Swain of Chico, and Mrs. Ella Thompson Willebrand of San Francisco.

Yet in Butte County the name, Hickok, still lives in many memories, for old time residents, when discussing the early days, always recall the massacre of three Hickok children in 1862—a frontier tragedy which precipitated one of the bloodiest chapters in Northern California history.

The children were slain by a roving band of Indians, and the relentless pursuit of the perpetrators of the triple slaying discouraged depredations by bands of Indians in Butte and Tehama Counties.

CHICO'S first settlers did not have much trouble with the numerous Indians in Butte County because General John Bidwell, by reason of his apprenticeship

in New Helvetia and at Sutter's Fort Ross, knew how to handle the red men. He fed them, worked them, provided quarters, and treated them with much the same kindness and understanding that a good horseman displays toward his animals. Other settlers, including James Keefer, builder of the first flour mill on Rock Creek, adopted a similar attitude, and the occasional depredations of individual savages were punished by some other means than bullets.

But gold was discovered.

Swarming miners killed the game, sullied the crystal streams where salmon swam and despoiled the Indians' natural food supplies. Whisky and lust of the miners demoralized the children of the forest in their foothill rancherias, and it was not long before hunger, a sense of desperation, plus the innate meanness of some of the Indians, provoked thefts and depredations against miners and settlers.

One of the first clashes occurred on New Year's Day in '52, when a band of Indians spent the night on the rancho of Manoah Pence on the old emigrant trail about twelve miles out of Oroville, and stole several head of Pence's cattle. Cows were important property in those days and Manoah and his neighbors, surprising the Indians at an impromptu barbecue, vented their resentment with rifle fire. Several braves were killed and the remainder of the band were driven away. The survivors were resentful.

There were other thefts by Indians, and Pence always was willing to lead punitive posses.

A sharp division in the attitude toward Indians developed in Butte County. Bidwell and Keefer contended the Indians were peaceful if they were not mistreated, while the other faction, steeped in the frontier belief which had prevailed since earliest Colonial times, was firm in its contention that the only good Indian was a dead Indian.

A reservation in Mendocino County was designated for the savages and many were deported to their new home. Bidwell's Indians, Keefer's Indians and the Mill Creek Indians—the latter a "wild" crew, remained, together with isolated bands who refused to abandon their accustomed foothills haunts.

Then, in '62, Bigfoot and his gang of savage cutthroats, launched their depredations.

The old timers all agree that Bigfoot was "bad medicine." A curious deformity set the Indian leader apart. His right foot was abnormally large, much larger than the left one, and it had six toes. Bigfoot headed a fiendish band of renegades who were shunned alike by whites and "tame" Indians.

TROUBLE started early in the Spring of '62. Michael Welsh of Chico, a Mr. Dunbar of Mud Creek, and various other miners on the Feather River and the Washoe Trail near Lassen's Peak, died violently, horribly. Near the scenes of some of the tragedies, Bigfoot's unmistakable footprints were found.

In the Native Daughters museum in Oroville is a rare photograph of the principals in a tragedy which occurred during the early 70's in Butte County. In this picture above, are, left to right: Jay Salisbury, Sandy Young, Hi Good and Indian Ned. Ned murdered Hi Good and in turn was slain by Young.

Pioneer scene in the blue cut at the left by courtesy of the California Section, State Library.

The recurrent deaths alarmed the residents of Butte and Tehama Counties. Messages to the governor urged emergency action. Federal troops were promised but red tape delayed the departure of soldiers.

Then, on June 24th, came word that Thomas Allen, a teamster employed at the Keefer mill, was murdered on the Cohasset road.

D. F. Crowder, a participant in the scenes which followed, related the story years later in *The Chico Enterprise*.

Crowder's narrative said that Indian Tom, a companion of Allen's, although wounded and left for dead when the Indians attacked the wagon, made his way to Keefer's mill. Mrs. Keefer and Mrs. M. Cook, whose husband was the miller, were alone in the mill. Mrs. Cook confined in her bed with a newborn child. The women were terrified until Thomas Scott and Wert Cook, who were hunting coyotes in the vicinity, happened to drop in.

