



SNOW IN BIG SUR. To the surprise and delight of children of all ages, a January mantle of snow covered the

Coast Ridge. Turn to page 2 for story and additional photos. Photo by Sterling Doughty.

MODIFIED VENTANA EXPANSION APPROVED

"Massive" State Staff Conditions Rejected

By GARY KOEPEL

Burlingame. The members of the state Coastal Commission voted 10-2 to approve 16 of the 36 units requested by Ventana Inn.

In a preceding "substitute" motion, the Commissioners voted 7-5 to reject their staff's surprise recommendation to approve the project if Ventana would agree to increase the total number of various types of lodging units from the 36 requested to the 136 the staff conditioned.

No action was taken on the project as proposed by Ventana.

The decision concludes three years of permit process and reams of environmental documentation.

Inconclusive is the ultimate fear of the remaining 20 units, which Commissioners felt should be determined by the Local Coastal Program planning process.

Regarding the economic viability and future of Ventana, the *Gazette* learned a few days after the vote that the lenders will remain faithful to the resort if assured a workable plan for the allotted 16-unit expansion.

Controversial Conditions

The state Coastal Staff approval of the 36 units was rigidly conditioned by requiring the following additional developments:

- 30 tent cabins
- 40 bed hostel
- 30 units of employee housing
- 20 parking spaces to provide public access to the Coast Ridge Road
- a regularly scheduled public transit system

Another condition required that all of the "conditioned projects" would need all required local government approvals, and their construction would need to be completed "prior to or contemporaneously with" completion of the Inn units.

Michael Fisher, Chief of the state Coastal Staff and author of the Staff Report, said that the conditions were intended to "mitigate the impacts on the highway and assure accommodation for people with lower income."

Fisher said he didn't regard the project as a "biggie," but he stated that "only as conditioned do we recommend the full 36 units."

Myron Etienne, the attorney for Ventana, requested that the conditioned projects should not be linked to their application, but if required, that they should first be submitted to the county Planning Department.

Etienne called "unreasonable" the staff's conditions of

Continued on page 20

CAC Rejects CZ Rezoning Bid

At the January 23 meeting of the Big Sur Citizen Advisory Committee, which is working on the Local Coastal Plan, the members voted 9-7 not to recommend rezoning of the Big Sur Coast to the Board of Supervisors.

Committee member Zad Leavy had introduced a motion at the last meeting which, if enacted, would have set the wheels of government in motion toward formal adoption of

the new zoning overlay. Criticized by some as "an unnecessary layer of government" and "redundant," the CZ rezoning would have required a use permit and another step in the permit procedure.

Advocates for recommending the new zoning argued that, with it, the county would be required to screen applications with the provisions outlined in Chapter 3 of the California Coastal Act. Without it, the

County would not be able to use the policies before completion of the LCP.

In another matter the committee voted to retain its traditional meeting schedule of each second and fourth Tuesday.

Meetings are held at 7:30 to 10:30 at the Big Sur Grange Hall, and the public is not only invited but also encouraged to attend and participate in the development of the Local Coastal Plan.

Commissioner Leavy To Meet With Locals

Coastal Commissioner Zad Leavy and one or more commissioners and staff would like to meet with all interested persons Saturday, March 10, 1979 at 10 a.m. at the Big Sur Inn, to answer questions and invite comments on coastal permit procedures and Local Coastal Program (LCP) considerations.

This informal session is the result of a number of people having requested the opportunity of more direct and accessible dialog with the Coastal Commission, to ask questions and suggest improvements.

To avoid parking congestion, please park down the Highway and walk up to the Inn's restaurant.

Lawsuit Challenges Commission Policy of Required Dedications

The Pacific Legal Foundation has filed a major lawsuit against the California Coastal Commission which challenge their policy of requiring dedications for public access routes as a condition for obtaining a permit for building or remodeling.

The suit addresses actions by the State and Regional Commissions which "threaten private property rights and violate the true intent of the California Coastal Act of 1976."

The complaint charges that "the Commissions are acting beyond their authority under the California Coastal Act in requiring private property owners to dedicate public easements in exchange for Commission approval to

repair or maintain property within the Coastal Zone."

REQUIRED DEDICATIONS

Included as plaintiffs are the recently-formed California Coastal Council, a non-profit organization whose membership exceeds 6,000, and eleven coastal property owners, including actor Burgess Meredith.

The property owners have submitted declarations that they were told by the Commission that they could not improve their properties unless they dedicated part of their land for public access.

The lawsuit, filed on January 9 in the Los Angeles Superior Court, contends that "the Coastal Commission actions have no rational or reasonable

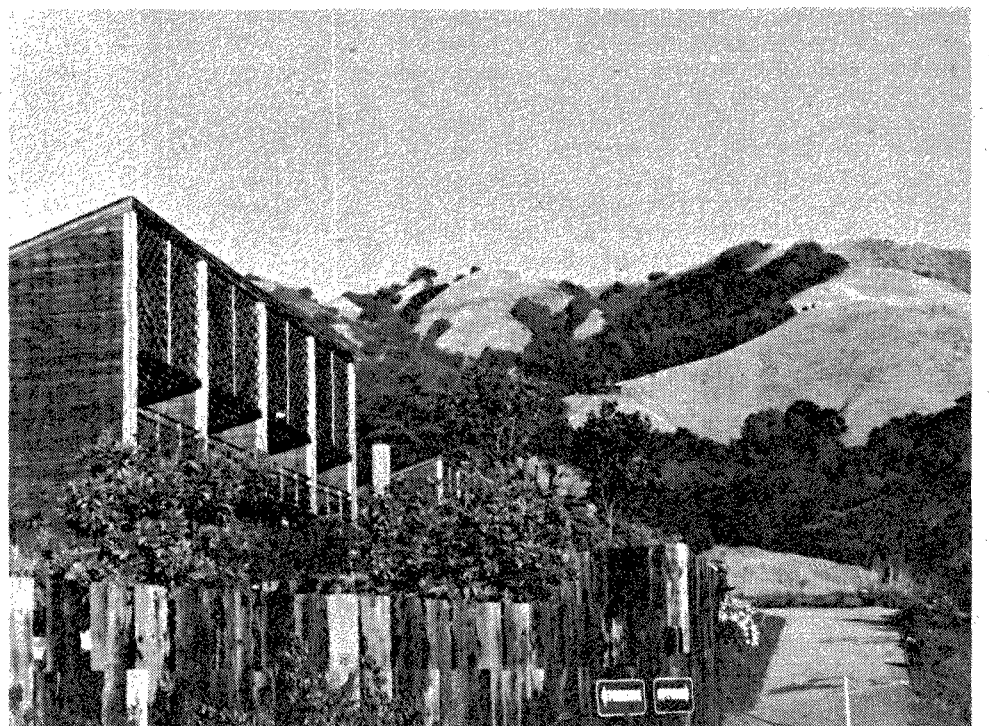
relationship to the government approvals sought, and that the Commission policies are actually working against the preservation of sensitive coastal resources."

CONSTITUTIONAL GUARANTEES

The suit further charges that the access requirements are "misapplication and misconstruction of the Act," and it asks for judicially mandated guidelines to define "under what circumstances the Commissions may exact public easements."

According to the suit, this is necessary "not only to assure that fragile coastal zone resources are protected, maintained, enhanced, and restored, but to protect the rights of coastal landowners."

The Pacific Legal Foundation contends that the "taking" of these lands without compensation is a violation of constitutional guarantees.



VENTANA EXPANSION. The new units of the Ventana Inn will be built in the meadow near the existing 24 rooms.

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Snows of Big Sur

Snow paradise on the Coast Ridge.

Photo by Mary Harrington



Mr. and Mrs. Richard Hendrix pose proudly with their newly-made Big Sur Snowman.
Photo by Ronni Bloom-Webster



Students of Captain Cooper School were treated to an afternoon in the snow by Principal Bob Douglas and Don McQueen. Pictured above are: Sean Smythe, Michael Eaton, Jonathan Newell, Mark Newell, Steve Wheeler, Vanessa Share, John Boerger, Byron Wilkerson, Jonathan McQueen, Stacy Benson, Shelley Thrash, Raffy Fisher.
Photo by Bob Douglas



Jonathan Newell and Jonathan McQueen enjoy a good old-fashioned snowball fight.

By JEFF NORMAN

The early morning of February 2nd saw the best snowfall of the season, so far. The storm that pounded the roof with hail at 1,000-foot elevations dropped 12 inches or more of snow above 3,000 feet, providing the chance for coastal folk to get their taste of winter with snowballs, snowmen, and maybe even a toboggan run on a garbage can lid. A snowstorm of some sort can be counted on just about every winter hereabouts, especially on the inland summits. In early March of 1976 a nighttime snowfall left a couple of inches down to 1,000 feet. Even the old Post homestead got a dusting, although by mid-day most had melted. And many old timers can remember the 1937-38 winter, when snow fell virtually to sea level, and chains were needed to drive on the new highway. The heaviest snowfall in recent history occurred in

January of '74. Although there wasn't much of a fall west of the Coast Ridge, the summit and inland area were severely affected. There were depths of 4 and 5 feet around Anderson and Cone Peaks. The road to Arroyo Seco was closed for days, and locals there are still talking about the parties that provided the only antidote for an epidemic of cabin fever. Probably the most serious and long-lasting effect that snowfall had was to break off and compact ton upon ton of brush and tree branches into a highly flammable fuel base. This has made fire suppression in the affected area a nightmare which culminated in the Marble-Cone fire of 1977. So, if you should wake up some morning to a world of white, don't worry yourself with thoughts of wooly mammoths with flowers in their mouths. It's only one of nature's delightful sleights-of-hand, giving a quick kick at complacency.



Tracks through a winter wonderland.

Photo by Greg O. Webster



Chief Walter Trotter and the members of the Big Sur Volunteer Fire Brigade would like to thank the community for help keeping this past month fire free. Inspection, Maintenance and Housekeeping will continue to keep Big Sur fire free.

Big Sur CHP Saves Life

Reprinted from the Herald

A 13-year-old Seaside boy was rescued from the surf Sunday by a California Highway Patrolman who saw him floating in the water.

Lee Macklin of 1656 Winton St., is reported in "fair" condition today in the intensive care unit of Community Hospital.

The boy's father, William Macklin, 38, was treated for exposure at the hospital and released.

Highway Patrolman Ken Wright radioed for help at 3:31 p.m. when he saw a boat containing Macklin and his son capsize in the surf near Garrapata Creek, six miles south of Carmel Highlands.

By the time Wright was able to make his way down to the beach, Macklin was ashore and with the help of bystanders was searching for the boy.

Knowing that currents in that area ran to the south, Wright climbed a bluff to scan the surf south of the

point where the boat had capsized.

He saw the boy floating in the water, ran to the area, and took off his gun belt.

Wright then entered the water fully clothed and was able to reach the boy in waist-deep water after being knocked into a rock by waves.

Wright brought the boy, who was wearing a life jacket, ashore, and could find no vital signs after clearing the victim's air passage.

The officer said he ran to a point where he could signal to other officers, then ran back to the boy.

Seeing that the boy was now showing signs of life, Wright began administering artificial respiration, and the boy revived.

According to the sheriff's department, the boat's engine failed about three-eighths of a mile offshore, allowing the boat to drift into the surf, where it capsized.

COAST TRAFFIC FATALITY

On January 29, an accident on Highway 1, 52 miles south of Monterey, took the life of 29-year-old Rachel Chavez of San Jose.

Traveling north, at 2:20 p.m., at about 50 mph, Mrs. Chavez's 1974 van crossed the southbound lane, passed through a turnout area, then plunged over 450 feet to the rocky beach below. The area is called Gamboa Point, just north of Vicente Creek.

Witnesses in a southbound motorhome watched the van dart directly in front of them and go over the cliff landing first about 100 feet down the embankment. Within seconds, the van rolled the rest of the way down practically disappearing in the rocks.

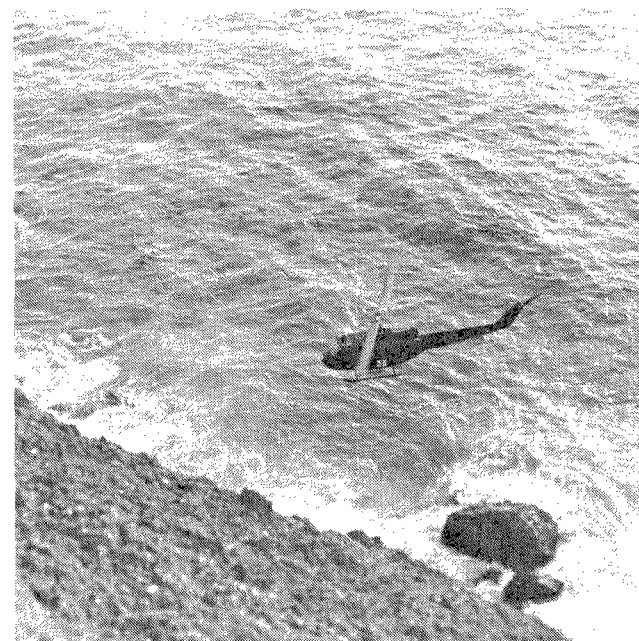
Two CalTrans crew members working a short distance from the accident, checked the wreckage and cliffside for survivors and requested MAST helicopter assistance when baby items were found in the wreckage. After several hours of searching, it was determined that Mrs. Chavez was alone in the vehicle. Also assisting at the scene were three members of the Big Sur Ambulance, Mike Pena of Big Sur Emergency Road Service and members of the Monterey County Sheriff's Search and Rescue Team.



CHP OFFICER watches rescue efforts while Sheriff's Search and Rescue members prepare to descend cliff. Below: MAST

helicopter hovers over rocky beach area 450 feet below road's edge.

Photos by Sterling Doughty



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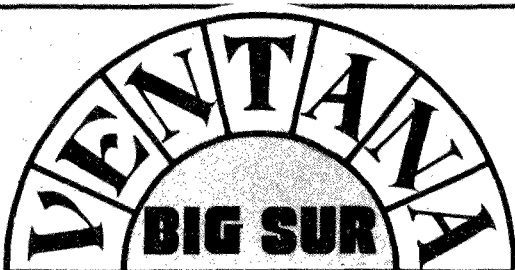
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Views and Viewpoints

The Wrongs of Prescriptive Rightism

A handful of courageous and determined citizens living in the Carmel Highlands are engaged in a battle the outcome of which may well affect the future of every resident and property owner living in the Coastal Zone.

In August 1978, one of them accidentally discovered a numbered questionnaire which was being selectively distributed by the state Attorney General's Office, the Sierra Club, and various skin diver groups.

The questionnaire sought information regarding the public's "prescribed" rights to certain small beaches in the Highlands area, but the accompanying parcel maps included the entire Carmel Highlands residential area as well.

The "Gazette" reported the story and reprinted the completed questionnaire and parcel maps in its September issue, and a deputy attorney general promptly accused this newspaper of "yellow journalism."

The Carmel Highlands Property Owners Association sought clarification from the Central Regional Coastal Commission, to whose address in Santa Cruz the questionnaires were to be returned.

Although after the second meeting it finally surfaced that at least one regional staff member knew of the investigations, the Commissioners had not been informed what was happening in their region.

It was then explained by one deputy attorney general and corroborated by another that the state commission had authorized the investigation. But Regional Commissioner Ruth Andresen, who also sits on the state commission, attested that the state commission had never discussed much less authorized the investigations.

Amidst the ensuing clamor and confusion, complete with Watergate references to "stonewalling" and "cover-up," Regional Commissioners Blohm, Hughes, and Liddicoat asked for an investigation to determine who did actually authorize the investigations.

There the matter stands.

To date the instigator of the prescriptive rights investigations is still unknown. Did ex-Attorney General Evelle Younger personally authorize them? Did certain zealous deputy attorney generals in his office take it upon themselves? Will the new Attorney General George Deukmejian pursue the matter, be able to determine its origin, and take appropriate action?

In the meantime, the wrongs of prescriptive rightism prevail:

- The "investigations" were conducted secretly to avoid public outcry.

- The inclusive parcel map accompanying the questionnaire has clouded the titles of every property in the Highlands.

- The selectively distributed questionnaires have encouraged and seemingly condoned self-serving trespass.

- The continuing lack of clarification about the origin, present status, and legality of the investigations could eventually depress property values in the area.

- Even if an area under investigation is proven to be unencumbered with prescriptive rights, the very fact of an investigation could be used as a leverage for negotiating a better price for possible public acquisition.

- The present-setting use of questionnaires which, when completed and signed, could be used as a "witness list" in court during litigation.

- The constitutionality of a "taking without compensation" is preempted by existing lead and case laws regarding prescriptive rights and implied dedications.

- And last but not least, these secret investigations involving questionable methods have already jeopardized the public's heretofore unrestrained use of numerous private coastal properties by fearful owners who have posted new signs and have begun enforcing trespass laws to prevent the prescriptive preemption of their rights.

The public's right to coastal access is safeguarded by state and federal constitutional law; it does not need to be promoted at the expense of other constitutional rights and guarantees granted to private owners of property in the coastal zone.

Before this and other nefarious legal and quasi-legal activities further polarizes conflicts between the rights of public and private interests, it is hoped by the Highlanders and other coastal residents that the new Attorney General will involve himself and, in the fair and forthright manner for which he is known and respected, take whatever action becomes necessary to resolve the wrongs of prescriptive rightism.



El Rio Grande Del Sur

By STERLING DOUGHTY

It seems reasonable to assume, from all the activity and energy brought up by the incorporation issue and the numerous groups that are trying to "save" Big Sur, that there is an abiding interest among the populace in some form of community. We all seem to want to live decent lives in harmony with ourselves, our neighbors and our land. Yet, the reality of our relationships shows this ideal is not generally the case. Why is this obvious necessity so difficult to achieve?

The following paragraphs, excerpted from an essay on Ghandism and Socialism written in India in 1931 by Richard B. Gregg, shows a most beautifully precise understanding of a condition which almost exactly parallels the situation we find ourselves in today. The possibilities for change exist and make sense; however, we must recognize and rise above the predicament delineated below if we are to truly attain some meaningful result.

"Most people think that the world is governed by institutions and organizations, such as political governments and banks, or by laws, or by certain groups of people or ruling classes. But really the control is deeper and more subtle than that. Governments, banks, laws, and ruling classes are only the exterior instruments of management. The real control comes from ideas and sentiments—a scheme of values, a set of ideals or activities which people are induced to desire and accept as right, fitting and praiseworthy. The most important adjunct of this control—even more important than organizations—is a set of symbols which indicate and stand for the given system of values. Thus, we see that the real control of society is psychological, through men's minds and feelings. Even where government is maintained partly by the physical force of soldiers and police, the control is psychological through the fear created by such force.

