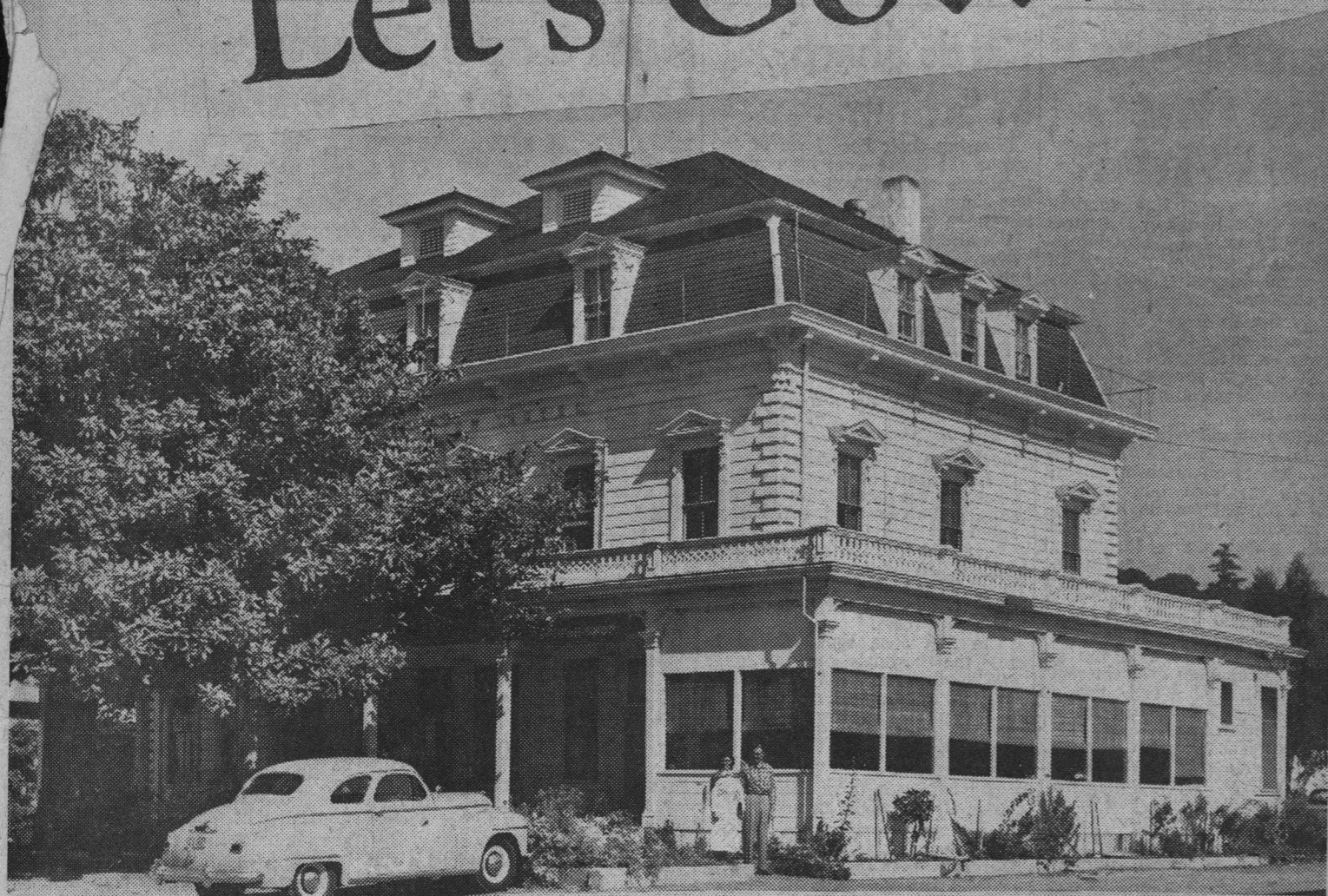


# Let's Go...



Mr. and Mrs. Bob Pinkham, 618 Sunset drive, make the famous Bay View hotel their first stop in touring Aptos.

