

The Neary - Rodriguez adobe dates back to 1801.

# The Saga of Santa Cruz

By F. A. Kazmarek

To the average tourist, Santa Cruz is known as a resort town, a playground, and rightly so. It was known as such for practically a century, and was quite popular with the elite society of San Francisco and the Bay Region who used to spend their summers here during the horse and buggy days. Why, it was even a "resort for horses" so to speak! A man named Kerr owned a ranch where now the famed Pasatiempo is located. He operated horse-car lines in San Francisco, and would periodically send his horses by train to this ranch for a rest.

Of course, there are the usual well-known attractions such as the beaches and redwoods, with some unique ones such as the Mystery Spot and a reproduction in life-size wax figures of Da Vinci's famous "Last Supper," all of which are a "must" on every tourist's list.

The marvelous setting of the city as viewed from one of the heights overlooking Monterey Bay, or from the Cliffs near Lighthouse Point, viewed against the green backdrop of the 4000-foot peak Loma Prieta with gently sloping mountains on either side, illustrates the meaning of the slogan "Santa Cruz, where redwoods, mountains, and ocean meet." Spanish "conquistadores" passed this way as early as 1952 looking for San

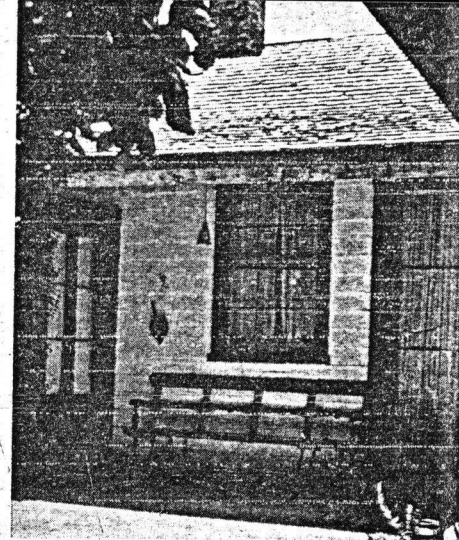
Francisco Bay. The Franciscan Padres established another in the series of Missions in 1791, naming it the Mission of the Holy Cross (Mission Santa Cruz). A small portion of the original Mission wall may still be seen at the rear of the present Holy Cross church, while an exact replica of the old Mission church with many original relics, may be seen diagonally across the street. On School Street nearby, stands the Neary-Rodriguez adobe with its three foot thick walls, and its typically Spanish backyard, vinecovered veranda, balcony, and garden.

Built in 1801, it was used for a time as the barracks for Mexican soldiers, so-called "protectors of the Mission." This well preserved old structure is now used partly as a dwelling, partly as an antique shop.

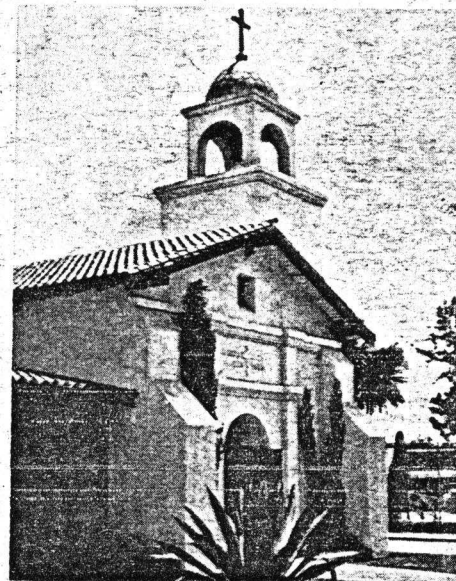
Nor did Santa Cruz escape the fever of the Gold Rush of '49. Not only did many citizens flock to the mines, but Elihu Anthony's pioneer foundry turned out the first picks for use by the miners in the Mother Lode region of California.

In a recent issue of a travel magazine, one writer remarked that "the town has few historic relics." This may be true to some extent because of the many relics destroyed in recent years in the name of "progress." But, there are still many of

(See Page 30)



Bret Harte spent his honeymoon in this humble cottage.



An exact replica of the original Mission Santa Cruz.



Built in 1890, the Wilder Ranch stable is still in use.

## SANTA CRUZ

*(From Page 30)*

The original floor, paved with natural asphalt dug up in nearby hills, is still in good condition. From the Bolcoff heirs, this land passed to Moses Meder, one of the Mormons who came to San Francisco by sailing vessel in 1846 with Sam Brannan of Gold Rush fame. The place has been in the possession of the Wilder family for four generations.

In 1854, a stage line was established between Santa Cruz and San Jose via San Juan. A driver on this line between Santa Cruz and San Juan in 1861 was Charley Parkhurst, known as "Cock-eyed Charley." Fifty-five years of age, Charley was a typical stage driver, who took his nip at roadhouses, carried the U.S. mail, swore at his horses, and voted as a good citizen. Not until his death in 1879 was it even suspected that "Charley" was a woman.

Until quite recently, the palatial home of Judge John H. Logan stood on Logan Heights overlooking the Holy Cross School. The Judge was quite a "character," according to old-timers who knew him personally, another Luther Burbank, a plant wizard. Since his main hobby was horticulture, his house was constantly surrounded by a profusion of flowers. In 1890, in the course of his experiments, he developed a berry supposedly a cross between the native blackberry and the raspberry. It proved to be something new and very fine, and was named Logan-berry in his honor.