When systems of value and their symbolisms are taken over by a small selfish group as a means of controlling society for the benefit of the few, the values and symbols are used to create divisions and a set of nearly balanced oppositions among the other groups in the population. Thus, the mass of people are broken into opposed groups and blinded by the apparent conflict of interest, so that they do not understand what is being done to them. The ruling group plays upon the ambitions, greeds, vanities, prides and fears of the other groups, and manipulates the symbols so that the few shall always keep supreme power for their own selfish ends, no matter what changes of outward form occur. Only a very few, even of the ruling class are clever enough to understand fully the operation of such value systems and how they may be warped and used, but all the ruling class are shrewd enough to take advantage of the opportunities thus created and try to maintain the system. When such an arrangement gets well established, most members of both the ruling and ruled groups take part in it, accept it all as the natural state of affairs, and are not aware of the real purpose and effect of all they are doing.

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Viewpoints

Here are some rules:

Letters, preferably typed, should not exceed 300 words. The Gazette reserves the right to edit or reject letters which do not meet its standards of good taste, accuracy, and length. Letters must bear the name, mailing address, location and telephone number of the writer. Only your name and "Big Sur" (or elsewhere) will be printed. No anonymous letters accepted for publication.

Be your own editor. Brevity means more viewpoints per issue can be included. The success of The Big Sur Gazette depends on your response. Let us hear from you.

"Knowledge will forever govern ignorance. And a people who mean to be their own governors, must arm themselves with the power knowledge gives. A popular government without popular information or the means of acquiring it, is but a prologue to a farce or a tragedy, or perhaps both." — James Madison

The health and survival of any community depends on the freedom of reasoned expression. The Big Sur Gazette will reserve this space in future publications for guest editorials on any subject of Big Sur relevance by any resident or interested reader.

"DIABLO 500" TRIALS

By CARL PAUL ALASKO

On August 6th and 7th of last year, 487 persons were arrested at the PG&E nuclear reactor site at Diablo Canyon in San Luis Obispo County. Their arrest was part of a planned civil disobedience action by the Abalone Alliance, a statewide anti-nuclear organization.

Since then a constant legal battle has been waged with the aim of acquainting the public with the reasons why so many people were willing to go voluntarily to jail.

"If a person is willing to subject themselves to an arrest and trial and all the disruption of their life that goes with it, you can be sure they have well thought out ideas," said Tony Metcalf, a member of the Abalone Alliance. "We feel if the public were more aware of the dangers of nuclear power, there would be more pressure on the industry."

Late last year there was a "show trial" of 20 defendants. This trial was arranged by negotiation with the County District Attorney. A jury was carefully selected. The trial took 7 weeks. Judge Robert Carter from Napa County presided. (An out-of-county judge had been requested). During this trial virtually no expert testimony on the nuclear question was permitted and the jury was instructed to return a verdict based solely on the matter of trespassing — whether the defendants did or did not trespass. The verdict returned was guilty on one count only; simple trespass.

Judge Carter sentenced all the defendants to 3 months in jail, \$400 fine and 2 years probation. However the 3 months in jail would be suspended if they signed the probation papers.

On January 11th a group of about 50 defendants had all decided they would rather go to jail for 3 months than face 2 years of probation which they felt would exclude them from further anti-nuclear activity. Also, serving their sentence would be a further proof of the depth of their moral conviction.

"Being in jail is never easy," said one of the defendants. "We all believe that the danger of Diablo Canyon is so great that we're going to jail rather

than give up."

After hearing a few of the statements of the defendants on January 11th, Judge Carter, on the morning of the 12th, made an open-court public apology to the defendants. He said he had acted "badly" in managing the 7-week trial and that considering the defendants as "criminals" was wrong. He added that he felt the interests of justice were not being served by meting out such harsh sentences. It was a stunning reversal. He therefore reduced all the sentences to 15 days in jail and \$300 fine, but he still maintained the 2 years probation.

At this point, with about 390 defendants still to be tried, and a definite crack having appeared in the monolithic judicial wall, there is a very determined feeling pervading the Abalone Alliance.

Diablo Canyon has not yet received its operating license and the nuclear dynamos still lie dormant. But in the next months the NRC (Nuclear Regulatory Commission) will make its decision.

"The bias the NRC has demonstrated in the past seems to be still firmly in place," continues Tony Metcalf. "It seems we're playing with a stacked deck."

In the meantime the Abalone Alliance and its supporters are continuing their unrelenting pressure on the nuclear establishment. It promises to be a long struggle.

For those persons interested in voicing their opinion on nuclear energy and specifically the Diablo Canyon plant, you may write the following addresses:

ABALONE ALLIANCE:
452 Higuera St., San Luis Obispo 93401.

ATOMIC SAFETY AND LICENSING BOARD:
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMM., Landow Bldg., #1209, Washington, D.C. 20555.

PACIFIC GAS & ELECTRIC: Richard H. Peterson, Chairman, 77 Beale St., San Francisco, 94105.

GOVERNOR EDMUND BROWN, Capitol Mall, Sacramento 95814.

To "Truthseeker":

Gazette policy prevents us from printing your excellent but unsigned letter. Please reconsider and send us your name, so your letter can be printed, and we will honor your anonymity by withholding your name upon request.

California Grange Makes History

SPONSORS NEW BILL TO PROTECT FARMLANDS

Reprinted with permission from the "California Grange News."

By **JOHN C. WELTY**
Legislative Director
California State Grange

The California State Grange in an historic event has become the sponsor of a Bill and a California Constitutional Amendment that in combination will prohibit non-citizens other than those lawfully admitted for permanent residence from purchasing agricultural lands in California.

Master Edwin Koster exclaimed, "The California State Grange by delegate action has mandated me to support legislation to prohibit a non-resident alien or alien business entity from purchasing, acquiring or holding an interest in

California agricultural land. We have done this and more, by promoting the Grange to become the sponsor of this much needed legislation."

The author of the Grange bill and Constitutional Amendment is Assemblyman Richard Lehman (Dem.-Clovis). Lehman, in his third year in the Assembly, is becoming well known for being willing to take on a fight for issues in which he believes. Assemblyman Lehman assured the Grange that "this bill-constitutional amendment combination is no exception and with the Grange's involvement I fully expect this bill to become law."

To live up to our side of the partnership, Grange members from throughout the state need to be

prepared to serve their communities, state and nation by making a commitment to become truly involved thus enacting Grange policy into law.

Some of the reasons that have led the Grange into the sponsorship of this bill are:

- Foreign entities have purchased large quantities of California's fertile agricultural lands at high prices as a speculative hedge against inflation and the devaluation of the dollar. This activity drives the price of all farm land in California above the price where a young person could enter farming and pay for the land from the crops that can be raised.

- Foreign entities protected by advantageous tax treaties retain many former owners to farm the land. This allows foreign entities to reap the benefits

of appreciated land values while paying no capital gains taxes.

- In the case of Iran millions of tax dollars given as aid are finding their way back into this country to buy prime agricultural land.

- Taken a step further, crops grown on this foreign held land are processed by foreign held plants and shipped by foreign means back to the country where the entity originated bypassing any American control whatsoever.

We cannot afford to jeopardize the positive balance of payment contribution from agricultural goods since it is America's primary source. We must also be concerned with the pressure on increased consumer prices and inflation that this activity promotes.

Foreign Purchase of U.S. Farmlands

A recent survey for the Senate Agriculture Committee indicated that devalued dollars are helping foreigners to purchase vast acreages of American farmlands.

During one 18-month period alone, foreign farm-land purchasers have gobbled up enough acreage to equal that of Rhode Island.

For the 18-month period which ended June 30, 1978,

foreign farm purchases totaled 826,543 acres, which is 2.25 percent of all agricultural lands sold during that period.

The Department of Agriculture is presently attempting to determine how many total acres are owned by foreign interests. A recent law requires foreigners to register their agricultural holdings.

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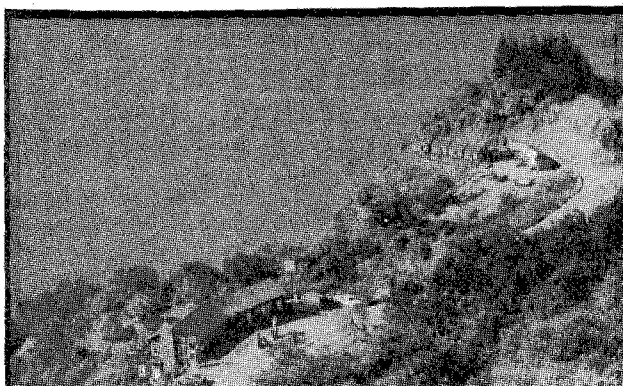
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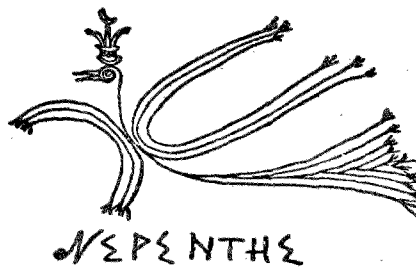
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National Parkway Plan of 1959-1960

Monterey Peninsula Herald
Dec. 19, 1959

U.S. Sen. Clair Engle (D-Red Bluff) has asked the National Parkway System for a survey and report on Highway 1 with respect to its being considered a federal parkway.

State Sen. Fred Farr (D-Carmel), who had asked Engle to make the request, said he received Engle's reply yesterday, Farr said it would be "some time" before the results of Engle's request would be known.

If approved, the parkway would run from San Francisco to Santa Cruz, and from Carmel Highlands to San Simeon. Maintained by federal funds, parkways follow routes of historic and scenic value. The county is also making its own survey of the feasibility of the route as a parkway.

Monterey Peninsula Herald
Sept. 27, 1960

SALINAS — Northern California counties will try to revive the possibility of a National Parkway Oct. 12 in a special meeting in Yosemite National Park.

Supervisors yesterday designated Planning Director Ed DeMars to attend the meeting. Board Chairman Tom Hudson said

he would also try to attend the meeting.

The board heard a letter yesterday from San Mateo County asking that a representative of Monterey County be present. Originally, Monterey, San Francisco, San Mateo, Santa Clara and Santa Cruz counties toyed with the idea of a parkway from San Francisco to San Simeon. Interest in the project died out after early conferences.

According to DeMars, several coastal counties have indicated lately they might be interested in the plan.

Monterey County attempted to establish a parkway on the Coast Highway from Carmel to San Simeon, but found highway residents only lukewarm to the project.

A parkway is an elongated park bordering highways of scenic and historic interest. It is built and maintained by the federal government.

Monterey Peninsula Herald
January 12, 1960

SALINAS — The drive to establish a National Parkway on the Coast Highway picked up momentum yesterday when supervisors passed a resolution urging Congress to begin a

feasibility study for the route.

A similar resolution was passed last week by the San Luis Obispo board of supervisors. A portion of the proposed parkway lies in that county.

The resolution will go to Congress, along with a local feasibility study being completed by the planning commission. The complete report will be coordinated with a report of four northern counties, urging a similar study by Congress for a parkway route from San Francisco to Santa Cruz.

The resolution passed yesterday urged Congress to "authorize the secretary of interior, through the National Park Service, to make further studies of the proposed route from Carmel to San Simeon to determine the feasibility and desirability of establishing a

parkway."

Park Proposal

The National Park Service, in a report late last year, recommended that steps be taken to preserve the aesthetic value of the area from Carmel to San Simeon. Park service officials unofficially told county officials that a parkway established over the Coast Highway could be the nucleus for a parkway spanning the West Coast from the Canadian to the Mexican borders.

If yesterday's resolution is favorably received in Washington, Congress will conduct studies of the proposed route. Then, if the route is deemed feasible and desirable, legislation would be drawn up jointly by local and federal officials for the project.

Congress annually sets aside approximately \$18 million for parkway con-

struction. If the parkway is established, it will be the first one west of the Mississippi. There are eight east of the Mississippi.

Federal Control

A parkway is, in effect, an elongated park bordering highways connecting points of historic and scenic interest. The parkway is built and maintained by federal funds, and is placed under federal control. Parkways have limited access, and heavy through traffic is banned. Building and development along the highway is rigidly controlled.

Proposed for the parkway in Monterey County are the portions of Highway 1 from Santa Cruz County to Seaside and from Highlands south to San Luis Obispo County line.

The four northern counties, San Francisco, San Mateo, Santa Clara and Santa Cruz, have indicated

that their study will be ready for Congress by the latter part of this month.

County Planning Director Ed DeMars said that Monterey and San Luis Obispo counties study will be ready by that time and will go to congress with it. Monterey County conducted its own study. The four northern counties hired the San Mateo planning firm of Wilsey and Ham to conduct their study.

The county has taken several steps in recent months to control building along the highway, including the increasing of building site requirements. Unclassified land along the highway is now zoned for 2 1/2-acre sites. A proposal to boost the 6,000 square-foot building site requirements for land in a 500-foot strip on either side of the highway to 1-acre sites will come before the board of supervisors Jan. 25.

COUSTEAU SOCIETY

DID YOU KNOW?

Marine Parks. Three California coastal sites were selected by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration for possible designation as marine sanctuaries—Monterey Bay, the Santa Barbara Channel Islands area, Point Reyes-Farallon Islands area. These three areas encompass some of the ecologically most important waters along the California coast.

Sunnyside Up. The high-level interagency report sent to President Carter says that solar energy can provide 20 percent of the nation's energy needs by the end of the century and recommends a major federal effort to reach that goal. Energy from the sun would be used either directly as radiant energy, or indirectly through such forms as burnable wood and vegetation, heated surface water or wind power. Little more than \$2.5 billion in five years would be enough to reach that goal.

Comment: The ocean collects two-thirds of the solar energy reaching our planet. The ocean is also a huge natural concentrator of that energy, through currents, winds, swell, algae and evaporation. Our Society has made a careful review of various forms of solar energy from the oceans, and believes that more emphasis should be given to their development.

Cheaper Solar Cells. Inventor Stanford Ovshinsky, of Troy, Michigan, announced that he has developed inexpensive solar cells made of a new material, an amorphous alloy of silicon, fluorine and hydrogen, converting more than ten percent of the sunlight energy that strikes it directly into electricity. They would generate electrical energy for 20 years at an amortized cost of five cents a kilowatt hour. The revolutionary cell could be commercialized within five years. **Comment:** Solar energy progresses in spite of the worldwide lack of financial help from government. If only half of the money wasted in nuclear energy had been allocated to solar research, we would be nearing energy independence at the turn of the century.

Pollution and Trees. Planting trees in cities has many advantages; one acre of trees can remove 3.7 tons of sulfur dioxide from the air each year and 12.9 tons of dust; it absorbs carbon dioxide from 50 cars. Trees suffer many stresses in huge cities and in New York the average lifespan of a tree is only seven years.

The foregoing excerpts are but a few of the anecdotal treasures found in the January *Calypso Log* published by the Jacques Cousteau Society.

Gazette readers interested in membership or simply in making a donation can write to The Cousteau Society, Box 2002, Grand Central Station, New York, New York 10017.

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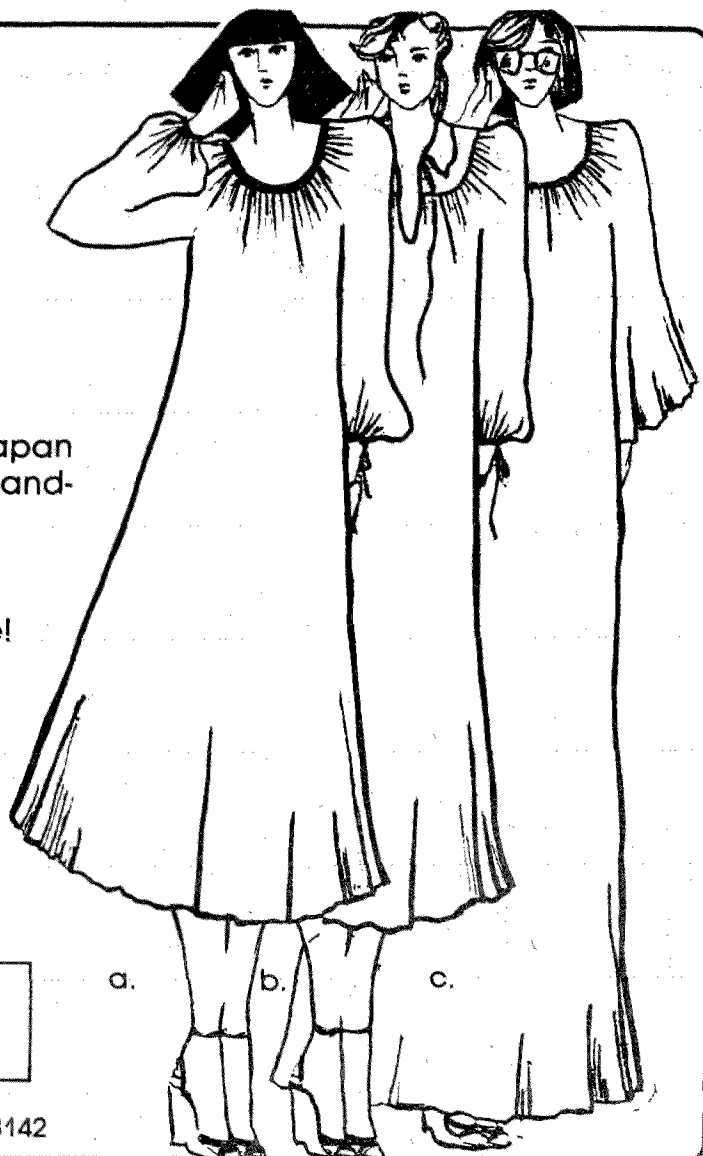
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State Park Seeks New Zoning Controls

Carmel Valley Road to Yankee Point

By PAUL DENISON
Herald Staff Writer

While trying to control visitors with one hand and restore natural processes with the other, state park planners also are looking far ahead and afield for other ways to protect and enhance Point Lobos State Reserve.

Under the Parks and Recreation Department's proposed new 20-year general plan for the heavily used reserve and Carmel River State Beach, private cars would be barred from Point Lobos and efforts would be made to help Mother Nature get her balance back.

But if proposed new visitor controls including a shuttle system don't turn the tide of "human impacts," state park planners say they may have to try a reservation system like that used at Hearst Castle, possibly within a few years.

