

"I
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the
want."

Old Santa Cruz...

By Ernest Otto

A few of the old buildings which stood on Walnut avenue in the seventies remain. A big section of it then, was empty lots all of which were old time apple orchards.

In the late seventies was constructed the Scott home and Miss Edna Scott, a teacher in the schools of the city for many years now occupies the home. She was a daughter of Joseph Scott prominent in the business and community life. It adjoined the old historic Unity church occupied at times as a place of worship by many organizations including the Unitarian, Spirituals, for the great holidays of the Hebrew community, Advent Christian church and First Presbyterian church, then purchased by them.

The two small cottages to the west remain. These were homes for rentals. The residence now occupied by Dr. A. R. Steinwand was the A. Baldwin residence. On one side was the orchard of the Besse home, occupied by the Cooper family of Mrs. Flora Von Schuckman who now resides on the same street. Mr. Baldwin was a shoe maker and his wife was a teacher of elocution and for many years taught many of the young people and prepared many to present their high school commencement exercises. To the west was the family orchard. The present home is the old one almost made new. Through the yard was a path and a gateway leading to the Samuel Drennan home and it was a short cut to Church street across what is now the Wessendorf parking place.

The Arendell residence still stands, an old time clapboard residence in the rear of the lot, back of the home occupied by the Misses McGee. It was formerly in the front of the lot.

The Avenue House, which was operated for many years as apartments by Mrs. Mary Kelly was in the late seventies erected and was operated as a boarding house by the Conrans, who went to Sacramento where one of the members, Ira Conran was for years in the police department in the capital city. It was Quincy Hall Seminary for a time and adjoining was a school of the Fords, the principal was a Baptist minister. This was for numbers of years the musical studio of the Piodas.

Then another vacant lot and O. Bradley, well known blacksmith, erected the home standing there, and for years the M. C. Hopkins residence. The adjoining home still standing, but moved to the front and made over into apartments, with apartments in the rear was also a private school taught by Miss Flora Bradley, the same

name as her neighbors but not related.

The rear section of the Parks place was incorporated into that spacious residence when erected for the late J. G. Tanner. The rear part of the house stood on Pacific avenue previously at what is now the north end of the Elks building. It was the A. Jones residence. It was moved to make ready for the City Stables. Jones was at one time sheriff of the county. Then came a long stretch of orchard reaching to Chestnut avenue and on to Church street. This was surrounded by a picket fence. The upper end of Walnut avenue was a vacant lot usually growing wild mustard to a great height.

On the south side of the street not one of the old time homes remain although there were only six residences on that side of the street. It was quite an orchard between what is now the lower end of the telephone building to the Voris real estate office where stood the Henry Grace residence, then an orchard from there to the Center street corner now occupied by the home of Miss Anna McSweeney and the First Baptist church. In this lot lads of that section for several years had a race track.

It was quite a stretch, an orchard and vacant lot from the Center street to what is now the Bianchi place. On this lot the boys had a baseball diamond. At the upper end was a depression and flooded a good part of the winter. Here the boys would sail about on home made rafts and spear frogs.

In that block then were only two houses, the Ruthrauff and the West, and then a long orchard surrounded by picket fence up to Chestnut avenue.

At the upper end was a large vacant lot a block wide owned by F. A. Hihn and it reached up to the T. J. Weeks' place now the high school grounds. This was used as a pasture lot for the Hihns and here the early day circuses performed, and the vacant lot across the street was used for the horse tents, cook house and dining tent of the circus. Among the circuses there were those of Adam Forepaugh, Mains, W. W. Cole, Sells Brothers and others. It was for years the most accessible baseball diamond of regulation size in the city. Most of the sidewalks on the street were dirt but some sections were plank.

A culvert ran under the street about half way down and was for carrying off the floodwaters in the winter from about Church and Locust streets and the Hihn property.

There were a few walnut trees but most of the shade trees on that street were the tall Normandy poplar, a shade tree very popular in various sections of the city with only a few remaining.

At the foot of the hill under the street was a culvert and through it ran a stream of the clearest water through the circus lot. At each end of the culvert were growing willows.

to passage may become a controversial subject in the campaign. Mr. Roosevelt will presumably cite his backing of the program, but John L. will twit him about his failure to get behind it earlier. And if it does not pass before November 7, the United Mine Workers may have another grudge against the administration.