Cook rushed to the Hickok home and urged Mrs. Hickok and her two younger children to the mill. Scott rode to the Crowder ranch, where Crowder and Thomas Gore, binding wheat, dropped their sheaves and rushed post haste to the mill.

Keefer's place was isolated and vulnerable. The first task was the removal of women and children to a place of safety, and the little group set out for the home of Solomon Gore, with the men carrying Mrs. Cook, bed, infant and all, down the canyon.

Then a group rode to the scene of Allen's death. They found his body, scalped and pierced with arrows. The four mule team lay in the traces, bristling with the feathered shafts.

Some one remembered that two Hickok girls and their little brother were somewhere in the vicinity, gathering blackberries, and a search for the missing trio was started.

The afternoon was merging into twilight when the horses ridden by the Hickok girls and their little brother were located in a side canyon. The animals were tethered to trees. They also bristled with arrows, as did the Hickok dog, which lay at their feet.

Darkness prevented a further search that day and the Hickok neighbors returned to the Gore ranch, filled with forebodings, hoping against hope that the children still lived.

More than thirty men took up the search before sunup the next morning and Crowder rode with this party.

Not far from the mouth of the little canyon, where the horses were killed, the nude body of 17 year old Ida Amida Hickok was found. Three arrows protruded from her back. She was in a pit beneath the gnarled roots of a windfall tree.

In the bed of a nearby creek the body of 14 year old Minnie S. Hickok was found. She also had been shot in the back with three arrows.

The body of 4 year old Frank Hickok was not found. Butte County historians related that the boy's tortured corpse was located several weeks later beneath a cairn of rock, but Mrs. Willebrand, one of the Hickok grandchildren, declares Frank's body was never recovered.

The murdered girls were removed to Chico, followed by a cortege of sorrowing, vengeful neighbors.

HI GOOD, the Indian fighter, was a dashing figure. Born in Ohio, he learned frontier lore in his youth and was recognized as one of the best trailers and fighters in Northern California.

His aim with rifle or pistol was unerring. Straight as a ramrod, broad of shoulder, handsome, dressed in the height of fashion. Good was the personification of the Wild West hero of fiction.

He hated "wild" Indians, yet he adopted an orphan Indian boy and reared him almost as a son.

Infuriated by the Rock-Creek massacre and official lethargy,



Franklin S. Hickok, father of the slain children, and their mother.



C. E. Hickok, who was 4 years old when the massacre occurred, and Mrs. Jennie Hickok Swain, a younger sister of the girls slain by the Indians.

Good issued a proclamation urging Butte and Tehama County residents to raise a volunteer company to punish the guilty Indians.

A mass meeting was held and Good was authorized to head a group of seventeen Butte County horsemen.

Riding as Good's lieutenant was his boon companion, Sandy Young, of Tehama County.

The riders took to the hills, seeking the Indians.

It was on August 15th when the avenging horsemen located the fugitive warriors in a camp on Mill Creek, sixteen miles east of Tehama. There were twenty five braves in the band. In the battle which followed, nine renegades, including Big Foot, reputedly bit the dust. The loot of a score of raids, found in the camp, proved the marauders finally had been overtaken.

No Indian was safe while the vengeful posse rode the hills. Most of the Indians fled far into the mountains to escape the wrath of Good's men. A band of forty "tame" Indians was cornered in Mike Wells' store. Wholesale slaughter loomed, despite Wells' defense of his Indian friends. Finally, Good's men declared that if the Indians would surrender who actually had participated in raids upon whites the others would be unharmed.

An account of the Wells store incident, related years later by John Clark, a descendant of the Conchow Indians, in a Butte County history, declared that two young men, guiltless of any offense, volunteered as sacrificial victims to save the lives of the remainder of the band. Mike Wells demanded the pair be given a fighting chance. The right thumb of one of the youths was tightly bound with a rawhide thong to the left thumb of the other.

