

# Old Santa Cruz . . .

By Ernest Otto

Continuing last week's story of names of streets and their origins:

Cooper street had at the corner of Front the old Cooper store. The court house stands on a lot given to the county by the Coopers and on Pacific avenue, not far away, was the "Cooper lot." On Front street were the homes of William and John Cooper.

The Coopers will furnish a story later on.

Knight street was named after Dr. Benjamin Knight, father of Justice B. K. Knight of the district court of appeal, and of Mrs. Edith Dodge of this city. He was one of the family doctors of the good old days. Dr. Knight was a family name in the homes throughout the city. He served in the state legislature. The Knights formerly lived on Knight street, which runs from Water to River street. Knight's Opera house bore his name.

## MILITARY ESPLANADE

United States generals gave names to streets of a subdivision called Military Esplanade. This section for years known as Towne's pasture, was for several seasons occupied as a camp ground for army and state militia units.

Col. Shafter was in camp there for several years with the regular army. The military band was wonderful and one summer the camp lasted for six weeks. While it was here, every Sunday afternoon, religious services were held under Chaplain Scott at the Fair Pavilion. General O. O. Howard, deeply religious, after whom the leading negro university in the United States was named, often preached.

Streets along the Military Esplanade were named after Generals Miles, Sherman and Dimond.

## LOCAL MEN HONORED

Men of Santa Cruz supplied names for the streets laid out when the old Bay View race track was destroyed. There is Jeter street, named after the Hon. William T. Jeter, for many years president of the Santa Cruz County National bank, who came from Missouri as an attorney, for years served as district attorney. He served in the city council and was lieutenant governor of California under Governor James Budd. He was a leading member of the Knights of Pythias and received the highest honor, for the state, as chancellor commander.

Ingalls street, one of the longest in that section, from Swift street to the West Cliff drive, was named after a man who for many terms served as member of the board of supervisors for Seaside district. He was owner of the Santa Cruz-Pescadero stage line.

Swift street, which before the subdivisions were laid out was the being held. It was a racing track, was named after E. J. Swift, proprietor of the Pacific Ocean House and owner of a number of horses which raced there.

Swift, a courtly gentleman, had two sons. One, Ernest, became one of the chief figures in the national Red Cross organization; the other, Percy, died recently in Hawaii

where he was a leader in civic and commercial life.

The other street in that section, paralleling Swift, is Fair avenue, named after the family of the Hon. James G. Fair. While they were not residents they were as well known as if they had been. A son, Jimmie, for a time claimed this city as his home and voted here. He was particularly interested in putting in office the "young men's council." His brother, Charlie, was often here, and the mother and sisters spent their summers here. One of the girls married Herman Oelrichs of New York and the other one of the Vanderbilt family. The father was one of the bonanza kings of the Comstock Lode.

Heath street was named after Lucien Heath of Third street, father of the late C. H. Heath and the late Frank Heath. He was of the insurance and realty firm of Heath and Drennan and was chosen to represent this constituency in the legislature at Sacramento.

Getchell street was named after Getchell of wave motor fame who experimented along the cliffs on the West Cliff drive at about the end of Getchell street.

One of the later streets in that district was named Mack street. It is along the Southern Pacific right-of-way and named after A. G. Mack of Lorenzo Lane. He came here and purchased considerable holdings there.

Wanzer street was named after

among themselves as to his age; some verily believed he was 100 years old.

"He was very dark, had deep wrinkles. In his younger days he rode a white horse; later he made his way with a cane.

"He would jump at the boys and girls with his mouth open, showing his teeth, and sticking his tongue out. They would scream. Sometimes the girls would faint. If he grabbed a boy all he would do would be to pull his fingers and make the joints crack.

"The aged man really liked the children but got his enjoyment out of scaring them.

"On Saturday, when several score children would be on their way along what is now Soquel avenue to get yeast from Bausch brewery 'Wheela' would run at them, making his awful face, and more than one would lose his yeast in his flight."