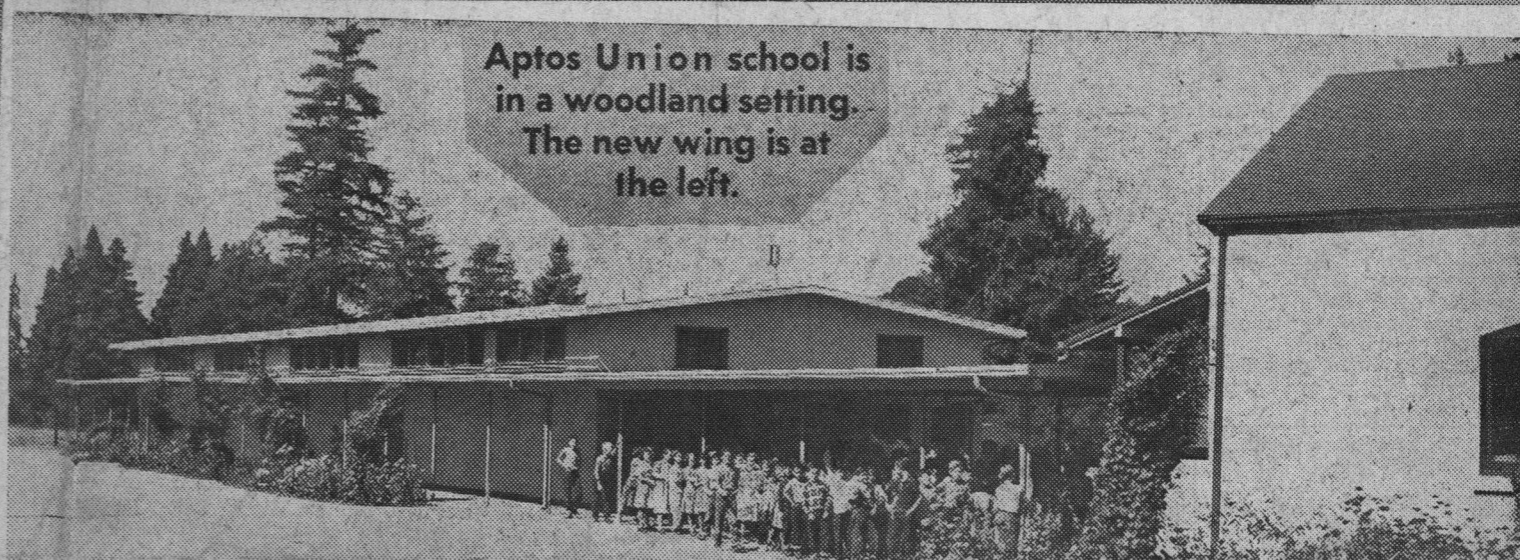
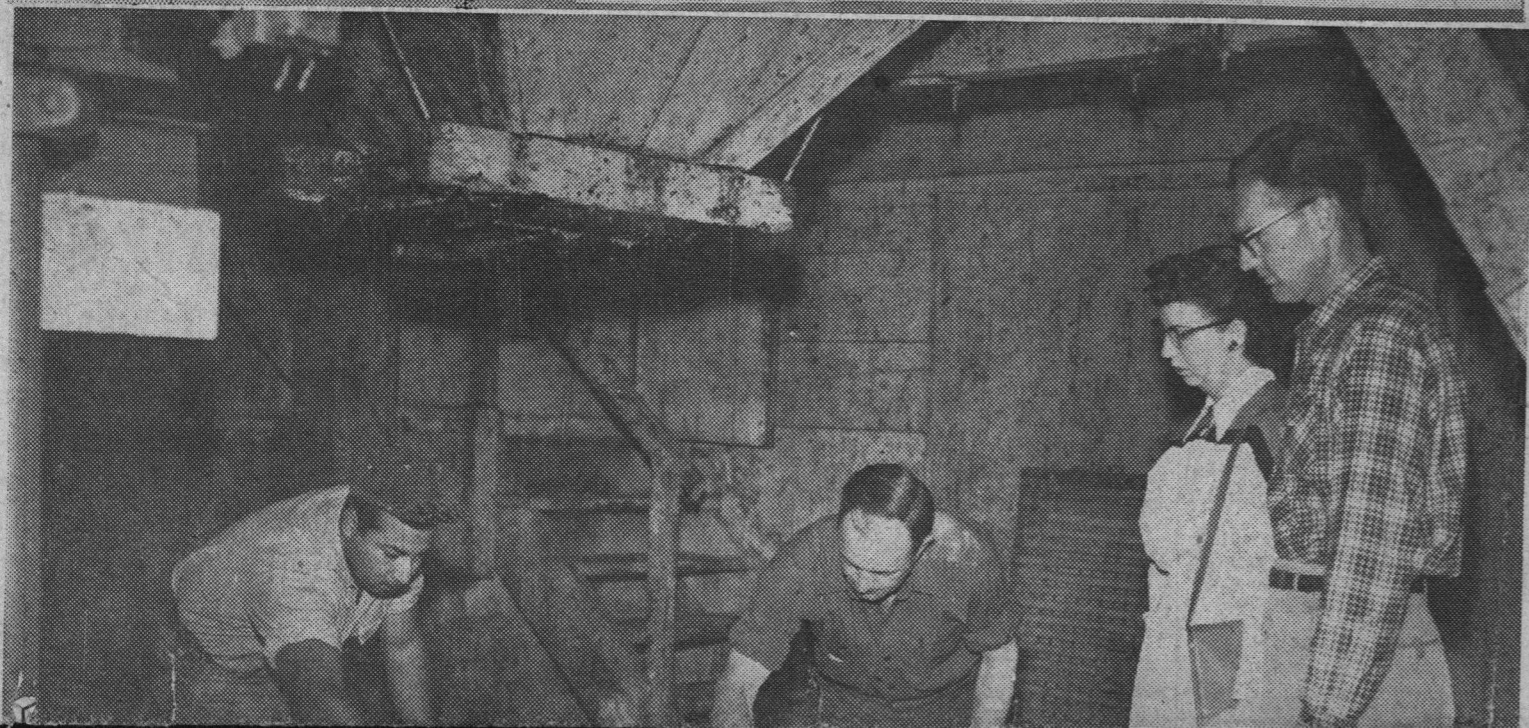
# To The Village With Variety

