

SANTA CRUZ YESTERDAYS

Fires & Fire fighting 12-21-58



SANTA CRUZ' GREAT FIRE

(From the Preston Sawyer Collection)

All through the night of April 14, 1894, Santa Cruzans fought the biggest fire in the city's history.

The next morning they surveyed a blackened area which extended from Pacific avenue to Front street, north of Cooper, to a point now about the north end of the St. George hotel.

At 10:40 o'clock in the evening flames had shot out of the rear of Edward L. Williams' real estate office and Werner Finkeldey's grocery store on Cooper street opposite the court house.

Fanned By Wind

Fanned by a stiff north wind they spread to Wessendorf & Staffler's undertaking rooms, to Mike Leonard's two-story building on the corner of Cooper and Pacific, and had leaped Cooper

to consume the 27-year-old brick courthouse.

Of the old tournament horse companies only the Pogonips remained as firefighters. The Alerts had disbanded; the Pilots had rented their quarters and equipment to the city which had hired Charles H. Sanborn to drive the street sweeper, and, when an alarm came in to hitch his horse hurriedly to the fire apparatus.

Bank Vaults Stood

In the expanse of rubble-filled basements the brick vaults of the

People's Bank and the City Bank still stood.

The white-fronted John Werner building which marked the north edge of the fire-swept area, had been gutted, although its walls still stood.

It had housed A. C. Snyder's drygoods store, with Mrs. Sophia Harris' rooming house upstairs.

Its sturdy brick walls were later incorporated into those of the rebuilt St. George hotel.

BUY AT HOME AND SAVE

Asiatic Country

ACROSS

1 Asiatic country

5 It is a...

29 Little demon

30 Column

31 Capuchin monkey

Answer to Previous Puzzle

POT	PAPA	MOIL
ALE	ALAR	ERNE
SIR	SORT	ILEGE
SOM	ITES	DELES
INE	EPEE	
HAND	HERA	ALP
ELAINE	ITALIA	