

# Century- Old Echoes

*from The Sentinel  
files, 1856*

(Being a perusal of The SENTINEL'S columns of ten decades ago—which few current California publications can offer).

Edited by Preston Sawyer

New Year dawned in tiny Santa Cruz a century ago with just as much fanfare, in its own way, as it did here this 1957!

The Sentinel editor took up his pen to write the following main item for his editorial page:

## "NEW YEAR

"This annual festival has come and gone. The year 1856 is no more—it has carried with it many great and good men—and has produced its marked events which will be long looked upon as epochs in the world's history, particularly in the United States.

"Save and except these landmarks, all that remains of the old year will soon be forgotten—the year 1857 has opened upon us and who can tell the marks destined to be left by it upon the pages of time. Many great and moving spirits now foremost in the ranks of those controlling the destinies of nations, ere its close will have passed from the stage of action.

"Nations now at peace may be seen contending upon the field of battle; but in no part of the Universe are we prepared to look for greater strides of progress than in the United States; and in no part for greater changes than in our neighboring American governments.

"This year will decide the destiny of Walker, and the existence of an Anglo Central American Republic. This year may, in all probability, see the Stars and Stripes float upon the Isthmus of Panama—and a subsequent general confederation of South American governments, against the further extension of the United States in that direction.

"It will, in all probability, determine the destiny of Kansas, and be decisive of the fate of the Pacific Railroad. It is one of the few lingering years, allotted by the hand of Fate to the existence of the government of Mexico, and for California our nearest interest, it will bring about the long looked for final settlement of more than half of the land titles in this state—as well as great and radical changes in the affairs of state.

"We see no dark spots upon the future—no people are making more rapid strides in producing a good state of moral sentiment than in California—and it is well that it should be so, for in no country is there more need of it.

"Let us quietly abide the course of events."

"New Schoolhouse. — The School Commissioners in Santa Cruz Township and District, are raising a subscription to build a new Schoolhouse—at last account they have signed about \$1000."

## Business Practice