Sunday, October 8, 1950

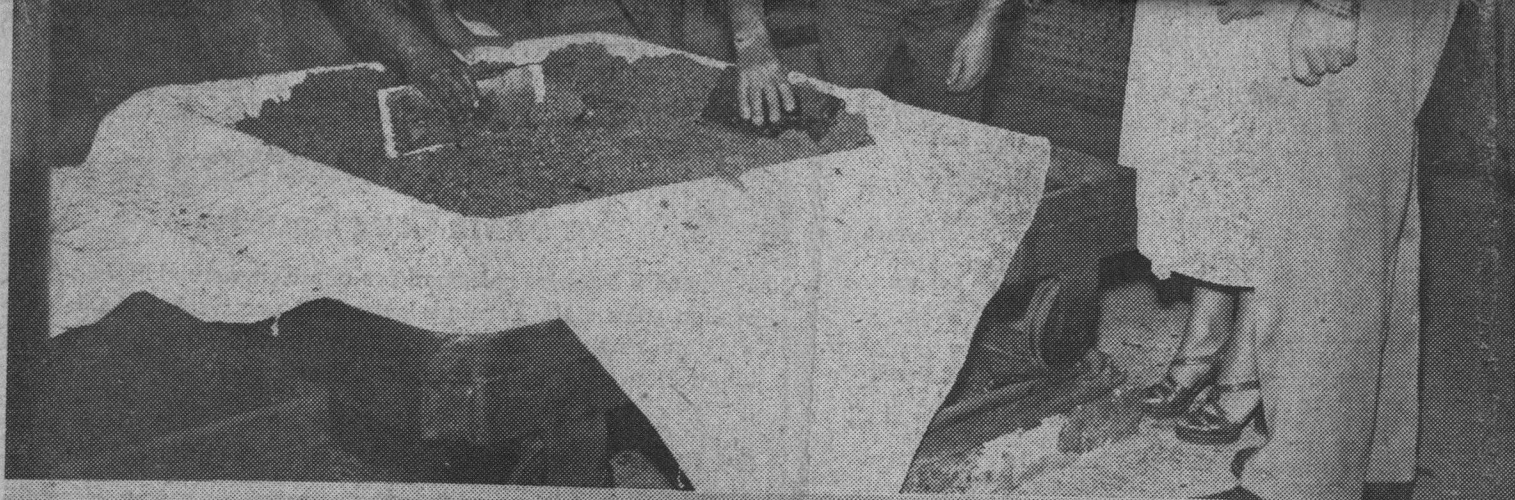
Santa Cruz Sentinel-News



Mrs. Pinkham watches Mrs. Louise Whipple and Mrs. Esther Bulgrin sort and pack apples—the area's main product.



Aptos Union school is in a woodland setting. The new wing is at the left.



Ground apple peels and cores are shaped into cloth-wrapped "cheeses" which are pressed in the first step of vinegar making. Pete Crescini (center), manager of the Aptos plant, explains the process to the Pinkhams. Frank Escalante is a member of Crescini's crew.

## Aptos, Which Once Catered To Loggers, Is Headquarters For Resort People, Farmers

Aptos, with its rich heritage of the days of the Spanish dons and its exciting tales of logging operations at the turn of the century, is the headquarters for an area unusual for its variety in living and livelihood.