The Indians were given a sixty foot start down the straight road in front of the store.

The first bullet fired at the speeding pair severed the thong which bound them. One of the youth darted into the underbrush bordering the road and escaped. The other ran straight down the road until dropped by a hail of lead.

Thus were the Hickok children avenged.

THERE was an aftermath to the Rock Creek Massacre expedition.

It concerned the death of Hi Good, and J. A. "Teddy" Peck, former Butte County peace officer and manager of the Chico baseball team, heard the story from Obe Field, who was a guest at Good's home in Acorn Hollow on Deer Creek when the tragedy occurred.

"I was just a young fellow when Obe Field told me about it," said Peck.

"Good got a young Indian boy from the Dicus family, who had a ranch at Vina. The boys' parents were killed by miners. Dicus warned Good against taking the lad but Good took him anyway, and let him help herd sheep. In the Spring of 1870, Good sold a band of sheep for \$7,000. He paid Sam Gyle \$3,000 he owed him and buried the rest somewhere on his ranch.

"Then Good and Sandy Young and Obe Field went into the hills on a prospecting trip.

"While they were gone," Obe said, "Good's Indian boy, Ned, scoured all through the place, apparently hunting the money Good buried. Even the fireplace and part of the floor had been torn up."

"When the prospectors came back a day or so later, Good started for a vegetable patch he

had down the road a mile or so, Sandy Young went on to Chico, Obe just loafed around the place and Ned started off with Good's rifle, intending to get a few squirrels.

"The next day, Good did not show up. Obe went on to Chico, where a May Day celebration was in progress. Good was expected at the festival, and when he did not arrive, Obe and Sandy rode back to Acorn Hollow. They made a few inquiries among the neighbors and discovered that Indian Ned was sporting Good's watch, and had a pocket full of gold money.

"They hunted around and soon found Good's body, partly covered with rocks. He had been shot several times.

"Ned showed up at the house but he denied any knowledge of the crime and claimed Good had given him the watch and money.

Sacramento Bee

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"Obe took Ned outside and they sat talking about Good's death.

"I would sure like to know where the first bullet hit him," mused Obe.

"The first one went through his hips," Ned volunteered.

"Obe called the rest of the fellows in the house.

"Ned admitted the shooting and Sandy Young, crying like a child, asked why he had killed Hi.

"I don't know," said Ned, "I guess just to see how he would act."

"Take this Indian up the trail, boys, and we shall see how he will act," wept Sandy.

"Obe told me that he and some of the other fellows took Ned up the trail about fifty feet and tied him to an oak tree. Sandy leveled his rifle and fired a bullet through Ned's neck. His body slumped to the ground, and Young and Obe and the rest of the fellows rode off and left it lying there."

MOUNTAIN streams flow down Rock Creek and Deer Creek, and carpets of wildflowers bedeck the hills where the Indians once roamed. The old Keefer mill has fallen down, although its masonry foundation remains.

But the Rock Creek massacre and the events which followed remain one of the favorite tales of many Butte County residents who were children when the tragic events occurred.

3 New Families At Bend Village

Oroville Mercury Register
4-29-1941

BIG BEND VILLAGE — Mr. and Mrs. Delbert Oxford and children accompanied Mrs. Oxford's father to Oroville Saturday where they visited relatives.

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Bullard left last week for Los Angeles where they will spend a few weeks visiting with relatives.

Three new families moved into the village recently: Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Houseworth, Mr. and Mrs. D. Gillespie and Mr. and Mrs. Roger Sevin.

Mr. and Mrs. George Ashton recently moved from the George Mcak place to Deadwood creek on the Croghan ranch which they purchased. Mr. and Mrs. Ashton are making numerous changes and improvements on the place which promises to be one of the prettiest places in the locality.

Mr. and Mrs. W. S. Baker motored to Oroville Saturday where they were joined by the A. T. Stevenson family on a trip to Marysville where the men went fishing, but were unsuccessful in landing any fish.

Mr. and Mrs. Peter Campbell and two sons spent Sunday in Marysville.

