



NOTEBOOK

I remember Lottie

By HOWARD SHEERIN

Helen Watters Bergman and I had a bit of fun last week going through the Watters family albums in search of pictures relating to Watsonville hospital history.

There were pictures of Dr. P. K. Watters, the founder of Watsonville hospitals, in bowlers and high top hats and frock coats, and of his wife, Louise, wearing huge flower bedecked hats and bustled dresses of satin. And there were pictures of Dr. Watters with groups of the young women who were in training as nurses at his hospital here in the first decade of the century.

There were lots of pictures of Helen and her brothers and of their cousins, the children of Bob Hudson and Louise Watters Hudson. The girls all wore hair ribbons with stiff bows that perched precariously on their heads; the boys wore knickers and white shirts.

There were also a lot of pictures of Dr. H. G. Watters and his wife, Bertha, including shots of him as a young army captain as he returned to Watsonville after service in World War I, through their married life and into the period when he was California State commander of the American Legion.

But there weren't any pictures of Lottie Watters, Henry's sister, who was associated with the family in operating the old hospital on Third St., and who

was the first superintendent of nurses in the then new hospital on Monte Vista St. when it opened in 1938.

"You see, she was always behind the camera; she was always the one taking the pictures," Helen explained.

And so, although the pictures she took of her nieces and nephews filled several albums, there weren't any of her.

"She was always lining us up for a picture," Helen said.

But to finally find a picture of Lottie we had to go to a family friend who found only one.

As we were searching for that picture, I kept thinking back to when that other "new" hospital was opened for inspection in 1938.

Lottie was conducting a tour, showing all the features of a then modern hospital.

Finally, she threw open a door and said "And this is where all the little friends of the patients rush to first when they come up here."

It was the public rest room.

I liked the way Evelyn Craig turned a derogatory description of the 1969 version of a new hospital to advantage at Sunday's dedication ceremonies.

She noted that the new hospital had been referred to as a "fortress."

"I like to think of it as a fortress," she said, "A fortress against illness, and a protection for all the people of this area."

WATSONVILLE

Register-Pajaronian

SECOND SECTION

AND SUN

Thursday, July 10, 1969

Incorporation for La Selva?

Autonomy carries price tag

By LEE QUARNSTROM

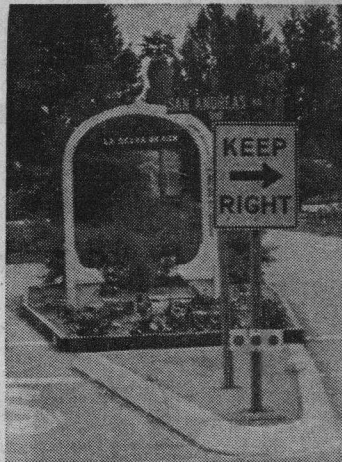
Residents of La Selva Beach are wondering today whether the future will bring incorporation to their quiet beach community.

There has been talk of incorporating the area for several years. Recently La Selva Beach has been listed among several mid-county communities proposed for incorporation into one large city.

A study into the possibilities of incorporation of the mid-county has been made during the past few months by a group of UCSC students. A rough draft of their report is expected to be ready soon but a completed version will not be ready until the end of the month. The final version will be submitted to the Local Agencies Formation Commission, the county government body that decides on matters such as incorporation.

Two of the UCSC students spoke to the La Selva Beach Improvement Association board of directors earlier this week. The youngsters, Michael Twombly and Judy Gaines, presented figures indicating incorporation of La Selva would not be feasible.

But the facts and figures presented by Twombly and Miss Gaines have changed Levitz' mind.



Don Levitz, a La Selva realtor, says the report of the students has changed his mind. "Before I heard them speak I thought incorporation was the only salvation for La Selva," Levitz says.

Levitz points to what he called "violations of the master plan for the area" by the board of supervisors. Such "violations" would not have occurred had La Selva had autonomy, he said.

But the facts and figures presented by Twombly and Miss Gaines have changed Levitz' mind.

"Now it seems we have no choice," he says. "It obviously wouldn't be feasible to incorporate if the students had the right data."

Twombly told improvement association directors that the tax rate would have to be raised \$1.70 per every \$100 of assessed valuation to provide even meager municipal services. He said this would include hiring the sheriff to send deputies to patrol the town instead of forming a real police department.

Levitz says he is not as anxious to incorporate with other mid-county communities as he was to make a city out of La Selva Beach.

"I'd rather be a voice in the wilderness of the county than a voice in the wilderness of a new city," Levitz says.

Frank Dvorak, a certified public accountant, agrees with Levitz that the figures presented by the students indicate that incorporation would not be feasible for the community. But, he says, he would have to be more familiar with the particulars before finally making up his mind.

Other La Selvas also say they would have to have more details before forming an opinion on the matter of incorporation.