To the south, along the shores of blue Monterey bay, are resort dwellers many of whom come for the summer season and remain to enjoy the winter as well. Commuters, with businesses or work in Santa Cruz, eight miles to the west, and Watsonville, eight miles southeast, also reside in the area.

On the gentle slopes which lie between the Santa Cruz mountains and the bay, are the farmers and gardeners.

There are acres of cauliflower, some artichokes and other truck garden crops which thrive along the Santa Cruz county coast. Nurseries have large fields of heather and other shrubs and trees. One grower produces ferns for the San Francisco Bay area florists. Another specializes in begonias, camellias, daphne and other plants for which this vicinity has become famous.

There are fur farms, too, with approximately \$30,000 worth of chinchillas at two of the largest enterprises.

A horse ranch, specializing in breeding race stock, also is located in the lowland area. There are beef and dairy cattle herds, too, on the fringe of Aptos community.

Into the hills from Aptos are apple orchards, vineyards and redwood forests which escaped the axes of the woodcutters.

Cathedral drive and the trails and pathways along Aptos creek afford interesting hiking and riding territory. And the village of Aptos, with a view to pleasing all the varied interests of its dwellers, boasts a riding stable where the creek skirts the edge of the town.

Near the picturesque stone gateway of the Mangels ranch, on which one of Aptos' oldest homes is located, a railroad branch line once climbed into the redwood covered hills toward Loma Prieta. Millions of board feet of lumber once were cut in those hills, some of it sawed near the logging sites and much of it shipped to mills in other localities by way of the rail line which

joined the main track at the Aptos Y.

The big Aptos depot is gone from the center of the village, but some other old railroad buildings still stand.

The train also brought hundreds of loggers to Aptos for boisterous holidays.

A mile and a half from the edge of Aptos is a beautiful grove of redwoods, its cool quiet lighted only occasionally by sunbeams filtering through the thick growing evergreens.

This is the location of Monte Toyon, maintained primarily as a summer conference site for religious groups. There is a rustic pulpit among the towering Sequoias and camp facilities for hundreds of conferees.

Other, smaller groups of redwoods can be noted along Highway 1 (Santa Cruz-Watsonville freeway) which bypasses Aptos to the south, and along the Old highway, which is the Aptos main street.

Trout Gulch road, from the center of Aptos, leads into apple orchard territory. At the end of the road, five miles from Aptos, is an old ranch known as The Vineyard. The name still clings, although the grape vines have given way to apple trees, which produce the area's main crop.

An oil well, on which operations were abandoned when the tools were lost in the hole, also is a landmark of this pretty drive.

Valencia road, which branches off Trout Gulch road about one fourth mile out of Aptos, also traverses a farming and apple raising territory containing some of the largest ranches in that section of the county. Valencia road rejoins the Old Highway and near the intersection is the Day Valley road, another interesting crescent drive.

As the hub of this community which once was the vast Aptos Rancho of the days of the Spanish dons, Aptos serves an estimated 5000 persons.

Its business district, once confined to the Old Highway, has spread on the opposite side of the tracks up Trout Gulch road and onto Valencia street.

A landmark of today, as well as for almost three quarters of a century, is the Bay View hotel.

The famous old hostelry was built by Jose Arano, first postmaster of

Aptos and son-in-law of Rafael Castro, grantee of Aptos Rancho. The hotel remained in the Arano family until 1944 when Fred Toney, the present owner, purchased it from the Arano estate.

In 1946 it was moved 150 feet, to permit development of the Trout Gulch road intersection as a business area with adequate parking space for customers.

Many of the old furnishings of the hotel have been retained, blending the mellowness of age with modern conveniences. The big magnolia tree and the redwood in the foreground add to the beauty of its setting.

The fire station is near the west end of the hotel.

Along with a grocery store, hardware, drug store, doctor's office and other business places in the Valencia street and Trout Gulch road location is the new quarters for the Santa Cruz county branch library.

Valencia street boasts the new building of the Pacific Telephone and Telegraph company, in which automatic apparatus is being installed preparatory to inauguration of dial telephone service for Aptos December 28.

Also on Valencia street is the new Methodist church and parsonage.

Business places along the Old Highway include eating houses, grocery stores, a barber shop, real estate offices, the post office, the village garage. The west end of the main thoroughfare, the space be-

tween the railroad and the Old Highway, is another recently built-up business site.

The industrial district, small but active, contains an apple packing plant which is locally owned and which will put out 80,000 boxes this year; a vinegar works which will produce approximately 500,000 gallons during operations which began last Tuesday, and a battery re-building plant designed to serve three counties.