Mr. and Mrs. Calvin Daugherty and baby daughter of Quincy spent Sunday with Mrs. Daugherty's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Everett Allingham, at the village store.

Mrs. Stanley Houseworth spent the week at her parental home in Oroville.

Old Timers Tell Tales Of Early Days

*200 Attend Clear
Creek, Pentz Party
At Community Hall*

By FEROL LYNCH

PENTZ — Clear Creek and Pentz schools put on an old timers program and get-together at Pentz Community Hall Friday evening. Visitors were present from Yankee Hill, Paradise, De Sabla, and Oroville.

The two schools put on a program entitled "Grampa Stiffle's Surprise" which included all the pupils from both schools. Community singing was led by J. Partridge and accompanied by Mrs. Elsiemae Blum and Mr. Loveon of Durham.

Mrs. Fannie Breese, who has been a resident of Paradise for sixty five years, gave a very interesting talk on early Paradise history. She told about the founding of the first school and church there and compared the early organizations with present day ones. She stressed the healthy climate at Paradise. She stated that there are only three old settlers left in Paradise, Mrs. Ware, Mrs. Ellen Steurns and Mr. Elliott. The last Indian massacre took place at the Hocking place in Paradise. Paradise was first named Leonard's Mill. She explained how it first got it's name and also how the Honey Run Road got its name.

The Lyn quartet entertained with a number.

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4-29-1941

Mrs. Bessie Blum, who has resided at Pentz for sixty three years, was next on the program. She said that as Mr. Pence did not want the community named after him it was named Pentz. The most outstanding event in Pentz history was in 1881 when President Hayes of the United States visited this community. There were five hydraulic mines here in the early days. She told about the Chinese mining industry here at that time. The school was moved in the early part of 1877 to its present location. She told about the early stage lines and about the Chinese sanitorium. She also told how canaries were raised here and the growing and packing of raisin grapes. She told about the numerous hotels, stores and many homes in the Pentz district. Will Leonard was the first postmaster in 1825. She explained how Joe Price used to make candles and exhibited some relics of the early days which she has collected.

Mrs. Minnie Holmes read a poem "Mountain Breezes" by Pres Long which was written on June 8, 1903.

B. F. Hudspeth was present from Oroville and gave a most interesting talk on the county in general. He told how when General John Bidwell first came to California and Red Bluff, how he named all the creeks and rivers. The only one now that carries its original name is Chico Creek. The first Citrus Fair to be held in Oroville was held in 1888.

Mrs. Alice O'Neal is one of the oldest residents in Pentz having lived here sixty five years. She gave a short talk. Mrs. Holms, who was present from Hell Town, also gave a short talk. J. E. Partridge gave a short talk and thanked every one for helping to make the affair a success. The program came to a close with every one singing Auld Lang Syne. Before the program commenced a pot luck dinner was served at which about 125 people were seated. Two hundred were present for the program.

Schoolmates Will Meet At Historic Site

The Oregon City Schoolmates Club is holding its annual meeting Sunday, May 4, at Oregon City school house.

The Oregon City school dates to the early 1850's and was originally a building with wood floors and wood sides and a canvass top. Later, the money to build a suitable schoolhouse was raised by the residents in their own community and constructed on the same site.

Attendance at the old Oregon City school carries a certain pride, in fact, it might be said that the Schoolmates Club is an exclusive organization. It came into being around 15 years ago when the late "Bob" Strang and "Cordie" Nisbet got their heads together on the organizing of a club to hold the old classmates in closer bond.

The schoolhouse and property were purchased by the club and are a hallowed rendezvous for the yearly reunion.

INDIAN HOMESITE

The schoolhouse grounds occupy what was a rancheria in the old Indian days. School children found beads and arrow heads, played around the holes in the rocks where the Indians ground their corn, and built for themselves a store of reminiscences little dreamed of in their childhood days.

With search and remembrance of locations, former pupils are able still to find holes or depressions, about two feet deep showing where the wigwams were in the olden days before the golden days of Oregon City and Cherokee.