"Who knows if that information is complete and correct?" asks Mrs. William Plumer. "But," she adds, "the time has come for something to happen here."

Does she favor incorporation of La Selva Beach?

"I'm for whatever is best for La Selva," she says.

Mrs. M. J. Schmitz, another La Selvan, says she too would need more information before

La Selva Fire Chief Billy Hunter says he thinks a "good, sensible study" should be made. Then the people of the area should be able to express themselves on incorporation, the fire chief says.

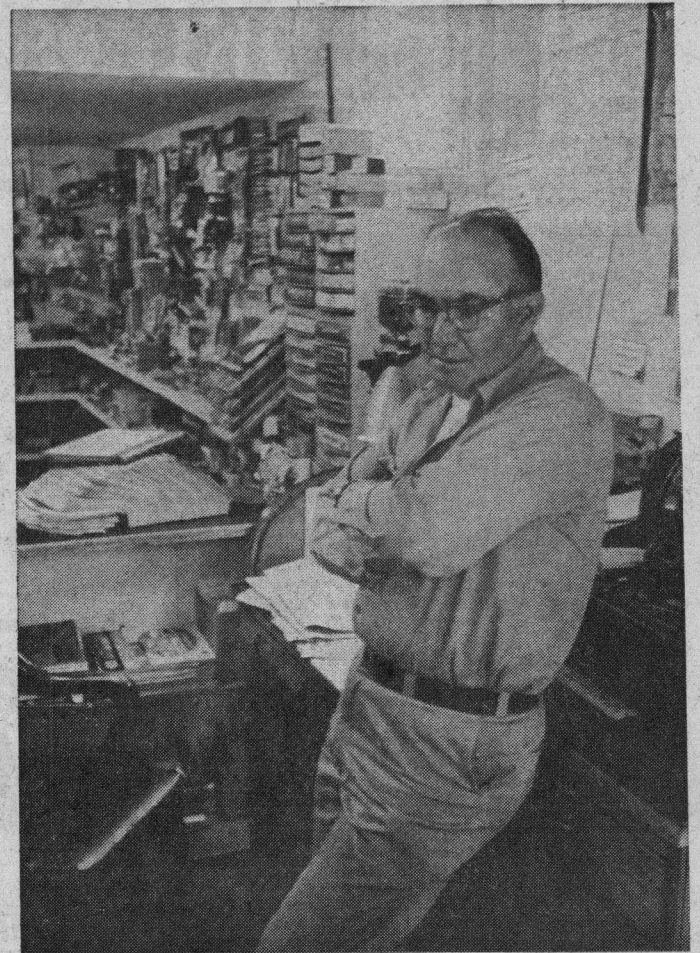
One La Selvan who didn't want to be identified, said regarding incorporation:

"It's ridiculous."

Other say offhandedly that more studies are needed.

Bill Elliott says "something definite" will have to be done eventually to incorporate.

The two UCSC students will be back at the La Selva Beach clubhouse at 7:30 p.m. July 17 for the quarterly meeting of the Improvement Association. They will reiterate their facts and figures for the group's general membership at that time.



Hardware dealer Elliott is doubtful about incorporation



New fire station

La Selva Beach will have a new fire station about Aug. 1. Workmen are putting the finishing touches on the building now. Meanwhile, department's two trucks are parked on private property and fire equipment is "scat-

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This is La Selva's business district, if it can be said to have one

she might favor a "partial incorporation." of the area.

"One thing I would like to see," Mrs. Schmitz says, "is better police protection. We need jurisdiction here so we can take care of police business without having to wait for the sheriff to get one of his cars here."

Mrs. Schmitz says she lived in Los Altos when that community incorporated and that city taxes were low.

School taxes were way too high, though," she says.

Bill Elliott, who runs a hardware store and the La Selva postal substation, says he has always favored incorporation.

"I think the area can be incorporated without any great additional expense," he says. Elliott says he missed the report by the two UCSC students.

"We could have a volunteer city council," he says, "and we wouldn't have to pay for a city manager."

Elliott has reservations, however, about incorporating into a large city with other mid-county communities.

"Something like that deal is 10 or 15 years in the future," he says.

Elliott, like several other La Selvas, says the communities of Aptos, Capitola, Rio del Mar and Soquel should "clean up their own messes" before trying to incorporate.

"After they straighten out their problems," he says, "they should draw up a plan and present it to us."

Hunter. One fire truck is parked in a public garage, the other under a canvas lean-to next to the hardware store on Playa Blvd.

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Youth sent to prison in knifing

A Watsonville youth who stabbed his foster father in the chest for no apparent reason on March 24 is on his way to state prison.