Adding More Land

Meanwhile, they are looking ahead to adding more land to the reserve and beach complex. And they are asking the state Coastal Commission to throw a protective blanket called a Resource Protection Zone over large properties east of Highway 1 including the Fish, Odello and Hudson-Riley ranches.

Stressing that they are "not commitments for acquisitions," the proposed new general plan lists four "potential additions" to be studied further.

Most important, the plan indicates, is the old polo field east of the highway, directly across from San Jose Creek (Monastery) Beach. The property could provide a 100-car parking lot for beach users and a site for staff quarters and maintenance buildings to be moved out of the reserve. But it would require an expensive pedestrian undercrossing to reach the beach.

Next in importance, according to the plan, is a buffer area around the small grove of rare Gowen cypress trees east of the highway. This area is to be opened to the public on a limited basis under the new plan.

Day Use Activities

Third priority on the addition list goes to a large area immediately east of Point Lobos, including the Gibson Creek watershed. "This relatively pristine area should be preserved from modern development and could be used for various day use activities such as hiking, picnicking, horseback riding, nature study and photography," the plan says. "Any significant development, aside from minimum impact recreational use, would affect the scenic beauty of these hills."

Fourth on the list is "open, hilly grassland" on the Stuyvesant, Fish and Odello family property east of Highway 1. Some of this land is suitable not only for day use but also for limited camping facilities, according to the plan.

Major development proposals already are in the works for the Odello East property and the Hudson-Riley ranch area.

Parks and Recreation has asked the state Coastal Commission to designate as a Resource Protection Zone (RPZ) the entire area between Carmel Valley Road and Yankee Point, from the east side of Highway 1 clear up to the ridgeline. This would encompass large parts of the Odello, Fish and Hudson-Riley holdings.

Control Development

Designation of this area as an RPZ would not prohibit development but would control it. The Point Lobos-Carmel River Beach plan proposes four development guidelines for such an RPZ:

- Screen all new development from view from Carmel River Lagoon, Point Lobos and the Gowen cypress area;

- Prohibit any new development that would have "significant" impact on valuable wildlife species at Point Lobos; "migratory patterns between Point Lobos and inland areas must be preserved," the plan says;

- Bar any new development that would "significantly" increase traffic and noise along Highway 1 because it would "seriously degrade" the experience of park visitors and other Highway 1 travelers; and

- Disallow any new development that would draw a "significant" number of new visitors to the reserve and the beach.

Expected to Double

"With the threat of Point Lobos Ranch development," the plan says, "walk or bike-in visitation will likely more than double."

Don Hook, the Parks and Recreation landscape architect in charge of Point Lobos general planning, said this was "just a guess," since the department did not have exact information on how many reserve visits might be generated by the proposed development.

"Some proposed development would have an adverse effect on Point Lobos," Hook said, "and we wanted to give Monterey County and the Coastal Commission some guidance on our concerns. Heavy development right next to the reserve could create an influx of local visitors that might limit opportunities for people from other areas."

Under current law, Hook said, the state cannot actually acquire title to land in a Resource Protection Zone but can acquire development rights, scenic easements and other interests. The law

may be amended, he said, to let the state buy land within an RPZ.

Members of the Parks and Recreation Department staff met Wednesday night with the Point Lobos Citizen Advisory Committee to discuss the proposed plan. The committee voted almost unanimously to approve the plan.

And John Hudson, a member of the committee, told the state park planners that the plan's goals "are the same as our family's goals for the last three generations."

Hudson said members of the family were "a bit resentful" that the historical part of the report did not give the family more credit for preserving Point Lobos. He said the state parks people agreed to make some corrections in the text at his request.

As for the proposed Resource Protection Zone, Hudson said his family was "concerned, obviously," but had no comment now because "too many factors can change, one way or the other; the ranch development project might change for reasons other than the Resource Protection Zone, anyway."

Hudson said, however, that some other property owners, including some with undivided high ridge property, were "shook up" over the prospect of an RPZ zone to the ridgetop.

High Priority

Acquiring use of the abandoned polo field across from San Jose Creek Beach is a high priority with the state, Hook said, but the department realizes it could take a long time to negotiate it.

The land is owned by the Hudson family.

In 1976, the state acquired 48 acres on the ocean side of the highway, between San Jose Creek Beach and the reserve, from the Hudson family.

The land is now used for grazing, which Hook said would be discontinued, as mandated by the state Public Resources Code, unless the state Parks and Recreation Commission rules otherwise.

The proposed new general plan will come before the commission for possible approval in May.

If grazing is discontinued, Hook said, the land is expected eventually to become what is described as

Natural Cycles

The basic aim of ecosystem management proposed in the new plan is to help Mother Nature evolve the natural "climax communities" of plants that would have occurred had European man not interfered. With Monterey

pine spreading steadily, open meadow area is diminishing and plant diversity is declining, the plan notes.

As part of the effort to stem or reverse this trend, Parks and Recreation is considering using a tool once employed by Indians—fire. Hook said the Point Lobos Advisory Committee is concerned about this.

"No definite program (of prescribed burning) has been developed," the plan says, and the advisory committee would be "fully informed" before any burning program is implemented.

But the plan emphatically states the planners' views on the value of fire:

"In the absence of fire, the meadows will disappear and eventually Monterey pine forest will invade the entire coastal portion of Point Lobos, unsightly deadwood will continue to accumulate and the overgrowth will increasingly mar scenic views. Species diversity will continue to decline under the current non-fire regime. Fuel buildups are very high, and fire danger will increase with the years."

Deer Population

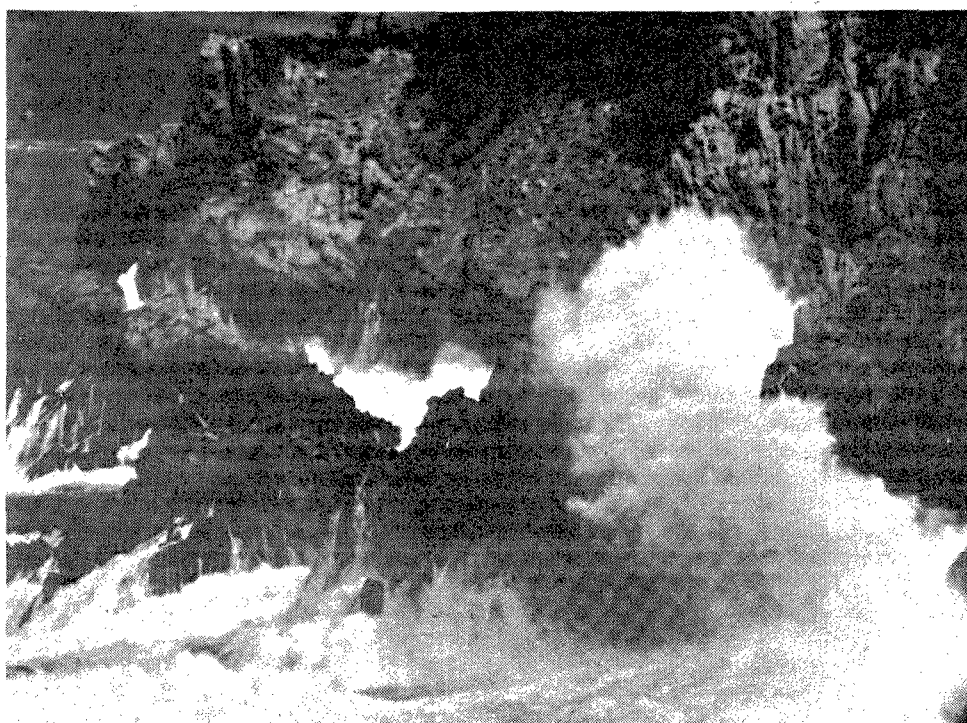
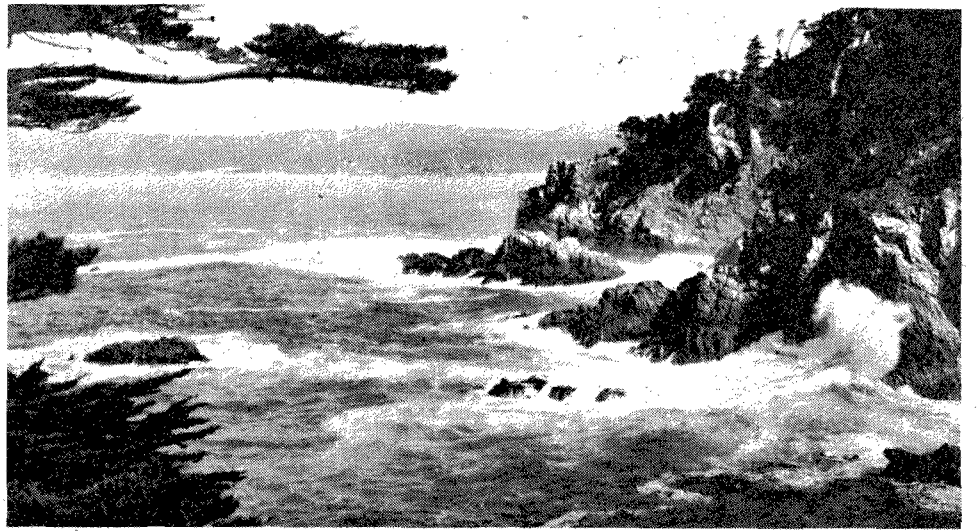
The plan also notes that

out-of-balance deer population can wipe out many plant species.

"The 'ice cream' plants are the first to go, and eventually the composition of the community will be reduced to plants that are non-palatable to deer, like Monterey pine," the plan says.

Hook said the proposal to restrict the South Shore Road to shuttle traffic—and to convert it back to a trail if the shuttle system does not stop the trampling of vegetation and consequent erosion of sandy soils—was probably the most difficult decision to arrive at in Sacramento.

"Some people thought it should be left open to cars, others thought cars should be banned altogether," Hook said. The shuttle system will be tried first; if that doesn't work, South Shore Road would be closed to vehicles and an alternate route would be developed to reach the Bird Island-Gibson Creek beach area from the main entrance. That alternate route, however, would carry visitors inland, away from the South Shore's scenic ocean views, leaving the South Shore's scenic ocean views to walkers and cyclists.



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RESCUES OF THE PAST

By RONNI BLOOM-WEBSTER

Watching a rescue, complete with helicopters, search and rescue teams, CHP's and towing services, I had to stop and wonder how people ever survived accidents in the past without the benefit of these modern-day services.

What if you were driving in Big Sur years ago and had an accident? What would you have done?

So I asked, and after listening to some of the people who participated in rescues of the past, one thing is certain: It takes a special type of person to go over the cliffs to rescue someone they never knew and would probably never hear from again.

"Of course, there were not so many accidents back then," said Ken Meyrose, a Big Sur resident for more than 50 years. "The road wasn't so busy and there weren't so many visitors." Ken, who drove the school bus to Monterey 280 days a year for more than 21 years, has clocked a record 600,000-plus miles on Highway One from Big Sur to Monterey. Ken says he was the driver of the first vehicle to cross Bixby Creek Bridge, Granite Canyon Bridge and Garrapata Bridge.

As school bus driver, Ken was usually the earliest one to drive the highway each day, and was the first to spot many accidents by watching for skidmarks and other signs along the road.

Some accident victims though, weren't discovered for days. Don McQueen remembers one man with a broken back, who had survived 8 days in the surf after going off a cliff near Big Creek. Though the accident didn't kill him, he almost drowned each time the tide came in.

Don, whose father was foreman of the State Highway Department here (now CalTrans) remembers at the age of 17 going over at Hurricane Point and finding not only the accident he was trying to help, but also, three old undiscovered wrecks.

No "911"

Back then, there wasn't any "911" to call for emergency help. In fact, for many years the only phone in Big Sur was located at the State Park. Emergency calls had to go through a lengthy routing by way of King City, then Salinas and finally Monterey. And then it took several hours longer for emergency assistance to arrive from the Peninsula.

So, if accident victims were to survive, it was the responsibility of the local residents to reach the accident victims first and do whatever had to be done for them.

Even without the use of phones, a crew of men, vehicles and rescue equipment could be rounded up in a rather short time. As Ken Meyrose says, "It was a community effort. Everybody responded."

Bill Post's 6 x 6

The first stop was usually Rancho Sierra Mar (now Ventana) for Bill Post and his 6 x 6 army truck with the new power winch. Before the 6 x 6, the men would have to jack up the back end of the dump truck and use its wheel as a winch, or a complicated pulley system had to be devised. Many times, though, it was pure physical strength, hand over hand pulling, that hauled up the injured.

The State Highway Department supplied and maintained the Stokes litter basket which was used to transport victims up the steep and jagged cliffs. Because the basket was just wire, victims inside were not protected from the loose, sharp rocks and often panicked from being able to see down. So, a metal-like box was used to encase the wire litter. Though the "coffin," as it was called, was scary by itself, it did protect the victims from any further injury.

Without guide ropes, the rescuers would descend the cliffs to the wreckage, extricate the victims, place them in the carrier sled and guide them all the way back up the steep cliffs to safety, comforting the injured all the way.

Transporting the injured for medical attention was often



A RESCUE OF THE PAST. It is believed that one of the rescuers pictured is J.W. Post Jr., "The Ol' Master."

Photo from the private collection of Bill and Lucy Post.

the volunteer rescuer's job too, since an ambulance from Monterey took several hours to arrive. Until 1955, when a Chevy station wagon was designated for ambulance use, private cars had to be used.

Accident Remembered

After speaking with many of the "rescuers of the past," nearly everyone remembered one particular accident which happened on Mother's Day almost 40 years ago. A family traveling in two cars was heading south and the second car with the two wives and two young girls watched the first car with the husbands and sons go over the edge between Sea Lions and Torre Canyon.

Walter Trotter and Ken Meyrose scaled the cliffs and began bringing each one of the severely injured passengers to safety.

The rescue took a long time and the anxious relatives in the second car were comforted by Walter's wife Guelda, Fern Trotter, and Mary Post Fleenor.

"Whenever it looked like the men were in for a long, tough rescue we'd be there with plenty of coffee, food and blankets. We'd help any way we could," said Mary Fleenor, Bill Post's sister.

Walter Trotter participated in many unusual rescues and Don McQueen recalls once having a military medic assisting them as they attended a fatal accident several hundred feet down the cliffside. As they were working their way up the rugged rocks, jumping from ledge to ledge, Don suddenly heard Walter yell, "HIT! HIT! I said JUMP!"

Don turned back to find the medic had panicked and was unable to move another inch upward. So, Walter had to rescue the scared medic from the cliffside.

"That poor medic was shaking so badly, he never thought he'd get out alive," Don said.

Daughter Waited for Dad's Return

Tootie Liptac, daughter of Walter Trotter, remembers worrying about her Dad everytime he was called for a rescue, especially if he had an inexperienced rescue partner like the medic. "I'd pray for Dad when he'd be out for a rescue. I'd wait and watch the highway for his headlights until he came home."

Tootie herself almost became a Big Sur traffic fatality before she was even one year old. Mother Guelda Trotter stopped at sister Fern Trotter's Partington Ridge home. In just seconds, Fern noticed the car starting to move down the inclined driveway with little Tootie still inside, and she and Guelda ran screaming through the kitchen, out of the house and 100 feet down into the canyon where the car had come to rest. Baby Tootie had made it through the ordeal in good shape but Guelda still doesn't like to remember that day.

Sometimes the accident victims weren't even human.

Guelda recalls when a Pekingese dog, belonging to Mrs. Margaret Owings, fell off the cliff at Grimes Point. Walter had to climb down to retrieve the pup from a ledge, and unable to climb with his shoes on, he descended the treacherous rocks in just his socks. He soon returned with "victim" in hand, but his socks were in pretty poor condition. As the story goes, he jokingly said to a grateful Mrs. Owings, "That'll cost you." So she sent him a pair of socks.

No Thank Yous

Neither Meyrose, Post nor Trotter could remember hearing from anyone after they'd been saved nor did Mary Fleenor recall receiving any correspondence at Rancho Sierra Mar.

Don McQueen, however, did remember one woman who after deliberately driving off Hurricane Point, managed to climb back up to safety with several severely broken bones. Years after she still thanks Don for rushing her to the hospital even though she had tried to kill herself.

"I always felt so good about that one," said Paul Hettich as he recalled rescuing three fellows on Nacimiento Road. The most seriously injured was a young man with a broken back. "Here was somebody who really deserved to make it. I never kept in touch with him, but I did read in the paper that he'd become a lawyer," remembered Paul proudly.

When the threat of lawsuits by ungrateful survivors became a concern, the local volunteer rescuers had to stop going out on calls.

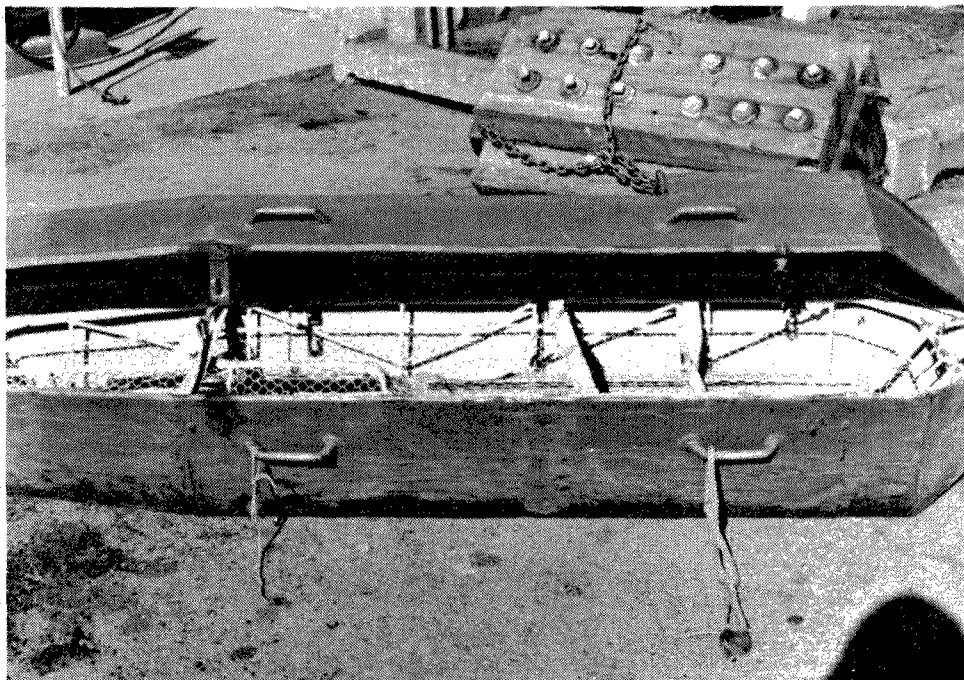
About the same time, an American Red Cross Ambulance Service for Big Sur was being organized. After being unable to help at a fatal accident on Post Hill, both Marge Johnson and Amelia Newell felt the need for an ambulance and in 1958 their dreams were realized.