All former residents of both Oregon City and Cherokee are invited to meet with the Schoolmates Club next Sunday. Tony Nunes is president.

It is announced that refreshments will be served on the grounds.

Chico Record

6-3-1941

D. M. Speeds Production At Lumber Camps

\$15,000 Monthly Jump In Payroll Features Increase

R. A. Colgan, operations superintendent of the Diamond Match Company at Stirling City, announced yesterday that lumbering operations of the company, both in Chico and in the mountain town, will show a 30 per cent increase this season over past years.

Through the increased operations, a \$15,000 monthly increase in payroll for the 550 men employed in the Butte Meadows and Flea Valley Lumber camps will result. The crews, now working 40 hours a week, will speed up to 48 hours per week. They will receive overtime pay.

The new operations will see an increase of 5,000,000 feet of lumber bringing the total output of the year to 38,000,000.

The increase in hours worked will remain to the end of the present cut, January, 1942, he said.

Chico Record

7-10-1941

54 Butte Townsites Listed as County's Historic Landmarks

OROVILLE—(VNA)—Fifty-four Butte County townsites were suggested as places for historic markers in a letter filed with the board of supervisors Monday by Florence D. Boyle.

Many of the sites are ghost towns, yet in the early days they played a prominent part in Butte history, Mrs. Boyle's letter said.

The letter follows in part:

"In conformity with your wishes, I have compiled a list of townsites, some of which are now ghost towns, yet in their day did their part in building our early history. I know this list is not entirely complete, yet I believe has the majority of them and enough for you to start on."

The list includes the following places:

HISTORIC SITES

Long's Bar, first settled in October, 1849; located about 2 miles above Oroville on the Feather River; first ferry license granted here 1850. Adamstown, first settled in the winter of 1849; located across the river from Long's Bar. Whitetown, first gold discoveries here in 1849; reached its high point in 1852, taking a major portion of the population of Ophir; located 4 miles above Oroville on the river. Bagdad, 1853; population mostly Chinese; located on plains and bluffs south of Oroville. Lynchburg, first settled in winter of 1854-55; located where present Oro Vista is.

First county hospital, located in Lynchburg in 1857; formerly the Western Hotel, on Myers street. Thermalito; in 1877 board of supervisors selected the present site for the county infirmary.

Rich Gulch, first located in 1848; later became known as Thompson's Flat; one-time home of Black Bart. Oregon City, first located in 1849; last home of Susie, daughter of Chief Chino of Toto tribe of Indians.

Cherokee, first located in 1853; diamonds were first discovered here in California. Pence's Ranch and Pentz post office, first located

in 1850. Concow Valley, first settled in 1856; located about 25 miles from Oroville.

GHOST TOWNS

Ghost towns of Concow township: Frenchtown, Spanishtown, Blairtown, Rich Gulch, Stone House, Chub Gulch, Spring Gulch, Jordan Hill, Hermitage, Dark Canon, Island Bar, Berry Creek Bar, Hugg's Bar, Yankee Bar, Shores' Bar, Bartee's Bar, Nelson Bar, Kanaka Bar, Ohio Bar, Big and Little Kimshe, Big and Little Rock Creek, Last Chance, Brown's Ravine, Lindsay's Bar, Crane Valley, Flea Valley, East Branch, Jordan Creek and Buchanan Hill.

Yankee Hill, located in 1850; Frenchtown, located 1850-51; located near where Yankee Hill post office now stands. Spanishtown, first located in the 50's; located just south of Concow school.

Montreal Bar, located 1855; later changed to Big Bar, in 1906 changed to Pulga. Paradise, Magalia or Dogtown, first located in 1850 and known as Dogtown and then Magalia; in 1859 the famous 54-pound "Dogtown" nugget found largest in world; now holds fourth place.

EARLY SETTLEMENTS

Powelton, located in 1853. Lovelock, 5 miles from Dogtown, settled in 1855. Inskip, settled in 1857. Wyandotte, located in 1850. Evansville, located in Wyandotte township, settled in 1850. Honcut, located 1850. Bangor, first located in 1855.

