

Changes In Santa Cruz During Last 50 Years Are Reviewed

Santa Cruz has changed from a three-month town to a year 'round city in the last 50 years, members of the Santa Cruz Historical society were told Monday night.

Speaking before the group in the public library's fireside room, H. R. Judah, manager of the civic auditorium since 1940, and for 12 years a state senator, highlighted some little known facts concerning the city's past.

"Back in the early 1900's, industry in Santa Cruz was unheard of and almost un-thinkable, except for a few far-sighted men who were ahead of their time," Judah told the gathering. "Santa Cruz was strictly a three-month resort town."

He added that progress during the past half-century can be summed up in the statement "from candles to oil lamps to electric lights."

As a member of the state highway commission for three years, the original wharf commission, organizer of the chamber of commerce in 1905, and owner-publisher of the Santa Cruz Evening News for 35 years, Judah was instrumental in helping to bring about many of the changes.

One of the first steps in changing Santa Cruz from a resort town was the construction of the municipal wharf, an important transportation aid to the Portland Cement company, he explained.

A series of disasters plagued city commissioners prior to the '20's, Judah noted, with the first casino burning in 1906, the Seabeach hotel razed in 1912, Santa Cruz high school burning to the ground in 1913 and the Southern Pacific tunnels damaged and destroyed by the earthquake of 1906.

Added to these misfortunes were the problems of tangled water system, impossible sewer system and dirt streets and roads throughout the county, Judah said.

"However, under the leadership of early-day promoters like Fred W. Swanton, foundations were laid for a modern sewer system, water supply development, the paving of city streets and the construction of schools. Santa Cruz high school was rebuilt and Branciforte elementary school was built," Judah said.

Three projects in which he had a personal part while state senator were the purchase of private beaches for public use, a bill preventing the over-loading of logging trucks which were ruining highways and a bill to provide a uniform accounting system for all state law courts.

The construction of the Ocean Shore highway, recently named the Cabrillo highway, is Judah's "pet project" of the many he investigated and in future years the highway will prove its practicability, he predicted before the Historical society.

"No one — 50 or even 20 years ago, could foresee what was going to happen to California by 1959," he concluded.

Conducting the brief business session was President Denver Wolfe. Program chairman was Mrs. Everett Allen.

SNUFFED SIGHT

Toledo, Ohio (AP) — Two thugs used an unusual weapon in robbing William Hall of \$54 as he walked home from a bank. Hall told police one of the men threw snuff in his eyes, then snatched his money.



CAPE CANAVERALSKI?— According to their calculations, Japanese scientists at the Tokyo Astronomical Observatory think they have located the launching site for Russia's Lunik and Sputniks. News map above shows the area, estimated to be about 130 miles northwest of the Caspian Sea.

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CLOSED TONIGHT