Marge and Phil Johnson were asked by the Red Cross to teach first aid classes to Big Sur residents and some who attended those very first classes were Jimmy Sommerville, Ted Bergquist, Paul Hettich, Ralph Dengate, Walter Trotter and Don McQueen.

Marge agrees that there weren't as many accidents then but, "now we have people with no experience or preparation going into the back country, just driving their cars as far back as they can go."

Says Walter Trotter, "I remember when Boy Scouts used to earn badges and merit awards for knowing first aid and survival, but now they go back there and we have to get the sheriff to rescue them...at the taxpayers' expense!"

Yes, it did take someone extra special to risk his life rescuing people from the rugged coast of Big Sur. Yet, if you were ever the one in need of saving, you're probably still thanking a man from Big Sur who never even told you his name.



"THE COFFIN" was used to encase the Stokes litter basket to protect injured accident victims being raised up the cliffs.

A special thanks to Don Krausfeldt and members of CalTrans for bringing it out of storage. Photo by Greg O. Webster.



BILL AND LUCY POST are seated in the famous 6 x 6 army truck that was used to rescue many accident victims. The 6 x 6 was purchased by Mr. Post after the war for \$1,200. Both Ken Meyrose and Mr. Post

remembered the day they went to Sacramento to purchase the truck at McLelland AFB. The 6 x 6 was equipped with a new power winch on the front. Photo by Ronni Bloom-Webster.

Girl Scouts Meet at Pacific Valley School

Troop Number 2050 of the Monterey Bay Girl Scout Council now meets at Pacific Valley School, its southernmost meeting place. Girl Scout troop leader Susie Stevens (pictured), also works for the U.S. Forest Service out of the Pacific Valley Ranger Station. She finds time from her regular work day to meet with the students on Friday afternoons. Transportation being a problem, girls meet during the regular day school schedule.

The troop will be going on various field trips, possibly roller-skating and a trip to Great America, in the future. During their meetings, they sing songs, play games and discuss future troop activities. Order sheets for Girl Scout cookies are available from any Girl Scout (the cookies contain no preservatives).

Anyone interested in joining the troop, please call the school, (805) 927-4507.



(Left to right) Back row: Naomi Mayer, Michelle Provost, Julie McAlpine, Aiyana Mayer, Susie Stevens, Georgina Lagerquist, B.J. Neighbours, Elizabeth Lunney. Front row: Golden Rose, Nicol Provost, Jenny Lunney, Charissa Sullivan.

BIG SUR CINEMA OPENS MARCH 1st

Starting on Thursday, March 1, at 7:30 p.m., the residents of Big Sur will be able to see the first of many weekly movies right here in our own backyard. Stuart Selig and David Jones, Big Sur residents and avowed film enthusiasts, tired of the long drive to Monterey and the lack of entertainment for the community, have organized a series of films pleasing for all ages and tastes. The first of these is Alexander Korda's *The Thief of Baghdad*, a version of the Arabian Nights tale that is probably the most overwhelming fantasy film ever made.

Stuart and David's aim is to provide the community with the opportunity to view the important contributions to this century's lively art form, and bring selections not available in profit-oriented, first-run cinemas. Their program for the month of March (see below) brings to us not only the works of American filmmakers who have dominated the screen, but those of foreign artists. Each film will be shown with a short that will make for an excellent evening's entertainment, and provide a much-needed outlet for those who feel starved for culture in our "island paradise."

Your support is needed if this non-profit venture is to continue on a regular basis. Any ideas or suggestions regarding upcoming programs or organization of the series are most welcome; any financial donations would be gratefully accepted and much-appreciated.

The Big Sur Cinema will be a place to come and meet with friends, have a good time, and hopefully share the joy, excitement and wonder that these movies will provide. So don't sit back and say there's nothing to do—come to the Grange on Thursday nights, starting March 1. See you there!

March 1—*The Thief of Baghdad* (1940) U.K.

Often imitated but never equalled masterpiece of the fantasy cinema. Awesome special effects and a delight to the imagination that touches the wellspring of myth and fable.

Director: Ludwig Berger

COLOR

March 8—*Jeremiah Johnson* (1972) USA

A gripping tale of the wilderness. Ex-soldier (Robert Redford) abandons civilization in the 1830's and learns to survive in the Rockies. Beautifully captures the hazards and rewards of a trapper's existence.

Director: Sydney Pollack

COLOR

March 15—*The Green Wall* (Peru)

A young family decides to escape the pressures of life in Lima and back out an existence in the lush overgrown Peruvian jungle. A fascinating blend of romantic adventure and domestic melodrama in settings of overwhelming beauty and exotic appeal.

Director: Armando Robles Godoy

COLOR

March 22—*Notorious* (1946) USA

A favorite Hitchcock film with exceptionally sensitive performances by Ingrid Bergman and Cary Grant in a spy-thriller full of breathtaking sequences.

Director: Alfred Hitchcock

B & W

March 29—*The Ruling Class* (1972) U.K.

A devastating and blood-curdling satire on the British upper classes. Stars Peter O'Toole as the 14th Earl of Gurney who arrives fresh from an insane asylum to claim his inheritance.

Director: Peter Medak

COLOR

SNOW FUN

By RAFFY FISHER

It all started out with Byron's idea of going to the snow. Everybody agreed to that. But we had one problem: our whole class could not all fit in Mr. D's Scout. So Mr. D. called Don McQueen and asked him if he could drive some of us to the snow. Surprise! HE said yes.

When he got here we all piled up in the cars and were off to the snow. It was a long drive there, but we made it. Everybody got out and started throwing snowballs. Shelley and I started to get a little tired of it, so we went along a snow-white road. I had a suggestion that we do cartwheels, so we did. And then Shelley made an angel in the snow. Right as we were going away, Steve, Jonny, Michael, and Sean started throwing snowballs at us.

We started running back to where all the other kids were, just in time for hot tea. We threw snowballs at the passing cars, and then we all made up our minds to go back. We threw our last snowballs at Mr. D's Scout, and got a cup of snow to go.



FIRST AID CLASSES, sponsored by the American Red Cross, are being given to all grades at Captain Cooper School by instructors Penny Vieregge (left) and Bev Newell. "It seems essential that our children have basic first aid training techniques," said

Penny. Each age group is being taught different stages of first aid. "Kindergartners learn, for broken bones—do not move. By sixth grade, they're learning how to splint," explained Penny. Photo by Paula Walling.

Snow in Big Sur

By LIEL FULTON

One cold January day I arrived at school. Soon after I had gotten to my desk, Mr. Douglas, my teacher, mentioned going to the snow. Everyone replied to this with a "can we go?" Mr. Douglas replied, "I don't know." Then he called Don McQueen. The results were that Don was to take one bag of popcorn and seven kids. Mr. Douglas was to do the same.

So here we were. It was after lunch. We had waited all day for this field trip. So most kids helped put things into Mr. Douglas' Scout and Don McQueen's Bronco. When that was all done we all got in the cars that we had planned to go in. We rode for about 30 minutes eating popcorn and candy.

When we arrived, we all jumped out and Mr. Douglas sat me down to watch the kids play in the snow. I touched the snow a few times. Then Lori came over and asked if I wanted to walk around a little.

After that Lori and I got back into the Scout and ate popcorn and drank tea. Soon Vanessa got into the Scout and I said, "Do you want my mittens?" She said, "Yes." After that everybody came over and threw snowballs at the Scout.

Then we went back to school and saw a film. That was what I did when the snow was in Big Sur.

**Lars Naevdal
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Big Sur Gazette

P.O. Box 125, Big Sur California 93920

DANCE OF THREE MOONS

By ELENA VILLA

Lillias crept softly through the crystal forest. Some of the woodland creatures followed her. The snow was drifting gently to the earth. A snowflake rested on her nose. She was on her way to her redwood hollow where she lived. She stepped into it and lit a fire. It was very cold. Some of the woodland creatures followed her in and warmed themselves by the fire. She roasted some chestnuts she had stored away. She shared some with a big black bear. Then she put on her shimmering robes for The Dance of the Three Moons. She and her animal friends went to the clearing where the soft, shimmering moonlight shone through the trees—and danced.

(Editor's note: Elena Villa is a fifth grader at Captain Cooper School.)

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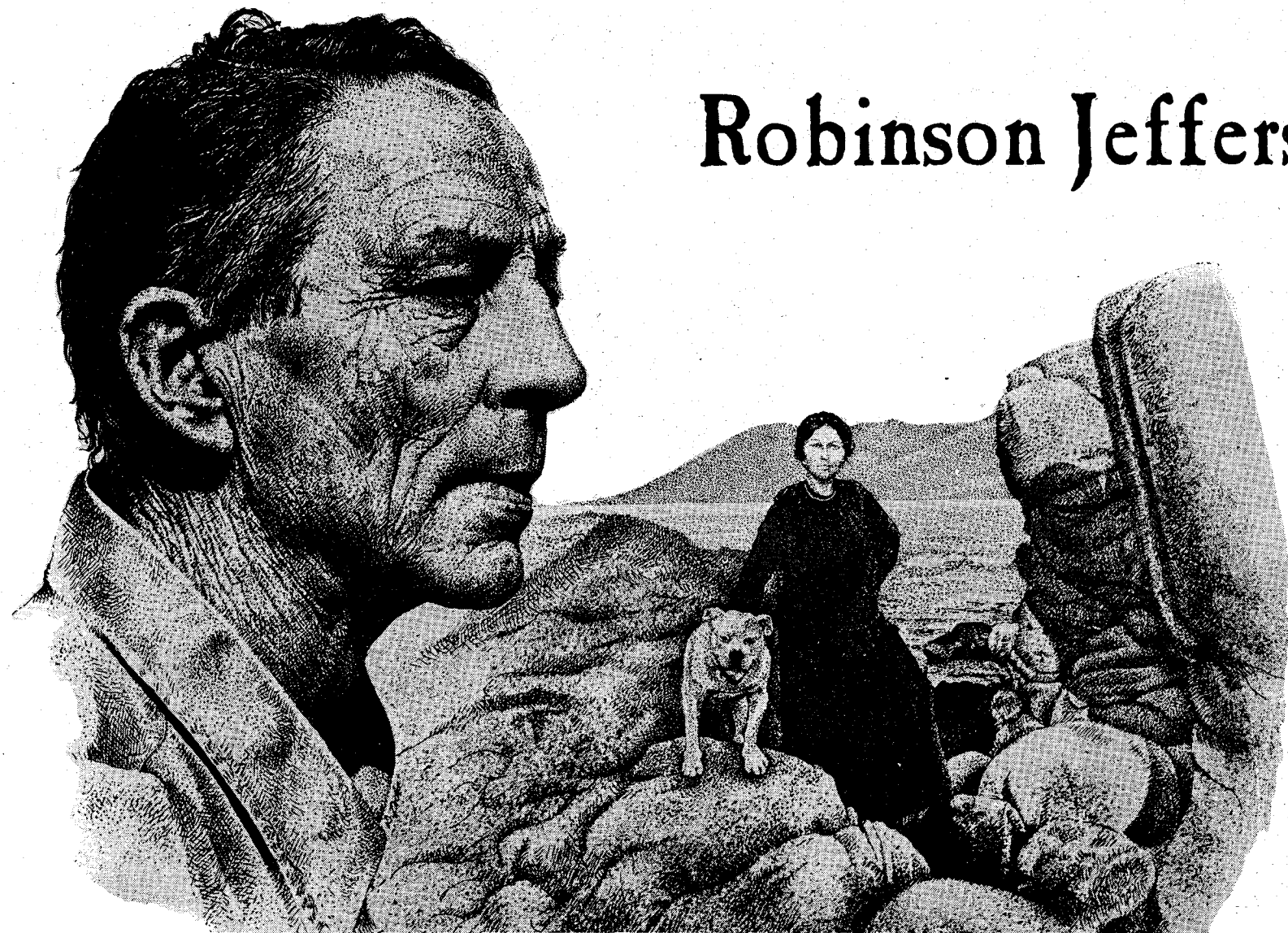
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Drawing by D. Dobe

Robinson Jeffers Remembered

By ELAYNE WAREING FITZPATRICK-GRIMM

Not since the last century B.C., when Lucretius looked at man's place in the nature of things, has there been a poet with the ecological passion of Robinson Jeffers.

And it was our primitive Big Sur coast — this rugged meeting of land and sea at the continent's end — that roused Jeffers' feelings to such a height that he believed this unhuman outer world would outlast even the "exultations and agonies of beasts and men" who are "sense-organs of God."

"Dear God," cried Jeffers, "who are the whole splendor of things and the sacred stars, but also the cruelty and greed, the treacheries and vileness, insanities and filth and anguish ... if you were only waves beating rock, the wind and the iron-cored earth, the flaming insolent wildness of sun and stars, with what a heart I could praise your beauty. You will not repent, nor cancel life, nor free man from anguish for many ages to come. You are the one that tortures himself to discover himself; I am the one that watches you and discovers you, and praises you in little parables, idyl or tragedy, beautiful intolerable God."

Jeffers urges us to fall in love outward with Nature, with the wild, paradoxical God of the world in order to be free to become whole, balanced, fully human, acknowledging our roots in Nature, though civilized, lest, alienated, we destroy ourselves through abuse of science and technology and population excesses.

This coast inspired devotion to the discovery of God in the atomic nature of things just as the jagged Mediterranean coast and the naturalistic philosophy taught in the Athenian garden of Epicurus aroused the Roman Lucretius.

When Dr. Alban D. Winspear wrote, "For majesty of

theme and subject matter, for sustained eloquence of exposition, for acuteness of philosophical insight and argumentation, for poetical imagery and musical cadence, and for the sheer enthusiasm of scientific passion, the Greeks produced nothing to rival Lucretius," he could also have been speaking of Jeffers.

Jeffers was no stranger to the words of Lucretius, the ways of Epicurus, or the logic of science. He was schooled in the classics at a very early age. Science came later. Like Epicurus, he built a house with a sheltered garden. Happiness, for both, was a walled, sheltered thing, best attained by shutting one's self away from what is harsh and upsetting in life, enjoying the company of good friends and writing of the sublimity of Nature.

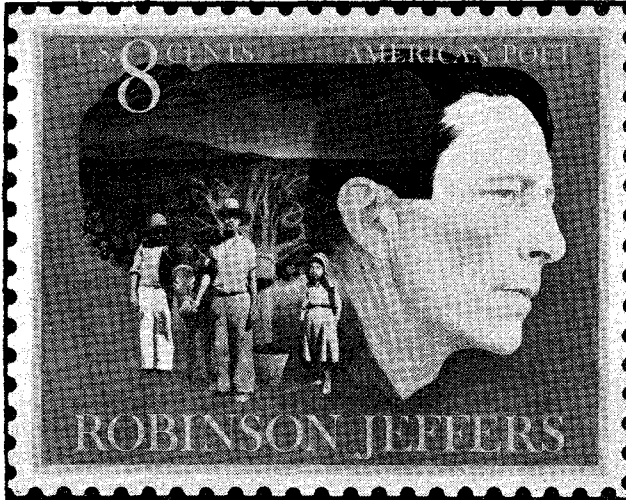
But, unlike Epicurus, Jeffers had disturbing daemons to be delivered through his verses. And he saw himself as another Cassandra, destined to warn of things to come without being heeded in his time.

In his long narratives, Jeffers invented victims to suffer against the backdrop of "this coast crying out for tragedy like all beautiful places," lest his own flesh "be chosen the agonist" or he "martyr some creature to the beauty of the place." In the poem "Apology for Bad Dreams" he explained his excesses:

*"Burn sacrifices once a year to magic
Horror away from the house, this little
house here
You have built over the ocean with your
own hands
Beside the standing boulders: for what are
we,
The beast that walks upright, with
speaking lips
And little hair, to think we should always*

*be fed,
Sheltered, intact, and self-controlled? We
sooner more hable
Than the other animals. Pain and terror,
the insanities of desire; not accidents but
essential,
And crowd up from the core": I imagined
victims for those wolves, I made them
phantoms to follow,
They have hunted the phantoms and missed
the house.*

His friend and printer of this poem, Ward Ritchie, said this of early attitudes toward Jeffers' work: "The name of Robinson Jeffers was merely a fantasy when I was an



undergraduate at Occidental College though he also had been a student there, having graduated in the class of 1905. His earlier books, *Flags and Apples* and *Californians* were accessible in the library, but with the publication of *Tamar* in 1925 and subsequently *Roan Stallion*, his themes were considered too risqué for our innocent minds. These books were locked beyond the reach of undergraduates and only available to the more mature graduate students. However, by mere chance, I acquired a

SIGNPOST

Civilized, crying how to be human again: this will tell you how.
Turn outward, love things, not men, turn right away from humanity.
Let that doll lie. Consider if you like how the lilies grow, Lean on the silent rock until you feel its divinity
Make your veins cold, look at the silent stars, let your eyes Climb the great ladder out of the pit of yourself and man. Things are so beautiful, your love will follow your eyes; Things are the God, you will love God, and not in vain, For what we love, we grow to it, we share its nature. At length
You will look back along the stars' rays and see that even The poor doll humanity has a place under heaven.
Its qualities repair their mosaic around you, the chips of strength
And sickness; but now you are free, even to become human,
But born of the rock and the air, not of a woman.

TOR HOUSE

If you should look for this place after a handful of lifetimes:
Perhaps of my planted forest a few
May stand yet, dark-leaved Austroriparian on the coast
cypress, haggard
With storm-drift; but fire and axe are devils.
Look for foundations of sea-worn granite, my fingers had the art
To make stone love stone, you will find some remnant.
But if you should look in your idleness after ten thousand years
It is the granite knoll on the granite
And lava tongue in the midst of the bay, by the mouth of the Carmel
River-valley, these four will remain
In the change of names. You will know it by the wild sea-fragrance of wind
Though the ocean may have climbed or retired a little;
You will know it by the valley inland that our sun and our moon were born from
Before the poles changed; and Orion in December
Evenings was strung in the throat of the valley like a lamp-light bridge.
Come in the morning you will see white gulls
Weaving a dance over blue water, the wane of the moon
Their dance-companion, a ghost walking
By daylight, but wider and whiter than any bird in the world.
My ghost you needn't look for; it is probably
Here, but a dark one, deep in the granite, not dancing on wind
With the mad wings and the day moon.
From *Cawdor* by Robinson Jeffers



Photo by Marley Bear

copy of *Roan Stallion, Tamar and Other Poems*, which profoundly affected my life as it also did my classmates, Gordon Newell, later to become a well-known sculptor, and Lawrence Clark Powell, librarian and author."