Bidwell's Bar, first located in 1848; (a monument marks the county seat and another the Mother Orange tree and suspension bridge). Garden Ranch, located in the 50's; famous ghost house located here; Durrant, notorious stage robber, held up stage here. Morris Ravine, located in 1848. Peavine, now Merrimac, first located in 1853, post office established in 1856. Brush Creek, post office established in 1856. Berry Creek, located in 1852.

HART'S MILL

Hart's Mill, formerly Virginia Mills, located in 1849. Miner's Ranch, located in the 50's. White-wash Trees, located in the 50's. Stringtown, located 1849. Enterprise, 1852. Forbestown, Sept. 1, 1850. Boston Ranch or Hurleton, named Hurleton in 1857. Clipper Mills, located in 1855-56. Nelson first laid out in 1873. Hamilton, located in 1849; gold first discovered here in 1848 by Gen. Bidwell.

Martinsburgh, located in 1865; situated about half a mile from the west bank of Feather River at the lower line of the Fernandez or Moore and Henshaw grant in Hamilton township on road leading from Marysville to Chico.

Cohasset, formerly North Point; post office established in 1888. Cana, 1871, Nord, located in 1870. Colby's Landing, first located in 1858, two miles from railroad. Dayton, 1859. Durham, 1870. Mooretown, located in 50's. Lumpkin, located in 50's. Biggs, located in 1870. Gridley, first located in 1870. Palermo.

Woman Shot Six Times Has Fair Chance To Live

Young La Porte Matron Tells Of Attempted Murder And Suicide

OROVILLE (Butte Co.), July 22. Mrs. Virginia Russell, 20, of La Porte, Plumas County, was given a fair chance for her life today in the Good Samaritan Hospital here and Henry Rose, 21, young rancher of the Oregon City District is dead, as the culmination of a quarrel which started Saturday night at a dance in La Porte.

Sheriff Herbert Taylor of Butte County said young Rose at 8 o'clock yesterday morning turned a .22 pistol on his sweetheart and shot her six times and then sent the seventh bullet in the gun's chamber into his own brain, after she told him she would not leave her husband, Earl Russell, a miner of La Porte, to marry him.

Is Given Transfusion

Mrs. Russell was shot once in the left breast, twice in the right arm, once in the left arm and twice in the groin near the hip. Having lost considerable blood before medical aid reached her, Mrs. Russell was given blood transfusions yesterday and the bullets removed.

The attempted murder and suicide occurred in a pasture not far from the ranch home of the suicide victim's mother, Mrs. Ethel Straub, as Rose was accompanying Mrs. Russell to the Dan Morgan ranch where she was employed by Mrs. Morgan. The injured girl had stayed at the home of Mrs. Straub Sunday night and was scheduled to go to Flea Valley to help salt the Morgan cattle on the day of the tragedy.

Found By Neighbor

A. G. Miller, 81 year old neighbor, near whose place the shooting occurred, heard the shots and the screams of Mrs. Russell and went to investigate. He found young Rose lying dead across the Spring Valley Road and about 100 feet farther along where she had run before she collapsed, he found the girl.

Running back to his home, he got into his automobile and drove to the Jones Ranch on the Cherokee Highway about two miles away, where he telephoned the sheriff's office at Oroville of the tragedy. Miller then persuaded John Conger, 67 year old retired pensioner who is making his home at the Jones ranch house, to accompany him back to the scene of the shooting. There the two men carried the wounded girl to the shade of a tree and placed her on an automobile robe.

Taken To Hospital

Sheriff Taylor, accompanied by Deputy Health Officer and Physician B. C. Epperson and Deputy Coroner Charles Hamilton of Oroville and the Oroville ambulance, arrived at the scene of the shooting. Mrs. Russell was removed to the hospital and Deputy Coroner Hamilton took the body of Rose to the Hamilton and Riley Mortuary in Oroville.

