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RUZ .. By Ernest Otto

The summer visitor in the days of the seventies enjoyed Santa Cruz as a resort. It was then for San Francisco about the only nearby summer seaside resort as Monterey had not come into its own.

Pescadero, up the coast, closer to San Francisco was also a favorite resort and supported two good sized hotels, the Swanton House and cottages and McCormick's.

Tahoe and Yosemite were too far away.

They were horse and buggy days and the horses furnished much of the pleasures of Santa Cruz.

CAME BY STEAMER

In the greater part of the seventies travel to Santa Cruz was by steamer. These vessels dropped anchor at the Pacific Coast Steamship wharf, off from Main street at the top of the hill close to where the Stanford Smith residence stands. Among the passenger boats which stopped here were the Eureka, Monterey, Gypsy, City of Chester, the large unusually attractive side-wheelers Ancon and Senator, the San Vicente and Salinas which also carried freight.

The passenger steamers came in about three times a week, the smaller ones going down as far as Port Hartford, the port of San

Luis Obispo, and larger ones to San Diego.

When the whistle blew and the top of the masts were seen protruding above the cliffs before Lighthouse Point was reached, crowds ran from the beach, including the summer visitors, possibly to greet friends. On the hill above, between the office and warehouse and approach, the hotel buses and carriages would wait and as the drivers called out the hotels by name—Pacific Ocean House, Pope House, Wilkins House, Riverside Hotel and Ocean Villa—there was a perfect din.

The Beach Hill hotels, four in a row—Bay State Hotel, Liddell House, Seaside Home and Sea Foam, between Main street and Pacific avenue, were so close it was unnecessary to have buses for them.

CAPTAIN GEORGE SAGAR

At the end of the wharf, the local agent, Captain George Sagar, was there to throw the ropes and the vessels were soon moored. The arrival of the passenger boats was at 4 o'clock in the afternoon.

The sailors moved back the railing for a space on the craft and then through it the gangplank was laid and one by one the summer visitors left the boat. The

captain usually jumped from the top of the railing to the wharf and if it was Captain L. Hannah he made the jump to greet his wife, always there to meet her husband. This was the home of the Hannah family. Santa Cruz was a home city of a number of sea captains and retired sea captains including Captain Dame, Captain Sagar, Captain Smith, Captain Hobron, Captain Farrelly and Captain Hardy.

It was interesting to watch the sailors discharge the cargo, mainly of trunks. These were usually taken to the warehouse and carried by transfer wagons to the hotels and boarding houses. The summer visitors came with several trunks each as most of them remained from a month to two months.

It is surprising that with all the men, women and children and traffic on this wharf that there were not more accidents. The wharf had no railings at the sides for protection, as did the later built railroad wharf.

STAGES OVER THE HILL

Not all summer visitors came by water before the railroad days. Some acme on the large red leather-sprung stages over the mountains by a route much of which is

the present Santa Cruz-Los Gatos highway but which then included the Mountain Charley road, named after Charles McKiernan. Was there a boy who did not know that Mountain Charley had a skull partially of silver necessitated by injuries received from an attack by a grizzly bear.

The high stages came rolling in over the old Water street bridge, stopping in front of the Pacific Ocean House.

When the first railroad traffic started the San Franciscan made a 20 mile trip by way of Watsonville and Pajaro with changes of cars at the latter place. The fare was \$10 round trip.

COLLECTED SEA MOSS

The summer visitors had a good time while here and as now the beach was the great drawing card. Some would go down early in the morning. They would gather sea moss, kelp and shells. The moss for some reason or other comes in no more. Beautiful large pieces were found and Santa Cruz had the reputation of having more varieties and specimens than any other beach. The moss would be taken by the summer visitor, floated on tins and dried. The summer visitor would mount the finest specimens on cards and some-