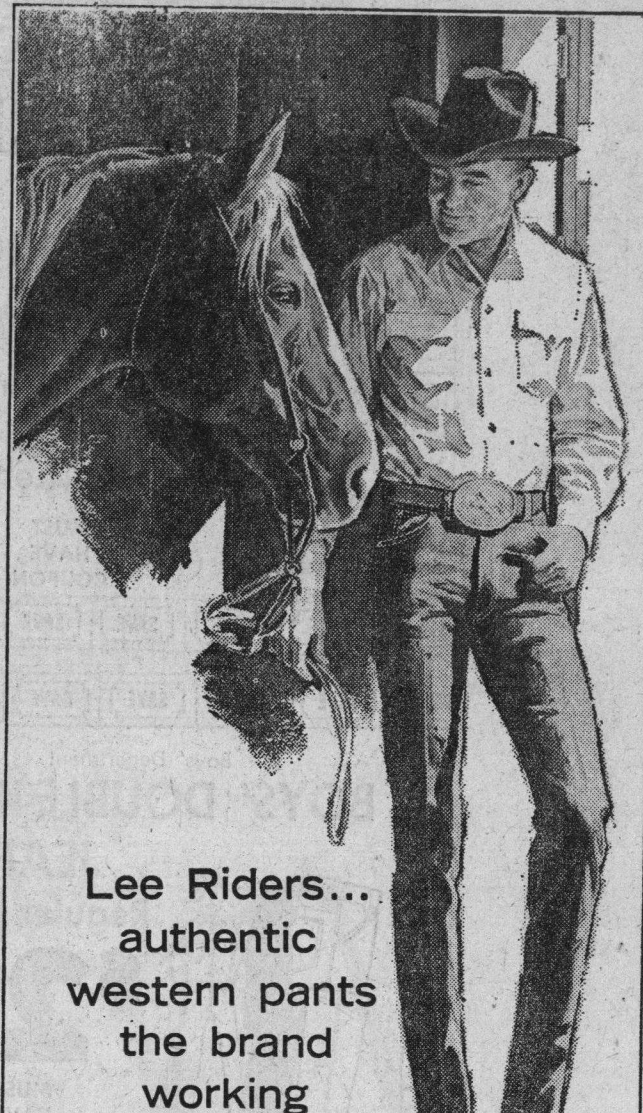
Tony Wayne Buie, 21, was returned to Santa Cruz County Superior Court Tuesday from the state medical facility at Vacaville for further proceedings before Judge Nick Drobac.

The court followed state recommendations by ordering Buie committed to prison.

Length of sentence will be determined at a later date. Buie had pleaded no contest to a felony charge of knifing John Middleton at their residence, 111 Kearney St.

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Two north Monterey County residents have won approval for lessened building requirements from Zoning Administrator Robert Slimmons.

Ben Tumbaga, who owns two lots fronting on Elkhorn Road, between Hall and Easton Roads, received permission to add a second home on the property, although the two lots do not contain the required 40,000 square feet. Widening of Elkhorn road had reduced the size of the lots.

Monterey County Health Department recommended denial of the request because of concern about installation of a septic tank on the lower end of the property, which Welcome Randall of the health department said was "subject to inundation".

Tumbaga said he had lived at the location for more than 20

Murder confession discounted

By GLORIA LORENZO

Back-tracking all the way to Oklahoma State Prison, Santa Cruz authorities tend to discount the story of an inmate who claims he murdered a woman in the Amesti district in 1964.

The inmate in Floyd Howard Crawford, 25, formerly of 6 Crow Road. In April, 1966, he began serving a 10-year sentence for robbery. Prison authorities report he has been in and out of solitary confinement and the mental ward, making statements that he would do anything to get out of prison.

In February, Crawford told FBI agents he stabbed to death

a girl friend, Betty Jean Brown of Vallejo, and buried her body under some brush and tree limbs in the Crow's Nest area.

He said he was wounded during the murder, and was later treated at Watsonville Hospital.

The "confession" was thoroughly investigated by the FBI, then referred to Santa Cruz when no one could establish that Betty Jean Brown had disappeared or even existed.

About seven weeks ago, deputies delved back into the files for June, 1964, and established that Crawford had been treated for knife wounds.

How he got the wounds was unknown. At the time, there

were conflicting stories about a supposed beef with neighbors. Witnesses were again tracked down and interviewed. Deputies learned that Crawford has received head injuries in an accident, and became violent while drinking — and had been drinking the day of the "knifing".

One theory was that the knife wounds were self-inflicted.

In checking every aspect, Arthur Tepley, investigator from the district attorney's office, went to Oklahoma to interview Crawford.

He came back with Crawford's "sketchy" recollections on the location of the "murder victim".

Even so, the sheriff's office sent out a shovel detail to Crow's Nest, and dug through a five-year-old layer of trash and debris.

A spokesman said yesterday "to go down any deeper we would need a more successful

Owners close Ardmore Hotel

The Ardmore Hotel at 438-A Main St. was closed this week

would be too expensive. A major deficiency, he said, was that