Mrs. Straub said that she and another son, Vernon Rose, 20, had left in the family automobile for Oroville shortly after 7 A. M., a few minutes after her son, Henry, and Mrs. Russell left the house to walk to the Morgan ranch two miles away. She said she returned home at 10 A. M., had been there all day and although in sight of the spot where her boy had killed himself, she did not learn until afternoon of what had taken place.

Tells Of Quarrel

Conger said that Mrs. Russell told him the cause of the shooting as he sat by her waiting for the arrival of a doctor and authorities. Young Rose, she told him, wanted her to leave her husband and marry him and when she told him she would not he pulled his pistol and shot her, then killed himself.

Mrs. Straub, mother of the suicide victim, has eight children, many of them small. She has been separated from her husband who lives in Oregon for six years. She and the two Rose boys, sons of a deceased husband, came from Oregon several months ago and are buying the old James Ranch, the small children being in Oregon.

Is Cowgirl, Miner

An attractive brunette, Mrs. Russell has been working as a cowgirl helping with the herd of cattle owned by Mrs. Dan Morgan. She also owns a gold mine claim at La Porte which she works part of the time.

She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Albert Miller, who engage in mining and divide their time between Cherokee and La Porte.

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Butte Shooting Principals

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Mrs. Virginia Russell, 20, is shown in the Good Samaritan Hospital in Oroville where she is fighting for her life after being shot six times after she spurned the advances of Henry Rose, 21, who committed suicide. A recent picture of Rose is shown below.

7-24-1941

240 Diamond Match Workers Back On Jobs

Strikers, Company

Agree To End

Week-Long Walkout

CHICO —(VNA)— Two hundred and forty striking Diamond Match lumber workers at Stirling City, Butte Meadows and Flea Valley returned to work this morning after union and company representatives had completed negotiations.

Terms of the back to work agreement could not be ascertained, but it was said reliably that no actual contract yet has been signed between union spokesmen and R. A. Colgan, company operations manager. The men had been out on strike a full week.

"The settlement was satisfactory to both sides," Joe Castaldo, member of the negotiating committee, said last night.

Colgan, however, declined formal comment. It was indicated that negotiations will continue through the week.

Union spokesmen assertedly would not accept any back-to-work agreement which did not recognize their two fundamental demands: reinstatement of Bill Dutter, and acceptance of July 15 as the basis for retroactive pay adjustments.

Union leaders last week said that they would negotiate for wage increases only after these two points had been accepted by the important western company.

10-16-1941

Conviction Of Butte Man In Morals Case Is Upheld On Appeal

The third district court of appeal has affirmed the conviction of Raleigh M. Fremont, 61 year old miner of Yankee Hill, Butte County, on rape charges involving three girls, 16, 17 and 9 years old.

Fremont's appeal for a new trial was based on contentions his indictment was defective in that it failed to charge him with a public offense or to give the time when the crimes occurred and that lewd and lascivious conduct was not stated definitely.

The appeal also declared there

was insufficient evidence to support the verdict and that the "evidence of the prosecution's witnesses was so inherently improbable and unworthy of belief as to challenge one's credulity."

The court, in denying the petition, declared it is "hardly conceivable" all three were deliberately falsifying.

The prosecution's witnesses testified Fremont committed rape against the 16 year old girl thirty five times and against the other two an indefinite number of times during a two year period prior to 1940.

Man, 70, Is Held For Shooting Boy And Dog In Yuba

Weed Lumber Worker Says Ball Umpire's Son Threatened Him

MARYSVILLE (Yuba Co.), Oct. 24.—Robert Stassi, 16, son of Sam Stassi, Sacramento Valley Baseball League umpire, is recovering in the Rideout Memorial Hospital from a gunshot wound inflicted late yesterday when he went to the aid of his wounded dog, Boots.

Held in the Marysville City Jail for investigation is William Thunen, 70, Weed lumber worker, who was arrested a few minutes after the shooting by Patrolman Merrill LeBoeuf. The gun, a .22 caliber automatic, still was in his hand.