Exploring the little side streets in the Mission Hill District is quite a revelation. Stepping from traffic-laden Mission Street into short Union Street is like stepping into a bit of the old past. Here may be found quaint old cottages nestling in a setting of trees and shrubs await-

ing the artist's brush, and ornate mansions dating back to the eighties.

The tiny "Betsy Ross House" in Philadelphia, sandwiched between two skyscrapers, reminds me of another historical landmark right in the midst of the downtown section of Santa Cruz, surrounded by evidence of modern progress. Hiding behind a tall hedge, it is almost smothered by trees, vines, and bushes. Many times have I asked this "test question" of people who have lived here all their lives: "Do you know where the Bret Harte Honeymoon Cottage is?" The answer usually was: "Never heard of it!" I believe that a person could stand right in front of it, asking passersby the same question, receiving the same answer! Yet, here it is, next to the most prominent building in town—the Civic Auditorium. Here at 323 Church Street is the little cottage, seemingly shrunken with the weight of more than a century of years.

The earliest bit of history about the cottage is that it was bought in 1850 by Joseph Boston, a native of Philadelphia, who came in a sailing vessel around the Horn. The glass-paneled front door and the carved bench on the front porch were also transported the same way. The original stock of geraniums and the grass seed of the present lawn were brought on muleback across the Isthmus of Panama, the alternate route of the Forty Niners who did not care to make the long sea voyage or the overland trek in a covered wagon. The middle section of the present structure is the original cottage. The tall front addition was made by Mrs. Moulton who bought the place from Mr. Boston. The next owner, Mrs. W. E. Miller, built the rear portion in 1906. The bay window was the first one

*(See Page 34)*

## LAZY WAYS

(From Page 29)

been found practical and satisfactory in actual use. The Trailerlogs have been a great help to me. Before starting any trip I read them over carefully. Then I

take them with me. I know what I am going to meet in the way of hills and I plan the trip accordingly.

I have shown them to my friends, many of whom have found them helpful. They say that the Trailerlogs should be

made available to all trailerists.

Perhaps they are right. We are trying it out in this issue. The answer is up to you.

## Write The Editor!

So far as I know, nothing like this has ever been done before. Yet it is a service that has long been needed badly by the traveling trailerist. I hope that you will find it valuable to you. And I hope that if you do, you will not wait until tomorrow to write the Editor, but will do it today. Magazines must be planned far in advance, and he must know at once. The future of the Trailerlogs is in your hands. So let's hear from you!

## SANTA CRUZ

(From Page 25)

them waiting to be "discovered." That's part of the fun, a sort of treasure hunt!

Besides the venerable old adobe structure mentioned above, there are others just as ancient to be found throughout the city as well as in various parts of the County. A rather picturesque one is located on the Wilder Ranch, on Coast Highway No. 1, a little over a mile northwest of the city limits.

This was part of the Rancho Refugio granted by Governor Alvarado in 1841 to Jose Antonio Bolcoff one of the earliest foreign settlers in Spanish California. He built a long adobe residence of which only a portion remains and is now used as a storeroom. The roofing consists of original handmade tiles which had been shaped on the thighs of Mexican women laborers.

In excavating for the foundation of the Wilder homestead, the base of the old fireplace was discovered, while the earth round about gave up many relics such as a variety of utensils, mortars and pestles for grinding corn, and both halves of a millstone from an arastratype flour mill. Of no little interest is the stable typical of the "gay nineties." It has wonderfully constructed arched stalls and all the trappings of those days.

(See Page 33)



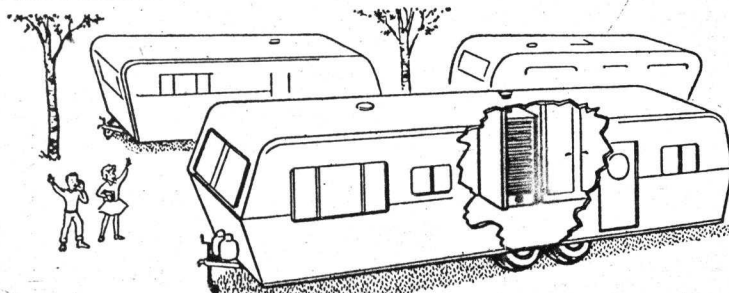
OUR COTTON CARPETING  
IS STANDARD EQUIPMENT  
USED BY MANY LEADING  
HOUSE TRAILER MANUFACTURERS

## SUPERLATIVE QUALITY - WORKMANSHIP - SERVICE

OUR GENE MILLHAUSER WILL BE  
GLAD TO DISCUSS YOUR REQUIREMENTS

Phone Capitol 1-9144

**PATRICK OF CALIFORNIA INC.**  
113 W. ANN ST. LOS ANGELES 12 CALIF.

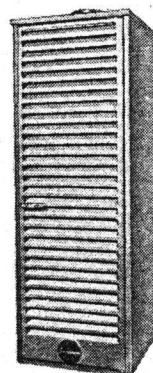


*International's*  
**mobile home furnaces**

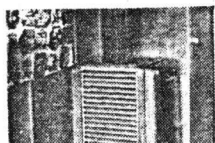
*Give You All the Warm Comforts of Home*

Designed especially for larger mobile homes, the new Model TAC 1000 recesses out of the way in the cabinet structure of your home. You'll love its fully automatic operation, wonderful 42,000 BTU capacity and powerful 600 CFM blower.

The Mighty Model 300 with 30,000 BTU capacity spreads



TAC 1000



HOT WATER