Now, 17 years after Jeffers' death, we understand the once-strange metaphors that characterized his con-

THE ANSWER

Then what is the answer?—Not to be deluded by dreams. To know that great civilizations have broken down into violence, and their tyrants come, many times before. When open violence appears, to avoid it with honor or choose the least ugly faction; these evils are essential. To keep one's own integrity, be merciful and uncorrupted and not wish for evil; and not be duped
By dreams of universal justice or happiness. These dreams will not be fulfilled.
To know this, and know that however ugly the parts appear the whole remains beautiful. A severed hand Is an ugly thing, and man dismembered from the earth and stars and his history ... for contemplation or in fact ... Often appears atrociously ugly. Integrity is wholeness, the greatest beauty is
Organic wholeness, the wholeness of life and things, the divine beauty of the universe. Love that, not man Apart from that, or else you will share man's pitiful confusions, or drown in despair when his days darken.

troversial poems all too well, including his scathing indictments of politicians and war. His poetry of incest, ritual, symbolism, and violence is being read with new interest. And the house and tower he built with rough granite boulders, hand-carried from the sea on Carmel Point, is being preserved as a literary landmark by the

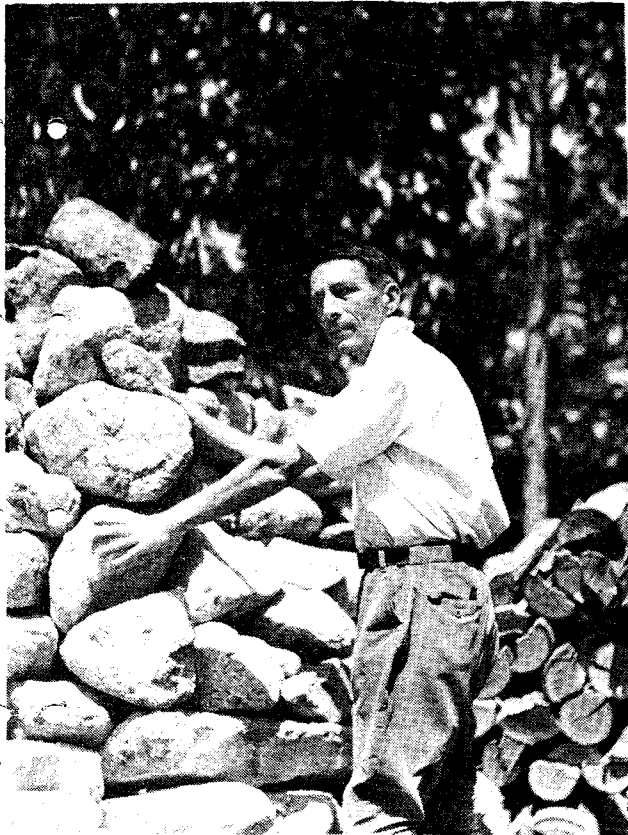


Photo by Herl Termin

newly-formed Tor House Foundation, with assistance from the National Trust for Historic Preservation.

One disciple of Jeffers, desert-loving writer - ranger -



Photo by Julian P. Graham

conservationist Edward Abbey, wrote that our "idle speculations, feeble and hopeless protests" against too much so-called progress were all "foreseen nearly a half century ago by the most cold-eyed and clear-eyed of our national poets, on California's shore, at the end of the open road. Shine, perishing republic." Jeffers, of course.

If Jeffers was misunderstood by many, his melioristic, sometimes pessimistic, views have been vindicated. If time is running out for the human race, Jeffers is the poet of

THE CONDOR

My head is bald with cleaving heaven,
And rough my feathers with the grip
Of clashing winds and clouds wind-driven.
But what of that? My wings can dare
All loneliest hanging heights of air;
Above the jagged mountain-top
Their solemn slant and downward dip
Greet the red sun each morn and even
The storm knows well their broad expanse.
For they can breast its pulsing power
When even with the steadfast planets dance
Dizzily thro the riotous rack
Of Ruined, tattered clouds that scour
O'er heaven. On the tempest's back
I clasp my wings, and like a horse
I rein it, mastering its force.
Then, tiring of the sport, I stretch
Upward above its region, far
As if I strove to climb and fetch
The utmost little silver star
Then I lean low with a flat wing
Upon the lucid air, and swing
Amid the regions of pure peace
I reckon not of the earth below,
But swing, and soar, and never cease,
In circles large and full and slow,
With such a movement, such a grace,
That I forget my ugliness.

that possibility. He was, as anthropologist Loren Eiseley put it, "deeply sensitive to those aspects of nature which contribute to the creation and maintenance of human dignity, and which are sadly threatened in our time."

The future of this rugged coast and other wilderness areas, as well as our own equilibrium, could depend, in part, on our heeding this man's ennobling and disturbing words. And if the fund-raising efforts of Tor House Foundation continue to bear fruit, Jeffers' sanctuary will remain a monument to our need for modifying our anthropocentric attitudes and understanding our kinship with the rest of Nature.

To spark further interest, Jeffers scholar Dr. Robert Brophy of California State University at Long Beach, is organizing a month-long tribute to Jeffers in April, at the College, featuring exhibits, artistic competition, slides, films, and plays. The festival will culminate April 27 and 28 with a concert by the Beach Boys; premieres of two Jeffers plays; appreciations by local scholars; and readings of Jeffers poetry by actor Gregory Peck, actress Judith Anderson, and poet William Everson.



Photo by Marley Bear

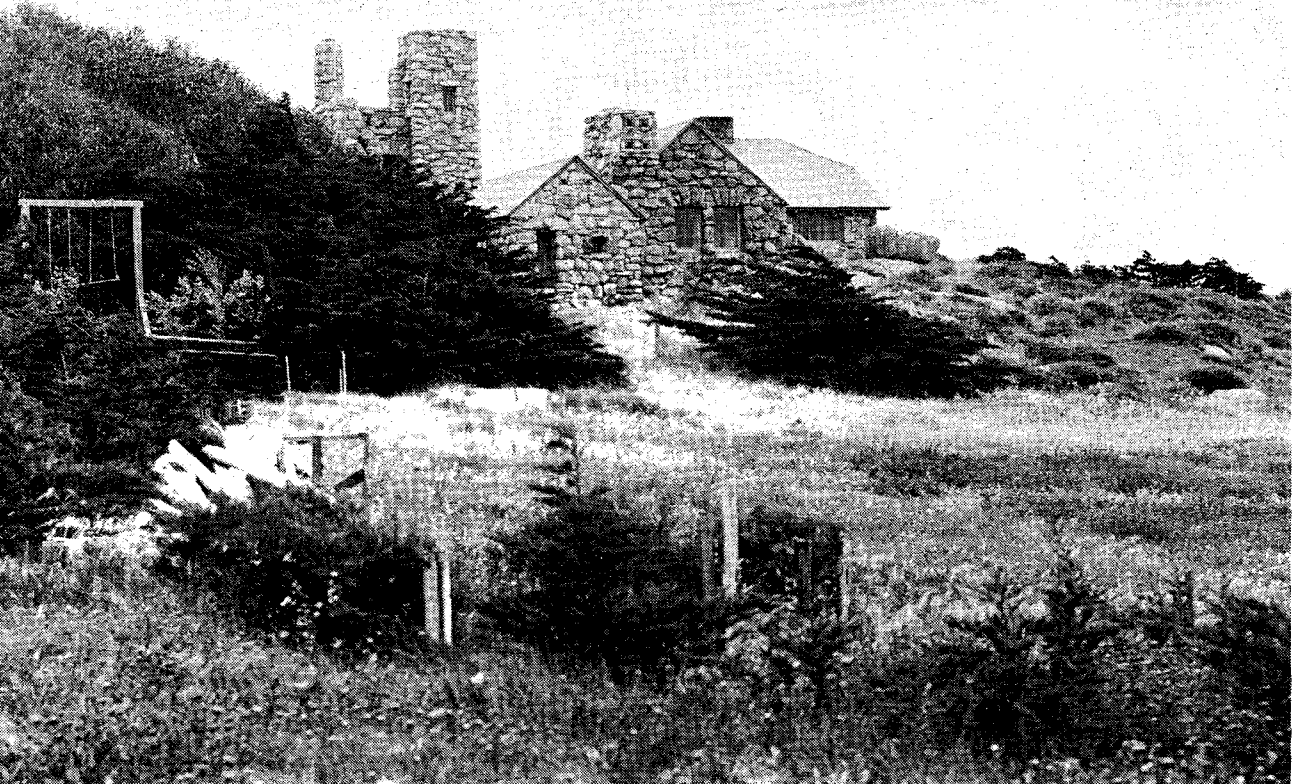
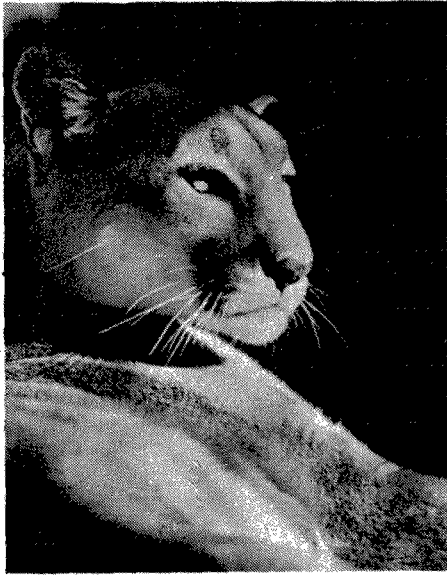


Photo by Julian P. Graham

You Saw A Mountain Lion?!!!

By ARABY COLTON



"THE CAT OF GOD," the Indians called the mountain lion. Photo from Arizona Sonora Desert Museum, loaned by Robert Gray.

Yes, it's possible. We live in one of the few areas in the United States, in fact in the whole Western Hemisphere, where one may, if very lucky, actually see a mountain lion. Once common from British Columbia to the tip of South America, *felis concolor* is now so rare as to be seldom seen by even experienced woodsmen. Yet this, the shyest, the most secretive of the big cats, has been seen on several occasions by Big Sur residents. It must be a peak experience, seeing a mountain lion in the wild. Our own U.S. Forest Service man, Jeff Norman, says, "I was excited as heck!" And Dorothy Williams, on the Post Ranch, says she was so thrilled she could hardly talk. Despite their infrequent threats to pets and domestic livestock, the mountain lion, one of the most beautiful of all the big cats, should perhaps be reckoned among our most precious assets in this, one of the most beautiful spots in the world.

But just how much of a threat is the mountain lion? Professor Maurice Hornocker, leader of the Idaho Cooperative Wildlife Research Unit, University of Idaho, says, "... as a species the lion poses little threat to the livestock industry." Dr. Carl B. Koford, Research Biologist of the University of California at Berkeley, says in his report on his three-year study of California's mountain lions: "100,000 cattle and 75,000 sheep graze on National Forests of California, yet apparent losses to pumas (mountain lions) occur only about a dozen times a year (DFG, '76). About half of the incidents involved sheep, but a recent study shows that of all sheep annually lost to predators in California, only about 1.2 percent are taken by pumas, as compared to over 14% by dogs." (Our emphasis.)

Richard Weaver, Associate Wildlife Manager Biologist for the California Department of Fish and Game (DFG) told us that dogs do "100-fold more damage to sheep than do lions." John Wilson, Commissioner of Agriculture for Placer County, which runs at least 8,000 sheep every summer in the Sierra Nevadas, prime lion country, told us Placer County has no more than one claim of lion damage to sheep a year. When we asked Mr. Weaver why Monterey and San Luis Obispo counties had 17 percent of the state's claims of lion damage last year he said it was because this area had what he called gentleman farmers "running their sheep adjacent to lion habitat, no, not adjacent, right in lion country." His implication was that these sheep owners must expect some lion depredation.

Can the lion's threat be minimized? Obviously, pet dogs and cats should be looked after. Because he is terrified of dogs and humans he is unlikely to try to take domestic stock if it is properly penned, or guarded by dogs and herders. He is not a threat to people. In fact, it is the rare person who has even seen one.

And what does he look like, this American lion? An adult lion can be eight feet long, weighing up to 220 pounds; his front paw is seven inches wide. Nothing so vulgar as stripes, or spots, or manes for him. His coat is short and very thick, a subtle shading of cream to tawny that shows off his magnificent conformation,

with darker markings on his face that accentuate his look of quizzical intelligence, outlining the characteristic "butterfly" on his upper lips and chin. The tip of his nose is a delicate pink. Altogether, *felis concolor* is a very elegant cat.

Typically the most silent of creatures, he communicates with his fellows with a variety of birdlike whistles, and short, intense sounds. He differs from his African cousins, which roar, but do not purr; our lion purrs but does not roar, although his vocalizations during courtship and copulation sound, according to Edward Abbey, Arizona naturalist-writer, as if made by a woman about to have her throat sliced by a razor! He also differs from the African cats in that the pupils of his eyes are vertical—theirs are round.

These eyes have been called the most beautiful in the animal world—large, almond-shaped, their color a translucent, greenish-gold; what Ferris Weddle, naturalist-writer, calls "gooseberry green." "His eyes," says Robert Gray, "are the most alive appearing part of this most beautiful animal. They can be alert and intense, steady and businesslike, humorously curious, gentle and soft."

Unlike the canids the lion, apparently, does not have a social life. Sexual relationships seem to be "Slam, bam, thank ya ma'am." The mother must bear the cubs alone, feed them, train them, protect them, with no help from father. For the pregnant or lactating female life is an unending search for food. During this period she takes many so-called nuisance animals, rodents, rabbits, porcupines. And it is during this period that she is most likely to try to raid the unprotected sheep pen.

The lion's natural food is deer. He must silently stalk, wait, and at the right moment, make his rush, springing onto the prey animal, usually breaking its neck with one bite. Deer being wary, fleet, and capable of defending themselves viciously, the lion must carefully select the old, the sick, the weak, the very young. He thus culls the inferior individuals of his prey species, helping to ensure that the best survive to breed. He also, by spreading out the herd members, helps to prevent overbrowsing. Like all wild creatures, the lion has his niche, his function, for the health of the whole ecosystem.

The lion is a neat and economical housekeeper. He drags his kill into the bush, covers it with leaves, or dirt, or snow, to protect it from insects, and comes back to feed, eventually finishing it completely.

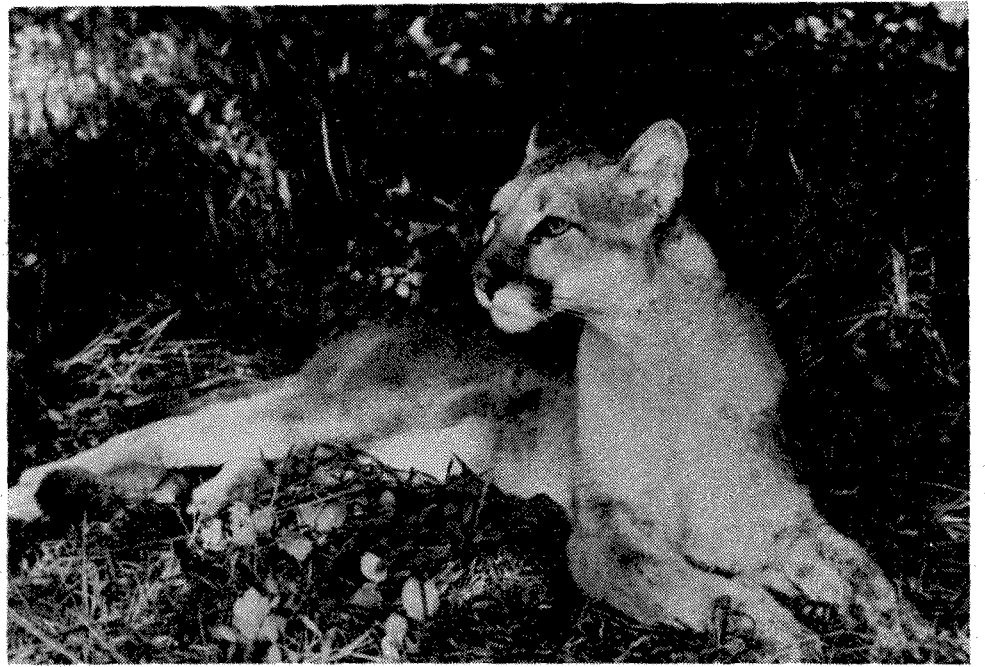
Is the lion an endangered species? Yes, in his entire eastern habitat, says the Department of the Interior, but not in the west and southwest. However, Professor Hornocker says, "Today lions in the United States are confined largely to rugged mountainous areas in our western and southwestern states. The New York Zoological Society, in 1969, estimated the total population in the west at between 4,000 and 6,500—and there is evidence that the number may be dwindling even further."

Dr. Koford found the average summer density of lions in California to be no more than three per 100 square miles. He suggests that the total population of lions in California is probably less than 1,000.

The California Department of Fish and Game, in its three-year study, concentrating in the Santa Lucia Range, found, in an area of 200 square miles, during the three months of highest population, an average of six grown cats, duplicating Dr. Koford's finding.

Edward Abbey thinks the lion is in mortal danger, as does Harold Perry, Arizona field representative for Defenders of Wildlife, national conservation organization.

What has caused this massive decline in mountain lion numbers? Like other predators the lion has suffered unrelenting persecution by man, his only enemy. Because he was considered a threat to domestic livestock, to deer, and even to man himself, he has been shot, poisoned, trapped, to the point where he now exists in only a tiny fragment of his former range. Maurice Hornocker says, "Indiscriminate hunting aggravated by a bounty system has taken a fearful toll." In five counties in California which saw peak killing of lions



QUEEN OF THE FOREST -- a female mountain lion. The mountain lion is also known as the puma, cougar, panther, catamount, painter, Mexican tiger, and

deer tiger. The Indian names translate to "Greatest of Wild Hunters," "Lord of the Forest," "Father of Game," and the "Cat of God." Photo by Robert Gray.

from 1907 to 1956, the lion population declined afterwards on an average of 70 percent.