Shot In Calf

District Attorney Joseph L. Heenan obtained a statement from Thunen, who said he had shot the dog when it came barking at him. The youth, he said, appeared from another side of the Stassi home at 18 Fourth Street and "came at me angrily and in a belligerent mood."

The youth was shot in the calf of the right leg, about an inch below the kneecap. The bullet continued along the leg in the muscle before lodging near the heel. It was removed in the hospital.

Dog Shot In Throat

The dog was taken to a pet hospital with a wound in its throat.

Heenan and LeBoeuf, following the questioning of Thunen, searched his hotel room and found two loaded pistols. A clip for a .32 caliber automatic was found but the gun for it was not.

Has Gun Permit

Thunen told the authorities he had a permit for three weapons issued in Yreka. At the time of his arrest, in addition to the .22 weapon with which he shot the dog and Stassi, he had a .25 caliber automatic, which he had not drawn.

The district attorney said Thunen admitted the shooting and related: "I went over to the levee this morning with a magazine. When I passed the yard, the dog barked at me and came at me as if to bite me but I pulled my gun and fired at him and he quit."

Says Boy Was Belligerent

"During the afternoon I had some target practice and then decided to go home. I passed the substation and crossed the street reaching the sidewalk near the yard where the dog was. He came at me again and I pulled my gun and shot at him.



William Thunen, 70, Weed lumber worker, is shown as he was taken to a Marysville jail cell after admitting to officials he shot a dog and its owner. Robert Stassi, after the dog barked at him. Bee Photo

"The boy appeared from somewhere and came at me angrily and in a belligerent mood. I told him to stop. He said something but I didn't hear it. I shot and he fell. I aimed low so I wouldn't hit him in the body."

The youth's father and his brother, Sam Stassi, Jr., said they heard the shots and rushed to Robert's assistance but Thunen waved them back with the gun.

"When he waved the gun at us," the elder Stassi said, "he said to get back or he would shoot. I went around a corner and my son dived behind the car."

Sam Stassi, Sr., is a former Sacramento Winter League baseball player and is a brother in law of Myril Hoag, big league baseball player, who went up from Sacramento.

Thunen has been a resident of Marysville for the last six weeks, undergoing treatments for sinus trouble.

Heenan announced he would question the youth today and a formal charge will be placed.

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11-7-1941

Rabbit's Foot Identifies Drowned Boy

A rabbit's foot "good luck" charm suspended from the belt of Warren Howard Gillespie, 15-year-old Napa high school senior, was an aid in identification of the youth's body after it had been removed from the Feather river 3 miles above Pulga late yesterday.

After identification had been made, by the youth's father, Hamilton and Riley sent the body to Napa, where funeral services will be held.

Gillespie drowned Oct. 12 while fishing about half mile above Arch Rock tunnel with a brother, Walter B. Gillespie Jr., of Fairfield.

The body was discovered in a back eddy by William Johnson of Pulga Wednesday, about 100 yards east of Mile Post 242-71 on the Western Pacific. It was fully clothed.

No inquest will be held, Coroner Taylor announced.

Survivors are Mr. and Mrs. Walter B. Gillespie of Napa; four sisters, Mrs. Lela Freitas of Fairfield, Mrs. Marjorie Foley of San Jose, Mrs. Thelma Land of St. Helena, Mrs. Albert Bell of Napa, and a brother, Walter B. Gillespie Jr., of Fairfield.

The father, brother and Mr. and Mrs. Bell were here last night.

12-31-1941

Yankee Hill Man Fined In Durham

DURHAM—(U.P.)— A Durham justice court jury Tuesday found Ralph Moore of Yankee Hill guilty of petty theft and he was sentenced to served 50 days in jail or pay a \$100 fine.

The charge had been brought by W. H. Robinson of Gridley. Witnesses included Charles Townsend of Yankee Hill, W. W. Wright, special investigator for the district attorney, and M. Turk, Oroville junk dealer. W. H. Moore testified in his son's defense.

Charles Andrews, assistant district attorney, handled the prosecution.