

HISTORY OF
SANTA CLARA
COUNTY

CALIFORNIA

WITH

Biographical Sketches

OF

*The Leading Men and Women of the County Who Have
Been Identified With Its Growth and
Development From the Early
Days to the Present*



HISTORY BY

EUGENE T. SAWYER

ILLUSTRATED

COMPLETE IN ONE VOLUME

HISTORIC RECORD COMPANY

LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

1922

San Jose Historical Museum
635 Phelan Avenue
San Jose, California 95112

and C. E. Gunn, John McNaught, John E. Richards, R. J. Stevens, Holton Webb, E. J. McCutcheon, E. K. Dunlap and J. E. Rymal. Of these Barry, Quilty, Shortridge, the Gunns, Dr. York are dead. Of the living, J. E. Richards is judge of the Appellate Court; Black is the dean of the San Jose bar; Stephens is a leading lawyer of Los Angeles; Bane is one of the big oratorical guns of the First M. E. Church; Underwood is a wealthy business man of Monterey; Smith is a San Jose lawyer of fine attainments; Webb was justice of the peace at Riverside in Riverside County, and died over a year after being shot by an Italian who had been defeated in a law suit. Hyland, once Superior Judge is now a San Francisco capitalist. The majority of the Lecticonians had had little or no experience as speakers or debaters when they joined the society, but constant attendance and study made of them speakers and debaters such as any county would be proud to own. The society disbanded in the early '90s.

The Country Club

The Country Club, first known as the Golf Club, was organized twenty years ago by a number of business men who realized that out-of-door sports should go hand in hand with indoor amusement. A tract of land comprising eighty acres was secured near the Linda Vista links on the Alum Rock road and the Linda Vista Sanitarium was used as a club house. The charter had the following as charter members: T. Ellard Beans, Geo. M. Bowman, D. M. Burnett, W. S. Clayton, E. C. Flagg, Thomas A. Graham, A. D. Grant, O. A. Hale, G. W. Henderson, Ralph W. Hersey, A. C. Kuhn, S. F. Leib, J. C. Lewis, L. L. Morse, L. G. Nesmith, Joseph R. Patton, Hotel Vendome, Guy Vachell, A. K. Whitton, Philo Hersey and William Wehner.

In 1913 the club moved their quarters by purchasing 61½ acres on exceptionally good ground near the eastern foothills. Afterwards 31½ acres were leased from Mrs. Gordon. This tract adjoined the Country Club's land, and the combined acreage and splendid situation made the golf links one of the finest on the Coast, permitting a full eighteen-hole course. On one of the hills, the most commanding one, a club house, up-to-date in every particular was built at a cost of about \$15,000. The cost would have been much greater if the lumber had not been purchased from J. A. Chase, a lumber dealer and a club member. Mr. Chase also designed the building. The pipes were laid in two days by fifty club members in overalls and jumpers. After their work had been finished they were treated to a fine lunch prepared by the lady members

and served on tables under spreading oak trees. The present officers of the club are V. J. LaMotte, president; J. R. Chace, secretary; First National Bank, treasurer; William Hirst, manager of the club house. The members number 350.

The Pioneers' Society

The California Pioneers' Society of Santa Clara County was organized June 22, 1875 with 274 charter members. The first officers were Judge A. L. Rhodes, president; John M. Murphy and Peter O. Minor, vice-presidents; Alex. P. Murgotten, secretary; John H. Moore, treasurer; directors, Coleman Younger, Carl Peebels, Davis Divine, A. Pfister and B. D. Murphy. Of the charter members the secretary is the only surviving member. The first annual meeting was held in O'Donnell's Gardens on June 22, 1876. At its first quarterly meeting, held in September, 1876, in Music Hall, Hon. David Belden delivered an address replete with droll humor and beautiful sentiment. Hon. C. T. Ryland was the speaker at the next quarterly, December 20, 1876, and English words were woven into a splendid tribute to the pioneers.

Two memorable social events mark the history of the old-timers. The first was given on September 8, 1877, to celebrate the admission of California into the Union. The California Pioneers of San Francisco, Native Sons and Mexican Veterans were invited guests. The parade was one of the largest ever seen in San Jose. It consisted of the Native Sons, San Francisco Pioneers, and Santa Clara County Pioneers. There were floats representing pioneer times, such as, "On an Emigrant Train," and "The Steamer California," manned by men who came on that vessel. A local ox carried a pack of an old emigrant's outfit. There was also a mining scene, "Working the Claim," which was very realistic. To make the parade seem real one of the valuable oxen hauling the emigrants dropped dead while on the march. At O'Donnell's Gardens, one of the largest barbecues in the history of the state was carried out successfully. In a trench 200 feet long, three feet deep and three feet wide there were spitted twenty-seven hogs, twenty-five sheep and sixteen beeves. Over 10,000 people were introduced to one of the finest meals they had ever tasted. An English guest said he had eaten the roast beef of old England for forty years, but he felt that he had never partaken real roast beef until that Saturday. Uncle Ike Branham was the chief cook and his assistants were A. Legarde, S. O. Broughton, Henry Lux, D. A. Laddy, A. L. Bascom, J. H. M. Townsend, Geo. Cross and R. T. O'Hanlon. The next great event was