Lions, like other predators, are not prolific breeders. The female may produce a litter of about four, only every two or three years; half of these may not survive infancy. She is the sole support of the young until they mature. If she is killed or injured the young will not survive. Dr. Koford estimates there are no more than 300 females of breeding age in California. "Reports of kittens are rare," he says, "and ... especially in the far southern counties, replacement of breeding females may be inadequate to sustain moderate numbers."

In addition to hunting, the lion has suffered the destruction of his habitat. Says Dr. Koford, "Reduction (in populations) since '50 were largely caused by loss of habitat through increases of mountain roads and reservoirs with concomitant human use, and this loss continues."

The law presently protecting the lion permits pursuit, with dogs, without capturing or killing. Dr. Koford feels this is a danger to lions; that, because lions have an inherent fear of barking dogs, pursuit by dogs might drive them out of their normal ranges; that dogs may chase lactating or pregnant females, or catch kittens on the ground. Some kittens were killed by dogs in Idaho. This likelihood is increased when hounds are allowed to range far from the hunter (as in the DFG study).

So what are the lion's chances? Can he survive? He is now protected from hunting—the moratorium runs to 1983. What then? Will he be reclassified as a game animal, and once again become the victim of the hunter?

DFG strongly recommends against continuing to classify the mountain lion as a protected animal. The Department feels that the present population is thriving and viable, that the habitat is near its carrying capacity, that lions should be made available for "recreational" consumption.

Dr. Koford, on the other hand, feels that it will take many years to have reliable data for a sound, detailed permanent management plan for the lion, that the most practical course at present is protection, systematic research, and ecological education. He says, "If not molested by humans, within a few puma generations the cats should become more observable for scientific study and public enjoyment of California's most spectacular carnivore."

We, in Big Sur and the whole Monterey area, who are concerned for the preservation of our lions, who feel privileged to have them gracing us with their presence, can take pride in seeing that they are not molested, that they may continue to, in Dr. Koford's words, "add excitement and wholeness to the natural scene."

Araby Colton and her husband, Vic, are known in our area as long-time wildlife conservationists, with their first love the wolf. They founded and ran CANADIAN AND AMERICAN WOLF DEFENDERS. Araby wrote and published "The Howl," a monthly newsletter about wolves. Araby's pieces on various wild species have been published nationally, and in the local SPCA newsletter. They now operate ARAVIC'S Ecology Corner, selling a variety of wildlife oriented items. As Araby says, "We're just trying to share the beauty of all wild creatures."



THIS MOUNTAIN LION, "*felis concolor*," is probably immature as its kitten spots are still faintly discernible on its forelegs. Photo by Ronald W. Hyde, loaned by Margaret Owings.



For the
Aware

by Araby Colton

IT'S SEAL-KILLING TIME AGAIN!

You might write the Canadian Minister of Tourism, explaining that you will not be spending any tourist dollars in Canada until the disgusting seal slaughter is stopped. His address is Government House, Ottawa, Canada.

1080 AGAIN!

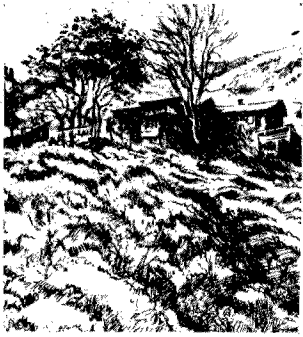
The Department of the Interior is contemplating lifting the ban on 1080 poison on our public lands; the Environmental Protection Agency will make the decision. You can write Secy. of the Interior, Cecil Andrus, Dept. of the Interior, Washington, D.C., urging a negative recommendation to EPA.

ANIMAL EXPERIMENTATION
Hans Reusch's "Slaughter of the Innocent" gives a complete picture of this scene. Must reading for humanitarians.

DOGS IN OPEN TRUCKS

If you are one of those who worry about dogs loose in open trucks -- and who isn't? -- you can write Walt Ingalls, Chairman of the Assembly Transportation Committee, urging a favorable vote on Assembly Bill No. 214, which will stop this practice.

Second Meeting of Big Sur Historical Society



By MARY HARRINGTON

A group of about 40 people gathered Sunday evening, Jan. 28, for the second meeting of the Big Sur Historical Society. The theme of the meeting was "Review of Reviews." Paul Hettich showed movies and slides of the early reviews testifying to what elaborate and colorful productions they were. The reviews and their preparations were social highlights in their day. The Grange Hall was a center of activity for weeks prior to each review—rehearsals, backdrop painting, and the clatter of four or five sewing machines going at once. In the early days the Grange was all one room; kitchen and backstage areas were added later.

Hans Ewoldsen, first master of the Grange, gave a short history of its founding. After a preliminary meeting at Post's Cafe on Sept. 10, 1948, the community quickly got organized, and 36 charter members installed officers on Nov. 14 at the recreation hall at the old CC camp. After that, meetings were held at the school house.

Ground breaking for a

Grange Hall took place Oct. 9, 1949, on land donated by Doris Fee with the stipulation that the Hall always be available for school and community affairs.

Through a series of fund-raising activities, the members raised \$3,000 and borrowed \$3,000 to cover the \$6,000 cost of the hall. All of the labor was free with members donating a whole summer's worth of free time. On any given day there was always someone at work on the construction.

Following the history of the Grange, Esther Ewoldsen talked about the repairs on the John Pfeiffer building in the state park. A dozen park personnel donated their own time for splitting out pickets and rails to repair the fences.

Livermore Ledge in the John Little State Reserve was discussed as a possible historical society project. It is an early Sam Trotter house that has survived fairly intact, although work will be needed (such as a new roof) if it is to be maintained in good condition. The state lacks funds for such work. The Livermore family have met with the Big Sur Land Trust about the possibility of the house becoming a living museum.

Roger Newell reported that the state is very interested in local preservation but needs to work through contracts. State officers have suggested a "cooperating association" which would work for restoration and preservation of any homesteads or historical buildings on state lands.

The next meeting of the

Historical Society will be at the Post homestead but is open only to members. Anyone interested in becoming a member can sign up at that time. Membership is available as an individual (\$10 annually), a family living at one address (\$15), or contributor (\$25), donor (\$50), or supporting member (\$100).

There are also two special membership categories. Honorary memberships are open to those who have lived in Big Sur 50 years and their spouses. Work volunteers will be able to join for 10 hours of donated labor a year.

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DALI ART PRINTS DONATED TO TORHOUSE FOR AUCTIONING

A series of 12 watercolor prints by the internationally-known Salvatore Dali, done for a limited edition (300) of Dante's *Divine Comedy*, has been given to the Robinson Jeffers Foundation, it was announced this week by Fred Farr, president of the non-profit organization in Carmel.

Valued at \$275 each, and the gift of Carmel's Albert Alexander, the unusual series was printed by Jacques of France and will be offered at auction at a benefit event to be held by the foundation in the near future.

Dali's signatures on the prints are most unusual, red ink being used for those depicting Hell; blue ink for Heaven and purple for Purgatory. The artist lived on the Monterey Peninsula during the '30's and a host of legendary stories have risen and persisted from his stay here at the Del Monte Lodge and elsewhere.

The prints may be seen by appointment by calling the foundation's office, 624-1813. It is hoped that the prints might be sold as a complete series.

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ON THE BIG SUR RIVER

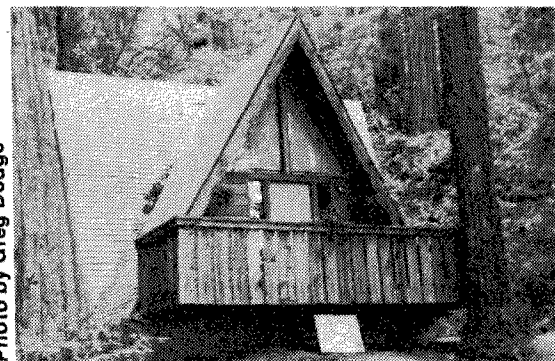
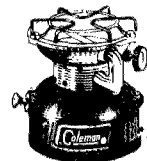


Photo by Greg Dodge

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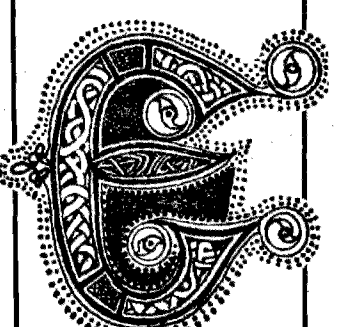
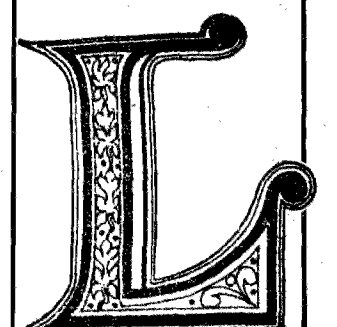
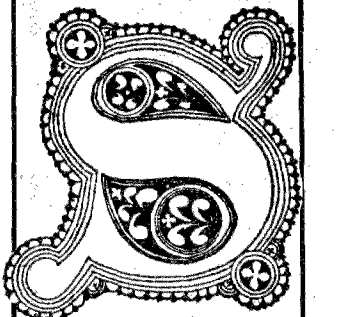
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PICO BLANCO

by Herb Aughinbaugh

She rises 3,711 feet above the Little Sur Valley. Her close proximity to the Pacific, 2.5 miles as the crow flies, makes her limestoned whitened slopes visible to much of this rugged coastline the Spanish named "El Grande Sur," the Big South.

Esselen Indian legend referred to her as the sacred birthplace of man and beast. The first three inhabitants being the rabbit, the monarch butterfly and the hummingbird. Later visitors to this land called her simply "The White Peak."

More recent legends have included a lost silver mine, a gigantic underground cavern system, complete with flowing rivers and waterfalls that wind their way to the sea, and numerous tales of an old prospector who still resides there caretaking her secrets while guarding her beauty and wealth from all outsiders.

Her majestic stance at the head of this beautiful valley, filled with redwoods and crystal clear rivers and streams would be reason enough to want to climb her peaks, but the thought of perhaps stumbling upon the entrance to the "lost mine" or discovering that one stream leading to the caverns underground was more temptation than I and my long time friend Jimmy Gillespie could bear.

After one of the most severe and long droughts in the history of California, we were once again experiencing a long awaited return to a normal rainy season. The rains continued almost daily throughout January and into February and most mornings would find us drenched, hot coffee in hand, around the fireplace at our favorite inn steaming the chill from our bones. The conversation always got around to "Pico" and the fascination her stories held for us both.

There was no doubt in either of our minds that climb her we must!

We began gathering available information for our adventure. Fact and somewhat "questionable fact" and hand drawn maps pried reluctantly from some of the locals who had resided here far longer than we. Reluctant at first, we soon had managed to convey our enthusiasm to them, and more than once, I spied a twinkle in the eye of an old leathery face as they embellished upon their own personal experiences with this magical mountain.

The National Forest Service had only a 1958 relief map available of the area and at first were even reluctant to allow us access to any trails in their jurisdiction. The previous summer hundreds of thousands of acres were lost in the Marble-Cone Forest fire and much of the Ventana Wilderness Area and the Los Padres National Forest, which surrounds the Pico Blanco Area were closed and entry could be gained only by special permit. They finally consented to allowing us the use of their trails since we were both residents of the area, and with the further stipulation that we depart by the first of March, normally the beginning of the end of the rainy season when any risk of further fire damage would be minimal.

Chances of rain, not just your average shower, but RAIN, the pounding, wind blowing, soaked-to-the-bone variety in March, in Big Sur, is common and neither of us took kindly to the first of March departure date set upon us.

Left with no other recourse than to comply we began our final preparations for the assault on Pico Blanco. We



Photo by Gary Eastland

decided upon a five-day minimum, seven-day maximum trip, allowing for a one-day hike to the base of the summit, three to five days "exploration" and one-day hike back out to the hopefully blue Pacific.

Gear was checked and doubled checked. Menues planned and replanned. Our backpacks weighed over and over again as we sorted out needless equipment in an effort to equally distribute the pack loads. We finally opted for a two-man tent with extra rain roof, sleeping bags, extra socks, a nest-packed cooking set, flashlights, waterproofed matches coated with airplane glue, a collapsible water bag, rain ponchos, first-aid kit, 100 feet of climbing rope and the all important cameras, film and flashbulbs to record our "discoveries."

We arose early on the first, dressed and weighed in on a bathroom scale in full gear. Thirty-five pounds apiece. We congratulated each other on our ingenuity as dawn greeted us with a brilliant sun and blue, blue sky.

The trail we had chosen to reach the first camp wound its way up the Little Sur Valley, crossing the Little Sur River at several locations before climbing up to the base of the summit. The North and South forks of the river are normally fast moving and clear, offering easy crossing, your typical well behaved trout streams. The exceptional volume of rain during the past two months had swollen the river to dramatic proportions. The burned off acres in the Ventana Wilderness from the previous summer offered no resistance to the water flow and the river ran almost black with top soil and trees of every shape and variety formed gigantic charred log jams adding a further ominous quality to this otherwise tranquil stream.

The first juncture of stream and trail proved to be impassable. Perspiring and frustrated, we groped further up the river in search of a crossing place. A quarter mile upstream we found a large redwood fallen across the river. It offered a natural, if somewhat precarious, bridge crossing. I eased out of my pack, secured one end of a line to a nearby tree, and eased myself onto the "bridge," playing out line behind me. Upon reaching the other side, I secured the end of the "life-line" and made the return crossing to retrieve my pack.

I started the return crossing using the life-line for balance with Jimmy following my lead. Several steps out on to the bridge, Jimmy lost his footing on the rain-soaked redwood. The rope slackened as he reached to reinforce his grip sending him crashing backwards down the bank into the underbrush. "The eggs, damnit! The eggs!" I screamed after him, totally disregarding his situation and concentrating only on the supply of fresh food he carried in his pack. The backpack had cushioned his fall, and quite possibly saved him from any serious injury.

We regrouped, stretched the life-line as tight as possible and made it safely across, somewhat shaken, but otherwise unscathed. The opposite bank offered no means of access either downstream or upstream. Our only alternative was to scale the steep bank in hopes of finding the trail. An hour's search produced only fatigue and further frustration.

We cursed our lack of preparation. Why hadn't we reconnoitered the trail before our start? Thirty-plus muscles had also begun to ache. Big Sur is definitely walking country, but neither of us was in the shape we should have been for the climb. The realization that we were no longer 20-year-old Marines climbing hills and trails like mountain goats reached us both simultaneously. We had consumed three valuable hours of daylight and could claim no further progress than when we had departed earlier that morning.

An alternative route was available. It entailed hiking back to the cabin and driving a winding, twisting road up to Botchers Gap, which was located on the reverse side of Pico Blanco. From there a trail wound down to an old Boy Scout summer camp which we could reach before nightfall. We had intended to climb Pico from the ocean side but our plans had to be altered. We would have to climb her backside, a route which would cost us another day. We drove in silence, I still thinking about the sure-to-be-broken eggs, while Jimmy slowly massaged a swelling ankle.

We reached our destination without incident well ahead

of the setting sun, set up camp and checked for any damage to our gear and supplies. The eggs, which I had packed in two plastic containers, one layered with pancake mix, the other with coffee, were still sealed tight, their precious contents intact. Two steaks that we had packed frozen and were to be used for our first night's celebration on arriving at our originally planned base camp were grilled. We settled around the fire and savored a cup of coffee laced with our one luxury, scotch, which we had filled an extra canteen with before leaving.

I climbed wearily into my sleeping bag, giving silent thanks to my grandfather who had first taught me how to keep fresh eggs intact in the Wisconsin woods. I closed my eyes and slept as one can only sleep when the redwoods are singing to the wind and the river which had turned us back babbled its verse in my ears on its way to the sea.

I was awakened early to the steady tap-tap of rain drops falling softly on the tent roof. The tempo increased, each drop falling with more authority. The rains were with us again!

We broke camp rapidly, trying to keep our gear as dry as possible. A hurried breakfast of fried eggs, pancakes and coffee was prepared under the shelter of a large redwood. We headed out in search of the trail leading upwards to our goal.

We soon encountered our old friend the Little Sur River. The rain must have started early in the back country for the river had swollen and doubled her girth since the previous day. I watched as 50-foot trees hurled their bodies headlong downstream, crashing into and demolishing anything in their path.

There was no hope of ever crossing this "stream" where the trail, now obliterated, met this conquering mass of water. I searched and again found the needed fallen tree bridging the river at a spot upstream. There would be no margin for error at this crossing. A slip would be fatal! We soberly assessed the situation and even considered the possibility of scrapping the operation and returning to the comfort of dry clothes and a roaring fire. Our sense of adventure, or perhaps just stubborn pride won out.

I tied the climbing rope as high as I could reach to a tree adjacent to the bridge. With my pack removed I set out gingerly across with the sound of rushing water beneath me filling my ears. I reached the other side and secured the line as low as possible to another tree directly in line with the bridge. Jimmy secured one pack to the life-line and by letting gravity do most of the work we brought it safely across with an up and down whipping motion. We repeated the process with the other pack and then Jimmy safely crossed without incident. I then recrossed the bridge, untied the life-line, and straddling the tree for additional security "scooted" myself to the other side.

The cold, driving rain took most of the elation of our accomplishment out of us as we started the slow climb up the trail. The trail, at its best a goat path, had deteriorated with each rain and two hours of steady climbing found us winded and drenched even though we had both donned our rain ponchos before starting the ascent. I looked out over the valley below us shrouded in mist and fog. Botchers Gap, now directly across the valley below us, was cloud covered and barely visible. According to the relief map, we still had another 1,000-foot winding climb before reaching a false summit, then a descent back down into the valley, still considerable distance from our originally selected base campsite. I silently prayed that we had the stamina to reach it before dark. What if the small squares designating some type of cabin structure on the map no longer existed? I pushed the thought from my mind and started forward, picking out trees ahead as "intermediate goals" to keep my lead-filled legs moving.

CONTINUED NEXT ISSUE

Editor's note: Herb Aughinbaugh has been a resident of the Big Sur area since 1968. He is the author of two books of poetry and has appeared in the "New Yorker" and "Atlantic" magazines.



Photo by Robert H. Cowen

County Growth Mangement Policy

ADOPTED SEPTEMBER, 1978

The board of supervisors finds and declares that managed growth and orderly development are essential to the proper utilization of land in Monterey County. Proper utilization of the land will contribute directly to the social, cultural, environmental, fiscal and economic well-being of the county.

