

Dairying

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The history of the Steele family's dairy at Green Oaks Ranch which was once part of Santa Cruz County, will be the topic for Wednesday's meeting of Santa Cruz Historical Society at the main Santa Cruz Public Library, 224 Church Street.

A brief business session will start at 4 p.m. in the library's upstairs meeting room, followed by a re-

freshment break and the program at 4:30.

John Selby will present the slide-lecture on the Steele dairy, land and family. Guest of honor at the meeting will be Mrs. Catherine Steele who came to Green Oaks in 1922 as the bride of Will Steele.

The Steele family had established its dairy on the coastal lands in 1862 and

soon prospered through the production of their butter and cheese which became widely known in the San Francisco Bay area. It was delivered by stage coach and coastal steamer at various times.

The Steele ranch properties had once belonged to Isaac Graham, a pioneer settler in the area that was to become Santa Cruz Coun-

ty, and include New Year's Point. Much of the land still remains in the Steele family today, more than 100 years after the original dairy was founded.

Selby, a UCSC student, has collaborated with Mrs. Steele for the past year in order to develop his slide illustrated talk.

For his material, he has drawn on Mrs. Steele's ex-

tensive collection of historical materials and personal recollections.

Selby is available to present his talk to other groups and can be contacted at 425-0902 or 429-4191.

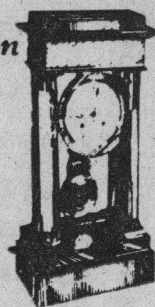
The general public is invited to attend the meeting Wednesday and view the program. Admission is free and there is an elevator in the library.



Catherine Steele and John Selby look over old photos; one is reproduced above, showing workers at the pioneer Steele dairy. A Steele forbear was a famous general of the Civil War and friend of Lincoln

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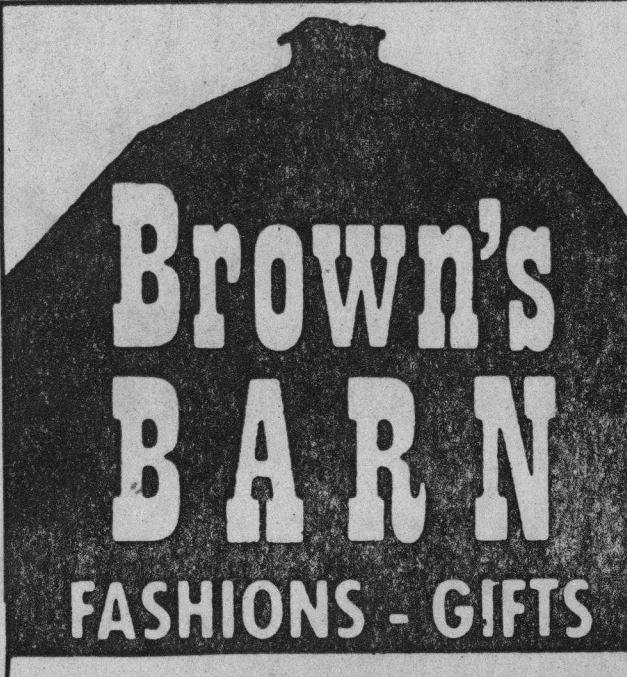
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