The, special pride of Aptos residents is in their school. The Aptos Union school is located just off Valencia road in a natural woodland setting.

Nestled in the shelter of timbered hills and bordered by a small creek, the play area is large and inviting. There are picnic tables under the trees and barbecue pit, in addition to the usual volleyball, baseball, softball and other playground facilities. Graduation exercises are held out of doors.

Three hundred twenty-nine pupils are enrolled in kindergarten through eighth grades, according to the latest figures reported by Superintendent George W. Beattie.

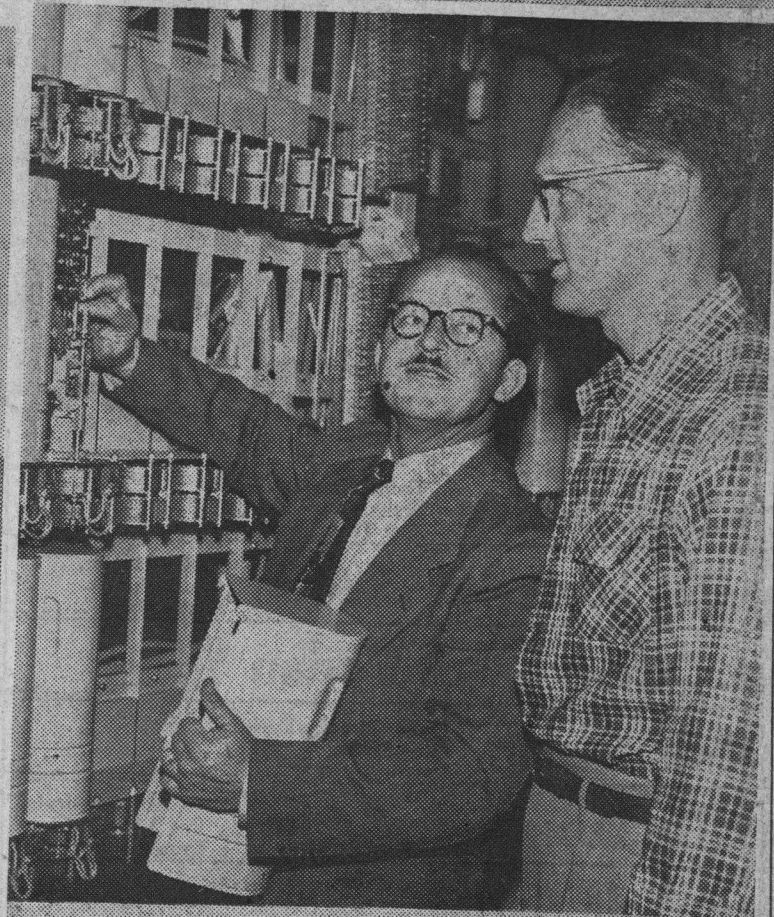
Four classrooms were added in 1948 as an annex to the older building. A planting area between the school buildings and the parking area, on the opposite side from the playground, contains small trees, flowers and vines.

The school has no traffic problem, as it is located off a main road, and the quiet of the wooded hills is conducive to diligent study as well as healthful play.

Aptos hall, the community gathering place, is a former school building. It is located at the west end of the village beyond the railroad underpass.



This old gateway marks an early-day ranch past which logging trains once ran.



In Aptos' new telephone building, K. W. Olsen, supervisor for the Western Electric company, explains the dial system installation to Pinkham.

**MEMBERNAIRES DECIDE NOT TO INCREASE DUES**  
The dues of Santa Cruz American Legion post 64 will not be raised.  
This was decided by a 100 percent vote at the meeting Friday night in Memorial building.  
Because of the need of raising money, it had been proposed that the dues be increased from \$6 to

**BICYCLE IS STOLEN**  
Police are looking for the bicycle of Ed Campbell of 1322 River street which was stolen Friday afternoon while he was attending Mission Hill school.  
\$9. After considerable debate, the proposal was submitted to a vote and every member voted against the motion.

**FIREMEN EXTINGUISH TWO GRASS BLAZES**  
Firemen extinguished two small fires without damage Friday afternoon.  
The first was reported shortly after noon at 107 Blackburn street. It was a rubbish and grass fire and was easily extinguished. At 3:57 o'clock the department had a

**TRUMAN IS BACK**  
Washington, Oct. 7 (AP)—President Truman landed from the yacht Williamsburg at the naval gun factory today, completing a leisurely eight-day cruise in Chesapeake bay waters. He told newsmen at the dock that he "had a nice trip and got a lot of work done."  
call for 126 Pacheco avenue to put out a grass fire.

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