

Collection From Orient To Be Featured

Marco Polo would feel right at home in the Pasa-tiempo home of Ambassador and Mrs. James D. Bell.

That sturdy Italian traveler visited the Orient in the late 1200's and wrote his famed BOOK OF MARCO POLO in 1296. He told so

cial sojourns and trips to Japan, Hong Kong, the Philippines, Malaysia and Indonesia.

Ambassador Bell is now a lecturer at Merrill College, University of California Santa Cruz. He held State Department posts in South America and Indonesia prior to serving as Ambassador to Malaysia from 1964-69.

The Bells' Oriental art objects and batiks are outstanding. And they are shown against a background of museum quality furniture.

There's a round table in the library on which Harriet Beecher Stowe wrote UNCLE TOM'S CABIN. In the dining room there's a sideboard that was brought from England about 1800 by a family member who became governor, senator, then chief justice of the New Hampshire Colony.

Fine Coromandel screens stand behind contemporary upholstered pieces in the living room. An old pigskin box from "old" Japan is a treasure. Blue and white porcelains, fine carvings and old bronze pieces have their place in the decor.

Jewel-like batiks are displayed throughout the house but are clustered in a hall stairway where an ancient carved lantern from Penang lights the way.

As I said before — Marco Polo would feel right at home if he could call on the Bells.

MARGARET KOCH

A tour of four unusual Santa Cruz homes is slated for September 26, with the home of Ambassador and Mrs. James D. Bell included. Champagne will be served.

The tour is sponsored by Santa Cruz Democratic Women's Club with Mrs. Sidney V. Smith in charge. Other homes to be opened are those of the Floyd Estess', Dennis McElraths and Stephen Wyckoffs. Ticket information may be obtained from Mrs. Smith at 426-1487.

many wondrous tales of Cathay that stay-at-home friends were sure he exaggerated. But they had to believe Polo when he showed treasures he had collected in the Orient.

The Bells' home furnishes an elegant setting for their treasures collected during of-



Ambassador James D. Bell above, and one of his collection of outstanding batiks the Bells have had framed. At right above, the Bells in their living room, and below, the dining room where Mrs. Bell has combined Chinese furniture with museum-quality American antiques. The Bell home will be opened to the public September 26 for the Santa Cruz Democratic Women's tour.



Concours d' Elegance Slated October 4

The second annual Concours d' Elegance is slated for October 4 at San Lorenzo Park in the heart of Santa Cruz.

It is again being sponsored by Santa Cruz Dominican Hospital Auxiliary with Mrs.

Entries may be obtained from Mrs. Maxine Houk at 475-2060.

New car models of 1971 will be shown through the cooperation of local car dealers, along with the many Concours vehicles of antiquity and special interest.

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