ESTABLISHMENT OF GROWTH AREAS

Managed growth must be incorporated into the General Plan of the county. In so doing, the General Plan must be written to include appropriate growth areas within the county. These areas must recognize the diversity among the lands of the county and provide for the planning of each area in a way that utilizes its unique characteristics.

The policies for each planning area to be defined within the General Plan must countenance differences between the planning areas in terms of natural resources, physical and environmental attributes, economic development and sociocultural development. Furthermore, growth areas shall be designated only where there is provision for an adequate level of services and facilities such as water, sewer, fire protection and drainage.

DEVELOPMENT OF CITIES AND AREAS AROUND CITIES

Cities have been created in Monterey County to provide urban areas with local governmental services essential to sound urban development such as sewers, storm drains, water, police protection, fire protection, neighborhood parks, schools and community recreation programs. The ability of cities to cope with the social, economic, land use and political problems created by urbanization is dependent in large part on their ability to service and control urban development in their urban service areas.

Inhabitants residing in an urban service area of a city have a community of interest with that city and should be part of that city so that they may receive necessary city services as well as participate in, and contribute to, the resolution of social, political, land use and economic issues of their urban community. Except as noted below, urban development should be discouraged in areas lying outside the boundaries of urban services areas in order to discourage premature and unnecessary conversion of open space outside the urban service areas.

ESTABLISHMENT OF NEW AREAS OF URBAN CONCENTRATION

New areas of urban concentration shall, where appropriate, be encouraged if they can be shown to better achieve other aspects of growth management such as the preservation of prime agricultural lands or the protection of other natural resources.

Such areas will not be contiguous with existing urban concentrations. They shall provide urban service to the resident such as provision of water, sewage, roads, commercial facilities, schools and fire protection. Developments of this type should be proposed as Specific Plan amendments to the General Plan.

ZONING AND LAND USE PROCEDURES IN GROWTH MANAGEMENT

Only nonpolluting industries shall be allowed in the county. They shall be located near adequate transportation facilities and have access to other needed services and facilities. The location of industries shall be such that it is compatible with adjacent properties in the surrounding area.

Open space should be retained wherever advisable to maintain the rural quality of life in the county. Clustering of development is to be encouraged. Development should be minimized on visually sensitive slopes. The density of development outside the urban service areas of urban concentrations should be low.

Minor subdivisions will be discouraged, especially outside urban service areas. Minor subdivision approval will result in the property being rezoned to prevent further lot divisions.

Environmental research should be conducted on large segments of the county, coincidental with the planning areas or designated growth areas or sub-areas where possible. Developers will participate financially in this research through a pro rata cost sharing arrangement at such time as their projects are filed.

A new system of evaluation of applications shall be established. Each application should be evaluated according to its strengths and weaknesses in accordance with the General Plan and its policies and elements. Evaluation shall be the subject of public hearing before the planning commission and the board of supervisors prior to their adoption. The criteria of evaluation shall be written and made available to the public. Each applicant shall be given a numerical score based upon an analysis of the evaluation criteria. Applications not found to meet minimum evaluation criteria shall not be given further consideration.

Agriculture continues to be the basis of the economy of the county. Agricultural lands in Monterey County are some of the world's finest. Productive agricultural lands must be nonpolluting and not otherwise detrimental to the agricultural uses. The improvement of roads and other facilities serving areas of productive agricultural lands should be delimited consistent with the agricultural uses.

PRIORITIES FOR GROWTH

Priority for growth will be given first to infilling within existing urban areas. The next priority will be for development in lands adjacent to existing and densely settled urban areas where the necessary services and facilities are available. Growth areas adjoining urban areas shall be within the Spheres of Influence of the cities and coincide with the area to which the cities are providing services or in areas immediately surrounding high density concentrations within the county such as the Carmel Valley Village and Castroville except as in paragraph #3 above.

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Mass on weekdays, 6:15 a.m.
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Catholic Service
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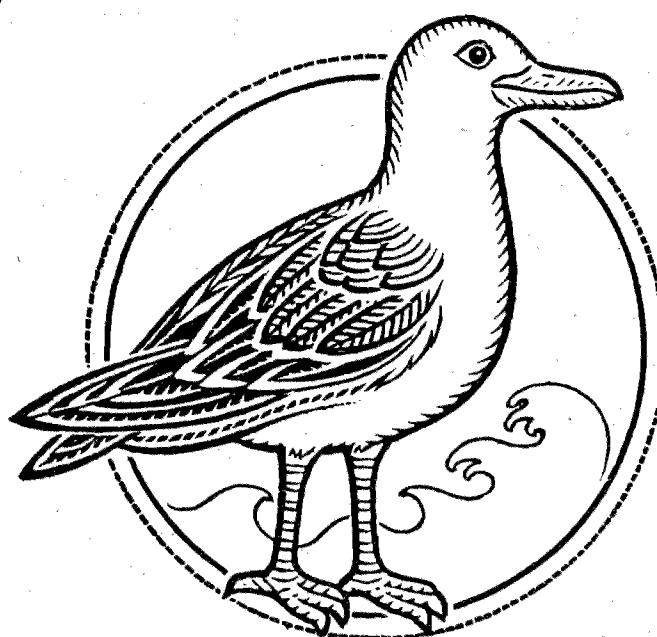
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The Book Nook

By HARMON BELLAMY

IT TAKES A LONG TIME TO BECOME YOUNG

by Garson Kanin
Doubleday, 185 pp, \$6.95

At 65, Garson Kanin is almost violently opposed to mandatory retirement. Not that he is retiring himself. Far from it. But he firmly believes that forced retirement is an imposition on the human race, that retirement should be an individualistic decision, not a group commandment; that it is a very harmful law foisted on the public; that if we do not become aware of the danger, we may have to pay a sad and very expensive toll.

A screenwriter, director, novelist, playwright, memoirist, and generally talented show business personality, Kanin came to Hollywood as a young man in his twenties, acclaimed at that time as a genius for his outstanding work on Broadway; and for some years was the white-haired boy of RKO Studios. He has been involved with such smash hits as "Born Yesterday" (which he wrote), "The Diary of Anne Frank" and "Funny Girl" (which he directed), "A Double Life" and "Tracy and Hepburn" (which he also wrote), and many more in each category. And today, still as active as ever, he decries the government's policy of forcing elderly people into retirement even though many of them would prefer to continue their activities in the business and industry world.

Kanin's arguments are profound, intelligent, realistic. Too many men (and from now on, there will be more women) go into depression, lose their vitality and zest for living, and die within a scant two or three years after they have been separated from their work, some by physical and mental degeneration, some even by suicide. He believes Social Security is not the security it was supposed to provide, that in its present form it is a detriment, a deterrent to a longer, better life; that it has lost its original concept and advantages; that we would be better off without most of it. It is an obstacle to ambition and gainful employment and has forced innumerable numbers into retirement who were not ready for this

unrewarding status.

He lists example after example of individuals who made their marks while well into their seventies, eighties, nineties, thus defying statistics and those do-gooders who feel that persons should retire at 65 for their own benefit or because they are becoming infirm, incapable, or senile. He points out the unfairness, the incongruity, the contradictory phase of the entire system whereby men and women, still able to go on at 65, are retired while members of our Supreme Court are "all old men," many considerably beyond that cutoff age. He writes of his own wife, Ruth Gordon, a talented lady of stage and screen (who also writes), who is his own senior by quite some years and yet as full of spark, desire, and ambition as she was decades earlier.

Sexual doldrums, he believes, do not come on with age as much as most people think. He quotes others to prove it. It is mainly a conditioning of the mind. Some individuals are literally and sexually dead at forty; others are vibrantly alive at eighty. He dislikes the term "senior citizen"; is not a correct designation; it does more harm than good. It puts people into a mental prison.

The title of Kanin's book is derived from a Picasso quote. At 85, two luscious young girls at his side, Picasso was approached by a handsome woman friend whom he kissed with verve. When she remarked about his latest paintings, no longer serious and solemn works, but different, more youthful, more wild, he said: "It takes a long time to become young!"

And kissed her again almost passionately. To record other incidents and quotes would consume too much space here. The book is simply brimming over with anecdotes about famous and not-so-famous people, all of them over 65, and all extremely entertaining reading and thought-provoking. Young and old will enjoy Kanin's observations as they would very few other available books. It should be must reading for anyone contemplating retirement or already in the jobless doldrums.

NOTES FROM A LOCAL JOURNAL

by Ms. Penny Name

Riddle of the Month

What is an elephant? (see answer below)

Have you noticed how each new "quiet" season gets a little louder?

It's been a most interesting month. Snowstorms, blackouts, and rain. Just a word about blackouts:

Everyone had a clearly sparkling time at Sam Brown's crystal products party. The lass showed glass with class.

Glad to hear that Ken Daughters wasn't badly injured when an oak tree fell on him. A special thanks to Hugh Rideout and the fellows who helped lift the tree off Ken.

Welcome back, Joyce Thompson and Greg Dodge, from a month's vacation.

For those of you who are going to attempt doing your taxes again this year: The IRS says that the '78 tax form instructions have been lowered to an 8th-9th grade level. However, no one in a selected 9th grade gifted student class could finish the longer 1040 form correctly -- nor could a senior civics class.

Fond farewells to Carmen and Randy Harrison. Best of luck in your new adventures in Georgia.

Can you imagine? They really are making a Mercedes Benz station wagon. What's next, a 4 wheel drive Rolls Royce?

Love is saying "I've got a headache, make it go away."

A musical concert is being prepared for May 4th and 5th at the Grange Hall. The initial list of performers promises a truly enjoyable evening. The proceeds will benefit the Big Sur Fire Brigade. Info: Peter Stock - 667-2225.

Speaking of nice-evenings -- March 9th at Peyton's Place (Carmel Center Mall) is Full Moon Celebration. Great Dinner and Dancing. Info: 624-0544. Peyton's is also starting a super daily salad bar. Just the perfect snack before heading home to Big Sur.

Willie the Whale was Wonderin': Since every call outside of Big Sur is a long distance call, maybe someone should

start our own "dial-a-prayer" or "weatherphone."

The movies are coming back to the Big Sur Grange Hall. Show time is Thursdays at 7:30 p.m. The first film: *The Thief of Bagdad*.

It's 4,677 -- the Year of the Ram. There'll never be another ewe.....until 4,689.

Did you hear about the tourist in the Winnebago? Locked his keys inside and it took three days to get his family out!

How come some people still laugh when I tell them about my UFO sightings? You've seen them haven't you? Tell me about it, c/o GAZETTE, Box 125, Big Sur (strictly confidential).

ANNOUNCING...The 1st Annual Big Sur Waiter/Waitress Marathon Olympics. All Big Sur food service employees are eligible. Info: Richard -- 667-2331, Ext. 11 or 667-2523.

On the serious side: Over 6,000 concerned citizens and property owners have already become members of the California Coastal Council. The Council was organized to put an end to the unfair practices and voting inconsistencies of the state and regional California Coastal Commissions. Info: 800 Garden St., Suite A, Santa Barbara, CA 93101 (805) 965-6512.

Got dusty records? Use the coupon in this issue's Do-Re-Mi ad for your free record cleaning cloth. It works great.

The General Store at Ventana is definitely looking different. Could it be the magical touch of Alice Russell (formerly of the Phoenix)? Stop in and say hello.

Beginning March 4th, the artwork of Lin Lipetz will be on display at Green's Gallery in the Barnyard. A resident of Big Sur, Lin is well-known for her paintings, drawings and collages. The display will continue through the month.

Cream of the Stream of Consciousness:

How can I be astral traveling and cocktail waitressing at the same time?

J.L.H.-S.

Well, have a good month.....Oh, the answer to the riddle: A mouse built to county specifications. (Thanks W.T.)

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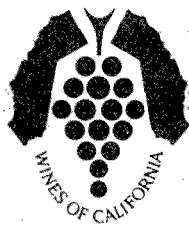
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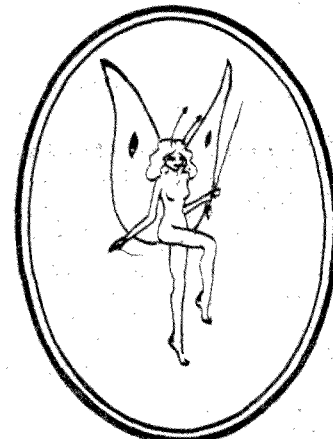
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Henry Miller Returns to Big Sur



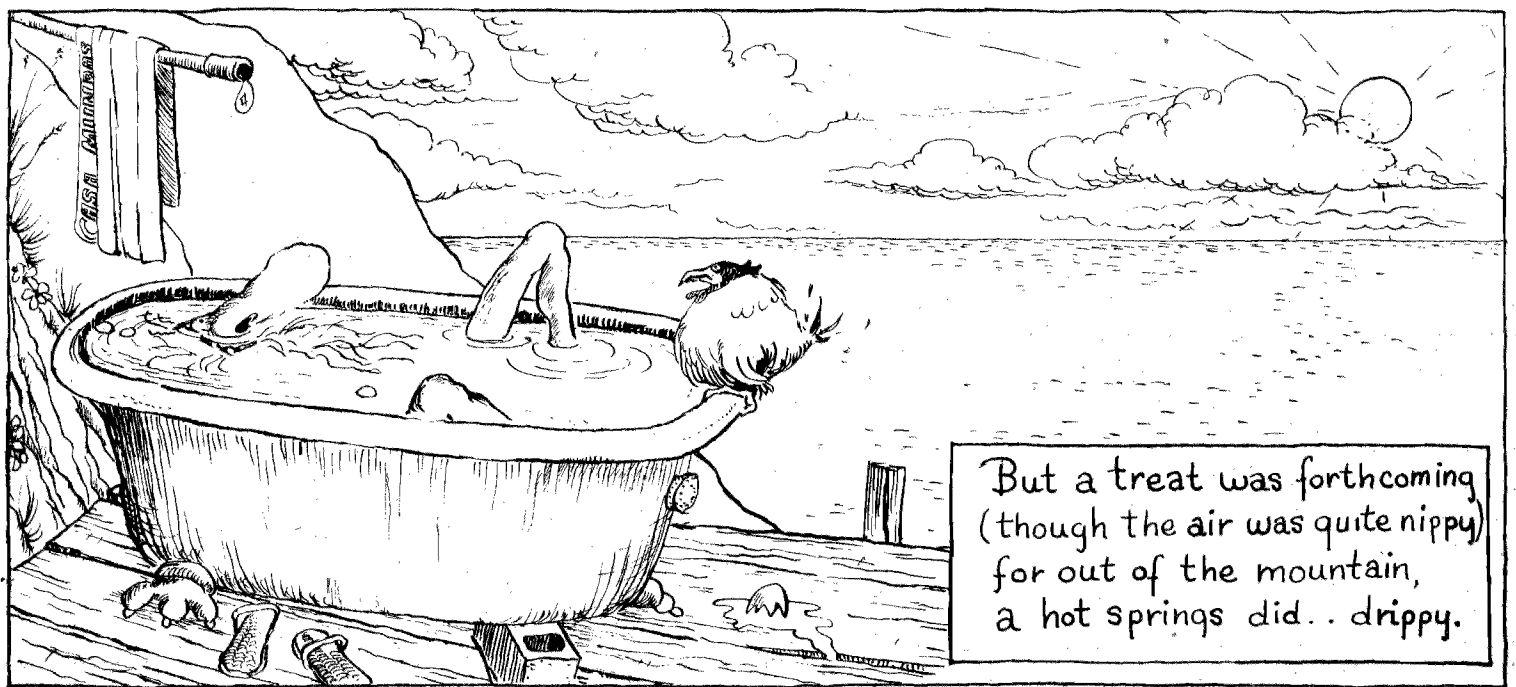
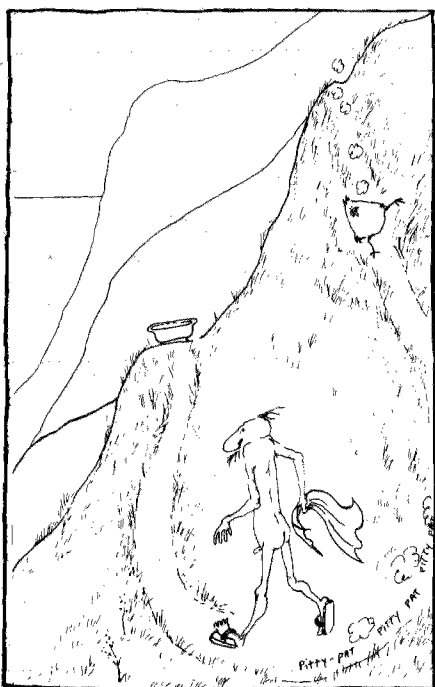
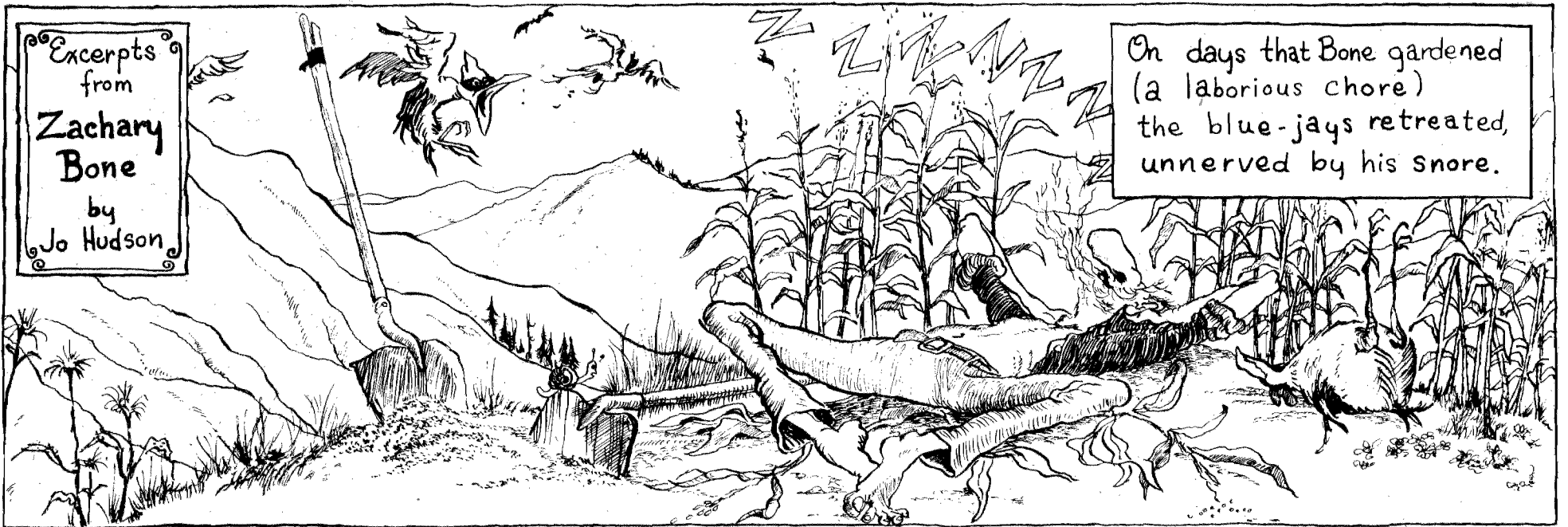
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Garzone's Meat & Deli in same bldg.

USFS Camp Jobs Open

GOLETA, CALIF. — The Los Padres National Forest will participate again this year in the nationwide Youth Conservation Corps (YCC) program which provides summer employment to young people between the ages of 15 and 18. "The program offers young people an opportunity to earn while participating in a work-and-learn experience," said Forest Supervisor Al West. Eight weeks of conservation work is combined with outdoor education to help enrollees understand and appreciate the natural environment. Enrollees will work on projects such as erosion control, trail maintenance, campground repair, fuelbreak construction, and litter cleanup.

Interested young people may obtain applications

from their high school counseling offices. Applications and information are also available from Forest Service District offices located in Frazier Par, Ojai, Los Prietos, Santa Maria, King City and the Supervisor's office in Goleta. Deadline for applications is March 15.

Selections for the jobs will be made randomly from applicants living within 4 to 6 hours travel time from each camp. Enrollees will stay at the camps during the week and return to their homes on weekends. YCC camps will be located at the Indians Ranch, about 20 miles southwest of King City in Monterey County; Camp Nicholas 10 miles west of Frazier Park in Kern County; a third camp will be located in the Ojai Valley. Last year there were 141

participants in the YCC program on the Los Padres. "YCC enrollees were able to accomplish almost 22 man-hours of work during the three eight-week sessions," emphasizes West. "Although the appraised value of their work was \$183,585, no price tag can be placed on the outdoor experience gained by these kids."

The YCC program is in addition to the Young Adult Conservation Corps which provides up to one year of conservation-related work to unemployed out-of-school youth between the ages of 16 and 23. "Both programs accomplish much needed work on public lands, which would otherwise not be carried out because regular funding is not available," West commented.

Please observe
"no trespassing"
signs

Respect private
property

The
Gazette:

You can
take it
with you.

MEMORIAL DAY ART FESTIVAL ANNOUNCED

A professional arts and crafts show, open to artists from throughout California, is planned for this coming Memorial Day weekend, May 26, 27 and 28 at the Ripplewood Resort.

The festival, the first in a semi-annual series, is being organized as a potential showcase for professional Big Sur and Peninsula talent but will feature work by artists from all over California. Another show is planned for the Labor Day weekend.

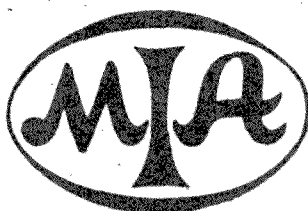
Arts and craft festivals are often prominent features of towns and communities in the West. With the passing of the years and the growth of the reputation of the show, thousands of people can be drawn to the show. The variety and quality of work displayed frequently offers the best way for the general public to become acquainted with artists who live by selling their own work.

Memorial Day weekend, one of the busiest of the year, promises to provide an ample public.

Each artist will furnish their own stands and display booths. The show will continue for 3 days, Saturday, Sunday and Monday, and each exhibitor will be required to show all three days.

The entry fee for the show will be \$25 plus 10 percent commission on gross sales. Half of this commission (5 percent) will be donated to the Big Sur Volunteer Ambulance Service and Volunteer Fire Brigade.

The coordinator of the show, Carl Paul Alasko, can be contacted for an application form and further information. All work will be juried prior to acceptance. Carl's address is: Box 100, Big Sur 93920, and phone number is 687-2578.



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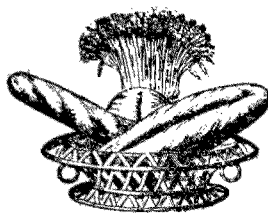
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Claire's Cooking Corner BIG SUR RECIPE



CUP OF HAPPINESS

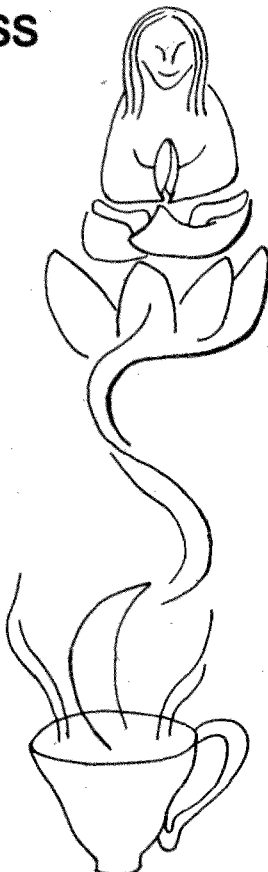
A Yogi's Big Sur Brew

While storms brew outside, make yourself cozy by keeping your tea pot brewing inside and filled with a spiced Indian Tea. Actually, it is delicious any time of year and at any hour of the day. You can store the basic Tea in the refrigerator for several days -- but only add the milk and honey when you have heated it to serve, as it may curdle if kept overnight.

- 12 peppercorns
- 4 sticks cinnamon
- 1 tsp. powdered ginger
(or 1" of fresh ginger root)
- 2 Tbsp. whole cardamon seeds
- 12 whole cloves
- 8 whole coriander seeds
- 2 qts. water

BOIL until a dark Tea color, approximately 20 minutes; **STRAIN**; Add milk; Sweeten with Honey.

SMELL -- SIP -- ENJOY



RIVER INN BIG SUR, CALIFORNIA

Breakfast
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Served on a huge platter with homemade biscuits and strawberry jam. Two eggs any style with Chef's original hash browns and your choice of baked ham, link sausages or slab bacon.

OR
without the meat
hot cakes - stack or sh. stack
Biscuits - side order

Coffee Tea Milk Hot Chocolate
Orange Tomato Grapefruit Apple Juice

Lunch
11 am - 5pm

RIVER INN BURGER
1/3 lb. fresh ground beef - charcoal broiled and served on a french roll with homemade fries.

FRENCH DIP SANDWICH
Sliced roast beef on a french roll with a cup of Chef's special au jus and fries.

COLD BEEF * COLD HAM
TUNA * GRILLED CHEESE
cold sandwiches
served with salad
soft drinks @ Seed Tea

BIG SUR
YOUR RETURN IS OUR REWARD

Gazette Classified

Monterey Peninsula College Calendar of Events MARCH, 1979

Mar. 2-Fri. Lecture: Knowledge Update; Tape/Slide Series: Heritage of Ancient Egypt -2

Mar. 4-Sun. Concert: Kelo Mandolin Club; Recital: Stephanie Myszak & Deborah Rye, Vocalists

Mar. 7-Wed. Tape/Slide Series: Heritage of Ancient Egypt -3

Mar. 9-Fri. Lecture: Knowledge Update; Film Gallery: "D.O.A." & "Beyond A Reasonable Doubt"; Tape/Slide Series: Heritage of Ancient Egypt -3

Mar. 14-Wed. Tape/Slide Series: Heritage of Ancient Egypt -4

Mar. 15-Thurs. MPC Players: "Our Town"

Mar. 16-Fri. MPC Players: "Our Town"; Lecture: Knowledge Update; Tape/Slide Series: Heritage of Ancient Egypt -4

Mar. 17-Sat. MPC Players: "Our Town"; Audubon Wildlife Series: American Heartland-The Great River Story

Mar. 21-Wed. Tape/Slide Series: Heritage of Ancient Egypt -5

Mar. 22-Thurs. MPC Players: "Our Town"

Mar. 23-Fri. Lecture: Knowledge Update; Film Gallery: "Only Angels Have Wings"; Tape/Slide Series: Heritage of Ancient Egypt -5

Mar. 25-Sun. MPC Chorus: 29th Annual Spring Concert

For information regarding time, location and admission charges: **CALL 649-1150 Ext. 451**

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GOT PROPERTY to rent? Need a roommate? Have a room to let? Looking for someone to rent your vacation home, trailer, or motorhome? List it here!

Rental Wanted

SIDHA needs land. **SIDHA** needs 2 1/2-10 acres to build unobtrusive ecological house with water and access. Hopefully view. East of Rt. #1. Also need rental. 714-659-3263—Neil.

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&
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MAN'S CANADIAN WOLF Fur Parka. Cost \$2,000. Sac. \$500. 624-0822 8 a.m. or at midnight.

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GURDIEFF-OUSPENSKY Centers—accepting students. 624-0621.

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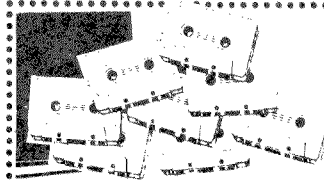
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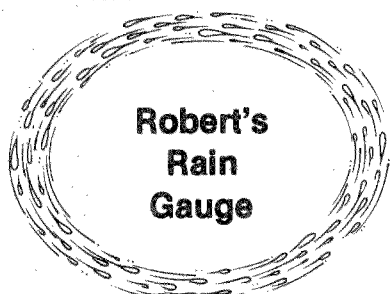
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9:30-8:00 Sat.



**Robert's
Rain
Gauge**

Captain Cooper School Principal Robert Douglas and his fourth and fifth graders have kept a record of the rainfall at the school since September. The total shown begins with the first rain of the season, September 5th. Rainfall is measured the morning following a storm, unless otherwise indicated.

Date	Amount	Total	Remarks
Jan. 11	.73	11.93	
Jan. 12-14	2.25	14.18	
Jan. 18	.50	14.68	
Jan. 25	.20	14.88	
Jan. 29	.05	14.93	
Jan. 30	.10	15.03	Hail
Jan. 31	1.55	16.58	High winds increasing at 8 a.m. Snow on upper Big Sur Mountains
Feb. 1	.25	16.83	(Capt. Cooper 4th-5th grades tour snow with Bob Douglas & Don McQueen)
Feb. 2	.50	17.33	COLD! More snow on top
Feb. 13	.07	17.40	Beginning of storm
Feb. 14	3.45	20.85	High winds, warmer temp. Rain from 8:30 2/13 till 3 p.m. 2/14
Feb. 15	.10	20.95	Clear morning -- colder

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Big Sur Gazette

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Modified Ventana Expansion Approved

Continued from page 1

requiring parking spaces, a "transit plan for the life of the development," and a covenant to operate the campground and hostel for a minimum of nine months a year or allow a public or non-profit entity to manage it for them.

Commissioners React

Commissioners reactions to the conditions were varied and often lengthy; some lauded the staff's "add-on" projects for different reasons, while others argued against them in all or part. One Commissioner who opposed the project called the conditions "massive," and another who favored the project wondered if the staff conditions weren't actually "a denial in disguise."

State Coastal Commission Chairman Bradford Lundborg reasoned that "the tying of low cost units to an economically viable development of high cost units is probably the only way we're going to get the low cost units put in," but he questioned whether the "ratio" were proper and felt that the mitigating measures were "rather massive."

Commissioner Hank Doerfling expressed his concern that "the staff conditions might be a denial in disguise."

Commissioners Lois Ewen and Ruth Anderson both felt that approval would limit Local Coastal Plan options. Mrs. Ewen favored granting 16-18 units now and suggested that the "remaining number of units could be determined by the Big Sur LCP Committee." Mrs. Anderson saw the conditions as having a major potential impact and said she preferred to postpone them until after the LCP was approved.

Commissioners Naomi Schwartz and Judy Rosener also expressed concerns about "prejudicing the LCP" and approving a major increase in the scope of the project.

Speaking in favor of the conditions, Commissioner Richard Wilson pointed out that the "public treasury is limited in providing public facilities," and Commissioner Anthony Ramos called the project "a top priority visitor-serving facility."

Also supportive of the project, Commissioner Fred Farr pointed to the need for tourist accommodations in Big Sur and felt that Ventana was a "reasonable and logical place to locate development." He did, however, object to making the applicant operate a public busline and he questioned the need to require 30 units for employee housing.

Opposition

When members of the public who opposed the project were invited to speak, resident Lorrie Dillion argued that "granting this permit would frustrate our LCP effort in that it pre-empts crucial areas for decision, allows serious irretrievable invasions, create disastrous precedent, and violated major guidelines in progress."

Frank Ramistella criticized "some of the errors and omissions in your staff recommendations, and your staff's meek interpretation of the phrases 'economic viability' and 'environmentally acceptable.'"

Michael Traynor, an attorney for the Dillons, Frank Ramistella and Johnny Rivers, referred to the "elaborate set of conditions which substantially expand and change this project with no EIR, and no opportunity for the LCP process or Regional Commission's consideration of these changes." He recommended denial of the project and its return to the Regional Commission.

Speaking for the Sierra Cub, Norbert Dahl claimed that the water data was "contradictory" and he suggested giving the applicant half of his request.

When the motion was made to approve of the project as conditioned, a substitute motion was made to approve 16 of the units with none of the conditions as recommended by staff.

Before the vote was taken, Ventana was asked to respond to the "economic viability" of the 16 units, to which Lawrence Spector replied that foreclosure was imminent without approval of the full 36 units requested.

"The Battle is Over"

In a telephone interview several days after the vote had been taken to approve 16 of the units, Spector responded to questions regarding the "economic viability" issue.

"The letters had every right and ability to foreclose," he admitted, "but they have decided to give us time to come up with a workable management plan for the Commission's approval of 16 units at this time."

"The battle is over," he said, sounding relieved. "And we can come up with a plan that will work for the lenders. Our occupancy is at record highs, and we're flooded with calls from friends and guests requesting space in the new units. Ventana will go forward."

"LAST-OF-THE-CENTURY" SOLAR ECLIPSE FEBRUARY 26

Beginning at 7 a.m. on Feb. 26, 1979, Big Sur will be treated to the last solar eclipse of the century. The phenomenon will reach its maximum at about 8 a.m., when 85 percent of the sun's disk will be covered.

The last total solar eclipse was visible March 7, 1970 and the next one to be visible in North America will be August 21, 2017.

Since this "last-of-the-century" event will be seen throughout all of North America, and a record number of spectators is expected, eye doctors are reminding everyone of the following warning: DO NOT WATCH THE ECLIPSE BY LOOKING DIRECTLY AT THE SUN.

"Eclipse burns," which are burns on the retina of the eye, are painless initially, but can cause visual damage including blindness.

Following the last solar eclipse, over 120 cases of eclipse

eye burns were reported, so extreme caution is advised.

"The only way to safely enjoy this eclipse would be to use the reflected card method," said Giles Healy, noted astronomer and Big Sur resident.

"If it was a total eclipse you could take a chance, but since this one will be a partial eclipse, areas of the sun will be visible to the observer," Mr. Healey added.

Mr. Healey recommended using the reflected card method, which is simply reflecting the sun's image through a pinhole in one piece of cardboard onto another cardboard. He described it further saying stand with the sun at your back and focus the sun through the pinhole onto the second board.

"There is no harm doing that method, but any direct contact, even with sunglasses, would be disastrous," Mr. Healey warned.

STATE PARK TO BUY DOUD RANCHE STATE.

Reprinted from the "Carmel Pine Cone"

State purchase of nearly 3,000 acres of coastal land five miles south of Carmel has been approved by the California Board of Public Works.

The land, a four-mile stretch of property between Malpas Creek in Carmel Highlands south to Garrapata Creek, was approved for purchase by the board Jan. 31 for eventual use as a state park.

State park officials have set no timetable for completing the acquisition of the land. The proposed park would straddle Highway 1, with 90 percent of the land on the west side of the scenic road, said Clyde Ray, Monterey district manager for the state Parks Department.

Most of the land—2,400 acres—belongs to the Doud Ranch Estate. The rest of the acreage is owned by five separate private citizens, Ray said.

There are no homes located in the proposed park area, Ray said.

According to Larry Paynter, information officer for the state Board of Public Works, the land will be purchased with funds from a \$5.3 million parks bond act set aside in 1977 by the state Legislature to acquire the property.

Once the property is acquired, which Ray said could take between two to six years, improvements will be made to trails that, at present, are used by trespassers across private property to reach the ocean.

"There are about 100 trails there now. Many of them are quite dangerous," Ray said.

Other planned improvements include the installation of chemical toilets and garbage cans.

The park will include the one-mile stretch of Garrapata Beach.

"The area is very spectacular," Ray said. "You either let it go to the developers or you set it aside for the public and save its natural beauty."

The Public Works Board also approved acquisition of 31 acres for the south Monterey Dunes project. That park will include the curving beach on both sides

of the Seaside Holiday Inn on Monterey Bay, six miles north of Carmel.

Reprinted from Monterey Peninsula Herald

Nearly 3,000 acres of spectacular Monterey County coastline could become state property within six months.

The state Public Works Board has authorized the start of negotiations to buy 2,935 acres straddling Highway 1 between Malpas Creek and Kasler Point.

Most of the property—roughly 2,888 acres—is owned by members of the Doud family. They hold seven parcels ranging in size from 1.9 acres to 2,343 acres.

Other property owners of record are P. Archer (2.8 acres), L. Warren (1.6), K. Watson (5), Wells Fargo Bank Trust Department (5.7) and Carmelo Land and Coal Co. (20).

A 1976 bond act budgeted \$5,360,000 to buy the property. Appraisals and environmental analysis have been completed, and Public Works Board approval clears the way for negotiations to begin.

"We could have an agreement within three or four months, or it could take as long as six months," said Darrell Duke of the state Parks and Recreation Department's acquisition section. "If they're willing sellers, the negotiations can go pretty fast."

Duke said the proposed purchase area begins about 4,000 feet south of Malpas Creek, runs on the inland side for roughly another half mile and then covers both shoreline and inland acreage for the rest of the way south to a point about half a mile north of Kasler Point.

Malpas, Soberanes, Doud, Joshua and Garrapata creeks cross the property.

Parks and Recreation was considering acquisition of a much smaller coastal shelf area with some upland support areas when the Doud Ranch came on the market for \$1.3 million early in 1977.

The purchase area will be known as the Garrapata Beach Project until it is bought and then classified by the state Parks and Recreation Commission.

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SCHEDULE

Second & Fourth Tuesday of each month

Development of LCP

Big Sur Grange Hall

Residents are invited to attend & participate